

Garment Workers Drive For \$.25 U.S. Minimum

A call by Congress to enact a federal minimum wage law of \$1.25 an hour, with extended coverage, was issued by the ILGWU General Executive Board at its meeting in Miami last week.

The GEB, after hearing a report on the legislative situation in Washington by Political Director Gus Tyler, called for speedy action since Congress is expected to adjourn early in time for the national nominating conventions.

Efforts to enact a new minimum wage law at the 1959 session of Congress were blocked by Congressional involvement with the Labor-Griffin bill. Workers in the garment and other industries are expected to renew their appeals to Congress for swift action on pending Senate bill to raise minimums to \$1.25 an hour and to extend coverage. The full year's delay, during a period of rising costs, has created a broad based demand for early enactment.

In the Senate, the full Labor Committee will be considering approval of a new bill this

month. Delegations from New York, New Jersey, Vermont and West Virginia have been pouring into Washington to speak with their Senators who are members of this Labor Committee.

In the House Labor Committee, hearings on minimum wages are to be scheduled. The high priority on minimum wage legislation was stressed at a legislative conference of AFL-CIO unions held in Washington early in January, where the push for a \$1.25 and extended coverage was top on the agenda.

At that time, delegations representing 19 different international unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO Joint Minimum Wage Committee

met with Senate Majority Leader Johnson, Minority Whip Kuchel, House Speaker Sam Rayburn and House Minority Leader Charles Halleck.

These unions then indicated the need for swift action in this session of Congress to raise and extend the minimum to prevent the passage of time

What YOU can do

to get a legal minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour

1. Write to your Congressman. If you don't know his name, send a card to the ILGWU Political Department, 1710 Broadway, New York City 19. Be sure to give your return address.
2. Talk to your neighbors, retailers, town councilman.
3. Meanwhile, write immediately to your Senator. His address is Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

from further widening the gap between low-income earnings and the cost of living.

Local committees are being organized across the country to communicate the feelings and needs of working people and their neighbors to Congress. Although the ILGWU membership alone massed a total of more than 100,000 names on petition to Congress last year, the current drive is expected to exceed that number, with members of the union circulating non-union as well as union shops.

WASHINGTON MEMO

by JOHN HEALING

Big Steel Uses 'Big Lie' In Price Rise Propaganda

WASHINGTON — We consumers are being brainwashed by the steel industry. Big Steel spokesmen are scouring the country with powerful derogatory. They want a price increase and are determined to get it — so we'd better watch out.

We are being kidded on a grand scale in the most elaborate "numbers game" of the decade. Even President Eisenhower sighs gratefully in his State of the Union Message that the steel industry will not raise prices—now. But eventually? The facts show that the provisions of the steel agreement signed by the Steel Workers Union and steel management do not justify, economically, a price increase during the 30-month life of the contract.

Over the years, the steel industry has habitually laid the blame for steel price increases at the door of organized labor. Back in 1956, for example, the wage settlement was allegedly responsible for increasing the price of producing a ton of steel by \$2.50. But what did the steel industry do? It raised the price of steel by \$7.50 a ton! Privately, he said this was raising too far—but he kept on hustling with steel magnate George M. Humphrey, his then Secretary of the Treasury.

Eisenhower's Economic Message to Congress last month contained this important observation by his Council of Economic Advisers: "Hourly rates of pay and related labor benefits can of course be increased without jeopardizing price stability." This means that wage increases don't necessarily require price increases. If, in this instance, price stability is endangered, it will be the steel management's drive for high profits — not the steel union's concern for reasonable wages — which must be held responsible.

Preparing the Groundwork

The steel industry has already prepared the groundwork for a price raise by estimating the increase in hourly employment costs by the end of the 30-month contract period at 39 to 41 cents. That estimate is exaggerated. By repeating this figure the companies hope they will gain general acceptance for this estimate and an eventual price increase could be put over on the public as inevitable.

That 39-to-41-cent estimate is loaded with all kinds of phony reckonings based on what steel management calls the "indirect impact on fringe costs." Actually, impartial economists believe a fairer estimate of the settlement "package" — indirect costs and all — comes to 24 cents, or under certain conditions, as low as 32 cents for the entire period of the contract.

I, talking about price increases, steel management moreover completely disregards the fact that steel productivity will more than make up for the 3 to 3 1/2 percent increase in wage costs.

The productivity of the steel industry has increased so rapidly in the last few years that the output per man hour has outpaced that of 1957—when steel profits reached record highs. This means that steel companies could maintain record high profits, without increasing prices, even if wage increases went beyond 3 1/2 percent or more—which they have not done under this new contract.

Even if steel operations should drop off to about 80 percent of capacity in 1961 and 1962, wage costs will not be a critical problem for management. The higher productivity rate will absorb higher unit costs.

So, the moral of this dispatch is: Don't let the steel companies get away with a price increase. Don't let them make the steel worker the victim of the settlement. In fact, Humphrey's Anti-Monopoly Committee will watch the price of steel—long after the November elections, when the companies hope to steal some free.



URGE MAIL FAVORING FORAND BILL TO GIVE AGED MEDICAL CARE

The AFL-CIO has called for an intensive letter-writing campaign in favor of the Forand bill as the House Ways and Means Committee scheduled a major vote on the measure for early March.

Andrew J. Biemiller, federation legislative director, said trade unionists have only a few weeks in which to write committee members and register their support of the measure before the committee meets in executive session to decide whether to report the bill for a vote by the entire House. The measure—a key plank in labor's 1960 legislative program—would expand the social security system to provide medical and hospital care for the nation's senior citizens.

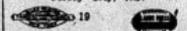
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Capital Convergences

As the second session of the 86th Congress convened last month, a garment workers' delegation played a key role at the AFL-CIO Legislative Conference called to outline a program of political activity. The three-day meet emphasized the need for new civil rights legislation, a \$1.25 minimum wage with extended coverage, aid to distressed areas and education, and economic policies geared to stimulating the nation's growth.



AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany delivers keynote address to meet, assailing the administration's tight-money policy as contributing to inflation, calling for public-interest legislation.



Delegates to legislative conference show credentials at the registration desk. At left is ILGWU Political Department Executive Secretary Evelyn Dubrow, legislative representative.



James Mahoney, Vice Pres. David Gingold, Senator Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Phil. Knitgoods Manager Joseph Schwartz, N. East Asst. Dir. Sol Chaikin and Joe Carreiro.



Eva Day of Southeast Region Local 523, Business Agent Morton Shapiro, Congressman Graham Barden, and Mamie Skarren discuss minimum wage legislation, one of many confabs.

GEB Charts Organizing Ste-U, Severance Pool, Pension Mergers

The ILGWU General Executive Board, meeting in Miami Beach last week, surveyed market and organizational conditions, acted to establish a centralized severance pay fund and to hasten the merger of ILGWU retirement funds, and heard Pres. David Dubinsky report as major change in union membership.

Los Angeles Group Drops Court Plans Against ILC

A group of Los Angeles members of the Cloak Joint Board, who had hired lawyers and threatened to take court action against the ILGWU, has announced dropping the action, it was reported at the meeting of the General Executive Board. Through the contemplated court action, it was noted, Communist-inspired groups had hoped to accomplish by way of the Landrum-Griffin law the anti-ILGWU success they failed to achieve in the past two years.

The threatened action was aimed at halting the election of Junior Blenzer last October as manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, following the decision by the OEB to end its six-year supervision of the center.

The decision to drop the action indicates a realization by the group that ILGWU officers cannot be intimidated even by threats of court action to be taken under legislation hostile to labor.

In their communication setting of their decision to drop the action, leaders of the group stated they will take up their grievances through the regular machinery provided by the union structure for this purpose, thus indicating they have realized that they, too, must use the democratic instrument if they have grievances to adjust.

The ILGWU president called the session in order for asking for a period of silence in memory for Vice Pres. Isidore Nagler and former Vice Pres. Baltimore Nichols as well as Arturo Giovanitti, workers' post.

Because the passing of Nagler left the oldest section of the union unprotected as the GEB, it was moved that Henoch Mendelsohn be considered at once for filling that vacancy. Instead of deferring the replacement to the next meeting of the board. Accordingly, the new general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board was unanimously elected as a vice president of the ILGWU.

Mendelsohn was named to the post of general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board last September after the death of Vice Pres. Isidore Nagler.

Until then, he had been assistant general manager of the board; before that, he had served as ex-

ecutive secretary of Cloak Fashioners Local 8.

Mendelsohn, who is 48, came to this country in 1941. Formerly active in the labor movement of Poland, he was one of 1,500 European-trade unionists and intellectuals brought here under special visas authorized by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, obtained through efforts of ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky and the late AFL Pres. William Green.

ing 1938, this has not universally been the case, he said.

Wide Severance Coverage

The ILGWU chief pointed out that 75 percent of the ILGWU membership is now covered by contract provisions setting up arrangements pay funds. Virtually all market, trade and regional contracts now have such a clause, and only the renewal of a number of independent contracts remain before complete coverage is achieved. He said that restrictive labor laws were aimed at the morale of union members and staffs, and that the steel strike was a direct attack on the entire labor movement.

In the same period since the last GEB meeting, in which the steel workers' fight against the organized labor movement deflected the onslaught of the steel corporations, the ILGWU scored a victory in Pennsylvania where, since the dress general strike, it had been under attack by a group of employers seeking lower standards through forcing recognition of their rump association.

That association had flourished through its own weakness, and the elections it sought will be held only in those districts in Pennsylvania that have not re-established with the existing associations.

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Severance Pay

The widespread acceptance of this security provision in ILGWU contracts was the basis of the GEB's decision on the president's recommendation that a central pooled severance pay fund be established.

These funds are provided by employees. (Continued on Page 2)

Strike Looms in St. Louis As Dress Talks Bog Down

The first general strike in 27 years in the St. Louis suit-priced dress industry loomed last week as negotiations for the renewal of the new-laid agreement stalemate. At the same time, the General Executive Board of its members threatened and pledged support to a walkout if further attempts to settle fail and a strike becomes necessary.

The market agreement covers the work conditions of more than 2,000 in the St. Louis center and is scheduled to expire February 4. A 1948 memorandum was sent February 1 at the Sherron Jefferson Hotel, heard a full report on the negotiations.

The members voted unanimously for a strike if it becomes necessary. Don Robinson, manager of the Louis Dress Joint Board, chairman of the rally, read the telegram from Vice Pres. Fred Blenzer, regarding the authorization of the strike by the GEB. The message was cheered. Frank Walker, assistant regional director, also

spoke. Vice Pres. Blenzer, Central States Region director, will be back in St. Louis for a last settlement attempt on February 4.

The agreement is between the St. Louis Dress Joint Board and 72 contractors of the Associated Garment Industries.

Among the chief contract demands put forth by the union are a reduction of the present 40-hour work week with no loss in earnings, wage increases, higher minimum rates, establishment of severance pay benefits, and improvements in health, welfare and recreational benefits.



Henoch Mendelsohn

In his summary report, Pres. Dubinsky noted that preliminary 1948 census data indicated no drop in ILGWU membership. This was so despite the breaking influence of the new labor law on organizational drives so essential to maintaining the level of the union's membership in the face of normal turnover.

While women's and children's garment sales have largely benefited from the general improvement in the nation's economy dur-

"A Penny Here, a Penny There . . ."

GE Hears Reports Of Departments

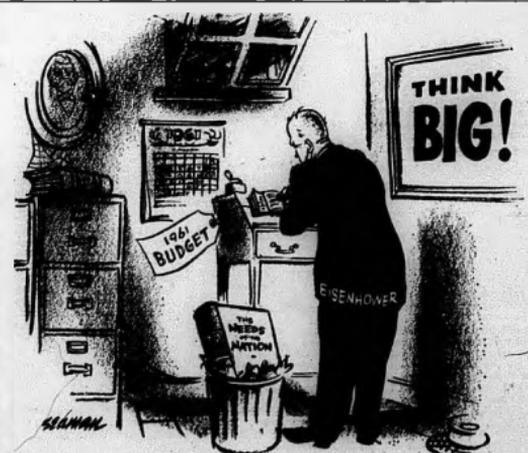
At its meeting last week, the General Executive Board heard reports on the activities of a number of ILGWU departments, including Research, Control and Training.

Agenda items included: —A report by Gus Tyler on the work of the Training Institute, including the two evening classes. He also analyzed the current political scene.

A review of recent legal developments, prepared by General Counsel Morris P. Ginsberg, which was read by William G. Gorman, assistant to the president.

Plans for future promotional campaigns of the Education Department, described by Vice President Joseph Blochman.

A report on the effectiveness of the national, general membership report will appear in the next issue of JUSTICE.



TYLER NAMED CHIEF OF ILGWU EDUCATION

Gus Tyler, director of the ILGWU Training Institute and the Union's Political Department, has been named by the General Executive Board to head a new department that will combine these two with the present Education Department.

The board act- ed after bearing a report by its standing educational committee.

Amalgamation of the three departments follows the retirement of Mark Starr after a quarter of a century of service as education director.

In its report, the GEB committee considered the changed nature of workers' educational needs in the new quarter of a century. It indicated that the new department would coordinate its present efforts in order to meet the new emphasis and needs in this field.

Tyler came to the General Office in 1926 as director of the newly created Political Department. He assumed the directorship of the Training Institute following the passing of Arthur Edler, its first director.

Eastern Region Makes Short Shift Or Non-Union Pockets on Long Island

Any outfit thinking it can operate non-union for long on "the Island" soon finds out "taint so." As soon as the Eastern Region's Long Island organizers get wind of one starting operations, they're actively on the scene, working to enroll the shop into ILGWU ranks.

For instance, within a short time after opening for business, A & A Dress, a manufacturer in Copiague, I & I Dress of Oyster Park and Grand Ale Products of South Farmingdale were signed up, reports Vice Pres. Edward Kramer, general manager of the Eastern Region.

Organization of these shops resulted from swift, concentrated campaigns led by Business Agents Anthony Alessio, Miss Marion and Samuel Levinsky, under direction of Local 87-17-107 Manager Richard Carbone.

Slable Gales

Gains for the workers came quickly too; at each shop, they obtained increases of 47 percent on top of settled prior wages. 4% paid holidays, time and a half after seven hours a day, and health, welfare and retirement funds.

Josephine Diapanzovo was elected chairlady at A & A Dress; Emma P. Martin at I & I, and Rose M. Roma at Slable Gales. At the ILGWU Manufacturing in-

Lyonsbrook, it took just a bit longer. It came into the union after a 2½-week drive, headed up by Carbone and Alessio. Workers here obtained hourly increases of 5, and a central paid holiday, overtime after seven hours, and coverage under health, welfare and retirement funds. Automatic Cost-of-Living was chosen also chairlady.

Mapping Strategy



Newly-formed rank-and-file organizing committees from the Northeast Department's Aieatown Reading District pinpoint future targets on a map of the area. From left: Ed Sanger, Business Agent Paul Strongin, Field Supervisor Jack Halpern, Viola Reich, Business Agent Al Cantor, Pennsylvania Organizational Director Sol Hoffman, and Manager Oscar Newman.

Grass Roots Teams Boost N'East Sway

Less than a month after the Northeast Department announced the formation of rank-and-file organizing committees throughout a nine-state area, the grass roots efforts have brought several shops to the negotiating table, reports Vice Pres. David Gingold, department director.

In Allentown, Pa., Manager Oscar Newman announced the signing of a standard agreement approved by the 38 workers at Mayco Manufacturing Co.

Negotiations are under way at Leah Sportswear Co. of the same town, following a brief lockout campaign.

Two other new firms have taken over operations at sites of former ILGWU shops. They are Stanley Friedla, makers of children's wear in New Columbus, and Monitor Manufacturing Co., sportswear producers in Newburgh, N.Y.

Reading Parleys

On another front, Local 32 in Reading, Pa., is seeking pay increases and other fringe benefits in talks with the Elmar Manufacturing Co. and Crew Sportswear.

Although for years the workers at the non-union L. Matthews Bros. Co., New Bedford, Mass., had received wages and working conditions steadily tied in ILGWU shop agreements, it was not until last month that they sought the benefits of a union agreement for themselves.

However, although the shop agreed to let several, the employer refused to bargain, and the workers staged a walkout without an January 31, 1960, deadline. Frank Peretti and Marcel Sautis are direct-ly negotiating with the employer. Coordinating the efforts of the rank-and-file organizing committees is Field Supervisor Jack Hal-

Top Court OKs Back Pay To Unjustly Discharged

The Supreme Court ruled last month that under the Fair Labor Standards Act, workers who are fired illegally not only are entitled to reinstatement, but should also be awarded lost pay by the courts.

The 4 to 3 decision overturned a ruling by the Middle Georgia District Court. The lower court ruling had the effect of weakening enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which includes the federal minimum wage law.

Noted Columnist Acclaims ILG Fight Against Phonies

One of the nation's most widely syndicated columnist last month highlighted the Eastern Region's battle against shady "labor" outfits in the course of its organizing drive in the New Jersey knitgoods industry.

Noted labor reporter Victor Riesel cited a dozen such strange labor campfire and explained the formula: "It's really very simple. You just whip up a good prolephant name, make it sound like some AFL-CIO unit, pick a number, and you're in the labor business."

Singled out for special mention were Teamsters' Local 945 (garbage collectors) and the so-called "independent" union, Colliery between employers and racket unions was noted as a major factor contributing to the area's many "sweetheart" contracts, but the article concluded on a hopeful note:

"Kramer and his colleagues have been fighting this invasion by new-type American enterprise for two years. The needle trade union now has signed up 1,600 workers in the ILGWU's Local 222. They are employed in 28 plants. Wages have been raised. Working conditions are beginning to match those in New York. The fight goes on. The fight from our big city to heavens of cheap labor soon will be chiseling employers' little gold."

Thwart Shady Outfits Using Landrum-Griffin Against ILG

Anti-social elements in the dress industry quickly found out—to their dismay—that they couldn't get the National Labor Relations Board to use the newly enacted Landrum-Griffin law against the ILGWU. But they lost no time in trying. The law

on struck work in the plant. The workers returned. Subsequently it was learned that Jaylo was still working for the struck jobbers. This time the workers stayed on the job, continued to work on struck goods.

The local union executive board met and, after conducting a hearing, voted to expel the workers for counter-subversion members of the ILGWU and action against the interest of the union. In the meantime, the union filed arbitration proceedings against Jaylo.

When the employer went to court to delay arbitration, the Dress Joint Council picketed both plants to stop the flow of struck work.

Contractor for Self

While the court proceedings were in progress, Jaylo sold out to a firm named Oak Manufacturing Co.

It was soon discovered that the new manufacturer, Co. was none other than the late Bishop, president of Paris Pare, and that the sale was just a paper transaction. The late Bishop had become a contractor for Budget Dress and his own firm, Paris Pare, as well as for other struck jobbers. The picket lines.

Three days after the Landrum-Griffin Act went into effect, Budget Dress and charged the ILGWU with illegal picketing. At this point, ILGWU General Counsel Morris P. Gousselin, Mark Zimm of the legal staff, and Seymour of the Dress Joint Council, entered the case.

They detailed the backgrounds of the uncanny elements building the union in the dress industry. Moreover, they pointed out that picketing was for the sole purpose of pulling a stop to work being performed by the struck New York jobbers.

The NLRB listened and then came to a decision. The General Counsel of the NLRB has no jurisdiction of the charges filed by Oak Manufacturing. Upon being informed of the NLRB's withdrawal of charges, Co. began to close the case. The ILGWU's position was vindicated, and picketing continues.

ORGANIZING STEP-UP ADDS 4 MORE SHOPS TO MONTREAL RANKS

Continuous organizing efforts conducted by Canadian staff recently resulted in four new Montreal firms, employing some 75 workers, coming under union ranks and signing ILGWU agreements, reports Vice Pres. Bernard Ebner.

The Clothmakers' Union non-certification at Debutante Coat and Suit Co., while the Dressmakers' Union will represent employees at Susan Rose's, American Deb Manufacturing Co. and Slim Mode. All firms agreed to accept terms of the master agreement for their industry.

Meanwhile, Montreal ILGers are in the throes of a struggle to maintain previous gains. With dress employers making concerted efforts to cut prices for piece work, the union called stoppages at Peter Pan Dress, Alby Janders and Hennessey Ltd. to bring recalcitrant employers into line.

Price settlements are nearing completion in both the dress and silk industries.

Pa. Arbitr Picked By Blouse Factors

Dr. Paul A. Fitzmaurice of Lafayette College has been appointed deputy impartial chairman to deal with labor-management disputes that may arise in Pennsylvania. It was announced by George Minister, impartial chairman of the Blouse Industry in the northwestern states.

Joining with Minister, Vice Pres. David Gingold, director of the ILGWU Northeast Department, and Pex. Mariano C. Saveri of the State Bar Apparel Contractors' Association made the decision in accordance with terms of the collective agreement.

Dr. Fitzmaurice will also act as a labor expert in relations between the union and firms which are not members of the State Bar group.

NLRB DECISION HELPS EASTERN REGION CLIP ANGEL'S WINGS IN N.J.

Last month's election victory scored by the Eastern Region at Angel Knitgoods in Jersey City, N. J., has been nullified down finally through certification by the National Labor Relations Board, according to Vice Pres. Edward Kramer, general manager of the region.

In the hearing, New Jersey Knitgoods' Local 222 of the ILGWU defeated Teamsters' Local 945 (garbage collectors).

During the initial stages of the knitgoods drive in 1958, the Angel employer sought to organize genuine unionization by signing with numerous "labor" racketeers Louis Landry; later, it was discovered that the "labor" racketeers were administering the "sweetheart contract" signed by the firm, which had since disappeared.

The ILGWU knitgoods unit, under Peter Delefsen's direction, succeeded in organizing the shop's workers and was the legal holder. Necessary to obtain an NLRB representation election, Delefsen reports that negotiations with the firm are now under way for a union contract.

But five new Bedford, Mass. Twin committee set up by District Manager Ralph Reber and New Bedford Department Director Frank Lyons. Assistant Manager Daniel McCarthy heads up Fall River group. Business Agent Rose Blumstein in charge of the New Bedford committee.

10% 'Package' Caps Puerto Rico Bra Pact



Members of Puerto Rico Local 600 fill auditorium to hear report on new agreement which was negotiated at a windup session in New York City. New pact obtained a 10 percent package increase for some 5,000 garment workers in Puerto Rico. Rear, from left: Isabel Isaac, Local 600 Manager Robert Gladnick,

Guadalupe Pena, Association representatives Jack Delman and Ellis Rosenthal, Seated, from left, Margarita Toro, Local 600 President Lolita Cartagena, Puerto Rican Secretary of Labor Fernando Sierra Berdecia, Pres. David Dubinsky, Association attorney Melvin Kleeblatt, and employer representative Larry Gluskin.

Corset, Bra Local Nears First Pact At Lily of France

Lily of France, one of the best known producers of foundation garments in this country and non-union for over 50 years, is now in the process of negotiating a union contract with New York Corset and Brassiere Workers' Local 32 covering some 250 workers.

Local Manager Max Goldenberg has announced that 211 of the company's employees have already signed union representation cards, and that he expects a contract to be signed in the near future.

He said that the contract would preserve for Lily of France employees all of the fringe benefits they now have and, in addition, give them a 6 percent wage increase and all other gains of the union's new industry-wide agreement as well as all the benefits of its health and welfare program.

Goldenberg disclosed that the local is also on the verge of signing a contract with Condens Billions, another big foundation producer that

operates a 100-machine shop.

A systematic organization drive launched shortly after Goldenberg became manager of Local 32 last year has helped boost its membership by over 1,000. A number of the largest firms in the industry, which had been operating on a non-union basis for over 25 years, have joined union rosters as a result.

In only one instance has a strike been necessary, Goldenberg pointed out.

On another front, the local is picketing one New York and two Pennsylvania plants of Carnival Creations, which locked out its New York workers. Three local executive board members—Sylvia Payne, Rose Vera and Veronica Wolf—were sent to Pennsylvania where the Northeast Department has pledged cooperation to help save the jobs of the New York workers.

Important wage and welfare gains have been won for 5,000 corset and brassiere workers in Puerto Rico as the result of contract renewal negotiations that began early this month in San Juan and ended January 18 in Pres. David Dubinsky's office in New York. The package of improvements represents a total gain of 10 percent.

Pres. Dubinsky headed the bargaining committee in both the island and mainland sessions. A local committee of four workers, together with Local 600 Manager Robert Gladnick, came to New York to resolve the bargaining stalemate that ended negotiations on the island.

"Fringes" Up

The four worker-members of the committee were Lolita Cartagena, Local 600 president; Guadalupe Pena, local secretary-treasurer; and Isabel Isaac and Margarita Toro, shop chairladies.

Of the 10 percent "package" gains, 6 percent covers an across-the-board wage increase, and the

balance represents improvements in "fringe" benefits. Employees now will contribute an amount equal to a total of 4½ percent of payroll to the health and welfare fund, from which one of the new gains—a two-week paid vacation for workers employed by a firm one year or longer—will be financed.

Other gains chalked up under the new four-year pact are: establishment of severance pay funds, to be financed by employers' contribution of 1 percent of payroll, starting with ½ percent this year and another ½ percent to be added in 1961.

—Use of the ILGWU union label. —Weekly sick benefits to be increased from the present \$15 for a maximum of 15 weeks to \$20 for 20 weeks, with surgical payments rising from \$75 to \$150.

—A 6-cent increase in the hourly minimums of skilled workers, with a special provision covering cutters and others.

Another 'First'

Other provisions stipulate improvements concerning job security, overtime pay, and grievance machinery. Also, contract minimums are to be boosted further in the event there is a rise in the statutory minimum through action by industry committees.

The fruitful negotiations concluded in New York marked the first time a workers' delegation came from Puerto Rico to the mainland to negotiate an industry-wide contract with the employers.

The fighting spirit, determination and thorough knowledge displayed by the workers' representatives was the warm praise of Fernando Sierra Berdecia, Secretary of Labor of Puerto Rico, who had been invited to be present at the pact's signing.

Members of Local 600 received a full report on the negotiations and the new contract terms at a mass meeting held in San Juan on January 21.

Representing the employers' association at the talks were Melvin Kleeblatt, his attorney, and Larry Gluskin, Jack Delman and Ellis Rosenthal.

Knit Shop Renewals Net '99' Pay Raises

Some 300 members of New York Office and Distribution Employees' Local 99, employed in 30 knitgoods shops in this city will receive a \$5 wage increase and other significant gains as a result of a new agreement, effective January 18.

The local's members in knitgoods are getting an immediate 23 increase and an additional \$2 on or before October 1, reports Manager Douglas Levin. The new agreement is for 18 months.

Other improvements written

into the agreement increase the number of guaranteed paid holidays from 3½ to 5½, establish a retirement fund, raise employer contribution to the health and welfare fund by ½ percent, and raise the minimum to \$45.50 for 35 hours.

The agreement also stipulates that minimums are to be kept 25 cents above the federal floor.

Other provisions guarantee payment on appearance for work and double time for holidays and Sundays.

"This new agreement has brought substantial gains for our members in the knitgoods industry," Levin said. The local's negotiation committee consisted of Sam Lackman, Neftali Lerner, Attorney Abraham Salomon, Ed Salomon, Felix Rivera, Willie Townsend, Purni Oden, Henry Harley and Jack Schlesinger.

'117' Meeting March 2 At Manhattan Center

The current trade picture and a report of the CIES meeting will be on the agenda for the membership meeting of Local 117, New York clock operators, on Wednesday, March 2, right after work at Manhattan Center, announces Manager Benjamin Kaplan.

South Jersey Sets Education Step-Up

A wide-ranging program of stepped-up education activities, including classes in trade union principles given by teachers from the Rutgers University Institute of Management and Labor Relations, was enthusiastically endorsed at a meeting of the South Jersey Education Joint Board, according to General Manager Morris Dobren.

The building fund of a church in Hammonton will receive the benefits of a dance being planned by that town's locals 128-333.

The new education program will be under the direction of William Kaufman, who recently joined the joint board staff.

BELTMAKER PICKETS BAG FIRST-TIME PACT WITH HALBREICH CO.

Organize! Strike! Settle! The classic formula followed by workers at Halbreich Belt Co. have won themselves a first-time contract with New York Beltmakers' Local 46, reports Manager Henry Schwartz.

Terms of the new agreement include a two-step reduction in the work week to 35 hours within six months, and compensatory wage adjustments; 7½ paid holidays; "vacation" pay; health and welfare benefits, and other conditions standard in the New York belt industry.

After several weeks of organizational spadework by staffer Joe Margolis and members of the local's Spanish Advisory Committee, the workers at Halbreich were ready to demand a union contract.

January 13 dawned wet and slushy, but as the employer approached 125 West 29 St. he encountered a spirited, volunteer picket line. That afternoon, he appeared at the Local 46 offices, pen in hand to link a new pact; one of the few remaining non-union belt shops in New York City was in the ILGWU fold.



At signing of pact bringing pay boost and other benefits to some 3,500 members of N.Y. Office and Distribution Workers' Local 99. Seated left to right: Bernard Rackmil, president of the Women's Apparel Chain Association and Local 99, Manager Douglas Levin. Standing, from left: Association attorney Henry Kohn, Shelley Appleton, former manager of Local 99, now the manager of Local 23, and union attorney Abe Schlesinger.

you are full . . .
 reputation" your height with a longer jacket, full or 3/4 length coat, a wide belt or a bold color. In-between prints are for you, too, but not never day. Leave floating panels and floral stripes to others. Don't, however, realize yourself in a life of flat shoes: moderate heels is the beginning to your legs and your morale.

are you short . . .
 ink "tall" and wear vertical lines with the ensemble—a broad white collar, a bright scarf, high seas and more accessories. Use double color stripes to others. Don't, however, realize yourself in a life of flat shoes: moderate heels is the beginning to your legs and your morale.

are you plump . . .
 this day of show-your-own silhouette, why not the effect by grimly squeezing in your waist, to hide out above and below? Why add bulk thick tweeds and wooly "fattening" prints? Your neck is short, gravitate to the new styles—suits and suits, and wear scarves and an upper torso top no neckless. Valorous dark colors, washy fabrics, conservative dark-ground cuts are best for you. Floral skirts will flatter you than straight, but keep the neckline narrow at mouth. Avoid round or oval necklines, puff sleeves and sleevelessness. Don't be afraid of red, or green or yellow in "bright" tones, particularly use of them is "your" color.

If you are thin . . .
 You are a natural—your clothes should make the most of it. You can wear soft drapery fabrics, or the bright satins and spongy weaves of current fashion. You can let yourself go in the matter of vivid colors or feminine marks. You can wear bulky knits, full, pleated skirts, etc. ruffles.

If you are tall . . .
 Concentrate the interest of your costume above the bust. A white collar, a draped neckline, a colored yoke, a bright scarf accomplish this. Wide belts and sashes over the waist make an extra "line" to the waistline and make the legs look longer.

If you are extra-short-tall with long legs . . .
 The slimmer skirt, or the full skirt without petticoats (if you are more than a youngster), looks more elegant and more balanced. Use every device to give yourself a lengthened torso: the fitted bodice that moulds past the waist to the hips, the row set in belt, the skirt that drops to one side.

If you have a short neck . . .
 Watch your posture and take stretching exercises if you want to keep your youthful look. But meanwhile, choose clothes with collars that stand away from the throat and ease of the neck. Collars that make a neck are good for you, but be sure the back of the neckline is low. Avoid long scarves, keep your necklines either wide to the sides or deep.

U LABEL DEPARTMENT TS DRIVE MAKE CONSUMER FASHION-WISE

But how to begin? All good fashion stems from these basic elements:

Simplicity . . . Ask any "well-dressed" woman her secret. Lack of clutter, she will say, is undoubtedly the mark to have on as well as what to see on. The fancy costume is as no more than a distraction as the low-cut dress.

Verisimilitude . . . A beautiful costume is the total effect of color, texture, line and pleasing accents. In costume design, there are many ways to achieve harmony. For the designer, the simple chord is: pleasing figure outline, the separate cut (a cohesive) plus interesting, contrasting colors and the proper balance of color, texture and line. The right fabric and/or the right hat. Remember: a hat is not an independent entity. It must "blend" matching perfectly, or become a bright spot of contrast. It can add height, or make you look low. The smart woman is seldom seen in public without some form of head covering, plus sunglasses.

Proportion . . . Costume designers tell us that structure and fashion are always closely related. In the medieval age of aaring Gothic cathedrals, long narrow gowns and high pointed hennines were "right" Victorian "structured" in build-

ings and bones was reflected in the delicate, trimmed collar Victorian ladies wore. Our slas skyscrapers, underlying cars and push-button novelties convince the modern woman to prefer loose lines, functional fabric and bright, fresh colors. A carefully chosen dress can fool the eye as to your figure proportion. The trick is to think of your waistline as the "equator" of your silhouette; raise the line slightly to make your legs seem longer, lower it if you want to look shorter through the bust. Your skirt worn above will make you look taller. The span of about four inches between the lower edge of your blouse and the "equator" of your skirt if the area over should study in the mirror to choose your most becoming hemline.

Personal taste . . . Filling your particular figure into the current fashion shapes, then adding the best lines and accessories, requires intelligence, up-to-date information, careful selection, plus self-expression, very personal taste called taste. The dictionary defines taste in two ways: "the power or faculty of seeing and appreciating the beautiful," and "individual preference or liking." When you say, "I like and want is also beautiful and pleasing to others," you have taste.

Good taste in dress can be obtained by reading (not just skimming) fashion articles, by looking at fashion pictures with yourself in mind, and by taking the time to visit a shop, to try on many different styles before choosing one. Whatever your price level, every shop will have some example of the types that interest you.



FASHION TIPS FROM A TO Z

- A** All-of-a-piece is the look to aim for. Achieve it by coordinating your colors, cutting down on "extra."
- B** Basic styles with interesting accents change can double the size of your wardrobe.
- C** Casual clothes in elegant materials can take you everywhere in comfort and style.
- D** Designer or manufacturers' labels add distinction to your wardrobe—and do a lot of your fashion thinking for you.
- E** Extremes are dangerous—unless you can afford to throw away a dress when it begins to bore you.
- F** Freedom of movement is a fashion "must." The hobbles skirt is not for the dance floor. "Drifty" clothes look awkward. Snake locks are not for sport clothes—and not for easy walking at any time.
- G** Glitter—the kind you get from satin and sequins and dazzling jewelry—is strictly for after-dark.
- H** Hair and hair are important—for better or worse. The new "Carbo" hair with wagger brims does no hair at the back and sides. A hat's most important angle is the profile. Always buy a hat intending on wearing yourself full length.
- I** Indifferent—a way never to be. Always know how you're dressed, even if you think no one will see you.

- J** Jealousy of another woman's beautiful looks may be just the spur you need to dress better, more you. Be "pale" with a clear head and a sharp eye for good ideas you can use.
- K** Knitted clothes are handsome, easy to pack, easy to care for—but be sure they are easy on your figure.
- L** Leather shoes, bags, belts should be treated with respect worthy of their value. Polish shoes, keep belts neat, belt buckles and handbags catches shiny.
- M** "Mystery-women" and "Marilyn Monroe" are the glamorous fashion adjectives when you can live up to them. "Mysterious" and "mused" are death to your fashion appreciation.
- N** Necklines should flatter your face and the length of your neck. Well-rounded collars if you are thin; scoop or V necklines (no turtlebacks) if your face is full above a short neck.
- O** Old-fashioned—the idea that red heels can't wear that trends can't come to the city, that velvet is just for summer, that shoes and handbags must match—that black kid shoes are "old."
- P** Pattern—to be worn only if you look well in them (color, fit and wardrobe).
- Q** Quick-dry and no-iron fabrics are important, especially if you travel a lot. To be at your best in them, slick up the edges with an iron no matter what the directions promise.
- R** Remember to hang up your clothes on a well-shaped hanger so as you take them off.

- S** Save time: keep plastic bags over clothes you don't wear often.
- S** Separates are wonderful when they become complete outfits. They should be well-made, well-fitted, well-matched. Leave the mind-up fashion label and the "made in" label.
- T** Think . . . we're to put them coming that goes that are just hit-and-run. Prescription: the newspaper fashion columns daily.
- U** Underneath it all: efficient underpinnings. strapless bra and half-slip if there's even a suspender, full slip for neck-through fabrics.
- V** Versatility is the mark of a good buy. The silk party gown can wear under a day coat or to an evening separately. The raincoat that look well in even when the sun is shining.
- W** White clothes are flattering. But keep them beautifully white.
- X** X stands for mistakes. Learn from the ones you make. Never make the same one twice.
- Y** Year-round fashions are wonderful here. Silk, linen, cotton, tweed, wool jersey, sheep wool, cashmere, are all-around.
- Z** Zero hour—never will fill this in to sleep. Even before you are ready to make your morning shop and take time to go for the things you want and take time to try them on.

Wage Increases for 1,400 Via Upper South Renewals

More than 1,400 Maryland and Virginia garment workers were assured of wage increases and other gains in new agreements recently negotiated by the Upper South Department, reports Vice Pres. Angelo Bambace, department manager. Six local unions with members in eight shops were involved in these negotiations with four firms.

At three plants of Gishvahn Ltd., manufacturers of ladies' suits, 658 workers won wage increases of 10 percent, overtime pay after seven hours, the union label and establishment of severance pay fund.

Gishvahn workers also have two weeks "vacation" pay, six paid holidays and the union's complete program of health, welfare and retirement benefits. The plant is located in Baltimore, York and Chambersburg. Business Agent R. M. Murray services the three shops, and the shop chair-ladies are Helen Thure, Rosa George and Mabel Acker, respectively.

S-RS Shops

Another Baltimore shop, Stran-

nyer-Brown Manufacturing Co., makers of a better line of sportswear, agreed to a new contract stipulating wage boosts for all rates, severance pay and the union label. The shop minimum will go to \$1.25 per hour. The class to 106 S-RS workers have enjoyed the 15-hour week, six holidays and two weeks "vacation" for many years. Ruth Murray also services this shop, whose chairlady is Thelma Hallowell.

Hagerstown Mile

In Hagerstown, Maryland, the Elpers Manufacturing Co., makers of children's dresses, agreed to wage boost, a higher paid minimum, overtime pay after seven hours, and the union label.

The 75 Elpers workers also have two weeks' paid "vacation," six holidays, and the complete schedule of union benefits. Shirley Adams is business agent and Anne Parris chairlady.

Six hundred Virginia workers in the three plants of the

Harwood Manufacturing Co. won wage increases up to 25 cents an hour, overtime pay guaranteed on a daily basis, an additional paid holiday and severance pay in their new contract.

The three shops, which produce pajamas and undergarments, are located in Marion and Abingdon, Virginia, and are serviced by Business Agent John R. MacDonnell, Martin West of ILGWU state director in Virginia.

Other gains in the Harwood agreement include unpaid plant minimums to \$1.15 an hour, the strengthening of the union's retirement fund, cessation of sick leaves and liberalization of the wage restraint clause based on the cost-of-living index.

In previous contracts Harwood workers won two weeks' paid "vacation" and the complete welfare benefit program. Lula Hall is president of Marion Local 474 and two shops and Rosa Mitchell is president of Abingdon Local 404.

Fraternal Corpses



When a serious illness put his life in danger, Local 22 member Morris Toback (center), shop chairman of H & O Dress Co., New York City, was immediately aided by four co-workers who donated blood for an urgently needed transfusion. From left: Fred's attorney Ben Muechick, Bernice Carnova, Joseph Di Fein, Sebastiani Falletta and Maria Salami, all members of Italian Dressmakers' Local 89, and Business Agent Joseph Costardo.

HOW TO BUY

by SIDNEY MARGOLIS

Modern Furniture, Rugs Best Buys for February

February is the month of furniture and rug sales. Furniture prices are at their lowest; but inventories of lumber and furniture are high, and comparatively good buys are available in this month's sales.

Here are tips on selecting values in the February home-furnishing sales:

FURNITURE. This year's style trends are good ones from the consumer point of view. The trends are in lightweight modern with slim, clean lines, and to skip-American or Colonial designs. More of the large manufacturers are producing slim modern and less of the bulky, gaudy "moderns" that feature huge, overstuffed chairs and sofas, and big cabinets with fancy veneers.

This kind of loud, heavy furniture is what the installment men always used to push at the older generation of "young people." In fact, our parents would tend to judge quality of furniture by hefting it. In the old days, some dealers even would hide lead weights in the furniture to make it seem heavier.

This year you can find more of the so-called "Danish modern" living-room sofas and chairs at moderate prices. This simple design is really one of the best styles at buy. Such chairs consist basically of a loose back and seat cushion on a wood slat frame with exposed wood arms and legs.

Too, you now can find more Danish modern styles at quite reasonable prices—so little as \$50 for a living-room chair, and \$15 to \$16 for sofa-beds. The sofa-beds generally have tapered bolsters of foam rubber.

Construction of cabinets and tables also has been improved to provide greater strength and durability, with less weight. You'll notice that some cabinets now have a metal edging. This makes them stronger and protects against warps. More tables, buffets and chests now have mar-resistant plastic tops.

In dining rooms, a growingly popular money-saving and space-saving idea is to use a hutch on top of the buffet, instead of a separate china cabinet.

Rug Prices Slab

RUGS. Prices of rugs advanced slightly last fall but are stable for the moment. You have chance of finding reasonable value in the cheap February rug sales. If you're willing to settle for room-size rug—either shag wall-to-wall carpeting, you have a chance to find rug-size reminders of broadloom rugs at sharply-reduced prices.

Rugs are still best choice. You don't have to pay for wrangle as in wall-to-wall carpeting; installation costs less; a rug can be turned to distribute wear; cleaning is more satisfactory done at the plant than in the home.

Many of the disappointments moderate-income families have suffered in buying carpeting, is when they bought goods of mediocre quality as a wall-to-wall carpet. Extra money went into installation instead of into the carpeting itself. Actually, of course, the cheaper the rug, the less-desirable is permanent installation.

A survey by the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service finds most homemakers by far still prefer wool rugs to nylon, cotton or rayon. The women said they liked wool best because of its greater durability, soil resistance and ease of cleaning. Nylon was voted second in preference for its durability, and ease of cleaning, and because it's impervious to moths.

Sometimes costly fibre like wool or nylon is blended with rayon to bring down the price. In general, rayon does not have the durability, resiliency or soil-resistance of wool or nylon. It's a dubious choice for rooms that get a lot of traffic. But a good wool-and-rayon may be as satisfactory as a low-grade all-wool.

Compare quality of rug by observing the height and density of the pile, and the weight of the rug. Generally the heavier the rug feels, the more material it has.

MODERN EQUIPMENT WILL SPEED MAILING OF ILG PUBLICATIONS

Conversion of the ILGWU Union Department involving installation of new, modern mailing equipment to in full program, is reported by Jeanne Kilgore, director of the department. Speedier mailing of JOURNAL and other ILGWU matter will be the direct result.

The conversion, started last September, depends for its effectiveness on the cooperation of the union's local affiliates. An appeal to them last September requested that they submit completely new-drawn membership rosters which will now become the basis for mailing to the members.

A number of locals have now yet returned these rosters, with the result that the conversion is being delayed. Members, in turn, should be certain that they have put on file at their local union office their correct address. Local managers are urged to send in the member lists as soon as possible.

GER Meet Fills Vacancies On Standing Committees

The General Executive Board filled vacancies on its standing committees created by the passing of Vice Pres. Isadore Nagler by naming Leo Falkenstein chairman of the Unity House Committee, Howard Mohrland to the Finance Committee and Branches Abandoned in the Union Health Center and Staff Retirement Committees.

Blousemakers' Open House



Surrounded by staff and executive board of Blousemakers' Local 25, Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler, local manager, and Mrs. David Dubinsky attend reception opening new headquarters.

Southeast Rosters Pass 10,000 Mark

Persistent organizing efforts conducted by Southeast Region staffers during the past year have brought the area to a major landmark: For the first time, ILGWU membership there has passed the 10,000 figure.

This encouraging disclosure is highlighted in the report made by Regional Director E. T. Keher to a Southeast staff conference held in Atlanta on January 14-15.

At the same time, he indicated organizers were concentrating on 20 non-union shops with the greatest concentration of another 2,000 workers.

Keher also stated that increasingly important roles would be assigned to regional activities for promotion of the ILGWU union label and for stepped-up political education programs.

Citing the work done by the ILGWU Mobile Health Center during 1947, Dr. Richard B. Heiman, medical director of the Southeast Region, emphasized the need for expanded medical facilities in the area.

Last year, he reported, 1,900 Southeast union members were examined by the mobile unit, turning up the following conditions: 253 gynecological disorders, 22 convulsions of the cervix, 28 suspected cancer of uterus, 118 ear-ear-ear-ear, at 2,000, 200, 200, 200.

ery, 1 active and 1 suspected TB, 28 gas-bleeding, 14 eye-ear-ear-ear-ear.

These figures point up the value of the healthmobile in safeguarding workers' health, plus the immeasurable goodwill rebounding to the union in the communities where the unit has been of service.

ILG Pics Feature New Film Catalog

Two movies featuring the ILGWU appear on the latest film list prepared by the Education Department for use by affiliates. The APL-CIO "Americans at Work" series and a five-minute film produced by the Central States Region dealing with the Tex-Don strike head the listing of 41 available movies.

The department has also released its catalog containing 108 filmstrips dealing with a wide range of subjects, reports Assistant Education Director Ralph Butler.



Massive education program is undertaken by Northeast Department and Dress Joint Council as new price enforcement policy is detailed to garment workers in seven-state area. At left, Vice Pres. David Gungold addresses members from the Wilkes-Barre-Fittston District. Seated, from left: Joint Council Assistant



Manager S. D. Green, Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of the Dress Council, Assistant Northeast Director S. D. Coxin, "conservative" supervisor Ray Shore, and Manager Min Matheson. In center, Green stresses the issues at a meeting in Fall River Mass. At right, Zimmerman makes a point to the activists.

GEB Meet Sets Organizing Push, Pooling of Funds

(Continued from Page 1) member contributions that start at either 1 or 2 percent of a firm's payroll, with the first two years at the earlier rate or the first year at the higher rate set aside for the accumulation of reserves.

The severance benefit is scheduled to become effective in the Dress Joint Council area in March. Other severance benefits are also scheduled for early start, in anticipation the new has been under way for some time to establish a certain severance fund. The central fund will be administered jointly by management and labor representatives. Rules and regulations governing operations are being formulated. It is estimated that total annual contributions in the fund at present rates will be about \$8 million.

Retirement Funds

The merging of ILGWU retirement funds was the subject of deliberations at the 1959 convention. In the United States, 42 such funds, representing collective bargaining with more than 100 separate employer associations, provide additional security for garment workers who meet conditions of eligibility when they reach age 65.

The problems of merger stem from the historical fact that each existing retirement fund represents a combination of members, contributions, and employer contributions, etc. The board, in carrying out the merger mandate of the convention:

1. Approved specialist studies to develop the basis for the merging of all funds.
2. Approved immediate steps to merge the retirement funds of miscellaneous locals in New York City, representing some 100,000 members. This step was eased by the action of the 1959 convention in setting a 2 percent minimum contribution by employers for retirement. When completed, this merger would leave the big city with only three funds instead of some 20 as at present.

These would be a cloak fund, a dress fund and a miscellaneous fund. A number of markets and regions already have carried out such mergers.

3. Insisted that facilities that in the future no contracts are to be negotiated without a provision for merging with a merged retirement fund.

In his report, Pres. Dubinsky told of three cases in which the

employer had underpaid on wages and contributions for health and welfare funds by keeping two separate sets of books — one the actual record for his own use, the other a fake one for dealing with the union.

Two of these were with shops under contract with Local 22. In one case a record \$74,000 was recovered, in the other \$200. The third case, involving a dress firm, was a civil suit against the firm of accountants that set up fraudulent system for the employer.

The board directed that ILGWU affiliates and accountants give special attention to the books and records they examine of firms which are serviced by any of the three accountancy firms involved in setting up fake sets of books in these three cases.

Imports

Acting on a report in The New York Times that anti-import export quotas by Hong Kong exporters of soft goods had proved ineffective, the GEB adopted a resolution recommending steps for dealing with the threat to established standards from this source.

In a review on U.S. Tariff Commission to determine for specific products the level of domestic production and the level of domestic consumption. It urged that only imports filling the gap between these be permitted to enter the United States at normal duty rates or at a lower rates negotiated through the international arrangement known as GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

It insisted, however, that "imports in excess of the difference between domestic production and consumption levels, be subjected to much higher duties designed to equalize domestic and foreign costs, including labor costs, and that imports from substandard areas be subject to the higher duties at all times."

The resolution also asked that when garments made of cotton exported from the United States under governmental subsidy arrangements returns to this country as imported finished garment, the amount of the subsidy be added to the amount of custom duty.

ILGWU Label

The GEB heard a report by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman indicating that since the start of the industry label program 421,650,000 labels have been distributed to ILGWU

Hundreds of dress shop representatives and union staff members from Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, up-state New York and Long Island met during the past fortnight to hear union spokesmen explain the new plan

for more effective and uniform enforcement of settled prices.

LOCAL 22 Membership Meeting

N. Y. Dressmakers WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10
right after work
at
Washington Center
24 St. & 8 Ave.

affiliates. Of this amount, more than 104,000,000 went to the New York metropolitan area industry, which the label first went into effect one year ago. In all other instances the label has been in distribution for less than a year.

The director of the ILGWU Union Label Department also told of mounting demands for the department's first pamphlet aimed at fashion education for the consumer. He also stressed completion of the label campaign which will be shown in women's clubs, school groups, conventions, etc. It is also planned to start an advertising campaign which will stress the label to the retailer and will include advertisements in the trade press, as well as counter cards for store and window displays declaring that the store sells labeled apparel.

Merger of Locals

The GEB approved the continuation of efforts by the General Office to merge or dissolve a number of smaller locals and services. These are the locals where market shifts and time have brought gradual dwindling of memberships. Many are located in centers with other ILGWU locals.

Pres. Dubinsky reported that in recent months the ILGWU roster of locals has been reduced by 15.

Negler Memorial

The GEB approved a proposed plan to memorialize the late Vice Pres. Isidore Negler. The exact nature of the memorial is the subject of a survey to be reported to the next board meeting.

The GEB also approved naming the ILGWU wing being built at the Workmen's Circle Home in New York City for Israel Feinberg, ILGWU vice president who died in 1952.

Attending the GEB meeting in addition to the board's full membership were E. T. Kehrer, director of the Southeast Region, and Isidore Blomson, general manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board.

The meetings took place in Newark, N. J.; Fall River, Mass.; Wilkes Barre, Pa., and Ulster, N. Y. Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, general manager of the Dress Joint Council; Vice Pres. David Gungold, director of the Northeast Department; Vice Pres. Edward Krummer, general manager of the Southern Region; and Green, assistant general manager of the council and S. D. Chaikin, Northeast Assistant Director, were among the speakers.

All emphasized the importance of putting the new plan into effective operation during the current season. The new plan for enforcement of settled prices will affect approximately 105,000 union dressmakers in the seven-state New York metropolitan dress market.

First announced at a meeting of the Dress Joint Council at the Hotel Astor in Manhattan two weeks ago, it has three main facets:

1. Use of an schedule as the basis for figuring prices on all work including custom work. The schedule to be used is a revised and up-to-date version of the official schedule used by the impartial

chairman's office since 1950.

Establishment of a new Technical and Control Department to train all business agents, price adjusters and shop checkers to apply the schedule in a uniform way, and to conduct price settlement "arbitrational audits" in the shops.

The training program, now in its fourth week, will prepare all union staff members for responsibility for price enforcement, and which will enable chairmen and price committees in each shop to be effective participants in the price enforcement process.

Training Sessions

Twenty-three out-of-town business agents and organizers attended the first two-week training session, and 45 price adjusters and business agents of the Dress Joint Board are now undergoing training.

It is expected that within the next month or six weeks, the whole price enforcement system will have been explained thoroughly, not only to all staff leaders, but to all shop chairmen.

Michael Lohrer, director of the new Technical and Control Department, is now in the process of preparing a question-and-answer manual which will be made available, in one form or another, through the Dress Joint Council jurisdiction.

Pinpoint Four Areas On Unionizing Goal

Plans for continuing ILGWU organizational drives at their traditional pace, despite the new anti-labor law, were drawn up at the meeting of the General Executive Board after board members heard a report by Pres. Dubinsky.

The ILGWU chief pointed out that the Landrum-Griffin Act posed serious obstacles in the way of such drives, but that it is necessary for the union to continue at high speed if only to maintain the present levels of membership.

The board heard the president's plans for stepped-up organizing in four major centers: Southern California, Southeast, Canada and the so-called miscellaneous-grades in New York City (these include children's wear, knifegoods, sportswear, undergarments and other items).

The locals in these trades will confer in the near future to set up a common organizing program. The ILGWU president pointed out

that when the Landrum-Griffin Bill was being drawn up, recognition was given to the jobber-contractor relationship which characterizes the women's garment industry. This recognition decreased the restrictions which were imposed on organizing activity, as far as the garment industry is concerned.

The decision for launching the interrelated organizing drive followed a discussion in which Vice Pres. Samuel Otto for the West Coast, Vice Pres. Bernard Shane for Canada, Director E. T. Kehrer for the Southeast Region and the vice-presidents who are managers of New York locals spelled out current organizational problems in each jurisdiction.

Start Canadian ILG Severance Payment

ILGers in Canada called up another "first" this month as five members received initial severance pay benefits setting a precedent for any trade union in the country.

"The garment workers, members of Dressmakers' Local 262 in Montreal, received sums of money to help after their employer, Helen Dale Ltd., went out of business.

They received their checks at a ceremony attended by leading Canadian representatives of the ILGWU and officials of the Montreal Dress Manufacturers' Guild at union headquarters.

Local 262 was the second local in the entire ILGWU to win severance pay benefits in the contract it signed in July 1949. Employers have contributed 1% of a person's August 1950, and the five members who received benefits this month were the first to collect.

Helen Dale Ltd., the firm which had employed them, had been in business for eight years. Eligible for severance pay were employees who had had at least two years' service with the firm. They received one week's wages for every year with the firm.

Victor-Fran. Bernard Shano said payment of the benefits "marks another progressive step for our members in Montreal." He noted that ILGers now enjoyed a number of benefits still to be reached by any union in Canada.

DR. FENBERG DIES; WILKES-BARRE AREA HEALTH CENTER HEAD

Dr. Albert B. Fenberg, director of the ILGWU Tri-District Health Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., died last week at the age of 58. The loss is felt deeply by the 35,000 members of the Northeast Department of the Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Hazleton and Potomac Districts who used the union's area medical facilities.

Dr. Fenberg, who had been at the helm of the center since it opened in 1942, also helped developing the mobile health center now in use in several parts of the country.

In addition to being the ILGWU chief physician in the area, he was also chief of medical services at the Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, a member of the City Board, a director of the Cancer Society and the United Fund, a former city physician, and prominent in the affairs of the state medical societies. He also was widely known as an ardent advocate of group medical programs.

New Local 40-60A Hqs. At Dress Bld. Building

Local 40-60A, New York dress makers and shipping clerks has moved its office to the Dress Bldg. building, at 215-27 West 48th St., at a new William Schwabman annex.

Swift '105' Move Balks Winterland Lockout Try

Quick action by New York Local 105 last month thwarted the efforts of a manufacturer to lock out approximately 80 to 90 workers employed in its inside shop in Manhattan, and to have in production done by non-union shops.

The firm - Winterland, Inc. which produces children's jackets and sweaters, began to discharge its employees in December and to liquidate a factory at 91 Broadway.

Lockout Charged
Local 105 Manager Martin L. Cohen promptly filed a complaint with the industry's imperialistic main, George Mintzer, charging a lockout.

The firm's defense was that it was undergoing a reorganization and that one of the owners was buying out another of the owners. This change in ownership had in fact taken place.

In any event, the firm has agreed to a ruling by the industrial arbitrator providing it to reemploy a shop consisting of 100 to 120 men and the necessary outfit and other equipment. Employment is to begin no later than February 16.

The firm has also agreed to increase its work force to at least 45 by July 15, and to continue to expand its inside factory until workers employed by it, before December 1, 1950 are back on the job.

It has agreed that until all these workers are re-employed it "will not give out or send out any work or deal with any contractors what-

soever, directly or indirectly, to the State of New York or elsewhere."
"The significant victory for our local," Cohen said, "should convince other manufacturers that we will react promptly and vigorously to any attempt to escape from our collective agreement."

3-Prong Crackdowns Hit At Phony 'Labor' Sheets

Efforts of the International Labor Press Association to spur a crackdown on phony "labor paper" bore fruit recently in three separate actions by the courts and the Federal Trade Commission. (The ILPA is made up of bona fide publications of unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO.)

After three days of unprecedented hearings in Philadelphia, an all-Judge panel from the Third Circuit Court of Appeals found the so-called Trade Union Courier guilty of criminal contempt for continued violation of the court's order that it stop misrepresenting itself as an official AFL-CIO organ.

The Courier's record of illegal transgressions dates to 1945, when the Federal Trade Commission issued an order

similar terms. The AFL-CIO for years has denounced the Courier as a bogus "labor paper" and a swindler. Found in its advertising solicitations.

Contempt charges were also filed against two of the Courier's editors, its brothers Ben and Maxwell Haddock. They will be sentenced following an investigation by probation officers. A third brother, Charles, was acquitted when the court found he was not involved in the paper's financial operations. The corporation was fined \$15,000, and six months in the New York City Penitentiary was the sentence meted out by the court to Richard Koola, a former Courier employee, for his part in the operations of the International Labor Record.

AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Al Zack testified before the Grand Jury that the Record had no connection with the labor federation. In 1937, Koola, escaped prosecution in the case against the American Labor Review, when six other defendants were sent to the penitentiary.

The final action involved Ernest Mark High, publisher of the Spotlight. The Federal Trade Commission ordered High to stop representing his paper as an official AFL-CIO publication with nation-wide circulation, and to stop printing unsubstantiated advertisements and then seeking to exact payment for them.

A large measure of credit for these successful prosecutions is due to a number of ILPA member papers who assisted the government by reporting instances of unethical activity by all of these sheets.

TITUS AND MRS. by JANE GOODALE

The Truth Sounds Phony— But What a Sincere Liar!

I'm a very convincing liar. Actually, I'm more convincing when I tell a lie than when I tell the truth. My mirth ebbs, drenches and ebullishes. When I speak from the heart, I sound hesitant and unsure.

Now don't get me wrong. Actually, I'm a very sincere person. I don't like to lie, and I only do it to "cover" misunderstandings and hurt feelings. People who swear they never lie are the biggest liars of all.

The trouble is that my lies keep haunting me.

Ten years ago a friend sent me a birthday gift—a pearl in velvet shades of lavender. I have lavender. I don't like it as a color. I don't like it on me. I just plain don't like it. But I wrote a note thanking her for the gift. I told her that it was lovely and a beautiful color. Come to think of it, I guess I did add that lavender was my favorite color. It was only better polka.

From that day to this, my friend has never sent me anything that was a lavender: lavender writing paper, lavender books, lavender handkerchiefs.

There there was the lady who invited me to her home to participate in a spiritual session. Rather than hurt her feelings by telling her truthfully that I couldn't imagine anything more awful, I said that it was terribly sorry but I had a previous engagement.

Ten minutes later she called me back. She could tell from my voice, she said, how disappointed I was at being unable to attend. And so, purely for my benefit, she was arranging another evening with the spirits. What date would be most convenient for me?

Caveat Cauter!
On another occasion I went to a dinner party at which oyster was served. It was served with so much foam and flourish that I didn't have the heart to admit that I hate oyster. When it was served to me, I took some and I ate it. I even smacked my lips and burbled that it was delicious. My husband had a double purpose: it made my hosts happy, and it diverted me from throwing up.

I gulped down the last of it and, as I reached for a glass of water, my host reached over and put another large dollop on my plate. Beaming on me fondly, he said that a mere taste was not enough for a true connoisseur like me!

When I told the honest truth, I appear shy-eyed and insecure. When I say, "How interesting!" and mean it, the other person gives me an odd look and changes the subject. When I say it merely to keep myself from dropping off to sleep, he leans closer to give me more details on the subject.

If I tell a friend that I just love her new dress (and I don't love it), she believes me and looks pleased. If I tell her I love her new dress (and I do), she looks dubious and says she doesn't like it very well either, and she knows it makes her look fat.

Obviously, I sound most honest when I don't mean a word of it. And, when I speak from the heart, I sound like a child who has been scolded into saying a wooden "thank you."

By Design



A 15-year struggle by fashion designers in the greater Los Angeles area for union recognition comes to a close as the first agreement is signed between Designers' Local 452 and the Coat and Suit Manufacturers' Association. From left are Harry LeCovar, association president; Hyman Schatzberg, Local 452 president; Phil Garb, association executive secretary. Standing, from left: Cloak Joint Board Manager Idris Sienor, union attorney Basil Feinberg, Vice Pres. Samuel Olti, Pacific Coast director, and Jerome Reiner, attorney for association.

Dr. Wasser Guest at Education Meet

A lecture series on the "Psychological Effects of Our Rapidly Changing World" will highlight tonight's session of the ILGWU Education-Recreation Center.

Charles Evans Hughes High School. The topic will be discussed by Dr. Henry Wiener of City College, who has just returned from a study tour of Europe, reports Education Department Secretary Fannie Cohen.

Classes take place in Room 414 at the Center, located on 18th St. between 8th and 9th Avenues, beginning at 6:15 P.M. Recreation and folk dancing follow the lecture.

Buckeye Goodbye



The outgoing president of Cleveland Local 278, Caroline Gossel, is honored at a dinner marking her retirement by Kit Goodale, Co-Ord. Manager Bernard Gardiner [center] and Vice Pres. Nicholas Kitzman, director of the Ohio-Kentucky Region.

CUTTERS COLLECT

Keep Cloak Pattern Grading In Firm's Own Cutting Dept.

Grading of patterns in the cloak trade must be performed on the premises of a firm's cutting department, Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, manager of Local 10, recently stressed. He stated that members of Local 10 may not work on patterns graded outside their own premises.

The Local 10 chief recalled that when the cloak contracts were renewed last year they requested the coverage of the agreement for the first time in the industry's history. Employees were especially bitter from sending patterns to be graded by outside establishments. Such work, the contract stipulated, must be done by members of Local 10 on the premises of the firm.

Falkman's recent statement was prompted by a report that grading was still being done in some instances, outside the firm's cutting department. He warned that members of Local 10 found working on such patterns would be subject to disciplinary action.

The purpose of writing the grading provision into the agreement was to preserve for members of Local 10 work which has been traditionally theirs, rather than have it contracted out to establishments engaged exclusively in grading, but doing no manufacturing work, and therefore not abiding under contract with Local 10.

Graders have been members of Local 10 for a number of years, but until last year they were not covered by the agreement as in the dress industry. Consequently the union could not protect them on the job. Some members paid no health and welfare contributions on his earnings, the graders was not eligible for these benefits.

All this, however, had been provision on the job and was to be discharged retroactively. Since employees pay percentage contributions on their earnings they are now under the coverage of the health and welfare and retirement funds.

MANAGER Falkman stated that members of Local 10 who have any information as to grading on costs and suits being done outside establishments are requested to report this matter to the union office.

Postscript

An interesting postscript to this feature is that in October, 1959, when the Photo-Marker Local 22 last month entered a suit against the firm, West 30 St. sent several persons to pocket the building in which Local 10 is located, appears in a

Regular Meeting
Monday, February 22

recent release of the U. S. Labor Department. Purpose of the picketing was to complain about Local 10's ban on photo-marking of patterns in outside establishments on special duplicating machines.

Since this was work customarily done by a cutter (though by hand), the lead then held that such work must be done by them but the employer would employ a machine operator if it is operated by a member of the local. Garment firms under contract with the union were advised that sending work to outside photo-marking services (which were not union shops) was prohibited.

The U. S. Labor Department release on January 14 reports that the Photo-Marker Corp. and its officers had failed to pay minimum wages and to keep proper records in violation of the Federal Wage and Hour Law and that the firm was permanently enjoined from practices by the U. S. District Court.

LOCAL 22 MEMBERS
ON PUERTO RICO TRIP
HAVE VARIED AGENDA

Highlighting a year of varied activity, some 30 members of New York Dressmaker Local 22 last month undertook an excursion in Puerto Rico.

The trip included a tour of the island's Department of Labor, where Secretary Fernando Sierra Berdicia served as guide, and a check-up party at Juan city hall with Mayor Don Felix Sincosa de Casler acting as sponsor. The party was greeted by Local 22 Manager Robert Gladstein and Organization Director Alberto Sanchez.

The tour included visits to the island's capital during a session of the legislature, the IGLWO-sponsored housing development and the Virgin Islands, among other interests. Arrangements for the trip were made by Local 22 Manager Frank Breslow, Spanish Department Director Ruby Nakama, Office Manager Dave Shubin and Business Agent Lucio Delgado.

"Music" over coffee, schmooz' Seventh Avenue is a magazine staple; Cosmopolitan joins the list with its February issue, devoted to a comprehensive study of New York's garment industry.

"It's an early-to-rise, never-rest world, an ulcer-punch, a fabric jungle," says Cosmopolitan, and then tells why. The garment industry is one of the country's last strongholds of uninked, private enterprise, and attracts more manufacturers than it can support. Seventeen percent of its firms go bankrupt every year; the risk is high, the profit is low. "The union is strong and secure,"

reads the caption under a picture showing a dozen heads bargaining over the labor "prices" of a dress. "One of its major functions is determining labor costs. Every single garment to be mass produced is bargained over by representatives of labor and management. The price to be paid workers for every dress, seam, pleat or hem it decides upon."

The picture story reveals how the industry works, how it plays, and how it prays. A synagogue, a health club, a fashion school, designers and models, bosses and workers, industry giants and shop-string contractors, all of the

300,000 persons who make up such a large segment of the city's work force. Overcrowded and frantic, an average of 475 businesses overlook each street in an area bounded roughly by Sixth and Eighth Avenues and from Fortieth Street into the Twenties. Here originates nearly two-thirds of the \$12 billion worth of women's and children's clothing purchased annually in the United States. Cosmopolitan points out:

Seventh Avenue also houses the hot end for industry, and these come in for a brief notice in the article.

The distaff garb does not escape the psychiatrist's couch. In a feature called

BOOK FRONT

by ABRAHAM EPSTEIN

Fabians: Small Band With Great Impact On Social Progress

THEIR LITTLE BAND OF PROLETARIAN: THE BRITISH FABIANISM. By Anna Frankland. New American Library, 75 cents. Fabianism in the history of the world has been a group of intellectuals who have had a great impact on history as the small band of British men and women who have constituted the Fabian Society in the past 75 years.

Immediately before the French revolution, a similar group produced an encyclopedic work in effect defined the new world emerging from a world governed by the elite right of royalty. The Fabians, as graders and leaders at the predecessor encyclopedists, sharpened the issues of freedom and democracy at the tail end of a rocky Victorian era.

Britain's greatest minds — George Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells, Bertrand Russell, Harold Laski, Clement Attlee — are only a few who have grown to be world leaders. They anticipated the anger, disapproved the evils and prescribed the remedies which were embodied in the labor laws and legislation that changed the life of the nation and more especially of its workers.

Anne Fremantle has told the story of the Fabian Society with a delicious appreciation of the efforts, vicissitudes and conflicts that were bound to arise within this small group of powerful thinkers and determined individuals.

The faith they practiced was the belief that education was the all-powerful instrument of social change — that men and women should be taught to goodness would follow it. They therefore produced an encyclopedic work in effect defined the new world emerging from a world governed by the elite right of royalty. The Fabians, as graders and leaders at the predecessor encyclopedists, sharpened the issues of freedom and democracy at the tail end of a rocky Victorian era.

Today, their influence may be limited not only to the New Deal reforms of our own country but in far-off places in Africa and Asia where their wisdom and methods are being studied as the best example of revolutionary change accomplished through evolution.

The record of their founding, their organized and outrageous efforts, the means by which they brought about great change in spite of their small numbers — all of this is set out in clear, lively and readable fashion in this book. It is a must for all who are interested in the history of the garment industry.

'91' Veteran Honored



After close to 37 years as a key figure in the growth and development of N.Y. Children's Dressmakers' Local '91, veteran Business Agent Morris Berkowitz is honored on his retirement. A luncheon gathering heard messages from Pres. David Dubinsky, General Secretary-Treasurer Louis Stulberg, First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonicini. From left: Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg, Local '91 manager, Mrs. Berkowitz, Morris Berkowitz, and Business Agent Ray Orin.

N.Y. Cloak 'Vacation' Pay Registering Begins Feb. 15

New York cloakmaker will begin registration for 1960 "vacation" benefits on February 15, it was announced by Murray M. Kolker, administrative secretary of the joint board. Procedures to be followed in registering for the annual benefit were outlined in a letter recently sent to all shop chairmen.

Starting with February 15, chairmen will collect union checks from workers regularly employed in the shops for at least a few months, and who are actually working at the time and are members of locally affiliated with the Cloak Joint Board. Only 1960 union checks will be collected and registered. The chairman must turn in all the union books from his shop at the same time.

Workers who are not regularly employed in a particular shop or who are not actually working at the time the books are collected, must register in person after April 15.

They should register at the Joint Board headquarters, 22 West 29th St., on the 10th floor. Members who live and work in Brooklyn

may also register either at the Brooklyn Office located at 815 Broadway or the Borough Office located at 1377 42nd St.

To facilitate individual registrations, these members should bring with them their unemployment insurance benefit and 1960 withholding tax receipts. Workers who retire in January or February 1960 need no register in person. They should call for their vacation benefit check on or after April 1 at the joint board, 10th floor. Retired workers are requested to bring with them their withholding card which they received from the local.

Set '62' Coast-to-Coast Tour of United States

A 30-day coast-to-coast tour of the United States is being planned for members of New York Undergarment Workers' Local 12, announces Manager Matthew Seltow.

Estimated cost of the trip, scheduled for sometime this summer, is \$200. This includes transportation, meals, hotels, etc. Admission is free to places of interest and special sightseeing with professional guides.

Deadline for reservations is March 1. Interested members are advised to contact the local's education department.

RAILROAD TRAINMEN BAR DISCRIMINATION, DROP 'RACE' CLAUSE

The Railroad Trainmen have eliminated a racial discrimination clause from their constitution, thereby not a pledge made to the AFL-CIO convention last September.

Despite the existence of a 40-year-old provision restricting membership to "white males," the union in fact has more than 1,000 Negro members.

The 1,500 delegates to the Trainmen's special convention in Cleveland had much to vote to strike the phrase "white males" from the brotherhood's organic law.

COSMOPOLITAN SCANS 'NEVER-REST WORLD' OF N.Y. GARMENT CENTER

"A Psychanalyst Looks at Women's Clothes," the ladies are given a group analysis that intends to reveal whether they choose clothes to be attractive or to satisfy a complex.

New sources of fashion inspiration are uncovered in a study of recent trends in Ireland, Italy and Hawaii.

For women with little money and good taste, a special article reveals how they can fake costumes from cocktail dress to beaufit cuffs with a few shopping tips.

Cosmopolitan magazine tells everything about the garment industry — except how to find a parking place.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

OUT OF MANY—ONE

BACK IN 1947 the late Israel Feinberg led New York's cloakmakers in their successful drive to establish the first ILGWU retirement fund. It was most proper for the oldest division in our union's ranks to be in the forefront of the fight to provide security for aging garment workers. There still were then in the cloak shops many thousands of men and women whose first attachment to our union came in the bitter days of the sweatshop — when workers were thrown on the scrap heap as soon as their strength began to ebb.

In little more than a decade this welfare safeguard, pioneered by the cloakmakers, has spread throughout the industry under ILGWU jurisdiction. Now another bulwark against insecurity is being written into our agreements. Fra. Dubinsky reported to the General Executive Board that 75 percent of ILGWU membership is covered by contracts providing for severance pay.

In a dozen years, through collective bargaining first by the cloakmakers and then by the dressmakers of New York, we have been putting an end to the uncertainties of garment workers' income that arise from the toll that time takes, in one instance, and from the unpredictabilities peculiar to the garment industry, in the other. Severance benefits will soften the blow sustained by workers when firms close up because of too little know-how or too much profits.

We are in an industry stretched across a continent, and the spread of a new benefit takes time and tremendous effort. It took a round of contract renewals running through half a dozen years to put retirement into our contracts. Today, after a number of these have been merged on market and regional bases, there are still 42 ILGWU retirement funds in the U.S.

Our industry is one of extreme mobility. In addition, our retirement funds reflect variations arising from history, the age level of their members, the rate of their income. Because of this, we have worked through mergers and reciprocity arrangements to preserve a continuous standing of the individual worker even as he moves among shops, cities, markets and trades in making his living. Industries of far greater stolidity than ours have not yet achieved this, and their workers lose retirement standing if at any time, and regardless of length of employment, they leave one company to work for another in the same industry.

The pooling of our retirement funds is continuing on a stepped-up basis, and the General Executive Board heard a report of the near-future merger of the retirement funds of the so-called miscellaneous locals in New York City.

In the case of the spreading severance benefit, the effort is being made to change this history by anticipating it. Although Local 105 already had a severance fund at the time, the real breakthrough of this benefit came with the historic 1958 general strike of the New York metropolitan area dressmakers in nine eastern states.

First dress industry severance benefits are scheduled to start in March. The plan is well under way to set up by that time, and with the consent of industry representatives, a national, pooled severance pay fund.

OBSERVERS FROM OUTSIDE our industry are generally puzzled by the problem of creating and enforcing uniform standards and practices in an industry that seemingly defies uniformity. How can there be one standard of piece rates in an industry of infinite style possibilities? How can workers in varied crafts present such steadfast unity of purpose in dealing with their employers or renewing their contracts?

The answer is to be found in the history of our union, which tells the story of the determined effort to formulate, revise and enforce rate settlement schedules; the ingenious invention of the joint board which preserves and yet combines craft identity; the sacrifice and devotion of our members throughout their union's history in providing ways for the veterans to help the novices, the strong to help the weak, the young to help the old.

"Yup, We Discriminate—Against You!"



"Apron Strings"



Formula for Stagnation

By
AFL-CIO Economic
Policy Committee

Excerpted from statement adopted by the AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee on President Eisenhower's Economic Report and Budget Message.

THE President's economic messages are not a promise of faith in America's capabilities for progress. They are a promise, rather, of continuing stagnation, which has cut down the growth of per capita national production, since 1953, to merely six-fifths of one percent a year. This is approximately one-seventh the rate of the Soviet Union's economic advance.

First among the President's economic goals is adoption of his budget proposals for 1961. There is an increased obsession with achieving a budget surplus. But a balanced and growing full employment economy, rather than a stagnated economy, is the only practical means of attaining budget surpluses.

The President's budget proposals are a continuing blend of penny-pinching for national defense, and public services, coupled with increases for postal rates and gasoline taxes.

THESE are the same self-defeating policies, which have increased the national debt by more than \$18 billion since mid-1953, while America's world position in defense technology has slipped and its education system has continued to deteriorate. Seven years of obsessive concern with budget balancing have produced the greatest peacetime increase of the national debt.

According to administration plans, national defense expenditures for the coming year will remain static. Many experts believe that America's present defense posture is inadequate to meet the needs of the nation and the free world.

Merely a token gesture of federal aid for school construction is proposed, with no mention of assistance for teachers' salaries.

THE second of the President's major objectives is to use the \$4.2 billion paper surplus in 1961 for reduction of the national debt. This paper surplus, however, is based upon sweeping under the rug the need for comprehensive defense and public service programs.

A budget surplus is obviously a worthwhile goal. It cannot however be achieved by curbing the growth in production,

sales, incomes and jobs. Neither should a budget surplus be considered the major goal of national policy when it is achieved at the dangerous cost of ignoring national needs.

The budget deficits of 1954, 1955, 1958, and 1959 are a clear indication that surplus cannot be attained from recurring recessions and relatively low levels of national income.

THE President's third major economic policy objective is a request that Congress remove the present 4½ percent ceiling on interest rates for long-term government bonds. This action would eliminate even a limited restriction on the administration's pursuit of an ever-tighter money policy and higher interest rates.

With the Federal Reserve System's discount rate at 4 percent and the prime interest rate for the wealthiest borrower at 5 percent, interest rates for home-buyers, small businessmen, farmers, and consumers generally are now 5½, 6, or even 7 percent.

The tight money policy has already brought a slump in home-building. It threatens to slow-down the entire economy after mid-year. Further increases in interest rates, without any limitation, could only aggravate this condition and underscore the possibility of another recession next year.

WHAT America needs is not a continuation of restrictive budget and monetary policies, which have brought on two recessions and economic stagnation in the past seven years. America requires positive government efforts to meet the needs of a growing, urban population, in the world of the 1960's. To support such efforts, while improving the living conditions of the American people, particularly low-income families, America needs maximum utilization of available labor and resources.

In this first year of the new decade, it is organized labor's fervent hope that the federal government will provide America with mature leadership in attaining a strong, full production — full employment economy that will be capable of meeting the needs for adequate national defense and public services, while lifting the living standards of the American people.