

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."
—Job 27.8

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. X. No. 12.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1928

PRICE 3 CENTS

Italian Dressmakers Will Pick Business Agents on March 29

Delegates to Convention Will Also Be Chosen—Meeting to Ratify Uncontested List of Executive Board and Manager in April

On Thursday next, March 29, the Italian Dressmakers, Local 89, will have a general member meeting to vote for convention delegates to the Boston convention. The meeting will also vote on business agents for the current year.

Three business agents will be elected out of a list of four candidates. Those in the field are Anthony Crivello, Carmelo Yandoli, Frank Olivo, and John Cablati. There are six convention delegates to be chosen from a ticket list of twelve.

At an earlier meeting, Local 89 nominated a full list of executive board members and a manager. As the candidates are uncontested, there will be no regular balloting, but the entire list will be submitted to a membership meeting during April for ratification.

Joint Board Again Patrols Cloak Market To Guard Against Saturday Work

Business Agents and Volunteers Fill Streets and Buildings Last Saturday Morning — The Drive Will Continue All Through Season — Brother Breslaw in Charge of Committees

Last Saturday, March 17, in the early hours of the morning, Bryant Hall was crowded with volunteer committees, members of all cloak and dress locals, who came to resume the work of patrolling the district against Saturday work violations. This activity, interrupted for two weeks, when the cloakmakers and dressmakers worked two Saturdays for the organization contributing half of their earnings, was renewed with reinforced vigor all through the garment district.

Bro. Jos. Breslaw, manager of Local 35, was in charge of the work, as heretofore, and was assisted by Bro. Charles Jacobson, the assistant secretary of the Joint Board. Manager Julius Hochman also reached the hall among the first and aided in dispatching the committees to shops.

Among those who actively participated in the morning's work were also vice-president Dubinsky, secretary Wander of the Joint Board, Max Stoller, chairman of the Joint Board, Joseph Spielman, secretary of Local 22, Benj. Kaplan, manager of Local 2, and a number of other well-known officers.

After several hours of patrolling, the committees returned to Bryant Hall to report. Not many offenders were reported. (Continued on Page 2)

Fast Union Action Brings Two Firms Quickly To Terms

A Few "Lefts" in One Shop Strike Deal With Owner to Work 47 Hours for 42 Hours' Pay

The New York Joint Board acted last week with neatness and dispatch in the case of two employers who took it upon themselves to snap their fingers at their contract with the Union and to send out work to non-union shops.

One of these concerns was the cloak jobbing house of S. & S. Goldberg of 491 Seventh Avenue. Upon discovery of the violation, the Joint Board ordered the firm to stop sending out merchandise to the non-union shops in question. The firm, however, "took a chance," and tried to disregard the Union's admonition. The result was a stoppage, despite the fact that the Goldberg firm belongs to the Merchants' Association.

The other firm, Markowitz Bros. of 51 West 14th Street, is a member of the Industrial Council, where a few "lefts" are employed. The Union learned that the firm has made a "deal" with these "revolutionists" to work 47 hours weekly instead of 42. Manager Hochman at once ordered a stoppage and the firm was forced to repudiate all non-union arrangements in the factory.

International Calls on Locals To Celebrate First of May

Fight of Organized Labor Against Injunctions, Unemployment Distress and Worldwide Solidarity of Labor to be Stressed

Only a few weeks remain to the First of May, the international holiday of the working class. The First of May is a symbol of Labor's solidarity, of its fighting ideals, and of its courageous hope for a better world for toiling mankind.

This First of May, especially, workers the world over will rise in protest against the hovering menace of war in every land fostered by worldwide imperialism. In our own land the voice of the toilers will hurl damning charges of oppression and brutality perpetrated daily on the striking miners in the soft coal fields of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, against the union-smashing policies of the injunction judges, and against illegal American intervention in Nicaragua. Unemployment, which is depriving today millions of workers from their livelihood will also be one of the great issues that should be stressed at the May Day meeting.

The New York members of the I. L. G. W. U. will celebrate this year First of May in one of the largest halls in the city (place to be announced next week), and members of the International in other cities are preparing adequate celebrations.

The propaganda bureau attached to the International Office in New York has expressed readiness to supply speakers to all meetings in and out of town, and all locals in need of same are asked to apply to Bro. Paul Dembitzer, 3 West 16th Street, secretary of the bureau.

Many Locals Will Elect Delegates During Next Week

Local 9 Elects Boston Delegates on Wednesday and Locals 2 and 91 on Thursday—Local 20 Elected Delegates Last Week

During the coming week, several of the leading I. L. G. W. U. locals in New York City will select representatives to the forthcoming International convention in Boston.

Local 2 and 9, the cloak operators and tailors respectively, will hold on Monday, March 26, section meetings all through Greater New York. On Wednesday, members of Local 9 will vote for convention delegates in Bryant Hall, in the Joint Board Building on Lexington Avenue and at 33 Second Avenue. On the next day, members of Local 2 will vote for delegates from the same places.

Local 91, which nominated candidates last week, will also vote for delegates next Thursday. The balloting will take place in the local office of the Union, 3 West 16th Street, and in the Brownsville office of the local, 219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn.

Local 20 members elected convention delegates last Saturday. Vice-president David Gindoff, manager Samuel Friedman, chairman, and Morris Polinsky, secretary, were elected.

(Continued on Page 2)

White Goods Workers Vote Half-Day Pay for Strikers of Two Shops

Arlington and Maidright Workers to Receive Full Support

Beethoven Hall was crowded to capacity last Thursday, March 15, with white goods workers, members of Local 62, who came to decide on measures of relief for the strikers of the Arlington and Maidright shops, locked out some two months ago.

The workers unanimously voted to approve the recommendation of the executive board of the local to work a half day for the benefit of the locked out workers. A few "lefts" tried to make use of the occasion to hurl some abuse at the officers of the local and

at the International, but their efforts fell flat.

The meeting also nominated candidates for the Boston convention, a full list of whom appears elsewhere in this issue. Owing to the lateness of the hour, however, many of the important subjects on the order of the day could not be reached, and the meeting, therefore, decided to call another special gathering next Monday, March 26, right after working hours in Beethoven Hall. Organization activity and trade problems will be on the agenda.

President Sigman Warmly Greeted At Local 38 Installation Meeting

Local Officers Should Respond Intelligently to Every Legitimate Interest of the Members, Declares President Sigman—Shops Send Flowers and Messages

Local 38, the organization of the ladies' tailors and private dressmakers, held an inspiring meeting last Saturday afternoon, March 17, at which the recently elected officers of the local were installed into office.

The new administration of Local 38 were inducted into office by President Morris Sigman. Vice-President Greenberg, manager of Local 91, was also invited to the meeting and delivered an interesting talk. Before the induction took place, manager-secretary Boris Drasin of Local 38 rendered a report of the local's executive activity for the past year, which was warmly endorsed. After that the election committee read a list of the elected officers.

President Sigman was given an ovation when he rose to offer the new administration of the local the oath of office. He referred in his talk to the new trends in the women's wear industry, and advised the active workers in the local to take heed of these developments and to try to interest the mass of women outside the local in union affiliation. "The repudiation of the 'lefts' in your local, and in all the other locals in the I. L. G. W. U.," President Sigman said, "was caused by their inability to handle intelligently and honestly the problems vitally affecting the needs of our workers. We must draw a sound lesson from the disaster that overtook these politicians who wanted to convert a trade union into a handle for a political machine."

Vice-President Greenberg followed along similar lines, after which the meeting was addressed by several old-timers of Local 38, among them Brothers S. Dreznisky, W. Abraham, (Continued on Page 2)

Union Health Center Calls Conference of All Trade Unions for Saturday, March 31

A call for a Union Health Center conference has been sent to organized labor of the city. The call has been signed by Morris Sigman, president of the I. L. G. W. U. Abraham Haroff, secretary, Julius Hochman, Joseph Breslaw, Joseph Spielman, Harry Wander, and Dr. Geo. M. Price, director.

The aim of the conference is to work out practical plans whereby the Center could be converted into a "health center for all organized labor in New York City." It is hoped that representatives of our own local unions will be present in order to take part in the deliberations. This conference may prove of great significance to our own organization and strongly to be on time.

We cannot urge our members too

Board of Directors to Meet

The Board of Directors of the Union Health Center will meet on Friday, March 23, at 2 P. M. at the Health Center, 131 East 17th Street. This meeting is of the utmost importance inasmuch as it will be neces-

sary for the board to prepare a plan which is to be presented to the Conference of Organized Labor. Every director, therefore, is urged to remember the date and be at the meeting. Shop chairmen are once more reminded that settlement for sold, or unsold certificates must be made before April. All money to be turned in to the Health Center.

T. B. Month

Readers of JUSTICE will be interested to know that beginning the middle of this month, and lasting till the middle of April, members of organized labor who are afflicted with, or may be suspects of tuberculosis, are invited to come into the Health Center and be examined. This is T. B. month. A campaign to examine all those suspected of having this disease is carried on by the T. B. Association of New York. The Health Center is ready to do its part toward its own members, and is therefore advising those interested, to come and talk it over with Dr. George M. Price, director of the Health Center.

Big Memorial Meeting Honors Memory of Max Pine

Representatives of Labor Unions Meet to Extol Career of Passed Leader

Last Monday evening, March 19, a representative gathering of trade unionists and friends of the Labor movement filled Beethoven Hall to pay homage to the memory of Max Pine, recently deceased leader of the Jewish trade union movement in the United States. The memorial meeting was held under the auspices of the United Hebrew Trades.

The meeting was opened under the strains of Chopin's funeral march rendered by the orchestra of the Theatrical Music Club of New York. Among those who spoke were Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, Abraham Cahan, editor-in-chief of the "Jewish Daily Forward," ex-justice Jacob Panken, and Abraham Ship-lakoff of the Leather Goods Workers' Union. Secretary Joseph Baskin of the Workmen's Circle, Joseph Goldstein, of the International Bakers' and Confectioners' Union, Abraham Hamlin, of the Palestine Workers' Committee, and Abraham Herman, chairman of the "Halls" also addressed the meeting.

Abraham Cahan spoke warmly of the fine optimism, abiding faith in mankind and in Labor's cause, and responsive heart of the dead leader.

Pine always placed the interest of the union above his own, even above the needs of his family and kin, Cahan said. Matthew Woll emphasized the point that Max Pine was the first to tie up the Jewish unions with the American movement.

When the meeting came to a close, Secretary Max Feinstein of the United Hebrew Trades read a resolution of mourning, expressing the sorrow and bereavement of the trade unionists of New York over the passing of one of its trusted and beloved leaders, which was adopted by a rising vote.

Sigman Installs Local 38 Board

(Continued from Page 1)

A. Turchinsky, W. Engel, N. Wilkes, W. Platt and W. Lupo. Bro. Drasin, the re-elected manager, closed the meeting with an appeal to all the members present to work in harmony and to achieve substantial results for the organization during the current year.

Several shops sent wreaths of flowers to the meeting, while many forwarded congratulatory messages. The following were installed as officers:

B. Drasin, manager; I. Rea, chairman; executive board members—R. Fasani, A. Torchinsky, H. Gardner, O. Bergovoy, N. Abramowitz, C. Banach, G. Ruotl, A. Blazek, A. Hess, M. Resnikoff, W. Seligman, J. Telesca, V. Lauria, J. Banach, L. Benick, L. Bolz, S. Dreznisky, S. Edelstein, I. Jacobs, A. Miller, J. Pavlicek, R. Bronstein, S. Koryt, L. Reisberg, F. Gerri, N. Genoveci, A. Golluscio, J. Pitchert, and Sisters Benchman and Goldberg.

Joint Board Resumes Saturday Work Patrol

(Continued from Page 1)

apprehended, as the warning of the Joint Board apparently had a salutary effect both on the workers and on the employers. A number of workers reported to the shops to complete their quota of contribution to the Union's campaign chest, but these, of course, were not interfered with.

With the New York Dressmakers

By J. SPIELMAN, Secretary

Our Last General Member Meeting

A week ago last Thursday, our local held a general member meeting at Bryant Hall. Notwithstanding the fact that many dress shops are at present working overtime, the attendance was much better than we expected.

The following was the order of business:

- Nominations of candidates to the forthcoming convention of our International.
- Nominations and election of an election and objection committee.
- Report of Brother Reisberg, manager of the Dress Dept.

In view of the fact that the meeting was scheduled for 5:30 o'clock, which meant that those in attendance had to go directly to the meeting place from their shops, the assemblage was called to order at 6 o'clock. After a brief speech by the chairman, nominations were called for. No less than 43 members were nominated as delegates to the convention.

Following the disposition of the first point on the order of business, the meeting proceeded to nominate and elect an election and objection committee. This committee decides on the eligibility of the candidates and has full jurisdiction over the balloting and canvassing the vote. Election to this committee is generally considered a distinct privilege and honor.

Then followed the report of Brother Reisberg, who was warmly received by the members. This was Brother Reisberg's first appearance at a general member meeting of our local. He has made the most of the opportunity, and rendered a report covering the activities of his office for the past three months.

During this period, his office attended 246 complaints; among which, there were 71 discharge cases, 29 disputes in prices, 87 cases where non-union help was preferred, 33 instances where workers were obliged to work illegal hours, 20 claims for wages, 20 cases of unequal distribution of work, etc. In the adjudication of the foregoing complaints, the most interesting part was the adjustment of the discharge complaints, showing that 44 cases were settled in favor of the Union, and the workers re-instated. This means that 62% of the discharge cases were settled in favor of the Union, an accomplishment that the Dress Department may justly be proud of.

Brother Reisberg, in his report, gave an account of the organization drive, which is now in progress in the dress industry. He mentioned that thus far a substantial number of shops were taken down and most of them have signed agreements. All these shops, jointly, employ over a thousand workers. He dwelt in detail upon the difficulties our committees meet as a result of the treacherous work of the Communists. The strike against the jobber, Frank A. Silver, which has now been successfully terminated, demonstrated to what lengths the "comrades" would go to break any legitimate strike that is conducted by our Union. Happily, our members have long ago sized these folks up for what they are worth. They are making a last desperate effort to get a foothold in the industry but they are bound to fail.

Reisberg concluded his report with a warm appeal to our members to attend the meetings of the Union, and help in every way possible to strengthen the organization's position in the industry.

Election of Delegates to Convention

Today, Thursday, March 22, is Election Day in our local, when delegates are being chosen to the Boston Convention of our International. A letter to this effect, and a sample ballot, was mailed to each member's home, discussing the importance of the election, as well as acquainting the members with the candidates. We hope we are not exaggerating when we say that this convention promises to be one of the most important held by our International Organization. There are many internal and administrative problems which will engage the attention of the delegates. But, of far more interest to us, as dressmakers, is our own problem, mainly, the question of unionization of the dress industry. We are not inclined to anticipate the decisions of the Convention on this point, but we are quite certain that the forthcoming convention will have for its consideration a number of very far-reaching resolutions on this point. The Convention will have to find ways and means of organizing our rapidly growing industry, which is forever expanding.

We hope, therefore, that our members will choose from the 21 nominees, appearing on the ballot, those whom they think are the best qualified to represent their interests at the convention. No member of Local 22, who has its interests at heart, can afford to stay away from today's elections.

The Dress Shops Among the First to Respond

As mentioned in our last report, the Cloak and Dress shops were, in accordance with the decision of the shop chairmen, permitted to work the first two Saturdays of the month of March, half of their earnings going to the Organization's re-construction fund. We are happy to report that, according to the statement made by Brother Wander, the secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, the dress shops were among the first ones to pay for the two-half days. This is not at all surprising, in view of the fact that a good many of our shops have yet, prior to this decision, pledged themselves voluntarily to support, with weekly contributions, the present drive.

Among these shops, we are pleased to mention the workers of the firm of D. Schwartz, 15 West 27th Street. For four consecutive weeks, they have been contributing an hour's work for the organization drive. Last Friday, the shop chairman, Brother Singer, delivered to the Joint Board office a check for the Saturday contribution, and another check for the organization fund. Let it be mentioned here, that this particular shop does not happen to be among the very first ones which have declared their allegiance to the International. They have, however, been convinced since their registration, that the Organization is exerting every possible effort in behalf of the workers.

New Books

Our Educational Department continues to render useful service to our members in helping them select books to read and collect. Lately very interesting books have appeared on social and economic problems, and also fiction. Some of these books we can offer our members at much reduced prices. We will be glad to have them visit our Education Department at 3 West 16th Street.

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Help the Children of the Unemployed

By NORMAN THOMAS

"TWO jobless men die of starvation"—thus reads a headline in a New York paper a few days ago. The night before the reporter of the *New York Telegram* had explained that it was unemployment which drove, most, or, at any rate, the best of the sorry crew of strikebreakers to eat the bread and take the pay of the I. R. T. in New York. Yet it was only after things like this had come to pass that the Senate adopted Senator Wagner's resolution providing for an authoritative federal survey of unemployment.

No great and forward looking country in the world is so lacking in social conscience and social planning for these victims of our industrial system, as is the great and "prosperous" United States of America. Facts we need, but we need more than facts. The children of the striking miners and the unemployed should be a rich, social and national asset but hunger, undernourishment and despair make them a dangerous liability to any nation. The best way to care for unemployment is not a system of relief, but sometimes there comes an emergency where there is no other way. That emergency is at hand. The federal government should appropriate generous funds for the help of these children—funds to be administered through existing social machinery or machinery which could easily be set up. If the government has not enough money in hand, why not get some more by taxing that Wall Street "prosperity" of which the sensational advance of the stock of the General Motors is the most conspicuous evidence?

We are glad to say that a bill for relief of children has recently been introduced in both Houses of Congress by Representative LaGuardia and Senator Wheeler. Urge your representatives to support it.

Can Unemployment Be Cured?

A plan for preventing unemployment has appeared in the latest book

by William T. Foster and Waddell Catchings of the Pollak Foundation. The book written in popular style, is called "The Road to Plenty." The authors following up their earlier books, "Money" and "Profits," hold that the cause of hard times and unemployment is the fact that owing to the necessity for saving the purchasing power of men as consumers almost invariably lags behind their power to produce. Not the general under consumption of capitalism but the lag in the money circuit is the devil they would fight. The remedy they advocate is a federal board which will keep constantly in touch with the facts of the business and employment situation so as to supply the public with weather signals for approaching storms. Unlike the weather, however, employment depression, the authors believe, could be cured by injecting at the right moment new expenditures for new enterprises preeminently in the field of public works, financed, if necessary, by short time loans. This is, of course, a very inadequate account of an interesting and fairly well worked out plan which progressives generally can favor with good conscience. The authors have called attention to aspects of money economies which none of us should overlook.

But by no means can progressives support all the reasoning and optimistic hopes that go along with the book. The authors themselves in their writing have admitted wastes and sufferings that their scheme could not possibly cure. There is, for example, no help for the tragically dismanned coal situation to be found in this easy road to plenty. There is no adequate consideration of the unemployment in almost every line of industry from farms to steel mills caused by the marvelously rapid development of machinery geared to private profit rather than human need. However great may be the help given by more accurate information on business conditions and by a wise program of expenditures for public works at the right time there is still a desperate need for unemployment insurance as

a measure of alleviation though not of cure for this terrible disease of unemployment which brings so much suffering and misery to human beings even in the best of times in the midst of the potential plenty which our machines can produce.

Senator Borah Falls In

Once again Senator Borah who says so many wise things has disappointed us when it comes to doing the right thing. His reply to Senator Dill's inquiry concerning the Senatorial investigation into Nicaragua which Senator Borah himself had once proposed was worthy of Coolidge or Kellogg himself. The powerful Mr. Borah, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, has done nothing and apparently intends to do nothing to investigate the intolerable situation in which American boys kill Nicaraguan boys in the grim warfare of the remote hills and jungles of Central America for reasons that have never been officially exposed and which have far more to do with the profits of Wall Street and the prestige of our bungling diplomacy than with the flimsy excuses offered by the Administration. If Senator Borah had been as earnest in action as he often is in speech long ago he would have won an investigation of our financial relations in Latin America which might have saved the lives of a score of American boys and no one knows how many hundreds of Nicaraguans.

A Program for Housing

It seems that people of New York City who need housing protection most are to get none at all. At Albany and the City Hall the Master's voice is the voice of the real estate boards. The emergency rent laws are to be allowed to lapse or will be knocked out by the courts because the State Housing Board says that technically there is no longer an emergency in the sense of a shortage of rooms. The dwellings house law in spite of amendment for the worse will not pass. The Walker-Heckscher plan for new housing for the poor amounted to nothing but pre-election talk and the Smith Housing Board plans have been little more effective. That's the way the old parties take care of the children of the city.

What every great American city needs is a comprehensive housing plan which none of them has. In New York City it would have these elements:

(1) Extension of the rent laws as a matter of permanent protection to low income groups. (2) Passage of a comprehensive dwellings act more stringent than the one which the Legislature has buried in committee. (3) Slum clearance by the city beginning with the oldest and most unfit of the old law tenements. (4) Steady encouragement of the cooperative housing which is the one reasonably hopeful feature in the present situation. (5) Municipal housing under a non political authority using public credit to provide decent housing at cost.

These steps toward proper housing should all be carried on with a view to the decentralization of the city and the end of congestion of business offices and factories on Manhattan Island. With it should go a definite scheme of parks and playgrounds.

It has also been proposed that certain changes be made in the housing law for the greater encouragement of limited dividend companies. To the operation of such companies when carried on with intelligence and good faith we should have no objection. We must insist that there is no evidence here or abroad that they can or will solve the situation for those who most need help. Even cooperative housing is not likely to solve their problem. We must add municipal housing.

If this program requires a constitutional amendment as well as legislation, let's go after it.

Tuckers' Local Picks Boston Delegates

Vice-President Harry Greenberg, Re-elected as Manager, Will Be Its Convention Delegate

At an unusually well-attended meeting of Local 41, the tuckers' and hemstitchers' organization, held on Thursday last, March 15, officers and an executive board were elected for the current year, and delegates were chosen for the Boston convention.

The following were elected: Manager, Harry Greenberg; business agent, Executive Board members: Sisters Holtman, Rose, Hemray; Brothers Pikoffsky, Brown, Levin, Greco, Kraus, Sheingold, Passelay, Rutrick, Wenberg, Libreich, Winetsky, Richmond, Gruber, and Morano.

Brothers Greenberg, Levin, Greco and Pikoffsky were elected to represent the local at Boston.

White Goods Workers

MEMBERS LOCAL 62, I. L. G. W. U.

The following members were nominated at our last general membership meeting:

For Delegates to the Convention

Abraham Snyder	Rose Suffer	Ella Hymowitz
Mary Goff	Rose Witt	Sophia Baum
Fannie Shapiro	Diana Price	Marie Shattan
Clara Friedman	Bessie Helfand	Gussie Haven
Sophie Dachman	Jennie Kruglick	Mary Bigel
Fannie Bremmer	Rebecca Chanellis	Celia Nissenbaum
Jennie Miller	Rena Epstein	Florence Kaplan
Ida Altin	Rose Chester	Rose Nemerofsky
Celia Liskind		Lauretta Brown

For Members to the Executive Board

Lena Greenberg	Rebecca Chanellis	Ida Fishman
Kate Feingold	Rose Chester	Esther Gralitzer
Gussie Toback	Sophia Baum	Bessie Popelson
Ida Sylmor	Gussie Haven	Mollie Jaffe
Ida Kaplan	Celia Nissenbaum	Rae Holtzman
Regina Weiss	Rose Nemerofsky	Minnie Worthbaum
Shirley Egan	Pauline Chermuchin	Minnie Ge
Pauline Kremnitzer	Sara Kaplan	Rena Epstein
Pauline Korman	Diana Gouchman	Ella Hymowitz
Esther Kade	Lena Stein	Mary Shatan
Ida Pressman	Rose Grad	Mary Begil
Sylvia Silkowitz	Anna Wolf	Florence Kaplan
Beckie Katz	Fannie Resnikow	Lauretta Brown
Esther Korman		

Members who have any objections against the above named candidates are requested to bring their objections to the election and objection committee, Monday evening, March 26, 8 o'clock sharp, in the office of the Union, 128 2nd Avenue.

All candidates must appear in person. Those who fail to come will not be placed on the ballot.

Election and Objection Committee
Local 62, I. L. G. W. U.

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MAX D. DANISH, Editor

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EDITORIALS

Main Convention Problems

1. Contractor Limitation and Time Guarantee of Employment

From Philadelphia, 1925, to Boston, 1928, is a fair-sized jump by the calendar. In the nearly two and a half years, since those stormy seventeen days in Philadelphia which wound up in a truce, or a "peace," with the Communist adventurers who had invaded our Union in 1925, a great volume of water has flown under the bridge.

The attempt to patch up "peace" with the Communists proved abortive because it was futile. Oil and water do not mix. Neither can political intrigue and party clique domination live "peaceably" side by side with normal trade union activity, without destroying each other. American labor history knows of more than one instance of a labor organization obliterated or rendered innocuous after it had been made a tail to a political kite.

The sorry compromise born at Philadelphia burst not long after the convention adjourned because, by the logic of events, it could not live. It burst painfully, causing an immense amount of travail and misery, though, fortunately, the roots of this ugly sore did not extend to the life-springs of the organization. The Union came back after a period of inner trials and began to function normally again.

Like after every other severe malady spots, here and there, remain to remind of the past ill-wind; here and there an occasional aftermath serves to recall the bitter clashes of yesteryear. On the whole, however, our International has again assumed its place on the fighting line of the American trade union movement, as a free labor organization, mortgaged to no political satraps, and unhampered to mould its own future.

Next May, in Boston, the International, for the first time perhaps in a half dozen years, will be in a position to tackle, without strings or deviation, the industrial questions which are bound up by hundreds of ties with the daily wants of our members. Our delegates will turn with lighter spirits and clearer heads to find a solution, too, to the varied organizational problems, grievances and embarrassments which cause friction in sections of our Union and harass its normal functioning.

At the very top of our agenda in Boston stand, of course, the problems of work, the problems of the shop. We said, a great deal has happened in our industry in the past few years. Nevertheless, both the cloak and the dress trades, insofar as labor is concerned, have changed in no sense since 1925. In this respect, the industrial reform program adopted by the Union as early as 1923, and reaffirmed several times since, is just as dynamic and purposeful today. Like in 1923, the problem of the small shop, closely interbound with the question of jobber responsibility, is as burning an issue as it ever was. If anything, it has become even more acute today owing to the vast increase in the number of bootleg shops in the cloak trade especially since the disastrous Communist-led strike of 1926.

We shall not attempt to give, within this limited space, a detailed account of the drive begun by the International five years ago against jobber irresponsibility, and against its concurrent evil—the small, fly-by-season production units. Right from the start, this campaign has been placed on sound, constructive ground and, supported by incontrovertible evidence and data, it has won public opinion to the Union's side and gained weight and prestige for its demands.

Our chief demand was the demand for "limitation of contractors," or for a production-system affecting the jobbers who control about 75 per cent of the output in the cloak industry that would limit them to a legitimate number of contractor firms each season required for the adequate care of their output. We asked that the jobbers designate and select the contractors or sub-manufacturers which they need for their business and distribute their work equitably among these contractors. We insisted that only such a limitation would make it impossible for jobbers to manipulate and juggle production costs in the market, to set one contractor against another by means of cut-throat competition, and to break down, as a result, work conditions in the shops. Concurrently, we demanded the granting of a fixed time-guarantee of a minimum number of weeks of work for the year, or for the season, in all cloak shops in order to put enforcement teeth into the first demand, and simultaneously to alleviate to some extent that insecurity and fear of the next day which harass and persecute our workers so mercilessly.

Our members, no doubt, remember well enough the progress

of this drive against the jobbers during the year preceding the appointment of the Governor's Commission, the mediatory efforts of that Commission, and the investigation conducted by it. They, no doubt, recall the report made by the Commission, which confirmed in such a striking manner the theoretical and practical contentions made by our Union in its indictment of the jobber method of production and its attendant evils. In plain, unmitigated words, the Commission told the whole world we were one hundred percent right in appraising the current ills of the industry and in demanding limitation of contractors as a means of checking the growth of these ills.

The Commission's report was at that time, and still remains, one of the most convincing moral gains ever scored by our Union in an open conflict with the employers.

True, the Commission did not recommend the granting of all our demands, and refrained specifically from recommending the request for a time guarantee, leaving this point open, together with several others, for later negotiations with the manufacturers. It is doubtful, however, whether, had even the Commission recommended further concessions, a general strike would have been averted. We must bear in mind that that strike, to the Communists who had control of the New York Joint Board at that time, was largely a political affair, decided upon in advance by their party chieftains.

What is, nevertheless, important is that, thanks to their mad demagoguery and woefully incompetent strike leadership, the fight that was principally a struggle against the jobbers and their ruinous methods of production, had been sidetracked and its real issues and purposes ditched. What matters is that, as a result of that disastrous political venture, the cloakmakers' organization emerged out of that strike shattered into bits and badly defeated for the first time in its history in a grapple with the employers.

Our delegates will get a graphic description of this chapter of our recent history in the forthcoming report of the General Executive Board. The Boston convention, however, will devote little time to post-mortems; it will make use of past experiences only to span a bridge into the future. It will organize its resources solely with a view of building where a horde of union wreckers ripped and pulled apart.

It will be faced with the demand for an answer to this still our most pressing question—How can this spider-web of useless, indefensible bootleg work-nests misnamed shops be swept off the map of our industry; how can the controller of production in the industry misnamed jobber be made to shoulder full responsibility for production; how can the work seasons in the cloak shops be made to yield a minimum budget to a cloak-maker and his dependents?

The International has given its reply to this triple question some five years ago, and this reply still holds good today. That answer was: limitation of contractors and a time guarantee of employment. Never was the reason for both measures more sound and just than to-day; never were both reforms more vitally urgent for the welfare of the workers and of the industry as a whole.

The Boston convention should place this demand of contractor limitation for jobbers and of a time guarantee of employment in all markets, and especially in the New-York cloak industry, in the forefront of its industrial demands.

The gang of union-wreckers succeeded only in 1926 in shunting aside the true historic answer to the ills that plague the men and women in the cloak and dress shops; it could not, however, stifle it. This demand cannot and will not be silenced. On its side is the iron logic of compelling facts. On its side also is the force of unbiased public opinion which has come to learn these facts from an investigation by disinterested surveyors. When the time comes, we shall not fail to take advantage of this weapon of an enlightened public sentiment to the fullest extent.

The Clowns Are At It Again

The official Jewish Communist sheet announced with appropriate pomp a few days ago to its readers that at an "enthusiastic" meeting of "cloakmakers and dressmakers," "general manager" Hyman, aided and abetted by "comrade" Ben Gold, some time ago a commissar-in-chief of the Furriers' Joint Board and at present hopelessly divorced from its payroll, decided to send "delegates" to the convention of the International in Boston.

It further leaked out from that report that for a time the "general managers" had seriously considered ignoring the convention entirely. That calamity, however, was somehow averted.

Our members have probably read, from time to time in the general press, accounts of "enthusiastic" meetings of refugee Russian monarchist groups in some European city, where pompous decisions anent the restoration of their old beloved order would be unanimously adopted, and fiery oaths of fealty taken in favor of this or that grand duke or some other shriveled scion of the "has been" dynasty. As a rule, these pathetic drifters invite to their "grand conferences" loud-mouthed spokesmen of some other dislodged monarchist outfits from other lands turned republican, together to bewail the iniquities of the times and to issue fierce protests to an unregenerate and indifferent world.

Well, somehow our own weary Communist clowns, who gather their shrunken following every once so often into a hall, after a day of hard labor in a non-union shop, or after hours of "protecting" scabs around a building where the Union had called a strike, to shake a paper fist in the face of a callous and unheeding universe, remind us of those pathetic, woe-begone monarchist outcasts who, thousands of miles away from

The "Iron Man" and Unemployment

By HERMAN FRANK, Ph.D.

ACCORDING to statistical reports, and as a matter of self-evident and bitter reality, a sharp falling off in employment has taken place in recent months. The municipal statistics of unemployed show steady increases, while part-time employment is now the normal order, with full time the exception. There is a good deal of unemployment in various parts of the country, particularly in the eastern States, which means a decreased consumption of goods and a general slump in business.

Some of the immediate causes of the increase in unemployment, aside from seasonal factors, are the cutting down of railroad equipment and maintenance work, the shut-down of numerous New England textile plants, and the destruction of others in the recent floods, and—last but not least—the continuance of the unsettled conditions in the strike regions of the bituminous coal industry. But over and above these transitory reasons of the present calamity there has entered of late one new and outstanding factor into the labor situation, to wit: the evergrowing part of the Iron Man, the machine, in industry, and as its result the unprecedented displacement of human labor by mechanical devices.

The Modern Technical Evolution

It has been known for more than half a century that technical evolution aims at making manual labor superfluous. Unfortunately for the workers, economists of note have not paid much attention to this fact, shelving it by a reference to an ever-increasing consuming power. But experience has proved it: hard labor is now relatively a rare occurrence. The periodical censuses of population show an increase in those occupations not exacting hard manual labor. Vocations of this sort are the professions, commerce, personal services, as domestic help, beauty catering, recreation, and so on.

The last twenty years have witnessed such technical wonders that it is admissible to predict that fiducially will dispense with a vast amount of manual labor. There is no reason to believe that the rate of inventions will slacken. On the contrary, inventions are materializing at such a rate that the marketing end of the business cannot keep pace. The daily output of certain new machines, duly patented and highly praised by technical experts, would outstrip the greatest possible absorbing power of the market. Of necessity, accordingly, these machines have never been introduced into actual use. Yet the facts in themselves, marking as they do the trend of our times, are highly significant.

The history of dying trades and methods, such as the work of the wheelwright, the production of harness, and so on, predicts the gloomy fate of those men engaged in other trades which soon may too be overtaken by the invasion of the Machine. Their very existence depends upon

the readiness and ability to shift over to other occupations.

The Labor-Displacing Power of the Machine

The effects of the modern technical evolution touch not only upon the quantity of hands employed in the several trades but on the composition of the labor force as well. The displacement of men workers by women and children is often the result of technical evolution.

For the better part of the 19th century economists thought that the irresistible process of growing machine work was nothing but a boon for the laborers. Here is the opinion of McCulloch, a classical writer on Political Economy:

"Ultimately, the introduction of machines cannot fail of being highly advantageous to the laborer; and even when first resorted to, they—the machines—never impose on him any other hardships than that of occasionally forcing him to change his business. This, however, is seldom a very material hardship. A person trained to habits of industry and application can be easily moved from one employment to another. . . . It is easy for a weaver of cottons to become a weaver of woollens or linen."

Later in the 19th century writers discovered the notorious looseness in this line of reasoning. After citing statistics as to the increased number of weavers employed upon the introduction of power-looms, Babbage, a recognized authority on the Economy of Manufactures, made the following remarks:

"In considering this increase of employment, it must be admitted that the two thousand persons—hand-weavers—thrown out of work are not exactly of the same class as those called into employment by the power-looms. A hand-weaver must possess bodily strength, which is not essential for a person attending a power-loom. Consequently, women and young persons of both sexes, from fifteen to seventeen years of age, find employment in power-loom factories."

On the other hand, there is always a probability that the machine will require for its most successful working some part of the skill of the handworker. When, for instance, the linotype was being introduced, it was believed by many employers that the machines could be profitably operated by persons who had not had a training as printers. It was soon found, however, that almost every part of the skill of the hand compositor is useful in the working of the machine and that printers were far more efficient than those who had no knowledge of the trade.

Again, here is what happened in a second case. The circumstances attending the introduction of the stone-planer were in some respects favorable to the employment of skilled stone-cutters. The output was dependent on the skill of the operative, and some of the skill of the stone-cutter was useful in working the planer. The policy of the trade union in opposing the introduction of the planer, and the relocation of the in-

dustry, seem to be responsible for the relatively small employment of the stone-cutters as planer-men.

The Social Effects of Over-Production

We have given a glimpse of the technical evolution in its relationship to manual labor. As can be seen, the picture, vast as it is, is also utterly complex, presenting a puzzling mixture of sad and bright spots, from the point of view of Labor. In certain cases—for example, the case of the linotype compositor—the machine widened the employment market: more workers could now find jobs—at a higher wage. In many other cases, however, the machine displaced thousands of hands, particularly among the skilled craftsmen. After all, the market conditions impose relentless rules of conduct of industry. As soon as the goods cannot be absorbed, as the market is fully saturated, all hope for further employment of men in this or that industry is gone.

But what about occupations for an increased population, if there is a limit to the amount of commodities that a society, given a certain purchasing power, may require? No conclusive answer can be given at present, as we are in the flux of things. Modern society is passing through far-reaching changes in social manners and standards of living whose future and results no one can foretell.

One thing is certain: our capacity for production outruns greatly our capacity for distributing the goods. Despite the advantages of the technical progress, the price of many commodities did not drop correspondingly. The savings in the cost of production have been swallowed up by the cost of an ever more complicated and irrational mode of distribution. This circumstance has induced a contemporary writer (Stuart Chase) to wall over the Tragedy of Waste.

Half the price which the ultimate consumer pays for commodities is commercial costs, putting together the cost of distribution at all the stages through which merchandise passes from raw material to finished article. Everywhere in the civilized world, the commercial classes bear an overgrowing proportion to the producers. In the course of time, economies in the cost of distribution will perhaps increase the market capacity, for more money will be available to cover through purchases on a larger scale the cost of production proper. Thus employment in industry, both of machinery and men, will also increase.

The most important possibility is this. Since there is no limit to the amount of personal attendance and services human beings require, it is probable that neither industry nor agriculture, but a third category of employment, will absorb the surplus that births are likely to produce. A few decades will show us half of the population in England and America occupied in this new category of trades, comprising persons offering services—massage and manicure specialists, teachers, artists, journalists, and so on—on one hand, and persons connected with wholesale and retail commerce, on the other. In the industrial category the increase will mainly consist of transport workers, including automobile drivers and road builders, and of supervising and controlling staffs. In the German dye-stuff and explosive industry one out of six employees has the status of an official.

The elimination of manual labor will require not a few social adjustments. Some of them are already foreshadowed by the changes in the make up of the working classes in

"The Twenty-Five Thousandth Man!"

By P. M. N.

One day last week, at the Dental Department of the Union Health Center, Harry Green, a member of local 22, of the I. L. G. W. U., became the center of attention. He did not know it. Nor did any one else, except those in direct charge of the Dental Department. The thing that caused the slight excitement—and which gave to some even a thrill—was nothing more than a number, just a little ticket bearing the figures—25,000. But, to those who have built and those who direct the work of the Union Health Center—oh, to them that simple number was significant indeed! To them, Harry Green, was no longer merely a member of local 22, but a symbolic figure—a figure of achievement, of accomplishment. For Harry Green was the twenty-fifth thousandth patient whom the Dental Department treated during the ten years of its existence. Twenty-five thousand men and women came to this—their own institution—to be cared for!

Under different conditions, this significant event would have been worthy of a reunion or a celebration, at which all of the twenty-five thousand patients would have come to join in the praise of the Dental Clinic of the Union Health Center. At this time, however, all we can do is to congratulate the Dental Department in general, and its directors—Drs. George M. and Max Price for their splendid achievement. For it is not in a small degree due to their tireless spirit and courage that the Union Health Center is weathering its present storm!

Plainfield Dress Shop Donates To Miners' Fund

Brother Abraham Rosenberg, manager of the Jersey office of the Joint Board, brought this week a check for \$34.45 to the International Office, contributed by the workers of the Raymond Dress Co., 4th and Watchung Streets, Plainfield, N. J.

Mrs. Mary Vardon, chairlady of the shops, made a special effort to induce the workers of the shop to work an extra hour and donate the proceeds to the relief of the striking soft coal miners.

The money was at once sent to Pittsburgh to the main relief headquarters.

Luncheon Meeting of Trade Union Workers To Consider Aid To Socialist Campaign

On Tuesday noon, March 27, a group of trade unionists interested in helping the nationwide campaign inaugurated by the Socialist Party among members of labor organizations, will meet in Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th Street, to consider plans of systematic activity. The group, which is headed by Bro. A. S. Ship-lakoff, manager of the Fancy Leather Goods Workers' Joint Board, invites all officials and active trade union members to attend this luncheon.

The meeting-luncheon will be addressed by Morris Hillquit, Norman Thomas and Abraham Ship-lakoff. Cost of luncheon is \$1.

Industrial nations. This redistribution by trades may have a profound bearing on the labor movement of the future.

their former homelands, are playing in kingdoms, thrones, and "counter-revolutions."

The renegade remnant of our own petty Communist "dictators," shorn of every influence and actually cut off from contact with the mass of cloakmakers and dressmakers except for their own handful of fanatics, knows too well that their circus stunt of "electing delegates" is sheer fake and humbug. They know that they can't mislead anybody regarding their "strength" any longer; their only aim is: to cause the Union some annoyance, to raise some hell, if only they could attract a bit of attention.

Poor, miserable clowns!



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



What To Read

New Spring Publications by
Boni and Liveright

My Life

By Isadora Duncan

Just before her tragic death, Isadora Duncan's book was finished. It is perhaps the supreme affirmation of her courage and genius and her creative love of life.

It is intimate, probably the most intimate book ever written by a woman. It is frank, brave, unselfconscious, facing her unseen audience of readers as fearlessly as she faced her seen ones, giving them all of herself.

It reveals the ideas that molded her life, and by which she tried to mold life around her. Here is shown how much her extraordinary adventures were part of a clear, direct philosophy of life, and with what a great will and high courage she carried it through.

A life so crowded with adventures as hers would fascinate us by the mere recital. But here there is the additional excitement of watching the reactions of a great human being to difficult situations and crisis, to love and loss.

The story of her childhood entrances us with its picture of poverty by sheer love of life; and it is worth volumes on child training and the psychology of genius.

And so with the other incidents, the intense drama of tragedy, the victories and defeats of her art. Love played a very great part in her life; at times she believed that love is the whole of life and all its incidents are expressions of love. She speaks of it with a pure and unmatchable candor.

Harry Hansen wrote of it in *The New York World*: "...one of the most moving confessions that I have ever read. All the great autobiographies in which women have bared their souls seem made with artifice beside the tumultuous outpouring of this free spirit."

Growing Into Life

The Magna Charta of Youth

By David Seabury

The new generation—your children—are growing up. They face a world more complex, more difficult, more laden with problems than the one you faced. Will you do your part to make their destiny a better one?

They have the prospect of living many years longer than we. They will enjoy many more comforts. Things that we look upon as luxuries, they will regard as necessities. They will inherit the marvelous industrial civilization to which our generation has been adding new great growth.

But will a longer life, with all its added advantages, be a happier one? Will the nervous unrest and instability that bedevils our generation be part of the heritage we are preparing for our children?

The facts are before us. In the last ten years there has been more than thirty per cent increase in insanity; more than sixty per cent increase in neuroses. While we have conquered the foes without, the physical enemies, through our marvelous advance in sanitation, have we let the foes within grow stronger?

Mr. Seabury sounds the warning and

offers the cure. He has been spending his life in restoring mental health to many thousands. His extraordinary success has made him the highest paid psychologist in America. What he has found particularly disquieting is the large number of younger people and even children who have become mental cases. It is to combat the danger of a neurotic younger generation that he has written this book. And he writes as one in love with youth.

These and all other publications can be obtained through our Educational Department at 3 West 16th Street. Members should take advantage of our book service. Visit our department and let us help you select your books.

The Rise of American Civilization

Dr. H. J. Carman will complete his course on the Rise of American Civilization given at Workers University this Saturday, March 24, 1:30 p. m. in the Washington Irving High School, room 530.

He will discuss the Beginnings of Social Control, and will then give a summary of the entire course.

This lecture is free to members of the I. L. C. W. U. and other unions.

Concert for Members in The Bronx Next Week

Saturday Evening, March 31, in P. S. 54, Intervale Ave. and Freeman St. — Well-Known Performers Will Take Part.

p. m., the Educational Department will have its annual Concert and Dance for our members in the Bronx, in the auditorium of P. S. 54, Intervale Avenue and Freeman Street.

An excellent program has been prepared, consisting of opera arias, Russian, Yiddish and English folksongs, favorite violin selections, and humorous recitations. The performers include Ray Porter Miller, coloratura soprano, Sam Cibulsky, tenor, and Abe Burg, pupil of Professor Auer, violinist. The evening will end with a dance for the young people in the gymnasium.

Our members and their families are invited to this affair. No effort was made to make this a family affair in the real sense of the word. Tickets obtained free from the offices of the Joint Board and the local unions, and from the Educational Department, at 3 West 16th Street.

Members are requested to come on time, as the program is large and is worthwhile seeing from start to finish.

Recreation Class Every Tuesday 6.30 P. M. in P. S. 11

A group of our members meets every Tuesday at 6.30 p. m. in P. S. 11, 314 West 21st Street, for physical training and recreation. From 6.30 to 7.30 they have exercises, social and folk dancing. At 7.30 they have swimming lessons in the pool. All activities are under the direction of competent instructors. For the pool a one-piece grey bathing suit, cap and towel are required.

Admission is free to our members, except ten cents for the use of the swimming pool.

Weekly Educational Calendar

WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM 530

Saturday, March 24

1.30 P. M. Dr. H. J. Carman—The Rise of American Civilization, based on the book by Charles and Mary Beard; a course of five lessons.

P. S. 11, 314 WEST 21st STREET, Between 8th and 9th Avenues

Tuesdays

6.30 P. M. Physical training, social and folk dancing.

7.30 P. M. Swimming in pool—under competent instructors. Bring one-piece grey bathing suit, cap and towel.

P. S. 54, BRONX, Intervale Avenue and Freeman Street

Saturday Evening, March 31

8. P. M. Concert and Dance. Well-known artists will participate. Admission by tickets to be obtained free at Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, Joint Board and Local Unions.

PHILADELPHIA, 52 NORTH 10 STREET

Monday Evenings

Dr. Wright—Contemporary Literature.

Social and Political History of The United States

Introduction

Every man and woman should know how and why our present society and industrial organization in America came to be what it is. We should endeavor to understand why we have industrial classes; why American capital is centered in the hands of a minority of the population; why we have a railroad problem; why the majority of the people of this country are concentrated in cities and why many of these are without landed property; why we have great industrial organizations, combinations and protective tariffs; why in recent years there has been a growing tendency in the United States toward industrial democracy and America has manifested added interest in economic imperialism. These as well as similar questions merit our study. In other words, it is of primary importance that we explain the present in terms of the past. Once having done this we shall be in a better position to comprehend the present day political and industrial problems and to do our share in intelligently working out their solution.

The topical outlines which follow are by no means exhaustive nor do they cover the entire scope of American history. They are intended to serve merely as "helps" to that growing group of workers which find little time for intensive study and yet aspire to know something about the history of the United States. In every instance, they are based upon Beard's History of the United States, an admirable textbook, especially suited to the needs of mature people. Those who desire additional readings, should consult the list of references appended at the end of each chapter of the books mentioned in the outline.

Outline No. 1

HOW THERE CAME TO BE A UNITED STATES

1. America unknown five hundred years ago.
2. Five hundred years ago, civilized men knew little about either the extent or the resources of the present world.
3. The world to them was what is now Europe, part of Asia and the northern part of Africa.
4. America was unknown in 1492.
5. How our European ancestors earned their living in 1500.
 - a. Principal industry was agriculture.
 - b. Towns few and small.
 - c. Manufacturing primitive and carried on at home.
 - d. Comparatively little trade carried on.
6. Land belonged to a privileged aristocracy.
7. The majority of the people were poor.
8. The finding of America.
 - a. What little trade there was, was monopolized by Italian merchants.
 - b. Other merchants particularly Span-

ish, and Portuguese were jealous of the Italians.

3. These Spanish and Portuguese merchants therefore urged their governments to find new trade routes to the Spice Islands so that they might compete with the Italians.

4. In thus trying to find new routes and new markets America was accidentally discovered.

5. Those in search of such routes and markets, were aided by the invention of the compass, the astrolabe and maps.

IV. The great migration to America. 1. During the 16th, 17th and 18th Centuries, as well as during the 19th, Europeans came to America because:

- a. Of economic misery at home.
- b. Opportunity in new country to make a decent living.
- c. To escape religious persecution.
- d. Some came for adventure.
- e. Why do people come to America today?
- f. How the first settlers earned their living.

a. Mostly by farming. The farmer a Jack-of-all trades.

b. Some by fishing and fur trade.

c. Some by trade or commerce.

d. No manufacturing as we have it today.

4. By the middle of the 18th century very definite social and economic classes had developed in America. Of these four may be mentioned: (1) Merchants and shippers, (2) Northern farmers, (3) Southern planters, (4) Professional people of whom the lawyers and clergy were most important.

5. The land settled by the English.

a. It included at first a narrow strip along the Atlantic seaboard which varied in fertility. The middle and southern portion of this strip was better adapted for farming than the northern.

References:

Beard, History of the United States, Chapters I, II, III, IV, V, Macmillan, 1921.

Hayes, A Political and Social History of Modern Europe, Vol. 1 pp. 1-28, Macmillan, 1916-18.

Greene, Foundations of American Nationality, Chapter I, American Book, 1922.

Becker, The Beginnings of the American People, Chapters I, II, II—Houghton-Mifflin, 1915.

Coman, Industrial History of the United States, Chapters II, III, Macmillan, 1910.

Unity House for Your Vacation

If you wish to spend a vacation in the country now, you can select no better place than our Unity House at Forest Park, Pa., which is now open all year around.

We have equipped a cottage with steam heat and all comforts for winter. We can assure a restful and pleasant vacation, a combination of outdoor activity and indoor comfort.

For information and registration apply at the Educational Department at 3 West 16th St. Telephone Chelsea 2144.

Arbitration of Industrial Disputes

A Review of the Recent Efforts of the American Bar Association

THE Committee on Commerce of the American Bar Association is seeking agreement upon a plan for preventing and adjusting disputes which arise between employers and employees. It is convinced "that the time has come when the American Bar must make a distinctive contribution in this field of American law."

The committee, however, is "conscious of the fact that before there can be law there must be policy. In order to find and establish a distinctive American policy in this important field the committee has tried to ascertain the points upon which agreement might be reached and to adopt those points of agreement as a basis of constructive recommendation."

Beginning in April, 1926, the committee held hearings at which representatives of employers, organized labor and the public expressed their views. Further hearings were held on February 16-18, 1928, on the tentative outline of policy which the committee has put forth for consideration.

In broad terms this policy was expressed in the invitation which was sent out to organizations and individuals. "From our contacts with business men of vision and grasp of affairs, as well as with the representatives of labor, we have reason to believe that a declaration of policy along the following lines offers a platform upon which business, management, organized labor and the public generally may be brought together."

"To promote good will between those investing capital, those participating in management and those who render service, and to facilitate the moving of commerce without wasteful interruption of industry, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE the policy of the United States in the field of interstate and/or foreign commerce (and in so far as it may lawfully do so in the field of interstate commerce) to promote the peaceful adjustment and prevention of industrial controversy by encouraging the making and maintenance inviolate by responsible organizations of employers and responsible organizations of working men and or women of contracts for the adjustment of their relations, through negotiations and arbitration, such contracts when freely and voluntarily made to be in all respects lawful and binding and the provisions for settlement of differences by arbitration to be irrevocable and enforceable in the manner hereinafter provided; it is declared further to be part of said policy to encourage the peaceable and orderly ascertainment of the true facts in all industrial situations coming within federal cognizance and thus to promote the use of rational and lawful methods in the settlement of controversies arising out of such industrial situations."

In response to numerous requests as to what the committee had in mind, it published on February 3 ten tentative conclusions which it had reached. The first of these was to the effect that the great conflicts in industry have been not so much over details of wages, hours, and working conditions as they were over participation in the control of industry, involving such issues as the recognition of unions and the closed shop. Numbers 27 follow:

"2. That where organizations of workers are wisely led there is a marked tendency on the part of employers toward so-called collective agreements establishing arbitral machinery in the industry; a sort of self-government of the industry itself.

"3. That where the organization of employees is more or less communistic in its tendencies there is strong oppo-

sition on the part of management to the attempts of the organization to gain a foothold in industry.

"4. That even in the case of organized international unions the presence of communistic tendencies works toward a breakdown of the machinery of self-government established by both employers and workers.

"5. That a relationship between unions and employers' associations based upon contracts voluntarily made is in the public interest. Encouragement can and should be given to the making and enforcement of such contracts.

"6. Procedure for voluntary submission to arbitration made in advance of dispute coupled with validity of awards made by the arbitrators is in the public interest.

"7. That as the law gives sanction to contracts for the arbitration of commercial disputes, the law should in similar manner give sanction and enforceability to contracts for the settlement of industrial disputes."

Conclusion 8 to 10 pertain to the part which the bar has played in encouraging commercial arbitration and they suggest that the bar is in a position to perform a similar service in the relations of employers and employees, by making "use of the experience of men who have special knowledge of the whole subject."

The reports which have been published on the hearings February 16-18, indicate a considerable diversity of opinion among those who participated. From the beginning the efforts of the committee received the cooperation of representatives of the American Federation of Labor. The Federation leaders welcomed the peaceful adjustment of disputes but they were not prepared to endorse any plan until all aspects of the present situation had been considered. In general they would favor provisions for voluntary arbitration, giving legal force to awards similar to those in the Federal Transportation Act as applied to railway labor. They believed, too, that a National Industrial Council, as a fact-finding body in time of industrial disputes, would have a wholesome effect upon public opinion.

Some of the employer representatives were not in favor of giving legal force to arbitration awards. For example "Raymond V. Ingersoll, Impartial Chairman of the cloak, suit and skirt industries in the New York market, advised the committee that he would not make enforceable by law the arbitration of contracts, or collective agreements in industry, but would leave their enforcement to the volition of the parties concerned."

On the other hand James A. Emery, representing the National Association of Manufacturers, believed that the time had not come to discuss the possibility of legislation on the matter, because of the fear that it would promote collective relations and that "uncontrolled collectivism" would turn out to be "one of the most dangerous things in the country."

A member of the American Bar Association was fearful that the bar by sponsoring agreements between organized employees and employers would give the impression of taking sides with the 'closed shop' as against the 'open shop', and its action "would serve in the public mind as a compelling influence to bring about organization." This brought an assurance from the President of the American Bar Association that the "association represented neither capital nor labor," that its committee's purpose was "to evolve a peaceful adjustment of controversies, and that it wanted all available information on the subject,

regardless of whether shops were open or closed and whether employees were organized or unorganized."

The position taken by a representative of the left wing, of the radical labor group, was that "not only does labor have nothing to gain from the so-called industrial peace plan, but we regard the entire scheme (making arbitration awards legal) as a proposal for anti-strike legislation in which a corrupt union officialdom can sell out in perpetuity its union membership, binding them by an arbitration agreement which the courts will ruthlessly enforce, with prison sentences for such as oppose it. The fact-finding provisions of the proposed law are simply so many plans for delaying a needed strike until the employers shall have fully prepared to break it."

A representative of a liberal group pointed out to the committee that its "recommendation would not remove one of the chief causes of controversy; that is, the refusal of employers to recognize unions, to arbitrate with

them or to do anything else." To this the chairman replied, "Of course, we as lawyers appreciate this, but it is not our function to compel employers to recognize arbitration. The most we can do is to make the law congenial to the result."

Evidently the committee does not intend to be unduly influenced by the extremists among either the employers or the workers. The chairman announced after the hearings that, while considerable difference of opinion was expressed and the committee recognized that it was dealing with a "state of mind," it was the purpose of the committee "to remove, if possible, certain legal barriers that now exist in the federal arbitration law under which, it appears, arbitration agreements between employers and employees are revocable at will." The committee "found a strong concurrence of view on many propositions, also a wide field of difference, though the principal difference seems to be with the respect of legal machinery."

Marriage, Divorce and Birth Rates

Facts and Figures Collated by the Information Service of F. C. of C. C. of America

ACCORDING to a recent report of the United States Census, the marriage rate in the United States has increased from 8.7 to 10.2 per thousand of population between 1887 and 1925, the latest date for which the rate is available. The highest rate (11 per 1,000 of population) was reached in 1923, a year of outstanding prosperity. The commercial depressions of 1893, 1904 and 1924 largely explain the falling off of the rate in those years. The rate per 1,000 of total population 15 years of age and over in 1925 was 15. The rate per 1,000 of unmarried population in 1925 was 37.6. But figures for past years comparable to these two rates are not given.

The marriage rates in the various states vary in accordance with the relative leniency of state laws and the relative economic independence of women. The states which have laws permitting marriage with ease and promptness attract non-resident couples and raise the marriage rate in those states.

Since 1887 there has been a persistent, though irregular, increase in the number of divorces granted annually, with a somewhat diminishing rate during the last few years. The rate increased from 0.47 per 1,000 of total population in 1887 to 1.52 in 1925. In other words, the number of divorces per 1,000 of the total population was more than three times as large in 1925 as it was in 1887.

The divorce rates for states show much wider variations than do those for geographic divisions. Except the District of Columbia, which is in effect a municipality, New York state ranked the lowest, with a rate of 0.41 per 1,000 of population, while Nevada ranked the highest with 13.98 per 1,000. Obviously the New York rate is accounted for by the stringency of her laws, while the Nevada rate is due to the variety of grounds upon which divorces may be obtained. In 30 of the states the rate was higher in 1925 than in 1924 and in 18 states there was a decline in the rate.

More than twice as many wives as husbands obtain divorces. The percentages for the respective years show little variation. It may be that husbands, more often than wives, give occasion for divorce, but the much larger proportion of divorces granted to the wife is, in general, due to the fact that there are for the wife more legal grounds for divorce than there

are for the husband. For example, non-support or neglect and cruelty are more likely to be grounds offered by the wife than by the husband. Furthermore, when both parties want the divorce, it is probable that the wife more often than the husband makes the application.

In 1925, cruelty and desertion were the most common causes of divorce. About seven-tenths of all divorces were for these two causes combined. Of the divorces granted to husbands, 16 per cent were on the ground of adultery, while only 7.1 per cent of those granted to wives were for this cause. But the actual number of divorces granted to husbands was smaller than the number granted to wives for this cause. This is due to the fact that the total number of divorces granted husbands was smaller and adultery was relatively the most important ground upon which the husband could rely to obtain a divorce. On the other hand cruelty was the principal cause of divorces granted to wives.

Of the divorces in 1925, 46.5 per cent were granted to couples who had been married 5 years or less, 14.4 per cent to those married from 10 to 14 years, and 10 per cent to those married 20 years and over. This distribution has remained about the same from 1922 to 1925, and it corresponds fairly closely to the distribution during the period 1887-1906. More than two-thirds of all divorces in 1925 were granted to people who had been married less than 10 years. The percentage of cases in which the couples who had no children were granted divorces increased from 40.2 per cent during the period 1887 to 1906 to 57 per cent in 1925.

The figures on births are collected from the so-called registration area. In 1925, this area included only 31.1 per cent of the total population, but in 1926 it included 87 per cent. The births per 1,000 of population have decreased from 25.1 in 1915 to 20.8 in 1925. This is called the "crude" birth rate. The adjusted birth rate (which is constructed to determine how much the birth rate has shifted due to the change in the per cent of age distribution of women of child-bearing age, 15-44) is about the same for 1925, or 21.4.

The decrease in the birth rate is accounted for by the deferment of marriage, the struggle to maintain as good or a better standard of living under increasing economic pressure, the emphasis upon small families in urban environments, the increasing economic independence of women, and the practice of birth control.

The Week In Local 10

All the locals of the International are busily engaged at present with the coming convention. Discussions as to the outcome of this convention are heard on all sides among the active members and officers.

The 19th Biennial Convention, which will start on May 7, in Boston, will devote its initial sessions to a review of the activities of the International in the two and a half years, the stormiest period in the life of the Ladies' Garment Workers. The members of Local 10 should well remember the convention held in Dec., 1925, in Philadelphia. That convention was held immediately following the fight conducted by the "lefts" against the International, when the so-called Joint Action Committee was organized. It was the stormiest convention we ever had. Excitement, the staging of many demonstrations plus acrobatic Communist stunts was the order of the "left" program.

Its outcome was not very productive to the International or to the labor movement as a whole. Due to Communist propaganda, a part of the membership was made to believe that the leadership of the International was responsible for the miserable conditions then prevailing in the industry. They lent a ready ear to the unfounded accusations against the officers of the Union. If the Communists, the so-called "lefts," would take the organization in hand, they were told, conditions in the industry would improve, and the workers would have a better opportunity to make a living.

Review of Last Convention

The last convention literally handed over the New York Union to the "lefts." They became the sole masters of the workers in New York. They opposed all arbitration, and ridiculed it as "class collaboration." They were eager to lead tens of thousands of people into a big strike, which from the first day spelled disaster. They so managed their affairs that no precautions were taken to evade a strike; and the results of

their leadership and the demoralization which they created are still fresh in the memory of thousands who "paid the price" for their folly.

The workers soon began to realize that they were being led by a false Messiah. Instead of more democracy, as was promised them, the most autocratic regime that ever existed in a labor organization was set on foot. As to their so much advertised economy in conducting a labor organization, it was the most extravagant period since the formation of the union. Millions slipped through their hands for a strike which nearly ruined an industry, and brought misery to thousands of families. The membership was overburdened with taxes as never before, levied without even a semblance of democracy.

Fortunately, however, while the last convention practically handed over the New York situation to these new messiahs, the General Executive Board was still composed of trade unionists. Immediately following that ruinous strike, in December, 1926, the General Executive Board issued its famous statement to the Communist Party and its supporters, who were responsible for the collapse of the cloak industry in New York, to "keep their hands off the International Union." They called upon the loyal element to register their loyalty with the International. Thousands responded to this call.

Historic Meeting of Local 10

During those trying times Local 10 was constantly in the foreground, and a source of inspiration to many in the fight against the disruptionists of the Labor movement. While the other locals were being reorganized, Local 10 held its historic meeting in Cooper Union in December, to declare its loyalty to the International and to the American labor movement. The hall was crowded to capacity by members; Matthew Woll and Hugh Frayne of the American Federation of Labor together with Morris Sigman, president of the In-

ternational, were the principal speakers at that meeting.

Since that meeting Local 10 was found in the front ranks of the struggle against the internal enemies of the union. After that historic gathering the general membership, with the exception of a very small minority which preferred to serve the interests of a political party, threw itself into the breach and vowed that it would fight to the last drop of energy to rid the Union of the disrupters.

The Union was confronted with various difficult problems. When the International took over the Joint Board, it found debts amounting to about \$3,000,000. The Communists squandered all the securities deposited by the employers with them during the last strike and saddled the Union with loans advanced by banks.

It found chaos created by Communist unemployment in the trade, an increase of scab shops, and a demoralized spirit amongst the members. Together with the financial bankruptcy of the Union these were the problems with which the organization was confronted. It was a great test and indeed a miracle that we were able to manage the Union for one and a half years without overburdening the members, and not only defeat the Communists and eliminate them from the ranks of our Union, but also to organize many shops and establish in them union conditions.

All these activities and all these problems and difficulties will be reviewed at the next convention. The main topic of interest after that will be: How to raise the morale of the membership? How to organize the trade? How to raise finances for the maintenance of the Union?

The Boston convention will not only pass upon the activities of the Union for the past two and a half years. It will also lay a foundation for a stronger union for the future. It is to be expected, therefore, that while there may not be at this convention any demonstrations and acrobatic stunts, it will be faced with very serious problems, and the solving of these problems will depend upon the intelligence of the delegates.

Local 10 has always played a leading role at International conventions, and it must continue to do so again. Four and a half years ago, in Boston, when the International celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, and two and a half years ago in Philadelphia, when the International was engaged in the fight against the disruptionist element of the Labor movement, Local 10 played a prominent role, and Local 10 is expected to play the same important role at this coming reconstruction convention to be held in Boston.

Elect Delegates for Reconstruction Convention

Local 10 is to be represented by seven delegates. Election for delegates takes place this Saturday, March 24, at Arlington Hall, at 23 St. Mark's Place. Many of those who represented the International at previous conventions are candidates for this convention. We are confident that the membership will realize the importance of this coming event and will participate in this important election to elect those who would be a credit to the traditions and prestige of Local 10.

Old Age Fund Drive Near Closing

The goal of \$20,000 for the Old Age Fund is nearly reached. The Souvenir Journal is going to print shortly. Many who neglected to reserve complimentary ads in the Souvenir Journal did so last week. Final notice has been sent to those who have not yet contributed. Unless we receive your complimentary advertisements by next Tuesday, we will be unable to accept them as the Journal will be on the presses. Next week, we will publish a detailed list of all who have contributed to the Fund, of individual members as well as of groups of cutters. The names of the slackers who have not contributed will be conspicuous by their absence from that list.

The final arrangements for the Ball are being made. A big surprise awaits the cutters, which is to be announced next week.

Credit goes to Brothers Fruhling, Nagler and Perlmutter for their eleventh hour activity in the drive for the Fund, as they have brought in very generous contributions.

Cutters' Union Local 10!

SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING

to be held

MONDAY, MARCH 26,

at

ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE

Order of Business:

1. Report of Election Board for Delegates to the 19th Biennial Convention.
2. Report of Arrangements Committee regarding Old Age Fund, and final arrangements for Ball.
3. Election of Business Agent to Joint Board in place of David Fruhling.
4. Important Recommendations by Executive Board.

A Surprise

In this Box

For All Cutters
And Their Friends.

Keep on Guessing
Until Next Week

Attention, Members of Local 10!

Election of Delegates

To

19th BIENNIAL CONVENTION

To Be Held in Boston 2nd Week in May

Will take place

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 24,

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PLACE

Polls will be open from 12:30 A. M. to 6:00 P. M.

THIS WILL BE A HISTORICAL CONVENTION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION; LOCAL 10 IS VITALLY INTERESTED IN ITS DELIBERATIONS AND DECISIONS.

EVERY MEMBER MUST TAKE PART IN THIS IMPORTANT ELECTION!

Do not fail to carry the election stamp in your Dues Book!