

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

—Job 27:8

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol VII. No. 24.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1925.

Price 2 Cents.

Unity House Opens Doors For 1925 Season

Two Special Trains Will Carry Guests to Opening Festivity on Friday Night—Five Hundred Friends of Unity Registered for Week End—President Sigman, President William Green of A. F. of L., Secretary Baroff, and Many G. E. B. Members to Attend—An Elaborate Concert Program for Saturday Night.

Tonight, Friday, June 12, the doors of the Unity House at Forest Park, Pa., will open formally for the season of 1925 to admit a throng of over five hundred members of the I. L. G. W. U. and their friends who will spend the week end on the great estate of the Ladies' Garment Workers and will help usher in the seventh season of this unique working class institution.

Very local of the I. L. G. W. U. in New York City, and several other nearby cities, will be represented at the opening ceremony by delegations. President Sigman, Secretary Baroff and Vice-Presidents Harperin, Perlstein, Cohn, Feinberg, Reisberg and Breslaw have made reservations to be present. As announced last week, President William Green of the A. P. of L. definitely promised Secretary Baroff, who is chairman of the Unity House Committee, to arrive at the Unity House on Saturday, June 13th.

Two special trains carrying Unity guests from New York will leave the Lackawanna R.R. station on Friday, one at 2:30 and another at 6:20 in the afternoon—daylight saving time. The bulk of the crowd is expected to go by the 5:20 train.

The opening speeches will be made and the concert will be performed in the Main Recreation Hall of the House on Saturday night, June 13. President Sigman, Secretary Baroff and President William Green of the Federation will deliver the main addresses. In addition to the program announced in these columns last week, the arrangement committee has secured through the kind offices of the S. Hurok Amusement Company, Henry Wurzel, a brilliant tenor who has just arrived from Europe who will delight the audience with arias from La Tosca, La Boheme, Eugene Onegin, and a rich selection of European folk songs.

All told, the opening of the Unity House for the first time under the management of the International, promises to be an unusually attractive

affair and a bright forerunner of the most successful season Unity has had in the seven years of its existence.

G. E. B. Adopt Important Decisions at Chicago Meeting

Vice-President Amdur Appointed International Representative in Canada—Jacob Heller Automatically Suspended From International—Members of Executive Boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22 Charged With Acting Against the Interests and Spirit of Union—Will Be Tried By New York Joint Board.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., which began its sessions on Tuesday, June 2nd, at the Hotel Morrison in Chicago, closed its deliberations late on Saturday afternoon, June 6, after having exhausted every subject of importance on its agenda.

On page 5 of this issue, the reader will find a full account of the first session of this meeting, which will be followed up in succeeding issues and will include a detailed description of

all that transpired at the last quarterly gathering of the G. E. B. We shall therefore outline briefly here only a few of the most important decisions that the meeting had adopted.

The first two days of the meeting were confined to report making, first, by President Sigman and Secretary Baroff, and later by the members of the Board. President Sigman reported on conditions in Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. He laid particular

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Medical Clinic of Health Center to Be Enlarged

A New Children's Clinic to Be Opened.

With the removal of the Dental Clinic of the Union Health Center from its present place at 131 East 17th Street to its very much enlarged headquarters at 222 Fourth Avenue, next September, the space occupied by it will be turned over to the use of the Medical Department of the Center which remains in the same building.

The Dental Clinic will occupy the entire sixth floor of the large building on Fourth Avenue. It is at present being reconstructed and fixed for this purpose with new equipment at an expense of twenty thousand dollars and will have facilities for twenty-two chairs and will employ twenty or more dentists. It will provide ample facilities for all I.L.G.W.U. members and their families and there will be no need for overcrowding and prolonged waiting.

In the Medical Department five additional examination rooms will be provided, a new Children's clinic will be opened, a clinic on diseases of the rectum and colon will be established, and an operating room provided for operations on nose, throat, ear and other organs.

Unemployment Relief Started In N. Y. Cloak Industry

Fund Begins to Function on Monday Last, June 8—First Two Checks Paid Out By Chairman Battle of the Governor's Commission—President Sigman Delivers an Impressive Speech—Unemployment Benefit Not a Charity, It Is a Distinct Gain for The Workers.

On Monday morning, June 8, the unemployment insurance benefit system formally began to function in the cloak industry of New York amid solemn and very impressive surroundings.

The initial payments were made in the presence of a large gathering, representative of every factor in the industry, in the headquarters of the

Fund, 6 East 29th Street. There were assembled there the leaders of the Union, of the manufacturers, jobbers, contractors, members of the Governor's Commission, and as many workers as could crowd into the spacious ante-room. Thousands who could not get in were gathered outside.

The General Executive Board of the International was represented at ceremony through President Sigman, Secretary Baroff and several of the Vice-presidents. A number of the leading officials of the Joint Board were also there.

The meeting was opened by Arthur D. Wolf, the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund who gave a short history of the workings of the unemployment relief arrangement. He quoted many statistics to show how the moneys which have been collected are handled. He gave a detailed statement of the investments made to date. One thousand four hundred and seventy-two firms, employing 35,600 workers, are parties to the fund.

Mr. Wolf read a letter from Governor Smith telling of the chief executives' inability to attend the ceremonies.

Part of Collective Agreement

The fund was brought into being by the collective labor agreements entered into by the Industrial Council of the Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Protective Association, the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association, the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association and the International Ladies' Garment Work-

ers' Union, on July 16, 1924. By the terms of the agreements all employers are required to contribute 2 per cent and all employees 1 per cent of the weekly payrolls to the fund. Already the sum collected amounts to more than \$1,250,000, and today's payments are the first made from the fund.

Mr. Wolf then introduced Mr. George Gordon Battle as chairman of the meeting, who after some brief remarks, called upon President Morris Sigman of the I. L. G. W. U. to speak.

President Sigman delivered a long and masterly speech which made a deep impression upon all present and sounded the keynote of the impressive ceremony which marked the beginnings of a very important reform in one of New York's greatest industries. He discussed in detail the historic background of this innovation, drew a vivid picture of the Union's rise, of its struggles before it became a factor in the ladies' garment industry, the plague of the long "black" periods in this seasonal trade, and the constant efforts of the workers to ameliorate it. He wound up by thanking Governor Smith for his efforts for peace on a humanitarian basis in the cloak industry and thanked the members of the Governor's Commission for their unselfish and impartial labors.

(A complete analysis of President Sigman's speech the reader will find on the editorial page of this issue.) Speeches were also delivered by Mr.

Continued on Page 2)

Local 66 Demands Liberation of Political Prisoners in All Lands

We received the following resolution adopted at a member meeting of the Bonnaz Embroiderers' Union, Local 66 of the I. L. G. W. U., on the subject of political prisoners in all countries. The resolution was adopted by an overwhelming majority, after a group of Communists had offered vigorous and rather noisy opposition to it.

Resolution Adopted By Local 66 on May 28, 1925

Whereas, there are more men and women imprisoned today for opinion's sake than ever before in the history of the world; and

Whereas, this condition applies equally to so-called "liberal" governments like England which is persecuting Hindus and Egyptians by the thousands, as to pure and simple despots like Spain and Hungary; and

Whereas, Russia, with its so-called Workers' Government, is no different in this respect from capi-

talist Poland, Italy, France, Germany and the United States, where thousands of the finest and noblest minds are imprisoned and tortured because they think differently from those in power; be it

Resolved, that we, the Bonnaz Embroiderers' Union, Local 66, I. L. G. W. U., in meeting assembled on May 28, 1925, at 329 East 20th street, New York City, hereby denounce equally and without distinction or qualification all such governments as are imprisoning men and women for political opinion, and call upon all fair-minded people to do likewise, in order that the conscience of the world may be aroused and the prison doors opened to such as are now suffering because they had dared to express views contrary to those in power.

NATHAN RIESEL,
Secretary, Bonnaz Embroidery
Workers' Union.

G. E. B. Adopt Important Decisions at Chicago Meeting

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stress on recent developments in organizing activity in the Chicago dress trade. He also dealt at length upon the results—so far—of the hearings before the Governor's Commission in New York, and informed the members of the G. E. B. that all the parties concerned in the matter were now awaiting the return of Colonel Arthur Lehman from Europe, about June 17th, when the Commission would meet and work out its recommendations.

Secretary-Treasurer Baroff reported on the financial situation in the I. L. G. W. U., and gave an account of the work of the International Unity House Committee of which he is chairman.

Vice-president Ninfo reported on his trips to Cleveland, Boston and other cities.

Vice-president Perlberg gave an account of the state of affairs in the New York Joint Board locals, touching upon the establishment of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and the functioning of the Sanitary Label in both the cloak and dress industries.

Vice-president Perlstein gave an account of conditions in Cleveland where he visited recently and recommended that an Italian organizer be appointed to work among the Italian cloakmakers in that city.

Vice-president Fannia M. Cohn reported on the educational activities of the I. L. G. W. U. and on the recent national convention of the Workers' Education Bureau which she attended as delegate together with Vice-presidents Reinsberg and Amdur and the organizational changes within that Bureau.

Vice-presidents Reinsberg, Seidman, Lefkowitz and Monosson reported on their activities in the respective industries they were assigned to. Vice-president Halperin gave an account of the work of the Eastern Organization Department of the I. L. G. W. U. in the last few months.

Sister Mollie Friedman reported on her activities in the Chicago dress territory and stated that noticeable progress was now being made in this field. She praised highly the members of Local 100 for the wholehearted and loyal aid which they were giving her in this immensely difficult work.

Communications

Secretary Baroff read a number of communications from various organizations and individuals calling upon the G. E. B. for aid or advice. Among

these were the following:

The Progressive Party of New York asked the International to take part in a political convention which it is planning to hold shortly. The G. E. B. decided not to accept this invitation.

The People's Legislative Service of Washington, D. C., asked for financial aid to enable it to continue its work on behalf of the progressive and Labor movements of the country. The request was turned over to the Finance Committee for action.

The Italian Chamber of Labor of New York asked for help, and this request was turned over to the general officers with full powers to act.

Special Committees

A committee from Local 22 of New York, consisting of Julius Portney and Sam Lupin, appeared before the G. E. B. and asked that the Board take a stand with reference to the dress shops controlled by Local 22 and that such shops be transferred to Local 22.

Noah Portney, representing the Warsaw (Poland) Volkzeitung, appeared before the G. E. B. and asked support for this paper, the only Labor and cooperative paper in the Jewish language in Poland.

An appeal also was read from the Chicago Polish Labor paper "Dziennik Ludowy" asking for financial aid. The G. E. B. decided to give this paper \$500.

Some of the Decisions

To continue campaigns in the dress industries of Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Cleveland and Chicago and to leave nothing undone to build up strong organizations in the dress trades in these cities.

To start a nationwide campaign for the sanitary trade union label and for the union miscellaneous label.

To drop former Vice-president Jacob Heller from the membership of the Union.

To raise funds of \$1,000 each for the Warsaw Volkzeitung and for a Labor Lyceum in Bucharest, Roumania.

To grant the "Pioneer Youth Movement" the use of a piece of land owned by the I. L. G. W. U. in Sullivan County for a Summer Camp for the children belonging to the "Pioneer Youth" clubs.

To place under charges the members of the executive boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22 for acts detrimental to the Union's interests and violative of the spirit of the organization.

Unemployment Relief Started on June 8

(Continued from Page 1)

Louis Lustig of the Industrial Council of the Protective Association, who gave Mr. Arthur D. Wolf, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as a token of their esteem, a set of marine glasses for his planned ocean trip; by Mr. Harry Finder, Mr. Maxwell Kopeloff of the Jobbers' Association, and Mr. Uviller of the American Cloak Manufacturers' Association. The

speakers expressed their thanks and recognition to Mr. James Carver, the manager of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, for his able administration of the office.

At the end Mr. Battle delivered the first insurance check to Brother Katz, an elderly member of Local, Ledger No. 3543. The second check was given by Mr. Battle to Sister Nushbaum, a middle aged worker, member of Local 3.

Testimonial Presented by Local 50 To International on May 24, 1925

We, the members and officers of the Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 50 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, having assembled on this day of May Twenty-Fourth, One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Twenty-five to celebrate solemnly and joyfully the conclusion of twenty years of our existence as a Labor organization, feel impelled by deepest emotion to testify to a sacred sentiment upmost in all our minds:

On this day of our Twentieth Anniversary, speaking for ourselves and for the other thousands of workers in the Waist and Dress Industry of Philadelphia who have lived and fought and struggled with us during all these long years, we offer to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, our parent body, and to the General Executive Board, its guiding head, our homage, and undivided loyalty in a measure which no mere words may attempt to describe as a recognition of the never-failing interest and unflinching assistance, with which our International Union has always upheld our hands in time of stress and strife and has guided our path with sound counsel and cooperation in time of constructive industrial peace.

We raise our voices in one great solemn pledge forever to remain loyal to the proud banner of our great International Union, side by side with the other fighting divisions of our glorious International family, always in the vanguard, with our faces toward the rising sun of proletarian emancipation.

DRIVE TO ABOLISH PRISON-LABOR MADE GARMENTS YIELDING MATERIAL RESULTS

The Joint Committee on Prison Labor in the garment trades, which is formed of representatives of the United Garment Workers of America and of the Union-Made Garment Manufacturers' Association of America, and which has been carrying on for quite a long time a campaign against prison-made garments, has just made public the news that one of the largest prison-labor contracting firms in the country, controlling seventeen big prison factories, had announced that it is taking its advertising brands out of the prisons.

The official announcement of the company says: "There exists among the trade a certain reluctance to handle prison-made products." This "reluctance" is the direct outgrowth

of the activities of organized labor against this evil. This campaign has been directed on behalf of the United Garment Workers' Union by Mrs. Kate Richards O'Hare. There are, however, still other prison labor contractors, and garments are still being made in prisons. The advertised brands of but one company have been driven out of the prisons, but the branded garments of other prison-labor contractors and unbranded prison-made goods still feeds the markets.

The Joint Committee of Prison Labor has recently forwarded a letter to 23,000 local unions throughout the United States, requesting them to give this drive all possible assistance by insisting upon the Garment Workers' label as a means of insuring that the garment is positively Union-made and was not produced in a penal institution under the lash of the task master, without any remuneration at all or for a pitiable mite.

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The Label at Work

A Review and a Report

By DR. HENRY MOSKOWITZ,
Director Label Department, Joint
Board of Sanitary Control
of New York

Readers of "Justice" will be very much pleased with the results of the first few months of the functioning of the "Prosanis" Label in the cloak and dress industries.

The Label was introduced in the Cloak Industry on September 22nd, 1924, when the season was half over. Despite the problem of administration, which had to be solved, and because both the workers and the employers required considerable instruction and education respecting the significance and the enforcement of the Label, we sold, during the latter half of the Fall season of 1924, 1,147,650 "Prosanis" Labels in the Cloak and Suit Industry, covering 1154 shops.

The Spring season of 1925 in the Cloak Industry showed the results of the preliminary work which was done during the Spring season. For the Spring season of 1925, 4,191,100 Labels were sold covering 343 new shops in addition to the number of shops covered in 1924. We sold, therefore, about 500 per cent more Labels during the Spring season than during the Fall. This is partly accountable by the fact above referred to that we introduced the Label late in the Fall season.

The number of Labels sold up to date, are 5,244,750, covering 1500 shops out of 1524.

The "Prosanis" Label was introduced in the Dress and Waist Industry on April 29th, 1925. Within a period of five weeks, 1,774,300 Labels were sold covering 1146 shops out of 1242. This is an extraordinary record, as many of the shops uncovered were closed and not working.

It is reasonable to expect larger sales in the Dress and Waist Industry than in the Cloak Industry.

While this is a record of substantial progress, it represents only a beginning. For, the amount of Labels thus far sold represents about 50 per cent of the seasonal output in the Cloak Industry. We are unable to ascertain the percentage of the seasonal output of the Dress Industry as the Label has only recently been introduced.

Inspection Service

The statistics of inspections will also interest readers of "Justice". The Board started its inspection service on October 15th, 1924, with one inspector. It added another in January, 1925. The purpose of inspections is to ascertain whether the garments in the shops of the manufacturers and jobbers having an agreement with the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union carry the "Prosanis" Label. We were delayed in establishing inspections, because the right of the Board to inspect was questioned by representatives of the employers, and we could not exercise this right until it was finally confirmed by the Governor's Commissioner in its decision rendered on February 8th, 1925.

Up to date, the inspectors of the Label Division have covered the entire Cloak Industry. Wherever they discovered violations, their reports are communicated to the Label Department of the Union which refers them to the business agents for investigation and action, and the report of each complaint is returned to the Label Division.

Through the active cooperation of the Union Label Department, under Mr. Charles Jacobson's able supervision, we can report considerable progress in enforcement. The effect of

this activity is registered in the sales.

The inspectors of the Label Division are instructed, not only to ascertain whether the garments carry the "Prosanis" Label, but to report on the efficiency of the Label Custodians in the shops. Sometimes, they report that the Custodians and shop workers are indifferent about the Label. Fortunately, the large majority of the workers cooperate, but a considerable number are still neglectful. They do not appreciate the significance of the Label in preventing the flow of garments to non-Union sweat shops where goods are made at prices below the scale. Every check of this flow means that more garments will be made in Union shops where workers get Union prices for their operation.

The Board has held a number of hearings upon complaints of violation, and they have been very enlightening. In one case, a manufacturer was fined \$250 for sending his goods to a non-Union shop. As the Labels are serially numbered, it is not difficult to ascertain violations. One Label found in a non-Union shop is sufficient to give both the Union and the Board a clue to a possible violation; for, if a Label is found in a non-Union shop, one has merely to present it to the Board, and from our system of records, we can tell immediately who purchased the Labels. These Labels are proving effective aids to the Union leaders in ascertaining violations of the agreement, and in helping to check the flow of garments into non-Union shops.

With the cooperation of the workers, considerably more progress can be made in enforcing the Label Rules in the shops.

The Label can prove a great help to the legitimate manufacturers. Already, it has been useful to Union contractors who have found styles that they regarded as theirs sold in department stores which purchased them from competing manufacturers and jobbers. By ascertaining the Label number on the garment, the Label Division was able to inform the Association concerning the purchaser of these Labels. In this way, the style plates can be discovered, but it is even more important in discovering sweat shops who control non-Union style plates.

In a recent hearing, a manufacturer who was charged with sending dresses to a non-Union contractor discovered that this contractor made, not only the number of garments he ordered, but also a great many more which he doubtless sold to his competitor.

Punishment for these violations acts as a deterrent, and helps the Union as well as the manufacturers to equalize conditions of competition in the industry. It is especially helpful to the workers in preventing the flow of garments to shops where fellow-workers are cooperating to reduce labor prices below the minimum provided in the agreement.

The "Prosanis" Label can be made an effective instrument for preserving these labor standards if the workers and the Shop Chairmen will cooperate with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control and the Union to secure the largest possible measure of enforcement.

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Organized Labor In United Drive To Reach Negro Workers in N. Y. C.

Without pomp and almost unobserved, there was born in New York City on Saturday, May 23, a movement which bids fair to grow and become an important factor in the life of the Negro workers. White and black trade unionists, delegates from eighteen local and international unions, met at that date in Arlington Hall for the purpose of considering the question of joint efforts in organizing Negro workers. Mr. Hugh Frayne of the A. F. of L. was the principal speaker.

Out of the conference emerged the Trade Union Committee for Organizing Negro Workers with temporary headquarters at 2311 Seventh avenue, and with Thomas J. Curran as chairman and treasurer, Mrs. C. E. McDougall, vice-chairman, and Frank R. Crosswath, a Negro union organizer, as executive secretary. When interviewed, Mr. Crosswath pointed out the tremendous significance of this movement to organized labor generally and to the Negro workers in particular.

"The rapid industrial development of the United States in recent years, with its consequent urbanization of the population the farms being steadily abandoned for the great industrial centers—has brought home to both white and black trade unionists the

fact that in order for them to enjoy the gains already made, and make further progress, every worker, regardless of sex or race, must be organized. To accomplish this end we have formed the Trade Union Committee for organizing Negro Workers. While most of our attention will necessarily be devoted toward the Negro worker, we will not neglect the unorganized white workers. This movement will serve to remove much of the prejudice, hatred and suspicion so long existing between black and white workers. It will help to educate both to an understanding that regardless of race, sex, creed or nationality, labor is the common denominator of us all, and that all workers have a common economic interest.

"A good future lies ahead of our movement; we hope soon to be able to demonstrate the absurdity of the assertion that the Negro won't join labor unions; not alone will we organize and educate him in the principles of unionism and the advantages to be gained therefrom, but we will stand by his side and see that after joining the union of his trade, he receives all of the advantages and privileges that go to all other union men. Union hours and wages for every Negro workers in New York City will be our slogan."

Th Women's Trade Union League's Training School

The National Women's Trade Union League conducts a training school for active workers in the labor movement. This institution, located in Chicago, is unique in its field. It is a school for women only, because the League specializes in women's problems. And one of their greatest problems is this: how to reach the almost three million women in the United States who are in industry but not in trade unions. The school trains for leadership in the labor movement, especially for the task of organizing workers, and its scholarships are open to trade union women of demonstrated ability who give promise of future usefulness. It is a sort of post-graduate course, for each student accepted must be already familiar with actual work conditions and ready to learn to coordinate this knowledge with the theory of industrial relations.

In the twelve years of its existence the League's school has trained some of the ablest women found in the American labor movement today.

What The School Offers

The school is located in Chicago at 211 South Ashland Boulevard, the executive headquarters of the National Women's Trade Union League. Each year the League offers a limited number of scholarships for a six months' course of academic and field work. Such scholarships include railroad fare to and from Chicago, tuition and maintenance, a total value of \$750. The school will also consider appli-

cations from prospective students to be sent by their own unions, city central bodies, or state federations of labor, when such organizations wish to meet the scholarships in whole or in part.

The normal term is six months, but shorter courses are arranged for students having special needs. The first half of the six months is devoted to academic studies, with a course on labor problems at the University of Chicago. The second half is spent in field work, gaining first hand knowledge of methods of collective bargaining, the trade union agreement, and other industrial subjects.

In no other American city can there be found a greater variety of industrial problems than are to be found in Chicago. The school therefore affords opportunity for personal contact with typical conditions, and for observing struggles, organizations involved, and leaders.

Qualifications for Entrance

The first requirement of the student is that she shall have a thorough-going interest and a definite intention to pursue some line of work useful to the labor movement. She must have had also a common school education, and average ability to read and write English. She must be in good health. She must, furthermore, be a member in good standing of a union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. But it is the intention, the motive, that is of prime importance. Other barriers can be overcome.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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Commonwealth College, Down in Arkansas

By HAROLD COY

Commonwealth College, a school of advanced education for workers, where co-operative industrial and communal work is part of the daily life of every teacher and student, has just completed its second year at its location in Mena, Arkansas. The school is of interest not only because it is one of the few resident labor colleges in this country, but also because it is conducting some novel experiments along the line of educational technique so that it may escape the domination both of the powers that be and the powers that would like to be.

The instructors of Commonwealth College recognize the validity of the labor movement and are training their students to be of greater service to it. They are tolerant of all economic heresies but partisan to none; they are unwilling that the school become the handmaid of any economic sect. An Educational Director or William E. Zuehl said in the Locomotive Engineers' Journal:

"Commonwealth is not a propaganda institution. It sponsors no particular religious, economic or political creed or dogma. It aims to develop power for leadership among the workers. It seeks to put in their grasp demonstrated facts and to develop in them the scientific attitude which challenges an unthinking acceptance of ideas and institutions. Commonwealth strives to make its students realize that intelligent experimentation carries the only hope of adjustment or solution of personal and social problems."

Perhaps of equal importance is Commonwealth's attempt to demonstrate the practicability of self-maintaining education. Each student and teacher performs a maximum of four hours labor daily, outside of his or her academic work. This arrangement is designed to cut expenditures to a minimum, to make the group a democratic unit, and to bind the members to concrete realities, thus serving an economic, social and educational purpose.

Commonwealth aspires to place its activities on a basis of complete self-maintenance, and while it still falls a little short of realizing this aim, it has reduced costs of operation to an almost negligible figure. The deficit has been met by small tuition fees and by contributions from interested outsiders. The low operating cost has been made possible, first, by the economy resulting from collective enterprise and consumption, and second, because the teaching staff, together with a group of skillful artisans, has given its services in return for mere subsistence expenses.

The college has recently acquired 84 eighty acre farm in the Ozark Mountains near the Oklahoma border, a few miles west of Mena, where construction and agricultural activities are now under way. Permanent buildings will be erected next fall, largely with the utilization of student labor. The site was selected for agricultural and water power, as well as scenic and climatic advantages, and it is hoped in the near future to make the school completely self-supporting. If self-maintaining instruction proves feasible, the Commonwealth group believes it will give a great impetus to the workers' education movement of America, and bring higher education within the reach of many capable students who would otherwise be deprived of it.

The collegiate department of Commonwealth offers three thirty-week years of instruction to young men and women from working class families, who have the equivalent of a secondary school education. The social sciences, psychology, literature, journalism and other studies find a place on the curriculum. The faculty endeavors to make the courses equal in quality and standard of scholarship required to those of the ordinary universities, but adapted to the needs of its particular class of students. In general, it aims to prepare its students for a life of cultural richness, coupled with practical social usefulness.

Certain applicants, whose educational preparation does not entitle them to collegiate status, but who, nevertheless, show more than the usual promise of becoming creditable students, are admitted on probation to the two-year preparatory course. Here an effort is made to train them in the scientific attitude of mind through the study of mathematics and the physical sciences, in the correct use of the English language and the appreciation of simple literary classics, and to prepare them for the more advanced study of the social sciences by elementary work in American history, economic geography, etc.

The average attendance has been kept purposely at the low figure of about fifty, and is contemplated never to allow it to exceed three times that number. The highest aim of the Commonwealth group will be realized if the school proves to be a working model for similar undertakings in various parts of the country. In addition to the "family consciousness" which is realized by the small attendance, classes of five or ten and sometimes individual attention to students are rendered practicable, and the discussion circle tends to replace the formal lecture. In presenting the content of the courses, the instructors emphasize the limitations of dogma and the necessity of a scientific, objective consideration of all human problems. In fact, "the experimental attitude" has become a current phrase at Commonwealth.

The faculty is drawn from the fields of university and high school teaching, social service work, engineering and the law. In the year 1925-26 it will consist of about twelve members, or at least one to every four or five students. A council of some twelve men and women, representing many different points of view, assists the

Forgiving Our Debtors

By NORMAN THOMAS

The question of Allied debts has been brought sharply into the foreground of international politics by our government's request to the debtors or nations to negotiate terms of settlement. We are wholly sympathetic with the intention of our government not to let these huge debts go by default or be forgotten in a maze of evasion and false sentimentality. We are not at all in sympathy with any attempt on the part of the government or the American public to say that the settlement of debt must be on the basis of the arrangement already made with England. Of course the debt is due us. It was incurred in war that was of far more vital concern to the nations we aided than to us. If those nations do not pay, American taxpayers must. Herefore our failure to collect the debt in the case of France, as well as of some of the smaller nations, has not helped the people of the country but only the militarists who have expanded their armaments at our expense and indirectly, at least, used the Americans gave in the hope of winning peace in Europe to prepare for new and more costly wars.

But, and here is the point, there may be other and better ways of being repaid the debt due us than by the stubborn insistence on full financial payment. France learned by her cost that her attempt to make Germany pay in full was hurting France as well as Germany. We ought to remember the lesson. Forced payment by nations less prosperous than the United States might hurt our trade, flood our markets with cheap goods, and arouse an angry resentment in Europe against us which would cost us far more than the whole debt is worth. If by forgiving or reducing the debt we could bring about better relations and greater prosperity in Europe and more friendship for ourselves, it would be money well invested. The one outstanding necessity is some guarantee that what we forgive shall not be spent on greater armaments.

In this connection we must remember how complicated is the whole subject. Great Britain is debtor to us but creditor in the amount as regards her European Allies, to say nothing of Germany. France is debtor to us and to Great Britain, but creditor

with regard to German reparations. And so it goes. The Dawes Plan, impossible as it is as a final solution, was at least a step toward a common-sense handling of German indebtedness. A similar step in the international field requires international conference on the whole question of debts and reparations and their relation to the peace and prosperity of Europe. Into that conference should go American delegates of great ability and tested devotion to peace. They should not be bound by too rigid instructions. They should be prepared to treat with all our debtors on a comprehensive plan. It is all very well for us to say that logically the settlement we make with one debtor nation is not the business of any other. Economically and psychologically, such a contention cannot successfully be maintained. The loss of trade as well as of friendship to the European nations are too intricate to stand such logical separation.

Here, then, is America's great opportunity to win the peace. Statisticians have recently computed that if all debts were paid on the terms given England the yearly reduction in taxes would not equal what it costs to maintain our army and navy. Anything that would permit us to reduce that army and navy, to say nothing of increasing the possible European purchases of our foodstuffs and manufactured goods, would pay us in gold dollars and cents. Above all, it would pay in terms of that good will which is the basis of peace.

Poorhouse or Pension

Suppose you were an old man unable to find work, with no friends in a position to support you, would you rather go to the county poorhouse or get a pension from the state which you might supplement by occasional odd jobs and so support yourself? Don't think the question is impractical. Unemployment, illness, loss of savings or lack of opportunity ever to save, the death of relatives—these and many other factors have compelled men and women as self-respecting as you, who in their day have given honest toil to society, to go to the poorhouse. We all of us know that they or we in like circumstances a hundred times over would have chosen an old age pension.

The Pennsylvania Commission on Old Age Assistance in its extremely valuable and well written report points out that the State also would profit by a modern old age assistance law. Pennsylvania in 1922 spent some \$2,500,000 on her almshouses. Of this, only about half went to the upkeep of the inmates. The rest went to paying people to look after them. The Old Age Assistance Law would require at most an expenditure of about 6 percent on administrative expense. The \$3,000,000 the Commission asked for would take care of three times the number of persons now cared for in Pennsylvania almshouses.

Unfortunately, after the preparation of this report, the highest court in Pennsylvania declared the admirable Pennsylvania law unconstitutional on the basis of a provision forbidding appropriations "for charitable, educational or benevolent purposes to any person or community." (The judges never found the same provision an insurmountable barrier to their own retiring pensions.) There is nothing for it in Pennsylvania but a constitutional amendment. Other states not similarly handicapped should take up this matter promptly. When even the Tory Party in England endorses an elaborate scheme for old age pensions, it is time for America to wake up.

Labor Fusion in New York On June 30th

On Saturday afternoon, June 20th, there will be held in New York City, at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th Street, the first Labor Fusion political conference to consider plans for uniting the political forces of the workers of the Greater City for the coming municipal campaign.

The conference committee has invited the American Labor Party, the Socialist Party, trade unions, branches of the Workers' Circle, independent fraternal bodies and other progressive organizations to send delegates. Participating groups, however, must agree to support the ticket as a whole without trading for endorsements with the old parties or any alleged "independent" movements.

The call to the conference is signed

by Norman Thomas, Louis Waldman, G. Augustus Gerber, Jerome D. Hunt, Joseph Cannon, Edward Cassidy, James O'Connell, Ben Howe and Henry Froehner, secretary.

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Three Months of I. L. G. W. U. Activity

We cannot recall a more harmonious and business-like meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. than the one which has just concluded its labors in Chicago on June 6, after ten arduous sessions.

The deadly heat which has enveloped Chicago and has held it in its grip during the whole week of the G. E. R.'s meeting appeared to have conspired in vain against the earnest desire of the members of the Board to complete its work in a calm, deliberate and objective mood. Notwithstanding the unbearable temperature, which seemed to have a positively smothering effect in that small room in the Morrison where we met, we left the meeting with an unimpaired feeling that the members of the G. E. R. have acted upon each of the important issues that confronted them only after thorough and many-sided debating, and that they have marked out new plans and organizational courses which indicate clearly that the International has weathered the hard times of recent past and that it is facing brighter skies at present.

We should like to warn the reader against the deception that the sessions of the Board have been dull and lifeless. Quite the contrary, the meeting bristled with interest and its discussions were highly animated. The reports of the President, of the Secretary-Treasurer and of the Vice-Presidents—and the lengthy analysis which followed most of them—have contributed to make the sessions lively and interesting, in addition to the requests of the committees—personal and through communications—which have delayed the meeting. Add to this, the big mass meeting arranged by the Chicago Joint Board which was attended by the entire General Executive Board and at which President Sigman spoke for nearly an hour and a half—when only knows where he got the strength for this task on that sultry night!—and the reader will be no doubt inclined to share with us the belief that this Chicago meeting of the Board was by no means a lark!

President Sigman's report occupied four hours. It did not abound in flowery, unnecessary language, but presented a clear-cut record of all that transpired in our domain in the last three months, covering the dark sides as well as the bright, and offering plans and suggestion for the future.

Indeed, there were enough shadows in the report to indicate that there is a great work for our Union destruction-influencers which should find no room in it, domestic forces which sow distrust among our workers, harass our activity and aim at the very destruction of our organization. Yet, despite these painful interferences, the picture drawn by President Sigman showed clearly enough that the work of our Union continues unbroken and with amazing success. As a matter of fact, it was the positive part of our activities which consumed eight of the ten sessions of the Board's meeting, its two last sessions only having been given over to a discussion of the labor strife that is being encouraged by enemy forces from the outside.

As it appears to us, the General Executive Board has found the proper solution for all these ills. We shall touch upon this subject somewhat later; for the moment we shall content to give an account of the meeting as it progressed from session to session.

According to the report of President Sigman, later supplemented by

Observations at the Quarterly Meeting of the G. E. R. at Chicago

By S. YANONSKY

the report of Sister Mollie Friedman, the prospects in the Chicago dress industry are getting constantly brighter. In the Chicago cloak trade, the Union renewed its agreement with the employers, and very soon all the new features which have recently been introduced in the New York cloak market will be established in Chicago too. On the whole, the Chicago cloakmakers have had a pretty good season, and the depression which has prevailed among them only a short time ago has now all but disappeared.

The so-called "leftism," which only recently has raised tumult and trouble among the Chicago cloakmakers is now also a matter of the past. The dress industry of the Windy City has also some progress to record. The inevitable wave of pessimism which has afflicted the dressmakers after the partly unsuccessful strike of 1921 is vanishing rapidly, thanks to the very active drive conducted at present by Organizer Mollie Friedman and the groups of dressmakers who are aiding her in the work. It appears that in Chicago most of the dressmakers are willing to do volunteer work of the kind that counts in an organization, not the kind that is being practiced by Local 22 in New York, as Miss Friedman remarked in the excellent report which she read before the G. E. R. It may be confidently expected that in but another few months the ranks of the dressmakers will be ready again for a fight against their oppressors.

The Chicago dress employers are kept fully informed about this revival of activity among the workers in the trade, and from all indications they seem to be rather uneasy concerning the approaching conflict. Whether this fear will lead them to avoid a struggle and to seek negotiations with the Union, is at this moment difficult to foretell. Two things, however, appear clear from President Sigman's report about Chicago: First, an active campaign to bring the unorganized workers in the dress trade is in progress in that city with prospects of complete success, and, second, the Chicago dress houses are fully aware that although they came out on top in the last struggle with the workers, they did not succeed in killing the union. The union is fully alive and will soon be on the job to demand an accounting from them. Of course, the International is still clinging to its time-honored policy of avoiding conflicts whenever possible, and Miss Friedman is doing everything within her power to bridge the gap between the Union and the employers without a strike. But it still remains to be seen whether the dress manufacturers of Chicago have learned anything from the past and have come to appreciate the importance of collective bargaining.

The Union has, no doubt, learned one important lesson from that struggle in the big Western city. The Chicago dress strike had been protracted entirely too long. For some reasons, the decision to keep that strike up only for a certain length of time has not been adhered to, and the result of that strike has taught us the lesson that such things must not occur in the future.

"The trouble with most of us is,"

President Sigman remarked in this connection, "that we are too hasty. The moment an idea occurs to us, we at once proceed to execute it without giving ourselves the benefit of thinking it over time and again until we become absolutely confident that it offers us the best possible solution. It is a fault of which no responsible union leader should ever be guilty. We must never act upon the impulse of the moment; we must never decide to keep up a strike if such a strike has no chance of being won. Let us think twice and then think again before we act once."

This advice has made a deep impression upon the members of the Board, all the more because in making this statement it was evident that President Sigman did intend to hold himself entirely blameless.

In speaking of Chicago, mention, of course, must be made of the ills which affect the local cloak and dress market, as they affect all other dress and cloak centers all over the country. Thus, Chicago has its "out-of-town" zone with its quota of non-Union shops which must be organized; it has its jobber problem—and it also has internal trouble resulting from the high-handedness with which some of the older members of the organization presume to treat the younger and less aggressive members of the union. President Sigman reported that he succeeded in making an end to this arrogance by permanently curbing the influence of this undesirable element—an outcropping of the last strike. For the out-of-town work, Brother Sigman had appointed Organizer Dolnick who proved to be the right man for the job.

On the whole, Chicago is moving regularly ahead and nothing is left undone to infuse new life in the locals and the Joint Board.

From Chicago, President Sigman went over in his report to Cleveland, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Canada, and finally to the situation in New York. We shall not dwell at length on these cities, as we know that the readers of our journal are more or less familiar with affairs in these places and, secondly, because we shall have to return to them as we touch upon the reports of the vice-presidents. We only wish to say a few words concerning Cincinnati and St. Louis.

In St. Louis, the I. L. G. W. U. has had once upon a time quite a strong organization, but it appears that not much of it has been left after that. There are still a few union shops there but the union is a negligible factor in that city. It appears also that St. Louis has lost its place as a cloak market in general, and until this changes, it is obvious that efforts to reorganize that city would be a waste of energy and funds.

The same may be said about Cincinnati. We have had there some small locals with a considerable treasury. Attempts, so it seems, have been made by some anxious persons to raid this little treasury, but the secretary of the local, Miss Amy Bell, refused to turn the money over to anyone insisting that the money was the property of the I. L. G. W. U. and when recently the International auditor visited Cincinnati he found the books of the local in excellent condition.

The part of President Sigman's report dealing with roles which our International has lately been playing in the general Labor movement of this country, deserves particular mention. He refers in his report to the time

STREETS

Streets where folks go hurrying,
Streets where children play and sing;
Streets of poor men—those I dread,
Shadow upon shadow shod,
Houses huddled in the sun
Drab and hopeless, one by one;
Other streets where houses prim,
With shining windows, bright and
slim,
All day stand with unmoved gaze
Through a year of quiet days. . .
Streets where there is never noise
Of hawkers' carts or shrill newshaws,
But taxis moving up and down
Fly between them and the town. . .
Streets with houses red-rose crowned,
And every beauty art has found,
Where Evening walks with fingers
pale

Holding elude her misty veil,
Star-dust tangled in the snare
Of her black and silken hair. . .
Streets that we remember not;
Streets of dreams we have forgot;
Streets, deserted, then descend
Even to oblivion's end.
Streets with little villas low,
Like the prints of long ago,
Where at day's end flock the throng
That to suburbs must belong. . .
Streets and streets where passing feet
Keep persistent singing bent;
Streets that hold a thousand harms,
Streets that know a thousand charms,
Streets all blinded with the years
That are Man's sighing and his tears.

LOLA GORNALL

CO-OPERATIVE FURNITURE ON THE INSTANTAL PLAN

The co-operators of England are no longer going to be beaten by the houses that sell them furniture' on the instalment plan and then take both the money and the furniture away from them when they lapse on a payment.

The Co-operative Insurance Society, which is the joint insurance department of the English and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale, has made an arrangement with the co-operative societies whereby the latter insure themselves and their members against such lapses. When Fellow Co-operator Smith, who is buying a dining room set on the instalment plan from his co-operative store, dies before the payments have all been made, the furniture automatically goes to his wife and no further payments are required. The insurance taken by the local society with the Co-operative Insurance Society protects the anxiety from losing money in this contingency, and it protects the widow from having her furniture taken away. The furniture is also insured, under this plan, against fire during the period of payment by the purchaser.

when the I. L. G. W. U. used to be regarded with distrust in the wider circles of the American movement. At conventions of the A. F. of L. our International used to be looked down upon. We were only "affiliated" with the American Labor movement, though hardly a vital section of it. All this has now undergone a profound change. The I. L. G. W. U. is today respected and trusted. Our voice is heard and our advice is frequently sought by sister unions in the general Labor movement. In some special forms of activity in the trade union world, such as Labor education, we have become the leaders, and it is generally admitted today that the I. L. G. W. U. is a live and an integral part of the whole movement of the organized wage-earners of this country.

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

A PROUD BEGINNING

On Monday last, June 8th, the unemployment insurance benefit system began to operate in the cloak industry of New York. It was accompanied by an auspicious ceremony which took place at the headquarters of the Fund. Speeches were delivered by Mr. George Gordon Battle, chairman of Governor Smith's Advisory Commission for the Cloak Industry, and by Mr. Arthur D. Wolf, a member of the Commission and the chairman of the Fund's Board of Trustees. Messrs. Flinder, Kopeloff and Uviller, representing respectively the Protective Association, the Jobbers' group and the sub-manufacturers, also spoke. Their addresses were to the point and very interesting—but the talk of the occasion was delivered by our President, Brother Morris Sigman.

It was a speech excellent in form, full of content and meaning and permeated with the true spirit of fighting humanity. He spoke at length, and was listened to with undivided attention by the large audience that crowded the reception room of the Fund's offices. The workers in the place, our members, must have felt particularly proud that it was their representative, their leader, who delivered the most impressive speech of the day. It was touching, indeed, to listen to this man, who himself had toiled in the pressing rooms of the cloak shops of New York some twenty years ago, present in a dignified, forceful and convincing manner the viewpoint of the thousands who had elected him as their advocate and their spokesman!

President Sigman did not fail, of course, to give Governor Smith due credit for his part in the achievement of unemployment insurance in the cloak industry. He likewise expressed his own thanks and the thanks of the Union to the members of the Governor's Commission for their share in making this plan a functioning undertaking.

Indeed, it would have been both tactless and wrong, had the representative of the workers failed on this occasion to express in sincere and simple words this recognition of credit to those who had fully earned it. And it was done in a way which never made the listener forget that back of it all is the Union and the workers whom it represents, that it is an expression of thanks given not by an inferior group to a superior, but a tactful appreciation coupled with self-dignity and self-respect on the part of the producers in our industry, the cloakmakers.

The reader will find some extracts of President Sigman's speech elsewhere in this paper. We shall, however, draw attention to one point which was particularly appreciated by the audience and which deserves reiteration and further thought. It touches upon the subject of fighting methods years ago and today.

Time was when our workers have been in substance if not in terms the actual slaves of their bosses, their true-masters. In those days, the workers could wield only one weapon of occasional defense, only one form of expressing their wrath and accumulated bitterness. They would down their tools—scissors and press irons—and would cease work. Their misery and woe was so great, indeed, that they could barely formulate it in terms of demands, and when their patience would snap from time to time they would strike. Thus it went on for years, until the guerilla period in our industry finally came to an end. An epoch of civilization and recognition began, characterized by a willingness to understand and recognize some mutuality of interest in the industry from which we all derive our means of livelihood.

This new method, of course, also involved fighting, keen and often obstinate struggling, but it was and is undoubtedly a higher, a more humane and a more purposeful form of fighting than the old.

It is quite true, that the pioneers of our movement have had no other alternative but constant guerilla warfare, but that, on the other hand, does not imply that we, under changed circumstances, must forever follow in their footsteps. They have by their courageous fighting paved the way for more humanitarian fight methods for us; their fighting indeed would have been in vain if by the dint of their sacrifice they could not have made our path comparatively easier.

This change in fighting methods is responsible for the creation of such an agency, for instance, as the Advisory Commission, which, composed of impartial outsiders as it is, is in a position to view our demands and to judge our opponents' counter proposals in a detached and honest light. The Union has consented to accept Governor Smith's proposal of a commission to investigate the ill

of our industry because it feels, as it has always felt, that its demands are fully justifiable and are of supreme importance to the welfare of the industry as a whole. That is why it unhesitatingly laid before this commission its program, the partial achievement of which was celebrated last Monday.

This was the central thought of President Sigman's speech last Monday morning, when the unemployment benefit system started to function in the cloak trade of New York. It made a deep impression upon all who gathered to witness the ceremony in the large ante-room of the Fund's headquarters. It is an idea which can only be advanced by an organization which feels itself strong to defend its position, and which requires neither empty phrases nor vain threats for the winning of its industrial program; by a labor organization which would by all means avoid a fight it deems superfluous and unnecessary, but which would never shun a battle that is forced upon it by its opponents.

A few more words about this occasion.

We believe that unemployment insurance is, under the present condition of long "slack" periods in the industry, a very important achievement for the cloakmakers. President Sigman had pointed out in his speech how hard it has been for some of our workers to apply occasionally to charity for aid and how this necessity is completely done away with now by the introduction of out-of-work benefit. We must, however, point out that as long as there exists in our trades a general necessity to apply in time of idleness for aid even to our own Fund, it serves to indicate that something is radically wrong with the industry. The unemployment fund should minister to the needs of but a few in our midst. The cloak industry must be placed on a basis that will make it unnecessary for the masses of the cloakmakers to look to the Fund for aid. The Fund must only meet cases of extreme emergency, and the Union is fully aware of this function of unemployment insurance and regards it merely as an entering wedge that will open the door to admit the remaining sections of its industrial program.

Mr. George Gordon Battle, the chairman of the Advisory Commission, compared, in his talk, the unemployment insurance reform with the periodical overflowing of the Nile which inundates adjacent fields and brings prosperity to the population of the Egyptian lowlands. It may be a pretty metaphor, we admit, though not quite a correct one. Unemployment insurance may sometime chase the wolf away from the door, it is true, but it will never bring prosperity to our cloakmakers. Prosperity to them will come through a strict and honest observance of Union conditions in the shops, through the complete abolition of the sweat shop in all its forms, through the regularizing of employment in the industry, and through the complete adoption of the well-thought out and moderate program of industrial reforms submitted by the Union to the Governor's Commission.

We never have doubted that the fairness and the equity of this program will sooner or later come to be recognized and that it will have to be embodied in the life of the cloak industry. But if anyone of those who have listened to President Sigman's talk on the occasion of the opening of the Unemployment Insurance Fund has had any such apprehensions in the past, their doubts must have vanished then and there. With such a Union and with such leadership, the cloakmakers of New York cannot lose a just cause.

THE REOPENING OF THE UNITY HOUSE

The Unity House has become, in the course of the seven years of its existence, a real institution in the life of our Union. It has earned for itself wide popularity in our movement principally because it has been, from the first day of its inception, the product and creation of our own workers. Working girls had the vision and the daring to convert a \$100,000 place, formerly a summer retreat for the wealthy, into a summer vacation home of their own, and this daring idea has turned out to be a success, not merely in the sense that it has paid for itself or has made profits—profits never entered as a factor in the scheme or the operation of the house at Forest Park—but because it has made the thousands that visited it year in and year out perfectly at home. It has made them like the place, love its atmosphere, and they have become its permanent patronizers and boosters.

It is not only the beautiful scenery of Forest Park, the grandeur of its lakes, the comforts of its buildings, and its wholesome fare that attracts people to Unity. It is the spirit of the place which holds us so many words that exercises a magnetic hold upon its guests—the combination of perfect freedom and the warm, home-like atmosphere, the feeling that one is here in one's own place, among men and women of one's own kind, who all together, by common effort, have managed to make this place a success in the fullest sense of the term.

Unity House is a place of recreation in the literal meaning of the term. It recreates its guests, it renovates them physically as well as mentally. Unity does not tolerate pessimism and low spirits. It is forever active, forever alert, forever engrossed in the problems of supplying its vacationists with a maximum of comfort, pleasure, rest and joy. The only sad moments at Unity are the moments of parting, when, after the altogether too brief vacation, one has to leave this haven of sunshine to go back into the turmoil and hustle of the big cities.

And now that the Unity House at Forest Park has become the property and is under the direct management of the International, it surely will be in a position to give our members and guests even more in the way of vacation joys and comforts than what it has been able when it was owned and managed by an individual local. It stands to reason that one local, no matter how

Neo-Communism

2. "The Social Traitors" Are To Blame

(Special Correspondence to Justice)
By LEON CHASANOWICH

Berlin, May 20.

We have seen, in our first article, how the leaders of Russian Bolshevism, who are at the same time the only competent representatives of the Third International, have lost their faith in the social revolution for the time being and how they are beginning to reckon with the probability that this revolution may yet be years, and perhaps "decades," in coming. They have struggled for years against the acceptance of such a viewpoint; they have sought for years to attach a deep revolutionary significance to every local occurrence, no matter how trivial. They still are clutching at every "revolutionary" straw and their extraordinary ability for magnifying every local mosquito into a world-revolution elephant is not completely defunct.

Nevertheless, it appears to be dawning upon them that such locust-pocus cannot last for long, that even the most faithful of the Communist flock may acquire eyes of their own and some independence of thought, and that the tactic of continued enthusiasm and just as unbroken disappointment is bound to lead to the disruption of the morale of the most orthodox army. That the demoralization in the Communist camp has already begun, is attested by Zinoviev himself who, commenting in the Moscow "Pravda" of March 22, 1925, on the fact that the same signs which followed the abortive revolution of 1905 are becoming apparent in the ranks of Communism in Russia today, states: "The lapse of the revolutionary will, disappointment, lack of faith and desertions to the enemy—these unhappy phenomena, and we must not close our eyes to them, we shall have to confront and combat during the present period in this or other party of the 'communists'."

To prevent further demoralization, a new policy of administering homoeopathic doses of truth to the faithful has now been adopted. The realities of life are now being presented to the followers of Communism, if not in

their bare nakedness, at least not through the bewitching glass which formerly would magnify things a thousandfold and color them in dazzling hues. In this change of policy, the basic creed of Communism, namely the belief that the world finds itself today already in a "permanent" social revolution and that capitalism has lost its vital force, has not come out unscathed either. The sobering up process has caused a deep spiritual and organizational crisis in International Communism. The Communist movement did not have to wait for Zinoviev to inform it concerning the detour of the "permanency" of the social revolution. When Zinoviev has finally decided to clarify forth to the world in grandiloquent manner the new truth, children in communist cradles have known it for a long time past.

How does Zinoviev meet this crisis? How indeed can Communism carry on without its former essence, without the flaming enthusiasm aroused by the "conquering march of the social revolution the world over?"

Zinoviev has a facile manner for getting out of difficulties. Was his timing of the social revolution erroneous? Well, for that matter Karl Marx has made a similar error when in his day he had underestimated the vital forces of capitalism and expected its immediate breakdown at a time when, as a matter of fact, the bourgeoisie was just about to enter upon its greatest conquests. Zinoviev, however, designedly overlooks the one cardinal difference between the Bolsheviks and Karl Marx, namely, that while the latter has never made up any fake promissory notes on account of the world social revolution, the Bolsheviks have engaged in this business right along. Marx, as an individual writer, as an isolated intellectual, had toyed in some of his articles with the hope of an early breakdown of the capitalist system. He, however, formed no new parties on the strength of this hope and broke up none of the existing workers' parties on its account. No one may therefore justly accuse Marx or misleading anyone in to accepting any impossible illusions. Marx was too conscientious a thinker to promise anything which he could not scientifically prove would be achieved at a certain time. Marx would not transform a fly into a hip-

poet and it may have been, could not always provide the best of facilities for such a large undertaking as is Unity House. Recently, too, a certain fanaticism has crept into the place which threatened to divide the House between "ours" and "theirs" and poison the general atmosphere of good fellowship and comradeship which always has characterized the Forest Park place. Tolerance, free exchange of opinion was beginning to be menaced by narrow sectarianism and mar the beauty and attractiveness of Unity.

With the taking over of Unity by the International Union, this wholly untoward and foreign spirit is definitely gone. This unique Workers' Unity House of ours will be a home of summer rest and vacation for all the members of our Union, a free place of tolerance, joy and unalloyed recreation for members of all creeds and manner of belief. The International had spent this Spring thousands of dollars for renovating the House and made it available for additional thousands of vacationists this Summer. A great many new improvements have been added and several of the cottages were rebuilt and put in fine trim for the season.

The opening of the season at Unity this Friday, June 12th, is, indeed, an occasion of first rate importance in our circles and in the world of Labor in general. The gates of the Forest Park house are open from this week to all the members of our own International, men and women, no matter to what local or branch they belong to and in what city they live. The Unity House is also open to members of Labor organizations in other trades and it will be glad to admit to its grounds friends of the Labor movement in other walks of life. The Unity House extends its hearty welcome to all workers and to all forward-looking persons. It is ready, willing and quite able to offer them a comfortable, restful and happy vacation.

What Tom Mann Says About "The Women's Garment Workers"

1 Adelaide Road,
Brockley, London, S.E. 4.
May 20, 1925.

To Comrades Morris Sigman and Abraham Baroff,
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
3 West 16th Street, New York.

Sirs and Brothers:

You were good enough to send me a copy of Dr. Levine's book "The Women's Garment Workers". I previously acknowledged this. I now, having read it, desire to thank you heartily for the privilege I have had; I consider it a great masterpiece. It must have appeared an enormous task to undertake, as indeed it was, but evidently, Dr. Louis Levine was the man to do it. The records of the struggles are absorbingly interesting, and the lessons to be learned therefrom very many and very important.

I have been especially interested in the last four chapters, these alone are a good contribution to Industrial History.

I have had the real pleasure of meeting Dr. Levine on a number of occasions and hold him in the highest esteem. If it is convenient I shall be glad if you will convey to him my warmest regards.

Wishing long life and increasing usefulness to the INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION:

And with sincere regards to yourselves, I am

Fraternally yours,
TOM MANN.

populism and would not acclaim a minor local event as a historic occurrence of worldwide significance.

The Bolsheviks, on the other hand, not only have indulged in illusions but have actually used them as tools of activity. They have raised the universal cry of social revolution and have confused the minds of men with their frenzied shouting. They have behaved as if they were perfectly at home in each nook and corner in the labyrinth of the world's history, as if the god of Socialism had whispered into their ears his deepest secrets of the future. And on the strength of this "intimate" information, they have not hesitated to make quite definite and unequivocal promises to gullible workers who were hungrily seeking faith and happiness, only to be bitterly disappointed and deceived later. They certainly could have never succeeded in splitting the revolutionary Socialist movement all over the world and to create a considerable following for the Communist International in Western Europe, had they not learned, as the representatives of a would-be successful Socialism in Russia, to awaken in large sections of the working class the faith that they, the Bolsheviks, are the only savior-heralds of the Socialist evangel, that all others who foresee greater difficulties in the way of Socialist victory, who still believe that capitalism is not utterly dead, and who do not believe in an immediate jump into a Socialist commonwealth, are "deserters," "social traitors," and "agents of the bourgeoisie".

Against such arguments, Zinoviev's plea that the Bolsheviks have erred only with regard to the "tempo" of the proletarian revolution but not regarding its final victory, carries no force whatever. For, the gist of the dispute between the followers of the Communists and the other revolutionary Socialist parties centers not on the aims of the social revolution but on its pace. It was this belief in the immediate victory of Socialism and their demand to adapt fighting methods and organizational forms to this immediate conquest that divided the Bolsheviks from the other Socialist parties. With the social revolution shelved for an indefinite period, the contribution of the Bolsheviks to Socialism thought loses all its substance and that theoretical structure of Bolshevism known as "Leninism" crumbles down like a house of cards.

The Bolsheviks, however, have a ready answer to this. After the world-war, they assert, all the world, just like Russia, was ready for a social revolution. That historic moment, however, was allowed to go lost. If only their advice had been taken,



TOM MANN

there would have been today in existence dozens of soviet republics—the whole world might have been a union of soviet republics. The Social Democrats, the Second International, have betrayed Socialism and have afforded the dying capitalism another lease on life. The best proof is Russia, say they. Here is a country that is in an objective sense less ready for Socialism than any country in Western Europe; nevertheless, the Bolsheviks succeeded in establishing there the dictatorship of the proletariat.

And how? Here is their answer, again. Russia had an old Bolshevik party which, first of all, had gone with an iron hand after the Mensheviks and the other "social traitors" and had made them harmless. But the Communists in the other lands did not possess the necessary firmness and clarity of vision to carry out their plans in a single-minded and ruthless manner; there was too much of the old Social Democratic blood in their veins for that. In order to make them true-blue soldiers of the world-revolution, the Communists must have real Bolshevik parties in all countries, and the parties belonging to it must become Bolshevikized in the full meaning of the word. We must march, they proclaim now, to the world-revolution through Bolshevization.

We shall take up in our final article this new slogan—for all it is "worth and for whatever it means."

GRASP THE OPPORTUNITY!

The Office of the International, 3 West 16th Street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase

"The Women's Garment Workers" at half price—\$2.50.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS



"A Book for Workers of All Time"

A Review of
"The Women's Garment Workers,"

By Dr. Louis Levine, in the American Federationist, May, 1925

"TAKE the Second Avenue Elevated and ride up half a mile through the sweaters' district. Every open window of the big tenements, that stand like a continuous brick wall on both sides of the way gives you a glimpse of one of those shops as the train speeds by. Men and women bending over their machines or ironing clothes at the window, half-naked. . . . The road is like a big gangway through an endless workroom where vast multitudes are forever laboring. Morning, noon, or night, it makes no difference; the scene is always the same. It is not unusual when the weather permits, to see the balconies of the fire escapes occupied by from two to four busy men. The halls and roofs are also used for workshop purposes. One cloakmaker used one room for his shop, while the other three rooms were supposed to be for domestic purposes only, his family consisting of his wife and seven children. In the room adjoining the shop which was used as a kitchen, there was a red-hot stove, two tables, a clothes rack, and several piles of goods. A woman was making bread on a table upon which there was a hot steaming strainer of cloth, several old tin cans, and a small pile of unfinished garments. In the next room was an old woman with a diseased face walking the floor with a crying child in her arms."

This is a picture of the conditions under which garment workers plied their trade back in 1850. Most of them were Jewish immigrants who had recently arrived from Eastern Europe and were put to work at a sewing machine or at basting or ironing by their friends or relatives who were engaged at the trade. Some of them worked in "shops," usually located in basements or tenements rented by some small boss who had enough money to pay the rent, buy goods, a cutting machine, and the few other essentials necessary to get a start in the business. The machines were supplied by the workers who moved them from shop to shop as they changed jobs. The needs of the workers were so great that it was necessary to get work at any wage. Usually there were many members of the family, both men and women, that could be kept busy at pulling out basting or doing some other task to increase the pieces of work put out by the family. So even the shop worker would take home bundles of work to make up during the evening with the help of his family. The lower the price, the more work one family had to do, and the more sympathy there was for the work.

For twenty or thirty years our clothing was made in these sweat shop districts in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston. Many of the workers in the industry were intelligent young men and women, inspired with the hope of rescuing themselves and the rest of the workers in the industry from the degrading lives which they found themselves living. But it was not until 1910 that they succeeded in establishing union recognition to an extent necessary to construct working conditions in the trade.

After thirty years of shop unhappiness and local unions that sprang up with strikes and died down with the

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which had been organized in 1900, acquired enough discipline and prestige to keep the unions together during bad times and to guide the action of the locals in a program of joint action.

The first great success of the garment unions was in the cloak trade in New York in 1910. This strike ended in the recognition of the union by the manufacturers' association, a wage increase, reduction in hours, a sanitary board, machinery to settle grievances, and permanent machinery for collective bargaining. This arrangement based on the so-called "protocol of peace" was extended to other branches of the industry and to other cities in the next few years. With the establishment of collective agreements and shop control, the membership in the union became more regular.

The greatest advance in trade unionism came during the war when the International succeeded in organizing most of the women's garment industry in the country. The forty-four hour week and week work were established almost universally. The union became one of the strongest in the country, financially and numerically. Its activities extended to the purchase of "homes" for the organizations in most cities, and to educational and recreational facilities.

This extension of the organization was made possible by the changes in the industry which had taken place since the period in which the sweat shop was prevalent. The growth in the size of the establishment, due partly to the more elaborate machinery used in the trade, and partly to the elimination of unsafe and unsanitary buildings by the improved standards, made the sweat shop impractical. The wage increase effected by the union, and other union standards such as the provision of machines, thread, etc., by the owner of the shop made it less profitable. The education of the public in working conditions also brought pressure upon the manufacturers to improve their establishments.

Changes in the industry since 1917 have made necessary new demands on the part of the union. The tendency toward the replacement of the manufacturer and contractor by a jobber and sub-manufacturer is undermining working conditions by encouraging cut-throat competition between sub-manufacturers. The jobber maintains a sales room and receives orders from buyers. He then takes bids from manufacturers who take the jobber's materials and makes up his garments at specified prices. The competition for orders is so keen that prices are often bid which make the manufacturer unable to live up to union standards and stay in business. This has resulted in union members accepting wages and hours below fixed standards.

The new agreement in the New York market which resulted from the acceptance of an arbitration award, granted most of this union demands. Important among these are the responsibility of the jobber for union conditions in the shops which make up his orders, and provisions for an unemployment fund to bring pressure to bear upon the manufacturer to re-

view the seasonal character of the industry. This is a period at which different industries show different tendencies, so that it is difficult to speak of the economic situation as a whole. Coal mining is still extremely depressed. The drop in iron and steel production which has been in progress ever since January has probably not much further to go, although the total reduction of output and employment so far has not reached the proportions of a depression. In contrast to the slackened pace of these basic industries, automobile production has reached new high records. It will probably fall off in the near future. Building construction has been very active, though for a time there was a marked reduction in the building of new residences in New York. Cotton textile manufacturing is better than for several years.

duce the seasonal character of the industry.

This is a bare outline of the outstanding facts in the history of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union just published by the union itself. In a simple and vivid way, Dr. Levine has told the story of the workers in the industry. He has not merely recorded the dates of strikes, the organization of locals, the provisions of agreements, the statements of official policies, and the proceedings of conventions. To him these facts are only the manifestations of the struggle of the workers in the industry and it is in them that he is primarily interested. He gives a picture of the workers themselves, the background in which they have been brought up, the conditions in their lives which made them seek a better standard of living. The union is the agency which they have found most satisfactory in fighting for improved conditions, so he tells how they used it and what they gained. He is concerned, not with glorifying the union, but with explaining how it happened to develop as it did, how it was affected by changes in the technique and organization of the industry over which it had no control, and what were the real differences in policy that lay beneath the factional struggles that are so apt to be confused by personalities. The book gives a picture of the industry and the organization which every trade union member can understand.

In addition to educating the trade union member, this history will be of great use to the union in giving the public a trustworthy account of trade union purposes and methods. Lawyers, Judges, congressmen, college professors, find it necessary to make judgments on the desirability of trade unions on the basis of newspaper accounts, articles in magazines, hearsay, and a few publications by academic people who can not get material first hand. Several college professors have devoted themselves almost exclusively to a study of the labor movement in the United States and have done good work. Among them are Hoxie's book on "Trade Unionism in the United States," several books by J. R. Commons and his associates, and Brinsenden's book on "The I. W. W. Union." Hopkins University has also published a number of histories of trade unions based on trade union journals and convention proceedings, but the book contains only facts as are given out in official statements. The other books often do not get at the controversial facts which are recorded only in the minds of union officials and members.

The distinctive value of the "The Women's Garment Workers" is that it is the first book to record many of those facts. The way in which a union organizes a strike, the work of the various committees, the arrangements for picketing, the use of the

Probably there will be some recession in other lines of manufacturing and trade after steel production starts on the upgrade again. The net effect of the danger on business which has existed been felt for several months has not been serious. There are now about 20 per cent more wage-earners employed than at the low point of 1924, and wages have remained stable, so that the buying power of the industrial population helps to sustain the market and serious depression is not in sight. The farmers are also better off than for several years previous, and are purchasing more freely. On the strength of existing prices they are planting larger crops than last year, on which, however, they may not realize all they expect.

—Facts for Workers.

spy and the thug, throw a great deal of light on the extent to which the union can be held to be responsible for the control of pickets. One of the most interesting facts is the extent to which such influential men as Justice Brandeis and Justice Mack, who have the confidence of the public, have advised and helped to carry out the present arrangements for collective bargaining. The chapter on the recent changes in the industry is the most convincing defense the union could put up for the extraordinary demands it made last year for the reorganization of methods of doing business. Without such an analysis of the specific evils of the industry, and without proof for the need of action by the union to bring about an improvement in the organization of the industry, these demands sound utopian and whimsical.

A history with all these merits can only be made with the full cooperation of the union by a person who is known to and trusted by the union. The time, effort, and expense necessary to present such a case to its members and to the public, would bring lasting returns in the form of good will to any union which makes the investment.

A history of this kind makes available to union members of all time, a knowledge of the forces and the persons who contributed to the building of the union. This is information necessary not only to evaluate past achievements and policies but for the decision of future problems and wise guidance to avoid the manifold pitfalls that await the inexperienced.

The history of the Women's Garment Industry is a splendid contribution to labor literature.

New Words! New Words!

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Here are a few samples:

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Air Council	ankari	capital ship
and	slip	and
Ruthens	stevil	fling
paravane	abnoneen	May Day
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arid	camp-fire	gid

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DOMESTIC ITEMS

Tax Publicity Upheld; Can't Conceal Incomes

THE government has lost its suit to keep secret the amount of income taxes paid and the names of taxpayers.

The United States Supreme Court unanimously reverses the decision of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that the publication of the names and amounts paid is illegal. Officials of the Treasury Department endeavored to keep this information secret, but the Supreme Court said:

"Information which everybody is at liberty to acquire and the acquisition of which Congress seemed especially desirous of facilitating, in the absence of some clear and positive provision to the contrary, can not be regarded otherwise than as public property."

So-Called "Charity" Is Good Money-Getter

THE public is mulcted of money by so-called charitable agencies who pocket for themselves 50 per cent of the contributions, said Hird S. Coker, Commissioner of Public Welfare of New York City, in a paper read to a conference of charities and correction.

"There are many appeals for charity," continued Mr. Coker, "that are made by persons on a percentage basis as high as 50 per cent and even more, who are really collecting alms for themselves rather than for the charity they are using as a means of livelihood."

The Commissioner said his department had frequently been thwarted in attempts to curb these practices, the offenders taking refuge in injunctions, which stayed the Commissioner's hands until after the fraudulent affairs were out of the way.

Delegates to the conference suggested that a state licensing system would put an end to such abuses.

Unions Can Enforce Their Regulations

THE New York Court of Appeals has upheld the jurisdiction of international unions in enforcing laws upon local units.

The Court reverses lower courts which denied the right of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters to order the locals of White Plains and Tarrytown to unite with the local in this city.

From a geographical standpoint, the three towns are practically one, and the General Executive Board of the United Association instructed President Coffield to perfect their amalgamation. This was opposed by the White Plains and Tarrytown unionists, who carried the matter to the courts that ruled against the United Association.

These decisions are reversed by the Court of Appeals which upholds the long line of decisions that courts can not interfere with a voluntary association as long as its conduct accords with its constitution and by-laws.

Condemns Labor Shams

EMPLOYMENT agencies in Los Angeles were condemned by Chief of Police Heath, who urged the adoption of measures to control these exploiters. The police official said, these agencies are guilty of sharp practices, excessive charges and other outrageous methods.

"Workers seeking employment are imposed upon," he said. "They are burdened with debt, harassed personally and brought to the courts at the very time they are struggling to survive their jobs."

The chief's position is in line with organized labor's demand that private employment offices be controlled.

Textile Industry in Bad Shape

THE textile industry is suffering from antiquated machinery and a refusal of employers to note changed conditions, according to Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers of America.

"The mills that formerly produced plain cotton goods and have not the changed conditions will succeed, but those mill managements who refuse to meet the demands of the consuming public find themselves in an unenviable position. It is this class of employers, who blame other things or other people for spotty conditions in the textile industry," Mr. McMahon said.

"Let these cotton and wool mill men put back into their plants a portion of the excess profits of the last few years in the shape of new machinery and they will soon find sufficient profits to offset the investment. There is a surplus of ancient machinery in most of our mills. It is a drag on improved machinery. It is a waste of money and energy to partly install a plant with new machines and leave the other part of the plant with antiquated machinery."

President McMahon warns woolen trust employees that their wages will be reduced if they remain unorganized.

"The men and women in the woolen and worsted mills must be prepared for the worst," he said. "This warning to the workers is not fancy, but is based on facts, after thorough investigation."

Survey of Poor Shows 94 Per Cent Defective

A HEALTH survey shows that 94 per cent of the members of families coming under the care of the New York association for improving condition of the poor are physically defective in some respect. The survey covers 62 families of 373 individuals selected at random, as typical.

Forty-two per cent of the children and 56 per cent of the adults were found to be undernourished and suffering from one or more of the diseases which result from insufficient nutrition.

Ninety-five per cent of the adults and 72 per cent of the children were found in need of dental treatment. Respiratory defects, chiefly adenoids and tonsils, were found in 62 per cent of the children. Defective eyesight was found in 39 per cent of the adults and 37 per cent of the children.

FOREIGN ITEMS

SWEDEN

The Membership of the Swedish Trade Unions

THE latest figures of the membership of the unions belonging to the Swedish National Centre show an increase between January 1, 1914, and January 1, 1925, from 312,022 to 369,337, or 47,315 (15.1 per cent). The number of affiliated unions is 34, and the number of local branches 3,519. The male membership has risen in 1924 from 256,259 to 329,283, that is by 43.04 or 15 per cent, and the female from 25,553 to 31,054, that is, by 4,501 or 15 per cent. The greatest increase is recorded by the metal-workers' union, which has 8,028 new members; then comes the Union of Forestry and Lumber-workers with 6,893, the General Workers with 6,035, and the Paper-workers' Union with 4,364. The total membership of the Centre on December 31, 1920, was 280,029, so that, unlike most other countries, the trade unions of Sweden have not only managed to retain the members won in the days of general prosperity, but they have also recruited new members from among the hitherto unorganized masses.

HOLLAND

Bakery Workers' Victory in Holland

ALTHOUGH the Dutch Government representatives accepted the abolition of nightwork at the Sixth International Labor Conference, the Dutch Government has since submitted to parliament a bill permitting work to begin before the statutory hour, and enabling bakers to bake confectionery during the hours when the baking of bread is prohibited. The union affiliate with the Netherlands' Federation of Trade Unions has since last December opposed this bill so keenly that it has now been dropped.

On May 8th after the withdrawal by the Minister of Labor of the section of the bill dealing with confectionery, an amendment was adopted by the Second Chamber condemning the whole bill. The Chamber will in a few weeks be dissolved for the forthcoming elections, so that it is improbable that Parliament will make any new proposals on the subject.

DENMARK

The Danish Trade Union Congress

FROM the 5th to the 7th May the Danish Trade Union National Centre held its annual congress, 600 delegates attending to represent 230,000. The chief subject of discussion was the policy to be adopted in regard to the widespread lock-out proclaimed by the Association of Employers' Organizations.

Saasebach, the representative of the I. F. T. U., and delegates from German, Norway and Sweden who were also present, conveyed to the Congress the greetings and fraternal sympathy of the workers of other countries. After long and close discussion a resolution, which will smooth the way to the resumption of discussions with the employers' organization, was passed almost unanimously, one vote only being against it. On the third day of the Congress when the employers' association had been informed of the resolution, negotiations were recommenced. It is still doubtful whether or not they will lead to practical results in the form of a final settlement of the dispute, so that the relief action inaugurated by the I. F. T. U. must continue to run its course.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Cell-builders at Home

CONDITIONS in the Communist trade union movement of Czechoslovakia are manifestly chaotic. Their trade union policy never was very clear; for the Communists have always simultaneously instructed their adherents to form trade unions of their own, and to remain in the Reformed unions. Even when they have formed unions of their own, they have not succeeded in reaching unanimity in the formulation of their principles.

Most plangent of all, however, is a resolution of the political Bureau urging the necessity of forming Communist groups in the Red Trade Unions.

The words are as follows: "Experience at the Congress of the Textile Section of the Red Trade Unions has again shown the necessity of forming Communist groups in the Red trade unions. These groups must be under the immediate influence of the Party and must be subject to its discipline, and not, like the trade unions, be merely indirectly subordinate to it. We therefore call attention again to the fact that resolute work must be done towards the creation of Communist groups not only in the Red Reformist, but also in the Red Trade Unions."

This story is the very height of absurdity, for it means that Communist trade unions are to be destroyed by Communist cells! It almost looks as if it had become the very breath of life to Communists to be destroying Labor organizations.

Towards Unity in Czechoslovakia

ON April 22 and 23, 1925, J. Odegeest, Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions, presided at the renewed negotiations of the representatives of the Czech and German trade union centres of Czechoslovakia, in continuance of the negotiations begun on the 21st and 23rd January of this year, when the general principles for amalgamation were laid down.

The present meeting determined the functions of the amalgamated national centre and the conditions under which the German unions should affiliate with the Czech centre. Discussions will go on until the members of the Advisory Committee shall have laid their report before the competent bodies representing their organizations.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Brookwood Labor Institute

August Ninth to Twenty-Second Nineteen Twenty-Five

Morning Sessions—First Week:

How to Raise Wages

The course will be an introduction to Economics from the standpoint of the workers. The basis for discussion will be Hamilton and May's volume in the Workers' Bookshelf Series of the Workers' Education Bureau, entitled: "The Control of Wages." Some of the questions taken up in this book are: Does it pay to raise wages by increasing the price of goods manufactured? How much can wages be raised by cutting down interest, profit and rent of employers and landlords? To what extent are workers cheated out of wages by "over-capitalization"? Can workers raise their real wages in the future by seeing to it that "natural resources" such as forest-land, oil fields and water power are conserved? Can wages be raised by cutting down the big salaries of the men at the top? Who is responsible for "waste in industry"? Should unions cooperate with employers to eliminate wastes and would this help to raise wages? Do compensation insurance, use of parks, free public schools, etc., mean more real wages, and should unions work to increase the number of such "free services" their members get? Does too much money go to advertising, clerical service, etc., as compared to wages paid to factory and railroad employees?

Morning Sessions—Second Week:

The History of the War and Post-War Period from the Labor Viewpoint

Among the subjects that will be discussed are these: The trend of wages and standard of living—have real wages been going up or down? The trend of unionism—gains and losses in various unions; Industrial struggles—steel strike, railroad strike, etc.; Political developments—non-partisan policy, attempts at forming a "labor party"; Education and propaganda—workers' education, labor press, etc.; International problems—international affairs and their effect on American labor, A. F. of L. and Mexico, etc.

Evening Sessions—First and Second Week:

Lectures will be given on various activities and problems of the labor movement, such as Super-power, Company Unions, the Labor Press, Unemployment Insurance, Insurance Service of Unions, Labor Legislative Activities, Protection of Workers' Health, the Organization of Women.

Speakers

The Educational Director of the Institute will be Dr. Arthur W. Calhoun, instructor in Social Economics, on the Brookwood staff, who will lead the discussions at the morning sessions. Several leading economists and students of labor have been invited to attend and take informal part in the discussions. Professor Brissenden and Tuppell of Columbia, Dr. Walton H. Hamilton and Mr. P. Stacy May of the Graduate School of Economics in Washington, D. C.; Dr. S. Blicher of Cornell and Dr. S. Perlman of Wisconsin have already signified their desire to attend. Various labor men and students of labor will lecture in the evening. President Green of the A. F. of L. has been invited to speak on the opening night of the Institute, Monday, August 19.

Time

Two weeks, beginning Sunday, August 9, and ending Saturday, August 22. You may attend either the first or the second week, or both, as you prefer. Arrangements may be made for a small number of persons to attend for a shorter period than one week.

Place

Brookwood, the trade union college, situated at Katonah, N. Y., forty miles from New York City, on the Harlem Division of the New York Central Railroad.

Recreation

Brookwood occupies a fifty-acre tract of land on a wood hilltop in Westchester county, one of the choicest vacation spots in America. Afternoons during the conference will be kept free for recreation. Opportunities for tennis, in-door baseball, hiking and dancing are provided. You will have a chance for a good talk with many fellow-unionists from various sections of the country. Literary and musical entertainments will be provided for some of the evenings.

Rates

The entire cost of board, room and tuition is only Twenty Dollars per week. (Round trip fare, New York to Katonah, \$2.58). A deposit of Five Dollars may be paid on enrollment. This deposit fee will be returned if you find by August first that it will not be possible for you to attend. The balance of the fee may be paid at the beginning of each week of the Institute.

Who Are Eligible?

Any trade unionist who is interested may apply. No special educational qualifications are needed. The discussions will be of a practical nature so that all active trade unionists will be able to take part in them freely. Members of the American Federation of Teachers who are interested in workers' education are also eligible to attend the Institute. Teachers interested in workers' education and desiring to become members of the American Federation of Teachers may write for information to the Secretary of the Summer Institute at Brookwood.

So far as the limits of space permit, all suitable applicants will be accepted. No more than about forty can be accommodated at one time. Applications should be sent in as early as possible. Several unions have already voted scholarships enabling one or more members to attend the Institute. Has your local union or central body taken action?

Who Are Backing the Institute?

Brookwood has the cooperation in developing this Institute, of an Advisory Committee representing a large number of organizations, including: Thomas J. Curtis, J. S. MacDonagh and Miss Mabel Leslie of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York and Vicinity; President Morris Sigman, A. Baroff, I. Feinsberg and Miss Paula M. Cohn of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union; Spencer Miller, Jr., of the Workers' Education Bureau of America; Miss Rose Schneiderman of the Women's Trade Union League; Andrew J. Kennedy of the Amalgamated Lithographers' Union; President Morris Kaufman, A. Wonnels, A. Rosenthal and D. Mikol of the International

"Clear Voices In English and American Literature"

By B. J. R. Stolper

Course given at the Workers' University of the INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION Season 1924-25

(Continued from last week)

Lesson 4. "Chaucer—Father of English Poetry".

Life.—Born about 600 years ago, of a rich merchant family. Educated among nobles. Taken prisoner of war in France, and thought of enough importance to be ransomed for a considerable sum by the king himself. Ambassador and diplomat, sent on important missions to the continent in the royal service.

Works.—First Period.—French influence. Best poem "Death of Blanche the Duchess", a tribute to the wife of an English prince.

Second Period.—Italian influence, especially Boccaccio's and sometimes Dante. Wrote "Troilus and Criseyde", "House of Fame", and the "Legend of Good Women".

Third Period.—Characteristically English, ripest and best, in which he wrote his famous "Canterbury Tales".

"The Canterbury Tales." Plan.—Perhaps modeled on Boccaccio's "Decamerone". A group of twenty-nine pilgrims on the way to the shrine of St. Thomas at Canterbury, meet at an inn. They choose the landlord as leader, and he decides that on the way, each pilgrim should tell four stories to amuse the rest—two going and two coming back. The one telling the best is to have a supper at the expense of the others. Chaucer's plan was never fully carried out. There are only twenty-four stories in all, and those are the Canterbury Tales.

Importance.—For skill, polish and beauty, the poetry is surpassed, perhaps, only by Shakespeare. It has none of the rudeness that might be expected at such early date. Written in the Midland dialect, which later became the language of England.

Characteristics.—1. Keen observation of people and motives.

2. Sparkling wit. Comedy which is really funny, after more than 500 years, because always based on truth.

3. Striking ability to describe vividly.

4. Kindness, sympathy, fun without malice.

5. Melodious, easy-flowing verse and rhyme.

6. Genuine love of field and wood.

7. Wide learning. The first great English writer to show the Renaissance influence.

8. Genuine power of story-telling.

Suggestion.—It is suggested that the student read the modern English version by Katherine Lee Bates, which retains a great deal of the swing and humor of the original.

CO-OPERATIVE AIDS STRIKING MINERS

The mammoth strike of coal miners in Cape Briton, Nova Scotia, has now been on since March 1, and the destitution and suffering among most of the families is very acute.

But the acute suffering is not universal. Of the 12,000 miners, 2,767 are members of the British Canadian Co-operative Society, the largest co-operative on the North American continent. This society made a sur-

plus during 1924 of \$135,922, from its gross business of nearly \$1,500,000. And the strike broke upon the members at just about the time the "dividend" for the last three months of the year was to be declared. Result: \$42,000 was distributed by the co-operative among its miner members, 12 per cent on all the purchases made during the quarter. The big increase in membership and aid during the past few months is proof that some of the other miners of the district are waking up to the economic importance of this co-operative institution.

One of the first moves made by the British company operating these mines was to shut off all credit at the company stores. This hit the non-co-operators pretty hard, but it did not bother the members of the Co-operative Stores. And as branch stores of this society are located at Sydney Mines, Florence, Cranberry, North Sydney and Glace Bay, the miners of the whole district are represented in the membership.

The Directors in charge of this huge business are all miners. But they know how to run business in behalf of the workers. During 18 years the Society has done a business of \$9,622,525, and turned back \$1,099,736 to its members. In addition, it has built up a Reserve Fund of \$41,000.

Forriers' Union; A. Hirschberg, E. J. Lever, George Greech and Wm. M. Raphael of the Philadelphia Labor College; Roy W. Canney of the Salem, Mass. Central Labor Union; J. M. Budish, I. H. Goldberg and J. Roberts of the United Cloth, Hat and Cap Makers' Union; President Wm. Kohn of the Upholsterers' Union of North America; Mrs. Grace B. Kiew of the Machinists' Auxiliary; Philip Umstadter of the Printing Pressmen's Union; Philip Zauner of the International Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers; Miss Mary Goff and Charles L. Reed of the Brookwood Fellowship.

Address all inquiries to the Secretary of the Labor Institute, Brookwood, Katonah, N. Y.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ К ПРАВИЛАМ РЕГИСТРАЦИИ ДЛЯ ПОЛУЧЕНИЯ ПОСОБИЯ ИЗ БЕЗРАБОТНОГО ФОНДА.

Положения Совета Доверенных (тресте) Безработного Фонда — для трудоустройства регистрируемых кликушеров на предмет получения пособия из этого фонда — решала устанавливать инспекция гриндс при следующих правилах:

- 1) Рабочие, не имеющие мастерских, должны немедленно записываться в Регистрационный Бюро (№ 6 City Hall) и после записи должны аккредитоваться в Бюро в указанное им время.
- 2) Рабочие, принадлежащие к мастерским, или членам которых были их почта, адреса, номера домов и номера для записи на лист, подлежащий отсылке в Бюро — не должны лично регистрироваться в Бюро. Рабочим этого класса будет обложено письменно или через наш чарманов о дне, когда они должны будут явиться в Бюро для регистрации. Такие посещения будут возможны и в том случае, придет из Бюро для получения денег.
- 3) Для контроля же рабочие имеющие мастерские, должны явиться к своему наш чарманов по крайней мере один раз в неделю в мастерской записки, если же мастерская не будет открытой, то наш чарманов имеет право избрать любое место для такой явки. В удостоверение факта, что рабочий явился и наш чарманов — при каждой явке рабочий должен регистрироваться на специально для этого выданной наш чарманов бумаге.
- 4) При получении визы, все наш чарманов каждому рабочему будут выдаваться регистрационные листы, которые наш чарманов после того как рабочий порекомендует на них, должны будут представлять в Бюро, от аккредитации выданных наш чарманов этого правила будет зависеть аккурность выдачи пособия. На всех бланках "наш чарманов" должен будет ответить всех не имеющих в данную неделю работы.
- 5) Многие мастера не имели своей работы за последние два месяца. Для проверки инспекция гриндс в этих мастерах Бюро в настоящее время собирает от наш чарманов сведения о тех мастерах, работ в их мастерских.

Нынешние правила были полностью дополнены на регулярном отчет-

ном собрании членов Р. П. О. в понедельник, 8-го июня.

Правила эти были выработаны главным образом для того, чтобы избежать итат суждений Бюро от двойной работы по регистрации кликушеров, и тем самым сэкономить расходы по этой регистрации.

Самое важное заключение, что пришла от них прибавили Доверенным по распределению Безработного Фонда по для обсуждения членов Комитета, а для строгого исполнения их, все отменялись, исполнять требования Доверенным правила членов тем самым снимают с администрации Фонда ответственность за правильное распределение денег. Прат М. Дюклоин, заведующий страховой и юнионизма, что администрация Фонда требует безусловного исполнения этих правил. Неполная все правила, Вы тем самым снимает себя от лишнего беспокойства, Бюро от двойной работы и нежелательной ситуации, и фонд от лишней работы на дополнительных суждений.

Не обращайте внимания на безответственные заявления-обещания, которые в большинстве случаев забываются завтра, что говорил сегодня. Все нет заурядных случаев, как тот, нет наш чарманов, мастерская закрыта, продажа, люди разошлись по другим мастерским и, вообще, где нет никакой возможности исполнить эти правила — за разъяснения обращайтесь в контору юниона или же в контору Бюро — № 6 City Hall.

Если Вы исполните все требования вышеперечисленных правил, то в случае какого либо недоразумения у Вас будет хорошее основание для жалобы на инспекцию этого недоразумения. Если же Вы не исполняете никаких требований — единственное основание которого для дана советом то, что он сам так поступил, то в случае недоразумения у Вас не будет никакого основания для жалобы на кого бы то ни было. Если Вы считаете, что Вы не исполняете, что он говорил не то, что Вы его не поняли.

ВЫДАЧА ПОСОБИЯ.

В понедельник, 8-го июня при торжественном обстановке председатели губернской комиссии Forr Бата открыли выдачу безработного пособия, вручив 200 десятитысячных чеков безработным кликушерам.

К концу этой недели предполагается

сделать уплату всем выработавшим по более восьми недель.

СЕНАТОРЫ ЗА ЮНИОННУЮ ДОБОЛЬ.
Сенаторы Соединенных Штатов Ноланд и Макдуггилл сделали заявления в американскую прессу, что они отныне unterstützen идею юнионного закона в юнион и дрос индустриях. Этот закон — законяет тех, что получают зарплату в том, что заключенный их "гармент" производится при санитарных условиях. Поэтому они рекомендуют публике покупать одежду с юнионным знаком.

ОТКРЫТИЕ ДОМА ОТДЫХА.

В пятницу, 12-го июня, состоится открытие юнионного дома для отдыха. На открытие будут присутствовать до 400 делегатов от различных локалов в Америке и Канаде. Также будет говорить президент Американской Федерации Труда Гривс.

ЗУБОВРАЧБАЯ ЛЕЧЕБНИЦА.

Ввиду расширения Юнионного Центра Здорова, в главном образом благодаря заступничеству уважаемого члена юнионизма и зубо-лечебного отдела — Совет Директоров Центра Здорова решил перенести с первого сентября этого года весь зубо-лечебный отдел в дом № 223 Четвертая ав. (от 18-ой ст.), на 6-ом этаже. Отдел будет значительно увеличен как в смысле аппаратуры, так и в смысле персонала.

Секретарь М. Шевченко.

BISHOP MANNING ENDORSES THE "PROSANIS" LABEL

In a communication, under date of June 3rd, 1925, addressed to the Director of the Label Division of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, Bishop Manning said:

"I am much interested in the work of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, and am glad to learn from your recent letter of the progress which the Board has made in its fight against unwholesome conditions in sweat shops."

"It seems to me that the Sanitary Label which you are using is an excellent thing. I wish you all success in this important work."

M. K. MACKOFF BUSINESS BROKER

225 Fifth Ave., Room 1101
Tel. Madison Square 0914
All Legitimate Business For Sale and Purchase

PRESENT DAY-BOOKS ARE ABOLISHED

In their place, the General Office of the I. L. G. W. U. is now preparing a combination day and receipt book which will be more practical and useful than the day-books in vogue until now.

Secretaries are to print no more receipt or day books for their locals, as the combined book will soon be available and would have to be used by all the financial officers of all affiliated organizations.

All other forms of day or receipt books will after that be regarded as unofficial and not legitimate.

Fraternally,
ABRAHAM BAROFF.
General Secretary-Treasurer,
I. L. G. W. U.

THE RECORD AND PUBLIC INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, I. L. G. W. U.

Is calling upon all secretaries of affiliated locals to transmit to it monthly, before the 15th of each month:

1. All day-book sheets, where income from members is entered.
2. The specially prepared index cards for members accepted through transfers or reinitiation.
3. A detailed report of members suspended during the month.
4. New addresses of members caused by change of residence.

According to our by-laws, a local of the I. L. G. W. U. may be fined for failure to supply the information requested above. We ask our local secretaries therefore to be prompt concerning it.

LOCAL SECRETARIES

We deem it necessary to call your attention to the fact that the per-capita to the joint boards and all other taxes levied upon locals from time to time being fixed in accordance with the number of members on the books of the Record Department of the I. L. G. W. U. for each of its locals.

It would therefore be to your benefit to inform officially this Department concerning any member that you may drop from your books, by transfer, for non-payment of dues, or for any other cause, so as to prevent your local being charged with per capita taxes or any other assessment for members no longer belonging to your organization.

Be sure and inform us the number of weeks in arrears due your local by any suspended member on the day of his or her suspension.

Fraternally,
H. A. SCHOOLMAN,
Director.

OUT ALREADY

The Women's Garment Workers

A History of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
A Book of 640 Pages, Excellently Bound

by Dr. Louis Levine

Author of "The Syndicalist Movement in France," "Taxation in Montana," etc.

The Price of the Book Is Five Dollars

Members of the International may obtain it at half price, \$2.50, from the General Office directly, at

3 West 16th Street, New York City

Out-of-town members can secure it at half price through local secretaries.

The Book contains several excellent illustrations — 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.

The Week In Local 10

By G. M. B. SHENKER

It was warm enough last Monday night, June 8th, to make the members want the seashore or parks rather than the meetingroom, but in spite of the warm evening a fair-sized gathering attended the first meeting of the month in Arlington Hall.

What caused the attendance was practically explained by the questions asked after the report of the officers on the conditions of the trade was rendered. The expected report of the Governor's Commission on the renewal of the agreement, the paying out of the unemployment insurance and the outlook for the coming season in the cloak and dress trades, were matters that were touched upon by Brother Eldore Nagler, acting manager of the cloak division, in his report, and which largely made for the presence of the members who sought to become acquainted with conditions as they stand at present.

Ceremony Attends Insurance Payment
There was quite an impressive ceremony that attended the payment of the first few hundred unemployed insurance checks last Monday, according to Brother Nagler's impression. Payments from the fund were made at the registration office of the administration of unemployment insurance, 6 East 29th Street.

Representatives of the union, the International as well as the Joint Board, the Governor's Commission and employers, were present at the opening ceremonies and witnessed the payment of checks to two cloak-makers.

Least some of the more sensitive members feel that the administration of unemployment insurance is a charitable affair, Brother Nagler reiterated the words of International President Sigman, to the effect that what the workers are receiving in the form of unemployment insurance is something that the industry owes them and is not charity.

The workers are ready to serve the industry and the industry is consequently responsible for the well-being of the workers. The leaders of the industry naturally must take such steps as will preserve the energies of the workers and make them fit. It was the fact that the industry owes the workers a living which prompted the demand by the union for unemployment insurance. It is in this spirit that the insurance checks are paid out to the workers.

Expect Start of Season

The day for the submission by the Governor's Commission of its report regarding the renewal of the agreement was still uncertain, according to the report. However, in view of the fact that a few of the large shops in the cloak trade were resuming work for the coming season, it is expected that the report may be made public within probably two weeks or so.

The present agreement in the cloak trade has still to run about three weeks, hence the commission is permitted ample time to make its report known in time.

It is as yet too early to make the usual preparations as regards the handling of the shops for the new season. By that is meant the issuing of new working cards and other such details for checking up the members.

Office To Prepare for Season

This is a phase of work that is started at the beginning of the season. Since dullness still prevails, this work naturally must be held back. The probabilities are that work on

this question will be started just about when Manager Dublosky returns from his visit abroad. According to the cablegrams which he has sent he has begun to make preparations for his return.

In this connection it will interest the members to learn that a very fine reception was tendered Manager Dublosky by the labor movement of Poland. During the course of the reception tendered him, he contributed considerable sums of money to the various branches of the movement, for which he was highly lauded.

These actions were carried by certain newspapers in this country and reached the ears of the Joint Board. It was also reported to the Joint Board by a visiting representative of the Polish labor movement.

'The Dress Control and the Agreement'
An interesting parallel is drawn between the report of the control of the dress division rendered by the writer at the last meeting and an editorial which appeared in last week's 'Justice' captioned: "Is the dress agreement a dead letter—And why?"

The editorial is in connection with a meeting held by one of the dress locals on the subject of the enforcement by the Joint Board of the dress agreement. The editorial takes issue and says in part: "... the best agreement is but a piece of worthless paper if the workers in the shops fail to understand it fully and are not resolved to fight for its observance. Moreover, if the workers in the shops are neglectful and indifferent to the provisions of a trade agreement, the best efforts of a trade union to enforce it would prove of no avail." And "It is silly beyond words to throw the onus on the officers ... and charge them with a lack of a desire to carry out the agreement in the dress industry."

The writer reported to the members that within the past four weeks the controllers whom he assigned to the slack-time control of the shops made over 500 visits. Of course, there were reported to him violations on the part of employers.

Cutters Not Benefitted by Violations

An interesting feature of the report and which makes for the parallel between the report and the editorial lies in the large number of cutters who, while working, failed to observe certain rules. The violation of these rules consisted of: (1) failure to secure proper working cards, thereby hampering the office in properly controlling the shops, (2) failure on the part of cutters to report the employment of non-union men, (3) failure to report the fact that certain employers do not turn in their insurance money to the unemployment insurance fund, (4) cutters in collusion with employers to lower standards, and (5) cutters failing to report the fact that bosses work side by side with them.

In no case did the cutters in connection with these violations benefit by their commission to any appreciable degree. The more than 500 shops controlled were the contracting shops. None of these employed more than one cutter and then only part of the time. Were the cutters to observe the rules and help the union to enforce the agreement their earnings would have been far greater than which was accorded to them.

Of the number of shops controlled, less than 200 cutters employed, on part time, were in good standing and

were in possession of proper working cards. About 100 cutters were in bad standing and were not in possession of the proper working cards. Over 80 of these men were made to place themselves in good standing and secure the proper cards. The balance of the cases required more drastic action and are being followed up.

Cases Handled by Office

The Joint Board is considerably taken up with many slack-time problems in addition to enforcement of the new features of the present agreement, such as payment of the percentage to the insurance fund, and the label. Hence, when the controllers brought in their reports, the majority of the cases were handled by the office of Local 10.

It was felt that to burden the Joint Board with these complaints would not only hamper the business agents and retard them in going on with their work but would make ineffective the control, by placing these complaints in the hands of the regular business agents who would either have to neglect their other work or wait with Local 10's complaints until they would find time enough to go out on them.

Many Shops Idle

A considerable number of shops visited by the controllers were found to be idle. Under ordinary circumstances the proper thing to do would be to turn in the report as complete. However, the office is following up these shops in spite of the fact that there is no work.

The prime reason for the control is the fact that there is a certain portion of the shops listed by the union, the employers of which habitually violate the agreement. Hence, even when there is no work in such shops they are frequently followed up in order that the owners of these shops will not fail to operate in accordance with the agreement upon their securing work.

The control considerably helped the office in enforcing a certain new provision in the agreement, which in time may help to discourage employers from hiring non-union workers. In one of the previous issues of this publication the fact was reported that a few employers were fined for employing non-union cutters.

The association made a serious effort at the time that this question was taken up not to have the employers found guilty of this violation of the agreement fined. The chief clerk insisted that it was the first offense and that warning in such a case should suffice.

However, the union suffered considerably in the past from the lack of a provision to penalize employers for employing non-union help and therefore insisted upon the full enforcement of the terms of the agreement. In the past, employers would hire a non-union cutter and, as it happened sometimes, the chairman or chairlady of a particular shop would be lax in his or her duties and would fail to force the unionization of the non-union worker. In such cases a cutter would be sometimes employed for a period of a few weeks receiving less than the scale of wages and

when the violations would be discovered by the business agent the union had no recourse against the employer.

When the provision making it a violation for an employer to hire a non-union worker was incorporated in the agreement, the office took full advantage of it. And not for the financial gain, but rather as a punitive measure, that is, the provision was enforced solely with a view to discouraging the employers from hiring non-union help when the union was ready to supply competent workers who were good-standing members of the union.

Miscellaneous Cutters To Meet

In spite of the early arrival of the hot weather and the hot weather which is still in store, steps will be taken for the continuance of the membership meeting of this division of Local 10 at which, as in the past, lecturers will address the members on topics of interest to them as union men.

There is considerable work to be performed with regard to the proper enforcement of union conditions in Miscellaneous shops and to postpone for any length of time and at any time the membership meetings would face this division with the danger of a loose organization.

Not only is Brother Philip Hansel considerably taken up with the work of controlling the shops, but the writer, too, devotes some time to it in spite of the fact that he is taken up with work in the dress division.

It is hoped for the proper upkeep of this division that the members will not fail to attend their next meeting, which will be held on Monday evening, June 15th, in Arlington Hall.

Sympathetic Cutter Fined

It often happens that well-meaning members of the union involve themselves in a situation which subjects them to a penalty by the Executive Board. It has occurred on occasion when a cutter was not properly paid for his work that instead of reporting the fact to the union he takes the employer's promise and waits for the employer to pay him the difference in wages.

The consequences of such an act on the part of a cutter generally terminates with the failure of the employer to fulfill his promise. This is what happened in the case of a cutter whose name will not be divulged for obvious reasons. His employer put to him the proposition that if he, the cutter, would permit a reduction in his wages and not accept pay for overtime the firm would be able to continue in business. The employer, however, promised that he would reimburse him with the difference when business would permit.

When the cutter discovered that the employer was about to evade the promise he informed the business agent who collected a considerable amount of money for the entire shop of workers, all of whom agreed to this same arrangement. The Executive Board imposed a nominal fine upon the cutter with a view to impressing upon him the importance of reporting all matters of this nature to the union.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING Monday, June 15th

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