

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

—Job 23.8

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VII, No. 44.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Three Baltimore 'Open' Shops Get Injunction

President Sigman Addresses Baltimore Workers

Three Baltimore cloak shops, whose workers struck after the firms refused to stop sending garments to cloak jobbers involved in the general strike in New York City, obtained last Friday, October 22, an injunction against the Baltimore cloakmakers' organization, Local 4, its officers and Miss Mollie Friedman, vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U., prohibiting "interference with strikers' picketing and parading in front of the factories." The injunction, however, does not prohibit peaceful picketing.

The firms involved in this strike are the Vassar Manufacturing Company, S. Sachs & Sons, Seldin & Navinsky and William Lisa. In their petition, the complaining firms openly allege that the strike against them had been declared because they were supplying New York wholesale houses with garments made in their shops.

President Sigman in Baltimore

Last Saturday night, October 23, President Sigman addressed a well-attended meeting of cloakmakers in the headquarters of the Baltimore organization, 1023 East Baltimore Street. Mrs. Sigman came to Baltimore at the urgent invitation of Miss Mollie Friedman, who is in charge of organizing activity for the International in that city.

President Sigman was very pleased with the new spirit prevailing among the Baltimore cloakmakers since the beginning of the drive in the local non-union shops, and with the acquisition of new members by Local 4 in the last few months.

Cleveland, Chicago, Boston, Toronto, Baltimore, Los Angeles Aid Cloak Strike

Conferences and Meetings Organized in Many Cities to Raise Funds for New York Fighters.

The seventeenth week of the strike of the New York cloakmakers finds not only the strikers' ranks intact and their courage undiminished but the support of the whole organized movement of the country solidly lined up in their behalf.

The tireless effort of the International Union to secure the help of the American Federation of Labor for the cloak strikers has brought splendid results. Not only has the A. F. of L. at its last convention in Detroit, passed a resolution endorsing the fight of the cloakmakers and pledged its assistance to it, but the Executive Council of the Federation forwarded at once a letter to all international unions urging them to help the cloak workers with money without delay.

The result is that the whole labor movement of this country, and in Canada, is alive with the strike of the New York cloakmakers. It is being placed on the order of the day of all the big and small unions, and there is every reason to believe that, with the mailing of the appeal for aid by the General Office to all the individual local unions of the A. F. of L. last week, the response will come forth swift and generous.

Our Own Unions Helping Everywhere

The ladies' garment workers' organizations in all cloak and dress markets are, naturally, in the lead in this work of relief for the New York strikers.

Conferences of labor and fraternal bodies, meetings on a large scale and collections are being pushed in all large cities with vigor and enthusiasm, and the returns are daily growing more and more encouraging.

A mass meeting to organize a relief movement in Baltimore will take place this Sunday, October 31, at the Conservatory Hall on East Baltimore St. The chief speaker will be Vice-president Elias Reiberg of Philadelphia. Bro. Herman Bernstein, formerly secretary of Local 56 of Philadelphia, and now manager of the Jewish Forward in Baltimore, will preside.

In Chicago, the United Hebrew Trades have formed a conference of all trade unions and labor organizations in the Windy City, with the active support of the Chicago Federation of Labor. From Boston, the Joint Board informs that the local cloakmakers and dressmakers continue to collect money for the strikers, in addition to the large sums already forwarded to New York.

Local 43, the White Goods Workers (Continued on Page 2)

Frisco Workers To Help New York Strikers

Proceeds of Dance to Go to Strike Fund

In the last few months, the workers in the ladies' garment industry in San Francisco have made a strenuous effort to revive the activity of their union, Local 8. Many cloakmakers, who until now have shown great lukewarmness or timidity, have joined the local, and an active organizing committee is steadily canvassing the shops for more members.

The chief obstacle in the way of growth, so far, has been the lack of funds. The local is poor and its regular income is far from sufficient to meet special needs. To overcome this difficulty, Local 8 has now arranged a ball for November 26, to take place at the California Hall, Polk and Turk Streets. This affair has been endorsed by the San Francisco Labor Council.

In a circular letter sent out to the members, secretary Louis Gold of Local 8 informs the San Francisco cloakmakers that this affair is held not only for the purpose of adding the local organization but also to help the strikers in the cloak trade in New York City. "Their fight," the letter says, "is our fight and we must hasten to respond to their call for aid endorsed by our International Union and by the entire American labor movement."

Trade Union Committee Protests to Mayor Walker

President Sigman Informs Mayor 4,000 Strikers Fined, Over 300 Sent to Workhouse Since Strike Began—Walker Promises Investigation of Police Conduct

Last Saturday morning, October 23, a committee representing the labor movement of New York City and the striking cloakmakers asked Mayor Walker to put a stop to the persecution of the cloak strikers by the police and the cessation of wholesale arrests

of the pickets in the garment district. The committee was headed by President Morris Sigman, and included Louis Hyman, the chairman of the strike committee, representatives of the Central Trades and Labor Council, the United Hebrew Trades and the Emergency Labor Conference.

Mayor Walker, at first, attempted to belittle the charges made by the committee against the police. He told the committee that he had received a number of letters telling of assaults by the strikers, of kidnapping of coats, etc. He further said that he had the impression that the cloak strike was not a trade strike but a "political" affair. (Continued on Page 2)

Strike Issues At Press Conference

American Federation of Labor Pledge of Aid Renewed

A. F. of L. Pledge of Aid Renewed
A group of newspaper men and magazine writers listened this Tuesday afternoon to a recital by some of the strike leaders of the principal issues in the great cloak strike in New York City at a luncheon conference at the Hotel Brevoort. J. M. Budish, secretary of the Emergency Labor Conference, which arranged the meeting, presided.

Among those present were staff members of several of the big metropolitan dailies, and special writers on magazines and weeklies. After Louis Hyman had outlined the main features of the strike, John Sullivan, president of the State Federation of Labor, declared that the State and the American Federation of Labor were vitally interested in the struggle of the cloakmakers and would assist in every way possible.

A number of questions were asked by the representatives of the press relating to the cause of the failure of the several attempts to negotiate a settlement in the strike and were satisfactorily answered. The Emergency Conference intends to hold several large meetings to which the general public will be invited, to acquaint all

elements in the community with the underlying demands of cloakmakers and their constructive nature.

Harlem Women To Aid Cloakmakers

Issue Appeal to Housewives to Aid Strikers.

A committee of women was organized this week in Harlem to help the cloak strikers and their wives and children. The committee issued a special appeal to the women to do their utmost to collect funds for the strikers. The appeal reads as follows: "Working women:

"Thousands of cloakmakers have been involved in a crucial strike for nearly seventeen weeks. During these months, the cloak strikers were mercilessly persecuted by the police and the magistrates, and hundreds of them were sent to the workhouses or fined. We must help the cloakmakers win this terrible struggle. A committee of working women has been organized in Harlem, and opened headquarters, in 165 East 112th Street. Every night, from 7 to 10, the committee will be found in that place, assigning work to

volunteers, organizing house to house canvasses, and giving each woman a task for which she is best fitted. The fight of the cloakmakers is our fight. Let us help them win it."

Concert-Meeting for Strikers' Wives

This Saturday Afternoon in the Bronx.

On Saturday, October 30, at 2 A. M. a concert and meeting will be given for the wives of the striking cloakmakers in Hunts Point Palace, 163rd Street and Southern Boulevard, Bronx.

The following distinguished artists will participate in the program: Schiller Band, James Phillips, bass; Samuel Chubinsky, tenor; Abraham Berg, violinist; Louise Vermont, contralto; and several performances from the He-

brew Actors' Union. Speakers in short addresses will explain the conditions of the strike.

The audience is requested to be on time so that the entertainment may be started at 2 P. M. sharp and the program carried out in full. As this affair is arranged for the wives of the strikers, the committee requests that the husbands remain at home where there are little children to be taken care of.

Nationwide Movement To Help Cloak Strike Growing Fast

(Continued from Page 1)

etc. Union, is holding a meeting, after work hours, this Thursday, October 25, at Beethoven Hall to discuss, among other important matters, the question of raising a relief fund in this trade for the cloak strikers.

A telegram from Los Angeles to President Sigman informs that Local 52 of that city, the cloak and dressmakers' organization, has released Abraham Plotkin, its manager, from his duties temporarily, to devote his time exclusively to raising funds on the Pacific Coast for the New York strikers. Brother Plotkin intends to visit San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Tacoma and several other cities in the Far West to organize a relief movement in that section.

TORONTO CONFERENCE TO AID CLOAK STRIKE

Advice received from Toronto inform that the trade union conference held in that city on Wednesday, October 20, turned out to be a well-attended gathering.

The conference decided to suggest

MASS MEETINGS CONTINUE IN ALL PLACES

A series of mass meetings were held this Tuesday and Wednesday in a dozen halls of Greater New York.

Among the Wednesday meetings and the speakers who addressed them, were the following: Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue, speakers, Ben Gittlow, William Karlin, Hennington Hall, 214 East Second Street; Fannie M. Cohen, William Morris Feigenbaum, Manhattan Lyceum, 44 East Fourth Street; Louis Hyman, chairman of the general strike committee, Juliet Stuart

to all participating unions to tax their members one day's work for the New York strikers. The Workmen's Circle branches of Toronto and the Verband branch promised full assistance. An executive committee of nine persons headed by Bro. Polakoff, the manager of the Toronto L. L. G. W., U. Joint Board, was elected to direct the work of the relief conference.

Cleveland Keeps Up Fine Work

This Friday, October 23, the Cleveland workers are contributing a half day's wages, which is expected to bring about \$6,000. The Cleveland Joint Board also decided that another half day's wages be collected in the nearest future. A mass meeting will be held for this purpose early in November, for which President Sigman and Vice-president Nifno had been invited. Cleveland also is planning to call a conference of all organizations in the city to try for the purpose of raising money for the New York strike. The Cleveland Federation of Labor is very sympathetic and has donated from its treasury \$250. The conference is expected to be a great success.

Poyntz, Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue; J. M. Rudish, J. Borchowitz, Morris Sigman and Salvatore Nifno. Webster Hall, 115 East 11th Street; Norman Thomas, L. Frisina. Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks place; Ludwig Lore, Samuel Boardley.

Meetings were held Thursday at Arlington Hall with Louis Hyman as the principal speaker, and at the Browerville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street; Abe Zirlin and P. K. Rinsky.

COMMUNITY CHURCH WILL HOLD PROTEST MEETING AGAINST CLOAK STRIKE INJUNCTION

As the first step in a campaign to organize a strong opposition to the use of injunction in labor strikes in general, and the sweeping injunction issued by Justice Phoenix Ingraham of the New York Supreme Court against the striking cloakmakers in particular, the American Civil Liberties Union will hold a protest meeting in the Community Church of New York City, Monday, November 1.

Among the speakers will be Arthur Garland Hays, attorney, who will attack the injunction as a legal measure; the Rev. Charles C. Webber, of

the Church of All Nations; Harriot Stanton Blatch, lecturer and author; and Edmund B. Chaffee of the Labor Temple.

The Ingraham injunction, granted September 11, outlaws every form of peaceful picketing and moral suasion. The strikers have been arrested at the rate of \$40 a week. They are charged with disorderly conduct and fined from \$2 to \$50. Three hundred strikers spent from one to ten days in jail for refusing to pay fines. Many of the officers of the union, including Morris Sigman, president, have been arrested.

Canadian Trades Congress To Press For Amendment of Injunction Law

The 42nd annual convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, which closed on September 25 after a week of sessions at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada, approved the recommendation of a special committee to press for an amendment of the criminal code of the Dominion that would adequately protect trades unions and trade unionists in their right to picket in industrial disputes.

A minority group at the convention opposed the recommendation on the ground that it would be impossible to amend the code and argued in favor of advising labor to continue picketing and to ignore injunctions of courts whenever issued in industrial disputes. The motion of the majority, however, was carried by an overwhelming vote.

In speaking on this subject, Delegate Sol Polakoff, who represented the ladies' garment workers of Toronto, pointed out that picketing is the life of a strike. Injunctions, he said, were evils which existed everywhere. He was, however, opposed to the minority idea as it would only involve the trade unions in no end of trouble and persecution and would probably best play into the hands of the enemies of the movement. He asserted that he had confidence in the ability of the executives of the Congress and of the representatives of Labor in the Dominion and provincial legislatures to achieve a modification of the existing law, declaring that government by injunction was abhorrent to the laws of England and Canada.

Trade Union Committee Protests To Mayor Walker

(Continued from Page 1)
fair, and that under the circumstances the cloakmakers were receiving a "square deal".

To this President Sigman replied that the wholesale arrests of the pickets, reaching into thousands, were entirely unjustified, and that the only result of these arrests has been the draining of the treasury of the strikers through money fines, which others who could have been applied to supply food for their children.

The cloakmakers, who with their families, President Sigman continued, make up a substantial portion of the population of New York City, are law-abiding citizens, and in this strike, like in all their former strikes, have conducted themselves as persons conscious of their obligations toward their fellow citizens. Because, the police have been acting entirely on side of their jurisdiction by taking it upon themselves to enforce an injunction issued by Justice Ingraham in favor of a small group of manufacturers. The Union demands impar-

tiality and a fair deal from the police, to which the strikers are fully entitled.

The records of the Union show that since the strike was called out no less than 4,000 cloak strikers were given money fines in the police courts, and more than 300 were sent to the workhouse. In addition, thousands of others were arrested and released without fines.

The other members of the committee spoke in a similar vein. Mayor Walker promised to investigate the charges and to do all in his power to assure a fair treatment of the strikers by the police.

GLICKSTEIN'S DESIGNING SCHOOL

265 Grand Street, New York
Mr. Chrysina and
Forry's Bn.
Tel. Orchard
8-8-4-5

School for Designing, Cutting
and Grading in all trades of ladies', men's,
children's and fur garments. Patterns are
cut at low prices.
The school is open all year around.

By MATTHEW WOLL
President, The Union Labor Life
Insurance Company

At the beginning of this year the American people were in debt to the banks and insurance companies of the country to the staggering extent of \$122,900,000,000 or more. That is more than the mind can visualize in dollars.

The American Federation of Labor has repeatedly pointed out that those who control the credit of a people control much of the life activity of that people.

On Sept. 30, 1935, 53 insurance companies doing about 90 per cent of the insurance business of the country, had loans outstanding amounting to \$10,351,900,000. These figures represent billions of dollars—not mere millions! By the close of the year they had run the figure up to eleven billions and it is now doubtless close to twelve billions. This represents close to one-fourth of the money loaned by banks and shows to what extent insurance companies are a power in the industrial and social world—to what extent they hold a pseudo ownership over the heads of our people.

Those who loan money may, to a large extent, determine the policies and course of action of those who borrow money. For example, not long ago certain insurance companies announced they would loan no more money on certain types of buildings. I am not branding their policy as right or wrong. I am simply showing their power to shape the actions of others.

Insurance companies hold more than \$1,871,400,000 on American farms. Policy holders have borrowed \$1,271,000,000. Insurance companies have loans approximating \$5,

000,000 outstanding on city building developments and property. That this vast credit power exerts a strong influence over wage earners is beyond question.

It is a further amazing fact that less than 300 life insurance companies have more assets than 30,000 national banks, state banks and trust companies combined.

Through loans, through potential credit power, through affiliations, thru group insurance policies and in other ways, the insurance companies of the country exert their influence.

The Union Labor Life Insurance Company will bring into the hands of the workers themselves as much as possible of the credit power created by their own savings and accumulated resources. Every labor organization in the country ought to be able to the importance of this new labor enterprise, its possible power for labor and its power to bring to the country an influence for good that will extend into every community where it does business.

In addition to this it will provide insurance at a figure as near cost as possible, consistent with safety and compliance with law, at the same time earning a profit for those who invest in its stock.

Trade union organizations have before them, through this company, one of their most attractive opportunities to add to the power and prestige of the labor movement for the benefit of wage earners and our citizenship generally.

Study the startling figures which I have presented and act at once to bring The Union Labor Life Insurance Company into the field as a force for good in the financial world as well as in the insurance field.

Buy Union Stamped Shoes

We ask all members of organized labor to purchase shoes bearing our Union Stamp on the sole, inner-sole or lining of the shoe. We ask you not to buy any shoes unless you actually see this Union Stamp.

Boot & Shoe Workers' Union

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
246 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLIN LOVELY
General President

CHARLES L. BAINE,
General Secretary-Treasurer



Labor The World Over

Scandalous injustice in Brazil

THE Brazilian constitution, which dates back to 1891, gives the workers the right to hold meetings, to convene Federal government nor those of the State, and to strike. But neither the several states (which have their own laws and governments trouble their heads in the least about the constitution. Trade unions may only hold meetings with the consent and under the supervision of the police: police and military authorities range themselves alongside the employers in case of strikes and lockouts.

There has been a fresh instance recently of this fact. All the workers of a shoe factory in São Paulo, 200 strong struck on account of the shortening of the working week to 4 days. In a moment the factory was turned into what looked like an armed camp: it was occupied by hundreds of soldiers and equipped with machine guns. Of course, the press has not a word to say about this incident: the freedom of the press is unknown: any unfortunate journalist who happens to write anything displeasing to the government soon finds himself behind bolts and bars, usually without trial. The government notifies the press of the subjects which may not be referred to. For instance, the "Colonial Gazette", a paper with pronounced reactionary tendencies, remarks that it may not print anything about labor questions, the state of siege, or the Portuguese Revolution.

The state of siege, by the way, is a permanency in the country, and it serves as a pretext for any and every tyrannical measure. The censorship is so strict that the labor organizations of the various Brazilian states practically cannot correspond either with each other, or with foreign countries.

The Death of Calverash in France

THE French Trade Union Movement has just lost one of its pioneers in the death of Calverash, who was secretary of the French Jewellery Workers' Union during the period 1901-1904, and was then nominated president of the national union catering for these workers. In this capacity he obtained for jewellery workers a 9 hour day and free Saturday afternoons, both of these being unusual marks of progress in those days. In 1914 he was treasurer of the French General Confederation of Labor, a post which he continued to hold during the hard times of the war and the period immediately following it; he proved himself in these critical days of the C. G. T., an indefatigable fighter and a wise trade union administrator. He was fortunate enough to live to see better days for the C. G. T.

Hicks President of the British Trades Union Congress.

THE first meeting of the new T. U. C. General Council appointed at the Bournemouth Trades Union Congress, duly proceeded to elect the president of the British T. U. C. for the next 12 months. The choice fell upon George Hicks. Comrade Hicks has

worked for 30 years in the building workers' movement, has been president of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, and, later, Secretary of the Operative Bricklayers' Society.

In 1921 he was appointed General Secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trades Workers, and a representative of the Building Group on the General Council. Since 1924 he has been a member of the General Council of the I. P. T. U.

Wage Agreements in Germany

IN comparison with 1922, the number of wage agreements in Germany has declined considerably. At the end of 1922 there were 10,768 agreements covering \$90,237 contracts, and on January 1, 1925, only 7,099 agreements, covering 735,945 contracts. At the end of 1922, 14,300,000 workers were covered by wage agreements, while at the end of 1924, the corresponding number was only 13,100,000. The decline in the number of agreements is principally due to (1) concentration in the centres of production; and (2) the trade slump; the decline in the number of workers covered by wage agreements is due to (1) large discharges of manual and non-manual workers in consequence of use of labor-saving machinery; (2) the technical reconstruction of factories; (3) the dismissal of many non-manual workers who were needed only during the inflation period, etc.

The parties concluding the agreements are, in the case of workers, only associations, while in the case of employers there are single firms as well as organizations. But in general there has been an increase in the number of agreements covering whole units, so that on January 1, 1925, 56.7 per cent of the workers coming under wage agreements were under union agreements. There has been a corresponding decline in the number of local agreements. Most numerous of all are the district agreements. Of the 11,900,000 workers officially registered on January 1, 1925, 10,650,000 (89.5%) were working under district or national wage agreements. The apprentice system was regulated in 16.5 per cent of the wage agreements concluded in 1924.

Labor Successes in Luxembourg

LUXEMBURG, which is closely connected with Belgium commercially and in respect to currency, is now sharing its misfortunes. The workers of the little country are suffering from the fluctuations in the rate of exchange, with its usual effect in raising the cost of living far beyond the rises in wages which it is possible to secure by hard trade union conflict. The only good result of the present misfortunes seems to be a closer cooperation for the purposes of combined action, between the national center organizing the manual workers, and the unions organizing non-manual workers and civil servants.

In certain other respects, Luxembourg is making decided progress. A comprehensive system of social insur-

Women Trade Unionists Meet

Brookwood Conference Discusses Special Problems.

The annual autumn conference of the Women's Trade Union League was held at Brookwood, Katonah, on Saturday and Sunday, October 30th and 31st. This conference, which was called to discuss the problems of the organization of women, consisted of delegates from 19 affiliated organizations. The total number of delegates and visitors was 50. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was represented by three delegates, Local 66, Bonnaz Embroiders' Union by one, Dressmakers' Union No. 22, White Goods Workers' Union Local 62 by two and the Italian Dressmakers' Union by three delegates. Among other organizations represented were the Joint Board Furriers' Union, Millinery Workers' Local 43, International Pocket Book Workers' Union, Typographical Union No. 6, and the Big Six Auxiliary, the Teachers' Union of New York, the Bookkeepers, Stenographers' and Accountants' Union, and several out of town branches of the League.

At the opening session of the League Mrs. Maud Schwartz discussed the problem of the married woman in industry. The conclusions reached after an analysis of such material as exists on the problem indicate a steadily increasing influx of married women into industry, even greater than the influx of women in general. For example, in the notoriously ill-paid textile industry, working women increased 20 per cent between 1910 and 1920, but married women increased 60 per cent in number. There is no adequate record of the difference in earning power between the married woman and the unmarried worker. Several studies have been made of the grave social consequences of overwork on the part of mothers in industry—in terms of infant mortality, standards of living, etc. Because of the necessity on her part to be breadwinner, mother and housekeeper, the mother in industry offers a particularly difficult problem to the union organizer. After considerable discussion of the problem, including the consideration of the alternatives of part time work, return to home work, the conference decided that the League should appoint a committee to suggest a thorough study of this important matter to the Women's Bureau

and to other governmental agencies.

The conference then devoted a session to the question of Company Unionism, which had occupied so important a part on the program of the A. F. of L. convention. Mr. A. J. Minto, dean of Brookwood College, outlined in his talk the tremendous growth of company union activities in the past ten years, and the problems they presented to the American labor movement. The discussion centered about the particular appeal of company unionism to women in industry and the various means adopted by unions to combat and contract its influence.

The second day of the conference was devoted entirely to a discussion of trade union organization among women. Mr. Abraham Lefkowitz of the Teachers' Union was chairman of the two very lively sessions which followed. Representatives of the various unions present testified as to their experience and difficulties in the organization of women, and suggested ways and means of reaching the unorganized workers. The particular problems of the unskilled woman worker, the small-town woman worker, the Italian, the American and the Negro worker were all thoroughly discussed. The various types of appeal—through education, through recreational activities, through benefit features and insurance, through special circulars which hit their peculiar difficulties, the need of mass as well as individual action—were outlined.

A suggestion was made that the Women's Trade Union League, as the national organization of union women in the various industries, be made the clearing house for suggestions as to methods of bringing women into trade unions. Before the conference adjourned, it was decided that a committee should be appointed to devise means to follow up the suggestions made at the conference.

This two-day conference was interesting not only because of the subject-matter of the discussions, but because of the fact that many of the delegates present were comparative newcomers in the labor movement who were beginning to take a most active part in trade union activities. As one observer remarked, "A conference of women who could each of them participate and make contributions in the manner this conference did was unthinkable a decade ago, when women were a passive factor in the trade union movement."

TICKETS FOR OPENING CEREMONY OF EDUCATIONAL SEASON may be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street. Get to members of the I. L. G. W. U. Get your ticket now.

LEARN DESIGNING

Earn 50 to 200 Dollars a Week

Take a Course of Instruction in

THE MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL

of Men's, Women's, Misses' and Children's Wearing Apparel and Ladies' Fur Garments

The Mitchell School of Designing, pattern making, grading, draping and fitting of cloaks, suits, dresses, fur garments and men's garments has achieved—

NEW IDEAS—NEW SYSTEMS—BEST RESULTS

A course of instruction in the Mitchell Designing School means an immediate position—Bigger Pay.

DEMONSTRATION FREE AT OUR SCHOOL

—A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN—

EASY TO LEARN—ADVANCEABLE TERMS

Individual Instruction. Day and Evening Classes.

Residing students: Board and room included.

Write, please or call for free booklet and full information.

Mitchell Designing School

ESTABLISHED OVER 30 YEARS
15 West 37th Street New York City
Telephone: WISCONSIN 5779



JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

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

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

Vol. VIII, No. 44. New York, Friday, October 29, 1926

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under
acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of
October 3, 1917, authorized on January 24, 1918.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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

Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

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

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

Vol. VIII, No. 44. Friday, October 29, 1938

Entered as Second Class Matter, April 10, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 20, 1919.

EDITORIALS

WHERE IS THE TRUTH?

Mr. Maxwell Copeloff is quite a personage among the cloak jobbers of New York and a former officer of their organization. Mr. Copeloff, in addition, is president of the National Wholesale Women's Wear Association, a group which represents the interests of the jobbers in our industry all over the country. Mr. Copeloff is also not adverse to publicity, and his statements frequently adorn the hospitable columns of the trade press.

Mr. Joseph Engel is another old-time cloak jobber-employer, and at present the president of the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association, the organization which, for the past four months, has resisted the efforts of the tens of thousands of cloakmakers to accept responsibility for work conditions in the shops of the sub-manufacturers owned by its members hock, stock and barrel.

Well, a few days ago, Mr. Copeloff, in a special statement in the trade press, had made it known that, in his opinion, it is high time that the "producers" in the cloak market, meaning, of course, the manufacturers and the jobbers, begin paying more attention to the quality of the garment and improve the calibre of the merchandise turned out, or else the firms that are putting out the shabby stuff will "soon have cause to regret." Said Mr. Copeloff, in part:

"The market now is operating very close to normal.... The job before the market now is, to effect more and more improvement in merchandise.... Those who produce must be more selective.... There is room yet this fall for more merchandise but it has got to be merchandise that represents quality."

In substance, Mr. Copeloff's appeal to the manufacturers is that, unless they are willing to face wholesale cancellations, they should mend their ways and start making decent garments. The abominable product which they have supplied the market with until now is so far below standards that the buyers are bound to rebel and cease "cooperating" with them any longer, even though this cooperation is essential for the crushing of the strike of the cloakmakers.

Mr. Copeloff's roseate description of "close to normal" conditions in the New York market, however, was due to a rude jolt, and from unexpected quarters, too. The ink has hardly dried up on Mr. Copeloff's diagnosis of the market situation, as another statement made its appearance in the trade paper, this time from Mr. Engel, speaking with no less authority on behalf of the cloak jobbers in New York. Mr. Engel's announcement, which is largely an advice to jobbers to resist the attempts of retailers to cancel orders, flatly contradicts the Copeloff assertion that production is running full steam ahead and that the only worry that still remains is how to improve the quality of merchandise. Says Mr. Engel:

"Our association has been keeping in close touch with the membership and has been getting reports from them as to the progress they were making in the face of difficulties confronting the industry. The latest reports received this week show that the stocks on hand and the amount of merchandise in work do not total more than 25 per cent of the amount actually on the racks at the same time last year.... There seems to be no substantial production in sight."

Mr. Engel goes on further explaining to his members that they need not fear any price depression on account of increased production, which, in plain English, amounts to a suggestion to keep on charging for the few garments they succeed in obtaining from so few sources all the traffic would bear, hoping "for a long and profitable season" satisfactory to all concerned.

Who of these two leading jobbers is telling the truth?

Both statements are obviously propaganda inspired by one common motive—to bolster up the drooping spirits of some of the manufacturers and the jobbers who see nothing but disaster ahead of them as the strike is being prolonged. But there is a grain of truth, nevertheless, in each of these statements. Mr. Copeloff, of course, is talking outrageous nonsense when he asserts that the market can meet the normal quantity demands made upon it. Nothing is further from the truth. But he is quite right in saying that the garments found in the New York market today are poorly made and his alarm concerning the increased tendency on the part of buyers to ship back to jobbers and manufacturers the abominable scab merchandise is perhaps well founded.

What concerns Mr. Engel's statement that the market is 75 per cent below normal in production, it seems to us that the leader of the jobbers has hit the mark right this time. To be sure, this has been the contention of the Union right along, and Mr. Engel's statement only bears out what the leadership of the strike has maintained, namely, that the production of cloaks in the strike

area is of no account, and that retailers the country over are hungry for garments.

The interesting part of Mr. Engel's statement, however, is its brutal frankness. It says to the jobbers: Never mind the fact that we cannot get more than a fraction of the goods which the American public wants; never mind the fact that the little we may get is shabby stuff, cheaply produced and just as cheaply finished; never mind the fear that some entertain that the strike may come to an end and prices would drop—the consumers will pay for it all, soak 'em as hard as you can for the few garments you have on your racks, and we shall have, one and all, a "profitable" season, strike or no strike.

That is about the sum and substance of both the Copeloff and the Engel statement. They are characteristic of the state of mind of these leaders of the cloak industry, and of their total disregard of the interests of any other factor in the industry save their own. They are typical of the spirit of irresponsibility which this new dominant class of employers has brought into the cloak industry, against which the striking cloakmakers have now been battling for over seventeen weeks.

THE PASSING OF DEBS

Such of us as have been allied, in one way or another, with the American labor or Socialist movement for the past quarter of a century will find it hard, very hard to realize that the heroic figure of Debs is now for all time removed from the arena of the workers' struggles in the United States.

For, Eugene Debs, in the past thirty years, represented not only the active leadership of revolutionary working-class thought in America. He was the reservoir of its idealism, he symbolized its wide humanity, and in his own lovable personality represented its depth, sincerity and irresistible appeal.

A great deal had been said and written in the last few days, at the warm grave of Debs, of his wonderful gifts, his extraordinary versatility, his noble heart and mind, and his imperishable services to the cause of the disinherited and oppressed. Yet, it would seem to us, these post-mortem appraisals contain but little emphasis of that side of Debs which to the organized workers of America, to the trade union movement, presents the strongest appeal.

Eugene Debs did not come into the workers' movement by accident. He is not the product of a college or of an intellectual sphere who had become attracted to the labor and revolutionary movement because of its idealistic lure. Debs was born in a working class family, the child of poor immigrant settlers, and he has never, in his youth and throughout his long life, known any other but the modest environment of an American worker. At fourteen he went to work in a railroad shop, and at the age of sixteen became a railway fireman. And while a mere boy, firing a switch engine at night, Debs managed to attend school half a day each day, buying books from his meager earnings, and hungrily devouring volumes on history and literature.

Debs entered the labor movement as a trade unionist, and to the end of his days remained a staunch supporter of the trade union movement which he regarded paramount to all other activity in the fight of the workers for betterment and advancement. Debs' record as a trade union leader, as organizer and strike leader, belongs to the finest pages of American labor history. It was during those early days of his revolutionary career, during the years of his direct leadership of masses of trade unionists, that the golden characteristics of his soul and mind had first become crystallized, to burst forth later in that splendor and glory that had made him the peerless leader and idol of the masses.

The two great railway strikes led by Debs, against the Northern Railway in April, 1894, and the sympathetic strike for the Pullman Company employees in June of that year, the second of which was smashed by the federal troops sent into Illinois by President Cleveland, served as baptismal fire from which he emerged splendidly equipped for the battle for the common weal to which he dedicated the remainder of his life.

It was as labor leader, as a trade unionist, that Eugene Debs, after the Pullman strike, had gone to jail for the violation of a strike injunction, one of the first samples of judge-made law issued during a labor struggle. The jailing of Debs for the violation of a strike injunction is probably the first record of the policy of intimidation of trade unions on the part of the American judiciary which later blossomed forth to embrace nearly each and every clash between capital and labor in this country.

And with true proletarian intuition, Eugene Debs, thirty years ago, had chosen despite the threat of jail to ignore the injunction as the best means of fighting it, a policy which the ripened judgment of the trade union movement has today come to recognize as the only workable anti-injunction policy and as the best method of protesting against the abuse of the constitutional rights of the workers by the judiciary.

It was because of his early trade union affiliations, because of his life-long contact with the wants, needs and hopes of the workers, that Debs has never strayed from the path of constructive activity in the movement, that to the last of his days he remained a builder, an organizer, an inspirer, but never a destroyer, never a demoralizer. Debs inherently, and from his experience as an organizer of men, has known the great difficulties that must be overcome before working men and women acquire the faculty of acting together in defense of their interests and he valued working class unity too highly to risk its disruption, even when at times he strongly dissented from the policy pursued by some of the sections of the workers' movement.

To Debs the whole labor movement, with all its shortcomings

The British Strike—Success or Failure?

Extracts From Address Delivered by John Bromley, British Fraternal Delegate to American Federation of Labor Convention, Detroit, Mich.

..... My friend Hicks has reported pretty fully on the question of our great national strike in Great Britain, but I fear, with his usual statesmanlike care, that he has hardly cared to exalt to you of the result of that struggle. I want to ask you to bear with me and even sympathize, to some extent, if I do exalt about that struggle, and I think you will accept the statement that my exaltation is real when I tell you how it has affected some of our organizations which took part.

I want to say to you that in spite of reports to the contrary—and you know the press of all nations is largely owned by capitalist interests and it tells always its story as it would desire the readers of the papers to see the facts;—does not Mr. President, even by accident, ever tell the real truth of what happened even in its own country much less in any other. And so you may have had a view, in fact, I know you have had a view of our great national strike and its results rather palliated against organized labor.

I want to say to you that it was one of the greatest victories that not only British trades unionism has ever won, but that trades unionism the world over has ever won. I agree with Hicks that it was not undiluted. You never set out on the first great adventure and bring all the prizes home. Would your movement, Mr. President, have been the tremendous force on the continent which it is had not some pioneers blazed the trail, had not some one, as it were, swallowed the first oyster of organized labor's attempt to free itself, if there had been no one who had taken the first plunge would you, sir, have been President of such a tremendous power of organized men and women, determined as you are today?

And so in the same category I put our first national strike. I will promise not to delay you to the extent of weariness, Mr. President, but I want to go back to victories prior to the actual stoppage. The economic position of our mine workers, which you have already heard from my colleague, were in existence in August of 1925. Employers found, as employers always do—and I warrant you have it in this country also—the only possible way to make profit in industry is to reduce wages. They never thin out the dead heads, they never reduce the directors' fees, they are not anxious to cut down dividends. In reducing unnecessary managerial costs, because wages are always the simplest thing to get at and give the biggest immediate returns.

And so the mine owners found out again that great secret that wages would have to be reduced. Now, unfortunately, let us admit, that in any capitalist state where the necessities of life in national industries are run for profit and not for use, you do have positions arise which are called un-economic. It is a horrible word, friends, to say to any man or woman, whatever their trade or calling, when they absolutely essential or harmless, whether something that looks large in the public eye or is out of sight from every day appearance, it is hard and wrong to say to them that they

you give of your brain, of your muscle, of your time, of your strength and of your intelligence, we cannot make sufficient profit out of the product of your labor, and so it being uneconomic, your wives and your families cannot be regaled with even the moderate necessities of life. That is why I hate the word in industrial remuneration relations of "uneconomic." However, until we have our great industries in our country owned and controlled by the people and for the people, and not for profit, we are unfortunately faced with such issues.

In August, 1925, the miners were faced with that issue. Their wages were to be reduced, they were to be cut down in this direction and the other direction, and had it not been for the feeling of solidarity and sympathy of our trade union movement in Great Britain, they would have gone down unseparated, unseparated and unseparated. I want, therefore, to say to you, I have something to do with it, at least in facing it across the floor of our legislative chamber, and I don't like its appearance, I doubt its honesty and I certainly am not uplifted by its actions as far as the working people of our country are concerned. I know you will bear with me speaking of our political situation because in our country it is as we are and inter-knit with the trade union movement. I am not a politician in the ordinary accepted sense of the word, I am a trade unionist sent to Parliament by our fellows to keep my eye on the thieves that are governing our country in the interests of the employers. All governments in every country where the workers have not complete control are the representatives of the great financial and banking and employer interests. Therefore, our government would not have moved a hand to save the miners, because you see, friends, they were only miners, and the workers are so many that if one man won't do a job there is another fellow generally that will, except, as you know, that where the consciousness of that has impregnated the beings of our men and they have organized, as you and we have done in trade unionism, and say, "This mine was a job but it is this fellow's, and if he leaves it I have no time for it. I am too busy doing nothing."

But for that in August, 1925, all our friends of the mining industry would have gone down without having the machinery which we would like to have and which we shall have in the future, because we have learned lessons arising out of our strike. It has not dashed us, and believe me, it has certainly not caused us to fritter away. It has only shown us where to strengthen our armor, where to strengthen our organization to fight better next time.

That brought even our powerful government—and when I say that I want it understood that I mean in numbers, not in intelligence—thought brought them all standing, and immediately a Royal Commission was appointed. The miners went on with their work with a subsidy which paid out to the extent of 25,000,000 pounds, rather than face the issue with organized labor.

And so we come along to the event

which my friend Hicks has portrayed and given you pretty accurate knowledge with regard to. I wish it were possible that some of our brothers and sisters here might have seen our great metropolis, London. It would have made you proud to be in, in whatever capacity, to the great organized trade union movement. That battle was not a constitutional issue. The government tried to make it one because they wanted to loose on us their dogs of war. It was a calm, dignified, forceful, sympathetic stand by the workers on behalf of comrades who were suffering. We drew no guns, we uplifted no paving stones, but men and women throughout Great Britain said, "We will stand."

If you could have seen London with no trains, no buses, no trams, no taxicabs, everything standing, it would have proved what some people in our country doubted previously—the power of organized labor when it is used absolutely, effectively and entirely.

We won the victories, in its end, as Hicks has recorded to you. We have some questions to ask within our own movement. It is neither our desire nor our duty to worry you with details of that description or to forestall our own examination of the problem, but when it was over I say to you we had won a tremendous victory, even economically, even in material facts, but for the fact that owing to the turmoil of the first great adventure every one may not have seen eye to eye, suffice it to say that we took advantage of it, but we have won victories of satisfaction of our power.

I think possibly the figure my friend gave of 3,000,000 pounds would refer to the direction expenditure in benefits and expenses during that strike. I think it might be enlarged in costs since to 5,000,000 pounds. Well, I think, is roughly 10,000,000. Well, it has been money well spent, because it has proved to our people that we can out what so many people so foolishly advocate, without revolution of blood, without trying to face poison gas, etc., in wrestling in one day or week from capitalism its power, without that the folded arm is the finest weapon we can have.

Now, brothers, that ended for the time being the first national strike of Great Britain. As I have said to you, we have gathered strength and determination from it. The victory is far more real than apparent, and I want you to understand that some of the stories that have been played about the world are untrue. For instance, I have been asked since I came to De-

troit if it was a fact that the railway organizations signed some humiliating settlement. Possibly, sir, you will pardon me for coming down to the individual on purpose to kill an untruth—nothing of the sort! When the national strike was over, we, like other unions, ordered our men back to work and they went, and immediately they were faced with the acceptance of a humiliating document, saying they would never do it again. We called them down, and every man stood down again solid for another two days whilst the railway companies spiritless this document away and it went out of sight. And then they endeavored to let our week's wages wait, which they could do under common law—about 1,300,000 pounds—and we said: "No, you must not do that. If you do we shall simply sit like this for another day or two while you are considering it." And we had the money, and in response we have organized strikes again, which will tell you about it beforehand. It won't make the slightest difference as to how many of us will strike, but at least we will give you warning. We may have some kind of negotiations, but we will reserve to ourselves the right. No humiliation in that.

Already we poll more Labor and Socialist votes in a general Parliamentary election than we have organized workers affiliated to our Trades Union Congress. Of the two great parties in our country, organized labor has smashed one of them. What we say about our great Liberal Party, we say that last election their party came to the Parliament House in a charabanc, and after next election we hope they will be able to bring him in a wheelbarrow.

And I want to say this, that possibly not within the next year, but within the next two or three years, when your delegates from this Federation of Labor come to our conference they will be the guests of the ruling power of Great Britain. I don't think there is much doubt about that. I never prophesy unless I am pretty sure of my ground, Mr. Chairman, and I think that is pretty safe ground. I think that is pretty safe ground. This great bond of brotherhood with your movement, linking up ever stronger and more strongly the workers of the world, until those who have created the beauty, the wonder, the science, the advance of mankind, those who today are called common or humble workers, may take the place of the idlers, the parasites who have sucked the blood of national and human progress for years, when you and we on the world over may say, we who have built the world, who have beautified the world and made the world happy, shall rule and own the world, as we believe that Providence desires that we should.

Members of Eighteen Trades Study at Brookwood Labor College

Eighteen industries are represented by the students of Brookwood Labor College which opened on October 18 for its sixth year. Painters, garment workers, miners, upholstery weavers, hosiery knitters, railway carmen, stenographers, bakers, tailors, machinists, electricians, cap makers, carpenters, clerks, plumbers and errand boys are included.

"The Brookwood students represent a cross section of the labor movement geographically as well as industrially," said A. J. Muste, chairman of the faculty. "They come from California and Oregon, from Wyoming and Colorado, Delaware and Maryland, Illinois and Minnesota, Kentucky and Texas, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New York. There is even one from England and another from Canada."

Brookwood offers one and two year courses to trade union workers and others interested in organized labor

and farmer movements. The course of study includes economics, labor history, English, psychology, trade union organization, public speaking, and a study of the basic industries. Many of the students come on scholarships from their local or international unions, though some come at their own expense.

Brookwood is governed by a board of directors in which the trade unions that have established scholarships have a majority vote. The students, alumni, and faculty are also represented on the board. The school is affiliated with the Workers' Education Bureau of America.

Students from the I. L. G. W. U. include Hyman Hurwitz, Local 38, New York; Zeeman Flaxtein, Local 2, New York; Rose Simkins, Local 46, Dorchester, Mass.; Nettie Silverbrook, Local 46, Chelsea, Mass.; Floria Pinkney, Local 22, Brooklyn.

and drawbacks, a part of his being; to Debs it was the sole expression of mankind's future hope, the only cause worth living and fighting for. He lived and worked that the workers' movement might advance and survive all its shocks and pitfalls, and be died—its servant, leader, martyr and teacher.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Announcement of Activities of Educational Department

Description of Courses and Lectures to Be Given During 1926-1927 Season.

The 36 page bulletin of our Educational Department is now ready for distribution. Beginning this week, the most important information contained in this bulletin will appear, in installments, on this page of "Justice".

(Continued)

Course No. 24. Courses for Executive Members, Officers and Active Members of the I. L. G. W. U.

The Trade Union is growing to be an increasingly complex social institution. Not only is it the Workers' Commonwealth, through which they act as citizens of this community, but it also participates in every movement which works for progress and human happiness. The Trade Union reflects the development of the social economic structure of modern society.

Naturally, the management of a union is a complex problem. It is a great responsibility to hold office in a union, whether paid or unpaid. The officer reflects the intelligence of the Trade Union which he represents. Therefore, he must be trained for his position. Generally he qualifies himself for office through activities in his Trade Union, coupled with an education which helps him to understand better the Social and Labor Move-

ments, and which broadens his outlook on society as a whole.

With this view, we have planned the following educational program:

I. (a) Members of the executive boards of our numerous locals are urged to devote one evening a week to their education. For this purpose classrooms will be equipped in some of their offices and in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, where they will meet from half past six to nine o'clock in the evening.

(b) The two and a half hours will be divided into two halves:

1. The first half for the study of the English language.

2. The second half for the discussion of the American Labor Movement, with special reference to the problems of our own I. L. G. W. U.

During the season the following subjects will be studied:

1. English, oral and written.

2. Problems, aims and policies of the American Labor Movement, with special reference to the I. L. G. W. U.—David J. Saposs and Morris Sigman.

3. Psychology and the Labor Movement.—Alexander Fiechandler.

4. Social and Political History of the U. S.—H. J. Carman.

5. The Economic and Labor Problems of Working Women.—Theresa Wolfson.

6. Economics and the Labor Movement.—Instructor to be announced.

7. Unemployment Insurance.—Julius Hochman.

8. Sanitary Label.—Instructor to be announced.

9. Mechanics of Study.—Alexander Fiechandler.

An attempt will be made to aid students to acquire habits of mental concentration and to understand the mechanics of study. They will be shown how to use text-books, take notes, give reference material, make outlines, etc.

II. Similar instruction will be arranged for promising young men and women members of our organization. These members will be selected with the assistance of the executive boards, the officers of our local unions, and the Educational Department.

III. Courses of a more advanced character will be organized for the business agents and officers of our local unions, to be given at a time most convenient to them.

IV. Instructors will be assisted by officers of the Union.

Course No. 25. Public Discussion.—Josephine Conby.

This class will have the following aims: (a) to study selected works in labor and social literature; (b) to give training in oral and written interpretation of the material studied; (c) to teach the student how to organize his speech material; (d) to aid the student in the matter of taking notes; (e) to develop physical and mental habits of effective delivery; (f) to help the student to express himself correctly and clearly; (g) to familiar-

Little Lessons In Economics

By ARTHUR W. CALHOUN
Instructor in Economics, Brookwood

XIII. The Balancing of Functions

Even systematic control on the basis of exact information would not of itself guarantee general welfare unless care were taken to allot purchasing power in such a way that the population would continually be in a position to buy the entire product of industry when industry was running full blast. If the purchasing power were allowed to accumulate in the hands of a few, they would not be able to consume the entire product, and the channels of trade would be clogged with unneeded goods. It would be necessary, that is, for the directorate of the economic system to make sure that just the right amount of new investment took place and that all the rest of the annual income should be spent for things to be consumed. Only on such conditions could industry continue to ex-

pend and dispose of the expanding product.

If purchasing power were so allotted and investment so controlled, then the economic system could work smoothly and continuously, and all possible wants would be supplied, provided the directorate of industry took pains to produce quantities of each article in proportion to the ascertained demand.

When we imagine all these changes however—the establishment of systematic control, the development of operation on the basis of exact knowledge, the limiting of investment to actual needs, and the distribution of income in such a way as to enable the population to buy the entire product of industry and consume it—it becomes apparent that the changes necessary in the economic order are so numerous and far-reaching as to be revolutionary in their import. No putting in will suffice.

OPENING CELEBRATION OF EDUCATIONAL SEASON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

All arrangements are being completed for the opening exercises of the Educational season on Friday evening, November 19, in the large auditorium of Washington Irving High School. A musical program will be given by artists well known in the concert world. Their names will be announced later. A dance in the Gymnasium, for which a special band has been engaged, will follow the musical program.

Admission will be by tickets only which will be ready for distribution this week. Members of the I. L. G. W. U. can obtain tickets free at the Educational office, 3 West 16th Street. As already announced, the courses at the Workers' University will start

one week earlier, on Saturday, November 13, 1:30 p. m. in Room 536 of Washington Irving High School. Register now.

SCHEDULE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES READY NEXT WEEK

A detailed schedule of courses and lectures arranged by the Educational Department will be ready for distribution next week. In it will be announced the day, the place and the hour of each activity. Members are advised to obtain this folder from the Educational Department and to keep it for reference.

A Social Study of American Literature

Course of 5 Lessons to Be Given at Workers' University Beginning Saturday, November 13, in Washington Irving High School, Room 536.

By EMORY HOLLOWAY

Course of 5 lessons to be given at Workers' University beginning Saturday, November 13, at Washington Irving High School, Room 536.

Literature, particularly, belles lettres, is sometimes looked upon with a degree of suspicion by those whose lives are devoted to practical attempts to make the world more livable. This is accounted for by the fact that such literature is treated as an end in itself, creating a dream world in which social and economic ills seem less real and unjust. Yet is very often happens that men turn writers only because they themselves have suffered from the imperfections of the actual world. And not a few of them have sought through their writings to do what they could to arouse the reading public to a realization of the need of progress, and to inspire them with a faith that such progress is attainable. Some do this by the realistic method of holding a spot light on cruelty and social injustice. Others elect the persuasive method of picturing a new heaven on this old earth.

The present course, continuing one given last year, will deal with more recent writers of both types. Alfred Bellamy and William Dean Howells will represent the Utopians, while Frank Norris, Upton Sinclair, Willa Cather, Hamlin Garland and perhaps Sinclair Lewis will illustrate the ideas, the spirit and the method of the realistic. Somewhere between the two extremes of method and spirit it may be possible to pick a path at once illuminated by justice and practicable for human nature as we know it.

Register For Unity Centers!

Our members can join classes in English in the following evening schools:

East Side, P. S. 25, Fifth Street between First and Second Aves.

Harlem, P. S. 72, Lexington Avenue at 161st Street.

Lower Bronx, P. S. 42, Brown Place and 135th Street.

Bronx, P. S. 54, Freeman Street and Intervale Avenue.

Brownsville, P. S. 156, Christopher Avenue and Sackman Street.

We wish to call your attention to

ize the student with parliamentary procedure.

Course No. 26. Woman's Place in the Labor Movement.—Fannie M. Cohn.

The trade union movement is based on the principle of equal opportunity for men and women. Women have enjoyed the same right as men to hold office and to select women as officers in trade unions. Why have so few women taken advantage of these rights? Is it due to lack of ability or lack of confidence in their ability? Or is it due to women's individualism or their inexperience in group action? These and similar questions will be considered.

(To be continued)

the following changes. The Harlem Unity Center last year was in P. S. 171. This year it is in P. S. 72.

The Bronx Unity Center last year was in P. S. 61. This year it is in P. S. 54.

These changes were made because the new schools are in a more convenient location.

In these schools instruction in English will be given for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. In a few weeks our Educational Department will also start its courses there once a week in Economics, the Labor Movement, etc.

When registering mention that you are a member of the I. L. G. W. U.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE BRONX

At the request of a number of members the Educational Department has decided to arrange educational activities in the Bronx. They will consist of several subjects, but they, of course, will not be the same as are announced for the Workers' University. A detailed announcement of the program will appear next week. Members who reside in the Bronx can get information concerning this work from the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Following the decision of the executive committee of the General Strike Committee to reorganize its strike machinery, the shop chairmen of the settled cloak shops voted last week to tax the workers in these shops a day's pay for the strike. They worked last Saturday, October 23. And judging from the results of a similar decision, when \$115.00 was turned in for a day's work on September 25th, there is no doubt but that a substantial sum of money will be collected from last Saturday's work for the strike.

Bosses' Appraisal to Strikers

The purpose of the bosses to get a settlement that would send the strikers back to work under practically old conditions having been defeated by the union, the employers now, it appears, have set out again to issue their old "appraisals" to the strikers. These appraisals seek to create an impression among the strikers that the employers in this struggle have been pure altruists and that they, the members of the Industrial Council, are offering the workers ideal conditions of work. How anxious the employers were for a real peace may be seen from the following excerpt from the editorial of "Justice" for October 22, under the caption: "Another Dead-

It was this bitter and unyielding spirit of the leaders of the Industrial Council that has split the conference when brought to a test at its final session. For over twenty hours both sides argued the questions of work-hours and of re-organization right demanded by the employers. The representatives of the Union, in the interest of peace, had made several concessions on these points showing a willingness to accept a forty-two hour week on a five-day work basis until June 30th, and a forty-hour week after that date until the termination of the agreement in June, 1927. The spokesmen for the strikers were also willing to extend the ten per cent re-organization right to all members of the Industrial Council, even to such as employ at the present time less than the minimum of thirty-five workers, provided the latter provided all their garments on the premises and engage in no jobbing whatever and on condition that after June, 1928 such firms are to employ not less than thirty-five workers."

Workers Will Not Be Deceived

How well the strikers understand the attitude taken by the employers in this strike and their insincere "peace" offers became evident when the workers responded with enthusiasm and a determination to the call of the General Strike Committee to continue the strike with even greater intensity in the future.

The union expects to increase by at least \$100,000 its strike fund from the cloakmakers in settled shops who voted to tax themselves another day's pay on behalf of those still on strike. The union also announced through the press last week that \$150,000 cash was received from trade unions in the United States in response to the appeal for funds issued about three weeks ago.

With substantial pledges of additional funds still in view the financial side of the strike appears quite encouraging. Other large sums have been realized for the cloakmakers, now in their eighteenth week of the fight against their employers, through voluntary taxation by needle workers in various parts of the country.

While the workers are standing firm

and ready to carry on the struggle to a successful conclusion on their own resources, nevertheless, the ready response to their call for aid has greatly encouraged them. This, they consider, is an eloquent answer to the Losers' appeals to the strikers through paid advertisements and their other means of propaganda intended to weaken the morale of the strikers.

Striking Cloak Cutters' Unshaken

That the cloak and suit cutters who are still out on strike are unshaken in their determination to carry on until a victory is assured that will see them return to their shops as beds under men, was manifested at their mass meeting last Wednesday, October 27th, in the large assembly room of Arlington Hall. To prove that they were not swayed one iota by the propaganda of their enemy they voted full confidence in Manager Dubinsky and the entire administration of Local 10.

Mildred Nagler, Chairman of the meeting, opened by reporting to the men that the situation with respect to the strike was unchanged since last week. Many of the cutters had noticed a report in the local trade paper to the effect that "modders" were again at work in an effort to bring about a conference. Nagler told the men to disregard these reports as there were no official conferences going on at any time. The last conference was held at the time the last conference was held, and urged them to increased activity, as these rumors were but a move to weaken their morale.

The speaker who addressed the striking cloak cutters was Samuel Beardsley, of the Jewelry Workers' Union and a leading figure of the local Socialist movement. His address was centered on the "Judge-made" laws to which the losses in the cloak industry are resorting in an effort to break the strike.

He called it unprecedented in the history of the labor movement in this city. Also true in his long experience, Beardsley said, did he see such abuses practiced by the city magistrates and the police on strikers. He called upon every striker to take cognizance of this new method of breaking strikes used by the employers' tools and in the coming election make impossible a repetition of such evils.

In a further talk to the cutters Nagler cited a splendid instance of the manner in which the cutters are conducting themselves in the strike. When the last decision of the shop chairmen of the settled shops, to work on Saturday, October 23rd, and to donate the pay to the strike fund, reached the ears of the cutters, the fact that there was not much work in the shops, and the fact that many of the cutters might be laid off for lack of work if an entire force should work on the Saturday in question, did not prevent the men from doing their duty.

The cutters of the Weinstein Corporation had been laid off on the Friday prior to the Saturday on which the cloakmakers were asked to work. That the cutters volunteered to come in, and worked, disregarding the fact that they practically lost a week's work. But they succeeded in cutting enough work to make possible the donation of a day's pay by the entire shop. Other instances were reported from other shops which worked while half of the force was laid off, which practically made certain that when their turn for a share of work would come the following week, they would have to be

Back Check of Injunction Evil

The true aims of the employers became evident to the workers when the conference finally broke up. The Union then issued its call for meetings of strikers and of all workers in the settled shops to explain the situation to them, and the General Strike Committee was given full power to reorganize its strike machinery and to proceed with carrying on the strike more intensely.

The objection of the injunction by the employers also added a political touch to the strike. The union at once took steps to arouse the labor movement to the great menace of the use of injunctions in strikes. J. M. Buddah, Secretary of the Emergency Labor Conference, sent out during the early part of this week a questionnaire to every candidate in the five boroughs to determine their stand on the question of injunctions in labor disputes.

The Emergency Labor Conference has behind it \$80,000 trade unionists of Greater New York and has the support of the New York State Federation of Labor, the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York, the United Hebrew Trades, and other central labor groups.

Jubilee Celebration Postponed

In a further effort to throw the entire resources and energy of the Union into the cloakmakers' strike, the Jubilee Arrangements Committee of Local 10 has decided to postpone the celebration of the local's twenty-five years of existence, slated to take place on December 12th.

Manager Dubinsky thinks that it will be possible to transfer the date to some time in the early part of the coming year. When the Arrangements Committee discussed certain features of the program, Dubinsky suggested the postponement of the affair, so that the energies of the Union might not be diverted from strike activity.

The committee gave its consent to the proposal as originally the date for the celebration had been set for December 12th on the assumption that the strike would be at an end by that time. The jubilee would then have included the celebration of the conclusion of the strike. Since the strike, however, has been prolonged, the committee felt that it is advisable to postpone the affair until next season. Aside from the shifting of the date, there will be practically no change, if any, in the form of the celebration as originally planned.

Local 10 Mourns Eugene V. Debs, Labor Champion

The labor movement of the world over was shocked to learn of the passing of that martyr and labor champion, Eugene Victor Debs, on October 20, in a sanitarium at Elmhurst, Illinois, where he had been confined for several weeks following a breakdown.

No truer champion of the toiling masses ever lived. Debs was twice imprisoned for his activities as a labor leader. His first arrest came in connection with a strike of railway workers, when the Federal government employed the army to break it. The authorities, having failed to prove a charge of conspiracy against him, jailed him for six months for contempt of court.

The second imprisonment was in connection with a speech he delivered during the last war on June 16, 1918, in Cassion, Ohio. After serving nearly three years of a sentence of ten years in the Federal Prison at Atlanta, Ga., he was released on Christmas Day, 1921. Immediately upon the receipt of the news of his death, Manager Dubinsky despatched the following telegram to the widow, Mrs. Katherine Debs, in the name of the membership of Local 10:

"The Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10,

I. L. G. W. U., joins the world of labor in bowing its head in grief over the passing out of this life of our beloved brother and comrade, Eugene Victor Debs. The tolling masses the world over suffer a great loss in the stilling of the voice of him who gave up everything and twice suffered imprisonment so that the workers might attain that form of social justice for which Debs struggled and sacrificed so valiantly. To you, his widow, mate, who stands beside in this moment of supreme sorrow, we can only say that, while Debs has taken away your beloved companion, his spirit remains alive and will continue to guide the working class in its struggle for industrial democracy.

"Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10.
I. L. G. W. U.
DAVID DUJINSKY, Manager
PHILIP ANSEL, President"

Dress Cutters File Many Complaints

With the slack season in the dress trade in full blast there comes to the office the usual number of complaints for violations of equal division of work, against bosses doing their own cutting, and such other grievances as arise in the slack season. During the week just passed, the office received an unusual number of complaints regarding unequal division of work.

In a number of shops the employers suddenly discovered that certain cutters, who had been in their employ for the entire busy season, are no longer competent. In one the employer, not being able to fasten such a charge upon the cutter whom he was attempting to discharge, gave as reason that the cutter had taken out his tools for the purpose of taking a job elsewhere and thus quit his job. As this shop is under the jurisdiction of the Association, the matter was taken up with the chief clerk who insisted, along with the employer, that the cutter had quit. However, the employer's representative was forced to admit that, at the time when the cutter in question had secured a job elsewhere, there was only one man employed in the shop out of a force of three, and that the firm for a few weeks did not require the service of any more men. The office therefore pointed out that no one could prevent a cutter from utilizing his lay-off in any manner he might see fit, nor was there anything prohibiting this in the agreement.

Little attention, however, was paid to this sort of a complaint, the office feeling confident that no worker was ever discharged for asking a job elsewhere during the slack season. The instance in question was merely a scheme on the part of the employer to get rid of a worker who during the season had insisted that the Union conditions of work be strictly lived up to in the shop.

REGISTER AT ONCE for the courses and lectures offered by the Educational Department of our International, and get in touch with us at 3 West 16th Street.

Buy

WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

Exclusively