

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

—Job 27:8

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VIII. No. 20.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

Designers Vote in Favor of Strike

Joint Board Promises Support

At a meeting called by Local 45, the United Designers in the Women's Wear Industry in Greater New York, last Saturday afternoon, at Pennsylvania Hotel, Room 3, 350 designers voted to call a general strike of their craft in the cloak and dress trades.

A special organization committee of 25 was selected at this meeting to cooperate with the executive board of the local in preparing all plans for the strike of the designers.

It was made known at this meeting that the Joint Board of the cloak and dressmakers' unions is in full accord with the plans of the designers and that the latter would receive full moral and financial support from their fellow workers in the cloak shops in the event of a strike.

I. L. G. W. U. Greets Amalgamated Convention in Montreal

Amurd and Shubert at Clothing Workers' Gathering

On Monday morning last, May 10th, the 7 convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America opened in Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada. It will be in session one week.

President Sidney Hillman of the A. C. W. in his opening speech, gave a stirring account of the work achieved by the Amalgamated in the last two years, stressing the assault made upon this organization by the Communists. Bro. Joseph Schlossberg, General Secretary of the Amalgamated, spoke in the same vein.

The convention was greeted on behalf of the I. L. G. W. U. by Vice-president Max Amurd, International organizer in Montreal. Brother Joseph Shubert, Socialist-Labor alderman, and for many years secretary of the Montreal Cloakmakers' Union, greeted the convention on behalf of the city of Montreal.

The General Office of the I.L.G.W.U. forwarded the following message to the Amalgamated convention:

Renn Smith, M. P. Discusses English General Strike

In I. L. G. W. U. Bldg. Last Monday

On the invitation of the Educational Department, Rennis Smith, Labor member of British Parliament, discussed the general strike in England before our members in our own building, last Monday evening, May 10.

The speaker aptly presented the problems of the English miners and of the industry, and the circumstances which led to the general strike in support of the miners.

After the lecture a number of questions were asked. So many of our members showed their interest in this momentous event that the room was overcrowded.

Extracts from the lecture will appear in next issue of Justice.

Mediators Will Render Decision Next Week

George Gordon Battle, Chairman of Cloak Mediators, Announces Recommendations Will Be Made in Ten Days—Hilquit Files Final Brief with Commission of Union's Demand for a Wage Raise, Regulation of Special Machinery in Cloak Shops and Abolition of Special Class of "Finishers' Helpers"—Recognition of Examiners and Designers Also Requested.

George Gordon Battle, the chairman of Governor Smith's Commission in the New York Cloak and Suit Industry, in a statement issued on Friday, May 7th, announced that the long looked for recommendations on the labor issues in this industry will be forthcoming next week. He said that he was unable to state exactly when the decisions on the demands of the workers and the counter-claims of the

employers which have been under consideration for nearly two years would be made public, but he declared that the mediators expected to have their report in final shape and ready for distribution by the 20th of May and perhaps a little sooner.

He added that the mediators were having frequent meetings in the last few days in order to hasten the work, and that everything is being done to accelerate the recommendations consistent with careful deliberations of the far-reaching industrial points involved.

Union Presents Final Demands in Brief Submitted by Hilquit

On that same day, the Joint Board and the International Union, in a brief submitted to the commissioners by Morris Hilquit, counsel for the Union, made a final request for the increase of all minimum wage rates for all the workers in the cloak industry, and several other minor trade changes and improvements.

The request for a general increase of the minimum scales, already made sometime ago, is based on the facts and findings of the Bureau of Research of the Commission, as given out in its report made public about two months ago. The figures revealed by that report (Continued on Page 2)

N. Y. Joint Board Sends Message to British Workers

Cable Offer of Financial and Moral Assistance

At the last meeting of the New York Joint Board on Friday, May 7th, a message of solidarity and an offer of aid was unanimously voted to be sent to the strikers of Great Britain. While the specific form of assistance to be given by the organized workers in the cloak and dress trades of New York to the English strikers was not discussed by the delegates, it is practically certain that the Joint Board would join in any practical move by the Labor movement in New York to help the great working-class uprising in the British Isles, as soon as the leaders of the great strike make known their wishes in this matter.

The cablegram sent by the Joint Board reads as follows:

Mr. Arthur Pugh, Chairman, British Trade Union Congress, London, England.

The Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Union, representing 25 thousand organized workers in the women's wear industry in New York City, is inspired by the wonderful spirit of solidarity manifested by the workers of Great Britain in their heroic struggle against British capital. We pledge our moral and financial support to your cause and hope for a speedy victory of your general strike which will signify a new era in labor struggles the world over.

JOINT BOARD CLOAK, SKIRT, DRESS & REEFER MAKERS' UNION

LOUIS HYMAN, General Mgr. JOSEPH FISAL, Sec'y-Treas.

Unity House Committee Making Preparations For Opening on June 18

Staff of Workers Engaged in Putting Estate in Shape

In reply to numerous inquiries whether the Unity House this season would be ready to accommodate guests during the Decoration Day weekend, the office of the House, through Vice-president Jacob Halperin, chairman of the Unity House Committee, announced that the place would not open until Friday, June 18th.

Work is now being rushed to put the House in better shape than it

ever was before, to accommodate the thousands of guests during the summer season. The opening of the House will be celebrated by a concert in which several celebrated artists are to appear.

Registration of guests for the coming season will start on June 1st, at 3 West 16th Street, New York City. Arrangements have also been made to have Philadelphia guests register from the office of our Philadelphia organization. Miss Esther Friedman, well known worker in the labor movement in New York City, was engaged by the committee to take charge of the New York office of the House.

CLOAK OPERATORS WILL MEET NEXT MONDAY

An important meeting of active members of Local 2, Cloak Operators of New York, will take place next Monday, May 17, at Manhattan Lyceum, to discuss preparatory steps for the coming strike in the cloak industry.

The meeting will start right after work hours. All members who can render services in the event of a strike are requested to be on hand.

White Goods Workers Give Banquet To Shop Chairladies

Combine First of May Festival With Dance and Concert

One of the finest affairs ever held by the white goods workers' organization of New York was the First of May celebration arranged by it two weeks ago, on April 29th, in Astoria Hall, on East Fourth Street. Despite the rain, the big hall was crowded to the doors by white goods workers who came with their friends to the dance hall from every section of the Greater City. The meeting began with a musical program, in which a number of promising young artists

took part. The concert was followed by speeches delivered by Norman Thomas, August Chassens, Mollie Friedman, Vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U., Rose Sobel-Scherman, president of the New York Women's Trade Union League, and S. Shapiro, Vice-president of Local 10.

A banquet and a dance concluded the night's entertainment. Sister Mary Goff was in the chair and Bro. Abraham Snyder, manager of Local 62, acted as toastmaster.

Cloak Mediators Will Announce Recommendations Next Week

Financial Statement of New York Dressmakers' Union Local No. 22

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, OCTOBER 1, 1925—MARCH 31, 1926

(Continued from Page 1)

port show that the earnings of the workers in all cloak crafts materially decreased in the last year and that the cloakmakers, as a whole, have fallen in their earnings far below the required minimum of a working class family budget. The Union requests at this time not a general flat wage increase but a substantial raise to give relief primarily to the poorest paid workers in the shops.

of the finishers in the shop have been filed. Workers operating these machines shall receive \$15 above the minimum wage of a hand finisher.

The Union further demands that no machines shall be operated in any factory which employs less than five finishers. A factory using two machines, for basting and felling, shall employ not less than eight finishers and a factory using three machines, for felling, basting and button sewing, shall employ not less than 10 finishers.

As regards the pressers, the Union requests that no employer shall be permitted to install a press machine unless he employs at least six pressers, or to install two press machines unless he employs 16 pressers, or three press machines unless he employs at least 25 pressers, and that the minimum wage scales of machine pressers be adequately increased, in view of the particularly difficult and exacting work connected with the operation of such machines.

Recognition of Designers
The Union also reiterated in this final brief its demand of the recognition of the unions in the examining and designing trades and impressed upon the Commission the importance of establishing the status of these workers.

The brief submitted by Attorney Hillquit stresses the point that the present existing minimum scales have ceased to have any real meaning, as in the cloak industry today more than 18 per cent are working below the scale, and the such as work above the scale have had their wages greatly reduced through forced migrations from shop to shop in the past few years, since week work and wage scales were established in 1919.

Union Wants Abolition of "Finishers' Helpers"

As part of the general wage regulation, the Union also makes a request for the abolition of the grouping of a large number of workers under the designation of "finishers' helpers." This class of finishers who receive \$9 a week less than the regular finishers, the Union contends, are doing the same work as the regular finishers and should therefore be classed as full-fledged workers and be entitled to the full wage scale of finishers.

Regulation of Special Machinery

The problem of special labor-saving machinery in the cloak shops is also taken up in the final memorandum submitted by Mr. Hillquit on behalf of the Union. In the pressing and finishing departments the introduction of such machinery has had a bad effect on the workers driving many of them out of their jobs and forcing the machine operators to work at health-wrecking speed. The Union therefore demands that in the case of finishers all basting, felling and button sewing machines shall be used only when all the finishers of the shop have a full week's work and all places

PASSAIC STRIKERS BADLY IN NEED OF RELIEF

Clarina Michelson, Secretary of the Emergency Committee of Strikers' Relief, announced that the committee had issued an appeal to the labor unions, labor papers, and other organizations who had collected money to help the British strike, urging them not to forget the workers on strike in America, notably the textile strikers in Passaic.

In view of the fact that the British strike is over, and that the Passaic strikers have a better chance now of winning than ever before, the committee asks that the money originally intended for England be sent to the Passaic strikers, through the Emergency Committee of Strikers' Relief, Room 628, 799 Broadway.

Balance October 1, 1925	.....	\$4,835.53
RECEIPTS:		
Dues 121921 @ 25c	.....	\$4,256.85
Dues 192722 @ 50c	.....	643.00
Books	.....	56.95
Local Fund	.....	9,293.00
Local Organ. Tax	.....	7,187.60
Sick Benefit Assessment	.....	19,153.25
Chicago Assessment	.....	55.50
1925 International Assessment	.....	5,918.50
Local Board—1925 Tax (150)	.....	12,000.00
Local 122 Old Tax	.....	2.50
Initiation Fee	.....	11,872.00
Fines	.....	810.00
Fines for Non-Attendance at Meetings	.....	25.00
Fines for 1924 Rec'd from Jt. Bd.	.....	1,382.50
Medical Examinations	.....	2,234.00
Legal Services	.....	12.25
Building Expense—Refund	.....	170.00
Interest on Loans—	.....	115.33
Convention Expense	.....	250.00
Interest:		
West Disinfecting Co.—Bonds	.....	60.00
American Tel. & Tel.	.....	25.00
Kansas City Tel. Ry.	.....	100.00
Balhigh & Southport Ry.	.....	50.00
Adams Express Co.	.....	10.00
Atlas Plywood Corp.	.....	32.50
Roughko Water Works	.....	50.00
Central Pacific Ry.	.....	135.00
Seaboard All Florida Ry.	.....	150.00
Monongahela West Penn. Pub. Serv.	.....	275.00
Adriatic & Manhattan Ry.	.....	45.00
Kansas & Okla. Gas Co.	.....	90.00
Check a-o	.....	62.51
Purcell Meeting Tickets	.....	50.00
Collection for Passaic Strikers	.....	924.00
Joint Action Committee	.....	5,628.47
Loans Receivable—J. L. G. W. U.	.....	10,000.00
Temporary Receipts	.....	24,782.95
From and Board on ac Collection	.....	23,431.10
Notes Payable—Int'l Union Bank	.....	25,000.00
Total Receipts	.....	\$76,137.90
		\$80,973.43

DISBURSEMENTS:		
Dues to International	.....	\$42,000.00
Miners Assessment to International	.....	3,500.00
Chicago Assessment to International	.....	2,300.00
1925 Assessment to International	.....	6,840.00
Joint Board—Prop of Expenses	.....	45,273.50
Jt. Board—Business Agents Salaries	.....	3,500.00
Joint Board—1925 Tax	.....	17,000.00
Dues to Central Bodies	.....	361.50
		\$121,685.10

Salaries	.....	11,714.07
Advances & Building	.....	13,855.00
Rent for Halls	.....	1,377.50
Printing	.....	1,964.50
Stationery	.....	230.49
Postage	.....	2,107.32
Telephones & Telegrams	.....	372.85
Water—Ice—Towels	.....	105.20
Advertising	.....	1,208.82
Heat and Light	.....	365.00
Insurance	.....	138.63
Clippings	.....	57.80
Carriages	.....	18.20
Flowers	.....	35.00
Vault Rent	.....	41.65
Interest on Loans	.....	570.92
Building Expense	.....	373.52
Cleaning	.....	42.27
Repairs	.....	32.16
Furniture and Fixtures	.....	14.76
Typewriter	.....	132.50
Office Expense	.....	33,948.43

Business Agents Salaries	.....	16,533.50
Committee Expense	.....	109.99
Standing Committee Expenses	.....	300.00
Shop Delegates	.....	31.15
Loss of Time	.....	48.50
Election Expense	.....	315.20
Legal Services	.....	100.00
General Expense	.....	100.00
Organization Expense	.....	277.26
Convention Expenses	.....	2,919.63
		20,664.43

Strike Relief	.....	1,203.00
Donations to Organizations	.....	1,354.80
Ref'd to Individuals	.....	305.90
Gifts	.....	176.00
		3,039.50
Refunds:		
Dues	.....	82.58
Fines	.....	610.44
Medical Examinations	.....	7.00
Sick Benefit Assessments	.....	1.40
		701.43

Difference in Dues	.....	398.65
Purcell Meeting	.....	50.00
Collection for Passaic Strikers—Turned over	.....	257.00
Loans Receivable—Given:		
Local No. 41	.....	500.00
Local No. 45	.....	250.00
Local No. 55 (Knitted Gar. Wkrs.)	.....	100.00
D. Moskowitz	.....	16.00
H. Greenspan	.....	305.00
Joint Board Furriers' Union	.....	25,000.00
Payments made for Workers Unity House (Mfgs. & Int.)	.....	1,788.75
Temporary Receipts	.....	20,351.65
Collected Wages	.....	1,605.44

(Continued on page 3)

LEARN DESIGNING
Earn 50 to 200 Dollars a Week
Take a Course of Instruction in
THE MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL
of Men's, Women's, Ladies' and Children's Wearing Apparel
and Ladies' Fur Garments

The Mitchell School of Designing, pattern making, grading, draping and fitting of cloaks, suits, dresses, for garments and men's garments has achieved—
NEW IDEAS—NEW SYSTEMS—BEST RESULTS
A course of instruction in the Mitchell Designing School means an immediate position—**BIGGER PAY**.
DEMONSTRATION FREE AT OUR SCHOOL
—A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN
EASY TO LEARN—MONEY MAKING—WORKABLE TERMS
Individual instruction. Day and Evening Classes.
Write, please an call for free booklet and full information.

Mitchell Designing School
ESTABLISHED OVER 30 YEARS
15 West 37th Street, New York City
Telephone: WInston 9770

HARLEM BANK OF COMMERCE
2118 Second Avenue New York
Cor. 100th Street

F. M. FERRARI, President
F. X. MANCUSO, Chairman of the Board
F. W. HUBBARD, Vice-President
F. FERRARI, Vice-President
H. LAZZARUS, Vice-President
ANTHONY DI PAOLA, Cashier

ALL BANKING TRANSACTIONS SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS

PIRELLA H. LA GUARDIA, Attorney at Bank



Union Labor Life Insurance Company Is Making Rapid Progress

Affairs in The Labor Life Insurance Company, organized several months ago under the auspices of national unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, are moving rapidly and successfully.

Up to date four hundred thousand dollars has been subscribed by a handful of national and international, and reports were received from others that the matter is pending favorably before their general executive boards. Every mail is bringing individual requests for application blanks and information.

In the next month, local unions will receive notice of quotas allotted, and there is every indication that the amount set will be reached within thirty days.

A well attended directors' meeting was held on March 21st, in Washington, D. C., where the headquarters of the company is located. President Morris Sigman of the I. L. G. W. U., is a member of the board of directors of the Labor Insurance Company.

Arrangements will be made shortly for actuarial, medical and other service against the day when the company will open its doors for business.

Financial Statement of Dressmakers Union

(Continued from Page 2)

To Sick Benefit Fund:		
Assessments	19,269.40	
Medical Examinations	228.00	19,597.40
Bonds Purchased:		
New York Evening Journal	5,000.00	
\$5,000—Chic-Rock Island-Pac Coast	4,425.00	
5,000—St. Paul-Kansas City Sh. Line	4,391.25	13,826.25
Interest on above bonds		180.28
Notes Payable—Int'l Union Bank		10,000.00
Total Disbursements		\$277,117.61
Balance March 31, 1925		\$2,355.82

BALANCE SHEET

LOCAL No. 22, I. L. G. W. U. OCTOBER 1, 1925—MARCH 31, 1926

ASSETS:		
Int'l Union Bank—check ac		\$3,355.82
Stocks and Bonds:		
\$20,000 Int'l Union Bank—Stock Cost	\$20,000.00	
500 Russian American Ind. Corp. Stock Cost	500.00	
5,000 N. Y. Evening Journal—Bonds	5,000.00	
5,000 Chicago-Rock Island & Pacific Bonds Cost	4,425.00	
5,000 St. Paul-Kansas City Sh. Line	4,391.25	
2,900 West Disfranchising Co.	2,900.00	
1,000 American Tel. & Tel.	564.80	
5,000 Kansas City Terminal Ry. Co.	4,532.50	
5,000 Central Pacific Railway	4,312.50	
5,000 Seaboard All Florida Ry.	4,825.00	
3,000 Kansas-Oklahoma Gas Co.	3,000.00	
2,000 Roxasoke Water Works Co.	1,560.00	
1,000 Atlas Plywood Corp.	995.00	
2,000 Hudson-Manhattan Ry. Co.	1,700.00	
500 Adams Express Co.	250.00	
2,000 Raleigh & Southport Ry. Co.	1,850.00	
10,000 Monongahela West Penn. P.H. Ser. Co.	9,800.00	71,605.25
74,600 Union Health Center		6,000.00
Loans and Advances		1,096.00
Loans Receivable:		
Joint Board Furriers' Union	25,000.00	
Local No. 41	500.00	
Local No. 45	350.00	
Local No. 55 (Knitted Gar.)	100.00	
Joint Action Committee	232.24	26,242.54
Revolving Funds:		
Joint Board	22,322.60	
Office	600.00	23,012.60
Due from Ladies' Garment Mfrs. Centre, Inc. for Forest Park Property	56,800.00	
Less Local No. 35 share (1-125 + \$1000)	4,250.00	51,750.00
**Equity in 16 West 21st St. store improv.	12,000.00	
Advances for Improvements	12,850.00	
Balance due on Mortgage taken by Joint Committee	8,500.00	16,550.00
*Due from Joint Board on a/c Collections	9,381.25	
Due from Joint Board on a/c Collection Wages	1,505.48	
Total Assets (Exclusive of Furniture & Stock)		\$211,149.04
LIABILITIES:		
Joint Board:		
Prop. of Expenses and Strike Relief	\$50,604.40	
Business Agents Salaries	21,410.00	
Joint Action Committee Expenses	20,675.23	
1925 Tax	2,650.00	
	95,341.63	
Advance to Joint Action Committee	59,863.19	25,478.43
Due to Sick Fund:		
Bonds Sold	10,080.45	
Assessments	1,718.40	
Applicants Medical Examinations	2,067.00	13,861.85
Notes Payable—Int'l Union Bank		15,000.00
Collections—Passive Strikers		707.00
Total Liabilities		\$65,047.28

*This amount does not include Collections for March, 1926.
**The equity in 16 West 21st Street is only the amount paid. At present the property is valued much more.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

Big Women's Conference in Great Britain

IN connection with the British Trades Union Congress this year, there is to be a big conference of trade union women. Invitations to the conference are to be sent to the wives of the delegates attending congress, and in addition to delegates from affiliated organizations, the local trades councils will be asked to supply a list of societies which may be interested in the conference, with a view to invitations being sent to them. Representation at the congress is not to be restricted, and it is hoped that every union will be adequately represented.

A Victory for Biscay Metal Workers

IN July, 1925, the metal-workers' union of the Biscay districts presented to their employers a demand for the renewal of the collective agreement of 1923, and a 20 per cent wage rise. These demands were refused and a partial strike broke out. It was brought to an end, however, through the intervention of the Labor Department, on condition that a court of arbitration should issue an award within three months. Meanwhile, an inquiry was conducted into conditions in the metal industry, the employers having alleged that the industry was suffering from depression. The court of arbitration, on which the employers were represented by 3 members, did not issue the award until long after the appointed time. At the lengthy negotiations the workers proved by means of a comprehensive report that a wage rise was not only necessary but also possible, and an award was given for an increase of 4.35 per cent. Although the workers' representatives voted against the award, the opinion prevails in labor circles that the success is of great importance, in view of the general economic situation in Spain.

Ecuador—An Eldorado of Tyrants

ECUADOR, it seems, has met the fate of all its neighbors—Nicaragua, Venezuela, Columbia and Do-

livia; it has fallen a prey to tyrants. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, has received a report which has some remarkable revelations to make concerning the condition of the workers in Ecuador. The employing classes, the report states, are accusing the workmen of plotting to cooperate with Commander Ildefonso Mendoza, who aims at becoming the Military General Commander and civil chief of the nation by the aid of the sons of the aristocracy. The army protested and has compelled Mendoza to resign from his military position. Under the pretext that the workmen are disturbers of the public peace, they have been arrested and so far 47 workers are already prisoners; 16 other workers have been ferried into a boat and sent to Callao, Peru, their families being left to their fate. Also their homes have been raided, as well as labor papers and printing offices.—A truly Fascist procedure.

The workers of Ecuador call upon their comrades in other countries to expose the "true nature" of this South American "republic" and to make known their deplorable condition.

The Ruhr Trust

AFTER protracted negotiations, the Ruhr Montane Trust was formed last week, under the name of "The Federated Steel-Works Company Limited". This company includes the Rhine-Elbe Union, the German-Luxemburg Mining Company Ltd., the Bochum and Gelsenkirche Mining Co., Ltd., the Thyssen Group; Phoenix, and the Federated Steelworks van der Zypen and Rhinehalst. At the beginning of last year these seven firms employed approximately 150,000 workers, i. e., 30 per cent of the workers in the whole of the Ruhr Territory.

The new company will begin its career as a "research company" with a capital of \$0,000 marks.

Waldman & Lieberman
LAWYERS
302 Broadway - New York
Telephone: Worth 5623-5634

Buy
WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI
Exclusively

LEARN DESIGNING
Practical Pattern-Making, Grading and Sketching at our
25th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL OFFER, Low Price.
LEADING COLLEGE OF DESIGNING
PAUL I. ROSENFIELD, Director
26 West 49th Street, New York. Telephone Bryant 0882

"BECOME INDEPENDENT"
LEARN DESIGNING AND GRADING MEN'S GARMENTS,
LADIES' TAILORMADES, DRESS-DESIGNING,
FRENCH-DRAPING AND PATTERN-MAKING.
Thousands of our graduates earning \$3,000 to \$10,000 yearly.
CROONBORG DESIGNING SERVICE
122 FIFTH AVENUE, 62nd SEASON NEW YORK CITY
Telephone, WATKINS 5466

JUSTICE
A Labor Weekly
Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148
MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor
Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.
Vol. VIII, No. 20. New York, Friday, May 14, 1926
Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 23, 1926.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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

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

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

Vol. VIII, No. 20. Friday, May 14, 1926

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under
the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1102, Act of
October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

EDITORIALS

MINIMUM CLOAK RATES SHOULD BE RAISED

About six weeks ago, when the Bureau of Research of the Governor's Advisory Commission in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry of New York issued its report on wages and on employment of workers in this industry for 1925, we discussed in these columns the urgency of an upward revision of the minimum wage rates for all crafts in the cloak industry. Last week, Mr. Morris Hillquit, counsel for the International Union, in a special brief filed with the Advisory Commission, after a masterly analysis of the wage and employment situation in the cloak shops of New York City, definitely presents this demand for an increase in minimum wage scales on behalf of the Union.

A summary of Mr. Hillquit's salient points, marshalling the Union's line of argument in support of this demand, would be, we believe, of service to our readers at this moment. The period of hearings, discussion and exchange of argument in the cloak situation between the employers and the workers is drawing to an end, and it is well worth at this time to commit firmly to memory the outstanding facts and figures on which our demands are based, facts that speak louder than any mountain of words with which our adversaries have tried in vain to obscure the merit of our program of industrial reforms.

The annual earnings of the workers in the New York cloak industry have uniformly and substantially declined in 1925, in every section of the trade—in the Industrial Council shops, in the shops of the American Association, as well as in the "independent" shops. And there is no assurance anywhere in sight that the next year immediately ahead of us would fall to bring a further decline in the earnings of our workers, unless a measure of permanent relief is forthwith adopted.

The tables presented by the bureau's report reveal that in 1925 the average annual earnings of the cloakmakers in the sub-manufacturing shops, i. e. in the shops controlled by the jobbers, decreased \$300—from \$1,675 in 1924 to \$1,375 in 1925.

In the "inside" shops, the shops owned by members of the Industrial Council group, the workers' earnings for the same period dropped from an average of \$2,016 to \$1,874,—\$142 per year.

The remainder of the workers employed in the so-called "independent" shops earned on the average \$1,750 per annum in 1925. The average for all the workers in the industry approaches \$1,595 and indicates a net decrease of \$165 per year for 1925 as compared with 1924. But we must bear in mind, when we speak of average earnings in the cloak trade, that, while approximately one-half of the workers earn more than the average amount given above, namely \$1,595, about one-half of them earn much less than that sum. Let us not forget that the measure of earnings in the cloak industry depends largely on the length of the period of employment and that this, in turn, depends on the type of shop a worker is employed in. Thus, for instance, the average employment time during 1925 in the Industrial Council shops was 37.4 weeks, in the "independent" shops 34.9 weeks, and in the American Association shops but 26.8 weeks. And furthermore, the period of unemployment has reached such a low level in 1925 (particularly in the shops of the American Association and the "independents"), that in the former more than 32 per cent of the workers had less than 20 full weeks' employment and over 30 per cent of the workers employed in the "independent" shops had just as little work.

Mr. Hillquit's brief further points out the fact that at least half of the workers in the industry have at one time or another had to resort to the benefits of the Unemployment Insurance Fund because "they have failed to secure the very modest minimum of employment and earnings which would have barred them from such support." In other words, most of our workers are totally out of employment during the dull period for more than nine weeks in a stretch and a great deal longer than that. The latest figures of the research bureau plainly indicate that the earnings of the cloakmakers have now deteriorated to such a point that they fall short of the minimum requirements of the upkeep of a working class family by amounts estimated, in the best cases, at a minimum of \$470 and, in the worst instances, at a maximum of \$1,294.

Essentially at fault, of course, is the entirely too low minimum scale of wages prevailing in the cloak industry. The established minimum wage scales in the industry have lost their real meaning. It must be borne in mind that our wage scales for the former piece workers, the operators and the finishers, when introduced in 1919, were fixed more on a guess basis than anything else. They were not based on the minimum requirements of a worker's family

budget but fixed approximately on the basis of the past average wages of the workers under the piece-work system.

But since 1919 there has taken place in the industry a steady evolution which has gradually forced down wages in the shops. When the wage scales were first introduced, a big majority of the operators received wages materially above the minimum scale. The remainder were allotted the regular scales, with few if any receiving a wage below the scale. But in the past seven years, the downward tendency in wages has brought about the result that more than 18 per cent of the workers are paid today below the scale, only 17 per cent are paid their respective scales, while about 65 per cent receive above the scales. But, and here is the rub—while in 1919 these above-the-scale workers would receive \$85, \$75 and \$65 a week, they are today getting less than the minimum workers are forced to work for \$55, \$60, or \$55 a week during the short period of seasonal employment in the cloak trade, which naturally, affects heavily their average annual earnings and brings them down to a much lower level than what they were a few years ago.

But, while the general wages paid to the workers in the cloak industry are totally inadequate in view of the short periods of employment, the Union realizes that the classes of workers most urgently in need of relief are the poorest paid among them, namely, those receiving wages at or slightly above the established scales, and these today constitute the majority of the workers in the cloak trade. The Union fully realizes that if the better paid workers are having a struggle to eke out even a poor existence all year around, the poorer paid workers and themselves absolutely unable to make ends meet at semi-starvation earnings.

That the cloak industry has failed to yield to its workers a living wage even as compared with other needle trades, Mr. Hillquit's brief proves conclusively by deductions from a table submitted in the report of the Bureau, which shows that, while the increase of the minimum wages for cutters, pressers, under pressers and sample makers—the only classes of cloakmakers that were week workers in 1915—increased in the last seven years about 60 per cent, in practically the same period the average earnings increased 150 per cent in the millinery trade, 130 per cent in the fur industry, and 174 per cent in the men's clothing industry.

Side by side with this general demand for an increase of all minimum wage rates, the brief submitted by Mr. Hillquit on behalf of the Union, requests the Commission to abolish the classification of workers designated in the various collective agreements with the employers' groups as "finishers' helpers". The Union contends that there is no such craft. There are finishers, who are experienced and skilled tailors, and there are so-called feller hands, who sew on the lining, and also button sewers. The term "finisher's helper" is mostly used as a cover for the practice of paying finishers under the minimum scale. This practice accounts for the fact that the average annual earnings of finishers fall even below the minimum wage scale for the time they are employed, namely, \$40.66 per week as against a minimum of \$41 a week.

The fact is, as the brief points out, that about one half of the whole number of full-fledged finishers and tailors are paid below the scale on the fictitious assumption that they are "finishers' helpers", though they do the work of full-fledged finishers and are carried as such on the books of the employers.

In this final summary of the Union's demands, there is another demand that deals with the introduction of labor-saving machinery in the cloak shops, especially in the finishing and pressing crafts, which affect materially the workers. These machines throw out regularly numbers of workers from the cloak shops and they also tend to increase the speed and the intensity with which the hand workers are compelled to work in "competition" with these machines.

The Union seeks a rational arrangement which would provide for a fixed ratio between machine workers and hand workers in each shop and for special compensation for machine workers, insisting in particular in the case of the finishers that no basting or felling machines be used until all the finishers of the shop have a full week's work and that no press machines be permitted unless the firm employs at least six hand pressers in the shop. In each case the Union demands a special minimum scale for the machine finishers and pressers.

The final demand of the Union is for the recognition of the examiners and of the designers as regular Union workers, fully entitled to the protection and safeguards of the general workers' organization under the collective agreements with the employers. It emphasizes the fact that the status of these workers, as members of the Union, must be once for all established.

Mr. Hillquit's memorandum is probably the last word of the Union in support of the whole program of its demands that is now awaiting final action by the Commission. A few weeks remain before the movement in the cloak industry will come to an end. Shortly, the recommendations of the Advisory Commission will be made public and the atmosphere of tense expectancy that has permeated the entire cloak industry for many months past will be cleared.

Will it be cleared for peace or for war? From the attitude of the manufacturers' groups, especially from the jobbers' camp, it would appear that they are determined to court a fight, that they are committed to a blind policy of obstructing every rational and constructive proposal made by the workers' organization. The Union, as its policy always has been in the past, hopes an end to peace, but, like in former years, it will be found ready to defend the living standards of its members against greed and aggression in a conflict that might be forced upon it by the rulous and short-sighted policy of the employers.

Pumpkin Pie For The Steel Trust

By LOUIS SILVERSTEIN

The United States Steel Corporation has just celebrated its silver anniversary. The stockholders' annual meeting was a joyful occasion. Success and righteousness seemed to be identical and, therefore, it was unanimously resolved by those present:

"Proud in our ownership of the United States Steel Corporation, greatest the world has seen, the greater, even, in what it has done and shall do in service of mankind, we feel, as stockholders and citizens, that our duties, responsibilities and rights run more and more to assure its fullest usefulness as a vital industry."

True, this sounded more like religion and philanthropy rather than business but, the resolution went on further to give the justification for the high sentiments expressed therein. The corporation in 1925 had atristically

"Received \$228,150,000 for manufacturing products sold to customers. Paid \$456,740,000 to 219,833 employees. Applied \$205,888,000 for upkeep and benefit of properties. Made \$70,894,000 capital expenditures, with funded debt reduced to \$1,775,000. Paid \$6,927,000 in taxes. Paid \$17,910,000 in interest and dividends, equal to only 41 per cent on \$2,140,500,000 net assets, making value for the \$1,278,527,500 securities." Now, note that this is all in the words of the stockholders themselves. It is their testimonial to the world that they have performed a great humanitarian service. It is the syrup which they swallow to soothe their throats grown hoarse from declaiming their owners' virtues.

Then, at this same meeting the twenty-five years of the company's existence were commemorated by serving pumpkin pie—luscious, golden pumpkin pie. But what a disappointment! There was not enough to go around—and this despite the fact that the committee in charge had been making preparations for a year. Some stockholders actually had to go without lunch. Now, was that that symbolic? Big business never has enough.

Another disagreeable feature also developed. Some of the holders of common stock demanded an increase in the dividend rates. They could not see why it should remain at 5 per cent when there was a surplus of \$748,600,000. Had not the cost of living gone up? It was not fair to take money out of current earnings for extensions and improvements, when it could—much better go towards paying larger dividends. "Pumpkin pie is delicious," they said, "we want more." But Judge Elbert H. Gary, who declines himself by believing that he and not J. P. Morgan manages the U. S. Steel Corporation, explained that the time was not yet ripe. Later on, perhaps, but not now. "We must be prepared for emergencies," he emphasized. "Business fluctuates. Selling prices are uncertain." (Uncertain to the customers, no doubt.)

All this occurred on the 19th of April. Then, on the 27th Judge Gary informed the world that at a meeting of the Board of Directors the dividend rate had been raised to 7 per cent. Why the sudden change? "At the suggestion of Mr. Morgan," ran the formal announcement. Now, guess who runs the United States Steel Corporation. Incidentally, the price of the company's shares rose on the Stock Exchange. How much the insiders made we do not know.

In accordance with custom the stockholders' books were thrown open for inspection. President Coolidge gave his blessing with fifty shares of

common stock. At the head of the list stood George F. Baker, President of the First National Bank of New York City. J. P. Morgan, the corporation's financial agent, held a comparatively small block of common, and also—in conjunction with Percival Roberts, Jr., a director, and Nathan L. Miller, former Governor of New York and now director and General Counsel of the Company, controlled a large number of shares as the committee looking after the workers' interests under the profit sharing plan. According to this scheme employees are allotted a stated amount of common stock in 1921, unless they die or are pensioned before then, in which case it is graciously provided that they can get the stock before the set date. Under certain conditions cash payments are made. All together there were 99,500 holders of common stock and 75,000 of preferred, both having the privilege of voting. The majority of the stock, however, was in the hands of a small group constituting but 2 per cent of the total number of shareholders.

Here we have the largest corporation in the world—worth two billion dollars and constantly growing; moping that it is not making enough profit, that it wants more pumpkin pie. And the strangest thing about it is that when it was formed a quarter of a century ago its whole common stock was not worth a penny. It was all "water" yet it was listed on the books at \$413,800,000. The corporation was

established as a result of the steel war between the Morgan and Moore interests on the one hand and Andrew J. Carnegie on the other. In the end the latter sold out and went in for philanthropy. The newly organized United States Steel Corporation combined a dozen large companies, giving it control of almost half of the pig iron production and more than half of the crude steel production of the United States. Since then, its grip has become even firmer and justifies the name "Steel Trust" that has been applied to it. Indeed, it has become customary to rely upon its statistics of orders and production for reliable indices of business activity.

The history of this monopoly is a romance of finance and industry. It has gobbled up one independent competitor after another and has organized them into seventeen subsidiary companies. The United States Government brought suit against the corporation in 1911 for violation of the anti-trust laws. Nine years later the Supreme Court rendered the final decision in the case. This gave the company a clean bill of health on the ground that the abuses complained of were no longer in existence. It is true they had been replaced by others but that was within the province of the court to consider.

The United States Steel Corporation has become the outstanding example of the so-called "vertical trust" in this country. It has not been content simply with squashing competition by bur-

ing out its competitors. It has gone further and acquired the sources of raw material and the means of transportation necessary to make it completely independent. It owns iron ore, coal, coke, natural gas, oil and timber property. Its deposits of limestone and dolomite make it an important producer of cement. Minor minerals are not neglected. It runs more than a score of railroads with a total trackage of almost 4,000 miles and its vessels traverse the Great Lakes, the rivers and the wide ocean.

It is evident that such a huge business organization has it within its power to play havoc with labor unless the trade unions that combat it are unusually powerful. Unfortunately, this has not been the case. The Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers was its first victim. Right at the beginning the Corporation declared itself as "unalterably opposed to any extension of union labor." The nationwide steel strike of 1919 with its tremendous sacrifices and mighty effort at unionization left the company victor on the field of battle. The chief reason was a quickening of welfare activities among employees, the introduction of safety devices, the establishment of hospitals, schools, churches, lunch-rooms, playgrounds and the like. Even company unions are frowned upon. In 1923 under enormous public pressure the 12-hour shift was abolished amid the walls of the efficiency experts of the company and an eight-hour work day was substituted. Wages are still low, however. Last year the average annual earnings for the quarter of a million persons employed was \$1,328, which is below the American standard of living as determined by investigators. Even at that, the figure is too high. It includes high salaried officials and is further boosted by the wages of the skilled workers, which are on the whole good. Unskilled labor is paid very poorly. At least three-fourths of all the workers receive less than a living wage. The hope lies in the building up either of a closely-knit federation of craft unions or an effective industrial union. The ultimate solution, of course, is nationalization. Only then will the workers be able to have pumpkin pie too.

STAY LONG

By Mary O'Reilly

Stay long, dear soul, upon the mountain-top
Thou standest with the years beneath thy feet
Great-souled and free thou standest, and the snows
Of winter lightly fall upon thy head.
Thou art as young upon this natal-day
As thou wert long ago in early spring
When lilacs bloomed and birds came back to sing;
For thou hast still the love of youth and life
Which thou hast kept through all thy life of love.

Stay long, that we who tread the rough new road
Through valleys dark, o'er hills and rocky ways,
May see thee standing in the light of faith
And hope.

Ah, give us faith and hope,
Stay long. The snows of winter lightly fall
But in thy heart is never-ending spring!



"During Mussolini's anniversary Fascists paraded the streets with flags and slogans."—Cable.

THE FLAGS OF FASCISM

WORKERS' EDUCATION NEWS ILLUSTRATED

The Workers Education Bureau of America issued the first illustrated supplement of its monthly news service. It contains four pictures of various classes. One is a class in Shop Economics at the Philadelphia Labor College, another—a lecture on Cooperation at the Salem Labor Seminar, the third is a class in Labor Problems among the Illinois miners, and the fourth—a class in Economic Geography at the I. L. G. W. U. Workers' University, New York City. There are also a few personal photographs.

This supplement purports to illustrate the scope of workers' education carried on within the Labor Movement under various aspects. Nothing advances an idea more than clear, visualized presentation. A photograph of a class will do more for the spread of workers' education than thousands of words written about it.

The W. E. B. Co. will continue to issue such supplements from time to time.

Step By Step

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

"And by union, what we will
Can be all accomplished still.
Drops of water turn a mill,
Single nose, single heel."



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Report Submitted to Educational Committee of the G. E. B.

Greetings:

We have just concluded the Tenth Educational Season of our International Union, and we are glad to report that it was most successful. The attendance was constant and a fine spirit prevailed in the classes as well as in the other activities carried on by our Educational Department. Most of the courses are completed, but some are still continuing.

Workers University

Washington Irving High School
Three classes met weekly at our Workers University at Washington Irving High School, on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. The following courses and lectures were given:

A Social study of American and English Literature. The Place of Workers in History. The Place of Workers in Modern Civilization. Wages in Industry. How Are Wages Determined. Company Unions. Preventive Measures Against Disease. Old Age Pensions. Problem of Women in Industry. Staff Unions. Help Massage Industry. Shop Economics. Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry.

I. L. G. W. U. Building

Two groups met weekly in our own headquarters in the specially equipped classroom. The courses and lectures given were: Social Psychology, Economic Basis of Modern Civilization, Unemployment and the Dole System in England, The Problems of the United Mine Workers.

These courses were started at the beginning of November. Most of them continued until the beginning of April, and some of them until the end of April and middle of May.

Courses for Business Agents

A special course was arranged for the officers of the Union on the "Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry". This group met weekly.

Unity Centers

A class in physical training meets in Public School 328 East 29th Street on Tuesday evenings. For an hour on a quarter our members have physical exercise, games and dancing under the supervision of a competent director. The next hour and a quarter they attend a course on the "Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry".

Activities in the Unity centers are being gradually replaced with activities in our own building and in centers in various parts of the city. The attendance in general in evening schools is on the decline. Naturally, it affects the attendance of our members. This is due to several causes as was previously reported. The main reasons are:

1. Fewer immigrants coming to the United States.
2. Board of Education is constantly decreasing budget for evening schools, and classes become not only unattractive but almost impossible. The classes are much too large so that the individual gets hardly anything from the few hours a week he spends in the class.

The attendance of our members at public school classes was also affected by the special convention of our Union, because the mind of the people were centered on that event.

Through our Extension Division we are carrying over most of the activities from the public schools buildings to centers in various parts of the city. We find this a most healthy de-

velopment. The advantage of this is that the students come to us for instruction instead of us going to them.

Extension Division

Under this division we have carried on successfully a course on "The Economics of the Ladies' Garment Industry". This course was given in Yiddish in various parts of the city and proved to be most interesting and of great educational value to our members.

Local 9

Several lessons of the same subject were given in the headquarters of Local 9.

Local 2

The course was also given in the Bronx Club Rooms of Local 2. In this center a course was also given on "Labor and the Law".

Harlem Center

In the Harlem Clockmakers' Center a course was given on "Civilization in America". These classes were very well attended. The experience we gained from the course on the Economics of our Industry was most useful, and the instructor is now preparing an outline of 16 lessons on this subject.

Russian Polish Branch

Twice a month lectures on economic and labor problems are given for the members of the Russian Polish Branch. The attendance is most satisfactory.

Social Activities in W. I. H. S.

Social activities consisting of musical programs and short talks were arranged by our Educational Department in Washington Irving High School, the Bronx and Harlem.

The first of these was arranged in Washington Irving High School when 2,500 of our members assembled to celebrate the opening exercises of our educational season. The audience was in a holiday mood. They felt it was more than just a concert, and they were filled with pride in the achievements of our International in the field of workers' education. By their presence they expressed their satisfaction that they were amongst those who were supporting this work financially and morally.

Harlem and Bronx

Two family affairs were arranged during the season. The first in Harlem and the second in the Bronx. The success of these gatherings exceeded all our expectations. Practically two persons came to every seat. It was actually an outpouring of our members with their families. We cannot over estimate the importance of these affairs which offer the men and women of our various locals an opportunity to come together and spend a few hours in an artistic and social atmosphere.

Re-Union of Students and Instructors

The annual re-union of our students and instructors was most successful. The audience was composed of past and present students of our various classes, men and women, young and middle-aged members of our various locals, officers of the Union, instructors and friends. There were some who had attended our classes several years ago and were now holding responsible positions in their local unions. The affair was most inspiring. It offered past and present students an opportunity to meet and exchange views on various subjects of interest to them. Most of our local unions in New York City were repre-

Putting It Up To The Boss

By ARTHUR K. CALHOUN
Instructor in Economics, Brookwood

Labor leaders are not always polite. Sometimes when the boss asks where he is to get the money to meet their demands they tell him that's his business. Now that is not very considerate of the feelings of the boss. He may be embarrassed at being taken so literally when he talks about "my business."

Of course it's up to the boss. If he can't meet the workers' demands and if the workers insist on their demands, he'll go to the wall. Maybe that will help the situation. Maybe it would be a good thing to close out all the worthless mines, all the inefficient factories, all the inefficient businesses. It would be a hardship to the workers in those concerns; but maybe it is a necessary step. Maybe the unions will have to take that much responsibility for the working of the industrial system.

But suppose the killing off of worthless enterprises does not accomplish a complete solution of the problem. Suppose the workers push their demands as far and as hard as they can, and suppose they succeed in annexing virtually the whole product of industry. Will their needs be met? By no means. American industry does not rear by your turn out enough to satisfy the reasonable requirements of the workers. Shall we continue to say "It's up to the boss?" Can the boss make good?

Maybe it's up to the unions. Maybe it's not enough for them to force incompetents out of business. Perhaps it will be necessary also to force the competent administrators to use their brains for the reorganization of the whole system on lines of real effectiveness. Certainly the mining industry requires a complete, overhauling which it is not likely to get save as a result of union pressure; and many

another industry is in just as bad a way. It is beginning to look more and more as if organized labor would have to take upon itself the responsibility for the remaking of industry into something that will meet human needs. Certainly the employers will not do the job of their own accord.

That means that the old fashioned unionism which saw no further than a fight with the immediate boss is not enough. The boss is being absorbed into a trust system, and organized labor will have to deal with the trusts. If it can't organize them, it won't be able to hold its organization in the small industries. But the job reaches further than to the industrial magnates. If you try to deal with them you find that behind them are the bankers, extending or withholding credit at will and thereby controlling industry. So organized labor will have the bankers to deal with; and unless it can develop an organization and a line of tactics that can match theirs, what is held at present will be lost.

It won't be up to the boss unless we get it up to him, remembering that he is no longer a petty employer nor even a mere captain of industry but a master of finance thoroughly entrenched in Wall Street. We used to know as much about things as did the old boss, but the big boss is different. Now if we are going to "put it up to the boss" we'll have to know enough about industry in general and about business and finance to be able to grapple with his trained statisticians and economists. Certainly the job of trade union leadership is no longer simple. It is no longer a question of mere fighting. We must know as much as the capitalists and their paid experts know about business, and we must get to know a lot more than they know about human nature or else we can never hold the labor movement together and make safe the future of Labor.

Join Our Hikes

"I have never known a man or woman, loving the outdoors, who didn't have a something distinctive."

—Arthur Gleason

We, tenement dwellers in the big city, are deprived for the greater part of the winter months, of sunshine and the open, free daylight air. We, garment workers, are indoor people; we spend most of our lives within the four walls of the shop, and the effect of this stunted existence is, naturally, morbidity, drooping spirits, and decreased vitality.

Of all workers, we, garment workers, should miss no opportunity to be outdoors, where light exercise and an abundance of fresh air would offer us a chance for restoring the life energy burned up by factory toil and would bolster up our falling spirits, our

sented by a committee of three.

Requests for such affairs as described above came from various other parts of Greater New York, but due to the restlessness in our organization and to the convention we were compelled to start work later in the season, and therefore, could not carry through our educational plans to arrange more such affairs.

will to carry on the fight for a better world.

Out-of-door life, even though in a limited way, is, indeed, a vital need for our workers. And in response to this need, the Educational Department of the Union has arranged hikes for our members during the Spring and Summer months that would enable them to spend in groups of real comradeship a few hours together in the open, under the radiant sun, wandering in the woodland, learning to love nature as it is, in all its simple glory and unadorned beauty.

Our next hike will take place on Sunday, May 23rd. Details will be announced in next issue of Justice.

Those who wish to join these hikes, will please give their names and addresses to our Educational Office, 3 West 16th Street, either in person or by mail.

GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY!

The Office of the International, 3 West 16th Street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase.

"The Women's Garment Workers" at half price—\$2.50.

With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH, Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board was held on Friday, May 7, 1926 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 W. 16th Street.

The minutes of the Joint Board of April 23rd are approved with the following corrections:

1) The committee, consisting of Prothera Zimmerman, Stoller and Steinberg, who were appointed to appear before the General Executive Board, to submit the request for annulment of the needle trades, was also instructed to take up the question of the debt owed by the International to the Joint Board and the referendum on proportional representation, as stipulated by the decision of the convention.

2) The omission from the General Managers' report of equalizing the fisher's scale and the special machine proposition as submitted to the Commission.

Communications:

Local No. 23 has approved the minutes of the Joint Board of April 23rd with the exceptions:

- 1) The decision to purchase tickets from the "Ice".
- 2) To place an ad in the bazaar Journal of the United Workmen's Circle Schools.

Local No. 89 advises the Board that the following delegates will represent them at the Joint Board:

John Egizio, Anna Alfano, Anna Raggiara, Joseph Salerno, Antonio Basso, Joseph Miranda and Joseph Piccinello.

The delegates are seated.

The same Local approved the minutes of the Joint Board of April 16th and 23rd and the reports of the Board of Directors of April 14th and 21st with the following exceptions:

- 1) They protest against the action of the majority of the Joint Board in rejecting the request of the New Leader for an ad in their First of May Issue.
- 2) The decision to request the International to decrease the per capita. They contend that the General Executive Board has no power to modify any decision passed by the convention.

The Local reiterates its request of a few months ago regarding a new census of the Locals affiliated with the Joint Board and the revision of the per capita paid to this body.

Brother H. Berkowitz, a business agent of the Joint Board, submits his resignation as paid official. He assures the members of his loyalty to the organization and his willingness to serve them in the future as he has done in the past.

The resignation is rejected.

Secretary-Treasurer Fish reports the receipt of the following communication from the International:

"Mr. Joseph Fish, New York Joint Board, 130 East 5th Street, New York.

Dear Brother Fish:

Your letter of April 23rd to the General Executive Board concerning the request of the Joint Board for a reduction in the per capita from fifteen to ten cents, was discussed at the meeting of the Board last week. I have been instructed to inform you that this matter is not within the power of the General Executive Board, according to the following provisions of our constitution, Article XII, Sections 1 and 2:

Sec. 1. Each L. U. shall pay the

L. L. G. W. U. a weekly the capita tax of fifteen cents per member, which shall include a subscription to Justice, etc....

Sec. 2. The above two sections shall not be repealed or amended except at a convention and by a two-thirds vote.

This explains very clearly that the matter is not within the province of the General Executive Board.

Fraternally yours, (Signed) ABRAHAM BABOFF, Sec'y-Treas.

Finance Committee Report:

The Finance Committee recommends the donation of \$100 to the Warsaw Needle Trades, and a half page ad in the Journal issue by the New Masses, in conjunction with the International Workers Aid for the benefit of the Passaic Textile Strikers.

The recommendations are approved. General Manager Hyman recommends that the Joint Board act favorably on the request of Local No. 9, as recommended by the Board of Directors of May 5th, that a cable be sent to the British strike fund, assuring them of our moral and financial support in the heroic struggle they are waging, and which has inspired the workers the world over.

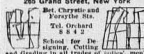
The recommendation was approved.

N. Y. JOINT BOARD EXPENSES, APRIL, 1926

Salaries:	
Protective Division	228.00
Downtown Office	292.00
Independent & Reecer	220.00
Dress Division	504.00
Hartem Office	120.00
Brooklyn Office	120.00
Brownsville Office	108.00
Newark Office	276.00
Russett Polish Branch	200.00
Cleaning	200.00
Dues Department	322.00
Joint Board	1,600.00
Labor Bureau	160.00
Organizing Bureau	112.00
Jobbers Department	744.00
Rent Offices	2,496.00
Fuel, Light and Power	750.00
Cleaning	5,885.45
Telephone & Telegraph	616.97
Stationery & Printing	1,832.63
Postage	230.72
Electric Protection	47.50
Towel Service	15.65
Repairs & Renewals	960.23
Insurance	164.22
Rent Halls—bills, past due	2,741.50
Advertisements—past 6 months	2,396.64
Legal Services—bills, past due	8,885.45
Court Expenses	232.20
Organizing Expense	22,274.97
Standing Committee	123.00
Investigations—Auditors	1,490.00
Impartial Chairman—2 mos.	1,655.50
Unassessable Relief	11,215.33
Joint Board of Sanitary Control	
6 months	2,540.00
Downtown Expense	424.25
Hartem Expense	120.00
Brooklyn Expense	620.00
Brownsville Expense	195.15
Miscellaneous Expense	219.00
	69,190.08

GLICKSTEIN'S DESIGNING SCHOOL

285 Grand Street, New York
Met. Chrystie and Forsyth Sts.
Tel. Orchard 8-4
School for Designing, Cutting and Dressmaking. Men's, children's and for garments. Patterns are cut at low prices.
The school is open all year around.



РССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

В ОТДЕЛЕ.

В последние 10-12 лет составился массовый класс Р.-П. Отдела Союза Железных Портков.

Но протестный порода для была предложена одна человек: выбрать временно председателем на это собрание. Нашей задачей предложение заключалось, что он лично не согласен с председателем, и требует выбрать другого.

Воспрос был поставлен на голосование, и члены выразили полное доверие и председателю, который и провел собрание до конца.

Секретарь от имени комиссии, устроенной Первомайским комитетом Отдела, сделал подробный отчет о комитете, который был принят членами. При обсуждении вопроса о дальнейшей работе в отделе было дано согласие секретарю для осуществления речи, с целью ознакомить с той работой, которая была сделана в прошлом, в связи с получением права для Р.-П. Отдела. Секретарь прочел письмо, которое явил официальную связь с Главным Провизором Кюнио по вопросу о правах. Также было прочтено присланное письмо от Генерального Секретаря Интернационала, в котором он то, что Генеральный Секретарь Борд отказал в просьбе Р.-П. Отдела, так и разъяснил о том, что в прошлом выгода и лично не было обещано отделе в смысле получения прав.

Секретарь прочел письмо, которое было послано им в ответ на такое же посланное отделе, в котором ясно изложено требование Р.-П. Отдела.

Вопрос этот выдвинул предложение изложить требования членам в Генеральном Секретариате Борд с разложением, что такое отступление от принципов. Секретарь Интернационала о том, что комиссия выгода в каком-то не рекомендательна, не верно. После этого было принято предложение не восматывать никаких писем, выходя того, что высылка писем секретарю является нарушением желаемых членам Отдела, и в ответ на это вопрос оставшимся.

Далее секретарь заявил, что в отделе на отделе Генерального Секретариата Борд удовлетворить нашу просьбу о докладах на конвенцию, администрация выдала 3-го марта (т. е. Сапуно) сделать официальное заявление о том, что локаль 3-го мая Р.-П. Отделу делалась на конвенцию, а также удовлетворить с остальные требования удовлетворить для того, чтобы остаться верными своим обещаниям.

По окончании своего доклада секретарь заявил, что желал бы иметь бы членов отделе, если бы конвенция не членов не сформировалась группа сданных разлучившихся работе, как Р.-П. Отделу, так в смысле выгоды.

Секретарь заявил, что выду тех урочков, как была брошена ему предложение на собрании, он в соображении верности своим принципам будет как в разное продолжит бороться за права Р.-П. Отдела, и не будет продолжать откровенно поддерживать новую администрацию, которая не имеет права брать работу в отделе, возмущаясь работой классов и бороться против старой, отжившей формы и старыми предрассудками. Что же касается принципа и доклада, то секретарь заявил, что выдает в отделе с главной доктрина и представляет ее тем, которые выступают против него в некоторых делах.

После такого заявления секретаря об отделе вопрос был поставлен на голосование и члены почти единогласно, за исключением пяти, не приняли его отделе. Секретарь выразил готовность членам за выходящие ему условия, но от главной доктрины категорически отказался. Председатель также заявил в отделе.

ку, и переисполнение не удалось, что даже и один, выступивший против него, не оставил предложение на принятие решения. Научившись так: секретарь и председателю категорически отказали в своем отделе; членам разрешил не прийти отделе, выду создавшегося положения решение Совета Генерального Собрания для выходящих членов для в Отделе. Вопрос и серьезный и конкретный, над которым смеяться не приходится, а надо серьезно раздумывать.

ПОИТИКЕ О СВОБОДЕ.

Свобода слова есть дорогая ценность, и в наш век это особенно должно быть ценно. Интернациональный Союз Железных Портков разрешил дать каждому члену свое мнение, предоставляя каждому из них свободу высказывать свое мнение и критиковать любые стороны с целью, чтобы эти критика привнесла пользу организации. Хорошо, если свобода достается тем, которые имеют о ней представление и знают, как ее использовать так, чтобы была свобода не лишая свободу других. Поэтому, первой задачей Борд является в Р.-П. Отделе, чтобы каждый член имел право свободно высказывать на собраниях и высказывать свое мнение, или, не имея правильно значения этого слова, членам выступать на собраниях и говорить до того свобода, что порядок для них не существует, председатели членов не признают, а говорят так, что члены не высказывали протеста, уходят домой, не зная о том, что делается в союзе. В конце концов это привело к тому, что Отделу приходится создавать Генеральное Собрание и протест членам, чтобы ушла работа. Такая работа для них не выдана, так как большинство из них является зарожившими членами на работе в классе.

Что из этого может вытекать? Об этом остается без раз, так как те, которые много говорят, никогда не признают на себя никаких обязанностей, их работа критика, утратила и желать работать; это ясно видно при свободной комиссии для разработки требований для Отдела, по устройству комитета и выходящего собрания, когда эти требования выходящие членам, разогнав всех членов, а работу не выходящих на секретаря и председателю, а связь и связь не поменяли отделе. Получившее, что секретарь и председатели подал в отделе. Придется в конце отделе выдать в отделе, если при критическом отделе принять на свои работу тех, которых они выгоняют. Было серьезно подумать о том, что такое свобода, что в как его должен использовать.

ГЕНЕРАЛЬНОЕ СОПРАНИЕ В ОТДЕЛЕ.

Выду отделе избранного секретаря и председателю, была создана Генеральное собрание для выходящих членов железных портков. Собрание состоялось в воскресенье 17-го мая в 7 часов вечера в Народном Доме, 315 East 10-1st Street. В виду важности вопроса все члены должны присутствовать и взять при себе членские билеты.

Секретарь А. М. Саулик.

Generale Zebranie.

Z powodu reorganizacji sekretarza i przedsedateia Oddziala Zwoluje sie Generale Zebranie dnia nominacji kandydatow do zarzadu P. R. Oddziala. Zebranie odbedzie sie w poniedzialek, 17-go Maja, o godzinie 7-jej wieczorem, w Domu Ludowym, 315 East 10-1st Ul. N. Y. Obowiazkiem kazdego czlonka jest przybycie na zebranie w crenie.

Sekretarz A. E. Saulicz.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

An unusually short meeting took place last Monday night, May 10th, in Arlington Hall. The members had gathered to hear the latest developments with regard to the expected report of the Governor's Special Mediation Commission. However, no more definite report on this question could be given than that the report will be forthcoming in about ten days from the time of writing.

Union Files Another Brief
In an article in the local trade paper, Mr. George Gordon Batlle, Chairman of the Commission, is authority for the statement that the report is expected to be made public next week. He was prompted to make this statement by his appreciation of the fact that the interest in the report is widespread and that there will not be much longer to wait before the mediators will have made up their minds on all the important matters submitted to them during all the twenty-four months.

Morris Hillquit, counsel for the International, submitted a special brief for the union in which is asked an increase in the minimum wage scales for the workers in the cloak and suit industry. In this brief he quotes the figures of the special investigation showing a decrease in the earnings of the workers for 1925 over their earnings of 1924.

"But more eloquent," says the brief in part, "even than the figures of the Bureau of Research are the records of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, which indicates that at least half of the workers in the industry have at one time or another had to resort to the benefits of that fund because they have failed to secure the very modest minimum of employment and earnings which would have barred them from such support."

Some Large Firms Close Down

In addition to the report on the forthcoming findings of the Governor's Commission, Manager Dubinsky also reported on trade conditions, emphasizing the present inactivity in the cloak and dress industries. During the past weeks, he said, there were sixteen cloak and suit shops which either went out of business or gave up manufacturing for the purpose of going into jobbing. Likewise, a number of dress shops have gone into the jobbing business.

However, the situation in the cloak trade is not quite as bad as it is in the dress line. In the former industry the large shop is by no means diminished to as great an extent as in the latter. For, aside from the shops closed to the dress cutters because of strikers there are some which have gone into jobbing, thus giving rise to another number of contractors.

The problems which the dress trade presents is similar to that of the cloak trade but greater in degree. Hence, the outcome of the contemplated renewal of the agreement in the cloak trade will be important to the workers in the dress trade as well. The situation among the dress workers has reached such a point that the making of their living has become an acute problem.

"Complaints" Can't Get Cutters

Much was made before the impartial Chairman in the cloak industry over the fact that the firm of Charles Kondazian has been unable to secure cutters to take the place of the regular force who were declared to have abandoned their jobs by the impartial Chairman.

Some weeks ago a stoppage by the workers of this firm was reported to the union by the Protective Association to have taken place. Subsequent-

ly the case was taken up and all of the workers except the cutters returned to work, the cutters refusing to go back, because, they said, their grievance had not been adjusted by the Joint Board. The matter was taken before the impartial Chairman who decided that if the cutters failed to return to work within twenty-four hours their jobs would be forfeited and the firm could hire a new force.

"The firm," says an article on this subject in the "Women's Wear" for May 7th, "a short time after the decision set about obtaining other cutters but neither the firm nor the Industrial Council were able to prevail upon any union cutters to take the places of the union cutters forced out of the shop by the decision."

Cutters Refuse to Take Job

"It was admitted by the Industrial Council that Charles Kondazian, Inc., subsequently was advised to obtain non-union cutters if they could not get union cutters. It was brought out at the hearing that some cutting was done by the premises following the advice of the Industrial Council."

During the weeks that this controversy was going on the firm was working with its regular force of workers but without cutters, managing to have its work cut under the conditions described in the article just quoted. Manager Dubinsky protested the employment of the non-union cutters and the matter again was taken up before the impartial Chairman on Thursday, May 6th. It was at this hearing that the firm and the Association demanded the fact that other union cutters could not be gotten to take the place of those declared to have lost their jobs.

Charges to the effect that cutters desiring to secure working cards were intimidated were not accepted by the impartial Chairman. It is not only a matter of trade union ethics that would prevent one member from taking another's job in a case such as this but it is the very principle upon which the union is founded.

No member of the union need be told that there is trouble in a certain shop in an effort to prevent him from taking a job in such a case. Instances have occurred where the union insisted that a cutter take the place of another who quit his place of employment after a dispute with the employer, and men have refused to do so despite the urgings of officers of the union.

The same article in the "Women's Wear" says that "D. Dubinsky, manager of the cutters' local of the union, denied that he declined to give working cards to any cutters. . . . He frankly stated that personally he was opposed to the decision of the impartial Chairman" and that under the terms of the collective agreement he fully understood what stand he, as an officer of the union, should take.

However, he said, the decision that the jobs of the cutters of Charles Kondazian were forfeited and that the union was bound to give working cards to other cutters, amounted to a demand that a man sentenced to death be his own executioner. And the men-

bers would not be expected to carry out this sentence.

Another Loss in Progressive Force
During the course of the reading of the Executive Board reports at Monday night's meeting, the expulsion of J. Schenkman No. 8477 was read, and in response to a question asked privately of Manager Dubinsky by one of the so-called "progressives," it was brought out that it was the Schenkman who was identified with that group.

He was another one of those who was disgraced with the manner in which Local 10 was run and lent his aid in the attempt to return it along "revolutionary" lines.

Some four weeks ago information reached Dubinsky to the effect that Schenkman was in business while retaining his membership in the union. He sent him a registered letter ordering him to appear at the office with a view to investigating the truthfulness of the charge. Some two weeks later he appeared at the office of the local to pay his dues, expressing at the same time the desire to resign.

It was recalled that he had been sent a registered letter to appear in the office and he was asked why he had not responded. To this he replied that he did not get a letter. Upon looking up the records in the office it developed that there was on file a return receipt for the registered letter bearing a signature proving the delivery of the letter, summoning Schenkman to the office with regard to his business affiliations.

Upon his failure to respond and in view of his statement that he did not receive the letter the Executive Board, at its session on May 6th, decided, when his letter of resignation was read, to expel him on the ground that he was in business while holding membership in the union and fined him five dollars for ignoring the summons to appear in the office. This is but another instance of how sincere some "reformers" are.

Fall to Divide Work Equally

At the beginning of the present slack season there was confined an article in the columns dealing with the subject of division of work and a desire on the part of some firms to retain in the slack season one or two steady cutters, the number being in proportion to the size of the complete staff.

It was pointed out that the way employers would get around this is by claiming that the men whom they seek to retain steadily are the only ones competent to do certain special cutting. It was shown here that the number of garments cut to special measurements is very small and that the bulk of the garments cut in the slack season are special only in point of delivery, but as respects measurements they are invariably stock sizes.

The case in question concerned the cutters of Philip Mangano last week. This firm sought at that time to keep two cutters employed during the entire slack season. The rest of the cutters, numbering about ten, were forced to be idle during a considerable number of weeks. These men maintained that the work that the two men employed in the slack season cut was of a nature that the rest of the men could easily handle. The men had been instructed to divide the work equally.

Summoned to the Executive Board
During the course of the present slack season this violation was repeated. Again the employer sought to employ steadily the same two men, claiming that they were cutting only garments requiring special cuts. When this case was taken up before Manager Dubinsky in his office the rest of the men maintained that it is merely a repetition of the previous offense.

The case was finally taken up before the Executive Board and was reported to the last membership meeting. The entire shop appeared before the Board, to which the two cutters in question were summoned on charges of failing to carry out the orders of the office.

At that session the cutters of the shop testified that during the course of one or two weeks when the other cutters in addition to the two steady men were employed it was found that the garments cut by these two men were the same measurements as the regular stock and that the only special thing about the garments was the tickets.

Chairman Jacobs in summing up the case declared that the union would not tolerate disobedience of its rules and that if the violation was repeated would result in severe disciplinary measures against the two men summoned.

Excessive Wages Result of Violation

That Jacob Suckoff No. 2079 of Orange, New Jersey, failed to conceal the conditions under which he earned in one week as high as \$143.33 during the course of his employment by J. Hodes, also of Orange, was brought out before the Executive Board on May 6th and reported at the last membership meeting.

He was summoned before the Executive Board on charges of Business Agent Brooks of Newark Local 21 some few weeks ago. His failure then to respond to a registered summons resulted in his being fined in his absence. However, he appeared before the Board and excused his failure to appear the first time on the ground that working cut in his home was impossible for which reason he had not received his mail.

The charge preferred against him by the business agent was that he was employed at piece work rates instead of a weekly wage. An investigation by Brother Brooks of the payroll books showed that in one week he received in wages paid him by check \$95.96; in the second week, \$100.00; in the third, \$115.50; in the fourth, \$127.54; and in the fifth week his earnings rose to \$143.33.

In an effort to conceal the violation the payroll book tended to show that he received in the first two weeks \$82.22 and \$73.25, respectively, and in the following three weeks \$63.50 each week. It was in this manner, that is, by making false entries, in the payroll books, that the firm and the cutter attempted to hide the violation.

The cutter denied that he worked piece work. However, he did plead guilty to working excessive hours, that is, till 10:30 evenings and 5 P. M. Saturdays. In either event the violation was of sufficient gravity to impel the executive board to the decision that his working card for this firm be withdrawn and that another cutter be put to work.

Active Member to Be Tendered

Welcome

Upon the writer's notifying the Executive Board that he had learned through a visit paid to Brother Chas. Siegel in the Tomb, who is serving thirty days on an alleged charge of disorderly conduct, that Brother Siegel would be released on Friday, May 14th, the Executive Board appointed a committee consisting of Brothers Sam B. Shenker, David Fruhling, Max Stoller, Louis Forer, Jacob Hoffman and Meyer Priner to receive him on behalf of the local.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING Monday, May 17th

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place

Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.