

"My righteous-
ness I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."

—Job 27:6

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. 50.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Negotiations With American Ass'n Broken Off

**Submanufacturers Insist on Reorganiza-
tion and Restricted Admission
of Business Agents to Shops**

The developments in the controversy between the cloak strike leaders and the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the cloak sub-manufacturers, during the past week and up to press time, are as follows:

The leaders of the strike sent a letter last Monday afternoon, December 6, to the manager of the American Association suggesting that they withdraw their ultimatum to close the shops on Tuesday morning and that the Union would meet with them on Tuesday and attempt to reach an agreement. The Association thereupon withdrew its threat.

On Tuesday both sides met in the office of the Impartial Chairman, Raymond V. Ingersoll, but reached no agreement. The submanufacturers insisted on their program being accepted, which includes reorganization rights and restriction of admission of business agents to the submanufacturer shops, or the submission of their demands to arbitration. The strike leaders continued to oppose all these demands.

Another meeting was arranged for Wednesday afternoon, December 8, at the same place. Several hours of discussion failed to bring about an understanding. The situation is therefore deadlocked and the prospects are that the submanufacturers will close their shops.

Cloak Cutters Get Flat Increase of Three Dollars

**Dubinsky, Manager of Local 10, Announces Industrial Council
Firms Will Give Cutters General Wage Raise.**

The members of Local 10, the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters, Union, were in high spirits last Monday night after Vice-President David Dubinsky, manager of the cutters' organization, announced at their special meeting at Arlington Hall, that he had succeeded in obtaining from the Industrial Council the concession that all cutters employed in their shops get a flat increase of \$2 per week.

It should be borne in mind, in this connection, that the cutters, whose minimum scales had been raised through the settlement with the Council \$3.00 per week, have practically hardly benefited at all through this raise, as nearly all of the cutters had been working at rates far above the minimum scales. The raise which Dubinsky now obtained for the cutters, therefore, is the only real wage advance the members of Local 10 had got since the strike was called and this gain they obtained, too, through

G. E. B. Meeting Condemns Cloak Strike Management

**Statement of General Executive Board Creates Deep Impression
Throughout Labor Movement—Philadelphia Delegation Pro-
tests Against Communist Imputation of Scabbing.**

The last day of the third quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, Friday, December 3, was devoted exclusively to a critical analysis of the disastrous 23-week old cloak strike in New York and the portion of it still left unsettled—the strike against the jobbers and the sub-manufacturers' association. The day before, President Sigman read and proposed to the members the draft of a statement to be forwarded to all members of the International Union, summarizing the issues, development and results of the cloak strike and placing responsibility for its failures upon the Communist agents who directed it. The resolution was adopted by the vote of all but the three Communist members of the Board. David Glueck abstained from voting. (The statement appeared in full in last week's issue of "Justice").

**President Sigman Tells Under What
Condition the International Would
Take Over Strike**

"The International Union is ready to take over the cloak strike provided Communist leaders get out and stay out," declared President Morris Sigman in reply to a question, or rather a "challenge" by Julius Portnoy, one

of the Communist members of the Board. Sigman emphasized the point that the General Executive Board is prepared to do all they can for the strike despite the almost helpless situation into which the Communist leadership has dragged it. Confronting the Communist strike leaders at the meeting he declared that "your incompetence and servility to Communist party orders had all but broken the strike, and your premature settlements with hundreds of submanufacturers and contractors, before settlement with either the Industrial Council or the Jobbers' Association had been made, has disrupted the entire strike" (Continued on Page 2)

Chicago J. B. To Sign Three-Year Agreement

**Meetings Called for Ratification of
Contract Terms**

In a telegram dated December 7, received by President Sigman from Bro. J. Levine, the manager of the Chicago Joint Board, indication is given that the agreement with the local cloak employers' associations will soon be renewed. An understanding to that effect has practically been reached.

The message states, among other things, that "at the last conference held with the manufacturers it was agreed to sign a new agreement for three years,—first eighteen months to work on a 42-hour five-day basis and second eighteen months on a forty-hour five-day basis. Increases of all scales from two to three dollars granted and no reorganization clause included. A joint executive board meeting and also a mass meeting is called to ratify the terms of the new agreement."

Big Cooper Union Meeting Demands Communists Resign Leadership of Cloak Union

**Huge Assembly Thunders Denunciation of Communist Politicians
—Places Responsibility for Ill-Fated Strike Directly on Com-
munist "Experimenters"—
Special Committee Brings President Sigman and Vice-Pres-
ident Dubinsky to Cooper Union to Address Meeting.**

Last Friday night was a night of great events for the cloakmakers of New York City.

The pent-up bitterness and indignation against the mismanagement and consequent failure of the cloak strike in New York City burst forth, for the first time, in a storm that assumed the dimensions of a genuine revolt. The thousands of cloakmakers who gained admission into the hall and the thousands who were compelled to go away for lack of room united in a tremendous demand that the Communist politicians who are at present running the Cloakmakers' Joint Board and several of its locals resign and turnover the administration of the Union to the cloakmakers themselves.

The meeting which was held under the auspices of several groups of cloakmakers who represent the organized discontent in the ranks of the workers with Communist dictatorship over

their Union, passed off in splendid order. The chairman of the meeting was R. Zuckerman, who declared the meeting to be the beginning of a mass movement.

Denouncing the Communists for their mismanagement of the strike and accusing them of responsibility for the defeat of the main lines of the strike, the assembled cloakmakers adopted a resolution calling upon the strike leaders to resign and requesting the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to take charge of the situation and bring about a settlement with the jobbers and the submanufacturers. The resolution condemned the Communist Party, its agents and its press "for employing conspicuous means to usurp power in the union and to use it for their political purposes, thus destroying the foundations on which a union must rest."

The action taken by the meeting followed speeches by members of the rank and file accusing the Communist strike leaders of betraying the workers to the Communist Party in whose interests the strike was conducted. A proposal to send a committee to President Sigman and Vice-President Dubinsky, who at that hour were at the final session of the meeting of the General Executive Board at Hotel Continental, was carried by acclamation and a committee of twenty-five cloakmakers was at once dispatched to invite these leaders to address the Cooper Union meeting.

Both President Sigman and Vice-president Dubinsky received a tumultuous ovation as they entered the hall. (Continued on Page 2)

White Goods Workers Have Dance This Saturday

All preparations for the Reunion Dance being given by the White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62 are now complete. The dance will be held Saturday evening, December 11th, at Washington Irving High School, 16th Street and Irving Place, under the auspices of the local Educational Committee. A good dance orchestra has been engaged and there is every indication of a record attendance and a

jolly get-together. Numbers may still obtain tickets if they call immediately at the office of the local, No. 117 Second Avenue.

Invitations have been sent out to those girls who were formerly members of the local and who may now be working in open shops, so that the dance will afford an opportunity for them to keep up their contact with the Union and its activities.

**S. NIEGER BEGINS SERIES OF
THREE LECTURES ON LITER-
ARY AND THEATRE CRITICISM
on Friday, December 10, 7:45 P. M.,
at McKinley Square Garden, 1258
Boston Road, Bronx. Topic will be—
WHY DO WE NEED THE CRITIC?**

G. E. B. Meeting Condemns Cloak Strike Leadership

(Continued from Page 1)

and struck the foundation from it. Notwithstanding the fact that the strike finds itself now in the midst of the dull season; that both the international and all its subsidiary organizations have been drained to the last cent by the extravagant manner in which this strike had been conducted, and the slim prospects of getting a satisfactory agreement from the jobbers at this late hour,—the G. E. B. is ready to take the risk in order to serve the cloakmakers and take over the strike jointly with a committee of cloakmakers who are on strike, strikers who are free from any political party or clique domination, and to pull the Union out of this calamity. There must, however, be one condition to this: the present blundering leaders of what remains of the strike, with very few exceptions, should take their hands off the entire situation."

Philadelphia Delegation Registers Bitter Protest Against Communist Malignant Charges

On that same day, the General Executive Board received and gave a hearing to a committee of Philadelphia cloakmakers, which consisted of Morris Donsky, for 32 years a member of the cloakmakers' union of that

city and for years blacklisted by the Philadelphia manufacturers; George Rubin, who had suffered imprisonment for union activity; Sarah Greenberg, Beckie Stein, Louis Porter and L. Dubnow,—all true and tried members of the International Union. In vivid, burning words they told how the Communists of New York and of Philadelphia have for months tried to besmirch the good name of the Philadelphia cloakmakers' organization imputing to it charges of scabbery and disloyalty—all because the Philadelphia Joint Board would not accept Communist leadership and chose to remain a trade union organization. The members of the General Executive Board were deeply stirred by the account of the Philadelphia Committee.

The committee further told the Board that all the Philadelphia shops today employ only 354 workers. Each shop had been thoroughly investigated since the New York strike broke out and kept under most vigilant control. Some employers, against whom charges of working for New York, were lodged were fined heavily. If the New York leadership of the strike would have done one-third of the work done by the Philadelphia Union to control the strike against scabbery the strike would have been in far better shape.

Cooper Union

(Continued from Page 1)

President Sigman being carried to the platform on the shoulders of a score of workers. He was wildly cheered when he called upon the cloakmakers to drive the Communists from the union and restore the organization to its old standing as a bona fide labor union. Max Huestein and Nicholas Kurzman, two workers who addressed the meeting, called upon the I. L. G. U. W. to take over the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Unions and to put an end immediately to the Communist rule in the union.

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New Address of Pressers Local 35

The Cloak, Skirt and Dress Pressers' Local No. 35, has removed its offices from 228—2nd Avenue to

10 East 22nd Street

Its new telephone number is Ashland 5774-5775

For communication with Local 35, refer to this new address and telephone number.

J. GORETSKY, Manager

Canadian Trade Unions Fight To Make Picketing Legal

I. L. G. U. Toronto Joint Board Active in Pushing Legislation

Readers of "Justice" will probably recall that the decision of the Canadian Supreme Court declaring strike picketing illegal was one of the outstanding subjects on the agenda of the last convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress. It is a decision that strikes straight at the very heart of union activity in the Dominion and threatens to wipe out the labor movement in Canada. Small wonder the trade unions of Canada are greatly aroused over this decision and, under the leadership of the Trades and Labor Congress, are planning to make a strong effort to change the law, by abolishing the anti-picket section in the old code.

The Executive Council of the Trades Congress has arranged with Mr. MacKenzie King, premier of Canada, and with Mr. La Fontaine, Minister of Justice in the Dominion, for a hearing on December 16 on this subject. It is also being planned that organized labor appear before a special session of Parliament to request that the provision in the old code be abolished and a new clause embodied in the Federal Constitution declaring peaceful picketing legal.

At the invitation of Tom Moore, the president of the Canadian Trades Congress, Mrs. Sol Polakoff, manager of the Toronto Joint Board, will be present at the hearing before Premier King in Ottawa.

Cloak Strikers' Wives Committees To Be Continued

Women's Groups Give Effective Aid

A conference representing the women's committees from the various parts of the city took place this Monday, November 29, at 67 Lexington Avenue, to report on their activity in the cloak strike to date.

The movement to organize the wives of cloakmakers to help in the strike was started about seven weeks ago. Women's groups have since then been formed in all parts of the city, which have done some valuable work in connection with the strike. The women's committees visited the homes of ac-

tual or suspected strikebreakers and dealt with them to quit their ugly work. In instances where persuasion was of no avail, the women staged demonstrations in front of the homes of these blacklegs. Some of the women also took part in the picketing in the garment center, and many of them, when arrested, accepted workhouse sentences rather than pay fines.

The conference on Monday last decided that the activities undertaken by the women are to go on until the strike against the jobbers had been won by the Union.

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Committee for Preservation of Trade Unions to Have Conference on December 21

Will War on Communist Party Activity in Labor Unions

Calling for unremitting war against Communism within the trade unions, representatives of organized labor announced this week the organization of the Committee for the Preservation of Trade Unions. At the same time, they made public a call issued by the committee to all trade union bodies of New York City and vicinity to attend a general conference to "consider plans for the complete elimination of Communists from the labor movement." The conference will be held Tuesday, December 21st, at Bethoven Hall, 210 East 5th Street, at 7:30 P.M.

"We call for war upon Communist disloyalty," the statement of the committee declares. "We call for the workers in all unions to unite against the infernal enemy, the Communist. This division between the trade union movement and the Communist adventurers must be definitely established."

Coming on the heels of the announced intention of the Trade Union Educational League, the trade union wing of the Communist Party, to hold a convention here January 1st, the organization of the Committee for the Preservation of the Trade Unions indicates a sharpening of the issues between the official trade union movement and the Communist "brosers from within." The signers of the conference call declared that their move does not mean that the Communists are particularly strong at this time.

"The fact is that the Communist interlopers in the trade unions are now as powerful as ever," said former Alderman Abraham Beckman, manager of the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and one of the signers of the conference call. "Except in the furriers and cloakmakers' unions, locally, they are without power or prestige. In all other unions we have succeeded in isolating them and stamping them out. In the furriers and cloakmakers' unions, the Communists have proved their own undoing, though the workers in the industries, not their Communist leaders, have been the sufferers. The Communists are on the run. Within a short time all that will be left of them will be a bad memory. It is to facilitate their demise, to minimize the amount of danger they can add to their long record of wreckage that our Committee has organized and called a general trade union conference."

The provisional executive committee, which signed the conference call, has established headquarters at 7 East 15th Street. At its office, it was stated that its move has the full backing of organized labor. Speakers high in the councils of the American Federation of Labor will address the Bethoven Hall conference on the 21st, it was said. The signers of the conference

call are Mr. Beckerman, Louis D. Berger, manager, United Neckwear Workers; Samuel A. Boardley, president, Jewelry Workers' District Council; Samuel Herskowitz, manager, Joint Council of Cap and Millinery Workers; Morris Feinstein, secretary, United Hebrew Trades; Rose Schneiderman, Women's Trade Union League; and Abraham I. Shipiloff, manager, International Leather Goods Workers. That the newly formed committee and the conference will lend its aid to the International officials of the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in their fight to wipe out the Communists who led the recent lost strike in the local market, was indicated in the conference call, which said:

"Taking advantage of industrial depression, the Communists were successful in gaining control in some organizations. Two organizations in particular that they have taken over are the Furriers and Cloakmakers of New York City. They immediately threw them into long and bloody strikes, starving the workers of those industries, ruining the industries, and finally making settlements that completely betrayed the membership of those unions. By the use of their press they glorified their failures. By the use of terrorist methods they are attempting to stifle the opposition of the enraged members. Workers everywhere have now had ample opportunity to study their methods and ability. The time has come when the preservation of the trade unions demands the expulsion of these elements from offices and control."

PASSAIC TEXTILE STRIKERS APPEAL FOR NATION-WIDE SUPPORT OF 8-DAY BAZAAR

The striking textile workers of Passaic and vicinity, who are now in the tenth month of their big strike and have, recently won one of the nine struck mills and forced the others to offer concessions which, however have been turned down because not including union recognition, are again appealing to organized labor and its sympathizers to help them put over one of their big efforts to raise funds to buy food and milk for themselves and their children and enable them to hold the fort until the other mills follow the example of the Passaic Worsted Spinning Company and settle with their striking workers.

Under the auspices of the Passaic Central Trades and Labor Council, the General Relief Committee Textile Strikers, and Passaic Local No. 1602, U. T. W., the strikers have arranged a great eight day New Jersey State Bazaar to be held in the strike zone. The bazaar opens next Saturday evening, December 11, at Kapter's Auditorium, this city, and will continue

UNION HEALTH CENTER COLUMN

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt and Dress Industries is to have a meeting on Monday, November 29. This is the first meeting for quite a number of months as there were no meetings held during the strike period.

The strike in the cloak and suit industry has greatly interfered, of course, with the work of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control. However, the two pieces of work done by the Board during the summer and fall were (1) an inspection of 784 buildings in Manhattan, in which the shops of the trade are located, and (2) a regular inspection of all the shops in the Dress Industry and such shops in the Cloak and Suit Industry as have made individual settlements with the Union.

As far as the conditions of the buildings are concerned, there is a steady improvement in the character of these buildings, the lessening of fire dangers and a better control by the Fire Department of fire prevention. Of course, there was found quite a number of buildings, 648, with only one stairway and 528 with one fire-escape. There were but 78 buildings found with insufficient exits and 45 buildings with unenclosed stairways. In 266 of the buildings, fire-drills are conducted twice by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, the Fire Department, or others. Where conditions were considered unsafe, reports were made to the proper authorities.

The results of the October and November inspection of the shops in the Dress Industry disclosed 1,710 shops inspected, with 23,624 persons working therein. Of the shops inspected,

2,418 belong to the Association of Dress Manufacturers, with 7,280 persons working; there were 492 shops, with 7,390 persons working, which had independent agreements with the union—while 667 non-union shops were found, with 3,844 persons working therein. The number of non-union shops found this year is much less than that found last year; at that time there were 944.

It is interesting to note that in the 1,710 shops there were found 23,651 sewing machines.

The number of small shops is still very large, no less than 858 having less than 14 machines, 551, 14 to 29 machines. There were only 2 shops with more than 100 persons at work and 712 shops with 1 to 10 workers each.

Of the workers in the Dress Industry, 12,646 were operators, 4,192 finishers, 1,511 cutters, 2,416 pressers and 1,620 examiners, with 316 drapers and 574, basters, sample-makers, etc. Of the cloak and suit shops, there were only 586 examined, namely, those that made separate agreements with the Union, so-called "settled" shops. In these 586 shops, there were found 11,993 workers, with a total number of sewing machines of 8,467; 526 of these shops had less than 20 machines and only 12 shops had more than 50 workers. The vast majority of these shops had between 10 and 20 workers in each shop.

Of the nearly 12,000 workers in these settled shops, there were 6,116 operators, 496 tailors, 2,469 finishers, 839 cutters, 1,625 pressers, 316 examiners, and 102 others.

LOCAL 38 GAVE \$2,417.73 TO CLOAK STRIKERS

As a result of the four-hour work assessment levied by Local 38 on all its members some four weeks, the ladies' tailors' organization collected and sent over to the strike committee the sum of \$2,417.73. The local expects to collect some more money in the next few days for cloak relief.

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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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EDITORIALS

THE STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

The statement issued last week by the General Executive Board, printed in last issue of "Justice," and which in a few days will be mailed to every member of the International Union all over the country, is a document of first-rate importance, a historic declaration that should be studied with utmost care by every man and woman belonging to our organization.

It appears at a moment when our members, stunned by the terrific blow they have received as a result of the outcome of the cloak strike in New York, and boiling with indignation over the terrible mismanagement of this strike by its Communist leaders and directors, are searching for an answer to this calamity which has befallen their organization and are seeking light and guidance that would lead them out of the morass into which the political adventurers have dragged them.

The searching analysis contained in the G. E. B.'s statement supplies this light abundantly. It lifts the curtain over the New York cloakmakers' tragedy and exposes mercilessly the hypocrisy, insincerity and blatant incompetence which its principal actors, the Communist camarilla, have displayed from the first day they became the masters of the destiny of the 35,000 cloakmakers involved in it.

Our readers must keep in mind that the statement issued by the General Executive Board is all the more timely because the Communist directors of the cloak strike and of the Joint Board have started, within the last two weeks, a new sinister and provocative campaign on the International Union, attempting in a reckless manner to throw up a barrage of falsehood and vituperation over their own dismal failures and mismanagement, obviously in the hope that they might once again succeed in pulling the wool over the eyes of the cloakmakers and stem the tide that threatens to sweep them out of position of leadership in the cloakmakers' organization. To check this sinister propaganda and to cut off their retreat, now that they are trying to run under cover, the General Executive Board decided that it owes a sacred duty to the cloakmakers and to the labor movement as a whole to nail the Communist lie in an open and candid statement addressed to the entire membership and to indict before the whole world the political crew which has all but destroyed the finest and best organized section of the International Union in New York City.

In its indictment of the Communist leaders of the cloak strike, the General Executive Board wants every member of the International to know, first of all, that the sole responsible leaders of the cloak strike in New York have been and still are the present administrators of the Joint Board, led and inspired in every one of their major and minor moves by Community Party politicians. This declaration is especially valuable in view of the fact that all during the strike, the under-cover agents of the Communists have been assiduously spreading the misinformation in the halls and on cloak market corners that President Sigman and other non-Communist leaders are in charge of the strike strategy and policy and that they are, therefore, to be held responsible for all its consequences.

The statement of the General Executive Board flatly puts an end to these insinuations. The cloak strike was led, officered and directed by Communists, along the lines of Communist strategy and for the glory of their cause and slogans. Communists were at the head of nearly all the important committees of the strike, and wherever a non-Communist was put on a committee, he was surrounded by a host of "commissioners" and Communist spies who lurked behind his every step and move and thwarted every independent action on his part.

True, throughout the long agonizing months of the strike, the officers of the International Union and all other active non-Communists in the Union have co-operated faithfully with the leadership of the strike "to the extent they were permitted to co-operate." They have endeavored, as good and honest trade unionists, to do their share of the work of the strike, despite the galling atmosphere of obstruction and sabotage with which the Communists have surrounded them. For the same reason the officers of the International have all during the strike abstained from publicly denouncing the destructive tactics of the strike leadership, fearing that, no matter how merited, such declarations, while the active fight was on, might aggravate the already woeful situation of the strike.

The statement directly charges the leaders of the cloak strike with having sabotaged the strike against the jobbers and with having ditched overboard the principal issues for which the workers were called out on this strike, and that in a planless, messy

way they had bungled up the entire strike line and confused the whole purpose of the fight. It sums up the gains and losses acquired by the cloakmakers from the settlement with the Industrial Council in one terse illuminating phrase—that the strikers have got less after 20 weeks of fighting than what was offered to them voluntarily a half a year ago.

The statement further indicts the Communist leaders for having provoked the strike without real authorization from the members who never were given an opportunity to vote for or against it, despite the promise made by these leaders several weeks before the strike that they would conduct a referendum vote to decide whether a strike should be called or not. This is the first time in the history of the Cloakmakers' Union that a strike of such proportions was called out without a direct sanction of the members. The Communist leaders would not let the cloakmakers decide whether they wanted a strike, because this strike was decided for them long in advance by the Communist Trade Union "Educational" League, long before the Governor's Commission had made its recommendations, and would have been called no matter what concessions the Commission would have granted the workers.

There are several other important points which the statement of the General Executive Board clears up, points that cloakmakers should have in mind so that they might be able to answer some of the lying charges which the Communists are spreading about the strike.

The Communist directors of the strike, for instance, are broadcasting a claim that President Sigman was not opposed to calling the strike. On the basis of this allegation they are now trying to shift part of the responsibility for its failure on the leadership of the International. In true Communist fashion they, however, are distorting facts and hiding essentials. The statement of the G. E. B. brings out the fact that before the strike was called, President Sigman urged the leaders of the Joint Board "not to plunge the cloakmakers into a general strike with all the employers' associations in the industry, without first attempting to negotiate an agreement on the basis of the Governor's Commission's recommendations." If a satisfactory agreement through negotiations, President Sigman pointed out to them time and again, were obtained with one important group of employers, the "inside" manufacturer, it would give the Union an excellent strategic chance to concentrate its strength and wage a winning fight against the jobbers. And a victory against the jobbers would justify every sacrifice the workers might be called upon to bring, because the jobber-submanufacturer problem is the Union's chief concern and its principal fighting issue.

The Communists are also trying to defend themselves against the charge that they had settled in a haphazard way with hundreds upon hundreds of individual firms, sending 16,000 workers back to the shops before a settlement was reached with any of the important employers' associations, and jeopardizing thereby the success of the strike. They assert that if they had settled with the Industrial Council and sent back the cloakmakers working in the "inside" shops, the results would have been the same. This counter-claim, however, will not fool any cloakmaker. Our workers know that the Union, if it settled with the "inside" manufacturers, could have exercised control over the "inside" shops to see that no work in them is made for the jobbers; our workers also know that the members of the Industrial Council were very much interested that the jobbers obtain no garments while the strike lasted, and they certainly would not voluntarily have helped the jobbers to turn out their orders. But it was quite a different affair in the large number of sub-manufacturer and so-called independent shops, where hardly any control was carried out and where in the nature of things such a control is extremely difficult. There the mass settlements produced—what could have logically been expected—scab production on a huge scale that played splendidly into the hands of the jobbers and stiffened their opposition to the Union's demands.

The G. E. B.'s statement emphasizes the point that, thanks to the blundering strategy of the present administrators of the Joint Board, the cloakmaker strike has from its start alienated from itself public sympathy and public support. This antagonism showed itself clearly in the manner the strike had been treated in the press and in the way public opinion in general all but ignored it. In this connection, it is worth while recalling to our members that all the great conflicts waged by the cloakmakers under the leadership of our International in the past—the cloak strike of 1910, 1916, 1919 and 1921 and the other struggles in the dress and allied industries—have always had public sentiment on their side, a factor of great importance and a source of unmistakable strength.

But the Communists in charge of this strike gambled away this asset as they had trifled with and ignored every other element that could have added strength to the cloakmakers' fight, as they alienated and persecuted every other group that would not bow to their dictation and would not conform to their political faith. Public opinion and public support be damned so long as the Communist Party is pleased!

And now, after having placed this indictment of erratic and unpardonable sacrifice of the interests and of the issues of the cloak strike by its Communist directors before the membership of the International Union, the General Executive Board leaves the verdict for the jury of the tens of thousands of our workers who for tens of years have bled and sacrificed and toiled to build up an organization that would serve their interests—not a mere tail to the Communist kite.

And when this verdict is rendered by the aroused masses of the Cloakmakers' Union, we are confident it will carry but one

Wastes In Distribution

(Facts for Workers)

The distance by direct rail from Underhill to Bayonne, N. J., is a little over thirteen miles. A freight train can make it in well under an hour. The Port Authority of New York tells of a car of linseed oil routed from Underhill to Bayonne, charge of a certain railroad. In order to keep the freight revenue in its clutches, the car actually traveled 179 miles, and took four days in transit from the first town to the second. Another car routed from Underhill to Keansburg, a distance of forty-two miles, traveled 187 miles in reaching its destination. During the war, the Fuel Administration saved 166,000,000 car miles by "zoning" coal, that is, by making deliveries from the nearest mine. England, by the same unified procedure, saved 700,000,000 ton miles. With the return of "normalcy," these savings collect. In 1920 coal for the army costing \$2.80 a ton at the mine, passed through the hands of four jobbers and was routed all over the map before the army finally secured it at a price of \$11 a ton. "Coal cars move into Chicago and out, and back to Chicago, like dice in a gambling game."

The Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture reports for the Boston market the arrival of eggs from China, peaches from Africa, fruits and vegetables from Argentina and lettuce shipped 3,000 miles across the continent from the Imperial Valley in California. Yet he points out that all these products are grown, or can be grown, in New England. Mr. Walter N. Polakow, industrial engineer, tells the story of the brass industry. "Brass manufacturing is centered in Connecticut towns like Waterbury and Ansonia. Essential copper is shipped to these places from Arizona after it is smelted and refined in New Jersey. Then it is manufactured into hardware and shipped in enormous quantities back to automobile factories in Michigan and elsewhere. All the shipping and trans-shipping puts a useless burden on the railroads and adds unnecessary cost to the goods."

In the early dawn, the streets of any American city awake to the clatter of milk wagons. Here they come, perhaps six or eight of them, one after another along the same street. Each stops at frequent intervals, often before the same apartment doorway, and clatters up the same stairway. One wagon fully loaded, one delivery man with a full tray, could serve the whole street in only a little more time than it takes the whole fleet to do it now—at a cost of a half, a third, or less, of the present distribution burden. In the Rochester Milk Survey, it was found that the milk wagons in use traveled a combined total of 447 miles a day, where a unified delivery system would require only 28.1 miles, or 8 per cent of the competitive total. In one section of the city, 272 homes were supplied by 27 dealers traveling 25 miles in the aggregate, where one dealer could have served the lot traveling not more than 7.6 miles. The survey concluded that a unified system of distribution would cut the cost 66 percent, save \$50,000 a year, and reduce milk prices by at least 2 cents a quart.

The annual advertising bill of the single mandate—succinctly expressed in the closing words of the message of the General Executive Board:

"The great task before the cloakmakers of New York at this time is to rid themselves of that irresponsible and ruinous leadership and to concentrate their whole strength and energy in the effort to rebuild the Union under sane and sensible leadership and to regain its former power and standing for the true benefit of the men and women who work at the trade."

United States is estimated at about \$1,300,000,000—roughly the labor power of over 600,000 workers, direct and indirect. As consumers, this great total affects us in three ways; first, it increases the cost of goods by approximately the total amount of the advertising bill; secondly, it adds tremendously to the cost by encouraging competitively the cross-hauling—particularly through national advertising which forces a cross road of coops, refrigerators, automobiles, vacuum cleaners, paints and varnishes, all over the map; thirdly, and most important of all, advertisers have developed a skilled technique of "sales forcing," by means of which they lead the consumer around by the nose, loading him down with stuff he neither wants nor needs, and so diverting an enormous labor power away from the manufacture of sound goods into the making of swank, glitter and junk. We are made to feel that without a certain tooth powder all our teeth will fall out and our gums go into bankruptcy; without a certain soap, the pretty girl at the dance will give her arm to the other man; without a set of hooks in half Morocco we can never shine in polite society; without a certain course (ten easy lessons, send-no-money) we can never develop our personalities and get a raise from the boss; without about twice as much insurance as we can possibly afford our wives and children will surely starve to death; without this beautiful set of plush furniture, the neighbors are going to mark us down as a total loss; without this elegant coffin, and this lot in an exclusive cemetery, we can never save our self-respect. From cradle to the grave the attack never ceases, and month by month it grows more subtle, more arrogant, more convincing. And nine-tenths of what they have to sell us could either be bought at a fraction of the price, if we forewent the splendor of the package; or has been found to be positive junk and worse when passed through laboratories for analysis by careful scientists. Ask the Bureau of Standards at Washington, the American Medical Association, the Bureau of Chemistry, about the value in terms of cost and performance of many nationally advertised products.

Of all wastes in distribution, and there are many of them, none can touch the staggering charge which competitive advertising is responsible for. Advertising has many slogans—"I'd walk a mile," "Four out of five," "It floats," "Happiness in every box," "You just know she wears em"—but the slogan at the bottom of it all is, "There's a sucker born every minute."

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the chairmen of Staywest Casino, at our meeting of November 22nd, express our deepest appreciation to Brother Solomon, Hall Chairman, and to J. Lipnick, Hall Secretary, for their devoted and tireless work during our strike. Especially do we appreciate the spirit of true brotherly feeling which marked their actions all the time we worked together during our great struggle.

I. GRENNER, Chairman

Trouble With Mexico

By NORMAN THOMAS

It is high time that the American people should decide how far they need to let the government go in its effort to make Mexico safe for American dollars. Secretary of State, Nervous Nellie Kellogg, valiant protector of his country against Countess Károlyi and Madame Keleny, virtually threatens Mexico with withdrawal of recognition unless it modifies its laws on property to suit our investors. Two questions suggest themselves which must be answered:

1. What are the laws against which Secretary Kellogg protests so vehemently? They are laws intended to restore Mexico to the Mexicans. In particular they require: (a) That foreign landowners who now possess property anywhere within 100 kilometers on the borders of Mexico may hold them only during their lives and that on their death their heirs must sell them to Mexican citizens. (b) Foreign companies holding stock in Mexican companies must dispose of their interests in excess of 49 per cent—that is, surrender control to Mexican citizens within ten years. (c) Owners of oil wells, even those who acquired title prior to the adoption of the Constitution of 1917, must apply within one year for confirmation of title and exchange absolute ownership for fifty year concessions.

In judging these laws one must remember the constant conflict which has existed between Mexico and foreign exploiters who today own by far the major part of her vast natural resources. One must remember also the strength of national feeling and the necessity that Mexico is under to bring the citizens of powerful nations into obedience of her laws if her own revolution is to be secured. It cannot be said that in general the laws are oppressive. The land law is scarcely more than a regulation of inheritance which is within the power of any government. As for the oil law everybody knows that existing Mexican oil wells will be exhausted before fifty years are up. It is highly significant, that British and Dutch oil interests, which usually know perfectly well on which side their bread is buttered are consenting to this law.

In any case, wise or foolish, these laws are within the power of the Mexican people to enact. To hold otherwise is to hold that the rights of private property are superior to the rights of the people in the country in which private property is held.

2. Supposing the United States government in its devotion to property interests withdraws recognition from the Calles government, what then? No intervention from Washington that no intervention is contemplated. We should hope not. But short of intervention will our withdrawal of recognition make the Calles government change the law? On the contrary, its logical effect will be to stiffen the backbone of the Mexican government; and forced it to friendship with British and Dutch interests rather than with the Americans.

American business will not like that. It is therefore obvious that unless Secretary Kellogg is a more stupid legalist than we think him the withdrawal of recognition will be accompanied by an unspoken yet well understood hope that it will encourage revolution. Perhaps withdrawal of recognition will, even be accompanied by a removal of the present embargo on the shipment of arms.

Both in the United States and in Mexico there will be some revolution any sentiment. The conflict with the Catholic hierarchy will enter into the

picture. The only effect, however, of such a revolution will be once more to drive Mexico into confusion and interrupt progress she has begun to make. There is no certainty that any government which may be established can win popular support and at the same time satisfy our rapacious investors. The most notable effect of revolution will be to increase the cry for further American interference.

All this means that whether or not we contemplate intervention the withdrawal of recognition is the first step toward armed intervention. And that in Mexico means more than a landing of the Marines. Does any sober man want to take that first step? Do Americans want to shed blood for the sake of the profits of rich Americans or to reassert the political and economic power of the Roman Catholic Church power in Mexico at the awful price of war? Do Americans want to establish a protectorate at such cost over another country which is painfully trying to work out its own problems? Not only would such an action be a crime, it would for an indefinite period of years bedevil our own political and social life. Not the most energetic workship of the great god, Profit, can deny the dangers we have pointed out. It is for us to keep a stupid legalism or a blind greed for profit from driving us into the abyss of Mexican war. The time to begin is now before recognition of the Calles government is withdrawn.

More About China

At last the delegates of the twelve powers headed by the American, Sigsbee, have reported on the reasons why they cannot now recommend the abolition of extraterritoriality that is, the right of foreigners to be tried by their own courts—in China. They point to war and confusion in China, the contempt of the military for civil courts, the condition of prisons, etc. What they apparently forget is how much the existence of extraterritoriality and other unequal concessions to foreigners has had to do with creating this unfortunate situation in China. Every foreign settlement is a haven of refuge for militarists although recent despatches indicate that the British in Tientsin do not extend uniform protection to those who flee to their jurisdiction but have surrendered fourteen members of the Kuo Min Tang to their enemies.

This same Kuo Min Tang seems to be the hope of China. It is a Nationalist Party which had its origin in Canton in the days of the Sun Yat Sen. It has a radical but by no means a Communist program. Its general Chiang Kai Shek, has won notable victories in Central China where he is preserving order far more decently than the militarists whom he defeated. Russia is friendly to Kuo Min Tang for her own reasons. America ought to take a similar attitude. It is quite likely that the power of the Kuo Min Tang, rather than the solemn resolutions of the Powers, will determine what is done in China. The Kuo Min Tang hates extraterritoriality and is pledged to abolish it. At the same time it is also pledged to a reform of Chinese courts and a fair treatment to foreign missionaries and business men. It will be a pity if our American government under British influence should oppose the Kuo Min Tang on the slim pretext that it is Bolshevist. On this point every labor union, every farmers' organization should back up Senator Borah's plea for justice to China, for friendship with her without the intervention of gunboats, soldiers or Marines.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Educational Season in Phila. Opened.

On Wednesday, December 8th, hundreds of members representing the I. L. G. W. U. local unions in Philadelphia assembled in the auditorium of the Labor Institute, 810 Locust St., and celebrated the re-opening of the educational season in that city.

For this occasion a fine concert was arranged in which took part Ray Porter Miller, New York coloratura soprano, and Barney Brant, violinist, with Cecily Kaplan at the piano. The audience expressed their appreciation of the artists' performance by prolonged applause and demands for encores.

After the concert, A. J. Muste of Brookwood lectured on "The History of Civilization". A short address was made by Brother Israel Mufson, secretary of the Philadelphia Labor College, who is cooperating with the Joint Educational Committee of the Philadelphia locals in arranging their educational program. Mufson promised the assistance of the Labor College in helping to make this work a success.

Brother Porter, Chairman of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union greeted the assembled in the name of his organization and urged them to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity offered them by our International. He expressed his satisfaction that so many members with their families responded to the invitation of the Joint Educational Committee and came to the opening celebration.

WHAT TO READ

"The Jungle", "Looking Backward", "News From Nowhere" at Reduced Prices

Professor Holloway in his course on American Literature has recommended to the group to read Bellamy's "Looking Backward", Sinclair's "The Jungle", and William Morris' "News From Nowhere".

These books are published by the Vanguard Press and are very nicely done for 50 cents a copy. Our Educational Department is selling these books for the next few weeks at greatly reduced prices.

Sinclair's famous novel "The Jungle" has often been compared to "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the influence that its first publication wielded over political and industrial affairs in America. Although its message is unmistakable, it tells a story of compelling interest and dramatic intensity. "The Jungle" has been translated in 17 languages and is known the world over as a masterpiece of realistic fiction.

Hundreds of thousands of copies of "Looking Backward" have been sold. Written in 1888, it was the first American Utopia that combined in fiction form the possibilities of science with the popular conception of State Socialism. Great ingenuity and inventiveness characterize the book, which embodies a long story quite apart from its sociological message.

"News from Nowhere" is a proclamation in which we have a vision of an ideal society where men work for the love of working and express themselves through beauty in the form of arts and crafts. Morris believed an era of fellowship and happiness would open up if society were reconstructed on a Socialist basis. "News from Nowhere" must have been a joy to write and is certainly a joy to read.

These books together with about 30 others published by the Vanguard Press, may be obtained from our Educational Department at reduced prices.

A telegram of greetings was read from Pannia M. Osh, executive secretary of the Educational Department, in which she expressed the hope that Philadelphia members would avail themselves in large numbers of the educational opportunities offered them by their Union. She continued: "Organization and education will help the workers in their struggle for a better and fuller life and for a form of society where the workers will enjoy the fruits of their labor."

Brother Abraham Bloomfield presided. He pointed out, in a thoughtful talk, the important role the I. L. G. W. U. has played in the movement for Workers' Education, and emphasized the need and importance of an intelligent and well-informed membership. The educational program in Philadelphia is as follows:

A. J. Muste's course of three lessons on the "History of Civilization" will be continued Wednesday, December 15. This will be followed by a course in English Literature to be started by Robert Kerlin on Wednesday, December 22. These courses will be given at 8 P. M. in the Labor Institute, 810 Locust Street.

Friday evenings, at 7:30 classes in intermediate and advanced English conducted by Bertha Greenberg. At 8:30 Robert Morley conducts a class in Labor Problems. These are given at Local 50 headquarters, 52 North 10th Street.

For further information apply to Sister Ada Rosenfeld, secretary of Local 50, 52 North 10th Street, or to Sister Beekie Stein at the Cloakmakers' Union, 810 Locust Street.

LECTURE ON "OUR CHANGING MORALITY" FOR LOCAL NO. 91

Monday, December 13, 6 P. M. Sharp, 7 East 15th Street

Dr. Theresa Wolfson will discuss "Our Changing Morality" at the headquarters of Local 91, 7 East 15th St., on Monday, December 13, 6 P. M. This has been much discussed lately by prominent writers, but they included only professional and business women.

Dr. Wolfson will describe the changing conception of the status and attitude of men and women as it affects working people in particular and the Labor Movement in general.

This will be the third of a series of lectures given for the members of the Children's and Housewives' Union, Local 91.

The fourth lecture will be given on Monday, December 27. The topic will be announced later.

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

LECTURE ON "HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION" IN PHILADELPHIA

A. J. Muste of Brookwood will lecture on the "History of Civilization" in the headquarters of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 50, at 52 North 10th Street, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, December 8, at 8 P. M. He will continue the discussion the following week, Wednesday, Dec. 15.

For detailed information members may apply to secretary Ada Rosenfeld at Local 50, or Miss Beekie Stein in the office of the Philadelphia Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union, 810 Locust Street.

Weekly Educational Calendar

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

Saturday, December 11

1:30 p.m. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature.

Carl Sandburg.

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

Sunday, December 12

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

Saturday, December 18

1:30 p.m. B. J. R. Stolper—Social Tendencies in Literature. "Yiddish Literature a Lively Invalid."

EXTENSION DIVISION

McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

Friday, December 10—17

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

Headquarters Local 91, 7 E. 15th St.

Monday, December 13

6 p.m. Dr. Theresa Wolfson—"Our Changing Morality"

UNITY CENTERS

East Side Unity Center.....P. S. 25, 325 E. 5th St., Manhattan
Waismakers' Unity Center.....P. S. 40, 320 E. 20th St., Manhattan
Harlem Unity Center.....P. S. 72, Lexington Ave. at 105th St., Manhattan
Bronx Unity Center.....P. S. 54, Freeman St. and Intervale Ave., Bronx
Brownsville Unity Center.....P. S. 43, Brown Place and 135th St., Bronx
Brooklyn Unity Center.....P. S. 150, Christopher Ave. & Sackman St., Brooklyn

EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

P. S. 25, Room 410, 330 East 5th St.

Tuesday, December 14

8:30 p.m. Dr. Theresa Wolfson—Happenings in the Social and Labor World

HARLEM UNITY CENTER

P. S. 72, Room 406, Lexington Ave. at 105th St.,
Wednesday, December 15

8:30 p.m. Alexander Fichandler—How to Learn to "Think Straight"

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Friday, December 10

Local 50 Headquarters, 52 North 10th St.

7:30 p.m. Bertha Greenberg—Intermediate English.

8:30 p.m. Robert Morley—Labor Problems

Wednesday, December 15

810 Locust Street

8 p.m. A. J. Muste—History of Civilization.

Wednesday, December 22

8 p.m. Robert Kerlin—English Literature.

UNITY REUNION DANCE

Saturday, February 12, Lincoln's Birthday, Ballroom Manhattan Opera House

Much interest is being shown by our members and friends in the Unity Reunion Dance. Groups are planning to spend this evening together in sociability and good fellowship. The famous Paul Whiteman band will supply the music.

Reserve Lincoln's Birthday, Saturday, February 12 for this occasion. For further information apply at Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

S. NIEGER WILL LECTURE IN THE BRONX THIS FRIDAY, DEC. 10

S. Nigier, the celebrated critic, will begin a series of three lectures on "Yiddish Literature and Theatre Criticism", tonight, Friday, December 10, 7:45 P. M. in McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx.

The topic of the first lecture will be "Why Do We Need the Critic?" This will be a discussion of the importance of criticism, what it offers to the reader and its value to the writer.

These discussions will be continued Friday, December 17 and 24. The topics will be "Various Kinds of Criticism" and "The Difference Be-

tween Literary and Theatre Criticism".

This series will be followed (1) by a course of three lessons on "The Economic Basis of Modern Civilization" by A. Fichandler, (2) "Social Psychology."

GREGORY MATUSEWICH WILL GIVE A RECITAL IN TOWN HALL, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 26

Gregory Matusewicz, virtuoso of the English concertina, will give his third recital at Town Hall, Sunday, December 26, 3 P. M. He will give an excellent program with the well known pianist Yasha Samois, his accompanist. He will also be assisted by Leon Cortilli, tenor.

Mr. Matusewicz is well known to our members who heard him at First of May concerts, and at strikers' entertainments.

We suggest to our members to attend this recital as we are sure it will be an artistic treat.

Tickets may be obtained at the office of our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

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.

Annual Report of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22

November 18, 1926

To the Members of the Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 22:

Greetings:

We herewith submit a report of the activities of the Executive Board from November, 1925, to November, 1926, in reporting on the activities of the Executive Board for the past year, we wish to state that never before in the history of our Union was any administration faced with as many difficulties as was the outgoing executive board.

When we assumed the responsibilities of office, it was not merely a simple change of administration, but a far more difficult task. We were faced with the problem of rebuilding the organization, shattered by many months of bitter internal strife. The number of union shops decreased so rapidly that at times it seemed as though it was a hopeless task to check this decrease. Standards and working conditions were lowered. Discipline in the shops was destroyed with the result that the decrease in the membership of our local was even greater than the loss of shops.

Because of this state of affairs in the Joint Board, the administration of our local was compelled to devote a great deal of its energy not only to the administrative affairs of the local, but to the general work of the Union so as to hasten the rebuilding of our organization and save it from further demoralization. To fully explain the significance of this task it is but necessary to cite some figures about the number of shops under the control of our union before and after the internal struggle.

We have investigated the records of the Joint Board but unfortunately found no report of the number of shops under union control during the past three years. The only report at our disposal was one dated July, 1925, that is, the report immediately after the beginning of the Joint Action Committee fight. The number of shops at the main office, at that time, was 966. In the outlying districts the shops numbered 103, which together totaled 1069 shops.

We also found one report dated October 10, 1925, which gives the number of shops in the main office as 883, the outlying districts not having been mentioned at all. This report cannot be considered as reliable because of the fact that during the last two months prior to the date of the report the business agents had not visited any shops and it was therefore impossible to check up the number that had dropped out of the union. We have therefore compiled a record of shops which have dropped out from the month of July 1925 to December 31, 1925, with the result that during this time we find that our union had lost 357 shops and organized 134 new shops, which brings the number of lost shops down to 223. Of the shops gained 67 had been organized after the new administration took office. It is a well known fact that in the dress industry many of the shops go out of business yearly and it is necessary for that reason to carry on organization work continuously so as to keep up union control. However, at no time before has the union lost so many shops in the course of a few months. In 1925, for the same period, the number of shops that dropped out as compared with 1925, was 146, that is, 212 shops less. This rapid loss of shops would have been even greater had it not been for the organization drive initiated at the beginning of the spring season. The number of union shops in our industry today is 1022.

The total number of shops organ-

ized for the past year was 625.

Great as was the loss in the number of union shops, the loss in membership was even greater. When we took office, we found that 4700 members had dropped out of our local. It seemed as though the situation was entirely hopeless. While it is quite true that in Local No. 22 we have a yearly loss of about 2,500 members, in ordinary times such loss is made up by an equal number of new members. However, when nearly 5,000 members drop out of the Union in six months, it is a loss which cannot easily be made good. It was with great effort that this drain on our membership was checked, and about 4,000 members regained. The present standing of our local, according to our records, as well as those of the International, is 10,420.

Branch Meetings

Our branch meetings have been attended by thousands of members. This is a new and very encouraging feature in the activities of our Union. Of the thousands of members in our organization, no more than \$1,671.00 was collected for non-attendance of meetings for the entire year. A part of this sum was later returned when members attended two meetings during the three months' period. These figures prove that about 90 per cent of our members attended union meetings and are participating in the work of our organization. We take particular pride in having built up two English-speaking branches and they have brought closer to our Union the English-speaking element, which had hitherto been completely neglected. As a result of those branch meetings the English-speaking members are becoming more active as indicated by the fact that two of them have served on the Election and Objection Committee and one has been elected a member of our Executive Board.

(To be Continued)

Labor The World Over

Congress of the Dutch Federation of Labor

THE congress of the Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions was held at Utrecht from the 18th to the 21st of October. After considering various internal questions and adopting the annual report for 1924-1925, reporters addressed the delegates on various subjects, including the work and organization of women, the organization of young workers, the interest of the worker in good primary education, the protection of young workers, cultural work, etc.

The Congress instructed the Executive Committee to work energetically on behalf of various social measures. Careful watch must be kept that it shall not be made permissible, by some change in the labor laws, for children under 12 to work for wages. In respect of the founding of a Labor Bank, the Congress adopted the views expressed in the report of a joint commission representing the national centre and the Social Democratic Party, declaring that the establishment of a Labor Bank was not desirable for Holland.

Another important decision provides for an amendment of the Special Strike Fund Rules so as to enable the Centre to send financial assistance from the national strike fund to foreign centres appealing for assistance through the I. F. T. U. In such cases the amount sent may not exceed 10 per cent of the total strike fund at the moment; nor may the amount paid out from the strike fund in aid of foreign centres in one year exceed 50 per cent of the annual income of the fund. This decision will be seen to be a distinct step forward in respect of international trade union regulations for mutual assistance in case of conflicts, for it will enable the Dutch Federation practically to send assistance at once, without long administrative delay.

"Extortionate Rate of Interest"

INDUSTRIAL News, the official organ of the British Trade Union Congress refers in its latest number to the accusations made by the Communists in various countries in respect of the interest demanded by the German trade unions for the international loan.

It writes as follows: "Strong protests have been made by the Germans and Belgian trade union centers thru the International Federation of Trade Unions against Communist allegations that the German Trade Unions demanded interest of from 10 per cent to 11 per cent on the loans made to the British Trade Union Congress in response to the appeal of the latter for assistance in enabling the British Trade Unions to meet the extraordinary burdens imposed on them by the industrial situation. The actual rate of interest asked by the German Unions was 4½ per cent, considerably less than they could have received by putting out the money in the ordinary way in their own country."

The Growth of the "Free" Trade Union Centre of Argentina

THE national trade union centre of Argentina which is affiliated with the I. F. T. U., is making splendid progress. Both in Buenos Ayres and in the provinces many trade unions have affiliated with it even during the few months it has been in existence, among the most recent accessions being the Domestic Servants' Union of Buenos Ayres, and the General Workers' Union of Pergamino and Carhué. Propaganda committees have been set up to recruit the workers in inland localities which have hitherto been neglected, and groups have been formed which intend to affiliate with the National Centre as soon as they have consolidated into unions.

The Syndicalist National Centre is on the other hand steadily declining. It has recently lost one of its strongest unions, the printing workers' union; in the resolution in favor of secession passed at a meeting of these unions, it was stated that the leaders of the Syndicalist Centre had brought the movement to the brink of ruin by their divisions and their neglect of constructive and practical trade union work.

Trade Union Strength in Australia

ALTHOUGH the labor movement of Australia works under exceptionally favorable conditions, there are, in addition to the comparatively small section of workers who are ineligible to join any organization, still many thousands of workers who are not organized. Out of the total of 2,632,411 employees (male and female) of 20 years of age and over, only 1,348,569, or a little over 50 per cent, are trade unionists. (In Germany and Britain the percentage is 50 per cent, in Denmark 90 per cent and in the United States 12 to 15 per cent.)

"The Australian Worker", from which these figures are taken, makes the following comment:

"In considering the large percentage of non-unionists, however, a mere comparison of the numerical aspect of the position does not give any indication whatever of the real strength of unionism. To discount the status and power of unionism on the grounds that many thousands of workers are non-unionists is superficial reasoning. The power and influence of organized unionism is so tremendous and far-reaching that the unorganized units, however great their numbers, are hopelessly overwhelmed and out-manoeuvred in every conflict which may arise."

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

Последние события.

Мы уже сообщали, что конференция между русскими и со-фабрикатами Америки Ассоциацией была прервана, так как русские не могли согласиться с требованиями со-фабрикатами.

После упомянутой конференции со-фабрикатами созвана соборная всех своих членов и решено было дальнейшую работу, что если русские до декабря 6-го декабря не согласятся дать им все права, что Национальный Комитет имеет, — прерогативы, то они объявят бойкот, закроют свои мастерские на некоторое время и потом приступят к работе в открытых и неоплаченных мастерских, т. е. в свободных отчужденных мастерских. А также намерены объявить бойкот своим клиентам, а также потребовать немедленного отъезда от русских.

В воскресенье 6-го декабря Исполнительный Комитет Забастовочного Комитета обсуждал упомянутый вопрос, на котором было получено согласие со-фабрикатами, что те Ассоциация согласна объявить оне дня, не признавая в будущем русских и людей, которые не согласны на прерогативы и ультиматумы из требований.

Генеральный Забастовочный Комитет в своем решении 7-го декабря решил отступить от своего, что не будет делаться с ними соглашения, для чего в ультимативном своем коммюнике.

В среду 8-го декабря состоялся конференция, но представители русские пре-

рвали, так как русские не только требовали признать за ними право на реорганизацию, но чтобы представители русских не имели права входить в мастерскую без сопровождения члена от Ассоциации. На такое требование русские не могли согласиться. На этой конференции была прервана. Русские сделали свое последнее дело и рабочие должны ожидать доклада. Русские бросили работу и рабочие должны прийти к нему на суд, представители русских должны объявить Ассоциацию.

В Отделе.

В пятницу 17-го декабря состоялся заседание между русскими и Польско-Польским Отделом Железных Дорог. Цель заседания: выяснить положение в индустрии, а также и в самом коммюнике.

Митинг состоялся в Народном Доме, 215 18-го 10-го ян., в 7 часов вечера.

Все члены обязаны присутствовать на митинге.

A. H. Савчук.

MASOWE ZEBRANIE.

W Piątek 17-go Grudnia, o godzinie 7-jej wieczorem, w Domu Narodowym 215 18-10-16 Ulica odbędzie się Masowe Zebranie członków Polsko-Ruskiego Oddziału Krawców Damskich.

Wszyscy członkowie oddziału Polsko-Ruskiego powinni być obecni na Zebraniu.

A. E. Saulich.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

It was for the purpose of nominating candidates for office for the ensuing term that the members filled the spacious meeting-room of Arlington Hall last Monday night, December 6th. But they never expected to receive the announcement from Manager Dubinsky, amid tumultuous applause and shouts of approval, that beginning with the first week in January, the cloak and suit cutters will receive a flat increase of \$2.

Increased Minimum Only on Paper

When the settlement between the Joint Board and the Industrial Council was effected and when the cloak and suit cutters learned that their minimum scale was raised to \$52, their dissatisfaction was immediate and general. The men insisted at the shop meetings which were held immediately following the settlement for the purpose of issuing cards and instructions, that in point of wages they secured no gain.

One of the leaders of the General Strike Committee, following an informal negotiation with the employers, informed the officers of Local 10 that the bosses were ready to grant the cutters a \$55 minimum provided they would work, under the same conditions as the other crafts, that is, day and hour work. But such a proposition was not considered.

The demand by the cloak and suit cutters at shop meetings for an increase in wages became very intense. They expressed the opinion that after a strike of nearly twenty weeks it was only the majority of the other crafts particularly the finishers and the examiners, whose wages were considerably advanced through the higher minimum rates contained in the new agreement. And the reason for that is that these crafts in the main work at the minimum rates, while the cutters, on the other hand, work for rates of wages considerably higher than either the old or the new minimum wages.

New Minimum Gain for Other Crafts Only

It was not necessary for Manager Dubinsky to convey to the employers the dissatisfaction of the cutters and their insistence upon an increase in wages. Many men were even reluctant to return to work on the old wages. But Dubinsky pointed out to them at the shop meetings that to begin a demand for an increase in wages at the time would be inopportune.

It was pointed out to the men that only about five per cent of the cutters had their wages raised, and at that only very slightly, by the increase of the minimum. This was borne out by a statistical study of the wages and earnings of the various crafts in the cloak industry.

While about fifty per cent of the other crafts worked for the minimum, the cutters' wages were \$55 or more, so that even according to the report of the Governor's Commission it was indicated that the average of the cutters was \$56.

It was within the past two weeks at least that Dubinsky, in company with Indore Nagler and Samuel Perlmutter, negotiated with leaders of the Industrial Council, upon their suggestion that cutters give up their clause in the agreement calling for week work and instead accept a proposition of working day work during the slack period. If such arrangements could be effected, the employers promised, they would grant the cutters a \$5-increase.

The leaders of the association were informed that while the proposition of week work has certain disadvantages on the part of the employers, as well as the cutters, nevertheless, it must be admitted that it also has great advantages at the same time. And due to this the cutters might consider a proposition of changing a week into two and a half days during the slack period. This, provided that they could get a substantial increase on the minimum as well as on their wages. The employers' representatives were not inclined to accept any such proposition, though they were forced to admit that on the score of the increases accorded the workers in the new agreement the cutters were the only ones who had made headway in this direction.

On Friday, December 3rd, Dubinsky, Nagler and Perlmutter again met the employers and during the course of this conference a good deal of talk again was spent around the question of day work. Finally, however, on Monday afternoon, December 6th, another conference was held, at which the employers conceded to the cutters a \$2 for all cloak and suit cutters, which is to go into effect on the first week in January.

Renomination of Administration Heartily Seconded

Just what the overwhelming majority of the men felt about the administration in respect to their record of service was clearly manifested when lusty approval was lent each time an officer of the administration was nominated. It was necessary for Dubinsky to wait for some moments for the applause to die down to signify his acceptance following Nagler's speech in which he re-nominated him as manager.

The first to be nominated was Philip Ansel, present incumbent, for president. But in a brief statement he declared that he was compelled, owing to his physical condition, to decline the honor of serving the membership for the next year. He declared however, that his declining the nomination did not mean that he was retiring from activity in the union. He pledged his untiring efforts in behalf of the cutters and declared that he would at all times, as long as he would be physically able, stand ready to serve Local 10. It was Perlmutter who nominated Maurice W. Jacobs, the present chairman of the executive board, for the office of president.

A new feature which will make the present election unusually interesting is that there will be two ballots given each member to vote upon. One ballot will continue the candidates for the local proper, that is, manager, assistant manager, president, vice-president, delegates to the Central Trades and Labor Council, inner guard and executive board members. The second ballot will contain the names of the candidates running for the office of business agents who will serve from the Joint Board.

In a forceful speech which marked his acceptance, Dubinsky declared that his service in Local 10 will always be dominated by one policy: the government of the union for and in behalf of its members along trade union lines. He will not permit the dictation of the union's affairs by any outside political forces. He emphatically declared that neither he nor any of his colleagues will be servants of any political party.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR LOCAL 10

Saturday, December 18th

in

ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE

Polls Open From 12:30 to 6 P. M.

AT THIS ELECTION, LOCAL OFFICERS, SUCH AS MANAGER, ASSISTANT MANAGER, PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AS WELL AS BUSINESS AGENTS TO THE JOINT BOARD, WILL BE ELECTED.

Due to the strike, members owing up to nine months' dues will be permitted to vote.

MEMBERS WHOSE BOOKS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE STRIKE COMMITTEE SHOULD APPLY TO THE OFFICE OF LOCAL 10 THIS COMING MONDAY AND TUESDAY, WHERE THEY WILL RECEIVE THEIR BOOKS OR WILL BE GIVEN OFFICIAL DUPLICATE MEMBERSHIP RECORD CARDS. THESE CARDS WILL ENABLE THEM TO VOTE WITHOUT THEIR DUES BOOKS.

Because of this, registration of all cutters participating in the coming election will take place.

BE SURE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION OF LOCAL 10!

BE SURE THAT YOUR NAME IS REGISTERED, signifying that you were among those who participated in the election!

DO NOT LEAVE IT TO OTHERS to elect those who are to administer the affairs of your local for the coming year!

ELECT THOSE IN WHOM YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE and in whose hands you are willing to place the future of your economic conditions!

Don't Be A Slacker !!

STRIKERS OF WEBSTER HALL are urged to appear on Monday between 12 and 3 in the afternoon in the office of Local 10, and see Manager Dubinsky regarding their due books.

Watch further details on this page in connection with the increase for the cutters in the cloak industry, which is to go into effect the first week in January.

Miscellaneous Members to Nominate Candidates December 13

THE SPECIAL PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WILL BE THE NOMINATION BY THE MEMBERS OF CANDIDATES FOR THEIR QUOTA OF TWO MEMBERS ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

THE MEETING OF THE MISCELLANEOUS SECTION WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, IN ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE.