

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

—Job 27.8

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VIII. No. 23.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY JUNE 4, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Fine Concert Will Open Unity House

House Will Open Doors for Guests on Friday, June 18th

An exceptionally fine concert and entertainment will usher in the 1926 season of the Unity House on Friday, June 18th.

The musical program will consist of a variety of selections to be performed by Mme. Dora Boshover, soprano, Gregory Matusewicz, well-known concertina player, and Hans Spialek, pianist. Mme. Boshover will sing Russian, Yiddish and Italian folksongs.

In addition to the professional talent, the Brookwood Players, an able aggregation of amateur performers, will present a play. It is also planned to have several popular sketch-readers render a number of recitations.

Group singing will be a feature of the evening. The opening night will wind up with several hours of dancing. Reservations for the opening day are coming in fast, and those who would not miss the joys and thrills of a Unity House opening night are asked to make arrangements without delay.

Remember the office of the Unity House, 3 West 16th Street, 3rd floor, apply to Miss Esther Friedman.

Joint Board Orders Referendum Vote on Commission's Report

Special Meeting of Joint Board Acts Upon Suggestion by Board of Directors to Place Question of Acceptance or Rejection of the Recommendations to a Vote of Entire Membership of Union—Majority of Delegates Think Report Unacceptable—Directors Authorized to Begin Negotiations With Employers' Groups for Renewal of Agreements Prior to Expiration—Strike Preparatory Measures Endorsed—Shop Chairmen Will Meet Next Tuesday.

The report and the recommendations of the Governor's Commission in the Cloak and Suit Industry of New York, issued two weeks ago, will be turned over to a referendum vote of the entire membership of the locals affiliated with the New York Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Unions. The referendum will take place as soon as it can technically be arranged, probably within the next two weeks.

This decision was reached at a special meeting of the Joint Board on Tuesday last, June 1st, held at the

1. L. G. W. U. Building, and summarized to take definite action on the mediators' recommendations. The meeting lasted until after midnight, giving ample opportunity to all who participated in the discussion to analyze the report from various viewpoints and angles.

Majority Finds Report Unacceptable

The majority of the delegates who took part in the discussion reached the conclusion that the report, in its final form, is not acceptable to the Union. The speakers, one after another, pointed out that the commission had failed to recommend a guaranteed period of employment, which materially weakens the concession of limiting the number of steady sub-manufacturers, as without such a guarantee for a fixed number of weeks of labor in the year, the jobbers would

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Court Holds Jobber Liable For Wages

Court Holds Cloak Jobbing Firm Must Pay Wages Owed by Sub-manufacturer to Employers

A far-reaching decision was handed down last week by Justice Janek in the New York Municipal Court affecting wages owed by an insolvent cloak contractor employed by the well known cloak jobber firm of Brody & Funt. The case involved three workers, members of the Cloakmakers' Union, who sued the jobber firm for failure of their contractor to pay them \$55 each for a week's wages and \$40 for overtime work.

The three workers, Feinmar, Phelby and Trachtenberg, were employed by S. & D. Cloak Co., a contractor for this jobbing firm. It gave up business a few weeks ago, failing to pay the above-named workers a week's pay and overtime, and the Union decided to bring this matter to court as a test case. The Brody-Funt firm argued that, since they are not any longer members of the jobbers' association, they cannot be held responsible for the wages of this contractor. They also claimed that they had already paid the contractor for the work made by these workers.

The case was heard by a jury of six and took up nearly three days. The jury decided in favor of the workers and the firm was ordered to pay in full the amount owed by the contractor. The Union was represented by Meyer London and the firm by H. J. Parole.

Boston Joint Board Protests Brutal Persecution of Sacco and Vanzetti

Call Upon Governor Fuller to Free Working Class Martyrs.

The denial of a new trial to Sacco and Vanzetti, the two Italian radicals languishing in a Massachusetts jail for the past five years on charges of highway robbery and murder, has stirred deeply the organized labor movement throughout the country. This decision, unless reversed by the United States Supreme Court to which con-

sidered for the imprisoned workers are now planning to appeal, places them squarely within the shadow of the electric chair, for the first time since the campaign of persecution against these two labor men was begun.

Particularly are the trade unionists of Boston aroused over the imminent danger in which the latest turn in the judicial crusade against Sacco and Vanzetti places the long suffering prisoners in the Dedham Jail. It would seem that as citizens of Massachusetts they feel more keenly the blow struck by the recent Supreme Court decision at their fellow workers and that is why they are encouraging now their hardest to rally to their final defense. Among the steps undertaken to secure their release, is a movement to prevail upon Governor Fuller of the Bay State to grant Sacco and Vanzetti a pardon.

Last Friday evening, the Joint Board of the Boston locals of the I. L. G. W. U. at a special meeting, discussed the latest developments in

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Sister Rosenfelt Accepts Secretary Post of Local 50

To Fill Former Office With Philadelphia Dressmakers After Two Years at Brookwood.

Sister Ada Rosenfelt, one of the founders of the Philadelphia dressmakers' organization and for many years its secretary, has accepted the offer made to her by the executive board of local 50 to act as secretary and complaint clerk. Sister Rosenfelt will enter upon her new duties next week.

Ada Rosenfelt is a familiar figure among the active women in the I. L. G. W. U. Besides pioneer work among Philadelphia dressmakers, Sister Rosenfelt, in the past three years, acted as organizer and secretary for former Local 25 in New York City, before it became merged with Local 23.

Miss Rosenfelt also acted as office secretary for the Unity House in New York City in 1925. She spent the last two winters in Brookwood Labor College, from where she graduated this week, immediately thereafter accepting the post offered to her by her home-town organization.

President Sigman Spends Busy Week-end In Boston

Brings Cheerful Report on Conditions in Local Market.

President Sigman spent the Decoration Day week-end in Boston, where he went last Friday afternoon at the request of the local Joint Board and of Vice-president Julius Hochman, International Organizer for Boston and vicinity.

President Sigman's impression of the present-day situation of the I. L. G. W. U. organization in Boston is quite favorable, as he indicated upon his return. There is still some organization work to be done among a few hundred unorganized dressmakers in that city, but this matter would have to be left over for the next fall season, when work will be resumed in all the shops. President Sigman attended a special meeting of the Boston Joint Board and of its board of directors, visited a member meeting of the new railcoat makers' local, No. 24, and was a guest at the installation meeting of the cutters' local, No. 73, after which he was entertained by the members of this local at a luncheon.

President Sigman found that the newly installed joint sanitary board and the Pressing labot office are working satisfactorily. At the meeting of the Joint Board, President Sigman told the delegates that, as Vice-president Hochman will very soon have to leave Boston for organizing activity in other territory, it is their duty now to carry

on the work of controlling conditions in the Boston market upon their initiative. He expressed the hope that the Joint Board will prove capable hereafter of standing its ground and defending all the gains made in the recent drive through the joint effort of the active workers in all the locals.

CLOAK DESIGNERS HAVE SPECIAL MEETING

This Saturday, June 5, at 2:30 in the afternoon, all the cloak designers of New York will meet at Bryant Hall, Room 5, to decide on some very urgent matters at present facing the designers' organization.

It is the duty of every designer to come to this meeting. The active membership of Local 45 are requested to induce as many of their fellow workers as they can possibly approach, to attend this gathering.

At this moment the entire designer trade is on the tip-toes of expectation, in view of the preparations that are being made by the Union for a general strike in the craft. The ignoring of the designers in the report of the Governor's Commission has made the strike ever more probable than before.

THIS SUNDAY—A HIKE TO HUNTERS' ISLAND

This Sunday, June 6, the Educational Office of the Union will be in charge of a hike to Hunters' Island.

Directions: Take East Side Subway to 125th Street; change for Pelham Bay local train and ride to last stop. See that you reach final station by 9:30 in the morning.

The hike leader will await you there. Bring along grub, comfortable shoes and simple walking clothes.

Joint Board Orders Referendum Vote on Commission's Report

(Continued from Page 1)

not find it difficult to evade the limitation provision.

Another reason for its inacceptability, the Joint Board delegates asserted, was the failure of the commissioners to make any recommendation with regard to the 40-hour week as a means of lengthening the work seasons in the industry. Still another grave hindrance was the concession granted by the mediators to the manufacturers with regard to "reorganization", or the right to discharge ten per cent of the working staffs of each shop employing 25 or more workers at a given time during the year. This, the delegates felt, would seriously affect the standing of the active union men in the shops and would give many an employer an additional whip over their workers. The speakers also dwelt on the point that the Commission failed to make any suggestions with regard to examiners and designers.

The meeting did not take a vote on the question but decided to refer the whole matter to a referendum vote of the workers. It was quite ap-

parent, however, that the majority of the Joint Board delegates were as a basis for negotiating a new agreement with the employers.

Shop Chairmen to Meet Next Tuesday

The meeting of the Joint Board listened to a report given by the special prestrike preparatory committee elected several weeks ago to put in shape the strike machinery of the Union in anticipation of a possible emergency. The report of the committee, which consists of five Joint Board delegates and of all the local managers, was approved.

It was also decided to hold a special meeting of all shop chairmen next Tuesday in Webster Hall to take action upon the Commission's report and to obtain the endorsement of the chairmen for the referendum proposal.

The Joint Board also decided that, in view of the fact that the agreement in the cloak industry are soon to expire, that conferences be called with all the three employing groups for the purpose of negotiating the terms of new agreements.

Boston Joint Board Protests Against Persecution of Sacco and Vanzetti

(Continued from Page 1)

the Sacco and Vanzetti case and adopted a resolution calling upon Governor Fuller to free the two prisoners. This resolution, presented by the delegates of the Italian cloakmakers' local of Boston, reads as follows:

"WHEREAS, we recognize the fact that the workers of all nationalities are of one class, and that they must help one another against their oppressors, and

"WHEREAS, the recent decision of the Massachusetts Supreme Court in denying a retrial for Sacco and Vanzetti is unfair, unjust and discriminating to the trade union movement, and

"WHEREAS, the ultimate aim of

the trade union movement is to bring about social justice, democracy and liberty, and to abolish all forms of oppression, be it therefore

"RESOLVED, that the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt, and Dressmakers' Union of Boston, assembled at a special membership meeting, at 3 Appleton Street, Boston, solemnly protest against the prosecution and imprisonment of Sacco and Vanzetti, who are languishing in jail for years, and be it further,

"RESOLVED, to ask his excellency, Alvin T. Fuller, Governor of our Commonwealth, to free the two martyrs, Sacco and Vanzetti.

Joint Board, Cloak, Skirt, and Dressmakers' Union, I.L.G.W.U.

"Newer Defenses of Modern Capitalism"

June Conference, League for Industrial Democracy, Camp Tamiment, June 24-27, 1926

To students of the labor and industrial situation in America as well as active participants in the industrial movement, the Summer Conference of the League for Industrial Democracy on "Newer Defenses of Capitalism in the United States" promises to be of the utmost interest and value.

The conference will be held at beautiful Camp Tamiment, Forest Park, near Stroudsburg, Pa., from Thursday, June 24th to Sunday, June 27th, 1926. Among the specific subjects for discussion at the various sessions are: coal and power, concentration of industry, stock ownership, company unionism, the American college, labor banking and economic imperialism.

The participants in these discussions will include: Professor Harry Elmer Barnes, author of "The Genesis of the Great War"; Stuart Chase, Director of the Labor Bureau and author of "The Tragedy of Waste"; Florence Kelley, General Secretary, National Consumers' League; James H. Maurer, President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; George Soule of the New Republic; Dr. Scott Nearing, author and lecturer; H. S. Raushenbush, Secretary of the Committee on Coal and Power; J. S. Potofsky, Vice-President of the Amalgamated Bank; Robert W. Dunn, author of "American Foreign Investments"; Ordway Tead, author of "Personnel Administration"; McAlister Coleman, publicist; Edward Richards, forester, Morris Ernest, New York attorney; A. Philip Randolph, General Organizer of Sleeping Car Porters, Benjamin Stolberg, writer; Paula M. Cohn, Vice-President of the Workers' Education Bureau; Benjamin C. Marsh, Managing Director of the Farmers' National Council; Harvey O'Connor, assistant

editor of the Locomotive Engineers' Journal, Louis Francis Budenz, editor of Labor Age; Norman Thomas, Harry W. Ladd, Paul Blanshard of the L. L. D.; Alice Hall, Vassar, 1926, and others.

A feature of the conference will be a play composed by Clement Wood and Solon DeLeon, "Jersey Justice", which will be enacted at the Saturday evening session. Samuel Friedman, Gertrude Klein, Carroll Hollister, Agnes A. Laddier and others will take part in the musical and dramatic program.

Between the sessions the delegates will spend their time in recreation—boating, canoeing, swimming, tennis, and walking.

GIFT TO A PHILADELPHIA CHAIRMAN

The workers of Quality Dress Co. of Philadelphia take this occasion to announce the presentation of a beautiful gift to their former shop chairman, Meyer Walinsky, who has served the workers of that shop faithfully for a number of years.

JOS. APPLEBAUM,
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DAVID KATZ,

Shop Committee

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MUSICIANS' UNION TAKES \$25,000 UNION LABOR LIFE INSURANCE STOCK

With a subscription of \$25,000 for stock, the American Federation of Musicians, Joseph N. Weber, president, takes its place in the leading half dozen organizations backing the Union Labor Life Insurance Company. The Musicians' subscription was voted at its convention, just held in New York City, where the organization maintains its national headquarters.

"The subscription voted by the Musicians' Union is an indication of the faith which organized labor has in this tremendous project," said President Matthew Woll. "We value it all the more because it was voted in convention by delegates representing the organization and speaking for all sections of the country."

Two organizations have subscribed for the limit, which is \$40,000. There are now two \$25,000 blocks taken and two for \$20,000 each. "We are immensely gratified at the manner in which the sale of stock is proceeding," continued President Woll. "Each day brings us new evidence of the need of union labor life insurance and of the determination of the membership of our movement to make it possible to begin writing insurance at the earliest possible date."

"It is a satisfying thing to know that this new service to labor is meeting with such a response everywhere," Treasurer Perkins said. "The American Federation of Labor investigation into the question of life insurance showed clearly the need for an insurance company owned and controlled by union labor. It will be a great day for union labor when this company opens its doors for the writing of business and issues its first policy. I believe union labor ever—here ought to celebrate that day."

PEACE HATH HER BELGIUMS

By Sarah H. Cleghorn

There is a Belgium in the bedrooms dark,
Tiny dark bedrooms, feeders to the grave.
Hark how the besieged Belgians cough and gasp

Where those tall Uhlans, Profits, have cut off
Their sunlight and their air.

And there was news,
Bad news from Belgium, in the morning paper;

A mine caved in: The Belgians were entombed
By twenty thousand tons of fallen rock.

In what dim corner of the farthest workings,
As evening of the second day draws near,

Huddle they now, to share their final candle?
And every city every winter hath
Her home-made Belgium of the un-employed.

There is a Belgium in the red-light street,
Where all the habitations of the heart
And all the fair cathedrals of the soul
Go up in flame, in shrapnel fire of hell.

—Portraits and Protests.

Night Work by Mothers In Passaic

By AGNES DE LIMA

NIGHT work by mothers is one of the abominations against which the strikers are protesting in Passaic. It is an abomination practically universal among the wool workers. Nearly every mother tries it at some time or other, some alternating between night and day shifts according to their capacity to stand the added strain and the needs of their families. The wide prevalence of such work may be observed by the fact that one may stop at almost any house where the workers live, one may knock at almost any door and one will find a worn and weary woman who before the strike was employed on the night shift.

Sixty such women were questioned recently as the effects of such work on their health and on the welfare of their children. Here are examples at random from the visitor's notes, which show better than statistics why night work has been condemned throughout the civilized world.

Mrs. P. who lives in a miserable tenement on 2nd street has seven children. She lives in three dark rooms, two of which are windowless and pays for them \$15 rent. The oldest child is fifteen and expects to go to work soon; the youngest is two months old. Mrs. P., although twenty three years in this country speaks little English. All these years she has worked in the mills, slaving in them as her babies came, and as soon after they were born as possible. Her rooms are squalid and cluttered, unlike most Polish homes which are usually spic and span. Mrs. P. is too weary and ill to clean house. All in a heap she sits, one by one on her knees, and two other children on her skirts. One white faced girl of nine, her eyes red from malnutrition, interpreted for her mother. With an apathy like hers, the child repeated the story of low wages, insufficient food, an increasing family, and the necessity of the mother's working at night. Nothing perhaps is more tragic than the races of these long starved children. Even the babies, of two and three, reflect the dreariness and misery that has surrounded them ever since they came so unwelcomed into the world.

Mrs. L. also has seven children, ranging in age from four to fifteen. She earns \$17 to \$18 as spinner on the night shift. Her husband works from 2:30 daily to midnight, so that half of each night, the children are left in care of the fifteen years old girl. The strike, she said, had given her a little chance at night sleep, but always she was "like dead person for tired". Two or three of the younger children stood daily about, their eyes staring with hunger. Another child was steadily eating from the frying pan on the stove. She would watch her mother furtively, and then like a starved animal sniff a bit of food. Her peculiarly sharpened features, dead white cheeks and nose pinched a blue looked like the famine picture from China.

In one small cottage lived six night working mothers. They were all congregated on the steps when the investigator called and one by one they told their stories. Their stories were all

the same. Three, four, five, six, seven children, husband earning a pittance, perhaps, \$18, perhaps \$20 a week, perhaps only 25 cents an hour. The mother therefore forced into the mill, to stand for the long hours of the night and earn at the end of five endless nights, \$12, \$15, or perhaps also only twenty-seven cents. And by day, "how can sleep with wash, with cook, with kids!" "Night work hell for we woman, but what can do?"

The following daily routine of a night worker supplied by one woman is typical:

She works as carder in the Dotany mill, for heaviest work imaginable. All night she stands from 7 o'clock in the evening until five the following morning. She then returns to her home where six children, ranging in age from three to thirteen and her husband awaits her care. In exhaustion she "falls on the bed" until 6 o'clock when she must get up, prepare for husband's breakfast, get him off, and then get three children ready for school. When they are gone, there are still three younger ones to look after. For an hour or two she may try desperately to get a little rest with them at play in the same room with her, or even in bed to keep them quiet. Presently she staggers to her feet, and sets about washing or cleaning or preparing something for the children to eat who come home at noon from school. After dinner she may attempt another nap, or abandoning any such hope, may continue her household duties and care of her children at home. Occasionally, she says, she puts the child in charge of the one who has been in the play in the street below. "But how I know while I try sleep, they not get kill from automobile!" Then comes the evening meal and her seven o'clock return to the carding machine. By Saturday, she says, she "no can move from tired. Like horse must work, but me no strong like horse."

One evil universally recognized was the prevalence of pregnant women on the night shift. The coming of a child is always a source of acute financial anxiety among Passaic workers, and it is only natural that night work among mothers should increase at such times. The practice is common also of women working as near the birth of their babies as possible, the foremen apparently making no objection to women far advanced in pregnancy standing all night at a ring spinning machine or running up and down with a spinning mule. Three women told of witnessing births of children in the mills, and several confessed to having worked up to the day or night before their own babies were born. Several women ascribed the death or weakness of their children to the strain of heavy work during pregnancy, but asked with the cynical shrug as common among them, "What can do? One pay not enough."

These findings merely confirm those of studies made for years which have discredited night work by women in every civilized country in Europe. England has forbidden the practice since 1844, and fourteen other European nations repudiated it in 1906.

For years enlightened citizens in New Jersey have tried to put New Jersey on at least as enlightened a plane as the neighboring states of New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut which forbid night work by women in manufacture. In 1923 a night work law was actually put on the statute books of the state, but the houses, four of them members of the Wool Council of Passaic, took advantage of a technical error in the drawing of the bill to secure a writ of certiorari restraining the law's enforcement. Thus the abomination continues.

UNION HEALTH CENTER COLUMN

CHOOSE IT WISELY

By DR. IAGO GALDSTON,
of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association

"I haven't had a vacation for ten years." This was the boast of the average man of yesterday who looked upon vacations as a luxury. Today such a boast is considered akin to folly. It is often said that the luxury of today becomes the necessity of tomorrow. This saying certainly applies to vacations, for all the scientific researches on the efficient use of the human machine point to the fact that a vacation prolongs life and improves health and that, far from being a luxury, it is a vital necessity.

A good vacation is essentially a change, for some length of time, from the routine of our everyday life. Change is often more productive of general good than cessation of activities. The sameness of today's life is a heavy tax on the physical and nervous self of the average man. During our vacation, therefore, we should try, as much as possible, to do the "other things."

Those of us who lead sedentary lives will want a vacation of outdoor activity, and will probably choose the seashore, where bathing and shore life will furnish invigorating and stimulating experiences. Those of us, however, who lead busy lives, where the hours of the day are consumed in a hustle and bustle and who make contacts with many people, will probably prefer a vacation in a more or less quiet and secluded place. The secluded place—perhaps some where in the mountains—offers an opportunity for a real rest. Good vacations should have both a mental and physical element, and should serve our interests in both.

Though most people recognize the need of a vacation, few pay as much attention to the choice and method of vacationing as they do in the choice of their hats or clothes. Seashore or mountain is chosen more on whim and what the next-door neighbor does than on what is indicated by one's daily experiences and needs. As a result, the average physician can attest of his experience that many men and women return from the country in poorer form than when they left.

Before going for your vacation it is good sense to have your doctor "look you over." If you are suffering from some physical defect, this condition must be taken into consideration when choosing a vacation place. If you are underweight, you will want a different vacation from the person who is inclined to obesity. The same is true for those with weak hearts or a tendency to lung involvement. I want to urge upon you strongly the necessity for being physically examined by your doctor before you leave for your vacation. Be sure that you are starting out right, and the best way to be sure is to have your doctor look you over. Moreover, consulting with your doctor, as to kind of a vacation best suited to you will prove productive of much good.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 5 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIOGAN, President

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

MAX D. DANISH, Editor

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

Vol. VIII, No. 23.

New York, Friday, June 4, 1926

Entered as Second Class matter, April 18, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under No. 104,000. Postpaid at New York, N. Y., under No. 104,000. Accepted for special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1918.

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EDITORIALS

A JOB HALF DONE

Last week, we commented in these columns on the frank and admirable analysis of the bewildered and highly complicated state of the New York cloak industry contained in the report of Governor Smith's mediators, produced as a result of nearly two years of study and close observation. We stated, with a feeling of sincere gratification, that the background of this report, its theoretical premises, as well as its factual and documentary side, vindicate to a remarkable degree the position the leadership of our Union had taken with regard to the woebegone condition of the great cloak industry of this city, upon which so many thousands of its members depend for their existence.

This analysis, which simultaneously is a powerful indictment of the jobbing-submanufacturing method of cloak production, at present the typical and most prevalent system of manufacture, will, no doubt, be ranked amongst the most interesting documents ever presented by a group of investigators in a major industrial controversy. No matter what the practical outcome of this Commission's recommendations, their courageous delving into the very vitals of this disordered industry and their ability to penetrate behind the confusing labyrinth of a fashion-ridden, highly seasonal trade like present-day cloakmaking, is an effort deserving of unstinted praise.

It is, therefore, all the more regrettable, in view of this open-eyed attitude of the mediators and their commendable ability to place their fingers upon the true ills of our main industry, that in their concrete suggestions for their cure and elimination, they have fallen far below the mark of our expectations. The Union's demands, let us bear it in mind, are based exactly on the same line of argument which the Commission's report has taken as the basis for its recommendations, but these recommendations cover only a part of the Union's program leaving out some of its vital sections and thus creating the impression of a half-finished, incomplete job.

It is as if a diagnostician, after having made a thorough study of his patient's illness and having honestly conveyed to all concerned a true account of his ailments, would at the last moment fail to recommend the proper surgical operation that alone could bring recovery to the sufferer and restore him to normal activity and a rational existence.

Let us make our point a little clearer.

Both the Union and the mediators agree that the principal source of evil that is demoralizing the cloak trade at the present moment is the irresponsible, fre lance position of the jobber and his ability to dodge the legitimate burden of a regular employer through the device of submanufacturing. The Commission's report milnes no words in condemning this side-stepping, shifting policy of the jobbers and concludes that they must be placed, as far as the workers are concerned, in their proper place as employers, indirectly employing three-fourths of the workers in the trade.

The mediators, like the Union, are likewise of the opinion that the petty contractor shop is the source of all ills in the cloak trade, that it must go to make room for the larger shop if the industry is ever to pull out of its demoralized condition. Of course, the fight against the tiny shop, the breeder of scabbery and degradation in the cloak trade, cannot rationally be made directly against the myriads of these "owners", as they are no other than themselves but the offspring and the creatures of the true masters in the industry, the jobbers. The attempt of a direct, frontal attack upon the small submanufacturers has been tried by the Union in the past several times and each time with results that proved the inadvisability if not the futility of such a move.

Well, to achieve a solid and permanent cure of this cancerous growth on the body of the cloak industry, the Union has proposed, both as a means of fixing responsibility on the jobbers and to encourage the formation of larger production units in the trade, the double remedy of limitation of steady submanufacturers and of a guaranteed period of employment to the workers. Throughout the long discussion of the Union's entire program of industrial demands, proposed as far back as 1924, these two measures have been emphasized as a twin remedy, each to a large degree depending on the other, or, rather, completing each other.

It would hardly be in place here once again to restate in full the argument in support of these two measures. By this time there is not a worker in our trade, and perhaps not a thinking and intelligent employer, who does not realize that a guaranteed period of employment would serve as a powerful stimulant for order, organization and system in the relations between the

workers and the employers in the industry and as an effective restorer of the bigger shop, the desirability of which can not be denied by anyone who is earnestly concerned about the welfare of the cloakmaking trade in the New York market.

The failure of the Commission's report to recommend a guaranteed period of employment is a serious gap, a glaring breach that is keenly felt by all such as had expected greater consistency from the framers of this report, after they had so realistically revealed in their preamble the true fountain-head of disorder and chaos that is eating out the heart of the cloak industry. By leaving out the proposal for a guaranteed period of employment, the report leaves out precisely the teeth of an industrial measure that would stop the rampant and been long known, and for this reason the responsibility of an employer upon the jobber and the incentive for the coming back of the big shop.

Another serious omission among the recommendations is the failure of the mediators to state concretely their view with regard to the forty-hour week demanded by the Union. Last year, it will be recalled, the Commission had stated that in its judgment "the time was not opportune" for the granting of the shorter week called for by the workers. That was before the exhaustive study of industrial conditions in the New York cloak market was undertaken by the Commission's investigators. It was before the appalling figures concerning the brevity of employed periods in cloak shops were made known, and for this reason the omission of the mediators could quite easily be understood.

But, whatever doubts there may have existed concerning the burning necessity of lengthening the work-seasons in the cloak trade, they were swept clear by the incontrovertible facts disclosed by the report of the Commission's own investigators made only a few weeks ago. This investigation brought to light the crushing fact that cloakmakers in New York are employed on the average less than 30 weeks in the year, and that, even with the increase in minimum scales recommended by the Commission, they could not hope to make a living for themselves and their dependents, unless some means are found for increasing the duration of the work periods.

That the mediators appear to agree with the Union in theory concerning the futility of expecting that such a lengthening of the work season would come by itself in the cloak industry, is clearly evident from their statement that the jobbers, the controlling factor in the industry, "have no incentive for lengthening the season, for the manufacturing overhead is carried by the multitude of small submanufacturers, each with a little loft and a few machines." Is not it clear, therefore, that the only effective means that would bring about an increase of the work season, even in our fashion-courted industry, is a shortening of the work-week, that would automatically give the workers an opportunity for a few additional weeks of employment during the year and a chance to somewhat increase their meager earnings?

The Commission's report also leaves out of consideration the request of the Union for a square deal for the designers and the examiners in the cloak trade. The workers in these two crafts, though legitimate and full-fledged members of a cloak producing unit, have heretofore been treated like step-children in the collective agreements between the Union and the employers. Invariably, whenever contracts would be renewed with the manufacturers' organizations, the employers would discover some subterfuge why these two groups of workers should be excluded from the scope of the agreements.

Of course, the failure of the Commission to make specific recommendations with regard to the examiners and the designers leaves this subject as open as before. The Commission's subsequent notification that it would keep its hands off this question entirely, will naturally give the Union no other recourse but to take up the defense of these two classes of workers in the only way open to it, unless the employers will choose to avert a clash on the designer-examiner question and will recognize the logic of including these workers in the general agreement covering all cloakmakers in all shops, without exception of any craft or trade.

It will be argued, we expect, of course, that in putting forth its recommendations the mediators could not lose sight of that element among the jobbers and manufacturers that would be inclined to view every concession recommended to the workers with hostility and opposition, and that their failure to recommend for adoption some of the important demands of the Union may, therefore, be explained by their desire to placate these stand-patters and to put them in a more conciliatory mood towards the report as a whole.

To this, however, the answer is plain: That group among the employers which regards every move or step that tends to stabilize the industry or benefit the workers as a mere "burden" upon themselves, will not be placated by the Commission's report and will continue to treat it in an oppositional mood. These employers and their spokesmen have for months now been filling the press trade with propaganda to the effect that they will accept none of the Commission's proposals, no matter how mild, and will repudiate the attempt to disturb their own smooth-running prosperity. Their bark, however, probably is louder than their bite.

To the workers, and to their Union, this failure of the Commission's report to meet some of their important demands is a keen disappointment. Certainly, the acceptance by the mediators of the Union's original analysis of the critical situation of the cloak industry and the causes responsible for it, have given us cause to hope that the recommendations would not stop short at adopting only a part of the Union's program but that in the interests of the industry and of all those who are genuinely concerned in its welfare they would not fail to endorse every other indispensable part of this program.

The Company Union in West Lynn

THIS systematic effort on the part of the executives to engage the minds of the workers in the solution of production problems, especially since it is combined with various systems of special financial rewards, awakens among the workers a sense that their personal worth is recognized, that they belong to the family. It is a calculated concession to the fundamental theory of democracy, although not at all democratic in the conventional sense.

For the workers have no share in drafting the budget, neither have they any primary responsibility for its execution any more than any would have under the ordinary trade union system of collective bargaining. The primary responsibility rests upon the manager and to meet it he is supported by a highly specialized technical staff. In addition the usual number of immediate assistants—the general superintendent, general assistant, assistant manager, the departmental heads, divisional superintendents, foremen—has the aid of a research laboratory whose twenty-four specialists are constantly seeking to discover new and improved methods of designing and constructing the turbines, generators, compressors, street lighting and signal apparatus, which are the principal products of the River Works in West Lynn. The workers are geared into this stimulating research game by a system of awards for suggestions. The production manager, one of whose principal functions is to translate the general budget into terms of day by day production requirements, is directly responsible to the manager, and this is also true of the head of the time study department whose analyses of the performance of the men and women at the bench and machine are used in setting the piece work prices. The manager who has his special industrial representative to aid in his duties under the Plan of Representation. The directory of the staff organization of this one manufacturing unit of the General Electric Company fills three closely printed ledger sheets.

Under the Plan, the works were divided into sections each containing, as nearly as practical, two hundred employees; craft lines were broken up. The qualified voters in each of the sections—all employees, except foremen, assistant foremen and leading hands, of three months' continuous standing on the payroll—were entitled to elect, by secret ballot, from among their number, two employee representatives. Within two weeks after the general election, these representatives were required to elect three members to a series of committees upon which they and the management have equal representation. The most important of these committees is the General Joint Committee on Adjustment which next to the general manager is the

By ROBERT W. BRUEKE
in the Survey Graphic

that committee he may, unless its decision is unanimous, appeal to the department head. Again if this ruling is unsatisfactory, he may turn to the General Joint Commission on Adjustment. Finally, if he is not satisfied with the decision of the General Joint Committee on Adjustment, he may, unless the decision of this committee is unanimous, carry his appeal to the manager whose decision is final.

From the beginning the management had its specialized expert on the job of initiating and guiding these conferences and so of shaping the life of the Plan. Under the Plan the workers pay no dues. They have not so much as a company union treasury. They have no expert advisers to supplement their own experience and skill. The men and women who represent them in section and shop and on the various joint committees carry their responsibilities as representatives in addition to their responsibilities as wage-earners. Moreover from the beginning they were reborn from calling in even their national trade-union officials while the Company placed its highest paid executives on the most important joint committees without limiting their choice of advisers. To add to their difficulties, their national craft unions themselves had no staff organization whose business it should have been to know the technical organization, the production and management problems of the River Works with some approximation to the knowledge possessed by the staff organization of management. The result was that from the beginning the management alone possessed all the essential resources required for initiative in developing the Plan, in which its influence inevitably became preponderant.

In other words, craft unions are prepared to strike against exploitation and injustice but they are not prepared to exercise constructive power in situations where the management has established and maintains satisfactory wages and other working con-

ditions, and has supplemented these basic elements of the usual collective agreement with an aggressive program for educating the workers in the financial and production problems of the company and otherwise engaging their loyalty.

This the General Electric Company has done to an unusual degree. Many years before the Plan was inaugurated the company had stimulated the organization of a Mutual Benefit Association to provide modest sick and death benefits and relief for emergency distress. Also before the inauguration of the Plan of Representation the company started a pension system under which any male employee who has reached the age of seventy, any female employee who has reached the age of sixty, and any employee who has served twenty or more consecutive years and who becomes permanently incapacitated for further work may, at the discretion of the pension board, be granted a pension. In recognition of the value of continuous service the company further gives all employees receiving less than \$4,000 a year, of five or more years' continuous service, semiannual supplementary compensation equal to 5 per cent of their wages or salaries, either in cash or General Electric Employee Security Corporation bonds as the employee prefers. For the six months ending December 31, 1925, supplementary compensation amounting to \$1,267,590 was paid to 38,811 employees.

In 1915, by arrangement with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the company at its own expense provided death benefits in favor of dependent relatives, in amounts varying from \$500 to \$1,500, according to the terms of service. During a period of six years more than \$2,000,000 was paid to some 1,800 families of deceased employees. In October, 1925, the company made an arrangement with the Metropolitan under which employees might supplement free insurance by themselves buying policies at especially favorable rates. The company has also developed a plan for assisting employees in the purchase and building of homes which has enabled them to finance houses to a value in excess of two million dollars.

In 1919, 1920, and 1921, taking advantage of the interest in thrift which had been developed during the war, the company offered 7 per cent investment bonds to its employees, who acquired an aggregate of \$9,736,000 of these securities. In 1920 the company offered the employees 50,000 shares of its common stock on a monthly payment plan at a subscription price of \$135 per share. More than 10,000 employees completed their payments and received over 46,000 shares.

The fluctuation in value of these securities during the period of business depression created a considerable amount of nervousness among the employees who had purchased them. To avoid this complication

"From the beginning they were dissuaded from calling in their national trade-union officials while the Company placed its highest paid executives on the most important joint committees without limiting their choice of advisers."

the company in January, 1923, organized the General Electric Employees Securities Corporation whose management is entrusted to a board of fifteen directors, seven of whom were elected by the employees. The bondholders who are employees in the various plants of the General Electric. All of the capital stock of this corporation is owned by the company which purchases the General Electric Securities Corporation 6 per cent bonds and sells them to employees in units of \$10, for cash or on a monthly payment plan. So long as the employees retain their bonds and remain in service of the company, the company adds 2 per cent to the 6 per cent paid by the corporation, making an 8 per cent investment. The bonds can be redeemed at any time and partial payments are refunded upon demand. Individual subscriptions are limited to a maximum of \$500 per year. Bonds outstanding in the hands of employees amount to \$18,453,770 while those in course of acquisition on the installment plan aggregate a further \$2,645,740. The funds of the corporation are invested in securities of the General Electric Company and in electric public utilities in the United States.

At West Lynn the impression is borne in upon one that these ten thousand odd workers are pocketed not only from the labor movement in general but from the employees of the other manufacturing establishments of the company. There is no organized intercourse among the workers in the various establishments. Attempts of employee representatives to initiate such intercourse have been discouraged. Their critical attitude as citizens toward the public policies of the company and more especially of electrical utilities has been definitely circumscribed and blunted by their acquisition of millions of securities whose earnings depend upon the prosperity not only of the General Electric Company but of these utilities in which the funds of the General Electric Securities Corporation are invested. It may be that the policies of the company and of the leaders in the electrical industry with which the company is associated are not only wise but preponderantly in the public interest. Nevertheless the question as to the relation of the public to the control of the rapidly developing

"The success of the Plan of Representation in removing the more acute grievances that had occasioned the strike weaned the workers away from their unions.... The unions to whose militancy against industrial autocracy the workers at West Lynn owe the Plan have ceased to function there."



"For in West Lynn the forms of democracy are becoming in the hands of experts, a device for promoting technical efficiency even more than channels of free democratic expression."

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highest court of appeal in the adjustment of grievances. Any grievance must first be taken up with the leading hand or foreman of the work on which the employee is engaged. If the employee is not satisfied with the foreman's decision, he may take an appeal to his shop committee. If in turn, he is not satisfied with the ruling of



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Who Is Who Among the I. L. G. W. U. Brookwood Graduates?

Five of the 26 members of the graduating class of Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N. Y., this year are I. L. G. W. U. girls—Rose Pesotta, Anna Sosnostky, and Celia Samorodin of New York Local 50, and Bessie Goren and Ada Rosenfeld of Philadelphia Local 50. Their graduates are union painters, hosiery workers, stenographers, farmers, shoe workers, cooperatives, teachers and machinists.

All of the I. L. G. W. U. girls were active for several years in the union before they went to Brookwood, and have taken an active part in the affairs of the school while there.

Bessie Goren has been a member of Philadelphia Local 50 since 1912, and has served as shop chairman, member of the executive board, complaint clerk, and organizer. She was manager of the Philadelphia Unity House in 1924.

The girl in the group who has been longest in the union is Ada Rosenfeld, who joined during the 1910 strike in Philadelphia. She has been a member of the executive board and was complaint clerk for the local for three and a half years. The year before coming to Brookwood she was secretary of Local 25 and last summer was registration clerk at the Forest Park Unity House of the I. L. G. W. U. She attended the Bryn Mawr summer school for women in industry in 1922.

Rose Pesotta joined the union in 1914 shortly after her arrival from Russia and is now a member of Dressmakers' Local 22 in New York. She was shop chairwoman until 1920, served on the executive board in 1921-22, and was a delegate to the Joint Board and to the Bi-Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. in 1922. She was active in the 40-hour strike of 1923 and was in charge of the Labor Bureau created at that time.

Celia Samorodin joined the I. L. G. W. U. in Baltimore in 1916, having been a member of the United Garment Workers for five years previously. She became a member of the New York Local 22 in 1921. She too, has served on the executive board, joint board, and on the executive board in Baltimore from 1915 to 1918.

Anna Sosnostky became a member of Local 22 in 1917, served in various capacities, from shop chairman up, and has been active in strike activities. She was one of three students to represent Brookwood this year in a debate staged at Vassar College between the two schools on the question "Should the workers take over industry" and acquitted herself very creditably. She has also taken a prominent part in dramatics, being the "leading lady" in "Miners", a play written and staged by the students at the annual Washington's Birthday Conference of Teachers in workers education at Brookwood, and in "A Dollar" by David Pinski, given earlier in the year.

The other girls have also contributed to the Labor drama—as those who saw the three plays given at the New York Labor Temple in March will recall—Ada Rosenfeld as "Mag" the wife of a southern tenant farmer in "Peggy", Rose Pesotta as the "Woman from Idaho" and Bessie Goren as the stenographer in "The People". Miss Rosenfeld also played the part of a Polish woman in "Miners".

Twice during their two years at Brookwood have the girls been called from their studies to help in strikes—once in 1924 to help organize the white goods workers and this last winter when the Tuckers, Hemstitchers, and Novelty workers conducted a successful strike for wage negotiations.

Recently the entire group accompanied Clinton S. Golden, Brookwood field representative to the anthracite mine region around Harrisburg and Wilkesbarre, Pa., to make a first-hand study of the mining industry. They came back enthusiastic over the project and have recommended to the faculty that such opportunities for workers of one industry to visit other industries be made a regular part of Brookwood's curriculum.

Upon their graduation on June 4th, all of the I. L. G. W. U. girls plan to go back to their trade and there put into practice the added knowledge of trade union and labor technique and tendencies which their work at Brookwood has given them.

Legislating For Society

By ARTHUR W. CALHOUN
Instructor in Economics, Brookwood

The Dear Public

SOCIAL legislation in general is presumed to come under the so-called "police-power"—the alleged inherent right of government to provide for "the public health, the public morals, and the public safety." Even the United States constitution gives Congress certain power to provide for "the general welfare."

And so we are introduced to our old friend, the dear public. And who is he? When some rude boys want to play a trick on an inoffensive person they take him snipe shooting. When they have got to the right place, they leave him holding the bag waiting for their return with the game. That is the last he sees of them till they turn up in town next day to give him the bee-haw. Such is the role of the public in real life.

There is considerable belief that the government should protect "the public" against the excesses of Capital and Labor in the class struggle. From this standpoint, Capital and Labor are two bad boys playing tricks on the public and doing damage by their reckless scrambling. The public is the old gentleman with the stove-pipe hat who threads his way timorously amid the flying mow-balls. It is supposed to be the business of the government to keep his hat from being knocked off, especially since he pretends to pay the taxes.

Pity the old gentleman! His safest move is to take the boys into a candy store now and then and get on the good side of them. But, alas, there are gangs and gangs, and it would bankrupt him to get on the good side of them all. Anyway, who cares for a mere pedestrian? He does not make the world move.

So there's your public. If you want to be exact, the public is that part of the population that has no interest in the struggle that is on between

Capital and Labor. Who, then, makes up the Public? If there are any workers that are not interested when other workers are in a battle, then these cold-blooded bystanders are part of the Public. If there are any Capitalists that are not interested when their colleagues are being attacked, then these calm gentlemen are part of the Public. Aside from such questionable recruits, the Public must consist of people too muddle-headed to realize that a class struggle is on, or too shortsighted to realize the need of taking sides. At worst, the Public consists of persons traitors to their class; at best it consists of impractical people who fancy that it is possible to stand above the battle.

Now who wants to serve such an unlovely aggregation? How much chance is there of building a political movement on the interests of such a motley herd? How much chance is there that they can make their will felt in centers of power? To be sure they have votes; but what do votes matter unbacked by economic, union and power? The public can stand in the lurch and take the mud while the cars whiz by. And that is as it should be. Any bunch that is not moved to take sides should take the mud and not complain about it.

Social legislation? What? For whom. If the Public thinks social legislation in its interest has any show, it has another thing coming. For instance in the controversy over the pending railroad legislation, who sponsors the Public? Who but the manufacturers, who complain that the bill gives control to the representatives of Railroad management and of Labor, ignoring the shippers. Are the manufacturers the Public? Hardly; but, as usual, the Public is a mere scarecrow.

Join Our Hikes

This Sunday, June 6, to Hunters Island

The next hike arranged by our Educational Department will be this Sunday, June 6th, 9:30 A. M. to Hunters Island. The following are the directions: Take the East Side Subway to 125th Street. There take the Pelham Bay Local and ride to the end of the line. Our members will gather at the foot of the Pelham Bay Station at 9:30 A. M.

On this Hike we will be accompanied by the I. L. G. W. U. members who are graduating from Brookwood this Friday. The hike will have many educational features. Besides games and ball playing there will be story telling, dramatics, readings, recitations, singing and lots of fun. All arrangements have been made to have this hike a memorable one.

If you want to enjoy the day we advise you to wear comfortable clothes, and low shoes and to bring plenty of food with you, as we expect to develop an excellent appetite after the games.

Please make an effort to be at Pelham Bay Station on time as we wish to start early. You will recognize the leader by his red sash. Nothing will prevent us going on this hike except a pouring rain.

Class Ideals In Education

By KATE RICHARDS O'HARE

The College of Big Business

In the battle which raged between the rising industrialists and the decaying landed aristocracy, between eclecticism and secularism, a new type of institution of higher learning was born. The very name "college" had come to stand for social snobbery, intellectual repression, and religious intolerance; so the more modest of the two new types of school was called an academy and the more pretentious a university, though strictly speaking they were not universities in the accepted sense of the word.

Most of the new academies and universities were founded by the rapidly ascending industrial class as a protest against the social exclusiveness, narrow culture, and repression of the physical sciences in the older colleges. And they grew like mushrooms. The United States was a rich nation where boundless natural resources, aliphed and corrupt government, marvelous machinery, and unlimited immigrant labor for exploitation brought great

wealth within the grasp of the strong and the unscrupulous. The day laborer of yesterday became the business magnate of today; the illiterate man of yesterday the millionaire of today, smarting under the scorn of the learned and eager to buy culture for his children as he bought other commodities in the markets.

But with all their millions the new-rich middle class could no more buy or conquer the old college than a man can buy or conquer the soul of a woman who scorns him. There was something in the atmosphere, something of soul and spirit of the old college that the children of the new-rich could not attain. With all their wealth they were outsiders and aliens. So in self-defense the new-rich established their own schools where they might save their wounded pride by establishing a snobbery of wealth instead of one of birth and breeding.

The new-rich business men rushed to establish and endow these new colleges where not only might their sons be educated without being subjected to the scorn of their mates because of their lowly origin and vulgar oc-

cupations, but also schools where the physical sciences, which were needed in expanding industrialism, might be developed, and managerial forces for the newly developed industries might be trained. For more than half a century these educational half-breeds were the liberalizing and progressive forces in education and were training schools for the ablest teachers in the rapidly developing public school system.

Two of such universities stand out as milestones in educational advance in the United States—Clark University at Worcester, Massachusetts, where President G. Stanley Hall made more educational history than any other one man in the United States, and Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, Maryland, where Dr. Daniel Collitt Gilman laid the foundation for an educational system that is still perhaps the peer of anything in the country. That Clark University has fallen on evil days and an educational mountebank now rules where once Dr. Hall illuminated the world of scientific education is to be regretted, but hundreds of Clark men are carrying onward the Hall traditions in educational institutions all over the country.

(To be continued)

Labor The World Over

A New National Trade Union Center in Chile

ON March 6th and 7th Santiago was the scene of a special congress of the "Union de Empleados Chilenos" (Federation of Commercial and Clerical employees). The congress drew particular attention because it had before it a proposal to form a national trade union center for Chile. The proposal aims at uniting the workers who are at present divided and weakened by theoretical disputes.

Another resolution passed by the Congress had to do with the formation of an independent welfare fund for commercial and clerical employees. The existing funds had been maintained by a 10 per cent deduction from wages, and administered by liberal professional politicians just as they chose.

In addition to the private employees, those engaged in the public services are also exceedingly discontented. They have just formed their own union which will federate with the commercial employees. Trade unionism among the civil servants has been greatly stimulated by the fact that the government tried to shift the burden of a budget deficit of 300 million pesos, on to the shoulders of their employees.

The Greek Trade Union Movement

AFTER the recent Balkan Trade union congress held at Sofia, Sassenbach, Secretary of the I. F. T. U. visited Greece to study the Greek trade union movement and to investigate the possibilities of strengthening it. The occasion was particularly opportune in view of the recent decision of a unity conference attended by 285 delegates from the "free" trade unions, the communist unions and the independent unions, in creating the executive committee of the national trade union center to affiliate to the I. F. T. U. and to bring about complete unity of the Greek trade unions inside that organization.

Sassenbach then addressed a meeting in Salonika where he was received by the trades council and by Mihailides, a representative of the Greek national trade union center. He also paid a visit to the camp of Greek refugees and returned to Amsterdam after further meetings in Greece and Yugo-Slavia.

The First of May in Italy

THE 1st of May is past. The workers of Europe have held their demonstrations, celebrated the eight-hour day, the ratification of the Washington Convention, world-peace, workers' control, the destruction of militarism and reaction, etc. For the most civilized nations this Labor festival has become an officially recognized institution, and even in those countries with admittedly reactionary governments the workers are generally able to organize their processions, although here and there they have first to get the permission of the authorities. In Rumania, for instance, the trade union center and the socialist party, had to approach the Minister of Home Affairs, in order to have the necessary instructions issued to the local authorities, and to get assurance that the May Day festivals would not be interfered with. In Spain where demonstrations took place in all the chief towns, the trade union center and the Labor Party submitted to the government on May 1st in the name of the whole movement, a demand for the restoration of the constitutional rights, the immediate termination of the war in Morocco, and the introduction of numerous social reforms.

There was only one country in which the workers were not allowed to celebrate May Day, Italy. The government cynically chose the day to put into force the Act concerning collective agreements.

A leaflet published by the Italian national trade union center reproduces the May Manifesto of the I. F. T. U. and then continues as follows:

"The Italian national trade union center realizes that it must not demand useless sacrifices from its adherents. For that reason May 1st must be observed in silence instead of being celebrated in the spirit befitting a great international festival. Let us however take heart from the thought that although we are crushed today we shall not remain so for ever. To Fascists know this; hence their frantic efforts to win over the workers to fascism. They are learning that it is easier to destroy material things than to uproot class consciousness or to crush the determination of the workers to gain their freedom."

their own but of the company's initiative. For in West Lynn the forms of democracy are becoming, in the hands of the experts, a device for promoting technical efficiency even more than channels of free democratic expression. Having agreed to supplant autocratic control with the idea of representative government, the management, with the assistance of its technical staff, not the jump not only on the trade unions but also upon the employee representatives and has maintained the initiative ever since.

We are living in a scientific age, the age of the expert. The fundamental question defined by the contrast between the Plan of Representation in West Lynn and the autonomous organization of the workers in the men's clothing industry is this: Shall the democratic group, conscious of its intellectual and spiritual limitations, submit to the beneficent direction of the expert, or shall it adhere to our traditional democratic faith that the voice of the people is ultimately the voice of God and make the expert its servant?

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

В Отделе.

В среду, 2-го июня, состоялось собрание Русско-Польского Отдела Союза Железнодорожников. Обсуждались важные вопросы, касающиеся рекомендаций Губернаторской Комиссии. Были прочитаны протоколы, из которых членам узнали, что происходит в комиссии. Была принята отставка вице-председателя, выбор на его место оставлен до следующего собрания.

Из докладов делителей в комиссии выяснилось, что предпринятые меры для оказания помощи двум больным членам Отдела.

Секретарь доложил, что в июне ведется подготовительная работа к предстоящему собранию, так как предлагаемые рекомендации могут быть приняты, а потому требуется посредством забастовки добиться своих прав и восстановить контроль в мастерских. Секретарь прочитал пункты, предлагаемые Губернаторской Комиссией и зачитал отрывки пунктов для рабочих при заключении договора с хозяевами.

После доклада секретаря по вопросу рекомендаций Комиссии, членам прибыли к заключению, что рабочие много потеряли, что вопрос о требованиях был передан Губернаторской Комиссии.

После выяснения вопроса было единогласно решено принять рекомендации, предлагаемые Губернаторской Комиссией, и немедленно приступить к их выполнению.

Было также решено, чтобы членам принимали активное участие в Генеральном забастовочном комитете и немедленно направились в железнодорожные комитеты, который составляется в настоящее время и в который члены могут напиться на собрания или в котором секретаря.

Причины неизбежной борьбы.

Если бы в 1924 году не было сделано ошибки в вопросе передачи вопроса Губернаторской Комиссии была бы объявлена забастовка, то рабочие не пришлось бы переживать происшедшей деморализации и рабочие в течение отъезда дух от усталости бы свои позиции, и в настоящее время не пришлось бы жить своим голодом по поводу дилеммы в "крупной дилемме" Губернаторской Комиссии. И что теперь рабочие посредством общего забастовочного решения объявить забастовку и добиваться улучшения положения рабочих во всем производстве железной дороги. Основными пунктами рабочих требований было:

- 1) Отречение от контрактов.
- 2) Гарантия продолжительности работы.
- 3) Сокращение часовых рабочих недель.
- 4) Увеличение заработной платы.
- 5) Принятие элементов в депо-шопе железнодорожных рабочих.
- 6) Прекращение рабочего бора под контролем полиции.
- 7) Прекращение санитарных инспекций.
- 8) Отказ от безработицы.
- 9) Уравнение законодательства финишерам.
- 10) Право жюри проверять книги хозяев.

Комиссия в течение двух лет расследовала положение в индустрии, признала как несомненный факт, что джаб-фабрикаты со своими неопределенными контрактами приносят большой вред, что жюри в совет требовали права, но Комиссия отказывалась идти навстречу не работая, а хозяевам возмездия горло не выжидает.

Что мы рабочие могли бы получить, если бы приняла рекомендации пункты Губернаторской Комиссии? Потраиваясь ответить на этот вопрос, не прибегая к дипломатическому методу. На требования рабочих, на которые на главных пунктах Комиссии совершенно не отбавляла, на шесть из них выписал

рекомендации в пользу хозяев. А именно: требовал от Комиссии получить права на реорганизацию мастерских (уменьшить состав рабочих и выбрасывать на улицу того, кто сам не выжидает). Комиссия расследовала удовлетворить просьбу хозяев: создать рабочий боре, под контролем хозяев, а не жюри, проверка хозяйских книг возмущает не жюри, а председателю арбитражной Комиссии.

Сравнивая, если принять рекомендации Комиссии, чтобы предоставить хозяевам право удалять рабочих (посредством реорганизации мастерских) и посылать на работу посредством выбор бора, контрпродуктивного хозяевам, то ни один рабочий не сможет быть посылан и принят на работу, на основании того, кто ни когда бы был забастовкой в черном списке, в котором указывалось бы, что он является опасным рабочим для хозяев.

Второй вопрос это право отключать не-жюриные мастерские, первое, джабери мы должны посылать работу в не-жюриные мастерские и для контроля ставится Комиссия не от жюри, а посредства с его штабом случается на счет также и рабочих. Сравнивая, разве жюри не будет знать, что хозяева посылать работу в свои мастерские, когда проверка или не разрешается? Это большой обман и напастями над рабочими. Может ли поверить в честности предельной тогда, когда Комиссия с одной стороны говорит о необходимости организовать не-жюриные мастерские, а с другой отказывается предоставить право за рабочими в жюриных мастерских принадлежит и жюриному (Отдел жюри и джабери).

Как можно и нужно понимать такой подход к рабочим со стороны Комиссии? Такой подход бюрократических дилемматов нужно понимать просто, что они признают полное право за рабочими организовывать и добиваться своих прав, но не зарся, не от жюриных инспекторов, а где то на не-обязательной жалованье, а который они имеют больше представления, чем о положении рабочих в жюри-индустрии. Как же оставаться на деле после горького опыта? Первое, подбадривать Губернаторскую Комиссию за ее медленное усилие и заметить, что мы больше не нуждаемся ни в жалости посредника.

Просьба и честная.

Убедительно прошу считать за лозунг: "Достоинство", так как в следующем номере будет разъяснено о вылате пособия из фонда безработных.

Секретаря А. М. Саува.

WIADOMOŚCI Z CHICAGO

Lokal Polski Łączności No. 60 I. L. G. W. U. z okazji obecności w Chicago Siostry Vice-Pres. M. Friedman zwołał nadzwyczajne posiedzenie Egzekutywu.

Siostra M. Friedman przyjechała do Chicago w sprawie tych wszystkich którzy mają odśledzić karę więzienną za przestępstwo podczas ostatniego strajku. Sprawa ta jest bardzo bolesną dla nas wszystkich, ponieważ pomiędzy temi są przezwani Matki, które muszą zostawić dom, i dzieci bez opieki. Lokal polski wzywa do sprawę pod uwagę i będzie się starał wszystkim dopomóc. Następnie posiedzenie lokalu odbyło się 10 Czerwca o godzinie 8mej wieczorem w sal Shoenhoffs. Obecność wszystkich członków jest pożądana.

Z Pozdrowieniem,
M. SIERWINSKA, Sek.
S. PŁONKA, Pres.

The Company Union in West Lynn

(Continued from Page 5)

electrical industry is highly controversial and there is a reasonable probability that if the policies of the industry came into conflict with public policies as formulated by federal, state, and municipal governments, the employees would feel that they had given hostages to remain loyal to the policies of the industry. They have an independent channel such as the organized labor movement ostensibly affords to make their free judgment as citizens effective. This is in sharp contrast with the situation of the company itself which is not only an institution of national and international scope but is also affiliated with large organized groups such as these represented in West Lynn and the National Chamber of Commerce and the National Electric Light Association which give very special attention to questions of public policy and legislation in the interest of industrial managements.

The striking fact about West Lynn is that practically all the special advantages enjoyed by the workers have accrued to them as a result not of

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