

"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. 5.

New York, Friday, January 30, 1925.

Price 2 Cents

Toronto and Montreal on Eve of General Cloak Strike

General Executive Board Sanctions Strike In Both Cities — Organizing Drives In Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston Dress Industry Endorsed

The most outstanding decision adopted last week by the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., which met in quarterly session at the Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal, Canada, undoubtedly is its endorsement of a general strike in the cloak industry of Montreal and Toronto, should the cloak manufacturers in both cities fail to reach a peaceful settlement with the Union.

As stated in last week's issue of Justice, General Organizer Hochman, in charge of the Canadian campaign, had forwarded a letter to all the manufacturers in Montreal calling upon them to take steps in the direction of reaching an understanding with the organization of their work-

ers and setting Saturday, January 24, as time limit for peaceful negotiations. The big meeting in Montreal on Tuesday, January 20, enthusiastically endorsed the stand of the Union and instructed the Montreal Joint Board to go ahead with its campaign for the introduction of modified trade and work conditions in the Montreal cloak shops such as prevail in the New York cloak market.

At another huge meeting in Toronto on Sunday, January 25, the workers of that city gave their unqualified endorsement of the campaign plans of the General Executive Board. The meeting was addressed by President Morris Sigman, Secretary Abraham Baroff, Editor Yanov-

sky, Vice-president Amdur and Julius Hochman. Amdur and Organizer Polakoff from Baltimore have been temporarily assigned by President Sigman to aid in the Canadian drive.

The other important decision adopted by the General Executive Board was to continue the drive to organize completely the dress industry in Philadelphia, Chicago, and Boston, directed respectively by Vice-presidents Reinsberg, Perlestein and Seidman.

The General Executive Board also decided to send two delegates to represent it at the national convention of the Conference for Progressive Political Action which is to take place on February 21 in Chicago.

"Prosanis" New Trade Name for Sanitary Label

"For Healthy People"

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control has made public an announcement to the trade that it has issued a Sanitary Label with a new design containing the trade mark name, "Prosanis," meaning "For healthy people."

The design is very distinctive. It consists of an arm holding a Roman lamp from the light of which the



name "Prosanis" emanates. The wording of the label is the same as the old one, to wit: "Produced under conditions approved by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control."

Application for a design patent is now pending in Washington, and will soon be granted. With a permanent design adequately protected in the Patent Office in Washington, and with an effective system of distribution and control of the Label having been established, the Joint Board of Sanitary Control is now ready to carry out a campaign of publicity and education to the consuming public.

It will appeal to the women consumers of the country, and urge them to purchase only the garments containing the "Prosanis" label. By educating the consuming public to ask for the "Prosanis" Label, it will provide retailers with an incentive for requesting labels on their garments, and it will encourage the efforts of all the parties in the industry to maintain proper sanitary conditions in the shops as well as the Labor conditions of the agreement.

Phila. Joint Board Presents New Agreement to Employers

Demands Practically Same As in New York Market—Conference With Employers This Friday—Big Meeting of Workers on Thursday—President Sigman To Attend Both

The Philadelphia Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, acting through its manager, Vice-President Max Amdur, forwarded early this week a letter to the local cloak employers embodying the conditions which are to be made a part of the new agreement in the trade to supersede the present pact which expired some time ago.

The communication expresses the desire of the Union to establish the new uniform work conditions without delay or interference, if possible. The new agreement will bring conditions in the Philadelphia market nearer those now prevailing in New York, and in the second place it will establish restrictive measures aimed at the harmful influence of the very

small "corporation" shops upon general work standards in the local cloak trade.

Among the outstanding demands of the Union are the employment in each shop of not less than six operators, a cutter, and a sufficient complement of workers in other branches; the introduction of the sanitary label, and the limitation of the number of contractors or sub-manufacturers to be employed by jobbers. The communication specifies that "each jobber employ only such number of sub-manufacturers or contractors as he can provide with work to their full capacity. No jobber should engage new sub-manufacturers or contractors as long as those working for him are not fully

provided with work." The jobbers are also to deal with Union shops exclusively, that payment of wages by contractors shall be guaranteed by the jobber; that a representative of the Union shall have access to the jobber's books to ascertain whether they are sending work to non-Union sub-manufacturers, etc.

The Joint Board has arranged for a general member meeting on Thursday evening, January 29, at the headquarters of the Joint Board, to discuss the situation arising from the presentation of the new terms to the employers and the possible developments of this move. President Morris Sigman of the International Union is expected to address this meeting.

White Goods Strike In Brooklyn Shop

Picket Beaten Up in Button Workers' Strike

The White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62, declared last week a strike in the shop of Bregstein & Simon, 385 Columbia street, Brooklyn.

The white goods organization is at present conducting lively organizing agitation in several districts of the city. The unorganized workers of the Bregstein & Simon shop, at a meeting last week, mostly all young Italian-speaking girls, told the committee of the Union a pitiful story of degrading conditions prevailing in their shop, of unbelievably low wages, and iron discipline and asked to be initiated into the organization. When the firm learned of this action of the workers, it immediately discharged thirty of the girls. The Union thereupon decided to call the workers out.

The strike is endorsed by the District Council and the General Office of the I. L. G. W. U. and has attracted considerable attention in the general press. The New York American of last Tuesday, January 27, carried a full page story of the strike with a picture of the girl pickets.

The strike of the Button Workers' Union, Local 132, is being energetic-

ally prosecuted in all the celluloid button shops of New York City. The employers have begun to resort to "strong-arm" methods and are hiring thugs to beat up the strikers.

A sixteen-year-old striker, James Nardon, was shot and badly wounded last week while picketing in front of the "Pan American Button Company" in North Bergen, N. J. The assailant of the boy has not been apprehended yet.

Branch of Knit-Goods Trade on Verge of Strike

At the writing of these lines, there is big trouble brewing in one of the important branches of the knit goods trade and a strike in it is practically imminent.

Readers of Justice will recall that the knit goods workers of New York, engaged in the making of knit women's wear, have been admitted into the I. L. G. W. U. as Local 55. For the last few months the Eastern Organization department of the I. L. G. W. U., managed by Vice-president

Children's Dress Makers to have Big Meeting in Arlington Hall

Organization Campaign of District Council Vigorously Pressed

The organization campaign in the miscellaneous trades of the ladies' garment industry of New York continues with vigor and everything within reach of the leaders of the Council is being done to strengthen the position of the individual locals affiliated to it.

Upon return from the General Ex-

ecutive Board meeting in Montreal, Vice-president Lefkowitz immediately arranged for a mass meeting of children's dress makers, members of Local 91, in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's place, on Thursday, January 28, right after work hours. Several well-known speakers will address the workers.

The District Council has recently issued two more special agitation leaflets, one for the white goods workers and another for the workers in the children's dress industry. The organizing committee of the Council has succeeded in interesting a group of members of the Young Women's Christian Association to help distribute literature among the unorganized women and conduct a personal contact agitation among these workers.

Very lively activity is also carried on among tacklers, plastrers and hemstitchers, trades under the jurisdiction of Local 41. This local has recently succeeded in organizing nine new shops which were signed up and placed under union conditions.

Halperin, has been conducting active organizing work among these knit goods workers.

There are in the knitwear industry about 2,000 workers engaged in the Spring Needle trade, a branch of industry, and these workers have been for years marvellously exploited by their employers. Last week a strike of some of these men broke out in the factory of the Halperin Mills Company, and out of this a feverish

(Continued on page 2.)

Conferences Started In Chicago Cloak Industry

Mollie Friedman Conducts Lively Agitation Among Non-Union Dress Workers

Last week was one of continuous conferences in the Chicago cloak trade. The representatives of the Chicago Joint Board with a committee of the Down-Town Cloak Manufacturers' Association early in the week and later conferred also with the North-West Side Cloak Manufacturers' Association on the terms of a new agreement.

The agreement in the cloak trade expired on December 15, 1924. President Sigman held one conference with the manufacturers early in December but could not reach Chicago in time for a renewal of the meetings, and the Joint Board therefore decided to go on with the conferences and attempt to bring the negotiations to a desirable termination. On Thursday, January 15, the first meeting took place which was marked by a spirit of friendliness. The second conference took place on Wednesday, January 21, after the employers' committee had had an opportunity to consult their members. At this conference they brought forth some demands, among which there was one for the reintroduction of piece-work and a reduction of the number of legal holidays. It is difficult at this moment to say whether the Chicago cloak manufacturers are in earnest about these demands or whether they are merely playing for position.

The Union, on its side, had put forth a request for an increase of ten dollars a week to cutters, of five dollars for pressers and an increase for fur-sewers and edgebusters who receive very small wages. An increase of \$4.50 is also demanded for button sewers. In addition the Union demands the introduction of an unemployment insurance fund and of the white sanitary union label. The Union also asks that in the event the Governor's Commission should recommend a guaranteed fixed number of work-weeks in the year, that this recommendation become operative in the

Chicago market as well. These points, however, have not been taken up for discussion so far, but the following subjects have been discussed and practically agreed upon:

1. That skirt makers be given work on coats after the suit season is over.
2. That the shop chairman is to divide the work during the slack season.
3. That no workers be called to work unless there is at least a half-day's work in the shop or he is paid as much.
4. That active members of the Union be not discriminated against when applying for a job.

The next conference with the cloak employers will be held before the week is over. At the meetings already held with the committees of the associations, the Union was represented by M. Blais, manager of the Joint Board; Abraham Sher, chairman; M. Rapoport and M. Goldstein, secretaries of Local 5; D. Feitshon, of Local 81; R. Glasman, of Local 100; H. Freedman, H. Rufer, B. Dolnick and M. Novack, business agents. The manufacturers were represented by E. Kirschbaum, president; H. Weinstein, H. Ellsberg, M. Mitchell, N. Arbetman, S. Milienthal, H. Shuman, M. Tobias and H. Handmacher.

Sister Mollie Friedman, International Organizer in Chicago for the dress and waist trade, is proceeding energetically with her work and is finding an encouraging response among the workers.

The agreement with the Chicago dress manufacturers will expire on the thirty-first of this month. A conference with the North Side Dress Manufacturers Association has been held already this week concerning the renewal of the agreement and as it appears no trouble is likely to occur in renewing the agreement in the union shops.

Phila. "Open" Shops Friendly to Union Message

Local 50 Organizing Drive Meets Fine Response

The organizing drive of the dress and waist makers in Philadelphia is on in full earnest.

Fifteen thousand circulars were distributed last week among the workers in the non-union shops. The volunteer committees of the local are busy around the unorganized shops calling the workers to meetings. Some of these unorganized shops have got in touch with the Union directly and asked that space be reserved for them for meetings. The office of the Local is humming with activity.

The executive board of Local 50, as Vice-president Elias Reisberg, manager of the local, informs us, made an important move for facilitating the admission of the "open shop" workers into the Union. It, namely, lowered the initiation fee for all non-Union workers to three dollars and seventy-five cents from the prevailing initiation rate of fifteen dollars. The low initiation fee, however, will only remain operative during the organizing drive and the non-Union workers will

have to bear themselves to take advantage of it while this period lasts.

The General Executive Board of the International endorsed, at its last meeting in Montreal, the initiative of Local 50 in the present organizing work and empowered President Sigman to direct the campaign in cooperation with Vice-president Reisberg. The decision of the General Executive Board has added new courage to the active workers of the Philadelphia dress and waist organization and has given the drive a new spur.

The work, on the whole, presents a great many difficulties and is complicated by a number of special hindrances which exist in the Philadelphia market as an outgrowth of the 1922 strike. But the volunteer committees of the local are pushing on the campaign with unabated vigor and unfaltering loyalty. They hope, and have every reason to be confident, that their tireless labor will meet with the reward it deserves.

Branch of Knit-Goods Trade on Verge of Strike

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unstated has spread to the other factories in the trade where Spring Needle workers are employed. A meeting of these workers, under the joint auspices of the United Textile Workers of America and the I. L. G. W. U., will be held next Sunday afternoon, February 1, where a strike is likely to be endorsed.

Nevertheless, in an effort to save the trade and the workers the hardships involved in a general lockout and to reach a peaceful agreement, both President Morris Sigman of the International, and President Thomas MacMahon of the United Textile Workers, forwarded a communication to all the employers in the Spring Needle trade calling upon them to communicate with the Union before

the strike becomes inevitable. The time limit for the answer is set for Saturday, January 31. The letter reads:

January 28, 1925.

"Gentlemen:

"We are prompted by a sincere concern for the welfare of the knit goods trade in general, and the conditions of the workers in particular to bring to your attention the following very urgent situation.

"The organized workers in the Spring Needle trade demand that their working conditions and standards of Labor be materially improved. They want a square deal, and they are determined to have American living standards, the same as their fellow workers have won for themselves in the other women's wear trades in our city. In this, they will receive the full support of our two International Unions.

"The workers are restless, and their discontent is bound to find an outlet in an open struggle such as is taking place at present in the Halperin Mills, if their legitimate and moderate demands are not satisfied. The unions, nevertheless, would prefer to reach an understanding with the employers in the trade by peaceful means, if possible, so as to prevent trade dislocation and hardship.

"As the workers in the spring needle trade are to have a general mass meeting on Sunday next, February 1, for the purpose of taking definite action effecting the entire industry, we would urge you to get in touch with us, on or before Saturday, January 31, in regard to the above outlined emergency situation and help us to introduce permanent and humane industrial conditions in the trade and to reach a satisfactory arrangement between all the factors in it.

"Please address your communication to the General Office of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, 3 W. 16th street, New York, N. Y."

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—from the early days of

the organization to the

last Boston Convention.

P. S. The General Office will be open until 6:30 p. m. every Monday and Thursday to enable our members to purchase the book after work hours.

**PATRONIZE OUR
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Among the New York Cloak Sample Makers

By D. RUBIN
Secretary, Local 3

The new season is nearly here. Another week or two and spring work will be in full swing in our shops—and let us hope that it will be a good season. We still have a goodly number of tailors without work, and some of these unemployed have been without a job for months past.

We stress this point because we want our members to bear it in mind. Let those who have plenty to do in their shops at present remember that the men without jobs must also be taken care of. Several tailor shops have gone out of business this year and left a considerable number of workers idle.

As soon as work begins in all shops, we should like the chairman to get in touch with our office, so that when new workers are to be engaged the idle members of our local will be provided with jobs first. The men who have been the longest without work or such as are out of work at present should get the preference over such as are only changing job for the sake of "bettering" themselves. The shop chairman must also insist on the every newly engaged worker showing his card, as that would offer the Union the best means for carrying out the policy of giving preference to idle workers rather than to the job changers.

We expect the workers, too, to help the shop chairman in this task. It would be best if the sample tailors would inform the office of all vacancies occurring in their shops so that the Union might be in a position

to fill these jobs directly and thus effectively relieve the condition of the unemployed.

Large Vote Pelled in Annual Elections
The participation of the sample tailors in the annual election of officers of their local exceeded our expectations. About 400 workers voted for manager-secretary, executive board members and relief committee. The following were elected:

Executive board: Kurtz, Wertheimer, Meiselson, Billings, Calman, Dreyfus, Bauteh, Schwartz, Schmetzer, Gottlieb, Kummerling, Schwager, Kalish and Bickstein. Brother Schwartz was elected chairman of the board, Kurtz as vice-chairman, and Schmetzer, secretary.

As delegates to the Joint Board we elected Brothers Kurtz, Wertheimer, Schwartz, Dreyfus and Kalish. Lazarrowich, Taub and Bettinger were elected on the relief committee of the local. The other committees will be elected at the next meeting of the executive board.

Let us hope that the incoming executive committee, the majority of whom are new and untired men, will take up the work of administering the affairs of our organization in deep earnestness and will aid in bringing the local to the level of success we are all hoping for it.

We have a big job before us during the coming year. Only unity, harmony and loyalty in the fullest sense of the word will enable us in overcoming the difficulties which lie in our way.

75 Labor Unions Attend Conference on Child Development

Delegates from 75 Labor Unions, representing more than 500,000 workers, met in a Labor Conference on Child Education last Wednesday evening, January 28, at 3 West 16th street.

The purpose of the conference, as stated by Thomas J. Curtis, President of the National Association for Child Development, was the further development and extension of the work of Pioneer Youth of America, a children's organization sponsored by labor unions, and aiming to give workers' children headlight and interesting out-of-door activities, and at the same time serve to develop in them an understanding and an appreciation of the work of the labor movement. "Seventeen clubs and a camp have been established in and around New York," said Mr. Curtis, "and it is proposed now to begin the formation of groups in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and other centers. The final objective is the development of a nation-wide

movement containing hundreds of youngsters as members—and conducting camps, clubs and classes throughout the country."

"The list of unions sending delegates to this conference contains groups as diverse as railway workers, teachers, garment workers, and building trade workers. Among the largest of the organizations represented are The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, American Federation of Teachers, International Association of Machinists, International Ladies' Garment Workers, International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, the New York Building Trades Council, and the Women's Trade Union League.

"Cooperating with the Labor unions in this movement are a number of well-known educators such as William F. Ogburn, of Columbia; Dr. Joseph K. Hart, editor of the Survey; Dr. John Lovejoy Elliott, of the Ethical Culture Society,

The Sanitary Label and Unemployment Fund

By CHARLES JACONSON
Manager Label and Insurance Office

Last week, Dr. Henry Moscovitz, the director of the Label Department of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, forwarded a circular communication to every cloak manufacturer, sub-manufacturer and contractor having agreement with the Union, calling upon them to comply with the obligation requiring the application of a sanitary label on all garments manufactured by them.

In this letter Dr. Moscovitz draws the attention of the employers to the following points:

First, that the sanitary label must be placed on every garment made in their shops, whether it is a sample, a duplicate or a stock garment.

Second, that the label must be sewed on the garment in the shop where it is made and not elsewhere. No shop is to place the label upon garments made outside its premises.

Third, no firm is to supply this label to any of its contractors or sub-manufacturers, but each contractor and sub-contractor is to buy labels for his own use from the Label Department directly.

In the same letter Dr. Moscovitz warns the employers that a strict control of the label system will be introduced in the New York cloak trade during the coming season and that any employer who will fail to meet his obligations in this respect or will act not in conformity with the adopted label regulations will be held accountable.

It may be inferred from this letter that not all the employers in the cloak and suit trade of New York have during the last season complied fully with their duty as regards the use of the sanitary label and that many of them have even misused the application of this label. From this point of view, the warning served upon the employers is both timely and practical. We should like to hope that for the majority of the employers this warning will be sufficient and that they will take good heed of it. We have no doubt, however, that a certain number of them will not comply with the label regulations until they had been forced to do so. We have in mind the type of employer who is still regarding the label as something to be avoided and who hopes to dodge it for many more seasons to come as he had shirked from applying it during the last season. These employers will, perhaps, derive some benefit from the information that, in addition to the label control by the Label Department of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, the Union has now installed a special Label Office which has at its disposal the whole machinery of the Joint Board and which will utilize this control machinery to the fullest extent and will compel the use of the label in every Union shop and will demand strict compliance with all its regulations.

This Label Office organized by the Union is already beginning to function and is meeting with success. It is, of course, just a start, but as the

season progresses the drive for a one-hundred per cent control of the label system will be launched in full swing and it will receive the cordial cooperation of all the workers in the cloak shops and of all shop chairmen.

It is obviously the prime concern of each worker to help in the enforcement of label regulations. They should report, through the shop chairman, each violation of the label rules in the following manner:

Labels may be sewn on the following parts of garments:

1. In coats and capes having outside pockets, in the inside of the right pocket.

2. In coats and capes having only one outside pocket, labels may be sewn therein.

3. In coats and capes having no outside pockets, in the inside of the right lining pocket; where the coat has only one lining pocket, labels may be sewn therein.

4. In coats and capes having no outside or lining pockets, three inches below the arm-hole in fully lined coats; or on the bottom band of the yoke in unlined coats.

Skirts: On the inside of the belt.

These four points are of extreme importance and if strictly observed will make it impossible for Union manufacturers and jobbers to send their work outside, to non-Union shops, as it will be not difficult to discover which garment had been made in a Union shop and which had been produced in a non-Union place. This control can be accomplished, we repeat, if the workers will aid the shop chairman to report to the Union all label violations.

The importance of a strict observance of the sanitary label provisions has been discussed more than once in these columns. It should not be difficult for an intelligent worker to grasp the fact that the label can be made into a potent agency for the protection of his interests. There are, nevertheless, still some workers among us who would not understand it and who are inclined to treat the label rather flippantly. These only hinder the shop chairman in their endeavors to enforce the label in the industry. Fortunately, there are but few of these workers in the shops, and these, too, we hope will soon come to realize that they are acting contrary to their own best interests. The Union is also determined to treat these obstructive as it is accustomed to deal with every other violator of its rules and provisions.

A few words concerning the use of the label in the shop. It is required that the chairmen of each shop report weekly the amount of the labels purchased by their firms, the number used, and the balance on hand at the end of the week. For this purpose, each shop chairman is supplied with a small book in which he is to keep a weekly account of the label. The chairman also receives a

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The Supreme Court and Child Slavery

By EUGENE V. DEBS

The people who hold the scepter of political power and wield the economic lash have an instinctive dread that the common herd may lose their reverence for the courts and come to understand just how these shell-game concerns are constituted, how they function, and how the opinions, decisions and injunctions they "hand down" serve the purposes of their rich and respectable masters.

Let it be understood at once that under the capitalist system of private ownership of public necessities the courts, like other social institutions, are class concerns and controlled absolutely, so far as vital, fundamental issues are concerned, by and for the class in power.

Let it also be understood that, like all other capitalist nations under the sun, the United States has its ruling class and that this class consists of its owning class.

The owning class is always the ruling class. The Government is its Government and functions in its interest, so that property rules the people and the dollar of the capitalist has supremacy over the life and liberty of the citizen.

This is capitalism, the thing for which the people gave Coolidge a majority of over 7,000,000 votes.

The owners of the nation's industries whereby the people live, and without access to which they die, are of course the rulers of the nation's destiny.

The truth of this statement is reflected infallibly in the personnel of the Supreme Court since the very foundation of the republic; the Supreme Court which has grown steadily in power achieved by usurpation and practically rules the land. The Czar of Russia in his palmy days never had greater power over his subjects than has the Supreme Court today over the people of the United States.

What a farce it is to declare in the present order of things that public officials are the servants of the people when we know as a matter of fact that a court judge has dictatorial power and is the boss of the community!

If a judge is the servant of the people I would like to see the whole American populace, barring Wall Street, fire just one of the corporation lawyers who officiate as Federal judges.

In view of the fact here stated, is it any wonder, is it in the least surprising that the Supreme Court, consisting wholly of high-grade corporation attorneys, has twice driven the knife to the hilt into the heart of the child labor law?

The claim will of course be made that the Supreme Court was conscience-bound to determine the validity of the law on strictly constitutional ground. In answer to this let it be said that "strict constitutional ground" covers a multitude of possible interpretations.

A first-class corporation lawyer has no trouble in proving any law constitutional or unconstitutional according to the size of his retainer. Rufus Choate was one of these eminent gentlemen in his day, achieving international fame in that capacity, and Wendell Phillips said of him that thieves inquired about his health before they started out to steal.

In there anyone in his right senses who believes that if the mill owners, manufacturers and child-sweaters generally favored, instead of opposed the child labor law, that the Supreme Court would have declared it unconstitutional?

Does not the Supreme Court in its attitude and in its interpretation of the law reflect precisely the attitude

of the ruling class, the employers and sweaters of child labor, thus proving for the thousandth time that the law is the will of the master and that the judge is but the servant of the master and interprets the law accordingly?

Let us have a little sense and understanding about this matter. The Supreme Court is not to blame. Not at all. The personnel of that body determines its character. Corporation lawyers are still corporation lawyers after they change their clothes and don flowing robes and funny looking lids with tasseled attachments. That is the kind of court the American people want, and why should they not have it?

Are they not entitled to the benefit of the 7,000,000 majorities they give to capitalist class presidents who stuff the Supreme Court with corporation lawyers?

The Supreme Court is opposed to the child labor law and has cast it into the gutter for the sole reason that the dominant element of the ruling class that controls industry and therefore the Government, and therefore the Supreme Court, employs, sweats and profits by child labor for the reason that it is the cheapest of all labor, and is therefore opposed to having the children snatched from its cruel clutches by a child labor law.

If the sweaters of child labor who coin the blood of infants into bloated fortunes had by some magic favored a child labor law, their judicial servants on the bench, headed by that ponderous pet of the profiteers, William Howard Taft, would without the shadow of a doubt have decided the absolute constitutionality of that law, had it been put to the test, which would be inconceivable in such a situation.

Nicholas Murray Butler, the Wall Street handy-man who draws salary as President of Columbia University, has given reasons for opposing the Child Labor Amendment that would put to shame even a half-wit who had never seen the inside of a school room, and in so doing sustains his well-earned reputation for being true

After reversing itself twice on every conceivable aspect of the rival Norris and Underwood proposals, the majority of the Senate unexpectedly adopted the Underwood bill permitting the leasing of Government property at Muscle Shoals with at least \$125,000,000 to private interests for the ridiculous sum of about \$1,800,000 a year. The Senate's conduct can be explained on one or both of two grounds. Either the Senators who changed their votes were hopelessly bewildered, in which case they were in no fit condition to risk giving away one of our most valuable possessions to a subsidiary of the private power trust, or the Senators were influenced by the President as the friend of private management. In which case it may be that the people will be sufficiently punished for the majority they gave Mr. Coolidge. At any rate, there is shown once more the folly of depending upon a Congressional block, more or less progressive, to stand out against a conservative President backed by a popular majority.

In this matter the public must not be fooled by the provisions for the production of nitrates to be used in fertilizer in time of peace and explosives in time of war. That is a sop to the farmers to keep them happy while private interests grab the power which from the days of the Ford offer until now is the prize for which great corporations contend. It

to his trust, not only, but to all the trusts.

The people of this country will certainly make no mistake in placing themselves at opposite sides with Nicholas Murray Butler on the Child Labor Amendment.

California has answered Massachusetts and the race is on. Every human being within our borders who thinks more of a child than he does of a dollar will stand manfully for the Child Labor Amendment and do all in his power to have the hideous evil, the outrageous crime, the infinite disgrace of child-slavery wiped out in the United States.

Save Muscle Shoals

By NORMAN THOMAS

is not clear that the manufacture of fertilizer will be economical or extensive enough to fulfill all that has been hoped from it. What ought reasonably to be done in the matter of nitrates can be done by Government chemists just as well as the dams are now being built by Government engineers. The Government can see to it that whatever diversion of power for the manufacture of fertilizer is proved economically feasible is made. At the same time it can sell surplus power as Ontario sells it.

People Able to Manage Super-Power

The argument that the Government cannot do this efficiently and without corruption is a reproach to democracy. It is interesting to observe that some of the politicians who make it have never shown any desire to get rid of corruption. They profit by it politically and then they use it as an excuse for turning over our natural resources to their masters, the big business interests. Economic freedom in America depends on the people's capacity to manage their own super-power. It looks to us as if they might have to build up their own political party to do it.

But in the meantime, let every citizen who desires to preserve one of our greatest assets for the people bring pressure on the House to reject the Underwood bill.

Our Little Siles is Germany

We observe that the Allies, including the United States, have reached a peaceful agreement as to the division of the money, actual or hoped for, which Germany will pay. That is good as far as it goes. Certainly the United States has as legitimate a claim for the payment of the costs for our army of occupation as the other nations. But it will be a bad thing for the United States and for other nations if our little stake in the Dawes Plan should make us more willing to continue the present exploitation of the German workers.

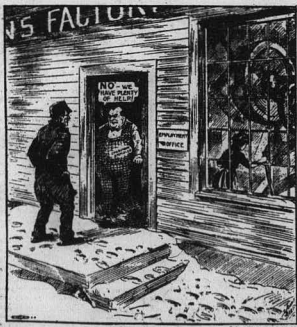
At the Old Stand

President Coolidge's recent Cabinet and other appointments are interesting politically. They show a disposition to ignore Congress. But there is nothing in them to make the plain citizen either rejoice or mourn. Kellogg is not likely to improve on Hughes. Warren will certainly not improve on Stone. Stone, though very conservative on economic matters, will probably be a somewhat more liberal and enlightened Judge of the Supreme Court than McKenna. All in all the great financial interests behind the Republican party will continue to do business at the old stand.

Our "Best" Lynching Record

Only sixteen lynchings in 1924! It is the best record since records of this shameful practice began. It is particularly satisfactory to observe that the recrudescence of race feeling in organizations like the K. K. K. has been accompanied by so marked a decline in mob murder. We attribute this good result to a new attitude of firmness toward mobs on the part of officials, and to an aroused conscience against lynching in the Southern States. These moral improvements, we suspect, have been accelerated by the agitation in favor of the Federal Anti-Lynching Law and by a desire to check the wholesale migration of Negro workers out of the South. Our appreciation of the improvement should not cause us to relax our efforts to eliminate lynching altogether. What a commentary on us it that we should boast that only sixteen people were lynched in a year—this, in an allegedly civilized and Christian country with plenty of law and officers to enforce the law!

COMPETITION



Another Year of the Union Health Center

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

Over 15,000 treatments for sick members of the International and their families during 1925! This astounding fact held my attention when it was privileged a few days ago to see the advance copy of the director's report for the year just closed.

Fifteen thousand one hundred and twenty-two cases! It seemed like an appalling amount of suffering and incapacitation when figured up into such a lump sum. But then my mind went to those days last summer when each day I was present throughout the noon and the evening sessions in the Union Health Center. After all, there were hot days when I felt as if 1,000 patients were descending on me all at once. Indeed, the matter-of-fact figures of the report recorded one session at which there actually were over 200 people. Well do I remember it, too, for 200 odd people in the space devoted to the medical clinic alone—and on a hot July day—that was an experience to try the patience of all who had a share in it.

Think of the first floor of an ordinary nine New York house, with space divided off for the various doctors each holding his special clinic, the minimum space that had to go for clerks, registrar, etc., whose business it is to receive the patients, and in the bit of room that is left, old men and young, women and children, waiting for one to see the nose and throat specialist, another for a chronic stomach complaint, a member's wife to see the woman doctor, etc.

Many of our members recall the day when this now overflowing Union Health Clinic was our youngest experiment, but in those days few of us dreamed of the time when a whole house would not comfortably hold all of its activities. That the house is overcrowded today only goes to show how extensive is the present service of the clinic to our members and how they have come to depend on it for their medical and dental care. Here, again, the year's report fills in the picture for us. The dental department alone gave 28,939 treatments to 4,586 patients; 534 treatments were given for hay fever—what a relief this one to see the nose and throat specialist, another for a chronic stomach complaint, a member's wife to see the woman doctor, etc.

There were 965 more treatments for stomach cases. Surgical cases alone had 996 more, eyes 692, orthopedic 389, nerves 206. All of these together represent only the work of the "special clinic." In addition there is that of the department which made 171 X-rays during the year and the physio-therapeutic department where baking and electric treatments are given, treatments which without the clinic would have remained luxuries, beyond the reach of those who now find life so much more bearable than the relief that 3,500 treatments represent. Indeed, it is not in this department alone that the Clinic assures our members a very economical as well as a dependable service. Whatever it may be that brings a patient to the Clinic he will find when he pays his bill that it amounts to but a fraction of what it would be if he went to doctors of the standing that our clinic's physicians have, as a private patient. For one of the principles on which the clinic was founded is that of cooperative non-profit service.

The bulk of the work, however, in the medical clinic is general examinations, of which there were 6,440 during the year. Among these are "first time" patients who have come to see what all the fuss is about, and also the large group that includes some of the most pitiful cases of all, the sick benefit cases. In examining and certi-

fying such cases the Union Health Clinic supplies a service which the local unions would otherwise be at much greater expense to have performed and it is doubtful whether under any condition it would be done as well. That some sort of medical examination and certification must precede the giving of benefits is clear. When those who apply for them come to the clinic they all go to the same doctors, men and women who know the unions and the conditions of giving benefits, and furthermore, with all the examinations made under the same conditions, there can be no favoritism, no one "easy" way to get the benefit. This is certainly a matter for congratulation.

There is one other important service which the Union Health Center performs for the local unions as such, namely, the examination of applicants. As one local union after another establishes benefits for its members that require a physical examination before the applicant can be admitted to union membership, this function of the Center becomes increasingly important, and as in the case of sick benefit examinations it is equally important that they be made by physicians who understand the purpose of the union in establishing these examinations. Much more detail is needed to give a really accurate picture of all that the Health Center is doing today. It has now in operation a well-equipped drug store where members may buy drugs and have prescriptions filled at cost.

But at this time, when the Health Center has just finished another year of increased activity and usefulness, I think it behooves not only the Board of Directors which is to meet this week, to consider its needs and to make plans for the future, but all of us to realize what the Center could do for the local union and what the unions must do for the Center if it is to keep on growing. First and at the moment most important, is the matter of space. For there is no urging members to come and use the Clinic if there is not even space for them to get into the waiting room. Provision should be made so that people who come seeking medical relief may at least have a seat until it is their turn to see the doctor. However, here are a few items that will no doubt appear on the order of business at the meeting of the Board of Directors, which is the goal of the Union Health Center:

- (1) To incorporate all the locals of the I. L. G. W. U. in the participation of the Union Health Center activities.
- (2) To introduce among all members of the locals a physical examination of every member every year.
- (3) To provide hospital facilities for acute and surgical cases.
- (4) To inaugurate a system of Health Insurance and provide for district and home medical nursing service for all members and their families.
- (5) To build up the facilities and the extent of the service rendered by the Health Center so as to insure full and thorough medical cooperative service to each and every member of the organization in the city.

And in closing, I think that we owe our appreciation to Dr. George M. Price, the director of the Union Health Center, who has had the foresight, the patience, the vision and the will to build up an institution which is the envy of its kind in the American Labor movement, and whose devotion to the task had brought it to its present status.

The Amalgamated Is Ten Years Old

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America is ten years old this month and is celebrating the first decade of its existence through a series of mass meetings and concerts in every city in the United States and Canada where its organizations are located.

In commenting upon this event in *Advance*, the official journal of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, president Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated, among other things, says:

"In celebrating our tenth anniversary we celebrate the beginning of an era of a planned effort towards a conscious goal. It is the end of the decade in which the clothing workers commanded public attention through their spontaneous unorganized rebellion against inhuman conditions. Those were heroic struggles, but like the struggles of the unorganized slaves of old the results were meager and not lasting. That decade gave us little in material heritage, very little of organization and material achievements. It has meant, however, a heritage of traditions left us by the struggles of the past, traditions of unselfishness that place the common good above the individual interest. We have maintained those traditions in all the struggles under the banner of the Amalgamated for the last ten years. We have rightly commanded the unqualifying recognition of the American Labor movement and of the forward looking part of the population generally. We have carried the message of a better and freer life not only to the organized workers in our own industry, but also to all. Our banners in the struggles for humane conditions and civilized standards of life were carried forward from city to city and defended courageously even at the cost of life itself. Our compensation is the splendid organization we have built."

"Our achievements are many: the forty-four-hour week's level, the increase in our wage levels, the recognition of our rights in the shops, the elimination of the autocratic power, with all its abuses, of the sub Foreman."

"Our program for unemployment insurance which places the responsibility of unemployment on industry, where it properly belongs, is a step in that direction. The loss of employment because of business depression is a fact that no thinking member of civilized society can accept. It is a most brutal fact because its punishment affects people who are not in the least responsible for that depression. It strikes blindly at the young as well as the old. Its effects are devastating not only to the particular families affected by it, but to the nation as a whole. Through our insistence upon unemployment insurance which we hope will spread to all industry and in a measure that will amply take care of full unemployment, this evil may be met. While unemployment insurance now affects only part of our membership and its benefits are limited to a minimum, it is a beginning which we will be proud of in the years to come. We shall have forged a weapon against one of the merest enemies of Labor—unemployment."

"We have joined along with other organizations in the constructive enterprise of cooperation. It is so far already to banking. We are already, along with other organizations in New York City, spreading this effort towards housing and ultimately to other spheres of our economic life that will give real protection to our membership and

the kind of economic security that people need in order to be free and independent. We have also participated in, and hope to make further contributions in, the effort of the Labor movement to join in independent political action to the end that governmental powers in this country will be used for the protection of the great masses of people and for the promotion of their economic as well as their spiritual needs."

"There is no power that can and will stop our forward movement if the membership will be guided by a spirit of solidarity and will be as alive to the needs of the organization and ready to defend it as in the past. The only danger that confronts our organization is the danger from within. Dissension is to the life of an economic Labor organization what cancer is to the individual. It saps the very life; it weakens and ultimately kills. It is against this danger that we must be on our guard. If the organization is to carry on, the Amalgamated must remain a united army of men and women ready to maintain and hold what we have and to march forward on the road to greater achievements."

"The spirit of tolerance must prevail in our ranks. We must be patient with one another and learn to understand one another. At the same time we must jealously guard our great and only weapon, solidarity, and not tolerate any individual or group that aims at the destruction or impairment of that weapon."

"Let us hold our banners high and march on along the road of constructive work towards greater achievements for ourselves and for the general Labor movement."

EACH IN HIS OWN TONGUE

By WILLIAM H. CARRUTH

A fire—mist and a planet
A crystal and a cell,
A jelly-fish and a saurian,
And caves where the cave-men dwelt.

Then a sense of law and beauty,
And a face turned from the clot;
Some call it Evolution,
And others call it God.

A haze on the far horizon,
The infinite, tender sky,
The rich, ripe tint of the cornfields,
And the wild geese sailing high;
And all over upland and lowland
The charm of the goldenrod;
Some of us call it Autumn,
And others call it God.

Like tides on a crescent sea-beach,
When the moon is new and thin,
Into our hearts high yearnings
Come swelling and surging in,
Come from the mystic ocean,
Whose rim no foot has trod;
Some of us call it Longing,
And others call it God.

A picket frozen on duty,
A mother starved for her brood,
Socrates drinking the hemlock,
A Jesus on the road;
And millions who, humble and nameless,
The straight, hard pathway plod;
Some call it Consecration,
And others call it God.

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JUSTICE

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MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

S. YANOFFSKY, Editor.

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager.

Max D. DANISHE, Managing Editor

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EDITORIALS

THE RESURRECTION IN CANADA

A trade union is a peculiar organism, one that should not be judged by the ordinary processes applicable to other social entities. Above all, one must never give up hope of a trade union's infinite powers of recuperation. As long as there is a spark of life left within it, it is safe to assume that sooner or later it is likely to stage a "comeback."

Such a phenomenon of "resurrection" had taken place, before the eyes of the entire General Executive Board of our International, a few days ago at the two inspiring mass meetings in the cities of Montreal and Toronto. One could palpably feel at these gatherings that the thousands who filled the halls to the doors—only a few months ago scattered, isolated and helpless—have become, as if by the touch of a magic wand, again united into a cohesive mass inspired by a common purpose and ready to fight for it to the last ditch.

What impressed most at these meetings was the fact that none of the speakers extended to the audiences wide-flung promises or pledges. In terse, sober words they only spoke of what moderate results the workers in the Canadian cities may hope to obtain at the present moment. Nevertheless, the enthusiasm of the cloak makers continued undiminished—and to us this is a safe guaranty that these men and women have come together at last resolved to rebuild their organization on a solid, enduring basis. The enthusiasm that shone in their eyes was obviously not a momentary outburst for an iridescent dream, but the reflection of a firm determination to win for themselves a little more sunshine in their drab existence, a bigger slice of bread for their children and an hour of less crushing toil—in cleaner, healthier factories.

Our unions in Canada have at those two memorable meetings shown beyond refutation that they did "come back" to place the work standards of the cloak trade in the Dominion on the same level as this industry is situated in other women's wear centers in North America.

The I. L. G. W. U., no doubt, has contributed materially to this revival of the Canadian cloak unions. During the last year, the International had sent into Canada some of its best organizers, Vice-presidents Seidman and Amdur, and recently Brother Julius Hochman. The first two had the hardest task—to prepare the ground for the planting of the seeds of organization—while Brother Hochman nursed with care and diligence the first tender shoots of the young harvest. And the members of the General Executive Board, at these two meetings, had the eloquent testimony presented to them that the arduous work of its organizers had not been in vain and that the spark of life which smoldered for several dreary years in the dormant and inactive organizations in Montreal and Toronto has now burst forth into a strong and steady light.

And what is true of the present moment in the two Canadian cities should hold good for the future as well. The International will help with every means at its command the Montreal and Toronto cloak makers, but their workers will have to bear the brunt of the battling themselves if they intend to have permanent and influential organizations that will guard their interests and protect their work-standards. This point was made clear to the Canadian cloak makers at the two meetings and we hope that the message and the warning of the leaders of the I. L. G. W. U. has been fully understood by the workers. The International Union knows too well from past experience that a victory gained without the actual fighting of the workers themselves, no matter in what city or trade, is hardly worth while the effort.

The "dead have awakened" particularly in Montreal and the workers in that city are visibly straining at the leash. For, while in Toronto we have succeeded, under the worst circumstances, to maintain a union, the formerly strong cloak makers' organization of Montreal has gone to pieces in the last few years. There remained a few groups of union men, loyal and true, but isolated and all but reeked. It is a great credit indeed to Brother Hochman that he has succeeded in infusing new hope and a will to fight in this mass of workers and has organized them into a fast moving coherent army, hundreds upon hundreds of them—only yesterday a mass of industrial driftwood but today resolute and inspired fighters with a program and a purpose to lead them on.

The fight has not broken out yet. But it is merely a question of days before the storm will crash simultaneously in both cities. The employers are scenting the coming of the struggle,

and some of them have begun in time to threaten the workers with reprisals and lockouts. These employers will soon, however, learn that they are dealing not with a submissive, pliant horde which cannot or will not offer resistance. In fact, some of the more far-sighted employers in Montreal are beginning to realize this already, and they are making attempts to come to an understanding with the Union.

The workers in Montreal and Toronto are on the threshold of a big fight, of a struggle that will no doubt be bitter and difficult. The employers will, it seems certain, attempt to harass and intimidate the workers by every unscrupulous weapon at their command, police and court persecutions, injunctions, huggery, etc. But they remain nevertheless confident that the forthcoming conflict will end in a glorious victory for the workers and we derive our confidence in this from that remarkable do-or-die spirit which has been so manifest at the memorable meetings last week in Montreal and Toronto. Against such an adamant will the chicanery and trickery of the worst anti-Union employers will prove futile.

Our faith in the coming victory in Canada is still more augmented by the fact that the cloak makers in Montreal and Toronto have a deep, undivided and abiding confidence in their International. Neither "black" nor "red" detractors or demagogues could come between them and their leaders in the fight they are preparing to wage against their task masters. They know by this time that their International has but one aim in view—the improvement of their economic condition. They are keenly aware of the sacrifices made by their parent organization in its efforts to unite them once again for the coming struggle. They need not be told that the International will leave nothing undone to secure victory for them. They are confident that the International will not prolong the strike one day more than what is necessary, nor bring it to an abrupt end, before the legitimate and moderate demands of the workers are won. With such mutual confidence and such a consolidated will to win the result of the coming fight is practically assured.

WELL DONE, EMBROIDERY WORKERS!

The congratulations, which the workers in the embroidery trades in New York City, the members of Locals 6 and 66, are receiving from all sides these days are certainly fully earned.

They have gained for themselves material improvements in earnings and other work conditions and they have scored these gains through negotiations with their organized employers. Our unions are always ready to fight for their rights and they never shun a struggle if their work-standards are at stake. But, on the other hand, we are not in the least inclined to underestimate a victory won through peaceable negotiations, for we never lose sight of the fact that such acquisitions are made only by trade unions which are able and ready to fight and that a real trade union leader must be just as capable to obtain the maximum of concessions at round-table discussions with employers as on the fighting line. It is quite clear therefore that in congratulating the two New York embroidery locals we must also bear in mind the achievements of their experienced, able and devoted leaders.

The gains acquired by Local 6 are indeed something to be proud of. In these days of general downward wage revisions it is a matter of pride to record that the Swiss embroiderers have won a wage increase of from five to seven and a half per cent. This increase dates back to the day of the beginning of negotiations, December 22, which means back-pay to the workers, and testifies still more to the excellent morale of the workers in the trade.

The same is true of the workers in the Bonnaz embroidery trade, the members of Local 66. They too have concluded a new agreement with their employers, and, despite the fact that they had just recently emerged from an unprecedented "slack" period in their trade, they have done remarkably well. Which tends to reaffirm the rule that while an employer or a group of employers may succeed in breaking down work conditions in times of industrial depression in a trade which is but poorly organized, no "slack" or other unfavorable influences can serve as an ally of unscrupulous employers against a solidly organized mass of workers.

We congratulate Locals 6 and 66 upon their notable achievements and we wish them unbroken success in their work. We feel confident that their advance will be steady and unhindered, as the introduction of the Union label in our trades and the establishment of the unemployment insurance fund is bound to quicken the progress of our workers and stimulate the tempo of our march, so that even such as still remain outside the fold of our Union in the ladies' garment industry will perceive the palpable difference between the status of the organized and unorganized workers and will eventually join our ranks.

LOUIS E. LANGER, FORMER RECORDING SECRETARY OF THE NEW YORK JOINT BOARD

Through the drastic changes which have taken place in the New York Joint Board the office of recording secretary has been abolished. The secretary-treasurer will henceforth fill the duties of a recording secretary, and as a result, Brother Louis E. Langer, who for nine years has been the recording secretary of the Joint Board, ceased to occupy this office.

Whatever objections one may be inclined to raise against the former secretary of the Joint Board, the fact that he has held his post for so many years and, as far as we know, without opposition of any account, speaks highly for his ability as secretary and for his loyalty to the Union.

It is a fact that Brother Louis Langer has made himself quite popular among wide circles of our members; but, on the

With the G. E. B. in Montreal :-

By S. YANOVSKY

In contrast to the Philadelphia meeting of the General Executive Board last September, the meeting which will be remembered in our history as the one where the consolidation of the three cloak operators' labor union in New York was decided upon, the Montreal meeting was a rather quiet gathering. In Montreal, the members of the Board had been informed that the great stir occasioned by that memorable decision has now died. The opposition to the merger which broke all bounds of trade union ethics and proprieties, is now decidedly broken and the International has emerged from this affray as fully victorious as from all other conflicts in the past.

This spirit of victory, though rather quiet and unostentatious, was very much in evidence at the meeting, though, we must admit, that it was not entirely devoid of a feeling of regret over the fact that the instigators of this "revolt" against our Union have come from our own midst, our own flesh and blood. There is no gainsaying the fact that this disgusting attack upon our Union was staged by persons whom for years we have been accustomed to regard as brothers and comrades.

This undercurrent of sentiment manifested itself quite sharply in the reports of President Sigman, General Secretary Baroff, Vice-president Perlestein and in the report of the merger committee. When Brother Perlestein recited the humiliating incidents which this committee had had to undergo in the course of its work, and when Vice-president Amador told the story of how the members of the committee had been subjected to personal abuse when they came to the meeting conducted by the recalcitrant group of former Local 17, and how he personally regretted that he had been unable to go to that meeting and share with his fellow committeemen the burden of their work, the members of the General Executive Board were stirred by indignation and wrath.

The second occurrence which threw a shadow upon the Montreal meeting was the death of Samuel Gompers, the departed leader of the American trade union movement. In touching words President Sigman and General Secretary Baroff gave expression to the feeling of the great loss suffered by organized Labor in America, by the I. L. G. W. U. and by Labor the world over through the passing of Gompers. There remains the consolation that the newly-elected President of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, is a person of great integrity and experience and that he would doubtless steer the course of the Labor movement in a forward-looking and progressive way. The I. L. G. W. U. feels particularly proud of the fact that, in presenting the

marble bust to Samuel Gompers at the twilight of his life, it had fittingly expressed the high regard and love it has had for him for many years past. In addition, the International has, by the virtue of this act, gained for itself the friendship and recognition of a host of organizations and leaders in the American Labor movement.

The Montreal meeting, in contrast to many other meetings, did not last very long. First, because it opened on Sunday, January 18, the very day the members of the Board reached Montreal and, secondly, because it was conspicuous by the absence of numerous committees which usually take up most of the time at quarterly meetings. This may have been due to the distance of Montreal from many of our markets, or to the reason that the weather in that Canadian city seldom rose above twenty below zero. The fact, nevertheless, remains that the General Executive Board had a chance to devote itself undisturbed to its business.

There was only one committee from New York which braved distance and cold to appear before the Board, namely, one from the Hebrew Sheltering and Aid Society (H.S.A.), which came with a peculiar request. There exists in New York City a filthy little sheet which masquerades as a "comic" journal. In order to bolster up its rapidly sinking circulation, this sheet recently undertook a campaign of slander upon the "Hysas" charging it with mismanagement and misconduct of affairs. The leaders of the "Hysas" foregoing their own dignity, offered the editor of that sheet, immediately after the attack upon the "Hysas" had been started, to choose a committee which would investigate and render judgment upon these charges and accusations. The "honorable" editor of that "comic journal" nevertheless refused this offer threatening to continue his abuses unless all the leaders of the "Hysas" resign forthwith.

The General Executive Board, after listening to the statement of the committee and having carefully examined the charges as given in the aforementioned sheet, came to the conclusion that the work of our International. The writer of these lines received a few weeks ago a letter from Mme. Kropotkin, in Moscow, in which she makes inquiry whether the I. L. G. W. U. would aid in any manner the recently formed Kropotkin Museum in Moscow organized to

perpetuate his memory. The Russian followers and disciples of the great rebel-philosopher are too poor to maintain the institution which requires about \$500 annually to keep it up. Mme. Kropotkin recently visited England where a committee headed by George Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells and several other admirers of Kropotkin had been formed to aid the museum, but their efforts alone are not sufficient.

The General Executive Board decided to contribute annually to the maintenance fund of the Kropotkin museum \$100 until such a time as it would be necessary, until the day conditions in Russia may change so that the many followers of Kropotkin in Russia might be able to maintain the Kropotkin institution by their own means. It is worthwhile noting that the Kropotkin museum fund also received a donation of \$100 from quite an unexpected source. It developed that the committee which managed the campaign of Vice-president Feinberg when he "ran" last fall for Congress in the New York 12th District, found itself with a surplus on hand, something unusual in Labor political annals. Well, part of this surplus, \$100, went by mutual consent to the above-mentioned fund to keep up the Kropotkin museum in Moscow.

The Cloak and Dress Situations in New York

After these two "foreign" matters had been disposed of in record time, the meeting of the Board turned its attention to the affairs of our International. The cloak situation in New York underwent a thorough discussion and all its possibilities received careful analysis. The experts who are investigating the trade are about to complete their task and will soon report their findings to the Government. Common sense is difficult to forecast what the report of the experts will be. One thing, nevertheless, is certain and clear to all the members of the General Executive Board and this is that the two demands of the Union, the limitation of the number of contractors to be employed by jobbers and a guarantee of a fixed number of weeks of annual employment, are the only ones that can permanently obviate the evils existing in the trade and put an end to chaotic conditions in cloak shops.

The state of affairs in the New York dress industry was also carefully diagnosed by the members of the Board. Vice-president Feinberg rendered a complete report concerning the situation in this industry. The friction between the Union and the jobbers and contractors, which are concededly of a very favorable nature to the workers. To what extent these agreements will be made effective, will depend a great deal upon the

workers in the shops, the members of Local 22, and its new executive board. It was generally agreed that the International and the Joint Board should cooperate in every way to make these agreements workable and effective.

The campaign in the New York miscellaneous trades received the next attention of the members of the General Executive Board. The report on this subject was made by Vice-president Lefkowitz and it pointed out the immense significance of this undertaking and the correspondingly big difficulties which face the International in executing this drive. The General Executive Board considered this report of such special significance that it decided to print it in full in our publications, Justice, Gerechigkeit, and Giustizia. We trust that our readers will not fail to read it carefully when it appears in our columns in one of our early issues.

The report of the out-of-town work of the I. L. G. W. U., conducted by Vice-president Halperin, came up for discussion next. It was followed by a discussion of the problems in Boston, reported by Vice-presidents Seidman and Monosson, the situation in Chicago reported by Vice-president Perlestein, etc. The general impression gained from these reports was that the conditions until now have been far from desirable and that most of the cloak centers have suffered heavily from unemployment. This naturally affected very badly the condition of some of the locals in many places. The prospects for the immediate future are rather encouraging, though it will be necessary in most cloak markets to force the introduction of the reforms which have already been adopted in New York, or are about to be initiated.

What occupied the attention of the General Executive Board most was the state of affairs in Canada, partly, of course, on account of the fact that the meeting was taking place in Montreal. The moment seems to be very opportune for an active revival of the cloak makers' unions in both Montreal and Toronto, and the presence of the Board in Montreal has materially contributed to this awakening. The two meetings held in both cities during the week of the General Executive Board sessions have doubtless left a deep impression upon our workers in Canada.

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Exclusively

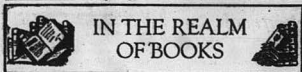
other hand, his long tenure of office in the Joint Board has had an adverse influence upon him personally. Quite unconsciously, perhaps, he began to feel more as the master of the Joint Board than its employee. Which is all very natural for such is human nature. And the founders of this Republic, its early presidents, in having decided not to occupy the presidential post for more than one or two terms, may have been prompted by this selfsame fear of their own weakness, of an apprehension that once upon the crest of their popularity they might be tempted to proclaim themselves monarchs.

In our own trade union republic we have no such restrictive tradition. As long as an officer does his work right we are not inclined to exchange him for another. Yet, a permanent occupation of a single post is bound to have its pronounced effect, and this, to a certain extent, has been the case with our Brother Langer. In recent days he frequently forgot that he was merely the recording-secretary of the Joint Board and would often act as if he was the entire body. As a result, his work has lost a great deal of its original usefulness.

We must, however, say that Brother Langer is by far not

the only one to be blamed for this outcome. Had he found in the Joint Board enough vigorous and strong persons who might have shown him his proper place when he first attempted to overstep his boundary? Brother Langer could have served the Joint Board for many more years if not as its recording secretary, in some other capacity. Unfortunately, such men were lacking in the Joint Board and such as were there had themselves fallen under his influence. And now, though everyone recognizes the big services which Brother Langer had rendered to the Union, the general feeling at his going is of relief and satisfaction.

We sincerely regret it, and we are sorry both for Brother Langer and for the Union as a whole. But, as we stated already, it is not the personal guilt of Brother Langer. We are all to blame for it. When an officer leaves our Union we must not be animated by a feeling of "good riddance" but by a sentiment of gratitude for what the retiring officer had done for our organization. We hope that the experience through which our Union has passed in recent days will help in making this ideal a reality within our International and all its locals.



Experiment

The Theatre Guild, Inc., Presents "Processional," A Jazz Symphony of American Life By John Howard Lawson. Directed By Philip Moeller. Settings and Costumes By Mordcaii Gorelik. The Third Production of the Seventh Subscription Season. At the Garrick Theater.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

It is difficult to analyze the fascination in the latest venture of the Theatre Guild. Mr. Lawson's attempt to express America—a strikingly, is one more proof of "America's coming of age." This sprawling, hustling, mushroom country of ours is settling. Americans are taking the time to stand off and look at themselves. The results are giving us the beginnings of the most promising art development in the world.

But the fascination of "Processional" lies deeper than evidence. It lies deeper even than experiment. There is undoubted significance in the freshness and daring with which Mr. Lawson has handled his material. Grasping at distinctly American experience, Mr. Lawson has attempted to catch a distinctly American idiom in which to express it. The lengths of novelty to which he was forced is commentary not only upon the strain of genius in this young author but also upon the still hectic immaturity, the spiritual unrest that is ours. A Jazz Symphony! Our deepest struggles flow off in escapade, we emphasize the trappings, the eighth notes of life rather than the major chords. Mr. Lawson invokes burlesque, caricature, jazz, vaudeville, tragedy, melodrama, poetry and even the movies in a jumbled technique that strives to show us as we are. A people shadowed by industry, that Golem of man's own making; a people seething with strong instincts that find no outlets, with inarticulate dissatisfactions that find no expression, with bafflement before the cruelties of a life that flaunts men's simplest desires. And taking it out in jazz. The strikers jazz, the Ku-Klux-Klaners jazz, the human jazz; the Government representatives' jazz.

Obviously there is provocation and daring in such technique. As Mr. Lawson runs the range of all the dramatic methods, some of his audience run the gamut of all the dramatic emotions. I have seldom been so moved—and so annoyed in any theater as I was at "Processional." For, to me, "Processional" must be written as a failure. It aimed high and missed its mark. Yet, just because it trained its shots upon the peaks, there is both high justification and significant lessons in the failure. To analyze the reasons behind that failure may be to discover the path leading to the American drama.

No one having the slightest sympathy with his material could deny that "Processional" is a moving failure. The characteristics that make it moving, however, seem to me to lie entirely outside of Mr. Lawson's interpretation. "Processional" is moving, in my opinion, because the material it presents, the sides of American life it touches, are moving. Human beings whose life breaks by the very strength which should be their making are always moving. These struggling, baffled men and women in "Processional"—Dynamite Jim and his mother and Sadie and Polish Jake—are tragic because their own strong passions inevitably are their undoing. Life is so far from the people today. The workers spin the threads of their day into a life pattern against the lower-

ing gust background of industry. And lust, and mother-love, and sex, and ambition, because they can find no opening through that bleak wall that hems them in, seek side-ways of escape: murder and strife and rape, and perversions and all the other moral twists at which church reformers raise abashed hands.

Mr. Lawson gives us glimpses into these truths—flashes that illuminate for an instant fertile byways into which the mind hesitates to look. The West Virginia mining town with its burlesque sheriff and its strike and its jaxing strikers and its soldiers and capitalists and bottling Sodas; Dynamite Jim, who had only his physical strength and the blind fury which made him attempt unthinkingly to use it against soldiers and Government and industry, Polish Jake, with his vision and Socialist phrases and his salty humanity; Jim, with his horror upon discovering that his mother was on the streets to get money for him (all the light little emotions which Church and community gave him unloose after he gets blindness from the Ku-Klux-Klan). And that Klan, burlesqued until its grotesqueness gives some notion of the living truth. Yet, all these human beings have passions and emotions. Lust and sex and discontent and strife stalk the stage like the Olympians of Greek Drama. And these folk have glimpses also of the nature of their emotions and of the giant forces that twisted them.

"It's just a feeling that steals over yer," explained Sadie. And where has truth more profound than that ever been uttered?

"Aw, gosh, what's it all about? I don't like it. These strikers are much like we are," complains a militia man. "Holy Christ, I've killed him. Oh, God, I didn't wanna kill him. Wake him up, wake him up," moans Dynamite Jim over the prostrate form of this militia man whom he has just murdered—accidentally, incidentally, unthinkingly.

"Yes, I've known what it is to have a dream in yer heart and a band of steel around your belly," snaps Jim's mother.

A band of steel round your belly and coal on top of you. The refrain of "Processional"—and of life for so many Americans.

Yes, there is great moving in the material of "Processional." For the humans who are American workers are moving as all simple epic is moving.

Then wherein lies the failure of the play? It is easy to point out that Mr. Lawson used too many methods, that his spectators found distraction in the sight of tragedy resolving into burlesque, of philosophy churning into vaudeville, of epic turning into jazz. It may be that life is just such a maelstrom, such a jumble of caricature and pathos, epic and movie. American life especially. But the drama must select—and simplify. And because Mr. Lawson did neither, his audience left as confused as most mortals leave the circus spectacle we call living. "There ain't no rhyme nor reason to it." It is the artist's high function to attempt to hint rea-

sons, or at least understanding. Mr. Lawson, too, in the image of his Maker, gave us a circus spectacle.

But after all this has been admitted, the failure of "Processional" seems to me but half-explained. There is a technical reason for its failure—even a philosophical one if you will. Mr. Lawson gives us a Jazz Symphony of American life. By open admission, thus, jazz becomes the medium of his expression, of his transmission of the lives we Americans create. But jazz, it seems to me, pervasive though it is, is no organic part of the life it is here depicting. Its folk it as much as you will as its interpret-mel, compare its sentimentalism on love, and home and mother as you will with the folk dreams of a frustrated people, point to its innuendos and risqué snickering as you will, and just by that you prove it, not a part of our life but an attempt to escape from it. People dream the things life denies them in folk music; they seek relief from the deadening regularity of industry in the hectic, drunken heat of jazz rhythm; they find soothing from the disillusion of home and love as the modern world makes them in the sentimentalisms of popular song.

And because we are an uprooted, melting-pot people, that music has become jazz. It spreads from us through the world because industrial life has spread through the world.

Now can a dramatist transmit the essence of a people's life in the medium of their escape from that life? Can he transmit any hint of the things industry does to humans, of the eternal problems of strong men hemmed in by group standards and external environment, of the epic of coal and steel and men and Government in the rhythm in which men seek succor from these things? Mr. Lawson's failure seems to me an conclusive answer. Escapes can give us only the dreams men build out of reality's inadequacies, not that reality itself. The drama of American life remains to be written.

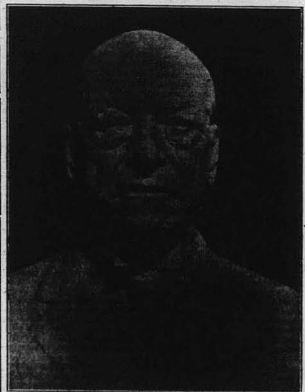
And yet, Mr. Lawson's play is a brave experiment in writing it. The Theatre Guild has once more earned the gratitude of the workers and all others interested in America's future and American art by cooperating in experiment. They give a notably acted, notably presented performance of a notable play. No worker should miss it.

INJUNCTIONS IN LABOR DISPUTES

In a recent address on this theme before the American Bar Association Senator Pepper adds something of importance to the literature of this highly controversial subject. The Senator is a lawyer of distinction. He commended to his brother lawyers a careful study of the evolution of the use of injunctions by American courts against labor unions, pointing out that these orders "have become more and more comprehensive and far-reaching in their provisions" until they culminate in the railway shopmen's injunction issued on the application of Attorney General Daugherty during the strike of 1922. "If you read the [British] Trades Disputes Act you

will find in Section 2 a definite statutory declaration of the legality of some of the very things which the striking shopmen were enjoined eighteen months ago by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. This means that in England picketing has been recognized as inevitable class self-protection, while with us it is still treated as a preventable offense against the rules of industrial war."

Concerning picketing, Senator Pepper said: "The thing called picketing may accordingly be regarded as much more than an effort to persuade or intimidate non-union workers. It may be conceived of as the protective action of a great social group who feel outraged at what seems to them the betrayal of their class.



Photograph of Marjorie East of Samuel Gompers by Moses Dyanar, Presented to Late President of the American Federation of Labor in the El Paso Convention By the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the Presentation Speech Having Been Made By President Morris Sigman.



DOMESTIC ITEMS

Millionaires Increase

Sixty-seven persons reported net incomes of more than \$1,000,000 in 1922, according to a statement issued by the Treasury Department. This is the largest number in the millionaire class since 1916. There were nine persons who reported a net income of \$3,000,000 or more in 1922, and four of these reported that their net incomes exceeded \$5,000,000. Great care was taken by the Government to hide the identity of these taxpayers. The law provides for this secrecy.

Trade Union Bank Makes Notable Gain

The Federation Bank of New York, the largest bank controlled by unions of the American Federation of Labor, has made spectacular gains since its organization, twenty months ago. At the present time its resources total \$8,500,000.

Peter J. Brady, member of the Photo Engravers' Union, whose energy and organizing genius made the bank possible, has been reelected president. He states that resources will reach \$10,000,000 at the second anniversary of the bank's establishment.

"Owing to the bank's remarkable growth, it will soon become necessary to increase the capital to \$1,000,000," said President Brady. "The new issue will be widely distributed among union members."

Potters to Organize

Officers of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters have arranged a membership canvass that will include every shop in the East Liverpool district in Ohio. More than 300 committeemen will join with local and national officials in the campaign. The work will be systematized, with every shop having its own committee whose membership will be drawn from that particular shop.

The unexpected demand for application blanks, it is declared, is but the prelude of a general reinstatement in the organization.

Packers Change Front

The "big five" packers are pleading before the District of Columbia Supreme Court to annul an agreement they made with the Government in 1920 to divert their business from unrelated activities.

The packers signed the agreement when grocery interests were objecting to their invasion of that field, and the meat barons now insist that the so-called "consent decree" is illegal. The packers' fight is conducted by a combination of large fruit growers in California who claim that if the decree is not annulled the wholesale grocers will have a monopoly of the canned fruit distribution. Government attorneys insist that the annulment will give the packers a monopoly of meats and substitutes for meat.

Waste in Industry Worry Business Men

Waste in industry and the excessive costs of distribution are attracting the attention of business men, who conferred in Washington with Secretary of Commerce Hoover on this question.

In his address to the conference Mr. Hoover said that "one of the greatest wastes in our whole system of distribution is the unnecessary number of links in the distribution chain and the excessive number of chains." He referred to waste from excessive seasonality of production and distribution, with consequent slumps and unemployment; waste due to lack of transportation and terminals, and waste from a lack of standards of quality and grades.

It was stated that during the decade ending in 1920 the elements engaged in distribution increased ten times as fast as those that were directly engaged in production.

While commodities are being produced at an increasingly lower cost, the charges for these commodities are increasing because of a multiplicity of sales organizations and middle men.

Child Labor Amendment Ratified by California

Both the Senate and the Assembly of the California Legislature adopted on January 8 the resolution ratifying the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution.

California is the second State to ratify the amendment, Arkansas having voted favorably in last June. In the Senate there were only three votes in opposition, with thirty-six in favor of ratification. In the Assembly the vote was sixty-nine for to nine against.

Leather Workers Plan Organizing Campaign

The United Leather Workers' International Union has launched an organizing campaign among workers in the harness and saddlery industry, travelers' goods and leather novelties and the tannery industry.

Officers of this international are confident of the cooperation of trade unionists in other crafts and callings when their attention is called to this organizing campaign.

This union recently secured a notable decision in the United States Supreme Court which is of inestimable value to the entire trade union movement. The court set aside an injunction against St. Louis striking leather workers who were charged with interfering with interstate commerce because they suspended work to enforce improved working conditions.

The union carried the case to the highest court, which held that commodities do not enter interstate commerce until they are actually on the cars.

If the leather workers accepted the decision of the lower court, every strike could be enjoined on the ground that shipments in interstate commerce are interfered with.

FOREIGN ITEMS

GERMANY

The Trade Unions and the Evacuation of Cologne

The Trade Union Committee for the Occupied Territory, which represents all shades of opinion, discussed at a recent meeting the question of the evacuation of the Cologne zone, and passed the following resolution on the subject:

"The Trade Union Committee for the Occupied Territory as the representative of the working-class population, protests against the intention to prolong the occupation of the Cologne zone, which according to the Treaty of Versailles should be evacuated on January 10, 1925.

"The Trade Union Committee has always advocated the policy of fulfilling the Treaty, and has opposed all attempts to inflame the passions of the people. The occupation of the Ruhr was combatted as being contrary to law and to the provisions of the Treaty, and possibilities of conciliation were never lost sight of. The last few months have seen a very satisfactory change for the better in this respect in the Occupied Territory. All hope of further improvement will, however, be gone if Cologne zone is not evacuated at the appointed time. The trade unions feel that it is a heavy blow to all their efforts towards conciliation, and they are horrified to find that trivial pretexts have been put forward to hamper the great work of the conciliation of the peoples. They regard the population of the Occupation as yet another punitive measure, which can only rob the population of the Occupied Territory of their faith in the sanctity of international treaties. Any further prolongation of the occupation will retard the stabilization of the economic conditions of the world, will increase the distress and suffering of the population, and will jeopardize the fulfillment of the treaties, especially the London Agreement.

The Trade Union Committee express the hope that the governments concerned will at once enter into negotiations for the settlement of outstanding differences."

The Decline of Collective Agreements

The German Official Labor Gazette publishes in No. 29-30 statistics of collective agreements in 1923, although for reasons of economy the statistics are not so full as in the past. The present figures do not exclude the possibility of duplication, so that it is not very easy to make reliable comparisons between different years.

On January 1, 1923, 13,802 collective agreements were in force for 887,310 concerns, affecting 24,054,098 workers, 4,107,219 of whom were women. At the beginning of the previous year, only a little over 9,000 agreements were in force and they covered not quite 20,000,000 workers. Of the 13,802 collective agreements in force at the beginning of 1923, 4,385 expired during the course of the year, while 2,628 were concluded which were either entirely new or else contained modifications of some old agreement upon which they were based; 1,827 agreements were therefore continued unaltered from 1923 to 1924. Making all allowances for duplications, it is probable that the correct number of collective agreements in force on January 1, 1924, was about 8,790, and that they covered some 13,000,000 workers.

The year 1924 will in all probability show a further decline in the number of collective agreements, for it has often been found impossible to renew the existing agreements because the employers have insisted on cutting out the clauses providing for an eight-hour day. Besides this, many of the employers are showing themselves to be more and more opposed to the general principle of concluding agreements, so that in many cases it is quite likely that no fresh agreements, either new or otherwise, will be made when the existing agreements expire.

ROMANIA

Anti-War Badges and Cards

Months ago the Roumanian police confiscated the anti-war material sent to Roumania by the International Federation of Trade Unions. When the I. F. T. U. discovered this, it not only sent a sharp protest to the Prime Minister of Roumania, but also published this protest in the press. The result is that at last both badges and cards have been handed over to the Roumanian Trade Union Centre. But the Roumanian trade unionists will have to get police permits before they wear the badges. Some governments are certainly given to making "much ado about nothing."

SOUTH AFRICA

The Death of Crawford

The death has recently been announced of Archie Crawford, the South African Labor leader. Crawford was one of the most prominent representatives of the organized Labor of South Africa; in 1914 he was leader of the great general strike, when the soldiers were ordered to fire upon the defenceless workers. Crawford was then ordered by General Smuts to leave the country. Later on he was allowed to return, although he persistently refused to sign any declaration promising not to organize any more strikes during the war.

Crawford represented South Africa at the Washington Conference, and since then has been repeatedly nominated by the South African Industrial Federation as Labor Representative for the International Labor Conferences. He held the post of secretary to the South African Industrial Federation, and in this capacity he has contributed considerably during the last few years to the growth of the trade union movement. More recently he has come under sharp criticism from some of the leaders of organized Labor, and it is not easy for outsiders to follow the intricacies of South African Labor questions sufficiently to warrant a pronouncement on the subject. He was present at the International Trade Union Congress of Vienna last June as the representative of South Africa.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School
Irving Place and 16th St.
Room 530

Saturday, January 31

- 1:30 p. m. B. J. R. Stolper—Clear Voices in English and American Literature: Swift, Pope and Gray.
2:30 p. m. David J. Saposs—Trade Union Policies and Tactics: Early Beginnings of the Labor Movement.

Sunday, February 1

- 10:20 a. m. H. A. Overstreet—Psychology of Conflict: Class Conflict.
11:20 a. m. H. J. Garman—The Industrial Development of Modern Society: The Industrial Revolution—Its Spread.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' BUILDING

3 West 14th Street

Wednesday, February 4

- 6:30 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—Psychology and the Labor Movement.
Thursday, February 5
6:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopals—Economics and the Labor Movement: Organized Industry—Employers vs. Workers' Organizations.

UNITY CENTERS

Tuesday, February 3

Brooklyn Unity Center—P. S. 61

Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street

- 8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Changing Economic Institutions: International Relations and Imperialism.

Wednesday, February 4

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: Agriculture.

EXTENSION DIVISION

YIDDISH

Friday, January 30

Local 2 Club Rooms—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx

- 8:00 p. m. R. Hoffman—Are the Jewish Unions Now More Radical than They Were?

Friday, February 6

Local 2 Club Rooms—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx

- 8:00 p. m. I. Isakowitch—Changes in the Women's Garment Industry and Its Effect on the Conditions of the Workers.

Sunday, February 1

Local 2 Club Rooms—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx

- 11:00 a. m. Max Levin—The Industrial Development of Modern Society.

Friday, January 30 and February 6

Beethoven Hall—210 East 5th Street

- 8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—American Civilization.

Saturday, January 31 and February 7

Local 9 Building—47 Lexington Avenue

- 8:00 p. m. Max Levin—Discussing Method.

Sunday, February 1

Cloak Operators' Centre—1629 Lexington Avenue

- 10:30 a. m. E. Hoffman—Twenty-five Years' Labor Movement in America.

Friday, February 6

Russian-Polish Branch—315 East 10th Street

Thursday, February 5

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. The topic will be "Ownership."

Thursday, February 19

Brownsville Labor Lyceum—Room 301

- 7:30 p. m. Alexander Fichandler will start a course of six lessons on "The Economic Basis of Modern Society." The topic of the first lesson will be "Farming."

Saturday, February 21

Public School 63—Fourth Street Near First Avenue

- 8:00 p. m. Concert and Community Singing—Prominent artists will participate. Detailed announcement later.

Harlem Concert An Inspiring Affair

An inspiring audience listened to an excellent concert on Saturday evening, January 17, at Public School 171.

Not only was every seat in the auditorium occupied, but many were standing. It was a community affair. Our members came with their families, and listened most enthusiastically to a performance by Miss Schreiner, soprano; Mr. Fyche, violinist, and Mr. Salsavsky, bassitone. The artists received a number of encores calls. Mr. Salsavsky led the singing of folk songs, and the audience, young and old, men and women, all joined in singing their favorite songs.

On the program there was a line requesting the members to leave their names, addresses and local numbers at the door, and without exception they all did so.

Fannia M. Cohn presided and also spoke of the activities of our Educational Department, in which the audience showed an interest. Needless to emphasize how important these family affairs are. The attendance is the best proof. It is good to see so many of our members belonging to various

trades and local unions get together with their families and spend a few hours socially in a pleasant atmosphere.

At the end of the performance the audience unanimously voted to request our International to arrange more such affairs in Harlem.

REDUCED PRICES TO PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS

Our members can still obtain tickets at reduced prices for the Philharmonic Concerts which will be given on Wednesday and Saturday evenings at Carnegie Hall, and Sunday afternoons at the Metropolitan Opera House.

Cards can be obtained at the Educational Department, which will entitle our members to two tickets at reduced prices to every concert.

These cards must be exchanged at the Fisk Building, 250 West 57th street, Room 718, from 9 to 5 daily and from 9 to 12 on Saturdays.

Through this arrangement our members and their families have an opportunity to attend first class concerts at a minimum cost.

Educational Activities in the I.L.G.W.U. Building

We wish to call the attention of our readers to the courses that are given in our own I. L. G. W. U. Building. This is important for two reasons. First, that our general headquarters is developing into an educational center of our large membership, and second, that its location near the factory district is convenient; and we arrange that the courses are given at an hour that makes it possible for our members to attend without losing much time.

They remain downtown, have a light supper, take a walk and at 6:30 they assemble in the classroom, where they spend one hour until 7:30. This makes it possible for them to keep their evening engagements whether it be an executive or members meeting of their union, or a theater performance.

The following courses are given: Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30, Alexander Fichandler is giving a course on

"Social Psychology and the Labor Movement." Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30, Dr. Sylvia Kopals is giving a course on "Economics and the Labor Movement." Both instructors are known to our members and need no special introduction.

GUST DE MUYNCK OF BELGIUM TO LECTURE IN OUR WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Gust de Muynck, formerly Secretary of the Belgian Labor College, and now an exchange instructor in Brookwood, will lecture in our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, on Saturday, January 31, at 2:30 p. m. The topic of his lecture will be the European Labor movement.

He will stress Nineteenth Century Europe and the economic and political conditions that led to the formation of the trade union and political movement.

Concert and Community Singing Downtown

Saturday, February 21, 1925, at Public School 63, Fourth St. Near First Ave.

A concert with community singing is being arranged for Saturday evening, February 21, at Public School 63, by the Educational Department, for our members and their families residing downtown.

Prominent artists will participate.

The detailed program will be announced later.

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

Labor Leaders Hold Annual Meeting In Brookwood

Labor men and women of nationwide prominence will gather at Brookwood Labor College on Friday, January 30, for a three-day session. This is the annual meeting of the Labor Cooperating Committee of the Labor College, which maintains an oversight over the work of the school in order that it may remain loyal to the aims of organized labor.

James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor and also president of the Workers' Education Bureau of America, will preside at the meeting. Those in

attendance will include John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor; Phil E. Kiegl, editor of the official journal of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks; John Brophy, president of District 2, United Mine Workers of America, and Miss Fannia Cohn, the director of the educational work of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

The labor college, which is exclusively for resident students, is in its fourth successful year. The annual

(Continued on Page 11)

The Bank Wholesale and Retail Furniture Company
67-69 Lexington Avenue, New York

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Unanimous ratification of the agreements just concluded between the Union and the Association of Dress Jobbers' Association followed the reading of these by Manager Dubinsky at the special meeting called for this purpose, which was held last Monday night in Arlington Hall.

With this action by the members, the minimum scale for dress cutters becomes fifty dollars per week, an increase of six dollars over the former wage minimum. Upon the formal signing of the agreement all dress cutters not receiving the new minimum are required to report to the office for the purpose of having it secured for them.

A Peace With Victory

Brother Dubinsky characterized the documents as masterpieces from the point of view of conciliation in the working conditions of the members of the union. In addition to a number of improvements of considerable importance another important feature is the renewal of this agreement without warfare and without the loss on the part of the workers of a single moment in stoppages or strikes.

That a drive will be instituted against open shops can hardly be doubted. In no month during the past few years was the union inactive with respect to organization. The upkeep of this work is prompted by the constant opening up of new shops in the dress industry. Were the union to cease this work the conditions obtaining in the union shops would be menaced.

Hence, because of the conclusion of the agreements and because of the beginning of the busy season, the organization work will be greatly intensified. What proportions this campaign assume and how it will affect the union's work are still questions for consideration by the committee of the union dealing with the matter of the renewal of the agreements.

While the agreements have been concluded there has yet to take place a final meeting of the conference committee of the two sides for the purpose of attaching the signatures. This has not been done as yet since both sides the union and the employers postponed this until ratification of these agreements by their respective memberships.

Important Features of New Agreements

The new minimum wage applies to workers who have completed their trial period and are retained by the employer for the season. As in the previous agreement, employers hiring cutters for temporary employment are required to pay the workers fifteen per cent above the minimum. This means that cutters who are hired for "jobs" only must receive fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents per week, which is fifteen per cent above the minimum.

The clause penalizing employers for doing the work belonging to members of the union has been strengthened.

Formerly, if, for instance, one of the members of the firm would do his own cutting and employ no cutter, he would be penalized to the extent of a week's wages, which was forty-four dollars. If a cutter were in the employ of the employer and this violation were committed, the amount of the penalty would be fixed by the time lost, which penalty would be turned over to the cutter in the form of wages for loss of time.

Under the new management an employer violating the agreement in this regard is to be penalized to the extent of a week's wages, that is, fifty dollars. If a cutter employed in a given house will be laid off and the employer does the cutting the penalty of a week's wages is to be imposed, in addition to which the firm will be com-

pelled to pay to the cutter the loss of wages which he sustained as a result of the violation.

Provisions For Holiday Pay and Special Holidays

A clause is contained which protects workers against undue loss of time as a result of the installation of new machinery and labor-saving devices. The agreement provides that when any such innovation is installed in the factory of an employer, and if as a result of this workers lose their positions, such workers shall receive no less than two weeks' wages for loss of time. The union reserves the right to take up the question of fixing wages for workers required to operate these machines.

A gain was made by the union in the clause dealing with holidays. Under the old agreement, if a holiday occurred on a Saturday the workers were deprived of pay, unlike if a holiday occurred in the middle of the week.

Under the new agreement, if a holiday occurs on a Saturday it is provided that the workers be paid at the thirty-six hour rate.

Label and Unemployment Insurance to Help

It was previously reported that the union's demand for unemployment insurance was secured. This system for its payment is the same as that which obtains in the cloak industry.

Employers are required to deposit two per cent of the weekly payroll and from the wages of the workers will be deducted one per cent, which three per cent will be turned over into a fund to be administered by a board of trustees. The employers' share of two per cent is to be borne by jobbers and manufacturers.

An interesting feature of this fund is that it is required of the employers to send in to the union a uniform copy of their payroll books in which are to be recorded the names and earnings of the workers. This as may readily be seen, will help considerably in determining whether workers were employed in all crafts.

The label of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control was also adopted, which is to show that garments bearing these labels were made in union shops under sanitary conditions. Employers are also required to use only such trimmings as bear the union label.

Other clauses pertain to machinery and trial boards for the adjustment of disputes. Some new provisions with respect to this have also been included. The association assumes responsibility for failure of the part of an employer to pay money due a worker as a result of a complaint.

Jobbers' Responsibility Increased

The agreement with the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association, commonly known as the Jobbers, has compelled them to assume their rightful place in the industry, that of manufacturers.

This has been one of the important demands of the union. It insisted that the Jobbers were the real employers and manufacturers, the slight difference being that their manufacturing was not done on their premises.

An important provision contained in the agreement with these employers is their responsibility for wages due workers. This means that when a contractor fails to pay his workers wages due the workers within three days' time should report this to the union. The matter is then taken up with the jobber, who will be responsible for a minimum of about a week and a half.

Workers are no doubt familiar with the condition which brought about this demand on the part of the union. It was not infrequently when a con-

tractor would disappear over the week-end and the workers would report for work to find the shop under lock and key. Hundreds of workers have thus been deprived of their wages.

The Jobbers are also responsible for the unemployment insurance for their contractors. They are also required to register weekly the shops with whom they deal. Penalties are provided for violation of the agreement in regard to having work made up in non-union shops.

To the union is given the right in the company of a representative of the association to examine once a month the books of the Jobbers. Formerly, this was allowed only once in three months. The Jobbers are required to deal in garments bearing the union label. Provisions are made for the arrangement of a trial board for the adjustment of disputes.

Ball Committee Reports

Brother Isadore Nagler, Chairman of the Ball Committee, reported to the membership the action of the committee, which met two weeks ago for the purpose of making arrangements for the organization's coming annual affair.

The most important recommendation was the taxing of the members for the purchase of one ticket, the price of which has been fixed at fifty cents. This recommendation was approved of unanimously by the members present. Nagler said that the committee was prompted in this recommendation by the fact that considerable work would be saved the officers. Being a tax, it will not be necessary to solicit for the sale of tickets and urge upon the members to purchase them.

This action by the Ball Committee also assures an ample income which is to be turned over to the Relief Fund, to which members apply for relief when in need.

Dubinsky, in speaking on this, said that he was both surprised and gratified to see the favor with which this recommendation was received. He said he hesitated somewhat when this recommendation was discussed by the committee since with the increase in the dues he expected opposition on this score. However, he thought the members had acted wisely since they must have been familiar, from the reports of the Executive Board, with the numerous applications by members for relief.

Joint Board to Elect District Managers and Business Agents

Election of district managers and business agents for all departments in the dress and cloak divisions of the Joint Board will take place in various sections of the city beginning about February 10. All members engaged in these two trades are entitled to participate in this election.

In addition to the notices posted in the press as to the exact time and place, notice to this effect will also be posted in the next issue of Justice.

From the present staff of district managers and business agents the number has been cut down and twenty-five officers have been eliminated. This was done in order to make certain savings, as the union has encountered financial difficulties during the past year and was compelled to raise the dues and institute other economy plans. Had the organization failed to

take these measures it would have been compelled to levy a tax on the membership.

The cut in the staff primarily affects the cloak department, largely because during the stoppage of last summer several hundred small contracting shops were eliminated. This elimination was made possible under the new agreement which called for shops of fourteen machines and in which workers who were taken out of small shops were placed. Therefore, the Joint Board, in considering the question of economy, concluded that the entire staff previously maintained is not necessary.

The manner in which the election will be conducted may be considered very democratic. The notice posted in the press announcing that elections were to be held afforded every member who felt competent to serve the organization as an officer the opportunity to file an application. A week's time was given over to this.

It appears that very few members, aside from the old staff, filed applications. This is particularly true as regards Local 10. Applicants for the various posts have their applications examined by a committee consisting of the board of directors of the Joint Board, local managers and the president and the secretary of the International. They are called before this committee and are questioned with regard to their knowledge of and experience in the labor movement, in general, and the International, in particular. Their qualifications with respect to their ability to represent the workers in their daily interests and needs in the shops are gone into by the examination committee.

All aspirants who pass the examination, that is, who qualify, will be placed on the official ballot, and all members of the various local unions and crafts will be called upon to elect the district managers and business agents for the new term. For example, cutters may vote for operators as well, and vice versa. While all members may vote for the full range of candidates, nevertheless each local is entitled to only a certain quota and the members may only vote for a certain number for each local.

Miscellaneous

There is going on this week a campaign for the purpose of preparing all cutters in the children's dress trade, dress, underwear and wrapper and kimona trades, particularly non-union men, for the general strike which will be declared shortly.

This campaign is being conducted by Local 10 for the cutters. The mass meeting took place last Wednesday and was addressed by International Vice-president S. Lefkowitz and officers of Local 19.

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CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Notice of Meetings

REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETING..Monday, February 9th

Special Order of Business: Election of Business Agents for the Joint Board.

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