

"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. 26.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1926

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Great Demonstration of Cloakmakers Next Tuesday at Madison Square Garden

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor Invited by President Sigman to Address Cloakmakers—Other Speakers Invited Are Sidney Hillman, Chief of Amalgamated Clothing Workers, John F. Coughlin, President Sigman, Vice-President Louis Hyman, Arturo Giovannitti, and Ben Gold of the Furriers' Union—Operators, Finishers, Cutters, Pressers, Skirtmakers, Examiners and Designers Will All Cease Work at 4 P. M.

At a special meeting of the New York Joint Board, held on Wednesday night, June 16, at 3 West 16th street, the conference committee of the

Union, headed by President Morris Sigman and general manager Louis Hyman, reported to the delegates on the unsuccessful attempt of the Union

to reach a basis for the negotiation of a new agreement with the group of "inside" manufacturers the night before. It was also pointed out that the Jobbers' Association had, so far, failed entirely to reply to the Union's invitation to confer.

The Joint Board, thereupon, voted to hold a great mass-meeting on Tuesday, June 29, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon at the new Madison Square Garden, to which all the workers in the cloak shops in the Greater City would be invited. At that meeting the cloakmakers will be called upon to have their final say in the proceedings and to vote on the question of a general strike in the trade, on the eve of the expiration of all current agreements in the industry.

It is expected that the meeting will begin promptly at the announced hour. As Madison Square Garden holds only 20,000 people, cloakmakers, those who are employed in the shops and such as are yet without jobs, are asked to come on time, if they desire to gain admittance into the huge auditorium. It is anticipated that the meeting will be one of the greatest ever held by the I. L. G. W. U. organization in New York City.

I L. G. W. U. Votes \$10,000 for English Striking Miners

At a special meeting of the New York members of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., attended by Vice-presidents Halperin, Dublinsky, Putney, Hyman, Greenberg, Gindgold, Boruchowitz, Ninfo, Antonial, Secretary Baroff, and presided over by President Sigman, the question of forwarding some financial assistance to the striking miners of England was taken up for discussion. It was pointed out that the English miners, locked out nearly two months ago by the mine magnates when they refused to accept a wage cut and a longer workday, are appealing to the organized workers all over the world for help and that they are in dire straits. The number of the locked-out miners is nearly eleven hundred thousand, and, that together with their families, they comprise a population of four million souls, battling courageously, half-hungry and ragged, for their human rights.

The Board decided to give the British miners ten thousand dollars, a half of which would be sent at once—three thousand for the New York Joint Board and two for the General Office. An appeal will be sent out immediately to all affiliated locals to make donations for the British miners and to forward the money to the General Office for transmission. President Sigman also promised to request the International Union Bank to make money transmissions for all labor unions to the British mine strikers without charge.

President Sigman Appeals For Real Unity

To All Members of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York.

Sisters and Brothers:

Once more the trend of historic development brings our organization to the threshold of great events. Once again we are on the eve of a tremendous struggle in our industry, of a conflict which involves the life interests of 40 thousand families and the very existence of our Union.

The coming general strike in the New York cloak industry is a huge undertaking, that will demand the mobilization of every ounce of strength, material and spiritual, that we might command. The leadership of the Union is firmly convinced that this general strike, like all the other mass struggles we have had in the past, will be a bitterly-fought contest, in the course of which our organized adversaries will bring into action every possible weapon they could muster to shatter our front and weaken our ranks. It will be a strike not merely for the gaining of some few minor concessions from our employers, but a powerful drive to reconstruct our main industry on a sound basis, a campaign to root out the demoralization that has split this industry into countless petty shops, and to place responsibility for labor conditions in our shops upon the true masters of this industry—the jobbers.

Sisters and Brothers: Our Union will win this hard battle against the combined forces of our employers, just as it had won all the other stubbornly-contested clashes with our masters in the past,—from the first day we had established the cloakmakers' organization in New York on a solid basis. But, in order to win this fight, it is imperative that, without exception, we should all—no matter what political preferences we may have or what social ideals and theories we may cherish—in this general strike—be united wholeheartedly and single-mindedly and inspired by one central objective—to secure as speedily and as completely as possible the winning of the vital demands for which it is to be fought out.

It is not a healthy state of affairs for a trade union to have sharp divisions within its ranks and bitter differences of opinion even in times of industrial peace. In days of conflict, however, when the enemy is lurking from behind every corner seeking to break through the line of defense—political wrangling in a union is a grave menace which places at stake its effectiveness, nay, its very life. In times of struggle, unity of mind and action must be not merely a pretty phrase or a beautiful ideal, but it should honestly and openly be practiced in the daily activities of the fighting organization and manifest itself in every move and effort against the common enemy.

We do not wish to conceal the fact that even now, during these critical hours in the life of our Union, there are persons who are attempting to carry on petty sectarian politics at the expense of the coming strike and to spread distrust and division in our ranks. May this appeal for unity, therefore, sisters and brothers, be a warning to all of you that in these days of stress and struggle we must have but one thought and but one idea: to stand united like a stone wall against the enemy and not to become provoked by any underhand attempts, no matter from what source, to weaken our ranks and to split our forces!

Cloakmakers, let us put aside now our personal grievances or organizational disagreements. Let us hold dear and undefiled the banner of unity of action, our sole key to success against the organized force of our common opponents!

With fraternal greetings,

MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

300 People Present at Unity House Opening Last Friday

Delegation of G. E. B. Present—Fine Concert Pleases Audience—Vice-President Halperin Presides on Opening Night—Weekly Program of Vacation Activities Announced.

The eighth season of the International Workers' Unity House at Forest Park, Pa., was formally launched last Friday evening, June 18, when the doors of the House were thrown open to receive a gathering of 300 guests. Among those who came of the opening night were delegates from all the I. L. G. W. U. locals in New York and Philadelphia, a group of G. E. B. members, and several newspaper men invited to attend.

Secretary Abraham Baroff, in the absence of President Sigman, represented the International office at the ceremony and received the visitors on behalf of the Unity House Committee. On Saturday night, June 19, the visitors were treated to a fine musical pro-

gram, with Mme. Boshover, soprano, a favorite with Unity House audiences, and Gregory Matusewicz, well-known concertina player, heading the list of entertainers. Ruby Goldberg, a Jewish stage comedian, read some Jewish character sketches, after which followed dancing in the large gymnasium hall.

Vice-president Jacob Halperin, chairman of the Unity House Committee, presided.

President Sigman sent the following telegram from Boston:

"Unity House, Forest Park, Pa.,

"Sincerely regret that Boston engagement prevents me from attending (Continued on Page 2)

Unemployment Insurance Fund Begins Payments Next Monday

On page 3 of this issue, the reader will find a list of shops where payment of unemployment insurance will be made to the workers during the week beginning Monday, June 28. The workers are requested to be in their shops on the day designated for payment, when the paymasters of the Fund will deliver the checks to them. Another list of shops will be published next week.

300 People Present at Unity House Opening

(Continued from Page 1)

The season opening of our wonderful institution, The International Unity House. There are few events. In the life of our movement as inspiring and beautiful as the annual Unity House opening, where amidst unsurpassed natural beauty the ideal of true unity seems so close at hand and so near realization. I heartily wish you all a happy and joyful time and to our Unity House a successful season and the undivided support of all our workers which it so richly deserves.

MORRIS SIGMAN."

Weekly Program Announced

The House Committee announced the following schedule of daily activities for the vacationists, under the supervision of the physical training and social activities director:

Morning: 10-11—Classes in Physical Training, or Hikes; 11:30-12:15—Classes in Swimming; 12:15—Diving.
Afternoon: Mondays, Wednesdays

and Fridays from 3 to 4—Classes in Folk Dancing; Tuesdays and Thursdays—same hour—Classes in Tennis and Group Games such as baseball, basketball, etc. From 4:30 to 5:30—Class in Swimming.

Evening: Social programs of all kinds—Baby parties, Oriental evenings, Immigrant evenings, Vice-Versa parties, Circus parties, Masquerades, Hobo Nites, Campfires, etc.

Readers of "Justice" who are planning to take their vacation at the Unity House are once more reminded to make their reservations for any of the coming weeks in July or August as early as possible. It is the best method for securing the most desirable rooms and accommodations. The office of the Unity House in New York City is at 3 West 16th Street, 3rd floor, telephone Chelsea 2148. Miss Esther Friedman is always at the registration desk—from 10 in the morning until 7 in the evening.

Canadian Supreme Court Outlaws Peaceful Picketing

Labor Movement of Canada Deeply Stirred by Decision—Demand Immediate Revision of Code — Toronto Cloak Joint Board Adopts Vigorous Resolution.

Peaceful picketing in the course of a strike or lockout is an offense in Canada under Section 501 of the Dominion Criminal Code. This decision, of vital interest to Canadian labor, was rendered in the Canadian Supreme Court, at Ottawa, on June 14, in the case of *Reners v. The King*.

The judgment confirms a decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Alberta which confirmed the conviction and fine of Reners, a member of the Red Star Valley Miners' Union, for peaceful picketing during a strike at the Alberta Block Coal Co. last June. Part of the code section under which Reners was sentenced reads as follows: "It is a punishable offense in time of a strike to watch the house or other place where a person refusing to participate in the strike resides or works, or carries on business, or perhaps to be."

Canadian Labor Aroused

This decision, though based on a law long on the Canadian statute but never actually enforced, came down like a bolt from the blue on the heads of the organized trade unionists of Canada. If this section of the code is to be allowed to remain, it would practically mean nullification of the right to strike and the suppression of legitimate trade union activity in the Dominion.

The Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Union of Toronto, according to information received from

Bro. Sol Polakoff, the manager of the Toronto organization, took up this matter, without loss of time at its last meeting on June 17, and adopted a resolution calling on the Government to introduce legislation making picketing legal without delay. This resolution reads as follows:

Toronto, June 17, 1936
WHEREAS, It is reported that the Supreme Court of Canada has determined that peaceful picketing is against the law, and

WHEREAS, There has originally existed a proviso in our Criminal Code making clear that such picketing was legal, and

WHEREAS, When our Criminal Law was codified the proviso was dropped as being thought unnecessary, and

WHEREAS, The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has on more than one occasion asked the Dominion Government to have the proviso reinstated in Section 501 of the Code, be it
RESOLVED, That the Dominion Government be urged to introduce the necessary legislation at the present session to make clear that peaceful picketing covered by the proviso shall hereafter be the law, and be it further
RESOLVED, That pending the amending of the Criminal Code along the lines suggested this council affirm the right to continue peaceful picketing. Its legality having been assured by the Ministers of this and previous Governments.

Illinois Labor Heads Demand Freedom for Chicago Prisoners

President Sigman and Secretary Baroff Forward Greetings—Judge Insists on Full Pledge of Flesh—Chicago Workers Hold Big Protest Meeting—Some Prisoners Already Released.

The forty-old members of the I. L. G. W. U. locals of Chicago, serving sentences from ten to sixty days in the Cook County Jail imposed upon them by Judge Dennis Sullivan for violating the injunctions during the dress-makers' strike of 1934, have forwarded through the Chicago Joint Board their greetings to the entire membership of the International Union, in response to a telegram sent to them on Saturday last, June 19, by President Sigman and Secretary Baroff. This telegram, addressed to the garment workers prisoners, in care of Frieda Reicher, at Cook County Jail, read as follows:

"The General Executive Board and the entire membership of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union convey to you a message of comradely cheer and encouragement that comes straight and deep from our hearts. We are proud of you, sisters and brothers, proud of your indomitable spirit, for you are the prisoners of our common cause, the prisoners of the working class struggle against capitalist oppression and brutal denial of elementary human rights. We are confident that as soon as you are liberated from prison clutches you will rejoin the ranks of your fighting fellow workers, just as we are confident that in spite of court persecutions and in spite of judges serving the cause of our masters, our struggle to organize the wage earners in our industry in Chicago and elsewhere will go on triumphantly until victory is won.
MORRIS SIGMAN,
President
ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary."

Some Already Out of Prison

Nineteen of the forty-four prisoners who were sentenced to shorter terms have already been released on Tuesday. They were met at the gates of the jail by workers from shops and representatives of the Chicago organization with flowers. Judge Sullivan ordered the sheriff that each sentenced garment worker is to serve full time, up to the last hour. Judge Reicher, who issued some of the injunctions, notified one of the prisoners who was to serve ten more days in addition to the six imposed by Judge Sullivan, that she would not have to serve these ten days.

On Friday, June 25, a big protest

meeting will be held in the Temple Hall, Marshall Avenue and Van Buren Street, which will be addressed by the leaders of the Chicago and Illinois Federation of Labor and various other prominent speakers, including some of the released workers.

Illinois Labor Appeals for Prisoners

The officers of the Illinois and Chicago Federation of Labor appealed last week to Governor Len Small of Illinois to release the imprisoned dressmakers. John Walker and Victor Olander, president and secretary respectively of the State Federation, John Fitzpatrick and Edward Nickles, president and secretary of the Chicago Federation, Agnes Nestor of the Chicago Women's Trade Union League, Mary Mack Donald of Mayor Dever's Public Welfare Department visited the Governor, Attorney General Carlstrom and Judge Jenkins of the Pardon Board and requested them to free the 1934 dress picketers jailed for the violation of Judge Sullivan's injunction.

MOTHER GOES TO JAIL



Mrs. Vanda Kaletto is now serving a 15-day sentence in the Cook County Jail for her part in the 1934 strike of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. She is shown in the picture with her 7-month old babe Henry. She sought to carry the babe to jail with her, but was forced by the jail officials to leave her nursing babe in the care of a friend.

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Open on
FRIDAY, JUNE 18.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

THE MEETING AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

Next Tuesday will be a red-letter day in the history of the cloakmakers' organization of New York City. On the afternoon of that day, as many thousands of cloakmakers as will be able to gain admittance into the huge auditorium, will get together to listen to the report of their leaders on the last-hour developments in the agreement renewal negotiations between their Union and the employers in the cloak and suit industry, and to decide upon the next collective step to be taken by them.

It will be referendum day for the workers in the New York cloak trade, as the voice and vote of the tens of thousands assembled in the Garden will determine the nature of the mandate which the leadership of the Union will receive as a guidance for its future dealings with the manufacturers and the jobbers.

It is practically certain, at this hour, that a general strike in the cloak industry of New York is imminent. Already two months ago both the jobbers and the manufacturers had made known their intention not to concede to the workers any point that would "add to their burden" in any form or manner. We have had occasion to refer in these columns to the steady propaganda poured daily by the spokesmen of the jobbers and the manufacturers into the trade press, weeks in advance of the final appearance of the Commission's report, to the effect that they would absolutely refuse to incorporate in the new agreements with the Union any substantial concession that would impair their own prosperity or "sacred rights."

These advance statements indicated pretty clearly what the state of mind of the cloak and suit employers is with regard to the demands of our workers. It was a challenge, a def—, the real meaning of which the Union has fully grasped from the first moment it was issued. To meet this challenge the Union began its mobilizing activity several months ago, and today, on the eve of the expiration of the agreements in the trade, it stands ready to defend its members against the defiant, blustering attitude of the masters of our industry.

When the Union asked last week the several groups of organized cloak employers to meet its representatives in conferences to negotiate new collective agreements, the "inside" manufacturers, acting through their Industrial Council, were quick to accept the invitation. But, when the representatives of the Union proposed at that conference to take up for discussion the full revised set of the workers' demands, these selfsame gentlemen, who only a few weeks ago vociferously declared in the press that they would pay scant attention to any report by the Commission that would embody real concessions to the workers, categorically refused to listen to any demands or suggestions made by the Union, save such as are circumscribed strictly within the limits of the Commission's recommendations. The natural and logical outcome of which, of course, was the breaking off of further negotiations with this association of employers.

It is obvious that since the Union has at no time committed itself to the acceptance of the mediators' report, that it had the full moral and legal right to submit to the employers its original demands of two years ago, the only program, it is convinced, that would afford the workers a material improvement of work conditions and a measure of industrial justice. This the "inside" manufacturers know as well as anyone who has followed the trend of affairs in the cloak industry for the last few years, and their last-minute denial of the right of the Union to present its program of industrial reforms as a basis for agreement discussions is as plain a declaration of war as these employers could have made it.

The jobbers, on the other hand, are silent. They have kept silent since the report of the Commission had been issued, and they have, with similar consistency, ignored the Union's invitation to a conference. Their attitude could be summed up in one word: indifference. They are indifferent to the fundamental evils and hideous chaos which they have brought about in the cloak industry; they are indifferent to the cry of the workers and their incessant uphill efforts to remedy these deplorable conditions; they are indifferent to the steady and rapid disintegration of the cloak industry under the system of production introduced and steadfastly fostered by them, a system immensely profitable to themselves and hopelessly ruinous to every other element in the industry.

They, the jobbers, are indifferent and silent, because they have no sound reason or valid argument with which to justify the cry of demoralization which their dominance of production has brought about in greatest single industry in New York City. They are indifferent and silent because their position is indefensible, and

they are obviously relying on this silence to carry them through, just as in the past their position as silent employers has enabled them to become the controlling producers in the industry without assuming any of the obligations and responsibility for labor conditions and work standards.

But the workers, and their Union, cannot and will not remain silent. It is they who suffer primarily from the disorganization, the myriads of petty contracting shops and the continued decline in earnings and periods of steady unemployment which is afflicting their trade, their only means of making a living. The workers will not remain silent; they are badly in need of immediate relief, and they are determined to obtain it.

Next Tuesday afternoon, these thousands of workers will gather in Madison Square Garden to sum up their grievances and to declare in a ringing declaration that their patience is at an end, that they are ready to leave the shops at the signal given by their Union in support of the measures that would do away with the misery and semi-starvation earnings that are the rule today in the cloak shops.

And this cry for relief, when translated into action, will break the silence and the indifference of the new group of magnates in the cloak industry who for several years past have presumed that by half-word promises they could fool the workers into accepting the rule of the new trade and could continue hiding behind their submanufacturers' backs. They will then learn, to their surprise and dismay, that ignoring the vital demands of the cloakmakers is a costly proposition that does not, in the end, pay.

OUR CHICAGO PRISONERS

The other day, in Chicago, forty-four members of the I. L. G. W. U.,—thirty-eight of them young women,—went to jail to serve sentences from ten to sixty days, in addition to paying heavy fines. These workers received their prison sentences back in 1924, for alleged violations of an injunction issued by Judge Dennis Sullivan during the bitter dress strike in that city. The appeals by the International against these brutal sentences to the higher courts of Illinois having failed, the dress pickets of Chicago have now gone to jail to expiate their "sins" and to atone for their "misdeeds." Injunction Justice has triumphed in Chicago.

Has it, though? Let us see.

From press accounts and from the personal observation of those who witnessed the departure of the fortyodd dress workers to prison, it would seem that their trip to Cook County Jail looked more like an inspiring demonstration of protest than like a procession of penitent or disheartened workers. Dressed in their best clothes, gay and unrepentant, surrounded by hundreds of their fellow trade unionists who fuit work to bid them good-bye at prison gates, these girls on their way to jail to serve imprisonment for the right of Labor freely to strike and organize, looked the very incarnation of the indomitable spirit of the working class movement, the spirit which knows no defeat and no retreat.

Among them there were young mothers, who left behind them small children dependent upon them for their care and support, and young women who are the mainstay of old and feeble folks at home. There were among them girls of delicate health, and one who has come all the way over from Colorado, from a sanitarium for tubercular patients, to serve her jail term and save her Union the cost of a bond deposited as security for her appearance. Not from a single one of them, nevertheless, has come forth a note of complaint, not a cringing voice, not a murmur of remorse.

They were all there with heads up high, their spirits buoyant with courage and defiance, brimming with the invincible morale which has kept them for long months on the firing line during their unforgettable strike in the winter of 1924. They were there ready to do their "bit" for their Union and for the Labor movement and just as ready, as they stated it in simple, heart-touching words, to "do it again" after they had left the confines of their temporary jail.

This kind of morale no injunctions and no judge-made law may ever hope to impair or destroy. These girls and men have for years been fighting to build up for themselves and for their fellow workers in the dress trade in Chicago a strong organization to protect their standards of work and living conditions. In this legitimate trade union work they have been harassed by a compact grog of labor-hating employers, police and court persecution, and hired strong-arm squads on a scale rarely equalled in the history of industrial warfare in this country. In their last strike alone they have had to suffer literally thousands of arrests for such "crimes" as picketing, or speaking to strikebreakers, arrests that resulted in hundreds of jail sentences and in tens of thousands of dollars in fines.

But this wholesale persecution has failed to terrorize the dressmakers of Chicago. Notwithstanding jail terms and confiscatory fines, these brave workers know not the meaning of defeat. The anti-union dress manufacturers of Chicago, upon learning that the 1924 dress pickets had finally been put in jail, may have chuckled with glee at the thought that these strikers at last had been incarcerated and their spirits humbled.

They will, however, find out their mistake before long. The Chicago dressmakers are today as much in the fight as they were on the first day when ten years ago they raised the banner of trade-union working class activity in their shops. And their International Union, always ready to go the limit in their support, will leave nothing undone to help them carry on the great good fight for a big strong organization and for union control of conditions of life and labor in their industry.

Women Workers' Wages

By JOSEPHINE GOLDMARK

Author of "Fatigue and Efficiency"

THOSE who recently read in the newspapers that for the second time a minimum wage law for women had been declared invalid by the Supreme Court of the United States may have asked themselves in some bewilderment what it meant, and whether the social policy of maintaining standards in industry where they are most needed is finally defeated.

In answering any such questions it would be stated at the outset that the Arizona minimum wage law, now overthrown—following the adverse decision in the District of Columbia case two years ago—was not a valuable nor indeed a desirable statute. Its death need cause no regrets.

What is, however, keenly to be regretted is the chance by which this case gained precedence in reaching the Supreme Court over another minimum wage case from the State of California. And the manner in which the Arizona case gained precedence was by a strange series of events, appropriate rather to the movie drama than to the sober realm of social legislation. How this came to pass may perhaps better be related after a brief discussion of minimum wage legislation for women up to the year 1925.

The Arizona law now overthrown undertakes to do what no law should undertake and what the advocates of such legislation have constantly opposed: it fixed a specific flat wage for women in all industries. But the essential feature of all desirable minimum wage laws has been for different industries, boards on which employers, employees and the general public have been represented and have deliberated together to fix minimum wages for their trade.

The Massachusetts Law

The first minimum wage law for women in this country was enacted by Massachusetts in 1912, following the successful operation of the trades boards acts in England and Australia. During the next few years similar legislation was passed in about a dozen states. The Massachusetts act differed from most of the others in not making its recommendations compulsory, but using a different method—that of publicity—for enforcing its rulings.

In 1914 the validity of one of these laws was first passed on. The Supreme Court of Oregon decided that the Oregon law was a reasonable and, hence, a valid exercise of the police powers of the state. The reasonable, we must remember, is all that must be established to sustain the validity of these statutes; not whether they are abstractly right or wrong, but whether the facts before Congress or state legislature justified the legislators in passing the restrictive act. After deliberating two years, the Supreme Court at Washington allowed the Oregon decision to stand, and the law was thus held valid by the highest authority.

But six years later, in 1922, another minimum wage law was attacked as unconstitutional. This was the District of Columbia act, which had been passed by Congress after careful investigation by the Federal Women's Bureau, showing for the District facts similar to those found to exist in various states; namely, that women were being paid far less than the least amount deemed necessary for a woman to support herself; that the overwhelming proportion of wage-earning women were either supporting themselves or were the partial or total supporters of their families. These facts

were presented to the Court in the law's defense, together with others bearing on the economic benefit of such legislation.

But, by a bare majority of one, the Supreme Court, in the Adkins case, held the District of Columbia law invalid on the ground that it violated constitutional rights. Chief Justice Taft and Justice Holmes dissented; Justice Brandeis did not take part in the case. In his dissenting opinion, the Chief Justice said: "It is not the function of this Court to hold Congressional acts invalid simply because they are passed to carry out economic views which the Court believes to be unwise or unsound." And Justice Holmes added: "When so many intelligent persons who have studied the matter more than we can, have thought that the means are effective and are worth the price, it seems to me impossible to deny that the belief reasonably may be held by reasonable men."

The Adkins decision affected the District of Columbia alone. Would it, however, govern any subsequent case from one of the states? The question was soon to be answered. A case arose in California, where the minimum wage law had been for ten years in successful operation and where official statistics were available covering the specific issues raised in the Adkins decision; that is, the law's effect upon industry, upon the number of women employed, upon wages and earnings, etc. A brief embodying these facts was prepared by Felix Frankfurter, of the Harvard Law School, unpaid counsel for the National Consumers' League, with the assistance of Mary W. Dawson, the League's Research Secretary. It was submitted to the California Supreme Court on behalf of prominent women's organizations of the state.

The California Case

By the irony of fate, this case was wrecked upon an unsuspected obstacle.

It was brought apparently by a young stenographer on the ground that the law interfered with her freedom of contract. The case proved, however, to be, in a manner, "faked"; brought, that is, without the consent or even the knowledge of the young woman who had been made plaintiff by a lawyer reported to be at the time attorney of the California Manufacturers' Association. When confronted by the facts, the plaintiff of California threw the case out of court, and the minimum wage law of California stood once more unchallenged. Its enlightened provisions continued to afford a satisfactory means of wage adjustment to the working women of California.

Meantime, the Arizona statute was carried to Washington for trial and, with no new facts, it was promptly declared unconstitutional. Justice Brandeis dissented; Justice Holmes rested his dissent solely on the previous Adkins decision.

Thus runs the legal history of the acts. In Oregon, Washington, South Dakota, as well as in California, the laws still stand. In Minnesota injunctions are pending. Wisconsin has recently enacted a new statute. In other states such legislation is being enforced for minors only. Under the Massachusetts act, wage boards have set and legal minimum rates are in effect in over twenty different trades.

Meantime, in all the states, whether or not minimum wage laws exist, women everywhere should see to it that the wages paid to working women should not be allowed to remain in obscurity but should be continuously scrutinized. With the spectacular increase in rents common to most communities, the low pay of women workers, particularly in unorganized trades, is of bitter significance. One of the main benefits of the minimum wage laws has been to turn on the light. This can still be done, if far less satisfactorily, without legislation. And when the facts have sufficiently impressed public opinion, doubtless a way will be reopened to combat the evil of underpay by legislation.

The Cry of the Children

By ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

Do ye hear the children weeping, O my brothers,
Ere the sorrow comes with years?
They are loosing their young heads
Against their mothers—
And that cannot stop their tears.
The young lambs are bleating in the meadows;
The young birds are chirping in the nest;
The young fawns are playing with the shadows;
The young flowers are blowing toward the west—
But the young, young children, O my brothers,
They are weeping bitterly!
They are weeping in the playtime of the others,
In the country of the free.

"For oh," say the children, "we are weary,
And we cannot run or leap;
If we cared for any meadows, it were merely
To drop down in them an asleep.
Our knees tremble in the stooping,
We fall upon our faces, trying to go;
And underneath our heavy eyelids drooping,
The reddest flower would look as pale as snow.
For, all day, we drag our burden tiring
Through the coal-dark underground,
Or, all day, we drive the wheels of iron
In the factories, round and round.

For, all day, the wheels are droning, turning;
Their wild comets in our faces,
Till our hearts turn, our heads, with pulses burning,
And the walls turn, in their places;
Turns the sky in the high window blank and reeling.
Turns the long light that drops down the wall,
Turns the black flies that crawl along the ceiling,
All are turning, all the day, and we with all.
And all day, the iron wheels are droning,
And sometimes we could pray,
'O ye wheels! (breaking out in a mad moaning)
'Stop! be silent for today!'" . . .

They look up, with their pale and swollen faces,
And their look is dread to see.
For they mind you of the angels in their places,
With eyes turned on Delty.
"How long," they say, "how long, O cruel nation,
Will you stand, to move the world, on a child's heart—
Stifle down with a maled heel its palpitation,
And tread onward to your throne amid the mart?
Our blood splashes upward, O gold-heaper,
And your purple shows your path!
But the child's sob in the silence curses deeper
Than the strong man in his wrath."

Step By Step

"Step by step the longest march
Can be won; can be won.
Single stones will form an arch
One by one, one by one.

"And by union, what we will
Can be accomplished still.
Drops of water turn a mill,
Single none, singly none."



CAPITALISM: "A drowning man clutches at a straw, so when he's nearly dead, I'll throw him this one!"



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Brookwood to Seek Permanent Endowment

Need Urgent For Class Rooms and Library As Well As Dormitories and Recreational Facilities—After \$2,000,000.

An announcement regarding the future development of Brookwood Labor College, which will eventually require the raising of a two million dollar "Building and Guarantee Fund" was made on June 4 at the commencement exercises which mark the close of the fifth year of the school's existence as a resident trade union college in workers' education. The announcement which is issued in the name of the board of directors is as follows:

The labor college now has accommodations for about 45 students at its regular course. The men are still housed in small cabins with meagre equipment, though there is a dormitory for the women students. There is no adequate place for the social and recreational life of the students. There are no classrooms. There is no library building to house the increasing number of books and labor periodicals needed by the school, so that valuable material is now going to waste. Buildings for these various purposes are urgently needed. Certain permanent funds for maintaining the library and carrying on the teaching and research work are also required in order that the energies of the administration may not be entirely taken up year after year with raising the annual budget.

The board of directors of Brookwood, containing representatives of trade unions, the faculty, the student body and the graduates, has accordingly decided to attempt within the next few years to obtain money for buildings to include additional dormitories so that the school may eventually house 100 students, a library and academic building, and cottages for members of the staff; to guarantee the maintenance of the library; to endow instructorships in Labor History, Trade Union Organization Methods, Trade Union Administration, Labor Dramatics, Sociology, English and History; and to endow research work in Trade Unionism and Workers' Education.

Limits Student Body

In setting about this task the board of directors has placed certain important limitations on itself. Firstly, the plan provides that the student body shall not be increased to more than 100. Secondly, the school will seek support only from labor organizations and from individuals and groups of individuals genuinely interested in workers' education under trade union control, and will not solicit or accept contributions from foundations whose loyalty to the fundamental aims of organized labor might be questioned. Thirdly the "Guarantee Fund" is never to cover more than 50 per cent of the actual budget so that the school may continue to be dependent for its

existence on the annual scholarships provided by trade unions which desire to provide their members with the opportunity for a labor education.

The announcement is signed by the officers of the corporation and all of the members of the board of directors, including James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and of the Workers' Educational Union of America, who is also president of Brookwood, Inc.; A. J. Mute, chairman of the Brookwood faculty and vice-president of the corporation; David J. Sapos, instructor in Trade Unionism and Labor History at the corporation; directors representing the trade unions—Miss Fannie M. Cohn, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; Abraham Lefkowitz, American Federation of Teachers; Miss Rose Schneiderman, Women's Trade Union League; John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor; John Brophy, president District No. 2, United Mine Workers of America; Phil E. Zeigler, editor of the Railway Clerk; Robert Fechner, vice-president of the International Association of Machinists; Charles Kutz, International Association of Machinists; Gustav Geiges, United Textile Workers of America; representing the Brookwood faculty — Miss Josephine Colby, instructor in English, and Dr. Arthur W. Calhoun, instructor in Social Economics; representing the Brookwood graduates — Miss Fannie Rubenstein, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and Anton Gardin of the United Mine Workers; and representing the Brookwood student body—Adolph Gersh, Brotherhood of Painters, Paperhangers & Decorators, and Miss Nettie Silverbrook, International Ladies' Garment Workers.

"Jersey Justice" at L. I. D. Conference

One of the most interesting features of the June conference of the League for Industrial Democracy to be held at Camp Tamiment from Thursday, June 24 to Sunday, June 27, will be the L. I. D. play, "Jersey Justice", which will be acted in Mallory Hall on Saturday evening, June 26. This two act play has been written by Clement Wood, Solon DeLeon and Samuel H. Friedman. The scene is laid in Siberia, N. J. and the time, right now. The argument is as follows: The weavers have struck against a wage cut and for the right to organize. The head of a detective agency brings in his under-covers men and women, hoping to get a job breaking the strike. He invites the employers to a supposed strike headquarters, where his operatives frighten the employers into engaging him. Due to the operations of the detectives, several strike leaders are arrested and brought in for trial. A last chance is given them to redeem themselves by joining a company union, but they refuse. The judge thereupon impartially sentences all, regardless of guilt or innocence. Incensed, the strikers storm the jail and release their leaders; while the employers, detectives, and judge flee in terror.

Well known men and women in the labor and radical movement will be in the cast. Clement Wood, Samuel H. Friedman and McAllister Coleman will represent the detectives. Solon DeLeon will act as head detective, L. I. D. member, Harry T. Laddler and Norman Thomas will disguise themselves

By ARTHUR W. CALHOUN
Instructor in Economics, Brookwood—

III. THE MAKING OF SELF

If you had been taken at birth and brought up among animals apart from humankind, you would never have been a human being. If you had been brought up by some mechanical contrivance without even animal contacts, you would never have been even an intelligent animal. Your whole personality is a product of association with other personalities. Your whole mind is a product of association with other minds. Without such association, every one of us would have been a mere thing. He could never have been a person.

Thus we are creatures of the group. It created us and it made us what we are. By imitation of the ways of those about us we became human beings. By imitation of their ways we acquired whatever civilization, whatever culture we possess. All that we are or can ever hope to be we owe to the group.

Various minor groups claim a share of the credit for making us. The family stands first. The church would like to set up a claim. The school and the community deserve some credit. But in case of those that are really bearing a man's share of the burden of the world today, of those that have really identified themselves with the cause of the human race struggling toward freedom and power, the credit for their making goes to the labor movement. Apart from its influence, they would have been average Henry Dubs, like their neighbors, or they would have been Babbits like the local business magnates.

Most of us are not yet very well made. Our selves are not complete. We are small, petty, narrow, shallow. Most of us have aspirations after a bigger and a better personality. But the attainment of such a better self can come in only one way by complete identification of our lives with the uprising of labor. Therein lies salvation.

IV. GROUP SPIRIT

In the strict sense of the term everybody is selfish. That is, everybody wants to be himself, to fulfil himself, to act himself out. But it makes all the difference in the world what kind of a self each of us has to express.

When "Golden Rule" Jones was mayor of Toledo he sent out to various people in the city an inquiry as to what was their ruling principle in life. One man replied "My ruling principle is that I don't care what happens to anybody in the world so long as it doesn't happen to me." There was a self for you! It was a self-seeking expression; and its expression could not but be egotism, egotism.

No person is really human save as he is possessed by group spirit. Now some have not moved very far in this direction. Many are still at the stage represented by the man who prayed, "Lord bless me and my wife, my son John and his wife, my four and no more." He had group spirit, but it was pitifully narrow. It was grotesque.

No person is fully human until his group spirit embraces the whole human race. Some one has well said, "He who begins by setting his country above humanity, will proceed to set his neighborhood above his country, his family above his neighborhood, and finally himself above his family." The group spirit must come to include all or it will shrink to include nothing.

Where, then does the class spirit come in, the labor solidarity? It is the broadest form of the group spirit simply because it is the only effective way in which one may identify himself with the striving of humanity. Only by participation in the conquering surge of the spirit of labor can one escape from littleness and enter into the universal fellowship.

Next Hike This Sunday, June 27

The next hike arranged by the Educational Department will take place this Sunday, June 27, 9:30 a. m., to Old Ferry Point, Unionport, Westchester County.

Our members will meet at the foot of the 177th street station on Westchester avenue at 9:30, where Geraldine Salzberg, the hike leader, and a committee from the Educational Department will meet them.

Directions are as follows: Take the Lexington avenue subway to 125th street. There change to a Pelham Bay Park local and get out at the 177th street station. Those who live in the Bronx can go by the Westchester avenue surface car, or 186th street cross-town to Westchester avenue and 177th street.

Please be at 177th street and Westchester avenue at 9:30 sharp so we can start on time and have a long day of fresh air and pleasure.

Lectures at Unity

Next week, a conference of the League for Industrial Democracy will be held at Camp Tamiment which is adjoining our Unity House in Forest Park, Pa. Many prominent men and women in the labor and radical world will attend, among them well known lecturers, and the Educational Department has invited some of them to talk before our Unity Village guests.

These talks will be given on the lawn under the pine trees overlooking the beautiful lake, and the lectures will be continued throughout the summer.

Telephone, Watkins 5466

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The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

There are in these columns important notices and instructions concerning meetings affecting the present situation in the cloak and suit industry and other matters of interest. Events are shaping themselves rapidly and little time is afforded the office to keep in contact with the members through mail. The front pages of "Justice" also contain important news matter. It is therefore absolutely necessary for the members to follow carefully each news item and notice and act accordingly!

The response which the Union received to its invitations to the employing groups in the cloak and suit industry looking towards conferences for the working out of agreements for the next two years seems to leave no other way out for the Union but to proceed with plans for a general strike.

First Conference Fails

Cloak and suit cutters are familiar by this time with the result of the first conference held with the Industrial Council, that is the inside manufacturers. In accordance with the instructions of the cloak shop chairmen at their meeting in Cooper Union, the Union sent out invitations to the three associations, that is the members of the Industrial Council, the Jobbers and the American, the last being the contractors.

Up to the early part of this week the only response received was from the Industrial Council, with whom a conference was held on Tuesday evening, June 15th. The Jobbers, at the time of writing, had not responded to the Union's request for a conference, which was sent out to the three associations on Wednesday, June 9th. According to information the invitation to the contractors was accepted and the result of the conference will be found elsewhere in this issue.

However, indications are that nothing will result from the meeting of the Union with the contractors. This body of employers accepted the recommendations of the Governors' Special Mediation Commission and it is unlikely that they will have changed front overnight.

The conference with the Industrial Council, that is the Protective, resulted in a dead-lock. The employers declared that they would go on with the conference with only the commission's recommendations as a basis. International President Sigman, however, reminded the employers' committee that none of the parties had been elected over the recommendations of the commission. In fact before action by some of the employing groups had been taken statements were contained in some newspapers to the effect that the commission had capitulated to the Union.

Demands Presented by Union

Nine demands were presented to the committee representing the inside manufacturers. They are: (1) Limitation of contractors; (2) an upward revision of the minimum wage increases recommended by the commission; (3) a guarantee of 36 weeks of work per year; (4) the 40 hour week; (5) examination of books of employers by union representatives.

The other four points asks for recognition of designers, a labor bureau

to equalize work, the limited use of labor saving machinery and no reorganization rights for employers.

In the Union's statement to the employers, presented by the Union's counsel, Morris Hillquit, it was pointed out that "The final recommendations of the commission attempt to do justice to the workers on two important points: in recommending an arrangement which would fasten a greater degree of responsibility on the jobbers toward the submanufacturers employed by them and in recommending an increase of the minimum wage rates.

On the other hand the recommendations would take away from the workers practically the only safeguard they have heretofore had against arbitrary treatment and exactions on the part of employers." The statement goes on to show that the most vital request of the Union, for a guarantee of a number of weeks work, has been totally ignored. Conditions in the meantime, it is pointed out, grown from bad to worse.

The Union backed up its demands by the further statement that during the course of the two years study by the commission of the problems of the industry in the light of the Union's demands first submitted and in the light of its analysis of the ills of the industry, the lot of the worker in the cloak and suit trade has grown worse; conditions have not improved.

The commission in its studies found this to be the case when it showed the drop in the earnings of the workers in 1925 as compared with 1924. And unless the demands of the Union would be granted the conditions of work would grow worse. This is evidenced by the plight of the workers as a result of the jobbing-manufacturing system.

Every local union in the cloak and suit trade was represented in the conference. From Local 10 there were present Manager Dubinsky and Business Agent Nagler.

Special Cutters' Meeting on Cloak Situation

A special and very important meeting of the cutters will be held on Monday evening, June 23rd, in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks. This meeting will be the most important that has been held by the local in some time. It is practically the only one that can be held prior to the call of the strike, which seems now inevitable.

The meeting dates of the cutters' organization fall on Mondays and un-

less the members attend in large numbers the meeting on June 23rd, they will have missed a number of important matters which are to be taken up. Manager Dubinsky stated that the cutters will not be afforded any other opportunity for the holding of a special meeting prior to the calling of the strike.

Every cutter, particularly cloak and suit cutters, reading these columns should call the attention of his fellow members, in the shop and wherever he may come in contact with them to be sure and attend the meeting of the coming Monday.

At this gathering of cutters Manager Dubinsky will give them the latest information on the developments respecting the steps taken by the Union towards affecting agreements. Instructions will be issued to them also in regards to the general strike. No cloak and suit cutter, especially, should fail to attend this meeting.

Immediately upon the issuance of the call for a general strike cutters will report to Arlington Hall, which has been reserved for them. All registration must be affected on the first day of the strike. For on the second day no one will be registered as a mass meeting of cutters will be held where they will be addressed by leaders of the Union.

To Stop for Mass Meeting in Madison Square Garden

On what may be the eve of the strike, a mass meeting of all members of the Union in the cloak and suit trade will take place on Tuesday, June 23rd in Madison Square Garden at four o'clock.

The workers will be requested by the Joint Board to stop work at 4 P. M. and proceed to the mass meeting. It will be addressed by officers of the Union, during the course of which the members will be explained the latest situation. Cutters are also required to stop along with the rest of the workers and proceed with them to the Garden meeting.

Information About Unemployment Payment

Preparations have been completed for the payment of unemployment insurance to the workers in the cloak and suit industry. This is for the spring season ending June. First payments will be made Monday, June 23rd. Payments will be made to workers attached to shops during the week of June 23rd. Later workers not attached to shops will be paid their share. The following information should be noted in connection with payments and members are requested to act accordingly.

Beginning with Monday, June 23rd and for the balance of the week, 500 shops will receive their share of unemployment insurance. The list of these shops will be published in the official organs of the Union—"Justice", and also in the Jewish and Italian publications. This list begins in this issue and will be found elsewhere.

These 500 shops concerns cutters and other workers, the majority or all of whom have lost the number of weeks entitling them to unemployment insurance.

The following week, that is the week beginning Tuesday, July 6th (Monday, July 5th, is Independence

Day, that is July 4th), payments will be made to those of the workers in whose shops few of them lost the time which places them on the list for payments. Cards will be mailed to these notifying them when to appear in the office directly.

Those of the cutters who registered as unemployed will be paid a few days later and they too will receive cards to call for payments.

No complaints will be received by the unemployment insurance office until July 15th. It is possible that cutters who are entitled to payments may not receive cards, and perhaps their shops will have been omitted from the published list. These cutters should be patient and on and after July 15th, and until further notice, they may make their complaints. They will be told later where these complaints are to be filed.

Weather Conditions Affect Dress Trade

The writer this week in connection with his visits to shops and to the office of the association entered into a discussion with employers and leaders of the association as regards the unusual activity of the condition of the dress trade. He was told that normally this trade is busy or entering upon its busy season this time of the year.

But, they told him, the cold June days, prolonged the normal slack season. They bemoaned the fact that buyers were not placing orders. Stock houses are reluctant to place any orders with jobbers for fear that they may not be able to dispose of them. A few shops, however, manufacturing the better line of dresses speak to start. During the past week or so the graders have been called in, which is a sign of work.

A number of dress shops are on strike, but these have been called for the reason that their owners have refused to comply with clauses of the agreement. These strikes affect small and large shops.

Interesting Meeting of Miscellaneous Cutters

A very well attended and interesting meeting of the members of the miscellaneous branch was held last Monday night, June 21st. The attendance was unusual. A report by the office was rendered of the activities for the past month.

Brother Philip Hansel, who supplemented the report, said that during the course of his visits to the shops of the underwear, children's dress, house dress and bathrobe cutters he encountered no particular difficulties. In spite of the fact that agreements were operating he succeeded in securing increases for the majority of the men.

Two strikes are now being conducted by the Union in the underwear trade, he reported. These are the Standard Underwear and the Venus Underwear.

A list of the cutters was prepared and it was shown that the great majority of them are in good standing. The discussion which followed was lively and was listened to attentively.

SPECIAL CLOAK AND SUIT CUTTERS' NOTICE

Cloak, suit and refter cutters are herewith instructed that if and when the call is issued for the general strike, they are required at the moment of the call to report to Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place, for the purpose of being registered. Registration will be made on the first day only.

On the second day of the strike a special mass meeting of cutters has been arranged where leaders of the Union will speak to the cutters. And therefore no one will be registered. Any member failing to register himself will be called to account.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Special Meeting Monday, June 23th

Purpose:

Information and Instruction in connection with strike.

Members must hold themselves in readiness, as call may be issued any day. Attend this meeting, as no other may be called.

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

WANTED. ENLISTMENTS FOR SERVICE

Members are called upon to give their names to the office for service in connection with work in the strike. Any cloak and suit cutter desiring to render service should attend the meeting and turn his name over to the office.