

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

—Job 27.4

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VIII. No. 4.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Tuesday, February 2nd, Set For Referendum on \$20 Assessment

Joint Board Endorses Shop Chairmen's Decision—Board of Directors Fixes Date for Balloting.

At the meeting of the New York Joint Board last Friday night, January 15th, general manager Louis Hyman gave an account of the remarkable meeting of the cloak and dress shop

chairmen held at Webster Hall on Tuesday, January 12th, and described the enthusiasm with which it was decided to levy an assessment of \$20 on all the cloakmakers and dressmak-

ers in New York City in order to raise a great propaganda and defense fund to meet all possible emergencies.

The Joint Board endorsed the decision of the chairmen and authorized the Board of Directors to fix the date and make all arrangements for the vote taking. On Wednesday night, January 20th, the Board of Directors at its regular meeting decided to hold the referendum on Tuesday, February 2nd, in all the offices of the Joint Board throughout Greater New York and in some of the local offices.

All details concerning this referendum will be announced in next week's issue of Justice.

Sigman's Visit Stirs Boston Locals To Greater Activity

Meetings with Executives and Members Held—Negotiations Begun With Employing Groups for Renewal of Agreements—President Sigman Is Now in Canada.

President Morris Sigman spent five days last week in Boston, from Wednesday, January 13th to Sunday, January 17th, and met during his stay in that city with the Joint Board of Boston and its board of directors, attended a meeting of the executive boards of all the Boston locals and was present at a general meeting of all the members.

President Sigman has found that the Boston organization of the I.L.G.W.U. above all is a group in need of a united and competent leadership. If it is to maintain its control over work conditions in the local cloak and dress industry. At one of the meetings attended by President Sigman, it was decided to begin an organizing drive among the cloak and dressmakers and an organization committee of one hundred members is to be formed this week for this purpose. President Sigman also arranged to place two local men as organizers in the Boston territory, one of them Brother Marbo, and the second one to be chosen later.

While in Boston, President Sigman also visited Worcester, Mass., where a little banquet was arranged in his honor. He was accompanied to Worcester by Vice-president Codes of Boston. The Worcester local contemplates some organizing activity at present among the local dressmakers.

President Sigman left Boston on Sunday, proceeding to Montreal where

he will be joined by Vice-president Julius Hochman on their way to Toronto and Chicago.

Special Complaint Days For Unemployment Insurance

Insurance Office Announces Schedule for Next Week

During the past three weeks, the Unemployment Insurance Fund has paid insurance to cloakmakers that were entitled to it. Payments were made to workers in the shops, as well

as to workers who had no shops and registered last season as unemployed. The Unemployment Insurance Fund has records of all the workers in the

(Continued on Page 2)

120 Dress Shops Struck in First Three Days of Drive

Campaign Headquarters in Stuyvesant Casino—Two Thousand Workers Involved in Initial Move—Organization Committee Meets Enthusiastic Response—Arrests Fail to Dampen Drive of Strikers—Movement Grows Daily in Volume and Intensity—More Volunteers Wanted.

The organizing activity of the New York Joint Board, in the process of preparation for the past two weeks, took concrete form early this week when the volunteer committee of 500, under the management of Charles Zimmerman, began operations from the special-headquarters at the Stuyvesant Casino, 112 Second Avenue, New York City.

The first objective of the volunteer

organizers is the large non-union field in the dress industry, with its hundreds of unorganized shops employing thousands of workers, many of them former members of the Union and others still holding cards in the organization though grown apathetic and indifferent. Before the end of the third day of the drive, nearly 120 of these shops responded to the call of the volunteer committeemen of the Union and walked out on strike. Practically without exception every shop visited by the Union's emissaries answered the strike message and the workers left the machines with a will and an eagerness that betrayed a fine spirit and a desire to engender the banner of the organization.

A Score of Settlements

The first two days of the strike brought, too, a flood of applications for settlement from the struck firms. The settlement committee attached to the drive headquarters, however, is not in any particular hurry to sign agreements before a thorough investigation is made of the reliability of the firm, the good faith of the jobbers it is working for, and the soundness of the security it is willing to give for the faithful performance of the agreement with the Union. Nevertheless, by Wednesday evening, already more than twenty employers signed the agreement with the Union, meet-

(Continued on Page 2)

Joint Executive Meeting of All N. Y. Locals To Aid Striking Miners

Gathering of New York Local Executives Called for Thursday, January 28th by General Executive Board—Plans Will Be Devised for Raising Substantial Relief Sum.

The last quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., two weeks ago, decided, in response to an appeal for relief to the striking hard coal miners issued by the American Federation of Labor, to take steps at once to collect a fund among our workers and to forward it to the suffering families of the strikers. Last Tuesday, at a special meeting of the New York members of the G. E. B., Secretary Baroff was authorized to summon all the executive boards of the New York locals to a special meeting to devise a speedy and effective plan for raising such a fund.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, January 28th, in the audi-

torium of the International Building, 2 West 16th Street. In the letter forwarded to the locals, Secretary Baroff stresses the importance of the meeting, the distress prevailing among the striking miners and their families, and points to the great issues underlying this strike in the basic industry of the country.

It is expected that not a single member of the executive boards in New York City will fail to come to this historic meeting. The ladies' garment workers never failed to respond to a call for aid from the miners' organization and the miners' union has always reciprocated toward the I. L. G. W. U. in a generous and brotherly spirit.

Tuckers and Pleaters Very Active on Eve of Strike

Chairman and Shop Meetings Held Nightly—Individual Employers Apply for Advance Settlement—General Mass Meeting Next Monday.

The tuckers, hemstitchers and pleaters in New York City are busily engaged in carrying through the final steps of their campaign prior to the calling of a general walkout in the trade, the move sanctioned by the General Executive Board of the International two weeks ago.

Meetings of shop groups are held nightly in the offices of the local, and

the response from the workers who during the last year were forced to endure all sort of treatment from their employers is highly encouraging. Next Saturday afternoon, a meeting of all the chairmen in the trade is called for at the offices of the Union, 8 West 21st Street. At the same time, manager Pauline Morgenstern of Local

(Continued on Page 3)

120 Dress Shops Out On Strike

(Continued from Page 1)
ing all the requirements of the settlement committee.

Shops Pay Volunteers' Expenses
That enthusiasm for the widespread campaign undertaken by the Joint Board to put the dress and cloak industry of New York on a hundred per cent basis is running high among the active workers and among the rank and file, is illustrated by the following facts. The dress shop of Potash Bros. of 148 W. 23rd Street, and the cloak shop of Louis Prince have each agreed to contribute the wages of a member of their shop, to be attached permanently to the organization committee as long as the strike lasts; the dress shop of Theodore Bloom, 15 W. 24th Street, stopped off work entirely on Tuesday morning, despite the busy condition of their shop, and joined the organization committee in a body to help the work of the volunteers. Many other similar instances have been reported from the drive headquarters where the atmosphere is surcharged with incessant rush and bustle.

Police Busy Arresting Pickets
As usual, the police are displaying zealous regard for the employer's interests and are already beginning to arrest the strikers and their pickets indiscriminately. Thus, the first three days of the campaign already netted more than forty arrests, of whom about half were discharged with suspended sentences, while more than twenty were fined \$5 each. The epidemic of arrests is especially violent

In front of the shops of Maurice Rentner, whose workers quit after the firm discharged three operators and after it failed to obey an order given out by an impartial chairman in favor of the Union.

The Rentner shops are shut drum-tight, and the firm, peeved at its failure to get strikebreakers, is now attempting to "take it out" on the strikers by causing the arrest of many of the pickets. This will, however, not help it in the least and it will soon be forced to seek peace with its workers on the Union's terms.

More Volunteers Wanted
As the work of the organization committee grows and its activity extends to a larger circle of shops, it will require an ever-increasing number of volunteer workers who would place some of their time and energy at the disposal of the drive managers. The Joint Board is therefore calling upon all cloakmakers and dressmakers who realize the tremendous importance of this campaign to come to the office of the drive, Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue, and get assignments for the work that is immediately urgent.

Charles S. Zimmerman, the manager of the Dress Division of the Joint Board, is the director of the drive, and is being assisted by Hyman Koretz, for the dress shops, and by Elias Marks for the cloak trade. Vice-president Julius Portnow, the secretary of Local 22, is temporarily filling Zimmerman's place in the Joint Board while the drive lasts.

Phila. Dressmakers Report Fine Progress

Shop-To-Shop Campaign Showing Good Results

Vice president Elias Reisberg, the manager of the Philadelphia dress and waistmakers' organization, in charge of the present organizing drive in this trade, in a statement issued this week reports very satisfactory progress made by the volunteer committee of Local 56 in their efforts to attract the interest of the non-union workers to the organization.

The next two weeks will see a great concentration of effort in this drive and more shop meetings will be held than ever before and personal solicitation of the non-union workers by the active union workers will be carried on a larger scale than heretofore.

Manager Reisberg issued last week a second leaflet addressed to the non-union workers in the trade entitled: "A Job That Hangs on a Thread," which was distributed in thousands of

copies throughout the dress district. Among the salient points in that leaflet are the following:

"You and your jobs always hang on a thin thread. Your employer is moving heaven and earth to scare you away from the union. He knows that once you join the union, he will be no more the role dictator of your work conditions in the shop and that you, too, will have something to say about your job and the conditions under which you work.

"It is time, high time, that all dressmakers in our city belong to the union. It is time that the job of every worker in our industry be made more secure that we ALL be treated like free American workers, and that whenever we have a grievance we may speak out without fear, through our own people, and get satisfaction when necessary."

Chicago Dressmakers Protest Against Contempt of Court Sentences

At a big meeting on January 14th, the members of Local 100, the organization of the Chicago dressmakers, took up the question of the 93 court cases involving members of their local fined and sentenced to jail for alleged contempt of court during the Chicago dress strike in the winter of 1924.

The workers wholeheartedly endorsed the move of the International in appealing these sentences and decided to call large protest meetings in Chicago to bring these cases before the public. The meeting also adopted a resolution protesting against this "wholesale miscarriage of justice by the courts and pledging wholehearted support to those whose fortune it is

to be jailed for the principles advocated by our organization." The resolution also pledges the local to do "everything in its power, morally and financially to obtain a more favorable decision from the higher courts of the land."

Local 100 will have a special meeting next week to receive a report from its convention delegates. The annual election of the local will also take place shortly.

Local 62, the Polish dressmakers' local, had a meeting on the same evening, January 14th, and elected officers for the new term. The workers also heard a report from their convention delegates and accepted it with thanks.

Tuckers and Pleaters on Eve of Strike

(Continued from Page 1)
41 reports that several individual manufacturers have already applied for settlement so as to avoid a cessation of work in their places for any length of time.

On Monday next, January 25th, a general mass meeting of all the members of Local 41 will be held in the auditorium of the People's House, 7 East 15th Street, to decide upon the

next move of the organization. The local feels highly encouraged with the growing sentiment in the Union trade that in case of a strike the Union would come out a speedy victor. Many employers are beginning to realize that the only way for them to avoid a dislocation of their business is to come to an understanding with the Union, either individually or collectively, without further delay.

Unemployment Benefit Complaint Days

(Continued from Page 1)
industry, and it is only on the basis of these records that unemployment insurance is paid.

If some of the workers are of the opinion that they did not receive what they are entitled to in accordance with the rules of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and on the basis of employment and unemployment, they may make a complaint at the office of the Unemployment Insurance Fund during the week of January 25th. Complaints are to be made by each worker separately on the days specified below:

Members of Local 2—Monday, January 25th and Tuesday, January 26th.
Members of Local 9—Wednesday, January 27th.

Members of Local 16and Local 35—Thursday, January 28th.
Members of Locals 48, 3, 23, 82—Friday, January 29th and Saturday, January 30th.

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PASSAIC JUDGE SENTENCES AMALGAMATED ORGANIZER

"Labor agitators will not be tolerated in Passaic," said Police Judge Davidson on January 16th in passing sentences on Harry Cohen and three other representatives of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers on a charge of disorderly conduct. He gave Cohen six months in jail and a fine of \$25, and fined the others \$25. Later, however, the judge revoked the jail sentence imposed on Cohen.

The four men had come to Passaic to take charge of a strike which had broken out against the firm of Kopp, Feldman, and Kopp, manufacturers of children's clothing, in an endeavor to enforce a 44-hour week.

ELECTION RESULTS IN LOCAL 45

Last Saturday, January 16th, the New York cloak and dress designers had elections for executive board members and for other officers. The election passed off in perfect order under the auspices of the local's election committee and a committee from the Joint Board.

The following were elected: Manager—Adolph Schreck; chairman—J. Slackman; vice-chairman—Morris Friedman; recording secretary—Jack Procop; executive board members—D. Kensler, P. Grandonetti, S. Herskowitz, W. Arlino, M. Cohn, A. Diamond, J. Wiener, S. Tombarello, D. Gladstone, D. Pitscherly, B. Schwartz, A. Spieler and P. Niedeelman.

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With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH,
Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board was held on Friday, January 8, 1926 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street.

Committees:

Sam Saroff, representing the Jewish Musical Workers Alliance requests the Joint Board to accept some ad space in their journal.

The request is referred to the Finance Committee.

Communications:

Local No. 10 informs the Board that they are in receipt of an appeal from the A. F. of L. to aid the striking miners in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania. Their Executive Board is of the opinion that the individual locals cannot contribute substantial sums, and they therefore recommend that the Joint Board should donate \$5,000.00 for this purpose.

The recommendation is referred to the Finance Committee.

The Russian-Polish Branch advises the Board that Brothers A. Davidovich and J. Zwerzanski have been duly elected to represent them at the Joint Board.

The Brothers are seated.
Special Committee Report:

Brother Stelnor reports for the committee which took up the appeal filed by Brother Himmelfarb, member of Local No. 22, and recommends that he be exonerated from the charge of which he was previously found guilty by the Joint Board.

The recommendation is concurred in.

A meeting of the Joint Board was held on Friday, January 15, 1926 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street.

The minutes of the Joint Board of January 8th are adopted as read.

Communications:

Local No. 82 informs the Board that they have received an appeal for assistance from the Russian-Reconstruction Farms, Inc., which their Executive Board has decided to refer to the Joint Board, as they are of the opinion that this body can do much more towards aiding them than the individual locals.

The request is referred to the Finance Committee.

Local No. 45 requests the Joint Board to place on its order of business the decision of the General Executive Board regarding the designers. The matter is referred the Board of Directors.

The same Local requests the Board to appoint a committee to participate in their elections, Saturday, January 16th.

Brothers Lauritano and Miller are instructed to attend.

Secretary-Treasurer Fish proposes the following recommendations for approval by the Joint Board:

1. According to the decision of the International Convention at Philadel-

phia regarding proportional representation, the following should constitute the delegations at the Joint Board:

Local No. 2, 3; Local No. 3; 2; Local No. 8, 5; Local No. 10, 6; Local No. 21, 1; Local No. 22, 8; Local No. 23, 4; Local No. 35, 8; Local No. 45, 1; Local No. 48, 8; Local No. 64, 1; Local No. 82, 2; Local No. 89, 7; Russian-Polish Branch, 2.

A total of 67 delegates.

2. The salary of the Secretary-Treasurer should be \$5.00 per week.

3. The installation of the incoming Joint Board for the year 1926 should take place on Friday, January 22, 1926.

4. The revision of the Constitution of the Joint Board.

The first three recommendations dealing with the delegations at the Joint Board, the salary of the Secretary-Treasurer and the installation of the Joint Board are concurred in. The revision of the Constitution is referred to the local managers, who are to bring in their recommendations to the next meeting of the Joint Board.

General Manager's Report

Brother Hyman reports on the shop chairman's meeting held on Tuesday, January 12th, which was filled to capacity. This meeting also supported unanimously, by a rising vote, a \$20 tax to be levied upon the membership and which should be voted upon by the membership by means of a referendum.

He also reports on the following changes in the staff: Brother Steilitz, former manager of the organization department, has been placed as complaint clerk of the protective department; Brother Marks has been transferred to the organization department; Brother Koretz has been placed in the organization department; Local No. 25 has sent in Brother Fleit to fill their quota of business agents at the Joint Board, and Local No. 48 has assigned Brother Mueclroni to fill the vacancy left by Brother Rinaldi, who resigned.

Brother Hyman also reports that the strike against Maurice Rentner is in full swing. He refuses to comply with the decision of the Impartial Chairman to reinstate three girls and also to unionize his non-union shops.

The Joint Board approved the report of the general manager, and unanimously adopted the recommendation of the shop chairmen that a \$20 tax be levied on the membership and that same be voted upon by a referendum of the membership; also that this should go into effect at the earliest possible moment. The details of this tax to be worked out by the board of directors at its next meeting.

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Among the New York Ladies' Tailors

By BORIS DRASIN,
Secretary-Organizer

The attention of the members of our Local, as well as the attention of the general membership of our International was taken up in recent months with the upheaval which took place in the New York Joint Board, which involved the fight of a many members against the officials in office and their policies.

With such important matters to divert their attention from their own affairs, not much interest was displayed by our members in their own trade problems and conditions.

Our employers have also lately watched the internal fight in our organization in the hope that it would break the strength of the Joint Board and of the International, and would subsequently lead to a general open-shop situation. If not quite so far they hoped, at least, that the conditions and standards in the shops would be materially lowered. Some of the employers did not conceal this fact and openly spoke of their hopes.

It is no secret that the open fight which took place in the International and the Joint Board did weaken the organization in general, and struck hardest those locals whom the fight affected most. But the International is not a New York organization only, and the turmoil could only weaken but not break the organization. With the aid of the out-of-town locals, the International succeeded in regaining its poise, and the last convention brought peace in the ranks of the membership.

The policy of our office has been such that kept our Local out of the dangers that confronted those locals that were in the fight. Our membership has had free play, and different factions have aided their own sides, but the office was particularly careful that such participation should not harm either our local or our membership.

It is now a good time for us to work out and prepare our future ac-

tivities in order to organize the comparatively few unorganized ladies' tailor shops, and, what is still more important, to unionize the great number of dressmaking establishments in the City of New York.

At this moment, it is of utmost importance to bring to the attention of our members the fight being waged against the Metropolitan Opera Co. The members cannot too urgently be requested to engage in active support of the strikers in order to encourage them and win their fight for a satisfactory settlement. This help is urgently needed. Volunteers are asked to report to the office and get the necessary information as to how they can be of greatest benefit to their brothers on strike. It is hoped that such volunteers will come in large numbers, as the winning of this strike is very important, and will, in addition to retaining the prestige of our organization, help the brothers and sisters on strike to regain their jobs.

Another very important matter our members should keep in mind, is the coming elections for paid and unpaid officers for the year 1926. Our Local which consists mostly of old union members does not need to stress too much the importance of such elections. Our previous elections are very good proof of the interest shown by our members, as a goodly percentage of our membership always participated in them, and it is hoped that this year will be no exception to the rule. There is a special issue this year, for the office of secretary-organizer is being opposed by a second candidate. We expect that this election will be widely participated in. This is surely desirable as the elected secretary-organizer will have to face the great majority of the members are behind him, which will give him more courage and desire for service to our Local.

The elections will take place this Saturday, January 22nd, from 12:00 M. to 4:00 P. M. at Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue.

LADIES' TAILORS, CUSTOM DRESSMAKERS LOCAL 38

ATTENTION!

This Saturday, January 22, will be held the election for paid and unpaid officers for the term of 1926, from 12:30 M. to 4:00 P. M., at Bryant Hall, 725-6th Avenue. The following are the candidates for office:

Financial Secretary	Sick Committee	Executive Board
Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 5
Wishnevsky, Don	Resnikoff, M.	Drasin, B.
Drasin, Boris	Dealto, M.	Sherman, A.
	Gardner, H.	Blaseck, A.
	Teleneo, S.	Gardner, H.
Chairman of Local	Lakin, S.	Abraham, V.
Vote for 1	Executive Board	Zack, J.
Dretnsky, S.	(Italian Branch)	Goodman, J.
Dretnsky, A.	Vote for 5	Slesimsky, A.
Gardner, H.	Giannettino, G.	Wilkes, N.
Abraham, V.	Interdonati, F.	Lupu, Wm.
	Rea, L.	Forman, J.
Vice-Chairman	Vittolo, R.	Fomin, H.
Gardner, H.	Teleneo, J.	Trochinsky, A.
Recording Secretary	Romeo, G.	Dretnsky, S.
Slesimsky, A.	Di Galepse, S.	Wishnevsky, D.
		Karp, H.
Trustees	Executive Board	Glass, Wm.
Vote for 3	Vote for 5	
Romeo, G.	Landy, Rosa	
Wilkes, N.	Cohen, Eva	
Interdonati, F.	Forman, Molly	
Lakin, S.	Zackrow, Minnie	
D'Alessandri, E.	Brook, Tillie	

By Order of the EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL NO. 38.
R. FASANI, Chairman. B. DRASIN, Secretary-Organizer.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2145

MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Acting Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

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EDITORIALS

THE TWENTY-DOLLAR ASSESSMENT

The unanimous decision for a twenty-dollar assessment adopted by the great shop-chairmen meeting in New York on Tuesday, January 12th, is a significant decision from more than one viewpoint. It signifies that the New York cloakmakers and dressmakers are making up their minds in grim earnestness to repair their house and to set their industry in order. It also means that our workers are beginning to realize that an army cannot fight on enthusiasm alone; that it needs food, forage and ammunition in order to carry on its campaigns.

The Joint Board will now, no doubt, submit this decision of the shop chairmen to a general vote of all the members affiliated with its locals. There is scarcely any doubt that this decision will be adopted, but it is of the utmost importance that this assessment be ratified by an overwhelming majority of the workers—and for the following reason:

The New York Joint Board, with the aid of the International Union, is now engaged in a great movement to revive the lagging interest of the cloakmakers and dressmakers of New York in their organization, to organize the large number of non-union shops, and to bring back union conditions in such cloak and dress shops where union standards have broken down and where the prestige of the organization is at a low ebb. Moreover, the Joint Board and the International are carrying on through these trades a real mobilization movement which will enlist into its active fighting ranks every man and woman who love their organization and who are ready to defend it and fight for it to the limit of their individual and collective resources.

It is a mass movement in the truest sense of the word. It is a drive intended to penetrate the widest circles of our workers and to awaken in all of them without exception the spirit of resistance and of self-sacrifice that in former years has been our badge of honor and the guaranty of proud achievement. That's why it is important that every major decision at present decided upon in the cloakmakers' and dressmakers' organization of New York be, as nearly as possible the unanimous choice of the great masses of our workers, and that's why it is doubly important that this twenty-dollar assessment—which will require a great deal of self-denial and sacrifice on the part of the cloakmakers—be ratified by as large a majority as possible.

The New York Joint Board and its locals must have a sound fighting treasury if they are to look with assurance and confidence into the immediate future. The shop chairmen gave their unanimous approval to this vital strategic move of the Joint Board. The mass of the cloakmakers and dressmakers will now add their final sanction to this tremendously important constructive measure and, we hope, will make it unanimous.

THE APPEAL FOR THE MINERS

In an appeal signed by the entire Executive Council of A. F. of L., and addressed to every international union, central labor body and local union in the country, an urgent call for aid to the striking miners in the anthracite fields has gone forth to the organized workers.

"Men, women and children in the anthracite region," the appeal reads, "are hungry. The intense cold of midwinter has added to their sad plight and has intensified their suffering. Hungry children are calling upon us for help. Come to their rescue."

The miners in the hard-coal fields, who have been out on strike for nearly five months, are fighting and suffering as they do—loyally, uncompromisingly and with unparalleled devotion, because they are fighting for a great principle and a cause that to them means everything in life. The miners have dug themselves in their winter trenches, men, women, children, and have staked their all for the preservation of their organization which they see is threatened with destruction if the operators win and they are driven back to work as defeated men.

Until last week, the hope still prevailed among friends and supporters of the striking hard-coal miners and the general public that the mine operators would come to terms with the United Mine Workers. After weeks of floundering, the financial powers behind the mine owners decided to break off the negotiations, and the last ditch fight is now on. The United Mine Workers are determined to stick to their guns and not to hand over the destiny of

their union and the fate of their demands to a group of "impartial" arbitrators to whom the hazards, dangers and the bitter toll of the miners is but a distant and detached object.

On the same day when it was reported that the mine owners broke up the negotiations in New York, the press carried the blood-freezing news that 103 miners met their death from suffocation in a mine in the Southwest. The next day another "story" burst forth on the front pages of the newspapers that a second horror occurred in a West Virginia coal mine, snuffing out the lives of several scores of coal diggers. On the surface near the pits, near the yawning mouths of the death-bearing coal mines, there stood huddled together in endless misery and pity the crying wives and children of these unfortunate victims of coal, hoping against hope for the saving of their dear ones, of their breadwinners, a hope as barren as the bleak life of the toiling coal diggers.

And it is to these martyrs of American industry, who even in the better paid portion of the coal industry average less than thirty-five dollars a week, our fabulously rich industrial America refuses a raise in wages that would add a ray of sunlight to their existence after they emerge from their underground toll; it is these valiant workers, their children and the mothers of their children, who are fighting these long and bitter months a battle for the preservation of their union without which their existence would be well-nigh intolerable.

The fervent appeal for the striking miners will fall upon receptive ears in the organized Labor movement of America. The miners are appealing for aid not to the outside world; they never would. They are calling for help to their fellow workers in Labor's army, to the men and women who know from their own bitter experience what it means to fight a long and soul-trying conflict against an enemy whose resources are tremendous and whose strength is supplied by Wall Street and the huge railroad interests of the country. Our workers, the ladies' garment organizations in particular, who in the past few years have come frequently in touch with the miners in time of strife and need, should and, no doubt, will meet this appeal of the embattled mine strikers with open hearts and purses to the best of their ability.

We can state the sum and substance of this appeal no better than in the final ringing words of this call: "If the 168,000 miners are willing to fight and suffer for their great cause, let us be willing to contribute so that they may have food and clothing while fighting the battle of the United Mine Workers of America."

PRESIDENT GREEN ON WAGES

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor in an address in Chicago, a week ago, made a significant statement on the question of workers' wages, which attracted wide attention in the general press.

It will be recalled that the convention of the Federation, a few months ago, at its meeting in Atlantic City, came out with an important declaration on this same subject, discarding, for the first time in its history, the old slogans of wages based on the "cost of living", a "living wage", or a "saving wage". Instead of these elusive and intangible bases for wages that are open to conflicting interpretations, the convention went on record demanding ever-increasing wage standards for labor, that would assure sustained purchasing power to the workers concurrently with the steady and rapid increase of national production both in quality and quantity of the necessities of life. It demanded the elimination, on a national scale, of waste in production in order that selling prices may be lowered and workers' wages made higher.

In his Chicago address, President Green elucidated this point and enlarged on it to a remarkable degree. "The developments of modern industry," he stated, among other things, "have inevitably placed the basis of wage demands and wage theories upon the eternal principles of equality, justice, fairness and frankness. People are discarding the old theory of wages based upon a fluctuating labor market and governed absolutely by the law of competition and supply and demand. Society has found that the old concept of low wages and reduced costs must be changed to the new concept of high wages, efficiency, elimination of waste and increased production as a means through which lower costs in commodity production can be accomplished." And furthermore, "Wages must be maintained upon a high level so that the purchasing power of the masses will correspond with the producing power of the workers. Unless this principle is recognized and accepted the worker would find himself penalized because of his genius, skill, efficiency and faithfulness."

Concisely, it is not only a demand that labor share the benefits accruing from efficiency and productivity. It is much more than that—it is a bold claim to a share of the products of industry and a demand that wages represent the full measure of labor's contribution to industry. And while the terms in which this demand is couched still differ materially from the slogans of industrial democracy—to the workers belong all the products of their labor—it is, nevertheless, quite obvious, whether President Green realizes this or not, that this difference is largely a question of phraseology and method of presentation.

And the most significant part of this pronouncement is contained in the fact that it is not President Green's personal view alone, but that it is derived directly from the viewpoint on this cardinal question of labor ideology adopted by the entire convention of the American Federation of Labor, a viewpoint, which it may be expected, it will continue to develop with even greater clarity and emphasis at its future gatherings.

Basic Industries in America

IX. The Oil Industry

"An oil well is a hole in the ground about a quarter of a mile deep into which a man may put a small fortune or out of which he may take a big one. And he never knows until the hole is finished. . . . It takes a couple of thousand dollars, several months, and a couple of non-committal men in mud-plastered overalls to dig an oil well. They begin by going up about 60 feet. When they have finished their derrick, they hang a drill on it weighing half a ton. Then the men hitch the drill to an engine and punch a 42-centimeter hole in the earth's crust. Sometimes, after they have been punching away for several weeks, the hole blows the derrick into the sky, utterly ruining it. Then the owner shrieks with glee and employs 500 men to catch the spouting oil in barrels. But sometimes the derrick is as good as new when the hole is finished. Then the owner cusses and takes the derrick away to some other place which smells oily." (a)

And as a result "This has been the history of almost every oil field on the American continent, a strike, a rush of speculators, a land boom, indiscriminate drilling on plots so small that the derricks seem to touch one another—twelve in an area that can support barely three — no scientific provisions to conserve the gas which alone can force the flow of oil, a feverish higgledy-piggledy of cut-throat competition in the course of which anywhere from half to three-quarters of the petroleum is left in the ground and rendered forever irrevocable." (b)

About half the underground supply is gone forever, and the balance—at present rates of demand—is estimated to last only from 15 to 20 years. Messrs. Gilbert and Pogue calculate the case as follows, based on present population:

	Barrels per capita
Mined from 1859 to 1920	54
Underground 1921	59
1929 production	4.4
69 divided by 4.4	13 years

The total waste of oil runs at least three times the amount produced to date. Total output has been—in 1929—54 barrels per capita. Three times 54 is 162, which means that 162 barrels have been thrown away in getting every 54 barrels out—a total of 16,000,000,000 barrels wasted to date. If this 16,000,000,000 barrels were still underground, instead of a 13 years' supply (more or less) we would be assured of at least a 50 years' supply.

(a) Gilbert, C. G., Pogue, J. E.—"America's Power Resources."

(b) "Observer"—June, 1919.

When the one barrel out of the potential four in the ground, reaches the pipe line, the situation from the standpoint of waste improves considerably. Pipe lines and refineries are run by a few great corporations, of which the Standard Oil is the outstanding figure. They are after all the profit they can get, and they hate the thought of organized labor, but at least they do not throw oil all over the landscape. The winds of free competition blow through the oil fields where the wells are situated, and it is here, rather than in the refinery that the chief wastes occur.

Meanwhile the demand for gasoline continues steadily upward and for lubricating oils as well. The average monthly production has been:

	Barrels
1913	20,764,000
1915	23,425,000

1917	27,943,000
1919	31,531,000
1920	36,931,000
1921	39,117,000
1922	46,463,000
1923	61,034,000
1924	58,900,000
1925 (8 months average)	64,300,000

Unless new sources of oil are found soon—at least within the next decade—there is going to be one grand crash in the vast industrial structure—the automobiles, the trucks, the oil-burning ocean liners, the machinery in general—which depend on petroleum. The next war may be fought over the world's diminishing stocks of oil. Meanwhile there is no central authority, no functional control, to conserve and husband the supply of this precious resource. It is mined by spend-thrift gamblers, and distributed by cautious highwaymen. All of which comes under the head of normalcy.

There is very little organization of labor in either the oil field, or the refineries. The Standard Oil Company has got aboard the modern band wagon of stock distribution to employees. It has just handed over 500,000 shares of the common stock of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey to its 16,000 employees. The workers have been paying for this stock on the installment plan for 5 years. They have gotten it at something less than the market rate—the company paying for 50 cents for every dollar subscribed by the employee. The company has proposed a new stock buying scheme for the next three years. It is hoped that employees will thus feel that they are part owners of the corporation, and will be above organization, strikes, or unpleasantness of any kind.

That the great refiners can afford modest contributions towards keeping their employees in order, is well evidenced by 1925 profits and dividends. Total dividends of 24 refining companies—including Standard Oil—were \$30,023,000 more in 1925 than in 1924. Standard Oil of N. Y. declared a 25 per cent stock dividend, and Imperial Oil a 33 1/3 per cent stock dividend. Meanwhile further mergers are in the air. One proposed combination includes the General Petroleum Company and the Union Oil Company of California, with total assets of \$231,000,000; another an \$80,000,000 combination of the Barnsdall, Phillips and Simms properties. In these combinations, Mr. Edward L. Doherty is said to be active. Did he ever get that black bag back, by the way?

—Facts for Workers

In the Cloak and Dress Trades of Chicago

By MORRIS BIALIS,
Manager, Chicago Joint Board

1925 was for the cloakmakers of Chicago not a better year, and, in some respects, a worse year than its predecessor—1924. The last fall season in Chicago was quite bad; unemployment was rampant, as toward the end of the season several manufacturers had given up their shops and their workers lost their jobs. And as in the other shops conditions were far from good, these unemployed workers could obtain no more work and could not finish the season elsewhere.

These men and women, unable to find work in cloak shops, were compelled to seek occupation elsewhere, with rather meager success. Some of them attempted to buy small candy stands or cleaning stores, with the aid of borrowed money. But they have found little prosperity in their new "business", and most of these "business men" will surely come back to the shops next season if conditions in the cloak trade improve somewhat.

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We had hopes that with the arrival of the Spring season things would on the whole improve materially. The Spring seasons here are, as a rule, tolerably good and we had reason to expect a better outlook.

Now, this Spring season is already at hand. The five or six bigger shops have started working and have engaged a few new workers; some may engage several new operators and finishers next week, but it appears already certain that these few shops will not be able to give employment to all jobless cloakmakers in our trade. It is worthwhile noting, too, that the beginning of the Spring season had been the entrance of six or seven cloak manufacturers into the dress business "for good", as they claim. We are, however, inclined not to believe them, as we know that these firms usually begin their Spring cloak season about six weeks later than the other cloak firms—as they work for the local market exclusively, and being that the dress trade is rather busy at the present time they had started to make dresses. We are quite certain, however, that they will begin making cloaks as soon as their cloak seasons start.

You might infer from this that conditions in Chicago are far from splendid. We have hopes, however, that matters will improve materially in the near future. Chicago, it is true, is a market for itself, and we have here our own problems to solve. Nevertheless, our welfare is closely

bound up with the general condition of the cloak industry in New York City and depends especially upon the control which the New York organization is able to exert over this industry. We must bear in mind in connection therewith the following facts: 1) A number of New York jobbers have been stockholders—lots filled with thousands of garments, manufactured elsewhere but brought over to be sold in Chicago; 2) A number of former Chicago cloak manufacturers who gave up their shops but are still engaged in the "cloak game" as jobbers, are dealing in garments manufactured not in this city but bought by them elsewhere, principally in New York, and are sharply competing with the local producers.

It stands to reason that these factors affect greatly the local market and in our judgment are wholly responsible for the present condition in our trade. And we have our hope for an improvement of local conditions largely on the confidence we have that the New York leaders realize today that the time has come to fortify our Union through peace and unity in our ranks. I am certain that the leaders of the International and of the New York Joint Board will spare no energy now to bring about order, system and a rigid control over work condition in the New York Cloak shops. This will benefit every worker in the trade—whether in New York or in Chicago. When the trade is properly controlled in New York and the cut-throat competition there comes to an end, Chicago cloakmakers will also cease to suffer from the effects of this competition and will have more work.

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You probably know about the money fines and jail sentences that were imposed upon 93 of our dressmakers last year as an outgrowth of the big dress strike in 1924 and which were now confirmed by a higher court. Among the sentenced the majority are women, some of whom are supporting their small children. The news created a sensation in this city and the newspapers were full of it.

Our members received the news as courageous union workers should and declared that neither jail nor money fines would stop them from going ahead with their work to improve work conditions in the dress shops and strengthen their union's control. The International will probably help the sentenced workers, and already Attorney Sisman, at the request of President Sigman, had filed appeal papers to the Illinois Supreme Court where we hope to receive better treatment and a fairer judgment.

NEW APPEAL FOR SACCO AND VANZETTI

"It wasn't so much a question of whether Sacco and Vanzetti committed this murder as it was whether they were radicals and too dangerous to be allowed at large in the community." This was the statement of William G. Thompson, chief counsel for the defense, before the Massachusetts Supreme Court on January 11th in opening his plea for a new trial in behalf of the two Italian workers who have been in prison nearly five years, after being convicted in 1921 on a charge of murdering a factory master at South Braintree, Mass., and seizing a \$15,000 payroll. Mr. Thompson further declared that the arrests were made in an atmosphere created by the deportation of foreign born working-men as radicals, under Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer.

GOOD TIMBER

The tree that never had to fight
For sun and sky and air and light;
That stood out in the open plain,
And always got its share of rain,
Never became a forest king,
But lived and died a scrubby thing.
The man who never had to toil,
Who never had to win his share
Of sun and sky and light and air,
Never became a manly man,
But lived and died as he began.
Good timber does not grow in ease;
The stronger wind, the tougher trees;
The farther sky, the greater length;
The more the storm, the more the strength,
By sun and cold, by rain and snows,
In tree or man good timber grows.
Where thickest stands the forest growth,
We find patriarchs of both.
And they hold converse with the stars
Whose broken branches show the scars
Of many winds and much of strife—
This is the common law of life.

—Aron.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Workers' Education for Workers' Children

By FANNIA M. COHN

(Continued)

The movement is now in its second year of existence. It has already made successful experiments in summer camping and city clubs. It has conducted a summer camp at Pawling, N. Y., on the grounds of the Manual School for two summers. It accommodated there, at a minimum price, in the most modern surroundings, hundreds of children—boys and girls—who came to spend a few weeks under the healthiest natural and spiritual conditions. Most of those who came were children of trade unionists who could not afford to go to private camps of a similar high standard.

Camp Program Educational

The camp program proved of great social and educational value. Both boys and girls were included in all the activities and the camp directors felt that a more normal and less self-conscious sex attitude was the definite result. As a democratic activity, the camp offered great scope for the children. They were given real responsibility; they decided on their own daily activities, formulated their own rules of conduct, considered the problems that arose to confront the community. An attempt was made to encourage creative activity as far as possible. All the facilities of the camp served as educational material; the children used the farm with which most of them were fascinated because of its novelty to them as a schoolhouse; a printing press they discovered as a laboratory, both in printing and in magazine editing.

Most important of all, perhaps, was the attitude that the counselors, men and women equipped not only for camp activities but also for imparting a spirit of social idealism to the children, took towards the campers. A highly successful effort was made to foster the co-operative rather than the competitive spirit. At the campfire meetings, the children were encouraged to discuss current vital, social and economic problems. An incident in the camp kitchen, for instance, where a white kitchen man showed respect leading to a full discussion of that prejudiced question.

With a staff interested in the organized labor movement and all socially progressive activities, it was inevitable that the camp should bring to the children, in addition to all the

other worthwhile things of camping, a broadening of their social vision, which will help them to realize the aims of the Pioneer Youth movement. "The preparation of youth for participation in the work of bettering society."

City Clubs

The activities of the city clubs, of which seventeen have already been formed, are aimed in the same direction as the camping work. The two hundred children from nine to seven years who have been reached through the clubs in almost every section of New York City are developing an understanding of the labor movement and a creative spirit to meet its problems. They are directed in their work by a group of earnest inspiring men and women.

Boys and girls are members of the same club in most cases. Club activities vary according to the background and interests of the children. Many are interested in dramatics, some in hikes, athletics, games, handicraft work, reading, discussions or getting up a club journal. One group is carrying on an investigation of fire-traps in its neighborhood. One club is preparing a play with knights and giants, another one with pacifism as its central theme. But both plays are being written and produced by the children themselves. All the clubs cooperate to produce a bulletin.

The organization is maintained on a national basis with its central offices at 79 Fifth Avenue, in New York City. Joshua Leiberman, the executive secretary is in active charge of the work. In each city, the activities are carried on through a local organization which takes charge of the city clubs. Adults may become members of these clubs on payment of a fee of \$2.50. The movement has two phases and interests two groups—the Pioneer Youth clubs bring in the young people; the local organizations provide a means for parents and sympathizers with the movement to participate in its work. These local organizations have an additional object the acquainting of their membership with the aims, problems, policies and tactics of the trade union movement. To that end, speakers are invited to attend the business meeting to discuss before them the problems with which the movement is confronted, and general discussions by the membership of these problems.

(To be continued)

I. L. D. Lectures

Norman Angell, author of "The Great Illusions" and one of the foremost students of international problems in the world today, will speak on "International Organization and the New Social Order" in the Peoples House auditorium, 7 East 15th Street, on Tuesday evening, January 26 at 8 P. M. This meeting will be the fourth in the series of "Problems of the New Social Order" held under the auspices of the New York Chapter of the League for Industrial Democracy. Jessie W. Higman, author of "A Study of International Government" and "American Socialism in the Present Day", will lead the dis-

cussion. Harry W. Laidler will provide.

Mr. Angell will, during his address, deal with the obstacles which are now in the way of international happenings in the world today. In the latter part of the talk, he will deal with the economic and political tendencies toward international government which are likely to preserve world peace and produce maximum social welfare. Tickets at 75 cents may be secured from League for Industrial Democracy, 75—5th Avenue, or at Peoples House auditorium on Tuesday evening.

The lecture by John Brophy on

Weekly Educational Calendar

LOCAL 9 BUILDING, 67 LEXINGTON AVENUE

Saturday, January 23

1 P. M. Max Levine—Economics of the Ladies Garment Industry.

LOCAL 2 CLUB ROOMS

1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx

Sunday, January 24

10:30 A. M. Max Levine—Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street, Room 520

Saturday, January 23

1:30 P. M. B. J. R. Stolper—A Social Study of English Literature.—Shaw.

2:30 P. M. Theresa Wolfson—Problems of Women in Industry.

Sunday, January 24

11 A. M. A. J. Muste—History and the Workers

The Role of Weather, Cows and Gunpowder
in the Making of the Modern World.

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

Wednesday, January 27

6:30 P. M. Alexander Fichaulder—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 out-classes in the following Public Schools:

P. S. 25 525 E. 5th St., Manhattan.

P. S. 171 162rd St., between Madison and Fifth Aves.

P. S. 42 Brown Place and 155th St., Bronx.

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

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

Outstanding Lectures and Courses

Washington Irving High School, Saturday, Jan. 23, Sunday, Jan. 24, at the I. L. G. W. U. Building, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 6:30 P. M. Local 9 Building, 67 Lexington Ave., Saturday, Jan. 23, 1:30 P. M. Local 2 Club Rooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, Sun., Jan. 24, 11 A. M.

On Saturday, January 23rd at 1:30 P. M. B. J. R. Stolper will give his course on "A Social Study of English Literature" in Washington Irving High School Room 520. The subject of the lecture will be George Bernard Shaw. At 2:30 in the same place Miss Theresa Wolfson will discuss "Some Problems of Women in Industry."

On Sunday, January 24, A. J. Muste will continue his course on "History and the Workers". The subject for discussion will be "The Role of Weather, Cows and Gunpowder in the Making of the Modern World."

On Wednesday, January 27, at 6:30 P. M. Alexander Fichaulder will continue his course in "Social Psychology" in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street.

On Saturday, January 23, Max Levin will start his course on "The Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry" in the headquarters of Local 9, 67 Lexington Avenue. The session begins at 1:30 P. M.

"Trade Unionism and the New Social Order" will be held on Monday evening, February 1 instead of Tuesday evening, February 2, to avoid a conflict with the Darrow-Hillquit Debate in Carnegie Hall. A. J. Muste will lead the discussion.

The final lecture of the series will be held on February 9 on "Incentives and the New Social Order" and be conducted by Professor William H. Kilpatrick with Harriot Stanton Blatch, the leader of discussion.

In Local 2 Club Rooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx, Max Levin will give this same course on the economics of our industry, on Sunday morning, January 24, at 11 o'clock.

Our members should take advantage of these courses which are of great educational value.

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

A SOCIAL STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course Being Given in our Workers' University, Saturdays, 1:30 P. M. at Washington Irving High School

B. J. R. Stolper will give a course on "A Social Study of English Literature" in our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, on Saturdays at 1:30 P. M.

The lecturer will discuss in a series of ten lessons the work and influence of present-day English writers. The field is so rich, that choice is difficult; the names and books of other writers will, of course, come up during the hour. But in the main, the discussion will limit itself to Galsworthy, Wells, Shaw, Massfield, Joseph Conrad, Michael Arden, Katherine Mansfield, May Sinclair, Virginia Woolf, Sheila Kaye-Smith, Arnold Bennett, Somerset Maugham, Frank Swinnerton, Gilbert Cannan, J. D. Beresford, D. H. Lawrence, Thomas Burke, Max Beerbohm, G. K. Chesterton, Algernon Blackwood, and A. N. Lyons. The writers named above reflect present-day English life and tendencies from almost every angle—grave, gay, tragic, "kidding", mystic, drab—in short life with a Capital L. They ought to prove interesting.

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

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Last Tuesday saw the start of the organization campaign in the dress and cloak shops. This was the climax of a few weeks' preparations ostensibly for a drive against the open dress shops but which also takes in a campaign against the nonunion cloak shops.

Organization Work in Full Swing

The Joint Board's activities for the present have been transferred to Stuyvesant Casino from where the drive is being directed. While no statement can be made at the present time of the number of shops called on strike there is, nevertheless, every reason to believe that the drive will be a successful one.

The Joint Board has enlisted the aid of every local. This was done by means of the committees which each local appointed and all of which combined comprise the organization committee. This committee reports every morning at seven o'clock in the organization headquarters and divided into groups, each group assigned to a given territory to order the workers in the open shops to the Union for purpose of Union control.

Indications which lead one to venture the opinion that the drive will be a successful one are based on the fact that no effort has been spared in supplying the man-power.

Local 10 was requested to submit the means of a committee of fifty to aid in the drive. A call for volunteers more than covered the number required. This committee was divided into three groups, each group being assigned to a special task. And each morning as the entire committee reports they are assigned to their special tasks.

On Wednesday, January 13th, the first meeting of Local 10's organization committee took place. The meeting was addressed by Manager Dubinsky, who at length emphasized the necessity of the present drive and the important task which lies ahead for Local 10.

Cutters Active in Strikes

The manner in which the cutters responded to Dubinsky's appeal was expressed in the remarkable demonstration which took place last week in front of the Garment Center Building at 495-7th Avenue. In this building is located the firm of Maurice Rentner, against whom the Union declared a strike for refusing to sign an agreement for two of his non-union factories and for refusing to abide by the decision of the impartial Chairman calling for the reinstatement of three discharged workers.

Twenty-five cutters are employed by this firm. In response to every call by the office, whether for a shop meeting in the office of Local 10 or in conjunction with the rest of the workers in the Joint Board, the men have reported as one. They are showing a remarkable spirit in the strike.

Since the strike was declared, each man has been on the picket line every morning. That the strikers are determined to win is evidenced by the fact that the demonstrations which they stage in front of the building are enthusiastic. Nearly three hundred workers are involved in this strike. Aside from the cutters, Brothers Shenger and Finkelman are active on the picket line.

Shop Chairmen Vote \$20 Assessment
In connection with the Joint Board's activities, the shop chairman meeting which was held on Tuesday, Janu-

ary 12th, in Webster Hall, resulted in the voting of a twenty-dollar assessment.

This assessment is to be paid by every member of the local unions which are affiliated with the Cloak and Dress Joint Board. The questions discussed at this meeting concern themselves with acquainting the members with the need for levying this assessment. How soon it will become payable is a matter that is yet to be determined.

The decision of the shop chairmen was reported to the Joint Board, where it was decided that the decision of the chairmen be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the affiliated local unions. Hence the question as to when the assessment will be collected will remain in abeyance until the referendum will have taken place.

Important Meeting Monday, Jan. 25th

In addition to the report on the organization campaign and the levying by the shop chairmen of a twenty-dollar assessment, which the members will hear at the meeting in Arlington Hall on Monday, January 25, they will also hear some interesting reports of the Executive Board.

It has been some time since the members have had read to them the actions of the Executive Board. This was due to the fact that the past few meetings were given over to matters pertaining to the convention and elections.

Among the many important cases that came before the Executive Board is a very interesting one concerning the cutters of the former Zweig Dress Company, 500 Seventh Avenue, now out of business. These cutters were summoned on the charge of working excessive hours of overtime. They are: Sidney Shalat, David Lehrer, Morris Newman, Nathan Vertum and Harry Norman.

Little surprise was expressed by the executive board and the officers when the charge was read against the last four named men. However, the charge against Shalat caused considerable surprise on the part of most of the officers and board members.

Shalat is more or less known among the active members of Local 10, especially as he has been a candidate for the Executive Board in opposition to the administration. As one who aspired to serve on the legislative body of the organization, it was rather unexpected to say the least, that Shalat should have been among those charged with being guilty of working excessive hours.

CUTTERS, SPECIAL ATTENTION!

All members of the Cloak and Dress Divisions are instructed to either renew their old working cards or obtain new ones for the coming season, beginning January 1, 1926.

All members found violating this provision of the constitution will render themselves subject to punishment by the Executive Board.

—Executive Board, Local 10.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Regular Meeting Monday, January 25th

Report on \$20 Assessment.

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

DATE SET FOR INSURANCE COMPLAINTS

Since the payments have begun for this season of unemployment insurance in the cloak shops, a number of members have appeared in the office of Local 10 with regard to their not having received the proper payments of insurance.

These complaints were not taken up during the past two or three weeks while payments were being made because the full force of the unemployment insurance office was needed for the dispensation of the insurance funds.

In order that the proper attention may be given to all complaints in this connection the entire next week has been set aside for the taking up of these complaints. Members desiring to make complaints should report on and after the twenty-fifth of January to the Office of the Unemployment Insurance Fund at 122 West 18th Street.

They Confess Their Guilt

All doubt, however, was set at rest when all of the cutters of this shop pleaded guilty to the charge. This came to the surface, by the way, through an investigation of the books of the firm. The exact number of hours that the cutters were wont to work within a week's time could not be found in the books, since the firm took some precautions against a possible investigation by the Union.

Nevertheless, when the lump weekly wages were seen in the book and when the amounts were figured on the basis of the wages received by the cutters the charge was easily proven.

Shalat, for instance, in one particular week, earned \$52.65. His scale of wages was \$55 per week. The limit of overtime allowed by the Union is four hours per week. Hence, under the rules of the Union which also require double time for overtime, his highest earnings should have been \$66 per week. According to his wages, he had worked ten hours per week overtime in the weeks in which he earned over \$50, for pay at double time at a wage of \$55 per week for ten hours' overtime amounts to \$52.50.

The charge against the other men was proven in a similar manner. Norman's earnings in those weeks, sometime in February, 1925, aggregated over \$78 at time on a weekly rate of \$53 per week. Lehrer, who also received \$53 per week, earned over \$81. Newman also averaged about \$80 per week on a scale of \$53.

Each of the men having pleaded guilty as soon as the charge was read to them, the Executive Board considered it as part of their punishment and gave them suspended sentence in lieu of monetary fines.

This violation was committed by the cutters before the firm had moved into the Garment Center at 500 Seventh Avenue. When it opened its shop at this address it had room for some five or six additional cutters. When the firm set about hiring additional cutters, the office decided not to permit anyone to work there unless he was sent by the office.

This decision was based on the fact that the firm was newly-organized

and that, with the exception of Shalat, all of the other men had been dropped from the membership rolls. The office felt that in such a case it would be advisable to have active organization men work in the shop in order to insure the maintenance of union standards.

Controllers Assigned to Investigate

In accordance with Manager Dubinsky's recommendation and report to the Executive Board, controllers have been appointed and have been assigned to the task of investigating cloak and dress shops. For the dress division, Brothers John W. Settle and Julius Kwait were appointed, and for the cloak division Nathan Saperstein and Ignatz Fischner were appointed.

These men began their work last Monday. The work with which they will mainly concern themselves is to see to it that cutters are employed. Throughout the season every shop is classified. Those that constantly change cutters or do not show on the records the employment of a cutter are given to the controllers for investigation.

The matter of the members being in possession of the working card for the present season is also a subject for investigation. It is not out of place to mention the fact that lately quite a number of members have been called to the Executive Board and charged with having failed to secure working cards or to renew the card of last season for one of the new season.

1926 Executive Board Elects Officers

With the appointment of President Philip Ansel at the last membership meeting of the officers, in accordance with the requirements of the constitution, the full quota of the Executive Board was completed, and at its last meeting it elected officers for the year, 1926.

Under the constitution, twelve members for the Executive Board are to be elected by the membership and three are to be appointed by the president, who is also required to appoint an Examination Committee, which he did at the last meeting.

To the Executive Board were appointed Brothers Maurice W. Jacobs, Jacob Hoffman and Nathan Saperstein. He reappointed the previous examination committee, which consists of Brothers Meyer Katz, Abe Casper and Henry Leibowitz.

At the meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, January 14th, the Executive Board reelected Maurice W. Jacobs as its chairman. Jacob Hoffman was elected sergeant-at-arms, and Samuel Kerr was elected treasurer. The Executive Board is required to elect six delegates to the Joint Board, this number being the quota determined upon by the last convention on the basis of the size of the membership of Local 10. The delegates were to be elected at the last meeting of the Executive Board, but due to press time of "Justice," the names will be given in the next issue.