

"My righteous-
ness 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. VII. No. 35.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1925

Price 2 Cents.

Joint Board Reinstates Many Workers Discharged for Stoppage

President Sigman Aids Discharged "Demonstrators" in Getting Back Jobs—Many Participants in Communist Stoppage Express Regret

During the last few days, the effects of the New York Joint Board, under the management of President Sigman, have been flooded with cloak makers and dressmakers, victims of the recent Communist snare, the fake stoppage of Thursday, August 29, who were discharged by their employers for this flagrant violation of shop rules. The Communist "committee of action," upon whom these misled workers had relied to help them keep their jobs is, in true Communist fashion, long on promises but woefully short on performance. These workers now declare that they had been tricked into this stoppage against their better judgment, and some of them against their will, that they regret having taken a part in it, and pleaded that their Union help them out in this cast as it has helped them on former occasions.

President Sigman instructed all the district managers of the Joint Board to do everything in their power to reinstate such workers. Up to the time of this writing more than half of the workers who had lost their jobs on account of the Communist stoppage had been placed back on their former shops, after the Joint Board officers had intervened on their behalf with the employers. Only such "stoppages" remain outside the shops as still obstinately depend on the Communists to help them out in their present dire predicament.

The following is a partial list of shops in Manager Slutsky's district where workers were discharged for participating in the stoppage and were since reinstated through the efforts of the Joint Board:

John Corolis, 15 West 26th St.;
Rembolski & Friedlander, 34 West
25th St.; Principal Cloak Company,
22 West 18th St.; M. Sliger Co., 4

West 22nd St.; K. R. & F. Cloak Co.,
33 West 21st St.; S. Prince Co., 6 W.
18th St.; Seltzer & Helman, 4 West
22nd St.; Rockov Bros., 245 7th Ave.;
Etna Cloak Co. and several others.

The workers of J. Rapoport & Co., one of the largest cloak firms, were all discharged last Friday morning. The Joint Board succeeded in getting every one of them back to work. Twelve finishers were engaged from the shop of the State Garment Co.,

488 Seventh Ave., and were reinstated by the Joint Board. The workers discharged from the P. S. & L. Dress Co. were also put back to work by the Joint Board. The same occurred in the shop of R. Sperling Cloak Co.

President Sigman also announced that not only were a number of workers reinstated in several Protective shops but steps were taken to prevent such discharges by getting in

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Designers Meet Next Saturday

The ladies' wear designers of New York are awakening.

The executive board of Local 45, which is the New York organization of the I. L. G. W. U. designers, is taking active steps to interest the non-union designers in the trade in its organization. A meeting of all craftsmen is being called for next Saturday, August 29, at 1.30 P. M. to take place at the Hotel Pennsylvania, 32nd street and Seventh avenue, Room 3, to discuss the urgent needs of the designers and the problems which confront Local 45.

The call to the meeting reads as follows:

"To all Ladies Wear Designers of Greater New York!

"The condition of the men and women employed at designing in the women's wear industry of our city is becoming increasingly intolerable. It is time that we had got together and sought means and ways for the removal of the evils which affect our work-conditions.

"We are calling for this purpose a mass-meeting of all designers for next Saturday afternoon, at the Pennsylvania Hotel. We expect several leaders of the International Union at this meeting, and some of the best known workers in our craft. We can only hope to improve the situation of the designers by presenting a common front to our employers. We count therefore upon you to come to the meeting. Please be all on time.

Labor Day Is A Big Day At Unity House

Capacity Crowd Expected—Excellent Concert to be Given

Labor Day is always celebrated on a big scale in Unity House. This year, however, the arrangements indicate that the festivities will exceed all former records from every point of view.

The management of the Unity House expects a big crowd for the Labor Day week end and is now making certain that all the visitors be properly taken care of upon their arrival and during their stay. It is quite important, however, for all who desire to come out to Unity for the few days, to register at once with the

Unity Office at 3 West 16th Street, New York City.

An excellent concert program is being arranged for Sunday evening, September 6, Labor Day eve. The other evenings will be given over to dancing, musicales and other amusements.

It must be remembered that the capacity of the place, especially with the prospect of a huge Labor Day crowd in view, is limited. Eleven-thousand applicants may therefore quite likely be disappointed. Moral: make your reservations in advance.

Impressive Installation of Dressmakers' Executive Board

Max Bluestein Elected Manager—Local 22 Elects First Negro Girl to Executive Board—Sigman, Baroff, Hochman, Antonini and Yagovsky Speak

On Monday, August 24, in the Debs Auditorium, 7 East 15th street, the newly-elected executive board of Local 22, the Dressmakers' Union of New York, was officially installed.

The meeting was opened by Vice-President Harry Wandler, chairman of the election committee of the local, who introduced Secretary Abraham Baroff of the International as first speaker. Baroff reviewed the recent events in the organization and pointed out the duties of the new board under the present circumstances.

Max Bluestein, the new manager of the local, was the second speaker. He appealed to the members of the executive board to rise to their present

great opportunity when the Union is facing not only aggression from the employers but the problem of defense against the savage attacks of the Communists. He was followed by Luigi Antonini, the secretary-manager of the Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local 89, who proved by facts that it was the Communist propaganda which paved the way for Fascism in Italy and that the same methods are being employed by Communists now in their

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International Union Bank Answers Suits of Suspended Communists

Hillquit Defends Refusal to Honor Checks Issued by Ousted Officials

Answers were filed last Saturday, August 22nd, in the Supreme Court of New York by the International Union Bank in five actions brought in behalf of the suspended former officials of Locals 9 and 22 of the I. L. G. W. U. who were removed on charges of using the funds of their respective locals to promote acts of hostility against their parent body.

The complaints in the cases are not yet on record, but the answers filed by Morris Hillquit, as attorney for the bank, indicate that the suits are brought to test the right of the bank to refuse to honor checks drawn by these suspended executive officers. The answer in the suit of the former treasurer of Locals 9 and 22 sets forth that the International Union has adopted a constitution which is binding upon the plaintiff organizations and that on June 11 last, Israel Feinberg, member of the In-

ternational Union preferred charges against the persons constituting the executive boards of Locals 9 and 22 charging that they violated this constitution which stipulates that funds of locals belonging to the I. L. G. W. U. may be used for legitimate union expenses only.

Suspended Officials Opposed
I. L. G. W. U.

The charges against these persons set forth that they were instrumental in calling a public meeting addressed by members of the Communist Party, the Workers' Party and the Trade Union Educational League, all of which are "opposed to the settled principles of trade unions and are open and avowed enemies of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union."

It was also alleged that the speak-

(Continued on Page 2)

Pres. Sigman Sees No Need for Writing New Cloak Agreements

Accepted Recommendations of Governor's Commission Part of Old Contract Already

Writing new contracts in the cloak and suit trade, insofar as the workers are concerned, is quite superfluous according to a statement made this week by President Morris Sigman of the I. L. G. W. U.

The Commission made certain recommendations to modify the existing contracts between the Union and the various employing groups in the industry, and these recommendations having been accepted, have become automatically organic parts of the former pacts in the trade. To write them into the contracts would merely be a formality.

When informed that the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association has called a membership meeting to discuss the new agreement to be written in the trade, President Sigman said that the Union would meet with the associations to discuss this matter only upon their direct request. But even in the event of a meeting, all the Union would be prepared to do would be to formally incorporate the Commission's recommendations verbatim into the agreements. Any extended discussion would, therefore, be unnecessary, he added.

Joint Board Reinstates Many Discharged Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

touch with employers and warning them against punitive measures.

The Bell Cloak Company incident. A characteristic occurrence took place in the shop of the Bell Cloak Co. A "left" by the name of Cinnamon, who participated in the stoppage was discharged by the firm on the following morning, and the workers, though themselves not in sympathy with the "lefts", interceded on his behalf. The firm, however, would not listen to the suggestion of reinstatement, whereupon the workers of the shops, together with the discharged Cinnamon appealed to President Sigman. A shop meeting was arranged in the presence of President Sigman, and after the "left" had made good his standing with the Union and had

changed his card, the Joint Board took up his case with the firm. After some overtures, the firm reinstated the worker to the full satisfaction of the shop.

On the next morning the Communists brazenly announced in their press that they "settled" the shop and reinstated the worker. The shop at once held a meeting and adopted unanimously a resolution protesting against the arrogant and lying statement of the Communist "action committee" and declaring that they never had anything to do with this committee and that the satisfactory outcome of this affair is due entirely to the efforts of President Sigman. The resolution was signed by Louis Meyerson, chairman of the shop and by practically every worker on the premises.

International Union Bank Answer Suits of Suspended Communists

(Continued from Page 1)

ers advocated violence and dictatorship, that the reports of the meeting in the public press gave the impression that the International and its locals were committed to the aims and methods of communism, and that the reputation and standing of the International were impaired thereby. It was also charged that this meeting was "merely designed to enable the avowed enemies of the International Union and its officers to slander publicly the International and its officers," and that by paying the expenses of this meeting the union violated the provisions of the constitution.

The answer alleges further, that a special grievance committee, appointed to hear the charges, found that the plaintiff and the other persons so charged were guilty, and as a result they were disqualified from holding office for three years. It is alleged that the joint board of the union suspended Hyman as secretary-treasurer, and the other as members of the executive board, and that Isidor Sorkin was appointed temporary administrator and manager of the affairs of the local, and finally on Aug. 11, after the charges had been upheld, he was duly elected secretary-treasurer, and is now acting.

Answer to Finishers' Local

In the suit of the Ladies' Garment Finishers' Local No. 9 Centre, Inc., the answer alleges that between June

12 and Aug. 7 the defendant bank paid the plaintiff \$875. The answer asserts that neither the institution nor the prosecution of the action have been authorized by the board of directors of the plaintiff corporation, and that Hyman, who swore to the complaint, was not an officer and is not authorized to do so.

MRS. CLIFFORD PINCHOT, WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA ENDORSES "PROSANIS" LABEL

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control received a letter from Mrs. Clifford Pinchot, under date of August 26th, in which she endorses the "Prosanis" Label as follows:

"The 'Prosanis' Health Label should appeal to every woman who is interested not merely the garments she buys but also in the question of where and how they are made. The Label in her dress and coat will assure her that the workers who made them were given fair treatment and living wages.

"I heartily endorse this device which protects the public and gives to the workers surroundings conducive to health."

Dressmakers Install New Board Last Monday

(Continued from Page 1)

campaign to smash the I. L. G. W. U. and to render it helpless if they cannot dominate it.

Editor S. Yanovsky spoke briefly dwelling on the present grave moment in the life of the Union and the tremendous responsibility which rests upon the new executive board to rehabilitate their local by constructive activity. Julius Hochman, the manager of the Dress Division of the Joint Board, spoke in the same vein, pointing out the great positive achievements scored by the International in the last few years. Mistakes may have been made—and always will be made in the process of building a great labor organization, but the Communists have neither the moral justice nor the logic on their side in assailing our organization for the mistakes it has made, as they, the Communists, are essentially a destructive force which breaks down things but never creates.

The last speaker of the evening was President Morris Sigman who was received with loud applause. President Sigman pointed out that the I. L. G. W. U. has for years been a model union in the American movement. "In our ranks there is room for all nationalities, races, and creeds," he remarked with fervent emphasis, "in our Union we never have dictated to our member any favored

political faith or program. But we cannot and shall not turn over our Union to a group which would force their political dogma upon us."

Telegrams and Flowers Sent to New Executives

A score of telegram and several bouquets of flowers were received by the incoming executive board of the dressmakers sent by friends and shops who could not personally come to the installation meeting.

A striking result of the election in Local 22 was the return of a negro girl, Mildred I. Taylor, as executive member, for the first time in the history of the local. Max Bluestein was elected secretary-treasurer of the dressmakers' organization.

Complete List of Executive Board

The following is the full list of the elected executive officers of Local 22: Secretary-Treasurer, Max Bluestein. Executive board members: Isaac Cannel, Harry Levine, Samuel Haber, Simon Farber, Goldie Sherr, Fannie Shapiro, Meyer Fine, Max Cohen, Jacob Deutchman, Ben, Lebowitz, Morris Ballan, Mildred I. Taylor, Max Hotchfield, Ph. Dinnerstein, B. Unger, Rose B. Mirsky, Yetta Kimmel, Edward Fish, Harry Golub, Meyer Rosen, Z. Kantrowitz, Esther Mashitz, J. Cooperstein, Sol Silver and Meyer Neuman.

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UNION WAGE RATES IN 1924

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor has issued a report on union scales of wages, and hours of labor as of May, 1924. Summaries of this report appeared in the September and December, 1924 numbers of the Monthly Labor Review. The publication shows wage rates for 534,243 organized wage earners in 66 important industrial cities.

The hourly rate of wages in all trades collectively was higher than in any preceding year, being 8.3 per cent higher than in May, 1923 and more than 2 1/2 times the rate in 1915. Hours decreased 0.5 per cent between 1923 and 1924 and 8.1 per cent in the same period.

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With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH,
Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board of Locals 3, 16, 21, 22, 23, 25, 46, 48, 64, 82 and 89 was held on Friday, August 21, 1926 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street.

The minutes of the Joint Board of August 17th and the report of the Board of Directors of August 17th were adopted as read.

Communications:

Local No. 2 informs the Board that the following members of their Executive Board have been duly elected as delegates to the Joint Board:

A. Abramson, Wm. Bloom, N. Hines, B. Kaplan and R. Zuckerman.

The delegates are seated.

Brother Bloom is granted the floor. He states that these times remind him of the year 1917 when the local was reorganized and he was also at that time elected to represent the executive board at the Joint Board. History, he states, repeats itself. At that time individuals attempted to break up the organization, whereas now a group of people, who are dominated by the Communist Party, are attempting the very same thing. He further states that if improvements are to be made in this organization, this should be done by our members and not by outsiders. He greets the Joint Board in behalf of the newly elected Executive Board of Local No. 2.

Brother Bloom's short address is received enthusiastically by the delegates.

Local No. 9 notifies the Board that the following Executive Board members have been elected to represent them at the Joint Board:

Max Bretschneider, I. Siegel, Ab. Coher, Sol. Bender and S. Strman.

The delegates are seated.

Local No. 10 advises the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Executive Board meeting of August 2nd, the special meeting of the Joint Board of July 25th and the reports of the Board of Directors of July 27th and August 5th.

Local No. 89 informs the Board that they have similarly approved the above enumerated records:

The following delegates are appointed to serve on committees:

Local 2—Hines, Board of Directors.

Local 9—Bretschneider, Board of Directors.

Local 2—Zuckerman; Appeal Committee.

Local 9—Bender, Appeal Committee.

Local 2—Kaplan, Grievance Committee.

Local 9—Cohen, Grievance Committee.

Local No. 89 notifies the Board that Brother Egitto will replace Brother Salerno on the Appeal Committee.

Special Committee Report:

Brother Borenstein, Chairman of the Special Committee, appointed by the Joint Board to try the suspended Executive Board of the Locals No. 2, 9 and 22, reports on the Committee on the charges against Rose Wertz, Pauline Morgensater, Bennie Miller and

Chas. Zimmerman, who were not included in the original charges:

"Joint Board Cloak, Suit Skirt, Dress and Reeler Makers Unions.

"Chairman and Brothers:

"Your Special Committee, appointed at your meeting of June 11th, respectfully submits this report and recommendation with respect to the additional executive board members and officer of Local No. 22, against whom charges were preferred July 10th.

"The following executive board members and officer: Rose Wertz, Pauline Morgensater, Bennie Miller, Chas. Zimmerman was summoned to appear before your Committee on the 16th day of July, 1925 to answer on the charges preferred against them by Brother Feinberg. They failed to respond and have not, until this day, notified your Committee of the reason for same.

"Your Committee, considering the failure of these people to respond as well as their failure to notify your Committee of the reason for same, acted in accordance with Article 11, Section 5 of the Constitution of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which reads—

"If the accused shall fail to appear at the time and place designated for the trial without presenting a good and sufficient reason for his absence, the trial body shall proceed to take testimony in the same manner as if the accused member were present. The trial body shall have the right to impose a fine, suspension or expulsion or other penalty, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. Judgments of suspension or expulsion from membership shall become effective or ratification of the Executive Board of the L. U. J. B. or C. E. B. as the case may be."

and proceeded with the trial in the defendants' absence.

"The above-mentioned executive board members and officer are, in the unanimous opinion of your Committee, guilty of conduct unbecoming to the dignity and the welfare of the Union.

"Your Committee therefore recommends that these four accused members be removed from their offices and be suspended from all activities within the Union for a period of three years."

The report of the Special Committee is approved.

General Manager's Report:

President Sigman reports that shop meetings are being called continually, to which a vast majority of the people respond.

Brother Sigman also reports that the stoppage, which was organized by the "joint action committee" has been observed very carefully by him. He watched the crowds on four different occasions, but the membership which paraded did not display any enthusiasm at all. An estimate of the entire demonstration can be made of about 12 thousand people. Considering the

New Executive Board Appeals to Members of Dressmakers' Union

Sisters and Brothers:

The tumult which has raged in our union for the past few weeks, caused by the efforts of the former executive board to maintain itself illegitimately in power, is beginning to have an effect in the shops. The condition of the dressmakers, never too excellent, is changing to the worst. Work prices are being mercilessly cut, the discipline of the members is weakened, and the employers are using the situation to advance their own ends, their own selfish interests.

This state of affairs must not continue any longer!

It is the prime duty of the newly elected executive board of our local and of its secretary-manager to do away with this chaos and to bring back order and discipline in our ranks. The dressmakers must again be reunited under our banner and the employers must be shown that the workers' power which has won for them improved shop conditions is still alive and ready to defend them against every attack and aggression.

The duties facing the new administration of our local are great and

difficult. It will require the cooperative efforts of all our members to overcome the obstacles which lie in our path. We are confident, nevertheless, that the wholehearted and loyal work of the executive members aided by all the active workers of the local, and unflinching by personal ambition or politics, will surmount these difficulties. We are confident that, if we devote our whole energy to the struggle of improving the condition of our workers and of upholding our union, our work shall be crowned with success.

Dressmakers! We appeal to you in the name of our organization, health and honor by our own toil and sacrifice, and our sole defender and protection against the employers; we call upon you: Become active in the Union! Do not neglect work-conditions in the shops! Let us undertake by united effort to make our organization once more a bulwark of strength to the tens of thousands of workers in our industry.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, DRESS AND WAISTMAKERS' UNION,
LOCAL 22, I. L. G. W. U.

The American Labor Press

About 600 labor papers, issued by labor or closely discussing labor questions, appear regularly in the United States, according to the new American Labor Press Directory, just published by the Labor Research Department of the Rand School of Social Science, in New York.

The American Federation of Labor and practically every national and international union affiliated with it are represented by official organs. The most frequent kind of labor paper is the local journal issued by some person or group, often with the endorsement of the trade unions in the vicinity. Several of the independent unions publish papers for their members.

The various political parties which claim to speak for labor are actively pushing journals which aim to inter-

pret views in terms of their particular programs. Progressive farmers' groups and the cooperative movement have a number of papers of their own. Then there are the various governmental, sociological, and religious journals which pay special attention to labor problems.

This is the first time an American labor press directory has been attempted. The book gives the name and address of each paper, the editor and publisher, size, frequency of publication, subscription price, and other information invaluable to every labor editor and publicity worker.

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mad gun	alippo	mystery ship
Ruthera	sterol	iredenta
paravane	shonkan	Flag Day
megabar	Red Star	Estimote
S. P. boat	overhead	Blue Cross
aerial cascade		
camp-fire git		

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JUSTICE

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"All For Equity"

By CLINT C. HOUSTON

New Great Stage Stars and Lesser Luminaries Conduct Their Union—Took a Lesson From Musicians and Stage Hands

Perhaps the most spectacular labor union strike ever staged in America was that of the Actors' Equity Association during the summer of 1915. I was in New York at the time, and had a small part in it, that is, I gave this newly organized association the benefit of my trade union experience in conducting strikes.

The strike was called to force producing managers to sign an Equity contract guaranteeing protection to all those engaged in the production of stage performances, from the chorus girls to the stars. "All for Equity," was the slogan, shouted day and night throughout the Broadway theatrical district, as some sixty leading theatres rang down the final curtain and closed the box offices when both star performers and lesser satellites walked out.

The strike soon spread to Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston and other cities where producing managers were in control, but in no instance did it affect vaudeville houses.

Great stars, whose names blazed forth in electric letters along Broadway in New York, and Randolph street in Chicago, were the strike leaders. Individually they were strong enough to make their own way with managers, but they entered this fight to establish better conditions for their brothers and sisters of stageland.

The managers were very cock at the beginning. They had an "iron" organization, and each member made an agreement to put up a \$25,000 forfeit not to sign the Equity contract. "Our children will soon be glad to return to their daddies," they declared. This had been the result of previous *arrangements* made by the legitimate actors to better their conditions of employment.

But this time the actors were organized effectively. They had been taking lessons from the musicians in the orchestra pit, and the stage hands. And Equity was affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and had the support of the entire labor movement.

The managers organized a "company union" under the title Actors' Fidelity League, which at once became significantly known as "The Fids." At the meeting when the "Fids" organized, George M. Cohan presented the company union with a stage check for \$100,000, with the declaration that he would cease to be a producer and hire out as an elevator pilot if Equity won the fight. George has ceased to produce, but he did not become an elevator operator, and Equity companies of other managers now appear on the stages of his three or four theatres.

Equity had strike headquarters on Forty-fifth street, and each afternoon when the roll was called, that thoroughfare was jammed from Broadway to Seventh avenue by one of the most enthusiastic and happy bands of mortals ever seen in New York. They were cheerful because they were fighting for freedom and the right to bargain collectively.

One of the most spectacular events of this four weeks' strike was an "All for Equity" parade on Broadway, led by the venerable Frank Bacon, and his company, then producing "Lightnin'" at one of the leading New York theatres. Practically every star and chorus girl was in this parade, and the strikers won the plaudits of all New York. From this day, the managers realized they were up against something different than they had ever before experienced.

Actors Put on Strike Stunts

Equity leased the Lexington Opera House, with a seating capacity of 3,500, and sold out every night at \$2 per seat. Here each actor or actress was permitted to perform in his or her chosen role. Never again will theatre patrons get so much for their money as during those three weeks at the Lexington, when the stars and other performers made their own programs. Several new stars were brought into the stage framework there, too, because they were given a real chance to show what they had in the way of ability.

I recall a little speech Ethel Barrymore made one night at the apt and Conway Theatre were about to appear in the balcony scene from "Romeo and Juliet." She said:

"Ever since I became what they call a stage star, I have wanted to play the part of Juliet, but the managers wouldn't let me. They said I was not fitted for the part. At last I had to go on strike to get a chance at Shakespeare, and now I am enjoying the happiest moment of my life."

Of course Ethel made good in the part of Juliet, and has since been permitted by her managers to appear on the regular stage in this romantic play. Miss Barrymore is at present vice-president of the Equity Association.

Hippodrome Girls Called Out

Each night there was a different show at the Lexington and invariably there was a surprise in store for the fortunate patrons. One evening Marie Dressler marched on the stage and stopped the show. She was followed by 120 chorus girls from the Hippodrome. When the audience had remained sufficient time to listen, Marie made her most famous stage speech, something like this:

"I was coming by the Hippodrome on my way over here and saw 'Charles Dillingham, Manager,' in electric lights in front. He is one of the managers fighting us, though we have not struck the Hippodrome because it is classed as a vaudeville house. I thought it a good opportunity to teach Charlie a little lesson, so I went in and invited all the chorus girls to come to the Lexington with me, and here they are, 120 of them, count 'em. There's no lake of water on this

When the second Congress of the Labor and Socialist International met at Marseilles on August 22nd, delegates from over 34 countries assembled under the chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Henderson, the Secretary of the British Labor Party and the Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the International.

The Prime Minister of the Socialist Government of Sweden, M. Richard Sandler, will be present as representing his country, along with M. Gustav Moeller, the Minister of Social Administration, and M. P. Albin Hansson, the Minister of Defence, while one of the members of the Belgian delegation will be the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Vanderelde.

The countries included are America, Argentine, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, British Guiana, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Great Britain, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Roumania, Russia, Spain, Swe-

den, Turkey, Ukraine and Yugoslavia.

The Congress will remain in session for six days, and no subject of importance within the limits of that time, will be abridged. One of the commissions to be appointed will occupy itself specially with Eastern European questions, including the danger of war in Eastern Europe.

Other items on the agenda, and the reporters by whom the subjects will be introduced, are:—

The International Labor and Socialist Peace Policy; (a) The Attitude of the U. S. A. towards the Problems of Security and Disarmament—C. R. Duxton (England); (b) Labor's Struggle against the Dangers of War—Leon Blum (France), Rudolph Hilferding (Germany), Morris Hillquit (America).

Unemployment and the Conditions of Life of the Workers: Louis De Broeckers (Belgium).

The Washington Convention and the Eight Hour Day: Tom Rhaw (England).

Report and Proposals of the Women's International Conference.

show was the "million dollar mob" which was closed the performance. It was when Brandon Tynan, with his remarkable voice, paraphrased Liberty's oration over the dead body of Julius Caesar, instead of Caesar, Tynan orated over the Producing Managers' Association. The mob that filled the entire stage was composed of actors and actresses whose combined salaries exceeded a million dollars a year.

Tynan's prophecy came true. The managers signed Equity contracts, and the theatres of the United States are now practically 100 per cent union.

Recently the Producing Managers' Association, which long since had ceased to function, applied to the courts in New York to liquidate and divide its assets. About \$154,000 remained in the treasury, most of it subscribed to whip the Equity Association.

Strike Nearly Tripled Membership

When the Actors' Equity Association began the great strike in 1915, it had 2,800 members and \$12,000 in the treasury. At the end of four weeks, when the fight had been won, it had 7,300 paid-up members on the roster, and more than \$100,000 in the treasury. These figures are vouched for by Executive Secretary Gilmore.

Many voluntary contributions were made to augment the receipts at the Lexington Theatre. In addition, the managers had signed a better Equity contract than had been demanded of them before the strike.

Equity now owns its office headquarters building at 45 West Forty-seventh street, New York. In the heart of the theatrical district.

The executive officers are: John Emerson, president; Ethel Barrymore, vice-president; Frank Gilmore, executive secretary and treasurer; Grant Stewart, recording secretary.

An executive council of ten members hears all grievances and complaints and frequently calls upon producing managers to appear and explain or give assurance that grievances will be adjusted. Meeting of the Council are held in the Equity offices.

Today the Equity Association, operating on trade union lines, has over 9,000 members in the United States. Last year its receipts and disbursements approximated a million dollars. Nearly \$250,000 in unpaid salaries were collected for actors and actresses. Managers have ceased to play the role of tyrants, and the slogan of "All for Equity" now has a meaning that theatrical producers understand.

The Marseilles Congress

stage where they can disappear."

As a result of this stunt, Marie organized the chorus girls of New York and obtained for them a substantial advance in wages.

Managers Enjoin Stars

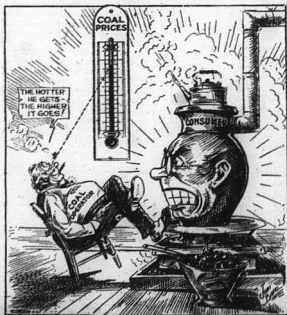
All the stars were appearing on the Lexington stage, and those of the public who were able to get tickets were crowding the house every night. This grieved the managers greatly, and they proceeded to obtain court injunctions against their stars appearing on any stage during the strike. One of those thus enjoined was Ed. Wynne. He arose from a seat in the audience one evening and said:

"My manager has obtained an injunction restraining me from acting on the Lexington stage. However, it does not restrain me from doing my stunt from a seat in the audience, and I will try to give you some new wileases."

With this, he proceeded to keep the patrons and a stage-full of striking actors in an uproar of laughter. Following the strike, Wynne organized a company of his own, and has since been his own manager.

One of the big hits of each night's

HE SHOULD WORRY.



The "Chinks" Problem Is Ours

By NORMAN THOMAS

"Don't come to me to help Chinks. I'd help you run every last one of them out of America." So a prominent labor official informed a caller who had come to seek his sympathy and friendship for the Chinese strikers in their own country—not America.

Such an attitude contrasts sharply with President Green's interest as expressed in his letter to President Coolidge. We do not believe it is common. It is incredibly stupid. The American worker who fears Chinese competition must for his own sake wish well to the Chinese who are struggling for greater political freedom and for the right to organize. No tariff will save us from the competition of Chinese workers in Shanghai or Canton exploited by foreign capital. Their own unions will.

Meanwhile American workers who admire courage must admire the way Chinese students and workers by the strike and boycott are bringing pressure on the British and Japanese. Not all the British might which once stole Hong Kong from China is able today to make its business pay in the face of the strike.

But progress in justice to China is slow. Officially America is taking the lead in proposing the revision of treaties. Great Britain and Japan are putting difficulties in the way. But America's slate is not clean so long as our marines act as strike breakers in Shanghai. They are quartered there in a college from which the students are dismissed. That is a bad record of the economy.

The American program ought to be withdrawal of naval forces, immediate revision of unjust treaties, the encouragement of labor unions, and collective bargaining for higher wages. If you want to know more or can give help in the strikes, write The American Committee for Chinese Relief, 7 Day Street, New York City.

A Novel on the Side of the Workers

If any of you good union members have the price to buy a good book for yourselves in these days of the high cost of bread and gasoline, or influence enough to make your local library buy it, we recommend "The Furnace," written by Dan Poling and published by George H. Doran Co., New York. (No, we aren't book agents and we get no commission.)

The Furnace is a melodramatic, sensational novel, as thrilling as a movie. It begins with three noble war heroes and it is full of 1918 war-for-democracy sentiments that sound a bit strange in these What-Price-Glory days. One of these war heroes is the super-man of the story. He rescues the heroine (a multi-millionaire's daughter though he doesn't know it) from the clutches of the blackest villain this side of hell in a strike to make Doug Fairbanks envious. That isn't why we recommend the book.

This is the reason: The Furnace is that unique thing, a popular, melodramatic American novel written, what is more, by a distinguished clergyman, President of the Christian Endeavor Society — which is frankly on the side of the workers. The story is bound up with the steel strike. The author uses the knowledge he acquired as member of the Inter Church Union Movement's famous committee. Some of the characters are real men faintly disguised. The villain is chief of a steel company spy system. The hero, an official of the company, finally goes on strike with the men from whose ranks he had been promoted. If there is some unreality (to our mind) in the story,

there is the bitter reality of truth about the facts of the strike—facts that ought to be searched into the minds of the workers as living proof of the kind of industrial slavery on which our towering economic structure is based. The very melodrama of the book may attract readers who will take away some abiding impression of a tragedy deeper than melodrama which unlike the hero's love story in The Furnace has not yet come to a happy ending. If so, the book will play its part in the inevitable day when labor renounces its struggle for the unionization and democratization of the basic steel industry.

GRASP THE OPPORTUNITY!

The Office of the International, 2 West 16th street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase "The Women's Garment Workers" at half price—\$2.50.

The Retail Trusts

A new form of industrial combination which is likely to have marked effects on American life is now rapidly taking place. A quarter century ago we had the era of "trust-making" in basic producing industries such as steel and oil. Now great combinations are growing up in the field of merchandise distribution. The small, independent retail store, may before we know it, become almost a thing of the past.

Figures on 28 chain-store grocery systems show that their sales have about doubled since 1919. Sales of the five and ten-cent store chains—which handle nearly all inexpensive commodities—were in April of this year over four times as large as in the average month of 1914. One chain of inexpensive department stores report sales this April 33 times as large as in 1913. There are immensely successful chains of drug stores, shoe stores, cigar stores, candy stores. While these combinations are eating into the town and city trade, their country counterparts—the mail-order houses—are garnering the custom of

the farmers and villages. The two big mail order houses have sales over three times as large as before the war.

One interesting example of this type of combination is the United Drug Company. It was formed by merger or purchase of about thirty corporations. One subsidiary alone—the Louis K. Liggett Company has about 290 stores. In addition to selling at retail, the company manufactures either directly or through subsidiaries it makes drugs, medicines, toilet articles, rubber goods, stationery, candy and miscellaneous goods. In this sense it is what is called a "vertical" combination, as opposed to a merely "horizontal" combination which merely engages in one stage of production or distribution. Its assets amount to about \$100,000,000, and its net profits—with the exception of the depression year 1921—range between \$2,000,000 and \$7,000,000 annually.

F. W. Woolworth Company is, of course, well known. Its sales amounted in 1924 to \$215,511,187, or more than double its 1918 sales, and its net income has grown from \$7,000,000 over to \$20,000,000 in the same period.

The S. S. Kresge Company operated 254 stores in 1924. Its sales grew from \$18,000,000 in 1914 to \$90,000,000 ten years later. Meanwhile its net income has increased ten-fold.

The J. C. Penney Company operates 571 clothing, shoe and dry-goods stores. Besides liberal cash dividends, it has issued stock dividends of between one and two million dollars in 1920, 1922, 1923 and 1924, increasing its common stock from \$1,531,000 to \$9,344,500 in this period. Yet on the enlarged stock it earned in 1924—after allowing for all charges and preferred dividends—47 per cent.

The Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company is another example of astonishing growth, though many figures concerning it are not available because it has until recently been a "close corporation" not selling its stock on the exchanges.

The chain store is enabled to make many economies through its large-scale operations. It is also able to secure lower prices from manufacturers, not only because it can assure large-scale production, but because it is in a good bargaining position. Thus has large funds for advertising. Thus it can slightly undersell and compete out of existence its small competitors. While doing so, however, it can still devote a large share of its economies to profits and expansion.

When the competition of the independent store is reduced to a minimum and the chain store has established the advertised lines which it controls, it will be in a position to charge monopoly prices and will have the public in its grip unless controlled in some way. Furthermore, many formerly independent business men will have been converted into salaried employees.

SHUB GIVEN GIFT BY NORWALK WORKERS

Brother David Harrison, shop chairman of the Connecticut Cigar and Suit Co. Inc., of 121 Washington St., South Norwalk, Conn., requests us to announce that the employees of this shop had presented to Bro. Bernard Shub, the district organizer of the I. L. G. W. U. in Connecticut, a gold-and-silver cigarette case, as a token of appreciation for the faithful services rendered by him to them.

THE ESSENCE OF LIFE

By AUGUSTUS WITTFELD

They are not dead; they never lived.
To whom there was no joy in strife.
Not cloistered walls nor dungeon bars
Can dull the ecstasy of life.
To strive and gain,
Or strive and fall,
Is life! Let nothing else suffice.

A life of ease is living death;
'Twas better in the scheme of life
To crowd your days with ceaseless toil.
What though you fail? Yours is the strife,
To strive and gain,
Or strive and fall,
Is life! Let nothing else suffice.

The dead still live who strove and fought;
The passive one knew naught of life.
The lives that still go on and on
Defied the stake, the rope, the knife!
To strive and gain,
Or strive and fall,
Is life! Let nothing else suffice.

THE TRAP



JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

OUR PRIDE AND OUR SHAME

On the one hand, we feel proud, genuinely proud of the fact that, notwithstanding the dastardly attack upon our Union and its leadership, the overwhelming majority of our members would not be trapped in the meshes of the meanest conspiracy ever hatched against a labor organization in America, the fake stoppage engineered by the Communists on Thursday last.

The handful of Moscow agents, masquerading under the name of a "joint action committee", have been preparing this spurious stoppage for a number of weeks past. It was to be a demonstration of strength on their part, and proof convincing that the cloak and dressmakers of New York stand ready at their beck and call and that they, the Communists, are the true spokesmen for our workers.

To achieve their purpose, these hardened union-wreckers have made use of every despicable means of which human depravity is only capable. They appealed to the lowest instincts of the masses, they peddled scandal and personal abuse, they promised the workers that they would return "free" men to their shops if only they would stop from work for two hours. They painted the leaders of our organization in the blackest of colors, while proclaiming themselves the saviors of the downtrodden masses and as messiahs designated by Moscow to deliver them from their thralldom.

Under such a torrent of abuse, cajolery and cloakery, it was reasonable to have expected that large masses of cloakmakers and dressmakers would lay down their tools and leave the shops an hour or two earlier last Thursday. Not that they would expect anything tangible from such a stoppage, not that they love the Communists, but largely out of vague response to this bedlam of denunciation, out of a desire to satisfy some grievances, real or imaginary, and to "take it out" on the Union.

Moreover, the leadership of the organization was inclined, in the beginning, to regard this stoppage-swindle with scant earnestness. It could not perceive that our workers would be ensnared by such a crude fake, and has done little to counteract it. Only at the eleventh hour did President Sigman deem it necessary to issue, through the columns of "Justice", a warning to the workers against this humbug, and it is quite likely that this warning did not reach a great many of our readers before the hour set for the stoppage. Small wonder therefore that many outsiders were inclined to believe that the entire cloak and dress industry would come to a standstill at the call of the Moscow agents to demonstrate on Thursday their hate of the elected officers of our organization.

The Communist demonstration, feverishly and extensively prepared, nevertheless, resulted in a resounding smack in the faces of its engineers. Only a small minority of the workers in the cloak and dress industry—a little more than one-sixth—attended the Communist meetings, while five-sixths of them ignored the Communist bubble and remained at work, and such of them as were unfortunate to be unemployed, in part or entirely, obeyed the warning of President Sigman and stayed away from their meetings.

The stoppage of last Thursday proved just the opposite what the discredited and ousted former officials of the three locals so ardently wanted it to prove. It proved their own lack of influence and power among our workers, and it also proved that the cloakmakers and dressmakers of New York, however dissatisfied, are not ready to desert their organization at the call of a handful of charlatans.

We do not expect, of course, that this fiasco would have any effect upon the sworn enemies of our Union. They are brazen enough, we are sure, to interpret even such a rank failure into a "glorious victory". What is there, indeed, to prevent them from magnifying the 10 or 11 thousand workers who came to their meetings into 30 or 35 thousand? Surely not their regard for truth or the instincts of elementary honesty. Their time-dishonored weapons—the weapons of fake, bluff and demagoguery—still remain their only stock in trade, their only means of offense and defense.

The outstanding event of the hour, nevertheless, remains the highly significant fact that the stoppage had proved that the great majority of our workers are not infected by the Communist poison, and the leadership of our Union, is justly proud of it. Our leaders, of course, have never intended to leave the battleground until the fight is fought out to a finish. But today, they are determined more firmly than ever to stay at the helm and to bear the burden of leadership no matter how difficult and thorny its path may be. This fake stoppage has poured new courage into the

hearts of our leaders and has given them added desire to save the Union from the wolves who are vociferously clamoring for its soul and body.

More than ever the leaders of the Union feel now that the organization to the upbuilding of which they have devoted so much of their life blood, is reared not upon sand and shall not fall prey to the ravages of each passing ill wind, that as a whole the body of the Union is sound and can withstand the wildest attack of the enemy under most precarious circumstances.

But, on the other hand, there is something about this Communist stoppage that we may justly feel ashamed of. The fact remains that a considerable portion of the cloakmakers and of the dressmakers of New York was crudely ensnared by the fake staged by the Communists last Thursday. These few thousand women's garment workers did take a part in discrediting their Union and did help its worst enemies in making an attempt upon its very life. What was the underlying motive back of this act of unmitigated disloyalty on the part of these workers?

It will be argued, of course, that in a Union of 70 thousand members not all may be expected to be intelligent and disciplined union men and women. It will be said, and not without reason, that among such a huge mass many will be found who could be swayed easily by the siren of the demagogue and the experienced mock faker. Among such a large membership there may also be found a few thousand who never have been union men and women at heart, without counting such as have been driven into the camp of these all-promising messiahs by sheer want and the pangs of unemployment.

Nevertheless, the fact that thousands of cloakmakers and dressmakers had left their shops last Thursday is mortifying enough in itself. It is a blot on the fair shield of our organization which for a generation has been the symbol of solidarity and unity in the Labor movement, and there is no denying the fact that the sight of these few thousand workers parading the streets of New York at the behest of the Communist charlatans was sickening enough to the stoutest hearted in our midst.

Unwittingly the thought comes to mind: What have we indeed accomplished in a quarter of a century of agitation and education if, after all this travail and sacrifice, a group of adventurers may through sheer abuse and common calumny, succeed in obliterating among a substantial portion of our workers their loyalty and affection for their Union and spread distrust and suspicion among even greater sections of our membership?

Is it believable, is it possible? For years we have prided ourselves upon the average high intelligence of our men and women and upon the unparalleled achievements of our Union for the workers in our industries. For years the cloakmakers' organization has been a model of solidarity and a rock of strength in the Labor world. Is it believable that ten thousand cloakmakers and dressmakers would of a sudden become bereft of their sound judgment and common sense and inflamed with a desire to show to the world that he story of a powerful cloakmakers' union is all a mirage and a dream?

Among those who had taken part in the Communist stoppage there surely were a great many of workers without jobs or part-time workers. These, no doubt, must have thought that they could give expression, through this stoppage, to their bitter resentment and protest against their sad conditions. But did it ever occur to them that this hue and cry about a general strike may have contributed in a great measure toward the tardy arrival of the still late season? Do they know, for instance, that the jobbers had decided to cut only as much cloth as is needed to meet orders and had issued orders to their members—for many and sundry alleged reasons—not to cut stock? Is not it likely that some of the less farsighted among these employers have actually become frightened by the general strike talk and decided to curtail production? Is it not possible that this Communist tumult and hell-raising about a general strike has driven some buyers out of the New York market, leaving the cloakmakers workless, jobless and cursing their Union in blind bitterness?

And while we are not asserting this to be a positive fact, as we are inclined to believe that other causes of a more fundamental nature may have contributed to this epidemic of joblessness and the curse of short seasons, it is quite reasonable to assume that the irresponsible Communist bark about a general stoppage has contributed its share to aggravate unemployment in the New York market. And the shame of it is that our own men and women had to be their conscious or unconscious tools in this sad and heart-breaking affair!

We now ask these cloakmakers and dressmakers: Have the occurrences of the past few weeks not sobered you up to the danger of the situation that is confronting you? Are you still simple-minded enough to believe the prattle of the Communist conspirators against your organization and to help them weaken its influence, its strength and solidarity? Look around! See your employer in the shop happy with the confusion created by your "friends", watch how every act of yours against your own organization rebounds against your own standing, prestige and interests in the shop! Some of you may have betrayed yourselves into the belief that by not paying dues for the time being you are punishing your Union; the fact, however, is that you are inflicting by this act severe punishment upon yourselves and are destroying the only agency of security and protection you have succeeded in building up after years of incalculable effort.

We appeal to you: Enough playing in fake demonstrations, enough defiling the fair and glorious name of your Union! You have sinned greatly against your organization, though perhaps

Blind Children

I could not account for it—was it because I had just witnessed a funeral in the town on top of the hill, or that I was already beginning to feel the atmosphere of miners' villages—but an appalling, sonorous voice kept on ringing in my ears and filling my head.

"An entire people is writhing in the bowels of the earth, and from the stark darkness underground hands are stretching to us begging for some light, for some sunlight, if not for themselves, at least, for their little children."

I knew whose voice that was. It belonged to William Green, now president of the American Federation of Labor, and at that time the secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, who together with his colleague John L. Lewis and the late Samuel Gompers, already a very tried and ailing person, had come to a sister organization, in the Summer of 1922, to ask for financial assistance, during the great coal miners' strike which was convulsing the country from end to end. An unforgettable picture is etched before my eyes: All the active spirits in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union assembled in the new International building on West Sixteenth street; it is the first meeting in the new auditorium; their faces are strained and uplifted, eager to catch the sound and import of Green's words.

"A whole people is writhing underground. . . They demand light, a bit of sunshine, a ray of light."

The voice filled my head, and the scene swam before my vision as I descended the hill on the boundary line between California and Utah, into a small metal mining town with hunched little hives, crooked unpaved streets, the dreariness of which is but little tempered by the abundant light which is streaming from a burning sun overhead.

Metal miners, coal miners, children all of one great family that is "writhing in the bowels of the earth!" The same conglomeration of earth-diggers from all corners of the world, though all members of one organization. The United Mine Workers is the township's citadel, through which its inhabitants stretch their arms "toward the sun." I decided to stay in the town for a while, to "hang around" for a day, if only the town will tolerate me, a "stranger" in its midst.

My doubts, however, soon melted away. A friendly unsuspecting lot are these miners of the Utah hills. In a short while I was hailed a "brother" among brothers, and together with some of them we were standing before a "bar", a remnant of a saloon that used to do a thriving business a few years ago, which is now dispensing tart and tasteless soft drinks.

Leaving against the rail, in true pro-Volsteadian style, I found alongside of me one of those village gossamers to whom the life of every inhabitant of the settlement is an open book, a chronicler as a reporter who, like a true artist, enjoys his craft. It was Saturday afternoon, and the atmosphere of the approaching rest-day was already beginning to permeate the place. Miners, coatless, and with the sleeves of their blue denim shirts rolled up high, sat in several rows on the narrow little embank-

A Visit to a Metal Miners' Town in the Utah Hills

By HARRY LANG

ment near the "saloon." Some were at the "bar" quenching their thirst with near-beer. From the interior came the air of a Broadway jazz tune played on a piano.

"The greatest piano player in America," my reporter calls my attention to the unseen virtuoso. I must have smiled, for my informant quickly reassured me:

"That's no joke, either!"

I at once indexed him as the local "pusher" of the amuse that was performing on the inside, and made ready to drop a coin or two into a hat after the rendition had ceased. I ordered a drink of root beer.

"The best beer in America" the same fellow volunteered.

I said nothing. A roly-poly undersized man, with hardly a neck to connect a tanned head to broad shoulders, smiling through affected eyes, appeared behind the bar. My informant greeted him: "Hello, Jay," and again turned to me.

"The best in the country,"

By this time I knew already that I was face to face with a "type" who joyously and earnestly appraised everything in sight in this forsaken little mining town as the "best in America." He was a tall lanky fellow with restless hands, and a restless manner of speech, who regarded everyone in the place as part of his legitimate audience. I asked him to drink with me, which he accepted eyeing me keenly.

"Been here long?"

"Just came today."

"Not to work in the pit, eh?"

"How do you know?"

"Your hands, I can tell by that," with a smile.

"You are a lucky guy," I said to him. "You seem to like everything around you. The piano player, the bartender, the root beer."

My newly acquired friend smiled: "Don't forget we have a package party here tonight. Got to boost our wares, eh?"

We talked on. I learned that he was the secretary of the local branch of the Miners' Union, the secretary of the lodge of the order to which a number of miners belonged; he also was the delegate of the miners' local to the citizens' association of the hill town where the "chamber of commerce" was now represented, a city with several business houses, where I had witnessed a funeral just before descending into the miners' settlement. The "package party" would be held in the same saloon and was to be attended by miners only, such as live this side of the hill. No tickets would be sold to any of the city folk beyond the hill line, he informed me. The money from the "package party" would go to a miner's family whose breadwinner had his both hands in a recent mine accident and was left destitute. The family is hard hit anyway, he informed me quietly—there are four children—all of them blind.

"Lots of blind children in our town," he continued, "they are born blind. It is because the men folk here stay

too long hours underground. Get me? We had a meeting here—the best doctor in America talked to us, it must be true." My ears were again ringing with William Green's voice:

"An entire people is writhing in the bowels of the earth. . . A people is begging for light, some sunlight for their little ones. . ."

The miners' settlement lies sprawling in a wide crevice between two gigantic ridges, at the bottom of a cliff where among crooked and dismal little "homes" human beings meander like tired birds around their nests. A miners' village with blind, helpless children. On top of the cliff, there is the city, with light homes, paved streets, where folks drive around in automobiles and young men and women dress in big-city style.

There are stores on the crest of the cliff, and inns, and a city hall, a court house, and other institutions which decree and rule the life and destiny of the miners below who toil in the metal mines which give wealth to the folks above and rob the sight of the children below.

"Are the miners taking a hand in city affairs, on top there?" I inquired.

"Sure thing," my friend replied, adding:

"One of the four policemen in the city is our man. Left the mine only a year ago. Two of our people are attendants in the court house. We have got one of our fellows in the city hall. The judge is a former miner. Now we want a new judge, a lawyer here, pointing to a wretched little hotel nearby.

There was no mistake about this man's satisfaction with the fact that the miners have got "everything they want" in the city. Other miners gathered about us, each of them offering additional proof that the miners "own it all".

Are they happy, contented and quiet?

Only when they talk to a visitor, when village patriotism is at play, as I found out later. What a difference between the city upon the hill and the settlement below! On the hill they speak with bitterness about the miners below. The streets in the village below are considered as par of an "underworld", a leprous place, to be passed either in awe or disgust. The staid folks in the houses on the hill blush work but curse the workers; they make a pious face when labor is mentioned, but they never fail to deride the miners. They sing hymns to the prosperity of "their" mines but they have only contempt for the settlement under the hill, where the men who mine the mines live.

"Why do they 'wain' you so hard on top there?" I asked.

"Oh, they don't like us," someone in the crowd answered.

"And what about you, do you like them?"

A burst of laughter greeted my question. In order not to appear as a "tenderfoot", I stopped making direct inquiries, and soon learned that while the settlement below was making every effort to "mix" with the town on the hill, as a means of self-protection, and probably as a crude form of the local class-struggle, there were affairs down in the settlement from which the up-hillers were scrupulously kept out.

Why were they sell tickets to the package party to the people on the hill? Well, the metal miners would not accept any aid from the prosperous people on top. Miners want no charity; they would help their own destitute families. A mine victim will be helped by his fellow workers gen-

erously, warmly and to the fullest extent of their ability. But such help must be given by their own, not by the people who live in the daylight, whose children's eyes are looking out upon an open, bright world.

The secretary of the miners' local invited me to walk through the settlement. On the outside I learned that the miners from the bottom of the hill and the business people above belong to one club, another area for the local "class struggle". The miners are "doing their best" to have their own men as leaders of the club. The other local groups all belong to a general citizens' association, and the miners' local has waged a long political war to be represented in this association, and finally won out.

"It is our town as much as theirs," he explained to me.

There was little work in the mines, and the miners, most of them, were at "home" early on this Saturday afternoon. Their homes were not much of an improvement on the pits from where they derived their means of living. The little houses, both on the inside and outside, looked more like neglected cabins. There are shadows of poverty within and without, a constant, smothering smell of kase, save for the tables in the "living rooms" covered with snow-white cloths, and the family group photographs on the walls, covered with pink gauze to protect it from the ravages of time and weather.

My guide explained to me that the children, even such as can see, have constant trouble with their eyes. There is a glassy, filmy expression in those eyes, and to my horror I felt that I was among the children in the settlement the usual abandon and unrestrained playfulness that is such a vital part of child life everywhere. Their voices resounded in the narrow, crooked streets, they played and laughed, but their eyes, the windows of their little hearts seemed dead, deadly serene, cold and tragically shut.

Shadows have fallen upon the souls of these children—shadows from the bowels of the earth where their fathers are toiling for a living!

I lingered in the village until the evening. The hall in back of the saloon was packed to capacity as the whole population of the miners' settlement turned out to the "package" party. The "best player in the America" played exciting ragtime and jazz, accompanied by another virtuoso on an harmonica, and the crowd of miners, old and young, danced with a vim and zest little to be suspected of them. Each of the guests brought along a package purchased at the stores up on the hill, and delivered it to the "committee" at the entrance with pomp and ceremony. I learned later that the fat little man, who owned the saloon and the hall, gave the place gratis to the "committee" and that he only charged a nickel for each ten-cent glass of root-beer that evening.

The hall was sumptuously decorated with chrome-silhouettes of Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt, while in one corner the blue flag of the miners' local was guarded over by a sergeant-at-arms who took his business very seriously and would not leave it out of sight even for a fraction of a minute. Most of the younger miners, coatless and wearing wide glasses and still wider belts, were bidding with increasing heat and fervor for the contents of the hidden packages that were throbbed up in rows upon the platform from where a lusty-lunged auctioneer was selling them out to the highest bidders, while some of the older people stood near the windows at a distance with glasses of "pop" in their hands.

A policeman came in, from the hill town, the one who only a year ago

(Continued on page 11)

not entirely through your own fault and error. You have been misled by swindlers who have filled your mind with malice against your Union and hate against its leaders. It is painful to believe that you could have been so easily victimized by these impostors. But not all is lost. You can still make good by once again becoming loyal to your organization, by complying cheerfully with all the duties and obligations of trade unionists, thus helping to bring back to our Union the prestige and the influence which you have so light-mindedly injured in the recent past.

Doings at Brookwood

By SYLVIA KOPALO

For the second summer now Brookwood has pursued a significant experiment—an experiment designed specifically for usefulness to the labor movement. From its institution, those of us who watched the Labor Institute knew that its success would spell great promise for Labor. The prospect of gathering together each season officials and members of the trade unions to discuss and hear discussed issues of immediate and pressing moment to their progress hinted at the achievement of a service which is workers' education at its real and best. Now the second period of trial is drawing to its close, and short though that trial period may seem, there can be little doubt that the Labor Institute has proved its right to a place in Labor's educational program.

The aims behind the Labor Institute are drawn in terms of the practical reality confronting the trade unions from day to day. New exigencies, new difficulties are thrown up before the labor movement through the very unfolding of its development. One step is passed, one difficulty solved, only to reveal the step ahead which must be made. For no social force is more dynamic than the forward march of Labor's hosts. In that advance there is no halting and even when the farthest goal has been reached it will reveal itself merely the farthest goal which we could see. For in a final analysis, labor is the community, and to its advance there is no ending.

The eventual method of social life must be social thinking; the ideal toward which our thinkers are striv-

ing is a thought-through program of social adjustment to social culture. Consequently the Labor Institute looms as one of the most promising undertakings launched in workers' education. For it is striving toward the achievement of just such a program. It was borne home to me as I watched the men and women gathered in Brookwood's lecture room, so many of them obviously from the front of labor's battles and its headquarters that Labor was carefully taking stock of where it was going and how. These leaders and workers listened eagerly as experts set forth the facts for their consideration in various fields of endeavor and struggle; they knitted their brows determinedly as they followed the fine reasoning Arthur Calhoun presented to them daily through the sessions on wages, trade unions, politics, cost of living, standard of living, etc. To watch them pondering and discussing these things, and the problems of railroad labor, trade union policy, company unions, insurance and so on along the line, was to sense the large possibilities of the Institute.

During the three days in which it was my privilege to attend the sessions of the Institute I heard discussed five subjects of vital importance to trade union policy—women in trade unions, unemployment insurance, life insurance, wages, and company unions. In a sense, these days might have been considered an I. L. G. W. U. period at the Institute, for no less than three of the five principal speakers, Theresa Wolfsohn, Pamela M. Cohn and Julius Hochman were connected with the organization. Even

a brief digest of the various speeches that went into the week-end at Brookwood will give some notion of the manner of program that the Institute is setting for itself.

Most fittingly the Institute devoted two lectures to the discussion of women in the Labor movement. For the problem of women in labor representation is a two-fold problem. How, in the first place can we bring the women who are in industry into trade union organizations? And once we get them there how can we obtain from them active participation in the life of the organization? Miss Wolfsohn considered the first phase of the problem—the question of the organization of women. For a long time, she pointed out, the question of the organization of women has been considered a special—and a specially difficult affair. Many trade unions have sunk large sums of money into attempts to organize the women of their trades, too often in vain. One of the most frequent explanations of this difficulty, as well as of the pervasive spathy of trade unions toward the organization of women workers, lies in the fact that most women are not permanent factors in industry. They consider it merely a bridge between girlhood and marriage. But, pointed out Miss Wolfsohn, while it is true that women as individuals are transients in industry, women as a group are there to stay. In the permanent group of women workers is a constant competitive menace to the men workers unless they seek to win women to the unions. It can be done—such organizations as the International Ladies' Garment Workers show how thoroughly it can be done. But to do it, the unions, said Miss Wolfsohn, must develop a new technique of organization. That technique must reckon with all the peculiar characteristics of the problem—with the fact that women are largely in the unskilled trades or in the unskilled divisions of skilled trades, that they are often hedged about by social restrictions, that they are more tied to the family group than men, that they have distinct psychological traits, etc. An interesting discussion followed Miss Wolfsohn's presentation of this important problem.

The subject assigned to Miss Cohn followed logically. It is a knotty task to organize women. But even in those unions where they have been successfully organized, a problem still remains. They are in the unions; how can they be given the opportunity and the stimulus to participate in union affairs? This question, Miss Cohn said, is not peculiar to trade unions but is general wherever men and women work together. For women are a group newly arisen to influence. Like most new groups, this one is uncertain of its own abilities and men naturally are but too willing to lead them. Now, said Miss Cohn, it is particularly important for the welfare of the men as well as the women, that women be encouraged to develop their own leadership and to work together with the men. For before women can be made to understand the strategic questions of trade union activity, these questions must be reduced to women's terms. The terms used for men, discipline, constitution, order, etc., make little appeal to them. In all matters women require a special approach. Now who, asked Miss Cohn, will know how to make this approach to women better than a woman. It is here that the need for women leaders comes in. But when the need is so apparent what prevents their development? Well two things: Men, of course, do not willingly share leadership with the other sex; women must fight for a chance to prove themselves worthy. And in this fight they are sadly enough hampered by the distrust and jealousy of the women they would serve. Only recently have

women members been willing to trust their affairs into the hands of another woman rather than a man; they must learn to continue and sustain their new trust. Moreover women leaders in trade unions have shared another difficulty with women leaders everywhere: The wives and husbands of married officials still recently another woman leading or advising their husbands and wives. The results are many and grievous. For even when women leave the unions they become women in the unions, they have shared another difficulty. Their understanding of trade union affairs won at an earlier age continues important. Men become irritated because the balked leadership of the women, seeking outlets through the men, becomes a nuisance, in trade unions as in other social institutions. The talk ended on a hopeful note. To end the session, said Miss Cohn, are the faults of a group new in social activity; the faults of men are the results of a group long superior and active in social activity. Time and cooperation will remedy both these things. Miss Cohn pointed her talk with anecdotes culled from her own experience and gave it all with such good humor that she won laughing and continuous agreement from her audience.

The next day's sessions were opened by a thought and able presentation by Julius Hochman of the introduction of unemployment insurance in the New York Market of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Mr. Hochman began with a brief description of the various forms of unemployment insurance, as he called them, the voluntary, the compulsory and the semi-voluntary. It is that form by which an employer out of his own goodness of heart grants unemployment insurance; the compulsory that compelled usually with the cooperation of the state; the individual the form general in the United States in which the union and the employer draw up and accept insurance for their own industry. Mr. Hochman stated his opinion that all forms of unemployment insurance were mere remedial measures. He described briefly the two earliest experiments in the United States—the Cleveland experiment of the I. L. G. W. U. and the Chicago plan of the Amalgamated Society, which he proceeded to a full description of the plan now current in the New York market. The details of this plan as well as its workings are so familiar to the readers of "Justice" that the factual portions of Mr. Hochman's speech need not be repeated here. Mr. Hochman closed with a series of stimulating questions which he offered the audience for discussion. In that discussion J. M. Rudish of the Cloth Hat and Cap Makers described fully and interestingly the scheme of insurance adopted by his union.

Thus closed International week-end at Brookwood. International representatives had contributed tellingly to a fine experiment and to stimulating discussions. The Institute is demonstrating the possibilities of a new workers' education at Brookwood. Its directors, Arthur Calhoun and A. J. Muste are to be congratulated upon the successful establishment of a significant new instrument of the movement.

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Step By Step

"Step by step the longest march
Can be won; can be won.
Single stones will form an arch
One by one, one by one."

"And by union, what we will
Can be all accomplished still.
Drops of water, one a mill,
Single ones, singly none."

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

State Compensation Cheaper Than Private

A STUDY of comparative tables issued by the Ohio industrial commission will show why private insurance companies oppose state-operated workmen's compensation insurance. The table includes the states of New York, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

Benefits to the injured worker in the state of New York are about the same as in Ohio. Benefits in the other states are considerably under those of Ohio.

Private insurance companies must collect \$1 for every 60 cents paid to the injured worker, as the average cost of administering compensation insurance by private companies is 40 per cent of their premium receipts. In Ohio all premium receipts must be used as benefits to injured workers, with the exception of 1 per cent which is used for accident prevention work, the state bearing the expense of administering the compensation law, which is less than 5 per cent of the premium receipts.

In Ohio \$1 of compensation to the injured worker costs the employer \$1.63 and the state 5 cents, or a total cost of \$1.66 to provide \$1 of compensation.

In the other states \$1 of compensation requires \$1.67 in premium. This accounts for the high rates when private insurance companies are permitted to exploit the wage workers' fatalities and injuries.

Miners Can't Pray for Strikebreakers

MINERS have been arrested in Henrietta, Ohio, for disobeying Sheriff Russell's order against outdoor prayer meetings of these strikers.

Miners and their wives have gathered daily in the vicinity of the mines, and invoked divine help in persuading the strikebreakers to abandon their course.

After a conference with Governor Trapp, county officials declared that the strikebreakers found it "unpleasant" to have the unionists pray for them, and the religious practice was ordered discontinued. When several miners refused to obey they were arrested.

Call for Volunteers

A CALL for trade union volunteer speakers to aid in the A. F. of L. publicity and organizing campaign has been issued to the officers of state federations of labor by President Green and John J. Manning, secretary-treasurer of the union label trades department, A. F. of L.

"We are now engaged in the consideration of preliminary plans of this campaign," the letter states. "Some time must elapse before all details are arranged. This is a big undertaking. It is an ambitious program. We are enthusiastic about it and expect to meet with great success."

Unionizing Farmer is Urged by Expert

LET the farmers unionize if they would secure a greater share of the national wealth, said Henry Charles Taylor, chief of the bureau of market and crop estimates of the department of agriculture, in discussing the farmer as the backbone of politics.

"There is danger of conflict between farmers and cities," he said. "Each person engaged in the operations of distribution of farm products wants to increase his share of the profits, but doesn't want others to increase the cost of the products by increasing their profits. It is as proper for farmers to organize as it is for miners, plumbers, and business men to organize."

Trade Unions Grow; Workers More Active

TRADE union membership is on the increase, according to Frank Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L., who calls on all local unions directly affiliated to the A. F. of L. to appoint organization committees.

"Indications are that the fiscal year ending August 31, this year, will show an increase in the average membership of all A. F. of L. affiliates over an average membership for the last fiscal year," said Secretary Morrison.

The first 11 months of this fiscal year show an average increased membership over the 12 months of last year. This will be the first time since 1920 that there has been such an increase. The total membership last year was 2,853,957.

Credit Unions Prove Popular

IN tracing the growth of credit unions in this country, the New York Trust Company estimates that 409 of these institutions are now in operation. Assets total \$29,000,000. These figures do not include the large number of associations which do business similar to that of the credit union, but which are not incorporated as such. The growth of the credit unions has been most marked in New York and Massachusetts.

The difference between the credit unions and the older and better established building and loan associations involves three points: the credit union is a smaller organization; its loans are for shorter terms; the credit granted by it is for personal uses, whereas the building and loan association lends only on mortgage for the acquisition of homes.

In general, credit unions are divided into two types, urban, and rural, designated respectively as the Massachusetts type and the North Carolina type. The Massachusetts type averages about 460 members. The membership seldom exceeds 6,000 and may be a handful. The cost to each member of one share of stock is ordinarily 10 to 25 cents weekly. Usually the members may also make deposits, as with banks. A credit union with assets of \$100,000 is considered large.

The rural credit unions are doing in a small way for the farmers what governmental aid attempts in a larger way. Credit unions in agricultural communities have linked the principle of the consumers' cooperatives with the cooperative idea in finance.

FOREIGN ITEMS

GREAT BRITAIN

The Nine Months' Agreement

THE coal-owners have withdrawn their notices terminating the agreements: the miners' wages and—still more—the owners' profits—having been guaranteed for nine months. What this means can be seen from the estimates of a member of parliament, who places the cost of the subsidy at ten million pounds, no less than eight millions of which will go into the pockets of the owners.

As Bromley justly observes, the government "has taken public money to give profits to the owners and shareholders, whilst the miners are still worse off than before the war."

Speaking in the House of Commons on the international results of the miners' firmness and the support given them by the railwaymen and transport-workers, A. A. Purcell made the following forceful comment:

"During the last few days the effect of this movement, from a trade union point of view all over the world, and particularly in France, Germany and Belgium, is that the workers have been encouraged to stand firm against reductions in wages. In this sense these men have made a bigger contribution to level competition than any other scheme ever presented to this House."

Against Sweating

THE committee nominated by the Labor Party to combat sweating has published a first report proposing that the persistent refusal by a nation to adopt and carry into effect any of the conventions of the International Labor Organization should be followed by the boycotting by all signatory states of goods produced under conditions less favorable than those laid down in the convention concerned. In other words, each country should undertake to boycott goods produced in countries where the terms of the Washington eight hours convention and subsequently such other conventions as may be agreed upon, are not in operation.

The "Daily Herald" makes the following comment: "This policy would reinforce the faith of the workers in the International Labor Office."

It is stated in the report that the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers has already improved the conditions of woodworkers abroad by means of an agreement with the employers, whereby its members do not handle or use imported woodwork not produced under fair conditions.

FRANCE

The Bank Clerks' Strike

THE strike of the French bank clerks is growing in extent, and according to the latest announcement, has now developed into a general strike.

The spirit among the strikers is excellent; whatever their political opinions, they are all firmly determined not to give way. The whole workers' movement has the greatest sympathy for its black-coated comrades—a sympathy which the French Trade Union Centre and the Paris Trade Council have given practical expression by granting financial aid. Public opinion is also on the side of the strikers in the stand they have quite justifiably taken. Two Paris theatres have even given performances at very low prices for the benefit of bank clerks possessing strike cards.

The principal demands addressed to the Labor Minister by the three national organizations are as follows: Official recognition of the trade unions, no reprisals, the creation of "Disciplinary Commissions", the introduction of the English working week (free Saturday afternoon), regular holidays, and a new scale of salaries as follows: up to 21 years of age, 27 Frs. per day; from 21 onwards 5,400 Frs. per year, with an annual increase of 200 Frs., until 12,600 Frs. is reached, and after that an annual increase of 200 Frs.; a yearly bonus equal to the amount of the salary for December; a sliding scale of salaries to be adjusted according to the cost of living index.

THE SAAR TERRITORY

End of the Miners' Strike

THE strike of the Saar miners, which involved about 74,000 miners, has come to an end. The district conferences of the German Miners' Union and of the Christian (Catholic) Miners' Association in the Saar territory took place at Saarbruecken at the end of last week. It was decided at both conferences to accept the result of the negotiations conducted by their leaders with the French Minister for Public Works in Paris and the Mines Administration in Saarbruecken, and to resume work on Monday, August 30, in all mines in the Saar territory.

The chief result of the negotiations is as follows: No substantial improvement of the offer of 5 per cent wage-increase was obtained, but on the other hand, considerable other concessions were made to the miners. All miners are to receive loans on the compulsory idle shifts ranging from 50 to 150 francs, according to the number of idle shifts and the size of the family. Those who have had no idle shifts are to receive a loan varying from 50 to 80 francs. Negotiations with regard to the repayment of these loans are to be opened in March, 1926,—that is to say, the money is regarded as lost. A new regulation was made with regard to the heaver's minimum wage; in future it must be equal to the rate per shift paid to the second wage category. Moreover a number of workers' sections were raised to higher wage categories, and the lowest wage-category for underground workers in the Saar mines was practically abolished. The arbitrary discharge of workers will be guarded against by the provision that every worker must be heard by the pit manager before dismissal. Receipts may not be adopted either for passive resistance or for a strike. A substantial increase is also to be made at once in the amounts of the pensions payable to the disabled and to widows; a bill embodying new regulations on this subject is to be introduced into parliament very shortly.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

"The Cooperative Movement"

By CEDRIC LONG

Extract of a lecture given at our Workers' Unity House, Forest Park, July 21, 1925.

II.

The Importance of the Movement and Some Practical Questions

It is always interesting to see what kind of business the workers are able to run cooperatively. In the United States we have about 2,000 cooperative stores for the sale of groceries, meat, clothing, etc. We have a great many co-operative bakeries. We have co-operative restaurants, laundries, banks and credit unions, coal companies, department stores, moving picture houses, insurance, etc. In a few cities the workers are now building cooperative homes. In New York City groups of students are even running their own preparatory schools to them for college entrance examinations. The farmers are buying all their supplies cooperatively in many parts of the country and at the same time selling their produce thru their cooperative organizations. In a few states the cooperative stores are so numerous that they have united and formed cooperative wholesale societies. In the West the cooperatives are now training their own managers and executives in cooperative training schools. There is nothing in the way of business done by private corporations that cannot be done by, or is not being done, somewhere by the working people in their co-operative societies.

Why is it Important That the Workers Should Go into Business Cooperatively?

It is important merely because the getting of higher wages is not enough for the workers. Wages mean nothing if the cost of living is going to continue to advance. Labor unions can never check the cost of living themselves, only co-operative organizations at the point of consumption can do that. It is very significant that the big capitalist organizations which have for years struggled to prevent their workers organizing in unions are now so many of them engaged in the retail distribution of the necessities of life. When they deal with the producers they have to deal with the forces of organized labor, therefore they turn more and more to the distribution of goods to the consumers who are utterly unorganized and they have very easy picking. Mr. Bramley, secretary of the Trade Union Congress in England states that there is more exploitation of the working people in the stores by merchants, bankers, and landlords than there is between industrial corporations running factories, mills, and mines.

The working people in this country seem to be quite unconscious of this situation. Although organized labor is strong in its condemnation of the Rockefeller control and the mining, the same workers seem to be giving their chief support to the Rockefeller controlled distribution of food through the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company of chain stores. What is the use of fighting huge mining interests in Colorado and supporting the same interests in Massachusetts? As a matter of fact, the staunchest trade unionists in the country are generally by the worst scabs when it comes to the support of big corporations operating chain stores and they do not even seem to realize it. We are all

acquainted with the type of ignorant working woman who is still half asleep and honestly does not see the importance of a labor union. Ninety-five per cent of us are still unconscious of the importance of organizing ourselves as buyers to protect our own interests and to build our own cooperative business organizations. The working people must stop up the huge leak through which millions of dollars of the workers' money is being lost every year to the big corporations that are exploiting us; and women must play as large, or even a larger part, in this work of cooperative organization than the men, for the women are the buyers of the necessities of life.

What is the Business of Women in the Cooperative Movement?

In the first place it is the women who support the store. Without the trade of the women and children any grocery store would die within a week. If a group of women get together and determine to boycott one business they can effectively put it into bankruptcy. If the same group of women determines to start a cooperative store of its own, it can make that cooperative store a success. At Fern Ambry, N. J., the labor unionists organized a store which met all kinds of difficulties for many years. Finally the wives, sisters and daughters of these trade unionists organized a women's committee of the cooperative, raised money for the store and it made it a success. At Hornell, N. Y., a very small group of women got together, raised some money and opened a store in an old barn and within a few months had a flourishing business. By the time the men in the town had realized the importance of this cooperative its success was so great that the store was moved into a building on the main street of the town. While in Minneapolis last year I visited two stores which were being managed exclusively by young women. In New York there is a cooperative restaurant society which was started by a woman, and 75 per cent of whose 120 employees are women.

A cooperative organization in the United States is not easy. The American working people are too easy-going, too ready to go bargaining along the chain stores and desert their own cooperative institutions. Groups of workers who intend to start a cooperative should heed the following warnings:

First they should guard themselves against the promoter or fake cooperatives. In this country various stock-selling concerns have swindled the workers out of \$20,000,000 by selling their securities in false cooperative societies during the past ten years. Perhaps even a greater danger than the fake cooperative is the over-enthusiastic organizer who thinks that the ordinary methods of promoting cooperative societies are too slow and who wants to try some fancy short cut. The pull of the cooperative movement in this country is strewn with the wrecks of half-baked cooperative schemes.

What Can a Group of Working Men and Women in an American City Do to Get a Real Cooperative Started?

They can try one of several things to begin with. They can either organize a buying club for the purchase

Conference on Control of Wages

A list of the labor men and women who attended the sessions of the Brookwood Summer School during the first three weeks of August would indicate that the group included a very considerable portion of all the organizations connected with the American labor movement. There was railroad labor movement. There were railroad group including locomotive firemen, boilermakers, sheet metal workers, stationary firemen and others, machinists, maintenance of waymen, carmen, railway clerks, and in addition there were electrical workers, motion picture operators, molders, painters, carpenters, lithographers, cap makers, teachers, federal employees, subway and tunnel constructors, garment workers and miners. The group included presidents and vice-presidents of international unions, chairmen of system federations of shop craft unions on the railroads, organizers and business agents, as well as active members of the rank and file. One of the guests was A. J. Thomas, son of the president of the British National Union of Railwaymen and at present connected with the office of the president of the Canadian National Railways. Practically all of the states west of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio were represented, as well as some farther to the west and south.

During the first week in August the attendance was almost entirely confined to members of the railroad labor organizations and the discussions centered entirely around railroad labor problems. At the morning sessions Mr. Otto S. Beyer, Jr., Consulting Engineer of the Railway Employees Department of the American Federation of Labor, and Mr. George Soule, economist of the Labor Bureau, Inc., conducted a course on the sources of possible wage increases, the means for tapping those sources, as well as the history of railroad organization, management and financing of railroads, government regulation, the history of railroad labor unions, and the development of plans for union-management-cooperation.

At the morning sessions during the

second and third weeks Dr. Arthur W. Calhoun of the Brookwood faculty conducted first a course on the Control of Wages, indicating the sources from which higher real wages may be derived and the means by which labor may effectively tap those sources, and then a course on the war and post-war history of the American labor movement, touching upon the trend of real wages during the period, the trend of unionism, the industrial struggles, the legislative gains and setbacks, the attitude of the courts in labor disputes and the policy of the American Federation of Labor toward international relations.

At the evening sessions many subjects of great importance to labor were presented by competent authorities. The subjects included the organization of the railroad unions in Cuba, trade union life insurance, company unionism, workers' health, and giant power, and the speakers included Robert Fechner, of the general executive board of the International Association of Machinists, F. M. O'Hanlon, secretary-treasurer of the New York State Federation of Labor, Mr. L. D. Wood, insurance expert attached to the A. F. of L. special committee on insurance, Mr. Robert Bruser and others.

The summer school was also fortunate in hearing on two evenings Professor Hilvy David of the University of Wales, a prominent figure in the British workers' education movement, who has been in America for the past few months as an informal exchange professor in workers' education.

The Brookwood summer school is increasingly demonstrating its usefulness not only as a means for bringing together trade unionists from various industries and sections but those who are carrying on the workers' education movement throughout the country and who have almost no other opportunity in the course of the year to come together to compare experiences. Plans are already under way for extending the work in the future.

"Economics and The Labor Movement"

Economics includes practically all those matters that are of first importance to workers—wages, industrial organization, production, waste in industry, etc. In this course, therefore, an attempt will be made to study these matters not as isolated things in themselves, but as related parts of the whole that is the workers' life in America and the world. Thus the United States will first be considered as an economic unit. The facts of her natural resources, her water ways,

of clothing and other essentials. Or they can start a credit union or small cooperative banking organization. Or if they are more ambitious, they can attempt the organization of a cooperative house. Where there is a genuine interest and a will to get a cooperative started on the part of a few dozen earnest workers, there is nothing to prevent the beginning of a cooperative society which has the possibilities of success.

her topography—or as it is called—her "economic geography", will be considered. A survey will be made of American industry and production, and of the distribution, of the good produced. The economic classes functioning in this system of production will be studied—manual workers, clerical workers, intellectuals, absentee owners, financiers, promoters, managers, etc. The facts of wages in America and of profits, interest, rent and taxes will be reviewed. Some of our outstanding production problems, such as, for instance, waste in industry, absenteeism, lack of incentive, etc., will be discussed; while the social problems arising from our modern economic system—representative government, psychological maladjustments, conflict) will be outlined. Finally, the development of the program of the labor unions in the face of these developing economic conditions and problems will be studied.

This course will be given by Sylvia Kopold in our Workers' University.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

ОПЕРИТЕ ПИСЬМО ПРЕ-
ЗИДЕНТА И. СИГМАНА К
ЧЛЕНАМ ЮНИОНА.

Братья и сестры, члены Юниона!

Вы не изжались в ремесленничестве и Вам. Вы знаете меня, как человека, который служил Вам последние двадцать лет — как солдат в Ваших рядах, работая вместе с Вами в мастерских и как Ваш выборный представитель в разных должностях нашей организации.

Вы знаете меня как человека, который никогда не искал какой бы то ни было должности, а наоборот которого всегда искали должности и который всегда не считаясь со своими личными наклонностями и интересами — повиновался призыву долга служить своей организации.

Вы знаете меня много лет, как Вице-Президента нашего Интернационального Юниона, как Управляющего Нью-Йоркского Лайвита Бордома Клаумекера, как Управляющего бышим Лайвита Бордома Дресмекера, как организатора и основателя многих локалов в нашем районе.

Когда мой предшественник вышел в отставку, все инициативы, что я являюсь подходящим человеком для защиты должности Президента И. Ю. П. Т. О. и Баттл-Йоркской Конвенции единогласно избрали меня на эту должность, а через год Бостонская Конвенция единогласно переизбрала меня на эту ответственную должность.

Для чего я говорю Вам все это? Для того чтобы выслушать Вас, что человек, — который служил Вам в течение двадцати лет всеми纤维рами своего существа, принимал участие во всех Ваших битвах — мог бы изменить Юниону, Юниону, который является частью его самого. Имена Юниона, насколько это касается меня, значаща бы изменили самому себе, изменили рекорду всей

моей жизни, рекорду которым я горжусь.

Возможно ли чтобы кто либо со здравым умом мог допустить что либо подобное?

Далее, всем хорошо известно, что я не принадлежу ни к какой партии. Я являюсь социальстом в широком смысле этого слова. Я надеюсь и работаю за лучшее и более благородное будущее человечества и за лучшую жизнь рабочего класса. Я работаю и надеюсь, что придет время когда исчезнет управление и эксплуатация человека человеком. Но я не имею на себе штемпеля какой бы то ни было партии, а своим собственным разумом стараюсь избрать лучшее для рабочих из каждого общественного течения.

Можете ли Вы поверить, что я из всех людей, мог преодолеть трудности за их политические убеждения?

Всю мою жизнь я делал, то что я считал правильным, боролся за мои убеждения, мои планы и мои идеи в Юнионе.

Я никогда не имел машины и последние два лет моей работы очень хронически говорят за тот факт, что я забываю, то что некоторые считают «машинкой» в нашем Юнионе, не считаясь с моими личными выгодами, но всегда думая о выгодах, о благосостоянии, о чести члена моего Юниона.

Можете ли клаумекеры и дресмекеры поверить, что я неосознанно решился на фальсификацию истины «Сигмановскую клевету» чтобы узнать разбит наш Юнион?

Конечно Вы не можете этому поверить. И если мужчины и женщины, которые боролась рядом со мной за благо этого Юниона могут либо на момент, допустить что либо подобное, можно легко потерять веру в человечество.

Сказавши вам все это, я обраща-

юсь к Вам клаумекеры и дресмекеры, члены нашей организации: Не позволяйте себе быть введенными в заблуждение волнами слепой злобы которая бушует вокруг Вас! Не позволяйте также бесосновным изменениям опинять Вас, цель которых — показать, что они могут разорить даже наш Юнион, который выдержал на своем пути столько бурь и непогод.

Они вызвали Вас на остановку работы. Кто они? Что они сделали для Вас и для Вашего Юниона вообще? Какой резон имете Вы слушать этих самозванцев, которые появились из какой то бедины сегодня, только для того, чтобы бесцельно исчезнуть завтра. Что Вы знаете о них, чтобы сказать с уверенностью, что они не являются платными лицами охотев наняться для того, чтобы сделать темную работу разорения Вашего Юниона. Работу, которую не могли сделать сами хозяева за пытательств с помощью различных сквобских агентов и провокаторов?

Отвечать мне честно братья и сестры — в самом ли деле Вы знаете эту шайку, которая стоит поодаль этого похода неизвестно и зло бы, которая маршем доброе имя Вашего Юниона?

Вы знаете что они не имеют ничего общего с Юнионом. Вы знаете, что как выборные лица Юниона они изменили данному им доверию. Вы знаете что как официальные лица Юниона они работали как шпионы для партии, которая решила разрубить Ваш Юнион или же управляет им.

Нельзя ли призыву этих шпионов и изменников Вы согласны оставить работу, уничтожить дисциплину в нашем Юнионе и тем самым навредить разорению и беду на самих себе?

Я не могу этому поверить. Я был с Вами многие годы и знаю Ваши достоинства и недостатки, но я не могу допустить, чтобы Вы последовали их призыву.

Как можете Вы допустить непростительную ошибку проемострирования перед хозяевами, что ло-

бой адемаг имеет силу обмануть Вас.

Как можете Вы обратиться в Ваш Юнион за защитой если Ваш Юнион крокет перед Вами дверь мастерской, когда Вы показали хозяину, что Юнион не имеет достаточного контроля над Вами?

Как Вас президент, избранный единогласно Вашими представителями на Конвенции в области моего чества и долгом не оставляя моего поста до следующей Конвенции, которая выразит свою коллективную волю и решение по терпимости Юниону. Я не оставлю Юниона до дня когда я смогу дать полный отчет за каждую мою шаг и действие ственное прошлого срока моей администрации.

Поэтому я предупреждаю Вас — обсудите мои слова серьезно, слова друга и товарища но боритесь за наше общее дело. Не пограбьте правды нашего Юниона рыть для него могилу. Не давайте прекрестное дерство, которому вкляло столько лет верности и принессти плоды.

Не изменяйте Вашему Юниону. Не будьте сквобами. Не помогайте хозяевам и их сотрудникам достигнуть их лавней мечты разорить Ваш Юнион.

МОРИС СИГМАН,
През. И. Ю. П. Ж. О.

Blind Children

(Continued from page 7)

left the pit, and was greeted like a conquering hero. With him came a deputy sheriff, friendly to the miners, and he also received a cordial welcome. But a party that stopped in an automobile passed in and out almost unnoticed and the fat bartender did not show any particular anxiety to serve them with drinks.

The class struggle!

It was a true-blue workers' evening in the Utah hills. The miners made a holiday to aid a fallen brother but would not have any of their up-hill "cousins" have a hand in it. It was their own party, a miners' affair.

Late in the evening when only a few packages remained, the fat bartender climbed a chair and in a somewhat incoherent tongue endeavored to "knock down" the remnants at a "less than cost" price—for the "blind little children, Jim's four little ones, you know."

I left the hall soon, and walked through the settlement on my way to the inn on the hill. The village was sunk in sleep. From the high ridges patched clouds were slowly migrating to the West, disclosing between strips myriads of stars. There so many dull blind eyes, the eyes of blind children. A child's voice pierced the night, from a miner's hotel, and to me it sounded again like the wail of a sightless child.

American industry, proud, powerful and the source of radiant luxury to its masters is ruling in a little corner of the West, on the borderline between Utah and California, a generation of blind children, the children of mortal miners, whose vision is dimmed by the stark darkness of the pits where their parents toil.

Blind children, eyes that never will see—as I walk along the crooked little streets of the sleepy settlement the voice and words of our "Bill" Green at that memorable meeting before the active workers of the Ladies' Garment Workers in New York—are booming in my ears:

"An entire people is writing in the bowels of the earth, and from the darkness underground armies are stretching forth to us begging for some light, for some sunlight for their children!"

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The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Bravo, Cutters!

Once more the cutters, members of Local 10, have been tried and were not found wanting. The silent demonstration of refusal of these five thousand men, with the exception of perhaps thirty, to participate in the reckless and un-unionlike action of Thursday, August 26, led by the irresponsible tools of the Communists, is another glorious page of the trade union loyalty written into the book of the I. L. C. W. U. by the members of Local 10.

The term, "silent demonstration", is used here advisedly. How, otherwise, were the cutters to demonstrate their loyalty to the International, the Joint Board and Local 10, except by abstaining from participation in that wanton display of disloyalty?

It seems that the repeated pledges of loyalty, support of the Executive Board's actions and policies, and concurrence in the utterances of Manager Dubinsky at membership meetings, still failed to convince the Communist enemies of the union of the loyalty of Local 10 to its parent and affiliated organizations. The union-breakers hoped against hope that perhaps the cutters somehow could be obtained to help in the smashing of the union and swerving them, the cutters, from their legitimate economic interest in the union.

All this the cutters realized. And they determined once more and with a greater degree of emphasis to show the Communists that they do not intend to have their energies and their local divided into warring factions on account of some fanatic theories in no manner connected with their immediate and ultimate economic needs.

This appeared possible only through one means, by totally ignoring the hysteria and by not participating in that so-called "demonstration", the ultimate end of which, if it succeeded, could only be the disorganization of the union. Such members of Local 10 as worked stuck to their posts, and the ones who unfortunately were without employment shunned the "demonstrators".

True to Traditions of Union

It was by no means a sudden impulse to resist the ravages of the communist propaganda that prompted the cutters to remain true to their organization.

Local 10 has behind it a practically unbroken history of organization, dating as far back as 1850. There are still within its ranks a few who can give eloquent evidence of this. The present situation in the union is by no means the stormiest period in the history of the local.

The cutters remember affair after affair similar to the one facing them now. No mean effort was made by the Bullock scab agency towards smashing the union. In spite of all efforts the union, however, proved a solid wall of rock to the onslaught of the enemy.

Then there followed the "Hourwich" and "Bisno" affairs. These were also trying times for the union. Through all these periods the cutters were a unit, a solid unit. In those days too they helped make history and made it because of their loyalty.

Present Stand Based on Previous Action

It was not so very long ago that the cutters were faced with a similar situation as that brought about by the Communists at the present time. At that time the union-smashing was carried on under the guise of a "Shop Stewards' League".

The agitation then carried on and the stinging of mud in those days, which are similar in many respects to the present activities of the Communists, failed in winning over the cutters.

However, as a precaution and as a warning, the membership of the division and wait division at that time because the "Shop Stewards' League" had been formed by a few workers in the wait and dress makers' Union, adopted a decision which aimed at the expulsion of any cutter found guilty of aiding the then enemy.

The members of Local 10 hold the organization very dear. To them the union is the means by which their economic conditions are to be guarded and bettered. Throughout the local's history this fact has never been lost sight of. And throughout the struggles of the International Local 10 always lent its whole-hearted support.

At no time did the cutters lend their support to anything not con-

ducive to the welfare of the union and the workers in the trade. Whenever a stand was to be taken on any question the cutters always sought to know: For what purpose is the stand to be taken?

Charges Brought About Without Disturbance

It is hard to understand what was sought to be accomplished and what was actually accomplished by that fall to the communist kite, the "Joint Action Committee". Taking Local 10 as an instance one asks the question: "Is this how changes are brought about in the union?" No one is in a better position than a member of Local 10 to answer "no" to this question. If there is one organization which has undergone a complete change, it is Local 10. How is this change brought about?

With the exception of perhaps a very few hundred members, every cutter remembers what changes took place within the local and how the changes came about in the past five or six years. At no time during the course of these activities was the union disrupted.

The work of the union went on. The union continued to wrestle every day with the problems of its members. Working conditions were being improved each week and each month. Whatever was at fault was faced and accepted as a problem to be solved by the members at their meetings and along the constitutional lines.

In one year alone, in the course of five weeks, as radical change transpired in Local 10 as any change could be made in a trade union. No member suffered the loss of a single hour during the course of that time. And no cutter was deprived of a single day's work because of that condition.

Demoralization Aim of Communists

However, the so-called "stoppage" called by the "Joint Action Committee" aimed at but one thing. The slogan of the communists is, "Union or Ruin". It is the order of the Workers' (Communist) Party that the International Union be smashed. For, were responsible leaders, union men and women, at the head of that clique would they not first ask themselves: "What effect will such a step have on the employers in the cloak and dress trades?"

Will the employers have any more respect for the union and for the de-

Special Notice

The following is a resolution on the present situation adopted by the membership of Local 10 at its meeting on July 27, 1925, and which every member is duty-bound to observe in order not to be in conflict with the decisions of the Union:

"The Executive Board, in the course of its discussion (at the meeting held July 23rd) on the present situation in the Union, decided to warn the members of Local 10 against participating in picketing or strikes, or both, when such strikes and picketing have not been ordered or called for by the regularly constituted authorities of the official organizations, such as Local 10, the Joint Board, or the International. Any member taking his orders from any other source but these will be disciplined. The members also should be instructed against participating in meetings of their stand-in organizations unless called or ordered by the officers of the organizations herein mentioned, or contributing otherwise to the support of the Union's enemy."

sira of the workers in the shops because of such a move? Will this not mean the breaking down of the authority of the union? Will it also not mean a signal to the employers to do as they please?

As tried and true organization men the cutters had put these questions to themselves and answered it by their resentment which resulted in their refusal to participate in such a criminal act as that perpetrated by the Communists and their tools last Thursday.

Intimidation Fails

The mistaken notion should not prevail that no effort was made by every means, mostly unfair, to secure the cooperation of or to force the cutters to participate in that so-called "demonstration".

In so far as the large shops were concerned, the cutters could not be made to go down. This, in spite of the fact that the agitation was carried on for days prior to August 26th. Instances were called to the attention of the office where chairladies grew frantic in their urgings to the men to go down with them. And when the day came not only did the overwhelming majority of the cutters refuse to go down, but very few of the rest of the workers in these shops responded.

The most intense activities to force the cutters down into the "stoppage" were carried on in the small shops, where seldom more than one cutter is employed. Threat to refuse to allow the cutter to work the next day were made by some. But even in these cases the communist adherents failed.

One instance that came to the attention of the office should suffice to prove how wholehearted the "walkout" was. For obvious reasons the name and ledger number of the cutter and the name and street number of the firm will be omitted, though they are on record in the office.

The instance in question concerned a cutter employed in a shop on Twenty-seventh street. Twenty-seven workers are employed in this shop. The majority of whom refused to stop. It was finally decided to put the question to a vote with the understanding that if a majority voted in favor the cutter should go down. Seventeen workers voted against going down while eight voted in favor. However, since it is not good communism to practice democracy, the minority,

with the aid of an outside mob, succeeded in pulling down the entire shop together with the cutter who, instead of participating in the "march", reported to the office of Local 10. Thus another "victory" was added to the Communist cause.

Let the loyalty of the cutters, as demonstrated by their refusal to aid the enemy of the union in their so-called "stoppage", serve as another warning to those disrupters that they can expect no support from members of Local 10 in any union-smashing endeavor. Once more they reiterate their slogan: "Hands off the Union."

Meeting of August 31 Important

The attention of the members is directed to the fact that next Monday night, August 31, will be an important meeting and will take place, as usual, in Arlington Hall.

In the present situation in the union the attendance of meetings becomes of prime importance. No opportunity must be left open to the enemy of the union to say that the cutters are not interested in their organization or their meetings.

The attention of Manager Dubinsky was called to the fact that last Monday night, August 24, some members came to Arlington Hall, thinking that a meeting would take place. Apparently these men forgot when regular meetings are held.

The meetings take place every second and last Monday of each month. Every once so often there are five Mondays in a month; hence, meetings sometimes fall on a fourth Monday and sometimes on a fifth. In order that the members may not confuse the dates, it is well to remember that meetings take place every second and last Monday of each month, regardless as to whether the last Monday may be a fourth or a fifth.

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All Cutters are required to secure new working cards beginning with July and to return the old ones.