

## 1945 WAR RELIEF FUND SWELLS AS UNITS SET THEIR WORKDAYS

### Phila. Dress Joint Board Sends \$60,000

With the workday for war relief set in the New York coat and suit industry through the week of February 3-10, and a similar workday anticipated for the 80,000 dress workers in the metropolitan area during the second week of February, the nation-wide ILOUW campaign to raise \$2,000,000 for its 1945 War Relief Fund is fast approaching a climax.

The drive, which began early in December, is expected to wind up by the end of February in accordance with a decision of the General Executive Board. The ILOUW 1945 War Relief Fund campaign was authorized by a unanimous vote at the union's Boston convention last June.

With very few exceptions, the General Office reports, all the affiliates of the ILOUW have set local machinery in motion to carry out the "work-a-day-for-war-relief" convention decision, several of the larger units of the fund have already come in their collections to the fund.

Among those who have completed the task are the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board with the sum of \$60,000; Local 22, Unions of Workers, which forwarded a check for \$30,000; Local 158, Knitgoods Workers, which sent in \$40,000; the Chicago Joint Board, which contributed \$45,000; and the Boston Joint Board, which put in its day's work for relief last September and sent in a check for \$17,000, the first to come through with its contribution.

## AFL Free Union Fund Will Aid to Rebuild Labor in All Lands

More than 100 leaders of the American Federation of Labor, including President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, will serve on boards of the Free Trade Union Committee, it is announced by Matthew W. Brown, president of the AFL and chairman of the Committee.

The national leaders will administer the funds to be raised during the Free Trade Union Committee's \$1,000,000 January drive to aid in rebuilding free, democratic trade unions in Europe, Asia, South and Central America.

In addition to an executive board, there will be a finance committee of five headed by President Green which will review and supervise all disbursements of the fund as recommended by the executive board. Serving on the finance committee with Green will be George Meany, Matthew W. Brown, David Dubinsky and E. E. Millman, president of the maintenance-of-very employees' union.

The executive board, numbering 15 members, will be headed by Matthew W. Brown. Other members of the board are David Dubinsky, G. M. Bugnias and Harvey W. Brown.

## COURT AFFIRMS FEE IN DONNELLY CASE

The decision of the U. S. District Court at Kansas City in allowing the ILOUW \$2,000 as "reasonable" expenses in connection with the temporary restraining order issued against it by a three-man court for the Donnelly Garment Co. et al, which order was set aside by the U. S. Supreme Court, has been affirmed by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

## ILG Chief Acclaims Palestine Laborites

In a message called to the sixth annual convention of the Jewish Labor Federation of Palestine (Histadrut), which met in Tel-Aviv on Jan. 28, Pres. David Dubinsky laid particular emphasis on the fact that the great tragedy which has befallen the Jewish people in all parts of Europe has "magnified the tasks and problems of the federation."

"In greeting your convention," said the message, "I desire to convey to you the great good wishes of our entire membership. We, as members of the international brotherhood of organized labor, will continue to cooperate with you in your idealistic strivings for human freedom and social betterment and in your heroic efforts in behalf of the martyred and persecuted people in Eastern Europe who are seeking entry into Palestine as a haven of safety."

## COAT, SUIT FUND AIDS REFUGEES WITH \$426,500

Extolled by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, U. S. Senator James M. Mead, Pres. David Dubinsky of the ILOUW and other distinguished speakers as an exemplary pattern for rendering generous and consistent aid to philanthropic causes, the Refugee Relief Fund of the Coat and Suit Industry of New York, at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria on Jan. 25, made its distribution for 1944, with \$9 charity and war relief agencies receiving \$426,500.

It was an impressive event, attended by 1,000 persons, including industry members and representatives of organized labor in the coat and suit field and many notable (Continued on Page 7)

## 2 Navy Helicopters Mark Local 66 Bond Buys

Two Grumman Helicat fighter planes for the Navy have been named for Local 66 to mark the purchase of \$50,000 worth of war bonds in the Sixth War Loan drive by members and the local. It is announced by Manager Zachary L. Freedman.

## 800 WORKERS AT MCKETRICK STRIKE IN NO-PACT PROTEST

In a strike involving eight plants of the huge McKettrick-Williams Co., about 800 workers have registered their protest against the company's refusal to adjust longstanding grievances for which no collective bargaining machinery has been available since Dec. 1, 1944, when the union's pact was at Portland, Me. Pickets are at Portland, Me. Pickets are at Portland, Me.

(As we go to press, word arrives that a satisfactory settlement of grievances has been reached between the union and the McKettrick-Williams Co. Full details of the settlement will be reported in the next issue of "Justice.")

The movement started on Jan. 22 when the 300 workers at the Pistion shop walked out. They were followed the next day by the 300 workers in Haddon. The protest became general with the workers in the other plants took like action. Through the cooperation of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, the workers at the Newburgh shop joined the walkout on Jan. 26.

David Otigold, director of the Cotton Garment Department, and members of his staff are remaining (Continued on Page 11)

# Garment World Stirred By New WLB-OPA Order

The new production program, tentatively announced last week in Washington by the War Production Board, the Office of Civilian Requirements, and the Office of Price Administration for America's apparel and textile producers, had the effect of a bombshell on the factors in these industries.

Representatives of these two major industries who were invited to attend a series of sessions with the war agencies, while failing to receive a full outline of the framework of the plan, nevertheless carried away with one definite impression: All apparel orders and regulations of WPB and OPA are in for a drastic overhauling.

Directly, the new plan purports to have two objectives: To halt the steady rise in clothing prices and to increase the supply of low-priced and medium-priced garments among their work clothes, children's wear, house dresses, low-end street dresses and undergarments, and many items of men's wear.

As a prime lever for the attainment of these objectives, the WPB-OPA plan, to be embodied in a Planned Order M-490, intends to shift production from higher and medium-priced lines to cheaper grades through a mandatory allotment of fabric quotas for the various (Continued on Page 2)

## BELTMAKERS TO EARN FULL PAY, SAYS WLB; OVERTIME AFTER 3 1/2

Beltmakers whose workweek has been reduced are to be "paid enough to give them 40 hours' pay for 37 1/2 hours' work," according to a War Labor Board directive issued on Jan. 30 in the George L. Robbins Co. of New York. It was announced last week by Max Schwartz, acting manager of Local 61.

In issuing its order, the WLB stated that it recognized that piece-rates in the belt industry have for a long time been scaled to a 37 1/2-hour week.

The Robbins firm agreed to Local 61's request for a cut in hours last November but refused to readjust piece-rates so that the workers would not suffer a cut in earnings. The WLB ruling makes time and one-half rates for overtime available after 37 1/2 instead of 40 hours.

## ILOUW IS Certified For Dubuque Plant

The National Labor Relations Board has certified the ILOUW as the collective bargaining agent for the workers employed by the Dubuque Garment Co., Dubuque, Ia. This action came as a result of an election conducted by the NLRB in the Dubuque Co. plant on Jan. 12. Of the 73 valid votes cast, 69 were in favor of the union. The order for an election was issued by the NLRB following a hearing on Dec. 1, 1944, at which the ILOUW was represented by Harold W. Schwartz and John Grogan.



# NEW WPB OP APPEAL EDICTS; EFFECT OBSCURE UNTIL SPRING

(Continued from Page 1)

one diagnosis. Two years ago, for example, 70 per cent of women's dresses sold below \$7.95; today, 70 per cent sell above that price. This shift developed because manufacturers have concentrated upon the output of higher-priced lines on which larger profits have been obtainable. The new program, when carried into effect, is designed to reverse this development. There will be, it is anticipated, a reservation of a large volume of the fabric available for the production of lower-priced garments, a high priority rating to manufacturers of such garments and a limitation upon the production of non-essential and high-price lines to no more than 30 per cent of the output in the first half of 1945.

One of the chief effects of the plan, if properly enforced, will be a larger proportion of lower-priced garments, the shortage of which has been the main reason for the rapid increase in all apparel prices during the past two years, it is declared. The chief obstacle in the way of the forthcoming order, as pointed out by the Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, general manager of the New York Dress Joint Board, who attended the Washington hearing together with Frederick P. Dunlay, ILOUW executive secretary, will be the problem of enforcement.

Still missing, at the time of this writing, from the framework of the projected Order M-400, aiming at the stepping up of the output and distribution of low-end apparel and the ridding back of apparel prices by about 7 per cent, are the following points:

- A specific list of essential items to get priority assistance.
- The exact percentage of output of each item to be permitted during the first half of 1945.
- The exact dollars-and-cents step-

ping point for priority substance for each item.

In the face of this incomplete picture of the situation and the general belief that it will take considerable time before these considerations will be directed to the garment and textile trades, it would be only speculative at this moment to attempt an analysis of the impact of the projected program upon immediate production volumes of the various grades, price levels, both wholesale and retail, and employment.

This latter point, the problem of employment, which is of particular interest to the workers in all the garment branches, is of necessity brought up with the other factors in the apparel and the textile production program. It is pointed out that while a shift to lower-priced lines is bound to affect production in the high-price shop, it may be counter-balanced effectively by a material increase in garment production during 1945 and on. On the whole, however, it is argued that since production of spring work is in full swing in nearly all the shops of the industry at present, the abruptness of the new clothes regulation program can hardly be felt until some six months from now.

## Mabel Durham Joins War; Step Climaxes Fine War Efforts

Mabel Durham, member of the executive board of Local 62, Undergarment and Negligee Workers, has joined the Women's Army Corps and is awaiting her call to military duty some time this month. In becoming a War, she is carrying to a climax the patriotic activities that have brought her recognition throughout the ILOUW. She was captain of the Women's Service Brigade during 1943 and 1944 and has been a leader in all of the union's wartime programs.

Local 62 elected her as delegate to the ILOUW national convention in 1940 and 1944.

Among her many other activities, Mabel Durham last year attended the Wellesley Summer School of Social Progress, where she was one of six labor representatives in a group of several hundred students. And it now a member of the Wellesley program committee for future sessions of the school, she also was a student at the Hudson Street Labor School during several summer terms.

She has been equally conspicuous in political work. A resident of Brooklyn, she was appointed secretary of the Liberal Party of Kings County in recognition of her devotion and leadership in various elec-

**\$135,000 For Relief — And More Pouring In**

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# Wallace Fights for Economic Democracy

### Life-Blood of Nation is 60,000,000 Jobs—No Unemployed, Good Pay, Full Security Eloquenty Urged by New Deal Leader

With the entire nation as his forum, former Vice Pres. Henry A. Wallace on Jan. 25 made a ringing declaration of his liberal credo in testifying before a Senate sub-committee conducting hearings on his nomination as Secretary of Commerce by President Roosevelt.

The following digest of Wallace's statement is presented as a clear-cut elucidation of the historical necessity for the acceptance of the economic "Bill of Rights" embodied in President Roosevelt's message to Congress last year:

We now must establish an economic bill of rights, not only out of common decency, but also to insure the preservation of our political freedom. We must accord to this economic bill of rights the same dignity — the same status — in our American tradition as that which was accorded to the original Bill of Rights.



The economic bill of rights, as embodied in the President's message to Congress last January, is:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation.

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation.

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living.

The right of every businessman large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad.

The right of every family to a decent home.

The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health.

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and unemployment.

The right to a good education.

But the achievement of this American economic bill of rights will not come of itself. These rights are not being given to us on a platter and we must fight for them. Our forefathers had to struggle for our political Bill of Rights; we will have to struggle for our economic bill of rights. If we are going to make those rights a living reality we must map out a vigorous and concerted course.

### Teamwork The Key

The key is the wholehearted recognition by all our people of the simple fact that in America the future of the American worker lies in the well-being of American private enterprise, and the future of American private enterprise lies in the well-being of the American worker. The greatest single thing that this war has demonstrated on



the home front is that when the American worker and the American business man every day and every hour work together as one team, there are no limits on what America can accomplish.

An adequate program must provide America with 60,000,000 productive jobs. We must have more jobs than workers, not more workers than jobs. Only with more jobs than workers can every man be guaranteed a job with good wages and decent working conditions. This requires private enterprise working at top capacity.

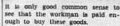
It will require large outlays of money which should be raised through internal investment chan-

nels. But while private capital should finance this expansion program, the Government should recognize its responsibility for sharing part of any special or abnormal risk of loss attached to such financing. In a nutshell, then, if we are going to have remunerative jobs for all, we must have an expanded private industry capable of hiring millions more men. I propose that the Government do its part in helping private enterprise finance this expansion of our industrial plant. It will be privately owned, privately operated and privately financed, but the Government will share with the private investor the unusual and abnormal financial risks which may be incurred in getting started.

### High Wages A Must

America must remain pre-eminent in the land of high wages and efficient production. Every job in America must provide enough for a decent living.

During the war we have been unprepared to meet the increases that might have provoked runaway inflation. However, the end of the war, even the end of the war in Europe, will bring the picture, there. There will be more goods available for America to buy, and the



it is only good common sense to see that the workman be paid enough to buy those goods. The gains made by labor during the war must be retained in full. If we make sure that the rates are not reduced when the wartime demand for labor is diverted into peacetime channels. We must make sure that the labor market is not broken by unemployment and wages slashed.

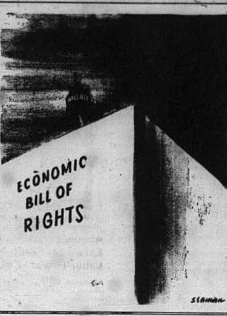
American labor should be assured that there are no limits to its pay wage cuts after this war. What is even more important — when the worker's hours are cut back to peacetime levels, a real attempt must be made to adjust wage rates upward.

And wages should be constantly increased as the productivity of industry increases. An expansion of American economy can continue to expand only if the increased productivity is divided equitably between business and the worker. In fact, unless the worker does get his share of America's increased production in the form of increased wages in the form of increased productivity, neither will prosper and all, businessmen, wage-earners and farmers, will lose.

But an increase in wages is not the only benefit the American worker should secure from increased productivity. He should also benefit in the form of shorter hours. The work in the form of increased leisure and opportunities for healthful recreation. Thus, increased wages and shorter hours go hand-in-hand in solving the prosperity problem of the American worker.

The slide of the wage-earner's pay envelope is important — vitally important to American prosperity. But we all know that it is equally important to know how many pay envelopes he gets during a year. I

### "Here The Embattled Farmer Stood"



would like to see him get a guaranteed minimum annual wage and I think the time has come for America to begin tackling this most difficult problem.

### Farmers' Welfare

American farmers now have by far the largest farm income in history. This is their due reward for the greatest agricultural production in history. We must assure the farmers that there will always be a market for all their output at good prices. With jobs for all at good wages and with foreign markets greatly expanded, the farmer will be able to sell at good prices all that he can raise.

### Enterprise For All

Freedom of enterprise is not merely and exclusively for the few, but broadly and intensively for the many. The political Bill of Rights insured the destruction of special prerogatives and privileges. The economic bill of rights will insure the destruction of special economic prerogatives and privileges.

We must overcome the monopolistic frame of mind which kills of business in terms of restricted output at high prices per unit. We must pass on to workers and consumers the benefits of technological progress and large-scale production. Free enterprise in the American tradition can flourish only by doing a large volume of business at a small profit per unit.

### "Land of Home-Owners"

We should adopt a housing program looking toward the construction, through private enterprise, of 2,000,000 housing units a year and ridding this country of the urban and rural slums. We need to build at least 15,000,000 new housing units if we are to eliminate all our slums and substandard dwellings. The right to a home is meaningless when that home is a hovel. We cannot afford slums.

To the fullest extent possible we must be a land of home-owners. As selective service has revealed, too large a proportion of our younger men now fall below reasonable health standards. This is a warning signal to America with respect to the state of health of all segments of our population. This

condition calls for immediate and drastic action.

We cannot permit the health of our people to be impaired by poverty or lack of medical and hospital facilities. Health and adequate medical and hospital care are not luxuries. They are basic necessities to which all are entitled.

### Sickness Prevention

We must not be content to provide medical attention for people after they become sick. We must implement and extend our knowledge of maximum health as well as prevention of sickness.

We must assure people who are disabled and temporarily unemployed that they will be taken care of adequately. We must assure them that they will not be in want because of loss of income during this period of compulsory unemployment.

### Wider Social Security

A broader social security program will be needed after the war. 600-

age insurance should be adequate to provide all of our older men and women with the means for decent living. Our present old-age benefits are definitely inadequate. A decent, self-respecting old-age social security program should be deemed to be a right, not a charity, a right deriving from the years of service each person delivers to the sum total of a better America.

### Program of Democracy

This is the kind of program that can provide jobs, economic security and raise standards of living for all Americans — regardless of race, color or creed. Our democracy can be a living force only if it means the good life for all the people.

There are those who say that these goals are the dream of a "man willing to jettison the country's future with unbridled ideas and idealistic schemes." These people think they are the realist.

Actually, these are the persons of limited vision and stunted imagination. These people are of the same breed as those "sound businessmen" who haggled over pennies in the purchase of strategic stocks before the war, only to leave the materials for the Axis to use against us. These are people who will fight against enemies, waging total war, by pinching pennies. These people think the same as those who said the President was dreaming when he declared in 1940 that the American people would produce 50,000 planes in one year. Do these Monday-morning quarterbacks have that great faith in the American people, and in their way of life, which is required in order to understand the meaning of America?

I am confident, however, that the great majority of the American people share the same great faith in America and in the American way of doing things which I have expressed here.

We have a sacred obligation to



do the most effective job possible on the home front. It is my hope that we will cooperate in the utmost in doing that job while at the same time we press ahead with the steepest vigor to prepare for that first and most important plank in the economic bill of rights — full employment.

### An Editorial

### WE ARE NOT A RUBBER STAMP

LAST week, union representatives of the garment industry were invited to Washington to listen to the outlines of a new program of garment production and pricing being promulgated jointly by the War Production Board, the Office of Price Administration and the Office of Civilian Requirements.

Obviously, the union spokesmen were called in to give these war agencies the benefit of their advice on the problem of critical shortages in low-priced garments and the no less critical and consistent rise of garment prices. In point of fact, however, their advice was at no time solicited. To be sure, the plan was divulged to them only in its barest aspects. Its most important and basic features were withheld, for the time being at least.

The point we are making here is this: Undoubtedly, the problem of low-priced clothing shortages and of inordinately high retail levels exists — and it is a grave, disturbing problem, involving the interests of industry, of labor and of the consumer. It would stand to reason that in the formulation of a wise and effective solution, every factor in it should be fully and properly consulted. Only then, it seems to us, could control enforcement and effectiveness of any remedial measure be reasonably assured.

But the WPB-OPA authorities chose the other way, the strictly bureaucratic way. Obviously, the union people had been invited to the show strictly as window dressing — perhaps, to give the measure an appearance of unanimity. This, in our judgment, is a farce, pure and simple. If the gentlemen of the WPB and OPA cannot function except as bureaucrats, they may as well act on their own, undivided responsibility.

# WORLD LITTLE INTERNATIONAL

## SPEED ON WAR FUND EOT AIM; HEALTH BY-LAWS MAPPED

Aiming at the completion of collections for the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund in EOT shops by the end of February, staff members of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, at a conference on Jan. 12, surveyed the problem of setting work throughout the departmental territory and made plans for carrying an intense drive into the shops within the next two weeks.

The conference, according to Vice Pres. Harry Wander, the department's supervisor, also considered the suggested terms for incorporation into the by-laws governing EOT workers who will benefit from the New York dressmakers' health plan inaugurated on Jan. 3.

Staff reports at the conference revealed that almost all locals had held general membership meetings at which specific work days had been approved. In determining the work dates, full consideration was given to seasonal work peaks in each shop.

The drawing up of by-laws for the health fund was authorized by the New York Department's inauguration in order to bring conditions peculiar to the out-of-town areas into conformity with the plan. About 15,000 dressmakers in 230 EOT and Cotton Garment Department shops

### Model Dress Donates \$25

A shop committee from the Model Dress Co., Newark, N. J., headed by Luella Lantieri, recently paid a visit to the Newark chapter of the American Red Cross. Their purpose was to hand over a contribution of \$25, an amount generously spent for a year-end party.

### From Hand to Mouth at Mt. Vernon



An exciting buffet scene at a recent holiday celebration held by ILGWU members in Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

## EOT BRINGS 7 SHOPS UNDER UNION TERMS, WIDENING CONTROL

The recent unionization of seven new shops is announced by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department. While all of these shops are of the smaller category, the largest employing 67 workers, it is pointed out that bringing them into the union fold represents the EOT's continuing effort to maintain complete control over all shops in the territory under its jurisdiction.

In Cora, N. J., the Oneida Shoe shop and the Planet Manufacturing shop have signed agreements with Local 51. Both firms produce blouses and have contracts calling for a 35-hour week and vacation with pay. The Remco Dress Manufacturing Co., Jackson Heights, L. I., has also signed a union pact. Local 143, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., has signed union agreements with the De-Vry Dress shop, the H. & L. Dress shop and the Jack Stabush shop of Yonkers. All three are contractors; the Stabush shop makes undergarments.

In New Jersey, Local 148 has negotiated contracts with the J. & B. Dress shop, Union City, and the Long Dress shop, Jersey City. Both shops operate on a piece-work system.

## EOT 1944 Report

# 40 Daily Shop Visits

Holding its own in the face of widespread wartime dislocations, the Eastern Out-of-Town Department has been able to maintain its membership rolls constant at the number of 28,000 during the year 1944, it was revealed in an annual report of routine control activities by the department just completed at the EOT office. The report covers union activities in dress and miscellaneous shops under EOT control in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, and is exclusive of cloak shops.

The department controls 549

shops, not counting those making coats. During the 12-month period, six shops, employing 165 workers, discontinued production. On the other hand, the intensive pace of organizational work has brought 41 new shops, employing 967 workers, into the union fold. This established a net gain for the year of 34 shops and 802 members.

During 1944, EOT officers made 12,640 shop visits and held 1,530 shop meetings. This shows an average of 40 daily inspections throughout the year. The report puts the spotlight on the less spectacular efforts of the union, revealing the routine controls which demonstrate the constant vigilance of the union. These steps are regularly taken even in shops where no difficulties are reported.

The period under consideration was one in which employer - employee relationships were subjected to great pressure and much tension. Rising living costs and the limitations imposed by the Little Steel formula have added to the burden of the workers. Several unscrupulous employers have sought to make capital out of labor's no-strike pledge, committing violations of contract terms and provoking organized labor to take action that would turn the community against it.

In the face of these conditions, the department has continued its day-by-day activities with a confidence in its ability to protect the welfare of its members. This is shown by the fact that \$63,206 was collected from employers on the basis of complaints filed by workers and union officers.

The report lists about 30 different kinds of complaints filed. They include difficulties arising from underpayment, failure to observe minimum wage provisions, refusal to pay for legal holidays, homework, ill-treatment in the shop, investigation of books, employment of non-union workers, price discrimination, unscrupulous garments, etc.

Stoppage never lasted more than one or two days' duration and generally caused by the failure of employers to comply with EOT contract terms, were handled only 37. Other potential stoppage situations

## DAY'S PAY IS A DUTY

ILG 1945 War Relief Fund is Work of Rescue Donations Based on Decision of Convention—Hand of Brotherhood Was Never More Urgent

By HARRY WANDER, V.P.  
General Manager, Eastern Out-of-Town Department

A day's work or a day's wages for war relief is the order of the day in all ILGWU locals throughout the country. There was never a time when a helping hand from us meant so much to the men, women and children who are suffering most in this war.

Since we raised the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund, we have given Italy, Poland and France have been freed. Two years ago the need was great. But at that time we were not able to recall the war victims in Italy and other sections of Europe. These were still under the rule of the Nazis.

It was only for short periods that we were able to thank our 1543 War Relief Fund last for two years. As our convention, the 1943 last summer, however, the delegates representing the entire membership of 220,000 recognized that for the first time it was possible to help those who were in the most desperate straits.

Among those who will be aided by the 1945 Fund will be the American Red Cross, the UNO, the relief agencies for Italy, Poland, France, China, Greece, Britain and other Allied nations, the five trade unions which must rebuild democracy in the liberated areas and our own relief agencies and community chests here at home.

Our out-of-town locals have already begun their collections. First reports indicate that the drive will meet with great success. In all local, dates have been selected for working and for turning over the contributions to the fund through the union. We are already sending out receipts to entire shops that have worked, together with cards to those members showing their names and the amount of their individual contribution.

We appeal to all of our members to cooperate in completing these collections on the shortest possible time. Lives depend on our speed.

## BACKPAY GAINED IN 4 EOT SHOPS ON OKAY OF WLB

Back pay for a number of workers in two New Jersey and two Connecticut shops will result from four recent War Labor Board approvals, the EOT office announced last week.

At the Coetz-Kilban plant in Norwalk, Conn., four cutters have won retroactive increases of \$3 a week. Minimum pay operations have been raised by \$1.50 and for finishers by \$2.50. Overtime rates are to start after seven hours instead of seven and one-half. There are now over 28 operators and seven finishers. The award is retroactive to Dec. 8, 1944.

Operators at the Plainfield Manufacturing plant have had 3 cents added to their minimum rate as of Oct. 23, 1944.

Although the Kay Andrews firm of Elizabeth, N. J., has been out of business for some time, about 45 former employees will benefit by a wage award retroactive to April 10, 1944.

Also retroactive to April 10, 1944, the approval of WLB orders filed by Markon Garment Co., Elizabeth, N. J. Cutters have won a \$3.50 weekly wage increase, while \$2 has been added to time-workers' wages.

Employees at the WLB were prevented from developing through speedy action on complaints.

Altogether, 2,738 complaints were adjudicated. Of those, 1,506 were adjusted through the New York Desk Joint Board, which made possible the collection of \$4,643 for the war relief fund. The whole LTRB were awarded locally and yielded \$22,713.

## CLOAK EOT

By GEORGE RUBIN, V.P.

Two birds were killed with one stone at the Coat Corporation of America on Jan. 17 when the workers at that plant, members of Local 129, gave their simultaneous contributions to the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund and to the U. S. Navy Relief Fund.

Since both causes are equally worthy, it was a fitting occasion, and a luncheon was served by the firm to commemorate the spirit of generosity thus displayed. Among the guests were union officials and high-ranking naval officers, including Warrant Officer George Ray Tweed, the hero who survived for 31 months on Guam during the Japanese occupation and was only recently rescued when the Japanese forces recaptured the island.

To the ILGWU relief fund these workers donated the impressive sum of \$1,000, while the U. S. Navy relief organization received \$2,500.

### Day's Pay Progress

Fairly rapid progress is being made in all of our shops to complete the day's pay contribution for the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund, which will go for toward aiding the victims of war — both at home and in the nations of Europe. Collections are being arranged in every shop so that the deadline for the fund will be met in time.

Several shops have already wound up their contributions and the proper receipts have been received. Those shops are as follows:

- Coat Corporation of America, Long Island City — \$4,600, United Cloak, Stamford — \$700; Jerome Garment's Middletown — \$400; Levy & Montebello, Brooklyn — \$122.50; S. & S. Coat, New Haven — \$161; Parlane Garment, Bridgeport — \$240; Royal Cloak, Bridgeport — \$244.7; Center Coat, South Norwalk — \$11; S. & S. Coat, Stamford — \$112.65; Sokol Bros., New York — \$700; Levine Coat, Bridgeport — \$400; Bush's Manufacturing, South Norwalk — \$217; Prosperity Coat, Mt. Vernon — \$407.80; English Tailors, Yonkers — \$21.80; First Publishers, Freehold — \$511.70.

## Cruise of Guam Admires Know-How



Rose Forlano, Coat Corp. of America operator, whose brother, Pfc. Louis Forlano, was among those who helped recapture Pfc. Louis Forlano, whose Warrant Officer George Ray Tweed, how hoods are made for the armed forces. Tweed was stranded for 31 months on Guam before he was rescued. He addressed Co. Corp. of America workers on Jan. 17.

## NEWS OF THE DRESS JOINT BOARD AND AFFILIATED LOCALS

PRESSERS GREET  
OPENING OF NEW  
WELFARE SET-UP

New York's dress pressers heard their manager, Vex Pres. Max O'Brien, deliver a detailed account of the health fund inaugurated on Jan. 3 for all dressmakers in that city at their general membership meeting last month.

As each paragraph of the health provisions was read, the pressers showed increasing enthusiasm in their applause. The acclaim reached a high point when O'Brien reported that they were to receive \$26 under vacation terms.

The meeting, devoted almost entirely to local business, was opened by Jack Spitzer, local chairman, with a call for two minutes of silence in tribute to Ben Coppenman and Bernard Rubin, Local 69 members who have met death in the service of their country.

The meeting heard several recommendations made by the local's executive board. Chief among these was a proposal for continuation of the Employment Department, with a reduction of the number of contributed work-days by employed members.

Effective Jan. 1, 1945, the following schedule of work-days will be followed: those earning from \$1,000 to \$3,500 — one day; from \$3,500 to \$4,000 — two days; from \$4,000 to \$4,500 — four days; from \$4,500 to \$6,000 or six days; \$6,000 and up — eight days.

The executive board recommended that to tax be levied for the time being and that all expenses of the Employment Department be met by the local treasury.

Servicemen Grateful  
For Local 22 Gifts

The office of Local 22 keeps in constant touch with its soldier and sailor members here and abroad. Letters from these men come to Manager Charles S. Zimmerman in a steady flow, and many of them are touching and revealing.

Recently Local 22 sent Valentine packages to its servicemen and letters expressing their gratitude have arrived in great numbers. Here are a few excerpts from these messages.

Says Pvt. Milton Luder: "Some day this war will end. When it does, I hope my privetries will not be forgotten. . . You just cannot realize what a nice Christmas package meant to me. All I can say just now is that if everybody in the world like the boys here, it will be a great day when the boys come marching home."

Pvt. Albert Rabinowitz writes: "There was a certain feeling that came over me when I received your Christmas package. I want to go into detail. It certainly makes a fellow feel good all over to know that for me, I really had a Christmas. Thinking of him and his buddies. As for me, I really enjoyed it. I want to show all the boys that live with me over here just what labor unions back home were doing for them that are fighting to gain a quick and lasting peace."

Maytime Shop Party Nets  
\$100 For Red Cross Fund

Workers of the Maytime Flocks shop, 233 Broadway, New York City, celebrated the holiday season with a party at which they collected \$100 for the American Red Cross, according to the shop committee, which consists of H. Burns, chairman, and H. Apter, M. Brindel and S. Berenshtay.

Levy, the employer, matched the amount as soon as he learned what his employees had done. The Red Cross now has the check for

## Proud of His Son's Honors



Above, Gen. Johnson of the 8th Air Force decorates T/Sgt. Murray Kramer, Right. Hyman Kramer, Local 22 member, displays son's Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal. Sgt. Kramer participated in the Normandy invasion

Hochman's Birthday  
Greeted by Staff

A luncheon which practically amounted to a surprise party was given by the staff of the New York Dress Joint Board to Julius Hochman, its general manager, on Jan. 13, when he became 53 years of age.

The friends and associates who took part in the birthday luncheon were all dress union old-timers who have worked side by side with Hochman for many years. The affair was marked by genuine heartiness, without the least sign of formality or strain. It was fresh and spontaneous, a true family celebration.

Max Blumstein, head of the organization department of the Joint Board, acted as "toastmaster." His remarks were as witty as they were sincere, combining genuine esteem with good-natured fun. Blumstein set the tone for the rest of the speakers, all staff members, with the exception of Pev. Dubinsky, who had been specially invited to the party. For once, local managers and their assistants did not rise "to say a few words."

All at once the toastmaster revealed the fact that Hochman's 53rd birthday was really not the sole reason for the luncheon. The idea had been first broached some time earlier, immediately after the launching of the health and vacation plan under the new collective agreement. But one thing after another had come up and it was difficult to wait for Hochman's birthday as the most appropriate occasion for a testimonial luncheon.

Blumstein paid high tribute to Hochman's immediate and long-range energy and outstanding achievements in behalf of the union and its members. "We'd the staff," Blumstein declared, "have from our own daily experience how basic these achievements really are and how much we owe to the man under whose guidance the union has been able to make this magnificent progress."

Pev. Dubinsky declared that "there was hardly another man in

SIMPLIFIED DUES PAYMENT GIVES  
DRESSMAKERS EXTRA HEALTH AID

How the new dues system in the dressmakers' locals makes it possible for the union to render better service with greater efficiency and at less cost to the members was explained last week by Vex Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of Local 22.

"Instead of the five separate payments under the old system amounting to a total of \$5.50 a year for the major crafts and \$25 for the minor crafts, the new consolidated system makes a total of only \$34.80 and \$20.00—respectively, and yet members get the same health benefits and double the former insurance," Zimmerman said. He emphasized that "the members thus pay less and get more."

The streamlined dues system, which went into effect at the beginning of the year, provides for a total over-all payment of 65 cents a week for the major crafts and 50 cents for the minor craft, plus \$1 a year death benefit in each case. Although this actually amounts to 30 cents a year less than before, members will nevertheless receive a number of additional advantages in health services and death provisions.

Sick benefits, paid through the recently established Health Fund of the dress industry, have been increased from \$7 to \$12 a week. The Health Fund also provides a number of other services.

In connection with the death provisions, members will benefit through \$100 additional death benefit from the local, subject to the retroactive application of the LCWD death benefit fund. This means that under the new system members are insured for a total of \$300 in death benefits.

The union is enabled to give greater service at less cost to the members, Zimmerman explained, because the establishment of the dress industry's Health Fund has made it possible to abolish the special sick benefit funds of the locals and to absorb sick benefit payments into the new consolidated payment.

"In this way, although members actually pay the local a little less than formerly, they get increased benefits and the financial position of the union will be greatly strengthened," the Local 22 manager said.

Local 22 has explained this new system in a message sent out to the entire membership just before the inauguration of the new plan as well as a letter to each local in cases closed last week. The latter communication, signed by Zimmerman, as secretary-treasurer, follows:

"Since Jan. 1 of this year sick

**Fight**  
INFANTILE  
PARALYSIS  
Jan. 14-31  
JOIN THE  
MARCH  
OF DIMES

benefit payments have been increased from \$1 to \$11 a week. These benefits will now be paid out of the Dress Industry Health Fund, which was recently established through agreement between the union and the employers. Under the provisions of the Health Fund, members who cannot work because of illness are entitled to \$12 a week for one week a year.

"The Dress Industry Health Fund also provides a number of other health benefits and services to members. You will find all the details in 'Justice,' 'Overnight' or 'Justice,' whichever union publication you read.

We are happy that the new system has made it possible to raise the sick benefit payments and sincerely hope that this will help you in your present difficulties."

\$9,338,463 Bond Buy  
By Dress Units Tops  
Mark in 6th Drive

A final check-up made by the New York Dress Joint Board last week showed that the Joint Board and its four affiliated locals purchased \$9,338,463 worth of bonds in the Sixth War Loan drive. Of this amount, \$4,365,000, or nearly half the total, was subscribed directly by the Joint Board from its treasury, while the remaining \$4,973,463 came from 214 separate local payroll-deduction plans prevailing in a large part of the metropolitan dress industry.

Joint Board officials expressed gratification at the record of the union in the drive and pointed out that the total subscribed in the Sixth War Loan drive is the highest water-mark in war bond purchases by the dressmakers' organization.

**Attention!**  
LOCAL 22

## REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1945

Right After Work

MANHATTAN CENTER

34th St. and 8th Ave.

Buy bonds till it hurts the enemy.

# Greater Aid for Italy Asked

## American Labor Gave \$300,000 Cash and 308,694 Garments

A general meeting of the Italian-American Labor Council on Jan. 27, with Luigi Antonini in the chair, endorsed the Council's activities during 1944 and adopted a vigorous resolution calling upon the American "comintern" to present to the Atlantic Charter so as to insure their application by the Allies in the treatment of the resurgent Italian nation.

Recent developments, it was pointed out at the meeting, have only emphasized the value of the Council's work and the urgency of reaching its endeavors to strengthen the bona fide democratic forces in Italy and to "restore the Italian people to their rightful place among the world's great democracies."

During this period, it was explained, the Italian-American Labor Council has worked toward the attainment of the following objectives:

**5-Point Goal**

1. Just and honorable treatment of Italy, by our own country and the other United Nations, on a basis of equality with the other great powers in the regeneration of Italian national freedom and democracy.

2. Overcoming all barriers to prompt and sufficient shipment of food clothing and medicine from America to the ailing and hungry, in liberated Italy.
3. Facilitating the re-establishment of genuinely free trade unions as the backbone of reviving Italian democracy.

4. Establishing close relations and active cooperation between organized labor in America and the truly liberal forces and democratic elements in the labor movement of Italy now being reborn.

5. Energetic and generous aid, and also the heretofore neglected and democratic Resistance forces in Nazi-occupied Northern Italy.

The Council's report pointed, among other achievements, to the Italian protest in Italy made to the State Department in behalf of Count Carlo Sforza, whose participation in Italian political life was virtually vetoed by the British authorities; to its imposing Columbus Day celebration in New York and the "Four Freedoms Award" to President Roosevelt at the White House; and to its active efforts in behalf of the Administration during the recent national elections.

The report contended for Italy's needy was another the major activities of the Council during the past year, the report stressed, especially the clothing drive in which 308,694 garments were collected and consigned to Italy through American Relief for Italy, Inc., as the result of that drive. In addition, \$300,000 was raised for food and medicine, besides a direct con-

tribution by Local 89 of \$60,000 raised at its recent Jubilee celebration.

**Fighters Strengthened**

The Council has also reinforced materially its material support to the Italian Resistance movement behind the Nazi lines in the still-occupied parts of Italy, and has helped conscientiously in the restoration of the free trade unions in Italy. The sum of \$132,064 was collected for this purpose alone. The response of the ILGWU and its leaders to this call for aid in the reconstruction of Italy's democratic trade unions has been especially generous. They came through with contributions totaling \$100,000 in addition to \$10,000 given by the Labor League for Human Rights, relief agency of the AFL.

A vital factor in this movement to help restore bona fide Italian trade unionism, it was indicated, was the trip by the Council's president, Luigi Antonini, as AFL representative to liberated Italy.

A forward step towards real cooperation between American and Italian labor was achieved when the United Federation of Labor, at the behest of the Council and its chairman, adopted a resolution in which it pledged "to give its full support to the democratic elements in the Italian labor movement, to those elements which are opposed to totalitarian organization and domination. The AFL-CIO, which at New Orleans endorsed the "splendid movement undertaken by the American Committee for Italian Relief," and declared that "our policy toward Italy is one of aid that would make it clear to the Italian population of every political belief and economic group that America will not support any further dismemberment of their country or the imposition of a form of government to which they are inureably opposed."

**CREDIT UNION OF '89' GIVING 2% DIVIDEND; \$82,000 LOAN RECORD**

More than \$62,000 in personal loans have been made to members by the credit union of Local 89, Italian Dressmakers, since its formation in 1941. It was revealed by John DeLo, secretary of the credit union, in a report submitted at its annual meeting on Jan. 18. The meeting was held in Local 89's council room, Louis Vetti, Antonini, chairman of the credit union, took part.

The board of directors recommended that a dividend of one percent be declared and distributed to all shareholders. The meeting voted to undertake a drive to attract additional members into the credit union, pointing out that the cost is \$5 a share besides an initiation fee of \$1. The present membership is 1,000.

Officers elected for 1945 included the following members of the board of directors: Luigi Antonini, John Sforza, Giacomo Di Nola, Louis Vetti, Patry Natavelli, Lawrence Michaels and Onilio Morosio. The credit committee includes Ralph Isannarone, Joseph M. Sciacca, Giuseppe Palascio, Paul Rutigliano and Tolando Tamarro. The supervisory committee consists of Joseph C. Conner, Joseph J. Bonanno and Grace De Lisle.

The reports of the credit committee and of the supervisory committee were read by Luigi Raitano and Salvatore Bonanno, their respective secretaries.

## Simonetti, Wounded, Welcomed Home At Landmark Dress

A welcome home party to Vito Simonetti, who returned wounded after a year and a half of active service, was given on Jan. 20 by his former fellow-workers at the Landmark Dress shop, 961 Seventh Ave., New York City.

Vito, whose brother Joseph is president of the executive board of Local 89, had worked for four years in the Landmark shop when he was "bumped" by the Army in 1942. He was soon sent into active service and took part in the liberation of France. Some months ago he was wounded in action and was recently sent back to the United States. He was warmly welcomed by his former fellow-workers, who got together \$100 as a gift and arranged the luncheon as a testimonial of their regard and friendship. The shop decided to make a day of it and before going to the El Dorado Restaurant, where the luncheon was held, they attended the regular Saturday morning broadcast of the "Voice of Local 89."

Business Agent Carmelo Tando was one of the guests at the luncheon.

**Business Agent Carmelo Tando** was one of the guests at the luncheon.

## Army Chaplain Lauds Esteem Workers' Gifts

Employees of the Esteem Dress Co., 148 West 24th St., who, according to Business Agent Sol Lipsack, have been generous to their contributions to war relief agencies, recently received a letter of thanks from Maj. Bernard Sepal, chaplain of the Army's General Hospital at Atlantic City, N. J. The letter said: "We are deeply moved by the thoughtfulness of your group in sending in this gift of \$25 and I want to assure you that your sentiments are very much appreciated. "You will be pleased to know that your money was spent on a Christmas and New Year's party for our wounded veterans who were confined to the hospital during the holiday period."

## "Our Tony's Dead..."

When the Socialist and Action Parties refused to join the reorganized Benson Cabinet, it was one thing to open fire on them. When the Communist Party of Italy, that decided to go into the Cabinet, in this way, the Communists have been playing the role of covering up trends to the right.

It is a matter that has happened in the \$250,000 that he says the Italian-American Labor Council raised to help the free trade unions in Italy. Although we always appreciate such a third for the benefit of the same time, we must stress that deliberate distortion constitutes criminal mis-education. The fact of the matter is that the Italian-American Labor Council has raised \$132,664.90 to aid in the establishment of an Italian free trade union movement—free from all government and political domination. Brought up in an organization subsistent from the outside, brought up in the practice of lavishly spending money with which to penetrate and control other organizations, Amter seems to feel that everybody else does the same.

The Italian-American Labor Council has been trying to raise \$250,000. Our aim is no mystery. We wish to help the development of free trade unions in this country are convinced that just as there can be no political democracy without free trade unions, so there can be no free trade union without political democracy. Any country which lacks political democracy has no free trade unions, any country which does have genuine free trade unions has real political democracy.

Antonio Randaia

Tony Randaia, a young boy who was employed at the office of the New York Dress Joint Board and a nephew of John Orlo, assistant manager of Local 89, was recently killed in action on the Western front. One of his former co-workers, a young girl named Edly Goldstein, has written the following lines in Tony's memory.

Today they said, "Our Tony's dead."  
His future dreams and dreams are lost.  
No tears appeared, I couldn't cry,  
For I did not see our Tony die...  
The New Year peaks the bells around,  
The dead appear from hallowed ground,  
At last I know the truth and erid,  
"The world has slamed," so Tony died...  
Dear God, so Thy blessings give  
That says like Tony in peace may live.

Workers of the Silverstein and Kaufman shop, 153 West 27th St., gave Pic Charles Roschewer a warm welcome on his recent furlough visit. Roschewer, member of Local 40, is being greeted by Sidney Strichartz, shop chairman, while his father, Sam Roschewer, member of Local 22 (second from left, front), and others look on.

## A Welcome Visitor From Overseas

Workers of the Silverstein and Kaufman shop, 153 West 27th St., gave Pic Charles Roschewer a warm welcome on his recent furlough visit. Roschewer, member of Local 40, is being greeted by Sidney Strichartz, shop chairman, while his father, Sam Roschewer, member of Local 22 (second from left, front), and others look on.

## TODAY A LOT TOMORROW

By LUIGI ANTONINI, First Vice Pres., ILGWU

### The Mis-Education of Mr. Amter

The other day, the "Daily Worker" came forth with two outbursts by none other than Israel Amter. This is the same Amter who, in the days when the Communist Party posed as a revolutionary and not as a super-patriotic organization, was called "cabbage head" by many of its pals. Until these articles appeared we thought the name was an endearing one. But now after wading through his two nightmarish laments it is clear that the name "cabbage head" is really an enlightening one—shedding light on the intellectual stature of Amter; the heave of the new York State Communist.

1. Amter claims me and my friends in Italy with being for Marshall Badoglio, who is for the monarchy. What are the facts? The ranks of Italian labor, the outstanding champion of Badoglio and the monarchy is none other than Tagliarini Riondi, who was brought from Moscow by permission of and by arrangement with Marshal Badoglio when he was Premier. In return for the favor, Tagliarini himself bravely supported Badoglio and came to the rescue of the monarchial forces when liberal and labor groups opened fire on them.

2. When the Socialist and Action Parties refused to join the reorganized Benson Cabinet, it was one thing to open fire on them. When the Communist Party of Italy, that decided to go into the Cabinet, in this way, the Communists have been playing the role of covering up trends to the right.

3. Amter demands that we know what happened in the \$250,000 that he says the Italian-American Labor Council raised to help the free trade unions in Italy. Although we always appreciate such a third for the benefit of the same time, we must stress that deliberate distortion constitutes criminal mis-education. The fact of the matter is that the Italian-American Labor Council has raised \$132,664.90 to aid in the establishment of an Italian free trade union movement—free from all government and political domination. Brought up in an organization subsistent from the outside, brought up in the practice of lavishly spending money with which to penetrate and control other organizations, Amter seems to feel that everybody else does the same.

4. Amter falls all over himself and distorts everything that I have said about both the Communists in Italy and the American species. For the sake of the record, let me quote points 4 and 5 from the conclusion of my report on Italy at the AFL Convention in New Orleans:

"A few words about the role of the Communists in Italy: Fundamentally, the Communists all over the world are the same. Their conversion to democracy is a real origin and extremely questionable. Everywhere the Communists are posing as super-democrats, have turned for the moment to democracy as a matter of convenience. This turnabout came primarily in the interest of the foreign policy of their central source of inspiration. Everywhere the Communists, in varying degrees, are animated in the determination of their policy, not so much by a concern for the conditions and welfare of the laboring people in their own countries as by the demands and interests of their central source of inspiration and direction."

"In essence, the Communists of Italy are no exception to this general rule. Fundamentally, the Italian Communists are much more Italian than the American Communists are American. More than that, after over 20 years of Fascist dictatorship and in the face of an understandable and, in no small measure, sound feeling prevailing among the workers that the trade union movement should be based on a non-partisan, non-religious or political basis."

"What must be done, however, is for the truly democratic forces to be organized and to be organized on guard to set the pace in activity and initiative, so that the Italian workers and the trade unions should be able, upon a signal sent so much by a comintern, to make any serious effort to dominate the economic organizations of the country. It is essential that all democratic forces participate in the activities of the trade unions. The Italian unions be able to serve as the backbone of democracy in Italy."

Brain is supposed to be gray matter. But not all gray matter is brain. And not all brain is light. We must draw a distinction between the brain of the comintern and Mr. Amter's outbursts. It is all heat and no light.

# in the Cloak Joint Board

## NEWS OF THE N.Y. CLOAK UNIONS

### OPERATORS URGE PAY FREEZE END

A vigorous campaign for the revocation of the Little Steel wage freeze was urged upon the New York Cloak Joint Board at its meeting on Jan. 18 in a communication from Local 117, Cloak Operators.

The statement, signed by Manager Benjamin Kaplan on behalf of the operators' local, pointed out the constantly widening gap between earnings and living costs caused chiefly by the existing freeze on wages. The letter expressed disappointment at the failure of organized labor to "prevail upon the government to modify the Little Steel wage edict."

General Manager Feinberg declared that he welcomed the resolution of Local 117 and stated that the leadership of the Joint Board is on the alert to safeguard the interests of the cloakmakers. Feinberg assured the delegates that the Joint Board was standing squarely behind the International and the A.P.I. in labor's common effort to bring wages into line with living costs. If and when the Little Steel freeze is finally breached, Feinberg said, the "escalator" clause in the collective cloak agreements would be utilized by the union to revise the wage structure to meet the spiraling cost of living.

### ITALY RELIEF NEEDS STILL VERY SERIOUS, MOLISANI ASSERTS

Although medical supplies valued at \$10,000 are awaiting shipment and more than 1,000 blankets have already been sent to the peoples of liberated Italy as gifts from the cloakmakers of Local 48, the relief needs of liberated Italians remain desperate and can be met only by all-out aid from the democratic countries, Manager Edward Molisani stated last week.

Molisani lauded the generous gifts of clothing, money and supplies that are being contributed by members of many ILGWU locals. He said of efforts to send five special trucks to Italy where they will be used in the repair of disrupted and broken communication and transportation lines.

"The milk allowance to non-priority consumers in Britain has averaged two pints a week during the last three winters. Special allowances of milk for children, pregnant women, nursing mothers and invalids have helped to maintain minimum nutrition standards. Children have been given basic supplies of orange juice, and canines have received special allowances of food for workers in heavy industries.

### A Point Well Taken

Louis Reis (left), member of Local 21, clarifies a point for a group of cloakmakers attending the Jan. 25 membership meeting held at the Rand School.

## Coat, Suit Fund Gives Refugees \$426,500

(Continued from Page 1)

from allied groups in New York City.

The Coat and Suit Relief Fund, now completing its fifth year, is rated through an afloat predicated upon purchases of the "Consumer Protection Label" of the National Coat and Suit Recovery Board, which was formed in this industry in the summer of 1938. It was created in response to the appeals arising from the anguish of the victims of totalitarian and racial persecution abroad, and later spread its benefactions to war relief causes at home as well. The fund is maintained without expense of any kind, the entire amount raised being devoted to those in need of its aid.

The 1944 distribution brought the total sum collected and disbursed by the fund in its five years of active functioning to about \$1,300,500.

Other speakers at the dinner included Walter L. (Red) Barber, chairman of the American Red Cross 1944 War Fund Appeal for New York; Lindsay Bradford, president of the New York War Fund; Dr. Jonah B. Wise, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal; George Z. Medalie, president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropic Societies of New York; and Eric Bevarsdal, war correspondent-commentator of the Columbia Broadcasting System, who spoke from London.

Speakers for the fund were Morris W. Haft, chairman of the fund's trustees; John Frumkes, another of the fund plan and honorary vice chairman of the trustees; and Dan W. Berlin, chairman of the dinner committee. Former Mayor James J. Walker, imperial chairman of the New York coat and suit industry, was toastmaster.

Mr. Roosevelt said: "This is a very

remarkable thing you've done in a charitable spirit. By your cooperation, by your work together, you have set an example. You can help to bring about a peace at home that may be an inspiration abroad."

Pres. Dubinsky, in his enthusiastic commendation of the fund, said: "For us in the women's garment industry, it is no longer a novelty to observe the representatives of the workers, the union, and the representatives of the employers coming together in a spirit of cooperation to work out plans of welfare involving the interests of our industry itself or the interests of the community in which we live. This spirit of mutual activity, this spirit of cooperation, has no better a rule than the exception.

"This relief fund, which is an example of deep and sincere concern for the plight of our suffering fellow-men everywhere, is something of which this industry and our community may well be proud.

"The raising of this large refugee fund for distribution among the most important relief agencies, at home and abroad, is doubly significant because it is made possible through the functioning of the National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board, an institution which contributes effectively to the stability of the industry," he declared.

Among the contributions announced at the dinner were \$150,000 to the United Jewish Appeal; \$100,000 to the National War Fund; \$80,000 to the Federation of Jewish Philanthropic Societies of New York; and \$30,000 to the Greater New York Fund.

Mr. Haft declared that, besides the money distributed last night, the donations for 1944 by the firms supporting the fund had included \$200,000 to the Red Cross, \$30,000 to

### FEINBERG URGES CLOAKMAKERS TO SPEED UP WITH DAY'S PAY

In a ringing appeal to all New York cloakmakers, Vice Pres. Israel Feinberg, general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, urged the 30,000 workers employed in the metropolitan coat and suit shops to work a day during the week of Feb. 3 for the ILGWU 1944 War Relief Fund.

"The Joint Board summons every cloakmaker to respond to the call of the needy and distressed to make a contribution to these labor relief, war and philanthropic causes—at home and abroad—which deserve the generous support of every union worker," Feinberg declared. "On the field of battle, Americans are fighting and dying so that map-

kind may be free of fear and tyranny. They need our constant support and we must not fail them; your contribution will help such activities at the Red Cross and the USO provide vitally necessary services to our boys.

"The liberation of lands formerly under the heel of the Axis," he continued, "reveals the horrible destruction and poverty of the survivors of the Nazi Fiefdom. As the Nazis recede, they badly wreck and waste everything behind. We must help repair the ruins and administer aid to the victims. The French, the Belgians, the Italians, the Greeks, the Poles, the Jews stricken from the deadly jaws of the Gestapo—all must be helped to the best of our ability.

"Whether worthwhile causes, too numerous to mention, will benefit from your donation of a day's pay. We will not neglect local needs, community chests, etc. Your money goes to all. It is one contribution for all.

"Cloakmakers! You have a proud record. We badly need your aid and the underprivileged and oppressed. The work of Feb. 3 will demonstrate that we remain true to our tradition."

By urging war bonds we stand our patriotic watch with proud American deeds.

### PRESSERS PASS HEALTH PLAN; FORESEE MUSTY AIR LATER

More than 1,400 cloak pressers, members of Local 35, braved one of the worst blizzards of the winter on the night of Jan. 15 to attend a special meeting to consider the local's plan for a health fund. They voted for it to a man, making it retroactive to Jan. 1.

"You have made local history tonight," declared Chairman Cooperstein, who presided at the meeting. "You have laid a new trail in trade union mutual aid of which we all feel justly proud.

The plan was adopted with but a single dissenting vote after Vice Pres. Joseph Brovsky, local manager, presented the details of the health fund to the pressers.

The pressers, who are largely a middle-aged group to whom health insurance is of increasing importance, are putting into operation a self-insurance fund that will provide all members to 15 weeks of sick benefits at \$15 a week; hospitalization reimbursements at \$3 a day for 21 days during the year; unlimited medical examinations and treatment at the Union Health Center in all departments, including free X-ray and fluoroscopic examinations; a \$250 lump payment for tubercular cases; and cash donations up to \$30 in relief cases.

In presenting the plan, Brovsky reiterated his previous conviction that, while the membership is at present covering the cost of the fund by payments of \$15 a week, the fund basically is a responsibility which should rest on the entire industry and that the union would, therefore, press for the incorporation of a health program in future collective agreements of the New York coat and suit industry.

"In the future, we are establishing the fund by our own resources, but we expect the industry to recognize

its obligation and to provide a similar system of benefits on a payroll contribution basis," he said. Payroll contributions for the shirt and Sportswear Health Fund on Jan. 1 this year, Brovsky declared that "if it can be done in that manner, it is a prospect which is done for the whole industry—and it will be done." Local 35 members and pressers belonging to Locals 28 and 48 working in the sportswear trade are already getting sick benefits under the Local 35 plan.

The present plan was worked out by a committee of the executive board and a prospectus outlining the plan in detail was mailed in advance to all pressers, urging them to study it before the meeting.

Comments by members before the formal vote was taken indicated hearty approval of the health plan. The feeling was voiced that the tax of five cents a day for the upkeep of the Health Fund was a relatively inexpensive premium for proper and comprehensive medical benefits. One speaker was loudly applauded when he said, "We are getting an insurance policy that no insurance company could possibly give us."

According to the approved plan, members entitled to all benefits under the plan do not have to pass physical examinations. Membership in Local 35 automatically entitles a worker to all benefits. The local committee responsible for the health fund will commence benefit awards on June 1.

### Industry Leaders and Honored Guest At Dinner



Left to right: Morris W. Haft, John Frumkes, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dan W. Berlin and Pres. David Dubinsky.

# WASHINGTON

By WIL ALLEN  
Special to "Justice"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Some time this week or next, depending on how quickly the House, Rules Committee moves, Congress will let loose in fiery debate on the labor controversy bill—an anti-lincoln to what probably will become notorious as the "Alderson Plan."

During the three days that the military brass-hats, with their totalitarian ideas, have been drumming up their propaganda campaign for three-labor battalions, it had been pointed out again and again by competent and, above all, honest authorities that special legislation is not needed to solve manpower problems, that the Government has all the necessary power already.

Last week the War Manpower Commission demonstrated the truth of the situation by drafting 110 workers from their jobs in the Alton, Pa. area and forcing them to take jobs of the Government's designation in privately owned war plants, under penalty of being blacklisted by the Government into unemployment and starvation.

This week and next a total of 200 more workers will be similarly drafted from garment factories. The first groups were drafted from breweries, soft-drink plants and cement mills. Later groups are to be drafted from garment factories.

The method used by the WMC was to cut the manpower "ceilings" of non-essential plants, forcing the latter to lay off all workers above the number permitted. The layoffs then had to go into a "war" referral cards, without which it is now illegal to obtain any job elsewhere. The WMC offered referral cards only to the workers who wanted filled—most of them in steel plants. There was only one alternative for the "left-off" workers—either take the job WMC offered or go jobless until six months after the end of the war.

What happened to one of those Alton steel workers, William Lauer, as reported by the Associated Press, was said to be typical: "Mr. Lauer was washing bottles in a brewery for \$1.42 an hour when this week opened. Today he is working as a steel plant laborer for 67 cents an hour. Married, he isn't happy about the wage cut. He foresees financial problems."

So William Lauer, 47, was asked to demonstrate his patriotism by taking a 34 percent wage cut and go into a steel plant. The AP story brings that out very clearly. But the AP report does not mention the most important part of the story—that the owner of the steel plant was NOT FORCED to demonstrate HIS patriotism by taking a 26 percent cut in his own profit. (And it might be remembered at this point that the secret OPA War Profit Studies showed that the steelmakers have been enjoying war profits averaging 500 per cent above their normal 1939 profit!)

And while the War Manpower Commission was cutting the OPA of William Lauer and other Alton workers by 27 cents an hour, in Washington, Pennsylvania, the steel industry was being told that it was possible for the War Labor Board to grant a 3-1/2-hour raise to steel workers getting in the neighborhood of 40 cents an hour.

Can Unionists try to nullify the WLB raise grants in such cases—which never amount to more than five cents an hour for a few workers here and there—by hooking such grants up with price ceilings and giving employers an excuse to cover such wage increases by increasing the prices of their products?

According to Vinson, in no case, apparently, must an employer be forced to face even a penny of loss in his profits as a demonstration of his patriotism.



Several days ago WLB Chairman William H. Davis pointed out that Vinson's order preventing "fringe" wage increases was "unworkable in its attitude taken by the Administration between workers' pay and employers' profit. And the Administration has indicated by its 'Alderson Plan' that employers' profits are more sacred even than workers' freedom.

On another front of the manpower miracle, New York's James M. Mead, who still holds a drafted brotherhood union card, dropped a depth bomb a few days ago on the effort of the military to exaggerate the manpower shortage in order to put over its labor draft campaign.

Senator Mead and a committee of Senators made a surprise visit to the Navy's own yard at Norfolk, Va. Senator Mead came back to Washington and reported to the Senate that the Navy was hoarding manpower at Norfolk, that he found hundreds of men idling about or keeping themselves busy by making inland chest boards, trays and tables because the Navy, brass-hats in charge of the Norfolk yard did not give the men any work to do.

Senator Mead made it clear that the idling and hoarding were not the fault of the workers, but that of the brass-hats who were not properly utilizing their production.

The Navy brass-hats, who are so

## Warsaw Nights

By MAX PRESS

The few stray trees waving in the breeze,  
The light begins to die;  
The stars troop out in carbon rust  
Through an uncearing sky.

The lamps arise like burning eyes  
To stare into the gloom  
Where misery walks and loaves  
Stalks  
The silent streets of dawn.

The hurried beat of unseen feet  
Disturbs the brooding air,  
A beggar's staff, a madman's laugh  
Fleets 'tween the night's veils.

A newborn, pale, an old heart fails  
(The old pain and the new),  
And only bricks and plastered streets  
Stand up between the two.

The sootling marts that harbor  
hearts  
Are hushed and empty now;  
A spirit creeps while others sleep  
With blood upon its brow.

Its head is low with many a blow,  
Its face is stamped with fear,  
And soft and faint it makes its  
plaint  
With no one there to hear.

And all night long, with prayer  
and song,  
Men struggle, live and die,  
And through the night the stars take  
flight  
Through an uncearing sky.

When on drafting labor into slave  
battalions, are still frothing at the  
mouth over the Mead Committee  
report.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy  
Liaist Bard fulminated to a press  
conference several days ago that  
the Mead Committee presented "an  
incomplete and distorted picture"  
of conditions in the Norfolk Navy  
Yard. But under questioning by  
newspapermen, Bard admitted that  
the Navy has what he called  
smoothly a "manpower utilization  
problem" at the Norfolk yard.

In the meantime, the reactionaries  
are riding the bandwagon  
and are still trying to use the arti-  
ficially created manpower model  
to cripple labor unions by wiping  
out closed shops, creating jurisdic-  
tional conflicts, etc.

The debate will be raging in the  
halls of Congress this week. Watch  
it and then ask yourself whether  
labor won a victory in the recent  
election.



ALAN LAMBERT

"THE FIGHTING LADY" (as the Victoria, New York stands) through those hills who dream of a negotiated peace to think twice. Better than a thousand speeches, it proves that war isn't just odds and that warmongers do not rule kindness. It is one of the best documentaries ever to come out of this war and if you pass it by, you're missing a film that should be a "must" on everyone's list.

"The Fighting Lady" is an air-craft carrier. It has a crew of men who, in the majority, never had been aboard a ship of this type before. But these men, faced with all the horrors and excitement of war to the death, carry through their difficult assignment with the same skill and veterans. "The Fighting Lady" has been assigned to aid in the battle of the Marcus Islands and outfit itself well in the land and "victorious" fighting. Again the men on board face another tough battle, with the American flag returning the fire of Jap Zeros. The score hit and hit led to the film goes on, portraying a thrilling saga of battle life, with its



THE PLAN (36-40)

Dis-  
covery without the final meeting,  
consultation with industry and  
the plan is vague on details.  
Prices are to be rolled to the  
half of the 1941 level in both  
textiles and garments, to 1940  
levels at the beginning of 1945.  
The necessary mark-ups through  
which profits will be prohibited.  
Detailed reports on the economic  
results from recent months  
on overinflating of fabrics  
make themselves felt.

Low-level prices will be re-  
drawing up to 1941 levels.  
For each of these a scaled pro-  
cess of total production will be  
formed. This volume, which  
dollar-and-cent stoppage  
will receive high priority  
Textile mills and converters  
serve a half proportion of  
civilian fabric production is  
tributed according to these  
which are in turn determined  
each firm by its volume and  
output. In the final meeting,  
Controls at the mill and man-  
ufacturing levels are expected to  
fall. Pre-licensing and other  
steps are expected to control  
suiting savings past the re-  
gister to the consumer.

Quality deterioration will be  
checked where feasible.  
THE INTERESTS. Those  
are chiefly concerned with  
proposed plan are the ones  
who has suffered most. Of  
course, the agencies seeking to  
control price bunting that failed  
the price line; the trade, who  
clashes cotton, wool and rayon  
producers and converter  
garment manufacturers who  
dislocations particularly in  
and high-price ranges, and  
whose chief concern is re-  
employment.

THE SHORTCOMING. The  
complete absence of details  
in the essential trade, dis-  
points and allowed percent  
production. There are indi-  
cations such as the failure to re-  
duce the back in men and to  
eliminate all low-yield and  
medium-priced goods because  
low-end producers are con-  
fused by the military, the de-  
mand frequent uncertainties in  
industry and labor might be  
the gaps in their knowledge  
industry among those who  
of the order.

THE TIMING. Cost  
agency officials expressed the  
that the effects of the plan  
will be felt by the end  
of the week around April 1945.  
Three days of hearings in  
increasing days doubt as to the avail-  
ability of raw film stock. It probably  
would have been a wiser idea to for-  
get this picture.



"Don't Fence Me In!"

ESAMMA





# IN THE SOUTHWEST

## PACT RENEWALS EXPAND GAINS TO 'S'WEST DISTRICT WORKERS

The negotiation of new agreements and the renewal of existing contracts during the last few weeks have brought substantial gains to several hundred workers employed in a number of shops. Among these gains are vacations with pay, wage increases and other standard union improvements in working conditions.

### Germes Garment

An agreement was signed on Jan. 13 with the Germes Garment Co., Kansas City, Mo., which provides for paid vacations as well as a 7 1/2 per cent wage increase for all piece and time-workers in the plant. Those employed five years or longer are entitled to a two-week vacation, while a one-week vacation goes to workers employed at least one year.

### Co-Ed Renewal Demands

The union has made a formal request to the Co-Ed Procks management for a new agreement. The negotiation of increased wage and paid vacations, to be incorporated in a renewed agreement covering the Co-Ed plants at Peoria, Mo., and Nelsdorf, Ill.

### Melba Jean Signed

A renewed agreement providing annual vacations with pay, higher minimum wage scales and wage increases for both piece and time-workers was signed on Jan. 17 with the Melba Jean Garment shop at Bowling Green, Mo.

### Middy Maid Renewed

The agreement with the Betty Middy Dress Co., covering the workers in the firm's three shops at Shawnee and McFarland, Ill., and Henderson, Ky., was renewed last month. A new feature in the provision for two weeks' vacation with pay for those employed by the company at least five years. It contemplates one week of vacation for those employed a year or more. The pact also calls for a wage increase to both time and piece-workers.

## JOB ABSENTEES TO BE QUIZZED BY SHOP BODY

Unwarranted absenteeism in the St. Louis silk dress and cloak industries will be vigorously attacked by requiring absentees to appear before a labor-management committee. (So state their reasons for staying away from work. This was decided at a special labor-management conference held at union headquarters on Jan. 10.

Among the labor representatives at this meeting were union officers, shop chairmen and chairladies and shop stewards of all silk dress and cloak shops in the city. The industry was represented by David Fricke, president of the St. Louis Division Manufacturers' Association, and seven employers. The chairman of the conference was Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, Southwestern regional director of the ILOUW. The representatives of piece-workers in these industries was the chief subject discussed at the meeting. Vice Pres. Perlstein therefore proposed that labor-management committees in every shop in the industry be charged with the additional responsibility of questioning the absentees.

It is expected that these firm steps will bring absenteeism to the realization that regularity on the job is an essential factor in building the industry.



Chairman

Tony Menge, chairman of Fashionbilt Garment Co., Kansas City, Mo., keeps sharp eye on conditions at that shop.

## Credit Unions Map Post-War Extension

With regular yearly elections scheduled this month in ILOUW credit unions throughout the Southwestern district, the annual reports submitted by the financial secretaries to the shareholders reveal substantial progress in membership, funds and the expansion of services.

Among the matters to be considered at the meetings are plans for the extension of credit union activities during the post-war period. In Louis, Kansas City, Minneapolis and other communities have ILO credit unions.

## FOREST CITY PLANTS GET VACATION OKAY

The Kansas City Regional War Labor Board, in a directive issued on Jan. 10, ratified the supplementary agreement providing for annual vacations with pay to the 1,800 workers of the Forest City Manufacturing Co. This firm operates two plants in St. Louis and Collinsville, Pinckneyville, Freeburg, DuQuoin and Centralia, all in Illinois.

With approval of this agreement means that workers in the employ of the company for five years will receive a two-week paid vacation, and those employed for one year or more will be entitled to a week.

## "March of Dimes" Wins 100% Shop Contributions

All locals and joint bodies are actively engaged in promoting contributions to the "March of Dimes" for the infantile paralysis fund. Full collections have not yet been recorded but among those who have responded 100 per cent are Local 190, Troy, Mo., and Local 204, Washington, Mo.

## Local 311 Pres. Honored With Wedding Surprise

Angeline Zepfel, president of Local 311, Freeburg, Ill., was married last month. The local gave her a surprise wedding shower at a party held at the Green Hill Cafe.

## Cutting Table Becomes Banquet Hall



At a recent holiday celebration, Meyer and Louis' Present, left, joined their workers at Kansas City, Mo., plant of the Fashionbilt Garment Co. in a light feast held in the firm's cutting room.

## UNION HEALTH PLANS

Southwest District is Resolved to Introduce Medical Care in All Shops in New Pact— Industry Offers This Right to Its Workers

By MEYER PERLSTEIN, V.P. Southwestern Regional Director

The majority of shops in the Southwestern District are covered by individual agreements. Since those contracts expire at different periods of the year, the regional staff is kept steadily busy negotiating renewals.

## Texas Labor Hails High Court Ruling

Southwestern labor circles are rejoicing at the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court holding unconstitutional the Texas law that required union representatives to obtain a state license before attempting to solicit members. According to reports from ILOUW leaders in Texas, this decision has stimulated the labor movement in the Lone Star State to organize a fight against various other anti-labor laws now on the statute books.

## Dallas Union Seeks Second NLRB Airing on McCarty Co. Case

A petition for a re-hearing on the NLRB election at the Justin McCarty shop, Dallas, Tex., has been filed by the union. Although the union was a National Labor Relations Board election three recently, the firm has resorted to delaying tactics to prevent the establishment of union conditions.

The union's petition is accompanied by a brief showing that the company's No. 1 plant constitutes a collective bargaining unit. The firm maintains that the proper bargaining unit should include the No. 3 plant, which though also operated by the Justin McCarty company, produces a different type of garment product.

## KNOWLEDGE OF UNIONISM SPREAD BY VARIED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Educational activities on a wide and varied scale are a continuing and conspicuous feature in the life of Southwestern locals. Courses, forums and lectures cover numerous subjects and are given as a means of diffusing a knowledge of trade unionism both among members and the general public.

In St. Louis the January monthly union forum shop stewards and union officials heard Dr. Samuel A. Johnson, a member of the St. Louis University faculty, speak on the historical background of the Second World War. Dr. Johnson is well known for his skillfully presented radio talks on current affairs, and his lectures at the forum stimulated deep discussion.

For the February forum Ferrel Cribbs, a leader of the St. Louis

Ethical Culture Society, has been invited to speak on "Religions of the World."

**Organizers' Course**  
A course in bookkeeping methods will be given to all members of the Southwestern regional staff to enable them to help local financial secretaries to keep their books properly checked and balanced. Meeting every Saturday, the class will be taught by Yetta Schindman, financial secretary of the St. Louis Joint Body, with the assistance of Irene Cherry of the regional office.

**Fort Worth Program**  
Local 305, Fort Worth, Tex., has arranged elaborate plans for educational and recreational activities under the direction of Charles Duncan and Velma McGee. At an educational meeting last month, Dr. Bradstreet, professor of labor economics at Southern Methodist University, addressed the audience on the subject of economic events today and their meaning in the post-war period.

**Whitehall Activities**  
A class in trade unionism is being formed for the members of Local 369, Whitehall, Ill. In addition, it is planned to give a program of readings at local meetings, using chapters from Benjamin Robberg's "Toll of Progress" and Rose Petoska's "Broad Upon the Waters." Local 369 is also setting up a fund to finance bookshelves every month to servicemen.

In St. Louis, for example, while the silk dress and cloak industries are covered by collective agreements with an association, the cotton dress shops and most underwear and other shops have individual contracts with the union.

In Kansas City, only the cloak manufacturers are organized in an association, but even in this industry the largest shop is covered by an individual contract. All other shops and underwear and other dress contracts. In Minneapolis, only the silk dress shops have a collective agreement.

In San Antonio, although there is a manufacturers' association, the signature of the individual employer must be secured to negotiate an agreement. The 40 shops located in the smaller communities in this district have individual contracts with the union.

In the present time we are particularly aggressive with our manufacturers, since the current agreement is at the point of expiration. Besides the wage gains achieved in recent years, we have been successful in incorporating vacation provisions in all agreements, with the result that the workers already enjoy one week annual vacation with pay in fully 80 per cent of the San Antonio shops. Furthermore, in a number of shops, two weeks' vacation with pay has been secured in the contract of a company for five years or more was given.

The current negotiations for past renewals in Kansas City as well as in San Antonio indicate that our locals are more determined than ever to convince the employers that contracts must incorporate safeguards for the workers' health, besides building up their incomes. A large number of individual plants in the Southwest District carry some sort of health-benefit policy, but the premium for these policies are often paid jointly by the manufacturers and the workers, although in some cases the bulk of the cost is borne by the workers. The majority of workers in the shops of the industry, however, do not have any health benefits protection. Even shops where some form of insurance exists, it is generally insufficient to guarantee the workers the medical protection essential for the preservation of health and physical fitness.

We have now reached the stage at which health protection has become an important factor in negotiating the returns that must be offered to the workers. We are, therefore, concentrating much effort in the task of incorporating a health plan into every agreement as it comes up for renewal.

Since our members have invested their lives and energies in the industry, they are entitled to health among the things the industry gives them, the preservation of health is considered one of the most important. It is a factor that must not be neglected. We hope that the manufacturers here will realize the necessity and urgency of a comprehensive health plan, and will cooperate with the union in establishing such programs.

**Local 194 Sets Fine On Meeting Non-Attendance**  
At the regular meeting of Local 194, Boothouse, Ill., last month, the local voted that all members failing to attend union meetings are to be fined 50 cents for unexplained absence.

# EASTERN COTTON GARMENT AREA

## LOOKERS AT MCKEETRICK STRIKE NO-PACT PROTEST

(Continued from Page 1)  
on the scene of the stoppages and are making every effort to have the company agree to union proposals as that production may be resumed as soon as possible.

The walkout started on Jan. 22 at the company's key plant in Pittston, which employs 200 workers and has never been a union shop. The walkout is the second one this year since the three non-union workers who charge that accumulated grievances, unheeded by union controls, have exhausted their patience. In several organizational attempts at Pittston, officials and organizers of the Cotton Garment Department had warned that precipitate action by the workers could be expected if conditions prescribed by union contracts throughout the garment industry were not installed at the plant.

Corroboration of this forecast occurred several months ago when the Pittston workers first walked out and, desperately seeking guidance from organized labor, turned to the nearest union branch at Pittston which happened to be a CIO affiliate. Questioned on its jurisdictional intentions, the CIO union made its position clear and handed over to the ILG the membership enrollment cards it had gathered from the Pittston workers. While attempts to complete unionization of this shop were being made, the workers walked out a second time, on Jan. 22.

The Pittston workers at once gave indications that this time they intended to act as mature unionists. Before the day ended, they sent committees from their shop to appeal for aid from the workers at those McKeeTrick plants which until recently had union contracts with the firm. At each of three shops—Hazelton, Portland and Providence—the workers responded quickly and favorably, recognizing in the Pittston grievances exact duplicates of their own difficulties with the firm.

The gist of their charges was based on the company's provocative action in destroying the existing grievance machinery by refusing to renew the pact that expired Dec. 1, 1944. Attempts to renew that pact were made well in advance of the expiration date by Cotton Garment Director Olingold, who indicated to the firm that the McKeeTrick-Williams plants could no longer remain outside the mainstream of union-employer relations, and that benefits and gains which have become standard features of union contracts in the garment industry during the past three years would have to be incorporated into the renewed pact.

At negotiation conferences the union put forth requests for wage adjustments, health and vacation benefits and submission of all McKeeTrick-Williams plants. It is estimated that about 1,000 workers will be employed in all McKeeTrick-Williams plants when the firm's expansion program is completed.

While McKeeTrick - Williams spokesmen claim that the firm views none of these plants, they are regarded in trade and union circles as "dummy" plants actually belonging to the firm.

Representatives in the last months of 1944 marked the beginning of the company's willingness to cooperate and meet union proposals in shaping the terms of the renewed pact. The workers, however, now charge that, in fact, the firm had been planning all the time to build up anti-union production units in preparation for any eventualities

that might result from its ultimate refusal to sign a agreement.

Meanwhile, the sudden about-face in company policy led union officials to suspect the motives of McKeeTrick-Williams. Continuing to bargain in good faith, representatives of the Cotton Garment Department took precautionary measures by establishing, in each of the firm's plants a nucleus of loyal unionists.

The expired agreement with McKeeTrick-Williams was signed on the eve of Pearl Harbor, Dec. 6, 1941, after a bitterly contested campaign by the then existing Central Organization Department. The purpose of the drive, the establishment of union control as a prelude to winning wage adjustments and welfare benefits, was reached with the signing of the pact. Minimum scales, working terms and conditions, however, were set on a contract basis. During the three years of the contract's life, all attempts to bring its terms into line with wartime changes were considered by the company, which took refuge behind the letter of the pact. In the view of the union, such amendments at the McKeeTrick - Williams shops came only because of awards which were made applicable to the entire industry, and these still remained insufficient for their needs.

### Springfield Office

Ralph Roberts, with the aid of Fred Frances, is in charge of the ILGWU office in Springfield, Mass.

## Pay Increase Marks Renewal At Rogov

A 5-cent hourly wage increase, higher minimums and adjustment of grievance were won in the recent renewal of the union agreement with the Rogov Sportswear Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., the Cotton Garment Department announces.

In making the announcement, Director Olingold gave special credit to Sarah Limbach, veteran of the Socialist and labor movement, who has filled the role of guardian over ILGWU interests in Pittsburgh for many years.

Local 267, in Pittsburgh, is the most recently affiliate of the Cotton Garment Department.

## Pennsylvania Round Table



Cotton Garment Dept. officers Harry Schneider, Morris Rosen and Nicholas Kirtman confer with Keystone State chairmen at conference in which a comparative study of rates in different shops was made.

## Annual New England Parley 17 Locals See 1945 Promising

Chairmen of shops in 17 New England locals reviewed the 1944 record of their work at the annual North New England district council meeting held in Boston on Jan. 12 and 13 and found that on the ground of membership, benefits, shop control

and labor relations, the score was up to the department's traditional high standard and that prospects for further progress in 1945 were encouraging.

The highlights of the two-day "little convention" were the reports by Supervisor Jack Halpern and those made by local chairmen at the sessions held in the Hotel Bradford and the council's annual dance on Jan. 12, which was attended by more than 1,500 people, including several hundred women.

In his report, Manager Halpern revealed that approximately \$200,000 in back wages resulting from the War Labor Board agreement had been distributed in the past year. Among other outstanding facts revealed by his report were the following:

Shops organized in the period under review included the Hanover Manufacturing, Boston; the Burnette Underwear, Springfield; the Archer

Rubber, Milford; and the General Electric, Lowell. Negotiations are now in progress with the Breeds Manufacturing Co. and the Eagle Manufacturing Co. and the Treston Manufacturing Co. all of Lowell; and the Interstate Manufacturing Co. of Hudson.

The sum of \$63,284 has been collected in health funds, and benefits amounting to \$2,246 have been paid out. Almost all shops are covered by such funds and where these have not yet been established, they are being requested in negotiations. More than 40 shops are now covered by vacation funds, which are being requested in all new agreements. In 1944, these funds amounted to \$164,000, of which \$148,000 was distributed.

Halpern also reported on the Roosevelt-Truman campaign activities and the financial condition of

## SYMPATHY for SUFFERERS

Relief Fund is Sign of America's Good Fortune—  
Workers Akin Everywhere and ILG Tradition  
is Big Link—Each Individual Has Share

By DAVID GINGOLD  
Director, Cotton Garment Dept.

Throughout the union, in all of its branches and affiliates from coast to coast, the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund drive is approaching a successful climax. The \$2,000,000 goal, which will bring so much badly needed

## Speedy Fund Finish Made in Shamokin

All details for plans to collect contributions to the ILGWU War Relief Fund as speedily as possible were completed at Shamokin and Shamokin district meetings, which were attended by Supervisor William Ross on Jan. 18 and 18, respectively.

Plans for joint Shamokin-Bumby educational activities were formulated. It was announced that in both centers a health fund has been in effect since Jan. 20.

help to war victims everywhere, is bound to be reached by the end of this month if our members give the support that the union rightly expects from them in this crucially important cause.

The humanitarian tradition that our union has developed since its very beginning is based on the profound kinship shared by workers throughout the world. It is the common struggle for freedom and security that brings us together, because labor's human problems are of similar despite regional differences arising from the distinctive characteristics of separate countries.

Never was this great tradition more important than today. The whole fabric of civilization depends upon the spirit of democratic fellowship that the War Relief Fund symbolizes. It is for this compelling reason that the Boston convention of the union last summer unanimously authorized the raising of the fund. Through the use of the fund every member of the union will be able to feel that the hand of mercy has been strengthened.

In this fight, there can be no doubt of the willingness on the part of the workers in our shops to make their contribution in the near future. The union is doing its best to bring "peace on earth." It would likewise aid in creating "good will to men."

## DEPT. TIGHTENING ITS ATTACKS ON PACT EMPLOYERS

Attempts by firms in Cotton Garment Department areas to escape the obligations of their shop agreements with the New York Dress Joint Board have been countered by vigorous enforcement action by the department, according to a report by Director David Olingold.

Late in 1944, owners of 11 shops employing approximately 800 workers, members of Local 178, in the Fall River, Mass. region, were called before the impartial chairman of the New York dress industry on charge of failure to pay overtime rates after 25 hours, as provided in their agreement.

The case which was recalled called for the new rate of time and one-half after 35 hours, these provisions to become effective on Jan. 1, 1945. This deadline passed, however, and the employers involved still refused to observe the higher rates.

The union therefore warned that it would call upon its members to stop production if this breach of provisions continued. Such drastic action became unnecessary in all but one case when the employers agreed to make the requested payments, with the added sums to be held in escrow by the Dress Joint Board pending settlement of the appeal. However, at the Coca Dress shop in New Bedford, a one-day stoppage by 75 workers brought the employer into line.

Although the 158 workers of the Wyoming Dress Co., Scranton, Pa., are back at work following an unauthorized stoppage caused by the firm's failure to abide by overtime, holiday and grace provisions of the agreement with the New York Dress Joint Board, the board is now studying previous violations by the employer in an effort to solve the enforcement problems that persist in this plant.

The return to work followed a settlement of immediate grievances.

## Boston ILG Chorus At New England Parley



## Union's Music and Song

# Ready for 11th Fest, ILG Culture Group Lifts Workers' Spirits — and Voices

For more than a decade the lyric that is considered unique in members with an opportunity for cultural training and expression. It has affluently and systematically brought thousands of workers to a realization of the personal values inherent in the group performance of music, song and drama.

Under the direction of Louis Schneider since its inception, the Cultural Division has gained wide acclaim for the ILGWU in circles which had never thought that a labor union could be interested in developing the artistic talents of its members. Despite the many public appearances that have been given by its performing groups during the years, the major emphasis has constantly been to encourage workers to discover the profound pleasures of self-expression.

### War Restrictions

War has created special obstacles in the path of the union's efforts to expand its programs. Many male members have gone into the armed forces, while the hard work involved in war production and the duties of civilian defense have diverted the energies of a large number of other members. Nevertheless, a solid nucleus of enthusiasm remains on a regular schedule of activities continues. The famous ILGWU Chorus and the equally well-known Mandolin Choir carry on the union's cultural traditions with zest and look forward to the coming days of peace when the need for such outlets is sure to have greater attraction than ever before.

In this spirit the groups are now preparing for their 11th annual concert to be held on April 7 at the Grand St. Auditorium, New York City. The chorus and orchestra will perform in a joint program that has become a yearly event not only to the members but to the music-loving public in general. An eminent song artist, not yet chosen, will appear on this program as the featured vocalist.

Rehearsals for this concert are in active progress, with extra sessions scheduled as the date of performance nears. Each Monday night the various groups meet for a couple of hours, with the chorus under the direction of Dean Dixon, prominent Negro conductor, and the orchestra under the guidance of Eugene Piskopoff, veteran musician. Carlo de Filippos, concert master of the mandolin group, also acts as instructor of the beginning, intermediate and advanced courses in mandolin playing given by the Cultural Division, as well as a class in the guitar.

In addition to his choral work, Dean Dixon conducts a course in music appreciation. Members of the ILGWU are eligible for all of these musical classes, although separate classes for the chorus are expected to have reasonably good voices and some knowledge of singing.

### Large Chorus

About 75 members constitute the chorus, with a similar number forming the mandolin orchestra. There are separate units, but close harmony prevails between them in more than one sense.

Cultural Division of the ILGWU has represented a phase of activity organized labor. Based entirely on the principle of providing

## They Hit the Height of Harmony



Dean Dixon, noted Negro conductor, leads a rehearsal of the ILGWU Chorus at studio in union headquarters.

Independently or together, the chorus and orchestra have made public appearances throughout the metropolitan area. Adding to the prestige of the union wherever they go, the performers often undergo considerable hardship and inconvenience but do so gladly for the ILGWU, which donates the services of chorus and orchestra to any worthy cause.

This week, for example, they performed at an affair arranged by the Liberal Party of Westchester County on Jan. 28 and, on Jan. 31, at a conference of the Bureau of Intercultural Education held at State Teachers' College in Montclair, N. J.

### Wide Range

Among other notable programs, the ILGWU Chorus and Mandolin Orchestra have participated in a Freedom House broadcast to France on Bastille Day, which commemorates the French people's eternal spirit of struggle against tyranny; the four ILG nation-wide radio programs during the recent presidential campaign; and the great Liberal Party rally in Madison Square Garden when Wallace and Truman spoke for the New Deal ticket.

## In the Market

(Continued from Page 9)

greater volume-greater profits will tend to depress volume to the lowest price ranges. The vast mass of consumers who have learned to expect, up to a point, greater per-dollar values at higher price-levels will find themselves with nowhere to go, simple arithmetic down. The order, others who have profited the middle ranges may find themselves suffering a loss in dollar values.

As far as labor is concerned, the order as it now appears may cause some dislocations and temporary losses. The million, or so workers in the textile-apparel fields are themselves consumers, to whom whatever benefits the order may bring will also accrue. They are in agreement with the rest of the country in their willingness to make necessary sacrifices in the war effort and are concerned that those sacrifices be not dissipated.

When cheaper and better garments can be made, they'll

## BOSTON SWEATERIES

The Boston Joint Board believes that it is the first affiliate of the International to send in its full contribution to the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund. It forwarded the sum of \$17,000 as long ago as September, 1944, representing 100 per cent of its dues from 100 members of the Joint Board locals in the Hub City. This was decided on at a mass meeting held in August, when Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Joint Board, emphasized the need to act without delay.

With the cooperation of the employers, the collection was quickly completed. The workers contributed in accordance with their individual minimums.

### Educational Set-Up

An expanded educational program for Boston is being set up through the decision of the Boston Joint Board to merge its cultural and recreational plans with those of the Cotton Garment Department organization in that area. Details of the program are being worked out by Mark Starr, ILG educational director, Vice Pres. Kramer and Jack Halpern, supervisor of the Cotton Garment Department shops in Boston.

### Organizational Work

Despite the recent shortage of workers in Boston, the Joint Board's organizational efforts have been making steady progress. The new firm to be signed up is the Mario skirt and Sportswear shop, employing 16 workers. Wage adjustments have already been made for both piece and work-workers.

The organizing drive was conducted by Vice Pres. Kramer together with Business Agents Minnie and Anthony DiGirolamo. The employer displayed a cooperative attitude throughout the campaign as well as in the subsequent negotiations.

### New Mfrs. Assn.

Negotiations are being conducted for a working agreement with the Boston Skirt and Sportswear Manufacturers' Association. This is a new organization and comprises practically all the contractors in the Boston area. It includes 22 firms, employing about 1,500 workers. The union's goal is a collective agreement with this group.

BUY AN EXTRA BOND TODAY

## CHICAGO WAREHOUSE

### FEAD SHOP MEMBERS ALL GET BONUSES IN LOCAL 305 SURPRISE

A genuine Christmas surprise package was opened for the members of Local 305, Knitting Works, at Port Huron, Mich., when bonus checks were distributed to all at the local's annual holiday affair. This local consists entirely of the employees of the John L. Peas and Bone shop, and the bonus was not included in the contract with the firm. It had been negotiated by Manager William Davis without the knowledge of the members.

The party, attended by officials of the company, featured a turkey dinner and a program of Christmas songs. Helen Burns, shop chairlady, was presented with an elaborate bedspread in appreciation of her services to the local.

### Local 364 Bonus

Members of Local 364, Port Huron, Mich., employed by the Erd-Mars shell shop, also received a cash bonus negotiated by William Davis.

### Xmas at Manistee And Cadillac, Mich.

Christmas parties were held in accordance with their annual custom, by Local 365, Manistee, and Local 367, Cadillac.

### Wayne Maid Gets Bonus, Renewal

The contract with the Wayne Maid Garment Co., Port Wayne, Ind., has been renewed for another year. It was simultaneously arranged that all employees were to receive a \$25 Christmas bonus. The membership has ratified the renewal.

### \$225,000 Reaped By Chicago's Locals in 1944 Vacation Setup

Complete figures for 1944 show that the Chicago cloak and dress-makers garnered more than \$225,000 in vacation benefits. Many of the workers received over \$100 each. The vacation payments for 1945 will commence next June, with the prospect of even larger sums for the workers.

The 1944 vacation benefits consisted of a full week's pay. Week-workers collected amounts according to their weekly wage, while piece-workers were given the amount of their average earnings for a period of 30 weeks.

### MIDWEST SHOPS GIVE CASH AT XMAS WHEN ILG CITES WLB OKAY

Most of the Chicago workers gathered an unexpected Christmas harvest when the union, acting on the reported Labor Board decision that employers could distribute year-end bonuses up to \$20, succeeded in securing these prizes in various shops. Although it was not an industry-wide affair, a substantial number of employers consented to the bonus.

A cooperative spirit was outstanding at two shops. At a Christmas dinner held in the Merchandise Mart dining room, the Elbersberg firm, largest dress manufacturers in Chicago, distributed \$25 bonuses to 68 work-workers and substantial gifts to piece-workers. The Rothmar Corp., the major stock shop in the city, rewarded its 200 workers with similar bonuses. Max Graver, shop chairman, and Meyer Friedman, business agent, participated in the arrangements for the bonus distribution at this shop.

### Maid-Rite in Detroit Accepts Union Pact

The Maid-Rite Garment shop, Detroit, Mich., has been organized and a contract obtained which provides for vacations with pay, a 7-cent hourly increase for all time-workers, a 1 per cent increase for all piece-workers and other standard features. The War Labor Board has already granted approval to these provisions.

The negotiations at this shop were conducted by William Davis, assisted by Jean Belsa.

### 5 Detroit Pacts

Five coat and suit shops in Detroit have signed contracts granting union provisions to their workers. The pacts include vacations with pay, hospitalization and surgical care, sick benefits and other terms.

Local 318, Detroit, has moved its office from the Hofmann Building to more spacious quarters in the Detroit Federation of Labor Temple.



### Hub City ILG Entertains Servicemen



Local 80, Italian Dressmakers, presents dancing and entertainment for servicemen every Monday evening at the Boston Hotel auditorium. Fred Sclo, Rose Monaco and Esther Anonucci head the arrangements committee, which includes 50 union hostesses who voluntarily donate out of these events.

WITCH USE SEE  
ARRAY PEAS WAS  
CEASE HATLESS  
PENCIL IDEA  
TYPE ALL EVERY  
ALEX OLIVE  
PERFORM SISSANE  
FESTIVAL SUNDAY  
PECAN DANCE  
ATOP PLECED  
CAMERAS CLIFF  
EPI ADO ULTRA  
SIC TEN RAYON

"JUSTICE" PUZZLE ANSWER  
(People on page 11)

### New IIG Pamphlet Shows Steps For Social Security

The rights and benefits provided by the old-age and unemployment insurance measures of the federal social security laws are clearly explained in a new pamphlet soon to be issued by the Educational Department of the IIGWU. Entitled "How Lucky Is My Social Security Number?" the pamphlet offers a full and simple analysis in everyday language of exactly what these social security laws mean and how they operate.

Its author is Goodman Block, a staff member of the IIGWU Research Department, who has been a practicing attorney for many years and has also had much experience as an employment insurance referee.

Full of attractive illustrations, the pamphlet depicts the great degree of confusion that has prevailed among laymen concerning the various social security laws. It discusses such matters as when and how individuals become entitled to old-age and survivors' insurance and how it differs from old-age annuities as public "pension." It also points out some proposed improvements in the existing program which takes up both the federal and the various state laws connected with social security.

Throughout the pamphlet emphasis is placed on the importance of knowing that proper procedure by which social security cases can be secured when the need arises.

Simple copies of "How Lucky Is My Social Security Number?" are available to all local branches and educational directors, who are urged to arrange for maximum distribution of the pamphlet to members.

# Pressures and Infiltrations

Opening the current series of lectures conducted by the IIGWU Officers' Institute, Prof. Selig Perlman of the University of Wisconsin declared: "We encounter distinctive patterns of social and political action in the United States which we must recognize in order to utilize them for our final purpose of realigning the ethical dignity of human beings."

Originally scheduled for two successive lectures on Jan. 12 and 13, Prof. Perlman was detained by travel delays en route to New York. As a result, he gave his analysis of the American political and labor scene in the extended talk on Jan. 13. He spoke on the two subjects, "Will the 1944 Political Situation Occur Again?" and "Can Government Dominate Industrial Relationships?"

Two or three decades ago, stated Prof. Perlman, a frequent pattern in the United States was the use of the class-struggle approach to political action and the emphasis upon the creation of working-class parties. However, no one could have predicted the tremendous social progress that has been made in the United States during recent years in spite of the fact that the political parties used to be instruments of definite class classes, Prof. Perlman said, while in other countries a political party is not firmly tied down to the same manner. An American party, he declared, may be compared to a horse that is free to wander widely and do its grazing all over the social-political meadow in order to secure votes.

The introduction of the primary election during the last generation is another major difference in the American political pattern, explained Prof. Perlman, pointing out that this made it possible for representatives of labor, agriculture and other groups to infiltrate into the political parties, indicating that the unions were able to use collective bargaining in politics, the lecturer declared that under the primary system, the unions do not have to strike a bargain with the central leadership of a major political party but can exercise their influence directly for or against individual local candidates. There is no similar process of party infiltration in the political set-up of other countries, he emphasized.

The premium placed on personality as another distinctive feature of American politics, Prof. Perlman said, showing that political leadership must be flexible, he compared it to the role played by the manager of a hotel who must attract a great variety of customers, with no regard for the hotel guests to be in perfect agreement with each other. He cited the composition of the

panel between the AFL and the CIO, he urged that some steps be taken to re-unite American labor organizations. They fear the fragmentation of the labor movement. Predicting that a mixed economy was probable, containing both public and private enterprise, he forecast that the unions would play an important part in such a system.



Prof. Selig Perlman

Democratic Party as an example, indicating that it included such diverse elements as the Southern tycoon, the city machines and labor and progressive groups.

These conditions determine the nature of political action in the United States, he declared. If there is to be any early political realignment, he explained, it is likely to withdraw the conservatives because American labor still lives in a rather hostile environment.

Prof. Perlman predicted that the Democratic Party would refuse to be taken over by labor and said that farmers and small-town people would not accept the leadership of labor in politics. In his concluding remarks, Prof. Perlman warned labor against creating the impression that it is moving to dominate the Democratic Party. He suggested that labor would be wiser to devote itself more to cultivating Congress and not merely to organizing punitive expeditions against recalcitrant Congressmen. He forecast that there would be a swing of the pendulum, bringing Congress into a position of strategic importance for all those committed to social and progressive objectives.

In his lecture on "Can Government Dominate Industrial Relationships?" Prof. Perlman deplored the assumption by the National Labor Relations Board of the power to settle jurisdictional disputes—a policy, he asserted, which has not contributed to the promotion of unity among the contending sides. Although Prof. Perlman admitted that he saw no signs of an early

### Two Timely Films On Peace; Quality Are Now Ready

Two new and timely filmstrips are now available for use by IIGWU organizations. They deal with the prevention of war and the unity of mankind.

One, called "We are All Brothers," makes plain the fundamental kinship of the human race and offers a clear and vivid description of the physical characteristics, manners and customs of the various peoples of the earth. The film is based on the pamphlet, "Gloss of Mankind," which pointed out that colored individuals, if given equal opportunity, can be mentally superior to some whites.

Because this scientific fact was considered offensive by some unscrupulous Americans who had forgotten the basic teachings of the Golden Rule, the pamphlet was banned for sale in the U. S. However, the chief result of the controversy was to increase the circulation of the pamphlet to record heights.

Both the pamphlet and the filmstrip are strongly recommended as a means of preparing the minds of IIGWU members for conscious cooperation between all members of the human race.

The second of these filmstrips is entitled "How to Conquer War." Summing up the highlights of human history, the film describes the previous attempts to organize world peace. Although it goes beyond the proposals of the recent Democratic caucus, the film furnishes a stimulating preparation for discussion of the methods which will be necessary to win the peace.

Both of these filmstrips may be obtained on loan from the IIGWU Educational Department by local affiliates which have the use of projectional equipment. Tests for the help of teachers accompany each of the films.

### Doings in Dallas

Harold C. Sherman, prominent Dallas labor director, now touring the United States, gave a highly informative talk to Dallas teachers last month, according to Yelena Bardin, Dallas educational secretary. Judge Sarah T. Hughes is reviewing Roy Peatkin's book, "Breeding Upon the Waters," for the school board meeting. The parent club meeting which is beginning this month with the same lecturer scheduled for our Fort Worth local. . . Houston and Fort Worth participated in the Dallas holiday dance. During the holiday season, Dallas ran special children's programs in all its schools. . . Judge Sarah T. Hughes. . . Regular visits are paid in the Houston local to help organize the recreational and study classes there.

### Know Your City

Our Saturday Visits To Points of Interest

Feb. 3 at 2 P. M. Harlem Center (North 24th West 14th St. The Children's Nursery is under the Mayor's Commission for the Welfare Care of Children, is a significant program which can be done to care for children of working mothers.

Feb. 18 at 1:45 P. M. Museum of Natural History, 70th St. and Central Park West. Two highly interesting exhibits:

1. "Our Land and Its Resources," including a film on the struggle to preserve the soil. Shows at 2 P. M. only.

2. "Ada and Her Progress." A demonstration of the human side of Ada's billion-dollar machine.

### STARR'S LABOR BOOK IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOSTON LIBRARY

"Labor in America," the new book by Mark Starr, educational director of the ILO, in collaboration with Prof. Harold U. Faulkner, is warmly recommended to all readers who desire Public Affairs. The latest issue of the Library Bulletin which is circulated among trade unions in the Boston area, describes the book as follows:

"In three days, when questions regarding trade unionism are constantly coming to the front, it is good to know that many of these questions can be answered by means of information books. Of these, the recently published 'Labor in America' by Prof. Harold U. Faulkner and Mark Starr should have a wide appeal. Written as a text-book for the growing number of high schools which offer courses in labor relations, it gives in ten chapters devoted to a history of organized labor in America with emphasis on its aims, methods and problems."

"This book will be read with much profit by the younger trade union members. All members will find here a good summary of the accomplishments and modern developments."

### Next Madison Institute

Plans are already being made for the next session of the IIGWU Institute at the School for Workers, University of Wisconsin, beginning on the 20th of next month. A large contingent is promised from the Mississippi Valley and special sessions are being planned. The Institute will run from June 24 to July 7, inclusive, and is guaranteed that locals in the Midwest should begin to prepare likely candidates for this institute now.

### Labor's Post-War Tasks Discussed

Local 37, Elkhart, Ind., is getting out a new monographed sheet. Among other interesting items it describes the union system instituted in connection with the shop industry. . . "Education Discovers Labor," an article reprinted from the magazine "Current History," describing activities by the universities in training for union service, has provoked comment and requests for copies from the Educational Department. . . A noteworthy educational feature in the special letter used by Vice Pres. S. Martin, General Secretary of the ILO, as eastern director of the ILO, to welcome each new member and to explain to newcomers how the union works. . . The organization inserts used by George Steiner in Reading, Pa., are full of lively and informative pieces. He recently issued a novel dramatic skit.



Arthur Creech Jones (left), Labor member of Parliament, and Sen. Joseph H. Ball addressed the Jan. 19 meeting of the IIGWU Officers' Institute. Vice Pres. Julius Hochman (center) introduced the speakers.

### Brigade Dance

The Women's Brigade committee are working hard to make the St. Valentine's Day dance on Feb. 19 at the Central Needle Trades High School one of their typical social successes. At the head of the Refreshments Committee are Sallie Friedman and Rose Prager, both of Local 88, while the Decorations Committee is run by Marie Ludovino, Nore LaMarca and Mary Zarella, all of Local 28.

### "WHAT IS AMERICAN CIVILIZATION?"

The series of discussions on the general subject, "What Is American Civilization?" continues each Tuesday at the Educational Center, 1170 Broadway, New York City. The meetings begin at 6:30 P. M.

The classes are followed by a sports program in the gymnasium where calisthenics, basketball, ping pong and table tennis are conducted by experienced instructors.

For further information, apply to the Educational Department, 1170 Broadway, New York City.

### "WHERE ARE WE GOING FROM HERE?"

How to achieve a lasting peace and a happier post-war world is the general subject to be covered in the panel discussion on March 3 under the title, "Where Are We Going From Here?" Outstanding educators and authorities will participate in the discussion, which will be held at the Dumbarton Oaks premises. It will take place in Studio A of the IIGWU Building, 1170 Broadway, at 2 P. M.

According to Fannin M. Cohen, Secretary of the Educational Department, the object of this and similar panels is to diffuse maximum knowledge on the nature and possibilities of the coming peace.

Registration for the March 3 program is open and those interested are urged to communicate with the Educational Department promptly as the seating capacity of the auditorium is limited.

### HERE AND THERE

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# LIVE WITH SCIENCE

By DOROTHY LIEBERMAN

## Feed Taboos of Primitive Man

Bali, Samoa, Tahiti are magic words which conjure up a picture of glamour and allure. Writers of romantic stories and motion pictures have built up a vision of the South Sea Islands as a paradise, where man lives close to nature—gay, carefree, untroubled by economic worries and unshaped by social conventions.

But, as a matter of fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Far from being carefree, even contemporary primitive peoples are bound hand and foot by rigid rules. Whether they live in the South Sea Islands or in the jungles of Equatorial Africa or in the bush country of Australia, their pattern of living has one common feature—the practice of taboos. What he eats, how he eats, with whom he talks, when he marries—in fact, all his activities from the cradle to the grave—are governed by taboos.



were permitted to eat oysters, crabs and shellfish.

In many cases, it appears that taboos were imposed for the benefit of a privileged class. For example, in Marouaga, Central Australia, a country where old men rule, such delicacies as wild turkey or emu, which is closely related to the ostrich, are taboo to a man until he has reached middle age. Among the Eskimos seal and eggs are taboo to young people until they are become fully mature. But in the "John" a woman is regarded as mature only after she has had five children.

### For Men Only?

One cannot help feeling that in many cases taboos prohibiting women and children from eating certain foods were originated for the purpose of leaving the choicest morsel for the enjoyment of men. In New Caledonia, such tempting dishes as turtle meat or human flesh are taboo to women, but not to men. In the Marquesas, chickens is forbidden to women, but not to men. In Belgian Congo man may not eat tiger or crocodile, but men may. The Hottentots of South Africa believe that "eggs contain powerful aphrodisiac qualities, and when eaten by women will drive them to seek men from other tribes." Therefore, eggs are taboo to women.

In the other hand, some primitive people require a man to share his wife's burden. Thus the Haidas of British Columbia prohibit a pregnant woman from eating sea food gathered at low tide, but also prohibit her husband from eating such food.

The Arands, a dark-skinned people living in Central Australia, believe that pregnancy results from

the entrance into a woman's body of the spirit of some ancestor. According to Prof. George Murdock, "An Aranda, therefore, shows no surprise or concern when his wife gives birth to a half-baste child. He attributes it, perhaps, purely to her eating white flour obtained from the Europeans."

### Tolerance or Ignorance

We are amused by the ignorance of the primitive. But it may come as a bit of a shock to discover that our behavior patterns, including food habits, bear a great resemblance to that of primitive man. The primitive man rejects food that his neighbor refuses to eat because he is afraid to violate a taboo. We reject foods our neighbors thrive on because we say "that isn't our kind of food." Actually, we too are afraid to eat some finer foods. We believe something unpleasant will happen if we eat such foods.

Today, when some foods to which we have become accustomed are becoming scarce, it becomes more and more important for us to be willing to accept different foods. It is important, therefore, for us to realize our own food taboos and make an effort to rid ourselves of them.

What foods don't you eat?

## Labor Urges Action To Shield Veterans From Realty 'Traps'

Protesting vigorously against making the returning veteran the scapegoat of skyrocketing real estate values, the American Federation of Labor yesterday called for drastic revisions of the housing provisions of the O. I. Bill of Rights.

A statement by Boris Shitkin revealed that the Federation was concerned lest the veteran, impatient to fall back into the mainstream of civilian life, would be victimized by practices now common. These, Shitkin stated, would constitute "an economic trap."

Shitkin warned that the veter-

By BETTA BYER

Guided by the nation's war needs, the War Production Board on Jan. 27 voided the second point of a four-point reconversion plan announced last summer by Donald M. Nelson, then the board's chairman.

## Lowdowns and Markdowns

POST-WAR PROBLEMS DEPT.: 1,000,000 men were rejected for military service, reports Col. Leonard C. Rowntree, Selective Service medical chief. "There is something fundamentally wrong in the bringing up of the youth of our nation when we have a record such as this," said the Colonel.

SUPPLY: Every month, for every serviceman overseas, 21 tons of supplies must cross the ocean.

WORKER - CONSUMER: The female population in trade, unions has increased from 800,000 to 3,000,000 as a result of the war, according to Freda S. Miller, head of the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor.

NOTES: High in food values and not at all scarce this year, nuts peek up breads and cakes. Parasitic dryness in the baked goods by pouring boiling water over the nuts first.

PACIAL LANDSCAPING: With two-tone makeup, using light and darker shades of powder, small eyes can be made appear big (apply light) and big things smaller (apply dark).

SWEET TOOTH: There may be 30 sugar this year but there'll be less per cent more bananas. Try them as a baked desert, split in the length, baked in a moderate oven for a half hour in a shallow dish after flavoring with lemon juice and honey. Goes well with cream, too.

HOUSING: Failure to plan now for a post-war building program of more than 1,000,000 homes a year is the "surest way to repeat the

an, with his employment prospects not clear, will be buying in an over-inflated market. He called for federal inspection and appraisal of veteran-purchased homes as one means of protecting the ex-serviceman against local speculators working hand in glove with local speculators.

Last week's WPB order will halt the manufacture or delivery of machinery for use by industries returning to the production of civilian goods. Two weeks earlier, WPB virtually suspended production under the "spot authorization" plan, part of the larger Lend Lease program.

Under "spot authorization," manufacturers with available manpower and not in labor areas classified as "high" could ask for materials to produce a list of "one-time" civilian items. The projects were expected to meet pressing civilian needs while cushioning dislocations in employment resulting from sharp cutbacks from war production.

These projects, to which the consumer looked for more ration, were being picked up when they, the Germans bolted out in the West, WPB thereupon ordered their suspension for a 90-day period while sources for a "right" of "spot authorization" civilian goods will have to wait.

The action last week has the effect of reducing reconversion prospects to a minimum for now even the heavier machinery to make these civilian goods will not get high priority material or manpower rationing. Instead, these will be used to make tools for tools destined for military use.

errors of the past." John B. Blandford, chief of the National Housing Agency, recently told a Senate Committee.

AD HOMINEM: "These post-war plans, if they were or less agreed (in business circles), may be a disaster, and not of the June order, but business interests would rather see them proposed by one who enjoys greater business confidence than Mr. Wallace has achieved. The same ideas from Beardsley Hunt would obtain the respectful hearing, and probably the degree of compliance to translate theory into reality."

—C. W. Hughes in The New York Times, Jan. 28, 1945.

JAVA JUMP: Brazilian coffee growers are arguing for a 5-cent price increase over ceilings set by OPA after Pearl Harbor. Since neither OPA nor such a plea only a few weeks ago.

LATHER: The basic ingredients of soap are lard and oil, and lathering on the verge of rationing.

FDA TALKING: The Food and Drug Administration has put the test of its authority recently by pulling into court a firm charged with distributing adulterated products. This time FDA is seeking to stop all distribution of the company rather than only using the product (the practice until now).

## To Boost Co-Op Housing in Chi

Tamara Danish, educational director of the Chicago Cook and DuSable Area Board has been elected secretary-treasurer of the Chicago Council for Cooperative Housing. This is a recently formed service agency, organized by representatives of several social groups in the Chicago area, to study the various co-op techniques of home building, apartment house ownership, etc.

## NO MORE SPENT VITAMINS AS MONEY LARGELY MISSPENT

Vitamins have become a lucrative racket. In 1939 some \$83,000,000 of consumer money was spent on the purchase of vitamins. By 1943 an intensive campaign of baloney had jumped vitamin sales to \$180,000,000. The discovery of the role of vitamins in our diet, of course, is an important one. But it has been unconscionably exploited by an avarice and exaggerated advertising.

The fact is that vitamins are purely preventive. They cannot cure anything unless taken in specific doses, which only a physician can determine. The millions of consumer dollars spent in the popular misconception that vitamins guarantee increased energy and physical well-being have been wasted. This has at last been authoritatively proved.

A group of Duke University scientists, at the request of Army officials, conducted some experiments with vitamins. Daily doses of vitamins were given to 200 persons for 30 days. At the end of that time, 100 of the subjects were in a physical condition which was observed.



(Answer is on page 13.)

## JUSTICE PUZZLE

By S. P. FILLER

- ACROSS
- 1. Success
- 2. Each
- 3. Observe
- 4. Draw up
- 5. Vegetable
- 6. Smeared
- 7. Discontinue
- 8. Bared
- 9. Writing
- 10. Entertainment
- 11. Notion
- 12. Gravity
- 13. Total
- 14. Upon
- 15. Toward the sheltered side
- 16. One of table oil
- 17. Near East country
- 18. Magic word
- 19. Serving dish
- 20. Nut
- 21. Frozen water
- 22. Upon
- 23. Paired up
- 24. Photo
- 25. Instruments
- 26. Precipice
- 27. One of roof
- 28. Pass
- 29. Fortified

- DOWN
- 1. Woman
- 2. Ager
- 3. Hunter
- 4. Large box
- 5. Laughing
- 6. Head going
- 7. Water
- 8. Coösine
- 9. Sandpaper
- 10. Alevisian
- 11. Attempts
- 12. Spinning
- 13. Assumed
- 14. Name
- 15. Overcoat
- 16. Light blow
- 17. Joe (French)
- 18. Adam's mate
- 19. Getaway
- 20. Quartz
- 21. Electric
- 22. Particle
- 23. Woman's
- 24. MacArthur's
- 25. Nickname
- 26. Oh
- 27. Inventor
- 28. Russian
- 29. Fun
- 30. Lead
- 31. Hapless
- 32. Led book
- 33. Female
- 34. Prison
- 35. Rodent
- 36. To and—
- 37. Entologist

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# LETTERS COLUMN

## LOCAL 10

By ISIDORE NAGLER, V. F.  
Manager, Local 10

Health and vacation funds are one of the union's major items in every industry involving our members.

In the coat and brassiere industry negotiations for renewal of the agreement are being conducted by the union and the employers. The principal matters

involving the cutters are the union's demands for a health and vacation fund and the substitution of the prevailing minimums for those contained in the contract about to expire. Thus far the conference has been characterized by an amicable spirit and it is hoped the new agreement will incorporate these additional benefits for the coat cutters.

In the blouse industry an important conference is scheduled at an early date between the union and the employers. When the agreement, now in effect, was written, it was agreed that the union's proposal for a vacation and health fund should be taken up after the various other branches of the trade had established such funds. This condition has been met as one trade after another has established health benefits to its workers.

### Health Care Is Industry Duty

One of the most remarkable developments in recent years has been the adoption of health and benefit funds. This trend reflects the recognition by industry of its responsibility for the physical fitness and well-being of the workers. It is obviously desirable to have absences from work by reason of illness reduced to a minimum, aside from the moral obligation owed to those who spend their working lives in an industry.

The number of shops our cutters are now engaged in the production of garments to be used by the people of the Philippines as they are gradually liberated from the yoke of Japanese conquest. All of our members, as well as those in the other crafts who are engaged in such work, must surely feel a special sense of gratification at being able to do something in behalf of the people who fought side by side with our own men on Bataan and Corregidor in the bloody struggles that followed Pearl Harbor. Moreover, each day brings new blows of retaliation to the Japs as our forces clear them from the Southwest and Central Pacific areas and our bombers penetrate to the very heart of the Nipponese empire.

### Cost of Victory Grows Greater

We know, of course, that our victories are paid for with the lives of our heroes and that this comes home to us with particular force when word arrives that one or another member of our families or circle of friends or fellow-workers has suffered such a loss. Only recently we heard that Hyman J. Bush, who has been an active member of our organization since 1936, lost his oldest son, Eugene, in the battle on Leyte. He has the deep sympathy of every member of our organization.

Irving Kaplan, a member of our local who used to play on the basketball team, is now recuperating in an Army hospital in North Carolina from wounds received in France while serving with the American Third Army. Kaplan, a first lieutenant, was previously wounded on the Italian battlefield. All at an early age, he is now recovering and an early reunion with his wife and child.

### Material Pinch Tightening Up

On the surface conditions in our trade are good. Almost everybody is working. Shortages of linings and other fabrics have appeared here and there, but the shops are busy, many working overtime.

However, the stepping up of military requirements and relief needs has led to a tightening of the amount of material available for civilian production. The order freezing workdays produced during the first half of 1945 for military clothing was only the first step in that direction.

According to present indications, there is a likelihood that this may be followed by drastic orders, issued jointly by the OPA and the WPB, to limit civilian production into low-end and medium-priced lines and to revise the pricing system of apparel manufacturers. It is said that these measures are required because in 1945 there will be used about 40 per cent of the fabric yardage consumed in 1939. Unless the anticipated orders are issued, there will be uncertainty regarding the outlook for our industry for the coming fall season.



Thank-you notes from men and women in the armed forces who received Christmas gifts recently sent by the Maryland-Virginia District and the Baltimore-Joint Board are being received at the Baltimore office daily.

This year more than 600 Yuletide gifts were sent overseas. To help meet the cost of buying the fruit cakes, toilet articles and other items put into the packages, ILGWU members contributed approximately \$700.

The Baltimore ILGWU kept up its tradition of commencing the New Year with a GI Dance. Army Special Service officers have praised these dances as filling a pressing need for social activities in the Baltimore area, which includes many military camps and which, due to wartime conditions, is lacking in sufficient entertainment facilities.

The dance was held on Jan. 13 at union headquarters where ILGWU business provided free refreshments, entertainment and dancing partners.

### ATTENTION Members LOCAL 10

### NEXT MEETING

Monday, Feb. 26  
Right After Work  
MANHATTAN  
CENTER  
34th St. & 6th Ave.

### DRIVERS NOW EXPECT UNION TERMS AFTER TWO-YEAR INTERIM

Seeking to re-establish the collective bargaining relationships that have been absent since the expiration of its last agreement two years ago, Local 102, Cloak and Dress Drivers and Helpers' Union, has opened negotiations with the Cloak and Suit Trucking Association for the purpose of obtaining a union contract. Manager Sam Berger announced last week.

In 1942, contract conferences broke down when the truck owners refused to adhere to control provisions of the pact. During the two-year interim, members of Local 102 have worked without a contract and have submitted their own reports on sources and destinations of goods carried by the cloak truckers. The New York Cloak Joint Board is giving full support to Local 102's efforts to obtain a contract. Present indications are that the Cloak and Suit Trucking Association is prepared to accept the disputed control features.

The union is being represented in the negotiations by Emil Schlegel, 12

### 12 Pints of Blood Given, Member Ready For More

With 12 pints of blood already contributed to the American Red Cross, Morris Herge, a cloakmaker employed at the Katz and Rothman shop, Los Angeles, intends to continue his blood donations as long as the Red Cross will accept them, according to a note from Charlin Gladstone, secretary of Local 65.

### Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

### Bowling for Silver Trophy in Baltimore



The ILGWU Bowling League in Baltimore consists of eight teams of five members each. At the end of the season, they hold a "blowout" at which a silver trophy is awarded to the winning team and other prizes are given.

### Down But By No Means Out



J. J. Lubell, president of the Industrial Association of Juvenile Apparel, has been flat on his back in a hospital for 10 weeks as the result of an accident. From his sick-bed he is directing his association's annual contributions to sanitariums, first made three years ago at Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg's suggestion. Above are (left to right) Lubell, E. J. Saffler, director of the Los Angeles Sanatorium, N. Mintz, director of the Deborah Sanatorium, Isaac Seigmeister, impartial chairman, Greenberg and E. Eisberg.

### UNION HEALTH CENTER

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

The Union Health Center has reached the stage when we must urge our vast membership to use its facilities during daytime hours as well as after working hours. This has now become essential. The increase in attendance created by the expanded

health service of our locals, plus

the lack of space, the shortage of physicians, the impossibility of obtaining experienced technicians and any help in general—all these factors have resulted in a problem which this institution is trying to solve without imposing too much hardship on our patients. The use of daytime hours will, we are convinced, help greatly to relieve the pressure now suffered both by patients and the staff between the hours of 3 and 7 P.M. Let all those who use the services of the Union Health Center remember that this request is directly a result of war conditions. Some of our patients are sometimes apt to forget that. We should not.

### Delayed Appointments

If the appointment clerk cannot give you an appointment when you want it, please try to understand that these delays are due entirely to the conditions just described. We request your cooperation by following these rules:

1. Make an appointment for any and all services.
2. Keep your appointments. If you cannot keep it, notify us beforehand.
3. Come at the appointed time. If you are late, your place will be given to some one else.
4. Don't be impatient if you have

to wait a little while for your physician. You would have to wait much longer if you went to a private physician.

5. Always bring your Union Health Center card with you. It has your record number, and we must have it in order to locate your chart.
6. If your local union pays for your medical care, be sure to bring a card, certificate or other authorization to that effect. Otherwise you will have to pay for the medical care.
7. If you belong to the immediate family of a member (wife or dependent child), make your appointments for the hours between 8 A.M. and 4 P.M. You cannot be accommodated at any other time.

We regret the need for these restrictions. We don't like them any more than you do. But, until the war is over, all of us must make the best of the situation. By recognizing the existing problem, we are certain that we will eventually find a solution for them. We shall be grateful if you will share with us our wartime burdens.

### Health Education

Health education is a slow process. Even in Fall River, where such a splendid Union Health Center has been established, it is necessary to continue convincing the people that it is there for their benefit. The reason for their hesitation in using the facilities now available is obvious—the vast majority of them never had real medical care before. Very few of them ever before had the opportunity of going to see a doctor before they were actually too sick to work.

Many of them are still afraid of doctors. They have a horror of laboratory or any other tests. It is the fear of the unknown.

We are trying to dispel these ideas, and our workers in Fall River are doing a fine job in that direction. We like their patience, their understanding of the problems they face and their devotion to the tasks of health education. More power to them.

JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES  
FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS  
JANUARY 14-31

# JUSTICE

A LABOR NEWSPAPER

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February 1, 1945

## WILL YOU, CAN YOU, LET THEM DOWN?

On the "order of the day" throughout the ILGWU at this moment is the 1945 War Relief Fund.

The members of this union have always been generous with their help to their less fortunate fellow-men here and abroad. Way back in the First World War, we raised our first fund for war sufferers and community needs. Since then we have raised several successive funds for labor and community purposes.

Today, war relief is more urgent than ever. In the liberated lands of Europe, there are children swollen with hunger, old men and women sitting helplessly among the ruins. Italians, Greeks, Poles, Russians, French, Czechoslovaks, English, Chinese—these nations and others have been enduring the raw wounds of war for many years. The vast majority of these sufferers abroad are working people, the same as us.

They have caught the brunt of the "blood, sweat and tears" that would have inevitably been ours if the war had arrived at our shores. Americans have escaped this terrible fate. Food, despite some shortages, still remains in abundance on our tables, good clothing still shelters us, the roof is intact above our heads.

And right here, within the borders of our own homeland, there are appeals that cannot, must not be denied—the Red Cross, the blood banks, the USO, the National War Fund, the various national service organizations which reach down into every state and local community.

Support of these agencies is part of our war effort; it is part of our home front.

Last June, in Boston, the delegates to our national convention, without a dissenting vote, authorized the raising of a War Relief Fund at the beginning of 1945. They were the democratically chosen spokesmen for all the members of the ILGWU.

That was and is your decision. The time to fill that decision is now. The way to fill it is with a day's work. Many ILGWU affiliates have already worked this day for relief. The others must now do the same.

This is the ILGWU way. This is the American way. America fights with many weapons. Bonds buy bullets. We've bought bonds, and will buy more. Blood saves lives. We've given blood, and will give more. Now as the hours of decision approach, the cry for help is loudest. And no American dares say: "I have given enough."

Your community will receive 50 per cent of the proceeds of your labor on that day.

Your community will remember that as a garment worker you helped—the Red Cross, the local hospital, the Army canteens, the USO, the local service organizations.

Your community will remember that as a garment worker, as a member of our union, in this hour of the world's greatest need you helped, with no thought of color or race or creed—helped all those who have struck a blow for freedom. Remember, the funds are allocated, regardless of nationality, to the sick, the hungry, the weary, the helpless—wherever they may be.

With outstretched hand, they are waiting for our generous help. Will you, can you, let them down?

## "OVERSUBSCRIBED"

We may be pardoned for taking a bit of pride in what the New York State chairman of the War Finance Committee last week in a letter to President Dubinsky termed the "magnificent war bond job" turned in by our unions and members in the metropolitan area.

Outstanding among the New York affiliates which oversubscribed their quotas were the Cloak Joint Board, which bought more than \$12,000,000 worth of E bonds; the Dress Joint Board, which came through with more than \$9,000,000; Locals 32, 62, 66, 91, 99, 102, 105, 142, 155 and several of the smaller units. From other ILGWU markets came equally cheering tidings—the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board heading the list with more than \$2,000,000 in bond sales, and Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Boston and Baltimore coming in with quotas fulfilled or exceeded.

While all figures of purchases are not yet in—and probably a complete accounting may not be obtainable—it is fairly certain that the ILGWU total in the Sixth War Loan drive topped \$30,000,000, which is a fairly fine showing for one union. Once again our folks in the shops have concretely demonstrated their firm belief in Uncle Sam's bonds as the "best investment in the world."

"Won't Hatch!"



## NICKS and NOTCHES

BY M. D. C.

THE movement in Congress for the repeal of the poll tax in eight Southern states is swinging into action again. Although faced by two defeats in as many years, Republicans in Congress show more optimism than before. Still conscious of the Senate's attitude, and clearly seeing the impossibility of forcing legislation to limit debate, the liberals, nevertheless, count on the possibility of maintaining a Senate filibuster for two years, the life of this Congress.

It may be a thin hope. The House will probably pass repeal by an overwhelming vote as it did in 1943, but in the Senate it is a vastly different matter. There is a hard-and-fast group in the "upper house" that will fight desperately for months, if necessary, to defeat it. To what extent these filibusters may go was spotlighted last summer when, after the Supreme Court rendered its Texas decision that Negroes could not be barred from primaries, Senator Maybank of South Carolina defiantly declared that court decisions or Congressional laws notwithstanding, Southerners would maintain their "political and social institutions as we believe in in the best interests of our people."

EXPOSITIONS of the idea of New York's predestination as the "world's next fashion center" will derive little comfort from recent cables from Paris that more than 100 dressmakers, big and little, in the French capital are getting ready to show their summer styles from February 28 to March 28.

The "haute couture," it appears, has survived all the horrors of the German occupation and its members are ready to display their wares as they have done each season for 40 years. This will be the second showing since the liberation, the first having taken place in October.

The Paris spring style exhibits, it is said, will be held with an eye to French rather than foreign markets. No American buyers can be expected within any reasonably near future in Paris, nor are any expert permits to send models to New York yet available. Still, it may be safely assumed that American reporters will not fall to catch descriptions of the forthcoming fashions—in dresses, coats, suits and hats—in the home market.

What these early 1946 Paris models will look like, what trends in curves they present, life they will represent, it is difficult to foresee. Will they reflect the exaggerated psychology of a city that is still emerging from the humiliation of defeat with the renewed sensitivity of a convalescent, or will they represent the vicious gaiety of thousands who see plausibly miserable in a big city, without heat or light,

burying their moments of comfort in an extortionate black market?

YOU CAN depend on the War Association, state or national, to come forth on any occasion to the "aid of the country." This is especially true when the occasion offers a chance to give labor unionism a dig in the ribs or a kick in the teeth.

Here is the New York War Association, in meeting the other day, listening to recommendations of its committee on labor law in the year of our Lord, 1945. Among the proposals are three—legislation that would void any agreement that includes the closed shop, maintenance of membership and other preferential treatment unless it was made by "an approved labor representative," meaning one who has been certified as such by the State Labor Relations Board; special laws that would make a labor union subject to suit for damages for breach of contract and also for damages arising out of an illegal strike; "certain standards of behavior" because they—the labor unions—possess obviously a "monumentally powerful economic unit."

Doesn't all this sound familiar? Aren't these "regulatory" prescriptions of the same stock and pattern that were endorsed on the Smith-Connelly Act, or that served as a basis for the anti-labor laws enacted in several southern states last year with the concurrence of the so-called American Christian Association? The mentality which guided the New York War Association in advancing these proposals obviously is of the same home-oddball caliber. The run-of-the-mill citizen may find an explanation of this social philosophy in the rather obvious fact that the successful lawyer looks for his clients among the very group in our economic set-up which would like to see labor hand-cuffed and straitjacketed.

I am afraid there is a good deal more of matter-of-fact prose than poetry in this diatribe.

DANGEROUS menace to the health and happiness of the children of America stalks the land. This enemy must be stopped. It is infantile paralysis.

The American people, however, have a secret weapon which they use to combat this enemy. This weapon is the spirit of giving that prompts them each year to contribute to the annual fund-raising appeal of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. For it is their contributions to the National Foundation that make it possible for medical science to fight poliomyelitis on all fronts.

This work must never cease until the Crippler has been tracked down and destroyed.