DEC -- '46 -

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT [illegible] UNION

New York Public Lib
1 W 42nd St & 5th
N Y C Times
Comp-E

Vol. XXVIII. No. 24 | Jersey City, N. J., December 15, 1946 | Price 10 Cents

An Editorial

Vale, Samuel Shore

The American labor firmament lost a bright star when Samuel Shore broke from the tenuous moorings of life and disappeared into the great beyond that we mortals—for the lack of a more palpable term—call eternity.

Our community has lost a colorful and virile citizen whose fertile mind was a priceless asset and whose worth and value grew with the years, defying mental erosion or spiritual regression.

Samuel Shore stood out among his peers in our midst not only because he was a doer of things and an achiever of objectives. He also shone because nature had generously endowed him with a captivating personality, with the charm of an artist and the vision of a poet—qualities that frequently sheltered him from frailties common to all sons of men.

From his boyhood until his 55th—and final—year, Samuel Shore ran the full gamut of life—from cramping manual work in his early day to a stellar spot in the labor world. Street-car conductor, pharmacist, stump speaker, short-story writer, dynamic public speaker, labor official, moulder of a better life for 15,000 underprivileged girl workers in New York's sweatshop jungle, leader in civic endeavor—Samuel Shore loved life as few of his contemporaries did. He loved it with a zestful appetite because he had truly mastered the art of living.

He died entirely too young—in the very midst of maturing power and ever-growing promise. His death—and this is far more than a phrase—creates a vacuum in the organization he served so effectively and so well. Few, indeed, can measure up to the stature of the late leader of Local 62. He leaves a void in the hearts of all those who over the years felt the touch of his magnetic personality.

Farewell, Samuel Shore! We who lived and fought side by side with you for humanity's common aims and ideals will not—we cannot—forget you!

80,000 New York Dressmakers Demand 20% Wage Increase

In 14-Point Program, Hochman Requests 5 Ass'ns Also Set Up Workers' Pensions

A 20 per cent cost-of-living increase, resumption of payments to the New York Dress Institute and establishment of a retirement fund for New York's 80,000 dressmakers are among the main features in the list of 14 contract changes requested by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the New York Dress Joint Board, at a meeting with the heads of the five dress employers' associations held at the Hotel Astor on Dec. 10.

The industry-wide conference marked the opening of negotiations for the renewal of the collective agreement covering the New York dress industry. The contract is scheduled to expire on Jan. 31, 1947.

The union's proposals were presented by Vice Pres. Hochman to more than 100 representatives of labor and employer groups in the industry. Following the custom of previous contract negotiations, Vice Pres. Hochman divided his talk into three parts — the first, a review of the present economic condition of the industry; the second, a listing of the union's demands; the third, a consideration of measures aimed at promoting the industry's products and stabilizing its labor relations.

N. Y. Stronger Than Ever

Hochman emphasized that the New York dress industry has emerged from the war years with its style leadership and general economic status strengthened. He cited the fact that the dollar volume of production in the New York

(Continued on Page 4)

Umhey Named as Member Of Freedom House Board

At the annual meeting of the board of directors of Freedom House last week, Frederick F. Umhey, executive secretary of the ILGWU, was elected as one of the board's members. Others named to the board were Edgar Ansel Mowrer, foreign affairs commentator, and George Fielding Eliot, military analyst. Dr. Harry D. Gideonse, president of Brooklyn College, was re-elected president of Freedom House.

ILG Plunged in Mourning By Shore's Sudden Death

Samuel Shore, manager of Local 62, Undergarment Workers, and vice president of the ILGWU, died suddenly on Dec. 4. He was 55 years old.

Shore's death came as a severe blow to Local 62, which he helped to found early in 1913 and which, with the exception of an interval in the 1920's, he had headed since its inception. His unexpected demise likewise shocked the entire ILGWU organization in New York and other centers where Shore enjoyed a wide popularity based on his personal charm as well as on his outstanding record of achievement.

His death occurred under highly

(Continued on Page 2)

LOCAL 66 MEMBERS START 35-HR. WEEK, $15 SICK BENEFITS

Two gains of topmost significance to members of Local 66, Embroidery Workers, are scheduled to become effective with the beginning of the new year, it is announced by Manager Zachary L. Freedman.

Starting on Jan. 2, over 4,000 workers in two branches of the industry will go on a 35-hour week. One branch covers the nailhead and rhinestone setters, while the other embraces the hand-workers, including crochet beaders, hand embroiderers and sewers and applique cutters.

There will be no reduction in pay when the lower work-week begins. Wages for week-workers will register an hourly gain by remaining constant while the rates for piece-workers will be adjusted accordingly.

The shortened work-week is the outcome of successful organizational drives conducted among the two groups of workers during recent months.

The second gain that will become effective at the beginning of the year is an increase in the amount of sick benefit from $13 a week to $15. The length of the benefit period will be increased from 21 days to 30 days and a new schedule of sur- [illegible] benefits becomes effective.

"O'er the Land of the Free"

60 ILG Members Attend United Nations Session

Under the auspices of the ILGWU Educational Department, 60 members of the union journeyed to Flushing Meadow on Dec. 7 to attend an exciting and historic session of the United Nations General Assembly. Remaining in their seats until after midnight, the ILGWU members heard Madame Pandit of India make an impassioned plea against discriminatory racial policies.

The ILGWU group received tickets of admission to the General Assembly meeting from the Educational Division of the United Nations.

TO OUR READERS

Shortage of newsprint, which is still affecting a great many periodicals, is compelling us to issue "Justice" in 12 instead of the customary 16 pages.

We hope to return to our former volume as soon as the newsprint situation improves.

STACK 3

Shore Is Mourned by All Labor

Local 62's Founder, 55, Passes Suddenly After 33 Years of Service to Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

dramatic circumstances, against a symbolic backdrop that typified Shore's profound community interests and humanitarian sympathies. He had just concluded a speech at the Hotel Pierre at a dinner-meeting given by the undergarment division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, making a fervent plea for generous contributions to that cause when he collapsed. He died within a few minutes. The final words of his address—and of his life—were: "Let us give without stint, let us give to help wipe the tears from the faces of children."

As the news of Shore's death quickly spread to ILGWU members and officers in both the New York district and the union's affiliates all over the country, messages of condolence and grief began pouring into the ILGWU General Office and the headquarters of Local 62. Expressions of sorrow also came from many other labor organizations and social service groups with which Shore had been closely and actively associated. All spoke of the irreparable loss which the labor movement and the general community had sustained in his demise.

Among the many civic and philanthropic organizations with which Shore was intimately connected were Freedom House, on whose board of directors he served from the day it was founded; the Negro Labor Committee, of which he was treasurer; the United Hebrew Trades, where he represented Local 62 for over 30 years; the Labor Division of the American ORT, of which he was chairman; the Jewish Labor Committee, where he held the post of vice chairman; and the American Jewish Committee, where, as a member of the board of directors, he represented the labor movement of the country.

Outstanding Public Homage

Samuel Shore's funeral on Dec. 8 was one of the most impressive public testimonials to the memory of a great labor leader and outstanding American citizen that New York has seen in years.

For two days, his body lay in state in the auditorium of Local 91 at 106 West 17th Street, and tens of thousands of ILGWU members, friends and associates in labor, social and civic circles, reflecting all walks of life, passed in mournful silence before his remains. A guard of honor, consisting of Local 62 executive board members and shop stewards from the more than 400 underwear shops in New York City, stood watch at the bier from midday of Dec. 6 until the funeral services were held.

Underwear Industry Halts

The entire underwear industry in New York closed down at noon on Dec. 6 in honor of Samuel Shore. The industry, to the stabilization of which the departed ILGWU leader had contributed so much, was paying tribute to him in a manner seldom before witnessed in the New York community. The initiative for this expression of grief came from the ranks of the industry's management as well as from the workers Shore had guided so long.

The funeral services, held under the auspices of Local 62 and of the ILGWU, took place on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 8, in the Local 91 Auditorium, which was crowded to the limit by 1,200 invited persons, while several hundred more assembled on the sidewalks outside and heard a broadcast of the services. Many in the hall stood in the aisles throughout the hour and a half of services. Over 400 wreaths decorated the stage and the sides of the auditorium.

SAMUEL SHORE

The services opened with the chanting of hymns and spirituals by the famous Hall Johnson Chorus.

"Few Like Him"—Dubinsky

In a eulogy of the departed leader of Local 62, Pres. Dubinsky, who presided at the services, pointed out his rare abilities and his great heart. "We have few like him in the labor movement, very few who have lived so fully and so colorfully and whose contributions have meant so much for so many in our midst," the ILGWU chief declared.

In tones of deep feeling, Pres. Dubinsky recited Shore's achievements in the ILGWU, from the time he entered its service in 1912 to the day of his death 34 years later. He described the epic struggle that had first brought the old White Goods Workers' Union into being, back in 1913, and the victories that Shore then achieved for the completely unprotected girl workers in the underwear shops of that period.

"Shore succeeded in that momentous struggle to win for them a 50-hour week and a 20-cent per hour minimum—a tremendous improvement over the 60-hour week and the $3 or $4 weekly earnings that had hitherto prevailed," Dubinsky said.

"Fine and Fruitful Life"

In the years that followed, Local 62, under the leadership of Shore, had maintained such steady progress that today the local has a membership of 15,000, Dubinsky said.

"And what is equally important," he emphasized, "the attitude of the employers in the industry has undergone a fundamental change, thanks to the leadership of Samuel Shore. These employers, who are today mourning with us the death of this fallen leader, have learned that their industry cannot progress in an atmosphere of discontented labor, that only as work conditions improve can the industry itself rise to higher standards. Shore's finest monument is the great union he is leaving behind. It was the proudest achievement of his fine and fruitful life, and it is our common pride and glory," Pres. Dubinsky declared.

Among those who spoke at the bier were AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll, Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York City, Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora, Alexander Kahn, manager of the Jewish Daily "Forward," Mary Goff, veteran officer of Local 62, Mitchel Schneider, president of the Allied Underwear Association, Dr. John L. Childs, chairman of the Liberal Party, and George J. Minster, impartial chairman of the underwear industry. The services were concluded with the chanting of "El Moleh Rachmim" by Cantor Moishe Oisher.

The entire New York membership of the ILGWU General Executive Board sat on the front bench of mourners, flanked on both sides by members of the Shore family, most of whom arrived from Philadelphia for the funeral. Closest to the bier were the widow, Mrs. Rae Shore, his two sons, Henry and Raymond, and his brother Max.

Tribute from AFL

Speaking for the American Federation of Labor, Vice Pres. Woll declared that the masses of American labor would cherish the memory of Shore because he belonged to "the builders, not the destroyers, of organized labor." Reviewing Shore's career, Woll said: "Over a course of three decades he led his union from one solid attainment to another, with every one of these accomplishments adding stone and mortar to the edifice of Local 62 and adding strength and glory to the ILGWU and to the whole labor movement."

Business Agent Mary Goff, one of the girls who took part in the first general strike of the white goods workers in 1913, characterized Shore as an "actual liberator" whose career had literally freed the thousands of women workers in the industry from a status of semi-slavery. She pointed out that in 1913 women workers used to toil 60 and 70 hours a week for $3 and even less. "Shore was our teacher and path-finder. His passing makes us truly feel like orphans. We can only hope that the torch which has fallen out of his hands will be picked up by those who are left behind to light our way into the future," she said.

"Loss to Entire Community"

Mayor O'Dwyer spoke both as the head of the city government and in his own name as a personal friend of the departed ILGWU vice president.

"I can only tell you that in the death of Samuel Shore I suffered a grave personal loss and our city has lost a fine, outstanding citizen. Shore's worth and value, in historical retrospect, represents the difference between the living standards which prevailed in the days when he first entered the good fight for the oppressed and downtrodden and the much improved life and labor of the present day," the Mayor said. "There are some in our community today who are trying to undo some of the achievements which men like Shore helped to win for the workers, and it devolves upon those who are left behind to make these gains secure if we are to honor his memory."

Justice Pecora, speaking for Freedom House, described Shore as an ardent democrat because he abhorred persecution and inequality with every fiber of his being. "He passionately loved the philosophy of democracy and its concept of liberty—hence his hearty participation in the furtherance of the aims of Freedom House. He hated injustice in every form with a righteous wrath—hence his tireless labors in behalf of the exploited and the underprivileged," said Justice Pecora.

Alexander Kahn spoke in the name of both the Forward Association and of the American ORT in underscoring the fact that Shore had been taken from the fighting arena at a relatively early age and at a time when the labor movement needed him most.

"Stabilizer of the Industry"

Mitchel Schneider, representing the employer's groups, pointed to Shore's great role in the undergarment industry and the constant stabilizing influence which he exerted in it for the benefit of all factors.

George J. Minster, a lifelong friend of Shore as well as the impartial arbitrator of the underwear industry, extolled his personal qualities, his loyalty to the cause of labor and his unqualified devotion to every humanitarian cause.

Dr. Childs said: "The Liberal Party owes much to his faith, courage and devoted effort. Indeed, at our time of greatest need, it was his confident and effective work which helped us to hold together. All of us are enriched because of our association with him, and he will long live in our memories."

400 at Shore's Grave

The interment ceremonies, at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Queens, were attended by more than 400, most of them close personal friends and co-workers.

Moe Falkman, assistant manager of Local 10, Cutters, officiated at the grave. Fanny Shapiro, for many years a leader of Local 62, spoke in the name of the officers of the local over which Shore had presided for more than three decades. She was followed by Ben Levin and Abe Beckerman, directors of the two leading employed associations, and by Harry Lang, journalist and historian of Local 62, who had been an associate of Samuel Shore for a number of years.

Among those who came from out of town to attend the funeral were Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint Board, and Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board, together with groups of active members of those affiliates.

Shore Picked by AFL for Argentine Labor Mission

Samuel Shore would have filled an important foreign labor mission for the American Federation of Labor if he had lived, according to AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll. Speaking at the funeral services, Woll announced that on Pres. Dubinsky's recommendation, Shore had virtually been selected to go to Argentina as a member of the special AFL committee now being set up by Pres. William Green to study labor conditions in that country.

All AFL Saddened By Shore's Death

In addition to the expression of sorrow in behalf of the American Federation of Labor delivered at the Samuel Shore funeral services by AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll, AFL Pres. William Green, upon learning of Shore's death, forwarded the following message to Pres. Dubinsky:

"I was tremendously sorry when I learned of the sudden death of Brother Samuel Shore. He was a most capable and courageous representative of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and a devoted and loyal supporter of our great organized labor movement. Altogether, we have sustained an immeasurable loss as a result of his passing. He was possessed of the highest degree of honor and integrity—a man of courage and conviction and an able exponent of the economic, social and industrial philosophy of organized labor. I join with the officers and members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and all his friends in mourning his tragic passing. I extend to his bereaved family and to his host of friends my sincere sympathy in the great loss we all have sustained."

As Vice Pres. Samuel Shore Received Last Rites

JUSTICE
A Labor Newspaper
Published twice monthly by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Office of Publication: 75 Montgomery St., Jersey City 2, N. J.
Editorial Office: 1710 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y. Tel. COlumbus 5-9000

DAVID DUBINSKY, President and General Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, $2.00 a year.

Entered as Second Class matter, Aug. 7, 1928, at Post Office at Jersey City, N. J., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized on Jan. 28, 1919.

Vol. XXVIII. Dec. 15, 1946. No. [illegible]

Local 142 New Pact Brings 10% Increase in Neckwear

Over 2,000 members of Local 142, Ladies' Neckwear Workers, attended the annual stoppage meeting of the union's neckwear section on Dec. 4 to hear Manager Joseph Tuvim report on the successful outcome of long-drawn-out negotiations with the National Women's Neckwear and Scarf Association for renewal of its agreement with the union. The old contract expired on Dec. 1.

The membership, filling Webster Hall where the meeting took place, ratified the new terms, which are to run for a two-year period.

Substantial increases, higher minimums and other improvements have been won in the renewed pact, the main provisions of which are as follows:

All week-workers receive a 10 per cent increase over existing wages.

All piece-workers receive a 10 per cent increase over current prices.

All prices on new styles are to be settled so as to bring each worker an increase of 10 per cent over earnings prior to Dec. 1.

All minimums are to be raised by 10 per cent, with these minimums including all increases received through War Labor Board action as well as through the "escalator" clause.

Learners in all crafts, except cutters, are to receive no less than the new minimums after six weeks of training.

Homework Further Curbed

Carrying out its relentless struggle to abolish industrial homework, Local 142 was able to introduce provisions in the new pact eliminating hand-rolling and hand-faggoting as homework processes.

The following learners' minimums are specified in the pact: operators $31.87; hand sewers $26; trimmers $25; finishers $26.

Minimum wage scales for the various crafts are as follows: head cutters $60.50; cutters $55; operators $35.05; trimmers $27.50; hand sewers $28.05; hemmers $27.50; lace runners $29.70; gauge runners $29.70; ironers $29.70; snap machine operators $27.50.

Phila. Cloakmakers Seek Pact Renewal

The Philadelphia Cloak Joint Board has opened negotiations with the Philadelphia Coat and Suit Manufacturers' Association for renewal of the present agreement, which expires in January, 1947.

A first conference, held in the Drake Hotel last week, was adjourned to allow the employer representatives to consider the union's demands and a further conference is scheduled for next week.

Manager Harry Dordick and Vice Pres. George Rubin, director of the Eastern Out-of-Town Cloak Division, head the union's negotiating body.

ILG's Interculture Workshop Reveals Kinship of Peoples

The conclusion of the Intercultural Workshop conducted by Dr. Rachel Davis DuBois was marked by a special "winter festival" program on Dec. 13 at the ILGWU Studios. A number of trade union and religious leaders attended the event to observe Dr. DuBois' effectiveness in getting persons of various racial and national backgrounds to share one another's cultural heritages.

Commenting on an Intercultural Workshop session which he had attended, Dr. Broadus Mitchell said: "With great ingenuity and speed, Dr. DuBois got people to talking about their childhood scenes and common customs. Soon they were singing and dancing together.

"Her method succeeded in breaking down barriers quickly. I think all of us left the room after a brief hour feeling that we were less peculiar than we were in the habit of supposing and that it was more agreeable to recognize the similarities between races and creeds."

Local 23 Wins Living-Cost Increases for Skirtmakers

Cost-of-living increases have been won by another group of cloak workers through an agreement reached between Local 23, Skirtmakers, and the National Skirt and Sportswear Association. After extended negotiations, the terms of the increases were finally worked out on Dec. 10.

The negotiations were conducted by Manager Louis Reiss of Local 23, Manager Joseph Breslaw of Local 35 and Acting General Manager Isidore Nagler.

The increases are as follows:

Week-workers:

Cutters, pressers, operators—$7; finishers (in quality lines)—$5; finishers' helpers (in popular lines)—$4; special machine operators (in quality lines)—$5; special machine operators (in popular lines)—$4; floor workers (in quality lines)—$3.50; floor workers (in popular lines)—$3.

Piece-workers:

Pressers and operators—$5; finishers (in quality lines)—$5; finishers (in popular lines)—$4.

In a joint statement issued through Manager Nagler, the negotiating committee declared:

"We are highly pleased that this dispute was settled amicably and directly through collective bargaining processes rather than by resorting to arbitration. The decision is very satisfactory and will be of great assistance to the workers in meeting the rising cost of living. Labor-management relations will be improved by this adjustment in wage scales."

Local 155 Makes Demand For Cost-of-Living Boost

Citing the "escalator" clause in its agreement, Local 155, Knitgoods Workers, has called upon the employer associations in the industry to negotiate with the union for increases to its members.

"In view of the increase in the cost of living," declared Manager Louis Nelson in a statement last week, "the workers in the knitted outerwear industry must receive an increase in their wages commensurate with the increase in the cost of living."

LOUIS PINE MOURNED BY L.A. CLOAKMAKERS

Final tribute was paid to Louis W. Pine, manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, at memorial services on Dec. 2, with the Embassy Auditorium packed to its capacity of 1,700 by friends and fellow-unionists who stopped work in accordance with a decision of the Cloak Joint Board. Pine passed away suddenly on Nov. 29 of a heart ailment at the age of 62.

A resident of the United States for more than 40 years and of Los Angeles for more than 20, Pine was a pioneer member of the ILGWU and had long been active in union affairs. He had been manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board for five years.

Abe Brenner, secretary of the Cloak Joint Board, officiated at the services. Eulogies were delivered by Sam Willens, business agent of the Cloak Joint Board, George Wishnak, representative of the Dress Joint Board, and by Anthony G. O'Rourke, impartial chairman of the Los Angeles garment industry. Rabbi Benjamin Harrison conducted the formal rites.

The huge auditorium was filled with floral pieces from workers in many Los Angeles shops and from all over the country, including the ILGWU General Office. Vice Pres. Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director of the ILGWU, sent a telegram of condolence from Seattle, where he was detained on union business.

L.A. Dress Jt. Board Signs Connie Foster

Another shop has been added to the string of firms in contractual relations with the Los Angeles Dress Joint Board in the union's program to gain full control of that market. A collective bargaining contract was signed on Dec. 2 between the union and the Connie Foster shop, it is announced by Fannie Borax, manager of the Los Angeles Dress Joint Board.

Calling attention to the amicable spirit in which negotiations were conducted, Manager Borax reports that the pact with the firm, which employs 50 workers, provides for a 35-hour week, time and one-half for overtime by the week-workers, vacations with pay, six legal holidays, a health fund and price settlement committees.

Serval Workers, 600 Strong, Win Boost Of 15% in First Pact Under Local 132

The 600 employees of the Serval Slide Fastener Co., Flushing, L. I., who last month voted for the ILG as their collective bargaining agent by a 2-to-1 margin, followed up that victory last week by negotiating a model two-year agreement containing many novel features, it is announced by Manager Martin Feldman of Local 132, Plastic and Novelty Workers.

In signing an agreement with Local 132, the Serval firm, which had resisted unionization for 10 years, has increased the wages of all of its employees by 10 cents an hour, a rise which is estimated at 15 per cent.

Other terms of the agreement include a schedule of paid vacations providing a half-week for those employed at least three months, one week for those employed six months and two weeks for those employed one year; six days of sick leave with pay each year, with the unused pay for such purposes awarded to the worker as a year-end bonus; seven legal holidays with pay; time and one-half rates after eight hours each day and for all Saturday work; a guarantee of four hours' pay for reporting to work and not finding any provided; two 15-minute rest periods, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The agreement, providing for a closed shop, also includes an "escalator" clause allowing wage terms to be opened for renegotiation after one year. Serval workers also are to receive hospitalization benefits.

Business Agent Sam Eisenberg is servicing the Serval shop.

Local 177 Renewal Wins $7.50 Boosts

Increases of $6.50 and $7.50 have been won for all members of Local 177, Alteration Workers, in the renewal of the union's agreement with the Ladies' Apparel Retailers' Guild, it is announced by Manager Sam Weber. The increases, based on the "escalator" clause in the preceding agreement, are retroactive to Aug. 15.

The new terms were reached after extended negotiations with the employer representatives. The pact was ratified last month at a Local 177 membership meeting which adopted a vote of thanks to the negotiating committee which, in addition to Manager Weber, included J. Altman, W. Freedman, M. Shenker, W. Nelson, J. Etkin and H. Sherr.

Southeast District Report

American Mfg. Strikers Vow Fight Will Go On to a Finish

The strike against the American Manufacturing Co., New Orleans, La., in effect since Nov. 5 and involving 160 people, will be waged to a successful finish "no matter how long it takes," declared Vice Pres. John S. Martin, Southeast Director of the ILGWU, last week during a visit at the General Office in New York.

The strike was called after the firm, headed by Charles Epstein, refused to renew the union contract it had maintained for the past three years. A few days before the agreement expired on Nov. 3, the firm resorted to a common union-disrupting stratagem by announcing that it would grant a substantial pay increase to its employees if they would give up the union. The strike followed.

Simultaneously, the union struck the smaller shop of the American Manufacturing Co., located at Biloxi, Miss., to protect the agreement which the firm also threatened to abrogate. Both plants are heavily picketed.

Southeast Successes

Vice Pres. Martin, in a bird's-eye review of current organizing activity in the Southeast, disclosed that the ILGWU is carrying on a persistent and successful drive in Alabama, Louisiana, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia. The union recently won National Labor Relations Board elections at the Carolina Hemming Co., Reidsville, N. C., where Organizer Joe Lee Walden is in charge, and in two plants operated by the Hollywood-Maxwell Brassiere Co. in Minden, La., and Brookhaven, Miss.

Elections Pending

NLRB elections are also due in several dress plants recently opened in the vicinity of Sylaquaga, Ala., by firms belonging to Alabama Apparel Association, with which the Southeast District is currently parleying for a joint contract. Similar unionization moves are in progress in Greenville and Charleston, S. C., covering six dress shops. Organizer John Vogt is in charge of this area.

In Daisy and McMinnville, Tenn., two underwear factories, operated by the makers of the well-known Rogers No-Run brand of garments, are under heavy union "fire," according to Vice Pres. Martin. The two plants employ 350 workers. Elizabeth Overstreet and Douglas Dinsmore of the Southeast staff are in charge of activity in that area.

Recent Agreements

Among the firms that have recently signed agreements with the ILGWU in the Southeast District are the Fashion Frocks, Greenville, Tenn., employing 200 workers, and the House of Novy, located in Jackson, Tenn., a sportswear plant. The Greenville plant is owned by the Fashion Frocks, Cincinnati, O., with which the ILGWU has been in contractual relations for a number of years, while the Jackson plant is a branch of the House of Novy, Chicago, Ill., which has long been unionized.

Several union agreements will go into effect on Jan. 1, 1947. They include an underwear shop in Adamsville and a large brassiere factory in Lexington, both in Tennessee and both owned by the Ginsburg Machinery Co. A slip and gown plant recently established in Sommerville, Tenn., by a St. Louis firm, signed a contract with the ILGWU following an understanding reached by the owners with Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, director of the Southwest District. Organizer Beulah Cameron is in charge of this territory.

26TH CONVENTION ELECTION FLURRIES ENLIVEN ILG LOCALS

The announcement that the General Executive Board has chosen Cleveland as the city where the ILG will meet in convention beginning June 16, 1946, has stirred the entire membership of the union, from coast to coast.

Conventions are big events in the ILGWU and, since 1944, they have been made to coincide, by constitutional amendment, with the election of executives and officers in all locals of the union. The election of convention delegates, therefore, is slated to take place at the same time as local administrations are chosen.

With the time set for the elections—from Feb. 15 to March 15, 1947 — only two months away, excitement is rising in all affiliates, where hot contests for convention delegates and local boards are in the making. Some locals have already set nomination dates, while opposing groups in other locals are sharpening their campaign weapons and dusting off their "electioneering" devices.

The 1944 convention in Boston ordained that regular conventions be held every three years. The forthcoming Cleveland convention, the 26th since the ILGWU was formed in 1900, is expected to last two weeks. It will be held in Cleveland's Civic Auditorium, one of the finest meeting-places of its kind in the country.

Shore Is Mourned by All Labor

Local 62's Founder, 55, Passes Suddenly After 33 Years of Service to Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

dramatic circumstances, against a symbolic backdrop that typified Shore's profound community interests and humanitarian sympathies. He had just concluded a speech at the Hotel Pierre at a dinner-meeting given by the undergarment division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, making a fervent plea for generous contributions to that cause when he collapsed. He died within a few minutes. The final words of his address—and of his life—were: "Let us give without stint, let us give to help wipe the tears from the faces of children."

As the news of Shore's death quickly spread to ILGWU members and officers in both the New York district and the union's affiliates all over the country, messages of condolence and grief began pouring into the ILGWU General Office and the headquarters of Local 62. Expressions of sorrow also came from many other labor organizations and social service groups with which Shore had been closely and actively associated. All spoke of the irreparable loss which the labor movement and the general community had sustained in his demise.

Among the many civic and philanthropic organizations with which Shore was intimately connected were Freedom House, on whose board of directors he served from the day it was founded; the Negro Labor Committee, of which he was treasurer; the United Hebrew Trades, where he represented Local 62 for over 30 years; the Labor Division of the American ORT, of which he was chairman; the Jewish Labor Committee, where he held the post of vice chairman; and the American Jewish Committee, where, as a member of the board of directors, he represented the labor movement of the country.

Outstanding Public Homage

Samuel Shore's funeral on Dec. 8 was one of the most impressive public testimonials to the memory of a great labor leader and outstanding American citizen that New York has seen in years.

For two days, his body lay in state in the auditorium of Local 91 at 100 West 17th Street, and tens of thousands of ILGWU members, friends and associates in labor, social and civic circles, reflecting all walks of life, passed in mournful silence before his remains. A guard of honor, consisting of Local 62 executive board members and shop stewards from the more than 400 underwear shops in New York City, stood watch at the bier from midday of Dec. 6 until the funeral services were held.

Underwear Industry Halts

The entire underwear industry in New York closed down at noon on Dec. 6 in honor of Samuel Shore. The industry, to the stabilization of which the departed ILGWU leader had contributed so much, was paying tribute to him in a manner seldom before witnessed in the New York community. The initiative for this expression of grief came from the ranks of the industry's management as well as from the workers Shore had guided so long.

The funeral services, held under the auspices of Local 62 and of the ILGWU, took place on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 8, in the Local 91 Auditorium, which was crowded to the limit by 1,200 invited persons, while several hundred more assembled on the sidewalks outside and heard a broadcast of the services. Many in the hall stood in the aisles throughout the hour and a half of services. Over 400 wreaths decorated the stage and the sides of the auditorium.

SAMUEL SHORE

The services opened with the chanting of hymns and spirituals by the famous Hall Johnson Chorus.

"Few Like Him"—Dubinsky

In a eulogy of the departed leader of Local 62, Pres. Dubinsky, who presided at the services, pointed out his rare abilities and his great heart. "We have few like him in the labor movement, very few who have lived so fully and so colorfully and whose contributions have meant so much for so many in our midst," the ILGWU chief declared.

In tones of deep feeling, Pres. Dubinsky recited Shore's achievements in the ILGWU, from the time he entered its service in 1912 to the day of his death 34 years later. He described the epic struggle that had first brought the old White Goods Workers' Union into being, back in 1913, and the victories that Shore then achieved for the completely unprotected girl workers in the underwear shops of that period.

"Shore succeeded in that momentous struggle to win for them a 50-hour week and a 20-cent per hour minimum—a tremendous improvement over the 60-hour week and the $3 or $4 weekly earnings that had hitherto prevailed," Dubinsky said.

"Fine and Fruitful Life"

In the years that followed, Local 62, under the leadership of Shore, had maintained such steady progress that today the local has a membership of 15,000, Dubinsky said.

"And what is equally important," he emphasized, "the attitude of the employers in the industry has undergone a fundamental change, thanks to the leadership of Samuel Shore. These employers, who are today mourning with us the death of this fallen leader, have learned that their industry cannot progress in an atmosphere of discontented labor, that only as work conditions improve can the industry itself rise to higher standards. Shore's finest monument is the great union he is leaving behind. It was the proudest achievement of his fine and fruitful life, and it is our common pride and glory," Pres. Dubinsky declared.

Among those who spoke at the bier were AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll, Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York City, Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora, Alexander Kahn, manager of the Jewish Daily "Forward," Mary Goff, veteran officer of Local 62, Mitchel Schneider, president of the Allied Underwear Association, Dr. John L. Childs, chairman of the Liberal Party, and George J. Mintzer, impartial chairman of the underwear industry. The services were concluded with the chanting of "El Moleh Rachmim" by Cantor Moishe Oisher.

The entire New York membership of the ILGWU General Executive Board sat on the front bench of mourners, flanked on both sides by members of the Shore family, most of whom arrived from Philadelphia for the funeral. Closest to the bier were the widow, Mrs. Rae Shore, his two sons, Henry and Raymond, and his brother Max.

Tribute from AFL

Speaking for the American Federation of Labor, Vice Pres. Woll declared that the masses of American labor would cherish the memory of Shore because he belonged to "the builders, not the destroyers, of organized labor." Reviewing Shore's career, Woll said: "Over a course of three decades he led his union from one solid attainment to another, with every one of these accomplishments adding stone and mortar to the edifice of Local 62 and adding strength and glory to the ILGWU and to the whole labor movement."

Business Agent Mary Goff, one of the girls who took part in the first general strike of the white goods workers in 1913, characterized Shore as an "actual liberator" whose career had literally freed the thousands of women workers in the industry from a status of semi-slavery. She pointed out that in 1913 women workers used to toil 60 and 70 hours a week for $3 and even less. "Shore was our teacher and path-finder. His passing makes us truly feel like orphans. We can only hope that the torch which has fallen out of his hands will be picked up by those who are left behind to light our way into the future," she said.

"Loss to Entire Community"

Mayor O'Dwyer spoke both as the head of the city government and in his own name as a personal friend of the departed ILGWU vice president.

"I can only tell you that in the death of Samuel Shore I suffered a grave personal loss and our city has lost a fine, outstanding citizen. Shore's worth and value, in historical retrospect, represents the difference between the living standards which prevailed in the days when he first entered the good fight for the oppressed and downtrodden and the much improved life and labor of the present day," the Mayor said. "There are some in our community today who are trying to undo some of the achievements which men like Shore helped to win for the workers, and it devolves upon those who are left behind to make these gains secure if we are to honor his memory."

Justice Pecora, speaking for Freedom House, described Shore as an ardent democrat because he abhorred persecution and inequality with every fiber of his being. "He passionately loved the philosophy of democracy and its concept of liberty—hence his hearty participation in the furtherance of the aims of Freedom House. He hated injustice in every form with a righteous wrath—hence his tireless labors in behalf of the exploited and the underprivileged," said Justice Pecora.

Alexander Kahn spoke in the name of both the Forward Association and of the American ORT in underscoring the fact that Shore had been taken from the fighting arena at a relatively early age and at a time when the labor movement needed him most.

"Stabilizer of the Industry"

Mitchel Schneider, representing the employer's groups, pointed to Shore's great role in the undergarment industry and the constant stabilizing influence which he exerted in it for the benefit of all factors.

George J. Mintzer, a lifelong friend of Shore as well as the impartial arbitrator of the underwear industry, extolled his personal qualities, his loyalty to the cause of labor and his unqualified devotion to every humanitarian cause.

Dr. Childs said: "The Liberal Party owes much to his faith, courage and devoted effort. Indeed, at our time of greatest need, it was his confident and effective work which helped us to hold together. All of us are enriched because of our association with him, and he will long live in our memories."

400 at Shore's Grave

The interment ceremonies, at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Queens, were attended by more than 400, most of them close personal friends and co-workers.

Moe Falikman, assistant manager of Local 10, Cutters, officiated at the grave. Fanny Shapiro, for many years a leader of Local 62, spoke in the name of the officers of the local over which Shore had presided for more than three decades. She was followed by Ben Levin and Abe Beckerman, directors of the two leading employed associations, and by Harry Lang, journalist and historian of Local 62, who had been an associate of Samuel Shore for a number of years.

Among those who came from out of town to attend the funeral were Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint Board, and Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board, together with groups of active members of those affiliates.

Shore Picked by AFL for Argentine Labor Mission

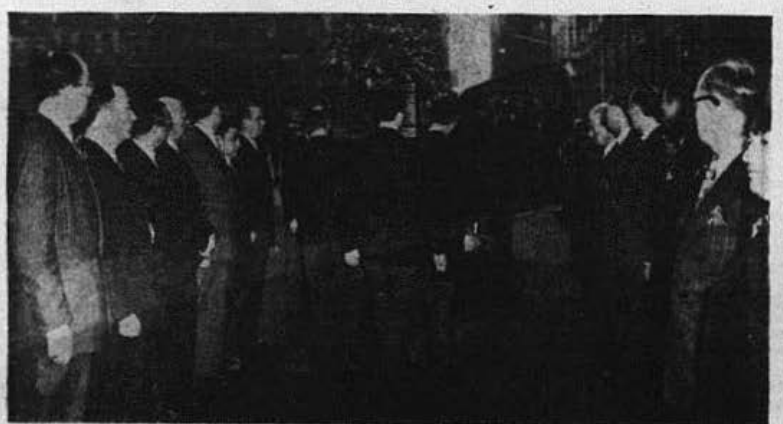
Samuel Shore would have filled an important foreign labor mission for the American Federation of Labor if he had lived, according to AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll. Speaking at the funeral services, Woll announced that on Pres. Dubinsky's recommendation, Shore had virtually been selected to go to Argentina as a member of the special AFL committee now being set up by Pres. William Green to study labor conditions in that country.

All AFL Saddened By Shore's Death

In addition to the expression of sorrow in behalf of the American Federation of Labor delivered at the Samuel Shore funeral services by AFL Vice Pres. Matthew Woll, AFL Pres. William Green, upon learning of Shore's death, forwarded the following message to Pres. Dubinsky:

"I was tremendously sorry when I learned of the sudden death of Brother Samuel Shore. He was a most capable and courageous representative of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and a devoted and loyal supporter of our great organized labor movement. Altogether, we have sustained an immeasurable loss as a result of his passing. He was possessed of the highest degree of honor and integrity—a man of courage and conviction and an able exponent of the economic, social and industrial philosophy of organized labor. I join with the officers and members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and all his friends in mourning his tragic passing. I extend to his bereaved family and to his host of friends my sincere sympathy in the great loss we all have sustained."

As Vice Pres. Samuel Shore Received Last Rites



JUSTICE
A Labor Newspaper
Published twice monthly by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Office of Publication:
74 Montgomery St., Jersey City 2, N. J.
Editorial Office:
1710 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.
Tel. COlumbus 5-7000

DAVID DUBINSKY, President and General Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, $2.00 a year.

Entered as Second Class matter, Aug. 7, 1928, at Post Office at Jersey City, N. J., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized on Jan. 25, 1919.

Vol. XXVIII. Dec. 15, 1946. No. 24

Local 142 New Pact Brings 10% Increase in Neckwear

Over 2,000 members of Local 142, Ladies' Neckwear Workers, attended the annual stoppage meeting of the union's neckwear section on Dec. 4 to hear Manager Joseph Tuvim report on the successful outcome of long-drawn-out negotiations with the National Women's Neckwear and Scarf Association for renewal of its agreement with the union. The old contract expired on Dec. 1.

The membership, filling Webster Hall where the meeting took place, ratified the new terms, which are to run for a two-year period.

Substantial increases, higher minimums and other improvements have been won in the renewed pact, the main provisions of which are as follows:

All week-workers receive a 10 per cent increase over existing wages.

All piece-workers receive a 10 per cent increase over current prices.

All prices on new styles are to be settled so as to bring each worker an increase of 10 per cent over earnings prior to Dec. 1.

All minimums are to be raised by 10 per cent, with these minimums including all increases received through War Labor Board action as well as through the "escalator" clause.

Learners in all crafts, except cutters, are to receive no less than the new minimums after six weeks of training.

Homework Further Curbed

Carrying out its relentless struggle to abolish industrial homework, Local 142 was able to introduce provisions in the new pact eliminating hand-rolling and hand-faggoting as homework processes.

The following learners' minimums are specified in the pact: operators $31.87; hand sewers $20; trimmers $25; finishers $26.

Minimum wage scales for the various crafts are as follows: head cutters $60.50; cutters $55; operators $35.05; trimmers $27.50; hand sewers $28.05; hemmers $27.50; lace runners $29.70; gauge runners $29.70; ironers $29.70; snap machine operators $27.50.

Phila. Cloakmakers Seek Pact Renewal

The Philadelphia Cloak Joint Board has opened negotiations with the Philadelphia Coat and Suit Manufacturers' Association for renewal of the present agreement, which expires in January, 1947.

A first conference, held in the Drake Hotel last week, was adjourned to allow the employer representatives to consider the union's demands and a further conference is scheduled for next week.

Manager Harry Dordick and Vice Pres. George Rubin, director of the Eastern Out-of-Town Cloak Division, head the union's negotiating body.

ILG's Interculture Workshop Reveals Kinship of Peoples

The conclusion of the Intercultural Workshop conducted by Dr. Rachel Davis DuBois was marked by a special "winter festival" program on Dec. 13 at the ILGWU Studios. A number of trade union and religious leaders attended the event to observe Dr. DuBois' effectiveness in getting persons of various racial and national backgrounds to share one another's cultural heritages.

Commenting on an Intercultural Workshop session which he had attended, Dr. Broadus Mitchell said: "With great ingenuity and speed, Dr. DuBois got people to talking about their childhood scenes and common customs. Soon they were singing and dancing together.

"Her method succeeded in breaking down barriers quickly. I think all of us left the room after a brief hour feeling that we were less peculiar than we were in the habit of supposing and that it was more agreeable to recognize the similarities between races and creeds."

Local 23 Wins Living-Cost Increases for Skirtmakers

Cost-of-living increases have been won by another group of cloak workers through an agreement reached between Local 23, Skirtmakers, and the National Skirt and Sportswear Association. After extended negotiations, the terms of the increases were finally worked out on Dec. 10.

The negotiations were conducted by Manager Louis Reiss of Local 23, Manager Joseph Breslaw of Local 35 and Acting General Manager Isidore Nagler.

The increases are as follows:

Week-workers:

Cutters, pressers, operators—$7; finishers (in quality lines)—$5; finishers' helpers (in popular lines)—$4; special machine operators (in quality lines)—$5; special machine operators (in popular lines)—$4; floor workers (in quality lines)—$3.50; floor workers (in popular lines)—$3.

Piece-workers:

Pressers and operators—$5; finishers (in quality lines)—$5; finishers (in popular lines)—$4.

In a joint statement issued through Manager Nagler, the negotiating committee declared:

"We are highly pleased that this dispute was settled amicably and directly through collective bargaining processes rather than by resorting to arbitration. The decision is very satisfactory and will be of great assistance to the workers in meeting the rising cost of living. Labor-management relations will be improved by this adjustment in wage scales."

Local 155 Makes Demand For Cost-of-Living Boost

Citing the "escalator" clause in its agreement, Local 155, Knitgoods Workers, has called upon the employer associations in the industry to negotiate with the union for increases to its members.

"In view of the increase in the cost of living," declared Manager Louis Nelson in a statement last week, "the workers in the knitted outerwear industry must receive an increase in their wages commensurate with the increase in the cost of living."

LOUIS PINE MOURNED BY L.A. CLOAKMAKERS

Final tribute was paid to Louis W. Pine, manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, at memorial services on Dec. 2, with the Embassy Auditorium packed to its capacity of 1,700 by friends and fellow-unionists who stopped work in accordance with a decision of the Cloak Joint Board. Pine passed away suddenly on Nov. 29 of a heart ailment at the age of 62.

A resident of the United States for more than 40 years and of Los Angeles for more than 20, Pine was a pioneer member of the ILGWU and had long been active in union affairs. He had been manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board for five years.

Abe Brenner, secretary of the Cloak Joint Board, officiated at the services. Eulogies were delivered by Sam Willens, business agent of the Cloak Joint Board, George Wishnak, representative of the Dress Joint Board, and by Anthony G. O'Rourke, impartial chairman of the Los Angeles garment industry. Rabbi Benjamin Harrison conducted the formal rites.

The huge auditorium was filled with floral pieces from workers in many Los Angeles shops and from all over the country, including the ILGWU General Office. Vice Pres. Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director of the ILGWU, sent a telegram of condolence from Seattle, where he was detained on union business.

L.A. Dress Jt. Board Signs Connie Foster

Another shop has been added to the string of firms in contractual relations with the Los Angeles Dress Joint Board in the union's program to gain full control of that market. A collective bargaining contract was signed on Dec. 2 between the union and the Connie Foster shop, it is announced by Fannie Borax, manager of the Los Angeles Dress Joint Board.

Calling attention to the amicable spirit in which negotiations were conducted, Manager Borax reports that the pact with the firm, which employs 50 workers, provides for a 35-hour week, time and one-half for overtime by the week-workers, vacations with pay, six legal holidays, a health fund and price settlement committees.

Southeast District Report

American Mfg. Strikers Vow Fight Will Go On to a Finish

The strike against the American Manufacturing Co., New Orleans, La., in effect since Nov. 5 and involving 160 people, will be waged to a successful finish "no matter how long it takes," declared Vice Pres. John S. Martin, Southeast Director of the ILGWU, last week during a visit at the General Office in New York.

The strike was called after the firm, headed by Charles Epstein, refused to renew the union contract it had maintained for the past three years. A few days before the agreement expired on Nov. 3, the firm resorted to a common union-disrupting stratagem by announcing that it would grant a substantial pay increase to its employees if they would give up the union. The strike followed.

Simultaneously, the union struck the smaller shop of the American Manufacturing Co., located at Biloxi, Miss., to protect the agreement which the firm also threatened to abrogate. Both plants are heavily picketed.

Southeast Successes

Vice Pres. Martin, in a bird's-eye review of current organizing activity in the Southeast, disclosed that the ILGWU is carrying on a persistent and successful drive in Alabama, Louisiana, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia. The union recently won National Labor Relations Board elections at the Carolina Hemming Co., Reidsville, N. C., where Organizer Joe Lee Walden is in charge, and in two plants operated by the Hollywood-Maxwell Brassiere Co. in Minden, La., and Brookhaven, Miss.

Elections Pending

NLRB elections are also due in several dress plants recently opened in the vicinity of Sylaquaga, Ala., by firms belonging to Alabama Apparel Association, with which the Southeast District is currently parleying for a joint contract. Similar unionization moves are in progress in Greenville and Charleston, S. C., covering six dress shops. Organizer John Vogt is in charge of this area.

In Daisy and McMinnville, Tenn., two underwear factories, operated by the makers of the well-known Rogers No-Run brand of garments, are under heavy union "fire," according to Vice Pres. Martin. The two plants employ 350 workers. Elizabeth Overstreet and Douglas Dinsmore of the Southeast staff are in charge of activity in that area.

Recent Agreements

Among the firms that have recently signed agreements with the ILGWU in the Southeast District are the Fashion Frocks, Greenville, Tenn., employing 200 workers, and the House of Novy, located in Jackson, Tenn., a sportswear plant. The Greenville plant is owned by the Fashion Frocks, Cincinnati, O., with which the ILGWU has been in contractual relations for a number of years, while the Jackson plant is a branch of the House of Novy, Chicago, Ill., which has long been unionized.

Several union agreements will go into effect on Jan. 1, 1947. They include an underwear shop in Adamsville and a large brassiere factory in Lexington, both in Tennessee and both owned by the Ginsburg Machinery Co. A slip and gown plant recently established in Sommerville, Tenn., by a St. Louis firm, signed a contract with the ILGWU following an understanding reached by the owners with Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, director of the Southwest District. Organizer Beulah Cameron is in charge of this territory.

26TH CONVENTION ELECTION FLURRIES ENLIVEN ILG LOCALS

The announcement that the General Executive Board has chosen Cleveland as the city where the ILG will meet in convention beginning June 16, 1946, has stirred the entire membership of the union, from coast to coast.

Conventions are big events in the ILGWU and, since 1944, they have been made to coincide, by constitutional amendment, with the election of executives and officers in all locals of the union. The election of convention delegates, therefore, is slated to take place at the same time as local administrations are chosen.

With the time set for the elections—from Feb. 15 to March 15, 1947 — only two months away, excitement is rising in all affiliates, where hot contests for convention delegates and local boards are in the making. Some locals have already set nomination dates, while opposing groups in other locals are sharpening their campaign weapons and dusting off their "electioneering" devices.

The 1944 convention in Boston ordained that regular conventions be held every three years. The forthcoming Cleveland convention, the 26th since the ILGWU was formed in 1900, is expected to last two weeks. It will be held in Cleveland's Civic Auditorium, one of the finest meeting-places of its kind in the country.

Serval Workers, 600 Strong, Win Boost Of 15% in First Pact Under Local 132

The 600 employees of the Serval Slide Fastener Co., Flushing, L. I., who last month voted for the ILG as their collective bargaining agent by a 2-to-1 margin, followed up that victory last week by negotiating a model two-year agreement containing many novel features, it is announced by Manager Martin Feldman of Local 132, Plastic and Novelty Workers.

In signing an agreement with Local 132, the Serval firm, which had resisted unionization for 10 years, has increased the wages of all of its employees by 10 cents an hour, a rise which is estimated at 15 per cent.

Other terms of the agreement include a schedule of paid vacations providing a half-week for those employed at least three months, one week for those employed six months and two weeks for those employed one year; six days of sick leave with pay each year, with the unused pay for such purposes awarded to the worker as a year-end bonus; seven legal holidays with pay; time and one-half rates after eight hours each day and for all Saturday work; a guarantee of four hours' pay for reporting to work and not finding any provided; two 15-minute rest periods, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The agreement, providing for a closed shop, also includes an "escalator" clause allowing wage terms to be opened for renegotiation after one year. Serval workers also are to receive hospitalization benefits.

Business Agent Sam Eisenberg is servicing the Serval shop.

Local 177 Renewal Wins $7.50 Boosts

Increases of $6.50 and $7.50 have been won for all members of Local 177, Alteration Workers, in the renewal of the union's agreement with the Ladies' Apparel Retailers' Guild, it is announced by Manager Sam Weber. The increases, based on the "escalator" clause in the preceding agreement, are retroactive to Aug 15.

The new terms were reached after extended negotiations with the employer representatives. The pact was ratified last month at a Local 177 membership meeting which adopted a vote of thanks to the negotiating committee which, in addition to Manager Weber, included J. Altman, W. Freedman, M. Shenker, W. Nelson, J. Etkin and H. Sherr.

N. Y. DRESSMAKERS

DRESS JOINT BOARD

Dress Jt. Bd. Asks 20% Increase

(Continued from Page 1)

dress market rose in 1946 to a peak of $750,000,000, with 97,000,000 garments flowing out of the city's 2,592 dress shops.

In terms of dollar volume, Hochman stated, New York this year will account for 78.2 per cent of the entire national dress output. He pointed out that while the $1.37-$1.57 line of dresses had virtually disappeared during the war, the New York market continued to serve all levels of consumer needs by supplying not only the finest merchandise but also actually increasing the production of medium-priced and popular-priced dresses. In fact, he added, in the ranges of $4.75 and below more dollar volume was produced in 1946 than in any one year between 1937 to 1942.

The average wholesale price of New York dresses, he said, has still not regained its 1929 pre-depression level, at which time it was $8.43. This year, he explained, it is estimated at $7.73.

WORKERS

Year	Jobbers	Mfrs.	Contrs.	Total
1938	2,346	23,502	53,517	79,365
1940	1,865	25,902	54,589	82,376
1941	1,973	26,388	52,207	80,568
1942	1,884	25,082	48,737	75,703
1943	1,695	22,573	44,158	68,426
1945	1,718	23,125	48,122	72,965
1946	1,956	24,002	54,209	80,167

Cost-of-Living Increases

The union's request for a wage increase is based on the fact that no upward adjustment of dressmakers' wages has been made since February, 1946, Hochman stated, emphasizing that the rise in the cost of living since then exceeds the amount of the increase now sought by the union.

Drawing attention to the fact that New York still ranks first as the market with the highest availability of skilled dress-making labor, Hochman pointed out that the labor force had increased from 68,426 in 1943 to 80,167 in 1946. He showed that this growth was reflected in the increase of the number of shops during the same period from 2,008 to 2,592.

Nevertheless, he stated, the industry has continued to abide by its traditional pattern, with the average number of workers per shop remaining virtually constant for both manufacturers and contractors — namely, 43 and 35, respectively. Also practically unchanged is the ratio of labor cost to sales, which he estimated this year to be 25.1 for all price lines.

Foreign Markets Urged

In urging the association heads to act now to consolidate the commanding position enjoyed by the New York dress industry, Hochman reiterated the plea he has made to dress industry leaders on many other occasions, urging them to develop foreign markets in order to assure a maintenance of high-level dress production.

In this connection, Hochman stressed the union's request that payments to the New York Dress Institute be resumed. Reviewing the background of this project, he showed that it had been founded at his suggestion following the signing of the 1941 dress agreement, but that, because of wartime dislocations, payments to finance the Institute had been suspended during the war, thus curtailing its functions as a promotional arm of the industry. The Institute must now prepare to shoulder responsibility for improving management techniques, promoting the New York dress and exploring export possibilities, he said. He produced figures to show that the return on each dollar invested in the Dress Institute had resulted in excellent publicity.

PRODUCTION

Year	Units	Volume
1938	76,000,000	$345,852,961
1939	78,000,000	349,482,204
1940	77,000,000	344,504,569
1941	83,000,000	385,979,361
1942	86,000,000	413,372,678
1943	95,000,000	554,185,783
1944	94,000,000	638,321,000
1945	96,000,000	694,188,040
1946*	97,000,000	750,000,000

*Estimate.

Proud No-Strike Record

In conclusion, Hochman reminded the heads of the five employer associations that agreements with them had been renewed since 1933 without resort to strikes. The industry should take pride in the fact that it has been able, in the years since 1933, to renew its agreements without any interruption of production, he said. This record, together with the fact that the term of agreements has been progressively extended, Hochman stated, is a clear measure of the increasing stability of labor relations in the dress industry and an accurate reflection of the mutual respect that has characterized its labor-management relations. That relationship has now reached the point at which it is possible to negotiate an agreement for a five-year term, he declared. Such an agreement, he indicated, would have the effect of further stabilizing relationships in the industry while the inclusion of provisions for interim changes to be made through the office of the Impartial Chairman would provide sufficient flexibility to enable both employers and workers to cope with the economic changes that lie ahead.

Union's Negotiating Body

The Dress Joint Board's negotiating committee, in addition to Hochman, is comprised of Nathaniel M. Minkoff, Ben Evry and Jack Spitzer. The delegation of Local 10, Cutters, on the negotiating body includes Manager Isidore Nagler, Max Goldenberg, Sam Wilnick and Sal Sangiorgio. The delegation of Local 22, Dressmakers, includes Manager Charles S. Zimmerman, Nathan Margolis, Pearl Halpern and Israel Breslaw. The delegation of Local 60, Pressers, consists of Manager Max Cohen, Elias Kudrinetzky and Max Silverman. The delegation of Local 89, Italian Dressmakers, includes Manager Luigi Antonini, John Gelo, Ignazio Camarda and Tina Catania.

The five employer groups are as follows: Representing the manufacturers and jobbers are the National Dress Manufacturers' Association, the Popular Priced Dress Manufacturers' Association and the Affiliated Dress Manufacturers' Association. Representing the contractors are the United Better Dress Manufacturers' Association and the United Popular Dress Manufacturers' Association.

SHOPS

Year	Jobbers	Mfrs.	Contrs.	Total
1938	212	524	1,410	2,246
1940	251	538	1,370	2,159
1941	229	547	1,303	2,089
1942	250	538	1,288	2,076
1943	242	531	1,235	2,008
1944	303	548	1,350	2,201
1945	382	512	1,451	2,345
1946	509	563	1,520	2,592

New Medical Books In Force on Jan. 1

Current medical credit certificates will expire on Dec. 31. They will not be honored by the Union Health Center after that date. Members are therefore urged to obtain the new 1947 certificate book from the health fund departments of their locals or district offices. The new books will be available starting Dec. 30.

Members of Locals 22, 60 and 89 are reminded that sick benefits are paid from the day that illness is reported to the union office. In order not to lose any part of the sick benefit, members are urged to notify the union office at once, either by postcard or telephone.

14-Point Demands of Dress Jt. Bd.

Here is an outline of the Dress Joint Board's requests for changes and modifications of contract terms as submitted by General Manager Julius Hochman to the spokesmen of the five employers' associations at the conference on Dec. 10:

1. A 20 per cent increase in wages to meet the increase in the cost of living.
2. The minimum wages in the agreements to be raised to include the past increases granted in the dress industry.
3. An increase in employers' payments to the present health and vacation fund from 3¼ to 5½ per cent to allow for increased and improved health benefits and to provide a retirement fund for aged workers in the dress industry.
4. Cutters to be included in the health, vacation and retirement funds. Until June, 1947, however, employers shall pay 3¼ per cent of the cutters' payroll for health benefits and shall also pay cutters for their next vacation as heretofore.
5. Time and one-half for piece-workers for overtime after 35 hours.
6. Revision of official schedules for settlement of all piece-rates in each price line group.
7. Unionization of pattern-makers, floor workers, assorters, shipping clerks and office workers—in the dress industry.
8. Columbus Day to be recognized as a legal holiday by the dress industry.
9. The same damage provisions for sending out work to non-union contractors are to be made applicable for sending work to non-designated contractors.
10. A firm installing a cutting department must absorb the cutters of its contractors. Piece-goods shall not be sent to contractors who have no cutting facilities.
11. Resumption of payments to the New York Dress Institute.
12. Limitation-of-contractor clause of the Affiliated agreement to be adopted for the entire industry instead of the two different clauses which now exist.
13. Other technical and conformity changes.
14. Five-year agreement.

Dress Jt. Bd. Backs $1,000 Relief Gifts For Spanish Exiles

The Dress Joint Board played host to a group of ILGWU anti-fascist and Spanish Republican leaders on Dec. 10 when a $1,000 check was presented by the International Solidarity Committee for the purchase of CARE packages to aid Spanish exiles in France. The gift was accepted by Fernando de los Rios, Spanish Republican ambassador to Great Britain, who expressed the hope that Spain would soon be liberated from General Franco's dictatorship and be admitted into the ranks of free and democratic nations.

Among those who sponsored the gift were First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini, manager of Local 89, Italian Dressmakers; Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of Local 22, Dressmakers; Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the Dress Joint Board; and Phil Heller, executive director of the ISC and educational director of Local 155, Knitgoods Workers.

Emphasizing that aid to the Spanish anti-fascists was not only a Christmas gift but a year-round obligation, Zimmerman declared:

"We want the Spanish exiles to know that American labor is wholeheartedly behind the democratic aspirations of the Spanish people."

17 Weisen Workers 'Adopt' French Boy Orphaned by Nazis

Georges Roger Gross is one of thousands of youngsters left homeless by the Nazi sweep through France. Together with other orphans he is being sheltered at a French institution supported by the Labor Zionist Committee for Relief and Rehabilitation.

"I don't remember my father's name nor the name of my mother," he writes. "I was very young when we fled from Poland to France. We sought freedom. Then the Nazis caught up with us. My parents and two sisters were arrested and sent to death camps in Poland. I never heard from them again.

"I remember being in a hospital for a long, long time. I remember how the French nurses would hide me every time the Nazis came to search for Jews. They took children and sick people, too."

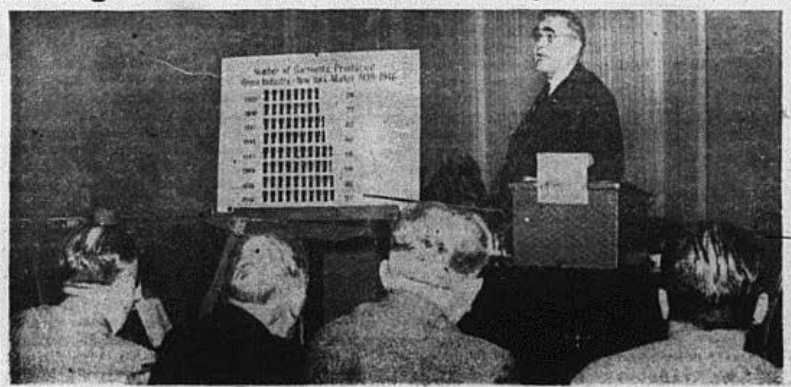
Georges now has 17 new "mothers" in th person of a group of dress finishers, employed at the Max Weisen shop, who have banded together and pledged to pay $25 a month toward the support of Georges.

The money, turned over to the Foster Parent Division of the Labor Zionist Committee, will provide the $300 a year needed for the care and education of a war orphan.

According to Frieda Zweibon, chairlady of the Weisen finishers: "We can think of no better way of spending the pennies we can spare than to 'adopt' a child. We have all received copies of Georges' picture. Across hundreds of miles that separate us we feel we know him and love him. One feels at first that there is so little that can be done to mend the hearts of the children that have been broken by brutality. But that's wrong. Each one of us can help. Each one of us can, through the Foster Parent Division, take one of these kids under our wing.

"We shall probably never meet Georges face to face. But we'll reach him in our own way. We'll make him know that we care about him. We hope that will make him happier."

Defining N. Y. Dressmakers' Renewal Requests



LITTLE INTERNATIONAL

HARRY WANDER, MANAGER, EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

300 at Nitekraft, B & B Gain Additional Increase of 10%

More than 300 workers employed by two firms in Bayonne, N. J., have won substantial increases, it is announced by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department. The two firms are the B & B Manufacturing Co., which employs more than 60 workers, and the Nitekraft Corp. which, in its plants at Orange and Newark, employs a total of more than 250 workers.

At Nitekraft the increase is approximately 10 per cent, which is the latest in a series of wage adjustments totalling 26 per cent gained for the workers since the present pact was negotiated in September, 1945.

At the B & B plant the "escalator" clause of the contract was invoked to negotiate a 10 per cent increase, the second such boost won since June, 1945, when the contract was signed.

Detlefsen Now Managing Both Elizabeth, Paterson

Pete Detlefsen, manager of Local 221, Elizabeth, N. J., has been designated to act likewise as manager of Local 161, Paterson. In filling both posts, Detlefsen will exercise supervision over 28 shops in the Elizabeth area and 16 shops in the Paterson area.

Organizational efforts in these areas are now centering around the Riverside Sportswear Co., Paterson, and the Selma Sportswear Co., Elizabeth. The two firms employ an aggregate of 75 workers.

Four Lingerie Firms In Troy Area Grant Wage Boost to 300

Wage increases have been won for approximately 300 workers employed at four slip and lingerie manufacturing firms in the Troy, N. Y., area as the result of recent negotiations, it is announced by Manager Edward Spritzer.

A 10 per cent increase is the feature of contracts renewed with the Gracette Co. (Stillman & Kagan) Cohoes, and the Nora Lee Co., Granville. The increase is to become effective on Jan. 1.

An "escalator" clause in the union contract was invoked in negotiating a 10 per cent wage boost for the 100 workers employed by the Cohoes Undergarment Co. In Troy, a similar clause was used to win a 7½ per cent raise for piece-workers and a $3 increase for week-workers.

Spritzer also reports that the Best Maid Co., Troy, has been organized. The firm, which employs 35 workers and manufactures children's dresses, has signed a standard union agreement, including a 4½ per cent health and vacation fund.

POUGHKEEPSIE DRIVE NETS 2 MORE SHOPS

Following up the unionization last month of the 300 workers employed at Stardust, Inc., the ILGWU organizational drive in the area around Poughkeepsie, N. Y., has scored victories at two more shops. The campaign is aiming at 100 per cent unionization of garment shops in the district.

Standard union agreements have been signed by the McAllister Blouse Co. and the Rosenblatt Undergarment Co. According to Mort Goodman, manager of the Hudson Valley District, the pacts feature a 20 per cent wage increase and also provide for a health and vacation benefit plan.

At the Stagg Undergarment Co. and the Highland Dress Co., it is announced, negotiations for union contracts have entered their final phase as the result of progress made at recent conferences between representatives of the union and the two firms.

Favorable developments are also reported in the organizational drives at the Gottlieb Bros. and the Kathel Manufacturing Co. plants. Manager Goodman points out that the scope of the campaign will be widened to include communities in the vicinity of Poughkeepsie as soon as the current drives within the city are completed.

Renewal Boosts Won by Allegro, Mochi Workers

Renewed agreements including provision for a $2 increase have been signed by two underwear shops in New Jersey, it is reported by Manager Herman Sirota.

The two firms are the Anthony Allegro Co., Jersey City, and the Andrew Mochi Co., Bayonne. In both cases the wage increase is effective as of Oct. 3.

Fellow-Humanitarians—ILGWU and ARC

Recent meeting of ILGWU shop chairladies in Bridgeport, Conn., was addressed by Mrs. Sylvia McCarthy of local Red Cross. ILGWU group includes Business Agent W. C. Abramson and Chairladies Emma Sundbye, Margaret Szabo, Josephine Brazis, Natalie Roman, Sophie Mozeleski, Lena Marchesani and Lucy Krentzman.

Union City's Locals Set 4 Committees On Education Work

Members of Locals 148 and 162, Union City, N. J., last month designated a committee of 12 members to plan a series of educational, recreational and social events through the winter and spring months. At a meeting on Dec. 3, arrangements were made for a series of lecture-discussion meetings to be held at union headquarters. The first of these discussions is scheduled for Jan. 15, with Julius Manson, member of the staff of the New York State Mediation Board, speaking on "The 80th Congress and Labor."

According to Manager William Altman, the committee of 12 has formed three smaller groups to facilitate its plans and activities. The recreational sub-committee consists of Al Nadler, James Salerno, Bessie Schindler and Frank Aragona. The educational sub-committee includes Anna Russo, Julia Esposito, Eva Piantanido and Nona Nicolini. The sub-committee for social events comprises Dorothy Edwards, Jean Mangano, Dolly Lodebole and Anna Wienk.

Trilico Co. Pact Renewal Provides 10% Wage Boost

The union has renewed its agreement with the Trilico Co., Union City, N. J., it is announced by Manager William Altman. The new terms provide for a 10 per cent wage increase and higher minimums.

2,500 Long Island ILGers Hold Thanksgiving Dance

More than 2,500 Long Island members of ILGWU locals turned out for the annual Thanksgiving dance held this year on Nov. 16 at Lost Battalion Hall, Elmhurst, L. I. In a raffle that featured the occasion, ten members each won a turkey.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By LUIGI ANTONINI
First Vice President, ILGWU

This is the season for giving. This is the holiday season when the newspaper pages are full of high-pressure advertisements telling you how to spend your money in order to make someone happy with a gift.

However, there is one kind of giving that gets no advertising. It is not splashed in the newspapers. It is not heard in radio commercials.

But anyone who will take time out from daily pursuits can find the need for that kind of giving in his or her own heart.

Here is a sheaf of letters from Italy. Some are from people I know. Others are from men and women who would be total strangers to me were it not for the fact that we share a knowledge of the suffering that is now common in Italy.

Like the ads in our great newspapers, these letters are also about gifts. But they don't ask for fancy bottles of high-priced perfume. They make no plea for beautiful fur coats. What they ask for is bread. Their cry is for food.

In the next two weeks, many firms will be holding Christmas holiday shop parties. Now, there are so many of us here who could help, who are so well off by comparison that it seems to me we could, at each one of these parties, include a few extra — and invisible — guests.

The Italian-American Labor Council is urging that the needy mothers and children and aged of Italy be remembered wherever American workers get together in this season of good will. What we give we will not miss. But to those in need in Italy, that little will mean much.

The Italian-American Council will even save you the trouble of having to shop around and prepare the packages for overseas shipment. Send your donations to the Italian-American Labor Council at 202 West 40th St., New York City, and let the unfortunate people of Italy share your Yuletide celebrations.

* * *

The United Better Dress Manufacturers' Association has just contributed $7,000 for the relief of Italy's needy. This is not the first time that this employer group has demonstrated its solidarity with suffering human beings. It aided in the clothing collections. It previously contributed $2,000 for relief purposes.

The further collapse of the lira which has taken place in the last two weeks is a further symptom of the gravity of the Italian economic situation. This collapse means more suffering — and more need.

The life of a whole people is in danger. Let us remember that every day. Let us remember it above all in the days which bring us closer to the Christmas season.

Abe Eilbert Dies at 55; Former Jt. Bd. Bus. Agent

Abraham Eilbert, for many years a member of Local 22, Dressmakers, and until 1944 a business agent for the Dress Joint Board, died on Nov. 27 at the age of 55.

Eilbert resigned his post in 1944 because of ill health and moved to Los Angeles. He returned to New York early this year and worked as an operator at the Richter & Decker shop.

Local 89 Dues to Shift To Monthly Basis Jan. 1

According to Manager Luigi Antonini, Local 89 dues, beginning with Jan. 1, 1947, will be paid on a monthly instead of a weekly basis. For major crafts, the dues will be $2.85 monthly and for minor crafts, $2.40. These amounts are in addition to the $1 annual death fund contribution.

Hands Across the Sea—7th Ave. to Italy

Jack Rosen and David Marmelstein, heads of United Better Dress Manufacturers' Association, turn over to First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini contribution of $7,000 for relief purposes in Italy.

LOCAL 60 ENDORSES RENEWAL DEMANDS

The full scope of the Dress Joint Board's request for modifications in the forthcoming dress industry agreements was reviewed by Max Cohen, manager of Local 60, Dress Pressers, at a membership meeting last month. The 14 points submitted by the union were heartily endorsed by the more than 1,000 members who attended.

Cohen analyzed the wage demands as well as the changes being sought in the welfare provisions of the agreements. He stated that although the union negotiators expected to confront the customary opposition raised by employer groups at agreement-renewal conferences, the union would insist on the full justice of its demands.

He also gave special attention to the request for the establishment of a retirement fund, pointing out that nearly 200 members of Local 60 have reached the 60-to-65-year age group. The industry, Cohen stated, is obligated to provide for the garment worker who has spent a lifetime in the shop.

It was announced that organization of group activities for the purpose of preparing for union elections in February is now permissible, in line with the provisions of the ILGWU Constitution. Manager Cohen warned, however, that the full democratic rights which the union always is vigilant to preserve must not be used to condone improper campaigning during the election period.

Inside WASHINGTON

By WILL ALLEN
Special to "Justice"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Within the next two weeks, the inner circles of the Republican high command hope to come to agreement on the program of labor legislation they will present to the new Congress on Jan. 3. However, at the moment, they are far from such agreement. For example, Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio and Sen. Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota are regarded by their Republican colleagues as the party's leaders on labor legislation. Yet, while there is agreement between these two men on certain fundamental principles, there are large areas of practical action in which they hardly see eye to eye.

• • •

Within the past week I have interviewed both Senators on the subject of labor legislation, as well as several others who are likely to have influence on such matters.

Neither Sen. Taft nor Sen. Ball was prepared to speak of a program of legislative action in specific and concrete terms. Both said that such a program would be hammered out within the next two weeks. However, both spoke quite willingly on the broad general features of the program. What they had to say may come as a surprise to some.

For instance, Sen. Taft indicated that he intended to approach the question of new labor legislation slowly and with deliberation. On the other hand, Sen. Ball is anxious to tackle the problem at once.

In a way, that is quite characteristic of the personalities of the two men. Sen. Ball is a former newspaperman whose background and training give him a tendency to be quick on the trigger. Sen. Taft, on the other hand, is a lawyer with a bent for philosophy and a tendency towards a reflective approach.

Sen. Ball has been doing a great deal of public speaking lately on the subject of labor legislation. Sen. Taft has kept his own counsel on the subject so far, except to indicate that he is not in agreement with Ball on the latter's suggestion that the closed shop should be outlawed.

On the whole, the best guess right now would seem to point to the likelihood that Taft's ideas on labor legislation will prevail rather than Ball's.

• • •

This may prove to be an extremely important matter, for at the moment it appears quite likely that Taft will take the chairmanship of the highly important Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Although Sen. Ball would like to have this chairmanship, Taft has the No. 1 seniority with Sen. George D. Aiken of Vermont in the No. 2 place and Sen. Ball No. 3. Aiken is one of the most progressive Republicans in the Senate. On labor legislation it is quite likely that he will line up pretty much with Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon, who is regarded as one of the staunchest Republican friends of labor.

If Sen. Aiken could have his way, he would be chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. But here too he faces the problem of seniority, and that chairmanship apparently is going to Sen. Arthur Capper of Kansas, who has been in the Senate longer than any other Republican.

Aiken's second choice is the Committee on Labor and Education. But Sen. Taft would rather see that post go to Ball than to Aiken. So,

although Taft would really prefer to head the Finance Committee, it now looks as though he will select the Labor and Education Committee unless a deal can be worked out with the consent of Capper to let the Agriculture Committee chairmanship go to Aiken. In that case, Taft will take the Finance Committee and Ball will become the Labor Committee chairman.

Because of these two alternative possibilities, it is now obvious that Taft and Ball are the two key Republicans on the subject of labor legislation. Thus, their views will have an important bearing on what happens to labor in the next Congress.

• • •

As the picture shapes up on labor legislation, a new center position will be set up, with men like Ball somewhat to the right of center, and men like Morse and Aiken somewhat to the left of center, which may leave Taft occupying a midway position and probably supplying the balance of power in the Labor Committee.

At the moment, a great many wild ideas on labor legislation are current. But it is my personal impression that it is too early to get excited about them. Many of these notions obviously will never even get the baptism of legislative language. Some of the younger Republican legislators are being swept away by the artificial enthusiasm of the "lambaste labor" spirit now being so heavily plugged in the daily press.

As Sen. Taft ironically observed during my interview with him, two Republican Senators who previously had always counseled going slow on labor legislation are suddenly showing a desire to go much farther than Taft is willing to go. "They get it out of the newspapers," he said.

"But aren't you a conservative—in fact, according to some, a reactionary?" I asked Taft.

"You watch and see how conservative or reactionary I am when we actually get down to the practical business of legislation. I don't think I am either conservative or reactionary," Taft replied with a smile.

Personally, I am willing to wait. (There is no other choice in the matter.) For the objective test will still be furnished by what people do, not what they say.

Conspirator

By HAVA KRASCOFF

Well the living knows that permanency,
The enduring Diva, is not his to keep.
Well he knows that each bright present soon
Turns a dim past, and that the future must
Meet the same fate. Yet, as if eternity were
His playground, each man moves and plans,
And plans more and newer games—his most loving
Game being to check the whirling years.
And though the parent dies, invariably,
Too soon, the offspring in his place becomes
Conspirator against the frozen laws of Time.

"The Night Before Christmas"

MOVIES

MARCUS MORTON

"MY DARLING CLEMENTINE" is a really remarkable horse opera. Despite its silly title, it's a two-gun tale that not only makes expert use of the customary trappings of Wild West romance but also conveys an exciting historical sense of how law and order were established on the frontier.

The story deals with the oft-told exploits of Wyatt Earp, the legendary marshal who, practically single-handed, cleaned up Tombstone, hell-hole of early Arizona. Ordinarily, that would be run-of-the-mill film fare. But with Henry Fonda giving an extraordinary performance in the role, it derives a

strangely intense quality. He conquers the rustlers and wins the girl, of course, but despite this stereotyped pattern, he enacts his task of law enforcement with an impressive consciousness of social mission.

• • •

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY" is a gorgeously grandiose compilation of Jerome Kern's music. It is staged in such stupendous style and presented by such a galaxy of stars that the result is somewhat overwhelming.

However, viewed as an extremely elaborate collection of specialty numbers, each featuring one of the Kern classics, any audience is sure to get it's money's worth. Robert Walker, as the composer, merely goes through the motions, and so do the others who play it straight. But that hardly matters when the variety experts appear—Judy Garland warbling "Sunny" and "Who?", Lena Horne intoning "Can't Help Loving That Man," Kathryn Grayson and Tony Martin teaming up in scenes from the immortal "Show Boat." There are about a dozen more, including Frank Sinatra really rolling along with "Ol' Man River."

• • •

"THE RAZOR'S EDGE" needed much more honing. This is a pity, for the film is devoted to the highly worthwhile and timely theme of man's quest to regain his personal integrity. Laudable as this doctrine is, however, it is here presented in a manner entirely too pretentious and theatrical to mean much.

The story concerns a rich young American who returns from the First World War full of contempt for the materialism of civilization. After long wanderings he comes to the remote mountains of India where, after a series of colossal cinematic concoctions, he at last discovers "truth" and resolves to bring it back to his own people at home. Not only do they resist the message but he himself succumbs to base impulses until he arrives at the realization that the struggle for salvation is never-ending.

Tyrone Power tries to look saintly but with scant success. Anne Baxter, as an unhappy woman, is excellent, as usual, while Gene Tierney is ludicrous, also as usual.

In the MARK[ET]

LEO[N] ...

Several months ago this ... threat to the traditional ways ... that lay in the trend toward ... At that time we noted that in the ... capital was available for the spread of this kind of trustification — a tendency that might eventually consolidate control over the textile industry into fewer and fewer hands.

This column gave special attention to the movement of Northern industrial holders into the South in search of mill space. That this trend has not slackened even in the face of an enervated seller market is clear from a recent survey made by the magazine "Business Week."

"Business Week" finds that hundreds of millions of dollars are flowing from Northern resources into the South for the purchase of existing facilities and for the expansion of those facilities. The Celanese Corp., for instance, plans to spend $40,000,000 for expansion purposes in Rock Hill, S. C.

While some of these expanding enterprises may be expected to remain within the bounds of the textile industry, others will sit on both sides of the line while still others, like the Jefferson Manufacturing Co., which is leasing 30,000 square feet of space in Spartanburg, S. C., for a dress-making plant, will be competing directly in the apparel market. Many of them, like Textron, Inc., are retaining Southern mill management personnel in their subsidiary set-ups. When Textron absorbed 12 mills in Charlotte and Anderson, S. C., it retained the general manager of those mills and their executive personnel in toto.

• • •

Ultimately, the fate of the integrated firms will be decided at the store counter by the consumer. But even before that happens the courts of the land may have something to say about the squeeze play that these giants are putting on the smaller textile producers and converters.

Earlier this month, Federal Judge William Bondy, in New York, refused to dismiss a treble damage suit brought by the Ronald Fabric Co. against the Verney Mills under the anti-trust laws. The case is expected to come to trial early next year.

The Ronald firm is a converter which feeds its product to the apparel trades. It had, during a five-year period, purchased an average of more than a half-million yards of rayon fabric a year, with the Cabot Manufacturing Co., Brunswick, Me., as its chief source of supply.

In 1943, the Cabot firm merged with the Verney outfit and after August of that year, it is charged, the Ronald firm found that the Cabot source had dried up. As a consequence, it was forced to curtail its operations to a substantial degree.

In court, the Ronald attorneys charged that the corporate and individual controllers of the Verney group had conspired to restrain interstate trade, had endeavored to stifle competition by acquiring control of the Cabot facilities and through that acquisition, had ...

KET

N

was considering the possible
apparel and textile industry
on among the textile mills.
h of wartime profits ample

the supply of rayon fabric to
Ronald firm.

• • •

udge Bondy in his opinion stated
t, under the Sherman Act, "any
mbination formed for the pur-
e of raising or fixing prices in
erstate commerce . . . is illegal
r se."

nce 1890, when the Sherman
became the law of the land,
anti-trust prescriptions have
led forth a mass of decisions. In
famous Danbury Hatters case,
Supreme Court, in 1908, held
t labor combinations came under
act. This marked a complete
rversion of the purpose of the
, measured by the legislative de-
e that had preceded its enact-
nt.

he history of organized labor's
tus under the anti-trust laws is
long and too involved for even
hort summary here. But it may
noted that the principle reiter-
d by Judge Bondy in the Verney
e was also invoked by the Sup-
ne Court in the Apex Hosiery
e in 1940, in which the court
d, in the words of Justice Stone,
t it "has never applied the
erman Act in any case, whether
not involving labor organizations
activities, unless the court was of
opinion that there was some
m of restraint upon commercial

mpetition in the marketing of
ods or services, and finally this
urt has refused to apply the Sher-
an Act in cases . . . in which local
rikes conducted by illegal means
a production industry prevented
terstate shipment of substantial
mounts of the product but in
hich it was not shown that the
strictions on shipments had oper-
d to restrain commercial com-
etition in some substantial way."
There are rumblings that may
e to clamorous proportions de-
anding that the anti-trust laws
gain be used as anti-labor wea-
ons. To repeat, the true purpose
these laws was never to limit
ther the scope, size or strength
the trade unions. Those who
ise their voices loudest now for
e courts to deny their judicial
ast in the interest of preserving
e free enterprise system they pro-
ss to love so much might all
e better ask that the anti-trust
ws be taken off the shelf in order
o checkmate the trends toward fin-
ncial and industrial monopolization
hich, it has been revealed by gov-
rnment studies, are the real danger
o our economic freedoms. But then,
all likelihood, they would not be
oming into court with clean hands.

THE RISE OF HENRY MORCAR. By Phyllis Bentley. The Macmillan Co. $3.

The British textile industry centering around West Riding provides the interesting background for Miss Bentley's chronicle of life in England in the years between 1890 and 1945. The story of Henry Morcar, son and grandson of cloth manufacturers, is the story of that industry. It is also, in a more general sense, Miss Bentley's estimate of the fate of England's middle class.

Morcar's career is made to cut across the various strata of British life. His social status changes as he rises from mill-hand to merchant prince and his changing attitude toward the social, industrial and political developments that occur

around him furnish an insight into recent British history.

For Americans these pages may provide a partial answer to the puzzle concerning the different ways in which the economic rulers of this nation and of England have met the problems of industrial growth and unrest.

For while it is true that Miss Bentley is here telling the story of one individual in terms of his personal fortunes and misfortunes, she skillfully weaves this account into a running backdrop of changing class relations that stretches from late Victorian concepts of laissez faire to visions of socialized or guild-like transformations of the national economy.

Morcar mellows with the years. In the days when England felt the murderous crash of Nazi bombs, Morcar took his place in the ranks of an embattled people. Yet as the backdrop shifts, Morcar makes the proper adjustments, even showing tolerance toward that final change which may deprive him of the power he wields in the industry he loves.

Miss Bentley tells the tale at a pace suited to the panorama of changing eras. Morcar is pictured as being as much a devotee of economic power as he is the servant of reason and the needs of public welfare. As an individual, he travels the path that has brought England to socialization without the accompaniment of the kind of industrial warfare that has been common in the United States.

If this novel seems a bit too loaded with sweetness and light, Miss Bentley herself provides a reassuring note of reality in her comment: "Some may think that Morcar in his last phase does not yet exist amongst West Riding manufacturers. For my part, however, I believe that numbers of him can be found."

PRIVATE ANGELO. By Eric Linklater. The Macmillan Co. $2.75.

It wasn't Angelo's fault that he lacked what he called the gift of courage, that quality of character essential for good soldiering. In the Tuscan hills surrounding his native Pontefiore, enjoyment of the fine

Walk Alone

By MAX PRESS

Thrown into the seething hive, we break
The bread of life with myriads more—
We walk their swarming roads and speak
Their tongue—are brought within life's war.
Each man is crowded through his little span—
He seeks his pleasures, pays his toll
With myriad others, yet each man
Within him has a lonely soul—
Lone as an eagle screaming on her height
In the last red flare of dying day,
Lone as a spirit in the night
That wanders trembling from its clay.
Out of the cells of flesh and bone,
We walk from birth to death alone.

and good things of life required no courage. And Angelo suffered from his preference for the good things rather than for glory.

His story, the tale of the eternal misfit, is told with a fine balance of ironic fantasy and accurate realism. Although both the characters and the plot are stylized by Mr. Linklater, he nevertheless produces some unforgettable pictures of the horrors of war.

The result is a highly interesting stereopticon effect that produces an added dimension by juxtaposing comic close-ups and philosophic ruminations. Angelo has some pertinent comments to make about a world in which he is not allowed to satisfy his hunger to work the land but finds himself fighting, in turn, under three different flags.

By perching himself upon a height, the author is able to write with a degree of detachment about events still smoldering with emotional heat. He is not, however, without compassion. The world in which Angelo is a misfit is all out of joint. His refusal to be other than what he is is worthy of great respect, for it requires a kind of courage far greater than that which Angelo protests he lacks.

What has happened to the American woman?

Before the war, we exulted in the leadership of American women in every movement for social betterment. During the preceding decade when, seemingly out of nowhere, issues which had been but vaguely sensed by the public suddenly emerged crystal clear, it was always a women's group which had actively participated in thrashing the matter out, in evolving a technique of presenting it to the public and then seeing it through to its legislative end. The women of the country

were doing a large share of the nation's thinking.

Today, with the moral responsibilities of citizenship far greater than at any previous time in our history, American women are contributing next to nothing to our changing social ideas. We are no longer in the forefront of social movements. Our voices, if heard at all, are muted. We seem to have nothing to say.

Yet was there ever a time when we who claim to be far-sighted were so desperately needed? The tremendous issues of the post-war period demand—each one of them—a clear statement of principle. But we remain silent. We relegate to "competent authority" decisions which will affect the whole future course of the nation. We do not even comment when the decisions made violate all that we have worked for.

Such seemingly distant matters as the treatment of refugees in Europe—whether they shall be left perpetually in the degraded status of "displaced persons" or returned to the countries they have learned to abhor, or simply left to fend for themselves, stateless and homeless—this is surely an issue over which we comfortably situated American women ought to be agitating. But we have done nothing except to let Eleanor Roosevelt voice sentiments at the United Nations in connection with which she cannot even be sure of our active backing. We have refused to think of Europe's refugees as people. It has been more convenient to classify them as a political problem — and to let others work out a solution.

• • •

Even before the war came to an end, we knew as mothers, not merely as citizens, that juvenile crime was becoming a grave problem. We did nothing about it and are doing nothing about it now except for an occasional exhortation at the local women's club even though it is our own sons and daughters who may next be affected. We kept quiet when the wartime recreation centers were closed. We have made no demands, at least not on a scale capable of arousing national sentiment, for reopening these centers or replacing them with other constructive outlets for our children's energies.

• • •

On the fundamental question of the relationship between the citizen and the state and the invasion upon the rights of organized labor, the women's organizations are saying nothing. How different this is from the days when the mass-production workers of the country were being brought into the trade unions. Then, our women's organizations almost unanimously served to protect our growing labor movement from slander and ignorance. The women's clubs gave active help in organizing, in fund raising, in building morale. Today, with the pressure against labor mounting higher by the moment, the women's clubs are silent—with one major exception. The president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs has urged, not for the first time, that the power of organized labor be restricted.

Whether or not she represents the sentiment of the nation's working women—which she does not—is beside the point. Here is the only voice being heard today, claiming to represent the woman's point of view. Her statements meet with no disavowal among the people in her organization. It is against the blank silence of the rest of American women that her opinions seem so authoritative.

What has happened to the American woman? Unless she soon awakens to her responsibility, she may some day soon be forced to ask: "What has happened to our country?"

"Lest We Forget"

THE SOUTHWEST

MEYER PERLSTEIN, Southwest Regional Director

St. Louis ILG Seeking Cloak, Dress Boosts

The request for wage increases for time-workers in St. Louis' cloak and dress industries has met with a favorable response from a number of firms, it is reported by Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein. The request for the increases was presented to the Associated Garment Industries of St. Louis several weeks ago.

A 10 per cent increase for cutters has been won at the Mary Muffet Dress Co., while the Zieser & Kling Cloak Co. has agreed to a similar boost for cutters and all other time-workers.

The majority of the members of the association, however, have not yet replied to the union's request. In stating its case for the increase, the union reviewed the facts establishing the need for such an adjustment of time-workers' earnings in order to enable them to meet rising living costs.

Representatives of time-workers in all cloak and dress shops in St. Louis met on Dec. 5 and designated committees for negotiating increases in each shop. The union has announced its intention of bringing the matter to a board of arbitration, as provided in the collective agreement, if the increase campaign encounters further delays.

Cotton Garment Demands

The "escalator" clause in the agreements with seven cotton garment firms in St. Louis has been invoked in a request by the union that wage increases be granted to week-workers and piece-workers to balance the rising cost of living. Other improvements are also being sought.

The seven firms include the Rhoades Manufacturing Co., Marden Classics, Novelty Frocks, Eleanor Frocks, Dale Sportswear Co., Solomon Manufacturing Co. and Wildman Manufacturing Co.

Dorsa Case to Arbiters

The board of arbitration set up under terms of the agreement with the St. Louis dress and cloak manufacturers will meet on Dec. 15 and 16 to rule on the lock-out of workers by the Dorsa Dress Co. at its plant in Cape Girardeau, Mo. The firm is a member of the St. Louis employers' association.

The board of arbitration is comprised of George Rozier, former Missouri State Senator, Dr. Sumner Slichter, professor of economics at Harvard University, and Dr. Franc L. McCluer, president of Westminster College, Fulton, Mo.

Weil Denied Injunction

The request of the Paul K. Weil Co. for an injunction to restrain the ILGWU from picketing its plant was denied on Dec. 3 by the Circuit Court of St. Louis.

Picket lines were thrown around the plant by Local 182 after the firm had refused to establish wage and working conditions similar to those prevailing in other shops in the industry.

Local 473 Officers

Local 473, St. Louis, a newly formed local comprised of workers employed by the Lang-Kohn Co., last month elected the following officers: Raymond Culli president; Harry Nuslock vice president; Marie Topel financial secretary; Loretta Kutrip recording secretary; Melvin Vogt sergeant-at-arms; Sylvia Cordia, Irene Diesel, Myrtle Hendrix, Amanda Richter, Katherine Riesso and Hazel Stranger members of the executive board.

St. Louis Health Center Negotiates for Building

A Union Health Center for St. Louis garment workers came a step closer to completion last month when the owner of a building on Lindell Boulevard accepted the offer of the Joint Administrative Committee of the St. Louis Health Fund to purchase it for use as a clinic.

The committee decided to purchase the building only after a long search for suitable space to be leased for health center purposes proved fruitless.

The Lindell Boulevard structure is located on one of the city's finest thoroughfares. It is a corner building three floors high, in colonial style.

Texas ILG Secures Pact Renewals and Rate Adjustments

The renewed agreement signed by the Sue-Ann Manufacturing Co., Dallas, Tex., last month features a second week of vacation with pay for workers employed at least five years. In addition, it provides wage increases, a number of paid holidays and higher minimum wage scales for all workers.

The pact was negotiated by Manager Ray Hagerty.

Texas Tiny Frocks Pact

An agreement covering the Texas Tiny Frocks Co., San Antonio, a new firm manufacturing children's dresses, was signed on Dec. 2. Rebecca Taylor, manager of the San Antonio Joint Board, negotiated.

San Antonio Piece-Rates

Arrangements have been made with the San Antonio garment manufacturers' association to have Joseph Trubin of the ILGWU Management - Engineering Department spend several weeks studying methods in the San Antonio plants. Trubin will supervise the installation of new techniques for the adjustment of piece-rates.

STREAMLINE'S PACT LIFTS PAY, VACATION

Substantial gains for the workers employed by the Streamline Manufacturing Co., West Frankfort, Ill., are contained in a new agreement negotiated between the union and the firm on Dec. 3. The agreement provides standard minimum wage rates for all workers, establishes an equitable method for adjusting piece-rates, sets up annual vacations with pay and includes an "escalator" clause calling for periodic wage adjustments.

Negotiations were conducted by Frank Rother of the Southwest District staff and Harry Rufer of the Midwest District office.

Local 471 Elections

The Streamline Manufacturing workers are members of Local 471 which last month elected the following officers:

Anne DeArmond president and shop chairlady; Myrtle Wagoner vice president; Neva Combs secretary; Caroline Joplin sergeant-at-arms; Pat Steyer, Helen Vina, Beulah Culpepper, Martha Miller and Lora Haskett members of the executive board; Verbal Ing, Ann Buck, Sybil Franko and Lora Haskett members of the shop committee.

Mode O'Day Rise In 2 Kansas Plants; Laffoon Signs Pact

Agreement on substantial wage increases and higher minimum wage rates was reached with representatives of the Mode O'Day plants in Chanute and Ottawa, Kans., at a conference on Nov. 28.

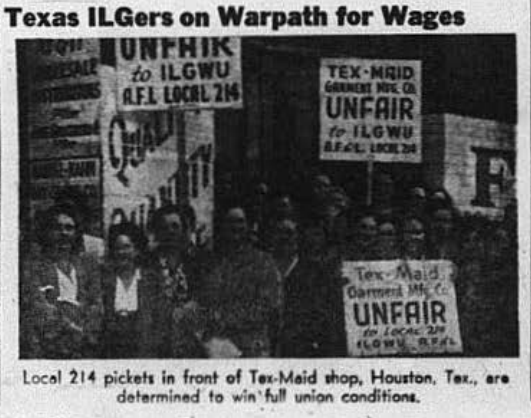
The new terms are the result of extended negotiations that began when the union invoked an "escalator" clause in the agreement. Sam White, Elizabeth Kimmel and Maudrea Montgomery represented the Southwest District in the Mode O'Day negotiations.

A union agreement has been signed by the Laffoon Manufacturing Co., Kansas City, Mo., a new firm. The agreement was negotiated by Sam White, manager of the Kansas City Joint Board.

K S K Fashions Chairlady Is Reinstated by Arbiter

The impartial chairman of the Twin Cities dress industry last week ruled that Mrs. Josephine Larson, shop chairlady at the K S K Fashions Co., Minneapolis, Minn., was unjustly discharged and therefore must be reinstated and paid $70 as compensation for time lost. The arbitration proceedings were instituted by Michael Finkelstein, manager of the Twin Cities Joint Board.

Texas ILGers on Warpath for Wages



Local 214 pickets in front of Tex-Maid shop, Houston, Tex., are determined to win full union conditions.

'First Voters'—But ILGWU Old-Timers

After being out of ILGWU for 14 years, workers at the recently reorganized Lang-Kohn Co., St. Louis, cast ballots in their first local election since returning to union ranks. (See story.)

Perlstein Proposes Industry Planning To Curb Reconversion Unemployment

The full impact of reconversion changes has been felt by the garment industry in the Southwest District in recent weeks, according to Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein. As the industry finds itself freed from OPA regulations and other restrictions on schedules and production techniques, firms are seeking to adapt themselves to the long-awaited post-war conditions. A significant difference, explained Perlstein, is to be seen in the transition being made by firms that are well established and those that have only recently come into existence.

Summing up a survey on the subject by the Southwest District staff, Perlstein revealed that "for the most part, the older firms, having experienced changes in the past, are more readily prepared to deal with those in the present. They have drawn on past lessons in deciding how to change pace, when to pull in the reins and how to modify production and sales methods that were in continuous effect in recent years.

"By the same token," said Perlstein, "the newcomers to the industry appear to be a bewildered lot. They drifted into the industry on the wave of the wartime prosperity; they had no backlog of experience and, in many cases, were interested only in the chance to make a 'killing.' Mistaking the eagerness with which a garment-hungry market seized their product for ingenuity on their part in making and selling dresses, they are now perplexed by the changes with which they must deal.

"When OPA ceilings were lifted, the older firms began to plan immediately for expansion of the number of price lines they produce, a step which they were prohibited from making under government limitations.

"On the other hand, most of the newcomers, who found it easier to build from the ground up by circumscribing the scope of their production, now realize that they lack either the design creativeness or sales resources—or both—that is required for the kind of expansion being put through by the older firms."

Perlstein admitted that these generalizations do not hold true in all cases. "Among those that are falling by the wayside," he said, "there are both newcomers unable to maneuver in a changing market and a good number of old-timers who let themselves be fooled into unpreparedness and now find themselves holding large stocks of high-priced cloth dresses that do not move."

Turning to the labor side of the picture, Perlstein pointed out that these dislocations in the ranks of management are reflected almost at once in a substantial decrease in employment that finds many garment workers in the Southwest District working only part time. He added that the situation is further aggravated by material shortages in both cloak and dress shops.

"As the wave of wartime 'prosperity' recedes, the penalty for the anarchic production of garments is revealed more and more clearly," concluded Perlstein's comments on the reconversion survey. "The garment industry has survived many changes in the past and will survive many more in the future. But if any single lesson is to be learned from the record of the industry, it is this — planning can minimize the impact of these changes, an impact which is felt by all factors in the industry, but most sharply by the workers."

Co-Ed Frock, Items Renew Agreements With Wage Boosts

Higher minimum wage rates, wage increases and improved paid vacation benefits have been won for workers employed by the Co-Ed Frocks Co., in Assumption and Whitehall, and by Items, Inc., in Belleville, Ill.

The agreements covering the two Co-Ed plants were reached on Dec. 5 and cover both time-workers and piece-workers.

The Items pact also covers all workers and, in addition, provides six holidays with pay. Effective as of Oct. 1, 1946, it was negotiated for the union by Esther Smith of the Southwest District staff.

Mt. Vernon Parleys

Negotiations for a wage increase and other improvements are continuing with the Mount Vernon Garment Co., Mount Vernon, Ill. The negotiating committee of the union found the increase offered by the firm at a conference on Dec. 2 unacceptable.

Two New Agreements Get the Okay

Employers, union officers and workers' committees met this month at New York headquarters of Northeast Department to put final touches on new agreements at Lady Jane and Plymouth shops in Mount Carmel, Pa.

Archer Rubber 10% Increase Shared in True Union Spirit

An impressive display of union spirit highlighted the renewal of the agreement with the Archer Rubber Co., Milford, Mass., last week when, in determining the allocation of the 10 per cent general increase won by the pact, the higher-paid workers decided that those in the lower earning brackets should receive a proportionately larger share of the wage boost.

This action was accompanied by expressions of strong satisfaction by the membership, at a meeting which ratified the agreement, over the notable improvements achieved by the Archer workers since their affiliation with the ILGWU.

The renewed contract, which was signed after protracted negotiations with the firm, provides for the adjustment of wage inequities and for five legal holidays with pay, in addition to the 10 per cent boost. The increase is retroactive to Oct. 1.

Employing nearly 700 workers, the Archer Rubber Co. is one of the major firms in the rainwear industry. The Archer workers had an independent union for several years before affiliating with the ILGWU.

Field Supervisor Jack Halpern, who headed the union's negotiating group in working out the renewed agreement, pointed out that the Archer workers had set a precedent by winning five paid holidays where there had formerly been no benefits of this type.

As a result of the decision of the higher-paid workers, the share of the lower-paid groups in the new increase is substantially above the 10 per cent mark.

"When the Archer workers entered the ranks of the ILGWU," declared Supervisor Halpern, "we promised that they would definitely improve their opportunities. The provisions of the renewed agreement are evidence of that guarantee. Their action in sharing the increase is an extraordinary example of union maturity and fraternal spirit."

The negotiating committee, in addition to Supervisor Halpern, included Manager Henry Brides, George Roewer, ILGWU attorney, George Fitzpatrick, president of Local 257, Hubert Holland, Herbert Picard, Harold Cox and Edward Byron.

Friedman Workers Win 15% Increases

The 54 workers at the Sol Friedman shop, Bristol, Pa., slip manufacturers, have won wage increases as high as 15 per cent, it is announced by Manager Ada Rose.

The increases were negotiated on the basis of the "escalator" clause in the contract.

Sterling Mills to Give Substantial Bonus Sums

Higher minimums and substantial bonus payments to all workers at the Sterling Mills, Ilion, N. Y., have been won through a supplementary agreement signed last week, it is announced by Manager Max Wexler.

LOWELL ILG SIGNS UP THREE MORE PLANTS

About 400 garment workers in Lowell, Mass., have won important gains, including higher minimums, wage increases and improved working conditions, at three newly organized shops.

Middlesex Spinning Co. The agreement with this firm provides for a minimum wage rate of 75 cents an hour, increases as high as 18 cents an hour, a number of legal holidays with pay and a health and vacation fund. The firm employs 130 workers.

Synthetic Yarns, Inc. Union provisions at this plant, which employs 240 workers, include a minimum wage rate of 70 cents an hour, increases ranging up to 12 cents per hour, several legal holidays with pay, a health and vacation fund and an "escaltor" clause allowing for a reopening of wage negotiations within three months.

Lowell Dress Co. The union pact with this firm, employing 30 workers, establishes better working conditions, a series of legal holidays with pay and a 5 per cent health and vacation fund.

The campaigns that brought these firms into the union fold were directed by General Organizer Ralph Roberts with a staff including Henry Healey, Luke Leoutsacos and John Gargan.

Negotiations for the new contracts were conducted by Manager Thomas P. Ahearn with the assistance of Benjamin Healey and Burt Hyman of the United Textile Workers of America, AFL.

Piecework Shift Advancing Despite Employers' Tactics

Despite varying degrees of employer resistance, the Northeast Department is making steady headway in bringing about the transfer of week-work shops to a piece-work basis, according to a statement issued by Vice Pres. David Gingold last week.

"All shops in our jurisdiction which operate under contractual relations with the New York Dress Joint Board must, in conformity with the Dress Joint Board agreement, convert to a piece-work system if they are not already on such a basis, and we intend to see to it that this is done with the least possible delay," declared Gingold.

The union's chief obstacle in carrying out this task, he said, arises from the desire of "less reputable" contractors to take advantage of the present slack period as a pretense for stalling the conversion to a piece-work basis. Gingold said that such practices were most conspicuous in the Allentown area.

"These unscrupulous employers cannot long succeed in depriving our members of the opportunity for higher earnings inherent in the piece-work system," he stated.

According to Gingold, firms with a "true sense of responsibility" are cooperating with the union in shifting over to piece-work. He cited the two David Crystal shops, located in Reading and Trumbauersville, as examples of a willing and friendly spirit by management in improving the earning capacity of workers.

Amalgamated Snags ILG Election Bid at Textron, Greenwich

The ILGWU petition for a National Labor Relations Board election at the Textron Corp. plant in Greenwich, R. I., was blocked last week at a preliminary NLRB hearing when the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO, and the Textron management refused to accede to a consent election. As a result, a further NLRB hearing on the ILGWU petition has been scheduled for next month.

At the preliminary hearing, held in Boston, Mass., the ILGWU was represented by Supervisor William Ross, Manager Rose Travis and a committee of active union members employed in the Greenwich plant.

The organizational campaign among the Textron workers in Greenwich is being conducted by Organizer Louis Peters.

NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT

DAVID GINGOLD, Director

Allentown ILG Health Center To Open Its Doors Next June

Final arrangements for the establishment of a Union Health Center to serve the 6,000 ILGWU members in the Allentown and Easton areas have been completed, it is announced by Welfare Supervisor William Ross. The institution is expected to be in full operation by June 1, 1947.

A long-term rental arrangement for an entire building located in the business section of Allentown has been agreed upon and alterations, including the construction of an additional wing to the building, are already in blueprint stages. An application has been submitted to the Civilian Production Administration and a favorable decision is expected shortly. Construction of the health center will begin as soon as the application is approved.

"We hope to have the construction work well under way before winter weather arrives," stated Supervisor Ross.

The committee that selected the building and worked out the major features of the undertaking included Grace Sardegna, manager of the Easton District, and Sol Greene, manager of the Allentown District.

The Lehigh County Medical Association, at a meeting last week, gave its approval of the union's health project. Dr. Morris Parmet, medical director of the Union Health Center, is now organizing a staff of physicians, nurses and laboratory technicians.

The projected set-up of the Allentown Health Center was fashioned after close study of the ILG clinics functioning in Fall River, Mass., and other cities.

SCRANTON ILG BOWS WITH 2-ACT COMEDY

A capacity audience of 2,000 union members and friends filled the Masonic Temple, Scranton, Pa., on Nov. 23 when the newly formed Scranton ILGWU dramatic group made its bow with a presentation of "Three Bright Girls."

Every member of the cast was a garment worker and member of the ILGWU. They included Rosalie Duvall, Mary Zalesky, Helen Kowalski, Marie Sohocki, Mary Pirino, Mary Stern Stadnitski, Josephine Borys and Gertrude Quick.

A two-act comedy by Richard H. Wilkinson, the play was directed by Paul W. Hettes, a member of the faculty of the North Scranton Junior High School.

Following the performance, Business Agent Amelia Merva presented prizes to the winners of an essay contest conducted by the ILGWU on "What the Union Means to Me." Brief addresses were delivered by Organizer William Matheson, Hugh S. Maloney, director of the Scranton health and welfare fund, and Manager Enzo Grassi, who promised continued union support for the dramatic group's activities.

Other speakers included Mayor James T. Hanlon and representatives of the Central Labor Unions of Scranton and Carbondale.

The evening's program wound up with a dance in the Masonic Temple ballroom.

Just Before the Curtain Rose

Before curtain time at Scranton District Council presentation of "Three Bright Girls," District Manager Enzo Grassi, who was connected with "Pins and Needles," famous ILGWU musical comedy, gives members of the cast last-minute check-up on cues. (See story.)

Notes from PHILADELPHIA

Local 45 Meeting

At the recent membership meeting of Local 45, Business Agent Max Segal gave a comprehensive report of conditions prevailing in the trade. He further reported on the recent increases obtained in all of the pressing departments.

The meeting was held at union headquarters, with Abe Stein presiding.

Nathan Greenberg was elected acting secretary of the local in place of Samuel Root, who is ill.

Chorus Rehearsals

Members wishing to sing with the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board Chorus are invited to attend rehearsals on Tuesdays at 6 P.M. Thelma Davis, chor director, has announced that auditions are still being conducted.

Rehearsals are held in the Council Room at union headquarters, 128 North 10th St.

Phoebe Morris Now 81

Still actively engaged as an operator at the Nalibotsky shop, Phoebe Morris celebrated her 81st birthday last month. Her co-workers honored her with a shop party at which she was presented with flowers and a gift. According to the records, she hasn't missed a day's work in the last few years.

Female Pressers' Welfare

More than 100 shop chairladies and shop committee members of the female branch of Local 45, Dress Pressers, discussed ways and means of replenishing the local's welfare fund at a meeting last month. One of the suggested projects was to sponsor an annual affair with the proceeds earmarked for welfare purposes. With Gertrude Dixon presiding, Nora Johnson presented recommendations of the executive committee.

I.L.G.W.U. EDUCATION

ILG Officer Candidates Study Constitution, Public Relations

Members of the Officers Qualification Course, well past the midway mark in their training sessions, heard several major ILGWU functionaries describe various basic aspects of union duties and activities during classes in the last two weeks. They learned of the ILGWU's public relations policy, the development of the union's constitution, the role played by the General Executive Board and the tasks of a business agent in the New York dress industry.

In the Monday night section of the course devoted to "Structure and Functioning of the ILGWU," Frederick P. Umhey, executive secretary of the union, appeared on Dec. 2 to explain the laws of the ILGWU, while on Dec. 9, Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, a member of the General Executive Board for the last decade, outlined the operations of this top body of the ILGWU.

In the Tuesday night class on "Trade Union Techniques," Jennie Silverman, business agent of the Dress Joint Board, discussed the activities of that union officer on Dec. 3, followed on Dec. 10 by Max D. Danish, editor of "Justice," who analyzed the background and methods of the ILGWU's publicity program.

ILG Constitution Flexible

"The ILGWU Constitution is a vital and flexible document," said Secretary Umhey, "and its constant revision indicates that the union is a live and growing organization." He showed that in 1937, for example, the constitution had received a thorough overhauling to make it conform with the vast expansion of the ILGWU during that period. Revisions were also made on the basis of experience with the Death Benefit Fund, he said.

The Convention Committee on Law, he pointed out, is the group which studies any proposed revisions submitted by individual members, locals or General Executive Board members; then the committee presents the proposal, together with its recommendation on the matter to the ILGWU Convention for final action. Between conventions, he said, the GEB is empowered to interpret the articles of the ILGWU Constitution, subject to appeal by member or local to the convention itself.

GEB Shapes ILG Policies

Vice Pres. Zimmerman detailed the activities of a number of the sub-committees within the GEB, showing how they shape the policies of major ILGWU divisions, including the Education Department, the Auditing Department, the Union Health Center and the Death Benefit Fund.

In addition, he outlined the more general work of the GEB, including various community enterprises such as donations to charity, participation in the AFL and activity on the political front. "Since our union is now a nationally recognized institution, we must keep it active in public life," Zimmerman declared.

Business Agent's Tasks

Business Agent Silverman emphasized that the business agent's task is to carry out the contract in the shops. Recounting some of her experiences, she said that a business agent must be not only an ambassador, negotiator, mediator, arbitrator and adjuster, but a salesman, social worker, lawyer and detective as well.

To a thorough knowledge of the industry and the contract, she said, the business agent must add an understanding of the psychology of the worker, since helping people get along together is a major part of the business agent's job.

ILG Highly Publicized

"The ILGWU today is one of the best publicized institutions in America, known from coast to coast," declared Danish. "This is due not only to the skill of the ILGWU publicity staff but also to the fact that our union constantly originates features and angles which enable us to bring the facts before the public. We have a real story to 'sell' to the newspapers."

Referring to general aspects of the public relations work of the labor movement, Danish said: "Gradually as the body of labor has grown, those upon whom this duty devolved have come to realize that they were not operating in a social and economic vacuum but as part and parcel of the community. They saw that labor need not and should not abdicate public opinion to the other side—that by presenting its own case clearly and simply it could win the public's ear and sympathy."

The quality of labor news in the daily press is improving year by year, Danish said. He stated that though labor was at first ignored and then viewed as a menace, it has now reached a stage in which it is partly feared and partly respected but seldom disregarded.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Saturday Visits to Points of Interest

Dec. 28 at 2 P.M. Hayden Planetarium, 81st St. and Central Park West. (Take 8th Ave. subway to "Museum" station or Broadway subway to 79th St.) "The Christmas Star" in sight and sound.

"MUST THE U.S. HAVE DEPRESSION?" TOPIC OF PANEL ON JAN. 18

"Must We Have a Depression?"—that is the topic chosen by the ILG Educational Department for its mid-winter panel discussion to be held on Jan. 18.

Among the outstanding educators who have been invited to participate in this symposium on the future of the nation's economy are Dr. Thomas Norton, dean of the City College School of Business, Dr. Albert G. Hart and Dr. Carter Goodrich of the Columbia University Department of Economics, and Dr. Harry J. Carman, dean of Columbia College.

Regarded as one of the major events on the ILGWU Educational Department's winter calendar, the panel discussion will be free to the public but admission will be by card only due to the limited seating capacity of the ILGWU Studios, where the program will take place. These cards are available on request at the office of the ILGWU Educational Department.

ILG Fellowship Reunion

The annual reunion of the ILG Student Fellowship will be held following the panel discussion on Jan. 18. According to the Arrangements Committee, the program will include a one-act play, songs especially prepared for the occasion, dancing and refreshments. There will be a 50-cent admission charge to help defray expenses. Reservations should be made immediately with members of the Student Fellowship.

Educational Center Shifting Spotlight To Labor's Outlook

On Dec. 19, Dr. Broadus Mitchell, economic consultant of the ILGWU Research Department, will describe the work of his agency in aiding the union to achieve continued gains for its members. Following the Christmas holidays, Dr. Theresa Wolfson of Brooklyn College will discuss "The Outlook for Labor" at meetings on Jan. 9 and 16.

The ILGWU Educational-Recreational Center meets at 6:30 P.M. every Thursday at Textile High School, West 18th St., between 8th and 9th Aves. However, sessions will recess for the Christmas period.

Trials and Triumphs of a Business Agent

Members of ILGWU Officers Qualification Course hear Jennie Silverman (left), business agent of Dress Joint Board, reveal problems and satisfactions of serving on union staff.

LIFE with SCIENCE

By DOROTHY LIEBERMAN

UNDERSTANDING OUR EMOTIONS *(last of a series)*

One of my readers has sent me the following comment:

"In your column on the play, 'Born Yesterday,' you failed to give the real reason why the girl left the rich man. I think she left him because she fell in love with the other man. Don't you think that the instinct of love is stronger than the instinct for possessions?"

There seems to be considerable difference of opinion on the subject, if we are to judge by popular proverbs. According to a French saying: It's love that makes the world go round." But another proverb — of unknown origin — says: "When poverty comes in at the door, love creeps out of the window."

Love Wonderful But—

While I do not wish to minimize the power of love as a driving force in human behavior, yet I cannot completely agree with the French. We still do not know enough about the fundamental drives which make people do the things they do. Our motives are often complicated and our emotions are mixed.

Let us look at the simplest pattern of human behavior, a very young infant, interested only in food and sleep — at least, so we think. But psychologists tell us that almost as soon as a baby is born he wants to be not only alive but kicking. He wants to move his arms and legs freely. If anyone tries to prevent him, the baby gets very angry and yells as loud as he can. When he is hungry or physically uncomfortable he also gets angry and cries.

We have evidence that this behavior is due to anger not only because he makes sad faces and yells, but because his muscles become tense, his heart beats faster, his blood pressure shoots up and he gets red in the face. On the other hand, when an infant is properly fed and made comfortable, when his appetitive drives are satisfied, his physical symptoms of anger disappear. The infant is relaxed and shows pleasure by smiling and cooing. Often an infant will stop crying when his mother picks him up and fondles him. Apparently he feels pleasure when his skin is stroked.

Fear, anger and love appear to be the fundamental emotional drives we are born with. But the channels through which these drives can express themselves are very numerous. Love can express itself as a desire for social approval or as self-pity; anger can express itself in fighting social evils or in bitter resentment.

To make a small child socially acceptable his parents train him to associate a sense of shame or a sense of guilt with the things they do not want him to do. On the other hand, they make him "feel good" when he does the things that they want him to do. In this way, he learns to associate pleasant or unpleasant emotions with almost everything he does. By the time he grows up, he has acquired a long list of emotional attitudes which are a powerful force in making him do the things he does.

Behavior Blockages

Our emotions can become so powerful as to block our reason.

The greatest progress made by psychologists has been to prove that many of our conflicts, frustrations and miseries arise from emotional blocks — and that these blocks can be removed through emotional reconditioning.

We must learn to understand our own behavior. We must learn to know what it is that makes us feel "touchy" and irritable. Then we must try to do something about it — either change the tension-producing situation or change our emotional attitude towards it.

UNION HEALTH CENTER

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

The Union Health Center would like to urge the managers of the locals as well as the officials in charge of health funds to inform their members on the proper procedure for obtaining eyeglasses. We have and are doing all we possibly can to give them the information they need. Many members are still being told that all they need to do is to come to the Union Health Center, present their medical certificates and get glasses. They say that they receive instructions to this effect from their managers, business agents or shop chairmen. Regardless of the source of such information, however, it is not so. The Union Health Center, as already reported, no longer operates an Optical Department.

Even though the reasons for discontinuing the Optical Department have been announced in several ways, there still seems to be much confusion in the minds of patients and union personnel on this matter. Perhaps the best thing to do is to repeat what we said in a previous issue—and urge all concerned to try to understand the new procedure in connection with eyeglasses:

"Members of the ILGWU and patients of the Union Health Center are hereby advised that the Optical Department—where their eyeglasses were made—has been discontinued. From now on they can have their prescriptions for eyeglasses filled by whatever optician they themselves may choose.

"However, the Eye Department continues to function as heretofore. Our specialists will continue to examine and treat all eye conditions, prescribing eyeglasses and care for patients as they have always done. The only change, so far as the patient is concerned, is that the Union Health Center will no longer fill such prescriptions. Everything else pertaining to the Eye Department remains the same — except that henceforth the Union Health Center will not be responsible for the quality of the glasses or for the kind of frame the patient chooses."

CUTTERS COLUMN

LOCAL 10

ISIDORE NAGLER, Manager

Whatever misgivings there may be as to the surrounding circumstances, the ending of the coal strike has brought a deep sense of relief to the entire country. This feeling was fully shared by all factors in the apparel industry, which would have been hard hit by the general freight embargo ordered by the Office of Defense Transportation, the effect of which might have been to stop deliveries of materials to the factories.

The Post Office Department ban on domestic parcel post packages over five pounds would have seriously interfered with the shipment of finished garments to retail establishments. Moreover, had the wheels of industry ground to a halt and factories all over the nation shut down, the garment industry would have been quick to feel the effect. All these dire consequences would have come on top of a situation in which the industry was already experiencing a sudden lull in activity resulting from a period of unseasonably warm weather, the uncertainty attending abandonment of price control and, above all, the diversion of a larger part of the consumer dollar into higher living costs and the increasing supply of durable goods.

Our gratification at the ending of the coal strike is, of course, tempered by a sober realization of the grave implications of the government's action in resorting to an injunction and the imposition of penalties on the United Mine Workers, and also the lesson which organized labor may learn from this portentous episode. It calls for searching analysis, for only through reason and reflection can labor find the path to wise, constructive action and steady progress.

In the meantime, let us hope that the miners will in due course obtain satisfaction of their just grievances.

Increases on All Fronts

Meanwhile, in the garment industry the effort to bring wages into line with higher living costs is proceeding in a spirit of mutual accommodation and peaceful adjustment of differences—the product of years of successful labor-management relationships.

As reported in the last issue of "Justice," wage increases have been obtained for over 2,000 cutters in the cloak, undergarment and children's dress industries. Since then, over 300 additional cutters employed in the sportwear industry have been granted a $7 flat increase on top of present weekly wages effective the week beginning Dec. 16. This favorable outcome was obtained without resorting to prolonged arbitration proceedings.

At present, conferences are in progress with employers in the corset and brassiere and snowsuit industries in connection with the union's request for wage increases under the "escalator" clauses in the collective agreements. In the dress and blouse industries, negotiations are under way for renewal of agreements which will expire at the end of the year. Here, too, wage increases head the list of union demands.

ATTENTION
Members
LOCAL 10

REGULAR MEETING
Monday,
Jan. 27, 1947
Right After Work
MANHATTAN CENTER
34th St. & 8th Ave.

Sam Shore Mourned

The sudden death of Vice Pres. Samuel Shore removes from the scene one of the ablest officials of the ILGWU. He was a pioneer builder of Local 62, leading the undergarment workers successfully through many struggles toward higher wages and working conditions. Officials of Local 10 who participated with Shore in negotiating agreements in the various branches of the underwear industry always found him eager to help in a spirit of brotherly cooperation.

Local 10 joins in mourning the loss of this devoted leader whose contribution to our movement will ever remain green in our memory.

Increase Due on Dec. 16 —If Not, Notify Local 10

Members of Local 10 working in coat and suit and sportswear shops are entitled to receive a $7 weekly wage increase, and children's dress cutters a $6 weekly wage increase, effective the week beginning Dec. 16.

If any cutter encounters difficulty in obtaining these increases, he is requested to get in touch with Local 10 at once.

CLOAK EOT

GEORGE RUBIN, MANAGER

The cloak industry has just emerged from a season that was none too favorable. This was due to a series of complex and unexpected factors that deterred consumers from making normal purchases of garments — the warm weather, the scrapping of price controls and the mounting cost of living. In addition, there has been a shortage of materials.

However, the outlook for the coming season is much more promising. According to all present indications, work will be abundant and steady in all Cloak Division shops.

Prices for the spring season are now being settled, and a number of shops are already engaged in spring production. Within the next few weeks all our shops should be in full swing on spring work.

Increases in Effect

The wage increases awarded last month by the impartial chairman of the coat and suit industry will go into effect the week beginning Dec. 16. These are substantial increases and should certainly help to offset the rising cost of living. All members of the Cloak Division employed in shops producing coats and suits are now entitled to increases according to the following schedule:

Week-workers: Cutters, operators, pressers, finishers and sample tailors—$7; examiners — $6; finishers' helpers—$5; floor workers—$3.

Piece-workers: In all crafts—$5.

Although no difficulty is expected in adjusting wages along these lines, all members who fail to receive their proper increase should get in touch with the union at once. The matter will be straightened out as soon as possible.

Christmas Gifts

The Cloak Division's annual Christmas season practices have had to be modified somewhat this year—but not in the wrong direction. Heretofore, the union has followed the custom of holding banquets in all olcals as well as distributing gifts to executive board members and shop chairladies. This year, it has been decided to continue the gifts but to omit the banquets and devote the cost of such affairs to relief purposes.

This move is prompted only by the union's desire to assist the helpless and impoverished who, without this act of good will on our part, might have no Christmas at all. We are sure that everyone concerned will understand the union's motives in eliminating the banquets and approve of the use to which the funds will be put.

The hunger and hopelessness that face these people can never be ignored. We must continue to help.

NAGLER LAUDED FOR CLOAK WAGE AWARD

Leaders of the Cloak Joint Board gave a testimonial luncheon in honor of Acting General Manager Isidore Nagler on Dec. 5 at the Hotel Astor to signify their appreciation of his presentation of the union's case before Impartial Chairman Charles Poletti, during the hearings on the cloakmakers' wage demands.

In addition to speeches praising Nagler's skillful handling of the case, resolutions of appreciation were read from the executive boards of the several Cloak Joint Board locals.

In his address, Nagler credited the solidarity and strength of the cloakmakers for the victory achieved. He reviewed the growth of the union under the leadership of Abraham Rosenberg, Benjamin Schlesinger, Herman Grossman, Morris Sigman and Morris Hillquit, pointing out that the structure and tradition set by these pioneers had proven their worth through the years.

Nagler also stressed the power of public opinion, and explained that a major factor in the ILGWU's high repute was its practice, throughout its long career of collective bargaining, of carefully acquainting the public with the issues in question. He urged the entire labor movement of the country to improve its public relations policies.

At the outset of the luncheon, the Cloak Joint Board leaders and their guests rose and stood in silence in memory of Vice Pres. Samuel Shore, manager of Local 62, Undergarment Workers.

N. Y. CLOAKMAKERS

CLOAK JOINT BOARD

Cloak Pension Rules Eased Until Quotas Are Filled Up

Until the present unfilled quota for retiring cloakmakers is completed, applications for retirement prior to July 1, 1947, are being accepted, it is announced by the Retirement Fund office. This step was taken in accordance with an amendment to the rules and regulations of the Retirement Fund, unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees last week.

Prior to this amended procedure, workers desiring to receive old age pensions between July 1, 1946, and June 30, 1947, had been required to file applications between Jan. 1, 1946, and March 31, 1946. Those desiring to retire between July 1, 1947, and June 30, 1948 had been required to file applications between Jan. 1, 1947, and March 31, 1947.

Under the new arrangements, a cloakmaker may file an application at any time after these dates if the scheduled quota of eligibles has not been exhausted. It is announced that applicants who wish to retire prior to July 1, 1947, may file applications with their locals and that these applications will be acted upon immediately by the Pension Committee.

Manager Herbert Zame has requested all locals to "note that under the new rule, the number of applications which may be accepted, between now and the time when the regular application period goes into effect, is limited to the unfilled portion of the quota for the first retirement period as set by the Board of Trustees."

Local 117 to Retain Sick Benefits Plus Jt. Bd. Health Fund

The sick benefit fund of Local 117, Cloak Operators, will be continued intact, with its benefits added to those offered by the health fund of the Cloak Joint Board, as the result of a decision adopted at a general membership meeting of Local 117 on Dec. 2 at Manhattan Center.

Among other major matters taken up at the meeting was a report on the industrial situation by Manager Benjamin Kaplan. He made a special plea that workers refrain from seeking changes in their jobs as a means of preventing any misunderstanding with employers. He completed this plea with a warning to members not to permit employers to take advantage of slack conditions by steps toward the reduction of existing standards. In summing up his report, Kaplan explained that the prospects of a turn for the better were distinctly favorable.

The report of the raises received through the Impartial Chairman's award, to begin on Dec. 16, was unanimously approved by the membership. Detailed instructions were given on how the decision affected piece-workers, raising their overtime wages from $1.06 to $1.27 an hour.

LOCAL 35 FORESEES QUALITY GARB TREND

A comprehensive analysis of current and coming trends in the cloak market was presented by Manager Joseph Breslaw at a general membership meeting of Local 35, Cloak Pressers, on Dec. 4 at the Hotel Diplomat.

In discussing the present slack season in the trade, Breslaw pointed out that this condition was not confined to the cloak field but was affecting the entire country, particularly the light industries. He said that a number of complex factors, rather than any one particular cause, were responsible for the situation, and emphasized the part played by the abolition of OPA controls and the sky-rocketing of prices.

Manager Breslaw expressed the opinion that the trend to better merchandise by the American consumer would continue. He predicted an increasing production of gabardines, covert clothes and tunics with flares in the cloak line.

The Impartial Chairman's decision to raise wages to meet the rise in the cost of living was handed down on the one condition, Breslaw said, that the union would keep its membership disciplined and avoid wildcat stoppages. He stressed the importance of living up to this obligation in good faith.

Referring to the increases, Breslaw said they would begin on Dec. 16, above the prices settled on the garments. Wherever new styles are made, he pointed out, price settlements would be based on the work involved.

The executive board of Local 35 brought in a recommendation for the following wage raises to the union's personnel — $15 for the manager, $7 for the business agents and $5 for the office staff, to begin on Dec. 16 simultaneously with the raises in the industry. To cover the increased expenditure, which will amount to between $6,000 and $7,000 a year, it was proposed that dues be increased a nickel a week. This recommendation was warmly adopted by the membership.

Three Gorgeous Garment Girls

First, second and third prize-winners in beauty contest staged by Local 135, Newark, at fourth annual dance last month, were Eleanor La Forge, Marge Korpita and Angelina Ottone.

JUSTICE
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

SPRING WORK-SEASON A-COMING

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

This old poetic line comes to mind as pre-season jitters start reverberating along Seventh Avenue, Broadway and the crosstown streets where garment-making is the very breath of life—the beginning and end of all things. For the fall season has ground to a stop.

Its end has not come in the same blaze of glory that marked other work-seasons in the preceding few years. October and November saw a far smaller influx of buyers of coats, dresses, blouses and every other variety of garments from the great American hinterland this year than any year since 1940. Whether impelled by groundroot hunches or by shrewd calculation, the great garment market on the producer-buyer level has taken a slow but definite turn in favor of the buyer. Decreased store sales before the Yuletide rush, aggravated by unseasonal weather and highlighted locally by spotty consumer resistance, have caused a rash of "returns" and even order cancellations which, for a half-dozen years past, had become forgotten phenomena in the garment world.

The fact that the tax year ends in December, together with the realization that a "strong" production wind-up of the fall work-season would contrive to bolster tax levies both in ration and volume, may have influenced the weak finale of an otherwise good fall season. At any rate, the gaps in full-week or overtime employment which dented labor earnings in the garment factories in the past two months have caused uneasiness not only in the show-rooms and front offices of the industry but in the work-rooms as well.

* * *

What, therefore, are the prospects for the women's wear industry in the next season—the season that is practically on our threshold?

As a rule, predictions are futile, if not hazardous, in the women's apparel field; too many counter-currents and cross-effects enter the path from the loom to the retailer's counter. During the war years, however, style restrictions and fabric curbs and scarcities wrought essential changes in the apparel market, putting the seller on top of the heap. Abundant consumer money aided heavily in giving every advantage to the producer and jobber, who literally dominated the market "traffic" for all it could stand.

However, it was a foregone judgment in the country's garment marts that this inequality would not last long after the war. The pendulum in favor of the buyer—and, ultimately, of the consumer—had to swing back, it was figured, though it took a full year after V-J Day until surface signs of a change began to be apparent. The abolition of L-85, the fabric use limitation, in October and the relaxing of other restrictions gave a considerable spurt to the return of "normalcy" in factor relations in the market. The transition from war to peacetime production and distribution terms has entered its final stage.

The pendulum has not come to a full stop yet, but it is fast settling down to the familiar patterns which governed our trades before Pearl Harbor.

* * *

The trend toward better-made and better-quality garments appears to be definite, influenced both by buyer insistence and by the refusal of consumers to accept the ill-fitting and ungainly shoddy they had to put up with during the war years and after. It is also pretty certain that the abnormal retail prices of women's clothing will have to come down substantially. As the old competitive features re-enter the market, neither the jobber, the manufacturer nor the retailer can afford to hold tight against buyer resistance on the consumer level.

On the other hand, it seems to us, the spring work-season now beginning to unfold in our factories bids well to develop into a highly satisfactory one in terms of quantity production as well as sustained work. The recent lull in advance buying or order placing is but a sparring gesture, and it is already giving way to the realities of consumer needs which are today no less compelling than a year ago. This reservoir of purchasing power is still a potent fact which is bound to make itself felt with unmistakable force as retail prices level off and garment quality improves.

In the midst of this rivalry for vantage between the industry's main factors, the union is centering its full attention on protecting the earnings of the workers. The menace of still soaring living costs has not yet abated. The 65-cent dollar, in fact, is on the way to new lows. Our chief business, at this hour, is to seek wage adjustments that will enable earning power to safeguard the hard-won living standards of our people.

We have made a satisfactory beginning in this direction in the coat industry and in several other trades, in and out of New York City. The current negotiations for a cost-of-living wage increase, initiated by the New York Dress Joint Board, are in line with this overall policy. The adjustments sought by the workers, all reasonable people will concede, are not a get-rich-quick stratagem; they are rooted in the undeniable needs of our workers—in their immediate bread-and-butter pressures.

"Pass It!"

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

By M. D. D.

YOU CAN BET your last plugged nickel that the Senatorial Committee investigating the conduct of Sen. Bilbo during the Mississippi primary campaign last spring will give that illustrious son of the South a complete whitewash. In fact, Sen. Ellender of Louisiana, who presided over the four-day sessions in Jackson, Miss., blurted out, after they were over, that he "would be disappointed if the report is not unanimous."

Prior to Bilbo's blustering denial of guilt or impropriety, more than 50 Negroes, many of them leaders in the Negro community of the state, testified that they had been prevented from registering or voting either by force or by such fear that they had not even made an attempt to do so. Five of them told of being beaten because they had tried to vote. All these witnesses attributed their plight to the racial tensions induced by Bilbo's campaign speeches.

All this testimony, nevertheless, appears to be ticketed for the waste-basket. The "white primary," by the grace of the horse-whip and the tar-barrel, is still supreme in Bilbo's "beloved Southland." We suspect that not a few of his fellow-bigots up North—some of them members of that self-same investigating committee—envy Bilbo his unregenerate and unmitigated gall.

▼

AFL PRES. WILLIAM Green faced a group of minor-league industrialists in the hostile den of the Queens County Chamber of Commerce the other day as he lashed out against the drastic labor curbs currently being hatched by business leaders —aided and abetted by similar-minded solons in Congress.

Green minced no words in telling the Queens businessmen that punitive labor laws might cause American workers to "embrace socialism." To substantiate his warning, he cited the adoption of socialism by England, the swinging of France and Italy "even further to the left" and the virtual blanketing of Eastern Europe by Russian state capitalism.

Curbing the right to strike by law is a toothless weapon in a world fast moving toward democracy in industry. Such restrictions were of little avail to the British Tories who, after the failure of the general strike of 1926, passed the Trades Disputes Act curbing labor unions—and our home-brewed Tories, who are today planning vengeful anti-labor measures, can expect no better results.

But businessmen—big, medium or little—seldom read history or reap profits from half-forgotten annals. They prefer to read current profit sheets, bank balances and stock quotations. It is our hunch, therefore, that Pres. Green's appeal for "self-restraint" and "labor-management cooperation" will fall on deaf ears. American industrialists may be "digging their own grave," but their economic philosophy still hews closely to the old Louis XV pattern—"after us, the deluge!"

WILSON WYATT, who was eased out of his post as National Housing Expediter last week, is obviously a gentleman who can conceal spluttering anger beneath polished phrases.

We say "eased out" deliberately and without fear that the record will contradict this. Wyatt, in his parting interview with the newsmen, frankly stated that he was leaving because "some very vocal and well-organized opposition" was more concerned with "immediate profits than with continued prosperity."

Thus, another prop of the enfeebled post-war control structure goes out the window—to the applause of the realty lobby and its confederates on the Potomac. Ostensibly, Wyatt went out of office because the Reconstruction Finance Corp. had refused him credits to launch a large-scale "factory-built" program for veteran housing. Pres. Truman failed to back him by declaring that the time had come for "relaxing controls" in home construction while Wyatt favored retention of controls.

The victory over Wyatt, beyond doubt, will only serve to whet the appetites of the realty profiteers as the Republican-dominated 80th Congress heaves into sight. Watch for the next onslaught on rent controls—the pocket-picking landlord gentry is just around the corner!

▼

WE'VE KNOWN this before, but it sounds a trifle more convincing to get it straight from our own folks. We refer to the recent story in the New York "Times," summing up some impressions gained by the AFL delegation which went to Germany a few weeks ago to make a first-hand study of the renascent German trade union movement and its prospects.

This AFL group includes William Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, Anton Jakobs, representative of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, and ILGWU Vice Pres. Israel Feinberg, general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board. This committee had hoped to visit, besides the American and British occupation zones, the Soviet and French zones, but was unable to obtain travel permission. Doherty has bluntly charged this embargo was imposed on the committee by the Soviet and French occupation authorities because the AFL had refused to join the World Federation of Trade Unions, the new body of which the CIO is a member.

All three observers — Doherty, Feinberg and Jakobs — agree that the key trouble in Germany lies in the failure of the occupation powers to give the trade unions more responsibility and greater freedom of action. In the British and American zones, they aver, the reborn trade unions are resolved to be free in fact as well as in name and refuse to be dominated by any political parties. We look forward to some meaty contents when these AFL emissaries present a full report upon their return to the United States.