

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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## ILGWU IN PICKET LINE IN PUERTO RICO, SOUTHEAST GETTING MOBILE HEALTH CENTERS

### Nehru Replies to Meany on Banning of ILG Film



**Putting It on the Line.** Silent action and silent words speak loudly when picket line brought balling boss to dotted line after 32-hour strike at Fashion Garment Co. in Norfolk, Va., closed deadlocked parley. Workers won pay boosts, other union benefits. Right, organizational pickets line the way for union demands of decent conditions for workers at Beltz Corp. in St. Louis. Volunteering for picket duty were Ruby Cross, Nannie Mitchell and Florence Guest, employees at Daust Manufacturing Co., where workers recently won union recognition.



**Canada Crusade.** Big ILGWU rally in Montreal high-lighted general organizational drive recently. Off to early start (7 A.M.) Organizer Si Brunner (left) gives out assignments. Above, Vice Pres. Bernard Shaw and Organizing Chief Sam Herbst (hat) join parade. Right, non-union worker gets leaflet.



# Puerto Rico, Southeast to Get Healthmobiles

Two more mobile health centers, similar to the one that has been operating in the Pennsylvania area of the Northeast Department, are to be dedicated by the ILGWU within the next two weeks, according to plans now being drawn. One of the health units is to be put into service by the ILGWU in Puerto Rico; the other will serve ILGWU members in the Southeast Region.

Plans call for dedication of the Puerto Rican unit on July 25 at a mass meeting to be held in the heart of New York's garment center. According to the preliminary program, the 20-foot-long custom-built medical unit will be kept on display for several days in New York, and will be moved among the several sections of the city in which Spanish-speaking members and other workers are

concentrated. New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Jr., and Puerto Rico's Resident Commissioner Dr. Pons-Lera have been invited to participate in the dedication ceremonies.

The other unit is scheduled to be inaugurated at a noon tea ceremony at the City Hall in Atlanta, Ga., on Aug. 2 according to Southeast Regional Director E. T. Kohler. At both the New York and Atlanta

ceremonies, civic and labor leaders are expected to join with the mass of garment workers who will turn out to witness the event.

The first official announcement that these two additional units were to be built—each at the cost of \$40,000—was made by Fred Dubinsky last May at the 25th ILGWU convention. He disclosed this in a report in which he told delegates of the regu-

lar services of the first such unit in Pennsylvania, and the firm's services rendered by that unit during the summer floods of 1953 for which the ILGWU was cited by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The mobile health centers are designed to render health services to ILGWU members working and living in regions too widespread and scattered for the establishment of stationary centers such as function in some of the large markets and cities.

The mobile units are specially constructed; weigh over 13 tons; are staffed by a physician,

registered nurse and a laboratory technician; have their own power systems, the latest diagnostic equipment and X-ray facilities—and are thus able to bring needed services directly to the plant gate.

At the convention, in making the announcement of the plans for a Puerto Rican and Southeastern unit, told Governor Munoz-Martin of Puerto Rico that for the next two years, until the healthmobile is self-sustaining, the ILGWU now has about 3,000 members on the island.

# Nehru Replies to Meany on Banning of 'G Film'

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India has denied any responsibility in the action of an Indian Board of Censors last month, which has had the effect of banning, in that country, any future showings of the ILGWU film "With These Hands." The head of the Indian government took this stand in a letter to AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany sent June 30, in reply to Pres. Meany's letter of June 18, in which the head of the American labor movement called the Prime Minister's attention to "a recent incident which is most unfortunate in its effect on the cause of democracy and human freedom."

Following is the text of Prime Minister Nehru's letter, sent from London where he was attending the conference of British Commonwealth leaders: "Thank you for your letter of June 18, which has just reached me in London. "I have recently read some comments about the film you refer to. I know nothing about it. I have neither seen it nor has any reference about it been made to me in India. Indeed, no reference about films are made to government, and the Board of Censors is an autonomous body which comes to decisions itself.

"I know that in the past, several of its decisions have not been to our liking, but we were unable to interfere with them. It is thus not at all easy for our government, or any department of government, to overrule the decisions of this board. It is true that the board is appointed by government, but having appointed it, we have little to do with them.

"However, I am returning to you matter to the people who deal with these subjects in India and they will no doubt look into it."

### Refused License

Early in June, the Indian Censorship Board refused to re-issue a license for the showing of the film unless certain sequences were eliminated depicting the union's successful and effective fight against the Communists when they attempted to get control of the garment workers' union in the "Swing." The United States Information Agency refused to submit to any such censorship and withdrew the film from further circulation.

Pres. David Dubinsky, in a statement issued June 4, protested that "hitherto, this film has been outlawed only behind the Iron Curtain. It is unbelievable that the democratic government of India should now also outlaw a film showing the achievements of the workers in the American ladies' garment industry through their free trade unions and through the democratic process."

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, meeting in Washington that week directed Pres. Meany to protest to the Indian government regarding of the ILGWU film. Following is the text of Meany's letter:

### Indonesian Emissaries



Representatives of Indonesia's Ministry of Labor, here to study labor in America, discover JUSTICE at office of Undersecretary Local 62 in New York City. Six-month tour is under the auspices of the International Cooperation Administration.

# First Universal Button Pact In Kentucky Nets Big Boosts

Wage increases of from 17 to 70 cents an hour highlight a first agreement signed this month with the Universal Button Co. of Lawrenceburg, Ky., reports Vice Pres. Nicholas Kirtzman, director of the Ohio-Kentucky Region.

The contract was achieved after a steady campaign which began shortly after the firm was established some eight months ago. Directed by Kentucky Supervisor William Kaufman and Organizer Robert Howe, the drive culminated in recognition of the ILGWU as bargaining agent. Following certification, a full week of negotiations resulted in agreement on pact terms.

In addition to wage boosts, the contract provides for higher minimum rates, cost-of-living bonuses, a wage-freezing clause, employer-financed life insurance, six paid holidays, one week's vacation after a year's service, and an additional day's vacation for each year thereafter up to five years, with a two-week vacation is granted.

Morris Wagner of Louisville was designated impartial chairman in the agreement.

Kaufman, directing the parleys from the union side of the table, was assisted by a workers' committee consisting of Major Wheat, James Peyton, William Robinson, Lemuel Ross, Gilbert Beasley, James Robinson, Bud Cash and Oda Mitchell.

The Universal Button Co., an affiliate of the Tilton Co., occupies the plant formerly leased by the American and Elford Thread Mill, an anti-union firm that went out of business two years ago after a bitter three-month strike.

### "Broadline"



# AFL-CIO DEMANDS U.S. CUT LOW-PAY LEVIES, PLUG TAX LOOPHOLES

The federal government loses an estimated \$9 billion a year in tax revenue because of loopholes in the present tax structure, the AFL-CIO has charged.

"Labor's Economic Review," issued by the AFL-CIO Department of Research, urged these loopholes be plugged. "Because our federal tax structure has become more and more favorable to wealthy corporations and high-income taxpayers, it is based less and less on the progressive tax principle of ability-to-pay," the publication said.

It cited nine examples of special privilege in the tax laws which cost the government \$1 billion in annual revenue. If these loopholes were eliminated, it noted, tax relief could be given to low and middle-income families.

The Review revealed how a vice president of the Ford Motor Co., using one tax loophole, had made \$294,000 and kept 3,000 shares of raw Ford stock valued at \$200,000 without spending a penny of his own money.

The publication repeated the AFL-CIO's demand for a \$3 billion tax cut now. The publication called attention of plugging loopholes and giving tax relief to low and middle-income groups would improve the tax laws and increase surplusing power for the bulk of American taxpayers, it pointed out.

# Dress Union Charges Aided Firm on Violations

The New York Dress Joint Board has filed complaints for violations of its collective agreement against the firms of Ben Wright and Ben Rita Frochs, whose president, Philip Silverman, has been indicted for criminal contempt by the New York Grand Jury. It is announced by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the joint board.

In a letter to District Attorney Frank Hogan on July 11, the day the news of the indictment was released, Hochman stated that since Oct. 4, 1951, when Silverman's firm entered under contract with the union, the firm's books had been examined 18 times by 16 different union accountants, and that Silverman had been able to evade some of his obligations under the union agreement only because he "successfully falsified his records or kept a separate set of books" which were not shown to union accountants and were set up to "deceive the union."

## Ask Damages

The story relayed by the District Attorney's office stated that Silverman's firm had had approximately 15 per cent of their production made by a non-union contractor, Atlas Dress, in the Bronx.

This revelation is the basis of the union's complaints which will go through the dress industry regular collective bargaining machinery. Specifically, the union has asked that damages be assessed against Silverman's firm for "dealing with and sending work to a non-union contractor," Atlas Dress and for "falsifying the books and records of accounts by keeping two separate sets of books."

The union also is demanding from Silverman's firm a sum in excess of \$23,000 due to its health and welfare and retirement funds for payments made by the non-union shop.

Following is the text of the letter from Vice Pres. Hochman to Mr. Hogan:

The press today carried a story about an indictment you obtained from the New York Criminal Jury against a Philip Silverman, president of two dress corporations, Ben Wright and Ben Rita Frochs, in reality one firm which is in contractual relations with our organization.

Because this story was of great

interest to us, a thorough check of all records available to us was made. I found the following:

1. Mr. Silverman's firm since October 4, 1951 has been a member of a manufacturers' enforcement under contract with us, and in accordance with our general enforcement practice we have periodically examined the firm's books. The last such examination took place on Mar. 16, 1954.

Between Jan. 1, 1953 and Mar. 31, 1954, the firm's books were examined 19 times by 16 different union accountants. They were examined nine times by eight different accountants employed by our Welfare Department, four times by three different accountants employed by our Rubber-Contractor Relations Department and six times by five different accountants employed by our General Accounting Department.

In not a single instance did the firm's books and records show any dealings with any non-union contractor. In every instance, all the contractors on the firm's books were members of associations under contract with our union.

This, of course, is not intended to contradict your statement that the firm was sending work to a non-union contractor, namely Atlas Dress, in the Bronx. The fact that the firm was sending work to this non-union contractor, as set

forth in your statement, plainly indicates that it successfully falsified its records or kept a separate set of books which it did not show to our accountants and which were set up by either the firm or the firm's accountants or both to deceive the union.

The news stories quote you as saying that dresses were carried between Mr. Silverman's firm and Atlas Dress, the non-union shop, by drivers who are members of Local 102 of the ILOUW. In this connection, I wish to note that Local 102, Cloak, Dress Drivers' and Hangers' Union, is not a part of the Dress Joint Board. It is a separate union and has its own arrangement with the truck owners.

Under that arrangement, as we understand it, Local 102 members need not deliver garments to truck firms or pass through picket lines. When there is a strike against either a jobber or a contractor, we communicate this fact to the officers of Local 102. Because in this regard there was no strike, nor any knowledge on our part of transactions between Mr. Silverman's firm and Atlas Dress, the members of Local 102, in this instance, violated no union rule by delivering work between the Silverman firm and Atlas.

We assure that we are in full accord with your efforts to eradicate any criminal practices in the dress industry.



## ILO Moves to End Slave Labor Blight

By a unanimous vote of worker, employer and government delegates, the 26th general conference of the International Labor Organization, which met in Geneva, Switzerland last month, took bold and far-reaching action to end the blighting slave labor, the convention outlawing "forced or compulsory labor, concentration camps, or the deportation of national minorities."

In approving the report of its Committee on Forced Labor, the ILO conference decided to place the question of forced labor on the agenda next year for final discussion.

In its report, the committee had called for the banning of forced labor, concentration camps and deportations designed by any country: 1) as a means of political coercion; 2) as a method of mobilizing labor; 3) as a means of labor discipline; 4) as punishment for strikes; 5) as a means of "racial, social, national or religious discrimination"; and 6) as a consequence of methods of payment to a worker where deferring payment makes it impossible for a worker to quit his job, or where work is exacted from a worker in the form of debt bondage or peonage.

During the committee's deliberations, Russian and Rumanian Communist spokesmen balked vigorously at a proposal made by U. S. Worker Delegate George Delaney that on-the-spot investigations be conducted throughout the world to check on forced labor. Delaney's proposal came as an answer to a Russian resolution condemning as "biased" the findings of a special UN-ILO committee on slave labor. The Russian resolution, characterized by U. S. solicitor of Labor Affairs Bohannon as "the parent political propaganda," was overwhelmingly defeated.

The three-week ILO conference session also accomplished the following:

1. It adopted a resolution noting that "rapid development of technical and scientific progress and the rise in output open up new possibilities for the reduction of hours of work."

2. It urged that "steps be taken to see that the principle of equal pay for men and women workers for work of equal value be implemented by legislation, collective bargaining, or a combination of both."

3. It stipulated that "steps of automation on all aspects of social and labor policy and urged action to 'avoid or hold to a minimum the social dislocations and human costs which may be involved in technological progress.'"

4. It urged that "steps be taken for the protection of indigenous groups, welfare facilities for workers, promotion of vocational training in agriculture, and disarmament."

More than 200 and 100 delegates from 123 member countries and nine territories gave the conference a record attendance. With the admission of three new members—Morocco, Tunisia and the Sudan—ILO membership now encompasses 76 countries.

## Boost to Oswego Industry



Valeen labor leader A. J. Thompson (center) of Oswego, N. Y., smiles approval as Martin Rose (center) of Oswego Local 39A, promotes that city's industrial advantages at recent exhibit sponsored by state Union Label and Service Trades Department. An officer of Upstate New York and Vermont District Council, Rose is vice president of Operation Oswego promotion, which in three years has brought four new industries to Oswego.

## EOT Catches Runaway, Enrolls Paula Sport Co.

A two-year organizational campaign that involved tracking down a non-union children's dress shop from one city to another, was brought to a successful conclusion with organization of the Paula Sportswear Co., Perth Amboy, N. J., reports Vice Pres. Israel Horwitz, general manager of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

The drive was started in March 1954, when the firm then known as Selma Sportswear Co. was located in Carlisle, N. J. However, the firm vacated the premises and moved to another location.

### Company Located

Several months later, the union learned that Selma Sportswear had resumed its non-union operation, this time in Perth Amboy, N. J. The employer strongly resisted the union's renewed organizing efforts. As soon as EOT organizers began making contact with workers, the company shut down and laid off all its workers.

For a lengthy period, the cat-and-mouse game continued. The firm would reappear, workers would be hired, organizers would contact them, and the plant would close.

Towards the end of 1955, another campaign was initiated to unionize the shop, and this time the employer declared that he was going out of business. Shortly thereafter, the plant was sold to a new owner. The campaign for the unionization of the shop continued.

At this point, Manager Simon Baumrind of South River Local 150 and 157 met with the new management and began negotiations on behalf of the workers. After months of discussions, the company finally agreed to sign a contract providing workers with all the benefits of the existing collective agreement between the New Jersey Washable Dress Contractors Association and the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

Under terms of the agreement, weekly hours were reduced immediately from 48 to 35, accompanied by a substantial compensating increase. In addition, the pact provided for the daily regular hours for both piece and week workers; three and one-half holidays with pay for all workers; full coverage under the health, welfare and retirement programs of the union and increased minimums in accordance with EOT standards for children's dress makers.

The company also has agreed to assume the full cost of disability benefits without any deductions from workers' wages.

Many EOT staffers took part in the campaign to unionize the shop, including Manager Herman Sivola of Local 165 and 222, Edward Hina, Emanuel Leventhal, Daniel Kaminker and Sol Nesselroth.

## '99' Pens Contract At Markson Chain

Manager Shibley Appleton of Local 26, New York Office and Distributors Union, announced last week that Markson's, a substantial women's apparel chain store, was in the process of moving many of its operations to New York City and had already signed a union agreement covering the expanded unit. The firm eventually will employ between 150 and 200 persons here. All of Markson's present employees in five New York City area Local 26 members.

## BUTTONHOLE TERMS PROVIDE PAY RISES, WELFARE FUND HIKE

After lengthy negotiations, climaxed by a one-day strike, New York Buttonhole Local 94 signed a three-year renewal agreement with the Piped Buttonhole Manufacturers' Association and most of the independent firms in the industry on June 29, reports Manager Samuel Rabinowitz.

Terms of the renewal include re-adjustment of piece-work rates, resulting in increases in earnings ranging from 10 to 18 per cent; a general increase of 100 per cent for most week workers, and a rise in employers' payments to health, welfare and retirement funds from 7½ to 8 per cent.

The new contract also gives the union the right to stop work when there are delinquencies in payments to the welfare fund.

Members of the negotiating committee included Manager Rabinowitz, Max Lerman, chairman; Julius Gross, local vice chairman; Frank Oatis, local secretary; Angie Berman, Louis Lasker and others.

Abraham Schelinger, union consultant, participated in the parity.

## Southwest Council No. 1

### Marks 9th Anniversary

Southwest District Council No. 1 will celebrate its ninth anniversary shortly with a guided tour of the historic site of St. Louis, accompanied by Vice President Meyer, Perlestein, regional director.

## Chicago Presses Drive To Capture Storktown

Charges of unfair labor practices have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board against the Storktown Manufacturing Co. in Chicago, following the employer's firing of a union member and interfering with the right of other workers to join the ILGWU, according to Vice Pres. Martin Halka, Midwest regional director.

Midwest organizers are conducting a vigorous drive to bring the children's wear manufacturing concern, with 125 employees, into the union fold.

Activities include distribution of literature at the plant several times a week, describing the numerous benefits of an ILGWU contract, and visits to workers at their homes.

Meanwhile, the union is continuing its efforts to meet with the firm to negotiate an agreement.

## MINERSVILLE STRIKE ENDS FIRM'S EVASION ON WELFARE MONIES

The determined stand by some 120 employees at the plant forced Dress Co. of Minersville, Pa., bolstered by strike action, has put a stop to their employer's evasion of contractual obligations.

According to Vice Pres. David Glingsid, director of the Northeast Department, the firm had failed to send its contributions toward the health and welfare funds for six months.

As a result, benefits to the workers from these funds were jeopardized, and the workers, members of Local 351, unanimously voted to strike.

Following the strike decision, evasive reports appeared in the press alleging that the workers had pledged to fund money to the employer to pay his indebtedness. The employer had called in the newspapers to witness this non-existent action of the workers who, instead, turned "thumbs down" on the firm's maneuver.

Pottsville District Manager Oscar Newman reports that the company had prevailed on leaders of the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor to persuade the workers to forgo their rights to health and welfare benefits. However, the Minersville employees made it very clear, according to Glingsid, that they would resist any efforts on the part of "chiseling employers to evade their obligations."

As a result, the firm now has agreed to maintain regular payments to the funds, as well as to remit delinquent sums. A schedule of payments has worked out and an initial sum of \$3,000 already has been received.

### Lee Garment Drive

Another vigorous organizing campaign is shaping up at the Lee Garment Co. with plants in Chicago and Clinton, Ill., and Stoughton, Wis. The firm, which manufactures down dresses, employs a total of about 120 workers.

### Smaller Shippers

Shipping department employees of the Smaller Shoppers shop in Heroin, Ill., who had been the only group in the shop not covered by the ILGWU contract, finally have been organized.

By joining the union, the 25-man department obtained wage benefits ranging from 7 to 18 cents an hour and all other benefits provided by the existing tender part.

### CBJ Vacations

Most of Chicago's 8,000 ICGers are back at work following their paid vacation period, for which they received an estimated \$700,000 in benefits, including holiday pay for July 4. Workers with more than five years' service at a shop enjoyed a second week's vacation with pay.

Paid vacation periods are scheduled for garment workers throughout the Midwest Region during July and August.

Approximately 95 per cent of Midwest locals already have met to approve decisions of the recent

### Mondello Mission



Mrs. Eleonora Vitolo, Local 89 office worker, reads message of greeting on behalf of ILGWU and Italian American Labor Council at eighth commencement exercises of Franklin D. Roosevelt Institute in Mondello, Italy. Seated are (left) Rina Buozzi, director of the vocational school, and Sicilian President G. Alessi.

## Sign Snowsuit Contract With Severance Pay



Left to right: (Seated) Martin Cohen, Pres. David Dubinsky, Henry Rothman; (standing) Ben Lord, A. Schindler, Charles Baker.

Local 155's new collective agreement, the first to include a provision for severance pay, was formally signed in the ILGWU General Office last week.

Present at the signing, in addition to Pres. David Dubinsky, were Local 100 Manager Martin L. Cohen, employer representatives Charles Baker, Ben Lord and Henry Roth-

man and union attorney Abraham Schindler.

The agreement, which was concluded two and a half months ago and has been in effect since June 1, gave New York snowsuit workers a wage increase and substantially higher minimums. It also provided a 35-hour week for shipping clerks. Cutters employed in '150' shops, old

received a wage increase and will be covered by the severance pay provision. Local 10 Manager Ben Falkman participated in the negotiations.

The severance pay clause provides that workers are to receive one week's pay for each year of employment with a firm if it goes out of business.

## Extend Los Angeles Contract As Dress Powwows Continue

All employees in the Los Angeles dress industry have signed extensions of the agreement which expired June 30, and negotiations are continuing for a new contract, reports Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast director.

### ILG Gives Payment To Israel Hospital

Detailed plans for construction of a 225-bed hospital in BeerSheva, Israel, for which the ILGWU has pledged a contribution of \$1 million, were made public at a recent conference. Pres. David Dubinsky presented \$250,000—the first of four annual installments — to Dr. Dov Bilegan, national secretary of the National Committee for Labor Education.

The gift is the largest of its kind ever made by an American trade union, and is part of the ILGWU's tradition of humanitarian service to labor movements in the free countries of the world.

This medical center will have four major departments: internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, and maternity. Other facilities will include X-ray, surgery, laboratory, blood

bank, and a nursing school which will function as part of the hospital.

Gain sought by the union include a substantial wage increase, higher minimums, establishment of severance pay, paid holidays and overtime pay after 25 hours for piece workers.

Week workers already are paid for six holidays and for overtime after 25 hours.

A number of negotiating sessions have been held, and further meetings are scheduled, aimed at reaching a new agreement as quickly as possible.

Union negotiators are headed by Ohio, John Olson, manager of the Los Angeles Dress and Sportswear Joint Board, and Pamie Boras, assistant manager, who is in charge of the dress department. Joseph Milloway, secretary of "Teamsters' Local 994, represents the shipping and receiving room employees.

## Big Companies Show Lack of Ardor for Settling Steel Strike

With the basic steel industry idled by a nationwide strike, the Eisenhower Administration last week moved for the first time to seek a basis for settlement of the dispute.

Entering the situation only after the old contracts had expired and the without had taken effect, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service conferred with union leaders and company executives, and negotiations were resumed.

But few observers expected these mediation efforts to produce immediate results.

Heads of the 12 major enterprises which comprise the basic steel industry, with its 850,000 employees, showed little eagerness to avert the strike, and they exhibited no sense

of frenzy to settle it, once the six weeks expired at 10:31 A.M. on July 1.

Pres. Dwight D. McDonald of the United Steelworkers, who led the union's negotiating team through more than a month of bargaining with the company managements, had reiterated, only a few hours before the strike deadline, the union's readiness to negotiate until the final moment.

But the companies, which had started off by offering a five-year

contract with few improvements had modified their original offer only slightly, showed little interest in agreeing on a pact.

AFL-CIO Pres. Henry Wallace urged the Steelworkers of the "full support of the entire labor movement."

Throughout the country, as the strike took effect, the steel union formed picket groups at plant entrances—a pattern developed in earlier steel industry disputes. Several had been completely halted, additional hours before the deadline as management cooled the furnaces and stopped all output.

The final days of negotiations were marked by a series of efforts on the part of the union to avert

a walkout. A proposal, for a 13-day extension of the old agreement with the proviso that any settlement would be retroactive to July 1, was advanced by the companies.

The union, in the final days of negotiations, had expressed willingness to accept a three-year contract. In contrast, with the industry's offer of a 25-month agreement.

Other questions at issue are the size of the wage increase, the form of a supplementary unemployment insurance program, health and welfare plans and benefits, weekend premium pay, and the union shop.

McDonald made no effort to conceal his concern over the steel companies' unacceptably offers, an at-

tack-tilt-or-leave-it demand to bind the union and its members to low-scale improvements for almost five years.

"There is no need for a crisis in steel, but the steel companies are forcing one on the nation," McDonald said.

These were indications that the management of that industry would agree to do most terms only when it felt the time is "ripe" for announcing a whiplash price increase.

Some economic observers believe the industry may seek an increase of as much as 20 a ton—for in excess of any additional cost that the increased wage cost may justify.



Three charming damsels got preview of ILGWU Southeast Region's Mobile Health Center, to be dedicated in Atlanta on Aug. 2. Healthtable, an display at three-day labor fair, was center of attraction for visitors.



Southeast Regional Director E. T. Kehrer poses with ILG beauty contestants Marilyn Smith and Carol Dyer.

# Labor's Fair

ENTIRE families flocked to McComb, Miss., last month to the three-day exposition and fair demonstrating the products and talents of organized labor in Mississippi. More than 3,000 persons turned out for the event, co-sponsored by the ILGWU and the McComb Labor Organizational Committee, June 22-24.

According to E. T. Kehrer, director of the ILGWU Southeast Region, it was the first show of its kind in the state—and it was held in McComb, where in former years unionism was neither popular nor safe.

In a country fair setting, some 50 unions and firms entered exhibits of their products at the fair, designed as a competitive effort between union labor and industry to show what is being made in organized plants in this state.

A high spot of the fest was the contest

for "Miss Organized Labor of Mississippi" won by Joyce Elder of the Pascagoula Central Labor Union. Capturing second place was Marilyn Smith of ILGWU Local 300, Bay Mills.

The youth of Local 467, Sheet Metal Workers, won an award for being the best decorated entry.

In addition to the various contests, Western-style bands were on hand, and a street dance was held on Saturday night.

A number of speakers were heard during the three days, including Mayor Maurice Wall of McComb, Tracy Walker, labor relations director, Ingalls Ship Building Corp., G. Barnes, Jackson County Central Labor Union, Rev. Ben Linds, St. Andrews Methodist Church, Rev. Otto McCalpin, First Christian Church, Rev. B. W. Winkler, Assembly of God, and Southeast Director Kehrer.



All members of family turned out to inspect exhibits showing union-made products of 32 different companies.



Skilled craftsmen, members of participating unions, were on hand to show their products and to answer questions.



Crowned "Miss Organized Labor of Mississippi" was Joyce Elder. Runner-up was Marilyn Smith of ILGWU.



Youngsters had time of their lives riding in cab of Illinois Central R.R. exhibit; enjoyed the various exhibits.



Popular stopping place for large crowds was booth of Ingalls Ship Building Co. displaying models of vessels.



Western-style music makers, such as Larry Sanford and Dixie Drifters from Station WBKH, provided melodious entertainment throughout the three-day exposition.

Visitors stepped lively to band tunes at Saturday dance.

# KEEPING OUT OF THE RED

An outstanding news weekly reports on the ILGWU's raise in dues.

## Labor Week

### UNIONS, TOO, ARE HIT BY INFLATION

#### Treasuries Feel Rising Costs—Dues Go Up

Sweeping out of the red has become a big problem for unions in times of inflation.

Business meets the problem of higher costs by raising prices. Unions find it necessary to raise the dues of members.

Huge assets in welfare funds are no help in meeting operating costs. The balance sheet of one big union shows why.

Unions, as well as employers, are finding that inflation can really run up the cost of doing business. And, like employers, unions have had to resort to a form of price increase to offset the rising costs. Dues of members are being raised.

Inflation over the years has forced unions to pay higher wages to their own employees, just as employers have had to raise the pay of company workers. Salaries of union officials have had to keep up with the parade. Strikes are proving more costly in finance. Rents and legal fees are higher. For 16 years, almost all expenses of doing business have been rising.

A look at the books of one of the wealthiest of all unions shows what has been happening. The International Ladies Garment Workers Union—known as the ILGWU—has more than 236 million dollars in reserve funds, yet it has been running in the red in trying to meet operating costs. These costs are nearly three times what they were in 1940. To get the union in the black, dues of members recently were increased 25 per cent.

Costs are higher in nearly every branch of ILGWU's activities. This is shown in reports to the membership by David Dubinsky, the union's president and secretary-treasurer.

Organizing drives to recruit new members are costing nearly two and a half times what they did back in 1940. The union spent nearly 6 million dollars on organizing in the three years since its last convention.

Salaries are up, just as in the business world. Pay of the national officers has more than doubled since 1940. Mr. Dubinsky draws \$23,250 a year in

salary—well below the top scale for union leaders.

Wage increases have gone to staff employees of the union, and most employees have been hired. These labor costs are more than four and a half times above their 1940 level.

Strike expenses are much higher. Mr. Dubinsky says that the union spent "close to a million dollars" recently on two strikes in the South. Inflation of living costs has made it more expensive to support families of strikers.

Automation has arrived in ILGWU offices. Machines have been installed, at a cost of about \$250,000, to issue dues receipts, to record payments made by members and to help keep the books. Auditing expenses are five times as high, as in 1940.

New experts are needed at the bargaining table. Expense of operating the research department has more than tripled in 16 years. Facts and figures are needed when wage increases are being sought.

Advice to employers is expensive, too. An engineering department to promote new techniques was established in 1941. Its costs are up more than two and a half times since its first budget. It spent \$302,150 in the past three years.

As health-and-welfare programs expanded, ILGWU decided it needed a special unit. This was founded in 1945,

its expenses are nearly five times what they were in the first year's budget.

The ILGWU has an extensive program of trust funds that provide sick benefits, death benefits, vacations, health services, and pensions for its members. Much of the money was contributed by employers. Reserves now include more than \$5.7 million dollars in health-and-welfare funds; more than \$2.4 million in pension funds; and more than 15 million in death-benefit funds.

In addition, local unions have reserves which help to make up the total of more than \$26 million dollars to be found in the ILGWU funds. But the reserves cannot be used for operating expenses of the union, itself.

How money in dues is being paid by the ILGWU to other organizations. This item is more than five times what it was in the 1937-40 period. Nearly \$530,000 of this money in the last three years went to the old AFL, and now to the AFL-CIO. The American For Democratic Action got \$36,000 of it.

Rents are higher, too, just as in the business world. Rental payments for three years are listed at nearly \$150,000. Costs are up for printing, for telegrams and telephones, for postage. It costs more to operate automobiles. Furniture is more expensive. Result: Cost of the general maintenance now is more than three and a half times what it was in 1940.

More lawyers are used these days. ILGWU set up a legal department in 1947—as a result, according to Mr. Dubinsky, of the Taft-Hartley Act. This department spent \$17,502 in the last three years—almost two and three-quarters times as much as its first year.

ILGWU has been giving away more money, also—about twice what it donated to other organizations in 1937-40. The union's latest report on finances lists three and a half pages of these donations, adding up to more than \$556,000 for a three-year period.

Union expenses on educational work are more than double the 1940 rate. The educational department, as such, spent a little less than in the 1940 period, but a new "training institute" has been added.

Cost of publications has more than tripled in the last 16 years. The ILGWU spent nearly 1.2 million dollars for publications and mailing in the last three years.

Publicity expenses are two and three-quarters times what they were. For the

last three years, this unit spent more than \$28,000.

The union's political unit has nearly doubled its spending since its first year, 1947. This department spent more than \$100,000 in the last three years in promoting the political work of the union. That is aside from voluntary contributions received from union members for campaign work in political action.

A separate accounting of the voluntary donations shows that members chipped in more than \$201,000 for the congressional campaign in 1954, and that \$93,000 was spent in the political races. The balance, plus an earlier surplus in the campaign treasury, gives ILGWU a political fund of nearly \$289,000 for this year's election battle. Mr. Dubinsky hopes to add another \$250,000 or so in members' contributions.

But these donations for political action are handled separately from the general funds of the union. It is the general treasury of ILGWU that has not been able to make both ends meet.

Wage inflation is one reason for the deficit. ILGWU has been caught in the spiral of wages and living costs. Like the business world, it has battled employers for wage increases, only to see prices go up, too. As prices rise, the union's own employees expect bigger salaries.

Back in 1943, Mr. Dubinsky reports, the average salary for a staff member of the ILGWU's general office was \$44 a week. Now, the average pay is \$53.50.

An organizer working in the office of a local union was paid \$69 a week in 1953, on the average, but now gets \$105 a week. The local unions also have given raises to their office employees. The average pay, \$38.25 in 1953, now is \$66.50. If involved in the union headquarters in New York, an office worker got \$74.50 in 1953, has been raised to an average of \$85.

The garment union has had to increase the size of its staff, also. In 1943 there were 1,098 on the staff in the main office and affiliate branches. Now there are 1,662 people on the payroll.

Adding up the bills, Mr. Dubinsky lists that operating expense of the international union amounted to \$12,187,029 in the three years ending March 31, 1956.

These expenses, the members are told, must be financed out of the dues paid by the union membership. The main office of the union got \$12,063,059 in dues money through the local unions for the last three years.

Thus, a deficit of \$123,970 was reported in the last three-year period. This is compared with a surplus of \$731,598 for the period of 1937-40.

ILGWU now has 445,000 members, compared with 239,349 reported in 1940. Each member pays dues to a local union, which forwards a stipulated part of it to the national office. The payment for the national office has been 20 cents a week per member. This will go up to 25 cents a week on July 1. The extra 5 cents will bring more than a million dollars a year into the headquarters treasury.

Actually, the union member will find his dues increased by 50 cents a month in most cases. The ILGWU convention ordered the rate boosted by that much for where a fixed amount is charged. An exception is allowed if the local union already is charging more than \$3.50 a month, in which case the boost is to be held at 25 cents.

The minimum amount to be charged in dues by a local union now will be \$2.50 a month, ILGWU ordered. Expenses have gone up for local unions, also, officials point out.

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RECRUITING UNION MEMBERS

• • • cost 2½ times what it did

**A BIG UNION GETS CARRY-OUT IN THE WAGE-PRICE SPIRAL**

These increases in expenses are listed by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in a report sent to members.

	1953-56	1937-40
Organizing drives	\$2,483,756	\$1,000,000
Publicity, publications and research	\$400,000	\$125,000
Business and administrative expenses	\$428,721	\$150,000
Auditing of union books	\$131,209	\$25,000
Fees to AFL, other organizations	\$113,489	\$25,000
Voluntary teaching and training programs	\$253,343	\$100,000
Legal office and management cost	—	\$25,000
Pay of clerical staff	\$64,899	\$25,000
Pay of officers	\$48,000	\$25,000
Health and welfare activities	—	\$100,000
Federal-subvention expenses	—	\$100,000
Miscellaneous charges	\$191,267	\$75,000
Total 1940 expenses	\$2,456,672	\$1,000,000

The 29th convention of the ILGWU held at Atlantic City last May reviewed the higher cost of old and new union services, and then authorized increasing ILGWU dues in order to wipe out an operational deficit.

In its June 1 issue, U. S. News & World Report presented a digest of the ILGWU's financial report, indicating the need for the increase.

## S'West Scores Raises At Daust, Forest City

Wage boosts top the list of improvements scored in a new agreement covering some 125 employees of the St. Louis, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, South-west regional director.

The contract, culmination of a months-long organizational effort, also provides higher minimum wage scales for all workers employed six months or more, five paid holidays, one- and two-week paid vacations and the union shop.

In addition, the pact calls for employer's contribution of 1 per cent of payroll to the St. Louis health and medical fund.

### Forest City Boosts

A 10-cent wage increase for cutters at Forest City Manufacturing Co. plants was negotiated by staffer Russell Thompson. The company's shops are located in St. Louis and in Centralia, Freeburg, Pinckneyville, DuQuoin and Collinsville, Ill.

Preliminary steps for parity to the new agreement with Hillboro Garment Co. of Hillboro, Ill., have been initiated by the union which seeks wage hikes, improved health benefits among other gains. The current pact expires Sept. 12.

### Mississippi Confabs

In Mississippi, conferences are being held with the union pressing for wage increases for workers of the Paramount Cost Co., Juliette Originals and other manufacturing concerns. Parleys are in progress with the Sanford Manufacturing Co. to renew the current pact with provisions for a one- and two-week wage and higher minimums, among other gains.

## LINDE-EOT RENEWAL MEETS ILG MANDATE ON PENSIONS, RATES

The first Eastern Out-of-Town Department independent agreement to incorporate the mandates of the new ILGWU convention has been concluded between Linden Garment Co., blouse firm of Lindenhurst, L. I. and Local 97, reports Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, ILOE general manager.

Under the terms of the renewal, employer contributions to the retirement fund have been raised from 1 to 2 1/2 per cent, and minimums for floor girls have been set at \$1.15 an hour, 15 cents an hour for the federal floor. Other weekly minimums were upped accordingly.

As these workers recently obtained a wage increase under the previous agreement, it was stipulated that effective Jan. 2, 1954, all piece workers are to receive an additional increase of 6 per cent above their present total earnings, and week workers are to get a further increase of \$1 a week.

Employees will be paid for six one-half holidays, and both week and piece workers will receive time and one-half for all work after daily regular hours.

In addition, the firm also has agreed to assume the full cost of providing disability benefits, without any deductions from the workers' wages.

In the event that, during the life of the agreement, any further increases in wages, minimums, holidays, payment to health, welfare and retirement fund are negotiated in the New York State industries, such improvements will become part of the Linde pact.

Representing the union during negotiations were ILOE secretary General Manager Edward Kramer and Richard Carbone, manager of the Long Island local.

## Sport Pact Talks In San Francisco

Talks are under way in San Francisco for a new agreement in the sportswear industry to replace the contract expiring soon, Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast director, reports.

The San Francisco Joint Board has submitted a list of improvements which include a substantial wage increase, higher minimums, the equivalent of two weeks' vacation pay, overtime pay for all work over 35 hours and paid holidays for piece workers as well as time workers, and establishment of a severance pay program.

Heading the team of union negotiators are Vice Pres. Jennie Matyas and Manager Ralph King of the San Francisco Joint Board.

## KEYSTONE SWITCHES SHIRTS TO BLOUSES AND ACWA TO ILGWU

A former producer of men's shirts in Keystone, Pa., now a manufacturer of women's blouses, has signed an ILGWU agreement.

According to Vice Pres. David Oingold, director of the Northeast Department, the workers of the Keystone plant, who were members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when the firm was a shirt maker, have, in recent years the company's production of shirts dropped off, and the last volume was replaced gradually by manufacture of women's blouses. Finally, the plant was taken over by Jone Hensley, Inc., a subsidiary of the Union City Washtrucks Co. of Union City, N. J.

At first, the ACWA indicated it intended to continue to represent the 75 workers employed in the shop.

Through Ed Banzal and George Griffiths of the Northeast organizing staff in Philadelphia, the ILGWU made the claim that such representation would not be to the least interest of workers making women's blouses.

When the workers involved agreed to become members of the ILGWU, the firm's contract with the ladies' garment union was negotiated and later signed in the presence of the ACWA as well as the ILGWU.

The new pact cuts working hours from 40 to 35, with compensating

## Examiners Salute Bernstein at Retirement



Left to right: Moe Falkman, Joseph Breslaw, Jehosh Popel, Charles Bernstein, Benjamin Kaplan, E. Howard Moilman.

Several hundred New York cloak examiners and leaders of various ILGWU affiliates paid tribute to Charles Bernstein's decades of union service, at a testimonial dinner last month marking the Local 92 manager's retirement.

In a message to the gathering, held June 27 at the Broadway Central Hotel, Pres. David Dolinsky stated that "In all of his years of loyal union service, Charles Bernstein has never stinted in giving of his own talents and energy, by working to safeguard standards in one of the smaller sectors of the cloak industry, he has helped to maintain and advance the welfare of all cloakmakers."

Treasurer of the evening was Joshua Popel, who succeeded Ed Bernstein as head of the local. Previously, he had been the affiliate's assistant manager.

Vice Pres. Eldore Nagler, general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, alluded to his greetings that under Bernstein's leadership Local 92 had increased its membership considerably, and that stand-

ards of the workers were continuingly improved.

When Charles Bernstein was put in charge of the Local 92 organizing drive in the critical days of 1934, the Examiners' Union had a total membership of 17. During his stewardship, the organization has grown to more than 1,100 members.

Behind these figures is the story of a man whose lifetime has been devoted to the betterment of his fellow workers.

As an immigrant to America in 1908, he went to work as a finisher in the New York cloak industry and soon was involved in the struggle of the workers to win the benefits of unionism. When the general strike was called in 1916, Bernstein was solidly in the strikers' ranks.

Joining Examiners' Local 92 in 1923, he immediately took an active part in union affairs, and in 1927 was elected to the local executive board.

During the Twenties, when Communist disrupters sought to

stein played an effective role in defusing the totalitarian onslaught.

In 1934, when the advent of the NRA sparked the growth of unionism, Bernstein was named to head the local's organizing efforts. Under his direction, the local's rosters grew rapidly.

Three years later, he was elected manager of the local, to which post he was renamed continuously until his retirement.

Among the many ILGWU associates who lauded Bernstein's record were Managers Joseph Breslaw of Local 95, Benjamin Kaplan of Local 117, and E. Howard Moilman of Local 48; Hemoch Mendelsohn, assistant to the general manager of the Cloak Joint Board; Pauline Newman, educational director of the Union Health Center.

Joshua Popel, the local's new manager, had been active in Cloak Finishes' Local 9 for many years, and in 1944 was elected a business agent for that affiliate. His functioned in that post until he was named assistant manager of the Examiners' local last year.

## S'West Credit Unions In 3 per cent Dividend

Assets were reported by the South-West credit unions in the Three-West Region this month. Minneapolis assets increased to \$62,826.72; Kansas City reported \$38,888.48; St. Louis recorded \$135,008.48. A 3 per cent dividend was declared regularly by all Southwest credit unions.

All workers received a boost of 5 cents per hour above their regular wages. Regular ILGWU health, welfare and vacation fund benefits are included, as well as retirement to which the employees contribute 3 per cent of payroll. The agreement also has a wage reopening provision.

## Short Strike Wins Hike At Norfolk Fashion Co.

A short-lived strike accomplished what protracted negotiations couldn't as the Fashion Garment Co. of Norfolk, Va., granted pay increases and other gains to workers this month, reports Vice Pres. Angela Bambara, director of the Upper South Department.

## OVER 1,000 WORKERS IN COVERED BUTTONS SEEK PAY INCREASES

Negotiations for the renewal of an agreement covering more than 1,000 workers employed in the making of covered buttons in New York were scheduled to start July 11, according to Murray Gross, manager of Local 66, Bonnas Embroideries, Piesick, Tuckers and others.

Shop chairman from the covered button establishments met late in June and elected a negotiations committee that includes Murray Gross. They also formulated the contract changes they are requesting from the employer's association as well as from those operating independent shops.

Among the changes being sought are an upward adjustment of wages and minimums and improvements in the employer contributions to health, welfare and retirement funds.

The firm, which had deadlocked the month-long parleys by insisting on a reduction in wages and piece managements, came back to the bargaining table on the morning of July 5, after the walkout was 22 hours old. Contract gains include:

—A 10-cent wage hike for lower-paid shop workers and a provision for negotiating wage increases for all other employees on an individual basis.

—A 10-cent pay hike for every local member reported for picket duty.

Negotiations, resumed when the strike was four hours old, continued until 10:30 a. m. An agreement was reached the following afternoon.

The negotiating committee, headed by Milano, consisted of Floyd Carter, Mary Graham, Tom Harty, John Lovett, Elizabeth Mountjoy, Mildred Roberts, Alice Sawyer, Polly Smith and Laura Taylor.

Adling Milano in strike activities were Business Agent Harvey Harter and staffers Myron Edelman, Alice Lee and Martin Waxman.

## Montreal Dress Pact Parleys Deadlocked on Rises, Vacation

Negotiations between the union and the Montreal Dress Manufacturers' Guild are deadlocked after six weeks of parleys, reports Vice Pres. Bernard Shane.

Cause of the stalemate is the employers' refusal to grant wage increases and a two-week paid vacation, listless of the present one week, to all workers. The vacation demand is one of the principal points of contention with the union for a renewed contract.

The union is asking that the employees' contribution to the cost of payroll to the vacation fund be raised to 4 per cent to finance the leave period.

White spokesmen for the employers finally have agreed to this amount, they have balked at granting the two-week vacation.

to some union members.

Disagreement on the length of the new agreement is another stumbling block in the stalled talks.

### Super-Value in ILG

On the organizational front, the union successfully capped its campaign at the Super-Value Drive Co. with a first agreement covering 33 workers. In addition to standard union benefits, workers will receive a 2 1/2 per cent cost-of-living bonus.

## Nagler on Mend After Illness; Foresee Better Cloak Season

General Manager Isidore Nagler of the New York Cloak Joint Board is recuperating from surgery following his recent illness, Henoch Mendelsund, assistant to the general manager, informed the board at its recent meeting.

Nagler, who has been in the hospital for several weeks, is well on the road to recovery and expects to be back on the job in the near future. Despite his temporary absence, he is keeping in constant touch with the cloak union's activities.

Last month, the convention of the New York State Federation of Laborers, who has been in the hospital for several weeks, is well on the road to recovery and expects to be back on the job in the near future. Despite his temporary absence, he is keeping in constant touch with the cloak union's activities.

The federation convention re-elected the cloak chief as a vice president of the organization.

Mendelsund told the joint board that Nagler, just prior to his illness, had called a pre-season staff meeting, at which he analyzed various industry problems.

At the meeting, Nagler especially stressed the importance of staff members making every effort to place additional workers on jobs wherever possible, and maintaining vigilance to keep production of special-type fabrics under control of the joint board.

Mendelsund indicated an encouraging outlook for the fall season, which got under way earlier than usual, particularly in the better line. This was a result of an earlier opening date for the showing of fall lines, as recommended by the Fashion Originators Guild of America, composed of a group of better-line coat and suit houses.

The initial buyer response to the new fall fashions has been good, and a number of shops already are at full operation.

However, he pointed out, length and intensity of the season will depend upon consumer reaction to the fall styles and to the policies adopted by the retailers.

Mendelsund also informed the delegates that more than \$3 million was paid out to the cloakmakers in "vacation" benefits over a three-day period. The distribution, under the guidance of Murray Kalkes, director of the Health and Welfare Fund, proceeded smoothly.

## NEHRU SENDS REPLY ON I.L.G. FILM BANNING

(Continued from Page 3)  
grounds it officially gave for refusing to renew the license to show "With These Hands" were especially disturbing for all of us.

### Ask Censorship End

"Upon the unanimous instruction of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, I am herewith appealing to you to take the necessary steps to over-ride your government's Censorship Board. We appeal to you to act favorably and promptly, so that this minor film, which has won the widest acclaim—except in the Iron Curtain empire (where it has always been prohibited)—can again be shown to the freedom-loving workers of India.

"We simply cannot believe that your government would knowingly ever permit any of its agencies or functionaries, after five years of officially approving "With These Hands," to prohibit its further showing unless it now omits certain unchangeable facts of American labor history.

"History has to be written, as made and filmed as made, and not distorted through deletion or otherwise. It is inconceivable to us, and it is our sure aim to see that a representative of a democratic government should want us to discard the truth, to omit the facts, simply because such facts and film truth disclose the heinous tactics and destructive objectives of the Communists in the ranks of American labor.

"We are confident, Mr. Prime Minister, that if you examine the specific grounds for this distressing action by your Censorship Board, you will find that its decision should be reversed as detrimental to the great democratic ideal to which the people of India, the United States, and all other freedom-loving countries are dedicated.

"Meanwhile, J. J. Singh, head of the India League of America, has seen the film and has been supplied with an extract from the script covering the disputed reference to the Soviet Union, and also descriptive material on "With These Hands." Mr. Singh thought the film was an effective portrayal of the I.L.G.W.U. history, and promised to convey his impressions to the appropriate agencies.

## Signing Off



Oscar Bolden, employed since 1920 at Waldman Burton & Fleischer Co. in St. Louis, has retired and is now getting union pension benefit. He has been a member of Local 241 since 1936.

## St. Louis Center Health Service Up

The St. Louis Medical Center had a busier year in 1955 than it had in 1954, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlestein, Southwest regional director.

A total of 1328 individual members applied for medical service in 1955, as compared with 1,802 who sought treatment in 1954.

The number of patients to visit center doctors came to 11,515 in 1955, while in 1954 it was 10,723. Total number of visits for all services of the center was 28,396 in 1955 and 26,620 the preceding year.

## St. Louis Shippers on Strike For Union Recognition, Rises

Shipping clerks from 12 St. Louis shops went on strike last week for better pay and union recognition, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlestein, Southwest regional director.

Shippers and porters of Local 516 walked out after the Associated Garment Industries of St. Louis refused to agree to an NLRB election and to negotiate a contract.

Operators, cutters and other garment workers refused to cross the picket line set up at 288 Washington Ave., where the 13 struck plants are located. Blame for precipitating the strike has been laid to the manufacturers' group.

While the St. Louis without wage employers there something to worry about, it also made an impression on manufacturers in Kansas City. In a precautionary measure to avoid similar woes, the latter promptly notified the union that

## N'East Fully Unionizes Boston's Belt Industry

With the recent organization of two shops employing some 100 workers, Boston's belt industry now is fully unionized, reports Vice Pres. David Gingold, director of the Northeast Department. At the same time, the signing of a first contract with C. M.

## SPRINGFIELD TO USE COAT BOARD LABELS IN AREA PRODUCTION

Most unionized coat shops in the Springfield, Mass., area will start using the National Coat and Suit Recovery Board label on all garments. It was decided after a special meeting held recently attended by representatives of the union, the Recovery Board and area employers. I.L.G.W.U. spokesmen at the session included Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint, Board, and Northeast Department Field Supervisor Jack Halpern.

Halpern pointed out that the decision will greatly benefit all sections of the sizable cloak market centered around Springfield.

The meeting also heard Sid Hamburger, New England representative of the Recovery Board, emphasize the importance of the label as a symbol of production under decent, union conditions.

Present at the gathering were representatives of the following firms: Bekley Coat Co., Whittney Tailoring, Rainbow Girl Coat Co., Barton Tailoring, Trencher Coat Co. and Straton Coat Co.

McDonald Co., a mill head and hosiery embroidery plant in Lawrence, Mass., marked continued progress in the Northeast Department's intensive drive to enroll non-union segments in new England, in cooperation with the Boston Joint Board managed by Vice Pres. Philip Kramer.

According to Northeast Field Supervisor Jack Halpern, the Boston Firm-Better Belt Co. and Hub Button & Belt Co. agreed to significant pay boosts for both piece and week workers and to all terms of the standard belt contract, which includes reduction in the work week, paid holiday and employer's contributions to health and welfare funds.

An organizing team composed of Manager Henry J. Briden, Assistant Manager Al Pruden and Harvey Gold sparked the successful drives at the two Boston "shops."

### Work Week Cut

Provision for reduction of the work week to 35 hours, with compensating pay adjustments, highlighted the pact signed with McDonald in Lawrence. Workers obtained an increase of 7½ cents an hour effective July 8, and an additional 7½ cents will be paid starting Jan. 1, 1957. Manager Murray Gross of New York Local 65 cooperated in organization efforts at this plant. Frank Lyons participated in the campaign.

Contract negotiations at these three firms were under the supervision of Manager Mary Levin of the Northern New England District.

### Worcester Victory

Negotiations for an agreement are under way with the H. E. Co., a sportswear contractor of Worcester, Mass. The firm bowed to unionization after a strike conducted by the I.L.G.W.U. Boston Joint Board Manager Philip Kramer and Business Agent Lee Karsky cooperated fully in the campaign.

Also in Worcester, an agreement is expected to be signed soon covering employees of the Jackson Sportswear Co. Organizing activities in this area are being led by Ralph Roberts, New England organization director.

### Illinois 5 West Locals See Photography Exhibit

Members of Illinois Locals 202 (Alton), 208 (Belleville), 436 (O'Fallon), 252 (Watson), 253 (Collinsville) and 179 (Red Bud) recently visited the St. Louis Art Museum to see the "Family of Man" photographic exhibit.

## Philadelphians Get Five-Day Lesson in Leadership at Unity House



Focono Mountain air provides added stimulus to the lesson these unionists are learning at Unity House. At left are some of the 27 I.L.G.ers from the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board who attended five-day institute on union leadership recently. At com-



mentances exercises (right), Vice Pres. David Gingold, director of the Northeast Department, presents diploma to Helen Peterson, as Philadelphia Manager William Ross looks on.

## EOT Negotiators Save Jobs At Stardust in Poughkeepsie

Stardust, Inc., lingerie and undergarment manufacturer of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., has agreed to continue operating the plant, as the result of negotiations conducted between the firm and the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, reports Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, EOT general manager.

Previously, the company had announced it would close down when the contract expired on June 28, asserting that operations were economically unprofitable.

Following this announcement, the union initiated negotiations with management which were carried to the deadline, with union and company representatives meeting in continuous session during the last 48 hours, before the scheduled closing.

### Consolidate Production

It was agreed that, in order to make Stardust operation economically sound, all its Poughkeepsie production will be consolidated in one building, and the majority of the workers will be re-employed without any reduction in standards, wages or working conditions. In accordance with ILOUW policy, substantial severance pay was negotiated for those who will not be retained.

One hundred and seventeen workers will retain their jobs. The others will share a severance pay pool of approximately \$115,000, based on length of service.

The severance aspect of the agreement is unique in that the company was under no legal obligation to grant severance pay, but recognized its responsibility to those workers for whom it was no longer able to provide employment.

Under terms of the pact, all workers in the plant either rehired or not, will receive one or two weeks' "vacation" pay, depending on length of service. Production is scheduled to be resumed by July 18.

Under the direction of Vice Pres. Horowitz, negotiations between the Poughkeepsie workers were conducted by EOT Assistant General Manager Edward Kramer and ILOUW General Counsel Morris G. Glushkin. Poughkeepsie EOT officials who participated in the efforts to save the Stardust plant, including ILOUW members, are: General Manager William A. Feltman and ILOUW 352 Business Agent Arnold Seidman.

## CINCINNATI SALUTES RECORD OF SOLOMON AT RETIREMENT FETE

Manager David Solomon of the Cincinnati Joint Board was honored at a testimonial dinner last month on his retirement, marking completion of more than half a century of service to the garment workers.

Representatives of management joined ILOUW spokesmen in paying tribute to Solomon at the evening held June 30 at the Metropolitan ballroom.

Solomon, who has been manager of the Cincinnati ILOUW organization for 20 years, has 22 years of membership in the union, and has served 42 years as an ILOUW leader, having been elected business agent in Cleveland in 1914.

In 1937, he was assigned to Cincinnati to head up organizing efforts among the garment workers. In the two decades, ILOUW membership has registered a substantial increase in that city. Among those who lauded Solomon's record of accomplishments were Julius Gurskink, new manager of the Cincinnati Joint Board; Louis Zeman of the Cleveland Joint Board; William Kaufman, Kentucky supporter; Elsworth Busby, district organizing director of the AFL-CIO.

Morris Rustig, joint board chairman, was master of ceremonies.

## Kennedy to Review Overstreets' Book

William Kennedy, prominent labor and labor critic, will discuss Harry and Honora Overstreet's new book, "The Mind Goes Forth," in the first of a series of summer educational activities scheduled for Aug. 15, reports Francis Cohn, Educational Department secretary. The talk will be held at ILOUW headquarters, 1115 Broadway, at 6 P.M. The book deals with the "drama of understanding one another."

In a following lecture (date to be announced) Prof. Julius Bloch will discuss "Changes in American Civilization and Labor's Role."

Other items on the educational agenda include visits to points of interest, dates of which will be announced shortly. Arrangements of the Educational Department's annual past dinner will be postponed because of the ILOUW convention this spring, are currently being made.

## THOMAS HEADS LIST OF 'UNITY' SPEAKERS IN AUGUST LECTURES

Norman Thomas will lead off the list of lecturers scheduled for Unity House in August. ILOUW Educational Director Mark Starr announces.

Thomas, veteran Socialist leader, will speak on "Post-Blair Russia and Democratic Socialism" at the ILOUW's Pocomo Mountain Resort July 31 and Aug. 3.

Andrew J. Bienenliet, legislative representative of AFL-CIO, on "Deals and Credits of U. S. Congress July 15 and Aug. 15-16."

Dr. Milton M. Berger, prominent psychiatrist, on "Personal Problems of Unity Members," Aug. 14-15.

Tom Mboya, 26-year-old trade leader from Kenya, on "What Comes After Mau Mau?" Aug. 21-22.

Serafino Romualdi, AFL-CIO Inter-American representative, on "The Struggle for Democracy in Latin America," Aug. 23-24.

## N'East Institute Slated for August

The third annual Educational Institute of the Northeast, scheduled to be held at Unity House from Aug. 12 through 17, it was announced by Vice Pres. David C. Gold, department director.

Some 100 students, chosen from among members in the states covered by the department, will be selected to participate in the week-long series of classes, workshops, and discussions on trade union problems, community and political action, labor history and economics, and related subjects.

Arranged with the cooperation of the ILOUW Educational Department, the session will be conducted by staff members and other experts in various fields.

## Cloak Finishers' Local To Hold Meeting Aug. 8

A membership meeting of Local 8, New York Cloak Finishers, will be held at Hotel DuSable, Aug. 8, right after work at Hotel DuSable, West 63rd St., Manager Harry Fisher announces.

The local membership meeting held last month, an increase in dues from \$4.25 to \$5 a month, starting with July, was approved.

## Signatures for Social Security



Dressmakers of Local 22 line up to sign petition urging Senate to improve Social Security Act. Dressmakers' drive seeks 20,000 signatures calling for amendments to lower retirement age for women from 65 to 60 and to permit totally disabled workers to retire at 50.

## DRESSMAKERS DRIVE FOR LIBERALIZATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY

New York Dressmakers' Local 22 has launched an intensive drive to get 20,000 signatures in support of pending federal legislation to amend the Social Security Act to permit women to retire at 62 instead of 65 and totally disabled members of the dress union to sign petitions urging Congress to pass amendments to the Social Security Act "making retirement possible for additional thousands of working men and women."

According to Vice Pres. Charles Zimmerman, local manager, volunteers will ask each of the 25,000 members of the dress union to sign petitions urging Congress to pass amendments to the Social Security Act "making retirement possible for additional thousands of working men and women."

In a telegram to Senators Lehman and Ives, Zimmerman pointed out that the law is "woefully inadequate in its coverage of the disabled and unintentionally cruel when it cuts off benefits to a widow with a totally disabled child simply because the child has reached 18 years of age."

"We have many women in our industry," Zimmerman said, "who find it difficult to remain on the job or to find employment because of their age, but who cannot retire because they fall short of a year or two of 65."

"We urge immediate passage of H.R. 725, which has already been approved by the House of Representatives by an overwhelming majority, as a necessary step toward a complete program of adequate social security legislation," Zimmerman concluded.

## Few Seats Remain For Trip to Italy

A limited number of applications for a "good will tour" to Italy, sponsored by the Italian American Labor Council, are still available, according to First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonelli, IALC head.

The trip, to be made by chartered plane at a special rate, is scheduled to depart New York on Sept. 21; the return flight will leave from Rome Oct. 21. In the course of the tour, Antonelli and a special delegation will journey to Israel to dedicate the Luigi Adornini Stadium in Haifa.

Applications should be made to Yvonne Montana, IALC public relations director, at West 126th 46th St. (L.O. 4-5100).

## HOW TO BUY

by Sidney Margolis

## Don't Jump Overboard For Stamps, Premiums

Stamps and premiums are sweeping the country to the extent that consumer organizations are warning households not to be dazzled by the premiums to the point of losing their shopping judgment.

If the store or service station that has the best values gives trading stamps, by all means take them. But if you confine your shopping to stores that sell stamps or products that have premiums attached, you very likely will pay more in the long run than you gain in premiums.

The danger is that you will pass up good buys at other stores in order to accumulate stamps, or even to exceed late higher-priced stores to get their stamps. Both high-priced and low-priced stores are now giving stamps, and it will be only too easy for you to decide where to buy the family's groceries on the basis of who is giving premiums you want.

Our investigation shows that the stamps offered by a typical large supermarket chain actually are equal to about a 2 per cent discount. You get a book of 1,500 stamps for every \$120 of purchases, or a stamp for every 10 cents you spend. A typical premium (like a toaster, that has a list price of \$20 but actually can be bought for \$16 or even less at many appliance shops, requires total purchases of \$750.

This writer compared the total cost of a list of 30 food and household items at a large chain offering stamps with one that doesn't. The list cost \$126 at the chain that doesn't give the stamps, and \$10.68 at the one that does. The difference in cost is just about 2 per cent, equal to the value of the premiums. However, the chain giving the stamps proved to be approximately equal in value offered by a third chain that does not give stamps, so here the premiums do represent a saving.

The best money-saving shopping technique—and the one that trading stamps are aimed at coaxing you to abandon—is to compare values and specials offered by the different markets in your neighborhood each week and get to the store that has the best buys, whether or not it gives stamps.

Premiums attached to individual products such as dry cereals have another and subtler aim—to get you to overlook the actual high cost. Perhaps the worst example is the high-advertised brands of breakfast cereals, which use premiums as a device to get children to pressure mothers into buying various brands. They use television heavily for this purpose.

### Premiums Mask Poor Values

This department's investigation shows that the cereal manufacturers plugging premiums most heavily are actually offering the poorest values in the food field. For example: one rice cereal offering a comic-book premium is priced at 11 cents for a 4½-ounce box, compared to an unadvertised brand rice cereal priced at 13 cents for an 8-ounce box. Corn cereals offering various premiums cost typically 34 cents for a 10-ounce package compared to 18 cents for the 12-ounce package of an unadvertised brand.

Admittedly some of the premiums do offer good value at their out-of-pocket prices. For example, one brand of toothpaste is offering 15 items, including watches, dolls, mixers, housewares and sports equipment, at reduced prices. The toothpaste package includes a certificate for taking advantage of this offer. The toothpaste itself happens to be among the premiums you want, you may be ahead of the game. But if you continue to buy it, you'll be paying about twice as much for toothpaste as you need to.

**PHILLY DRESSERS**

# 75 More Cutters Complete Local 10's Course in Grading

Seventy-five cutters recently completed the course in grading which Local 10 inaugurated early in 1955. Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, local manager, has announced. Last year, 43 cutters finished the course.

The classes were started by Local 10 to help members of the industry to improve their skills in grading and to provide the industry with replacements for many skilled mechanics who had retired early or retired under the various industry pension funds. Established as an experiment, the program immediately won the enthusiastic approval of the cutters as well as praise from employers.

### 10-Week Course

Classes are given at local headquarters, where facilities, including cutting tables and all necessary equipment, are available. Students attend two-hour sessions twice a week for ten weeks. They are taught the basic fundamentals of grading cuts from a pattern and are also given some instruction in patterning.

"Housework" assignments require cutting of patterns of various parts of garments which are closely inspected by the instructor, Ed Cohen, and Ed G. Geertz, who are members of Local 10 and known to teach by the New York City Board of Education. Some of the students receive supplementary help from the grader or patternmaker in the shops where they are employed.

Manager Moe Falkman pointed out that, while those who finish the course do not receive a diploma or certificate, they are able to improve their skills and their future earning ability. He also stated that the industry benefited by the operation of the course in that it was able to employ skilled mechanics in the various branches of the garment industry.

While there is no age qualification for the course, it was noted that most of the students were younger men who had joined the organization since the war, as well as some recent recruits. A number of those who completed the course already have become graders or assistants to graders or lead cutters.

Registration is now open for classes beginning in September. Interested cutters should apply immediately at the office of Harry Shapiro, secretary to the executive board.

## FILING STARTS AUG. 1 FOR NEW YORK CLOAK RETIREMENT BENEFIT

Workers in the New York coat and suit industry who wish to receive the benefits of the new application in the period from Aug. 1 through Sept. 31, Harry Kirman, manager of the retirement fund, has announced.

Members filing applications for the first time should go to the office of the local union in which they work. Workers who already have applications on file with the retirement fund should go directly to its office, at 1467 Broadway, 12th floor, to receive their applications. To be eligible for retirement in 1961, a worker must be at least 60 years of age at the time of filing his application, or, if he is not presently disabled, he must be at least 65 years old, he must have at least 20 years of service with the union, he had 20 years, he had 10 of which must have been contributed by an employer who contributed to the retirement fund.

## PHILLY DRESS UNION INSTITUTE EXAMINES 'LEADERSHIP FABRIC'

Twenty-seven active members of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board attended a five-day institute held at Group House from June 17 to 21, under the general title of "The Fabric of Union Leadership." They studied a number of industry programs confronting not only the Philadelphia garment market, but the women's garment industry in general.

Presidents of the institute were held daily from 9 o'clock in the morning to 11:30 and from 1:30 to 3:30 in the afternoon. Those attending the institute were drawn from virtually all major dress shops in Philadelphia, according to William Stein, who served as institute chairman. Among them were: William Stein, 215 St. Ann St., 214, 219 and 220.

Intensive attention was given to such subjects as techniques of collective bargaining, which was discussed by Dr. George W. Taylor, present president of the Philadelphia garment industry, with William K. Simkin leading the discussion; unemployment insurance problems in Pennsylvania, with Milton M. Weiss as discussion leader, and problems in union leadership with Dr. Benjamin W. Burkas conducting the discussion.

Other speakers were Dr. William Oomburg, Mark Starr, Leon Steinhilber, Frank Coyne, Adolph Held and a number of staff members of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board. Graduation exercises on June 22 featured a talk by Vice Pres. David Omgund.

**PHILLY DRESSERS**

## Peaceful U. S. Picketing Vs. Polish Tanks, Guns

Workers do not strike without cause. Be it economic betterment or political freedom, the stake is crucial in the men involved. Men who must not live in a complex, treacherous world soon learn well the axiom that struggle is the means to security.

There has progressed fast progress. The realizations who work against the striking of the workers' union in 1955. They have on the other's negative response and ignore the positive aspects - the strengthening of American economy through the increase of mass purchasing power.

The labor situation shows their eyes to the fact that the real source of power is in the hands of the world that, only in a few nations can workers organize and act to improve their condition. The real workers who peacefully work in France, Poland, also had their destruction, whose revolutionary completed mission was to work for the betterment of the world. The real truth is that in a slave state it is impossible for workers to strike or organize as an instrument of self-help.

As was to be expected, the Communist leaders rushed to their respective positions to be their respective leaders that led to their destruction.



## Dress Institute Fashion Show Harbinger of Good Fall Season

Some 200 fashion editors, representing the nation's press, gathered at Hotel Piere in New York last week for a long look at the new dress fashions, at the 21th semi-annual Prea Week showings sponsored by the Couture Group of the Dress Institute.

The new dress fashions, displayed with the better dress design department's new line, in a sense marked the start of the fall season, which New York designers and manufacturers view with considerable optimism.

They indicate that business is "getting and getting to be."

and that better orders are coming ahead of last year.

The current feeling of confidence seems despite the disappointing reports on retail trade and the slump in the auto industry and also steel strikes which have added fuel over a million people to the unemployment rolls. But in the face of these factors, retail sales volume has been going up.

### Sales on Rise

A spokesman for the big New York state reported recently that the weather has brought in many people into the state. Last it's hard to see the Sun? The Political Bureau report reports that department store sales for the week ending June 10 were up over 100 million in 1955.

Optimism among dress jobbers and manufacturers at the beginning of a season by way of events, seemed. Whether the optimism is warranted will not become clear until sales begin to re-appear.

The Dress Institute, established in 1931 at the suggestion of Dress Joint Board General Manager John H. Dickman as part of a "greater education program" plan for improving the industry, has developed into the single most influential source of fashion news for American newspapers and radio and TV stations. One result is that New York has been replacing Paris as a prime fashion source.

### Dr. Price Chaires Group On Problems of Cardiac

Later registrants attended the summer course on "The Cardiac and Its Role" sponsored recently by the New York Trust for American Heart Research. The group, so well as a number of the job executives, was planned by the association's Committee on Cardiovascular Research. The group, which is headed by Dr. Leo Price, medical director of the ELIZAVI Trust Heart Center,

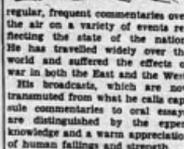
**BOOK FRONT**

## Sevareid Sifts Eisenhower Era In Oral Essays

SMALL BOUNDS IN THE NIGHT. By Eric Sevareid. Alfred A. Knopf, \$2.50.

THE UNITED STATES IN HISTORY. By James T. Shaw. Little, Brown and Company, \$3.00.

"Mr. Sevareid is chief Washington correspondent for one of the nation's largest radio broadcasting chains, and in that capacity makes the most of his day."



regular, frequent commentaries on the air on a variety of events reflecting the state of the nation. He has traveled widely over the world and suffered the effects of war in both the East and the West. His broadcasts, which are now transmitted from what he calls "exclusive commentaries to oral essays, are distinguished by the expert knowledge and a warm appreciation of human failings and strengths."

His latest book is a collection of 100 short pieces of his broadcast work on the Eisenhower era. He tags the Eisenhower era, "The Year that things great and small had and had a perspective in the events of the day."

Dr. Shawhead is one of our most distinguished historians, with a long record of work for peace in and between the world wars. In his latest volume, he has gathered together the best of his work. He has had a valuable service by presenting what is the common property of our history.

Instead of giving another on detail in telling the story of the nation's rise in world history, he has presented a series of essays on these details and has used them to set points and references to his own generalizations about periods in American history. Indeed, the work is so excellent and so far more useful in determining the direction in which we are moving in this time of great change and conflict.

### NEW ST. LOUIS FIRM PAYS \$2,500 OWED TO LASKY WORKERS

Eighty-four workers who had been employed by the Lasky Dress Co. in St. Louis, Missouri, last week received their long overdue wages and vacation pay they failed to receive when the firm went bankrupt, according to Vice President Paul H. Hoover.

The Lasky dress, which is still available, is being produced by the St. Louis, Mo., plant. The workers are being paid for their services in the plant and for their services in the plant. The workers are being paid for their services in the plant and for their services in the plant.

In Mississippi, the union is using the St. Louis, Mo., plant. The workers are being paid for their services in the plant and for their services in the plant. The workers are being paid for their services in the plant and for their services in the plant.

