

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."  
—Job 27:6

# 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. 29.

NEW YORK, N. Y. FRIDAY, July 17, 1925

Price 2 Cents.

## Joint Board Recommends Renewal of Cloak Agreement for Another Year

Action Taken After Discussion at Two Special Meetings—Copy of Commission's Decision Mailed to 45,000 Members—Joint Board Urges Members to Vote for Acceptance of Mediators' Request

After lengthy discussion at two special meetings held on Friday, July 10 and Tuesday, July 14, the New York Joint Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Governor's Commission to continue the present agreement in the cloak industry for another year, and to recommend such an acceptance to the members of the locals of the Cloakmakers' Union who are to vote on this matter on Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18.

The discussions at these Joint Board meetings were directed by President Sigman who subjected

every line of the Commission's recommendation to thorough scrutiny and analysis. The unanimous opinion of all the Joint Board delegates and of all its officers is that the recommendation is a tremendous disappointment to all the workers in the trade who had a right to expect some concrete improvements in work standards along the lines indicated by the Union program. Nevertheless, it was voted to accede to the Commission's request to give it another year during which to study, with the aid of a permanent research bureau,

conditions in the industry, after which they would be in a better position to render a decision.

**Referendum Ordered at Once**

Simultaneously with the acceptance of the Governor's report, the Joint Board voted to hold a referendum on this matter without delay and designated Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18, as balloting days. In addition to that, President Sigman ordered the printing and the mailing of 45,000 individual copies of the Commission's report to all the members of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York, together with an explanation of the Joint Board's acceptance of the Commission's recommendation and requesting the workers to endorse its stand on this matter. The letter was printed in three languages—Jewish, English and Italian.

**Where They Will Vote**

The following places were announced by General Feinberg of the Joint Board as polling booths during the referendum:

Joint Board Office, 139 East 25th Street; Downtown Office, 33 Second Avenue; Harlem Office, 163 East 121st Street; Brooklyn Office, 185 Montrose Avenue; Brownsville Office, 219 Sackman Street, and the office of the Italian Cloak Makers' Union, Local 48, 231 East 14th Street.

## President Sigman to Attend A. F. of L. Conference on Labor Insurance

The Committee on Labor Insurance, appointed last October by the A. F. of L. convention in El Paso, to investigate the subject of life insurance insofar as it affects the wage earners of the country, and headed by Matthew Wolf and G. W. Perkins, is ready with its report. President Green of the A. F. of L. last week forwarded a letter to all heads of international and national unions to attend a special conference arranged for the purpose of receiving this report at Federation headquarters at Washington, D. C., on Tuesday morning, July 21.

It will be recalled in this connection that already one international union, namely, the International Elec-

trical Workers' Union, had gone into life insurance for its members and for trade unionists in general about a year and a half ago by forming a Union Cooperative Life Insurance Association. In the course of the brief span of its existence, this cooperative undertaking, according to the report of its president, Brother J. P. Noonan, has achieved remarkable success.

President Sigman is planning, if nothing interferes, to attend the Washington conference next Tuesday.

## Boston Locals Amalgamated

Dressmakers, Local 49, and Skirtmakers, Local 24, United as Local 46

The decision of the General Executive Board adopted some time ago to merge the dressmakers' and skirtmakers' locals of Boston into one, has finally been carried into practice last week, according to information received from Vice-President Seidman, International representative in Boston.

For some time past, it has become evident that the members of the skirtmakers' local are employed chiefly in the making of dresses, as the manufacture of skirts gradually disappeared from the local market. It became therefore obvious, both in the interests of economy and as a matter of common sense, that there is no room nor need in Boston for two locals whose members are practically working at the same trade, and the G. E. B. decided to amalgamate them.

For a long time, however, this merger could not be carried out. It would seem that whenever and wherever a merger move is about to be carried out, enough of local "patriotism" could be found and depended upon to hinder and obstruct such a step, and Boston in this respect is no excep-

## Trial Board Finds Suspended Officials Guilty

Joint Board at Special Meeting on Tuesday, July 14, Approves Report of Grievance Committee by a Vote of Thirty to One—Accused Barred from Holding Office in Union

The trial committee appointed by the Joint Board of the New York Cloakmakers' Union to investigate the charges preferred against the members of the Executive Boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22, accused of acting

as pliant tools of Communist politicians and of conspiring to turn over the Union to them, after numerous hearings held at the Cadillac Hotel, Broadway and 43rd Street, reached a verdict early this week and submitted its findings to a special meeting of the Joint Board, held at 3 West 16th Street, last Tuesday, July 14.

Readers of Justice will find a complete text of this report elsewhere in this issue. It is a comprehensive, clear and excellent summary of all the evidence gathered by the trial board during the sessions. It breathes the spirit of impartiality and fairness, and is marked by a total absence of

vindictiveness and revenge. It is signed by the full committee—Harry Borenstein, chairman and Philip Ansel, secretary.

As to the degree of their guilt, the report divides the accused into two categories, some who deliberately and designedly acted as Communist agents and others who were acting in the capacity of tools for their shrewder accomplices. The former were sentenced to be barred from holding office in the Union for three years, and the latter for one year only. The Joint Board sustained the report of the trial board by a vote of thirty to one—two not voting.

## WHERE TO VOTE ON CLOAK REFERENDUM

Joint Board Office:  
139 EAST 25TH STREET

Downtown Office:  
33 SECOND AVENUE

Harlem Office:  
163 EAST 121ST STREET

Brooklyn Office:  
195 MONTROSE AVENUE

Brownsville Office:  
219 SACKMAN STREET

Italian Office:  
231 EAST 14TH STREET

tion. The last meeting of the G. E. B., however, instructed Vice-President Seidman explicitly to unite Locals 49 and 24 into one organization without further delay.

The new local will be known as Dress, Waist and Skirtmakers' Union, Local 24.

## \$750,000 Loan Raised for Union Homes

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES TO BE STARTED NEXT MONTH

Plans to erect a cooperative apartment house for union garment workers went a step further last week with the approving of a \$750,000 loan by the Prudential Insurance Company of America for a five-story structure, accommodating 242 families, on the block bounded by Mott avenue, Sheridan avenue, 158th and 159th streets, the Bronx. Ground will be broken in August.

The cost of the project is estimated at \$1,250,000. It is believed the carrying charges will be about \$14 per room per month. The apartments will be of three, four and five rooms each. The land, purchase of which was announced in April, is valued at \$175,000.

The Labor Home Building Corporation, backed by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the International Fur Workers' Union, the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union and the Pocketbook and Leather Goods Workers' Union, will finance the construction. Upon completion it will be turned over to the tenant owners.

There will be a court garden, a gymnasium, recreation space and auditorium in the building. The ground floor will be occupied by stores.

## A Warning to Members of Locals 2, 9 and 22

All members of Locals 2, 9 and 22 are called upon to pay dues and other union obligations in the office building of the Joint Board and in the local offices of Locals 2 and 9 only.

At the same time, we warn all members not to pay any dues nor to make any other payments in the office of Local 22, 16 West 21st Street, which was raided by the Communists and is still held by them by force. Payments made by any of our members at the 16th Street office, or at any other Communist office, will not be recognized. Members making payment in any office except such as are officially designated by the Union, will automatically exclude themselves from the Union and will lose their rights in any Union benefit or support.

ABRAHAM BAROFF,

Secretary-Treasurer, I. L. G. W. U.

## Week of Fifty Hours Still Common Among Women

When all the women of the thirteen states surveyed by the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, were considered together, the 50 hour week was discovered to be the standard working week for the largest group. One-third of all the women had a scheduled week of 48 hours or less; Rhode Island, New Jersey and Maryland led with approximately 65 per cent, 55 per cent and 52 per cent, respectively, on this schedule.

An overwhelming majority of the South Carolina workers, on the other hand, regularly worked more than 54 hours a week; in Georgia and Alabama, practically two-thirds of the women had a scheduled week of more than 54 hours.

The records obtained by the Women's Bureau in thirteen states and two cities cover 162,792 women employed in 1789 plants. The results of the analysis of these records are published in Bulletin No. 43, "Standard and Scheduled Hours of Work for Women in Industry."

The desirability of the shorter working day for women in industry is recognized in the state laws establish-

ing for these workers maximum hours of labor. "There is no uniformity in these laws, daily hour regulations varying from 8 to 12 hours, but the existence of such laws indicates a belief in the wisdom of placing some check upon the length of time which women workers may be employed." Of those women for whom scheduled daily hours were reported, over one-third had a nine hour day and approximately one-fifth were on a schedule of 8 hours or less.

The textile and clothing industries, the two industries employing large numbers of women, have quite different hour policies. A day of between 8 and 9 hours was most common in the clothing industry but a ten hour day was customary for the largest group of textile workers. Only 6 per cent of the textile workers had a week of 44 hours or less, whereas this standard was in effect for 32.4 per cent of the clothing workers. Practically one-half of the textile workers had a week of 55 hours or more, while less than 3 per cent of the clothing workers labored that long.

## Italians in Boston Get A Separate Charter

To be Known as Local 80

The aspirations of the Italian clockmakers and dressmakers of Boston to have a local of their own were gratified a couple of weeks ago when they were granted a charter as a separate local, to be known as Local 80, Italian Clockmakers and Dressmakers of Boston.

Joseph Moravito has been selected as manager of the new local, and Tina de Martines is its secretary. The request for a special Italian local in the Boston district was made by the Italian speaking element in Women's wear trades on the ground that, with an Italian speaking organization in existence, they would find it easier to approach the non-union workers among the Italians in the industry and would make greater headway in enrolling them in the Union.

The headquarters of the Italian lo-

cal is at 15 Essex Street, the place which houses all the other ladies' garment workers' locals in Boston.

### SECRETARIES!

To such of you as have not yet ordered the new combined day\* and receipt books, we have forwarded a book in order to make certain that by July 1st all who make payments to our local unions shall obtain the official I. L. G. W. U. receipt.

Fraternally yours,  
**ABRAHAM BAROFF.**  
General Secretary-Treasurer.  
I. L. G. W. U.

### THE RECORD AND PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT, I. L. G. W. U.

Is calling upon all secretaries of affiliated locals to transmit to it monthly, before the 15th of each month:

1. All day-book sheets, where income from members is entered.
2. The specially prepared index cards for members accepted through transfer or reinitiation.
3. A detailed report of members suspended during the month.
4. New addresses of members caused by change of residence.

According to our by-laws, a local of the I. L. G. W. U. may be fined for failure to supply the information requested above. We ask our local secretaries therefore to be prompt concerning it.

### TO ALL MEMBERS!

It is our fond ambition to see "Justice" reach regularly each week the homes of all our members. We spare no time nor energy to realize this ambition, and we call upon you to help us succeed.

1. Remember to notify us of your new address upon change of residence.
2. When you write to us, please, give your local and ledger numbers.
3. Ask your neighbors in the shop if they get their paper regularly. If he or she do not, explain to them the importance of keeping in close touch with the life of the organization and with the labor movement in general.

"Justice" is recognized as one of the liveliest Labor papers in America and you cannot afford to miss it even for a single week.

Fraternally,  
**H. A. SCHOOLMAN,**  
Director.

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This is the Official Receipt of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. All Locals and Joint Boards must use this receipt. Members and other persons making any payments to the Local or Joint Board must get this official receipt.

MORRIS SIGMAN, President; A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer, I. L. G. W. U.

## Report of Trial Committee

July 13, 1925.

Joint Board Cloak, Suit, Skirt, Dress and Reecer Makers' Unions,

Chairman and Brothers:

Your Special Committee appointed at your meeting of June 11th, respectfully submits the following report and recommendations with respect to the officers and members of the Executive Boards of the Locals 2, 9 and 22, whose trial on charges before us has just been completed. The charges in question were preferred by Brother Israel Feinberg and were identical in all cases. The accused were in each instance charged with violations of the Constitution of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, with the commission of acts calculated to impair the usefulness of the Organization and with conduct unbecoming to the dignity of the offices held by them.

The specific acts upon which the charges were based were to the effect that the Executive Boards and the officers of the three Local Unions in question had organized public meetings under the guise of May Day Demonstrations, which were practically given over to the Workers of Communist Parties and served to misrepresent the aims and character of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union before the public and to sow dissension within its ranks.

In the case of Local No. 22, the additional charge was made that the Executive Board and officers of this Local had violated the provision of Article V, Section 9 and 10 of the Constitution of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union by using property of the Local, i. e., \$2,000 in bonds for the benefit of an organization in no way connected with the I. L. G. W. U., but hostile to it.

Full specifications of the charges with notice of hearing were served on each officer and Executive Board member of the three Locals and hearings were held on these charges before your Committee. The hearings began on the 25th day of June and continued to the 9th day of July, 1925.

The accused requested separate trials and such trials were accorded to them. They requested permission to have their own stenographer and to take down the proceedings and that request was likewise granted. All of the accused appeared in person and by counsel, Brother Louis Hyman, appearing for all of the accused and being assisted by Brother Sasha Zilberman with respect to officers and Executive Board members of Locals 2 and 9 and by Brother Julius Portny with respect to officers and Executive Board members of Local 22.

Your committee approached the subject with an absolutely open mind and gave each of the accused ample and unlimited opportunity to defend themselves.

At the outset, however, it must be stated that your Committee considered and considers the charges as very serious in character, surpassing in importance the more technical accusations. It is hardly necessary, at this time, to reiterate that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Unions have, ever since their organization, maintained a consistent record as progressive labor unions, and that they have never attempted and do not now attempt to control the political views or activities of their members; that they do not consider it improper for a local

### In the Matter of the Suspended Executive Board Members of Locals 2, 9 and 22

strations or to invite radical speakers to address such meetings.

A definite line of demarcation, however, must be drawn between the mere expression of political views by the members within the organization or their political activities outside of the organization, and activities which have for their object to commit the Union to an outside organization to the extent of taking orders from such organization and thereby dividing the Union along lines entirely foreign to its aims, objects and struggles.

A movement of the latter kind has developed within the last few years under the auspices of the Communist Party, the Workers' Party, the Trade Union Educational League and similar organizations. The all-important feature which distinguishes these organizations from all other radical political organizations of which we know in the past, is that their details and announced purpose is to dictate policies of our Union to "capture" its officials and locals, to discredit the administration of our Union under all circumstances and to bring dissension and discord within our ranks. That this is the purpose of the organization mentioned is clearly shown by their own publications, their official programs and above all by the consistent, hostile and pernicious attitude of their Jewish organ. Ample proof of these facts were submitted upon the trial.

The unity of our Organization and the harmony and cooperation of all of its members in their struggle to better their conditions is, of course, at all times, an important factor in our movement. It is more so than ever now when our Union is engaged in a movement for radical changes in our industry for the benefit of our workers. To choose this critical time for the purpose of prejudicing public opinion against the Union by irresponsible and sensational public demonstrations and to convey the impression of a division and of weakness within the ranks of our organization is, in the opinion of your Committee, a very grave offense against the Union and its members.

The fact that the officers and Executive Board members of the three Locals, in question, have deliberately done this very thing; that they have taken advantage of the customary May Day Celebration for the purpose of arranging a Communist demonstration under the auspices and in the name of the locals and have gone out of their way to invite spokesmen who are well-known for their hostility to the International and its administration, in the opinion of this Committee, undoubtedly was calculated to impair the usefulness of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and was unbecoming to the dignity and violative of the duties of the offices held by them.

The facts charged were not denied by the accused, some of whom refused to make any statements or answer any questions before the Committee, while the others claimed that the Executive Boards of the Locals, as such, did not arrange the meeting or select the speakers, but that they left the matter in the hands of special committees appointed for that purpose. The Executive Boards of Locals 2 and 9 never demanded or received a report from the Subcommittee as to the arrangements

at the proposed meeting; the Executive Board of Local 22 had such report and approved it.

It also appeared without contradiction that the meeting in question was widely reported and discussed in the public press, and the general impression conveyed by such press reports was that the International and the Joint Board stood for the wild utterances of the Communist speakers.

Upon the basis of these facts, your Committee unanimously finds that all of the officers and members of the Executive Boards of the three Local Unions actively or passively violated their duties as officers and Executive Board members and were guilty of conduct unbecoming to the dignity of the offices held by them. The officers and Executive Board members who had a direct part in the arrangements of the meeting, deliberately made common cause with the enemies and disruptors of our Union. The other officers showed an utter lack of a sense of responsibility to the organization by leaving the important matter in the hands of the committee without asking for a report, by failure to protest against the action of the Committee when such action became known and by acquiescing in the whole disgraceful performance.

The question of the violation of the Constitution by some of the accused, as members and their liability to disciplinary measures, as such members, is not before your Committee. In the complaint before us, the accused are charged in their official capacity as officers and Executive Board members, with conduct inconsistent with their duties of such offices. The sole question before us, therefore, is whether the accused under the provisions of our Constitution and upon the facts of the case as above indicated, have forfeited their right to continue holding office.

This question we answer in the affirmative.

The following officers and executive board members of Locals:

Local No. 2  
J. Borschowitz, J. Berland, H. Bravin, A. Cohen, I. Feuerstein, D. Goldbaum, J. Goldberg, M. Gabel, H. Hochstein, A. Sharer, I. Steiner, D. Spater, A. Wise, A. Block, M. Cooper, D. Kravetz, J. Millet, A. Summergrad, I. Selenick, H. Selesnick, S. Steiglitz, I. Beinick.

Local No. 9  
L. Hyman, Miriam Friedman, D. Pisman, Lena Lewis, B. Cooper, S. Goldstein, W. Hoffman, A. Hartman, M. LEE, Ph. Herman, Eve Pasher, J. Friedland, Pauline Gartner, M. Goldberg, A. Goldberg, Bella Press, M. Goldman, I. Selgel.

Local No. 22  
J. Portny, Mollie Katz, Pauline Halpern, Abe Lupin, Fannie Farber, Clara Goldberg, Wm. Himmelberg, Clara Fox, Fannie Newman, Rose Zucker, Louis Rosenfeld, Wm. Block, Sarah Begun, Jennie Golden, E. Bach, Fannie Olivenstein, Anna Mettison, I. Far-

blach, are, in the unanimous opinion of your Committee, guilty of conduct unbecoming to the dignity and welfare of the Union.

Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the above-mentioned Officers and Executive Board members be removed from their offices and that they be declared ineligible to hold office within the Union for a period of three years.

The following officers and executive board members of Locals:

Local No. 2  
Rabinowitz, S. W. Biagman, B. Reiser.

Local No. 9  
I. Kanner, M. Goldofsky, S. Lorber, S. Dembus, M. Rembach, J. Achtemberg, H. Reitner.

Local No. 22  
Benjamin Mattin, I. Silver.

The above have, in the opinion of your Committee, failed to perform their official duties because of indifference and lack of a sense of responsibility, rather than on account of deliberate malice. While they had no part in initiating the violations mentioned, they did not protest against the acts committed by their Executive Boards and acquiesced in them.

Your Committee recommends that these officers and Executive Board members be removed from their offices and that they be declared ineligible to hold office within the Union for a period of one year.

We make an exception in favor of A. Ahnolofsky, a member of the Russian-Polish Branch, because he can hardly speak English nor understand the Jewish language, and has proven to the Committee that he cannot be held responsible for their acts. Your Committee finds the above brother not guilty.

Respectfully submitted,  
HARRY BORENSTEIN,

Local No. 35, Chairman

PH. ANSEL,  
Local No. 10, Chairman of the J. B.

A. DREYFUS,  
Local No. 2

L. FORER,  
Local No. 10

M. KOSKYS,  
Local No. 48

C. AMBROSINI,  
Local No. 48

S. RUSHINSKY,  
Local No. 32

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## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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S. YANOFSKY, Editor.

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## Two Nights at Unity

By B. R. D.

Almost two weeks have gone by since I paid my first visit to Unity this season—but the memory of the two wonderful days that I spent there still lingers in my mind, and the aftertaste of the joy of the two glorious evenings in Forest Park, amidst the cool, evening breezes of the Blue Ridge hills, stays on and would not leave.

I have been to Forest Park in former seasons, and have liberally partaken of its restful comforts year after year. But Unity House this year is different—on this the opinion of casual visitor and permanent vacationist is unanimous. The House, the lawns, the rooms, the food, the service, the quality and quantity of amusements, sports and recreation is so much different, so much superior to that which we used to get in former seasons at Forest Park that it is almost astounding. The experienced, sure hand of qualified superintendence, of expert handling is in evidence at each nook and corner. There is unified management at Forest Park, not the straggling effort of a single local, and leaders Scheinoltz, the administrator of the estate and manager of the House, obviously takes the trust imposed upon him by the International Workers' Unity House Committee with a mighty earnestness and with a will to accomplish wonders.

Yes, those two evenings. They seem so far away, yet so near that it is almost scent the fragrance of the huge pines that fairly surround our Unity. I can feel the holiday atmosphere, soothing, stirring in the recreation halls, on the huge veranda, and I can almost see that sparkle of comradeship and of life that is fairly radiating from every eye.

It is Friday evening, July 3rd. From early morning the buses and automobiles from Stroudsburg and from Bushkill have been bringing fresh loads of visitors, adding to the already large family of Unity vacationists. Towards evening, by actual count, there were nearly seven hundred persons quartered at this place, by far the largest crowd ever housed by Unity even on the eve of a holiday. There seemed to be no let up of new arrivals, and despite the urgent requests by Manager Scheinoltz, addressed by telephone from Forest Park to the Unity office in New York not to register any more guests, the applicants would not be denied. Some of them actually would not leave the office until they had been registered.

The guests overflowed the verandas, which appear broader and even more commodious this year than ever before. The huge Recreation Hall, across the lawn, is brightly lit. — It is a half an hour after dinner, and the crowd is getting ready for the Russian Night. A Russian balalaika orchestra is pouring forth quaint, dreamy Russian airs, followed by Russian dance music, eagerly caught up by swaying and rhythmically moving pairs, dressed for the occasion in beauteous Russian blouses and colorful kaptans—obtained for the occasion heaven only knows where!—a complete picture from a Slav ballet, a joy to the eye and a heart-thriller.

The dancing was interrupted for a time to give Mme. Dora Boshower, a popular singer with an exquisite soprano voice, the opportunity to render a number of Russian songs and operatic arias. Her singing was superb, and it went with stormy applause. She has a confidence, when

together of Russian orchestra playing, Russian dancing and singing, making it a harmonious whole—a true Russian night that saturated with Russian melody the cone-filled, life-giving wide spaces of the Blue Ridge.

The "Fourth" was as ideal a day as ever dawned upon the mighty peaks of Pike County, and from the early hours of the morning, as fast as they could break away from the eating rooms, the hundreds of Unity guests gave themselves completely away to the variety of sports, afforded by the place—swimming, riding, hiking, tennis playing, bowling and boating upon the magnificent Unity lakes.

Towards evening the visitors assembled again in the Main Hall. Another prize musical program was in store, and it was rumored that it would surpass even the wonderful program of the previous night. And the guests that came to listen to the Saturday concert were fully rewarded for their faith in the fine artistic judgment of the House management. The Saturday night's program consisted of the following musical renditions:

1. Violin solos by Saul Baroff, the leader of the Unity orchestra, who played with rare enthusiasm and displayed a fine temperament and an exquisite touch, for which he received a generous outburst of applause after each number.

2. Mme. Sonia Radina, soprano, who sang with skill and fine taste, a number of Russian and Little Russian songs. Mme. Radina is well known to Unity visitors from former appearances and she was very warmly received by the audience.

3. The widely known concertina virtuoso Gregory Matuszewich. He played long, giving us encore after another, yielding to the stormy applause of the guests who actually went wild with his masterly performance.

4. Serge Tushinof, a baritone, "hosted" to the Unity House by the well-known impresario, S. Harok. M. Tushinof sang an aria from the Rubinstein opera "Nero" and supplemented it by several other classic pieces.

The program was completed by the reappearance of Mme. Boshower, the principal attraction on the Friday night program, who sang a few songs which were cordially received. After the concert, the Unity orchestra, under the leadership of Saul Baroff, played dance music and the Unity folk finished the evening in a whirlpool of dance that lasted until the wee-small hours of the morning.

\* That is not all, however.

In the morning of the following day, near the pine grove by the brook, we gathered after breakfast, and listened for nearly two hours to literary readings from Jewish and English masterpieces by David Pinsky, the famous dramatist and poet. He was followed by several others, and the crowd stayed on fully rewarded by the esthetic charms of the delightful place, the aromatic cool breezes from the pines, and the placid, soothing environment of a delightful Sunday morning.

And what about the other activities at the House—the swimming, hiking, boating, tennis playing and the other sports only casually referred to above? What about the other untold charms that Unity holds for young and old? Of these there's a great deal more.

## "Trade Union Realism Plus Social Idealism"

Ordway Tead on Dr. Levine's History in the Bulletin of the Taylor Society for June, 1925.

It would be inaccurate to say that this history of the Ladies Garment Workers' Union is typical of the situation confronting all employee groups in this country, or that the justification of its existence, which this book convincingly supplies, is in any complete way the justification of all American unionism. This industry was in origin peculiarly confined to our largest cities; it was for a long time first-generation immigrant among both employers and employees; it was a business requiring very little capital; it was fendishly competitive. In those respects its characteristics were its own. Yet in facing many of the larger issues its members faced the same difficulties as all manual workers in the years from the early eighties down to the present. And in relation to these issues, this history supplies evidence which has significance for an understanding of all American unionism.

This narrative is important to those interested to foster a science of management because it shows a large and prominent union growing intellectually in a direction which is broadly in harmony with policies they are advocating. The reader sees in interesting perspective the trade union mental evolution which had its definite counterpart in the mental evolution simultaneously undergone by many engineers and managers within the Taylor Society itself. There is a good characterization of the work and influence of Robert G. Valentine in this industry in 1915-16; and it was during the consulting labors of Mr. Valentine for this union in New York in 1915 that his famous paper on the relation of efficiency to consent was given before the Taylor Society. These and other influences at work in the union and among the managers eventually bore fruit more tangibly than in 1916, when Mr. Valentine's death joined with other causes to bring to a halt the experiment over which he presided.

In consequence, by 1924 the scene presented a radically different complexion. The collective agreements in Cleveland, for example, since 1919, and in New York City in 1924, have embodied concretely a new emphasis in policy which is a marked departure from typical union views. At least, these agreements have established certain principles as acceptable; and their fuller development is only a matter of time. These principles may be briefly summarized as follows:

1. Acceptance by the union of a share in responsibility for giving production.
2. Use of guaranteed weekly pay rates; but use of payment incentives for work done above a defined standard.
3. Definition of fair minimum standards of amounts of work on a basis of careful study of jobs, determination of amounts to take place under joint agreement.
4. Guarantees of regular employment for a defined number of weeks per year.
5. Guarantees of unemployment compensation for the weeks of idleness of excess of the number in which work is not guaranteed.

All this represents, of course, a virtual reversal in policy from that of many unions on questions of cost-price production, use of scientific man-

work, willingness to allow the better workmen to earn more than the union scale — in fact, the whole cooperative emphasis in the matter of production. The workers get, in return, a longer working year and the pledge of compensation for prolonged idleness — assuming that industrial conditions in general do not become too depressed. Hard work will not, under normal conditions, work them out of a job. Honest application to work is calculated to bring larger wages for the workers and lower unit costs for the employers. All this does not solve the problem of defining a fair day's work and of paying a fair return to the workers. But it does provide a sensible and approved method for narrowing the possible area of conflict over work and pay, by widening the area in which facts can have their mediatory influence.

Indeed, if its present program carries on, this union will go down in history as among the very first of those within the fold of the American Federation of Labor to realize that its prosperity and the industry's prosperity are inseparable, and that all the union can do to strengthen the industry will in turn strengthen it. It stands thus to exercise no little influence as an object lesson to other unions confronting similar problems. But to do this the union must, to use Dr. Levine's telling phrase, carry through successfully with its "new synthesis of trade union realism and social idealism."

The continuance of such a program does not, of course, come by chance any more than its inception did. It comes because certain leaders have had the vision and determination to win others to their point of view. And in the present situation a program as liberal, moderate and tolerant as this, in a group as large fraction of whom are party socialists, requires a real educational program to be put over. The formal educational and social welfare work of the union (with an annual budget of \$17,000) is not tied up too closely with the insularities of these matters of policy, but is devoted to cultural ends, physical and intellectual, of a more general character. Yet it is reasonably certain that the increasing attention paid by the union to formal adult education is making it easier to retain the policies which are being worked out.

To the student of economic development in this country this book cannot be too highly recommended. It calls attention to new problems and throws new light on old ones. Perhaps as valuable as any feature is its practical insistence on what is to the union the obvious fact, that industrial warfare cannot be solved in the right, aspirational and desire of the manual working group are for long ignored.

### 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 turn a mill,

## Prison Labor for Private Profit

By K. R. H.

III.

There is a theory accepted by most people that convict labor is inefficient and has but a low producing capacity, but recent Federal statistics disprove it. An abridged report on convict labor for 1923 published in the April number of the Monthly Labor Review of the Bureau of Statistics, Washington, D. C., gives some astounding figures applying to about 9000, a very small percentage of the prisoners employed in productive labor for private profit. These 9000 convicts employed under the "contract," "piece price" and "public account" systems, all of which are merely different names for the same sort of convict labor exploitation, in 1923 produced goods which sold in the open market for \$79,000,000. The states received for the labor of the convicts producing the goods \$1,000,000. The average production of the convicts was about \$11.50 per day, and the states were paid \$1 per day for their labor. The actual cost of maintenance and guarding these prisoners was in most instances in excess of the price received for their labor, with the "overhead" cost of production thrown in for good measure.

Three systems of convict labor exploitation are used in the figures quoted in the report of the United States Bureau of Statistics. The "contract" system is in use in Kentucky, Alabama, Maryland, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Delaware, Virginia, New Hampshire, Maine and New Jersey. Under the "contract" system the state sells the labor of the convicts to the contractor at so much per day per prisoner. The "contract" system is the outgrowth of the old "leasing" system largely discarded now because of public opposition, and it is perhaps the ideal system from the contractor's viewpoint, as he has complete control of the prisoners and can force them to produce to the last atom of endurance. Next to the old "lease" system it is best because the prisoners can be exploited more efficiently by corrupt politicians, and the "divvy" is greater than under any other.

Under the "piece price" system the contractor pays the state an agreed price for each piece or article made by the prisoners. The contractor furnishes his own raw materials, supervises the work and dominates the punishment. This system is in use in Connecticut, Wyoming, Tennessee, Rhode Island, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Vermont, Indiana, Nebraska and Massachusetts. In Connecticut the Reliance Mfg. Co. pays the state from 52 1/2 to 60c per dozen for work shirts made by the prisoners in the State Penitentiary, the price paid in a union factory for the same grade of work is from \$2 to \$3 per dozen, and in other products wherever this method of "convict" labor exploitation is used. The effect of such competition on free labor and legitimate manufacturers is very plain. The "piece price" system is only a very thin disguise for the "contract" system, the opportunities for political corruption are greater, prisoners consider it more oppressive, and it provides more serious competition for free labor.

With the "public account" system, the state engages in manufacturing on its own account, buying the raw materials, manufacturing and putting the goods on the market. The state may sell its products direct or through an agent, and it is as this agent that the prison labor contractor flourishes. The "public account" system is sup-

posed to operate for the benefit of the taxpayers, the state, and the convicts. It has been adopted largely because of the public protests against the "leasing" and the "contract" systems and has been loudly proclaimed a "reform" by prison officials and prison labor contractors. In practice it is as vicious as any of the older methods, and some of its features, more even so, as the state competes directly with manufacturers, using the taxpayers' money as capital, and enters into all sorts of undercover arrangements with contractors to find an outlet for the products. All of the states except New York, New Hampshire and Ohio make use of this system to a greater or smaller degree.

When prisoners produce on an average of \$11.50 worth of goods per day on a wage of \$1.00, the prison labor contractors naturally are perfectly satisfied with conditions as they are, and "view with alarm" any efforts on the part of citizens to develop better methods of utilizing convict labor. Things as they are, are good enough for them, and they howl with derision when changes are proposed that "sentimentalists want to doddle the prisoners and make prisons so attractive that they will have no terrors for lawbreakers." They raise the cry that the elimination of prison labor for private profit means idleness for prisoners, an incentive for crime.

All of which is pure nonsense. The labor of every prisoner in this country can be utilized under the "state's use" plan producing supplies needed by the state and their subdivisions. Conservatism estimates show that the Federal Government, the states and the large cities spend each year at least \$1,350,000,000 for supplies that could be made by convicts in the penal institutions, and this amount is far beyond their productive power employed under the most favorable conditions.

The "state's use" plan, if installed in every state, would mean that no prison labor would be sold to a contractor, and that no prison-made goods would be sold in the open market. It would also mean that no private interests could make a profit on the labor or products of convicts, and that

Christian Europeans captured North America and South America — with wealth as their motive and the Cross as a veil for the theft. Likewise Christian Europeans have "taken Australia for Christ"—also for furs, forests, mines and sheep ranges. Africa also has been "saved". England stole large parts of Africa; Belgium stole large parts of Africa; Portugal, Spain and Italy grabbed "theirs" in Africa — "for Jesus sake"; likewise Germany carried the Cross — and the cannon — into Africa; while Turkey carried the Cross — and the scimitar, into Africa — primarily as a real-estate enterprise. France, with similar force and fraud, has stolen a territory in Africa a thousand miles wide and twelve hundred miles long "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ" — and for "what there is in it". Christian Russia, under the Czars, stole a strip in Asia, twenty five hundred miles wide and nearly five hundred miles long — "in His name".

Russia has repeatedly stolen slices of territory from China "in His name". Japan has stolen part of China; England, France, Italy and Germany have stolen parts of China — with appropriate hypocritical sniveling about "missionary work among the heathens". The United States has diplomatically "taken" the Panama strip, Hawaii and the Philippine

Islands — and is hungry for her share in China, and is only half ashamed to admit it.

The deadly gases are ready; the flying machines are ready; cannon, rifles and machine guns are ready; bombs and battleships are already, ostensibly blessed and baptized, for "Christian enterprises" in China. Missionaries and free-booters, bibles and whiskey — everything is ready.

China has been bled by her Christian saviors; China is crucified by and between thieves, China is double-crossed.

China needs help.

China is helpless — swamped in ignorance and consequent surplus itself.

In Formosa (till recently part of China) one-half of the children die before they are two years old.

The two fundamental vital forces rule among the hungry and the hopeless Chinese as in the lower animal world, — the desire for food and the reproductive desire, the spawning instinct; China suffers from over-populated families, suffers frightfully.

Progress is choked with the results of ignorance. Happiness is blasted in darkness.

Ignorance curses China — makes her an easy prey to the civilized hordes of the world. Poverty curses China — makes her easy meat for civilized capitalist jackals, ever ready to falter on the famished flesh of the multitude in China — caught, stuck — in the mad of ignorance, — spawning, spawning, spawning!

Four hundred and fifty million human creatures are forced into the helpless struggle for existence in China every twenty-five years, — to be hungry, cold, feared, blighted, blasted — defeated — cursed with existence!

The cost of one big battleship would be sufficient to provide every woman in China with one piece of priceless information — information used by the wives of all bankers, bishops, senators, judges, governors, and cabinet secretaries in the United States — information on voluntary parenthood; that is, a harmless, painless method for preventing conception.

Why hesitate — to save China?

Hundreds of millions are spawned to be recklessly cut down in childhood or early youth by hunger, cold, disease and dirt. Why hesitate to carry scientific knowledge to China rather than cigarettes and whiskey? Many millions spawned in China to grow up and then to be so completely second and defeated that but one great gratification remains.

Why hesitate to save China with common sense? Why hesitate to have every noble-minded missionary provided with an abundance of the literature of light — the light that saves from the blight of blind excess in the hovels of the miserable throughout the world?

For ten thousand years there has been no hesitation in international thieving. There is no hesitation now. "Christ in China?"

Christ said a splendid thing. — The truth will make you free! — Why hesitate to carry the plain truth of voluntary parenthood to the gaunt, and faced women of China — and India — to the scores of millions of sad and silent slaves in the chains of ignorance?

Ultimately the human race will be regulated by science or ruined by recklessness; led by light or defeated by ignorance.

This is the Age of the Prude and the Flounders — with the consequent ignorance and agon

## Christ in China

By GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

### THE RISKS THEY INCUR



First Fat: "Darn the market. Another sag and that gamble on coal will cost me a million."

Second Fat: "Yeh, and the Labor agitators never appreciate the risks we run and the anxiety that comes to men of affairs."

## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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## EDITORIALS

## WHAT NEXT?

This question will boldly stare in the face of each member of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York City during the next few days. We can bear a great many of them arguing approximately along the following lines:

"The Governor's Commission had a whole year to study and to investigate the problems in the cloak industry, but failed nevertheless to arrive at a definite and fixed decision. It now asks another year for future research and investigation. It would seem, as if by this action, the Commission had itself pronounced the test of its own fitness for the role Governor Smith had appointed it to play.

"During this year," it will be argued further, "the Governor's Commission had been kept busy with cloak trade problems. It listened to a variety of testimony from all parties interested in the industry, and its own experts had brought forth a clear and convincing report concerning conditions in the cloak shops. It would seem that enough was revealed to enable any group of persons to form an opinion regarding the justice, practicability or impracticability of the Union's demands." This, however, did not happen. Is not it logical to infer therefrom that the same procedure is likely to be repeated a year hence, and that the entire Commission is an endless, dilatory and hopeless affair?"

"And," the argument is continued, "if the Governor's Commission, consisting of admittedly able and well-meaning persons, and well informed of the wants of the workers, is incapable of reaching satisfactory results, why expect any other commission to do better? Willy-nilly, the conclusion is reached that it was a wasted effort, and the moral of it is that trade unions should avoid mediation business entirely as a pest and that the only thing left to do for workers is to strike for their just demands."

On the face of it, both the argument and the conclusion seem quite logical. Nevertheless, we cannot agree that this is the only lesson the workers may learn from this experience. It must never be lost sight of that the problems of the cloak industry are very complex, and that while to one who is inclined to see only one side of an issue these problems may appear quite simple indeed, a student and an honest investigator will find them rather intricate and difficult of solution.

On the face of it, we repeat, it sounds somewhat like this: The cloakmakers are making a poor living—hence their wages must be raised; they have too long periods of "slack"—therefore their work hours must be reduced, and this all along the line. Upon a closer acquaintance with and study one, however, learns that these old remedies are not the cure-alls they are reputed to be. The wage scales in the cloak industry had been raised time and again and work hours had been materially reduced, but these measures had not brought fundamental relief to the worker. The workers know that while they were gaining these concessions, a great part of the output of cloaks and suits was being manufactured in shops where the workers themselves paid little attention to the strict regulations of the Union with regard to hours, scales and other conditions.

New remedies more appropriate to the changed conditions in the industry had to be looked for, and last year the leaders of our Union prepared and presented to the employers a set of industrial demands calculated to check the new evils in the cloak trade. The Union demanded a guaranteed period of work annually and responsibility of the employers for the work conditions of the workers employed by them indirectly through their contractors; it asked for a limitation of contractors to be employed by these jobbers, and a number of other no less important demands.

But, important as these demands may have been for the general welfare of the workers and the industry, it must be borne in mind that they were new to the industry. Moreover, in a way they were novel demands in the whole labor movement, as no other American trade union had ever presented such an industrial program to the employing interests in its industry. The Commission, therefore, in a way, could hardly be blamed for its wish to acquire more knowledge and a greater familiarity with the complex conditions in the cloak industry before it would definitely endorse this or that point of the Union's program.

We do not, however, wish to create the impression that we are defending or justifying the course of the Commission. Like everyone else in our Union we are thoroughly disappointed with its recommendation to continue the present agreement for another

year. We can justly state that by this decision they had sentenced the cloakmakers to another year of misery and hardship. Looking at conditions as they are in the cloak trade through our own eyes, we had a right to expect that the Commission's report, while not wholly meeting our desires, would at least make some changes in the direction indicated by the Union.

We are disappointed and we state it openly. We regret that the Commission could decide nothing else but to recommend that we wait another year for what may turn out to be the complete rejection of the Union's demands. But, despite our very pronounced feeling in this matter, we must nevertheless remember that the Commission is entitled to think that it is not sufficiently familiar with all problems in the cloak industry to render such a decision as was expected from it. We must not condemn offhand the Commission for having failed to reach more definite recommendations unless we are prepared to assert that it had acted in bad faith—something none of us will assume.

It is true that a definite rejection by the Commission of the Union's demands would have, for the moment, created a more definite situation for us. The Union would then know that it need not expect anything good from any set of mediators and it would have proceeded with greater determination to fight for its demands in its own way—through a general strike.

There is, however, that much to be said concerning this angle of the situation. If our members are ready for it, there is nothing to prevent them from going ahead with such a course. The recommendation of the Governor's Commission is not in the least binding upon the Union. Our leaders have not issued a single word or statement until now that would commit them or the Union to the acceptance of the Commission's recommendation. If the members of our cloak locals in New York should vote to reject the Commission's report and to declare a strike in the trade, there is no power that would prevent such a strike. If, on the other hand, the members should vote to accept the Commission's recommendations, the hue and cry of the strike apostles will not matter and the agreement will continue in force for another year.

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, in referring this matter to a referendum vote of the members, at the same time deems it important to recommend to them that they vote for the Commission's recommendation to continue the agreement for another year.

The Joint Board, which represents the forty thousand cloakmakers of New York, is of the opinion that, difficult as it might be for the workers, they must be patient and should wait another year for the final report of the Commission. The Joint Board is not unmindful of the fact that this recommendation will call forth another outburst of abuse and condemnation from the so-called "class-strugglers". This, however, concerns it very little. It refuses to play the part of a demagogue, and it will not drag tens of thousands of workers into a conflict the outcome of which may be questionable if not decidedly harmful for the workers.

There is no doubt in our mind that the Joint Board could have made itself very popular among some of our members by coming out with a strong appeal for a conflict. If this Joint Board, and the International, would allow themselves to be swayed by feelings of chagrin and disappointment only, they would have surely issued, together with the call for a general vote, a fiery call for a general strike. The recommendation of the Joint Board, however, is totally different and for the following reasons:

To begin with, all the representatives of the Union are of the opinion that the Commission had acted in good faith and that in recommending the continuation of the agreement for another year, it did not intend just to hold the workers back from striking for another year. The Commission firmly believes that during the coming year, with the aid of the permanent research bureau, it would gather enough information to be able to pass upon the soundness and validity of the Union's demands. On the other hand, our own representatives are of the opinion that the more thorough is the investigation in the cloak trade, the clearer will be the justice and significance of our demands be demonstrated to every factor in the industry and to the outside world.

Secondly, the representatives of the Union are far from certain that the present moment is favorable for a strike of such size and significance as a general strike would be. As we pointed out already, had the Commission entirely rejected the demands of the Union, the latter would have been compelled to declare a strike. Under such circumstances it would quite likely have on its side a great part of the public opinion which has evinced deep interest in our situation. We might say in addition that even under such circumstances, the workers would have to think twice concerning the time and the issues of the strike. The Governor's Commission, however, did not reject a single one of the Union's demands; it recommends only that the Union keep the agreement with the employers for one more year, after which it hopes to be in a position to render a definite set of decisions. Under such conditions it is obvious that, were we to reject this recommendation, even that portion of the public opinion which always is sympathetic towards the workers' struggles for a better living would become indifferent if not antagonistic to us.

These two important considerations have prompted the International and the Joint Board to inform the membership that they favor the adoption of the recommendation of the Governor's Commission. During the coming year, the Union will be able to make its position even stronger and the justice of its demands supported by additional facts and data well-nigh unassailable. It will win for its program the solid support of public opinion, which will surely know how to appreciate its patience and its genuine interest

## Supplementary Recommendations of the Governor's Advisory Commission in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry

July 16th, 1925.

This Commission was appointed by Governor Alfred E. Smith on June 16th, 1924 for the purpose of endeavoring to promote peace and stability in New York's leading industry.

At that time the inside manufacturers had disbanded their industrial department, the submanufacturers had received no official status as a recognized factor, the jobbers and the Union were preparing for a bitter struggle and the entire industry was threatened with disruption.

The Commission held extended hearings and made a number of recommendations which were embodied in one year contracts signed by the Merchants Ladies Garment Association (representing the Jobbers), the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association (representing the inside manufacturers), and the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association (representing the submanufacturers).

Under these contracts there has been increasing harmony and cooperation between the various factors. This has been very greatly promoted by the setting up of impartial machinery for the prompt settlement of disputes arising between the various organizations and between their members. The selection of Mr. Raymond V. Ingersoll as the Impartial Chairman has proved to be a most fortunate choice and much of the peace and stability which the industry has enjoyed during the past year has been due to his ability, tact and influence.

Other important steps taken after the hearings a year ago were the adoption of the sanitary label and the establishment of a system of unemployment insurance.

The Commission wishes at this time to congratulate the various factors in the industry on the progress which has been made in overcoming the difficulties involved in the setting up a system so new and necessarily complicated as the insurance fund. We are convinced that the good effects of unemployment insurance will extend not only to the employees most directly affected but to the entire industry.

In a business so vast and intricate as the New York Cloak and Suit indus-

try there will always be problems to solve and it is neither possible nor perhaps desirable that attempts be made to dispose of them all at once. Time is necessary for the working out of one set of improvements before too many new adjustments are undertaken.

At the conclusion of the hearings last summer there were a number of matters concerning which the Commission did not feel prepared to make definite recommendations. It promised, however, to have an inquiry conducted by experts and to give further consideration to these subjects at a later date.

This investigation was made and a report of it has been published. For the field which it covered neither its adequacy nor its accuracy has been challenged and the wealth of material which it makes available will, in the opinion of the Commission, be of value for a long time to those concerned in the industry.

During the past few months extended hearings have been held upon the findings of the report and their interpretation and upon new requests by the parties in interest for remedial recommendations by the Commission. The views and contentions of the respective parties have been carefully and ably presented by their officers and counsel and much light has been thrown on the matters in controversy.

While all this is true, and while the Commission has given a great deal of time and thoughtful study to the entire situation, it is not prepared under present conditions to recommend fundamental changes, such as limitation of contractors, a guaranteed term of employment, or the unionization of examiners.

It is a time for adjusting and consolidating innovations which have already been made, for the building up of the organizations and for further promotion of Cooperative dealings between them.

The best judgment of the Commission is that at present the soundest course will be in substance to renew the existing contracts for the period of one year, postponing for that length of time the more difficult issues.

We believe however that some improvements may be accomplished now and specifically make the following recommendations.

### 1. Bureau of Research.

The report of the investigation which the Commission conducted was focused largely on data related to the demands of the Union for a guaranteed term of employment, with limitation of submanufacturers, and upon the demand of the submanufacturers for a system of minimum costs. While the report was both clear and comprehensive, still further information along these lines will be of value.

There are also many other problems affecting the industry as a whole, or of particular concern to one of the elements and which may properly be investigated. Some of these are suggested in the briefs before the Commission; retailing, the influence of style, etc., are examples of matters which were outside the terms of reference of the recent investigation but which might well be explored by impartial experts. The more that is learned about the industry the more the differences between the parties will be removed from controversies over the facts and the closer the approach to amicable adjustments. The Commission recommends, therefore, that a Bureau of Research be established under joint auspices and that it be partly financed by contributions from independent manufacturers, sub-

manufacturers and jobbers as well as by contributions from the parties to the collective agreements and from the Unemployment Insurance Fund. This bureau would make such statistical studies and fact finding investigations as may be determined from time to time. In case the parties have difficulties in formulating agreed plans for its organization and operation the Commission will be glad to give its aid and advice in this matter.

### 2. The Sanitary Label.

We look forward with a great deal of confidence to the beneficial effects on the industry that will come from the use of the sanitary label heretofore recommended by the commission. We strongly urge the fullest possible development of the use of the label; that the necessary publicity measures be undertaken and that there be strict supervision over the issuance and use of the labels. The standards adopted by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control should be rigidly enforced and gradually improved so that the public may rely on the labels guaranteeing that the garments on which they appear are manufactured and produced in shops having high standards of sanitation and modern working conditions.

### 3. Shop Strikes.

The Commission believes that the shop strike in the industry is harmful to the interests of all parties concerned and is contrary to the spirit of the collective agreements that have been entered into. Energetic steps should be taken to prevent the occurrence of these shop strikes and it is recommended that the Union issue explicit and frequent instructions that, under all circumstances, shop strikes are to be avoided.

The whole theory of the collective agreement in this industry is that there is to be no temporary stoppage of work, but that all matters in dispute are to be submitted to the Impartial Machinery for adjustment. The stop strike is contrary to this understanding. While there has been an improvement in this respect in the industry recently, we believe that by a continuous process of education much more can be accomplished along these lines.

### 4. Reorganization.

The Commission has given careful consideration to the arguments presented in support of an enlargement of the existing rights of shop reorganization. We are not prepared, however, to make any definite recom-

mendations on this subject at present.

We suggest that the Industrial Council and the Union confer on this matter. If they can reach a reasonable adjustment, it will be of benefit to all concerned.

Should no agreement be reached the Commission, with the additional data which will be made available to it through the bureau of research, will be in a better position to come to a definite conclusion when the renewal of contracts again comes up.

### 5. Discounts.

The Commission wishes to have further data in regard to this subject. It was not covered in the investigation nor discussed very thoroughly at the hearings. Further information is desirable and can be easily secured, especially through the proposed bureau of research. The recommendation is that the two Associations involved agree to accept a decision of the Commission to be rendered during the fall. If any change is then recommended it is to become effective for the business of the spring season.

### 6. Net Yardage.

The sub-manufacturers should be called upon to pay only for the actual (Continued on page 8)

in a peaceful settlement despite provocation and incitement from all sides.

Our workers will now vote in this matter in accordance with their best judgment, and their decision, whether in harmony with the Joint Board's recommendation or opposed to it, will be the law for the Union to follow. If they decide in favor of continuing the agreement for another year, well and good. If, on the other hand, they vote against that, their decision will be accepted as final, and the leaders of the organization will carry it out as loyally and as faithfully as will be in their power.

### GUILTY

The Grievance Committee, appointed by the Joint Board last month to try the suspended executive board members of Locals 2, 9 and 22, has found them guilty of the charges preferred against them. The Grievance Committee has therefore affirmed their suspension and has, in addition, recommended that the defendants be barred from holding office in our Union for a given period. Only one of the accused was declared not guilty.

Elsewhere in this issue, the reader will find the statement by the Grievance Committee in full. This statement is a comprehensive document and it proves beyond cavil that this Committee has had no intention of any kind to convict any of these defendants—save that they themselves had made this conviction certain by their testimony or their failure to reply to questions. As one reads

this report, one continually gains the impression that most of the accused had been trying their hardest to be adjudged guilty.

The Grievance Committee had before it as hard and as unpleasant a task as ever had fallen to the lot of a union committee. It fulfilled this task faithfully and conscientiously, for which the thanks of the whole organization are due it. On the basis of the testimony presented to it, the Grievance Committee certainly could have rendered no other verdict. It is clear, however, from this report that the accused could be divided into two groups: one, consisting of conscious and deliberate union-wreckers who would put our entire Union under the straitjacket of the Communists, and the other consisting largely of blind followers who, by their replies to the Committee, had proved their total incapacity for holding office in the Union. The first group is barred by the verdict from holding office for three years, and the second group is barred for one year.

We are deeply convinced that the sentences meted out to these accused are very, very mild, and we congratulate the Grievance Committee for its self-control and its ability to fulfill its duty toward the Union and to the accused, under most difficult circumstances. We expect salutary results from this trial and from the verdict rendered by the grievance board. We only hope that never again in the history of our movement may the necessity arise for trying an entire executive board of a local upon charges so clear and irrefutable that their own fellow trade-unionists would be compelled to pronounce them guilty.



# Governor's Commission Report

(Continued from page 7)

yardage received. In other words they should be charged only with the net yardage after sponging. To charge the sub-manufacturer with shrinkage in materials through the process of sponging is a constant source of irritation and gives rise to frequent unnecessary disputes.

### 7. Unemployment Insurance.

A year ago some haste was unavoidable in devising a plan for unemployment insurance payments. It is clear to the Commission that the system then established of indirect payment by the jobbers is unsatisfactory. It causes unnecessary friction between the jobbers and the sub-manufacturers, its effects are uneven and it is not productive of the best results for safeguarding the insurance fund.

In the present contract, the jobbers have already accepted the principle that the ultimate cost of insurance is to be borne by them. The Commission recommends that this principle be made more effective by direct payments into the fund under rules to be set up by the trustees of the fund.

It is true that the insurance items to be paid by them must be based up on an approximate schedule rather than upon an exact ratio to the payrolls. That objection could be made equally against the present system. It does not appear to the Commission to be an objection of great force.

The facts brought out by the investigation show clearly that the periods of employment are on the average such shorter in the jobber-submanufacturer system than in the inside shops. It is the employees in this sys-

tem who make the heaviest demands upon the insurance fund.

Having in mind this situation the Commission recommends that the insurance items to be paid by the jobbers be increased by fifty per cent as against the schedule now in force.

### 8. The Wage Scales.

The Commission has considered the question of an increase in the wage scales but does not find it practicable to propose any change at this time. It recommends that in the new contracts the several parties agree to accept a decision on this subject to be rendered by the Commission during the fall. This will be on the understanding that if any increase is then granted it will go into effect for the spring season.

### 9. Independents.

In the hearings before the Commission and in the briefs filed by the parties in interest both the Merchants' Ladies Garment Association and the Industrial Council have several times pointed out the necessity of making it advantageous for firms to apply for and hold membership in these bodies. It seems to be agreed between the parties and the Commission so recommended:

a. No contract shall be entered into by the Union and a jobber, manufacturer and (or) sub-manufacturer who was suspended from membership in the Merchants' Ladies Garment Association, or (Cloak & Suit Protective Association), or (American Cloak & Suit Manufacturers Association), because of failure to comply with an award made against him on com-

## Quebec Farmers Prosper by Cooperation

The barrier of language has hidden from the view of American cooperators a flourishing farmers' cooperative movement in the Canadian province of Quebec, which has become so important that the government is now encouraging it by furnishing trained organizers and inspectors. The "Canadian Cooperator," organ of the Cooperative Union of Canada, reports that one big wholesale society cares for the marketing and the purchase of goods for the French-speaking habitants, and in addition there are special producers' cooperatives for fruit canning and grain grinding, milk selling, and for the storage of fruit when it is canned. All in all, these societies have a membership of nearly 50,000 with a subscribed capital of \$600,000, and receipts of over \$10,000,000.

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ment. The Provincial Department of Agriculture has placed three organizers in the field to help the spread of these cooperative people's banks.

### Co-ops Best Defense for Unions

"The trade unionist who is not a co-operator has a limited idea of the value of association." It is Fred Bramley, secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, speaking. He is emphasizing the same message that the executives of the railroad brotherhoods and the American Federation of Labor stressed for years in the cooperative field.

"Trade unions," continues Bramley, "may reduce the hours of labor, increase the money from of wages, and otherwise improve the employment conditions of the worker. The standard of living, however, will be determined by the power of the monopolist, the operations of the money trust, and exploitation by the food, clothing, housing and other profiteers. The wage-earner will be left to combat the most powerful of his economic enemies as an isolated unit. The exploiter outside of the factory will take back from the worker in the form of increased rent, high prices, and bigger profits on selling values nearly all the difference secured by the limited use of the real power of collective effort."

"The labor movement as a whole can never sweep on to its ultimate goal of social ownership and democratic control of industry," Bromley points out, "unless we have in our working class ranks the experience and the special knowledge to perform the functions of controlling the social commonwealth as efficiently as will be necessary. This experience in management, he declares, is the most valuable product of the cooperative movement."

Cooperation's educational activities arouse Bramley's special admiration. "Outside the cooperative movement," he says, "there are no facilities for the education and elevating recreation of the working man and woman. But do not accept the theory of cooperation and hesitate to act. We are not dealing with an abstract academic theory. Adherence to cooperation implies immediate action. Become a part of the actual movement and take your share of the work necessary to push forward the most important example of working class enterprise in existence."

tion of the Commission. They leave for future determination several important points. In the course of the

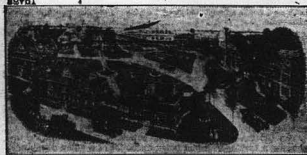
d. No contract shall be made between the Union and an independent sub-manufacturer, manufacturer and (or) jobber, containing any provisions more favorable than the provisions in the contracts executed between the Union and the various parties collectively, and all such individual agreements shall be open for inspection by the associations and their duly accredited representatives, at the office of the Impartial Chairman, at such times and under such conditions as he may designate.

The Governor's Advisory Commission in the CLOAK, SUIT & DRESS INDUSTRY GEORGE GORDON BATTLE, Chairman

HIRSHER H. LEHMAN  
LINDSAY ROGERS  
BERNARD L. ROSENTHAL  
ARTHUR D. WHELAN

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### Concluding Remarks.

The foregoing are the recommendations





## DOMESTIC ITEMS

## Mine Guard Indicted

**CAPTAIN BOCKUS**, one of the most prominent constables in West Virginia, has been indicted for murder by a county grand jury. This took an active part in the reign of terror the constables staged in Mingo county four years ago when a "martial law" proclamation gave them a free hand to break a miners' strike.

## Firm Cited by Federal Board for Making False Union Claim

**I**F a firm wrongfully advertises that its goods are union made it must answer to the Federal Trade Commission for using unfair methods in competition. The commission established this precedent when it ordered the non-union Bell Cap Company of New York City to show cause why it should not be ordered to cease this misleading practice. The partners of this firm, doing business under a company name, made affidavit that they had ceased using the term. While no further action was taken by the commission, its action is a notice to business men that they must not exploit the trade union sentiment among organized workers and sympathizers.

## Taxi Drivers Raise Wages

**U**NION taxi drivers of Seattle, Wash., affiliated with the Brotherhood of Teamsters, have won their demands after several weeks' negotiations. The agreement provides for the union shop. Wages are increased from \$16 and \$26 a week to \$23 and \$28. Ten per cent of the total turn-in and overtime is also paid. Only three companies refused to sign the agreement.

## Telegraphers Duped by Company "Union"

**R**AILROAD telegraphers are the latest victims of the Pennsylvania railroad's company "union".

The corporation's publicity department informs the world that a "settlement" has been reached—the company "union" has nothing to say.

The so-called adjustment was made possible by refusing to recognize the legitimate union—the Order of Railroad Telegraphers—that represents 75 per cent of these workers, and calling into the company's offices a small group that could be handled.

Wages are increased 2 cents an hour, and this is taken away by abolishing rest and speeding up the remaining key men. Vacations with pay and retired work were refused.

The railroad labor board has denounced the railroad for its refusal to treat with the telegraphers. The board ruled that the railroad "is knowingly and wilfully persisting in such violation (of the transportation act) in contempt of the provisions thereof and in contravention of the public welfare."

President Manion of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers declared that the company "union" has duped the telegraphers.

"It was necessary that we have this experience in order to convince many 'doubting Thomases' that loyalty to the Pennsylvania railroad does not in any measure imply loyalty by the Pennsylvania railroad," said President Manion.

## Textile Workers' Tent Colony Erected by Building Unions

**T**HE building trades unions of Connecticut assisted striking textile workers to erect their tent colony in compliance with drastic health regulations by Willimantic municipal officials.

The 2,500 workers are on strike against a 10 per cent wage reduction, although the company reported a surplus last year of \$1,200,000 after all charges and dividends were paid.

When the company evicted the workers from company houses they started a tent colony, but the Willimantic board of health hampered them in every way possible. It was then that the building trades unions offered their services and these workers pitched their sanitary knowledge against city officials who suddenly awakened to the need for the most minute enforcement of the sanitary code.

There has been no law violation by pickets, but the state constabulary, with their machine guns, would create the impression that Willimantic is threatened by invading hosts.

Officials of the company have gone to Dalton, Georgia, where one of their mills is located, to secure strike-breaking assistance. The Georgia federation of labor quickly acquiesced southern workers of the facts.

## Union Laws upheld; Court Won't Step In

**I**N a case involving the right of a trade union to discipline its members, Circuit Judge Miller of St. Louis, Mo., upheld the long line of court decisions that the defendant must have recourse to the various laws of the union to which he pledged allegiance.

The case was *F. D. Hall* against the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Hall was suspended after the executive board found him guilty of making false statements against international officials. He asked the court to enforce enforcement of the sentence, but Judge Miller refused because Hall had failed to take advantage of the union's laws, which provide for appeal.

"The plaintiff should follow up his own remedies within the order to which he belongs by proper appeal to the executive council and, if necessary, by further appeal from the latter body to the next convention of the international," said Judge Miller. "His obligations arising from his membership in the order require him to do this, and the court ought not to interfere by injunction either to abrogate the contractual rights and obligations of the mem-

## FOREIGN ITEMS

## ENGLAND

## British Out-of-Works Menace Nation

**T**HE British unemployment problem continues to grow acute.

During the three years following the 1920 slump trade unionists reduced wages \$10,500,000 weekly because of employers' promises that this would improve conditions. The contrary has proven true.

"It is idle for employers to say that the path to industrial revival lies in wage reduction," said A. B. Swales, chairman of the Trades Union Congress general council.

"At the end of last year, when the cost of living was 80 per cent above that of 1914, the increase in wages was only 44 per cent in the case of engineers, while shipwrights had an increase of 35 per cent; ship joiners, 44 per cent; South Wales iron and steel workers, 50 per cent, and South Wales tin plate workers, 45 per cent, to quote but a few typical cases."

On the first of June, this year, the number of unemployed increased over 100,000 in two weeks and on June 8 there were 1,231,000 workless in the kingdom. This is an increase of 263,425 over the corresponding date last year.

That this distress only reaches workers and the middle classes is indicated by last year's report of inheritance taxes on large estates. This tax amounted to \$5,500,000, as against \$20,250,000 five years ago.

The unemployment situation threatens to become more intense because coal owners have given notice to end their agreement with employes. They also propose a reduction in hours and wages. The miners will resist these claims. The agreement ends July 31. The railways have suffered because of the coal slump and these managers and other large industries are calling for cheaper labor, which means a reduction of purchasing power.

The government's emigration plan has failed, as loud protests are heard from Canada and Australia against the policy of dumping out-of-works on an already overcrowded labor market in these countries. In Melbourne, the capital of Australia, street collections were recently held for the benefit of 10,000 unemployed in that city.

## HOLLAND

## International Clothing Workers' Federation

**T**HE following unions have affiliated with the International Clothing Workers' Federation: The United Cloth, Hat and Capmakers of North America, New York, and the Furriers' Section of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, Manchester, which section has a membership of about 500.

which all members of the order have voluntarily subjected themselves for their mutual benefit, and to avoid possible disruption of their own organization."

## Prisoners Flogged; Judge Arouses State

**A**SPECIAL grand jury in Rocky Mount, N. C., has upheld Superior Judge Sisco's battle against conditions in prison camps in this vicinity. The jurist's protests are verified by the grand jury, which reports:

"It is our unanimous opinion that a deplorable condition existed at the Rocky Mount camp, with no extenuating circumstances, no redeeming features, no justification, no rights or reasons for such brutal, inhuman physical treatment as had been accorded prisoners in this camp or stockade.

"Added to this treatment, the prisoners have been subjected to a most cowardly form of mental and moral torture by threats of physical punishment, unless willing to perform themselves on every occasion necessary, and while being deprived of their liberty have seen those in charge of them, and having unresisted power over them, disregard any and all laws observing crimes committed in their presence, in most instances, more reprehensible than crimes for which they, the prisoners, were adjudged 'guilty.'"

## Government's Low Wage Causes Many to Resign

**T**HE low salary paid by the Government is forcing scientists into private employment, said Luther C. Steward, president of the National Federation of Federal Employes.

"Unless the Government can meet the salaries offered by private industry so that these scientists may continue their expert activities, much of the good from Government laboratories will never see the light of day," said Mr. Steward.

The trade union executive denied statements that there are from 150,000 to 200,000 superfluous employes on the Government payroll in Washington. He quoted figures of the civil service commission to show that on April 30 there were slightly in excess of 65,000 employes of the Government in Washington, while in the entire country and our insular possessions there were less than 450,000 employes, a reduction of approximately 500,000 from the war peak five years ago.

According to Mr. Steward, the average salary of Government workers is \$125 a month.

## Mine Deaths Increase

**M**INE deaths in May increased, according to the United States Bureau of Mines. In that period 151 lives were destroyed. This is at the rate of 4.15 per million tons of coal produced, as compared with 3.33 for May, 1924.

The Bureau offers the cautioning suggestion that the rate would have been 2.50 per million tons "if" the explosion at Sanford, N. C., in which 53 lives were



## EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



### Taylorville, Ill.

By TOM TIPPET

The educational department which was created at the last convention of Sub. District No. 5, United Mine Workers of America, at Taylorville, Ill., is proving a success. More than 200 coal digger students have completed the first course, while 2,000 people attended the first series of public mass educational lectures, given by the educational department.

The first course consisted of an introductory course to American History, accounting in a very brief way for what occurred to the peoples of the world before settlement of the Americas was begun. The lecture was given by Scott Nearing who dealt with the economic growth of the United States. In addition to the public lectures Nearing outlined a study of economics for each of the classes. There are seven regular classes holding class meetings twice a month in seven different localities in this sub-district (Hillsboro, Panama, Nokoma, Panz, Taylorville, Kincaid and Tover). There are also two advance classes grappling with a scientific understanding of coal.

Tangible results of the educational activities are manifest at every class meeting where in addition to history, public speaking and English are also being taught. Nearly every student is now writing compositions and since there are stories of events so far removed as the early Greek civilization, Socrates, the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, Christianity and the subsequent religious strife in Europe, the crusades and so on across the pages of ancient and mediaeval history, the contention is proved that adult workers can assimilate knowledge and write their reactions to it quite as effectively as any other university students. A perusal of the essays written by the Taylorville sub-district mine workers is ample proof of this. There have been no poor compositions written, and some five minute speeches that are being delivered here would credit to a public speaking class anywhere.

A student from one of the classes has been sent to Brookwood Labor College in New York. He is George Reid, a young miner from Stonington. The Brookwood faculty writes that he is doing well.

Because the educational department here has received some outside financial assistance (The American Fund for Public Service) it is opening special classes in English. Teachers regularly employed in the local high schools are being employed for this, holding two extra sessions of each class per month to deal exclusively with elementary English and composition. The public lecture course is also guaranteed. These lectures will be held monthly with one lecture confined to the class room and on the same night, a public talk for those members of the union who for various reasons do not take up the class work, their families and the general public as well.

Nearing began the public mass educational work. His lectures were very successful although in some places his name was hardly known. The next series of lectures will be given by Dorothy Paldanus, chairman of the

dom. Her subject will be a review of the history course now being completed by the classes here. At the public meetings she will talk on Makers and Unmakers of Civilizations, and to the classes on Past Wars, Their Causes and Effects. After that comes David Sapos, professor of labor history and labor problems at Brookwood. There are tentative agreements with Robert Morse Lovett, of the Chicago University, who will talk on literature and the importance of working men reading books. Oscar Ameringer has also agreed to deliver his famous lecture on political economy.

The second course, now commencing, is the history of the United States. Not the usual orthodox account but the genuine story of what has happened here in the past 250 years. The text books used are Beard's Political History; Scott Nearing's 'The American Empire and O'Neal's 'The Workers in American History.

The history of the educational department is brief. The subject was introduced at the regular convention of this sub-district by President William Daech at Taylorville last June. Daech recommended the establishment of the department. The convention discussed the proposition from every angle for several hours. A significant feature of that discussion on the subject of education is that not one word was raised against the proposal, and the vote which made Daech's recommendation a reality was unanimous. The convention proceedings show this. The convention elected a committee of five to employ an educational director and to put the machinery of the department in operation. This committee represents every school of thought in the sub-district. A director was employed, the department organized and in less than four months the results accounted for in the preceding part of this article have been achieved.

The purpose of the educational activities, like the purpose of Brookwood Labor College and every other activity of education in the American Labor Movement, is to educate work-

Hundreds of our members visited the art exhibition which was held on Saturday and Sunday, July 4th and 5th in the newly erected, and beautiful library in our Unity Home in Forest Park. This was arranged by the Educational Department through the courtesy of Mr. Ebbro Ostrofsky, Director of the Art School of the Educational Alliance. The exhibition consisted of etchings and batiks produced by the students of Mr. Ostrofsky's school—the work of children of workers.

Mr. Ostrofsky gave two talks on art which were attended by as many people as the library could accommodate. Every available space was occupied and many were seated on the carpet covered floor.

The lecturer was introduced by Fannia M. Cohn, who pointed out the significance of this exhibition and the fact that trade unions included this work in their activities. She also remarked that this is the result of the efforts of the Educational Department to bring art into the daily lives of the workers.

Mr. Ostrofsky said that he has been striving for years to bring art closer into the lives of workers and always looked forward to an alliance of labor and art, and he considered this exhibition the realization of one of his dreams. A lively and interesting discussion developed in which many participated.

The library remained open throughout the two days, Saturday and Sunday, July 4 and 5, and the hundreds of our members who were at Unity, visited the exhibition. To make this a memorable affair, a picture was taken of the lecturer and the group of our members who attended his lecture.

ing men into and not out of the labor movement. Its stated mission is to improve and make better timber for the labor movement. The Taylorville mine workers sub-district educational department is affiliated with the Workers Education Bureau of America.

### Education Is the Key to Power

(Continued)

Rightly, our movement gets some financial help from public funds in providing education. The demand for increased state aid for education has been advanced by the Labor movement since its inception. Who have a better right than the workers to demand this help? The grants from public funds involve absolutely no interference with the freedom of the classes, or with the expression of opinion by tutor or student. They are not accepted by us on any other terms. In order to get them, however, the W. E. A. and the W. E. T. U. C. have to spend a lot of money in organizing and paying costs of teaching which are not covered by the grants. This money for Trade Union education must be raised from Trade Union sources. Every penny a trade

enables us to go other pounds in grants from public funds. We want your help in getting the trade unions, both nationally and locally, to realize their opportunity and provide our movement with the funds and the keen support without which it cannot carry on with its work.

If what has been said appeals to you, you will want to act. You can act in the following ways:

1. By talking with your fellow Trade Unionists, and getting together with a group which sees the importance of education, not for "the other fellow" only, but for themselves. This group can then ask the W. E. A. or the W. E. T. U. C. to provide a class in whatever problems of subjects it wants.
2. By inviting a W. E. A. or a W. E. T. U. C. speaker to come and

### LAST WEEK'S LECTURES AT OUR SUMMER UNITY HOUSE

Hundreds of our members relaxed on the lawns under the pine trees overlooking the lake last Tuesday and Wednesday, July 7 and 8, and listened with great interest to two lectures given by Miss Theresa Wolfson. The topics of the lectures were (1) Changing Morality, (2) Women in the Labor Movement.

The arguments and facts presented by the lecturer—the result of years of study, were most educational and provoked lively and interesting discussion. Both men and women participated, and it was interesting to compare the different approach of both sexes to the same question.

The lectures usually start at 9.30. A committee appeared on behalf of the 30 workers engaged in the kitchen, requesting that the lecture be started at 10 o'clock, as this would offer them an opportunity to attend. This request was gladly acceded. This means that not only the guests but also most of the 100 workers engaged at Unity, are benefiting by our educational activities.

The lecturer was introduced by Fannia M. Cohn who led the discussion. These lectures and discussions will be continued throughout the season. Each instructor is invited to spend a few days at Unity and give several lectures.

### CEDRIC LONG WILL LECTURE ON THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT AT UNITY HOUSE NEXT WEEK

Mr. Cedric Long, Executive Secretary of the Cooperative League of America, will lecture in our Summer Unity House, Forest Park next week on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 21 and 22. Our lecturer will be devoted to the Cooperative Movement in America, and the other lecture to the same movement in Europe. Mr. Long will take with him literature describing this movement which he will distribute amongst the audience.

mittee, or Trades Council, or any other organization to which you belong, and so helping to interest others, and get classes formed.

3. By arranging for a short course of lectures to be given in your branch or other organization, and so giving your members a taste of working class education. A taste of it often creates a taste for more.

4. By getting your branch or other organization to affiliate locally with the W. E. A. and take a real interest in its work.

5. By urging your Union nationally to develop an education scheme under the W. E. T. U. C. as a number of national Unions have already done.

6. By using every chance you get to preach the necessity of working-class education to your fellow-Trade Unionists.

We ask your help. You want to pull your weight in the working class movement, and you want others to pull their weight. Here is the chance to help both yourself and the movement.

# РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

## Рекомендации Губернаторской Комиссии.

В мае месяце 1924 г. за месяц до истечения срока действия контракта с заводами, вышедших из-под контроля Комиссии, были приняты следующие решения, выраженные в хорошо известных десяти пунктах.

Результатом этих требований, как известно, был тот факт, что заводам решительно отказывалось заключать с новым контрактом тех же условий, а в некоторых случаях с новыми условиями, в число которых входили также значительные прибавки: 1) сделана работа, 2) право хозяина назначать и расчитать рабочих и 3) право увольнять и уволняться мастерских по желанию хозяина. Несмотря на все это Протективная Ассоциация завода прервала свое существование как таковая. Делами же по своей стороне заключая, что они совершенно не могут заключить с заводами тех же условий и не имеют никакого отношения к рабочим". Одним словом, все старым в индустрии готовились к решительной борьбе. В это время губернатор штата Нью-Йорк, как какой бы то ни было просьбы со стороны Комиссии, предложил свое посредничество для того чтобы уладить возникший в индустрии конфликт. Как известно, вышедший посредничеством губернатора. В данном случае оказался справедливой старая русская поговорка: "Если бы знала, где ударит, то следовало бы соловья подсаживать". Но к делу им, к добру — о самом начале нашего знания, даже после самых жестких забастовок им всегда прибегали к посредничеству и это, пожалуй, и побуждая администрацию Комиссии и члены принять посредничество в этот раз.

Такой образчик 16-го июля 1924 г. губернатор штата был назначен Комиссией, которая и вынесла нижеизложенные рекомендации:

Упомянутая об уже вынесенных и принятых в индустрии рекомендациях, Комиссия далее говорит:

В такой огромной индустрии есть много старых и всегда будут возникать

новые проблемы, и по мнению Комиссии их невозможно и не следует разрешать все в одно время. Необходимо сначала уредить дело ученики, а уж потом вводить другие реформы.

Почему Комиссия при настоящих условиях не выдвигает возможным рассмотреть также коренные реформы, как гарантии определенного часа работы в году, ограничение числа контрактов для каждого "дьябера" и кинематограф экспансионеров.

По глубокому убеждению Комиссии самое разумное, что можно в настоящих условиях сделать — это возобновить на один год существующий теперь в индустрии коллективный договор, который за этот срок решение более важных проблем.

Учитывая же все, которые Комиссия находит возможным рекомендовать в настоящее время, следующие:

- 1) Отказ для ученика индустрии. Вместо рекомендации по еще не разрешенным вопросам Комиссия рекомендует утверждение отдела для дополнительного ученика поощрения в индустрии. Основания этого отдела должна быть пропорциональна между всеми заинтересованными факторами и индустрии, а также хозяина.

### 28 Ювелирный забав.

Находясь любя очень полезным для индустрии ювелирства, Комиссия рекомендует заинтересованным в индустрии сторонам принять все меры к его возобновлению применительно к индустрии, а также к хозяину.

или его путем обжалований и притязаний в прессе.

- 3) Забастовки в отдельных мастерских. Комиссия рекомендует выносу вести борьбу рабочих образовательную кампанию в направлении, чтобы они по возможности старались воздерживаться от отдельных забастовок в мастерских и удалялись бы возмещение недополученных через посредство незаинтересованного посредника.

- 4) Реорганизация мастерских. Комиссия рекомендует выносу и землянам выработать по поводу реорганизации правая, которые были бы приемлемы для обеих сторон.

Вспутая же если вопрос и хозяина не придет к соглашению по этому вопросу, то Комиссия, пользуясь дополнительными данными, которые будут собраны предполагаемым бюро вынесет свои рекомендации ко времени возобновления контракта через год.

- 5) Судья. Комиссия также не выдвигает возможности вместо рекомендации по поводу требования контролера, чтобы "дьяберы" не вычитались с них процентов (скадки) с договорной цены при окончательном расчете за работу.

По этому вопросу Комиссия вынесет свои рекомендации в во время летнего сезона, которые будут действительны с осеннего сезона.

- 6) Мера материи. Дьяберы должны брать с контролеров деньги только за действительное число ярдов материи носим "сплошными".

- 7) Страхование от безработицы. Комиссия рекомендует, чтобы "дьяберы" платили причитающиеся с их контролеров деньги в безработный фонд сая, по правилам, какие для этого будут выработаны Доверенными Фондом.

Также извещу того, что рабочие могут

тракторы получают больше денег за безработного фонда, чем рабочие фабрикантов, Комиссия рекомендует, чтобы "дьяберы" платили в этот фонд на 50 процентов больше, чем фабриканты.

- 8) Увольнение хозяином. Комиссия рекомендует выносу принять предлагаемый контракт на один год с условием принять рекомендацию Комиссии по поводу требования Комиссии увеличения заработной платы рабочим, которые будут вынесены в течение этого летнего сезона, и если Комиссия найдет возможным уволить хозяина, то такое увольнение будет справедливым в исполнении, начиная с осеннего сезона.

- 9) Независимые хозяева. По собранным данным Комиссия заключает, что все заинтересованные в индустрии стороны предпочитают иметь дело с ассоциацией, поэтому Комиссия рекомендует сделать возможным obligation для вступающих членом в ассоциацию в два же в ней пребывания. Поэтому:

1) Членом не должен заключать договор с хозяином без того, чтобы не было письменных оснований, который был включен в ассоциацию за вступлением обязательства в этой ассоциации до тех пор, пока он не уладит своих старых счетов с этой ассоциацией.

2) Членом при заключении договора с независимым хозяином должен брать достаточный денежный залог для покрытия убытков, которые могут произойти от неисполнения им возложенных условий.

3) Независимые хозяева не пользуются услугами незаинтересованного посредника в индустрии.

4) Членом не должен заключать контракты с независимыми хозяевами, которые бы имели какие либо преимущества перед контролерами с членами ассоциации. Для проверки таких фактов ассоциация имеет право просматривать документы контролеров. Просмотр должен происходить в контроле незаинтересованного посредника.

5) Хозяин должен по требованию члена или ассоциации открыть им свои книги для просмотра. Просмотр должен происходить в контроле незаинтересованного посредника.

Заключение.

По всем иррегулярным вопросам Комиссия выдвигает следующие рекомендации в течение следующего года, когда будут на лицо данные, собранные предполагаемым Бюро.

Комиссия находит вытекающими рекомендации практическими для применения и надеется, что они будут приняты всеми заинтересованными сторонами. (Подпись Комиссии/Президент).

Секретарь И. Шевченко.

Вниманию клауменеров и дресс-менеров.

В пятницу 17-го июля в 7 ч. 30 м. встретя в помещении 315 Нст 16-го ул. состоится собрание членом Р. П. О. Будет сделан доклад о рекомендациях губернаторской комиссии для следующего контракта с заводами.

Вниманию клауменеров.

В пятницу прошлой день и до 2-х часов для я субботу 17-го июля будет происходить заседание государственного клауменеров — принять ли на один год рекомендацию губернаторской комиссии или обжаловать генеральную забастовку теперь.

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## The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

By nearly the unanimous vote of the cutters who crowded to capacity Arlington Hall, at the membership meeting last Monday night, July 13th, the report of the Governor's Commission recommending to extend for another year the present agreement in the cloak trade with some modifications, was accepted under protest. Three men dissented.

The modifications include, if the report is accepted by the employing groups at their meetings and by the workers through a referendum, the establishment of a bureau of research, an increase by fifty per cent of unemployment insurance to be paid by the jobbers and a decision for an increase in the wage scales to become effective in the spring season.

### Report Disappointing to Members

While only two of the members urged the rejection of the report, none of the officers and members speaking for acceptance viewed it with favor. They all plainly manifested their disapproval and disappointment.

They contended that the Union presented a just case and that the demands originally embodied in the agreement were the one solution of the problems affecting the workers and the industry. It was a document prepared by the Union aiming at the eradication of the existing evils in the industry.

However, Manager Dubinsky contended, an extension of the present agreement for another year will not invalidate the demands presented a year ago. And since the Union is certain that it alone holds in its program the solution of the problems of the industry, another year of the present agreement will not lessen the demand for the changes put before the commission. The commissioners state in their report that the investigation of the cloak industry would be aided by the establishment of a bureau of research.

It will be remembered that when the Union originally presented its demands last year, the adoption by all parties of the present agreement for one year was due to the fact that the commission stressed the point that it needed data on the practicability of the proposals for a time guarantee and for limitation of contractors. For this reason investigators were put to work who conducted for several months a study of the industry. Nevertheless, according to the present report "While the report (of the investigators) was both clear and comprehensive, still further information along these lines will be of value."

In reply to the two or three who urged the rejection of the report, which implied a general strike, Dubinsky said that a powerful labor union such as the International need not necessarily resort to strikes periodically. It should be in a position, by the use of its potential power and clear thinking, to effect progress without resorting to conflict. No organization was involved in as many strikes as the International, and with such periodic precision. Since 1910, the manager pointed out, the Joint Board was involved in six strikes of no mean dimensions. This meant a general strike every three years, he stated.

Ildore Nagler, in speaking for the acceptance of the report, said that the intervention of prominent men in public life could not be ridiculed, as one of the speakers expressed himself. He said that when the Governor of

the State had appointed the commission he had in mind the peace of the industry, as every responsible head of a State would. Nagler reminded some of the fire-eaters that no strike had ever gone its entire course without the intervention by some of these so-called outsiders. Whenever the Union was involved in a general strike, the officers were forced to listen to proposals of peace, which was supported by public sentiment.

Samuel Perlmutter, manager of the downtown office of the Joint Board, at the outset of his talk in favor of accepting the report voiced his protest. But, he said, this was not the first time that the Union had been forced to listen to the council of men active in public affairs. He recalled to the members the activities of such bodies in the affairs of the Union during the past years, such as the council of arbitration in 1915, the board of arbitration in 1916-1919, the commission of mediation appointed last year.

In years, Perlmutter said, when conditions were favorable or when no alternative was offered the Union but the use of the strike weapon, no time was spent in hesitation. Then, he said, came periods when the patience of the Union was tried beyond limit, but strikes were not resorted to. And the Union progressed and held on to its gains. The fact that it would refuse to be driven to a strike would not lessen its power.

### Fall to Bring in "Left" Issue

Manager Dubinsky and President Ancel at the start of the meeting put a stop to an attempt to inject the "Left" issue into the proceedings of the meeting. One or two of the communist sympathizers tried to inject the question of the suspended communist offers of three locals into the motion to accept or reject the report. But not only did Dubinsky sense this at once and called for a stop, but the great mass of the members present too insisted that speakers confine themselves to the acceptance or the rejection of the report.

Of those who spoke on the question three sought by every means to disregard the report and devote the meeting to a discussion of the suspended officers of Locals 2, 9 and 22. The first speaker feeling that he could not go on in this light and having come prepared to discuss the suspension matter and not the report, was, for lack of what to say on the report, forced to take his seat, though the chairman was compelled to keep them to the subject before the house.

One of the speakers lamented over the lack of militancy in the International. He said that up to two years the ladies' garment workers' organization was looked upon as a militant organization, but lagged behind since then. The fact that in times when wages were slashed throughout the country and when workers were forced to accept an increase in hours of work after bitter struggles, the International not only held on to its gains but when on improving conditions and secured reductions in hours and increases in wages and established the indisputable right of a worker to his job, was entirely disregarded by this speaker.

The membership, with perhaps the exception of half a dozen, refused to be swayed by this appeal to passion. They insisted upon listening to the reading of the report by the Manager and other officers who had carefully studied it and the conditions upon

which the report was based. How well the cutters judged the few who sought to befog the issue, was clearly brought out by Dubinsky when he mirrored these in their true light.

The speaker bewailing the lack of militancy in the organization, he pointed out as one who joined the cutters' organization but a little over two years ago. Up to then he knew little if anything of the organization. The manager said that since this member's joining Local 10 the Union began losing its militant spirit, he had himself to blame, for up until his joining he did not question its militancy.

In reply to another of these speakers, who urged the rejection of the report on the ground that it did not grant the demands, Dubinsky wondered what he would do this time to preserve new conditions since he failed to observe the conditions contained in the past agreement. This speaker, the manager pointed out, hired himself out for \$25 per week, when the scale was \$44.

After these attempts to muddle the situation were nipped in the bud, and when they finally saw through the scheme to turn the meeting over to a discussion of communism by a handful of communists or their sympathizers, the members settled down and disregarded all issues foreign to the subject.

### Enemies Will be Disciplined

During the course of the remarks by a speaker, the statement was made "that those who brought about the situation which resulted in the suspension of certain officers, will be punished." To this Dubinsky heartily agreed. And this he said was the purpose of the Union. For a few years the ranks of one of the locals was split to factions, each of which expounded a new ism, and none of which sought in any manner to secure the solidification of the organization for the good of the membership and the improvement of trade conditions.

Dubinsky said that those responsible for this condition will be in due time called to account for this condition. And no one will be permitted to stand in the way. Any one guilty of this will be counted as an enemy and will be dealt with accordingly.

The result of a solid organization and the progress possible could best be seen when the cutters' organization is held up as an example. It was pointed out by the Manager that here no time was spent in the propagating of meaningless theories. Every moment's time and the resources of the Union are utilized for the improvement of the working conditions of the members.

### Commission's Report Put to Referendum

While the cutters at their meeting on Monday night approved of the report of the Governor's Commission, it does not mean that the decision holds for the entire membership of the Joint Board. Thus far only the cutters have acted upon this question.

A special meeting of the Joint Board was held last Tuesday, July 14 where the report was taken up for discussion and action. The outcome of

it is reported elsewhere in this issue. After this meeting, that is sometime during the latter part of this week, the report was put to the members for acceptance or rejection by means of a referendum vote. The result will in no likelihood be known before the beginning of next week. The employers' organization are also considering it. According to a report in a daily trade paper one of the heads of one organization said that he is in favor of it.

The report is a short one, it takes up only 5 pages. The report states that during the last few months extended hearings were held upon the report of the investigators. The views and interpretations of the various parties concerned were listened to by the Commissioners.

"... While the Commission," the report states, "has given a great deal of time and thoughtful study to the entire situation, it is not prepared to present conditions to recommend fundamental changes..." The best view of the Commission is that at present the soundest course will be in substance to renew the existing contracts for the period of one year, postponing for that length of time the more difficult issues."

The Commission contends that there are many other problems affecting the industry which has need for investigation. "The more that is learned about the industry the more the differences between the parties will be removed from controversies over the facts and the closer the approach to amicable adjustment." It is therefore recommended that a bureau of research be established under joint auspices for the purpose of further study of the cloak industry.

Having learned from the report of the investigators that the earnings of the workers employed in the submanufacturing and contracting shops are smaller than the earnings of the workers in the manufacturing shops, the Commission recommends that payment of fifty per cent extra by the jobbers be made into the insurance fund. This means that the jobbers will pay three per cent to the workers' one per cent. The inside employers will continue paying two per cent into the fund.

Another important recommendation is that the parties agree to accept a decision for an increase in the wage scales. This means that upon the acceptance by all parties of the present report of the Commission, a recommendation for a raise in the wage scales will be a decision and must be accepted.

The Commission is practically a board of mediation and if a wage scale were to be recommended in this report it would be optional with the parties to accept it. However, upon the acceptance the recommendation which will be made in the fall and will become effective for the spring season.

In the next issue of "Justice" the result of the referendum will be announced as well as the decision of the Joint Board. The members will also be fully acquainted with respect to the final decision of the Union on the report of the Commission and the union's plans for the operation of the next year's agreement.

## CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING ..... Monday July 20th  
REGULAR MEETING ..... Monday, July 27th

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place  
Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.

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