

4TH CONV.

JUNE 1-4, 1903

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REPORT

of Proceedings of

THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

★ OF THE
**Inter. Ladies' Garment
Workers' Union.**

CLEVELAND, OHIO.



June 1st to June 4th, 1903.

**BEN SCHLESINGER PRESIDENT
B. BRAFF. GENERAL SEC'Y-TREAS.**

Ladies' Garment
Workers' Union.



Report
OF
Convention
1903.

REPORT

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 1, 1903.

MORNING SESSION.

Joseph Selyem appointed Sergeant-at-arms.

President Grossman appointed the following as Credential Committee: Brother McCauley, No. 6; Brother Kirschbaum, No. 1; Brother Goldfinger, No. 21; Brother Shawelson, No. 1; Brother Alper, No. 10.

In opening the Convention President Grossman introduced President Moore of the Trades and Labor Council (who, on behalf of all the Labor Unions of this city, welcomed the delegates to the Convention, and expressed the hope that they would accomplish the betterment of the laboring people of their own craft, and advance the interests of the Organization, and pledged to the International the support of all the Cleveland unions. He wished the delegates success in their work.

President Grossman, in behalf of the Convention, thanked the Brother for his address.

Brother Max Hayes was next introduced, and addressed the Convention, reiterating the welcome extended by Brother Smith, the President of the Labor Council. He assured the International the support of every radical Union, because of its action at the last Convention in adopting resolutions favoring the political independence of the working people. He assured the delegates that, while there have been minor quarrels in Cleveland among the Cloak Makers, the Organization was growing and would continue to grow, and within the next year hoped the trade would be thoroughly organized here.

He endeavored to impress on the delegates the necessity of a class conscious labor movement independent of old party affiliations.

Continuing, he said that while individual persons might differ as to the benefits derived from Trade Unionism, it could be truthfully asserted that it was only through Unionism, within the last decade, that the wage-worker derived any benefits, such as increased pay and decreased hours, and that the success of the labor movement is attributable to those Labor leaders, who, despite the bitter opposition of the employing classes, never permitted themselves to become discouraged, and persisted in their endeavors to organize, harmonize and unite the wage-workers of the country. That to-day Trade Unions, which before were laughed at and scorned, are so strong that they can obtain from their old enemies a respectful hearing. That where before the Trade Unions were never granted an opportunity to be heard before commercial bodies, it is the commercial bodies to-day which petition the Trade Unions for arbitration and conciliation, which is a sign that Trade Unionism is a factor to be counted with in the economic field.

The wage-earners need never fear the threats, so often made by the employers, that they will move their factories to places where there is no unionized labor, because the wage-earners would necessarily be compelled to follow in their wake, and that while such action on the part of the employer might weaken the organization in one place, it would naturally increase the strength in the other.

That the great mission of the Union to-day was to educate the wage-earners to the real economic truths, and that it was upon the economic and political field combined that the wage-earner could obtain for himself those things which, by right, belonged to him. That the wage-earner to-day, because of the introduction of perfect automatic labor-saving devices (which are throwing large numbers of them out of work), are beginning to discuss and consider the advisability of change in the present social order. That another factor in the new labor movement was the centralization of wealth in the Trusts. That between the two wings, production and distribution, both controlled by Capital, the wage-earners were helpless. That no matter if they did obtain higher wages, they are no better provided for than before, as an increased price of labor would mean an increased selling cost. That as the socialist movement truly represents the interest of the wage-earners, Trade Unions and the Socialists ought to combine and together fight the battles of Labor.

His address was much applauded.

President Grossman thanked Brother Hayes for his speech, and next introduced Brother Smith of the Trades Council, who spoke to the delegates upon the absolute necessity of creating a demand for the Label, which was the best and most effective weapon placed in the hands of organized labor with which to obtain concessions from their employers.

His address was applauded. President Grossman thanked the speaker for his remarks.

Delegate Leuth of Local 10, Cleveland, on behalf of his Organization, reported differences existing between his Local and the firm of Printz & Beiderman, and requested that a committee be appointed

by the Convention with full power to settle and reach an agreement with the firm. The request was granted by the Convention, and Brothers Barondess, Schlesinger and Menke were elected to act upon the committee, with Brothers Leuth and Scheibel of the Inside Tailors, and Brother Selyem of the Outside Tailors, and B. Peters of the Pressers, acting for their respective organizations.

The Convention here, on motion of D. B. Schlesinger, adjourned until 2 o'clock, Cleveland time.



CLEVELAND, June 1, 1903.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The following telegrams were read and ordered filed:

NEW YORK, June 1, 1903.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers, Perry Hall,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Harmonize; unite the Craft for the cause of Labor. United we stand, divided we fall.

OPERATORS' LOCAL, New York,

B. Fried, Secretary.

NEW YORK, June 1, 1903.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers, Perry Hall,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Perry's work is to disorganize labor and your duty is to organize the toilers of our trade. The future is ours.

THE UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CLOAKMAKERS,

A. Guyer, Secretary.

NEW YORK, June 1, 1903.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers, Perry Hall,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Wish success; unite; build movement for the emancipation of the working class.

CLOAK PRESSERS' LOCAL, New York,

A. B. Fier, Secretary.

Credential Committee reported as follows:

CONVENTION AT CLEVELAND, OHIO, MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1903.

Report of Credential Committee appointed by Chairman H. Grerman: James McCauley, Chairman, No. 6, New York; A. A. Alpers, Secretary, No. 10, Cleveland; Max Goldfinger, No. 21, Chicago; Max Kirskenharn, No. 1, New York; M. Shawelson, No. 1, New York. Local 1, New York.—Four Tailors' delegates, four Operators' delegates, three Pressers' delegates, two Skirt Makers' delegates; total, thirteen present.

Credentials O. K., but objection made by Brother Goldfinger of Chicago as to legality of seating Brother Harondess. Carried motion that all be seated without objections.

Local 2, Philadelphia, Pa.—Two present; O. K.

Local 3, Philadelphia.—None present.

Local 4, Baltimore.—I. Silberman, present; O. K.

Local 5, Chicago.—Three present; O. K. Berlina absent.

Local 6, New York.—Two present; O. K.

Local 10, Cleveland, O.—Two present; O. K.

Local 11, Cincinnati.—One present; O. K.

Local 12, New York.—One present; O. K.

Local 13.—Cleveland, O.—Two present; O. K.

Local 14, Cleveland, O.—Two present; O. K.

Local 15, New York.—Two present; O. K.; George Robinson credentials missing.

Local 17, New York.—One present; O. K.

Local 21, Chicago.—Two present; O. K.

Local 22, New York.—None present.

Local 24, Chicago.—One present; D. L. Kraus absent.

Local 25, Cleveland, O.—One present; O. K.; John Tomasek absent.

Local 26, Boston.—None present, but P. Davis of Local 37 to be proxy and to be decided.

Local 28, Chicago.—Two present; O. K.

Local 30, Aurora, Ill.—One present, and Harry Young absent.

Local 37, Boston.—One present; O. K.

Local 39, Chicago.—Two ladies present; O. K.

Local 41, Racine Wis.—One present, presented by Mr. Mat Bidinger, who is President of the Trades Council and Financial Secretary of Local 304 Cigarmakers' Union, to be decided as proxy. Motion carried to be seated without vote.

Local 46, Boston and Local 47, Boston.—None present, but credentials for Delegate Davis of Local 37 to be proxy, and to be decided. Motion carried to be seated, with but one vote.

Brother McCauley reports that seven locals—Nos. 4, 5, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20 had not paid the 25 cents assessment levied by the International at last years' Convention, and recommended to contest their seats unless amendment be taken to recall their charter, if not paid up within thirty days.

JAS. McCAULEY, Chairman.

AUG. A. ALPERS, Secretary.

MAX GOLDFINGER,

MAX KIRCHENBAUM,

ABRAHAM SCHAWELSON

After discussion the report of the Credential Committee was adopted.

Brother Bidinger, representing Local 41, who is a cigarmaker, and a member of the Racine Local of Cigarmakers' Union, was seated as a delegate to the Convention, but without a vote. Reporting as to the situation of the Racine Local 41, he informed the delegates that the lockout instituted against the Local Union was in force for the last nineteen weeks; that the injunction against the Organization had been made permanent. He further informed the delegates

that the charter fee for Local 41 was paid to the International by Local Trades Council after the visit of Brother Bisno, and that immediately after the firm became aware of this, it begun to discharge every member of the Organization.

The roll was called and all delegates found present.

The President then appointed the following Committees:

Resolution Committee.—Brother Barondess, No. 1; Brother Kirshenbaum, No. 1; Brother Deutch, No. 1; Brother Schlesinger, No. 5; Brother Marks, No. 15; Brother Alpers, No. 10; Brother Davis, No. 37; Brother Goldfinger, No. 21; Brother Ch. Stolp, No. 30.

Law Committee.—Brother Schlesinger, No. 5; Brother McCauley, No. 6; Brother Rosenberg, No. 1; Brother Holender, No. 1; Brother Boquet, No. 6; Brother Menke, No. 21; Brother Zaslowsky, No. 5; Brother Polakow, No. 1; Brother Leuth, No. 10; Brother Levine, No. 12.

Press Committee.—Brother Ross, No. 17; Brother Seylem, No. 25; Brother Schlesinger, No. 5; Brother Hartman, No. 2; Brother Shawelson, No. 1.

Finance Committee.—Brother McCauley, No. 6; Brother Holzer, No. 1; Brother Freedman, No. 5; Brother Braunstein, No. 11; Brother Robinson, No. 15.

Organization and Miscellaneous Committee.—Brother Barondess, No. 1; Brother Rosenberg, No. 1; Brother Kirshenbaum, No. 1; Brother Deutch, No. 1; Brother Zaslowsky, No. 5; Brother Boquet, No. 6; Brother Robinson, No. 15; Brother Rickman, No. 14; Brother Peters, No. 14; Brother Kraus, No. 24.

Label Committee.—Brother Scheibel, No. 13; Brother Seylem, No. 25; Miss Wagner and Miss Seidlitz, No. 39; Brother Rosenberg, No. 1; Brother Ross, No. 17; Brother Marks, No. 15; Brother Menke, No. 21; Brother Silverman, No. 4; Brother Robinson, No. 15.

Appeal and Grievance Committee.—Brother Goldfinger, No. 21; Brother Holzer, No. 1; Brother Kaminsky, No. 1; Brother Lesser, No. 1; Brother Zahn, No. 2; Brother Freedman, No. 5; Brother Ross, No. 17; Brother Marks, No. 13; Brother Braunstein, No. 11; Brother Seylem, No. 25.

Boycott Committee.—Brother Polakow, No. 1; Brother McCauley, No. 6; Brother P. Goldstein, No. 1; Brother Rosenberg, No. 1; Brother Goldstein, No. 24; Brother Lesser; Brother Jaffe, No. 28; Brother Silverman, No. 4; Brother Segal, No. 28; Miss Paulina Seidlitz and Miss Wagner, No. 39.

The Committee appointed at the morning session to adjust the difference with Printz, Beiderman, through Brother Barondess, reported that the contract previously reached between the firm and the Trades Council was an impossible one, and while the matter had not yet been adjusted by the Committee, there was every hope that it would be on the following day, the agreement which was reached by the

Trades Council and the firm having been modified in several very important respects.

The President then read his report, which is as follows:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Fourth Annual Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

As your President I hereby offer to you for consideration the following:

I have tried my utmost as President of the Union to uphold it, and have worked night and day for the same, struggling against fearful odds, as I have been hampered by our Secretary disregarding the orders of the President and Vice-President, being his only wishes to aid himself instead of working in harmony with the Union. I was very much grieved during the entire year dealing with a man of that kind. His motive was only to discredit every official of the Union, sending letters making insinuating remarks about each and every officer of the International; but nevertheless I have done the best in my power to carry out the wishes of the Executive Board, and I am delighted to say we have brought this International Union to a powerful footing, and I hope and trust this convention will see in future that harmony will forever prevail in order to try to build a mighty and powerful Union and create agitation for our union label and members and trade in general.

There were in the past year 135 strikes, of which 119 were won; 13 compromised; 17 were lost, and 6 are still pending.

In these strikes 2,613 persons were involved, and about 2,000 persons were benefited. These strikes resulted in a general increase of wages of about 20 per cent., recognition of the Union, and, in some cases, reductions in the hours of labor.

The strikes were conducted at a cost of \$8,802. There are at present 51 locals, which means a gain of 30 locals in the course of one year, affiliated, with a membership of about 8,805.

Several concerns have adopted the label, among them the following:

On Ladies' Garments:

Cloaks and Suits.—L. Mink & Co., 935 Market street, San Francisco, Cal.; Jacoby & Heller, 40 Ellis street, San Francisco, Cal.; J. Kragen & Co., 933 Market street, San Francisco, Cal.

Skirts.—J. W. Caro, 40 Ellis street, San Francisco, Cal.

Silk and Woolen Waists.—Steinhardt & Marks, 107 New Montgomery street, San Francisco, Cal.

Waists, Wrappers and Skirts.—W. M. Fink & Co., Detroit, Mich.

I call your attention again and invite a most thorough discussion by the Convention of the problem of abolishing the contract system.

As long as the trade will be in the hands of petty employers, infesting with their miserable and unsanitary shops the large cities, all efforts to ameliorate the conditions of the tens of thousands engaged in our trade will be almost in vain.

The sweatshop evil is still among us. It still sends thousands of our brothers and sisters to untimely graves; it still threatens the community with its pestiferous products. The fight against the evil must be continued with renewed energy.

One of the neglected subjects is the week work problem. Regulation and control of a trade in which the piece system prevails is almost inconceivable. The most powerful labor organizations in America are in those trades in which the payment by weekly wages predominates. The opportunities of the scheming employer to disrupt the organization within his factory by favoring one workingman, usually the traitor, at the expense of the others, more faithful to the Union, will be minimized.

Cut-throat competition will be done away with. Having once gained the possibility of regulating the hours of labor to a certain extent, say, nine or ten hours a day, we will be in a position to teach the laborers the great value of a shorter working day, so that in our trade there should be also some opportunity for leisure, for physical and intellectual development. A strong agitation should be developed for the shorter working day.

A peculiar evil has recently grown up among the skirt manufacturers; the skirt makers are forced by their employers to bring their own machines. Radical and energetic steps should be taken to check this evil in its very beginning.

The two firms of Laird & Bonwit and Blaumer Bros. are still on the unfair list.

The organizing tours heretofore undertaken in the interests of the International have not proven much of a success, principally because the organizers, although conscientious and able men, were not familiar with the trade.

Let us hereafter send into the field men thoroughly conversant with our trade.

I therefore recommend that our next elected President shall receive a reasonable salary and act as organizer of the International, who shall be well posted in our trade. I also recommend that each and every new member shall pay twenty-five cents to the general office of the International Union for agitation purposes.

I desire to attract the attention of the Convention to the present insufficiency of dues. In order to be in a position to afford the assistance which the International is expected to furnish to its component locals, a larger fund is indispensable.

The weak organizations naturally look to the mother organization for aid and support.

The dues must at least be doubled.

I further recommend that this convention shall find a way or means to publish a monthly journal, which would be beneficial to our organizations.

In concluding I desire to extend my heartiest thanks to President Samuel Gompers and all the officers of the American Federation of Labor for their prompt assistance given during the year to this International. I also extend my heartiest thanks to the officers and organizations of this International Union for the work which they have done during this entire year.

In conclusion, permit me to express the hope that this Convention will mark a new epoch in the development of our National Organization, so that we should be able to point with even more pride than now to the splendid record of The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Fraternally and respectfully submitted,

HERMAN GROSSMAN, President, I. L. G. W. U.

Acting on the President's report, it was finally decided that the report of the President be received, and the same (as it contained charges against the Secretary and Treasurer) be referred for action to a Committee consisting of Brothers Barondess, Davis and Goldfinger.

Brother James McCauley, Vice-President, had no report to offer beyond a statement to the effect that he had been so taken up with Local Union matters within the last few weeks that it had been impossible for him to prepare one, but that he believed the report of the President and Secretary would sufficiently inform the members as to the status of the International Organization; but that in the course of the proceedings of the Convention he would have certain suggestions to make to the body. Also that the Secretary had, whenever requested, given him information as to the International, and that the Secretary had often consulted him and other members of the Board on the business of the International.

Secretary and Treasurer's Report was then read and same was divided (under protest of Brother Bidinger), the financial portion thereof being reported to the Committee on Finances, and the remaining parts thereof to the same Committee to which the report of the President had been referred, excepting the recommendations contained in it, which were referred to the Resolution Committee.

The Secretary and Treasurer's report, as it contained a certain reference to the Schoen Manufacturing Company of Racine, Wis. (which reference by error had come into the report), was amended to exclude the same.

The reading of the minutes of the previous Convention were dispensed with.

The following telegram was then read and ordered filed:

NEW YORK, June 1, 1903.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, 339 Perry street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Best wishes and good luck to President Grossman and delegates
to the Fourth Annual Convention of International Ladies' Garment
Workers' Union, from your working friends.

JOS. GROSS, 180 Stanton.

The Convention then adjourned until the following day, at 9 a. m.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 2, 1903.

MORNING SESSION.

Roll called and the following delegates absent at Roll call: Joseph
Barondessa, Louis Zalin, E. Zaslowsky, M. Freedman, John Luth, J.
H. Levine, L. Scheibel, J. Marks, G. S. Robinson, P. Davis.

The minutes of the previous day's session were read, received and
adopted, and motion passed that twenty copies of the minutes be
supplied each day to the entire Convention.

Brother B. Schlesinger of Local 5 then read his report as the
International delegate to the Convention of the American Federa-
tion of Labor, held at New Orleans, November 13 to 22, 1902. The
same was received and concurred in with a vote of thanks to
Brother Schlesinger for his services as a delegate.

The question of the differences existing between the International
Ladies' Garment Workers and the Shirt Waist and Laundry Workers'
International Union, with which the report partly dealt, was brought
up, and the Secretary-Treasurer reported to the Convention of the
settlement made between the Shirt Waist and Laundry Workers' In-
ternational officers, representing that Organization, and Brother
Hermann Robinson, A. F. of L. organizer at New York City, and
Secretary-Treasurer representing the International Ladies' Garment
Workers' Union, it was concurred in that the settlement be accepted
by the Convention; but in view of the fact that certain written docu-
ments submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer coming from Brother
Charles E. Nordek, Secretary of Laundry Workers to the Philadel-
phia representatives of that Organization, showing the exact nature
of the settlement were in typewriting, as was also the signature
thereto, and as there was no seal attached to such document, it was
ordered that the Secretary-Treasurer correspond with the Secretary
of the International Shirt Waist and Laundry Workers and request
an ink-signed copy of the agreement, bearing the seal of that or-
ganization, as otherwise, the agreement was valueless. Following is
a copy of the document.

COPY OF LETTER SENT BY C. E. NORDECK TO THE
PHILADELPHIA REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SHIRT,
WAIST AND LAUNDRY WORKERS' UNION.

WALTER CHARBIELE, 1501 Pine Street, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir and Brother: Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' International Union claim:

All employes in factories calling or advertising themselves as shirt factories, and who make shirts, men's and boys' shirt waists, collars and cuffs, etc.; these belong to S., W. & L. W. I. U.

Ladies' Garment Workers.—All employes working in factories making exclusively ladies' garments and ladies' shirt waists belong to the Lady Garment Workers.

Combination Factories.—(Making both shirts and ladies' garments). Employes in these factories form into their own respective Trades Unions, where strong enough to support a Union of their own. Same as the printers, the printers' pressmen, or the iron molders, and the iron molders' helpers, all working in one shop. In this way each International deals with its own Local Union in the issuing of their respective labels through their own respective representatives.

When, however, there is but one factory in a town, and the major portion of work in factory is mostly ladies' garments, and only a few shirts are made, then they go to the Ladies' Garment Workers to give them a good, solid Union instead of a weak one, and the same applies where the factory is just the reverse, and where they do mostly shirts, and only a small amount of ladies' garments, then they go to S., W. & L. W. U.

Report of Local Union was next in order, and the President called Brothers Rosenberg, Barondess, Kirshenbaum, Shawelson and Kaminsky, who, reporting for their respective Branches of the Cloak Makers' Union of New York City, set it down as a general proposition that the disorganized condition of New York cloak makers could only be remedied by the general adoption of the label, and that the same was principally due to the fact that the element to be dealt with and organized from year to year made it impossible to continuously control any one shop, or number of shops, as those employed from season to season changed shops. That another important factor was the very large number of cloak makers in New York, who were some 22,000 in number, scattered in from 1,200 to 1,500 shops, the location of many of which was never known to the Organization. Also the fact that prices upon work being agreed upon between Union and employer according to lot number, it was very easy for the manufacturer to change the lot number immediately after the contract was signed, necessitating a new contract and a new strike. The fact that the cutters were disorganized was also an important factor in the cloak industry of New York. To remedy these conditions, delegates who spoke all advised that the International Organization gives its best endeavors towards creating a demand for the label, which could be done by maintaining as large a corps of organizers

as was possible, whose duty it should be to tour the country and agitate for the label and organize the trade generally so as to equalize the price of labor in all sections. For this purpose it was further advised that the Convention increase the per capita tax to an extent sufficient to meet all the requirements necessitated by this policy.

Brother Barondess, who spoke long and eloquently upon the history of the cloak making industry in New York, with which, because of his long connection, he is thoroughly acquainted, advised that the Convention make it its object to create a propaganda for reduction of working hours in the industry as being the one great remedy which would correct many of the evils at present in existence. He affirmed that it was a lack of such propaganda which was responsible for the disruption of the various organizations of cloak makers, and accountable for the lack of strength of many of those at present in existence. His remarks in this connection were illustrated by results of other trades.

Brother Barondess also further asserted that one of the great factors at work to the detriment of the Cloak Makers' Organization was the policy of some Socialist Labor Party men, who insisted that the Cloak Makers' Organization must either become politically associated with the Socialist Party or else disband, and who were not content to first educate the workers to a realization of the economic truths upon which the socialist philosophy is based. That another factor to which the disorganized condition of the workers in the ladies' garment workers' industry is attributable is a system of contracts introduced by the manufacturers. In closing his remarks, the delegate reiterated the necessity of a week work system, which would in time lead to increased prices, as was the fact in other trades; the introduction of the label and the increase of per capita to meet the expenses of the Organization.

Reporting particularly for the Operators' Branch of the Cloak Makers' Union of New York, Brother Rosenberg informed the Convention that there were about 800 members in the same, that the meetings of the Branch were poorly attended because of the fact that the various divisions of the cloak making trade in New York were working under one charter, which gave the Branch members no particular interest in maintaining a strong Branch of their own and caused them to be dependent upon the other Branch, and that in New York the Tailors' and Operators' Branch supported the entire Organization, which now consisted of four divisions, although there had been several others, now abandoned. The Convention was asked by the delegate to devise some method whereby this defect can be remedied.

Delegate Kirshenbaum reported for the Tailors' Branch that there were a total of 1,567 members in his Branch. Of this number 1,000 were in good standing until July, and the remainder in arrears for various periods up to nine months, of which last there were very few; that the meetings of the Branch were much better attended than formerly. The delegate, speaking generally of the condition of the cloak making industry of New York, asserted that much of the present condition was due to the disorganization of the cutters; that there had been several opportunities of introducing the label in New

York; that the same had to be passed by because the cutters working in the houses seeking to adopt the label were not organized, and that the Cutters' Union made practically no endeavor to organize its branch of the trade.

Reporting for the Pressers' Branch, Delegate Shawelson stated to the Convention that the Pressers were disorganized, that their condition was not of their own making, but that the same was the fault of the tailors and operators, who were content to work with non-union pressers, and in some cases even went so far as to inform the manufacturers as to who were the Union pressers in his employ, which often resulted in the discharge of such persons. That the pressers for years had worked only week work, and had by reason thereof maintained a strong Organization, but that the policy of the operators and tailors had gradually caused the disruption of same, and that pressers were compelled to seek work under any conditions that were possible and that this caused the gradual introduction of piece work, which finally led to the introduction of the contract system of pressing, under which one presser, under bond with the employer, became an employer himself, and that it was almost impossible for a presser to, otherwise than by giving a bond, obtain employment. He asked, therefore, that since the pressers were not at fault as to the present condition prevailing in their branch of trade, that the Convention devise some plan through which this could be remedied.

Delegate Kaminsky of the same Branch spoke in the same strain, and made the same request of the Convention.

The Convention then adjourned until 2 p. m.



CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 2, 1903.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Roll call dispensed with.

Continging the report of the Pressers' Branch of Cloak Makers' Union of New York, Delegate Lesser stated to the Convention that the unorganized condition of the Pressers was not due to the fact that the pressers did not want to organize, but that the business agents of the Cloak Makers Union did not give the same care towards organizing the pressers as they did towards organizing the other Branches of the craft; what was necessary was that the Cloak Makers' Union select a man thoroughly competent and conversant with the pressing branch of trade, whose duty it should be to organize the Pressers. Otherwise his remarks were of a similar nature as those made by the other delegate from his Branch.

The following telegram was then read and accepted:

New York, June 2.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, O.

Co-operate the workers for the cause of Labor the International
Ladies' Garment Co operative Society of New York.

RIFKIN, Secretary.
OPERATORS' BRANCH,

Delegate J. Dyeck, as a report for the Skirt Makers' Branch of the Cloak Makers' Union of New York, stated to the Convention, that while it was true that the skirt makers of New York City were disorganized, their condition was due to the fact that in the amalgamation effected between the Skirt Makers' Union and the New York Cloak Makers' Union, the Skirt Makers surrendered to the Cloak Makers' jurisdiction the largest part of their membership working in cloak shops, but engaged in making skirts exclusively, and that by reason of this and the further additional fact that the Cloak Makers' Union, through its delegate made little or no effort to organize the Skirt Makers, the Skirt Makers' Organization has been crippled morally and financially. That the Skirt Organization just prior to the amalgamation was in a flourishing condition, but was now because of these facts almost in a state of disruption.

Speaking of the general condition of the entire Local No. 1, the delegate asserted that the Cloak Makers of New York were disorganized, or whatever organization did exist was on an impracticable basis; that beyond the endeavor to induce the workers to join the Organization, and see to it that the dues were paid, and the Treasury increased, the Union made little or no effort to obtain for its members such concessions and such conditions as was the object and the usual course of action of all Unions, that this was the main reason for the present disordered condition of the New York Cloak Makers, and it was only by inaugurating a new policy more in conformity with the system of the organization of other crafts that Cloak Makers in New York could be induced to affiliate themselves with and remain permanent members of their Organization.

President Grossman, as representative of the Skirt Makers' Union spoke to the delegates, informing them of the condition of the Locals in New York. He stated, while things were not as they might be, they were not as bad as some of the out-of-town delegates pictured them. As did the other delegates, he also gave it as his opinion that the principal reason for the disorganized condition of the Cloak Makers in New York, was due to the fact that an entire new element had to be dealt with from season to season, but by proper procedure of the Convention these evils could be remedied.

Brothers Zaslowsky and Davis were here appointed as a Committee to purchase a Mimeograph, in order that copies of the proceedings of the Convention might be furnished to delegates.

Reporting for Local 2, Cloak Makers' Union of Philadelphia, delegate Hartman stated to the Convention that his Organization is very

successful, and where, during the previous year, there had been but 250 members, there were at present 600, of which number 450 were in good standing up to the first day of June. That the Philadelphia Pressers' Union numbered about 100, Skirt Makers' about 200, and the Finishers' 200. That all the Philadelphia Organizations acted harmoniously in a District Council, and that the growth of the Organization would continue. That the Philadelphia Unions had to contend with the Manufacturers' Association, which had a fund of about \$30,000, and were prepared to raise as much more as was necessary to aid their cause in a contest with the Organization. That the Pressers of Philadelphia had one general strike, in which they were assisted by the tailors, and that the same was won, and he requested, in view of the fact that Philadelphia was on the road to success, that the International Organization make a special effort to send somebody fully conversant with the Cloak Industry to that city, in order that the good work of the last year be perfected and completed.

Brother Zahn reporting for the same local reiterated the statements of Brother Hartman, and added thereto a request that the surrounding towns about Philadelphia, in which a great many cloaks and other garments of ladies' apparel were manufactured be organized, as in their present condition they were a detriment to the Philadelphia Union. He also advised that a committee of three be selected by the Convention at a salary, to circulate a petition throughout Philadelphia, making demand upon the retail merchants that they carry a complete line of Union Made ladies' wearing apparel. In addition he stated that the International Organization had been lax in giving assistance to Philadelphia at the time when such assistance was most needed.

The following is the report submitted by I. Silberman, of Local 4 of Baltimore: That his organization was thoroughly in control of the industry, that the meetings were well attended, that the conditions were the best that ever existed in Cloak Making in Baltimore. That his organization was making great progress, but was being hampered by Local No. 7 of Union Garment Makers of America, and he asked that the Convention take steps to remedy this.

Speaking for Local 6, Cloak and Suit Cutters of New York, Delegate Buquet asserted that the claims made by the New York Cloak Makers' delegate, that the cutters hampered the general organization of the industry in New York, was untrue in that the cutters were perfectly willing to accept men who were competent mechanics, that the great trouble in New York was that after the loss of the strike in '94, the number of cutters rapidly increased, that many of those now working at the trade were incompetent, and that the trade schools were turning out many new cutters who did not begin to have an inkling of the business. That his organization was always ready and willing and was making every effort to organize a trade, but that it could not afford to lower the standard of high grade work and reasonable wages in order to accept every cutter at work in the trade into the Union. That this at one time had been tried to the great sorrow of the organization, and that it did not propose to make this mistake again. That Local 17 was now taking

care of the mechanics until they were competent and could be accepted into their Union.

Speaking for the same Organization, Vice-President McCauley reiterated the statements of his co-delegate, and called the attention of the Convention to the report submitted to it by the Secretary. The same he stated was correct so far as it went, but that it was misleading as it did not explain the depreciation in the membership, which was apparent from on the face thereof. That the decrease of 150 members, as shown by the report, was due to the fact that when about three years ago the Cloak and Suit Cutters reorganized, many of those put on the books of the organization at that time, had never paid a penny to the organization, and that these and others who were behind in initiation and dues, were dropped just prior to the Convention. That his organization had a death benefit system, that it limited the number of apprentices in the trade to one for every five cutters in the shop, and that the Cloak and Suit Cutters in conjunction with the Cloak Makers' Union of New York were seeking to devise a plan whereby to remedy the numerous evils existing in New York, and that such a plan, no doubt, would be put in operation within a short period.

The committee for the purchase of a Mimeograph here reported, and it was ordered that the Secretary pay for a Mimeograph.

Delegate Braunstein reported for Local No. 11, Cincinnati, stated to the Convention that one of the great evils which his organization was compelled to suffer from, and which threatened its very existence, was the fact that the Relief Committee of New York was constantly inveighing cloak makers and skirt makers in Cincinnati under promise of high wages, and that these mechanics upon their arrival were generally sent into one certain shop to a manufacturer, whose name was Hass, and that they eventually were given contracts at \$11 per week for the year to work with as many machines on the team system as the manufacturer saw fit. That in this way the number of those manufacturing ladies' garments in the city of Cincinnati was greatly in excess of the demand, which caused a cut in wages, but that the members were now taking hold and organizing every branch of the trade.

Reporting for Local 21, Chicago Cloak Cutters' Union, Delegate Goldfinger stated to the Convention that his Local was thoroughly organized, that it had a benefit system and thoroughly controlled the trade, and was constantly making new demands upon the manufacturers, which were granted because of the strength of the organization.

Reporting for Local 24, Chicago Cloak Pressers, Delegate Goldstein stated to the Convention that his organization was started through the efforts of Brother Schlesinger about one year ago with ten members, that the number of members of the organization is about 185, most of whom are in good standing. That the Organization thoroughly controlled the trade, and had succeeded in reducing the hours of labor, that work was on the piece system, that there were no contractors on his branch of industry in Chicago, so far as the Organization knew. That the success of the Organization was due to the efforts of Brothers Schlesinger and Menke.

The Committee appointed by the Convention to adjust the differences with Printz, Beiderman & Co. reported, through Jos. Barondess, that a contract had been signed by the firm, recognizing Locals 10, 13, 14, 25 and 55. The contract which was a very satisfactory one was ordered concurred in by the Convention. The Committee with a vote of thanks was discharged from further duty in this matter.

Upon the request of Brother Barondess and Mr. Spektorsky, the head worker of the Hebrew Alliance of Cleveland, was invited as a guest to the Convention, and given the privilege of the floor. Mr. Spektorsky shortly addressed the Convention, thanking it for the honor they had done him.

Temporary Chairman McCauley thanked him for his address to the Convention, and the Convention extended through the District Council of Cleveland an invitation to Mr. and Mrs. Spektorsky to attend the banquet to be given that evening at the Convention Hall.

The Convention here adjourned until the following day at 9 A. M.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 3, 1903.

MORNING SESSION.

President Grossman opened the Session and ordered Roll Call. All the delegates found present.

Reading of the minutes of the previous day's session was ordered dispensed with.

Reporting for the Chicago Locals, Delegates Schlesinger, Zaslowsky and Freedman stated to the Convention that the success of these Organizations was directly due to the fact that the Organizations did not concern themselves with compelling unwilling persons to become members. That the perfect harmony existing among the various branches of the trades was another important factor, that these Organizations maintained a benefit system was also of great importance to them. That in Chicago there was a system of alternating hands in the slack seasons, which had been established by the Organization.

Reporting for Local 12, New York, Delegate Levine stated that his Organization had about 800 members, who were all enthusiastic, and working hard for the success of the Local. That it had from its infancy been compelled to fight at every step, that the only method by which the Organization could grow was by strikes as the manufacturers were bitterly opposed to the same. That the method employed, to affiliate the various members, was to take shop by shop and organize them. That the only demand that the Organization at present made upon the employers was that the Union be recognized, but that the employers were so bitterly opposed to the Union that they compelled it to call a strike before they would recognize the same. That in the past year this Organization had called six strikes, and had succeeded in winning four of them, that there was still a strike pending against Silberberg Bros. and another against Max Roth. That his Organiza-

tion was compelled to tax members in order to pay benefits to those on strike. That many of the strikers had been arrested and sentenced, that one case was now before the Appellate Division in which a picket was sentenced to six months for doing picket duty. That despite all of this, the Organization was rapidly growing and that it would not be long before it would thoroughly control the entire ~~waist-making~~ industry, in which there were employed in New York about 15,000 people, mostly girls.

Reporting for Local 25, of Cleveland, Delegate Alpers stated that his Organization was growing, and since the new officers were elected and matters were taken more firmly in hand, it was certain it would not be very far distant when the Cleveland Organization would thoroughly control this branch of trade, that the troubles of the past were principally due to the fact that the Organization had endeavored at an inopportune time to enforce an apprentice rule.

Generally speaking of the situation in Cleveland, he stated that as the trade in the various branches became more thoroughly organized, wages and conditions would improve. That the strong competition in the trade generally would have to be remedied before the entire membership would be benefited, and that the week work system was the best solution of this problem. That his Organization paid funeral expenses to the extent of \$25, and also paid sick benefits.

Speaking for Local 13, Delegates Scheibel and Sessler informed the Convention that the Tailors' Branch of Cleveland was well organized, that one of the great difficulties with which it had to contend was the outside contracting system, that the organization was compelled to take the outside contractors in as members. There was a good opportunity to organize the entire trade in Cleveland, but that they could find no man in Cleveland competent enough to do this, and therefore requested the Convention to advise them as to the selection of an Organizer, or to give them some advice as to the method to be pursued in organizing.

Reporting for Local 14, Pressers' Delegates Peters and Rickman informed the Convention that their Organizations were four years in existence, that they started with 18 members, and in that period succeeded in raising the wages of the pressers from \$6.25 to \$14 and \$14.50 per week. That the Organization now almost controlled every presser, and that those still out were rapidly coming into the Organization.

Reporting for Local 15, Gotham Knife Cutters, also of New York, Delegate Marks stated that his Local had been in existence since 1884, and that it was responsible for the organization of every Cutters' Union in New York City. That they now had one strike on hand against the firm of Silberberg Bros., as a result of the rule of the Union in reference to holidays. That this strike had cost them within the past three months about \$1200, raised by assessing each member at work \$1. That the cutters on strike were receiving \$10 per week each. That the girls were called out by the Waist Makers' Union in sympathy with the cutters, and most of them through the assistance of the various Cutters' Unions in New York and Waist

Makers' Union, were placed in other positions, but at one time they were receiving aid from the District Council of New York. That the cutters in New York were not as thoroughly organized as was possible, but that the various elements at work in the industry, and the various scales of wages obtaining in the International and other peculiar conditions resulting from a constant influx of foreigners, made it almost impossible to perfect an Organization, but that his Organization, the other Cutters' Organization, and the Cloak Makers' and Waist Makers' Unions of New York were endeavoring to their utmost ability to remedy these evils.

Delegate Marks also, under instructions from his Organization, stated that his Organization under protest paid the 25-cent assessment levied by the Convention, as it was an illegal one.

Speaking for the same Organization, Brother G. S. Robinson stated that the various Locals in New York were endeavoring to their utmost to remedy the evils existing in the manufacture of ladies' garments in New York, that the great number of employes in each shop made perfect control almost impossible, and that the constant influx of a foreign element was another great problem that the Organization was being confronted with. That it was necessary that the Convention devise some plan, if possible, whereby this could be done, and he advised that the first step in this direction would be to give the International more funds with which to work, and that for this purpose the per capita tax be increased to 10 cents per member per month, out of which five cents was to be set aside as a strike fund, and five cents for organization purposes. He agreed with the other delegates that the solution of most of the evils in the trade would be the week work system.

Convention then adjourned until 2 P. M.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 3, 1903.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention opened at 2 o'clock. Roll called and all delegates present.

The resolution of the previous day, that a printed copy of the minutes of the Convention be furnished to the representatives of each Local represented, on motion of Delegate Menke, re-considered and passed that the Convention should not furnish these copies to the delegates, as it was impossible to prepare them in time.

Reporting for Local 25, Bohemian Cloak Makers' Union, Delegates Selyem and Tomasek stated that the Bohemians were formerly members of Local 13, but separated so as to give Bohemians a separate Local. Have a strong Organization and are fighting hard to organize all outside tailors and to keep them in good standing.

Delegates Jaffe and Segal, for Local 28, Skirt Makers of Chicago, report a strong Local, thoroughly controlling the trade, but that the manufacturers could import goods much cheaper from New York and elsewhere, which was to the great detriment of their Local.

Following is the report submitted by P. Davis, Locals 26, 36, 37, 46 and 47: That the Organizations in Boston, which he represented, were not all of them in the best possible condition, not because of lack of reason for the existence of Unions, but because of the fact that there were not enough active workers in the Boston Organizations. That the principal trouble was not with the women's Organizations, which were thoroughly organized, in so far as they went, and which had at the head women to control every office that was possible, but that it was the men's Organizations that were weak. That New England offered a brilliant field to the International for a campaign of organization and agitation. That what was wanted in New England and Boston was that an Organizer be sent there by the International Organization, to harmonize the various branches of the craft throughout the section. That in New England this was perfectly easy of accomplishment, as the people favored and supported organized labor. He requested that the next Convention of this body go to Boston, as that would be one of the best ways to arouse an interest in the New England States. That one of the Organizations in Boston, which had maintained a strike of sixty girls, were compelled to organize a co-operative shop, out of which they had made a great success. Speaking generally of what should be the policy of the International Organization itself, the delegates advised a system of week work be agitated for, and if possible be introduced. That a quarterly journal be published by the International, which should preach to the members the truths of the socialist co-operative commonwealth. And that the dues be increased in order that funds sufficient to carry on an active campaign in the interests of the International be created.

The following telegrams were then read and ordered filed:

New York, June 2, 1903.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers, Perry Hall,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, Ohio

Most hearty greeting, all Garment Workers; may your Organization prosper and be foremost in the struggle against Capitalistic Tyrannical Misrule and for Equality, Fraternity, Justice and Order; long-lived organized labor.

THE JEWISH DAILY FORWARD.
New York, June 2, 1903.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers, Perry Hall,
339 Perry street, Cleveland, Ohio.

United Garment Workers of America send greetings and hope that your Convention will prove a successful one.

Yours fraternally, Thos. J. Crouchley, Gen'l Auditor.

A communication from Buttonhole Makers' Union of New York G. W. of A., requesting that the International Locals be instructed to see to it that only Union Buttonhole Makers be employed in shops

controlled by them was read, ordered filed, and the Convention recommended to the Locals that the request of our Sister Organization be granted.

Reporting for Local 17, New York, Manhattan Knife Cutters' Association, Nathan Ross informed the delegates that his Organization was formed principally for the purpose of educating the great mass of cutters working on the East Side of New York, who were unacquainted with the Trade Labor Movement, and were therefore compelled to work at the poorest and lowest possible wage, and that these members were as soon as possible turned over to the other two Cutters' Organizations, according to which branch of craft they followed. That his Organization had experienced great difficulties, and at one time had only five members, and that a strict policy in regard to lapsed and suspended members was gradually building up the organization, and that it now consisted of 95 members. That his organization had expended, although almost impossible to do so, a sum of (\$200) two hundred dollars for the benefit of the strikers of Silberberg Bros.' waist concern in New York. Explaining the general condition of affairs in New York, the Brother made the same assertion that the other delegates did as to the impossibility of maintaining an organization and controlling the large number of workers on ladies' garments in New York City. That it was not the fault of the leaders and active spirits that New York was not more thoroughly organized, but only the fault of conditions, over which they had no control. Many sacrifices had been made by those leaders in their efforts to elevate their fellow workers, but this only resulted in discrimination against them, and often left them without employment on account of the prejudice of employers.

As to the assertion made by the delegate from the West, that work could be purchased in New York cheaper than it could be produced in the West, he claimed that it was an impossible one, in view of the fact that the rents in New York, and the cost of living in New York, were so high, that no mechanic could produce work at even those prices at which they were made in other large cities, that work that was purchased cheaper came from the small country towns and not out of the New York markets. That this assertion of the Western delegate was also an impossible one, because New York was always fighting to obtain a high price of labor, and that New York was receiving much higher prices for work than in any other section of the country. To remedy the evils, which exist in New York, he advised that the delegates of the West make it their business to organize their section of the country, because the labor organizations are strong there, and that if the delegates of the West would do their full duty, that New York in the gradual course of circumstances would have to get into line.

Reporting for Local 39, Delegates Miss Paulina Sendlitz and Miss Anna Wagner stated that their Local was organized about six months and consisted of 200 members, most of whom were in good standing. That after the Convention they proposed to start organizing the remainder of those working in their craft, and would increase their membership by about 200. That the Organization was recognized by

manufacturers, that they were well treated and paid better than ever before.

Reporting for Local 41, Racine, Wis., Delegate Bidinger reported that members of Local 41 were locked out because of the fact that they had affiliated themselves with a Labor Organization, which was displeasing to their employers (Schoen Mfg. Co.). That every effort had been made by the Local Trades Council, assisted by Brother Schlesinger and the International to adjust the differences. After a contract had been reached, finally adjusting the matter, the firm began to discriminate in such manner as to compel the employes to petition the Local Trades Council to permit them to again walk out. That the lockout was under the charge of the Local District Trades Council through Brothers Bidinger and Paulson. That the Courts had issued an injunction with a \$10,000 damage suit attached. The Organization fought this injunction, but that the same had been made permanent, and that the matter of further action therein was now at rest.

Resolution Committee then reported as follows:

RESOLUTION No. 1, introduced by B. Schlesinger, Local No. 5, Chicago, and P. Davis, Local 37, Boston:

WHEREAS, The object of the widespread movement of Organizations among the employers, climaxed by the recent Organization of the National Employers' Association, is avowedly to antagonize the trade union movement of this country in their efforts to better their conditions, and whereas, such Organizations command on the industrial arena the political power, which they constantly employ in carrying out their object, therefore be it resolved that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union urges its members to study the Socialist movement, and resort to the same political power in order that they may, in their battle for human rights, not only strike as a unit, but also vote as a unit, to the end that they may usher in as soon as possible the ideal of the co-operative commonwealth.

(Signed) Ben. Schlesinger,
Philip Davis,
Delegates.

Committee reported favorably and report concurred in by delegates.

RESOLUTION No. 2, introduced by Max Goldfinger and Julius Menke, Local 21, Chicago:

WHEREAS, The hours that now prevail in the Ladies' Garment working trades are greatly in excess in many instances of other organized trades, and vary in the different localities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention recommend that the various Locals affiliate with the I. L. G. W. U. to bring about an equalization of hours of labor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That reaffirming our belief in the necessity and pos-

sibility of establishing an 8-hour workday, that this Convention recommends to all affiliated Locals to bring about an 8-hour workday whenever and wherever possible.

(Signed) Max Goldfinger,
Julius Menke,
Delegates, Local 21, Chicago.

Committee reports favorably. Report concurred in.

RESOLUTION No. 3, introduced by J. H. Levine, of Local 12:

WHEREAS, The Ladies' Waist Makers' Union had during the last few months been engaged in a number of serious conflicts with employers for the principle of recognition of the Union;

WHEREAS, The members of the said Organization have shown noble devotion to the cause;

WHEREAS, The funds of the Union have been exhausted, owing to energetic and tireless struggling against the oppressors of labor; and

WHEREAS, the continuance of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union is indispensable to the thousands of men and women engaged in waist making trade; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of America in Convention assembled lend its moral and financial assistance to the Waist Makers' Union, so that its useful organizing work may be continued.

(Signed)

Jacob H. Levine,

Business Agent for the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union.

The committee recommends that we assist the above organization with the sum of \$100. Convention concurs.

RESOLUTION No. 4, introduced by I. Silberman, Local 4, Baltimore, Md.:

WHEREAS, New York is the great center of all the industries over which we claim jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, Work is produced in New York cheaper than in the outside towns, because of the unorganized condition of the craft there, making it possible for outside manufacturers in the smaller towns to obtain garments at cost cheaper than the cost of the manufacturer in their own city; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention orders the General Office to give its best endeavors towards perfecting a thorough organization of all the branches of craft in New York City.

I. Silberman.

Resolution Committee moves adoption; Convention concurs with committee.

RESOLUTION No. 5, introduced by Solomon Poliackoff, Local No. 1:

WHEREAS, It is of vital importance that the Union Label of our International Union shall be brought into the market; and

WHEREAS, It is a well known fact that we must look to New York as the most important center of our industry for the adoption of our Union Label; and

WHEREAS, The prospects of the adoption of the Union Label in the city of New York at the present time are very discouraging, and that it therefore becomes absolutely necessary to do our utmost to create a demand for the Label ourselves; and

WHEREAS, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Co-operative Society, has been organized for the purpose of opening an establishment, wherein Ladies' Garments would be manufactured, on the co-operative plan and sold at retail, and if possible at wholesale, each garment bearing the Union Label, which would tend to create a healthy demand for the Union Label; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we congratulate the above-named Co-operative Society and that we call upon our members at New York to support as much as possible said co-operative movement.

(Signed)

S. Poliackoff.
Delegate.

Resolution Committee reports favorably and delegates concur in the report of the Committee. All members of Resolution Committee vote in favor of this resolution except Brothers Dyche and Menke.

RESOLUTION No. 6, introduced by Menke and Goldfinger, Local No. 21, Chicago:

WHEREAS, It being a fact that our present due card is not durable, and considerable trouble has been experienced by the different Locals; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Convention authorize the publication of uniform due books, to contain a copy of the I. L. G. W. U. constitution.

(Signed)

Max Goldfinger,
Julius Menke,
Delegates.

Committee reported favorably and report concurred in by delegates.

pensate each and every Organizer to the amount of five dollars (\$5), payable at the time of the receipt of the money for application of charter, but that no paid official of the I. L. G. W. U. or of a Local shall be entitled to any sum of money for such services, and passed in amended form.

RESOLUTION No. 20, introduced by B. Schlesinger, Local 5, Chicago:

WHEREAS, The Socialist Party of America, otherwise known as the Social Democratic Party, has in its preamble and declaration of principles declared for the Trade Union Movement, supporting such Unions who have declared for Socialism and those who have as yet not declared for Socialism; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention congratulates the above-named party for the stand it has taken, and that it rejoices in the spirit of justice and tolerance which permeates these declarations of principles;

RESOLVED, That we firmly believe that only through such spirit of fairness and tolerance will it be possible to speed the progress of converting the workingmen of this country to the grand and noble ideal of Social Democracy, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the headquarters of the Socialist party.

(Signed) B. SCHLESINGER.

Committee reports favorably, and Convention concurred in same.

RESOLUTION No. 21, introduced by A. Rosenberg, Local 1, New York:

WHEREAS, The cloak making industry in New York is divided in several Branches, i. e., Tailors, Operators, Pressers and Skirt Makers, and

WHEREAS, At the present time all of these separate and distinct Branches are working under one general charter of this Organization to the great detriment of the trade; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That at this Convention, that, as it would serve the best interest of the entire International that these various Branches of trade be given local autonomy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Convention that Local 1 of New York be instructed to divide these Branches, and that they be given separate charters direct from the International.

(Signed) ABRAHAM ROSENBERG.

On this resolution the Committee reported favorably. The delegates were unable to agree as to what disposition should be made of the same, and it was finally voted that this matter be referred to

the General Executive Board, to be by it referred to the same Committee, which would take under advisement the matter of the Pressers' Branches of Cloak Makers' Union of New York.

RESOLUTION No. 22, introduced by A. A. Alpers, Local 10, Cleveland:

RESOLVED, That where it is a fact that some members of the International Union are in the habit of signing individual contracts with individual firms, which tend to ruin the cause of their fellow trade unionists and the International body; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That any member holding or signing such contract with any manufacturer shall be declared a scab, and be debarred from membership and the privileges of this Organization.

(Signed) A. A. ALPERS.

Committee reported favorably and Convention concurred in report of Committee.

RESOLUTION No. 23, introduced by B. Schlesinger in report of Committee:

WHEREAS, There is a large corset industry in the cities of New Haven and Bridgeport, where the prevailing wages range between two and six dollars per week;

WHEREAS, The rest of the trades of the State of Connecticut are well organized;

RESOLVED, That this Convention respectfully requests the State Federation of Labor of the State of Connecticut to use its best endeavors to organize the corset making industry of the entire State.

(Signed) B. SCHLESINGER.

Committee reported favorably, and the report concurred in by the delegates.

RESOLUTION No. 24, introduced by J. A. Dyche, Local 1:

WHEREAS, The present arrangements existing between the Sub-Local No. 5 of the Local No. 1, by which the membership of the latter is limited to those skirt makers employed in skirt shops only, thereby depriving it of those members of the craft who are working in suit shops, and who constitute by far the largest majority of the work people of that trade, who are at present paying to the Operators' and Tailors' Locals, and

WHEREAS, This arrangement cripples the Skirt Makers' Local in its finances and membership; be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention instructs the Local No. 1 that

RESOLVED, That the Convention elect or authorize the G. E. B. to appoint two general organizers who are thoroughly capable, one for the East and one for West, to thoroughly organize our trade their compensation to be fixed by the Convention.

(Signed)

Anna Wagner,
Paulina Seidlitz,
Delegates.

Committee rejects; Convention concurs in report of Committee.

Convention here adjourned for 9 a. m. June 4.



CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 4, 1903.

MORNING SESSION.

Roll Call dispensed with; also reading of minutes.

Resolution Committee continued its report:

RESOLUTION No. 13, introduced by M. Freedman, Local 5:

WHEREAS, The rapid growth of the International makes it absolutely necessary that we support a permanent Organizer, whose duty it shall be to travel about the country and represent this Organization and agitate for its Label; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Convention that besides a permanent International Secretary, we appoint a permanent and salaried President, whose duty shall be as above, viz.: to act as Organizer and Label Agitator and business agent for this body.

That the salary of the International Secretary be increased to the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000) per annum, and that to meet the increased expense of maintaining a permanent President and

Secretary and additional expense to this body, the present per capita tax of this International be increased from five cents per member per month to 10 cents.

(Signed)

M. Freedman,
Delegate, Local 5, Chicago.

The Committee reported favorably upon that portion of the resolution which provides for an increase in the Secretary's salary to one thousand dollars (\$1000) per annum, and an increase in the per capita tax of from 5 to 10 cents per member per month, in order to obtain a permanent organizer. After much discussion a roll call vote was taken on the question of increasing the per capita tax. The question of increase brought out that while all of the members favored an increase, that not all of them favored an increase of five cents per month. The following was the result of a roll call:

vote to obtain the sense of the Convention, as between an increase from 5 to 8 and from 5 to 10 cents.

For Ten Cents.—H. Grossman, J. Deutch, B. Schlesinger, B. Zaslowsky, M. Freedman, E. Buquet, J. McCauley, A. Alpers, A. Braumstein, L. Sessler, J. Peters, M. Rickman, J. Marks, G. Robinson, N. Ross, M. Goldfinger, J. Menke, D. Goldstein, J. Selyem, J. Tomasek, A. Jaha, H. D. Segal, P. Davis, Paulina Seidlitz, Anna Wagner, I. Silberman.

For Eight Cents.—A. Rosenberg, J. Barondess, B. Hollendar, L. Robinowitz, P. Goldstein, M. Kirschenbaum, L. Polokow, M. Holzer, P. Lesser, M. Kaminsky, M. Shawelson, S. Hartman, L. Zahn, J. H. Levine, Ch. Stolp.

Therefore, carried by vote of 26 to 15 that per capita tax be increased to 10 cents per month per member.

The matter of fixing the President's salary tabled for later discussion.

RESOLUTION No 14, introduced by H. D. Segal, Local 28:

WHEREAS, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is composed of working people of different nationalities and a great many of them can not read and write but their own language; and

WHEREAS, It is absolutely important that the proceedings of the I. L. G. W. U. Convention be read and understood by all members, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of this and of the next Convention be printed in different languages; at least in the English and Hebrew languages.

H. D. Segal.

The Committee reported favorably, and concurred in by the Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 15, introduced by D. Goldstein, Local 24, Chicago:

WHEREAS, A new system of working has lately been imposed on the cloak pressers of New York, by the manufacturers of that city, known as the contract system, and the majority of the pressers of New York are suffering a great deal on account of it; and

WHEREAS, If this system is not abolished in New York City, the manufacturers of other cities will do likewise; therefore be it

RESOLVED, in Convention assembled, that all affiliated Locals be instructed to start up an energetic campaign wherever this deplorable system exists, for its abolition.

(Signed) D. GOLDSTEIN, Delegate.

Amended by the Committee as follows: That no strike shall be settled in any shops unless the workers' contract system is abolished and this amendment be inserted in the Constitution as a by-law. -

After much discussion, it being impossible to settle the matter at the Convention, it was voted that the matter be referred to the General Executive Board to select an Arbitration Committee to decide the matter of the differences between the various tailoring Branches of Local 1 with the pressers, and also the advisability of separately chartering the pressers under the International.

Convention here adjourned until 1 o'clock.



CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 4, 1903.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Reading of the minutes and roll call dispensed with.

Secretary announced that Greenhut Cloak Company desired the Convention to send a Committee in order to sign contract for the use of the International Label. Brothers Barondess, Goldfinger and Tomashek appointed as Committee.

Resolved to hold a night session, beginning at 7.30.

RESOLUTION No. 16, introduced by J. Dyche, Local 1:

WHEREAS, The massacre at Kishineff, Russia, is a blot upon our modern civilization and tends to force upon us a condition of religious persecutions and race prejudices, and

Whereas, These massacres are but a repetition of those which have occurred all through Russia in years gone by, these bloodsheds being the result of the policy of the Russian government placing the Jews without the scope of law, thereby encouraging the mob to outrage the defenseless Jews; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we respectfully petition his excellency, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, to take such official action as to convince the government of Russia that the people of the United States condemn the Russian government for its crimes and atrocities against the defenceless Jews.

(Signed) J. DYCHE

Resolution favorably reported by Committee and concurred in by Convention. Secretary instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to both the President and Secretary of State.

RESOLUTION No. 17, by I. Silberman, Local 4, Baltimore, Md.:

WHEREAS, New York is the great center of all the industries over which we claim jurisdiction, and,

WHEREAS, Work is produced in New York cheaper than in the outside towns, because of the unorganized condition of the craft there, making it possible for outside manufacturers in the smaller towns to obtain garments at cost cheaper than the cost of the manufacturer in their own city; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention orders the General Office to give its best endeavors towards perfecting a thorough organization of all the Branches of craft in New York City.

(Signed) L. SILBERMAN.

Resolution favorably reported by Committee and concurred in by delegates.

RESOLUTION No. 18:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union that the elective franchise ought to be extended to the women citizens of this republic. We urge this as a matter of justice to the women, amongst whom those desiring the privilege ought not to be deprived of it because others are indifferent, and we demand it because it is justice and humanity.

RESOLVED, That we petition Congress to submit an amendment to the Federal Constitution prohibiting the several States from disfranchising citizens on account of sex. We authorize the Federal Woman's Equality Association to use these resolutions officially in behalf of any woman suffrage legislation in Congress.

Resolution favorably reported on by Committee and concurred in by Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 19, introduced by Menke and Goldfinger:

WHEREAS, The I. L. G. W. U. suffers by the lack of perfect system of organization, and

WHEREAS, Great results would be accomplished toward improving said system by compensating local organizers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the I. L. G. W. U. compensate each and every such organizer to the amount of five dollars (\$5) payable at the time of receipt of money for application for charter.

(Signed) ²¹ MAX GOLDFINGER,
JULIUS MENKE

Upon this the Resolution Committee reported favorably, but same amended to read in the third paragraph that the I. L. G. W. U. com-

pensate each and every Organizer to the amount of five dollars (\$5), payable at the time of the receipt of the money for application of charter, but that no paid official of the I. L. G. W. U. or of a Local shall be entitled to any sum of money for such services, and passed in amended form.

RESOLUTION No. 20, introduced by B. Schlesinger, Local 5, Chicago:

WHEREAS, The Socialist Party of America, otherwise known as the Social Democratic Party, has in its preamble and declaration of principles declared for the Trade Union Movement, supporting such Unions who have declared for Socialism and those who have as yet not declared for Socialism; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention congratulates the above-named party for the stand it has taken, and that it rejoices in the spirit of justice and tolerance which permeates these declarations of principles;

RESOLVED, That we firmly believe that only through such spirit of fairness and tolerance will it be possible to speed the progress of converting the workingmen of this country to the grand and noble ideal of Social Democracy, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the headquarters of the Socialist party.

(Signed) B. SCHLESINGER.

Committee reports favorably, and Convention concurred in same.

RESOLUTION No. 21, introduced by A. Rosenberg, Local 1, New York:

WHEREAS, The cloak making industry in New York is divided in several Branches, i. e., Tailors, Operators, Pressers and Skirt Makers, and

WHEREAS, At the present time all of these separate and distinct Branches are working under one general charter of this Organization to the great detriment of the trade; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That at this Convention, that, as it would serve the best interest of the entire International that these various Branches of trade be given local autonomy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Convention that Local 1 of New York be instructed to divide these Branches, and that they be given separate charters direct from the International.

(Signed) ABRAHAM ROSENBERG.

On this resolution the Committee reported favorably. The delegates were unable to agree as to what disposition should be made of the same, and it was finally voted that this matter be referred to

the General Executive Board, to be by it referred to the same Committee, which would take under advisement the matter of the Pressers' Branches of Cloak Makers' Union of New York.

RESOLUTION No. 22, introduced by A. A. Alpers, Local 10, Cleveland:

RESOLVED, That where it is a fact that some members of the International Union are in the habit of signing individual contracts with individual firms, which tend to ruin the cause of their fellow trade unionists and the International body; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That any member holding or signing such contract with any manufacturer shall be declared a scab, and be debarred from membership and the privileges of this Organization.

(Signed) A. A. ALPERS.

Committee reported favorably and Convention concurred in report of Committee.

RESOLUTION No. 23, introduced by B. Schlesinger in report of Committee:

WHEREAS, There is a large corset industry in the cities of New Haven and Bridgeport, where the prevailing wages range between two and six dollars per week;

WHEREAS, The rest of the trades of the State of Connecticut are well organized;

RESOLVED, That this Convention respectfully requests the State Federation of Labor of the State of Connecticut to use its best endeavors to organize the corset making industry of the entire State.

(Signed) B. SCHLESINGER.

Committee reported favorably, and the report concurred in by the delegates.

RESOLUTION No. 24, introduced by J. A. Dyche, Local 1:

WHEREAS, The present arrangements existing between the Sub-Local No. 5 of the Local No. 1, by which the membership of the latter is limited to those skirt makers employed in skirt shops only, thereby depriving it of those members of the craft who are working in suit shops, and who constitute by far the largest majority of the work people of that trade, who are at present paying to the Operators' and Tailors' Locals, and

WHEREAS, This arrangement cripples the Skirt Makers' Local in its finances and membership; be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention instructs the Local No. 1 that

all of its members who are working on skirts should be members of the Sub-Local No. 5. (Signed) J. A. DYCHE

Resolution amended as follows:

WHEREAS, The present arrangement existing between the Sub-Local No. 5 of the Local No. 1, by which the membership of the latter is limited to those skirt makers employed in skirt shops only, thereby depriving it of those members of the craft who are working people of the trade, who are at present paying to the Operators' and Tailors' Locals, and

WHEREAS, this arrangement cripples the Skirt Makers' Local in its finances and membership; be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention instructs the Local No. 1 that all its members who are skirt makers, whether at work in cloak or suit shops, be transferred to the Skirt Makers' Branch, and that a cloak maker working in a suit shop for six weeks exclusively on skirts shall also be transferred to the Skirt Makers' Branch.

Adopted in amended form.

RESOLUTION No. 25, introduced by A. A. Alpers, Local 10, Cleveland, Ohio.

WHEREAS, There is a turning point reached by this Convention in the Labor Movement of Cleveland, Ohio, by the signal success of its second day's achievement in settling the main difficulty at hand, viz., Printz, Beiderman & Co.; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That to bring about a speedy recognition of our Unions, a copy of the signed agreement procured on June 2, 1903, of said concern be mailed to every firm of cloak and suit manufactory in this city, with the urgent but polite request to answer favorably to Brother Braff, at New York City

(Signed) A. A. ALPERS.

Resolution Committee reported favorably, and Convention concurred in report.

RESOLUTION No. 26, introduced by Local Union 15, amending Article VII.:

Section 1.—By adding after the words Gen. Secy. Treas., a per capita tax of 10 cents per month for each member in good standing; by adding a new section to be known as Section 2. Every Local Union shall pay to the General Secretary Treasurer 10 cents from the initiation of each and every new member, and every shop taken into a local of International in a body not to pay anything to this fund. And adding a new section, to be known as Section 3, to read as follows:

There shall be a General Strike Fund, which shall be used for the purpose of maintaining strikes and lockouts that are declared legal by the G. E. B.; 5 cents per member of the per capita tax received by the General Office shall be set aside and devoted to this fund.

Section 1 rejected on the ground that there was already a resolution to that effect. Second section amended that 5 cents from the initiation fees go to the General Treasury from each and every member, and amended form adopted by the Convention. Third and Fourth Sections rejected.

RESOLUTION No. 27, introduced by Menke and Goldfinger, Local 21, Chicago:

WHEREAS, Complaints have come to our ears that Article 2, Section 1, conflicts with Article 3, Section 15, of the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U., and, after due consideration, we have come to the conclusion that such complaints were well founded; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article 2, Section 1, be stricken out and that the following be substituted: "That the headquarters of the I. L. G. W. U. should be situated in New York City, and can be removed therefrom by two-thirds of the votes at a national convention of the I. L. G. W. U."

(Signed) **MAX GOLDFINGER,**
JULIUS MENKE

Reported favorably by Committee, and concurred in by Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 28, introduced by J. Dyche, Local 1, and P. Davis, Local 37:

WHEREAS; The present name of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is ambiguous and misleading; first, because an International Union signifies the union of various countries or nations, while our Organization is confined to America only, and, secondly, because the word "international" is less significant than the word "ladies," which should be given first place in our name, in order to distinguish our Union from the United Garment Workers' of America; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the name of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union be amended to read "Ladies' Garment Workers' Union."

(Signed) **J. DYCH,**
P. DAVIS.

Committee rejects this resolution and Convention votes to sustain rejection.

RESOLUTION No. 29, introduced by A. Rosenberg, Local 1:

WHEREAS, The International Constitution makes no provision for the suspending of Locals for non-payment of their dues to the body, and,

WHEREAS, it has come to the knowledge of the General Office that some of the Locals do not pay honestly to the International their dues, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Convention orders a change in the Constitution embodying the following:

"When the Executive Council proves that a Local of this International has not paid to the International all its dues for each and every good standing member of the Local, then the Executive Committee is empowered to suspend such Local, unless such Local pays within thirty days the amount claimed to be due by the Executive Committee.
(Signed) A. ROSENBERG.

Committee reported favorably on this resolution and Convention concurred therein.

RESOLUTION No. 30, introduced by Julius Menke, Local 21:

Article 15, Section 2, to be amended as follows:

By inserting between the words "membership and until" the "In any other Local of the I. L. G. W. U. of A."

(Signed) JULIUS MENKE.

Committee reported favorably, and Convention concurred in same.

RESOLUTION No. 31, introduced by Menke, Local 21:

Article 3, Section 5, to be amended to include the following: No person shall be eligible to election as a delegate unless he has been practically employed in the manufacture of those garments coming under the jurisdiction of his Local Union for at least six months prior to the date of the Convention, walking delegates, business agents, persons recognized by Locals as members and those members who may have been working under cards issued as per agreement by any other Local of the I. L. G. W. U., excepted.

(Signed) JULIUS MENKE.

Committee reported favorably and the Convention voted to sustain the Committee's action.

RESOLUTION No. 32:

Article 11, Section 5, to be amended to include the following, and called Section 6: In any city or locality where a District Council is in existence all difficulties as prescribed in Section 1 of this article shall be first submitted to said District Council according to Article 13, Section 3, before referring to the G. E. B.

The Committee offered as a substitute for the above:

"That no strike will be considered legal or permitted to take place without the consent of the District Council." The Committee's action was rejected by the Convention, and the following was finally adopted in place of the resolution the Committee substituted:

"A Local of the International, or a subordinate Branch of a Local of the International, shall have the right to order a strike of its members, involving only the members of such Local or subordinate Local: but that where more than one Local or subordinate Local is affected by such strike, so as to necessitate the calling out of the members of such other Local or S. L. U., then the G. E. B. of the bodies affected shall hold a joint meeting and as one body act upon the matter. That where all the Locals of the I. L. G. W. U. in one locality are affected by a proposed strike, then the District Council shall have jurisdiction and act in the matter; but that where two-thirds of the members of a craft in any one city or locality are affected by a proposed strike, then the G. E. B., and not the District Council has jurisdiction in the matter.

Committee appointed to visit the Greenhut Cloak Company returned and reported that its efforts had been successful.

RESOLUTION No. 33, introduced to amend Article 15, Section 3, by inserting the words "excepting cutters" after I. L. G. W. U.

(Signed) JOHN MARKS, Local 15.

G. S. ROBINSON, Local 15.

NATHAN ROSS, Local 17.

This amendment was ruled out of order by the Chair upon a constitutional point.

RESOLUTION No. 34, introduced by B. Zaslowsky, Local 5, Chicago, Ill.:

WHEREAS, The International is rapidly growing, it is advisable that the Executive Council be increased so as to get all sections of the country on same; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Convention, that the number of delegates of the Executive Committee be increased to eleven, and that the expense of such delegates when attending the Executive Sessions shall be paid as follows: Mileage and \$15 for expenses for the entire session of the Executive Committee, and that this sum be paid out of the International Treasury.

(Signed) B. ZASLOWSKY.

Adopted directly by Convention without any report from a Committee.

RESOLUTION No. 35, introduced by John Luth, Local 10:

RESOLVED, To send Organizer to Cleveland to organize hands working in the cloak trade, also button sewers, also waist hands, and petticoat and wrapper hands. (Signed JOHN LUTH.
Adopted by Convention without report from Committee.

RESOLUTION No. 36, introduced by Anna Wagner and Paulina Seidlitz, Local 39:

WHEREAS, The Union label, being the most potent factor that our Organization has; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the incoming G. E. B. be instructed to advertise the label thoroughly and try to create a demand for the same, the expenses for which shall be borne by the general Organization.

(Signed) ANNA WAGNER,
PAULINA SEIDLITZ.

Committee reported favorably and adopted by the Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 37, introduced by Max Kirschenbaum, Local 1, New York:

WHEREAS, After the Brotherhood of Cloak Makers had reached an agreement regarding conditions of employment and price of work between itself, as representatives of the employees of the firm, and the firm of Montrose & Horschfield, cloak and suit manufacturers, of the city of New York, the said firm violated its written contract with the Organization by declaring a lockout against every member of the Organization for the sole reason that he was so affiliated; and,

WHEREAS, The firm declared to the two representatives of the United Brotherhood of Cloak Makers, who called upon it to investigate and adjust said difference, that the sole reason for such discharge was that its employees were members of a labor organization, and that it (the firm) was determined not to employ members of any labor organization, and

WHEREAS, The firm has persistently refused to recognize the Organization, despite the best endeavors of the Brotherhood of Cloak Makers to adjust the said difficulty, compelling the said organization to declare the said firm unfair; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Convention that the action of the United Brotherhood of Cloak Makers' declaring the said firm unfair be endorsed, and that this Convention petitions the American Federation of Labor to endorse its (the Convention's) action, and that the Federation of Labor give its best endeavors towards compelling said firm of Montrose & Hirschfield to adjust all differences between itself and the United Brotherhood of Cloak Makers.

(Signed) MAX KIRSCHENBAUM.

Convention adopted this resolution.

RESOLUTION No. 37a, introduced by Max Kirschenbaum, Local 1, United Brotherhood Cloak Makers of the City of New York:

WHEREAS, An agreement was made by and between the firm of Kashowitz & Polansky, cloak and suit manufacturers, of the city of New York, and the Brotherhood of Cloak Makers, Local 1 of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, whereby the firm agreed to faithfully uphold the rules and regulations of the Union, according to the agreement signed, and

WHEREAS, Prices on garments were fixed by agreement between a Committee of employees and the firm, and a contract for such prices was signed by both the Union Brotherhood of Cloak Makers and the firm, and

WHEREAS, The said firm, after such contract was signed, not only discriminated against the Organization by persecuting its members, but even went so far as not to permit a representative of the Organization to control the shop or settle differences between employees and the firm, as provided for in said agreement, and

WHEREAS, A representative of the Organization, who called upon the said firm to investigate troubles pending between it and the employees, members of Brotherhood of Cloak Makers, was threatened with bodily violence by Mr. Polansky, a member of said firm, therefore, taking all this into consideration, and the additional fact that the treatment accorded the Brotherhood of Cloak Makers and its members employed in said shop compelled the said Local to order a strike of its members against said firm, and

WHEREAS, the said firm violated its agreement with the Organization by reducing contract fixed prices, and

WHEREAS, During the said strike, the said firm employed a gang of thugs to intimidate the strikers; be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union declares the firm of Kashowitz & Polansky as unfair, and petitions the American Federation of Labor, with which it is affiliated, to take such action against said firm as shall compel said firm to settle its differences with the United Brotherhood of Cloak Makers.

Convention adopted this resolution.

MAX KIRSCHENBAUM, Delegate.

Committee reports favorably. Report of Committee concurred in by Convention.

Resolution No. 38, introduced by Abraham Braunstein, Local 11:

WHEREAS, The International Ladies' Garment Workers of America is organized as a union, and affiliated with the American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, It is the purpose of said Union to secure to its

members a fairer share of the wealth that they produce through organizing members of this craft into a body, and above all to agitate for a general recognition of its label, and the label of all union made products; and where, as it is highly material that the delegates attending the National Convention of said Union should set an example to the members of this and all other Unions by demanding and wearing apparel with the union label; therefore be it hereby

RESOLVED, That any and all delegates to the National Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. not wearing union made apparel in an entirety be denied the right to sit as delegates in the Convention; and furthermore, be it

RESOLVED, That a committee of three be appointed immediately to examine the apparel of every delegate present, and that this Convention takes a recess until the Committee shall be ready to report.

(Signed) JOHN KORKES, President,
JACOB BAUMRING, Secretary.
SAM RUBIN, Treasurer,
CHAS. FRAID, Vice-President.

Committee rejected this resolution. Rejection concurred.

RESOLUTION No. 39, introduced by Abraham Rosenberg, Local 1:

WHEREAS, There is a demand made by newly organized bodies that they may be supplied with all books and documents necessary to properly begin business; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the cost of a charter be increased to ten dollars (\$10), and that with each charter Locals be given a full set of supplies. (Signed) ABRAHAM ROSENBERG.

Committee reported favorably and report concurred in by Convention.

The following communication from Henry White, Secretary of the U. G. W. of A., read and referred to G. E. B., to be referred by it to same Committee which would consider other questions regarding New York.

"The Committee appointed by the late Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to arbitrate the differences between the three local unions of cutters of this city, affiliated with said body, to inquire into the circumstances under which the several charters were granted, and to establish unity between the respective Unions of the trade, hereby decide as follows:

At a meeting of said Committee, held at the University Settlement Building, September 24, a hearing was given to the representatives of the United Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union, Gotham Association of Knife Cutters, and the Manhattan Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union.

The complaint made by the United Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union; charging the General Secretary, Braff, with having issued charters to the other two Unions illegally, was not sustained.

The representatives of the three Unions, having agreed that it was essential to the welfare of their trade that the present contentions be removed, and in order to bring about the desired harmony, hereby decide that the present charters held by the three Unions in question, be revoked. That another charter be issued to the members comprising the three Unions, to have a new number and bear the name of Amalgamated Association of Ladies' Garment Cutters."

New York, May 29, 1903.

MR. B. BRAFF, General Secretary of the I. L. G. W. U.,

Perry Hall, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir and Brother: As a member of the Committee appointed by your last Convention to arbitrate the difference between the Local Union of cutters in the city of New York, I respectfully submit a copy of the decision rendered and signed by said Committee, namely, Messrs. Barondess, McVey, Chuck, Robinson and myself.

As this decision was not accepted by two of the local Unions and your General Executive Board refused to enforce the decision, I respectfully place this entire matter before your Convention for disposition. Yours fraternally,

HENRY WHITE, General Secretary.

Convention here adjourned to be re-convened at 8 p. m. in night session.



EVENING SESSION.

Convention convened for night session at 8 o'clock. Roll call dispensed with.

The charges of Brother I. J. Miller, Local 14, I. L. G. W. U., against Brother Max Rickman, delegate to the Convention, were referred to District Council of Cleveland for action.

RESOLUTION No. 40, by Levine, Local 12, New York:

WHEREAS, The firm of Max Roth has persistently discriminated against Local 12 and its members, involving them finally in a long and disastrous strike, and

WHEREAS, Said firm is an organized sweatshop for the production of garments under conditions most unfair to both producer and consumer, we, the members of Local 12, request the International at this its fourth annual convention to place said firm on the unfair list, and make the fact known to the general public.

(Signed) J. LEVINE

This resolution reported favorably by the committee and concurred in by the Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 41, introduced by B. Schlesinger, Local 5, Chicago:

WHEREAS, It is absolutely important for the Locals of the I. L. G. W. U. of the different cities to be in close touch with one another and to communicate as often as possible about all matters pertaining to the trade, in order that every member of the International I. L. G. W. U. knows the general condition of the trade and how the Locals are situated everywhere, and

WHEREAS, It is the mission of the I. L. G. W. U. to arouse the attention of the general public to the sweatshop evil that still exists in our trade, and to impress upon their minds that by demanding the Union Label, the sweatshops will be gradually abolished, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the I. L. G. W. U., in Convention assembled, hereby instruct the incoming General Executive Board to publish a quarterly journal in the interest of the I. L. G. W. U. and all other labor organizations.
(Signed) B. SCHLESINGER.

Committee reports favorably and Convention refers the matter to G. E. B. for investigation as to the cost of maintaining such a journal, and its recommendations therein to be referred to a referendum vote of the general membership.

The matter of the application of the *Weekly Bulletin*, that it be selected by the Convention as the official journal of the body, referred to the Executive Board for action.

RESOLUTION No. 42, by A. A. Alpers, Local 10, Cleveland:

WHEREAS, There is a certain amount of respect due our President, and to have the cause of the good work of organizing go on as it has been done and accomplished in Cleveland, Ohio, to the due respect of this Fourth Annual Convention, and

WHEREAS, There has only been an allowance of \$35 voted to defray the expenses of our worthy President, Brother Grossman; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this honorable Convention pay to our President an additional \$20 to defray his expenses for this occasion.

(Signed) A. A. ALPERS.

Committee voted that the Secretary be ordered to pay the President \$20 as recommended in this resolution.

RESOLUTION No. 43, Committee on Secretary's Report:

Reports on the Secretary's Report, and respectfully recommends its approval of same.

(Signed) JOS. BARONDESS,
P. DAVIS,
MAX GOLDFINGER.

Approved and adopted by Convention.

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RESOLUTION No. 44, by Nathan Ross, President and General Secretary Robinson, Secretary District Council, New York City.

We, the members of the District Council of New York City, request your honorable body to endorse the strike at Silberberg Bros., manufacturers of the Crown brand of shirt waist in the city of New York. The strike has been endorsed by the District Council, and we also request that the products of the above firm of Silberberg Bros. be placed on the unfair list for discriminating against Organized Labor, and instruct the International body to have the same endorsed by the A. F. of L. as soon as possible. We all request that circular showing the trade mark of the said firm be issued by the International body and sent to all the customers of the said firm, and also to all central bodies. And we also request that the same action be taken against Silberberg Bros. of New York City.

Committee reported favorably and same concurred in by Convention.

RESOLUTION No. 45, by A. A. Alpers, Local 10, Cleveland:

WHEREAS, There is a necessity in the Western States to have more general officers in our I. L. G. W. U., therefore be it

RESOLVED, That one more G. E. B. member be elected for Cleveland and Chicago. (Signed) A. A. ALPERS.

Committee reported favorably and report of Committee rejected by Convention.

Reconsidering resolution No. 34, the Convention voted that delegates to the G. E. B. are to receive \$4 a day and mileage when sent on the business of the International.

Delegate Bidinger was given the floor to continue report for Local 41, Racine, Wis., where he left off the previous session, and further informed the delegates as to the situation in Racine. He called the attention of the delegates to the fact that the injunction issued against himself and some twenty-two or twenty-three other men of the town was probably the most stringent ever issued by any Court, and if sustained by the higher Courts, its effect would be to disrupt the entire Labor Movement of the country. As far as possible his Organization had fought the same, and that it will continue to fight same through its counsel, Clarence Darrow, and the ex-Attorney-General of the State of Wisconsin, and the local Attorney of the Racine Trades Council. That some \$8,000 had been expended by his Organization in this fight. That in addition to the injunction proceedings the members of his Organization had been called up before a State Committee appointed to investigate their actions against the Schoen Manufacturing Company, but that nothing wrong was unearthed. That the members of the Schoen Manufacturing Company were now avoiding this investigation committee, although subpoenaed by it to appear and give their testimony. At the request of Delegate Bidinger for a committee to adjust the matter if possible, Brothers Menke, Zaslowsky and Goldfinger were appointed to call upon Schoen Bros. Manufacturing Company for this purpose.

The Convention, after hearing Brother Bidinger's report, voted that the sum of \$200 be donated out of the General Treasury to Racine Local No. 41 and that in addition thereto that the General Secretary-Treasurer in the name of the International issue an appeal to all Locals for assistance for this Organization.

Finance Committee verbally reported that it had examined the accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer and found the same correct, and that it therefore recommended that the financial statement be accepted.

Report of Committee concurred in.

Election of Officers was next proceeded with. For President, four candidates in the field: Grossman, Schlesinger, McCauley and Menke. Roll call ballot: Grossman, 16; Schlesinger, 17; McCauley, 6; Menke, 1. Brothers McCauley and Menke withdrew from the contest. Next roll call ballot showed 18 votes for Grossman and 22 for Schlesinger. Schlesinger was therefore declared elected President for the ensuing year. James McCauley elected Vice-President by acclamation.

By vote of 31 to 8 Brother Braff was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing year over Brother George S. Robinson.

New York being allowed, in addition to the Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, three other delegates for the Executive Board, Brothers Rosenberg, Lyche and Levine were elected to these offices by acclamation.

Chicago was allowed, besides the President, one other representative on the Executive Board, and by vote of 22 to 17 Goldfinger was elected over Zaslowsky.

Hartman elected by acclamation delegate to the Executive Board from Philadelphia.

Davis by acclamation from Boston, and Alpers from Cleveland.

For the remaining member of the Executive Board, Silberman, by vote of 19 to 16 over Braunstein, was elected.

Convention delegates to A. F. of L. Convention, by vote, Davis, 19; Menke, 16; McCauley, 17; Grossman, 24. Grossman and Davis were declared elected, Convention having decided to be represented by two delegates.

The question of having a salaried President was next considered, and it was finally voted that the International have no permanent salaried President for the ensuing year.

A vote of thanks to ex-President Grossman was next proposed, and by acclamation carried.

A vote of thanks was extended by the delegates to the Cleveland District Council for the splendid arrangements made for the out of town delegates, and another one to the proprietors of Convention Hall for the splendid treatment accorded the delegates to the Convention.

Ten dollars was voted to be expended for a present to Morris Braff for his services to the International body.

Officers were installed. Brother Barondess made the closing address of the Convention.

Proprietor Crystal, on behalf of himself and associate, thanked the Convention for its kindness and appreciation, and assured the delegates that he and his associate were honored by their presence and that it was pleasing to them that their efforts to entertain and accommodate the delegates were appreciated.

Convention here adjourned to reconvene at Boston on the first Monday of June, 1904.

B. BRAFF, Gen. Sec'y-Treas.



**REPORT OF BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER, DELEGATE TO
CONVENTION OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.**

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 1, 1903.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Fourth Annual Convention of
the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

Fellow Workers: I have the honor to submit to you my report as your delegate to the Twenty-second Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, held at New Orleans, La., November 13-22, 1902, covering all matters transacted in behalf of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Shortly before the Convention, I wrote to our General Secretary, Brother B. Braff, asking him whether or not it would be advisable to request the convention to assist our organization in sending out an organizer in the field for a few months. Brother Braff's reply was that he certainly favors this idea, but that he hardly thinks anything could be accomplished, as the A. F. of L. Convention the year previous voted a sum of \$800 for the very same purpose.

This reply didn't discourage me and I am glad it didn't.

I have introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has endeavored to organize the ladies' garment trade and to create a demand for its union label, and

WHEREAS, President Samuel Gompers and the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. have by their assistance, which is highly appreciated, made possible for the I. L. G. W. U. to send out an Organizer in different cities of the United States to organize new locals and to strengthen those in existence, also to agitate for its union label and satisfactory results have been accomplished, and

WHEREAS, It is absolutely necessary for the I. L. G. W. U. to send out an Organizer again, but the funds of this Organization are so limited that it can not afford to do this by itself; therefore, to place this I. L. G. W. U. on a safe footing, be it

RESOLVED, That the Twenty-second Convention of the A. F. of L. request the Executive Committee to assist the I. L. G. W. U. in sending out an Organizer in the field, for a time not to exceed five months.

I appeared before the Committee on Organization, where this resolution was referred to, and after explaining them the real condition of our trade as it appeared in my eyes, and how our Organization is financially situated, the Committee recommended that our Organization be assisted with a sum of \$400. This recommendation was concurred in by the Convention.

Being appointed Secretary of the Committee on Boycotts, I, of course, had a good opportunity to thoroughly explain the resolution requesting the A. F. of L. to place the firms of Blaumer Bros. and Laird, Bonwit & Co. on the unfair list. The following resolution was recommended favorably by the Committee and affirmative action was taken by the Convention:

WHEREAS, The last Convention of the American Federation of Labor has endorsed the action of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in placing the firms of Blaumer Bros. & Co. and Laird, Bonwit & Co., cloak manufacturers, of New York City, on the unfair list, because of the fact that they had locked out their Union men for reason of their affiliation and had afterwards refused to treat with the representatives of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

RESOLVED, That this Convention instructs all workingmen and the previous Convention and that the Labor Organizations and workingmen throughout the country be instructed to give all possible assistance to the I. L. G. W. U. in these fights; further

RESOLVED, That this Convention instructs all workingmen and women that they buy no goods from the merchants that patronize the above mentioned unfair firms.

The following resolution dealing with our union label was adopted:
WHEREAS, The major portion of all ladies' wearing apparel is to-day made in unhealthy sweatshops and tenement houses by underpaid and ill treated mechanics; and

WHEREAS, The continuance of such practice can not but mean a continuance of a most fruitful source of contagious and virulent disease, dissemination and endangers the health of the purchaser;

RESOLVED, That whereas the I. L. G. W. U. has been organized for the purpose of improving this abhorrent condition, and has as a means thereto adopted a label; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention officially indorse the same, and recommend that trade unionists and friends insist that all garments made by members of this craft bear the foregoing label.

Much friction existed between our International Organization and the Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' International Union, causing strifes against each other's members at Philadelphia, Pa. The members of our Executive Committee of New York have tendered their good offices for the adjustment of the matters in this dispute, but they have been unsuccessful. Upon the instruction of our International Secretary, Brother B. Braff, I have introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, On the 23d day of June, 1900, the American Federation of Labor duly chartered the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and granted to it full jurisdiction in all trades engaged in the manufacture of ladies' wearing apparel, inclusive of ladies' waists, and

WHEREAS, On a later date the American Federation of Labor chartered the Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' Union, and

WHEREAS, The Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' International Union, issues charters to those trades, that properly belong to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, to the detriment of the Union Movement and in direct opposition to the principle of trade autonomy upon which is built the American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, Every effort has been made by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to adjust this matter with the Laundry Workers and they refusing and insisting that they had the right to issue such charters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Convention instruct the E. C. of the A. F. of L. to issue orders to the Laundry Workers' Union to desist from such baneful and non-union practices, and return the bodies already wrongfully chartered under penalty of forfeiture of its charter in the A. F. of L.

The Committee, upon investigation, found that the parties at interest have not complied with Section 11, Article 3, of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, by not having held a conference prior to presenting their grievance, and the Committee was therefore prohibited by law in giving this case consideration, and recommended that all parties at interest hold a joint conference at an early date, and this report was adopted.

In conclusion, I want to express my appreciation for the kind assistance rendered to me by the officers of the American Federation of Labor in helping me carrying out these resolutions. I assure you I have given our International Organization the best services at this Convention my ability would permit, and I trust my report will meet your approval. Respectfully submitted,

BEN SCHLESINGER

N. S.—The matter of the application of Philadelphia Cloak Makers' Local No. 2 that the Convention order an investigation in the settlement of the differences existing between Locals 2 and 7 of Philadelphia, and that an Organizer be sent to Philadelphia to organize the trade, referred to G. E. Board.

The following is a report submitted by the Committee on the President and adopted by the Convention:

Your Committee on the President's report, referring to his disagreements with the Secretary, which read as follows:

"And have worked night and day for the same, struggling against fearful odds, as I have been hampered by our Secretary disregarding the orders of the President and Vice-President, being his only wishes to aid himself instead of working in harmony with the Union. I was very much grieved during the entire year dealing with a man of that kind. His motive was only to discredit every official of the Union, sending letters making insinuating remarks about each and every officer of the International; but nevertheless. . . ."

be stricken out from said report. We regret exceedingly that our two most important national officers were so lacking in unifying spirit, which they should have had, thereby setting an example for the rank and file of our membership to follow.

(Signed) JOS. BARONDESS,
P. DAVIS.



FOURTH

ANNUAL

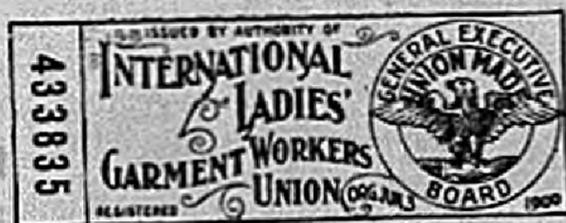
REPORT

OF THE

General Sec'y-Treas.

OF

**Inter. Ladies' Garment
Workers Union**



From June 1, 1902 to May 1, 1903



SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT.

GREETING!!!

Dear Sirs and Brothers:—

Your Secretary-Treasurer hereby submits to you, for your consideration, his annual financial statement and a report of the work of the General Executive Board for the past year.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP.

At the third annual convention, held in New York city, last year, your Secretary-Treasurer reported 21 affiliated locals, with a total membership of 2,100. Within the last year there has been an increase of 31 locals, making a total of 51 locals; the membership has increased to 8,865—5,527 male, 3,338 female—but not all of this number is in good standing. Following is a complete statement showing the exact situation of each local, as shown by the annual reports sent to this office:

Local 1. United Brotherhood of Cloakmakers, New York.

Number of members May, 1902, 1,000; May, 1903, 2,200. Thirty-nine strikes, involving 4,000 persons, of whom 3,000 were benefited. Cost of strikes, \$1,200. Of the above, 27 strikes were won, 4 compromised, and 8 lost. Gained through strikes, increase of 25 per cent. in wages for season; home work abolished in many cases. Many shops settled without strikes. \$1,500 expended in benefits to members and for assistance to other organizations.

Local 2. United Cloakmakers' Protective Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Number of members May, 1902, 250; May, 1903, 450. Forty-three strikes, involving 200 persons, of whom 150 were benefited. Cost of strikes, \$650. Of the above, 38 strikes were won, 5 compromised, and none lost. Strike benefit of \$5 per week paid. \$550 expended in benefits to members and for assistance to other organizations.

Local 3. United Cloak Pressers of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Number of members May, 1902, 138; May, 1903, 191. One general strike, involving 111 persons, all of whom were benefited. By reason of strike wages were increased 30 per cent. Cost of strike, \$350. Has a benefit system. Expended in various benefits for members and assistance to other organizations, \$120.

Local 4. Cloakmakers' Union of Baltimore, Md.

Number of members May, 1902, 75; May, 1903, 125. Six strikes, of which 3 were won and 3 lost. Forty-five persons involved, of whom 30 were benefited. Cost of strikes, \$100. Three dollars per week sick benefit paid. Expended in benefits to members and for assistance to other organizations, \$75.

Number of members May, 1902, 126; May, 1903, 560. Five strikes, involving 500 persons. The entire membership benefited by these strikes, all of which were won by Union. By reason of the strikes, wages were generally increased 20 per cent. and the Union recognized—Working hours reduced three per week. Cost of strikes \$450. Local in fine condition; has a strike and sick benefit system. Expended in benefits to members and for assistance to other organizations, \$950.

Local 6. United Cloak and Suit Cutters' Association, New York. Number of members May, 1902, 550; May, 1903, 400. Five hundred dollars expended for various in-benefits to members and in support for other organizations.

Local 7. Skirt Makers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa. No report.

Local 8. Cloakmakers' Union, San Francisco, Cal. Number of members May, 1902, 125; May, 1903, 254. As Union is strong there have been no strikes. Members work 9 hours per day and intend to introduce the 7-hour day on Saturdays. Women becoming interested in organization. Wages are fair; several factories using the label. Expended in various benefits, \$270.

Local 10. Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union, Cleveland, Ohio. No report from local, but the office desires to report: That the above organization at one time thoroughly controled its branch of the trade. It had established in the one year of existence a nine-hour day—half holiday Saturday—double pay for Sunday and overtime, and had increased wages of cutters; but last spring season the organization, at the behest of the cutters employed by the firm of Prinz, Biederman & Co., called a strike of the cutters in that factory in order to enforce the Union regulations regarding apprentices; when the strike was ordered only four out of about 20 cutters responded to the call, the others remaining at work upon the promise of the manufacturers that wages would be increased 10 per cent. and steady employment given. This treachery, combined with internal bickerings in the local and disagreements among the three Cleveland locals, nearly disrupted the entire organization. So serious did matters become, that both Bros. Bisno and Straus, our organizers, were sent to Cleveland for the purpose of adjusting the entire matter. Local 10 was reorganized and other differences were smoothed away, but it is a question as to how long this will last. Local 10 is now very weak morally and financially.

Local 11. Cloakmakers' Union, Cincinnati, Ohio. Had 32 members in May, 1902, has 60 at present, of whom the majority are now in arrears for dues, but will probably pay up at the beginning of the fall season. Local expended \$50 for various benefits. The organization is very weak.

Local 12. Waist Makers' Union, New York. Reporting for this local your Secretary-Treasurer desires to state, that Local 12 is now, and has ever since its first day, owing to the determined and bitter antagonism of the bosses, been fighting

for its right to exist and the right of the waist makers to join their Union. Despite this very powerful opposition the organization is daily growing stronger. Its members honestly support it, and are earnest in their affiliation, and the local is honestly supporting this body. At the present time the local is engaged in two desperate strikes against what are probably the largest concerns in their line. One fight against Silberberg Bros. involves besides Local 12, Locals 15 and 17, and has been on for many weeks. The other against the firm of Max Roth is of more recent origin. This last concern, besides a factory in New York city, runs one factory at Spring Valley, N. Y., one at Danbury Conn., and a third at Stamford, Conn. The Local is paying strike benefits to its members who are out. The general office has employed organizers to organize the country factories.

Local 13. Cloakmakers' Union, Cleveland, Ohio.

Number of members May, 1902, 160; May, 1903, 50. Two strikes, involving 25 persons, both of which were compromised; result 10 per cent. increase in wages. Thirty dollars expended in various benefits. Union very weak.

Local 14. Cloak Pressers' Union, Cleveland, Ohio.

Number of members at present, 78. One general strike, involving 250 persons. Strike won; result, increase of \$1.50 per week in wages. Expended in various benefits about \$45.

Local 15. Gotham Knife Cutters' Ass'n., New York city.

Number of members May, 1902, 135; May, 1903, 250. One strike, involving 19 persons, still pending. For assistance to other organizations, \$144.

Local 16. Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, St. Louis, Mo.

This was a mixed organization of cutters and tailors, but now consists of cutters only. Membership, 30. About \$15 expended in various benefits. Members generally working 54 hours per week.

Local 17. Manhattan Knife Cutters Association, New York City.

Number of members May, 1902, 100; May, 1903, 150. No strikes. Expended in various benefits, \$60. (95)

Union has organized several shops and increased wages 10 per cent.

Local 18. Waist and Wrapper Makers' Union, Detroit, Mich.

No report.

Local 19. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Rutland, Vt.

Number of members May, 1902, 36; May, 1903, 10. Union very weak as those working in trade are indifferent to benefits of a strong organization. Had one strike for higher pay which was abandoned. Expended \$4.50 in various benefits.

Local 20. Cloak and Skirt Finishers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

No report.

Local 21. Chicago Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union, Chicago, Ill.

Number of Members May, 1902, 100; May, 1903, 150. Two strikes, involving 25 persons, resulted in a victory for the Union which benefited the entire membership; increased wages 10 per cent; reduced working hours by 3 per week and caused recognition of Union all

through the city. Cost of strike, \$400. Pays \$6 per week strike benefit and \$100 death benefit. Expended in strike benefits \$200. In other benefits, \$200 additional.

Local 22. Ladies' Wrapper Makers' Union, New York City.

Number of members May, 1902, 731; May, 1903, 905. Fourteen strikes, involving 800 persons; results, 13 strikes won, benefiting 700 persons by an increase in wages of 10 per cent., and a reduction of 2 per cent. in working hours; members now being paid regularly and in some cases pay is assured. In many shops the above conditions were obtained without resorting to strikes. Cost of strikes, \$1,000. Has out of work benefit system. Expended in various benefits \$975.75.

Local 23. Cloakmakers' Union, Newark, N. J.

Local dissolved, contractors having given up their shops.

Local 24. Cloak, Suit and Skirt Pressers' Union, Chicago, Ill.

Number of members May, 1903, 165. Three strikes, involving 45 persons, all of which were won, resulting in 15 per cent. increase in wages; reduction of working hours by 3 per week for entire membership, and recognition of Union. Cost of strikes, \$110. Eighty per cent. of trade organized. Local pays strike benefits. Expended in various benefits \$200.

Local 25. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Cleveland, Ohio.

Number of members May, 1903, 111. Two strikes, involving 30 persons, were both won, resulting in 10 per cent. increase in wages for the 30. Wages increased 10 per cent. in many cases without strikes. Has a benefit system. Expended for various benefits \$43. Local reports an income amounting to \$538.01 from July 26, 1902, to May 1, 1903, and expenditures for same period amounting to \$333.53, leaving a balance of \$204.48 on May 1, 1903.

Local 26. Skirt and Cloakmakers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Number of members May, 1903, 630. Thirteen strikes, 10 of which were won and 3 lost. Two hundred persons involved in strikes, all of whom were benefited. By reason of the strikes wages were increased 30 per cent. and Union recognized by agreement. Two hundred dollars expended in various benefits.

Local 27. Ladies' Waist and Wrapper Makers' Union, Phila., Pa.

Number of members May, 1903, 400, of whom about 90 are good standing. Three strikes, one of which was lost. A second won, and the third is still pending; 130 persons involved in these various strikes. Cost of strikes, \$175. Expended in other benefits, \$50. Union financially and morally weak, but is reorganizing and expects to remedy these defects.

Local 28. Skirt Makers' Union, Chicago, Ill.

Number of members May, 1903, 180. Eight strikes, involving 75 persons; all won, resulting in 20 per cent. gain in wages, reduction of 3 hours per week in working hours, and recognition of Union; entire membership gains these advantages. Strikes cost \$300. Expended in various benefits, \$150. Local pays strike benefit.

Local 29. Wrapper Makers' Union of Brooklyn, N. Y.

No report.

Local 30. Corset Makers' Union, Aurora, Ill.

Number of members May, 1903, 569. One threatened strike compromised. Wages increased 10 per cent.; working hours reduced and fine system abolished. Many other concessions obtained. Grievance Committee always get a fair hearing. \$102.05 expended in various benefits.

Local 31. Ladies' Waist Makers' Union, San Francisco, Cal.

Number of members May, 1901, 98. Union not strong. \$12.50 expended in various benefits. Several local waist houses using the label.

Local 32. Underwear Workers' Union, Peckskill, N. Y.

Number of members May, 1903, 225, all female. One strike, involving 250 persons, compromised after two weeks of striking by contract for one year, which provides for reinstatement of all those who went out on strike; no one to be discriminated against or criticized for his Union affiliations. That prices on old work remain unchanged, but that when new lots are made, a price committee is to establish price for same. Union, without strike, obtained half holiday on Saturdays from May to October. Has a benefit system. Expended in various benefits, \$98.

Local 33. Wrapper, Skirt and Waist Makers, Aurora, Ill.

No report. Union almost disrupted.

Local 34. Alpha Lodge (Wrapper and Waist Makers), Mattoon, Ill.

No report.

Local 35. Waist Underwear Makers' Union, Schenectady, N. Y.

Number of members May, 1903, 35. Nothing else reported. Local being reorganized.

Local 36. Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Number of members May, 1903, 169. One strike, involving six persons, in which organization was successful. Strike cost \$13.50. Expended in various benefits, \$10.

Local 37. Wrapper Makers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Number of members May, 1903, 70. Four strikes, involving 100 persons. Three strikes won, the other compromised. Trade generally benefited by strikes. Wages increased 5 per cent. Charges for power, etc., eliminated. Planning for a benefit system. Expended in support of another organization, \$5. Union very strong morally. Several local wrapper factories using label. Members greatly interested in label. Being well treated in shops.

Local 38. Waist and Wrapper Makers' Union, Chicago, Ill.

Union dissolved. No report.

Local 39. Ladies' Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Chicago, Ill. 200

May, 1903, 175 members. One strike, involving 50 persons, was won by the union to the benefit of the entire membership. Results of strike: wages increased 10 per cent.; working hours reduced to 52 per week; union recognized generally. Cost of strike, \$50.

Local 40. Skirt Makers' Union, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Has 56 members. Local factory using the label. Nothing else reported.

Local 41. Cloakmakers' Union, Racine, Wis.

Has 38 female members. One lockout directed against all members of the organization was instituted by the Schoen Manufacturing Co., and is still pending. The fight has cost local about \$3,000, most of which was donated by local labor organizations. The Schoen Co. has also obtained an injunction against the Union for picketing, which is still pending, but is being fought by the Union. There is also a \$10,000 suit pending against the organization and a counter suit by the organization, for a like amount against the company. This lockout has been on for nearly three months. Local contributed \$2 to outside organizations.

Local 42. Shirt-Waist and Underwear Workers' Union,

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Has 389 female members, nearly all good standing. Has had no strikes and reports nothing else.

Local 43. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Morris Co., N. Y.

(Knit Goods), Dover, N. J.

Has 63 members. Have been locked out for over three months. Cost of lockout \$997, of which \$120.60 was contributed by locals of the International; remainder mostly by the Union people of the town. Locked-out members are about to start a co-operative factory for the manufacture of knit goods; the company is known as "The Yankee Girl Knitting Co."

Local 44. Cloakmakers' Union, Pittsburg, Pa.

Has 36 members. Union is good shape.

Local 45. Wrapper and Knit Goods Workers' Union, Waukegan, Ill.

Has 46 members. Has strike still pending. Expended in benefits to members, \$314.40.

Local 46. White-Goods Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Has 46 members. Nothing else reported.

Local 47. Waist Makers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Has 117 members. One shop using label.

Local 48. Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Cleveland, Ohio.

No report. Just organized.

Local 49. Ladies' Custom Tailors' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

No report. Just organized.

Local 50. Ladies' Waist Makers' Union, Danbury, Ct.

No report. Just organized. One of the Max Roth waist factories.

Local 51. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, St. Louis, Mo.

No report. Just organized.

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS.

There were within the year 145 reported strikes, involving 2,613 members, of whom nearly all were benefited. Of these strikes, 119 resulted in victories for our locals, 17 in defeat, and 12 were compromised. The strikes cost our locals \$8,802. Generally speaking, wages were, as a direct result of these strikes, increased from 20

to 25 per cent. In several cases the working hours were reduced, and in many, our locals have obtained recognition by agreements with the manufacturers.

The attention of the delegates is especially called to the strikes and lockouts still pending, as they will no doubt be requested by the locals involved to consider these matters, i. e., strike of the Waist Makers' Union, New York, against Silberberg Bros. and Max Roth, and Wrapper Makers' Union, New York, against Jacob Erlich; Cleveland locals against Printz, Biederman & Co. Besides these strikes, the following lockouts have been instituted against our members: The Schoen Manufacturing Co., against Racine Local 41; S. Alschuler, against Waukegan Local 45; Katterman Knitting Co., against Dover Local 43; Montrose & Hirschfield, against Local 1, New York. These boycotts were instituted against our locals for the avowed purpose of disrupting them. Every effort has been made by this office, the locals involved and the labor organization of the cities in which they exist, to adjust and settle matters, but all of their efforts have resulted in failures, as the concerns in question absolutely refuse to deal with any labor organization or employ the members of one.

We learn daily of such discriminations as the above. Our locals almost everywhere are complaining that their members are being discriminated against for reason of their union affiliations. In Philadelphia and Cleveland this policy of Union wrecking has taken an organized form, for in both cities manufacturers' associations have been founded for the sole purpose of fighting the unions. It is certain that this convention will have to consider this matter and devise ways and means whereby to combat these attacks and to protect our locals and members from them.

BOYCOTTS.

At the close of our last convention the following firms were and are still on the unfair list: Laird & Bowwit, and Blauner Bros., New York. The last named matter is now in the hands of Herman Robinson, A. F. of L. organizer, and a settlement of the matter will no doubt be consummated. At the request of the Wrapper Makers' Union of New York, the General Executive has added to the list of unfair firms, Jacob Erlich of New York city. The following are the boycotts waiting the endorsement of the Executive Board: Local 1, New York, against Kashowitz & Polansky, cloaks; District Council of New York, against Silberberg Bros., waists; Local 43, Dover, N. J., against Katterman Knitting Co.; Local 41, Racine, Wis., against the Schoen Manufacturing Co.; Local 45, Waukegan, Ill., against I. Alschuler & Co.

LABEL AGITATION.

One of the great problems of this organization is the popularization of our label. The general office has done much, very much toward this object, as compared with the previous year. Through correspondence, with merchants, buyers and labor unions; through the personal appeals made by our organizers. Bros. Bisno and

Straus, who were sent out by the Executive Board to tour the country in the interests of the label, we have, to a certain extent, succeeded in introducing the same. It is true, that what has been done is very superficial, and that we still have very much to do in this direction, yet as compared with the previous year, and considering the short career of this organization, great progress has been made. In the year 1901-1902, 24,000 labels of the International were sent out; since the last convention and up to the date of this report, 172,000 labels were sent out, an increase of 148,000 labels—about 700 per cent. In this connection it should be well to state that nearly all of the firms now using the label entered into their contracts with International only of late.

Of the three firms reported using label last year, the same has been withdrawn from Floersheimer, Roman & Hahn and from H. Blauner, for non-compliance with Union rules. W. M. Finck & Co., waists, Detroit, Mich., is the one firm of these three still using the label; to it, in the past year, the following firms have been added:

The firms now using label are:

CLOAKS, SUITS AND SKIRTS.

- L. Minck & Co., 935 Market street, San Francisco, Cal.
- Jacoby & Heller, 40 Ellis street, San Francisco, Cal.
- J. Krage & Co., 933 Market street, San Francisco, Cal.
- J. W. Caro, 40 Ellis street, San Francisco, Cal.
- Sam Rosenbaum, Sons & Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.

SHIRT WAISTS.

- Steinhart & Marks, 107 Montgomery street, San Francisco, Cal.
- Watkins & Bath, Sudbury Building, Boston, Mass.
- Mrs. H. W. Gardner, Brockton, Mass.; also manufacturers shop aprons and suits.
- W.M. Finck & Co., Detroit, Mich.; also manufacturers wrappers and skirts.

WRAPPERS.

- Boston Wrapper Manufacturing Co., Boston, Mass.

FINANCES.

Following is the itemized statement showing the total income and expenditures for the past eleven months, i. e., June 1st to May 1st:

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME JUNE 1, 1902 TO MAY 1, 1903.

LOCAL 1.

For 11,500 due stamps, at 5c.....	\$575 00
" 10,000 due stamps at 1¼c.....	125 00
" Miners' assessment	100 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	200 00
" Emblem buttons	3 50

Total\$1,003 50

LOCAL 2

For 2,100 due stamps at 5c.....	\$105 00
" 400 due stamps at 1¼c.....	5 00

" Miners' assessment	20 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	56 25
" Emblem buttons	10 50
Total	\$196 75
LOCAL 3.	
For 400 due stamps at 5c.....	\$20 00
" 1,200 due stamps at 1¼c.....	15 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	32 00
" Emblem buttons	5 95
Total	\$72 95
LOCAL 4.	
For 900 due stamps at 5c.....	\$45 00
" Miners' assessment	15 00
Total	\$60 00
LOCAL 5.	
For 4,000 due stamps at 5c	\$200 00
" 400 due stamps at 1¼c.....	5 00
" 380 due cards	4 75
" Miners' assessment	10 00
" Emblem buttons	14 50
Total	\$234 25
LOCAL 6.	
For 2,000 due stamps at 5c	\$100 00
" Miners' assessment	35 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	31 50
" Emblem buttons	7 00
Total	\$173 50
LOCAL 7.	
For 700 due stamps at 5c.....	\$35 00
" 1,000 due stamps at 1¼c.....	12 50
" Twenty-five cent assessment.....	26 00
" Emblem buttons	5 25
Total	\$78 75
LOCAL 8.	
For 1,800 due stamps at 5c.....	\$90 00
" Miners' assessment	12 50
" Twenty-five cent assessment	31 25
" Five copies of constitution	50
Total.....	\$134 25
LOCAL 10.	
For 891 due stamps at 5c.....	\$44 55
" 200 due cards	2 50

" Miners' assessment	13 00
" Per capita tax, without due stamps.....	7 14

Total	<u>\$67 19</u>
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LOCAL 11.

For 300 due stamps at 5c.....	\$15 00
" 400 due stamps at 1¼c.....	5 00
" 100 due cards	1 25
" Miners' assessment	5 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	10 00

Total	<u>\$36 25</u>
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LOCAL 12.

For 12,000 due stamps at 1¼c.....	\$150 00
" Emblem buttons	4 90

Total	<u>\$154 90</u>
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LOCAL 13.

For 901 due stamps at 5c.....	\$45 05
" 1,120 due stamps at 1¼c.....	14 00
" Miners' assessment	15 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	12 50

Total	<u>\$86 55</u>
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LOCAL 14.

For 938 due stamps	\$46 90
" Miners' assessment	25 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	17 00

Total	<u>\$88 90</u>
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LOCAL 15.

Per capita tax	\$55 75
Emblem buttons	70
Convention photos	1 00

Total	<u>\$57 45</u>
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LOCAL 16.

For 200 due stamps at 5c.....	\$10 00
" 100 due cards	1 25
" Miners' assessment	4 60
" Twenty-five cent assessment	7 50
" Emblem buttons	1 05

Total	<u>\$24 40</u>
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LOCAL 17.

For 434 due stamps at 5c.....	\$21 70
" Emblem buttons	1 40

" Per capita tax, without due stamp.....	3 60
" Photo of N. Y. convention	1 00
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Total	\$27 70

LOCAL 18.

For 871 due stamps at 5c.....	\$43 55
" 200 due cards	2 50
" Miners' assessment	9 25
" Per capita tax, without due stamps.....	6 55
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Total	\$61 85

LOCAL 19.

For 170 due stamps at 5c	\$8 50
" 50 due cards	50
" Miners' assessment	2 50
" Twenty-five cent assessment	2 50
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Total	\$14 00

LOCAL 20.

For 1,640 due stamps at 1/4c.....	\$20 50
" Emblem buttons	3 50
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Total	\$24 00

LOCAL 21.

For 1,480 due stamps at 5c.....	\$74 00
" 100 due cards	1 50
" Miners' assessment	15 00
" Twenty-five cent assessment	31 25
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Total	\$121 75

LOCAL 22.

For Charter fee	\$5 00
" 3,900 due stamps at 5c.....	195 00
" 600 due cards	6 00
" Miners' assessment	80 00
" Emblem buttons	7 70
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Total	\$293 70

LOCAL 23.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 50 due stamps at 5c.....	2 50
" 50 members' cards	63
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Total	\$8 13

LOCAL 24.

For charter fee	\$5 00
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" 1,150 due stamps at 5c.....	57 00
" 400 due cards	5 00
Total	\$67 50
LOCAL 25.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 834 due stamps at 5c.....	44 20
" Miners' assessment	8 70
" Emblem buttons	4 20
Total	\$62 10
LOCAL 26.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 210 due stamps at 5c	10 50
" 400 due cards	5 00
" 6,800 due stamps at 1¼c.....	85 00
" Emblem buttons	3 50
Total	\$109 00
LOCAL 27.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 960 due stamps at 1¼c	12 00
Total	\$17 00
LOCAL 28.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 830 due stamps at 5c	41 50
" 420 due cards	4 00
Total	\$50 50
LOCAL 29	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 50 due stamps	2 50
" 100 due cards	1 00
Total	\$8 50
LOCAL 30.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 5,200 due stamps	260 00
" 1,000 due cards	12 50
Total	\$277 50
LOCAL 31.	
For charter fee	\$5 00
" 400 due stamps at 5c.....	20 00
" 192 due cards	2 40
" Emblem buttons	1 75
Total	\$29 15:

LOCAL 32.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 1,400 due stamps at 5c.....	70 00
" 360 due cards	4 50
Total	79 50

LOCAL 33.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 100 member cards	1 25
Total	\$6 25

LOCAL 34.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 152 due stamps	7 60
" 36 due cards	45
Total	\$13 05

LOCAL 35.

For charter fee	\$5 00
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LOCAL 36.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 306 due stamps at 5c.....	15 30
" 180 due cards	2 25
" Emblem buttons	2 80
Total	\$25 35

LOCAL 37.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 243 due stamps at 5c	12 15
" 148 due cards	1 85
" Emblem buttons	2 10
Total	\$21 10

LOCAL 38.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 25 due stamps at 5c	1 25
" 40 due cards	50
Total	\$6 75

LOCAL 39.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 650 due stamps at 5c	32 50
" 300 due cards	3 75
" Emblem buttons	2 10
Total	\$43 35

LOCAL 40.

For charter fee	\$5 00
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" 200 due stamps at 5c	10 00
" 100 due cards	1 25
Total	\$16 25

LOCAL 41.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 110 due stamps at 5c	5 50
" 60 due cards	75
" Emblem buttons	1 05

Total	\$12 30
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LOCAL 42.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 526 due stamps at 5c	26 30
" 420 due cards	5 25

Total	\$36 55
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LOCAL 43.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 74 due stamps at 5c	3 70
" 108 due cards	1 35

Total	\$10 05
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LOCAL 44.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 60 due stamps at 5c	3 00
" 50 due cards	63

Total	\$8 63
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LOCAL 45.

For charter and supplies	\$10 00
" 92 due stamps at 5c	4 60

Total	\$14 60
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LOCAL 46

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 45 due stamps at 5c	2 25
" 60 due cards	75

Total	\$8 00
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LOCAL 47.

For charter fee	\$5 00
" 95 due stamps at 5c	4 75
" 100 due cards	1 25

Total	\$11 00
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LOCAL 48

For charter fee	\$5 00
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	LOCAL 49.	_____
For charter fee		\$5 00
	LOCAL 50.	_____
For charter fee		\$5 00
" 160 due cards		2 00

Total		\$7 00

	LOCAL 51.	_____
For charter fee		\$5 00
Grand total income from Locals ..		\$3,981 70
Balance on hand June 1, 1903.....		406 25
Received from A. F. of L. for organizing.....		400 00
Received for labels		221 77
Received for convention photos		13 50
Returned on bill, National Seal & Stamp Works.....		2 00

Grand total income.....\$5,025 22

RECAPITULATION OF INCOME.

Balance on hand June 1, 1902.....	\$406 25
For charter fees	155 00
" Per capita tax	2,833 89
" Member cards	78 56
" Emblem buttons	83 45
" Constitution books	50
" Twenty-five cent assessment	457 75
" Miners' assessment	370 55
" Photos of last convention....	15 50
" Organizing expenses from A. F. of L.....	400 00
Returned on bill Nat. Seal & Stamp Works.....	2 00
For labels	221 77

Grand total income	\$5,025 22

EXPENDITURES, JUNE 1, 1902 TO MAY 1, 1903.

For miscellaneous expenses, 1902 convention.....	\$87 78
" Stationery	15 88
" Postage	117 27
" Carfare, miscellaneous exp. and special strike services..	140 04
" Salary, B. Braff	717 00
" Clerical help	19 00
" Telegrams and telephones	22 21
" Organizing expenses	1,291 84
" Express charges	42 70
" Label advertising	78 00
" Per capita tax to A. F. & L.	155 00
" Office fixtures and typewriting machine.....	68 80
" Printing	622 22
" Miners' strike fund.....	350 00
" For material for labels	72 95
" Premium on Secretary-Treasurers' Bond	15 00

" Wrapper Makers', Local 22, J. Erlich strike fund.....	20 55
" Delegate B. Schlesinger to New Orleans convention of A. F. of L.....	60 00
" Expenses of Gen. Executive Council meeting at Phil- adelphia, Dec. 20-21, 1902.....	181 00
" Racine, Local 41, donated by G. E. C.....	25 00

Grand total	\$4,102 24
Total income	\$5,025 22
Total expenditures	4,102 24

Balance on hand May 1, 1903..... \$922 98

Received for striking members of Wrapper Makers' Union of
New York, Local 22:

Local 4	\$10 00
Local 3	5 00
Local 26	15 00
Local 15	5 00
Local 1	40 00
Local 25	15 00
Local 6	25 00
General Office	20 55
Local 5	25 00
Local 30	25 00
Local 24	5 00
Local 8	10 00
Local 18	5 00
Local 11	10 00
Local 2	10 00
Local 21	15 00
Local 27	8 00
Local 14	5 00
Local 28	5 00
Local 13	10 00
Local 19	2 10
Local 10	5 00
Local 11	15 00
Local 32	2 00
Total	\$287 55

Received for the locked-out members of Local 43, Dover, N. J.:

Local 3	\$5 00
Local 26	10 00
Local 2	5 00
Local 25	5 00

Local 18	15 00
Local 31	5 00
Local 6	10 00
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Total	\$35 00

The experience of the past year clearly demonstrates that we need expect only the bitterest opposition from the manufacturers. The 145 strikes and 5 lockouts of the past year speak plainly of the feeling and desire of the employers. This convention must consider this matter and financially prepare the organization to combat and overcome the opposition. We must have funds for this purpose. Funds, sufficient to maintain organizers whose work and duty it shall be to federate the wage earners of our industry and agitate for our label in every section of the country. We must advertise our label that we may popularize and thus create a demand for it. The label is the best weapon we have with which to defend ourselves against the attacks of our enemies. Its value and utility have been thoroughly tested in other tailoring trades, which to-day, through its agency are thoroughly organized and safely entrenched in power. We must have an office fully equipped for the proper and prompt handling of the large and growing business of the International. To raise the funds necessary to the accomplishment of this work, it is necessary that the per capita tax be increased; therefore your secretary-treasurer recommends an increase in the per capita tax in such sum as the convention will deem sufficient to meet these expenses.

In conclusion allow me to express my thanks to the officers and members of the Executive Board of this body for their advice and assistance; to express my thanks to the officers and members of our locals for their prompt attention to all requests made upon them by this office; to thank the A. F. of L., its officers and organizers, for the support and assistance they have given me in my work, and finally, allow me to thank the organizers of this body for their support, assistance and advice.

Hoping that this report meets with your approval, with best wishes, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

B. BRAFF,

General Secretary-Treasurer.