

"My righteousness 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 unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. VII. No. 32.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1925

Price 2 Cents.

Attack Upon I. L. G. W. U. Ordered by Communist "Cheka" Four Months Ago

Amazing Document Reveals Deeply Laid Plot to Subvert and Gain Control of the Economic Organization of Our Workers by Moscow Agents—Communist Politicians Issue Detailed Orders From Chicago to New York Allies How to Engineer the Campaign of Demoralization in Locals 2, 9 and 22.

Another document, overshadowing in significance all the others which have come until now into the hands of our International Union in the defensive fight it is waging against the Communist attack upon its integrity and efficiency as a fighting working class economic organization, was made public by President Sigman last Sunday. It had the effect of a bombshell in the camp of the disruptionists and served as an eye-opener to many a doubting Thomas who still felt unconvinced that the turmoil in some of the New York locals and the spirit of insubordination to the International administration was anything but a Communist-inspired provocation and a direct attempt from Moscow upon the life of our Union.

This document amounts to no less than an "official" statement on the needle trades situation issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Workers' (Communist) party and signed by E. C. Browder, acting secretary, with an accompanying letter issued to all the branches of that party in New York City. The letter and the statement are dated April 10, 1925, four months ago, and contains a complete program for the Communists of New York to follow out in connection with the "rule or ruin" campaign to be carried out by them in the needle trades of New York City, and

particularly in the cloak and dress locals of the I. L. G. W. U. It begins with a criticism of the policy heretofore followed by the so-called Needle Trades National Committee of the T. U. E. L. (Foster's pet child, the Trade Union "Educational" League), and winds up with a set of instructions to be followed out in the future in close adherence with the policy set forth by the Central Executive Committee of the Communist party.

The entire statement, with its covering letter, is so clear on the matter of Communist direction of the turmoil within the above referred to locals of

our Union in New York, that it requires but little comment on our part for readers of "Justice". It lays bare the hollow claim of the misguided ex-officials of locals 2, 9 and 22 that the fight which they have been conducting against their parent organization is a struggle for a "better union" and that it has nothing whatever to do with the ambitions of the Red International in America. Black on white it gives a full outline of the strategy of the Communist chieftains and propagandists in the United States and of their schemings to gain hold of our Union as a first foothold in their campaign to gain control of the whole Labor movement and of its eventual

(Continued on page 3)

Life Is Short

But the Season in Unity House Is Still Shorter

Only Four More Weeks Remain of Unity Gaily, Rest and Happiness.

Today—don't postpone it for Tomorrow—is the Day for you to Rush Your Reservation for the Final Chance for a Vacation in the Wonderful Forest Park Estate of Our International, Our Unity House.

August is the Hottest Month of the Year; August is the most Beautiful Month in Unity. Don't Delay—Reserve the Application Office—Three West Sixteenth Street—Telephone, Chelsea 2148

Pres. Sigman Already at the Helm in the Joint Board

Vice-Presidents Ninfo, Dubinsky and Halpern Aid President Sigman—District Shop-Chairmen Meetings Scheduled for Next Week—Joint Meeting of Local Executive Boards Held Last Monday—President Sigman Issues Statement to Workers

Last Monday, August 3, President Morris Sigman took over the management of the New York Joint Board, a step upon which the Joint Board had decided last week at its regular meeting.

President Sigman immediately proceeded to take steps to check the demoralizing effect of the union-wrecking activity of the coterie of suspended ex-officials of Locals 2, 9 and 22. Together with Brother Sigman, closely associated in this work, are Vice-Presidents Ninfo, Dubinsky and Halpern. This work of saving the Union from the savage attack directed against it by the Communists, is carried on with a fervor and an unanimity that is reminiscent of the days of great stir and stress in the life of the I. L. G. W. U.—during periods of general strikes and lock-

outs by employers and during times when the life of the Union was threatened by insidious attacks from scab agencies and anti-labor forces on the outside.

President Sigman is confident that the epidemic of Communist hysteria which affects some members in our New York locals at present will soon give way to a saner state of mind. The great masses of cloak and dressmakers will remain loyal to their Union and will not destroy it to make fuel for the Communist pyre.

The Meeting of the Executive Boards On Monday last, at a joint meeting of all the executive boards of the locals affiliated with the New York Joint Board, President Sigman, in an address, stated the exact situation in the New York organization at the

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Locals 2 and 9 Will Have Elections Next Tuesday

Dressmakers' Local Will Elect Executive Board the Following Week—Members of Locals 2 and 9 Are All Urged to Take Part in Elections

Next Tuesday, August 11, there will be held under the auspices of the election committees appointed by the member meetings of Locals 2 and 9, the election for executive members and for other officers of the operators, and finishers organizations of New York.

The candidates nominated several days ago by the members of Locals 2 and 9 at regular meetings held for that purpose were examined by the objection committee and such of them as have been found eligible to appear on the ballot, in conformity with the laws of the Union, will be voted on by the members. It is expected that a great number of voters will turn out at the balloting in both locals to choose from among the large list of candidates a suitable set of officers to administer the affairs of their organizations.

The members of Locals 2 and 9 will not permit themselves to be misled by the inspired agitation of Communist-led ex-officials who are moving heaven and earth to prevent the operators and finishers from taking part in this election. The workers in the cloak trade can administer no greater rebuke to these charlatans and union-disrupters than by turning out in large masses and voting for the best men and women they believe are competent to run their locals in the spirit and within the ramifications of genuine trade union activity.

Where to Vote

The balloting will begin at 9 o'clock in the morning and will last all day

and until 6 in the afternoon in all the offices of the Joint Board in the Greater City, as follows:

Main Office of the Joint Board, 130 East 55th street.

Downtown Office, 33 Second Avenue, Brooklyn Office, 105 Montrose avenue.

Brownsville Office, 219 Sackman street.

Harlem Office, 165 East 121st street.

All details in connection with the election of officers in Local 22 will be printed in next week's issue of "Justice".

Communist Party Orders General Strike of Cloakmakers

At a Secret Meeting on Monday, July 27, William Foster Announces to Communist Party Members that Central Committee of Communists is Determined to Have General Strike of Cloakmakers This Season—Overwhelming Majority of Cloakmakers Opposed to Strike.

The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party (the American "Cheka") has made definite intentions last week, through its mouthpieces, William Foster and Earl Browder, that they are determined to involve the cloakmakers of New York in a general strike this season despite the overwhelming vote cast against it by the cloakmakers a few weeks ago. This decision was adopted by the Communist politicians in Chicago without even consultation with the suspended Communist politicians in the cloak locals in New York.

The decision of the Communist

"Cheka" was kept by them in secret for a while, obviously for the purpose of "preparing the ground" in cloakmakers' circles in New York City. The order issued by the Chicago commissars in Chicago to their party adherents in New York is to precipitate a general strike this season.

On Monday, July 27, a special meeting of Communist party members and of members of the Young Workers' League, a Communist subsidiary, was called in New York at Manhattan Lyceum, and was addressed by no less a worthy than William Foster himself, the national chairman of the

party. Only party and league members were admitted to the meeting. Foster informed the gathering that the campaign waged by the Communists against the International is likely to dwindle down to nothing unless some "heroic" measure is decided upon and carried out which would secure for the Communists a permanent hold upon the I.L.G.W.U. The sabotaging of the Union and occasional shop strikes here and there, while helpful in this campaign of disintegration, cannot achieve the desired results unless a general strike that would involve the whole

(Continued on Page 2)

Pres. Sigman Issues Statement to Workers Upon Acceptance of Management of Joint Board

Simultaneously with his entering upon his temporary duty as general manager of the Joint Board, President Morris Sigman issued the following statement to the cloakmakers and dressmakers of New York:

"To all cloak and dressmakers:

"As already announced, I am taking over temporarily at present the management of the Joint Board.

"Sisters and brothers! I am taking over this work in the firm belief in your love and devotion to your Union and with the full conviction that I shall receive your support not only in the work of safeguarding our Union from the pogroms of the Communists, but also in the work of strengthening its position in general and in removing every defect and drawback that is hampering its progress.

"I could not hope to do it with my own efforts, but with your devoted assistance, I have every reason to believe that we shall be able to conquer every obstacle in our way and to realize the strivings and the aims of our organization. Most cloakmakers still remember the days of 1915 and 1916 when George Wishnak was the manager of our Joint Board, and they remember how utterly demoralized and hopeless the atmosphere was in our Union in those days. The Joint Board then asked me to assume the general management of the organization, and I accepted it. The cloakmakers probably recall that during my incumbency of office I have succeeded in materially improving the

situation in the industry and in the Union.

"I was able to accomplish that because the cloakmakers had given me in those days their full support and aid like true and loyal union men. The dressmakers also remember that in 1921 I had the honor of being the general manager of their Joint Board. I found the dressmakers' organization when I entered it in a demoralized condition, financially and spiritually, but when I left it, it was materially stronger and far more influential in every way and sphere.

"Together with the other members of the G. E. R. who are undertaking with me the work of the Joint Board, I desire to say that we are entering upon this task not only to solve the immediate problems confronting it, but also to raise the Union to as high a plane as our members wish to see it placed upon. It will be our task to improve the Union in an organizational way, internally and externally, and to better work conditions in the shops for our workers.

"I wish to state again that in order to be successful in our labors we must have your unequalled support. We demand this support from all of you who have helped to build this Union in the past—to lend your shoulder to the wheel and to reinforce our strength against every possible emergency and every storm it might meet on its way onward.

"Let us all get together for this great and sacred task! Unitedly and undivided we shall protect and safeguard our great and glorious organization!"

Communist Ringleaders Fail In Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston

Small Audience in Ford Hall Disbands Without "Action"—Chicago Meeting a "Dud"—Boston Locals Pledge Loyalty to Union

The Communist clique in Locals 2, 9 and 22 which undertook to "deliver" the I. L. G. W. U. into the hands of the ringleaders of the so-called "Workers' Party," and which was suspended for its pains from office in these locals, not satisfied with its union-breaking activities in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

The meetings in the above mentioned cities were advertised for weeks with great fanfare and pomp in the Communist press, but turned out to be pitiful failures, despite the fake reports to the contrary issued by their promoters to Communist publications. In Chicago the meeting which was attended by a scanty couple of hundred persons, was a mournful affair from the beginning to end and occupied itself solely with hurling epithets and abuse upon the International Union and its leaders.

In Philadelphia, too, the meeting was poorly attended and was a decided "frost." As reported in the general press, the Communist speakers at the meeting also confined themselves to pouring upon the leaders of our Union vile and nasty abuse. When a resolution proposed by the engineers of the affair calling for the "resignation of the officers of the International Union" was put to a vote, the number of persons voting for it was so small, that it was easily discernible to an outside observer that the Com-

munist had an insignificant following among the Philadelphia cloakmakers.

Boston "Joint Action Meeting" Peters Out

The Boston meeting, extensively advertised by the emissaries of the "joint action committee" of the suspended officials of the three New York locals in all Boston garment shops, proved as much of a "bust," if not a greater failure, as its Chicago counterpart. It was held in Ford Hall, on Thursday, July 30, and was attended by about three hundred persons, among whom there were some clothing workers, cap makers, furriers, and some small employers, well-known in the local market, but very few cloakmakers or dressmakers.

An effort was made to introduce a resolution against the International Union, but the attempt was quickly abandoned after the vice-chairman of the operators' local, who was present at the meeting, made an announcement that less than five per cent. of those present were cloakmakers. Thereupon the meeting came to a close.

On that same evening, the Boston Joint Board held a meeting in which the disturbing events in New York were reviewed by the delegates and a resolution was adopted pledging the support of the local organization against the Communist union-wreckers and their followers and con-

Communist Party Orders General Cloak Strike

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industry is executed. Such, he informed his audience, was the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the party, and this decision must be obeyed without arguing or questioning. To a query where the Communists would obtain the funds to carry out such a strike, Foster replied that he had secured the food strike in 1919 without funds, but that later on the strike money came in plentifully from various labor sources and that the Communists would not lack money to finance the fight once it is called out.

On Monday, August 3, at a meeting of "shop chairmen," to which only Communists and close sympathizers were admitted, held in Cooper Union, Earl Browder, the acting secretary of the Communist party, who came to attend this "cloakmakers' meeting from Chicago, let the cat out of the bag by stating rather cautiously that nothing is likely to prevail against the "Sigman machine" and that it will "perhaps" be necessary to call a general strike. The other speakers spoke in the same tone.

FACSIMILE OF LETTER INVITING "CLOAKMAKERS" TO MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMUNIST ORDER FOR GENERAL STRIKE

WORKERS PARTY

OF AMERICA



DISTRICT No. 2
NEW YORK CITY

July 24, 1935

Dear Comrades:

As you know the situation in your industry at this time is very critical. It is absolutely essential that every party member and U. P. member keep fully informed as to each phase of the development in the situation, so as to "be ready when the time comes." For this purpose an important meeting is being called on

MONDAY, JULY 27 at 9 PM SHARP
at the
MANHATTAN LYCEUM, 55 EAST 43rd STREET

at which meeting it is the duty of all party members and U. P. members to be present. Important matters of policy will be discussed.

Fraternally yours,

Chas. Weinbaum
District Organizer
Bess Miller
Industrial Organizer

P. S. Bring your party or league membership book with you. Adherence to party or league members only.

denning the effort of this element to create disunity in the I. L. G. W. U. The Cloak and Dress Cutters' Union of Boston, Local 73, held a meeting on Saturday, July 25, and adopted a

similar resolution condemning the irresponsible onslaught of the Communist-led ex-officials of the three New York locals upon their parent body.

Pres. Sigman In Charge at Joint Board

(Continued from Page 1)

present moment. He told the executives that what the Communists are endeavoring to do at this hour in New York among the members of the I. L. G. W. U., they have attempted to do in the last few years in practically every other labor movement in every country in Europe. They had succeeded in splitting the workers' movement in Poland, France, Italy and Czechoslovakia, with the result that in these countries the labor unions became disintegrated and lost power and efficiency. Today, the workers in these countries in Europe are beginning to regain their senses and are fast shaking off the malevolent

influence of the Communists and are reforming their ranks. In America, the Communists amount to nothing as a political organization,—hence their endeavor to "capture" the economic organizations and upon their backs to ride into political power. They are concentrating their efforts upon the needle trades unions, in the hope that the membership of these unions might prove susceptible material for their schemings and conspiracies.

President Sigman's speech was followed by very impressive talks by Vice-Presidents Joseph Breslav, manager of the Pressers' Union, Local 35, and Julius Hochman, manager of the Dress Division of the Joint Board.

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Attack Upon I. L. G. W. U. Ordered by Communist "Cheka" Four Months Ago

(Continued from Page 1)

with the "political significance of the domination by them—not in the interests of the workers, of these the document mentions not a word—but

struggle uppermost in their minds" as it frankly admits.

The letter and the document, in its most essential paragraphs, follow:

Statement on the Needle Trades Situation By the C. E. C. of the Communist Party

In the trade unions, the Communists, through the T. U. E. L., as Communists must strive to fill the most important strategic positions in the unions. In the struggle between the left-wing and the reactionary officialdom, we must always have uppermost in our minds the political significance of the struggle.

To capture official positions in the

unions is good, but this is not our main objective. Our candidates, communist or left-wing, running against the bureaucrats in elections must do so on a definite left-wing program of action. How revolutionary these programs of action will be depends, of course, upon the political level of the rank and file of each particular union or industry.

The C. E. C. points out that these

mistakes followed inevitably from the first mistake will lead to greater and more disastrous blunders, unless the first wrong step is recognized and corrected, and the left-wing in the needle trades, brought back to the Communist line of thought, namely, the fight for the leadership based upon the T. U. E. L. class struggle program of action.

One of the results of their wrong policy, we must point out to our comrades, is the almost complete abandonment of the fight for the reinstatement of the expelled members, which compelled the National Committee of the T. U. E. L. to accept the terms laid down for their readmittance to the Union by the Perstein-Sigman machine. We feel sure that if our

New York comrades had made use of the favorable position they occupied to push the demand for the reinstatement of our expelled comrades, these comrades would now be members of the Union under much more favorable conditions. This, of course, we recognize as theoretical. But the fact remains that with the rest of the program this point became nearly a dead letter.

The Needle Trades Committee devised so far from the actual line of struggle, that the "Freiheit" of March 20th, was forced to publish a friendly criticism of those progressives who voted to support Perstein's candidacy, at the same time sounding a note of warning against any such procedure in the future. It is a deplorable situation indeed when our party press has to criticize an action carried out under the direction of party members.

The C. E. C. points out the following as some of the major mistakes made by the committee and by comrades following the general line of the committee.

1. Failure to carry on the fight upon a national scale for the reinstatement of the expelled.

2. The failure to fight against the reactionary Perstein for Manager of the Protective Department of the Joint Board.

3. The proposal to support Feinberg for Manager of the Joint Board.

4. Failure to present our own national program of organizing the unorganized as against the program of the administration.

5. The issuance of a leaflet by the National Committee of the Needle Trades Section of the T. U. E. L. amounting to a practical endorsement of Hochman, candidate of the Sigman machine.

6. The policy carried out in Local 2, namely, the agitation by our comrades in Section meetings, calling for the approval of the decision of the local executive to withdraw the advertisement from the "Freiheit" upon the request of the Sigman machine.

7. The decision of the National Committee of the Needle Trades Section of the T. U. E. L. to recommend that the Executive of Local 22 sign a statement by Feinberg condemning the left-wing and pledging investigation and disciplinary measures towards those responsible for issuing and distributing the election leaflet.

8. The vote for Perstein by the Comrades of Local 2 Executives.

The above policies, decisions and actions of the Needle Trades Committee are in violation of the policy of the T. U. E. L. and the Workers' Party in the I. L. G. W. U. and are detrimental to the building up of a militant left-wing in the union.

This meeting reaffirms the correctness of the W. P. policy in the I. L. G. W. U. and declares its readiness to carry on a militant fight in the Union along the lines of these policies. We further call upon the National Committee of the Needle Trades Section, T. U. E. L., to inaugurate a militant national campaign to execute and put into effect these party policies.

LETTER FORWARDED BY COMMUNIST PARTY FOUR MONTHS AGO DECLARING WAR ON I. L. G. W. U. WORKERS PARTY OF AMERICA

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
W. Z. FOSTER

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES
C. E. RUTHERFORD
DIRECTOR LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
H. DOERFINGER

NATIONAL OFFICE

1115 WASHINGTON BLVD., ROOM 301

CHICAGO, ILL.

"THE DAILY WORKER"

OFFICIAL ORGAN

BY MAIL \$2.00 A YEAR

EDITOR
J. LOUIS ENGLISH

April 24, 1925.

To all Branches in N.Y.

The Central Executive Committee has found it necessary to openly take issue with, and fight against, a growing right-wing tendency in our work in the Needle Trades centering in New York.

In order that every member of the Party may be thoroughly familiar with the issues involved, we are sending you herewith a copy of the "STATEMENT ON THE NEEDLE TRADES SITUATION" presented to the membership meeting April 12, by the C.E.C., and of which the C.E.C. asks the entire party to unite in support.

Please read this entire document to the branch meeting, and make its contents as widely known as possible among the party members.

Fraternally yours,

E. R. Browder
Acting Secretary.

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OEA
12755

Cloak and Dress Pressers Pledge Undivided Support

At a special meeting of the Executive Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Dress Pressers' Union, Local 35, held on Monday, August 3, 1925, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

In view of certain unfounded rumors that have been circulated to the effect that Local 35 disapproves of the recent policy of the Joint Board and the International, and is therefore withholding its support from the Joint Board, be it resolved that the Executive Board of Local 35 reaffirms its previous approval of the decisions of the Joint Board, and stands ready to give all the support at its command—both as a local and as individuals, to help the Joint Board in its efforts to restore order in our industry.

We call upon you, our members, not

to allow yourselves to be misled by disrupters and union-breakers, whose sole aim is to disrupt our Union. Brothers, be on guard! In this hour, the most crucial in the life of our Union, every member should display his loyalty and devotion to the Union. Refuse to be deceived by the false mouthpieces who can lead you only to ruin.

Bear in mind the toll and the blood you have given towards building the structure of our organization. Will you now stand by and see it fall in ruins about you?

An end to indifference! Let us mass our forces together! Let us stand as one man by our Union! Take orders only from the Joint Board and from Local 35. Let us direct our real and power against the enemy—against

the enemy without and the enemy within!

Long live the Union! United let us go forward under its banner along the road to economic progress!

The Executive Board,

The Cloak, Skirt and Dress Pressers' Union, Local 35.

J. BRESLAW,
Manager.

JUSTICE

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Unemployment Insurance Crisis in Great Britain

By HERMAN FRANK

The first large scale attempt to introduce State unemployment insurance in England took place about five years ago. The difficult economic conditions in which England has found itself in the last few years, however, has placed a tremendous burden upon this attempt to mitigate the sufferings of the unemployed, the number of which has ranged from a million and a quarter to a million and a half since 1920. Hundreds of millions of dollars already had been paid out in unemployment doles and there is no sign, from present industrial indications, that this situation might improve substantially in the near future.

A short time ago a Liberal member of the House of Commons, Sir Alfred Mond, had proposed that these contributions by the treasury be paid out directly to the employers, instead of the workers, provided the former undertake to supply the unemployed with jobs. This sensational project called out a sharp protest from the Trades Union Congress and from the Labor Party. Of course, the plan offered insurmountable obstacles from a purely administrative point of view, but the workers' organizations condemned it just as vigorously as a matter of principle objecting to any subsidies to be given by the State to private capitalists for the purpose of enlarging their business and their income at the expense of the Treasury. Nevertheless, Mond's project aroused a great deal of interest even in radical English circles where a considerable disinclination has existed for some time with the whole system of unemployment insurance upon which at one time the great hopes had been placed. It will be recalled, in this connection, that the beginning of unemployment insurance in England dates back to 1911, when a system of compulsory insurance was established in seven trades. Five years later, in the midst of the World War, the manly workers were included into this unemployment arrangement—until finally in 1920 the system spread to all the industries in the country. In theory, at least, the system was founded upon the participation of all the three parties concerned (the State, the workers and the employers) in the contribution toward the raising of the common fund.

In practice, however, this plan began undergoing material changes soon after it was introduced. Already in 1918, after the armistice, the Government started paying out to ex-soldiers and former civil servants so-called "sold-of-work donations." Later, the insurance law was amended several times, with the result that the unemployment system soon lost entirely its original form and meaning and became an institution for the distribution of unemployment donations or "dole" on a national scale. But even this semi-charitable system later all but collapsed in some parts of the country, so much so that local authorities in some counties were forced to revive the old humiliating organizations of "poor relief" in order to ameliorate the plight of the out-of-work. Such is, in brief, today the sum total of the ambitious plan for unemployment insurance undertaken in England under rather promising circumstances some fourteen years ago.

Of course, the unsatisfactory experience with unemployment insurance under critical conditions in England should not serve as proof for

the impossibility of creating an effective system of such insurance in other places under more favorable circumstances. This experience does not even prove the impossibility of organizing such an insurance system on the basis of compulsory contributions from the three interested parties. In England, it should be stated again, this form of insurance had been attempted in a moment of almost catastrophic unemployment, under conditions in which no form of insurance could have proved successful, as it is quite obvious that the upkeep of millions of unemployed for a stretch of years is a burden which no single agency save the whole social structure, i. e., the budget of the State, could undertake to shoulder. The critics of the system, however, point to the fact that the administrators of this fund had no right whatsoever to mix insurance benefits with the distribution of the doles and thereby discredit the system as a whole.

The National System of Labor Exchanges

The banks which served for the introduction of the unemployment insurance in England were the "National Labor Exchanges" organized in 1910. This institution has done very good work in the beginning in the field of distribution of work throughout the country, though it was controlled not by the Labor unions but by the State exclusively, a control which proved to be the best under the circumstances. Upon these Labor exchanges had later fallen the very difficult task of administering the unemployment insurance, a task which has seriously interfered with its original work, the distribution of jobs for the idle. A thorough investigation of the subject later also confirmed the opinion of many observers that the organization of the insurance by industries only is the best and most effective method for combating the unemployment plague.

It is clear, nevertheless, that State compulsory unemployment insurance cannot be made a success if administered on the same mis-orchestrated manner

Labor Unions to Organize Negro Workers

At a conference of black and white trade unionists held recently in Arlington Hall, New York City, there was formed The Trade Union Committee for Organizing Negro Workers with Thomas J. Curtis, general manager of the Building Trades' Department Bureau, as chairman and treasurer and Frank R. Crosswath as executive secretary. Mr. Hugh Frazier, New York representative of the American Federation of Labor, delivered the main address.

The committee has now opened headquarters at 2390 24th Avenue, Room 504, in the center of Negro Harlem and is now engaged in carrying the message of trade unionism to the great mass of Negro workers of New York City, who today number nearly 150,000, over 50 per cent. of whom are organizable. In speaking of the purposes of this committee, Secretary Crosswath said, "There is no denying the fact that the work we are endeavoring now to do, should have been done long, long ago. The Negro worker is abandoning the South and the farms for the great industrial centers in the East and North; he is a factor now to be reckoned with in our industrial life and unless we reach him now and line him up on labor's side, those who stand for autocracy and chaos in industry will use him to their own advantage."

"Over one-seventh of all workers in

the United States are Negroes; and with the immigration laws now operating to keep out European and other foreign labor, the Negro worker will be entering more and more into industry. We must therefore organize him for if we do not, organized capital will use him further to cut down the wages and lengthen the hours of labor as well as to break down the standard of living that the labor movement has built up through years of handshakes and struggles."

When asked as to how the committee will be financed, Secretary Crosswath replied: "It is plain that this necessary work can no longer be permitted to remain undone; it is also plain that we cannot get and do not want the assistance of labor's enemies, consequently, it is to organized labor that we must look for support. Now that we have definitely begun our work and with results so far satisfactory, it would be nothing short of a tragedy if this movement were permitted to die from sheer lack of financial support."

"We are now appealing to the various labor organizations for financial support; every enlightened union man should see the need for supporting the T. U. C. for O. N. W. We hope in a very short time to be able to remove the fear of unorganized Negro workers again breaking strikes in New York City."

as was done in England. The principle of separate funds for each trade is an absolute prerequisite of success. It is obvious that under the conditions of modern industrial life, the chances of employment are not equal in all trades. English statistics, for instance, prove that while in one of the insured occupations, the street car and omnibus service, the percentage of the unemployed was in 1921 as low as 2.1 per cent., in another insured trade, the iron and steel industry, the percentage reached as high as 62.25 per cent. It is clear therefore that the risk of unemployment in each trade should be carefully calculated in fixing the contribution on the basis of the facts in that industry and not on the arbitrary basis of setting a uniform compulsory rate for all industries.

It would, however, be quite undesirable to abolish with one stroke of the pen the important part which the State should play in the regulation of unemployment insurance. The American labor press, for instance, is inclined to treat this failure of unemployment insurance in England from a rather superficial point of view, regarding it as an example of general failure of the State's effort in the realm of unemployment insurance and as something adverse to the true interests of the workers, pointing to the demoralizing influence of the "dole" system upon the younger generation of British laborers. It is remarkable, however, that this same press is inclined to suggest as its own panacea for unemployment a system of public works, another form of purely State relief from the ravages of a social disease.

Such an attitude is wholly contradictory and entirely faulty. Unemployment insurance, like every other form of social insurance, no doubt can serve to ameliorate materially the sufferings from industrial illness, here, indeed, is no valid reason why workers should be unduly victimized by sharp transitions in modern industry from "seasons" to "slack" periods, induced by either private capitalist speculation or chronic disorders of the social structure. Unemployment insurance in addition may be turned into an important means for the regularization of employment, increasing thereby the number of the workers' work-weeks during the year and serving an even greater purpose than the direct relieving of the needy in time of stress.

The initial success of the recently adopted forms of unemployment insurance in the garment and clothing trades speaks very favorably of its practicability. A campaign of enlightenment, however, is apparently needed to popularize among the masses of the American workers and its leadership the importance and practicability of unemployment insurance before it would actually be accepted by some of the most important sections of the American labor movement.



—Illinois Miner

Garments Wet With Blood

By KATE RICHARDS O'HARE

II

When I entered the prison I found, that to all intents and purposes, I had been converted into a chattel slave. The process was very simple. Our Federal Government has no prison to care for its female prisoners. They are packed about and kept in various state prisons under contract. The Federal law expressly forbids the working of Federal prisoners under the "task" system, or on contract labor, but laws are for people outside prisons and not for helpless human beings inside, so I, a white woman whose ancestors helped to found this country, shape its policies and free its Negro slaves, shared with the Negro women of the old slave system the horrors of the auction block. And after I had been sold by bid to the Prison Board of the state of Missouri, my labor power was then sold to a prison labor contractor, which was a violation of the law of the state of Missouri. I cannot give the details of the evasion, or violation of the state law, but I know that it was evaded or violated, and I became a slave of the prison labor contractor.

The Federal government paid for my maintenance, the contractor secured my labor, and the profits on that labor was what thieves call "velvet." And that "velvet" hides a multitude of social ills, softens the shock of prison brutalities, and muffles the cries of prisoners for decency and justice. The profits from my days of chattel slavery were enormous in proportion to the contractors legitimate investment. The contractor paid the state of Missouri about 50c per day for my labor, the state paid me 15c per day, and I actually produced at nominal wage, about \$4.25 per day. The contractor, whose "overhead" was paid by the taxpayers, had a clear profit of about \$5.50 per day on my labor. And it is this profit, of which there is every reason to believe the elected officials get their share, that makes our penal institutions lecherous of brutality, barbarism and social crime.

I know, from actual experience, that the only difference between me and Cassie on the plantation of Simon LeGree before the Civil War, was that Cassie was sold to the highest bidder, and I was sold to the lowest. And Cassie had an advantage that I did not possess. She had a market value which naturally caused her master to give her much treatment which would not lower her selling price in the slave market. I had no market value for I could not be resold, and the politicians and prison labor contractor had no incentive but that of transforming every atom of my strength and life into profits during the months, or years they held me in servitude.

I found that just as soon as I came in contact with the prison labor system I had gone back to chattel slavery in other ways also. The black woman in slavery days was given a cotton sack and told she must do her "task" of picking a certain number of pounds of cotton each day. If she failed she was punished by a slave-driver employed for that purpose. I was given a power sewing machine in a garment factory, and I faced the same conditions.

My "task" was to make eighty-eight cover jackets, each requiring fifteen operations, and some being the expert work of stitching collar edges on a machine making thirty-five hundred stitches per minute. The amount of energy demanded to make this "task" is beyond the comprehension of any

person who has never attempted to accomplish it. The "task" had been set at the utmost limit of the stoutest and most expert operator's skill and endurance, and that meant that the majority of the women were never able to make the "task" regularly. So they were always subject to punishments administered by the contractor's overseer, who was an ignorant, degenerate striping totally untrained to handle human beings.

His theory was that if the women were driven hard enough and treated brutally enough they would "pull the task." So he drove and bullied, cursed and abused, harried and punished until the women either made the "task" or were killed by the punishments. In exacting the "task" no consideration was given to the age, physical, mental or psychological condition, previous training, industrial efficiency, or actual aptitude of the prisoner. Some were women of sixty and some were mere children of sixteen, some were cripples, some demented, some mental defectives, but all were subject to the same "task" and suffered the same punishments if they failed to produce the required amount of work.

I saw every sort of punishment that diseased minds and sick souls could invent; punishments that words can not tell and that cannot be put into print; punishments ranging all the way from perversions to actual homicide, and they were practically all administered, not for bad behavior or disorderly conduct, but for failure to make the task.

The salesgirl in the bargain basement thought I was "ruthy" when I said that the prison made house dresses were wet with human blood—but she had never been in prison, knew nothing of a prison workshop, and I have. When I see a merchant's counters filled with prison-made goods, skirts, overalls, children's play suits, women's house dresses, rent furniture, hosiery and brooms, I see that long, long line of prison mates of mine whose lives have been ground into profits for corrupt politicians and prison labor contractors.

I see poor, feeble minded Lorene beaten until her flesh was jelly because her stunted brain could not master the snarling machine. I see "Bughouse Bulah," mad as a March hare, hung up by handcuffs until the blood oozed under the "black-bob" door, and ignorant, superstitious Mattie, who was "aceed o the da's" and fought like a demon when two rungs dragged her away to the dungeon. And I never see a blue denim jacket but it brings back to me the memory of black Bernice, who when she heard the overseer threaten to send me to the "hole" because I could not make the "task," crept under the table, stole the jackets from my pile and made them for me, and then took my punishment because she thought she could stand the dungeon better than I could.

When I see prison made bargains, they mean to me, not only the horrors that go with the "task" system and the vicious exploitation of helpless prisoners, but the loathsome things that convicts send back to us in the goods that seem so "cheap." Prison made goods are made in surroundings that reek with the vilest diseases known to medical science. The woman who sat next to me in the prison-shop in Jackson City was in the last stages of the most terrible of venereal diseases. There were great open lesions on her mouth from which open pus dripped. This girl made

Mr. Bryan's peaceful yet dramatic death makes appropriate some estimate of his contribution to American life during the long years of his prominence. Undoubtedly he was the sincere and eloquent champion of the causes in which he believed. And those causes were always associated in his mind with justice and popular well being. From preaching Free Silver to crusades for Fundamentalism, from selling Florida Real Estate to praising Prohibition, from advocating Peace in general to sanctioning the unpeaceful occupation of Haiti, always he found a moral purpose to give authority to his words and deeds.

His influence at no point was the influence of the real leader or pathfinder. Rather in his strength and weakness he was the articulate spokesman of the desires, ambitions, moral standards and intellectual prejudices of a large section of less articulate Americans. He spoke what they already thought. His mistakes were theirs and his virtues. His leadership was simply the leadership of an eloquent and energetic campaigner on things already believed by the bulk of middle class Americans in small towns and country. Perhaps that was the reason for his lack of constructive achievement. The real leader has to be more than the spokesman for the crowd. He has to have a vision and a sort of courage that Mr. Bryan though not without bravery did not possess. But it remains to record again that his eloquence, his energy, and his understanding of the way men, or at any rate many men, feel and act made him in life a force to be reckoned with. How long his influence will live only the future can tell.

The Greatness of Scientific Research.

It is still to be determined just how near we are to a precise knowledge of the cause of cancer. Any beyond that lies the greater question of its specific cure. These problems the rest of us must leave to experts. But as human beings we can rejoice with great pride in the contribution Mr. Barnard has made to microscopic research and Dr. Gye to the study of cancer. They have built on the unselfish labor of other scientists and other scientists in turn will profit by their labors. The tedious, co-operative, often sacrificial labor of scientists shines as a bright light in the darkness of our destructive pre-

children's play suits and she used the garments to wipe the sores, and then tossed them into the pile of finished goods. Another woman a little farther down the long line of machines had tuberculosis and as she coughed she continually sprayed her garments with germs, another had trachoma, and another a filthy form of itch and she scratched her open sores with the garments she made. These garments went to jobbers and wholesalers, labeled with attractive and false labels, and they were distributed to retail merchants everywhere to become the "bargains" over which women scramble at widely advertised "special sales."

And you women, and men, buy them because you think they are cheap. You put them on the bodies of your innocent children, and when the "white plague" or some other terrible disease sends the little white hearse to your door, you say, "God's will be done." And you do not know that it is in God's will, but the price you pay for your bargain.

Judices and silly wars. By it the race of men climbs upward. So long as a hatter stealing all the time he can from supporting himself to give to science, finds his delight in the perfection of microscopic instruments and methods, and a railroad porter with infinite toil becomes a physician, we can afford to laugh at the label that men worship only money and material success.

The issues in the Evolution Trial. That ballyhoo at Dayton, Tenn., was a bit mortifying to some of us Americans, but in its own way it may have helped educate public opinion along two lines, the one religious and the other political.

Religion in general, and Christianity in particular, is in a bad way if the truth of what it teaches about God and man and duty depends upon the scientific accuracy of the book of Genesis.

Mr. Bryan did not oppose evolution because it is not true; he sought to prove it untrue because he was afraid of it. Hence science must keep off "holy ground." Such fear of the onset of truth is self-defeating. A religion that is afraid, or a religion that depends on ignorance, is a religion that is defeated. So much on the religious issue.

But politically there is another issue, and that is the freedom of teachers and scholars in our public institutions to seek after and to publish abroad the truth, irrespective of creeds. We must defend that right to seek truth as the noblest attribute of man. It must not be made secondary in our schools to preconceived dogmas. And that applies not merely to religious creeds but to political and patriotic dogmas which interfere with the quest of truth. On this freedom of education from narrow dogmatic control hang issues more fundamental than even the accepted American doctrine of the separation of Church and State.

At last the French are really getting on to the Ruhr. For that thanks are being given, no doubt deservedly, to the working of the Dawes plan. But we think a certain Abd-el-Krim in Morocco deserves his share. The French militarists who frightened Herriot into delaying the evacuation of the Ruhr, are so busy now in Africa that they can forget the German "menace" in the Rhine. They need all available French troops somewhere else.

Prison labor for private profit robs the free worker of his means of life; it takes the taxpayers by forcing them to pay the "overhead" of the prison labor contractors' business;

Robs the state because the contractors pay less than one-sixth of the real value of the prisoner's labor;

Robs the prisoner of the fruits of his labor, and of the training that might fit him for life after he has paid for his transgressions;

Robs the legitimate manufacturer of his trade;

Corrupts and debases and debauches the machinery of government;

Fills the market with filthy and disease laden goods;

Provides the incentive for prison brutality;

Shuts the door of the prison to scientific research;

And serves neither the prisoners, nor those outside the prisons, except for the handful of prison labor contractors and corrupt politicians who fatten on its bloodstained profits.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

A ROSTER OF "CRIMES"

We made mention already in the editorial columns of last week's "Justice" of some of the dastardly "crimes" committed by the leaders of the I. L. G. W. U. For the sake of further record they are, in brief, as follows: Our leaders amalgamated the three operators' locals of New York into one and earned thereby the undying enmity of some groups in the Union which for years have been supporting them; they consolidated the two joint boards of New York City into one and gained for themselves some additional enemies; they removed some "old-timers" who had come to believe that they had a perpetual right to their posts in the Union and won their antagonism as well; and finally they allowed some "left" politicians to become elected to responsible posts in Locals 2, 9 and 22 in the naive hope that, upon entering office, these men and women would behave like loyal union people and would not subordinate the affairs of their locals to the crazy whims of outside Communist "dictators."

These are unpardonable sins, but they do not exhaust the list. Let us proceed to give in substance some of their other crimes and transgressions.

The leaders of our Union squandered the money of the organization in continuous efforts to organize the unmorganized ladies' garment workers in places like New York and vicinity, Boston and vicinity, Baltimore and surrounding territory, Chicago and vicinity, in Canadian cities, in a bitter and prolonged strike in Camden, N. J., and similar unheard of attempts to bring the non-union workers in our trades, scattered in every part of the land, into the fold of the Union.

Moreover, they have engaged in strikes in many cities, like in the dress trade of Chicago, where they were met by a volley of injunctions and savage persecutions; in Montreal and Toronto, where the costly fight lasted long weeks, and in New York City proper—in the novelty trades, the embroidery industry, the button workers, and such other miscellaneous trades. And what about the great stoppage in the cloak trade in 1924, a stoppage which aimed at the routing out of the petty pest shops and cutting down of at least one-third of the contractors in industry? What business, indeed, was it of theirs if cloakmakers were compelled to work in "shops" with one or two machines—why insist on a minimum of fourteen machines and worry the poor employers and the workers into a stoppage of such dimensions?

Could such acts of sheer treachery be forgiven? Just think of it! To have wasted Union funds for strikes, stoppages and stirring up restlessness among perfectly contented unorganized workers? Can such leaders be tolerated a day longer within our midst?

And, to cap the climax of their iniquity, these selfsame leaders decided to raise the dues 15 cents weekly for the purpose, as they stated, of raising a big defense fund for the organization. What a scandalous suggestion, what a brazen idea this last one concerning a "fighting" treasury! That, indeed, must have been the straw which broke the camel's back, the last drop that overflowed the cup of the cloakmakers' patience!

This decision to raise the dues, of course, was reached at a regular meeting of the Joint Board. Moreover, the constitution of the Union, it should be admitted, does vest the Joint Board, upon the subsequent approval by a majority of the executives of the locals, with the power of carrying such raises into effect. But what of that? Must we always be ruled by constitutions, and by leaders who would insist upon such impossible things as abiding by rules and by laws?

And what about the story with the Governor's Commission and its report? Here is another one of their unforgettable crimes! Think of it! Here we have an army of cloakmakers, each of them straining at the leash, each smarting to get into the fight, to go out on strike and clean up every employer in sight, and yet—the entire glorious affair had to be voted down by the members and shunted over until next year! Of course, there is hardly a doubt but that all the cloakmakers were eager and ready for the fray; of course, there is no question but that every mother's son of them was consumed with the desire to sacrifice themselves for the Union. Are not, indeed, the cloakmakers the best fighters the world has ever seen? are not they, all of them without exception, forever ready to fill the picket lines from morning to night, never asking for a cent of compensation, class-conscious to the core, scrupulously faithful in carrying out every order of their Union, without a word of complaint and without a murmur of protest?

And it was such peerless "class-strugglers" that were prevented by their leaders from bursting forth into an epochal strike! Down

with such deserters, down with such traitors to the Social Revolution!

The treachery of our leaders becomes even more pronounced as we consider their attempts to cast sand in our revolutionary eyes by such rank fakes as a union label or similar concessions gained by the Union from the Governor's Commission. What do we care whether the women of the country, our wives and daughters included, will wear cloaks with or without a scrap of paper sewed upon the lining indicating that it was made in a Union shop? To broadcast this as a victory for the workers is certainly the height of brazenness! They, the leaders would have us, class-conscious workers, believe that a union label is almost a revolution, and that if the union label becomes firmly established in the cloak and suit market, a great many of our woes would be a matter of the past! What utility, what nonsense!

Again, take that unemployment insurance scheme, that avalanche of ten-dollar bills, obviously concocted by these leaders as a means for stemming the revolutionary tide in our midst! A mere blind, a form of despicable bribery that should not go unpunished. True, we are informed that the Unemployment Fund had already paid out this season about seven hundred thousand dollars to benefit-applicants. But what of this, say we? Does this make the Unemployment Fund less of a thorn in the side of a class-conscious worker? Does it in any manner extenuate the depth of our leaders' depredation?

And what about the report of the Governor's Commission? Here is another unparalleled example of trade union treachery on the part of our leaders! The Commission has been deliberating almost an entire year, and at the end of its labors it brought forth a report which, while not repudiating the Union's demands calls upon it to grant it, the Commission, another year of study for making up its mind fully and finally on this subject. Thereupon our leaders, ostensibly protesting against this decision and declaring their grave disappointment with it, instead of calling upon the workers to fight, as true class-conscious leaders would, referred the whole matter to a vote of the workers wholly on the untenable ground that they, the workers, who would be called upon to bear the brunt of the battle of a strike, should have the deciding voice in determining whether such a strike should be called or not!

Could a more disgusting piece of demagoguery be invented? Will, indeed, our class-conscious workers tolerate much longer such despotic leadership?

And topping the list of their misdeeds comes now the last one—the suspension from office, after trial, of the executive members of the three locals and the ordering of elections for new officers to fill their places.

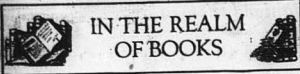
True, these executives have taken orders from rank outsiders and avowed enemies of our Union; true, they have arranged meetings and invited to them as spokesmen persons who are notoriously among the bitterest opponents our Union has ever had; true, these suspended officials have accused their Union, during and before their trial, of "brindellism", and of every other form of trade union corruption known to infamy; true, they have not ceased attacking our Union through their statements in the public press, through incendiary leaflets, at public meetings, through their "joint action committee", and by incessant calls upon the workers not to pay dues and to disobey the officers of the Union. But what of it? Were not they elected by the members of their respective locals? What if their conduct threatened the unity and the integrity of the organization, what right have the leaders of the Union to challenge the suicidal acts of these former executive members?

Such is the roster of the crimes committed by our leaders, for which they deserve to pay with their heads. They stand convicted—all of them—from the president to the last business agent! They have kept on dealing with the employers, our worst enemies, and would not listen to the advice of some of the best "class-strugglers" in our midst, and outside of it, on the most effective methods of how to conduct a trade union; they, the despots, have desecrated our sacredst conception of the class struggle; they would have us pay dues, a thing always distasteful and onerous to us; they would have discipline in the Union, and they would have us abide by the letter and spirit of a constitution.

To all of which we say: Down with your democracy, down with the Union, unless it is the kind that would take its orders from Moscow and its local noddies! We shall pay no more dues to the Union, nor take orders from it until we gain our point, even if we have to destroy the organization in the process of achieving it!

Two of these leaders have already paid the penalty for their crimes. They heard the rumble of the people's thunder and departed—But they are not alone in their depredations. The entire General Executive Board, the entire Joint Board must go! We have been misled long enough by these criminals, by these counter-revolutionists. We must have a 100 per cent revolutionary union, one that would not seek to avoid strikes but would constantly call upon us to strike, to rise, on and on—to the revolution! We must have a union that would not strive to make the lot of our workers easier but would revolutionize their heart and mind by making their condition constantly worse; we must cease to be a part of the unspeakable American Federation of Labor, but instead join the Red International in Moscow, No Greens to speak for us and define our aims, but a holy Zinoviev shall lead us to fight and victory!

Such is the union of our fondest dreams, a union full of the



And Even This Shall Pass Away

By SYLVIA KOPALD

Children of the Age. Translated from the Norwegian of Knu Hamsun by J. S. Scott. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1924

Even Scandinavia hears the dirge. In terra and barren Norway, where degred farmers wring their meagerness from the unwilling earth, and where the hardy fisherfolk comb the stormy seas, even there the swan song of an age is sounding. Surely such a forbidding land might have resisted the advent of bustling business; surely there the agricultural era might have maintained a supremacy that could not be challenged. But no, even there the lord of the manor is retreating before the capitals of industry. Pomp and paternalism and impersonality and all the hardness of an upstart era—even there.

The transition is already being mirrored in literature, and no better reflection of what is happening in life could be found. Thus Norway's most famous living author builds a novel about the same scaffolding that underlies a Galsworthy play, and a Chekhov, and a Hauptmann. While scientists mark down the exact data, art makes the record in terms of representative humanity. And from these the generations that come will know how industrialism came to the people and how mediocrity passed,

and how the simple folk wrote the transition in their pain and bewilderment, and how even some "noble" families could not understand the causes of their undoing.

In the Children of the Age there is another Cherry Orchard and another Skin Game and even perhaps, another Beaver Coat. But passed through the temperament of Knut Hamsun the story emerges a distinct variant of the parent theme from which Galsworthy's play was born and Chekhov's, too. And this is as it should be. For even this epic change that came to the world when landowners took second place in the scheme of things was woven on the web of human lives. Human life is as varied as the individuals who give it substance. Like the historic events they write, the fundamental pattern of their living is simple and constant but in the details lie all that fascinating uniqueness that make no two humans and no two lives and no two events exactly alike. Thus while an age was passing, men and women loved and laughed, and suffered and died, and always the combination was unique. Consequently Galsworthy's Skin Game

tells of the same passing of the same age in a very different fashion from that of Chekhov in his Cherry Orchard or Hamsun in his Children of the Age.

Thus does the age pass in Hamsun's novel: Willats Holmsen the third. Lieutenant Willats Holmsen, if you please, has inherited the great Segelstov manor from a line of sturdy ancestors. In the beginning the whole neighborhood was one property, a Holmsen property, and the estate swarmed with cattle and boats and serving folk and idlers. Many miles of fine forests were included in the estate, and the Holmsens had been merchants and traders, too, on their lordly manor. "Aye, they say things were grand here, then." Then, always then. But Willats Holmsen the Third was living in a now, and in it he, too, heard the lamenting chorus of the dirge that sounded on his estate. Then, then, mournfully, insistently, he refused to be a child of the age and thus poor Lieutenant Holmsen wasted his life in a futile attempt to maintain the traditions of that then in the hard and changing now. Servants, paternalism, manorial standards.

Finally Holmsengraa returns to Segelstov, that legendary peasant who had emigrated to Mexico, amazed a fortune there, and become a great business man. Holmsengraa returns, soft-spoken, covert, sure of his desires. Holmsengraa knew what he wanted, and life had taught him how to get it. Holmsengraa buys a little of the Holmsen manor, and then a little more, and more, and more. Holmsengraa buys some of the river and then a little more and more and more. Holmsengraa buys the waterfalls and the forests and under Holmsengraa's sure-fingered, easy indirectness a harbor appears at Segelstov and a town and industries. Peasants become workers, and small storekeepers appear, and Lieutenant Holmsen plays Caute. But this time it is a sad and pitiful Caute whose very intransigence before the tides has in it something of the eternal human heroism before relentless fate. Lieutenant Holmsen dies in a little outhouse on his own estate with only the kindness of a telegrapher whom Holmsengraa has brought to Segelstov to cheer his last moments. As he dies the roar of the river on his ancestral estate sounds in his ears—the hum of a town. Thus an age passes.

But what subtleties of human living lie under that passing, what never-ending blindness and self-inflicted pain. Men may not yet have learned to read the movements of men that affect their lives, but certainly they have learned how to torture themselves. There was enough pain for Willats Holmsen in the mere social changes that were transforming the web of life. There was so much to remember, the Lieutenant was eternally changing his ring from one finger to the other. One needed money for the new church and for the new church organ, and for this peasant boy's education, and for that one's marriage. And where was money to be coming from for a landowner living in a changing age? Lieutenant Holmsen was proud, and Lieutenant Holmsen was determined to continue unaided the standards of his fathers, whatever might come. Thus the Lieutenant could have worn out his life painfully enough with these things.

But no, the Lieutenant was a proud man. His wife too was a proud creature, a fine and splendid woman. These two knew how to bring pain to each other, and even when Fru Holm-

sen offered her husband what he had long wanted, the proud man could no longer take it. And thus these two flat people, harried by the hardships of a difficult age, shut off each other the solace that might have been theirs, and chose to live alone. There they sat, not too, a fine boy who inherits his mother's talents for music. Maybe a genius, who could tell? But even this loved son, Willats Holmsen could not make a source of open joy for himself. Lonely, driven Willats Holmsen, landowner, in an age when landowning is retreating before industry, and human with that irritatingly constant blindness that is human in all ages.

In Lieutenant Holmsen and his wife lies the main character interest in Hamsun's novel. There are many fascinating and women—Holmsengraa is a darkly unknown quantity for all his well-marked characteristics, and the peasants and business men and workers who move to and fro about the chief actors have the substance of puzzling reality. Hamsun tells his tale with such delicacy, with such unobtrusive artistry, moreover, that it attains all the immediacy of unfolding experience. One little trick of craftsmanship that occurs throughout the book above all else perhaps, brightens this sense of actual living. Hamsun continually puzzles about his people. Why did the Lieutenant do this, why Fru Holmsen that? Perhaps this was the reason, or who can tell, perhaps something else was. Of course, only God and novelists know all the whys and wherefores of their creations. This particular novelist's wonder over his own people remove them from the world of imagination to actual living. Even when the last page is turned, we are left with such questions as life itself always leaves: Did Fru Holmsen commit suicide in Berlin? What had been troubling her before her death? What were Holmsengraa's real motives throughout? Had love grown between Fru Holmsen and Holmsengraa? And so on.

As life leaves such questions about the human beings who fill it anew with every generation, the generations themselves pass and with them the ages and their civilizations and their standards and customs and heroes. . . . Men live and die, ages come and go, and life goes on, who knows, perhaps forever. It may be the swiftly changing age in which we live that is rendering us so sensitive to the facts of change. But even King Solomon was taught centuries that "even this shall pass away." Some day—of this at least we may be sure—artists will be recording the passing of our own business age, just as our own artists today are recording the passing of the landowners' age. And then, too, men will be loving and laughing, and suffering and dying, while the ages pass. We live always in an age that is passing, always passing, while life goes on forever.

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ABRAHAM BAROFF, Chairman

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. By E. H. Downey. New York, Macmillan Company, 1924. \$2.00.

The author of this volume is described by John R. Commons as "the highest American authority on the subject of workmen's compensation" at the time of his death in 1912. The book presents a compact discussion of the various problems involved in workmen's compensation including the social cost of industrial accidents, the scope of workmen's compensation, the scale of compensation benefits, methods of compensation insurance, prevention of industrial injuries and a general summary of the American compensation system.

I. M. C.



DOMESTIC ITEMS

Women in Industry Did Not Increase

IN a pamphlet entitled "Facts About Working Women," issued by the United States Women's Bureau, it is shown that during the period 1910-1920 there was practically no increase in the number of women employed in manufacturing and mechanical industries. The figures are taken from the United States census.

In 1910 the women thus employed totalled 1,850,576, or 22.5 per cent of the 8,675,772 over 10 years of age engaged in gainful occupations.

In 1920 the number of women employed in manufacturing and mechanical industries was 1,939,341, or 22.6 per cent of the grand total. This is but an increase of one-tenth of 1 per cent over 1910.

The largest gain in the 10-year period was in clerical occupations. In 1910 the number was 593,224, or 7.3 per cent of the total. In 1920 the number increased to 1,426,116, or 16.7 per cent.

The number engaged in domestic and personal service declined from 2,531,221, or 31.3 per cent, in 1910, to 2,184,924, or 25.6 per cent, in 1920.

Railroad Has Women's Auxiliary To Support Its Company "Union"

THE anti-union Pennsylvania railroad is awake to the value of women's support, and is encouraging a women's auxiliary to aid its company "union".

The auxiliary is in careful hands, as is the company "union". The former is officered by wives of chief executives of the company. Membership in the auxiliary consists mainly of women employees and the wives, daughters, mothers and sisters of men employees. The railroad management makes a special public announcement of the work of the auxiliary, which consists of visiting families. "Assistance was given, where needed," it is stated.

The wife of one of the railroad's vice presidents, who is an officer of the auxiliary, is quoted: "This is 'our railroad' as much as it is the railroad of our husbands. We are all interested in it."

The auxiliary has a membership of 184,766. This is a gain during the year of 67,743 members, or 58 per cent.

Trend From Farm to City Continues

THAT the industrial worker should be interested in a solution of the farm question is again emphasized by government reports.

In a survey by the department of agriculture, it is shown that agricultural workers, farm tenants and farm owners are flocking to cities by the thousands. This influx increases the competition for jobs in industry and makes the farm question of first importance to city workers.

The survey reveals that on January 1, 1925, there were about 100,000 fewer hired laborers on farms than on January 1, 1924. These figures do not include migratory workers, but apply only to hired laborers who live on farms at least 30 days. Other figures show that thousands of farm tenants and farm owners and their families have left the farms.

"Anthracite Coal Smeared with Blood"

"ANTHRACITE coal is smeared with blood," declared John I. Lewis, in a wage conference with representatives of the anthracite mine owners in Atlantic City, N. J.

In fancy the trade unionist paraded before the conference the 44,000 mine workers who have been injured since the 1923 wage conference, the widows and orphans of the 1,000 killed and the dependents of those injured.

"If it were possible to actually hold this parade," said President Lewis, "it would stagger humanity. The people would realize the cost of life and limb for producing anthracite."

"The industry that demands such sacrifices should pay for it. Against the dollar we measure the lives and limbs of our members."

P. O. Heads Censured; Waste People's Money

WHILE the post office department deplores wage increases that have, these officials declare, resulted in a postal deficit, Controller General McCarl has issued a sharp reprimand to the department for its wasteful methods in purchasing motor trucks.

The department advertised for bids for 846 trucks and then awarded the contract to the highest bidder. The controller ruled that the department violated the law, which provides that the contract shall be let to the lowest bidder. He refused to accept the plea that the department desired a certain make. He said that this evades the requirements of the law and that advertising for bids is a useless ceremony.

The controller general ruled that instead of the bid price of \$2,434.75, the company will get only \$2,553.46 for its trucks, the latter sum averaging the "average bid price".

The organized postal workers are comparing the liberality of post office officials in this case with their opposition to a living wage.

Communists "Fishing" for Negro Support

MASKING under the title "committee for organizing American Negro labor congress", the communists have called a meeting of the congress in Chicago, October 25 next.

Trade unions affiliated to the A. F. of L. are being circulated for names of Negro workers, but no intimation of the communists' connection with this movement is given. The committee issues a paper from 19 South Lincoln street, Chicago, the headquarters of the labor defense council and other activities under which the communists operate.

The committee has issued the usual call for funds, and every offer is made to associate the latest "boring from within" with bona fide unionism.

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

Commonwealth Labor Conference

THE British Commonwealth Labor Conference will take place at the British Empire Parliamentary Association Rooms, House of Commons, Westminster, on Monday, July 27, and the five following days.

Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M. P., will preside on the opening session, the chairman on the remaining days being Mr. C. T. Cramp, Mr. A. B. Swales, Mr. A. A. Purcell, and two overseas representatives.

Delegates are expected to attend from Australia, Canada, Ireland, India, Newfoundland, Palestine, and South Africa, while fraternal delegates from the I. P. T. U. and the I. S. I. will also be present.

The agenda will include the following topics: Inter-Dominion Emigration, the Geneva Protocol, International Labor Legislation, Inter-Dominion Trade Relations, Indian Labor in British Colonies, Industrial Legislation, and British Protection in the Mandated Territories.

SWEDEN

Workers' Wages in Sweden in the Year 1924

IN the June issue of the "Sociala Meddelanden", the Department on Social Affairs publishes the results of its inquiry into wages for the year 1924. The inquiry covered about 3,000 different concerns scattered over the country, which employed a total of 236,000 workers.

The average wage per worker per year in 1924 was 2,300 Kroner, which shows an advance of 111 per cent on the figure for 1923. The average income of male workers (2,550 Kroner) was above the total average, but those of the female workers (1,520 Kroner) and of young persons (590) was considerably under it. In 1924, as in the previous years, there was a tendency to equalize male and female workers' wages. From 1912 to 1924, for instance, the wages of female workers went up by 136 per cent as compared with an advance of only 108 per cent for male workers. Since 1923 the general average has gone up by 4 per cent. Since 1920 (in which year wages reached their highest point) there has been a decrease of 29 per cent, the greatest drop being in 1922; there was a decrease in 1923, but it was only a very low percentage.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

The Plight of the Coal Miners

IN Czecho-Slovakia last year the coal-magnates realized gigantic profits. Some examples of clear profit: The Bruker Coal Mining Co., 5.9 million Kroner; the North Bohemian Coal Mining Co., 4.5 million Kroner; Ferdinand North Track, 5.5 millions; the West Bohemian Mining Corporation, 6.4 millions, etc., etc. The profits were everywhere higher than in the previous years; the owners have not up to the present made the slightest sacrifice. On the other hand, the Prague "Social Democrat" writes on the miners' situation: "In certain districts the miners' families are badly undernourished, with the result that there has been a rapid increase in illness, particularly among women and children; in the children especially a frightful physical degeneration is already to be observed. In all districts the miners are in a very wretched plight; it is no longer unusual for miners on short time work—quite young men—to go begging during their free-time, in order to keep body and soul together."

A skilled miner earns, after sickness, old age and accident insurance has been paid, at best, 120 to 150 Kroner per week; there are others who earn a mere 30, even 20 or 40 Kroner per week. Whereas the weekly level of subsistence of a family of 4 is reckoned at 320 Kroner.

AUSTRIA

Facing Both Ways

THE 5th Congress of the "Christian" (Catholic) Trade Unions held in Vienna on June 11-15 passed a resolution with regard to social insurance, in which the Congress regrets that "a legal position has been created which seriously endangers the uniformity of the landworkers' insurance," and it demands that a constitutional way be found to amend the legislation so as to restore the landworkers' social insurance.

Parliament shows itself here in all its nakedness; of this resolution has naturally been submitted to the Congress by the Executive of the Christian Trade Union Federation. And it was Mr. Spalowsky, the President of the Federation, who, in conjunction with his fellow Christian-Social deputies in Parliament, prevented the adoption of article 10 of the Constitution, which would have made the social insurance legislation applicable to both the land and forest workers.

PALESTINE

Address of the Trade Union Centre in Palestine

THE address of the General Federation of Jewish Labor in Erez Israel (Palestine), which was formerly P. O. B. 411, Jerusalem, is now General Federation of Jewish Labor in Erez-Israel, Tel Aviv, Palestine.

MEXICO

Railway Unions Unite

ACCORDING to the announcements of the Mexican papers, the guards, engine-drivers, stokers and pointmen organized in the "Union de Conductores, Maquinistas, Pargoseros y Garroteros" have amalgamated with the Confederación de Sociedades Ferrocarrileras (Federation of Railway Unions). The latter organization has a membership of 42,000 and has already made repeated efforts to induce the union to affiliate.

It is expected that the new organization will be able to act as an effective united union of railwaymen.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Labor Chautauques and Mass Education

By DAVID J. SAPOSS

The second Labor Chautauqua held under the auspices of the Educational Department of District No. 2 of the United Mine Workers is another milestone in the pioneer efforts of making workers' education available to the sparsely settled and isolated industrial sections of the country. Just as the itinerant tutor makes intensive education available to these regions so the Labor Chautauqua provides mass education for them. Many unique practices were introduced at this Labor Chautauqua, the second held in this country, that should be recorded as an aid to others contemplating the promotion of this form of workers' education.

Hastings, Pennsylvania, where this Labor Chautauqua was conducted, is one of the usual Pennsylvania mining towns of about two thousand population. It boasts of a movie theatre, a town hall, a public and a parochial school, several churches, a hotel, a weekly paper and a thriving and wide awake miners' local union. It is isolated in the mountains on a spur forty miles or so from the C.R. station of the Pennsylvania R.R. main line. While the town is avowedly pro union, and the local is active, there are few if any agencies through which the spirit of unionism can be maintained at high pitch. It is the lack of such facilities that account for the lethargic condition of so many local unions in not only the hamlets and small towns but also in the largest cities. Hence the itinerant tutor and the Labor Chautauqua as one means of keeping the altars of unionism lighted.

Of immediate practical value to workers' education and the labor movement is the method of procedure in organizing and conducting the Labor Chautauqua and in the type of program carried through. Paul W. Fuller, the Educational Director of District No. 2 has introduced a rather novel plan for launching this project and executing the work. As itinerant tutor he has founded numerous classes in the different mining towns. It occurred to him that these classes of active spirits and more alert members of the unions should be used as the nucleus around which the promotion and fulfillment of the plans for the Labor Chautauqua could be furthered. Thus the class divided into various committees with specific responsibilities. In this manner the overburdened Educational Director was saved considerable arduous labor and the necessity of neglecting his classes in other mining towns. It is the utilization of such volunteer services that the expense of conducting these Chautauqua will be considerably lessened and made possible in the tiniest union regions. These students, who are being tutored at the expense of the union, were drafted into service in the cause of unionism and workers' education in a specific and tangible undertaking. And the effectiveness of their work was definitely evident to those who had the privilege of being present and participating in the program.

Not only did the students make the usual and purely mechanical routine arrangements of providing a hall and advertising the Chautauqua, but they undertook the responsibility of securing up local talent for the entertainment features. And this to me is the most significant phase of the Hastings

Labor Chautauqua. Unless Chautauques can be conducted on a large scale with an extensive circuit it will be necessary to rely upon local talent for at least the entertainment phases, otherwise the cost would be prohibitive. This was solved by enlisting the assistance of several local persons from among the union members and sympathizers, who in addition to performing themselves also devoted several months to training others who participated in the program. Some of the significant features must be mentioned. The orchestra consisted exclusively of the local miners' union, who enjoy a reputation unlike these days for a local amateur orchestra in that no price will tempt them to play jazz. Consequently their capacity for playing classical music has not been impaired. And the response of the audience would seem to indicate that most people are still appreciative of well rendered orchestral classical selections.

Another distinguishing feature was the classic dancing of a group of young girls ranging from eight to twelve years, many of whom belong to union miners' families. Their dancing was faultless and indeed artistic. Not content with this and as indicative of the daring spirit of the union and the community a child of three was trained for a solo dance entitled "Cupid." Her performance was a tribute to the skill and patience of the young lady who was in charge of drilling this and the other youngsters for the dances.

To one who has no technical knowledge of such artistic matters but who by constant attendance at performances has developed an "eye" and an "ear" for the appreciation of the artistic, the program presented by the local talent at Hastings during the five days of the Chautauqua was exceedingly pleasing and surprising. It but confirms the saying that "Every Cemetery has a number of Shakespeare buried in it for want of opportunity to develop their talent." This is true of our smaller communities. Each of them has sufficient local talent that needs but the opportunity to manifest itself. And to those in workers' education who believe in developing recreational and entertainment activities as a part of mass education this should prove an encouraging sign. In addition to making it possible to conduct such stationary Chautauqua at little expense it also provides a means of wholesome self-expression for large numbers of persons.

The program also consisted of movies and of speakers, both of which were brought in from the outside and were of national repute. While the miners at Hastings could always witness the same quality of moving pictures in their local theatre it is doubtful whether they would otherwise have the opportunity of listening to such prominent and capable speakers as James H. Maurer and Norman Thomas. Nor would they usually have access to the messages of cheer and courage or the valuable information which the speakers imparted to them.

The Labor Chautauqua was well attended, averaging between 350 and 400 nightly. Likewise it put new life into the local union and stirred its members to greater activity and interest in the labor movement. There is

Attitude of Literature Toward War

By ROBERT M. LOVETT

An Outline of Two Lectures to Be Given at the Workers Unity House, Forest Park, August 12 and 13.

In nineteenth century thought there are two schools, one representing the intellect, the other, the instincts. The former school is in general opposed to war on rational grounds. Their chief exponent is John Stuart Mill. Particularly the Manchester school of political economists believed that in free trade they had a basis of internationalism and a solution for international disputes. On the other hand, the writers who represent the instinctive, or mystical point of view were almost unanimously in favor of war. I refer to Carlyle, Ruskin, Tennyson, Charles Kingsley, etc. These deep religious writers regularly take the view that war is a divine institution calculated for the upbuilding of individual character and the strengthening of national virtue.

During the nineteenth century the influence of literature, poetry and prose was steadily in favor of war.

The change in attitude appears in the last decade of the century with the criticism of Bernard Shaw and the Fabians. The decisive change is seen in consciousness of the great world war. In the first place, realism as a literary method has supplanted the romantic attitude of the nineteenth century writers; and realism found more terrible material in the horrors of the world war than in any previous conflict. The difference between Tennyson's romantic war poetry and the realistic pictures of life in the trenches by Siegfried Sasson, Robert Nichols and others is striking. Moreover, the great war was not fought entirely at the front. It involved the whole body of the nations engaged. Accordingly, novels of the great war instead of celebrating the exploits of some romantic hero at the front, tend to deal with the effect of war on the people behind the lines. Striking examples of this are found in Mr. W. L. George's *Blind Alley*, Robert Herrick's *Waste* and Bernard Shaw's *Ninth of November*. Altogether, we can count on literature in the future as an ally in the war against war.

"Wage Negotiations and Practices"

By MATTHEW WOLL

We received a sixty page pamphlet prepared by Matthew Woll, Vice-President of the A. F. of L., and published by the American Federation of Labor. This is the result of the action taken at the Denver Convention of the A. F. of L. held in 1921.

In his foreword President Green says: "The reconstruction period following the World War, with its abrupt reversal of industrial currents, put many prevailing practices to such crucial tests that inadequacies and imperfections became compellingly apparent. Such an experience overtook some of the wage theories that had served a purpose during the upward swing of the business cycle."

The Denver (1921) convention of the American Federation of Labor called attention to the inadequacy of the prevailing wage agreements and directed the appointment of a committee to study existing wage theory for the purpose of making recommendations for the assistance of wage earners conducting wage negotiations. That committee was appointed but without appropriation, and hence, was unable to do more than report the general problems of the field.

However, considerable data of value was collected and the late president of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers, requested Matthew Woll to continue the study of the data and the preparation of such reports

as could be completed. Under these instructions Mr. Woll prepared the memorandum on wage agreements, which is herewith submitted.

According to the author: "The purpose of this summary is to make available data on the more important machinery for collective bargaining as practiced by the national and international organizations affiliated to the A. F. of L. The facts as furnished by responsible officers have been tabulated so as to make comparative examinations possible."

The first analysis of information is to show whether wage rates are negotiated for the whole industry, or follow regional divisions of the industry or apply only to localities or separate firms. It will be observed that in cases in which the application of the wage agreement follows the lines of the industry — either the whole reorganized industry or big national divisions — the agreements are negotiated by representatives of or chosen by the national and international organizations. This procedure calls more and more for centralized collection of wage data and some degree of uniformity necessarily results.

The second grouping of data indicates method of payment — principally time and results. Results are usually estimated by the piece or some unit of production. Agreements frequently do not stipulate exclusively either method but designate a method adapted to each specific division of work. Consciously or unconsciously there is frequent merging of the two ideas with more or less definite acceptance; hourly rates are not without production basis and the time necessary to finish a unit of work is an element in setting piece rates.

This pamphlet reviews the method of wage negotiations or agreements (Continued on page 11)

—Brookwood Review

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Reviewing the activities of the office for the past week and making an accounting of the accomplishments, one paying a visit to the office would have difficulty in believing that such a situation exists in the Union as created by the Communists in their attempt to disrupt the I. L. G. W. U.

Work of Union Goes On

In spite of the fact that a good deal of the organization's energy is given over to combatting the disruptionists, the routine work of the office and the matters affecting the cutters with regard to the shops goes on.

Discharge cases are successfully handled every day. Up to the present every such case coming to the attention of the office has been adjusted to the complete satisfaction of the Union and the member concerned. This was done either through reinstatement or the acceptance of compensation. In one shop a certain cutter was twice reinstated. The employer made every attempt to cause the man's loss of his job. In another shop, a cutter secured \$200 as compensation in lieu of his job.

In a large dress shop ten cutters received an increase of \$5 over their previous wage without a stoppage by the men, after negotiations lasting about a week's time between the office and the firm. The negotiations were conducted by the writer.

Cloak and Dress Seasons About To Begin

Some ten cutters in another dress shop received a guarantee of a certain number of weeks' work with hardly any loss of time worth mentioning during the course of the negotiations. These negotiations were carried on by Manager Dubinsky in his office. The employer representative, a representative firm in the dress trade, appeared in person in the manager's office.

The Joint Board, too, in spite of the hampering by the Communists goes on with its work and was successful recently in winning a case before the impartial chairman against a firm charged with underpayment of wages to the workers. This firm up to the time that the case was taken up was an independent firm. Application for membership in the Protective Association was held up by the Joint Board on the ground of this violation. In the words of the chairman, "the decision is that the firm shall pay to the Union the sum of Five Hundred Dollars".

While the season in the cloak and dress industries is not yet fully in swing, nevertheless a fairly good start is already seen. If conditions continue in the trade as they have progressed up to the present time there is reason to hope for a good season. Already a good many cutters have been called back to their shops while others have secured employment.

Members Fill Office After Work

Daily, after five o'clock, the office is filled to capacity with members appearing for shop meetings, payment of dues, or the securing or exchanging of working cards.

At the shop meetings the usual matters affecting the beginning of seasons are taken up and discussed. An examination of the books of the members shows a small number of men not in good standing. This is largely due to the fact that as soon as men in arrears secure employment they

report to the office and place themselves in proper standing. For this reason during the past two weeks the lines at the windows of the Finance Department have been quite long.

Temporary Re-Arrangement in Joint Board

Members will recall reading in the columns of "Justice" of the taking over by International President Morris Sigman of the management of the Joint Board. This followed, by a decision of the Joint Board, after the resignations of Brother Israel Feinberg as General Manager and Brother Meyer Perlstein as Manager of the Protective Division were accepted, a report of which was printed in full in last week's issue of this paper.

This, of course, necessitated a re-arrangement of the organization at least for the present. There was no time for election or appointment of some one in the places vacated. In view of the situation created by the suspended communist officers the Joint Board voted at once that President Morris Sigman assume temporary charge and gave him power to appoint, temporarily, officers to fill whatever vacancies there were.

Seeks Temporary Release of Manager

President Sigman very plainly stated that his purpose in assuming temporary charge was solely directed towards combatting the political tendency of the communists and their tactics of disruption. Following adjournment and immediately upon presentation of the opportunity President Sigman appeared before various executive boards and requested temporary release of the several managers.

The International president appeared before the Executive Board of Local 10 at its meeting on Thursday, July 30th, and took this matter up. He spoke at some length on the situation and said that as a step towards combatting the communists he had made certain arrangements. He also suggested that as one of the suitable officers and vice-presidents of the International he desired the release of Manager Dubinsky for the purpose of working together with him in the office of the general manager.

He said that he had made the same request of the Presiders' Local 35 and had also appointed temporarily other vice-presidents in some of the departments of the Joint Board.

Before the Executive Board decided this matter, Manager Dubinsky stated that he saw the necessity for the putting into effect of the president's plan as the welfare of the Union demanded it. However, he said that it would be impossible for him to devote all of his time to the Joint Board.

Dubinsky stated, therefore, that he would accept, if it met with the approval of the Executive Board, on condition that he be free to attend to his duties in the office of the local from four o'clock until seven o'clock each day. And if, the manager pointed out, this would be acceptable to the president and the Executive Board, his other duties would be taken care of by his constant contact with the office from the Joint Board.

This condition having met with the approval of Brother Sigman, the Executive Board recommended Manager Dubinsky's temporary release under the conditions as outlined by him. This question quite naturally will be reported in the Executive Board min-

utes to the next meeting of the membership.

So far the manager's duties have changed very little. He was found in his office every day after four o'clock and attended to the usual cases. During the day those of the cases which required his personal attention were also taken up by him in person with the men concerned.

Hold Chairman Meeting of Cutters

About the time the members will read these columns those of them who are chairmen of the cutters of their shops will be present at a meeting, which will be held on Saturday afternoon, August eighth. This meeting was decided upon at the session of the Executive Board on July 30th.

The purpose of it is to have a talk with the chairmen, who are the Union's active members, on the present situation in the Union and how they are to be guided. Due to the fact that this article had to be in the hands of the printer two days before the holding of the meeting, it is not possible to say just how many chairmen were present and what transpired at the meeting. However, there is little doubt but that the two hundred seating capacity of the Joint Board room on the fifth floor of the building in which Local 10 is located will be well filled.

Joint Executive Boards Meet

Last Monday, August 3rd, a meeting of all the executive boards whose delegates represent them in the Joint Board took place in response to the call by the International. The meeting took place in the auditorium of the International building.

The present situation was gone into by President Sigman who, during the course of his talk, revealed a number of elements which existed in the present situation but which were unknown to the great mass of members and the Executive Boards of their locals.

President Sigman cited a number of instances which he substantiated by documentary evidence to the effect that the present situation was entirely created by the Communists for the purpose of compelling the members to adhere to Communist beliefs and that nearly every order and almost every step taken was decided upon by Communists in their headquarters.

That something of this situation was known to most of the executive board members was expressed by them during the course of the discussion following the president's report. Manager Breslaw of the Presiders' Local 35, in discussing the question, replied to some of the statements made and stated that he never knew that the suspended officers of Locals 2, 9, and 22, who constantly boasted of their progressivism, had ever proposed anything which was of a progressive nature.

Manager Breslaw replied to some of the lying statements disseminated by the Communists in their leaflets to the effect that members of Local 35 were not loyal to the International in this fight. He said that on more than one occasion the great majority of the membership of Local 35 as well as the entire executive board,

had affirmed and re-affirmed their loyalty to the International, and a resolution was introduced at this meeting of the executive boards, in which Local 35 branded statements to the contrary as lies and again pledged loyalty to the International.

Warned Against Commission of Violation

Two interesting cases were before the Executive Board recently regarding cutters who were called on charges of helping the enemies of the Union. These men denied having actually aided the enemy, but merely expressed opinions which were somewhat sympathetic.

The Executive Board, at the conclusion of the testimony rendered by these men felt that since these men could not be proven guilty of having actually helped the destructive elements but merely expressed certain opinions, no punishment be meted out. The Executive Board believed that everyone has a right to his opinion and may sympathize with whomsoever he chooses, so long as he does not commit any act contrary to the decisions of the Union.

Another interesting case occurred in the shop of Lorraine Brothers. The workers of this shop had refused to attend a shop meeting and the cutter was ordered stopped. Information reached the office that a cutter was sent by Local 22. Upon securing this information which was a little before five on the day when it happened, Manager Dubinsky went to the shop himself and found the cutter at work. The cutter's book was taken from him and his case is being taken up by the Executive Board.

The charge against him is that of helping a scab agency in its destructive work against the Union.

In connection with this, information also reached the office that a few members of Local 10 are doing their utmost to discredit some officers of the Union and are assisting the enemy by picketing. The members will recall the making public in these columns last week of the decision by the members regarding this sort of activity.

These columns are therefore used as a means of warning and instructing those of the members who may sympathize with the Union's enemy that while it is no crime to sympathize, it nevertheless does become a crime against the laws and principles of the Union whose assistance is rendered the enemy in any way or form to further its destructive work.

The members have built the organization at the cost of many struggles and considerable sacrifices and they will not tolerate for a moment enemies within the ranks of the Union. If there are any they will have to go where they belong. Local 10 is known for its loyalty to the International and for its support to the International during any crisis. And certainly at this time the membership, as loyal members of the International, will give its fullest support to the officers and authorized bodies in the present situation, who are fighting to establish a union for the business of the union and not for politics or communism.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

REGULAR MEETINGMonday, August 10
MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGMonday, August 17

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

All Cutters are required to secure new working cards beginning with July and to return the old ones.