

"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. 50.

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18th Convention Nears End

Convention Business Delayed by Demonstrations—Work of Governor's Commission Discussed—Delegates Addressed by William Green and Matthew Woll—Recognition of Soviet Russia Urged—Vote of Thanks to Governor Smith for Release of Gildiv.

With the convention of our International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in Philadelphia entering upon consideration of its most important questions, and with scores of delegates eager to speak on questions of particular concern to them, it appears likely that the sessions will continue through Sunday.

Too late to remedy the situation, many of the delegates who have been satisfied to jealously discuss comparatively unimportant questions at great length, now realize that the most important business may have to be rushed through. Perhaps the greatest waste of convention time will have to be charged up to the love of demonstration that our delegates of the "left" cannot overcome.

Scarcely a day has passed when the time of the convention has not been consumed by at least one demonstration by our vociferous "revolutionaries." It started the first day with the attempt at a demonstration in the Arch Street Theatre. Another of a more serious nature marked last Thursday's session during a discussion on the question of labor defense organizations.

Some members found it impossible to restrain their heated feelings and for a time it seemed as if there might be some serious disorder. President Morris Sigman was finally led to adjourn the convention for a half hour to give the delegates a chance to cool off. President Sigman's foresight, as a chairman prepared the way for a return to order and the introduction of a saner atmosphere.

Arturo Giovannitti was introduced to the delegates by President Sigman after the convention resumed its work. For a time, at any rate, the ardor of his address made the "left" delegates forget their bitterness toward the "right." With thrilling eloquence, Brother Giovannitti traced the growth of Fascism, denouncing it as the greatest curse of our age. When he had finished, all the delegates rose in

spontaneous applause which would not be denied.

Thursday's outburst, which succeeded only in delaying the business of the convention, was but a few degrees worse than similar incidents by which the "lefts" disturbed the procedure of the convention on previous days.

It was not until Friday afternoon that the convention started to tackle really vital matters. The question of the future relations with the employers in the New York market was the one that engrossed the attention of the delegates at that time.

Lefts Demand Repression of Commission's Efforts

The breaking off of all negotiations through Governor Smith's Advisory Commission, and repudiation of the principle of mediation was demanded by the "left" delegates. A resolution proposed by leaders of the "left" bloc urged that in the future negotiations be carried on directly with the employers and, in the event these fail, a strike be the next course. The convention's committee on Officers Report recommended non-concurrence in this resolution, urging that the

Union "must use every method, — mediation, negotiations and arbitration," with the strike only as a last resort.

The committee favored continuance of mediation through Governor Smith's Commission, adding, "in the event that the final recommendations of the Advisory Commission fail to meet the just demands of the Union, we use our full economic strength to realize these demands."

On the matter of demands, those of the "left" wing and those of the administration differ but little, the committee reported. Their demands, as reiterated today, include a guarantee of thirty-six weeks of work each year, a forty-hour five-day work week, no overtime, an employment bureau to be operated by the union, limitation of the number of contractors each jobber may employ, the right to examine employers' books and an unemployment fund to which the employers are to be the sole contributors and the union the administrator.

Hyman Favors Mediation

The discussion on the committee's report included intensely interesting

speeches by President Sigman and Brother Louis Hyman.

Brother Hyman's speech, in one respect, created much surprise both among the "right" delegates and among his own group. This surprise came when he declared that he was not opposed to mediation and conciliation as a matter of principle. Sometimes, he said, mediation is the proper course to be pursued; a policy of mediation purely, he said, is an undesirable one. In this respect he sided with the position of President Sigman who also declared he does not approve, and never did, of a system whereby mediation would be the only means by which the Union could press its demands. On the contrary, President Sigman emphasized his belief that the strike is an all-important weapon, — so important, he said, that it should be used with the greatest care and only after less costly means had been exhausted.

The convention had the privilege of being addressed by two high officials of the American Federation of Labor in the persons of President William Green and Vice-president Matthew Woll. President Green spoke last Saturday. He delivered an eloquent plea for unity in the International, which will appear in an early issue of Justice. Brother Woll spoke on behalf of the Union Labor Life Insurance Company, of which he is the president. He described the great wealth massed by the insurance companies of the nation, pointing out what a great power for evil this wealth carries with it. Monies of the insurance companies, he said, are as often as not invested in industrial and commercial organizations which are bitter opponents of organized labor. A high percentage of the sums thus used, he said, is paid in by workers.

Governor Smith's name came into the proceedings twice Friday, the first time in the morning when the convention decided to send him a vote of thanks for having released Benjamin Gitlow from jail, where he had been incarcerated for violation of the criminal anarchy statute.

Russian Questions Discussed

Questions pertaining to Soviet Russia engaged the attention of the delegates. (Continued on Page 6)

Convention Pledges Aid To Willimantic Textile Strikers

One of the interesting moments at the fifth day of convention was the appearance of a representative of the 2,550 textile strikers of Willimantic, Conn., where they have been for a number of months fighting a drastic wage reduction ordered by the American Thread Company, the owner of the local thread mills.

Speaking for the strikers at the convention was Miss Mary Kelleher, who has been with the Willimantic workers from the day they walked out last March. Miss Kelleher was given an ovation as she concluded her plea. She said, in part:

"I am here representing the textile workers of Willimantic, a group of about 2,550 people out on strike since the 9th day of March in protest against a 10 per cent reduction in wages by the American Thread Company, which is a foreign corporation whose policies are dictated from Manchester, England. They said that the wages of the Willimantic workers were too high and we would have to accept a 10 per cent reduction.

"The fight is not only on the 10 per cent reduction in wages. It is also to maintain the 40-hour work week which we have established in the mills since 1913. The manufacturers of Massachusetts are now making efforts to have that law repealed. So we are not only fighting this gigantic American Thread Company, but we are fighting the combined efforts of the Massachusetts Manufacturers' Association.

"Out of the 2,550 strikers less than 250 have broken ranks. You have to go down there to see the spirit that is being displayed by the strikers. We didn't lose one striker except those that were evicted from their homes, and we are doing everything in our power to help them and keep them together. The winter is coming on, and the only means we have of carrying on is to appeal to the labor unions in general asking for contributions. So, Mr. Chairman and brothers and sisters, if there is anything that you can do to help us it will be deeply appreciated."

In response to a motion made by Delegate Fannie M. Cohn, the convention voted unanimously to give the Willimantic strikers financial assistance.

Joint Board of Sanitary Control Fifteen Years Old

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the women's garment industry will celebrate its fifteenth anniversary at a dinner on Monday evening, December 14th, at the Town Hall Club, 123 West 42nd Street.

The Board was created under the Protocol of Peace which ended the general strike in the industry in 1910, for the purpose of eradicating the sweatshop, eliminating fire hazards and overcoming generally bad conditions in the factories of the largest industry in the city.

George Gordon Battle and Justice Bernard L. Shientag of the City Court will review the remarkable success of the Board, the one institution created by the Protocol which has weathered all storms, ignored all quarrels and survived all changes in the garment

trades for fifteen years.

The Union Health Center, the only institution of its kind conducted by a labor union, had its beginning in the medical clinic established by the Joint Board of 1913, upon the realization that clean shops with unhealthy workers did not accomplish sanitation.

Representatives of the public on the Board are Dr. William Jay Shiefelin, chairman, and Miss Lillian D. Wald.

During 1924 joint boards of sanitary control were established in Baltimore, Md., and Toronto, Canada. The chairman of the Baltimore Board is Dr. W. F. Howell of Johns Hopkins University; the chairman of the Toronto Board is Dr. J. A. Dale of the University of Toronto.

Convention Delegates Present Gift To Martin Plett

Brother Martin Plett, president of the German Clothing Workers' Federation, who brought fraternal greetings to the Philadelphia convention on behalf of his organization and also on behalf of the International Clothing Workers' Federation, received a concrete expression of thanks from the delegates at Friday's session.

President Plett was called to the platform by President Morris Sigman, who presented him with a watch as a token of the delegates' appreciation of his interest in our organization. Brother Plett responded with a speech in German, later translated by Vice-president Lefkowitz, in which he praised the International for its accomplishments and its spirit of international solidarity.

Zuckerman Greets Convention

A feature of the convention proceedings on Thursday, December 3rd, was the address delivered to the delegates during the morning session by Brother Max Zuckerman, the veteran secretary-treasurer of the Cap Makers' International Union.

Brother Zuckerman is one of the best known and most active men in the needle workers' organizations in America and a seasoned fighter in Labor's cause. His remarks were warmly greeted by the delegates.

Brother Zuckerman said in part: "The Executive Board of our organization, which was in session last week, conferred upon me the privilege of delivering to you the fraternal greetings of the members of our organization. I might just as well be frank with you and tell you that being the secretary I am not much of a speaker. This is practically the first time that I have been given the honor and privilege of addressing your convention. I did appear before your convention in Chicago in 1920, but that was merely an accident. Our General Board met in Chicago at the time your convention took place there and our General Board in a body came to your convention to pay their respects to you. At that time the address of welcome for our organization was made by President Zaritsky.

"I would like to give you a detailed account of my observations during my connection with the trade union movement, but I don't wish to impose on your time because I know you have many pressing and important problems to meet. I deeply appreciate this honor and privilege of appearing before you also because of the fact that the officers and active members of the I. L. G. W. U. were the first men I met in the Labor movement at the time I became an officer of our organization. I then met Brothers Rosenberg, Schlesinger, Grossman, Polakoff and a few more. And I greatly admired the wonderful courage and tenacity of purpose that these men displayed, because to me it seemed they were trying to overcome insurmountable obstacles. At that time the I. L. G. W. U. was merely a skeleton, and its wonderful progress up to this day no doubt was due in great part to the foresight and ability of these early strugglers.

"At that time I became the general secretary of our organization, a young inexperienced worker, not young in years but young in experience; and I naturally took advantage of my acquaintance with these men and sought and took their advice, and their advice certainly was sound and worth taking. So I have a special attachment to the I. L. G. W. U. because they were, so to speak, my teachers. Later on I became acquainted with other of leaders of your organization, who are still officers, President Sigman and Vice-president Lefkowitz, and my acquaintance with them has been to my profit and advantage.

"Now, I won't go into detail about the struggles of our organization. Your struggles and our struggles are similar, and what you have to contend

with we also have to contend with, and, brothers and sisters, we are watching with great interest the work of your convention. I had an opportunity of looking over the report of your General Executive Board. You have your problems and we have ours. You will have to tackle your problems in your way and we will have to solve ours in our way, yet there is the similarity in purpose and method.

"Now, let me express the hope and wish that your deliberations, marked by sound and constructive criticism, will result in great success and that you, who represent the aspirations of your constituents, will rise to your responsibilities and will have this convention united in spirit, united in purpose and united in effort to meet the great problems that are confronting you. I thank you for this privilege and honor (applause)."

Italian Chamber of Labor in Active Drive

Sends Telegram to International Convention

Among the present activities of the Italian Chamber of Labor, with headquarters at 231 East 14th Street, New York City, a movement has been started to organize the street cleaners, and freight handlers, whose conditions according to reports given by their representatives to the Chamber of Labor are far below the standard of similar workers in other industries.

A mass meeting for all employees of the Street Cleaning Department will be held Sunday afternoon, December 6, at 2:30 o'clock at Clinton Hall, between Broome and Grand Streets. Leonardo Frisina, general organizer of the Italian Chamber of Labor, will be the principal speaker at this meeting.

A general membership meeting for the Shoe Workers' Union of Brooklyn will take place Friday evening, December 4, at the Amalgamated Temple, 11 Arden Place, Brooklyn; where Arturo Giovannitti, General Secretary of the Italian Chamber of Labor, will be the chief speaker.

Giovannitti will also address a meeting of Railway Express Employees on Sunday, December 6, in the afternoon at the Central Opera House, 265 East 57th Street.

The Chamber of Labor sent the following telegram to the I.L.G.W.U. convention at present meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.:

"The Italian Chamber of Labor

On Friday, November 27th, a large group of friends and co-workers of Comrade S. Yanofsky assembled in the Park Palace Restaurant, 119th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York to bid him farewell as the editor of "Gerechtigkeit", the weekly publication of the I. L. G. W. U.

Among those who attended this affair were practically all the members of the G. E. B., including President Sigman and Secretary Baroff, who acted as toastmaster. A number of labor journalists who have for years been associated with Brother Yanofsky in other fields of literary endeavor and activity came to pay him homage as one of the most widely-known Jewish journalists and Labor orators in this country.

Among those who responded to the toast were Vice-President Israel Fein-

hain and acclaims with mixed pride and anxiety the Eighteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

"We, your Italian brothers of all trades await with deep emotion, and no little perplexity, the outcome of your proceedings.

"May they be guided solely by the sacred interest of the masses which are trusted in your hands and may the spirit of brotherhood rule over all your councils and deliberations.

"Let any theory or tendency which cannot stand the supreme test of tolerance, forbearance and solidarity perish and be forgotten.

"Let there be neither victors nor vanquished, neither martyrs nor heroes, where only brothers and the dear loved comrades ought to and must be.

"Out of the crucible of this free test may there arise a stronger, better, more militant and harmonious union of the Ladies' Garment Workers, solemnly pledged to fight for and achieve the unity of all the exploited of the world and their emancipation from every form of slavery.

"Long live the I.L.G.W.U. forever one and indivisible.

ARTURO GIOVANNITTI,
LEONARDO FRISINA."

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berg who pointed out Yanofsky's many years of service in the labor movement and his brilliant achievements as a publicist; Max Amdur spoke in a similar vein, dwelling on the limitations which the field of Labor Journalism imposes upon writers engaged in it and expressed the hope that now that Editor Yanofsky leaves this field and reenters the wider sphere of literary and cultural activity, he will still retain a sense of allegiance to the workers in our trades and will miss no opportunity to defend them with his trenchant and clear pen.

Amdur was followed by Vice-President Nifno, Secretary Max Feinstein of the United Hebrew Trades, Max Blumenthal, former secretary of Local 23, and Louis Levy, co-manager of Local 2, disciples of Brother Yanofsky and for many years his faithful pupils and admirers. Next spoke Leo Pinkenstein, associate editor of "Gerechtigkeit", who has known Yanofsky and has worked side by side with him for nearly thirty years. Max D. Danish, managing editor of "Justice", spoke in warm terms of the seven years of association with Brother Yanofsky in the publication of I. L. G. W. U. journals.

A very impressive talk was delivered by President Sigman who declared that he was very happy indeed all these years to have had Comrade Yanofsky as editor-in-chief of the international publications and praised highly his uncompromising and steadfast editorial policy in defending the interests of the organization against all external and internal enemies. President Sigman was followed by Jacob Rich, staff member of the "Jewish Daily Forward", Brothers Mintz and Shutz of the "Krise Arbeiter Stimme", Brother Kurzman of Local 23, Leigi Antonini, manager of Local 20, Abraham Snyder of Local 62, H. Greenberg of Local 31, Louis Pinkowsky of Local 23, and M. Weiss of Local 6.

Brother Yanofsky spoke last. He was obviously moved very deeply by the expression of "appreciation" and loyalty shown him by all speakers and guests at the dinner. He said that as the editor for seven years of the official organ of one of the finest labor organizations in the world, he has endeavored to do his duty toward this organization and its membership. He has gained many enemies in the course of his work, but one rarely can escape incurring opposition while doing one's work in a fearless and uncompromising way.

Comrade Yanofsky also dwelt upon the causes which prompted him to resign now his editorship of the "Gerechtigkeit". (The reader will find elsewhere in this issue a complete statement by Yanofsky concerning his resignation.) Towards the end of the evening, Toastmaster Baroff presented the retiring editor with a silver loving cup from the General Executive Board.

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Address of Delegate Martin Plattl

A highly interesting feature of Monday morning's session, December 7th, was the appearance on the convention's platform of Brother Martin Plattl, president of the German Clothing Workers' Union, and delegate of the International Clothing Workers' Federation of Amsterdam, to the convention.

Brother Plattl addressed the delegates for a half hour, and his speech was frequently interrupted by outbursts of applause. He spoke in German, and his speech was later translated for the delegates by Delegate Leffkowitz as follows:

"I regret that I cannot speak your language, which prevents me from transmitting to you as warmly and as wholeheartedly as I should like the message of greetings from the International Clothing Workers' Federation, to which you belong, and from the German Clothing Workers' Union whose President I am, and who send their best wishes to you and to your convention.

The workers of Europe in general and the workers in our own trades, the needle trades in particular, have suffered greatly during the years before the war, in the horrible nightmare of the World War, which lasted four years, and ever since the war was concluded. During the war the bonds of international solidarity which had grown strong and bade well to become a tremendous weapon in the hands of the workers for their emancipation had become weaker and in many instances were torn asunder. During the war and after it, the employers in every industry on the continent of Europe have sought to take advantage of the critical situation in which faced every nation and to break down labor standards and labor unions which have taken generations to build up. In this they were, we must regretfully admit, successful to a considerable degree.

"Fortunately, since the conclusion of hostilities the workers in Europe, and in many of the other countries affected by the war, have again awakened to the realization that international solidarity must be preserved at all costs if the working class organizations are to be saved and amount to anything. As a result, we find today that former ties and affiliations have been revived and we are happy to see that they are even stronger today in many industries than they ever were before. Our own International Clothing Workers' Federation was revived in 1920, and today we have an affiliated membership of 285,000 workers from countries all over Europe and America. True, these are not all the needle workers all over the world, but we are hopeful that before long every trade organization on the face of this globe will be united with our Federation.

I came to America, together with my associates in the German trade union movement to study American working conditions in the shops and mines and to study your methods of work and industry. We came here as a commission from the German trade unions, 15 of us, to seek information for the benefit of the organized workers of Germany, prompted by the fact that last year a group of German employers visited the United States, and upon returning to Germany informed us at conference that, if the German workers want to get Germany back to its former leading position in industry and commerce, the workers would have to work longer hours, more efficiently and harder than they work at present. They concretely proposed that the German trade unions give up the eight-hour day, and work 10 or 12 hours daily,

for lower wages and at as high a speed as they claimed the American workers are working.

"When I came to America, I found that our German capitalists of industry had told us only part of the story and that a great deal they either kept to themselves or desigiously misrepresented. I found for instance, that the needle workers in America worked even less than eight hours a day on the average, — namely, 10 hours a week and in some trades even 40 hours, and I learned to my great satisfaction that these needle workers, organized in powerful unions, have actual control over labor standards and conditions in the shops and that they are able to adjust grievances to the best of the workers' interests because of this excellent exercise of their organized power in the clothing factories. I have learned many other facts and data, which, when presented in their true light to the garment workers of Germany, will give them added strength and additional weapons to fight the aggression and the avarice of our employing interests.

"I am going to report back to the German workers the true state of affairs in our industry in America, and my fellow workers in the German clothing trades will give notice to the master clothiers of Germany that their attempt to make slaves of the German garment workers so that they might compete with other countries at the expense of the living standards of our men and women, will not succeed; that we shall fight back every attempt to delouse our living conditions and, with the strong organizations that we possess, we shall succeed in frustrating their efforts. (Loud applause).

"I do not desire to flatter you. We German workers are not so constituted as to make a practice of hollow phrases or meaningless flattery, but I desire sincerely to tell you that I am very deeply impressed by what I have found in your shops. The evidence of a strong organization in your trade is manifest everywhere and wherever I went I could not help observing the effects of the solidarity and the united power that you exert. I hope, and this will be my own endeavor and the endeavor of my colleagues in our union, to establish such labor conditions in our shops in Germany as you have in your garment factories in the United States. But while you may consider it somewhat out of place, I cannot help remarking that in my three months' study and contact with the workers in your shops and likewise with some of the employers, I found also the evidence of the internal strife that is going on in your ranks, evidence that is deplorable and that is affecting very

Peace and Population

By NORMAN THOMAS

We don't want to be pessimists about the progress of peace in Europe. So far as France and Germany are concerned the Locarno Pact represents a real step toward peace. It looks as if the banks of the Rhine had been removed, at least for the time being, as one of the danger spots to European peace. At the same time we Americans must not forget that European politicians and industrialists anxious for loans are under heavy temptation to exaggerate this "spirit of Locarno".

Mussolini, for instance, grows more and less dangerous. His government lives on "victories". Now that it has suppressed almost all local self-government and disarmed its domestic opponents there are not many more internal "victories" to be won. It is perfectly evident that Mussolini must look abroad. Within recent days well informed correspondents have reported: (1) that the size of Italian armaments on the island of Rhodes almost within shell shot of the shores of Asia Minor and the aggressiveness of Italian interests in Turkey are creating fear and unrest in that country; and (2) that the Fascists in the Tyrol, the annexation of which by Italy was one of the chief crimes at Versailles, are making new threats against Austria. Vienna, they say, responds only to money or the whip. "Since Italy has no money let it use whips."

Aside from Mussolini's need of victories to maintain his prestige it is true that Italy has an economic urge

for expansion. Fascist speakers declare bluntly that since the United States has almost shut the door on Italian immigration, room must be found for the surplus population in colonies under Italian control. In other words the pressure of population on land in Italy's case makes for war.

The remedy for this population problem is not colonial expansion. There is not enough desirable new land in the world to relieve Italy of over-population. Even emigration to America brought only temporary relief. With the abundant birth rate and declining death rate the reservoirs of population soon refill. Let us put the matter bluntly. There are just two remedies for over-population in countries like Italy and Japan. The first is to guarantee them world wide access to raw materials more equitable and more assured than they now possess so that they can count on keeping their industries going. The second is birth control. We have not yet seen an argument to refute the contention that in the long run the hope of peace will depend on a scientific birth control. The United States which does not yet feel the pressure of population cannot afford to urge birth control on other nations while making it illegal under various state and federal laws for physicians to give information on this subject at home. To change these laws is a step toward peace abroad at the same time that it is a step away from hypocrisy and towards decency at home.

much the welfare of your members. I am not here to give you my advice. I know that just as we German workers do not like to be dictated to from London or Paris as we believe that we can ourselves best face our problems, so are you best suited to solve your own problems. But I must tell you that I gained the impression in your shops which I visited that your employers are happy in the thought that there is an internal strife in your organization and that they believe that when the time comes to make new agreements in your industry, they will be able to make the best of this situation for themselves.

"We, too, in Germany, have had internal disagreements in our Union; but I am happy to inform you that today we are through with brotherly strife in our organization. We had the same agitation and had feeling in our unions, but we have managed, by the recognition of the fact that we can

only exist and be an influential factor in the trades through harmony and union, to do away with our dissensions and present a solid front to our employers. It is my hope, therefore, that your convention will very earnestly apply itself to the problem of solidifying your ranks and of eliminating to the best of your ability fraternal dissension and succeed in creating as united a front line in the needle industry as will convince the employers that they cannot count upon your disagreements as a means of breaking up your union and disintegrating the working conditions in your industry.

"This is my sincere and fervent wish. I do not want to tell you the means that you should adopt for strengthening your organization and to bring about again the feeling of solidarity and brotherly love, but I should like to take back to Germany the message that you are once more on the road to united organization, to a strengthened morale and increased influence. I also want to bring back to them the message that as class conscious workers you are with them together in their ultimate aim and object — to free the workers from the capitalist system and together with them establish the future republic of the workers. (Applause)."

Pioneer Youth Forms Philadelphia Branch

Pioneer Youth of America organized a Philadelphia branch at a conference of 100 Philadelphia trade union delegates, including representatives of the Central Labor Union of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, on Monday, November 28th, at the Machinists' Temple.

George Creech, chairman of the United Textile Workers' District Council of Philadelphia, was elected chairman of the Executive Committee consisting of twenty-five. Among the members of the committee are Frank Burch, secretary of the Philadelphia Central Labor Union; Joseph Ritchie, organizer of the American Federation of Labor; James Maloney, president of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada; and Francis Fisher Kane, well known Philadelphian sympathetic with la-

bor's aims. Mrs. Aida J. Creech was elected secretary of the committee. A temporary office has been opened at 225 East Allegheny Ave., Philadelphia.

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EDITORIALS

FIRST CONVENTION WEEK

If we may forecast the second week of the convention from its first week's work, we should be rather pessimistic concerning its peaceful and harmonious outcome. So far nothing has happened, indeed, that might inspire a trained observer with any degree of hope that out of this welter of passion and bitterness a lasting and substantial concord might arise.

And in an equal degree no sane and sound observer could place the blame for this dismal prospect for a real peace on the majority of the delegates at this convention. The guilt is entirely and wholly of the minority who want no peace. True, they shout justly for peace, but their yells are both insincere and contradictory to every one of their acts and are therefore sheer bluff and counterfeit. To be sure, the "left" minority have so far not failed in every chance they had at this convention to create bad blood, to arouse tumult, and otherwise to hamper and obstruct the regular work of this national gathering of our Union.

What the minority really wants is not peace, but an understanding based on the principle of give and take—but complete surrender. And, if in the course of the convention's labors, the majority of the delegates refuse to eat out of their hands, they invariably raise the disingenuous yell of "no peace, no harmony." The majority have displayed an admirably conciliatory spirit in this convention from the first hour of its opening and have made the minority one concession after another. The convention has seated "left" delegates against whom there had been preferred some very serious charges reflecting on their standing as union men. The convention has seated them because it was ready to overlook even such important objections for the sake of harmony and in order to prove its good faith and its genuine eagerness for peace.

And the most amazing feature of this all is that, instead of the majority protesting against the insincere and partisan attitude of the "left" minority, it is the latter that is raising the cry of partiality and bias, which once again proves conclusively that the minority are not interested in peace, that they did not come to this convention to accept its decisions but to threaten cajole and to brandish weapons upon every occasion. Delegate Fortney, indeed, made this very plain during one of the earliest discussions last week when, in an unguarded moment, he declared that "the Joint Action Committee is here, that it is still on the job, and that its hatchet is far from buried."

By this time, there is hardly a doubt in our own mind, as it must appear to anyone whose eyes see clearly and whose ears are not deceived by the beating of fake drums, that the Communists inspired and led minority at this convention are not concerned with constructive achievement, with consolidation of the Union's position in the shops and with the general welfare of our membership, but rather with demonstrations, bravado and headlines in their party press. In the name of Communist dogma, which is sacred, inviolate and above every other consideration, the minority, in plain words, are doing their best to sabotage the convention, in the hope that if they cannot rule it, they will at least leave nothing undone to disrupt its normal course and activity.

The uproar raised by the minority in connection with the appointment of the standing committees of the convention, is a telling illustration of their tactics. It has been the custom at our conventions for many years past for the president to appoint the committees. As a rule, the heads of these committees, with the exception of the committee on officers' report, are members of the General Executive Board. Our International has followed in this respect the procedure pursued by the American Federation of Labor at their conventions, and we cannot recall in all these years a single protest from the floor of our conventions against this procedure which, by the way, is authorized by our constitution. President Sigman, in announcing the personnel of the standing committees, in addition, saw to it that the minority was heavily represented on all of them—this is a matter of fact, on some of these committees the minority have most of the members. Delegate Hyman, one of the leaders of the minority, was also allotted the chairmanship of the important committee on the union and sanitary label.

Nevertheless, in conformity with their sabotaging tactics, the "lefts" announced that they were dissatisfied with their places on the committees and have furthermore refused to work on them. It is quite interesting, too, to record that they made this provocative announcement right after the speech of President William Green last Saturday, an unusual speech marked with a powerful appeal for harmony to both the "rights" and the "lefts" which made a very deep impression upon all the delegates. And as if to offset this splendid impression and to obviate its good effect, the minority leaders forthwith chose that moment to launch their attack upon the committee appointments as usually under the old hypocritical pretence that "the majority wants no peace, that it is unfair," etc., etc.

The readers, of course, will bear in mind the fact that at our conventions no final decision is ever reached behind closed doors, in committee rooms, but that each and every proposal recommended by the committees is brought out on the floor of the convention where they may be subjected to practically unlimited and unabridged discussion. Why was it, then, necessary to fire off this "bomb" and to attempt to spike the wheels of this convention? The reply is quite simple. The minority, regardless of its protestations, do not regard this convention as their own. All they are interested in is to make as much trouble as they can and to coin as much capital for their party, and for themselves individually, as the situation from day to day may afford.

No one naturally is opposed to criticism, no matter how sharp and bitter. But criticism is far apart from mere tumult making, and mere filibustering and hypocrisy is as far removed from a genuine desire for unity. What a mockery of the idea of a "united front" this studied behavior of our Communist-led minority is, what a travesty on the ideals of working class unity and solidarity!

And now that we are already in the midst of the second week of our convention, we reiterate that the prospect for a more sane and constructive attitude on the part of the minority grows more remote from day to day. But the work of the convention must be done, and the majority will not allow the antics of the minority to disrupt their work. There may come a moment at this convention when excessive tolerance on the part of the majority would become a crime against the best interests of the Union and its members. The majority may then lose their patience and be compelled to proceed to complete the work of the convention in time, let the antics of the minority would protract the convention, fatiguing the delegates and force an adjournment before its most important tasks are completed.

THE INCOMING GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

We know our readers are quite eager concerning the probable personnel of the incoming General Executive Board to be chosen by the Philadelphia convention, about the next president, general secretary-treasurer and the other members of the Board.

Our own prediction is that the next General Executive Board of our Union will be composed of men and women who subscribe unreservedly to the principle that the I. L. G. W. U. is to be administered by members who believe that it is a self-governing body which will not take orders from any outside group but will be ruled for the interest of its own members, as a part of the general Labor movement.

And if, during the past few months, some of us may have been inclined to accept the idea that some of the representatives of the "left" element should or would be drafted for service on the General Executive Board, their demeanor and tactics at this convention so far are proving to us quite conclusively that they consistently regard the I. L. G. W. U. as a side issue only, as a means for something apart from its main purpose and mission, and some of them also as a step-ladder for ambition and petty self-interest.

Perhaps this is only our impression, our own belief, and perhaps to some it may appear that an understanding with them on the main work of the Union is still possible. We, nevertheless, fail to see the possibility of it. An understanding might be desirable, but we cannot see how peace is possible when one side persistently wants war.

And just as we believe in true, real peace, in a peace free from hypocrisy, so do we believe in a war under an honest banner, under honest slogans and issues. This convention, if peace fails, will have to tear down the professions of harmony assumed by the Communists and unmask the pretenders who shout for peace while war is in their hearts.

We hope that the representatives of Locals 2, 9 and 22, upon their return from Philadelphia, will find out that, in their tactics of sabotage and obstruction, they have all the while reckoned without their hosts; that the masses of our workers want true peace and concord in our ranks, and that these masses will rise against them and repudiate them for their abject submission to the dictates of an alien and destructive force which is aiming at either the rule or the ruin of our Union.

Then will it be again possible for the I. L. G. W. U. to become a powerful agency for the betterment of the workers in our trades; then, and only then, will it rise again to its great historic role of the true defender of the living conditions of the hundreds of thousands of human beings who depend upon our trades for their livelihood.

Payment Rules for Unemployment Insurance

By MORRIS KOLCHIN

The time of payments of unemployment benefits is near and I think it is rather important that the members of the Union should be acquainted with the rules and regulations under which the payments will be made. A great deal of confusion in the office of the Unemployment Insurance Fund and dissatisfaction among the workers was, in my opinion, due to the fact that the workers were not acquainted with the rules and workings of the Funds. True, there were other and quite legitimate reasons for the dissatisfaction of the workers. However, a great deal of the dissatisfaction will be eliminated if they familiarize themselves with the rules of the Fund.

The office of the Fund has kept in close touch with the complaints of the workers and with the reasons for their dissatisfaction. The office had to do it in order to be able to make such changes as would make the work more efficient and the workers more satisfied. It must be borne in mind that unemployment insurance is a new venture in the labor movement and it will take some time before the operation of it will reach a desired degree of efficiency. Changes in the rules and methods of payment have to be made gradually, in accordance with the experience acquired. The finding out of the reasons for the dissatisfaction on the part of the workers is, therefore, an essential part of the work of the office of the Fund, especially in the first stages of its development. What were the reasons for this almost general dissatisfaction? Aside from the one outstanding reason, I. e., that every worker who received less than six checks last season was dissatisfied, there were others. There was a great deal of inconvenience to the workers when they had to stand in line for hours several times during the last season. It was certainly unpleasant. Quite often the workers who knew that they were entitled to benefit had to wait a considerable time before they could get it. During the registration and payments, the members of the Union were crowded in the rather small hall. There were a number of complaints against other members who presumably received more benefit than those that complained. There was some overpayment and possibly some overpayments. These are in substance the nature of the complaints and the reasons for the dissatisfaction on the part of those workers who received the full share of benefit that they were entitled to.

The Fund made an investigation of the operations of the payment office with the view of making such changes in the rules and methods of payment as would do away with the causes for the dissatisfaction and would, at the same time, result in a higher degree of efficiency of the office. It will be remembered that last season when the payments had begun, the office did not have all the reports from the shops for the entire period. A number of them had been missing and could not be obtained. The reports, however, are the basis on which the unemployment and employment of the workers is figured and on which the payments are calculated. It is quite natural, therefore, that some of the workers who were entitled to a certain amount of benefit had to wait until all efforts were made by the office in order to obtain the shop reports and to ascertain the amount of benefit to which they were entitled. This situation was greatly complicated by the rules of

the Fund according to which payments were begun in June while the official season for unemployment purposes terminated on the 1st of August. Even if all the shop reports were received at the time the payments were begun, there could be no knowledge of the exact amount to which the worker was entitled. The workers had to wait.

The payments of benefit last season were made weekly, ten dollars per week until the maximum to which the worker was entitled was reached. The workers, therefore, had to come to the office for their checks every week, crowding the office and waiting in line for hours. After a long period of waiting they received their weekly check of ten dollars which, of course, they could not use for their major needs such as the payment of rent. Before the worker reached home, his ten dollars was broken. Now, it is common knowledge that arrangements can be made, and quite often are made, with the grocer, with the butcher, and with others, for the extension of credit, but, no arrangements are made with the landlord. The unemployed worker who was entitled to forty dollars benefit with which, provided he received this amount at one time, he could pay his rent, was in no position to do so.

At the beginning of payments all workers were required to appear in the office personally in order to receive their checks. True, later on when the number of recipients of benefits had become so large that the

office could not give the necessary accommodations, it was decided to make the payments *in situ* and in the shops, whenever possible. However, the confusion was started, and the workers had continued to come to the office, insisting on waiting in line although with a great deal of discomfort.

As a result of this investigation, the Board of Trustees of the Unemployment Insurance Fund has decided to change the rules governing the payment of unemployment benefits to workers. It is expected that these changes, especially if made known to the workers, will increase the efficiency of the office and will give adequate service to the workers that are entitled to unemployment insurance.

It has been decided to change the seasonal period for the purpose of the calculation of unemployment so as to enable the office to have a complete record of the workers at the time when payments are to be made. Instead of ending on the 1st of February, the Fall Season from now on will end on the 1st of December, and, accordingly, the Spring Season will end on the first of June instead of August. As stated above, this will enable the office to collect all the shop reports for the season and to pay benefits on the basis of these reports at a time when the workers need it the most, that is, December or January for the Fall Season and June or July for the Spring Season.

Another change that will effect the operation of the Fund is the decision

of the Trustees to make only one lump payment during the season instead of weekly payments. Besides eliminating a great deal of work for the office and, therefore, expediting the payments, it will also obviate the necessity of the workers coming to the office week after week. One payment during the season means that the worker entitled to thirty or forty dollars, whatever the case may be, will be able to pay his rent at a time he is pressed for it. Of course, most of the workers, that is, all those that either work in a shop during the payment or are attached to shops, will be paid in their places of work. Checks for the entire amount due will be delivered to each and every worker of a shop. Only those that are totally unemployed and that are completely unattached to any shop will be paid in the office of the Fund.

These unattached workers who will be paid in the office will not be subjected to the same inconveniences as they were last season. Instead of all the Union members coming to the office at one and the same time for their checks, the unattached workers will be divided by Locals. A day or two will be designated for each local so that only members of that local will have to come for their checks on that particular day. This will eliminate the crowding of the office and the long waiting lines. This method has been tried recently during the registration of the unemployed and notwithstanding the large number of registrants, the office was at no time crowded and there were no waiting lines.

In the next article I expect to describe more specifically the rules for payments of benefits during this season.

Why I Resigned As Editor of "Gerechtigkeit"

This week is the last week of my official connection with the I. L. G. W. U. as editor-in-chief of its publication.

I stress the word "official," as I desire to emphasize that my heart and mind is with the International Union, and that I shall not cease to serve it to the best of my ability and with undivided loyalty and affection. In the seven years that I have been connected with this great Labor Union, I have grown too close to it to be able to break easily away from it. I have invested too much of myself—mentally, physically, and financially—in this organization to be able to sever myself from it the moment my official connections with it cease. In fact, one of the reasons why I have resigned is that I believe that I shall be able to serve it better and with greater freedom on the outside than within its fold.

I know that some might be inclined to interpret my resignation as a sign of fatigue, as a retreat in the fight which the International has waged against the campaign of destruction launched by the enemies of the Labor movement. I know that some of our Communist character-assassins will now be proclaiming to their faithful and docile flock that they had "driven me out" of the International. To this I can only say that it is but another one of their common-garden-variety of falsehoods. The truth is entirely on the other side. I have continued in the last few years as editor of the International publications largely on account of Communist activities. My decision to leave this post is nearly two years old. What held me back was my eagerness to help the I. L. G. W. U. to free itself from the traitors it had raised in its own bosom.

Today, I believe, the fight is at an end. Already a few weeks before this convention I saw that my fight

had not been in vain. Despite the machinations of our enemies, despite their unconceivable attacks and malicious misstatements, the membership of our Union would not place their destiny in the hands of this faithless band. Our members elected a majority of delegates to this convention who are opposed to the insincere and disingenuous policies of the "lefts." I believe the situation at present is such that the I. L. G. W. U. does not need my services as urgently as before and I therefore respectfully request G. E. B. to accept my resignation and gratify the wish I expressed to them several years ago.

The readers of "Justice" are, no doubt, entitled to know the reasons which prompted me already two years ago to ask to be relieved from the editorship of "Gerechtigkeit." Frankly, I shall say that I could not give at this moment a satisfactory answer to this, as it is a long story which requires a great deal more space and time than I should like to give this matter at this moment. Later, perhaps, when I shall write the story of my seven years' connection with the I. L. G. W. U., I shall also give an account of the reasons that prompted me to connect myself with the weekly publications of the International and sever my connection with the organ that I have helped to establish and publish for twenty-one years—the "Freie Arbeiter Stimme".

For the moment, I shall only give one fundamental cause: I could not for many reasons make the "Gerechtigkeit" the publication I liked it to be when I first became its editor. I could not express myself in it as fully as I was accustomed to all day long. I was forced for varied reasons to suppress in it the freedom of expression of not only others but of myself as well. "Gerechtigkeit" never satisfied me spiritually, I must admit.

Naturally, I always had the choice of taking leave of the International as soon as I became familiar with the limitations of a trade union publication, and I assure my readers that I have never been swayed by material reasons in deciding to go on with it. Under the circumstances, however, I deemed it my duty to sacrifice my personal preferences to the higher interests of the International and therefore continued to stay at my post and to make whatever contribution I was able to make to the Union in my capacity as editor.

Then came the fight against the Communist hysteria, which I honestly consider the worst affliction on the Labor movement in general and the International in particular, and I flattered myself that I might, perhaps, better than anyone else be able to tear the mask off the faces of these "red" pretenders and impostors and expose them in all their ugliness before our membership. I may have made a mistake. There are quite likely to be found among our movement better able to fight the epidemic than myself, and had I thought so I would, in all probability, have left my place for someone else. I, however, found none, to my regret, and I decided to stay with the International until this fight was brought to a satisfactory end.

And in this, too, I was very much disappointed, and this disappointment is even more bitter to me as it was caused by persons with whom I have stood side by side in this fight for several years. I found that some of them were inclined to enter into compromise with the enemy. I was victoriously charged with the so-called peace arrangement entered into by the President of the International with persons who should have been rightly placed on the defendants' bench as

(Continued on Page 7)



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Report of the Educational Department of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for 1924--1925

(Submitted to Eighteenth Convention, Philadelphia, Dec., 1925)

Introduction

In the reports of the General Executive Board and the proceedings of our conventions we repeatedly emphasized the need of Workers' Education for our membership, and we stress again its increasing importance.

A large number of our members full of devotion, vision and willingness to make sacrifices were responsible for the formation of our International Union. The Union was to them a true workers' college. There they became aware of economic and social problems and there they also learned how to solve them. But it is clear, that if in addition, they were in possession of a large body of facts dealing with present social, economic and industrial conditions, they would be more useful to their organization and to the Labor Movement.

But we also have a large number of newcomers, who may be called "naturalized" citizens of our industrial organization. They did not come in contact with organization activities as their predecessors did. Their knowledge of our organization and of the Labor Movement, its aims and principles, problems and policies, is vague. We must intensify it and make surer their grasp of the fundamentals of the labor movement, and the place occupied by it as an important social force in our industrial society. Because the union is a democratic institution where each member has a voice in solving its problems, it must keep its members well-informed, and this can be accomplished only through Workers' Education.

The Labor Movement and Workers' Education

But a short time ago, the entry of trade unions into banking, building, research and education under labor auspices would have been looked upon not only with amusement but also with distrust and suspicion. Today, far-seeing labor statesmen realize that Labor must be prepared to participate in the management of the world's affairs, and that the best preparation consists in actually doing the things it wants to do.

Of particular importance is the development of Labor Education. Again and again it has been shown that economic strength, while of chief im-

portance, is inadequate if not guided by well-informed intelligence. While workers must be organized to gain any of their aims, their efforts are more effective if they are based on some economic and social theory.

There is no doubt that the education required for the successful functioning of the Labor Movement must be planned, organized and controlled by the workers themselves. No one else knows their needs as well, and no one else will satisfy them to the same extent.

The efforts of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in this field are of overwhelming importance. Our Union has organized a system of educational activities, admitted by most authorities to be among the best in our country.

The organized labor movement of America, as expressed by the American Federation of Labor, recognizing education as the backbone of the Labor Movement, has accepted the idea of Workers' Education and has joined in the movement by cooperating with the Workers' Education Bureau, and by lending it financial as well as moral support.

The Principles Which Underlie the Work of Our Educational Department

It is imperative to have a definite policy for our educational activities.

We believe that Workers' Education is worth while only if it helps Labor to have its activities on what has been proven to be indisputably true. Of course, unproven theories have a value in all human activities. But effectiveness and success are more probable if action is based on what is known to be true. It is clear, therefore, that to be successful our educational work must concern itself chiefly with truth rather than opinion. It is true that our work is colored by one bias—that in favor of labor. Apart from that we try to furnish to our students material and facts for sound conclusions, and to develop in them mental habits and skill which will enable them to reach such conclusions. We attempt to satisfy the common needs of all our members as workers and trade unionists.

(To be continued)

Weekly Educational Calendar

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street, Room 530

Saturday, December 12

- 1:20 P. M. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature.
2:20 P. M. Dr. Iago Galdston—Preventive Measures in Safeguarding the Health of Workers.

Sunday, December 13

- 11 A. M. A. J. Muste—The Place of Workers in History.
Primitive Man and His Wife

Saturday, December 19

- 2:20 P. M. Theresa Wolfson—Some Problems of Women in Industry.

I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING, 3 WEST 16th STREET

Wednesday, December 16

6:20 P. M. Alexander Richardson—Social Psychology.

This course will consist of ten lessons and will be continued on Wednesday evenings.

UNITY CENTERS

English classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, have been organized for our members in the following Public Schools:

- P. S. 25 325 E. 5th St., Manhattan.
P. S. 171 107rd St. between Madison and Fifth Ave.
P. S. 42 Brown Place and 15th St., Bronx.
P. S. 61 Crotona Park E. and Charlotte St., Bronx.
P. S. 150 Christopher Ave. and Sackman St., Brooklyn.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS

Coupons entitling our members to tickets at reduced prices for these concerts may be obtained at our Educational Department. Next Concert December 12th.

Resolution Adopted by Students of Workers' University

We, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and students of the Workers' University of the International, met in our University on November 21 and 22, 1925. In view of the fact that a Convention of our International will be held in Philadelphia on November 29, we decided to address this communication to the delegates and others.

In the first place, we extend to you our heartiest greetings. May your deliberations and decisions be wise and crowned with success. May all that you do, help to strengthen our glorious International and to speed the day when Labor will come into its own!

As students in the activities arranged by the Educational Department of the International, we want to express our appreciation of its work. We realize the debt which we owe to our organization, its educa-

tional activities have helped us not merely to understand better the economic, political and social conditions under which we live, but also to contribute more in service to our own organization and to the Labor Movement.

We are particularly proud of the fact that in spite of the many difficulties and struggles which have continuously confronted our Union, our educational activities were maintained without interruption for eight years. We are gratified to note that in spite of differences of opinion which exist among various groups of our membership, they all unite in approving and supporting the work of our Educational Department. When we think of the inspiring Opening Exercises of the Educational Season held on November 14, where almost 2000 members crowded the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School, full of enthusiasm and good will, we realize that our membership fully understand the tremendous importance of our educational activities and approve the manner in which they have been conducted.

We want to express our pride in the fact that the contribution which our Union has made to Labor Education has born fruit in this country. The American Labor Movement has not only accepted it, but has also lent its aid and support to the idea that Labor must develop and control a system of education which will help it to achieve its aims. We are happy that our Union was the pioneer in this movement in America.

And finally, as we look forward to this Eighteenth Convention, we are certain that you will pursue the educational policy of the preceding conventions, and will instruct the Incoming General Executive Board, not only to continue our educational activities, but also to extend them with greater vigor and success.

Classes at the Workers' University

A Social Study of Literature

On Saturday, December 12, 1:30 P. M. in Room 530 of Washington Irving High School, Professor Emory Holloway will continue his course on "A Social Study of Literature". The topic for this lesson will be Edgar Allan Poe.

Preventive Measures in Safeguarding the Health of Workers

At 2:30 P. M. on the same day and in the same place Dr. Iago Galdston will discuss "Preventive Measures in Safeguarding the Health of Workers". It is desirable that workers learn to take advantage of modern preventive medicine and to learn to anticipate sickness, and by anticipating, forestall it.

History and the Workers

On Sunday morning, December 13, 11 o'clock A. J. Muste will continue his course in History. His subject will be "First Civilizations—Where, When and Why."

Some Problems of Women in History

On Saturday, December 19, at 2:20 P. M. in our Workers' University, Theresa Wolfson will give a lecture on the Problems of Women in Industry. These vital problems will be discussed in the light of experience as they affect the position of women in industry and in trade unions. This will do much toward clarifying a number of issues much befogged by old social and economic prejudices.

We urge our members to take advantage of these courses and lectures.

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

18th Convention Nears End

(Continued from Page 1)
gates in the early part of the sessions. By a unanimous vote, it was urged that the United States resume diplomatic relations with the Soviets. A proposal to send a labor commission to Russia to investigate conditions there, was shelved. The Soviet government's attitude toward political prisoners came in for bitter denunciation in a report of the Resolutions Committee urging the liberation of political prisoners in all countries. The "lefts" attempted to strike out the reference to Russia, maintaining Russia has no political prisoners but only "counter-revolutionaries". They were voted down, 156 to 198.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

One thing has been amply established in the first week of the 15th of the International's Conventions in session in the City of Philadelphia—that is, that the activities of Local 10's Delegates uphold the oft-repeated words of the members, that they are solely interested in their Union as such and not as an instrument for the propagation of ideas foreign to their economic needs.

Group Seeks Subterfuge

Neither Manager Dubinsky, Nagler nor Perlmutter, fell victim to the efforts of the organized "left" group to filibuster the Convention. The first business before the biennial congress of the International was the report of the Credentials Committee, of which Isidore Nagler is secretary and Abraham Snyder, Manager of Local 52, chairman. The effort to inject a new interpretation into the Union's constitution, which, if allowed to stand, would have completely changed the functions of this committee, was thwarted.

"Instead of discussing this report," Dubinsky said, when the adoption of the report was placed before the assembly, "fairly and squarely, he (General Manager Hyman) started off with fire-cracker oratory, which is the kind of ammunition that will never get him anywhere. You will have to make up your mind and the minds of your colleagues that you cannot scare anybody at this convention. When you make such threats you ought to be prepared to carry them out. And, therefore, if you do carry them out no one is to say 'What is more you will gradually learn your lesson if you persist in that attitude. Your defiant attitude and statements of intimidation have so far shown themselves to be a method of disrupting the Union, and not a means of building or rebuilding the Union."

".....I, too, served on Credentials Committees and I know the procedure of our conventions. The constitution is very specific in charging the Credentials Committee with its duties. And anyone who would conventionally challenge the authority of the convention to pass upon and decide such matters,—I say that he has no place in a labor congress."

That group of delegates who would sooner receive their mandate from a political organization than from the membership of the Union, coined the phrase "artificial delegates". This phrase was constantly flung, during the course of debates, at the delegation representing Local Union 10 in the suburban sections. Hence Dubinsky charged the so-called "lefts" with "bringing up charges of 'artificial delegates' instead of properly considering the report of the committee."

".....Were you not blushing," Dubinsky continued, "when you mentioned this subject of 'artificial delegates' if you did not blush yesterday, I will make you blush to-day. Every delegate at this convention knows, and there is no secret about it, that you canvassed and tried to button-hole every 'artificial delegate' that you could approach; and furthermore, that you made them all kinds of promises, and when your promises failed, you tried to intimidate them, and to get them into your camp in that manner. And then, when you failed in all your efforts, you come out and charge them with being 'artificial'! If you call that honest, if you call that fair, then I have a different term for it.

Out-of-Town Organization Important

"On the subject of 'artificial delegates' I will remember how we all felt when for years we had been confronted with the problem of the unorganized shops out-of-town. You will now find that all the small towns which we were never able to reach in previous years were well organized.... We have found the door to these shops; we got there; we know the people who are working there; we have learned how to improve the conditions of these workers year after year. The duty of organizing these small towns still rests upon us, and no matter how limited the abilities of a general manager may be, it is his business to try to resort to all efforts to organize these small towns' shops where our workers are employed, and who, if unorganized, would remain a detriment and a menace to the organization. I say it is our duty to encourage them instead of attacking and antagonizing them."

"I say to you delegates, in conclusion, that if you want to speed up matters, if you want to start to do real work, accept the fair and logical recommendation of the Credentials Committee, seat all the delegates and start business." Dubinsky's discussion was punctuated often with applause and caused considerable laughter when he remarked about Hyman's referring to the out-of-town delegates as "artificial" and that he was "natural."

Proud of Confidence of Members

Samuel Perlmutter could not resist replying to the "left" group who were making the impression that it is only they who have the confidence of the members of their locals. The mentioning by one in the opposition of the recent question of business agents of the Joint Board was also keenly resented by him.

"It seems to me," Perlmutter said in reply, "that Local 10 has become a target of criticism for those who don't like the policies of its administration. Each and every one of those who is now claiming that he is really championing the cause of his members, gets up and claims that he has the entire membership in his vest pocket. I want to say that, while I don't claim to have the entire membership in my vest pocket, I do claim that we represent Local 10. At a recent meeting at which six hundred members were present, all of them, with the exception of three, expressed the utmost confidence in the administration of our Local 10."

"An incitation has been made that Dubinsky, in order to protect the 'clique', worked against the decision of the Joint Board for a general election and that they refused to participate in the election, or that the old business agents did not file applications. I want to say that when we refused to file application as business agents for the Joint Board, it was no measure of politics. We decided not to run for reasons that we realized that the clique did not wish to be determined to keep the present administration out of Local 10 by hook or by crook."

"We do not come here to shout 'hurrahs'. So far as the report of the Credentials Committee is concerned, it is very plain and cannot be misinterpreted. I appeal to you to concur in the report of the committee."

Nagler's summing up for the Credentials Committee as secretary was thought by every organization to be masterful. Throughout his summary the keynote was the integrity of the union and its unification for the common good of all members under the banner of the I. L. G. W. U. He emphasized the true spirit of the cutters' union when, during the course of his remarks, he said, referring to the arguments of the so-called "lefts": "These threats will not work, especially with a member of the Credentials Committee who is also a member of Local 10."

"Some statements have been made," began Nagler, "here about an artificial delegation at this convention. May I ask you, Brother Portnoy (Secretary of Local 22, about the delegation of Local 22, Designers' Local, a 'militant' organization — are they artificial or are they not? After it was proven before the Credentials Committee that this local had issued receipts for their membership in the last five months for dues instead of placing stamps on their books, we did not recommend the unseating of these delegates, although we had good ground for doing so..... We took into consideration the unity of the convention. You agreed to these 'artificial' delegates because it suited your purpose and you did not say anything about it."

"I am representing here a local, which I represented also in Boston. Our delegates come to this convention with our manager as the leader of that local, representing even a better organization that we had represented in the City of Boston. We bring our same local, to the City of Philadelphia—but it is a tragedy that you have lost the confidence of your membership to a certain extent in the shops."

"In the election for the Executive Board of Local 2, they voted at the same time on the question of 25-cent dues and 40-cent dues. You wanted 40-cent dues. You cannot fool us. But the membership decided on 35-cent dues and they would have voted for 25-cent dues if you had given them the opportunity. But when it came to the election of delegates to the convention how many votes were cast? No, there was no question of 25-cent dues then. A membership of twelve thousand in Local 2 cast a vote of one thousand and a membership of four thousand in Local 10 cast twelve hundred votes. And let me call your attention to this, that out of the twelve hundred votes that were cast by Local 10 in New York, eleven hundred, according to the records, paid dues that day."

"The first objection that came into the Credentials Committee was against the conservative Local 10, as you call it, and when we sent out telegrams which I have in my possession here, calling on the objectors to appear before the Credentials Committee that we may inform them as to proper procedure, why did these cowardly not appear, if they had objections?"

The committee concluded its report at the close of last week. At the same time President Sigman made known his appointment of delegates to the various committees. These committees are charged with the important duty of considering each question dealt with in the resolutions introduced during the first week of the conventions. The General Executive Board also submits its report to the convention and in it is contained the history of the past two years of the International's activities as well as recommendations for the future life of the International, based upon its past experiences.

Philip Ansel, the president of our Local, was appointed a member of the Committee on Officers' Report. Manager Dubinsky serves on the Committee on Resolutions, as its chairman, with Julius Hochman, former manager of the Independent division of the dress department of the Joint Board as secretary. He now represents Local 53 of Toronto, Canada. Among the out-of-town locals serving on these committees are: Max Kalser, Montreal, on the committee on officers' report. Albert Eaton, also of Montreal, Philip Kremer of Boston and Roy Glassman of Chicago serve on the resolutions committee.

Samuel Perlmutter has been appointed to the Organization Committee and has been chosen its secretary. The out-of-town cutter serving on this committee is Benjamin Gross of Cincinnati. Shenker was appointed on the Committee on Law and was elected its secretary. Samuel Otto, Philadelphia, and Charles Kreindler of Cleveland, represent cutters' locals.

Joseph Fish, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, but better known as a member of Local 10, is the chairman of the Rules and Regulations Committee. Bro. Henry Robbins was appointed to this committee. This taskmaster is charged with the duty of drawing up the rules under which the convention is to be conducted. Its work is finished in very little time. For that reason Fish was also appointed a member of the Committee on National and International Relations.

Maurice W. Jacobs has been appointed a member of the Appeal Committee. Sam Lederman, of the Chicago cutters' local, is also a member of this committee. The committee on Trade and Local Jurisdiction and Adjustment were appointed, of the cutters, Max Stoller and Philip Oretsky of Local 10. Brother Oretsky represents a Woodhaven local, but he is still a member of the New York cutters. Philip Silver and H. Dardick who represent the dress and cloak cutters, respectively, are also members of this committee. Brother Louis Fover was made an officer of the convention when he was appointed sergeant-at-arms.

Important Meeting Monday

The meeting on Monday night, December 12th, in Arlington Hall, will be important in that it follows immediately the conclusion of the convention and the consequent return of the delegates. Its importance is more marked by the fact that in all probability the Hall Committee will make an important recommendation.

A Regrettable Omission

It is with regret that the writer omitted an important detail of the send-off dinner tendered by the active members of the Local on November 25th. This is the fact that Brother Louis Panken, Executive Board member, served as toastmaster. It was his lot to introduce nearly fifteen speakers, each of whom were properly characterized. The opinion of nearly every one present was that Brother Panken was deserving of commendation.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Special and Regular Meeting.....Monday, December 13th

Ball Committee To Make Important Recommendation.

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