

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

—Job 27:6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VII. No. 38.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1925.

PRICE 3 CENTS

G. E. B. Decides to Call Next International Convention on November 30th, in Phila. Pa.

Referendum Ballots Forwarded to Locals—Returns of General Vote Must Be in by Sept. 30th—Philadelphia Designated as Convention City.

Following an all-day meeting on Friday, September 11th, the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. decided to forward to the membership a proposal to advance the date of the next regular convention of the International Union, the eighteenth in number, from the first week in May, 1926 to November 30, 1925, eleven weeks from date. The locals of the I. L. G. W. U. are requested to vote upon this call at once, so as to give the General Office time to prepare the convention for the date set by the G. E. B.

The General Executive Board decided on this early convention in order to give an opportunity to those who are clamoring for a number of changes and reforms in the organization system of our Union, which require a change in the constitution, to obtain such changes and reforms, in the very near future if they can obtain a majority of convention delegates for any of these plans. All such changes and reforms, tending in the direction of greater democracy

in our Union as do not require constitutional changes, are fully contained in the program which the General Executive Board is at present seeking to carry out in the locals affiliated with the New York Joint Board.

The convention call, which is signed on behalf of the G. E. B. by President Sigman and Secretary Baroff, reads as follows:

CONVENTION CALL

To all Affiliated Organizations of the I. L. G. W. U.

Greeting:

On behalf of the General Executive Board of our International Union, we herewith submit to you, in conformity with the constitution of the I. L. G. W. U., a proposal to hold the eighteenth regular convention of our Union beginning Monday, November 30, 1925, instead of the first week in May, 1926, in the city of Philadelphia, Pa.

A number of extremely weighty considerations have prompted the Gen-

eral Executive Board of our Union to favor the holding of a convention five months prior to its regular time. Our Union is passing through the severest crisis of its existence. The campaign of demoralization launched by its enemies from the outside many months ago, aggravated by unprecedented unemployment and its resulting misery, is beginning to affect the morale of our organization and threatens to bring down to the ground the powerful trade union which, through two generations of toil and sacrifice, we have succeeded in building up in our industry.

In the face of such an emergency, and eagerly mindful of the fact that

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Vice-Presidents Perlstein and Breslaw Resign

At the meeting of the General Executive Board held last Friday, September 11, in the Council Room of the I. L. G. W. U. building, two resignations of the members of the Board were received and acted upon. Meyer Perlstein asked to be relieved from his duties as member of the G. E. B. and this request was granted. Joseph Breslaw, manager of the Pressors' Union of New York, Local 35, also sent in his resignation, but his withdrawal was not accepted by the Board.

Meyer Perlstein has been a member of the General Executive Board since 1918 when he was elected by the Philadelphia convention. Breslaw joined the G. E. B. in 1920 having been chosen by the Chicago convention.

Italian Dressmakers Discuss Plans For Harmony in Union

Hold Two Big Meetings

The Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local 39, held, during last week, two big meetings, called by the administration of the local to discuss the turbulent state of affairs in the I. L. G. W. U. organization in New York and to learn the sentiment of its members concerning the issues involved in this fight. One of these meetings was held on Wednesday, September 9th, at the People's House, 7 East 15th street, and the second took place on Thursday, September 10th, at Bryant Hall, 6th avenue and 42nd street.

The meetings were very successful, both halls being crowded and

both meetings being conducted in a dignified manner. It is true that a very small number of emissaries from Communist headquarters attempted to sabotage and disturb the meetings, but the majority of the members gave little heed to these provoking attempts.

At both meetings the general secretary of the local, Luigi Antonini, gave detailed information regarding the causes and the facts of the present controversy and explained the plan of peace and of organization reforms planned by the G. E. B. in the Joint Board and in the executive

(Continued on page 3)

Joint Board Refers Dues Question to Referendum

Board of Directors Empowered to Fix Date of Vote.

The meeting of the New York Joint Board last Friday, September 11th, marked another step in the direction of material internal changes in the ladies' garment workers' organization.

The major point of interest at the meeting, which called forth a heated exchange of opinion, centered around two communications, both touching on the same subject matter, one received from General Secretary Baroff and the other from the new executive board of the Cloak Tailors' Union, Local 9. Both letters were taken up for a discussion simultaneously.

Secretary Baroff's letter informed the Joint Board that at a recent meeting of the G. E. B. a committee of the executive board of Local 9 appeared and requested a reconsideration of the dues question. The committee, however, did not assert that the Joint Board had acted in this matter against the provisions of the Union's written constitution. The G. E. B. endorsed this request and recommended that the Joint Board refer this matter to a general vote by all the members of the locals affiliated with the Joint Board.

After a lengthy discussion, in which President Sigman participated, it was

decided by a big majority to concur in the recommendation of the G. E. B. The Board of Directors of the Joint Board was instructed to fix a date for the referendum and to proceed to carry it out without delay.

Second Shop-Chairmen's Meeting An Historic Event

Shop Representatives Discuss for Five Hours G. E. B.'s Program for Internal Reform—Peace and Unity Slogan of Every Spaker—Modifications Suggested—President Sigman Receives Ovation—Committee of Five Chairmen Elected to Promote Harmony in Union.

The second meeting of the shop chairmen in the cloak and dress industry of New York, held on Thursday, September 11th, at Cooper Union was, by general consent, a re-

markable event from every point of view. From the moment the doors of the big hall were swung open to receive the two thousand chairmen which crowded it to capacity, to the

last minute when the chairman's gavel announced the closing of the meeting at 11 o'clock, the big audience, keyed up at times to a pitch of excitement, gave the proceedings of the meeting its undivided and whole-hearted attention.

The meeting was called for the purpose of giving the shop chairmen an opportunity to voice their opinion on the program of organizational reforms proposed by President Sigman and the G. E. B. and later endorsed by the Joint Board, at the first meeting of the shop chairmen some two weeks ago. Over thirty speakers who gave their names to Vice-President Dubinsky, the chairman of both meetings, took part in the discussion which lasted more than five hours.

Peace the Slogan of the Evening

Despite the oppressive heat in the crowded hall, very few of the shop chairmen left their places during the long hours given over to the discussion of the burning problems facing the organization of the cloak and dress makers of New York at the present hour. The opinions of the

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Cloak Sub-Manufacturers Rescind Stoppage Order

American Association Votes to Accept Recommendations of Mediators—Jobbers to Live Up to Direct Payment of Unemployment Insurance Clause and "Net Yardage" Provision—Tie-Up of Production Averted.

The order issued last week by the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the body of sub-manufacturers in the New York cloak district, to its members to stop production this week on orders from members of the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association, was rescinded on Monday night, September 14, by a vote of the membership of this Association which accepted the latest recommendations of the Special Med-

iation Commission. The prospect of a stoppage of production in the industry has thus been definitely eliminated.

The sub-manufacturers gain by this decision the adherence of the jobbers to the original decision of the Commission that they, the jobbers, forward directly to the Unemployment Insurance Fund the payments to be made by the employers in the industry

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Opening of educational activities of the I. L. G. W. U. will be celebrated by concert and dance on Saturday evening, November 14, in the auditorium of Washington Irving High School. Prominent artists will participate.

With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH,
Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Locals 2, 3, 9, 10, 21, 22, 23, 25, 45, 48, 54, 82 and 89 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th St. Chairman—Brother Ansel.

The minutes of the Joint Board of August 29th are adopted as read with the following corrections:

- 1—The omission of the delegates of Local No. 22, who voted in the affirmative on the General Executive Board's proposition for peace, and
- 2—The omission of the recommendation as submitted by Brother Bonenstein in behalf of Local No. 35 regarding the proposition for peace.

The report of the Board of Directors of August 29th is adopted as read.

Communications:

Local No. 3 advises the Board that they have approved minutes of the Joint Board of August 7, 14, 21 and 28 and the report of the Board of Directors of August 12 and 26th.

Local No. 22 notifies the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of August 23th and the report of the Board of Directors of August 26th.

Local No. 23 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of August 23th.

Local No. 89 notifies the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of August 23th and the report of the Board of Directors of August 26th.

Secretary-Treasurer Fish reads the following letter which he received from the General Executive Board:

"At the last meeting of the General Executive Board which had its session in the City of New York, a Committee of the Executive Board of Local No. 9 appeared and asked the Board to reconsider its last decision on the question of the increased dues in the Joint Board Cloak and Dress Union."

"I have been instructed to inform you that the General Executive Board deems it advisable that the Joint Board give a hearing to the Committee of Local No. 9 and further recommends to the Joint Board that, in

view of the existing conditions in our Union it considers it practical that the Joint Board reconsiders its former decision and refers the question of increasing the dues from 25 to 50 cents for a referendum vote to the members. The Board believes that by such an act you will achieve the great desire of bringing back to the Union the membership.

"We again urge on the representatives of the Joint Board to meet this very important question fairly and squarely and show to the membership that for the sake of the good of the Union, you are ready to let go your constitutional authority.

"For the General Executive Board,
"With Fraternal Greetings,
"General Secretary Treasurer."

The recommendation is accepted by 33 votes against—

General Manager's Report:

President Sigman reports that, in accordance with instructions of the Board of Directors, he immediately took steps to avoid, if possible, the contemplated stoppage of the American Association. So far they have tried every means in their command to influence the American Association to refrain from the stoppage, but it seems that also the American Association has a "left" movement in its ranks. President Sigman states that they had made an error by not taking this up with the Commission first instead of immediately organizing the machinery for this contemplated stoppage. This condition immediately was brought to the attention of the Commission, which called an informal conference of all the parties concerned. The jobs at first refused to come, but after quite a bit of persuasion on the part of Brother Sigman and Wander, they finally showed up.

The Commission instructed the American Association to rescind its strike order and that as far as their grievances are concerned, certain measures will be adopted whereby they will be relieved. No definite statement, concerning this, can however be made at present. Brother Sigman, however hopes that the efforts on the part of the Union will be successful in avoiding the stoppage in the industry.

DRESSMAKERS, MEMBERS OF LOCAL 22

The Office of the Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, is located, for the time being, in the Joint Board Building, 25th street and Lexington avenue, on the ground floor.

All union matters and complaints affecting dress and waist trade are being attended there. It is the only office where dressmakers may pay their dues, and where applications for membership will be received.

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BALLOT WITH INSTRUCTIONS FORWARDED TO ALL
LOCALS OF THE I. L. G. W. U. ON MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1925.

Referendum Ballot 18th Convention

I. L. G. W. U.

Local _____

City _____

On the Proposal of General Executive Board to
Change date of convention
From May, 1926, to Nov. 30th, 1925.

In favor of Change

Against



Chairman _____

Secretary _____

Date of Meeting _____

P. S. In case a local votes unanimously in favor of a change or against it, the number of votes cast must be recorded in this ballot just the same.

This ballot must be returned to the General Office not later than Saturday, September 26th, 1925.

Italian Dressmakers Discuss Plans For Harmony and Order in Union

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boards of the affiliated locals, including that of Local 89.

At the Rand School meeting, presided by the officer of that district, John Cablat, Brother S. Amico and Sisters M. Leonardi and R. Rao took part in the discussion, favoring and approving the plan of peace formulated by the President of the International, Morris Sigman. Brother Arturo Govanitti also delivered at this meeting one of his brief and enthusiastic speeches.

Sister Rao proposed the following resolution:

"The members of Local 89, assembled in a mass meeting at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street, on Wednesday, September 9th, 1925, after having examined the plan of peace and of reorganization of our Union formulated by Brother Sigman and approved by the General Executive Board, by the Joint Board and by the Executive Boards, approve same and at the same time ask the Executive Board and the officers of Local 89 to devise all other possible means and ways so as to obtain as soon as possible and for the supreme interests of the Union, an honorable peace."

Brothers Innantsoo, F. Siracusa, and C. Siracusa proposed instead the reinstatement of the three suspended Executive Boards and also the proper:

tional representation in the Joint Board.

Upon a vote, the resolution of Sister Rao was approved by a large majority.

At the meeting held on the following evening at Bryant Hall which was presided by Brother G. Di Nola, one of the officers of that district, the two Siracusas tried again to put over their motion which was defeated the preceding night, but it met with the same results, as most of the members present, approving largely the arguments advanced by the general secretary and by the chairman, voted almost unanimously for the resolution adopted the preceding night which was presented by Sister Maria Marino.

The two meetings proved in a tangible way the state of mind of the members of the Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local 89, and the interest taken by them in important Union problems.

WORKERS, HELP US WIN OUR STRIKE

Star Pleating Company
151 West 26th Street

All workers of cloak and dress shops and all other workers in the needle industry are requested to demand that all striking, hemstitching, pleating and novelty works is made in union shops only.

STRIKE COMMITTEE.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

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MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

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

—MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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Labor's Fight Against Tuberculosis

By GEORGE M. PRICE, M. D.,
Director, Union Health Center and
Joint Board Sanitary Control,
New York

Workers are intensely concerned in the warfare against tuberculosis. They are and should be in the front trenches in this war, for, while tuberculosis is no respecter of class and does not spare any part of the population, it is among the industrial population that its ravages are most notable.

Tuberculosis has been called, and rightly so, the industrial disease, a disease of the masses. Hence, in the fight against it, workers should have taken the lead and have been in the foremost ranks. Indeed, the workers and their organizations did wage a relentless and telling fight against it, but not perhaps directly.

The decline in the tuberculosis rate among the population during the last decades surely is due in large measure to the success of the workers' organizations in improving economic conditions. By shortening the hours of labor, labor organizations have directly reduced the fatigue which is so great an etiological factor predisposing to this disease. By raising wages, they have gained a higher standard of living, are enjoying improved housing and better food, and are thus again fortified in the fight against tuberculosis.

On the whole, the active participation of labor organizations in the propaganda against tuberculosis and in the care of their sick members is as yet negligible. For this reason it is the more pleasing to note that one large labor organization, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and counting over one hundred and fifty thousand members, has within the last ten years done valiant service in erecting combating tuberculosis. I refer to the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union and the tuberculosis benefit which this Union has introduced and maintained during the last ten years.

More than twelve years ago, as a result of the joint sanitary control exercised by the employers' and workers' organizations, through the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, over the 5 factories in New York City, a campaign was inaugurated for a health control of the workers. This was in addition to the already established sanitary control of the shops. After a few years such a scheme was established, one which is unique among labor organizations and which is of interest to all those who are trying to bring about the health control of tuberculosis.

Briefly stated, the health control of the workers has been developed as follows: (1) health education; (2) exclusion of new tuberculosis workers from the union; (3) a tuberculosis tax on all members of the organization and establishment by the union of a tuberculosis benefit, to provide for taking tuberculous workers out of the shops sending them to sanatoria and supervising their health; and (4) establishment of a Health Center in which members of the union may undergo a periodical physical examination.

Health Education

Twelve years ago an intensive education campaign was inaugurated and has ever since been waged through the International Union and the various locals connected with it. The inspiration and directive force in this campaign was and is the Union Health Center, which under another name, has been in existence for over twelve years. The Union Health Center, which is at 131 East 17th Street, New York City, was built by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in New York City and main-

tains a large number of general and special medical clinics as well as a large Dental Clinic. All health educational work is centered here. It consists of the distribution of posters, leaflets, booklets and other educational material among the workers, also of noon talks in the shops and "health nights" and classes at the Center. Much attention is paid at the Center to distributing proper health information and giving advice on all health matters.

Exclusion of New Tuberculous Members from the Union

Beginning in 1913 with one local of 5,000 members (the Pressers) a rule was established that no person might enter the organization without a previous physical examination and a health certificate showing that he or she is free from pulmonary tuberculosis and other active infectious diseases. This rule, which was in 1915 adopted by the whole International Ladies Garment Workers' Union throughout the States. During the last twelve years more than 35,000 candidates for membership in the Union were examined in New York City alone, and of these 40 persons with active pulmonary tuberculosis and positive sputum were rejected. A great many of those who were suffering from tuberculosis in a mild form, in active form, have had their admission to the Union postponed until their disease was arrested, or cured.

Tuberculosis Tax and Removal of Tuberculous Members from the Shops

During the last ten years, in addition to the examination of candidates, about 35,000 examinations were made of members of the Union in New York City. Five hundred members of the Union have been found suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis and have been taken out of the shops, and tuberculosis benefits have been paid to them by the Union either in cash or in the form of payment of their board and lodging at a sanatorium or boarding-house in Liberty, N. Y., or elsewhere. These benefits have been for periods of from ten to twenty-five weeks. During the time that the members were in sanatoria or boarding-houses, they received medical supervision and were not permitted to return to work before their disease was arrested.

One local, that of the Pressers, with 5,000 members, has taken care of 129 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis within the last ten years.

The special tuberculosis tax of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union is one dollar per member per annum. Some locals charge their members an additional dollar per annum.

Out of the funds collected through this tax, the Union pays for physical examination of its members, including X-ray, and pays either a cash benefit of from \$250 to \$300 to each tuberculous member, or the sum of \$500 to \$600 for a sojourn in a boarding-house or sanatorium. At one time the Union contemplated building its own sanatorium and indeed acquired ground at Otisville, New York. However, conditions during the war interfered with the building of the sanatorium and later it was found too expensive a proposition.

The tuberculosis fund is administered by each local which has full charge of this benefit.

The Union Health Center

As already mentioned, medical clinics were established in the trade areas as early as 1912, and later the movement crystallized in the establishment of the Union Health Center with its own building and complete medical and dental equipment. This Center is entirely an affair of the workers, kept up by the locals of the Union and is on a cooperative, self-supporting basis. The Center, during 1924, ex-

Cheers for Murder

By NORMAN THOMAS

A little incident at a moving picture show the other night made us both angry and discouraged. The news-of-the-week reel showed a picture of American aviators signing up with the infamous French Foreign Legion to fight the Rifis in Morocco. A large part of the American audience, mostly young people, applauded. That is disgusting to one who looks to the younger generation to preserve peace. Moreover it is annoying to one who expects the younger generation to be good sports. For these American aviators aren't good sports at all. They will be flying over the lines and possibly bombing the villages of desert tribesmen who have neither airplanes nor anti-aircraft guns. Their only chance of being hurt will be if their machines break down. And this is the sort of thing that a happy crowd of young Americans applauded!

The evidence is piling higher and higher that this Rif war waged by France has three reasons: (1) A desire to maintain and spread French empire in Africa. France looks to her African empire among other things as a reservoir of black troops for the control of the rich mineral beds in the country of the Rif. (2) The stupid attempt of French and Spanish to overreach each other in extending each its share in Morocco. France took advantage of Spain's troubles to extend her own territories and even, it is reported, to sell arms to the Rifis. Now France and Spain have patched up their difficulties. It is a thieves agreement not too likely to last, though it may hang long enough to bring defeat to Abd-El-Krim.

Labor's Victory in China

Good news from China. The original strike of the Chinese textile workers in the Japanese owned mills in Shanghai has been won. Some weeks ago we told the story of the beginning of that strike. It was a desperate protest against long hours, low wages and the brutality of the Japanese foremen—brutality amounting to murder. Out of this strike came a long series of events including the massacre of the Chinese at a great protest meet-

ing attended by 100,000 members of the Union in its medical clinics and treated over 5,000 in the Dental Department. The total budget of the Center for 1924 was about \$110,000.

Incidence of Tuberculosis Among Women's Garment Workers

As to the incidence of tuberculosis among the women's garment-workers, we have found the rate much smaller than that which was estimated, on the basis of their examination, by Dr. H. R. M. Landis of the Henry Phipps Institute of Philadelphia, and Dr. J. W. Schereschewsky of the U. S. Public Health Service in his investigation in cooperation with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in 1914.

These workers are mostly Russian and Galician Jews, Italians, Polish and Russian Slavs, with about 10 per cent of native colored workers. Few workers are under twenty years of age and only among the pressers and finishers do we find persons of over fifty years.

During the last ten years there has been a noticeable reduction in the tuberculosis rate among these workers, undoubtedly due to the campaign against the disease which this labor organization has been waging and, of course, also to the general reduction in the tuberculosis rate throughout the country.

ing by British police, and the spread of the strike to other cities for political rather than industrial ends. The Japanese employers have recognized the union, disarmed their foremen, paid \$5,000 reparation to injured strikers and their families and given other financial aid to needy strikers. This is a substantial and encouraging step up the long hard hill Chinese labor must climb.

In this whole matter the Japanese have shown more sense than the British. The English have refused to give one inch. The British government has blocked every attempt of our own and other governments to adopt such partial measures of justice to China as were provided for at the Washington Conference four years ago. It has forbidden the publication of the results of the diplomatic investigation into the Shanghai troubles because the investigation blamed British officials. British trade is paying the price. The strikes and boycotts directed against British business in Chinese cities, especially Hong Kong, have already, according to a London despatch to the New York Times, cost the British firms in Hong Kong alone billions of pounds in business. Our own government, one hears foolish threats of force, to be justified because the Chinese Anti-British boycott at Canton violates the most favored nation clause of the treaties. Legal excuse or no legal excuse, the day the British use force will be the beginning of the end of British trade and British power in China. China is weak, but Britain cannot repeat the opium wars against her. Our own record shines by comparison. But what are American policies and American gunboats doing in the Chinese streets and Chinese waters?

The end of the original strike in China does not mark the end of the friendship between the American Labor Movement and the rising young unions of China. It leaves it as necessary as ever to deal with the unequal results. A conference to discuss these matters has been called to meet at Johns Hopkins University next month. That is good. What we are afraid of is that the motto of the conference will be: "The Chinese must go slow"—with the emphasis on the "slow" instead of the "go". Here and there the extraterritorial rights and privileges of foreigners must be abridged and the Chinese given some share in the government of the foreign settlement in Shanghai. This is not enough. With our own eyes we saw how unsatisfactory such a program was to an interesting meeting of Chinese in New York called to celebrate their success in raising \$52,000 to help the strikers. They listened courteously but unsympathetically to such a moderate program on the lips of an American speaker. As one of the Chinese students said: "The arrogance of the foreigners and the massacre at Shanghai has made it too late." So showed an observer of things Chinese as Thomas F. Millard, writes in the New York Times: "If I read the international and Chinese political signs aright, rendition of every kind of foreign territorial political position and special privilege cannot be postponed more than a few years." The United States ought to take an immediate lead in working for this end. If Germans and Russians can do business in China without extraterritorial rights, so can we. It is not a paradox but the plain truth that the abandonment of these rights will make it easier for China to set up a strong government and curb its own lawless elements.

Governor's Commission on Jobber-Contractor Controversy In New York Cloak Industry

Last Supplementary Memorandum by Mediation Commission—Presented to the Parties in Interest At a Meeting Held at the New York Bar Association, September 11th, 1925.

On July 10th, this commission proposed to the organizations representing the various factors in the industry a report based upon the investigation conducted by the commission and upon the hearings held before it. This report dealt only with the various questions and controversies referred to it by the parties in interest. It recommended continuance for one year, with some changes, of the collective agreements then existing between the parties.

As soon as the commission had received a notice from each of the four organizations accepting its recommendations, another meeting was held on August 14th, at which the acceptance by all parties was announced in the presence of official representatives of each group.

Unemployment Insurance

The working out of some details in the application of the recommendations was left, as usual, for negotiation between the parties. This applied particularly to the method of reporting unemployment insurance items.

Negotiations between the parties on this subject have unfortunately not been successful. The Trustees of the Insurance Fund, bound as they are by a rule requiring unanimity in certain decisions, have likewise failed to reach a solution. The matter has therefore come back to the commission for clarification and for more detailed interpretation of its recommendations.

The changes recommended in insurance fund payments were intended to affect the entire jobbing-sub-manufacturing system, including for this purpose as though they were jobbers any manufacturer to the extent that he does a jobbing business.

Each sub-manufacturer is to continue as heretofore deducting and forwarding to the fund one per cent of his payroll as the contribution of his workers.

Each jobber is to pay his contribution directly into the fund. That contribution is to be based upon the old schedule of items, depending on the price of garments made up and delivered. Each item in this schedule, however, is to be increased by fifty per cent, except insofar as these amounts may be modified by the Chairman of the Trustees of the Insurance Fund.

It appears to the commission that a needless controversy has taken place over the lesser matter of the method of recording and reporting unemployment insurance information.

The commission has never ruled that the jobbers are direct employers of labor. They do, however, owe responsibilities to the industry, and in recognition of such responsibilities they have agreed to make certain payments for relief of unemployment, and to make them directly into the fund.

The Merchants Association will be expected to require of each of its members that the factor of insurance is not to enter into his bargaining with sub-manufacturers or to be deducted in any way from the price of the garments.

Whenever a sub-manufacturer has made up a lot of garments for a jobber (or a manufacturer) and they are ready for shipment, the sub-manufacturer shall make out a memorandum and mail it to the office of the Insurance Fund.

This report shall be made up on blanks to be prepared under the direction of the Chairman of the Trustees of the Insurance Fund and shall contain the following information: Name and address of the sub-manufacturer, name and address of the jobber, character of garments (i. e., whether coats or suits; style number, number of garments delivered, and price per unit.

Each jobber, or manufacturer doing jobbing, shall make to the fund periodic reports (and remittances) at such times, in such form and containing such information as may be requested by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

In order to allow sufficient time for the printing and distribution of blank forms, the above plans are to go into operation as affecting all merchandise on which orders to sub-manufacturers shall be placed after September 20th.

Each jobber (and each manufacturer who has any jobbing) shall also send to the fund on September 20th a detailed report, as prescribed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, showing the number, price, etc., of garments delivered to him during the preceding weeks since August 14th, and to remit to the Fund for items accrued up to that date, less any amounts which he may show have been paid by him directly to sub-manufacturers. He shall make later reports and payments covering garments ordered by him prior to September 20th but delivered to him after that date.

All manufacturers, sub-manufacturers, and jobbers, as well as their respective associations, are to cooperate with the trustees of the fund in giving necessary information and in facilitating insurance collections.

Bureau of Research

In accordance with the recommendation already made, and with the consent of the parties, the commission has established a Bureau of Research, and has arranged with Dr. Lindsey Rogers that he will act as its director. It is hoped that all parties will cooperate heartily with the bureau so that its work may be of greatest value to the industry.

Other Issues

As to most of the other issues discussed before the commission last winter and spring all parties, in ac-

cepting the report, agreed to their temporary postponement. These questions include reorganization rights sought by the manufacturers, the proposal for a guaranteed term of employment made by the Union, the limitation of contractors, and the fixing of minimum labor cost as asked by the sub-manufacturers.

All these questions will be given further consideration by the commission as promised in their report of July 10th.

Complaints have reached the commission that goods are being sent to non-union shops to be made up. If true, this is in direct violation of the agreements between the parties which prohibit such practice. At the request of any party in interest the commission will be prepared to hold a hearing in this matter in the immediate future to consider possible methods to be adopted for the better enforcement of existing provisions dealing with this subject.

Conclusion

At the hearing on August 14th, all

four organizations which had been parties to the collective agreement, accepted the report already submitted by the commission on July 10th.

Pains have now been taken to interpret the report and to cover all the points over which friction and delay have arisen.

All parties are bound in good faith to carry out the recommendations to which they have agreed and in doing so to give due credit to the good faith of every other party. Individual disputes will arise, but adequate machinery exists for their adjustment. For any party to resort to forcible direct action would be contrary to the acceptance which had been given and to the agreements which have been made. It would be destructive of much of the progress which has been made during the past year. For that reason the commission believes that the stoppage ordered by the American Association, without notice to the commission and while it was endeavoring to comprise the differences between the parties, was unwarranted and that it should be immediately rescinded.

GEORGE GORDON BATTLE, Chairman.

HERBERT H. LEHMAN,
LINDSAY ROGERS,
BERNARD L. SHIENTAG,
ARTHUR D. WOLF.

Why Furniture Is High

Now that the cost of living is rising again, attention has been directed to the various elements which make up the increase. In this connection it is interesting to see that one of the highest groups of articles is that known as "house furnishings". According to the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, this group rose, at the highest point, to 193 per cent above 1914, as against 117 per cent for the general index; and is now 114 per cent above 1914, as against 73½ per cent for everything combined.

Why should house furnishing—in which everyone is vitally concerned—have risen so far and fallen so little in comparison with other commodities? If we were talking coal, rail road fares, clothing or housing, our friends who write the newspaper editorials would undoubtedly reply without a moment's thought that the increases in price were due to exorbitant demands of the unions. But, unfortunately for this argument, the employees in the house-furnishing industries are organized scarcely if at all. There must be some other reason.

The Federal Trade Commission, which recently made an inquiry into this industry, has some light to contribute. It seems that many household appliances, such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines, have been manufactured under patents which give the patent-holders and licensees a monopoly on the product. In many cases the manufacturers under these patents formed associations, which in all probability used practices which kept the prices up. Whenever the patent would run out, the association would still continue, and would apparently have little difficulty in remaining in control of the price situation.

Aluminum kitchen utensils are made by manufacturers who are forced to buy their materials from a virtually complete monopoly—the Aluminum Company of America. This company first obtained its monopoly in this country by the purchase of a patent for processing aluminum. During the life of the patent it acquired almost all the deposits of bauxite in the country, bauxite being the substance from which aluminum is made. Thus when the patent ran out it con-

trolled the source of supply. It is protected from foreign competition by a high tariff. Between 1906 and 1914, the industry had a surplus, entirely from profits and without the contribution of an additional cent by investors, by \$103,684,119. It also paid dividends amounting to \$15,379,032. These earnings indicate an annual rate of return on the investment of about 24 per cent. Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is, or has been, financially interested in the aluminum monopoly.

Over half the refrigerator manufacturers in the country have been organized in the National Refrigerator Manufacturers' Association, which has been actively engaged in keeping up prices, according to the Trade Commission's report.

It is also shown that hardware dealers' associations, by putting pressure on the manufacturers of popular products, forced them to cease selling to large mail-order houses which cut prices, and prevented them from selling direct to the consumer or to co-operative societies.

There is little doubt that such practices have been widespread among makers or dealers in other kinds of house furnishings.

Another factor which has increased the prices of household furniture is the growth of the practice of paying by instalment. In almost every case the instalment price is higher than the cash price. Instalment payments necessitate the employment of additional bookkeepers and collectors, and they also make it necessary for the dealer extending them to secure additional credit, for which he has to pay interest to the credit company or bank. The business of the credit companies has now become enormous, and is immensely profitable. By examining the terms of five of the more prominent of these companies, the Trade Commission discovered that on loans varying from 9 to 11 months they received interest at the rate of from 21 per cent to over 25 per cent per year! Few loan-sharks ever exacted greater tribute from the financially necessitous. All this, of course, comes out of the consumer's pocket on account of the ingenious "deferred payment" plan.

—Facts for Workers.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

THE UNION, THE SUB-MANUFACTURERS, AND THE JOBBERS

In the controversy just closed between the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the cloak sub-manufacturers, and the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association, the cloak jobbers, the Union openly has been on the side of the sub-Manufacturers. The Union believes that the grievances of the sub-manufacturers are justifiable and have to be righted if peace is to prevail in the trade—until the Special Commission is ready to render its final report a few months hence. The Union, nevertheless, has been very much opposed to the ill-considered and hasty action of the sub-manufacturers which resulted in last week's order for a stoppage issued by the American Association.

True, the sub-manufacturers have been driven into a well-nigh desperate position. The jobbers have made it almost impossible for them to maintain union shops by constant violations of the provisions of the agreement which expressly prohibits sending out work to non-union shops and which makes obligatory upon them recognition of union standards of wages and labor in all shops where their work is made. The jobbers have shown themselves past masters in the art of dodging in dealing with the contractors and are alleged to have resorted to the hated "auction" system in order to bring down labor costs to an irreducible minimum. They have also failed to pay directly their contribution to the unemployment insurance fund attempting to unload it upon the sub-manufacturers in violation of the agreement.

It is obviously the business and the interest of the Union to see to it that agreements in the industry are observed strictly by all parties and that the jobbers are not allowed to shed obligations assumed by them with impunity. The ultimate sufferer, the leaders of the Union knew perfectly well, of this frivolous disregard of standards would be the worker. The jobbers' tactics would lead inevitably to either a further degradation of work conditions in the sub-manufacturers' shops or would drive the contractors into the non-union camp, adding to the Union's already difficult task of coping with the sub-standard little sweaters that are infesting our industry.

In this respect, willy-nilly, the interests of the workers and of the sub-manufacturers coincide. If the sub-manufacturers are to live up to their agreement with the Union it is palpably evident that the jobbers must carry out their part of the agreement with the sub-manufacturers and the Union. The contractor is not, it must be remembered, a free agent; he is entirely dependent on the jobber, and if the latter fails to comply with his promises to the contractor and the trade, he hurts not only the contractor but the workers as well. The Union's siding with sub-manufacturers in this instance is, therefore, frankly not generated by any affection for the "poor contractor" but rather by the very practical consideration that the trade and work conditions guaranteed by the jobbers to the contractors have a direct and immediate bearing upon the condition of the workers in the shops.

This is, perhaps, somewhat contradictory of the theory of the class struggle, but it seems that as long as the sub-manufacturing system is allowed in the trade and until the jobber himself becomes the direct manufacturer no other relation is possible. And it is because of this that we must conclude that, in having adopted the decision to stop off work in their shop solely on their own responsibility, the sub-manufacturers acted in a rash and ill-advised manner.

The sub-manufacturers should have kept in mind that the Union is very much concerned in the issues which underlie their dispute with the jobbers. They could have recalled that in presenting its program to the jobbers last year, the Union had not failed to take cognizance of their interest in the industry and has fought to make it possible for them, the sub-manufacturers, to maintain union shops. The Union's present demand for a limitation of the number of contractors implies, of course, the limitation of the jobber to union shops only where garments would be made up for them under union conditions. It is amazing that the contractors should have lost sight of these recent, so very recent developments in our industry.

It is true that while these demands of the Union have not all been granted as yet, the sub-manufacturers are already obliged to live up to their obligations to the workers. But it is equally true that the sub-manufacturers were not in this instance confronted with a new and startling situation. Only a few weeks ago, the contractors, like every other factor in the industry, contented to wait until next June and not to commit any overt act

that might lead to a general dislocation of the trade. It is clear, therefore, that their decision to close down their shops is neither in letter nor in spirit a compliance with that obligation.

The saner, the most responsible course in this dispute would have been not to issue a drastic order for a stoppage but to get in touch with the Union which would have called the jobbers to responsibility and would have made every effort to settle the dispute in a peaceful manner. And if logic and persuasion had failed to bring the jobbers to see the sub-manufacturers' case in its proper light, the Union, together with the sub-manufacturers, would have compelled the jobbers to respect their agreement, an undertaking it should have had no difficulty to achieving. Surely, the sympathy of the public, as well of the Special Mediation Commission, would have been entirely on the side of the Union as against any contract-breaking group in the trade.

It was precisely this consideration which prompted President Sigman last week to devote all the time he could spare from his ardent labors in the Joint Board in trying to persuade the leaders of the American Association of the folly of their decision to close down the shops. It is stupid, of course, to even suppose that the Union had desired such a desperate and ill-considered affair as a contractors' stoppage in the trade. Quite to the contrary; now that the sub-manufacturers have, at the eleventh hour, withdrawn their order, the Union is sincerely gratified with the return of the contractors to the paths of peace which they came so closely in abandoning.

For the time being, the sub-manufacturers, the jobbers and the Union should abide by the agreement which they had signed only a year ago. The sub-manufacturers in rescinding their stoppage order are showing that they recognize that there is much more at stake in the issues between them and the jobbers than a momentary advantage. The industry will have to undergo a change that will bring system, responsibility and order into it, and irresponsible, impulsive and hasty action on the part of any of its factors at this hour can only prevent and postpone such a rational overhauling of some of its basic relations.

One final remark: While we have not the slightest reason to doubt the charges of the sub-manufacturers against the jobbers that the latter are making up a great deal of their work in non-union shops and that they are practicing the abominable "auction" system in order to force down prices, these accusations have been flatly denied by the jobbers. We would suggest therefore to the Research Bureau, which is to begin to function very soon under the direction of Dr. Lindsay Rogers, to sift the truth of these charges before anything else. The bureau should also be able to find out without great difficulty whether the prices paid by the jobbers are such as would enable the contractors to pay union wages to the workers.

This suggestion occurred to us as we read the following paragraph in the latest supplementary memorandum issued by the Special Commission:

"Complaints have reached the Commission that goods are being sent to non-union shops to be made up. If true, this is in direct violation of the agreements between the parties which prohibit such practice. At the request of any party in interest the Commission will be prepared to hold a hearing in this matter in the immediate future to consider possible methods to be adopted for the better enforcement of existing provisions dealing with this object."

It is plainly an issue of fact between the jobbers and the sub-manufacturers which may be settled without much acrimonious debating. The American Association has made the charges in the open and the jobbers have denied them. It is very important, of course, that the truth be ascertained, and the Research Bureau is, no doubt, the agency best fitted to bring it out. Let the Bureau, therefore, proceed with its investigation without delay, and let those who are responsible for the commission of such unpardonable violations of the agreement, if any there were, be called to responsibility and by means of impressive penalties prevented from mocking their signed pledges in the future.

A NEW WORK PLAN FOR THE INDUSTRY

Rumors are afloat in leading spheres in the cloak industry that a new arrangement of the work seasons is under way.

Heretofore, and since times immemorial, we have had two seasons in the cloak industry, fall and spring, with a little work in between them. It is becoming increasingly evident that such a work arrangement is not favorable either to the employers or the workers. Jobbers and manufacturers are producing large stocks of garments in the early part of the seasons and during the "slack" intervals, which they can not dispose of later except at material sacrifice and loss. The work between seasons also leads to the shortening of the seasons and the hastening of the long idle periods between seasons.

The new plan is to make the work seasons follow each other without interruption. The suggestion is that work for the fall trade begin not earlier than September 15th lasting, let us say, until January 1st, and that the spring season commence on January 15th lasting approximately until April 1st. Under such an arrangement, the workers would have practically six months of unbroken labor, and would be entirely free from the shop and from the cloak industry for the remaining six months.

It seems to us that the workers could gain materially from such an arrangement. It would, first of all, eliminate the between-season work which, as a rule, affects adversely the season proper and injures most of the workers. Secondly, it would do away with

The Great Chinese Strike

By B. L. S.

Events in Shanghai Preceding Strike

Last May a Chinese workman in a Japanese mill in Shanghai was shot and killed. As a protest against the killing of this man a memorial service was planned by students and workers. It took place outside the foreign concession of Shanghai. After it was over six of the students marching home carrying banners protesting against foreign imperialism, were arrested when they reached the foreign controlled area of the city. They were sent to jail where they remained several days, denied all communication with friends on the outside. One of the boys arrested was only thirteen years old. When brought to trial on the morning of May 20th the case was remanded and bail set at one hundred dollars for each student. Since they were unable to raise the amount, they went back to prison.

The students in Shanghai when they learned the outcome of the trial, planned a protest against what they considered an unjust decision of the foreign court. Street meetings were organized with banners and leaflets, explaining the reasons for the demonstration. Almost immediately after the speeches began the foreign police interfered, arresting the participants and taking them to the police station on Nanking Road. A crowd represented this action and started forward, causing the police to retreat. The efforts of the police to disperse the crowd had continued about two hours when the British sergeant in charge of the police, ten seconds after he had given warning in English, ordered his men to shoot into the crowd to kill. Eleven students and workers were killed and many others wounded. None of the Chinese were armed and no shots were fired at the police. The crowd dispersed in one minute after the firing began.

Following these events the Chinese workers, students, and business men struck. A joint committee of the three groups including the General Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Street Unions, and Shanghai General Labor Associations was formed to draw up demands. The Municipal Council (composed entirely of foreigners) declared martial law and called upon the Consular body for naval forces which were accordingly landed from twenty-four gunboats.

The strike spread to other cities especially among the students in the foreign colleges and universities.

The only foreigner reported killed in any of the demonstrations was an American shot during a demonstration of students at Shanghai. The foreign settlement of Canton. About fifty Chinese were killed by the

foreign troops during the demonstration.

Working Conditions in Chinese Mills

After the demonstrations caused the strike of students and workers continued, especially in Shanghai the center of the rapidly developing textile industry. The conditions in the foreign owned mills are briefly told by Mr. C. Li, the secretary of the strike committee and also of the General Labor Union in Shanghai. In an appeal to American workers he says:

"We want you to understand two points. First, we have no right to organize and to bargain collectively and no freedom of speech. Second, this is a movement to improve our conditions of labor. It is not anti-foreign or Bolshevik. It is labor for labor's sake."

"We want you to know the conditions in our shops. The working hours in mills and factories average more than twelve. The wages average about \$10.00 a month. The lowest is fifteen cents and the highest \$1.00 a day. (Divide this in half to make it American money). The equipment for sanitation in our factories is so poor that the death rate is correspondingly high. The workers in our mills are very roughly treated. There are frequent assaults and killings, especially in Japanese mills. The death rate from such injuries is high and therefore our feeling is bitter and intense."

The recent demonstrations of the Chinese are not however solely against the domination of foreign powers in Chinese affairs—the underlying cause of discontent and revolt. The existing treaties granting special privileges to foreign powers in China were established after the Opium War of 1842. The outstanding policy then established and, apparently, the one most resented in extraterritoriality, providing for the jurisdiction of foreign settlements within Chinese territory under foreign jurisdiction and granting foreigners immunity from all Chinese laws. The foreign courts which try offenders against the laws of their own lands are composed of the consular representatives. Chinese living or working in foreign concessions are also subject to the foreign courts. Infringements upon Chinese sovereignty include the management of customs at treaty ports by British officials at the expense of the Chinese government; the maintenance of foreign troops on Chinese soil; foreign control of tariffs and other resources; the use of foreign advisors and experts in China's administration.

Following the disturbances in Shanghai and elsewhere the Peking government addressed a communication to all the diplomatic representatives upon which no action was taken. The principal demands were:

1. Rendition of the Mixed Court to the Chinese Republic.

2. Extension of the municipal franchise to Chinese on the same terms as to foreigners.

3. Extension to all Chinese residents in the settlement the rights of liberty of speech, assembly and publication.

The Nine Power Treaties with China

Since May the international situation regarding China has changed on account of the fact that France, the last of the nine powers to act, has ratified the two treaties submitted by the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments in Washington, 1921-1922. These nine powers are the United States, Belgium, the British Empire, China, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands and Portugal. The way is now clear for carrying out the terms of the new treaties. One of them is concerned solely with a revision of the Chinese customs and provides for a conference of the nine powers following the ratification of the treaty. The other more comprehensive treaty is a statement of principles to be followed by the powers in dealing with China. The four most important policies advocated are:

1. To "respect the sovereignty, the independence and the territorial and administrative integrity of China."

2. To grant "the fullest and most unembarrassed opportunity to China to develop and maintain for herself an effective and stable government."

3. To allow equal opportunity for all nations in China's commerce and industry—otherwise the principle of the "Open Door."

4. To pledge the signatory governments not to seek special rights and privileges for their nationals in China.

Extraterritoriality, not dealt with directly in the treaty, was acted upon in a resolution passed by the representatives of the nine powers signing the treaties. The resolution provided for a commission "to inquire into the present practice of extraterritorial jurisdiction in China." At the request of the Chinese the appointment of this commission was delayed a year. In the following years no commission has been appointed.

America's Responsibility

The special responsibility of the United States in the Chinese situation rests upon the fact that the Conference at which the treaties were drawn up and the resolution passed, was called by the President of the United States and the fight for the nine power treaties was led by our Secretary of State. It is now a matter of good faith for the United States to see that the provision arranged are carried out. Furthermore, the principles laid down in the general treaty represent the best tradition in American foreign policy. The Chinese undoubtedly look to the United States to carry out the work begun at the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments.

The situation suggests a course of action for those who sympathize with the Chinese in their struggle for independence.

1. To give as wide circulation as possible to authentic first hand information from China—through meetings, distributing leaflets, securing articles in newspapers and magazines.

2. To urge our Government in the person of President Coolidge (a) to call immediately a conference of the nine powers to discuss extraterritoriality and the principles set forth in the treaty and to recommend in the strongest terms that the Government of the United States stand for the abolition of extraterritoriality, and the

In the Hole

By GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

Suppose you and Mr. Nutt are walking through a deep forest and each of you fall into a deep, steep-sided hole, a hole so deep that neither of you trying alone can possibly escape. But suppose that you could both promptly and easily escape if you had wit enough and not too much pride to co-operate.

Suppose that Mr. Nutt is a Roman Catholic and you are a Presbyterian or an agnostic; suppose he is an immigrant and you are a descendant of one of the "oldest New England families" of native-born "straights" from the Mayflower. Suppose also that you are an aristocrat of labor, a railway locomotive engineer and Mr. Nutt is a section hand; suppose you are religious but honest and Mr. Nutt a "bag egg." That is to say, suppose you and Mr. Nutt are different in many ways, but are at the same time much alike in being all too much human and exactly alike in your situation, that is—doomed to starve unless you co-operate, doomed to starve unless you get together and get out, doomed to starve unless you unite and win your way to freedom and life, (doomed to starve—unless you exercise common sense, if you have any).

Of course, there in that hole, you could get up a wonderful debate about your distinguished ancestry or your religious superiority or your comparative color—be it—excellence or color or race or on the doctrine of original sin or evolution or the comparative dignity and value of your occupations. Yes, you could debate and wrangle and scold and swear and sneer and do a lot of things that would not "get you anywhere," certainly would not get you out of that hole.

Now, honestly, which would you and Mr. Nutt do in this situation? Again, honestly, what are you and your fellow workers of different occupations, different color, different religions, different races, different degrees of honesty and unequal education and incomes, what are you doing?—are you debating on these things, or are you doing your level best to get together in a political party of your own and together unite your vast power on the political field and on the industrial field—and win your way out of the hole of wage-slavery?

Any man or woman who endeavors to keep you debating and "throwing mud" at one another on any of these tinsel matters—and thus silyly or ignorantly keeps you from uniting your all-conquering political and industrial power for your own freedom, your own larger lives, your own escape from the clutches of those who hire and cheat and fatten on the profits wrung from your toil—any such man or woman is consciously or unconsciously your enemy, a deadly enemy—for the working class is doomed to produce all the food in the world and always eat the cheaper grades, doomed to build all the homes in the world and live in the cheaper homes, doomed to make all the clothing in the world and wear the cheap, rags, doomed to go through life half-starved, for your toil, as long as the capitalist system lasts, foolishly defended by the debating working class—in the hole.

termination of other imperialistic practices; (b) to withdraw our gunboats and warships from China and to refuse the use of armed forces in the future.

3. To express approval of Senator Borah's announcement to bring the Chinese question before the next session of the Senate.

the wasteful and demoralizing practice of workers having to come to the shops day after day and week after week in quest of an hour or two of work. Thirdly, it would make possible a more accurate estimate of the earning requirements of the workers during the six months of labor to enable them to make a living all year around.

Our workers should discuss this plan at meetings, and in the columns of "Justice". It strikes us that under such a plan it would be less difficult to weed out the sub-standard shops in the trade, shops which, as a rule, thrive on between-season work. Of course, it is quite likely that we are entirely mistaken about it, and we should, indeed, like to hear from our members concerning this rather novel proposal.

It must, of course, be understood, that no such plan can be made feasible without the aid of the Union. Perhaps, the Union would even have to make a considerable effort to bring such a work arrangement into existence, should some of the manufacturers oppose it upon narrow and selfish grounds. But before anything else, our members must thoroughly understand all the advantages and drawbacks of this new plan, if any there be.

Seeing America First

By SYLVIA KOPALO

1. FROM A TRAIN WINDOW

For several days I quite agreed with the hundred percenter. Say what you will, it is a great country, a remarkable country, an inspiring country. The Almighty, or whoever tends to these things, was in an indubitably epic mood when he moulded the frame of America—the long mountain ranges, so greenly intimate, in the East, so barely forbidding in the West, the swift rivers and careless streams, the vast prairies and bleak deserts. Yes, there is epic here, and in the picture within the frame the epic mood continues. People live under the mountain shadows, near the rivers, on the prairies in the bleak little towns and the crowded giant cities. Endless people, almost 110,000,000 of them, of different birth and different hopes and differing individualities. America! As I sped through it in the palatial trains that bind coast to coast I knew the thrill that comes from the soil, from long rootlessness in "my land". It is a great country, this land of ours, well worth fighting for.

And nothing convinces one more than seeing America first, that the real fight for possession has just begun. Against the struggle that now looms before us, the first tug with the Indians, the later conflicts for full title to ownership with the French, and then the English, appear mere child battles. For America is a great country, seen from a train window. But the ultimate test of a country's greatness lies in the quality of its civilization, in the types of men it develops. And even from a train window the evidence on this score appears no matter for pride. But in the very contrast between the scale on which America's Maker drew the land and that in which America's men are drawing their lives, there is hope rather than discouragement. The future of such a land as this that passes before me must be a great one. Let men burrow into mountains and dig into the soil for the abundant riches of their land; these things must be procured, too. But the ultimate picture for such a frame as ours must contain also a life of the spirit, a daring of the mind that shall be in keeping with the endless grandeur within which it lies.

I wondered as we sped along how

many of the pedagogues who write our text-books on "American history and civics" have ever seen present-day America at all. Could one, gazing on this ever-changing vista, this swift succession of coal towns and sulphured stream and steel furnaces glowing darkly against the sun and through the night and teeming city and green farmland, this kaleidoscope of despoiled mountains and winding railroad track and yellowed waters and bleakly ugly small towns, this moving reel of shop and mill and mine and farm and business, this drama of Slovak and Swede and Pole and Jew and Italian and Negro and Nordic, could any one, gazing on these things, write sweetly of American freedom and constitution and equality and independence and pioneer and what not?

Atlanta, according to the fable, is a lost continent; somewhere, according to Sir Conan Doyle, there may lie a lost world where dinosaurs feed bloodily on each other and on every thing else; but here while the myth spinners weave possibilities and mortals create unrealities, there lies a real lost world in the history text-books. Certainly you cannot find the America the historians write of in these contemporary United States. I, for one spent more than six weeks looking for it. Six weeks, of course, is not a long time. But even in these six weeks the thing I did discover was so unlike the thing my public school history had written of that there must be a sliver somewhere. Yet, even though present day America may be a new America, an America very unlike the country of the frontiersman and pioneer, it possesses a vitality and promise of its own. So significant is this promise for the future, that it seems worth while to report a little on the things one can discover by seeing America first and on what may lie ahead of them.

Come back with me for a minute to that train window. It takes five days to cross our continent, even with the aid of the Broadway Limited to Chicago; and we shall be near this window or others like it at least for three days. A fat salesman opposite us is loitering unconcernedly in his seat; he knows it is for such as him that Pullmans have been invented. That big bag of his probably contains

slits or styles or something from New York to be shown to dealers in Speedwell and Wilkes-Barre, in Greensburg and Oriskany. He is the trader of old; little wonder we have provided dining cars and sleeping berths and porters and homes on wheels for him. A whistle, an angry chug and we are pulling smoothly out of New York. The wonder city of the age melts into the distance behind us and with scant warning we are upon dingiest New Jersey.

The salesmen and the business men have procured seat tables. They read, play cards, eat, drink, write, typewrite. By the time we reach and pass Pittsburgh, some have disappeared into the smoker or the barber shop, or the observation car. But this is travelling too fast. We had just reached the dingy towns of industrial New Jersey. Tumbling shacks whizz by and a forlorn woman watches us wistfully as the great monster flies by her porch. Little ragged children wave gleefully; now a blank-faced worker steps indifferently from the track to let us pass. The Johnson and Johnson factory appears for a moment and then vanishes. Newark rises ugly out of the landscape, several more flying miles and we are in Pennsylvania and an entirely new country.

There is familiarity in the scene before and even after Philadelphia. Even Harrisburg is no uglier than some of New Jersey. No, it is after Harrisburg that the new country begins. For here the rich Alleghenies appear and soon coal tipsles lean jauntily from the side of mountains. Dark holes yawn from the rounded curves and soon the blank coke oven also show themselves. Surely the lovely waters of the East which the first pioneers crossed in their journeys westward, ever westward, bore little resemblance to the yellow, sulphured creeks which now are the waters of industrial Pennsylvania. And then, too, there are the machine shops of Altoona, those huge repair works where busy workers make it possible for the great trains to pull us through the land. The Horseshoe Curve, marvel in even such an engineering age as ours, breaks the industrial succession, for a moment of beauty. But only for a moment. The huge steel works of bleak Johnstown hurry upon us, with its iron men and glowing furnaces dwarfing the Slovaks and Italians and Negroes who tend them. A chain of small towns and ugly ramshackle coal towns and then Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh is probably the epitome of industrial America. This modern acropolis, built daringly on a new work of hills with three rivers flowing through its valleys, this mass of dimly twinkling lights and brazen furnaces and huge works and smoky ugliness is harsh and strident Pittsburgh. Here fortunes have been minted and lives have been wasted and unions have been destroyed. . . . Pittsburgh, too, is now melted into the distance. We cross West Virginia for a brief moment and then Ohio comes upon us. For some stretch Pennsylvania is repeated here in coal tipsles and mines and coke ovens and steel works and varying shops. But industry is still challenged more strongly here. Farmland is asserting itself and acres of corn and wheat spread themselves among the industries. The farms become more and more insistent through Indiana and Illinois until by the time we enter Iowa they have scored practically a complete triumph. There is probably no more beautiful and richer farm country than this in Iowa.

Corn and wheat. Wheat and corn. Beautiful mounds of golden harvest in green fields, plowmen driving heavy horses in the gray morning light, silent farm machines blackly outlined against the blue and furnished sunset. Excitement in the observation car. Tri-City has been passed and we shall soon cross the tardy, muddy brother of Waters. The Mississippi, broad, restless, profiled, thinning, a mere line, distance. Corn and wheat. Wheat and corn. A larger town. Then the unending prairies. Flat, treeless, venerably bearded in long grass, Nebraska lies by through the night and morning. The Missouri River also disappears into the night until finally dusty, windy Kansas appears. And then for a stretch there is sheer bleakness. Probably men nowhere live in a more barren, godforsaken, arid country than do those who live in western Kansas and eastern Colorado. The beauty of the Rockies does not appear from the train window until central Colorado. And by that time our train has pulled into Denver and we step down—into the West.

It may have seemed a flying trip thus far, but America does fly by from a train window. Yet we have crossed the trials that the first pioneers passed. We have seen two-thirds of America, whole. We can stop off for longer stays—and see—well what we can see.

Next Week: The Tame and Silky West.

Dental Clinic of Union Health Center

IN NEW QUARTERS

The new enlarged quarters of the Dental clinic of the Union Health Center of the I. L. G. W. U. Locals in New York will open for business

On Monday, September 21st, 1925

THE NEW CLINIC
OCCUPIES THE ENTIRE

SIXTH FLOOR

OF THE BIG
OFFICE BUILDING

At 222 Fourth Avenue

It is one of the MOST MODERN and BEST EQUIPPED DENTAL CLINICS in the city

THE NEW DENTAL CLINIC WILL EMPLOY 20 OR MORE DENTAL SURGEONS, SPECIALISTS IN EACH BRANCH OF THE DENTAL PROFESSION

A SPECIAL CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT WILL BE OPENED FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UNION



DOMESTIC ITEMS

Nation's Almshouses Are Costly

THE "average" inmate of almshouses in this country requires \$334.64 annually for maintenance, lives on 4.82 acres of land, of which 2.14 acres is cultivated for his maintenance, and which, with stock and farm equipment, is worth, per inmate, \$545.15. The per capita value of the buildings and equipment in which he is housed is \$1,185.94. The average maintenance cost, per inmate, ranges from \$187.53 a year in Alabama to \$8.65.10 in Nevada.

These figures on the cost of maintaining the nation's almshouses have been compiled by the United States bureau of labor statistics and are published in bulletin No. 286.

The report covers 2,184, or 93 per cent of the public pauper institutions of the country.

More than one-third of the almshouses covered by the report are operated for less than 10 inmates each, and considerably more than one-half care for less than 25 inmates each. That this multiplicity of small almshouses results in unnecessarily high costs, inefficient methods and inadequate care is demonstrated in the report. Ignorance, inefficiency and a complete lack of comprehension of the social element involved in the conduct of a public institution are characteristic of a large part of their managing personnel. Among the inmates themselves laziness, feeble-mindedness, depravity and respectable old age are mingled in haphazard unconcern. It is idle, then, to imagine that social conditions in these institutions could be other than deplorable.

Churchmen to Stand for Freedom of Press

IN the new social creed to be proposed at the regular meeting of the National Council of Congregational Churches, to be held in Washington, D. C., in October, one plank declares: "The churches must stand for the enforcement of constitutional rights and duties, including freedom of the press, of free speech and of peaceful assemblage."

Other proposals are:

"In industry and economic relations, recognition that the unlimited right of private ownership is un-Christian.

"A frank abandonment of all efforts to secure unearned income; that is, reward which does not come from a real service.

"In education there should be the building of a social order in which every child has the best opportunity for development and the conservation of health."

U. S. Ships Can Pay; Real Seamen Needed

ON HIS return from a three months' trip abroad United States Senator Howell said he was convinced that the only way the United States could build up commerce on the seas was by government operation.

Under the present system, he said, there is no incentive for government shipping employes to make a line a success because as soon as one becomes successful it is sold to private operators.

Foreign vessels have an advantage over American ships, the senator continued, because they maintain a permanent crew. British officers and seamen go into the shipping service as their lifetime work. American ships are operated by temporary and untrained crews, who are paid off after each voyage.

The Nebraska senator said he started on a voyage on the American South African line with a schedule of 28 days. The ship put out, he charged, without being properly conditioned and three times had to be stopped and have one of the engines overhauled, and it required 33 days to complete the trip. He declared the sister ship to the one he was on had previously required 580 days to make the same voyage with passengers aboard. The British ships, he said, maintained an unbroken schedule.

Will Reopen Fight Against Child Labor

THE annual convention of the Massachusetts state branch of the A. F. of L. voted unanimously to conduct an educational campaign in favor of the federal child labor amendment.

This state was swept by a wave of anti-amendment propaganda led by the Sentinels of the Republic. Massachusetts people were bewildered and rejected the amendment by a three-to-one vote in a popular referendum held November 4, last year.

Organized labor is confident the public is now in a receptive mood and will discuss the proposed amendment on its merits.

Small Town Business Can't Scare Miners

IN a letter to the Logan, W. Va., chamber of commerce, these business men are notified that they "can no more stop the organization of the miners of Logan county than they can stop the sun from shining."

The letter was written to J. P. Wright, Logan representative of Armour & Co., Chicago meat packers, by Van A. Bittner, International representative of the United Mine Workers.

Wright and other members of the chamber of commerce, called on Bittner and his associates. The unionists were informed that they could not organize miners in this section.

"I realize that, living in an atmosphere of ignorance, suspicion and prejudice as you do, under the domination of the king of bootleggers and thugs, you are simply a creature of environment," said Bittner.

"We are not going to wait upon you and tell you what we intend doing, but by reason and intelligence, your system of brute force will disappear and Logan county, which has been a blot on America, will take its place as a county in one of our great commonwealths. Americans can then come to Logan as they go elsewhere without being insulted by a so-called chamber of commerce or intimidated by thugs in the employ of coal operators."

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

Unremunerative Exports

EMIGRANTS to the total of 484,798 adults over 18 years of age left England to settle overseas in 1922, 1923 and 1924.

Among the male emigrants aged 18 years and over, 12,937 were classified as agricultural workers in 1922, 35,233 in 1923, and 18,894 in 1924.

About 95,000 of the three years' total of male adult emigrants belonged to the skilled trades—mining, engineering, building, etc., the largest proportion being in the engineering and metal trades. More than half the total of male adults were between 18 and 30 years of age.

But of the males engaged in agriculture no less than 66 per cent in 1922, 71 per cent in 1923, and 75 per cent in 1924 were between 18 and 30 years of age. England is stripping her soil of the young able-bodied land workers, exporting skilled labor and importing food.

SWEDEN

Communist Work for the "United Front"

COMMUNISTS do not limit their united front propaganda to countries where their efforts have succeeded in effecting a split in the trade union movement; they also work in countries which still possess a united trade union movement. In Great Britain, for instance, the Minority Movement is doing all it can to undermine the workers' confidence in the unions and their leaders. Similar attempts have twice been made in Sweden. The first idea was to split the national trade union centre by establishing a Communist national centre side by side with it, but this was not put into execution, partly owing to the wisdom of some of the members of the Communist Party.

Later, the Communists set up a "Propaganda Union," which however led a very modest life, and now appears to have slipped into oblivion. Moscow is not pleased about this. The Swedish "Social Democrats" have recently informed its readers that the leaders of the Swedish Communist Party have had orders from Moscow to set to work at once to form a new organization to split the unions; a trade union Left Wing is to be formed, which is to carry on the great work of undermining the Swedish trade unions. Preparations are going on, with all speed, and the creation of the new organization is said to be only a question of time.

SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Trade Union Movement in 1924

A REPORT recently issued by the Swiss National Centre points out that the Centre had a membership of 151,562 on December 31st, 1924, as compared with 151,461 at the end of 1923, so that it is evident that the decline in the membership which has been going on since 1920 has now come to a standstill. The number of male members has risen from 135,603 to 138,250, and the number of female members has fallen from 15,798 to 13,272.

The income of the Centre during the year was about 8 million frs. and the expenditure over 6½ millions, the funds having risen during the same time from nearly 10,000,000 to over 12,000,000 frs. 875,000 frs. were paid out as unemployment relief; 828,000 frs. for strikes and wage actions; 1,238,000 frs. as sick-benefit, and 504,000 as death benefit; while the costs of administration were 1,555,000 frs.

617 wage movements were conducted during the year; 67 of these ended in strikes involving 6,714 persons and 3 in lock-outs. 41 per cent of the actions were successful, 40 per cent partially successful, and 13 per cent failures.

AUSTRALIA

A Lesson in Deport—ment

THE New Zealand Government, one of the most reactionary, pig-headed, and monkey-minded of administrations, decided to deport one Neil Lyons, who had given annoyance by leading a successful strike of seamen.

When Lyons received the deportation order he told the Government bluntly to "get on with it." The seamen at the same time made it clear to the authorities that if they placed Lyons on a ship every vessel in the ports of the country would be held up. The authorities spent a month in alternately threatening Lyons and begging him to be deported quietly like a good boy, and then in a fit of imbecile bad temper, shoved him in prison.

SOUTH AFRICA

Back to Slavery

OWING to excellent harvests the South African natives this year have sufficient food for their needs, and therefore are not easily to be enticed into working under uncomfortable conditions (to put it mildly) for the white farmers.

A demand has accordingly been put forward on behalf of the latter, says the Johannesburg "International," for "segregation," meaning in plain English that the natives are to be driven off their holdings and forced into working for the white bosses.

MEXICO

Alien Land Holding To Be Curbed in Mexico

THE limitation of alien land owning is favored by President Calles in his message to the Mexican congress. This plan will avoid diplomatic differences, said the President. At present land owning by foreigners often conflicts with the nation's agrarian laws. When the government has solved the agricultural problem, he said, it will not be necessary to limit alien land holding.

The chief executive let it be understood that the country's laws could not be evaded by foreigners becoming members of societies or parties to business agreements. These, he said, must be considered Mexican, when formed in that country.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



"Clear Voices In English and American Literature"

By B. J. R. Stolper

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

Lesson 12.

"Darwin, Spencer and Huxley-Science Appears to Literature."

The Outworn Theory. The old theory of the universe placed our Earth at the center of the universe, with the stars and planets revolving about it. Copernicus showed our earth to be an insignificant speck somewhere in the corner of existence. The "anthropocentric" theory showed Man as the center of existence. The theory of Evolution jarred our vanity a little, but opened for us a grander and profounder perspective of life.

Evolution. The theory of evolution lays down the dictum that all higher forms of existence develop from lower and simpler forms, regularly, and according to recognized laws.

Charles Darwin. The author of "The Origin of Species" and the "Descent of Man" was not the first to state the thought of evolution. The idea dates back as far as the 17th century. But he was the one who collected the body of proofs which made the final statement of the theory inevitable. Within a lifetime, his books changed the whole field of human thought and imagination.

Herbert Spencer. As Darwin was the field worker and collector, so Spencer was the philosopher of evolution. He arranged and formulated the wider principles by which the theory applied to all phases of human knowledge: biology, geology, astronomy, sociology, ethics, psychology, philosophy. His book "First Principles" interprets all human contacts in terms of force, matter and motion.

Thomas Huxley. Of all evolutionists, Huxley did most to make clear to the popular mind ("Lay Sermons") the difficulties of Darwin and Spencer.

Evolution and Literature. The effect of the theory of evolution on English literature, no less than on all literature of all races, was tremendous. It put thinking on a firmer and less hazy basis; it lifted and widened human thought; it quickened the imagination; it gave readers not only the power to grasp vaster visions of the future, but made them more capable of interpreting the great dreams of geniuses of the past.

Second International Convention on Workers' Education

Ruskin College, Oxford—Aug. 15-17, 1924.

By FANNIA M. COHN

The first International Conference of Workers' Education was held three years ago in the historic Chaux-de-Waterloo, Uccle, Brussels, in a beautiful three-story building surrounded by artistic walks and gardens—the Belgian Labor College. The Conference at the Belgian Labor College was devoted to reports of the different workers' educational enterprises and to an exchange of views among the delegates present. Because of the unsettled conditions in Europe at that time, no permanent organization was formed in the field, but the International Federation of Trade Unions was requested to create, until the holding of the next convention, a temporary clearing house for the International Workers' Education Movement. The minutes of the convention were handed over to the Federation for publication. In the office in Amsterdam a special department was created for Workers' Education with John W. Brown as secretary in charge.

The atmosphere at this first conference was one of pessimism and apathy. What we in the new world considered radicalism during that period was in Europe rather an expression of despair. The masses of the people after four terrible years of war that transformed the old world into a slaughter house and destroyed millions of human lives, were steeped in wretchedness.

But the impression conveyed at the second Convention (August 15-17, 1924) was one of hope, vigor, and youth. This convention was held at Ruskin Labor College amid the medieval surroundings of the ancient seat of learning, the pride of academic England, Oxford. The numerous buildings and towers of the colleges that compose Oxford tell the story of the monopoly of education by the few families of wealth and influence who sent their sons here to acquire knowledge and refinement, thus preparing them to rule and manage our world. Yet in these surroundings was established the first English Labor Educational Institution—Ruskin College. The tablets on the outside tell of its origin, and many were astonished to learn that two Americans, Mr. and Mrs. Vrooman, provided the material means for its erection, and that a third American, Professor Charles A. Beard, was the intellectual moving spirit in the enterprise.

Seventy delegates attended the convention, representing twenty nations. Among them were representatives of three continents, Europe, America and Asia. The discussions were translated officially into three languages—English, German and French—but on the side they were interpreted into a few more, such as Polish and Flemish. The conferences joyfully greeted the participation of Americans through the Workers' Educa-

The Unity Centers have re-opened in the following public school buildings:

P. S. 63, Fourth Street near First Ave., Manhattan.

P. S. 171, 102 St. between Madison and Fifth Avenues.

P. S. 43, Brown Place and 135th St., Bronx.

P. S. 61, Crotona Park East and Charlotte St., Bronx.

P. S. 150, Christopher Ave. and Sackman St., Brooklyn.

The sessions begin at 7.45 P. M. Classes in the English language will be organized for beginners, interme-

diate and advanced students. They will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Lessons in Applied Economics, the development of the Labor Movement and Psychology will be given weekly.

Those of our members who intend to start their studies later, we would advise nevertheless, to report to the school on Monday and register. This will facilitate matters and make it possible for us to organize the classes more efficiently, and secure more competent teachers.

When registering remember to tell the principal that you wish to join the Unity Center of the I.L.G.W.U.

Opening Exercises of Our Educational Season on Saturday, November 24th

Our Educational Department is making elaborate preparations for the celebration of the re-opening of our educational season. This will take place on Saturday evening, November 14, in the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School.

The program of the evening will consist of a concert performed by prominent artists, followed by a dance in the gymnasium.

Our members with their families who are interested in the activities of our Educational Department will be invited to the affair.

Admission will be by tickets only which will be distributed free among our local unions.

The detailed program will be announced later in Justice and Gerechtigkeit.

Our readers will notice that the opening celebration of the educational activities will take place one week later than the commencement of the courses in our Workers' University. This we were compelled to do because the auditorium was not available for an earlier date.

Workers' University Courses Will Start Saturday Afternoon, November 7th

The studies in our Workers' University will be resumed on Saturday, November 7, 1.30 P. M. As previously, the classes will meet in Washington Irving High School.

The announcement of our activities in booklet form will soon be ready for distribution, and our members can

then select from it the courses they wish to attend.

For detailed information our members may apply to the office of our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

All the activities are free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

tion Bureau in this historic gathering. There were also representatives of Canada, New Zealand, and British Guiana and Palestine.

The most encouraging spirit of fellowship and goodwill existed among these seventy delegates. They all came with the desire to learn from one another, to get a better knowledge of each other's problems and to assist each other in the solution of those problems. All expressed hope and faith in the organized labor movement as a great social force helping to bring about a better world, built on a foundation of fellowship and humanity. The delegates felt that the reconstruction of the world required the cooperation of all peoples from all lands. They felt that the time had come to make an attempt to establish an intellectual and spiritual international of the organized labor movement as well as an economic and political one. The opinion prevailed that much of the misunderstanding between nations is due to the lack of knowledge of the history and psychology of the peoples and of their national characteristics, and that an International Federation of Workers' Education would tend to overcome this difficulty.

(To be continued)

EDUCATIONAL PLANS FOR COMING SEASON

The plans of our Educational Department for the next season are completed. A detailed announcement of the courses and description of same will appear in Justice soon. As last year, our activities will be carried on in English, Yiddish and in the Russian languages. We also expect to add activities in the Italian language. Our educational activities will be carried on in different parts of the city where our members reside and on days and hours most convenient to them. We advise our members who are interested in our educational program to visit our Educational Department, 3 West 16th street and obtain detailed information. This would assist them in selecting the activities which they wish to join and it would be most helpful, to our Educational Department.

GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY!

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

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

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

В ОТДЕЛЕ.

В понедельник, 14-го сентября, в помещении 215 Нст 10-ой гд. состоялось собрание члена Р. П. О. Собрание это началось во вторник 8-го сентября и за короткий промежуток было проведено на 14-ое сентября.

Порядок дня был следующий: выборы председатели отдела, чтение протоколов отдела, доклад протокола Дюжой Борда, доклад делегата, доклад секретаря отдела, выборы делегата в локал 35-ый.

1) На одном из прошлых собраний отдела против тов. Азарю было возбуждено обвинение, что якобы он приглашал комиссию из Комитета Действия, в ходе таковой являлся в Р. П. О. отказываясь от участия. Тов. Азарю на этот раз пришлось отказаться от участия, так как он не был участником в приглашении Комиссии. Комитет Действия и просил Исполнительный Комитет Р. П. О. назначить комиссию для расследования возмездного на него обвинения. Исп. Ком. назначил комиссию, в которую вошли тов. Финский, Канский и Нароцкий. Во вторник, 8-го сентября комиссия имела собрание, на котором от товарищей, представляющих обвинение, были потребованы доказательства правдивости выставляемых ими обвинений против тов. Азарю. Так как никаких доказательств эти товарищи представить не было, то комиссия не могла вынести никакого решения. Собрание, выслушав доклад комиссии, решило оставить обвинение против тов. Азарю без последствий. После этого было предложено и коммиссия кандидатов в председатели Русско-Польского Отдела. Все коммиссионеры при опросе отказались в пользу принявшего кандидатуру товарища Н. Римашиевского, члена локала 2-го, книжка 8490, который является одним из самых старых работников в Р. П. О. и много раз принимал ответственность должности в Отделе.

Не имея оснований тов. Римашиевский был единогласно избран председателем Отдела.

2) Прочитали и приняли, за волеизъявлением пункта о реорганизации в

нашем комитете, который решено обсуждать вместе с протоколом Дюжой Борда, протоколы общих собраний Отдела от 6-го и 20-го июля, 3-го и 24-го августа. Также прочитали и приняли протоколы Исполнительного Комитета Р. П. О. от 13-го, 27-го июля, и августа 10-го и 31-го.

3) Прочитали и приняли с уведомлением протоколы Дюжой Борда от июля 24-го, 26-го, июля 10-го, 24-го, 27-го и 28-го, августа 7-го, 17-го, 21-го и 28-го, протоколы Совета Директоров от июля 15-го, 27-го, августа 5-го, 17-го и 27-го.

4) Делегаты Дюжой Борда товарища Нароцкий и Яновский доложили, что на собрании Дюжой Борда 11-го сентября таковым образом обсуждалась рекомендация Генерального Исполнительного Комитета Дюжой Борду передать вопрос о членских взносах на всеобщее голосование (референдум) всех членов комитета и что эта рекомендация была принята подавляющим большинством делегатов Дюжой Борда.

При обсуждении вопросов принятых на собрании фабричных старост (машинистов) в четверг 8-го сентября в Купер Нью-Йорк, решено в целях большего осведомления Отдела о работе фабричной на этом собрании Комиссии, в целях защиты интересов Отдела, избрать двух представителей от Отдела. В коммиссию избраны товарищи Саулет и Березинский.

6) Был выслушан и принят доклад секретаря Отдела о текущей конторской работе.

7) Выслушан и принят доклад де

гата в локал 35-ый Н. Эверманского.

8) Делегаты в локал 35-ый вместе с уведомлением в отставку тов. Канского единогласно избрали тов. А. Новичка.

9) В локал 35-ый было прочтено письмо Российского Общества в Саут Бруклин, 652 Четвертая авеню, которое имело на себя направление по союзу конференция на предмет организации в Нью-Йоркской области русских школ грамоты.

Конференция состоится в клубе этого общества в воскресенье 20-го сентября и общество приглашает наш Отдел прислать своих представителей на эту конференцию.

Выслушав это письмо собрание приняло на рассмотрение в письменной форме и необходимым и решено послать на эту конференцию двух своих представителей. Делегатами избраны товарищи А. Матейко и М. Багатурян.

Вниманию членов Отдела, не получивших полностью причитающегося им страхового пособия.

Все товарищи, члены Русско-Польского Отдела, которые не получили полностью или совсем не получили причитающегося им страхового пособия из безработного фонда или же получили писем с отказом в уплате, приглашаются зайти в контору Р. П. О. Контора постарается возобновить их жалобы и совместно с представителями Безработного фонда К. Джаксонсона доставить причитающиеся им деньги в случае, где таковые им причитаются.

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Секретарь М. Шенченко.

THE RECORD AND PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT, I. L. G. W. U.

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

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

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

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1. Remember to notify us of your new address upon change of residence.

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

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

In a clear and unmistakable manner the members at the special meeting held on Monday evening, September 14th, in Arlington Hall, once more went on record as being opposed to any outside group domination and in favor of conducting the affairs of the union in the traditional manner of the cutters, that is, within the organization and on the floor of the union's meetings.

Also, the unanimous approval of the approximately seven hundred members present at the meeting was given on the convention call of the International. In the communication to this effect the proposal is contained to hold the eighteenth regular convention of the union beginning Monday, November 30, 1925, in the city of Philadelphia, instead of the first week of May 1926. The shifting of the convention five months ahead of the regular date is due to the present situation in the union.

Warned to Cease Affiliation

The action of the cutters against a concerted effort by an outside group for domination of the union took place when the secretary reported to the members the action of the executive board in the case of nine members who were found guilty of organizing and participating. The Executive Board reported, "In an illegal organization called the 'Cutters' Council,' which has met so far at 5 West 21st Street (and) is instructing the cutters to ignore the orders of the office, defying the decisions of the organization (and) at which meetings the cutters are urged to) file complaints in their (Council's) office before sitting with the local; also to apply there for jobs.

While the Executive Board had every right to impose the harshest penalty of suspension or expulsion in view of a mandate by the Union against outside groups which try to take to themselves the functions of the union, which was overwhelmingly adopted by the members about a year and a half ago and which at the time resulted in the suspension of some members for similar activities, the Executive Board in the present instance nevertheless was lenient to the extent of issuing a warning disciplinary order before enforcing the measures.

When the Executive Board discussed the cases of the eleven men it took into consideration the present situation in the union. And not desiring to make martyrs of any of them the Executive Board "decided to recommend to the body that no disciplinary measures be taken immediately but that the eleven members be warned to discontinue their affiliations or whatever connections they may have with leagues and that they be given two weeks' time from the date charged before the Executive Board in which to comply with this warning. Should they fail to carry out these instructions they are to stand automatically suspended for a period of two years."

Group Bought to Assume Functions of Union

When the question was discussed, those opposing the action of the Executive Board attempted to hide the sinister purpose of the Cutters' Council by calling it an open forum, where generalities were discussed. Manager Dubinsky ridiculed this statement.

He quoted from the testimony of most of the men who were charged with the violation. The majority of those appearing before the Board, the manager said, admitted very readily that nearly all of the activities of the meetings of the Council

concerned themselves with the affairs of the union.

It was also admitted by the active participants in this illegal group that the members at the meeting were advised to also file their complaints with the Council and to apply there for employment. Many of the Executive Board's decisions were subjects for discussion and action.

The Council leaders would take up cases and advise those present at their meetings how to act and what to say. Members were not expected to use their own judgment or to prompt their decisions at the union meetings by the opinion of the speakers and officers. The Council adherents were not to have an independent opinion in their conduct at the meetings of the union.

In a letter sent out by one signed as secretary of the so-called "Cutters Council" members are practically encouraged to defy the manager and ignore his orders. Dubinsky said, when he quoted extracts from this letter, that it is not he, personally, who is hurt by such propaganda.

Must Maintain Tradition of Local 10

"When Dubinsky gives an order," the manager said, "it is the union that is issuing it. And when his orders are defied it is the union's orders that are being defied. It seems that some members are considerably proud when they advocate defiance of the orders of the union. Those who are proud of it are not union men in the opinion of any right-thinking union man.

"Local 10 has no equal in point of unity and a well-disciplined organization within the International and the general Labor movement. In all its history no member was ever proud of defying the orders of their manager. The discipline of Local 10 which is manifested throughout the activities of the cutters was established long before I came into office. It has in fact become a tradition.

"Through this tradition the union has been able to secure, enforce and improve decent conditions and a living wage. To me the question is a very simple one at this time. Should the members submit to the union or should the union submit to a member? Tonight will determine this and also whether complaints and other matters affecting the members of Local 10 are to be taken up in the headquarters of Local 10 or by a self-constituted clique with headquarters at 21st street or elsewhere.

Cutters Cold to Hysteria

It is doubtful whether, during the days of the existence of leagues, any league assumed so plainly the character of a dual union as the present. This Council has not only attempted to assume the functions vested in the regularly elected officers of the local but has attempted to take to itself the right to advise as to whether a member should give up his union when he is asked for by an officer of the union.

Manager Dubinsky said that if the members, at Monday night's meeting, tolerated such activities, they might just as well have decided to transfer the headquarters of the union to the Council.

An attempt was made by one of the speakers to have the members vote for an indefinite postponement of the Executive Board's action, in view of the situation existing in the union. Dubinsky, however, reminded the members that the Executive Board had this in mind when the penalty they imposed upon the eleven

SPECIAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF LOCAL 10!

In accordance with the decision of the membership at the special meeting on Monday, September 14, 1925, members are hereby informed and warned against participating in any illegal outside organization, at which matters affecting the union are discussed or acted upon, as matters of this sort are to be discussed and decided upon at the meetings of the union, proper, only.

Members ignoring this warning or defying this decision are liable to suspension or expulsion.

individuals consisted of a warning before penalty imposed.

In speaking of the necessity for means of expression in discussions on questions of the union, Samuel Perlmutter, Manager of the Downtown Office of the Joint Board, said that he could not understand the utterances along these lines in the face of the meeting. In spite of the fact, he said, that by an overwhelming vote speaking was limited, speakers were given by the chair nearly three times the amount of time allotted.

Perlmutter saw in all this but one thing: an attempt to enmesh the cutters into a state of hysteria. For in so far as discussions are concerned no more freedom could possibly exist anywhere than exists in Local 10. He reminded his hearers that some of the members even went so far as to abuse the freedom of speech in the union even to the extent of slandering officers on the open floor, a thing which was never tolerated in the cutters' organization or elsewhere, and ought not to be tolerated any longer.

What the opposition tried to evade, Isidore Nagler said, during the course of his urging the members to adopt the decision of the Executive Board, was a readiness to disregard the constitution and the decision of the members. Those two or three individuals who spoke, he said, were attempting to defy the membership and their decisions so often overrule, adopted and not an individual officer. Nagler sought to know what else it was that the circular letter sent out by the Council leaders meant other than an utter disregard of the desires of the members. He expressed confidence in the decision by the members on the issue in question. Their numbers and their behavior at the meeting attest to a desire for the upkeep of the organization in the traditional manner of Local 10.

The vote to sustain the Executive Board in its decision, warning the eleven whose case was discussed and others who may be misled into lending their names to the Council, was approved overwhelmingly by the membership.

Must Not Disregard Existing Rules

During the course of his report, Dubinsky dwelt at some length on the peace talk, now a question of general discussion within the union. He told the members of the two shop chairman meetings which took place recently, at one of which a committee of shop chairman was appointed for the purpose of effecting a plan along lines for the establishment of peace.

The Executive Board in its report also discussed this phase of the situation. The Board reports that the plan submitted by the General Executive Board and adopted by the

Joint Board is favorable but the various elements in the union are not inclined to accept it and changes will probably be made. In view of this the Executive Board went on record as favoring such changes as will re-establish order within the union and the trade.

To Preserve Integrity of Local

No doubt this was the conclusion of the members when they voted in favor of the warning against affiliation with outside groups. During all of the weeks of turbulence and hysteria the routine work of Local 10 went on. At every meeting, when questions touching upon the present situation were taken up for discussion or action, the result was a determination to preserve the integrity of Local 10.

To one not familiar with the members of Local 10 it would seem surprising that the war of hysteria had not found itself within the organization. Attempts were made on more than one occasion to infuse hysteria in the ranks of Local 10. This was evident at last Monday night's meeting, when one speaker speaking against the decision of the Executive Board attempted in high-pitched tones to rouse the passions of the members by injecting the spirit of mob psychology in his remarks.

In spite of the fact that the members have more than once made known their stand in the present situation, last Monday night's meeting is looked upon by almost everyone as one at which the members clearly defined their stand. What affects the suspended officers of Locals 2, 9 and 32, and the Joint Board, is a matter for the consideration of the committee of shop chairmen. And what affects the International is a matter for consideration at the convention, which is called for November 30th.

Another thing which has prompted the International to issue an early convention call is the fact that the agreements in the cloak and dress industries of New York and elsewhere will expire in July 1926. The International, in its convention call, stated in effect that if a change in the personnel of the General Executive Board will take place it would not be conducive to the welfare of the union that were the convention held in May 1926 a new administration should be faced with gigantic problems, even a month or two after assuming office.

(Note—Manager Dubinsky rendered a report at last Monday night's meeting regarding the stoppage of the sub-manufacturers. For lack of space on this page, the cutters are urged to read the news on this subject on the front page of this issue.)

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING Monday, Sept. 21

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