

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

—Job 25.8

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. 48.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Frisco Cloak Makers Elect New Officers

Local 8 Blends Lectures With Meetings

The San Francisco cloakmakers, organized for a number of years as Local 8 of the I. L. G. W. U., elected two weeks ago officers for the ensuing half year. Those elected are as follows: President—M. Roth, recording secretary, Anna Curnblatt, executive board members—R. Ruback, H. Friedberg, A. Kohen, J. Minkin, B. Davis, M. Grosh, L. Myself, D. Star, S. Goldstein; treasurer—S. Citrin, trustee, C. Schwartzberg; Bro. Louis Gold was reelected as manager of the local.

The meetings of the local are well attended, and recently a new feature, in the form of lectures, was added to the business meetings. Among those invited to speak at these meetings are some of the best known practical leaders of the labor movement in Frisco and on the Pacific Coast.

General Executive Board Starts Quarterly Meeting

Third Quarterly Meeting of I. L. G. W. U. Chief Executive Body Begins This Friday—Sessions Will Be Held at Imperial Hotel, New York City—Activities of Union for Past Five Weeks to Be Discussed—President Will Report on New York Situation

The third quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. has been summoned by Secretary-Treasurer Abraham Baroff to this Friday, November 26, at the Imperial Hotel, 32nd Street and Broadway, in the City of New York. The meeting is about a month overdue, as it is regularly called every four months.

A summary of the purpose of this meeting is found in the letter sent by Secretary Baroff to all the members of the G. E. B. asking them to report to the meeting. It reads, in part:

"The quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board has been postponed on account of the general strike of the cloakmakers in the City of New York. Now that this struggle has been partly settled, it is very important that the General Executive Board get a report of the activities of our International Union for the past five months, and work out plans for the future activities of the International."

The meeting will be attended, besides the New York members of the Board, by Vice-President Amdur from Montreal, Kreindler from Toronto, Molly Friedman from Baltimore and David Godes and Julius Hochman from Boston.

American Ass'n and Union Confer This Wednesday

Cloak Submanufacturers and Leaders of Strike to Discuss Strike Issues—Association Presents Some Counter-Demands to Union.

A conference between the conference committee of the cloak strike and the executive committee of the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the cloak submanufacturers, is expected to take place this Wednesday, to discuss the issues in controversy between the two bodies arising from the strike and to endeavor to reach a settlement.

It is reported that the American Association will demand from the Union that it exert its influence to rid the market of many substandard shops which have sprung up in the last few years and during the strike. It is also stated that the submanufacturers would ask the Union that they be granted shop reorganization rights, the same as has been granted to the Industrial Council.

Strike Committee Reduces Tax on All Settled Shops

Now 10 Per Cent of Earnings Instead of 20—Settlement Committee Reports 25 Thousand Cloakmakers Back in the Shops.

About the only constructive step decided upon last Monday evening, November 22, at the meeting of the General Strike Committee, was an order to reduce the assessment being paid now by the workers in the settled shops in favor of those still remaining on strike, from 20 to 10 per cent. The rest of the meeting was devoted to tumultuous harangues and wild charges preferred by some of the Communist strike leaders against the International Union and to personal attacks by them on President Sigman. President Sigman, in a forceful speech refuted all the fantastic political blatherings heaped upon the leadership of the International by the Communists who packed the meeting with their adherents, and pointed out the inefficiency of the leadership of the strike as the sole reason responsible for its unsatisfactory outcome.

Settlement Committee Makes Report

From the report of Vice-president Nifno it appeared that nearly 25,000 workers are back already in settled shops. 18,000 workers were sent back to work before the settlement with the Industrial Council took place last week. The Council shops, together with their contractors, employ about 10,000 workers, but not all of these have returned to work, and will probably not resume employment until the "busy" season returns. Few settlements were made in the last few weeks. The great majority of the 18,000 workers were sent back to work about six or seven weeks ago.

It became further evident from Bro. Nifno's report that until this date 221 manufacturers, 374 submanufacturers, and 47 jobbers had settled. These figures do not include the shops of the Industrial Council and the downtown stores. These settled shops regularly

employ about 11,500 workers, but their owners had taken up to work, after settling with the Union, additional 4,500 workers, all told about 16,000. The Settlement Committee had taken in over 420,000 dollars in securities.

Bazaar For Passaic Strikers Opens on December 9th

Fair To Last Whole Week

Voicing his solidarity with the striking textile workers of Passaic and vicinity, Hugh V. Reilly, secretary of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor, placed himself on record in a letter to Local 1603, U. T. W., as enthusiastically endorsing the eight day bazaar to be held in this city December 11 to 18 for strike relief.

Reilly's letter, which is addressed to Gustave Deak, president Local 1603, U. T. W., declares in part:

"You and your fellow trade-unions who have so ably conducted this fight for decent, American standards of living need have no misgivings as to the attitude of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor on any efforts you may make to secure additional relief for your strikers. The State Federation of Labor, as well as the American Federation of Labor, is heartily with you in this work and trusts that not only will the bazaar be a tremendous financial success, but that the day of victory will soon arrive."

The bazaar will be held under the auspices of the Passaic Trades and Labor Council; Local 1603, U. T. W., and the General Relief Committee, 743 Main Avenue. Cooperating with these three bodies is an enlarged committee composed of delegates from

many churches, civic and fraternal organizations.

The committee in charge has appealed to all-labor unions to cooperate in making the bazaar a national event, by contributing articles and buying tickets, even though their members may not be able to attend.

Union Labor Life Insurance Company Plans Opening of Career

Plans of The Union Labor Life Insurance Company for its entry into the field of insurance about Jan. 1 are the subject of deep interest everywhere. This interest is by no means confined to labor circles, according to officials of the company here. Each day inquiries from men in all walks of life at the office of the company are answered concerning every phase of the company's plans. It is interesting to note that many inquiries come from insurance men.

Work of gathering an expert staff is proceeding actively under the personal direction of President Matthew Wolf. "This work is moving along steadily and satisfactorily," said President Wolf here this week.

Sales of stock continue. An examination of the record reveals the fact

en, young and old, representing our local unions, assembled to listen to an excellent musical program performed by very fine artists, and to celebrate the occasion with an evening of sociability and good fellowship.

The audience was in a festive mood. They realized that the occasion was more than a concert. They were conscious that this was the celebration of the Ninth Educational Season of our International. They realized the significance of the work of our Educational Department which has been carried on uninterruptedly for nine years despite all the trouble our union has gone through during that time. It has gone on, even when at times the funds necessary for our work had to be employed to feed a striker and his family.

(Continued on Page 2)

that there is scarcely a city or town of any size in the United States that is not represented in the list of stockholders. Stock sales are taken as an excellent barometer showing the spread almost evenly over the country. This is also an excellent indication of prospective business.

The period of stock selling is drawing rapidly to a close and what may well be termed the last minute rush is under way. An exceedingly brief period of time remains in which stock in this new labor enterprise may be had. There is every indication that when stock sales are closed there will be a waiting list whose desires cannot be satisfied until stock is available by transfer. Officers of the company advise those who wish stock not to delay longer in making application.

Evening of Festivities Opens Our Educational Season

(Continued from Page 1)

Our members felt that it is this tenacity and persistency and willingness of our International to make this effort and spend the money, which has made possible the progress of workers' education within our and other trade unions, and has contributed to the adoption of this idea by the American Labor movement.

Alexander Pichandler, who has been intimately connected with our Educational Department for many years pointed out the significance of our work in an inspiring address and lauded our International for its willingness to pay the price of the pioneer in developing the activities of our Educational Department which has become an effective and important factor in the life of our organization.

We regretted very much that President Sigman and Secretary Baroff,

who were expected to address the audience, could not come on time. Their messages of greetings, together with other messages, will be found elsewhere on this page.

The program was performed by the Baleski Trio Ensemble, consisting of Goli Baleski, cellist; Yasha Flahberg, violinist, who took the place of Herman Baleski who was ill; and Gregory Ashman, pianist. These distinguished artists were enthusiastically received and were called out again and again for encores. Mme. Jeanne Borocca was accorded a similar reception. She thrilled the audience with her singing of opera airs and folk songs and was generous with her encores. After the concert, the guests of the evening went to the Gymnasium and had a good time dancing to the music of Schiller's Band. Fania M. Cohn presided.

THANKS TO CHAIRMEN

We, the workers of Goldberg and Freud, 252 West 37th Street, assembled at a last shop meeting in strike headquarters, Manhattan Lyceum, on November 18, passed a resolution of thanks to the Hall Chairman, Brother Cooper, and especially to the Hall Secretary, Brother Windman, and to the other assistants in the hall for their constructive work during the general strike for our shop.

Committee,

J. Martin, Chairman, Kaufman, Rosen, Rakofsky and Tarnofsky.

We, the workers of the Hindus & Gross shop of 1270 Broadway at a regular shop meeting held at Manhattan Lyceum, adopted a resolution to express our thanks to our Hall Chairman, Brother Cooper, and also to the Vice-Chairman, Brother Brown and the entire staff of the hall.

M. Hammer,
Shop Chairman.

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The Ladies' Tailors, Local 38, and Their Recent Strike

(A Communication)

The recent short strike of the Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers in Local 38 marks another milestone and a very important one in the progress of this Union toward its goal—to organize the trade and to establish a higher standard of wages and hours.

The conditions in this trade are peculiar and have for years been a source of great difficulty in the way of organization. The custom dress industry is an industry largely of the old-fashioned "craft-type" producing very high-class custom-made garments directly for the consumer, and differs entirely from the large scale wholesale machine production of the downtown dress and cloak industry.

The workers in the trade are both men and women—ladies' tailors and custom dressmakers. The men—the tailors—are well organized and have through a series of struggles for the last twenty years achieved a high standard of wages and working conditions. The women, on the other hand, who constitute more than 90 per cent of the working force in the trade, are almost entirely unorganized and are working under conditions of terrible exploitation with very low wages and long hours. It may be said, in fact, that the conditions of these women workers in the custom dress industry are worse than in any other branch of the needle trades in this country.

On the other hand, the garments which these women workers make are the finest product of dressmaking, made for the wealthiest consumers in the country. It is therefore, only the lack of organization of the women workers which prevents them from having far better conditions and a wage standard at least 100 per cent above their present level.

The bad conditions of the women workers in this trade have a demoralizing effect upon the conditions of the organized men in the union shops. With a great majority of the women workers in the shops unorganized, underpaid and overworked, it is more difficult for the men to maintain their hard-won union conditions, particularly because in recent years, due to the simplification of styles, there has been a tendency among the employers to transfer work from the men to the women workers.

At the expiration of the two-year agreement between the Union and the employers, this fall, September 25, the Union was, therefore, faced with the problem not only of concluding a new agreement for the tailors but also with taking some steps towards unionization of the women workers. The demands which the Union put forth included:

1. An increase in wages of 5 per cent.
2. A 40-hour week.
3. A guarantee of 44 weeks' work during the year.
4. The extension of union control in the shops.

In order to meet the problem of the unorganized women workers, the Union conducted an energetic organizational drive for some time before the strike. A real movement sprang up in the very strongholds of exploitation, in the high-class Fifth Avenue shops.

This movement created real consternation among the employers, which resulted in a disposition to make concessions to the unorganized workers and the Union. The atmosphere was thus favorable for the Union in the conferences with the employers, who were ready without discussion to concede the wage increase and to arbitrate all other questions such as the 40-hour week. They

were encouraged, however, by the situation in the cloak industry downtown, which is closely allied to this trade, to make counter-demands for standardization of production, the right of discharge and the reorganization of the shops, and limitation of the power of the shop chairman. The time guaranteed work they retuned at all times to discuss.

The effort of the Union, however, to secure some concessions from the employers with regard to the organization of the dressmakers was fatally refused.

The Union was, therefore, confronted at the final conference, with the necessity of protecting itself against the dangerous counter-demands of the employers which threatened the very existence of the organization. Furthermore, only the increase of wages had been definitely secured and even the 40-hour week was restricted with such counter-demands that it was impossible to accept it. Lastly, the problem of organizing the women workers remained as before.

The Union therefore decided upon a strike to gain its demands and to resist the counter-demands of the employers. After only a week of strike, the employers were forced, by the pressure of business in the highly seasonal industry, to withdraw completely their counter-demands and to grant the 40-hour week and a flat increase of \$3.00 in wages for all union workers. As far as the unionization of the women workers is concerned, the failure of the dressmakers to respond in any great number to the strike call prevented the Union from securing any further concessions.

The Union therefore accepted the offer of the employers by unanimous vote of the strike committee and the membership, which felt that a victory had been won under the conditions and that very important concessions had been made to the Union, concessions which were surprising in view of the crisis in the cloakmakers' strike. There was unanimous approval in the Union for settlement—not a voice was raised against it.

The Union may now look back upon the results of the recent strike with pride. Higher standards of wages were secured for both men and women workers in the trade and a firm basis was laid for the 40-hour week. In addition, the Union succeeded in breaking down the Chinese wall which had surrounded the great mass of unorganized women dressmakers in the Custom trade. These workers were aroused from their lethargy and came into close contact with the Union and the Strike. Although it was impossible without much more preparatory work actually to organize the big shops where the exploitation of women is greatest, nevertheless the road was now open into these shops and it only remains for the Union to follow up this work and to prepare for a real struggle of the women workers for the future.

DON WISHNIEWSKY, Sec'y

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All Manufacturing Industries

A Summary of Leading American Trades

In 1922—the last year for which we have complete census figures, there were in the United States 194,000 manufacturing establishments. They employed an average throughout the year of 5,778,000 wage-earners, these comprising slightly over 20 per cent or one-fifth of the gainfully employed persons in the United States. There were thus an average of about 450 workers per factory (though by far the largest number of wage-earners were employed in large establishments). These workers were paid \$11,009,297,000, or an average of somewhere about \$1,250 apiece. The materials used cost \$24,706,000, and the products sold for \$56,000,000. Both these figures are somewhat too large if one is considering the manufacturing operations of the nation as a whole, since the products of some factories are the materials of others. A figure on which there is little or no exaggeration, however, is the "value added by manufacture"—\$25,450,000,000. This figure is obtained by subtracting the total of what was paid for materials from the total of what the products sold for. It includes not only wages, but the amount which went to capital in rent, interest and profits, besides various overhead charges like salaries, insurance, taxes, etc.

It will be seen that the wage earners received in wages about 42 per cent of the "value added by manufacture." It is a curious fact that this percentage is about the same in every census year. In 1921, a year of great depression, it grew to over 44 per cent—wage income does not shrink as rapidly as profits when prices fall rapidly. But in 1919 it was 42 per cent, in 1914 almost 42 per cent, and in 1909, 40 per

cent. Much has been said about the increase in "real wages" or the purchasing power of wages since pre-war days. It will be seen from these figures, however, that the rise in manufacturing wages has not come because the wage-earners are receiving any larger proportion of the proceeds of industry than before. They are merely getting the customary share.

For instance, the value added by manufacture was \$25,450,000,000 in 1923 against \$24,800,000,000 in 1919, but the number of wage-earners employed was 5,778,000 in 1923 against 5,000,000 in 1919. Fewer wage-earners produced more dollars' worth of goods. It is therefore natural that as the whole body of wage-earners received the same share in the industry as before, each wage-earner had more dollars, because there were fewer workers among whom to divide a larger amount.

When it is further remembered that the 1919 dollar was not worth as much as the 1923 dollar, the rise in real wages is fully revealed. There was a fall in wholesale prices of about 25 per cent between the two years. The product of manufacturing industry in 1923, if expressed in physical units instead of dollars, had actually grown from 20 to 25 per cent over that of 1919, although there were 22,000 fewer wage-earners employed in the latter year. In other words, productivity had increased, and wages had gone up with productivity. This is an interesting confirmation of the A. F. of L.'s recently adopted wage theory—that real wages should rise as productivity increases.

Measures of the growth of industry from past years are difficult to obtain

from the Census, because many of the Census figures are in dollars, and prices have changed so rapidly in recent years. We may, for instance, say that in 1923 the wages paid were 170.6 per cent greater than in 1914, the value of products 152.4 per cent greater, the value added by manufacture 166.3 per cent greater. But the actual growth of industry was certainly not more than half any of these amounts, because prices rose so much during the period.

A tendency of manufacturing worthy of comment is that its growth in volume is not accompanied by a growth in number of plants. The average plant is getting larger. In 1909, when only about half as many wage-earners were employed as in 1923, there were some 12,000 more factories than is the latter year. The largest number of manufacturing establishments covered by the Census was reached in 1909, with 268,000. In 1923 there were 194,000. It will be noted that this has only an indirect bearing on the tendency toward financial consolidation, since we are talking about factories, not companies. A single company may own many plants.

The leading manufacturing states are the Middle Atlantic, comprising New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Following very closely behind are the East North Central, or Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. New England follows at a distance, and close behind her are the West North Central, or Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and the Dakotas, and the South Atlantic, including Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, the Virginias, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida. Then come the Pacific States, the West and East South Central, and last of all, the Mountain.

Six large cities outdistance by a wide margin all others in volume of manufacturing. New York, of course, is far in the lead with a product of over 5 billion. Then follow Chicago with over 3 billion, Philadelphia with nearly 2 billion, Detroit will almost billion and a half, Cleveland with a little over a billion, and St. Louis with a little under.

We then jump to Baltimore, with 655 millions. The rest of the first fifteen manufacturing cities, in the order of their importance, are Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Boston, Milwaukee, Newark, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Akron follows closely the Pacific cities. Of the third magnitude are Milwaukee, Rochester, Toledo, Indianapolis, Omaha and Jersey City.

According to the Census method of classifying individual manufacturing industries, the following are, the largest fifteen, arranged according to the value added by manufacture:

Printing and Publishing
Foundry and Machine Shop Products
Iron and Steel (Basic Mills)
Motor Vehicles
Lumber
Cotton Goods
Electrical Equipment
Bread and Bakery Products
Women's Clothing
Men's Clothing
Boots and Shoes
Tobacco
Furniture
Slaughtering and Meat Packing
Woolen and Worsted Goods.

UNION HEALTH CENTER COLUMN

LIFE EXTENSION AND LIFE INSURANCE

The American Federation of Labor at the last convention, held in Detroit, launched a new enterprise—Life Insurance for Workers. Such an enterprise conducted by workers' organizations for the benefit of workers will undoubtedly follow the patterns of existing life insurance companies.

Life insurance companies have made millions of dollars out of the insurance of workers. At the same time these companies have found it extremely profitable to establish health services for their customers. Thus it is that one of the largest insurance companies in the country gives annual physical examinations, furnishes doctors' services in time of emergency, and is responsible for a system of health education which includes health pamphlets, radio talks and health moving pictures. It has been found profitable for these companies to undertake such a movement for health preservation.

Now that the organized labor movement is undertaking the business of life insurance it too will see the wisdom of health conservation from a purely economic point of view.

Up to the present time the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has been the only union in the country that was sufficiently concerned with the health of its membership to organize the Health Center for them. How much the Union Health Center has been responsible for improvement of the health of the workers in the garment industry is difficult to estimate.

The Union Health Center has examined approximately 75,000 workers in the fifteen years of its existence. This is no small figure, and indicates what a large per centage of the membership of the union have come in contact with the Health Center either as people who are actually sick or as applicants to the union.

The extension of the average person's life has been partly due to health education. One of the best types of health education is the periodic physical examination. When the doctor examines the worker and tells him how he stands physically and instructs him how to live and what to do, that worker is learning a few things about his body and his health. Incidentally he pays some attention to what the doctor says, at least as much as it is within the means of his pocketbook to do. In this way his health is improved, and his life lengthened.

It is not sufficient to insure your life against sickness or death. It is important that each worker attend his life by receiving a thorough physical examination at least once a year, and checking up on his state of health. I remember you cannot buy new pairs for your body when the old ones are worn out.

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

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Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 21, 1926.

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EDITORIALS

WHO LED THE CLOAKMAKERS' STRIKE?

Frankly, this may sound like an innocent question. We are quite sure that nine out of every ten persons, of the labor movement and outside of it, if such a query were put to them, would reward the questioner with a shrug of the shoulders and a smile, as if saying: "Well, dear brother, have you been asleep all this long while?"

Nevertheless, we believe that this question may arouse a genuine interest among our readers, the members of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York, the members of our International Union in general, and all those hundreds of thousands of workers who have watched with keen concern the general cloak strike, its development, and its outcome up to the present hour. Moreover, we are quite certain that while most of the cloakmakers have known right along who were the actual leaders of their strike, they would welcome some incontrovertible facts that would settle this point once and for all and would cut off retreat for some slippery individuals who might wish to run for cover or take refuge behind an alibi in a distressing moment.

Well, the answer to this question has now been supplied to all interested and concerned, from a very authoritative source. And it is to this answer that we should like to draw the attention of our readers.

Who has led the cloakmakers' strike, and is still leading whatever is left of it now?

The cloakmakers, of course, know that it is not the International Union, nor any of the individuals or groups who had been opposed to the policy of the present Joint Board leaders. The cloakmakers know how President Sigman was defeated for chairmanship of the general strike committee, and how every other experienced and capable worker or leader who did not bear a Communist label had been sidetracked in favor of Communists, no matter how green or incompetent, on almost all of the important sub-committees of the strike. And certainly by this time it is no secret to any cloakmakers, that all such who refused to subscribe to the political dogma of the ruling faction, whether they were strikers or were assigned some minor posts, had been treated thru all those long months of the strike with suspicion, bitter prejudice and brutal contempt of their elementary rights as members of the organization.

And the cloakmakers know equally well that despite this galling and provocative attitude of those in command of the strike machine, all those who had been opposed to their policies and tactics, have not by word or action, during the entire twenty weeks of the strike, interfered in any way or manner with their conduct, or misconduct, of the struggle but like loyal union men and women, from President Sigman down to the last person on the line, worked hard and indefatigably, within the limited sphere they were allowed to work, to make the strike as much of a success as they could.

All this the cloakmakers know. What they did not all know, perhaps, is that the strike policy of the Joint Board leaders and each of their moves during the great struggle had been cut, dried and handed down to them by the Central Committee of the Communist Party and its New York agents. In a resolution touching on the "immediate program for the work of the party," adopted by the Central Committee of that Party and printed in the "Daily Worker", its official organ, on November 17, the whole story is made glaringly clear.

The leaders of the Communist Party in that "resolution" are bitterly complaining that the influence of their party "has been weakened among the masses of the cloakmakers' strike." "Our comrades leading the strike of the cloakmakers," the resolution further scolds the leaders of the New York Joint Board, "failed also to carry out the decisions of the party that a militant struggle be waged against the Sigman machine which consciously worked for the defeat of the strike." This must be corrected in the future or else "the party will be obliged to take stronger measures."

In other words, the Communist chiefs from Chicago are registering a high discontent with their New York subordinates, in fact are threatening them with dire consequences, because these strike leaders had not efficiently enough carried out their laid down policy of attacking and besmirching President Sigman and other members of the International Union who decline to eat out of their hands. Of course, their New York disciples might reply to

this charge that under the circumstances they have done their utmost in this respect but that for some reason the cloakmakers on strike have not been in a receptive mood to listen to attacks and slander on men whose faith and loyalty they have never questioned in the many years of their connection with the cloakmakers' organization. The Chicago chiefs, however, will brook no "deviation" from party discipline. Orders are orders, and that's all there is to it.

There is, however, in this wall of the chiefs of the Communist Party over the failure of their subordinates in the New York Joint Board to wage "a militant struggle" against President Sigman, a great deal more than what the surface of the "resolution" indicates, and it is something that the cloakmakers ought to know.

When the general strike was called out in New York City, after the present leadership of the Joint Board had been ordered to reject the recommendations of the Special Commission even as a basis for negotiating an agreement, the apostles of a social revolution for the cloak and suit industry, shrewdly concluded that it would not be a bad idea to provide themselves in advance with a scape-goat in the event the strike does not pan out according to expectations. Under the circumstances, naturally, no better scape-goat could be found than the International Union and the "Sigman machine". The decision on this point was clear and unmistakable: As the strike begins, start your steam roller agoing slam-bang, smite the "class collaborators" right and left, charge them with sabotage and obstruction, blacken their faces at every opportunity, so that by the time the strike is over we might have a ready-made victim to offer the cloakmakers in case of need!

Well, it is this failure of the leaders of the strike to live up to the decision of the Communist Party to prepare an acceptable scape-goat for the outcome of the strike that is now bringing upon their head the wrath of the Chicago chiefs. Personally we believe that the Central Committee heads are somewhat too hard on their New York subordinates in the Joint Board. Heaven knows they have tried hard to follow out the decision of their Party to "wage a militant struggle" against President Sigman and all others in the Union who would not conform to their faith. Somehow, however, the cloakmakers have refused to take these attempts to manufacture a scape-goat for the outcome of the strike seriously. Time after time, the enemy press which speaks for the Communist outfit in New York, has endeavored during this strike to plaster some nasty charge upon the International Union and President Sigman; time after time they would erect one straw man after another, put on it the label of the International, and then knock it down—without leaving the least impression among the rank and file of the strikers.

The result is that now, after the nightmare of the twenty weeks of struggle is over, there is no scape-goat in sight to hide behind and no plausible alibi to offer. Small wonder there is wailing and gnashing of teeth in the high councils of the Communist Party; small wonder strong measures are threatened against such "deviations from Leninism" as the statement of the Central Committee terms it. If no scape-goat is available, it is quite likely that the leaders of the strike themselves would be called upon by the cloakmakers to give an account for its conduct, and that is an alternative the Chicago Communist chiefs dread even to contemplate.

That much for the very eloquent answer given by the Central Committee of the Communist Party to the question—Who led the cloakmakers' strike. But the members of our Union might also be interested in what a section of enlightened public opinion, which always has maintained a very friendly attitude towards our movement and has followed with keen interest our efforts to improve the life of our workers, has to say concerning the leadership of the strike in the cloak industry that is now coming to an end. We are tempted to quote here from an editorial this week in the "New Republic", the leading liberal American weekly. In part, it reads:

"The strike is now commonly conceded to have been unwise if not unnecessary. It was the culmination of the tactics employed by the Trade Union Educational League or the Workers' Party in winning control of the administration of the Joint Board of the Ladies' Garment Workers. The beginning, conduct and settlement of this strike represents the climax in the application of the principle of 'bring from within' to the management of American trade unions. Mr. William Z. Foster and his circle of trade union philosophers seized upon the union of women's clothing workers as an experimental station for testing their pet dogmas. Hardly has an experiment had such a disastrous and tragic outcome. By every accepted standard of leadership, the members of this group merit the distrust with which they are regarded by the American Federation of Labor.

"The settlement of this strike is a tribute to the courage of the thousands of cloakmakers who since 1910 have come to appreciate the value of their organization and have learned to fight for its existence. Their last experience may have taught them to distinguish between political and industrial issues, and to appraise intelligently the qualities of successful and honest leadership."

Such is the answer which the liberal and forward-looking opinion in our community gives to the question which we put at the head of this article. It requires no comment, and the cloakmakers who will read it would not have to search for anything between its lines. It is straightforward, simple and intelligent. It certainly is worthwhile committing to memory.

"Peace In Industry"

By WILLIAM GREEN,
President, American Federation
of Labor

The industrial life of a nation, and of the world, is so merged with its political and social life that strife in industry materially affects the peace and happiness of national and international life. Domestic tranquility and industrial peace are vital and necessary factors in the furtherance of world peace. Internal strife and external peace are contradictory as to inspire the inquiry, "Can a nation have war within and peace without?"

Our modern civilization rests upon industry. Without the forces of industry our civilization would perish and human life would be destroyed. Our cities, built and erected by human hands and the use of modern machinery would fall to ruin and the millions of people who inhabit them would be without sustenance and shelter. Human life is so dependent upon the service of industry that we become appalled when we contemplate the direful results which would follow if, for any reason, the industrial life of the nation became paralyzed.

These astounding facts compel us to fully realize the importance and significance of the establishment of order in industry. They create a public sense of grave responsibility resting with all those upon whom the successful operation of industry depends. If peace is to be established and maintained among those associated with the industrial life of the nation they must think in terms of cooperation, understanding and mutuality. This involves a complete recognition of the rights of all who constitute the human forces of industry. There can be no reciprocal relationship where one industrial group attempts to deny to another group the exercise of a legal or moral right. Such an attempt fosters ill-will, resentment and antagonism.

Men feel very strongly toward those who seek to abridge their activities or infringe upon their rights. They cannot entertain kind feelings for those who prevent them from doing the thing they have a right to do. It is a desirable or necessary in human relations of any kind or character it would seem to be increasingly necessary within the bounds of industrial life.

Collective bargaining is a method advocated by working people as a means through which industrial peace can be promoted but the success of collective bargaining is predicated upon the exercise of collective action. There can be no genuine collective bargaining where employers deny working people the exercise of expression or where, by subterfuge or force, workers are denied the exercise of the right of voluntary association or freedom of choice. Experience has shown that the cause of industrial peace has been greatly advanced where the principle and policy of collective bargaining has been recognized and followed.

In considering the policies which tend to promote industrial peace let us review briefly the principal causes of industrial strife and industrial war. At the inception of modern industrial development a general impression prevailed that the ownership of industry carried with it the right to control and dominate all the forces of industry. This point of view was widely accepted during the period when the relationship between employer and employee was that of master and servant. The drafting of wage schedules, the hours of labor which men were required to work and the wage rates which were paid were prescribed by those who owned and operated industry. It has been quite difficult to change this point of view.

Notwithstanding the fact that many employers of labor and many owners

of industry have recognized the principle of collective bargaining there are employers, owners and managers of industry who have failed to accept the new conception of human relations in industry and who exercise the power of arbitrarily fixing the wage rates and prescribing the conditions of employment under which men and women must work. This policy and this attitude followed by some employers of labor constitute a prolific source of industrial strife, dissatisfaction and unrest.

Industrial corporations and trade unions represent a developed phase of industry. As corporations became necessary in the furtherance of industrial enterprises so trade unions became necessary in order to satisfy the desire of working men and women to organize for mutual advancement and protection. As the owners of industry exercised the right to form corporations so working men and women exercised their right to form trade unions. Each group recognized that the day of individualistic effort and action had passed and the new day of collective and concerted action was here. It is significant that the formation and development of industrial corporations and trade unions paralleled each other.

From the beginning of organization on the part of employers and employees there has been a manifest tendency in the direction of a more complete and comprehensive form of organization. The working people have shown a different attitude toward the organization of employers into corporations and associations than that shown by many industrial corporations and employers toward the workers' organizations.

Through the enactment of legislation providing for the formation of corporations, employers of labor and owners of industry have exercised the right to form corporations and to organize. The working people have refrained from opposing the formation of these legally constituted organizations. They have long recognized the fact that the function of industrial corporations was but the normal and natural development of modern industry. The workers have expressed their opposition to the use of artificial means in attempting to prevent the legitimate growth and expansion of industrial organizations. They have expressed themselves as in accord with the formation of lawful organizations and corporations on the part of employers.

But, notwithstanding the favorable attitude of labor toward the organization of corporations and employers' associations many corporations have refused to recognize the right of working men and women to organize into trade unions. Through the use of their financial and corporate power they seek to prevent the working people they employ from joining trade unions and corporations on the part of employers. They seek to destroy them and through the pursuit of such a policy they seek to deny their workers the exercise of the right to organize. They claim for themselves the full and complete exercise of a moral and legal right which they deny to others. This is a most aggravated cause of industrial strife, dissatisfaction and unrest.

There are other causes of dissatisfaction which may be classified as purely economic, such as differences between employers and employees over the rate of wages and conditions of employment which should prevail.

These are matters of detail, however, which should readily yield facts, reason and common sense. They should not present insurmountable difficulties in the furtherance of industrial peace.

The removal of the causes which create bitterness, strife, criminal waste and industrial warfare can be accomplished if employers and employees will arrive at a basis of understanding which provides for the recognition of the place which each will occupy in the management, control and operation of industry. This task is not an easy one for the hatred and bitterness which has been engendered through years of industrial conflict has left a deep impression upon both groups. It cannot be eradicated in a day but it must be overcome by education, patience, tolerance and the creation of confidence between the two groups. This is the immediate, as well as the future, problem which confronts us all. We must face it resolutely, determined in our efforts to find a solution providing for co-operation and efficient service so that the costs of manufactured commodities may be reduced and the standard of living of the workers may be steadily improved.

In the peaceful solution of these

Teachers Must Not Think

By NORMAN THOMAS

It is an old story for radicals to be called crazy by their enemies. It is a new thing to try to poison radicals by actually trying to prove them psychopathic. If every nonconformist can be proved mentally unsound simply because he or she will not travel with the herd human progress is at an end and a new weapon of tyranny has been forged. This is precisely what Superintendent O'Shea and some of his associates seek to do in the New York schools. The Superintendent himself let the cat out of the bag by announcing that many radicals are considered by medical men of "some eminence" as psychopathic. Some effort to apply this judgment to Miss Ruth Hardy, a brilliant and competent teacher, has been made.

Miss Hardy is but one of three teachers who have been refused the promotions to which their examinations and record entitle them. The others are Dr. Jessie Wallace Huglan, a prominent Socialist, and Dr. Abraham Lefkowitz at one time active in the effort to form a farmers' labor party. Against neither of these teachers is there any charge of schoolwork against their activities in whatever. Their ability is admitted even by their enemies. They are penalized simply because out of school hours they have dared to express their own opinions on politics and economics. Such control over education is far more dangerous than any control over the police which the bosses now exercise.

PASS THE DILL BILL

One of the most important matters before Congress when it begins its short session in December will be the proper regulation of the radio. The House bill still leaves primary power over the radio in the hands of the Secretary of Commerce. It does not belong there. The Secretary of Commerce may be the greatest man in America, but he is a political official. No radio company will take a chance of permitting vicious criticisms of his policy or the Administration of which he is a part. This is not a theory. This has been proved

problems capital must make a substantial contribution. It must yield in its hostility toward trade unions and it must sheathe its weapons of force and autocratic control. It must take the workers into its confidence and must welcome the stabilizing influences which collective bargaining brings to industry. It must avail itself of the services which the organization of the workers is prepared to give.

Labor stands ready to give to industry and to society the benefit of its organized strength and service. Labor, through its trained and efficient representatives, can assist in the solution of managerial problems and in the adjustment of differences which may arise between employers and employees. The good-will and the moral support which labor can bring to industry is of priceless value.

Absolute industrial peace may be regarded as an ideal which is impracticable and unattainable. The complex character of human nature may prevent its realization. It cannot be established in any preponderant degree if those associated with industry are to live in an atmosphere of perpetual hostility. But, if reason and judgment are enthroned, directing the lives and actions of men, we can establish a relationship in industry which will speed the cause of peace, satisfaction and prosperity.

by the experience of several speakers. The Dill Bill which has passed the Senate, on the other hand, sets up a Commission with no political responsibilities or ambitions for the sole purpose of regulating radio and it lays down a wise basis for such regulation. Neither the Dill Bill nor any other of itself will solve the radio problem. Nevertheless, the Dill Bill does give us a chance to make the radio a little more of a means of public education by the discussion of public issues. The agitation for the Dill Bill, we venture to say, has been largely responsible for the somewhat more liberal attitude of radio companies toward progressive campaigners in the last election. It is a good law to pass.

"NERVOUS NELLIE" FEARS THE LADIES

Countess Karolyin is in Canada and, worried of the endless delays and expense of the law, has notified her lawyers to cease their efforts to compel Secretary Kellogg to grant her a Commission with no political responsibilities or ambitions for the sole purpose of regulating radio and it lays down a wise basis for such regulation. Neither the Dill Bill nor any other of itself will solve the radio problem. Nevertheless, the Dill Bill does give us a chance to make the radio a little more of a means of public education by the discussion of public issues. The agitation for the Dill Bill, we venture to say, has been largely responsible for the somewhat more liberal attitude of radio companies toward progressive campaigners in the last election. It is a good law to pass.

One might dismiss Secretary Nervous Nellie's fears for the safety of his country menaced by two foreign women as a joke, albeit a bad one, were it not for the fact that the country at large accepts this kind of protection, thereby proving how far it is from having a real sense of humor, to say nothing of a real regard for liberty.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Educational Activities of Local 50, Phila.

With the organization of the newly elected Executive Board in standing committees, the question of recreation and education received very serious consideration. Educational work in Local 50, was always an outstanding feature, but due to other very serious work last year, the question of education received but negligible interest.

The situation at present, however, shows a marked difference. There are heard in our local innumerable demands for classes in elementary and advanced subjects, which the present committee did not fail to capitalize and supply to those who are eager to attend, and at the same time encourage such members whose minds are receptive to careful, analytical studies to take advantage of such studies.

It is the aim of the committee to go far in the arrangement of class studies, but it is ever mindful of the necessity of mass education which will be conducted both in English and Yiddish through an open forum, lectures, debates and musicales.

Through the efforts of Sister Ada Rosenfeld, the Union's library, which consists of a great many valuable books, is being reconciled, with the committee's allowance many volumes of modern educational value will be added in order to supply the needs of the increasing number of readers.

Another very encouraging feature of our local is the demand on the part of the membership for outdoor recreation. The summer activities along that line created a sufficient desire for more, and the educational committee is seeking particulars from all

sources, to make it possible for our members to spend an evening, or even a day, out in the open, and then lunch by the fireside of a country home.

This is just part of the educational activities of Union in Philadelphia, and the members are urged to help make this year a record-breaker along these lines. Under the guidance of the I. L. G. W. U. and the Philadelphia Labor College, and with the cooperation of the Educational Committee, we are sure that the work will progress and bring about as a result, an enlightened membership, ready to assume leadership of Union activities.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
Minnie Rubinstein, Chairman
Abraham Bloomfield, Sec'y
Beale Goren
Beckie Mitta
Isidore Podolsky
Ida Arosaky
Benjamin Cohen

Educational activities for our members in Philadelphia will commence on Wednesday, December 1st.

A. J. Muste of Brookwood Labor College will start a course of three lessons on "The History of Civilization". This will be followed by a course in Labor Problems by Robert R. Morley and one on Literature by Robert Kering.

Two classes in English will be started, one elementary and one intermediate, by Bertha I. Grenberg. Detailed information can be obtained from Sister Ada Rosenfeld, at the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, 52 North 10th Street, Philadelphia.

Congratulatory Messages Received At Our Opening Celebration

"I regret that I find it impossible to be present at Opening Celebration of the ninth season of our Educational Department. I wanted in person to tell the hundreds of our members assembled how deeply our International is interested in our educational activities, and how willingly we support it financially despite the difficulties we are confronted with. We do it gladly because we appreciate the need of workers education within the Labor Movement; and we hope that our members who attend our lectures and courses will place the knowledge they acquire at the disposal of our International."

With best wishes for successful years.

Fraternally yours,
MORRIS SIGMAN,
President

"The solid achievement made by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in the field of workers' education has now become so well known that it is accepted by all students of labor problems. At the opening of this season I want to express to you and to the students and teachers my best wishes for another successful year."

SPENCER MILLER, Jr.
Secretary Workers' Education Bureau

"I planned to spend this evening with you celebrating the Ninth Season of our Educational Department, but regret this cannot be realized. I want to tell you how much I appreciate the fact that our International had the

vision to inaugurate an activity which will tend to strengthen our union in particular and the Labor Movement in general. I hope the hundreds of members who attend our courses will be inspired to more intense activity in our organization, and I also hope that all of you present will avail yourselves of the opportunity offered by our International and will take advantage of the activities provided by our Educational Department."

With best wishes for a successful season,

Fraternally yours,
ABRAHAM BAROFF,
Secretary-Treasurer

"I know that you will be glad to hear that in addition to its value for the educational work, the concert attracted several oldtime union girls in the underwear trade who are now working in non-union shops, and contact with whom will be of great help in our organization campaign. The International and the Educational Department are to be congratulated on the success of the celebration."

ELSIE GLUCK,
Organization Dept., I. L. G. W. U.

"Heartiest felicitations to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union on your Educational Department and on the Ninth Season of your educational work. All the members of the Brookwood, Labor College, staff and student body join heartily in greetings."

A. J. MUSTE, Chairman,
Brookwood Faculty

Weekly Educational Calendar

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

Saturday, November 27

1:30 p.m. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature.—Alfred Bellamy and other Utopians.

2:30 p.m. Current Labor Problems—lecturer to be announced.

Sunday, November 28

11:00 a.m. A. J. Muste—Current Events in the Labor and Social World.

EXTENSION DIVISION

McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

Friday, December 10

8 p.m. Sh. Nieger—The Social Significance of Yiddish Literature.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR LOCAL 91

We are glad to announce that an educational program has been arranged for the organization committee of the Children's and Housewren makers' Union, Local 91.

The first discussion will be conducted by A. J. Muste, head of Brookwood Labor College. The topic will be "How Can Our Methods of Organization be Effective." This will be on Monday, November 29, at 6:45 p. m., in the office of the Union, 7 East 15th Street.

We are looking forward to a successful series of lectures, as they should be of great educational value to this group.

"CURRENT EVENTS IN THE LABOR AND SOCIAL WORLD"

This course is being given by A. J. Muste of Brookwood in our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, Room 530, every Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock.

The first session was held last week and the subject discussed was the Detroit Convention of the American Federation of Labor. The instructor analyzed the actions of the convention, the points at which the traditional policy was reaffirmed, points at which new departures were indicated; the attitude of the convention toward company unions, the Mexican situation. A lively discussion ensued, and the first lesson proved to be of great educational value.

The object of this course is to acquaint our members with happenings in the labor and social world. There are so many things going on daily that the average person cannot analyze them easily.

We are sure this course of ten lessons will be very beneficial. Admission free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

BROOKWOOD STUDENTS AT OUR CELEBRATION

Thirteen student of Brookwood College, representing the student body, and headed by the Librarian, Clara Cook, came down to New York in a truck to join our members in the celebration of the reopening of our educational season.

Our members heartily appreciated this expression of fellowship and interest in our educational activities.

S. NIEGER WILL LECTURE IN THE BRONX

S. Nieger, the distinguished Yiddish critic will give three lectures for our members in the Bronx, beginning Friday, December 10, 8 p.m. in McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx. The lectures will discuss (1) Why do we need the critic? (2) Various kinds of criticism, (3) The difference between literary criticism and dramatic criticism.

Details of these discussions will appear on this page next week. S. Nieger will lecture on December 10, 17 and 24. Following this Alexander Fichandler will give a course on "The Economic Basis of Modern Civilization" at the same place and time.

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

A SOCIAL STUDY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

Emory Holloway is giving a course in American Literature in our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, Room 530 on Saturdays at 1:30 P. M.

The discussion last week was on Upton Sinclair, the significance of his work and the impression he has made on public opinion. A stimulating discussion of the author's ideas followed the lecture; mostly on social problems and the various solutions proposed.

Next week, the instructor will take up Alfred Bellamy and other Utopians. He suggests that in connection with these two writers the class read "The Jungle" and "Looking Backwards". Members can obtain these books thru our Educational Department at reduced prices.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ON TIME

We wish we could have an intimate talk with members who attend our courses and to discuss with them the importance of being on time. Most of the sessions of our various courses last one hour, a few an hour and a half. Some of our students get into the habit of coming late and they not only miss much of what is being discussed, but also disturb those who come on time.

Now that our members work only five days a week, we are sure they can make an effort to be in the classroom on time, Saturdays and Sundays when most of the classes meet.

Being on time is of great advantage.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM E. SHENKER

While the strike in the cloak and suit industry is by no means completely concluded inasmuch as no agreement has been reached with the jobbers' and contractors' associations, against whom the union is still conducting the strike unabatedly, nevertheless, the union is in a position to put into shape a good portion of its peace-time machinery. This is made necessary by the fact that something like a total of 22,000 workers are ready to resume work as soon as the season will commence.

Settlement Committee Renders Report

The Settlement Committee reported that as a result of the independent settlements with individual jobbers, manufacturers and contractors, some 16,000 workers had been returned to work by the Settlement Committee. And as a result of the settlement with the Industrial Council, other 5,200 workers are ready to resume work.

The Organization Committee reports that of the 130 shops of the Industrial Council, 141 were returned to work by the organization committee. The number of workers included in this number of shops, as was mentioned, is 5,200. And when the balance of the shops, the 29, will return to work, the total number of workers returned to work in the Industrial Council shops will be 6,000. This number, together with the number of workers already returned, will make a total of about 22,000 workers who will be ready to go to work as soon as the season will begin, which will be in about four to six weeks.

According to the report of strike benefit paid, 12,000 strikers received benefit in the last few weeks. This means that with the 6,000 workers in the Industrial Council shops ready to return to work following the settlement, a balance of about 6,000 strikers remains in their respective strike halls.

In the number of workers still on strike are 2,000 unemployed. The balance of 4,000, therefore, are the workers who are striking against the American Association shops and the jobbers. This number, that is, the 6,000, will continue to receive their strike benefit and will continue their struggle against the jobbers and the contractors in an effort to bring them to terms.

Cutters Receive Instructions at Shop Meetings

Last week and this week the office was a veritable beehive. For almost every day of the week from morning until night cloak and suit cutters whose shops were affected by the settlement reported to the office for the purpose of attending shop meetings which were called in order to give the men instructions and issue working cards to them preparatory to their going back to work.

Manager Dubinsky, Isidore Nagler and Samuel Perlmutter, addressed these meetings. Each of the officers emphasized the one thing that was most important for the men to observe in connection with their future relations in the shop and with their employers.

They pointed out to the men that the best agreement can become a scrap of paper if the membership does not maintain its ranks in solid unity. There is no doubt, it was declared, that the scrupulous employers will attempt to interpret clauses in the manner that will benefit them only.

However, the officers pointed out, with a membership loyal to its organization and in constant touch with it

the most unscrupulous bosses will hesitate before even attempting to take unfair advantage. That unfair advantage would be taken by employers was already borne out from the complaints which Manager Dubinsky received from individual members as well as from entire staffs of cutting departments.

Thus far, however, no unusual difficulty has been experienced. It is too early to predict as to whether any unusual problems will be experienced by the men or the office with respect to their jobs in that the season will not begin for a few weeks. Considering the sentiments of the men and the opinions they expressed at the shop meetings, it may be said that employers attempting an unfair course will find it very difficult to accomplish their aims.

During the course of the two weeks so following the settlement with the Industrial Council, 500 working cards were issued to cutters whose shops are affected by the agreement recently entered into with the Council. However, only head cutters in the main so far have returned to work. In view of the fact that the season will begin in a few weeks' time, these men will be taken up with work necessary in connection with preparations for the season.

Union To Meet Cloak Contractors

According to a report in the local trade paper in the ladies' wear industry, "arrangements have been practically completed for the holding of a conference between the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association" and the union. The report says that this information was secured from the headquarters of the association.

This report, which appeared in the issue of the "Women's Wear" for November 22nd, says further on that "Louis Hyman, Manager of the Joint Board of Cloak and Dress Makers, was asked whether the union and the sub-manufacturers will enter into conference with an advance understanding. He said there is no understanding between the two organizations. "We have not yet discussed these demands of the sub-manufacturers," Mr. Hyman replied, "therefore I cannot comment on the union's attitude towards the sub-manufacturers' demands."

The main features of the union's demands, as the members no doubt remember, are limitation, the shortening of the work-week and increases in wages. The demands of the sub-manufacturers referred to by Brother Hyman include shop reorganization rights, or, as the report of the newspaper referred to has it, "the same as have been granted to the members of the Industrial Council...."

The exact hour of the conference has not been mentioned except that the date set was Wednesday, November 24th. At the time of writing, the conference had not yet taken place and no details could be given even as to whether it took place.

Active Members in Dress Trade Meet

A meeting of the active members of the union in the dress trade took place last Monday night, November 22nd, in Manhattan Lyceum. It was called for the purpose of discussing with the members the present situation in the dress industry and the plans for a new agreement in place of the present one which will expire on January 31st. In response to the letter received by the office for attendance of the meeting, a call was

Striking Cloak Cutters!

Cloak Cutters on strike or unemployed are hereby notified to appear at the office of Local 10

on Monday, November 29

between 10 A. M. and 1 P. M.

to see Manager Dubinsky.

This includes the strikers of Manhattan Lyceum, Webster Hall and Beethoven Hall.

sent out to the active members, dress cutters of Local 10, who were also present at the meeting.

Officers of the Joint Board speaking on these questions, emphasized as the union's greatest problem, the existence of a great number of small mushroom shops, or, as they are commonly referred to, the fly-by-night type. One of the speakers said that what the union must prepare itself for is the elimination of these small shops which have been responsible for the present chaotic industrial situation in the dress trade.

The fact was not overlooked by the speakers that at the present time there are more non-union than union shops. And if the union is to attempt anything that would make possible the earning by the members of a decent living under decent conditions in the dress trade it must concentrate upon the elimination of the small shops.

It was also pointed out that the employers may be under the impression that the present for them is a good opportunity to enter into a conflict with the union in that it passed thru a twenty-week strike in the cloak industry. On this score, the speakers pointed out, the employers will more than find their match in the person of a membership determined to effect an agreement giving them decent conditions.

The first step in the direction of preparing for the organization work which the union will carry on following the expiration of the present agreement was the appeal made by the officers of the organization department for the registration of volunteers on the various committees. Many cutters lend their names.

As to what the demands are that the union may present to the employers in the dress trade, it is too early to say. No doubt meetings of the Board of Directors or executive boards will be called. These are the bodies that have the power to effect such decisions as bear on renewal of agreements.

In the meantime, dress cutters are urged to watch these columns for information with regard to what is going on. Other meetings will be called and the cutters must be thoroughly familiar with whatever condition may enter in connection with renewing the agreement.

Fraternal Spirit of Boston Cutters

No finer expression of fraternal feelings was ever manifested than that which was contained in the letter of Brother Philip Kramer, Business Agent of the Boston Cutters' Union, Local 73, to Manager Dubinsky, in which was found enclosed a check for \$100 as the first contribution to the striking cloak and suit cutters of Local 10. This was the initial contribution raised by means of a five-dollar assessment on the Boston cutters.

When this letter was read to the executive board, it was not necessary for the applause that followed to signify the appreciation of the executive board for the fraternal solidarity that always has existed between the cutters. The lit-up faces of the board members that marked the attention during the course of the reading of the letter was eloquent expression of appreciation.

Brother Kramer emphasizes that "this is an additional tax to that levied by our Joint Board for the New York strikers." In other words, it was a voluntary tax upon the Boston cutters for the aid of the New York cloak cutters. Brother Kramer's letter and Manager Dubinsky's reply follow:

Mr. David Dubinsky, Manager.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I am writing this to inform you that at a Special Meeting of our Cutters' Union, Local 73, held on November 6th, for the purpose of aiding the cutters of your Local 10, it was unanimously passed that a tax of \$5 per member be levied and forwarded direct to you.

I am sending herewith \$100 as the initial amount at this time and hope that there will be a larger amount at the next writing.

Also beg to inform you that a committee was appointed to devise ways and means to raise more money to further your glorious cause. I realize that this is a small sum, but please take it in the spirit in which it is being sent.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) PHILIP KRAMER,
Business Agent I. L. G. W. U.

Mr. Philip Kramer, Bus. Agent
My dear Brother Kramer,

Your letter of November 11th, together with a check for \$100, has been received by us.

Local 10 appreciate very much the spirit which prompted the decision of your membership to levy a tax upon each and every member and the contribution you have made towards our local.

However, by the time this contribution reached us a settlement with the Industrial Council had been effected, which means that about sixty per cent of the strikers in general, and eighty per cent of the striking cutters, will return to work.

Allow me to repeat that we appreciate the spirit and the generosity of your membership and we ask you to convey our thanks to them. The money forwarded by you will be turned over to our Relief Fund to aid needy members.

With best wishes from the officers and members of Local 10 as well as my own personal regards, I am

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) DAVID DUBINSKY,