

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VII, No. 2.

New York, Friday, January 9, 1925.

Price 2 Cents

General Executive Board To Meet On Jan. 19, In Montreal

Third Quarterly Meeting in Canadian City to Last Whole Week—Will Discuss Pending Organizing Campaigns—New York Cloak and Dress Negotiations To Be Reviewed.

The third quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. will begin its sessions, Secretary Baroff announces, in Montreal, Canada, on Monday, January 19.

As usual, the G. E. B. has before it an impressive amount of work to transact. The New York cloak situation, to the report of the experts appointed to investigate the industry under the decision of the Governor's Special Commission; the prospects for the introduction of the several clauses of the Union's reform program which

had been left over since July, 1924; the agreement negotiations in the dress industry and the Union's demands upon the dress employers—all of this will require special attention on the part of the members of the Board.

In addition there is the out-of-town situation, the organizing campaign in the dress and waist trade in Philadelphia and Chicago, the organizing work in Canada, both in Toronto and Montreal, the extensive organizing drive in the miscellaneous trades in New

York City, and the final liquidation steps in the matter of consolidating the united cloak operators' local in New York.

All locals of the I. L. G. W. U. or individual members desiring to get in touch with the meeting of the G. E. B. will forward their communications between now and January 19 to Secretary Baroff at the General Office and after that to the hotel where the meeting will take place for Secretary Baroff.

Pres. Sigman Calls Upon Local 2 To Elect Executive Board

Vice-president Perlestein to Remain Administrator of United Local

As the ninety-days' term fixed by the G. E. B. for the temporary executive committee of Local 2, the united cloak operators' local of New York, is nearing its end, steps are now being taken to provide the big organization of the New York cloak operators with a permanent board, to be nominated and elected by its membership.

The first move in this direction was made by President Morris Sigman on December 30 when he addressed the following letter to the executive board of Local 2 calling upon them to arrange for branch meetings at which nominations for permanent officers would be made.

Executive Board,
Cloak, Suit and Reefer Operators'
Union, Local 2,
128 East 25th street,
New York.

Greeting:
In accordance with the decision of the General Executive Board committee appointed to carry out the merger of Locals 1, 11 and 17, the election of a regular executive board and of a manager-secretary for Local 2, to supplant the temporary executive board appointed by that committee, was to take

place within ninety days after the date of issuance of the charter. This period will expire the last week in January.

Owing to the attitude assumed by a group of former Local 17 members, which has hampered the completion of the merger, I consider it inadvisable and impracticable to carry out this decision in full under present circumstances. I would suggest that the present executive board make the necessary arrangements to effect the election of the permanent executive board early in February; it seems more advisable, however, that the election of a manager-secretary should take place after the new executive board is organized and working. At that time better judgment should prevail in the selection of the managing officer of the local.

I shall ask Roy Perlestein to continue to supervise affairs until matters are more settled with respect to the completion of the merger.

Trusting that you will comply with this suggestion, I am
Fraternally yours,

MORRIS SIGMAN,
President.

Philadelphia Dressmakers Are Again Active

President Sigman Meets With Active Workers of Local 50

Last Sunday afternoon, the joint board of Local 50 met in special session to consider ways and means for the new organizing activity to be launched in the Philadelphia dress and waist trade.

President Sigman came over from New York for this meeting, which was one of the best attended gatherings held by the active workers of Local 50 in many months. Vice-president Elias Reinberg, the manager of the dress and waist organization of Philadelphia, presided.

It was decided to begin activity on a wide scale without delay. A plan to enlist in this drive the cooperation of every person interested in putting the dress industry of Philadelphia on a sound union basis received the in-

dorsement of the delegates present and no time will be lost in proceeding to carry it out. The Philadelphia dressmakers realize that this is an opportune moment for arousing the interest of the workers in union activity if earnings and general work conditions in the trade are ever to be materially improved. The after-effects of the lost strike in the Winter of 1922 can only be wiped out by a determined effort of the union people in the trade with the aid of the International. And President Sigman assured the delegates of the Joint Board of Local 50 that the G. E. B. stands ready to give them such aid without stint.

Section Meetings on Monday, January 12

The executive board of the operators' local considered President Sigman's communication at its regular meeting last week and forthwith ordered section meetings throughout the greater city for Monday, January 12. Eleven meeting places in the Bronx, Harlem, downtown, Williamsburgh, Brownsville, East New York, Borough Park and Coney Island will be made use of for that purpose. The meetings will begin at 7:30 p. m. sharp (Continued on page 2.)

Ann W. Craton and Morris Aloviz Added To District Council Staff

Vice-president Samuel Lefkowitz, manager of the Miscellaneous Trades' District Council of New York, has made the announcement that the Council has added this week two organizers to its staff. Miss Ann Washington Craton, formerly an organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and actively connected with other civic and social work, will start this week to help in the organizing drive at present being conducted by the Council in the unorganized dress, novelty and embroidery shops in New York, while Brother Morris Aloviz, a member of Local 16, has been appointed to do similar work among the non-union cutters in these trades. Last Monday a second meeting of the volunteer campaigners was held in the auditorium of the International

which was attended by over 100 workers. A plan of action was agreed upon which involves the tackling of individual shops in which groups of the volunteer workers are to cooperate with the staff organizers of the Council. It was generally conceded to be the best meeting ever held by the volunteers, who promised their undivided support to the Council and its organizers.

As we go to press, final arrangements have been concluded for the big meeting in Cooper Union, on Thursday, January 8. It is apparent from all indications that the meeting will be a huge success and will give the campaigners of the District Council an opportunity to check up on the progress the big campaign is making in the field where it is being waged.

Sanitary Label On Every Garment Next Spring Season

Dr. Moskowitz Serves Notice On All Cloak Employer

A determined drive by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control and the Label Office of the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union to have sanitary labels sewn on every garment produced in New York cloak and suit market, in the forthcoming Spring Season, from sample to duplicate, was begun last week.

A careful organization has been effected by the Union to control the distribution of the Labels in the shops

of the manufacturers. The Board hopes to bring about the cooperation of every element of the industry to carry out the clause of the contract providing for the introduction of the Sanitary Label. During the past season, the Director of the Label Division worked out the problems inherent to the introduction of the Label. The machinery for ordering, the system of records and other ad-

(Continued on page 2.)

No Peace With Injunction Procurers!

A Statement By President Morris Sigman In the Affair of Local 17.

In the "Jewish Daily Forward" of last Sunday and Monday, January 4 and 5, it has been reported that Local 17 has finally "bowed to the will of the International."

This statement is incorrect. For if it had been true, the International Office would surely have been aware of it and it would not have had to have this "news" conveyed to it by the "Forward." The International Office would have been made aware of it by the transfer of all books, monies and all such other property as is still kept by what was once known as Local 17, to its true owner, the General Office of the I. L. G. W. U. As this did not take place, the "Forward" story is obviously wrong.

What did actually happen is the following:

Immediately after the General Executive Board had adopted the decision to unite all the three cloak operators' locals in Greater New York into one—Local 2, two of these locals, Nos. 1 and 11, at once complied with this decision. Local 17, however, took up a fight against the International and by this action had declared itself an outlaw organization and ceased to exist as an International local. It, nevertheless, still continued to collect dues from some of its members pretending to function as an I. L. G. W. U. local. But that, of course, was mere fake and swindle.

Sailing under this spurious flag of "Local 17," the coterie in possession of its property applied the money thus collected under false pretenses to procure an injunction against the I. L. G. W. U. thereby disgracing and humiliating our movement. They have also since committed with the aid of that money a number of other shameful and degrading acts.

And now, after all of the members of this local have abandoned this clique, after the former members of Local 17 have discovered the cesspool of corruption and scabbiness into which they had been dragged and today refuse to be muled any longer to continue this silly and hateful fight against the International—this clique has brass enough to come to the "Forward" and tell it the story that it "bows to the will of the International."

A more distorted version of this entire affair can hardly be imagined.

"The Women's Garment Workers" At Half Price To Union Members

The General Office announces that the history of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, written by Dr. Louis Levine for the International and published by B. S. Huebner & Co., is ready for sale and can be obtained from the General Office directly and from every book store in the city.

The book has over 640 pages of reading matter and sells at five dollars. Members of the International will, however, be able to obtain it for

half the price, for two dollars and fifty cents, if they apply to the clerk in charge of sales at the General Office of the I. L. G. W. U., 3 West 16th street, New York City.

Out-of-town members may obtain the book at half price through the office of the Union in their locality. They can order it through the secretary of the local and will have the book forwarded to them from the General Office in New York.

SWEDEN'S SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT

Branting, leader of the Swedish Social Democratic party, has again become Premier of Sweden. In the recent election in which the Social Democrats gained a decided majority over the Conservatives the main issue was the question of national defense. Branting proposed to reduce the gov-

ernment's military budget of 140,000,000 kroner by one-half and to devote the money saved to education and social welfare. The Conservative Government urged that such reduction was especially dangerous to Scandinavian safety in view of Denmark's plans and the report that Norway is also making similar plans.

Our whole International Office is genuinely indignant over the opinion expressed in the editorial article of the "Forward" to the effect that "both sides have been true in their fight to the International." How the "Forward" writer could have allowed himself the use of such an expression with regard to this matter, if he only knew all the depredations committed by this clique which has been misusing the name of Local 17, is beyond our understanding. Brother Harry Lang, the Labor editor of the "Forward" is fully familiar with the entire situation and he surely could not have written anything like that which is so wholly contradictory to the facts of this case. It must have been some other person who has, for the moment, misled the "Forward"—a person who aims at creating intrigue and confusion in the International. Who else would have had an interest in attempting to whitewash this group in the columns of the "Forward," a paper where they should be forever branded as a dangerous element for the Labor movement?

We do not know who that person is. On the other hand, we are equally certain that the "Forward" would not consciously place the organization of the ladies' garment workers, the I. L. G. W. U., on the same level with a group of injunction-procurers!

The International will not and cannot make peace with this clique of union smashers and it will demand of each of them a strict accounting so as to demonstrate to the world in an irrefutable way that this element, no matter what its past may have been, is not fit any longer to be associated with in the Labor movement.

MORRIS SIGMAN
President, I. L. G. W. U.

President Sigman Calls Upon Local 2 To Elect Executive Board

(Continued from page 1)

and cloak operators are requested to report to the meetings on time.

Vice-president Perlstein to Remain Manager

These section meetings will nominate candidates for the executive board and for all other offices except manager. As indicated in President Sigman's letter, Vice-president Perlstein, the administrator of the local, had been requested by him to remain for the time being in this office and he agreed to continue acting in this capacity until the merger is fully carried out.

Operators Will Have Member Meeting

On Saturday, January 10, the general membership Local 2 will also have a meeting Saturday afternoon, at 1 p. m., at Webster Hall, 11th street and Third avenue. A report covering the activities of the organization will be rendered by Vice-president Perlstein and the executive board. The meeting will also elect an objection committee to pass upon the eligibility of candidates for offices in the forthcoming election and will pick out a committee to supervise the balloting.

Sanitary Label On Every Garment Next Spring Season

(Continued from page 1)

ministrative details connected with the issuance of the Label are now working smoothly, and the Board is fully prepared to solve the problem of enforcing the use of the Label throughout the industry.

In accordance with the instructions

from the Sub-Committee of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, the Director of the Label Division has sent the following letter to the manufacturers in the trade urging their cooperation in enforcing the rules and regulations governing the use of the Sanitary Label:

January 5, 1925.

Gentlemen:
By direction of the Label Committee of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, I am writing to serve notice upon you that the terms and conditions governing the use of the Sanitary Label will be strictly enforced in the forthcoming spring season, and that every spring garment, from sample to duplicate, must carry a Label.
An effective machinery of enforcement has been established to discover any violations of the rules and regulations governing the sale, distribution and use of the Sanitary Label, and severe penalties will be inflicted upon anyone attempting to evade his responsibility for fulfilling this contractual obligation.

During the past season, some inside manufacturers have purchased Labels and furnished them to their outside contractors. This will not be allowed. Every contractor is regarded under the rules as a separate production unit, and Labels must be secured by him directly from the Joint Board of Sanitary Control. Inside manufacturers will receive only the Label necessary for the garments manufactured on their premises.

Study the terms and conditions, and the rules and regulations, on the back of your order blank as you will be held strictly accountable for their enforcement.

Looking forward to 100 per cent cooperation from you in the forthcoming season in enforcing the use of the Sanitary Label in this industry, I am,
Respectfully yours,
HENRY MOSKOWITZ,
Label Director.

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YOUR
BANK.

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of a Modern
Bank with
the Spirit of a
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President Green Sounds Call for Abolition of Child Labor

Appealing to all wage earners and to all Americans to give their active and immediate support to the ratification of the Child Labor Constitutional Amendment by the States, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, last week issued a call to action to every Labor organization in the United States.

President Green declared that the Child Labor Amendment was "in a very distinctive way the work of our great leader, Samuel Gompers, and that ratification would be a peculiarly impressive expression of our regard" for him.

Addressing his proclamation to "The Workers of America," President Green said:

"The most important and urgent task of this New Year is the abolition of child labor. That children are employed in industry and commerce to the detriment of their full growth physically, mentally and spiritually, is a challenge to the ideals of our Republic and to the humanitarian spirit of our nation.

"As a nation we have twice expressed our desire to abolish child labor through the enactment of Federal legislation, and our experience demonstrated the need of constitutional authorization to make such law effective. This amendment is necessary to bring about unity in the regulation of child labor so that the children of all the States shall have equal opportunity to develop mentally and spiritually. The first step in securing that Federal amendment was completed with its approval by Congress. The next step is ratification by the various States.

"Forty-two State Legislatures are to meet in the year 1925. To secure

favorable action upon the amendment authorizing Congress to limit, regulate and prohibit the labor of persons under eighteen years of age we must concentrate our ability, our energy, our resources to that end.

"The enemies of the amendment are resourceful and vigilant. Though we are trebly equipped because of the justice, the humanity and the wisdom of our cause, there is grave need that we devote ourselves unreservedly to the ratification of the amendment by each of the States. I call upon all Labor to do its full share.

"This amendment was in a very distinctive way the work of our great leader, Samuel Gompers. The abolition of child labor was a purpose upon which he had deep feeling. He organized the Permanent Committee for the Abolition of Child Labor which formulated this amendment and urged its adoption by Congress. It will be a peculiarly impressive expression of regard for our former president to give the ratification of this amendment priority on all legislative programs.

"Though that portion of our movement which is in Canada is not directly concerned in this effort for the child labor amendment, yet they are directly affected by whatever standards we may secure. Is not the time opportune for the workers in Canada to weld another link in the bond uniting our economic movement by making the conservation of child life the paramount issue for the coming year?

"This is an undertaking with compelling appeal to the heart of the whole world. I urge whole-hearted cooperation."

American Federation of Labor Demands

New Trial for Sacco and Vanzetti

Justice readers will recall that the I. L. G. W. U. delegation at the last El Paso Convention of the American Federation of Labor had introduced a resolution (No. 42) demanding in the interests of justice and fair play a new trial for Sacco and Vanzetti, the two Italian workers incarcerated in a Massachusetts jail and convicted upon spurious evidence of first degree murder. This resolution was signed, in addition to our delegates, by President MacMahon of the United Textile Workers; Secretary Thomas Secretary of the Journeymen Tailors, and Secretary Andrew Wenzel of the International Fur Workers, and was adopted by the convention unanimously.

In a letter forwarded to President Morris Sigman and to all the other signatories to that resolution, President Green of the American Federa-

tion of Labor now conveys the information that he had already written, in conformity with the action of the El Paso Convention, to President Coolidge and to Governor Cox of Massachusetts transmitting to them the full text of the resolution and "requesting their sympathetic attention."

The Sacco-Vanzetti defense is now entering a new and decisive phase of its activity. The case is now in the hands of highly competent counsel and is daily gaining new support from all quarters. The drastic action of the trial judge in refusing a retrial after irrefutable evidence of rank perjury of the prosecution's witnesses had been presented to him has aroused indignation and warm sympathy for the accused men. The prompt action of President Green will no doubt line up the full support of organized Labor on their behalf.

Union Bank Nears Four Million

Mark at the End of First Year

The International Union Bank, the financial institution of the I. L. G. W. U. and of the other Labor and fraternal organizations affiliated with it, has concluded on January 5th the first year of its existence.

The Bank opened twelve months ago at its present office at 21st street and Fifth avenue with a capital stock of \$500,000 which was largely taken up by the groups affiliated with it. Now, after one year of existence, the International Bank has \$2,555,000 on deposit. The Bank has 1,300 commercial accounts and 2,550 special interest or savings accounts.

The Board of Directors of the International Union Bank, which includes most of the best known leaders of the New York Labor movement,

and its manager Philip R. Rodriguez, are highly elated with the progress of the Bank and anticipate for it a very successful period during 1925.

CORRECTION

In Justice of last week it was reported that the new executive board of Local 22 had appointed a committee to draft a resolution of appreciation of Brother Scheinholz's activities as secretary and leader of the dress-makers' organization for the past ten years. This is an error. It was not the new board but the outgoing committee which appointed that committee and which passed the resolution.

Pioneer Youth National Council To Meet Jan. 28

Sixteen heads of international Labor unions, State federations of Labor and district councils of international unions sent out a call this week for a conference of trade union delegates, to be held in the Auditorium of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, on Wednesday, January 28, for the purpose of launching a nation-wide campaign for a national children's movement featuring club activities and outdoor life. The movement is already functioning in New York.

The Labor officials signing the call represent such diversified workers' groups as the machinists, needle trades, firemen and others, and building trades, their unions claiming an aggregate of 400,000 members.

This is the first time that organized Labor has taken such a definite interest in a national way, in the education and development of workers' children. Every Labor union in New York City has been invited by the call to send three delegates to the conference, which will be the Second Annual Conference for Child Development. The first was held one year ago, when the unions and educators attending organized the National Association for Child Development, committed to the popularization of "Labor's social ideals" among children of the workers.

The association immediately got under way a boys' and girls' organization, known as the Pioneer Youth of America, under whose auspices a summer camp was conducted at Pawling, New York, during the past year. During the ten weeks of the camping season, 144 youngsters enjoyed the outdoor life and educational work of the camp. The Pioneer Youth are now conducting seventeen child-

ren's club in New York City, using Labor headquarters and school-buildings as meeting-places, and are organizing additional clubs, the clubs meeting in the following headquarters: Women's Trade Union League, Ethical Culture School, Harlem Educational Center, Walden School, Montessori School, P. S. 54, P. S. 25, Brownsville Labor Lyceum.

The committee of Labor men and women signing the call includes: James H. Maurer, President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; William H. Johnston, President of the International Association of Machinists; Thomas J. Curtis, President of the Subway and Tunnel Constructors' International Union and former New York State Compensation Commissioner; Morris Sigman, President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; Abraham Baroff, Secretary, and Fannia M. Cohn, head of the Educational Department of the same organization; Morris Kaufman, President of the International Fur Workers' Union, and Abraham Brownstein, Manager of the New York Joint Board of the same organization; Dr. Henry R. Linville, President of the New York Teachers' Union, and A. J. Maste of the American Federation of Teachers; Maud Swartz, National President of the Women's Trade Union League; Timothy Healy, President of the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers; Philip Unastader, President of the New York Printing Pressmen's Union; Philip Zauner, of the New York Building Trades Council; Max Zecherman, of the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers; Joseph Schenker, Secretary, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

Students Eager To Serve Labor

Sixty students from twenty-three colleges and universities in the East met in New York under the auspices of the League for Industrial Democracy in a Students' Conference which closed December 30 and passed resolutions calling for increased trade union officials to cooperate with the League in the placing of college students in industry. A genuine demand was apparent at this conference for more opportunities to serve Labor directly by college students.

Paul Blanchard, Field Secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, reported that he had spoken to 50,000 college students from Maine to California during the year 1924. About seventy-five student representatives from leading colleges and universities now comprise the student council of the organization with a student membership of about 3,000. Norman Thomas and Harry W. Laidler, executive directors of the organization, described the extensive editorial and pamphlet service of the organization as well as its work among adults. Stirring messages appealing for nationalization of mines, workers' education and civil liberties were brought to the students by John Brophy, President of District No. 2, United Mine Workers' Union; A. J. Maste, of Brookwood Labor College, and Roger N. Baldwin,

Director of the American Civil Liberties' Union.

Reports from the colleges sending delegates showed a great increase in the interest among college students in Labor problems and social change. In a plea for student support for the cooperative movement, Cedric Long of the Cooperative League of America declared that college groups are now occupying the leading positions of trust in the cooperative movement, and declared that the opportunity in this branch of development is even greater for college students than it is in the Labor movement.

Justine Wise, daughter of Stephen S. Wise, reported an interesting experiment of college students now working in New Jersey textile mills and receiving about seventeen dollars a week.

Step By Step

"Step by step the longest march
Can be won; can be won.
Single stone will form an arch
One by one, one by one.

"And by one, what we will
Can be all accomplished still,
Drops of water turn a mill,
Singly none, singly none."

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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MAX D. DANISH, School Editor.

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A Dangerous Argument

By NORMAN THOMAS

There is an argument very popular in America, even in trade union circles, which goes like this: American workers are better off than British workers. British workers have their own Labor party—American workers have not. Therefore the American tactics are better.

If that is a good argument we can match it. British workers are proportionately much better organized than American. There are actually more trade unionists in Great Britain than in the United States, though the total population is smaller. But the American workers are better off. Therefore trade unionism is a bad thing.

No Labor man will accept this argument for a minute when it is applied to trade unionism. Why, then, accept it so unhesitatingly with regard to political action?

Who Is Better Off?

Of course, the truth of the matter is that American workers are better off because of the vastly greater natural wealth of America, its freedom from some of the cramping traditions and practices of landlordism and feudalism, its escape from the most terrible effects of the war, and a number of other factors. That British workers are as well off as they are is in a large measure due to the fact that they are so well organized, primarily on the economic field, and secondarily on the political field. Such organization cannot make up altogether for pressure of population upon resources, the decline of foreign trade, the biological consequences of generations of underfed and underpaid workers which weigh so heavily on British Labor. On the other hand, proper organization would put American workers in a far better position than they are; and proper organization must take account of the political field.

William Green

To William Green, new President of the American Federation of Labor, we extend our congratulations and good wishes. He is a man of pleasing personality and fine character.

He is a conservative but we suspect that his conservatism may be over-emphasized. Mr. Green is a loyal member of a union which has repeatedly declared for nationalization of coal and which long ago broke completely with Ralph Easley's Civic Federation. (It would appear that the power of that organization for good or for evil is very real to its end.) He was the chairman of the Committee of the American Federation of Labor on Workers' Education at the last convention and vigorously championed the very comprehensive report which was then adopted. If this is the record of a conservative, it is at least not the record of a reactionary or a stand-patter.

What Gompers Left

More significant than many of the eulogies of Samuel Gompers is the simple fact that his estate is reported not to exceed \$10,000 in value. That is pretty good proof that Samuel Gompers cared for other things more than wealth. Imagine the chances for easy money and profitable investments which must have come in the way of the President of the American Federation of Labor during more than three decades of service. The man who is discouraged by an occasional Breitfeld in the Labor movement ought to remember the modest size of Gompers' estate.

Labor Building Homes

We are deeply interested in the announcement that the needle trades' unions of New York, chiefly through the medium of their two banks, the Amalgamated and the International Union Bank, are to encourage the building of attractive modern apartments in place of the unsanitary tenements in which too many of their members now live. Their first venture will soon be begun on a modest and experimental scale. With all our hearts we hope that it will succeed, for we can imagine no better use to which the Labor unions can put their financial strength than in providing decent and attractive housing, on a sound financial basis, without profligating.

Injunction Process Is 2,500 Years Old

By ANDREW FURUSETH

History gives the birth of the tribunian power as the year 494 before the Christian era. The cause is given as an intense struggle between the plebeians and the patricians in Rome. The power given to the tribun was a power to delay action. If the tribun thought that an injustice was about to be done to any individual plebeian in a court, he could stop all further consideration of the case during his tribunian, which lasted for one year. If he thought that a law would work serious hardship upon the plebeians, as a class, he could forbid the publication of such law during his own "tribunian."

The power of the tribun was absolute and irresponsible. The tribun's person was sacrosanct, and to criticize him or to assault him was punishable by death. When the several powers within the Roman republic were merged in the person of Caesar, he became tribunician for a time, as he became personification of all other powers. When the powers vested in Caesar or emperors, who succeeded them, the person of the Caesar or emperor became inviolable and it is here we have the origin of the divine right of kings and of the judges sitting for and acting for the kings. This is why it is yet called the court and why any contempt of court may be punished summarily by the judges.

Less majestic and contempt of court is the same thing and comes to us from the same source. There must, of course, be order and decorum in the court or its functions would be seriously impaired. But when the court of today exercises the identical powers that the tribun— and after him the Caesars, emperors and kings—exercised, we have a right to protest and look for a remedy because the power of the king has been curtailed. When the power is now used by the judges to protect the strong against the weak in lieu of protecting the weak against the strong, we are all the more within our rights in protesting and seeking to find and to apply a proper remedy.

The struggle over the exercise of the tribunian power in Great Britain

is known as the struggle between the law courts and the chancery courts— in other words, between the King and the People. This contest was waged for fully two centuries and came to a final close when William and Mary became the joint sovereigns of England. The accession to power of William and Mary brought a new and improved Bill of Rights, under which the rights and safety of the individual became definitely settled. The British Government could no longer use the chancery power in Great Britain except for specific purposes and under specific conditions. But it used the power in the colonies, especially in the American States. This resulted in the Declaration of Independence, in which one of the great indictments was that the colonies had been deprived of their rights to be tried by law and were subjected to the jurisdiction of the chancery court—the equity court. In substance, this was the old tribunian power—resurrected to get away from the trend toward democratic institutions and Government by law as distinct from Government by autocratic, irresponsible power.

The tribunian power, which is absolute and irresponsible, can not exist together with democratic institutions, unless the absolute power is definite in its jurisdiction and so hedged about that it can not extend that jurisdiction at will or under temptations too great for poor mortals to bear.

The idea that the lawyer who has served in the House of Representatives or in the Senate will be any more true to his oath as a judge than he was as a legislator—and both swear a like oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States—is an idea more in accord with the modern school of Americanism than with any thought found in the writings of any of the fathers of that Americanism of which we all are justly so proud. Life tenure of office did not protect the kings or the dynasties in the past, nor does it do so in the present. And again he'll said reverently, but emphatically—judges are men.

Our Water-Power

By DR. HARRY W. LAIDLER

II.

How Our Water-Power Is Being Given Away

As soon as the Water-Power Bill was passed, private corporations, which before had held off because of the insecurity of their investment, flooded the commission with applications for licenses. The 1922 report of the Commission glories in the fact that, in the two years of the operation of the Act, more than 321 applications were received, involving an excess of 26,000,000 horse-power, an amount "more than twice the existing water-power installation of the United States, and more than six times the aggregate of all applications for water sites under Federal control in the preceding twenty years," and one-third of potential horse-power in the country under the present conditions. For a new field of highly profitable and safe investment had been opened up to the business interests overnight.

Action on applications involving nearly half of these 26,000,000 horse-power—namely, those on the St. Lawrence, the Columbia and the Colorado Rivers—has been temporarily suspended pending reports of investigating commissions and, in the case of the St. Lawrence River, a possible treaty with Canada. During 1921-1922, however, licenses were granted

for the operation of plants with a capacity of nearly 2,000,000, and preliminary permits for the construction of plants with an even larger capacity (2,400,000) were granted.

A fifty-year license was issued, for instance, to the Niagara Falls Power Company, and this company was permitted to use for the next fifty years of 19,500 cubic feet per second from the upper Niagara, out of a possible 20,000 cubic feet, which treaty agreements with Canada permit this country to divert from the Falls. A similar license was issued to the Southern California Edison Company. Still another firm has obtained a preliminary permit to survey the water possibilities of the lower Niagara. The Commission regrets that it hasn't been able to attend to all of the applications, and is intent on leasing the available water-power to private companies in the shortest possible time.

If the policy of the Federal Water-Power Commission prevails, before many years practically all of the water-power rights on the public lands and navigable streams of the United States will have been given away to private corporations for a period of from twenty-five to fifty years, chiefly for the latter period. Once under private control, it will be indeed difficult

to get the water-power and the plants into the hands of the public.

The Super-Power Trust

There is a definite movement on foot to connect up the transmission lines of steam-driven plants with those of water-driven plants in a vast national super-power system. There is also a strong drive on the part of the American Super-Power Corporation to gain control of the largest possible number of electric light companies in this country. A few months ago—October 11, 1924—the New York Times made the following report: "A plan to bring a huge super-power combination through the purchase of stock interest in a number of the largest and most prosperous public utility corporations in the country received substantiation today when the interests identified with the American Super-Power Corporation became known."

Then followed a list of officers and directors, men prominent in the General Electric Company, the Electric Bond and Share Company, the Public Service Corporation of America, the United Gas Improvement Company, the United Light and Power Company, etc.

"Since the incorporation of the American Super-Power Corporation in November," continues the article, "its activities have been conducted with the utmost secrecy so far as the general public is concerned. According to the corporation's own statement to its stockholders, it was organized to

acquire interests in the various power and light companies in the United States and to cooperate with the management of such companies to further the best interests of the electrical industry. The properties mentioned, with their affiliated companies," the Times states, "serve communities in virtually every part of the country . . . and it is believed that its objective is eventually a power arrangement of the first magnitude, embracing not only a tie-up of the properties mentioned, but additional properties in which the company is entitled under its articles of incorporation to acquire interest."

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Labor Legislation On A World-Wide Scale

By DR. HERMAN FRANK

Our five years of experience with the League of Nations, heralded as the beginning of a new epoch in world policies, has not yet created among us the faith in a better future for mankind. The Governments of the world are still regarding each other with mutual suspicion as they did for decades prior to the World War. High tariff barriers are still making naught of all efforts for economic cooperation between peoples, and fear, distrust and envy are still the determining factors of international policy.

The faint hopes of last summer, after the preliminary elections in Germany and France had brought some cheer to the hearts of the pessimists, are by this time nearly vanished. It would seem that, just at the time when the political power in England had been turned over to the Labor Party and in France a democratic alliance assumed the reins of government, the economic power became more and more concentrated in the hands of a few financial magnates. The London conference on the Dawes Plan fully substantiated this.

The revenue power of Germany has now definitely been placed under the control of the international bankers and taxation in that country, as before, will continue to fall as a heavy burden upon the poorer classes in particular. The German State-owned railways have been denationalized together with all other public-owned enterprises and turned over to a group of financiers. The Dawes Plan, from which the solution of the entangled reparations problem is expected, is based, for instance, on such a "democratic" proposal that passengers of the fourth class on the German railways are henceforth to pay higher rates as a source of revenue toward reparations. The political crisis in England last fall and the subsequent installation of the Tories into power and the result of the elections in America have removed every doubt that may have existed before that the power of the international money

bags has in recent months increased enormously.

Under such circumstances prevailing the world over, the least sign of international solidarity here and there performs deserves special attention, inasmuch as it serves to dispel, even though for a brief moment, the dominating gloom. Among these few rays of sunlight on the dark horizon of European reality in the past five years, we may mention the generous relief work of the English and American Quakers in Russia and Germany, the help of the international proletariat given to the famine-stricken in Russia and to the unemployed in Germany.

Such expressions of humanity have not only a moral but a considerable practical and political significance. Already thirty years ago such feelings of sympathy and commiseration with the poverty-ridden and oppressed strata in our social organism had begun to be translated into the form of so-called social legislation. The more enlightened groups in the advanced countries of the world were beginning to display impatience with a state of affairs which would permit the loss of thousands of lives in industry annually from the effect of poisonous gases, and the cruelty of allowing women and children to toil in industry long hours or at night soon became a recognized iniquity. The growing Labor movement in Europe found an ally in its fight against these intolerable practices among an ever-widening section of the public opinion which demanded a more humane treatment of the workers.

This movement did not stop at the boundary of one country. In 1897 the first international congress for the protection of Labor was held in Zurich, Switzerland, which prepared a program of social-political legislation for all industrial countries. Its slogan was: Human labor in all civilized countries must not be converted into a new form of slavery; in the backward countries an end must be made to all degrading forms of labor. So-

cial reformers and ministers of the gospel participated in this congress side by side with liberal-minded politicians, economists, and Labor leaders.

It appeared, however, very soon that concrete results in the realm of social-political legislation could only be achieved if undertaken on an international basis, i. e., in the form of joint legislation for all industrial countries. Competition between each of these lands demanded that the differences in social legislation be not too wide and pronounced if the laws are to have any practical effect. The sentiment of international solidarity without which no understanding in such a vital matter as industrial and factory legislation can be effected has not yet shown any development, though some neighboring countries, like France and Italy, have already begun entering into agreements which granted their nationals on the territory of the other country the same privileges and rights accorded the workers of the home country. The first treaty of this kind had been entered between the above mentioned countries in 1904 and by the beginning of the World War there were thirteen such industrial agreements in force in Europe.

Still, the conviction that through international legislation only that would offer like protection to workers the world over could a world-wide industrial code be effected was still lacking. Only in 1906, i. e., less than twenty years ago, there took place in Bern, at the invitation of the Swiss Government, the first international conference for a social legislation which adopted two international agreements or as they are called conventions, which became the first international treaties in the realm of factory legislation. One of these concerned the prohibition of woman and child labor at night and the other prohibited the use of poisonous white sulphur in industry. Only twelve countries adopted this treaty, five of them having signed at once (Germany, France, Holland, Denmark and Swit-

zerland), while the remaining seven attached their signatures later (England, Canada, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa and Spain). With this came to an end the first chapter of international factory legislation, the period from 1876 to 1914.

The war and its sequence, the Versailles Treaty, has wrought tremendous changes with regard to international Labor legislation. During the years of the war the power of organized Labor increased tremendously and the governments though reluctantly were compelled to recognize their debt to the working classes who had borne the brunt of the burden everywhere. The international trade union movement had during that period adopted at congresses and deliberative assemblies several radical programs calling for immediate social reforms and demanding their enactment. It demanded the abolition of child labor, the introduction of the eight-hour work day, the unabridged right of collective bargaining, free immigration and emigration of workers, etc. It further demanded that these reforms be written into the peace treaty and become an industrial code for Labor all over the world.

The peace conference, however, did not adopt this program. The American Labor delegation at the Peace Conference in particular objected to this program. Not because the American Labor men were opposed to these demands as such, but on the ground that these enactments were in violation of the American constitution and contrary to States' rights principles and could not therefore be made obligatory in the United States. They also pointed out the futility of the adoption of such a code for America in view of the prerogatives of the United States Supreme Court which could annul it as far as the United States was affected.

For a while it seemed as if the cause of international Labor legislation had been lost. The most important industrial country in the world was opposed to it and without its cooperation any further effort in this direction seemed futile. The English delegation then proposed a compromise plan which was accepted. It called for the formation of an inter-

(Continued on Page 11)

To a Defeated Striker

-:-

By S. A. De WITT and
BOARDMAN ROBINSON

LOST again? Down again? The master leers

His gloating over you as if this were

The end of a fierce wrestling with the years

Of drudge and plodding through a stupid blur.

DOWN again? Lost again? Aye, down in flesh

Flattened to earth and stunted utterly

But for a senseless moment . . . then afresh

The numbed brain clears and sets the body free.

YOU rise and brace your shoulders firm and square

To the four ends of earth and wind and sky,

And though the pain of wounds be cruel to bear

You shrug the torment down without a sigh—

But about these words into the ears of men—

"Tomorrow, masters, we will meet again!"

By S. A. De WITT,



JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

THE NEW BUDGET

The leaders of our Union are not reformers for reform's sake. They are not lying awake nights to think up innovations. Quite the contrary: they believe that whatever serves best the interests of the workers, though not brand new, should be preserved. Tradition, on the other hand, means just as little to them and they stand ready to scrap anything that stands in the way of progress and the constant improvement of our organization.

Invariably the substituting of the new for the old in the life of an organization involves conflict. There always is an element in a trade union that clings to the old either for sentimental or material, personal reasons. That element can always be relied upon to raise the cry of "break-up" and "demoralization" every time an attempt is made to relegate a certain union fixture or institution to the scrap heap. As a rule, however, these alarms avail them nothing in the long run, for life is stronger than any clamor and the outworn and outlived in our midst eventually gives way to its stern demands.

A case in point is the union of two joint boards in the cloak and dress trades of New York City into one last year. Another example is the recent consolidation of the three separate cloak operators' locals in New York City into one body. There was clamor and tumult galore in both instances and the shout was raised heavenward that the union would face ruin if it carried out its intent to a logical conclusion. Somewhat of a similar "storm" is being raised at the present moment in connection with the report of the budget committee of the New York Joint Board which proposes to cut its expenses \$200,000 a year without in the least curtailing its activities.

It is true that for many years this Joint Board has had two secretaries—recording and financial—each with a definite scope of activity, each earning honestly his keep. This fact, however, does not argue decisively against the abolition of one of these offices. Perhaps time has by now proved that it is best that these two offices be occupied by one person in stead of two; and it is also quite likely that the present moment is the best adapted for economy in a place where it would not be felt. The "conservatives" are, nevertheless, up in arms against this proposal and they predict dire results or the union if it is enacted. We are, however, inclined to believe that there jeremiads will die a natural death and the reforms as introduced, as put forth by the demands of the organization, will be fully approved and carried out.

The meeting of the New York Joint Board last Friday gave the opponents of the new economy measures as embodied in the budget full opportunity to voice their fears and lamentations. It was a battle royal, and, of course, the side which defended the new budget won out. It won on the merits of its argument, for it would indeed have been a sad moment in its history if the Joint Board were to have remained deaf and blind to the powerful array of facts so ably presented by the budget committee. That the Joint Board must retain both secretaries simply because it has become a tradition to maintain them is a worthless argument, opposed to logic and good sense and indicative of the inability of those who made use of it to move along with the times.

The meeting, after an all-around discussion, adopted the first point of the new budget committee's program which calls for the abolition of the two secretarial offices, with all their assistants, and consolidates them into one. The budget committee consists of such an expert group of Labor men as Israel Feinberg, manager of the Joint Board; Joseph Fish, its financial secretary; Meyer Perlestein, manager of Local 2; Louis Hyman, manager of Local 9; Julius Portnoy, manager of Local 22; Luigi Antonini, manager of Local 89, and Morris Nachlin, the chairman of the Joint Board. Each of these men is thoroughly familiar with the financial condition of the Joint Board and knows where and how economies in it can be made. May we expect that the opponents of the new budget will now recognize the futility of further opposition when the remainder of its clauses come up for discussion and will graciously abandon their opposition and give a helping hand in enacting the whole budget? It is difficult, of course, to prophesy in this regard. For the moment let us point out a few of the salient motives upon which the budget committee is basing its recommendations.

It is an irrefutable fact, all cynical comment to the contrary notwithstanding, that the last stoppage in the cloak industry has reduced considerably the number of sub-standard shops in

the trade which in the past have required ardent and incessant control. It would stand to reason, therefore, that with the decrease of the field of their activity the number of the controllers and business agents should be reduced. The budget committee makes this its second recommendation, pointing out that a trade union which is supported solely by contributions from its members cannot permit itself the luxury of employing more agents than what is actually needs for its work. The committee proposes to reduce the number of district managers and complaint clerks from three to two each for the cloak and dress departments alike.

The budget committee also recommends to reduce the number of the cloak business agents of the Joint Board from sixty-eight to forty-three on the ground that the present situation requires no larger staff. The down-town office, for instance, the committee points out, controls 262 shops, and for this territory it suggests a staff of seven persons—one manager, five business agents and one dues collector. It is quite clear that a business agent working on an average of six hours a day can control about fifty shops per week, and it is also common knowledge that, by far, not all shops in any given district require urgent attention on the part of the controllers every single week of the year.

It is all too obvious therefore that the budget committee has a great deal of "sweetening" of the business agent staff, especially when it is remembered that in important cases they are assisted by their managers, the general manager of the Joint Board, or, as the situation may require, even by the general officers of the International.

That the budget committee did not intend to inaugurate a general slashing policy is best evidenced by the fact that it proposes to make necessary economies by such economies ought to be introduced. Its proposal, for instance, refers almost entirely to the cloak division, while in the dress division, which employs only a staff of twenty-five persons, it suggests but the elimination of one manager. "What concerns the dress business agents," states the report, "their number should remain the same as before, as the number of shops controlled by each agent makes a reduction impossible."

We shall have an opportunity, after the full report of the budget committee is adopted, to return to this subject. We shall then be in an even better position to point out the urgency and timeliness of this whole financial and administrative program. It is, of course, very important to save for the Union \$100,000 annually, but it is of even greater importance to so coordinate the work of the Union as to obtain a maximum amount of service and effort from the persons employed by the Union to do its work for it.

The demagogic cry against so-called "job-holding," has never made an impression upon us. We never placed any faith in its sincerity as we knew too well that these "job-holders" have been and are the Union's best workers and defenders. But when circumstances demand that the number of the officers employed in an organization be reduced, the right thing to do is to carry out the program of economy and not to expose the organization to any risk or danger of demoralization.

One more word and we are through. Unfortunately, in most every situation, no matter how simple or obvious, there are persons who seem eager to explain every act and move which for the moment they may not like on the ground of "politics" and "partisanishp." We have these specimens in our Union, too, and with the aid of their "red" brethren they are now endeavoring to cast the odium of "machine" and "politics" upon the proposals of the budget committee as well.

Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The personnel of the budget committee, which consists of leaders of various shades of political and trade union opinion, amply attests to that. These men are all of one mind as regards the urgent reforms required for the efficient administration of the Union. They will not be disturbed by the hue and cry of the irresponsibles. They have had the courage and the wisdom to bring forth their recommendations regardless of all opposition, because they are convinced that they are in the right, and that the interests of the Union demand it that these changes be introduced forthwith.

THE COMING ELECTIONS IN LOCAL 2

Elsewhere in this issue, the reader will find a communication by President Sigman addressed to the members of executive board of Local 2 in which he notifies them that the ninety-day period for which they had been appointed to administer the affairs of the cloak operators' organization is coming to an end in the last week of January and that the local must now nominate and elect a permanent executive board to take care of its business.

The operators' local did not have to remind the president of the International of its right to elect its own officers. President Sigman was first to serve this notice upon it. Not because the provisional committee had failed to come up to the standard of an efficient administrative body, but for the sole reason that our Union is founded upon the idea and practice of democracy, and President Sigman never loses sight of this fact. When the re-constructive period of Local 2 is about to come to an end, it is time to remind it to take its own affairs in hand and elect its own administrators.

In the same letter, President Sigman suggests that the election of a manager-secretary for the new local be laid over until its executive board is duly organized. Our readers know that when the provisional board took charge of the affairs of Local 2,

1924 In American Industry

A Survey and A Forecast

Three phases can be distinguished in the economic history of the United States during 1924. There was first a comparatively uneventful period of stability at a fairly high level of production, employment, trade and prices, which was really the culmination of the upward readjustment which commenced in the late Autumn of 1923. Toward the middle of March a decline set in and the downward trend lasted well through the early summer. This second period was one of depression, which, though it did not reach the proportion of the 1921-1922 slump either in magnitude or duration, was, nevertheless, of considerable moment. As an indication of the extent of the let-up of activity, the following figures are illuminating. The volume of production of manufacturing industries dropped twenty-four per cent from the high point in March to the low in June and July, according to the index of the Federal Reserve Board; and, according to the same authority, the production of basic commodities fell twenty per cent over the period. There was a drop of thirty-five per cent in the steel output of the United States Steel Corporation between February and July, accompanied by a restriction of operations from ninety-five per cent of capacity in March to forty-four per cent in July. The total volume of factory employment throughout the United States, however, fell twelve per cent, while the decline in wholesale prices amounted to only five per cent from the peak in February to the trough in June, according to the indices of the Department of Labor. There are only some of the more important indicators of business conditions which testify to the nature of the downward movement.

Toward the close of July and during August the first signs of a recovery appeared, with most of the business indicators beginning to reverse their previous trend. To cite just one or two examples, unfilled steel orders, after six successive months to which declines, made a slight gain from July to August; and wholesale prices registered their first advance in July after an unbroken fall of four months. This third period—recovery—lasted throughout the remainder of the year. It was very marked in the stock market, but much less noticeable in production and trade in goods themselves. The stock market derived a great "psychological" stimulus from the overwhelming election of Calvin Coolidge and the decisive defeat of the Progressive party, with the promise of favorable legislation for the business world which this situation was believed to hold. Further statistical details covering the month of November and also the ups and downs of the entire year are reserved for the Monthly Summaries which follow.

It is interesting to note that conditions at the close of 1924 were, judging from outward manifestations, very similar to those which prevailed twelve months previous. It remains to be seen whether fundamentals are sounder; whether the present upward trend will, like last year's, lose its vitality after another two or three months; or whether it will be of a

more enduring nature. There is no doubt that the financial and business world expects the latter. Virtually all the new year prognostications that have appeared so far are optimistic in the extreme. Further on we will say a few words about the future ourselves, but first we shall attempt to explain briefly the causes of the 1924 cycle of depression and recovery.

The failure to sustain the level of the early months of the year was, in the main, the result of a productive equipment too large to permit the absorption, under conditions then prevailing, of all the goods that could be turned out. On the side of production the difficulty was a heritage from the war and post-war boom. On the side of consumption, the evil had several roots. The chief one was probably the fact that our large farming population was suffering, and for three years been suffering, from an unfavorable price situation which restricted its purchasing power to the detriment of the business structure in general. Another outstanding one was the foreign situation. On the one hand, the importation of cheap goods, though not of general significance, was a real factor in some industries; on the other hand, and of far greater moment, was the inability of American industry to find markets abroad for its surplus. This surplus could not be absorbed at home because of inadequate purchasing power of the wage-earning and farming population.

Undoubtedly the most significant single cause to which the fall recovery can be attributed was the improved status of the farming population. A world shortage coupled with a plentiful crop in this country created better prices for farm products and a

larger aggregate income for farmers than had prevailed since 1920. With the notable exception of corn, all the important grains registered decided advances. Wheat jumped forty cents within a short time. Live stock and other products also rose in price, and the improvements came early enough to permit the actual producers to secure a considerable share of the benefits for themselves. The manufacturing industry as well as the distribution movement felt an immediate stimulus, and the railroads were given a large volume of grain, livestock, raw materials and merchandise to haul.

Another factor making for recovery was the sustained activity of the construction industry which many had feared was destined to fall off sharply after eighteen months of high-priced building.

A large influence, too, was the substantial financial recuperation of the European nations. Stable currencies were established in Hungary, Austria and Germany. French francs more than doubled in value from their low point in the spring, and English pounds closed the year with a dollar exchange value, only thirteen cents below parity. The acceptance of the Dawes Plan opened the way to the commercial recovery of Germany, though it imposed what must prove an onerous burden upon German labor. The defeat of the Jingo government of M. Poincaré in France, the modifying influence of nine months of a Labor regime in England and the declining power of both extremist parties in Germany—the communists and the royalists—helped toward the preservation of peace in Europe, though by no means removing the

branches, has assured the business community that its efforts will not be hampered by "hostile" legislation—that surtaxes and excess profits taxes will be reduced, that the publicity provisions of the tax laws will be eliminated, that the tariff wall will be maintained, that the railroads will be helped, that the soldiers' bonus and the postal employees' wages will not be increased and that there will be a "minimum of government in business." The mental attitude resulting from the election has had an immediately buoyant effect on Wall Street speculation. Whether it will have the same effect on business at large, and whether any resulting expansion will be well grounded in more substantial economic factors, remains to be seen. For however much the Government may do for special business interests, continued prosperity can arise only from an increased purchasing power of the general population, which may be injured rather than helped by favors to the property owners.

Finally the upturn in business during the past four months must be viewed also as a natural reaction from the previous months of dullness. The hand-to-mouth buying which then retarded industry also served to keep down stocks of raw materials and merchandise and created a situation which was bound to have a stimulating effect as soon future date. The favorable credit structure has, of course, furnished fertile soil for the development of the upswing. If rapidly increasing production should be induced by too low interest rates and should result in building up too large stocks, the eventual result could be a more serious depression than would otherwise have taken place.

As to the future, we believe that on the whole this country does face several months' of increasing prosperity. We shall not predict further ahead than this, but shall content ourselves with pointing out some of the contingencies that should be considered in connection with what lies before us.

Will farm prices be maintained if the coming year should be one of ample harvests throughout the world, instead of crop shortages as in 1924? What will be the result if 1925 sees a relapse of the farmers toward their 1921-1923 condition?

Assuming that the recovery of Europe will furnish large markets for American goods, may this not be more than counterbalanced by the flood of cheap goods turned out by the rehabilitated countries? How else, for example, can Germany pay the indemnity stipulated in the Dawes Plan then by the manufacture and export of tremendous volumes of merchandise?

The prosperity of the building industry has resulted to a large extent from the demands for dwellings the construction of which was neglected during the war years. The industry has fast been making inroads into the accumulated shortage. How long before it will catch up, and what then?

How long will the "better business psychology" be effective in stimulating optimism?

How long will current purchasing power be sufficient to absorb the increasing output of industries? Will factory inventories again become top-heavy and merchants' shelves overcrowded? Will wages rise rapidly enough so that these shelves can be kept empty?

Will our cheap money and large surplus gold supply lead to inflation, such as occurred in 1919-1920, eventually followed by a collapse?

If these questions and many others could be answered with certainty, then thoroughly reliable predictions might be made. But if they cannot, as we believe they cannot, then it is not safe to plan too far ahead on the basis of the present hopes of prosperity.—Facts for Workers.

Carry On!

"It's easy to fight when everything's right
And you're mad with the thrill and the glory;
It's easy to cheer when victory's near
And wallow in fidda that are gory.
It's a different song when everything's warg,
When you're feeling infernally mortal;
When it's ten against one and hope there is none,
Buck up, little soldier, and chortle.

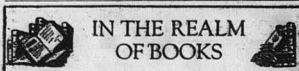
"And so in the strife of the battle of life
It's easy to fight when you're winning,
It's easy to slave, to starve and be brave,
When the dawn of success is beginning.
But the man who can meet despair and defeat
With a cheer, there's the man of God's choosing,
The man who can fight to heaven's own height,
Is the man who can fight when he's losing.

"There are some who drift out in the deserts of doubt,
And some who in brutishness wallow;
There are others I know, who in pity go
Because of a heaven to picky go.
But to labor with zest, and to give of your best,
For the sweetness and joy of the giving;
To help folks along with a hand and a song,
Why there's the sweet sunshine of living."

President Sigman also designated Vice-president Perlestein as its administrator. It had been expected at that time that the merger of the three locals would proceed in a normal and unobstructed manner. The events that followed have disappointed us all very deeply. Today, however, the merger is well-nigh complete as the deplorable opposition on the part of the clique from former Local 17 has finally petered out and no more of it remains. The local will now be in a position to elect its own manager. Until that takes place, after the new executive board of the local is solidly organized, Vice-president Perlestein has consented, at the request of President Sigman, to occupy the office of secretary-manager of the operators' organization.

underlying causes which breed wars. Increased exports of merchandise and of capital from the United States during the closing month of the year were the result of this general betterment of European affairs, and the optimism over our future is based to no inconsiderable degree upon the hope of further progress in this direction.

As before mentioned, the election of Mr. Coolidge, with a Congress apparently "safe and sane" in both



Wind-Up

The Labor Press For November and December.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

The end of a year—and of an era. It is remarkable how many journals, publicists and students have professed to see in the passing of Samuel Gompers the end of a phase of American Labor's development. Only strong men can so identify themselves with an epoch; and there is no mistake in the testimony in the unanimity of the tribute his death evoked to the fact that Samuel Gompers was the expression of a period of our Labor history. The same year which took Gompers from out the ranks of Labor removed also another of its historic figures: Terence V. Powderly, for fourteen years Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, died several months before the Chief of the American Federation of Labor. To Powderly's organization belongs to history, Gompers' to the present. Thus the greatest leaders came and go; the mass goes on forever.

Comments from the Labor journals whose issues appear monthly upon their leader's passing are now appearing. But the weeklies, much as our own Justice, have already noted with sorrow the fact that Samuel Gompers is Dead. There was a stunned undertone in the headlines that bore those tidings: Labor apparently finds it hard to realize that the man whose hand helped guide the destinies of the organization for over forty years is now powerless in death.

The successor who has been chosen to take Gompers' place, although well known to most union workers, receives full and early introduction through the weeklies. Labor, for instance, makes the life of the new leader its front page story. On December 19, it says, William Green was chosen by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to "carry forward" from where the man who has gone left off. Naturally, a great deal of interest centers in this man. Who is William Green? What manner of man is he? Labor's resume of the facts include the following:

William Green

Born at Coshokton, Ohio, on March 2, 1875, William Green is now in the prime of life. His father was a miner who had emigrated from England, his mother came from Wales. Married himself, William Green is the father of five daughters and a son. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and of the Masons, Elks and Odd Fellows. "He neither drinks liquor nor uses tobacco."

In the mines, when he was eighteen, his active union life began early. From 1900 to 1906 he was a sub-district president, and from 1906 to 1912 president of the Ohio District of the United Mine Workers. In 1912 he was elected International secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, and the following year he became a vice-president and member of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, succeeding the late John Mitchell in that office. In addition he has held various political offices. A delegate-at-large from Ohio to various Democratic conventions, he pushed Labor's non-partisan political policy through attempts to win support for Labor's program from that group. He served two terms in the Ohio State Senate, of which he was floor leader one term and president the other. During this service

he introduced and secured enactment of the Ohio Workmen's Compensation Law, which has been accepted by organized Labor as the model for other States to adopt. Such is the personality and record of the new president of the American Federation of Labor.

And the Year That Has Gone The December journals carry reminders that the year, too, has gone with the leader it took 1924! What an eventful year in Labor history. The reviews appearing in the journals of 1924's events carry ample proof of its moment to all of us. Labor, The Locomotive Engineers Journal, The American Federationist, The Machinists Monthly Journal, from the pages of these and many others, one can make out Labor's balance accruing from 1924.

In the Industrial Field

There are gains and losses as usual in the industrial conflict, but the gains are of a remarkably constructive nature. According to the Monthly Labor Review, the union rate of wages per hour in 1924 was 138 per cent higher than the same rate in 1907; the full time hours worked per week some nine per cent lower. In the same period the cost of living has risen sixty-six per cent. The year itself brought surprises. In spite of our boasted cool Coolidge prosperity there was a decrease of ten per cent in the number gainfully employed in December, 1924, over December, 1923. Millions are looking for work and cannot find it. The year was comparatively free of great strikes: The shopmen are still battling some stubborn roads, our own union won its remarkable new agreement merely by a strike threat—and the arbitration that followed, the Bakers' Union is battling the Ward interest and the octopus trust in it is being merged. A wage controversy with the railroad men brought the contest between the Railroad Labor Board and Railroad Brotherhoods which is still in stubborn progress.

The conflictive gains of Labor are many and momentous. Out of the shopmen's strike came the new famous Baltimore & Ohio cooperative plan, by which shop employees and railroad officials unite "for the elimination of waste, betterment of shop operating methods and the stabilizing of employment . . . and to bring back into industry that factor which machinery has ground out of it—the joy of the worker in his work."

The garment industry saw the launching of various experiments in unemployment insurance, especially on the part of the Cloth Cap and Hat Makers, the Furriers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and our own union. These experiments are being watched with interest by the entire Labor movement.

The injunction is still with us—but in the Michaelson Case, reviewed below, Labor won its first signal victory under the Clayton Act.

In the Realm of International Affairs Labor's activities as a great and functioning institution also brought many constructive gains and experiments. The indorsement of the Workers' Education Bureau by the American Federation of Labor and its recommendation of educational activity to its constituent unions led to the launching of workers' classes on the part of many unions. The Labor

Banking movement brought Labor's banks to twenty-four and also carried with it the growth of those already established. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers embarked upon the old-line insurance business, ready to seek business wherever it could be found. The miners are making a first attempt to help stabilize their industry through the old and tried tactic by means of the long-time Jacksonville Agreement. And the Amalgamated Clothing Workers are still discussing the plan submitted by David Wolf for the reorganization of the New York Joint Board.

But probably the outstanding event in the union camp was the support given by Labor to the political campaign of "third party" La Follette and Wheeler. That story has been reviewed fully in these columns. Suffice it to mention now that without adequate organization or funds this third party attempt polled some 5,000,000 votes, more than won by any previous attempt of a similar nature. Practically united Labor support has been tendered to three legislative endeavors: the Postal Wage Increase Bill, the Howell-Barkley Bill, and the Child Labor Amendment.

And the World

Politics was Labor's chief interest during 1924 in international affairs. This year saw the rise and fall of a Labor Government in England, the ascendancy of a Socialist Government under Herriot in France, the gain of the Socialist Party in Germany in

numerical strength, although it still counts a minority (but the strongest) party in the republic. Mexico elected the first Labor President on the Western hemisphere—in the person of Plutarco Elias Calles. And in Russia Lenin has died and—if our sources of information can be trusted—Trotsky's power is on the wane.

To all appearances, 1924-left reaction in the saddle. Cool Cal in America, the Tories swept to power in England with their immediate reopening of the Singapore project, and Egyptian reprisals, which are "nobody's business but ours," the still triumphant Fascists in Italy and the dictatorship in Spain. The horizon is still black with threatening clouds.

And Other Things

Wind-ups are the occasion for reminiscence—and so events of immediate moment have been crowded to the end lines in this summary. Yet several things from the November journals must be mentioned. The Locomotive Engineers Journal's reminder that Sacco and Vanzetti are now definitely in the shadow of the electric chair should be taken to heart by all workers. The sentencing of Don Chafin notorious Labor baiter, to prison for two years as a bootlegger, as noted by the United Mine Workers Journal, is a cause for satisfaction among all union members. But, perhaps, the fact of most frequent mention on the part of the Labor journals during November was Labor's victory in the Michaelson Case.

Arthur Gleason

By FANNIA M. COHN

A year has elapsed since the death of Arthur Gleason. It was on December 31, 1923, that the newspapers carried the sad news that in a hospital in Washington, D. C., Arthur Gleason had expired at the age of forty-five. It is painful to accept the inevitable when death lays its destructive hand on a friend who is still in the prime of life.

There are some talented people who with their death hardly take much with them. All they possessed they leave in writing, in clay, or in some other form. But there are others whose greatness is embodied in themselves. Never does the writing left behind them express their personality, their heart and soul. With these goes a beautiful mind and soul, and it is only in the memory of intimate friends that their spiritual being lives. Such a man was Arthur Gleason.

But is it not possible for those who knew him most intimately and understood his nobility, and who possess the gift of letters, to preserve the memory of their departed friend in writing? I am certain that Arthur Gleason had, amongst his many friends, such persons. Especially is his death lamentable at present when the idea which he sponsored, Workers' Education within the trade unions, is becoming more and more of a reality; and the Labor Movement is beginning more and more to appreciate the following assertion, which is an excerpt from his pamphlet on Workers' Education:

"It is idle to debate whether workers' education can be controlled by others than workers. It cannot be controlled by 'public' authorities, by universities, by middle-class persons, it is adult education. It is education. It is useful. But it is not workers' education. Workers' education can no more be outside the Labor movement than a trade union. It is as definite an expression of the Labor movement as the trade union. When the union is guided by outside benefactors it becomes a 'company' union, a welfare club. When education of the workers is controlled by other organ-

izations than the organization of the workers, it remains inside the category of adult education, but it passes out of that special kind of adult education which is workers' education."

It was with him a deep-seated desire that the worker create his own intellectual and spiritual values.

He combined in him both the poet and the realist. He realized that while the driving force in the Labor movement is idealistic, the approach must be realistic.

He always inspired everyone engaged in the Labor movement who had in him the spiritual glow. It is a great inspiration to his friends to know the Labor organization are establishing Gleason scholarships in Brookwood. This is the best tribute to his memory.

The triumph of life over death is expressed in the following extract of a letter to me from a life-long, intimate friend of Arthur Gleason, who knew him best:

"We will all be poorer in the loss of such a friend, but I find it quite impossible to estimate how much richer we are because of all that he has given us both of truth and beauty."

Rand School Notes

On Saturday, January 10, at 1:30 p. m., Dr. Scott Nearing will lecture on the "French Debt Settlement" in his Current Events Class at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street. At 5:30 p. m., Mr. McAllister Coleman will lecture on the new light railroads Industrial Autocracy in Southern Virginia. Mr. Coleman has just returned from West Virginia, where he went as special investigator.

On Tuesday, January 12, at 8:30 p. m., Mr. Algernon Lee is beginning a seminar course in Social Movements and Theories.

On Wednesday, January 14, at 8:30 p. m., B. Charney Vladeck is beginning a course of lectures, with discussion, on "Topics of the Times."



DOMESTIC ITEMS

Wages and Costs in Brick Industry

High wages and low cost of production and low wages and high cost of production accompany each other, declares a bulletin on Productivity Costs in Common Brick Industry, just published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

In the low wage plants of Connecticut and Massachusetts the labor cost is \$6.41 per 1,000 brick, while in the high wage plants of Illinois the labor cost is but \$3.58.

Earnings offer an even more striking comparison than output cost. Full-time earnings per week in low wage Connecticut and Massachusetts are \$23.53, while in high wage Illinois the earnings reach \$39.93.

With respect to quantity of output, the men in low wage Connecticut and Massachusetts produce 470.5 brick per man hour, while the output in high wage Illinois is 1,066 per man hour.

The report is compiled by William F. Kirk, special agent of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Cossacks Menace Illinois Citizens

The State Constabulary Bill again looms in the Illinois Legislature, and the State Federation of Labor will renew its fight against this measure. The bill has appeared in the last three Legislatures, and each time went down to defeat before a public sentiment that organized Labor developed. The trade unionists, however, are not resting on past victories. They are alert to the resourcefulness of those who would create a system of military policing in this State.

In a pamphlet on this subject, written by Victor Olander, Secretary of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, it is declared that these State Constabulary bills are the most dangerous measures ever presented to the Illinois Legislature.

Fake Stock Sales Heavy

A survey of fake stock sales throughout the country shows that this loss will amount to six dollars for every man, woman and child in the United States. The largest contributors are mine and factory workers, chiefly of foreign birth. The highest per capita loss of any town or group of towns, forty dollars, was reported by seven adjoining towns in Pennsylvania.

Next to Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, the industrial East—Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts and to a less extent New Jersey—is the heaviest loser in the country.

Farmers' Buying Power Hits the Dows Grade

The farmers' purchasing power expressed in agricultural products is receding, according to the December report of the United States Department of Agriculture on the price situation.

"The purchasing power figure is based upon the value of thirty farm products combined as exchangeable for non-agricultural products and is placed at eighty-nine for November, as compared with ninety for October, and with one hundred for the year 1923, which is used as a base," declares the report.

"The gains in indicated purchasing power of farm products that had been made during October were mostly lost in November. The decline is attributed to a drop in prices of farm products and some advance in non-agricultural commodities."

2,500 Workers Killed in United States Coal Mines

There were 2,452 workers killed in the coal mines of the United States during 1923, according to a report on coal-mine fatalities just issued by the United States Bureau of Mines. The figures are based on reports submitted by mine officials of the coal-producing States.

Falls of roof and coal are listed as the dominating causes for nearly one-half of the fatalities, 1,156 men meeting death by this agency.

It is apparent from the report that practically most of the fatalities would have been prevented had the mine owners put into practice modern mine safety science, applied and administered by mine-safety experts whose major purpose is safety for the miners rather than profits for the mine owners.

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FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

The New Government and the Trade Unions

There have been various rumors of late in the press on the subject of possible attempts of the British Government to limit the political power of the trade unions by indirect means. The Prime Minister has now made a statement to the effect that the Government has no intention of bringing forward any bill on the subject during the present session. Certain utterances of the Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade on the point had previously roused the anger of the trade unions, so that this statement is probably to be regarded rather as a temporary soothing than as an expression of the permanent policy of the Government.

GERMANY

Women's Work in Germany

The following information concerning women's work in Germany is taken from an article by Hanna Hertz which appeared in the official journal of the Federation of Commercial, Clerical and Technical Employees:

Up to the outbreak of the World War there had been a steady increase in the amount of work done by women in Germany. The war itself at first caused a decrease in the amount of this work, but the decline came to a standstill in 1916. In the second half of the war, there was in Germany, as in all the other belligerent countries, a considerable increase in women's employment. The period immediately following the cessation of hostilities was unfavorable to the work of women, and it was also held that a limitation of women's work would be a remedy for the threatened unemployment. But it was found impossible in the long run to check the growing tendency among women to seek employment. In 1921, 6,800,000 working women were insured against sickness, the corresponding number of male workers being only 10,600,000.

The statistics of the factory inspection authorities show a similar result. During the war women managed to establish themselves in the larger as well as the smaller industries, and on the whole they have proved able to retain their places in these. In the professions and the civil service also the number of women workers has increased considerably. But women's wages are still considerably lower than men's, especially in agriculture, which at present absorbs almost half the total number of women wage earners.

Wage conditions for women employed in land work are extremely unsatisfactory; they earn only two-fifths of the men's wage, while in industry the proportion of women's wages to men's ranges between fifty-three and seventy-five per cent. In 1921 there were about 2,250,000 women trade unionists in Germany.

Decline of Communist Trade Unionism

The Communist movement in Germany would seem to be declining. Statistics have recently been published concerning the trade unions which were established by Communists to compete with the older trade unions, and which were commonly known as "Independent Trade Unions." These have now been dissolved in conformity with the policy of the "united front," and the numbers in the "cells" themselves are comparatively small.

In Mansfeld, a mining district of Central Germany, a branch of the Communist party which a year ago had 13,000 members now has only 300. Similarly, the Communist Alliance of Manual and Non-Manual Workers has fallen in membership from 100,000 to 10,000.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Congress of the German Trade Unions

From December 6 to 10 the Second Congress of the German Federation of Trade Unions in Czecho-Slovakia was held at Karlished. One hundred and twenty-three delegates represented 223,974 members. In the report explanations were given, showing how the long industrial slump and the opposition of the Communists had reduced the membership of the Federation, although signs of improvement are now visible. The congress discussed the question of unemployment relief, the economic situation and social policy.

A resolution was also adopted dealing with amalgamation with the Czech National Center, which instructed the executive to continue discussions on the subject with the assistance of the I. F. T. U. Care must however be taken that both federations should receive equal treatment if such amalgamation should take place, for the question of unity means more than a mere fusion of membership. The congress expressed its satisfaction that the I. F. T. U. had decided to continue to assist in future negotiations between the two national federations.

FRANCE

New Trade Union Legislation Expected

Legally, French trade unions are chiefly based on a law passed in 1884, which does not, of course, do justice to present conditions. Hence there are many difficulties, and Godart, the present Minister of Labor, is preparing a bill to deal with the question. One of the clauses of this bill makes it a penal offense, punishable by fine or imprisonment, for any employer, manager, or worker to exercise compulsion upon any person or group of persons for the purpose of inducing them to join or withdraw from a trade union. The trade union press is unanimous in pointing out that, although Godart is no doubt acting from the best of motives, yet the wording of the bill is very much at fault. If it passes in its present form, employers might take advantage of it and institute legal proceedings against workers who try to win recruits for trade unionism while at work. It would not be at all difficult to prove compulsion after the event. So that if this clause is embodied in the act, it will certainly make trade union propaganda difficult, if not impossible.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School
Irving Place and 16th St.
Room 536

Saturday, January 10

- 1:00 p. m. H. J. E. Stolper—Clear Voices in English and American Literature: Hamlet.
2:30 p. m. Margaret Gadsby—Unemployment Insurance.

Sunday, January 11

- 10:30 a. m. H. A. Overstreet—Psychology of Conflict.
11:20 a. m. H. J. Carman—The Industrial Development of Modern Society: Agricultural Revolution.

Saturday, January 17

- 2:30 p. m. David J. Sapos—Trade Union Policies and Tactics.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' BUILDING 3 West 16th Street

Wednesday, January 14

- 6:30 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—Psychology and the Labor Movement.

Thursday, January 15

- 6:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement: Banking Control of Modern Industry.

UNITY CENTERS

Tuesday, January 13

- Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61
Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street
8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Changing Economic Institutions: The Centralization of Control.

Wednesday, January 14

- East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63
Fourth Street near First Avenue
8:45 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—Social and Economic Forces in American History: Natural Resources.

EXTENSION DIVISION

YIDDISH

Friday, January 9

- Club Rooms of Local 2—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx
8:30 p. m. Dr. B. Hoffman—Workers' Governments in Europe—Their Political and Economic Achievements.

Sunday, January 11

- Club Rooms of Local 2—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx
11:00 a. m. Max Levin—The Industrial Development of Modern Society.

Friday, January 10

- Beethoven Hall—210 East 5th Street
8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—American Civilization.

Saturday, January 10

- Local 9 Building—67 Lexington Avenue
1:00 p. m. Max Levin—Discussing Method: Unemployment Insurance.

Sunday, January 11

- Harlem Socialist Educational Center—62 E. 106th Street
10:30 a. m. B. Hoffman—Twenty-five Years' Labor Movement in America.

Saturday, January 17

- Auditorium of P. S. 171—103rd Street between Madison and Fifth Avenues
7:30 p. m.—Concert given by Cloak Operators' Union, Local 2, to celebrate opening of Educational season in Harlem. Detailed announcement later.

Friday, January 9

- Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street
7:30 p. m. M. Karpowich—Universal History.

Friday, January 23

- Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street
7:30 p. m. The Worker and His Health.

Thursday, January 15

- Brownsville Labor Lyceum—Room 301
7:30 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—Psychology and the Labor Movement. In these discussions we shall study some of the fundamental laws of human behavior. We shall analyze some of the instincts that urge us to want to fight, to create, to lead, to follow, etc. We shall also analyze some of the laws which underlie the progress of human reasoning. Illustrations will be drawn from the workers' experience.

OUT-OF-TOWN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

PHILADELPHIA

Friday, January 9

- 421 Pine Street
7:40 p. m. John B. Leeds—Sociology.

New Year's Eve Concert and Dance in Brownsville A Success

More than 3,000 of our members and their families participated in the New Year's Eve concert and dance in Brownsville. At 7:30 the hall was already filled to capacity and 3,000 more had to be refused admittance in compliance with the fire regulations.

The audience was an interesting sight. There were old men with long beards, middle-aged and younger men with their families, and still younger folks. Every local of the International was represented.

The artists were enthusiastically received. Mimer Soloff inspired the audience with her singing of the arias from "Le Cid" and "Cavalleria Rusticana," and it was thrilled with Joseph Fuchs' playing of two groups of violin selections. L. N. Saslavsky entertained the audience with his singing of Jewish folk songs, but he would not be content in singing alone. Mr. Saslavsky acted as the leader, as he succeeded in persuading the audience to sing with him, and it was marvelous to see what an appeal these songs made to our people. All, young and old, men and women, joined in the singing.

Brother Joseph Kesten, manager of the Brownsville office of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Union, who acted as chairman, pointed out the importance of this evening and tried to interest our members in our educational activities. Fannia M. Cohn in a short address spoke of the activities of the Educational Department of our International, and stressed the importance for workers, members of trade unions, to study the Labor movement, the conditions under

which they are living and working and the social and economic structure of our modern society. She assured the audience that our International Union is ready to satisfy their desire, if there be such, for knowledge and said that it is never too late for a person to study—that all of us can study if we only have a desire to understand the world we live in.

Brother I. Feinberg, chairman of the Educational Committee, sent a message of congratulations and regret that he could not attend the affair. The evening ended with a dance in which almost half of the audience participated.

Thousands of our members living in different sections of Brownsville and hardly knowing each other, met at this affair arranged by their union and spent an enjoyable evening together. A community spirit prevailed which was most inspiring.

The audience gave vociferous approval of the work of our Educational Department, and a general wish was expressed that it arrange more such affairs for the members in Brownsville, and especially that the Educational Department arrange lecture courses in Yiddish.

The excellent order which prevailed in the hall and the success of the evening is due to the committee, which consisted of Brothers Joseph Kesten, Local 9; S. Sirotka, Local 9; Sam Goldstein, Local 22; Louis Goldstein, Local 2; B. Goldstein, Local 2, and Sisters Lillian Lowsky, Lena Halper, Annette Polonsky, Lena Epstein, Regina Masteriano, and Brother Abe Schneider, all of Local 22.

Courses in Workers' University to be Resumed January 10 and 11

Saturday afternoon, January 10, the classes in our Workers' University, at Washington Irving High School, Room 536, will be resumed.

Mr. Stolper will continue his course on "Clear Voices in English and American Literature," at 1:20; the topic will be "Hamlet." Mrs. Margaret Gadsby will lecture on "Unemployment Insurance" at 2:30.

On Sunday, January 11, at 10:30 a. m., Dr. Overstreet will give his course on the "Psychology of Conflict." The topic will be "Class Conflict." At 11:30 Dr. Carman will give his course on "The Development of Modern Industrial Society."

We expect that all the students will return to the classes, and that new students will join them.

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

A Course by Alexander Fichandler in Brownsville Labor Lyceum.

Alexander Fichandler will give a course of six lessons in "Social Psychology," beginning Thursday, January 15, at 8 p. m., in Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman street, Room 301.

The topic of discussion will be "Approval and Disapproval." This course will be given on Thursday evenings in the same place and at the same time, and will be followed by other courses.

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

For information and bulletin apply to the office of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Union at Brownsville Labor Lyceum; or at the Educational Department of the I. L. G. W. U., 3 West 16th street, New York City.

LECTURES IN YIDDISH WILL BE ARRANGED IN BROWNSVILLE

The Educational Department is planning to arrange a lecture course in Yiddish in Brownsville in response to a general demand on the part of many of our members. The lectures will be on economic, social and Labor problems. What is necessary now is to ascertain which is the best day for these lectures. It would be helpful if the members interested in this course would send a line to the Educational Department to this effect.

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.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM R. SHENKER

Following the installation into office of the officers elected for the term of 1925, the administration is laying out plans to cope with the many problems which face the membership during the course of the New Year.

Expect Dress Cutters to Get Increase
During the past few weeks Manager Dubinsky has attended conferences as one of the committee designated by the union for negotiations to renew the agreements in the dress trade. There are two associations with whom conferences are proceeding: The Association of Dress Manufacturers and the Jobbers' Association.

Most of the demands presented to these employing groups are similar to those which have been presented to the groups in the cloak industry. These are: the limitation of contractors, responsibility by jobbers for wages due workers in the event that contractors fail to pay, the label, unemployment insurance and an increase in the minimum.

So far these conferences have progressed peacefully. As this issue of the paper reaches the hands of the members, the agreements in the dress trade will have expired. However, when the new agreement will be signed and whether it will be signed without a break are matters that have not been definitely settled. The settlement is expected without any serious trouble is evidenced by the fact that there are very few points left in dispute as yet.

Manager Dubinsky expects a substantial increase in the minimum. The exact amount, he stated, has not yet been determined. But he believes that by the time the next issue of this paper is published, or by the time he will make his report at the membership meeting on January 12, he will be in a position to definitely state the amount of the increase secured, and will also be in a position to make a more or less final report on the other demands.

Union Faced With New Problem
The renewal of the agreements in the dress trade will by no means settle the problem of the industry for the next two years. The address by International President Sigman and Manager Dubinsky at the installation meeting made this clear to the membership. The creation of a new line of garments, that is, the three-piece dress suits, compels the union to the conclusion that the question of uniform agreements in the entire ladies' garment manufacturing industry will be a matter with which the union will have to contend very shortly.

In many instances, when cutters appear in the office for working cards, the question arises as to whether dress or cloak cards be issued to them. Many houses have at one time either manufactured dresses or cloaks. These would then take to manufacturing the three-piece suits which practically places both classes of houses in one category.

Expect Conclusion of Cloak Investigation

This problem makes of outstanding importance the results of the investigations by the committee of experts appointed by the Governor's Commission. It will be remembered that the appointment of such a committee for the investigation of the industry with regard to a number of the union's demands in the cloak industry was made a part of the recommendation of the Commission.

This committee is about to conclude its investigation and will report to the Commission, which in turn is to render its recommendations with regard to the balance of the union's demands. These recommendations will be submitted to the union and the various employing groups in the cloak

industry. If acceptable to both sides the recommendations will be embodied in the agreement which is to be renewed at the expiration of the next six months.

In view of the growing similarity between the garments manufactured by the dress and cloak manufacturers it is to be expected that the report of the Governor's Commission will be interesting and important in that it may affect the entire garment manufacturing industry.

This is as the situation presents itself at the present time. That there is work ahead for the union is evident.

New Dues Rate Effective
The office is collecting dues at the rate of fifty cents per week. Manager Dubinsky has made it plain that no extensions and allowances will be made any longer. The rate of dues is now as it was established by the members at a special meeting.

Sufficient time was given the members to pay their dues for the year just past at the old rate. Anyone who has neglected to take advantage of the time allowed will now have to pay his arrearages at the new rate.

The rate now being fifty cents per week should compel members to pay their dues more regularly. A lapse of any large number of weeks between payments will mean the payment of a good deal of money to cover arrearages. The cutters are warned against allowing such a lapse and are advised to pay their dues more regularly.

It would be well if they should determine to pay their dues weekly, or at most, monthly. The dropping out from membership on account of failure to pay dues on time will make a reinstatement fee quite burdensome.

Violated Decision of General Executive Board and Local

A case which afforded interest and a good deal of discussion took place at the last regular meeting which was held on December 29, and which concerned a member who was found guilty by the Executive Board of violating the constitution of the International, an order of the General Executive Board, and a decision of the membership of Local 10.

A member was summoned to a meeting of the Executive Board held recently and charged with actively participating in a meeting conducted by outside groups or organizations, people who are not members of the International who discussed and acted upon affairs of the union.

The members will recall that such activities were going on for some time and that decisions made outside of regular channels of the union were sought to be imposed upon the union at their meetings. This problem became so acute that the General Executive Board was compelled to issue an order, holding liable for discipline any member or members who interfered with the regular work of the union and who placed the decisions of the outside groups above the decisions of the union.

The order of the General Executive Board made it clear that members of the union should have the right to decide their issues for themselves at their regular meetings. No member was limited in his activities so long as he carried them on at his local union meetings. This order was later embodied by the last convention in the constitution of the International and was subsequently approved of by the membership of Local 10.

Pledged Guilty
A number of cutters who were guilty of violating the order and the decisions were called to the Executive Board. Those who promised to cease their affiliations with organizations having for their purpose the domina-

tion of the union were not disciplined. One of them who failed to give up his affiliations was suspended from activity within the union for a period of two years.

Recently this individual was summoned to the Executive Board and charged with violation of the above decision and upon his plea of guilty a fine was imposed. Manager Dubinsky pointed out, at the meeting at which this case was discussed and thoroughly discussed by a number of members and officers, that this member was guilty of a double violation.

Not only was he guilty of violation of the order of the General Executive Board, but he was also guilty of violating his parole. Suspending one from active membership in the union is practically placing him on probation. If and when during the period of his suspension his behavior is in accordance with the constitutional requirements of the union he is reinstated and may actively participate in the affairs of the union.

Should he, however, as was the case in this instance, be guilty of an offense, whether similar to the one which caused his suspension, or should he be guilty of an offense of any other nature, he incriminates himself doubly. In his discussion of the case Manager Dubinsky pointed this out and said that it was the reason why the Executive Board imposed a penalty.

Little sympathy was accorded the individual in question when the case was discussed. Members speaking in favor of the decision said that ample opportunity for expression of opinions within the ranks of the union was accorded the members. They said that they were satisfied to conduct their own affairs within the union itself, and showed this by the unanimous adoption of the General Executive Board's order and by the results shown in the recent election.

Members Should Renew Working Cards

Manager Dubinsky has spent considerable time during the past few weeks in impressing upon the members the importance and necessity of their renewing their working cards or securing them when getting new jobs.

As has been often stressed in these columns, the system of working cards is most important for the organization as a means of determining whether a firm employs a cutter. Men who fail to secure cards or renew them, or who fail to return them upon their being off, for even a week, make controlling very difficult.

During the slack season: the manager sends out controllers to such of the shops where as his records show cutters are not employed. When a member who is laid off fails to secure a card the shop is on the list as one

in which there is no cutter. Hence, controllers are not likely to visit that shop.

In addition to the letters already sent out to this effect and in addition to the meetings which the manager has held with men who fail to renew their cards, he has sent out to delinquents the following letter:

"Upon looking through our records we find that you have not renewed your working card during the past season. This is a violation of our constitution, which reads in effect that cutters must procure working cards upon securing positions and they must renew their working cards every season.

"In order to save you from the penalty imposed upon cutters who violate this clause of the constitution, we are hereby notifying you to renew your working card by January 1, 1925. Should you fail to do so you will be called before the Executive Board."

Because of the need for strict enforcement with regard to securing and renewing working cards for the proper control of the shops, the manager intends to enforce the constitution as respects working cards. The members can save themselves a good deal of inconvenience by observing the rule. And in this manner they will greatly aid the organization.

Miscellaneous

Organization activities in the Miscellaneous Branch are progressing steadily. Recently an organization meeting took place at which a number of representatives from the various local unions were present, representing their organizations. This meeting was practically the first gathering of the organization committee.

These present for Local 10 were Morris Alevia, Frank G. Lewis, Max Browly, H. Holtz and Abe Goldring.

Organization plans were laid out. In brief, the plans of the Miscellaneous Council are to cut up Greater New York into a number of districts, each of which is to be assigned to an organization committee headed by an organizer. The members who were present at the organization committee meeting will practically be those to whom these districts will be assigned.

SPECIAL NOTICE

All members are required to renew their working cards beginning with January, 1925. Members who fail to do so are liable to be called before the Executive Board and fined. Members are also required to procure working cards upon securing a job and return them upon being laid off.

Nat Baron

Announces the Opening of His New
CIGAR STORE

In the Heart of the Garment Center
162 West 35th Street, New York
ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 17TH

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Notice of Meetings

SPECIAL MEETING Monday, January 12th
In Order of Business: Report on conferences with employers in dress trade.

Cutters working on dresses are urged to be present at this meeting.

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