

"My righteous  
ness I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."  
—Job 27:8

# JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. VII No. 46.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1925

PRICE 3 CENTS

## General Executive Board Holds Last Meeting Before Convention

G. E. B. Report to Convention Submitted for Approval by President Sigman — Secretary Baroff and Vice-Presidents Render Final Reports — Credential Committee Appointed to Pass on Eligibility of Delegates.

The last, eighth, regular quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board opened its sessions on Saturday morning, November 7th, in the Cadillac Hotel in New York City, lasting until Wednesday evening, November 11th. The final sessions of the meeting were held in the Council Room of the I. L. G. W. U. Building.

President Sigman read to the members of the Board the draft of the report to the convention delegates which covers in full every event and occurrence in the I. L. G. W. U. since the Boston convention. The report was discussed for several days and was finally approved after each section and subject dealt with in it had been thoroughly analyzed and sifted. Secretary Baroff also read a statement concerning the financial situation of the Union and a set of recommendations aiming at its improvement in the future.

Vice-presidents Halperin, Seidman, Lefkowitz, Reisberg, Amdur and Nifno

also rendered reports on the condition of their departments or cities where they are in charge. Vice-president Dubinsky reported on conditions in the Cutters' Union of New York, Local 10.

A credential committee for the Monday evening in Arlington Hall and by an overwhelming majority approved the action of the executive board of this local with regard to the business agent controversy which arose recently between the cutters' organization and the Joint Board.

## Members of Local 10 Approve Action of Executive Board

The Cutters' Union of New York, Local 10, held a regular meeting last Monday evening in Arlington Hall and by an overwhelming majority approved the action of the executive board of this local with regard to the business agent controversy which arose recently between the cutters' organization and the Joint Board.

At the recent general elections for business agents held by the Joint Board a week ago, the cutters did not

have any candidates on the ballot. This resulted in the cutters remaining without business agents to take care of their grievances for the time being. The executive board of Local 10, therefore, forwarded a letter to the last meeting of the Joint Board proposing that, until other arrangements are made, the old agents of the local act on cutters' grievances. The Joint Board, after a heated discussion, left the question undecided as it resulted in a tie vote. Local 10, thereupon, called a special meeting of its members to frame its own attitude on this subject, and the local

(Continued on Page 2)

## Costumers of Metropolitan Opera House Out on Strike

Company Locks Out Workers Before  
Expiration of Agreement, Then  
Negotiates For Two Months  
and Again Breaks Settlement

Local No. 33, the Ladies' Tailors, Custom Dressmakers, Theatrical Costume and Alteration Workers' Union, was forced to declare a strike on November 6th against the Metropolitan Opera Company, after protracted negotiations were carried on for eight weeks between Boris Drasin, manager of Local 33 and Mr. Ziegler, the business manager of the company. A complete settlement was almost reached and a part of the force of the workers went back to work on October 20th. However, on Friday, Nov. 6th, Mr. Ziegler of the Metropolitan went back on his word, and the Union was forced to call the strike.

The Metropolitan Opera Company has been running its workroom as a union shop for the past 5 years. Some of the workers have been employed by the Company for more than 15 years, and are specialized mechanics in the theatrical costume trade. It is these people who have been forced by the company to picket the opera house wearing signs to that effect.

## Furriers' International Union In Convention in Boston

I. L. G. W. U. Forwards Message of Congratulation

On Monday morning, November 9th, the Furriers' International Union began its seventh biennial convention in Boston. Like our own convention, the fur workers' convention has advanced the date of its meeting in order to solve some very important internal problems. The fur workers' organization has been, for some time past, split wide apart on the "left" and "right" controversy.

At the time of this writing, it is not definitely known what the outcome of the internal fight among the fur workers is likely to result in. Both factions at the convention are nearly equally divided and the clashes between the opposing groups are bitter and sharp. The "left" campers in the furriers' union is inspired and directed from the same sources as the "left" agitation in the I.L.G.W.U. President Sigman forwarded last Tuesday the following telegram to the Fur Workers' convention in the name of the I. L. G. W. U.:

November 10, 1925

International Fur Workers'  
Convention,  
Morris Kaufman, President,  
American House,  
56 Hanover St.,  
Boston, Mass.

On behalf of the membership of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union we desire to convey to the organized fur workers of this country, in convention in the city of Boston, our sincere greetings and felicitations. The Fur Workers' International Union has a proud record of splendid progress as a fighting trade union and as a body of workers imbued with constructive idealism.

We fervently hope that the Fur

Workers' International Union will continue on its path of unbroken achievement, always conscious of its role as the industrial organization of the fur workers of America, the exponent of their economic needs and the defender of their standards of work and living.

MORRIS SIGMAN,

President

ABRAHAM BAROFF,

Secretary-Treasurer

## Italian Dressmakers Elect Convention Delegates

Candidates Recommended by Local's Administration Given  
Big Majorities

The election of convention delegates in Local 89, the Italian Dress and Waistmakers' Union, took place on Thursday, November 5th. The election was marked by unusual activity, notwithstanding the present slow sea-

son in the trade.

The vote cast was unexpectedly large and exceeded all previous records. Everything proceeded in an orderly fashion and without untoward (Continued on Page 2)

## Concert and Opening Night of Educational Season Tomorrow, Saturday, November 14th, In Washington Irving High School Auditorium

Sascha Jacobsen and Mme. Gita Glaze Will Participate in the Concert—Members of Local Executive Boards, Officers and Leaders in Workers' Education Movement Will Attend.

Tomorrow, Saturday evening, November 14, at 7:30 the opening exercises of our educational season will be celebrated by a concert in the auditorium of Washington Irving High

School, 16th Street, and Irving Place.

This is the one event of the year when the officers of the Union, members and their families, leaders in the Workers' Education movement, and

friends interested in the Labor movement, get together to celebrate the success of Labor education in the United States. This year, our affair will be especially interesting as we are also celebrating the 8th anniversary of the establishment of our Educational Department.

For this occasion we have arranged a fine musical program in which will participate Sascha Jacobsen, violinist and Mme. Gita Glaze, soprano, both celebrated artists. The evening will end with a dance in the Gymnasium. No time or effort has been spared to make this gathering a memorable one.

We would suggest that our members come early as the program will start on time distributed among the local unions. A few can still be had at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street. Each ticket admits two.

## Director of Label Division Back From Europe

Dr. Henry Moskowitz, the director of the Label Division of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, has returned from Europe last week and is already back in the Label office in charge of the distribution and supervision of the "Prosanita" union sanitary label in the cloak and dress trades in Greater New York.

Dr. Moskowitz is the president of the American Organization of the

"Ort". He spent over three months in Europe inspecting the various schools in industry and agriculture maintained by the "Ort" in Soviet Russia and in Eastern Europe. He reported at a banquet meeting held last Sunday afternoon, November 8th, at the Hotel McAlpin that he found conditions among the Jews in Russia, Poland, Bessarabia and Galicia somewhat improved though they still rely on American aid to make headway.

## Italian Dressmakers Elect Convention Delegates

(Continued from Page 1)  
Incidents despite the intense propaganda waged by the contestants. The result was a vote of confidence given by a very large majority to the candidates recommended by the local administration.

On the day before the election, there appeared in the Jewish Communist paper of New York a statement in which the "shop chagrins and the shop charlatanes in dress trade" were called upon to tell the Italian workers in the shops to vote specifically for the candidates approved by this paper. On the day of election, many members of Local 22 were posted in the different polling places distributing leaflets which called upon the workers to vote for the candidates of a self-styled "progressive" group. Local 22 also delayed its election, supposed to have been held on a pre-

vious date, for the day of election in Local 33 in order to be able to concentrate against the candidates approved by the local.

The members of Local 89, nevertheless, voted as they thought best to the interests of their local and responded in a way that proved that they believed themselves to be the best judges of the competence of their representatives. The total number of votes cast was 727, and the elected are as follows: Luigi Antonini—by 243 votes; Giacomo DiNola—by 233 votes; Salvatore Amico—by 217 votes; Antonio Crivello—by 177 votes; Raso Peranda—by 159 votes; John Celozzi—by 135 votes; Joseph Salerno—by 120 votes; Anna Radosti—by 121 votes; and Giuseppe Miranda—by 119 votes. The vote cast for the opposing candidates barely reached an average of 120.

## Members of Local 10 Approve Action of Their Executive Board

(Continued from Page 1)  
voted by more than 4 to 1 to fully uphold the action of the executive board.

The reader will find a full report that meeting on Page 8, the cutters' page, of this issue. On that page there also appears a statement by

Vice-president David Dubinsky, the manager of Local 10, concerning some slanderous allegations made about him in a New York Communist sheet, allegations that are quite illustrative of the methods the "progressives" in some of our locals are resorting to in order to gain their points—to win power by hook, crook or calumny.

## An Appeal To All Designers

Designers in Arrears May Regain Their Standing for \$5.00

During the past year, the designers' organization in the women's wear trade of New York has had great difficulty in maintaining their local No. 45. We had expected a great deal from the Joint Board, hoping that we might be put down as regular union workers under the protective wing of the contract with our employers. Our expectations, however, resulted in disappointment.

The manager of the local who was very "active" in spending our money which we had an income, had quit as soon after this income had dwindled down so that he could not draw his salary from it. In the last six months, we have been hammering at the doors of the Joint Board asking for relief. We obtained from them promises, but these promises have not been materialized in the least degree.

We are now glad to report that ever since the recent upheaval in the union, there is new life and new enthusiasm in the ranks of the designers' local. It is felt that now we shall be able, by united effort, to put the organization on a sound basis and gain something material for our members. We know that many of our members owe the local substantial sums in arrears which they might find difficulty to pay up. For this purpose, the executive board of the local had voted that

all members in arrears be given the opportunity to regain their standing for the small sum of \$5.00. This decision holds good until November 24.

Fellow designers! A special meeting of all the designers is called for November 24th at a place to be announced later. Bear in mind the present situation in our union and the splendid prospects we have at this hour. We are entering upon a new era, and it is up to you to give your executive board a helping hand.

A. SCHECK,  
Manager, Local 45.

## Pioneer Youth Conference Next Tuesday

Pioneer Youth of America will hold a conference next Tuesday evening, November 17th, at Ethical Culture School, 2 West 64th Street for a discussion of the work of the organization and its value to the liberal and radical public.

Since its inauguration eighteen months ago, The Pioneer Youth has conducted an education camp for two summers, in which it has accommodated more than three hundred workers' children. has established 28 children's clubs, which hold meetings throughout the city in labor headquarters and public school buildings, and is now branching out to other sections of the country.

Besides the speeches and discussions, a two-reel moving picture will be shown, giving a "close-up" of activities in a Pioneer Youth camp. Also the Pioneer Youth orchestra will play a few numbers.

Norman Thomas, representing parents and the liberal and radical public, will speak on "The Needs of the Growing Generation." The Abraham Ledkovitz, Chairman of the Education Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Council, on

"Why Labor is Interested in Pioneer Youth."

Prof. Wm. H. Kilpatrick, of Columbia, an educational authority will speak on "The Newer Education and Pioneer Youth."

Dr. Henry R. Linville, President of the Teachers' Union, will preside and Joshua Lieberman, Secretary of Pioneer Youth, will report on its work with children in clubs and summer camps.

Labor unionists, educators and parents, as well as members of Pioneer Youth and the interested public are invited to come to this conference meeting.

Thomas J. Curtis, Vice-president of the New York State Federation of Labor, is the President of the organization; and Dr. Henry R. Linville is the chairman of the New York branch. Mr. George Creech, President of the Philadelphia Labor College, is the Chairman of the Philadelphia branch and Joshua Lieberman, active in the workers' education; labor and Socialist movement, is National Secretary. Many international and local unions are heartily cooperating in establishing its work on a sound basis.

## Review of October In Industry

The outlook seems to be favorable to labor in the immediate future, although there are factors in the situation which may cause trouble later on. Production in basic industries has been rising, though it is not so high as in 1923 or at the beginning of 1925. Employment of wage earners has been increasing and is from 3 to 16 per cent larger than a year ago. Wages have about held their own, and although the cost of living has been rising a little the purchasing power of labor is not materially reduced. There is little sign of price inflation; wholesale prices have been falling slightly for two months. The farmers have maintained a large part of their improved conditions of a year ago. Many expect an improvement of European industry and consequently of our export trade as a result of the Locarno settlement. There is no specially dark cloud in sight.

There is always the possibility of a flation on account of the large stock

of gold in this country and easy bank credit. There is little doubt that these factors have stimulated speculation on the stock exchange, and have driven the prices of many securities far above the point which the actual industrial situation warrants. This, of course, is of little consequence to wage-earners who do not gamble on the market. What may be more serious, if it is true, is the belief of some economists that the easy credit has been employed to inflate capital issues, so that either on account of over capitalization or on account of actual overbuilding of productive capacity the business world may have to pay later for present exaggerated expectations of profit. In that event serious conflicts with wage-earners might ensue in an effort to saddle them with part of the loss through wage reductions.

There are also dangers in the foreign situation. The present financial straits of the French government are serious, and there is a real danger that France will undergo the process of continued inflation and final collapse which occurred in Germany before the Dawes settlement. German finances, however, now seem to be in a fairly healthy condition, and German trade with us must be to this country than French.

We must also reckon with the possibility that the building boom may reach the end of its course, and a serious falling off of building operations would injure not only those in the industry but many other supply and basic industries as well.

If any or all of these unfavorable possibilities should develop, however, they probably could not affect the general situation of labor for several months at least.

## Mexico

By G. M. BUGHAZET  
Secretary International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

To many Americans, Mexico is that little country south of us with which the United States periodically squabbles. It is true Mexico in land area is about three times as large as Texas, but it shelters a population of 14,000,000 persons, and it harbors natural resources of extraordinary value. Mexico now yields about one-third of the world's silver production. It is estimated that \$3,000,000,000 of silver has been extracted from her mines since 1821. In addition Mexico has rich production of gold, copper and lead, and an abundance of low grade coal.

More precious than gold or silver to this industrial civilization of ours, which moves on wheels, are the fabulously rich oil pools of Mexico. Mexico produces about one-quarter of the oil of the world. In 1924 she was producing 2,822,000 barrels; in 1923, 149,529,098 barrels. An output of petroleum such as this is alone enough to make Mexico a power of almost first rank, in international importance.

Mexico farms, weaves and trades. Yet her exploits in these directions are not so noteworthy.

American capitalists have approximately one billion dollars—a thousand million dollars—invested in Mexico; and with this Latin neighbor, the United States does a business of about \$250,000,000 a year.

The wealth of Mexico, and the large American investments there explain why this country manifests such an extraordinarily warm interest in Mexico's affairs.

The question—when it gets down to elements—comes down to this: Who is going to control the policies and destinies of the Mexican nation?

A good deal of scorn has been heaped upon Mexicans by Wall Street newspapers, and an impression has been created that Mexicans lack talent for government.

As a matter of fact, the Calles administration is showing statesmanship of the highest order, in far-reaching vision, and practical execution. Its might has been directed toward lifting up the mass of its people; to secure a higher standard of living and more widespread education. A share in this advancement has been taken by the Electrical Workers' Union of Mexico. Brother Luis Morales, as Secretary of Industry, Commerce and Labor, has brilliantly stated Mexico's

attitude toward foreign powers. "It is quite unfair to look at Mexico only as a propitious field in which to acquire wealth without expecting to give anything in return. \* \* \* Mexico has a right just as any other country in the world to demand consideration and respect. Nations are great and respected not only on account of their material wealth and the means to defend themselves. They are great and respected because of a spirit of justice which they possess, a spirit which dictates their attitude toward the rest of the world."

**SASCHA JACOBSEN AND MME. GITA GLAZE** will participate in the concert at the opening celebration of the Educational Season, in the auditorium of Washington Irving High School, Saturday, November 14, 7:30 P. M. Tickets are free to members of the I. L. O. G. W. U. Apply at the office of the Educational Department, or at your local union.

# With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH, Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Locals 2, 3, 9, 10, 21, 22, 23, 25, 45, 48, 64, 82 and 89 was held on Friday, October 30, 1935 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street.

**Communications:**

Local No. 9 informs the Board that their Executive Board has unanimously nominated Brother Louis Hyman as general manager of the Joint Board.

Local No. 10 advises the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of September 17, 29 and October 9 and the report of the Board of Directors of September 23rd.

Local No. 22 notifies the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of October 16th and the report of the Board of Directors of October 14th.

Local No. 45 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of October 16th and have nominated Brother Louis Hyman as their choice for general manager of the Joint Board.

Local No. 82 advises the Board that they have approved the nomination of Brother Louis Hyman as general manager.

Local No. 89 informs that they have approved the report of the Board of Directors of October 14th and the minutes of the Joint Board of October 16th.

**Special Committee Report**

The Election Committee, appointed by the Joint Board, renders the following report as the result of the election of business agents and the referendum for General Manager, held on Thursday, October 25, 1935:

"Joint Board of Cloak, Skirt, Dress and Reefer Makers' Unions, 139 East 25th Street, New York City.

**Greetings:**

We, the undersigned, members of the election Committee, hereby certify that the following is a true and exact result of the elections, which took place on Thursday, October 22nd, 1935 and that these elections for business agents and the referendum for General Manager of the Joint Board, were carried through in a legal and orderly manner:

**Local No. 2**

**Business Agents Elected**

	Votes
1. Beckstein, Max.....	4794
2. Block, Abraham.....	4675
3. Katz, Albert.....	4510
4. Kruger, Hyman.....	4382
5. Furman, Al.....	4254
6. Lipkin, Louis.....	4224
7. Marks, Elias.....	4182
8. Selensick, Hyman.....	4157
9. Rogers, Morris.....	4123
10. Levinson, A. B.....	4108
11. Steiglitz, Saul.....	4063
12. Wise, A.....	4041
13. Zeldin, Samuel.....	2949

**Local No. 22**

**Business Agents Elected**

	Votes
1. Farber, Robert.....	4447
2. Goldstein, Jacob.....	4337
3. Krawitz, Meyer.....	4309
4. Zimmerman, Chas.....	4295
5. Grossman, Hyman.....	4290
6. Golos, Fannie.....	4170
7. Rotenberg, Peter.....	4070
8. Weisberg, Isidore.....	4025
9. Laskov, Ida.....	2998
10. Prepsnitz, Rose.....	2963
11. Wortis, Rose.....	2954
12. Ratford, Bella.....	2906
13. Htall, Sam.....	2649

**Local No. 45**

**Business Agents Elected**

	Votes
1. Ingalli, Alfred.....	3729
2. Piccione, Ettore.....	3659
3. Rimaldi, Vincenzo.....	3552
4. Commale, Frank.....	1752
5. Cottone, Antonio.....	1681
6. Dwell, Basilio.....	1652
7. Chiaravelli, Ignazio.....	1579
8. Carotenuto, Chas.....	1555
9. Mariconda, Michele.....	1458

**Local No. 9**

**Business Agents Elected**

	Votes
1. Bernstein, Reuben.....	4212
2. Cooper, Barnett.....	4154
3. Miller, Saul.....	4135
4. Kaplan, Nathan.....	4128
5. Herman, Philip.....	2952
6. Wilensky, Sam.....	2892
7. Skurnick, Harry.....	2717

**Local No. 89**

**Business Agents Elected**

1. Ravenna, Salvatore.....	2545
2. Liberti, Frank.....	1461
3. Landoli, Carmelo.....	1286
4. Amica, Salvatore.....	1272
5. Crivella, Antonio.....	1245
6. Olivero, Frank.....	1235
7. Cabati, John.....	1277

The following Locals have not appeared on the official ballot for the reason that they have had less than the quota of candidates:

- Local No. 3—H. Berkowitz
- 25—Louis Berszler
- 33—Max Sherman and Samuel Fremed
- Avron Ebert
- Imac Feinstein
- Denise Miller
- Shneur Scharfey
- Harry Tabolsky
- Max Tuchman

We hereby further certify that the above are declared elected. Brother Louis Hyman received 5,279 votes as against 242, and is hereby declared elected.

Respectfully submitted, (Signed)

- H. Finkelsztein
- S. Hochinsky
- L. Sommer
- E. Molteni
- S. Shally
- M. Weinstein
- L. Bigel
- Wm. Himefarb
- Max Miller
- A. Shafer
- Joseph Fish
- S. Horowitz
- Ph. Ansel
- A. Lupis
- L. Hyman
- C. Ambrosini
- Vito Catania
- Joe. Miranda
- I. Steinar
- A. Zirin
- D. Bono
- E. Moskowitz
- Ch. Landsberg
- S. Levine
- G. Spina
- A. Cohen
- W. Sadosky
- W. Hoffman
- H. Abramowitz
- Ch. Laskowitz
- S. Silverman
- H. Fried
- Herman Dreyfus

The report is approved. General Manager Hyman states that the newly elected business agents will be placed in the various offices of the Joint Board on Monday.

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Locals 2, 3, 9, 10, 21, 22, 23, 25, 45, 48, 64, 82 and 89 was held on Friday, November 6, 1935 at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street.

**Committees:**

A committee of the shop of Morris Lefkowitz appears, stating a number of grievances. But since they had not seen Brother Hyman, the Joint Board and instructed them to see the general manager about it.

**Communications:**

Local No. 3 informs the Board that Brother R. Reiser has been appointed to serve as their representative in

the Joint Board in the place of Brothr Wise, who has been elected as business agent.

Brother Reiser is seated. The same Local protests against the actions of the majority of the Examination Committee in depriving good standing members of the Union of their rights to run as business agents and maintains that this is in violation of the peace plan adopted by the International, Joint Board and Joint Action Committee and which was approved by the shop chairman of the cloak and dress industry.

Local No. 10 advises the Board that its Executive Board has decided to request the old staff of business agents to continue in office temporarily until the Local's quota will be adjusted, so that the complaints of the cutters and the other routine work would not be neglected in the meantime.

The above calls forth a lengthy discussion, after which it is taken to a vote by roll call resulting in a tie—22 for it and 22 against.

Local No. 22 notifies the Board that Brother Benjamin Miller and Sister Sarah Borner were elected to represent them at the Joint Board, replacing Brother Sacha Zimmerman and Sister Rose Wortis, who are now serving the Joint Board as business agents.

The delegates are seated. Local No. 25 informs the Board that the following delegates have been elected to represent them at the Joint Board for the coming term:

- H. Davidson, L. Davidson, J. Gerchikoff, K. Kudrinetzky and Philip Greenberg.

The delegates are seated.

Local No. 45 approved the minutes of the Joint Board of October 29th and the report of the Board of Directors of October 29th.

The same Local informs the Board that Brother Jack Prokof has been elected to replace Brother Schek at the Joint Board.

The Brother is seated.

The Russian-Polish Branch protests against the ruling of the Chairman of the Joint Board in not permitting

its delegates to vote on the question of the election of business agents. In the communication, Section 2, Article 2 of the Joint Board Constitution 28 quoted, in which it is specified that they be represented by two delegates at the Joint Board, but here is no reservation as to their voting power. They further state that their branch cannot be compared with the locals which do not pay their proportionate share of the Joint Board expenses, as their members pay this through their locals.

They request that the Joint Board decide definitely that no motion or ruling be passed by this Body infringing on the rights of their members.

The communication is referred to the Board of Directors.

The following committee on charges is appointed to replace the committee which did not serve:

Sister Halpern, Sandberg and Catania.

The following members will represent their locals on the

**Board of Directors:**

Local No. 25—Davidson

Grievance Committee:

Local No. 25—Greenberg

**Appeal Committee:**

Local No. 25—Davidoff

**Finance Committee:**

Local No. 2—Moskowitz

23—Miller

25—Kudrinetzky

Brother Antonini informs the Joint Board that a committee of the Italian labor daily, the New World, wanted for some time to appear before the Joint Board, but due to the long discussion, were unable to stay any longer. He therefore desires to state their request. This daily is being started and its first edition will be issued on the 15th of November. He requests, for the committee, that the Joint Board insert a full page ad and also request the locals to insert advertisements in this first edition.

The request is referred to the Finance Committee.

The meeting is then adjourned.

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## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel: Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President. S. YANOFSKY, Editor.  
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager.

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

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## EDITORIALS

### CONVENTION PROBLEMS

#### III.

It is probably not superfluous to remind our readers, and the convention delegates in particular, that the program adopted by the General Executive Board in October, 1925, has never been considered by them as an easily realizable object. Quite the contrary, the G. E. B. was then, as it is now, fully aware of the difficulties that would arise as they would begin the campaign for the adoption of that program. Moreover, the active and intelligent element among our workers were just as fully informed at that time as they are today that in order to materialize these demands, the Union would have to resort to means and weapons entirely different from those used in any ordinary struggle for the improvement of work conditions or for the safeguarding of labor standards.

It was thus, for instance, understood that in order to carry out this program, the Union would have, at least for a time, work hand in hand with the sub-manufacturers, who are no less the victims of the jobbing system than the workers. To put an end to the growth of the so-called "corporation" shop and to decrease the number of cloak shops in New York, making them larger in size and more controllable, the Union would have to enlist, such was the consensus of opinion among us, the cooperation of the sub-manufacturers. The leadership of the Union also knew that there is little love lost between the so-called "legitimate" manufacturers of the "Protective" group and the jobbers, and it became important to find out what best means there may be employed to gain the support of that group in a line-up against the jobbers.

Obviously, the Union's program, an industrial plan so complex and far-reaching in scope, could hardly have been made a reality by the simple process of a mere strike. A question of a raise in wages, of a shorter workday, or a similar demand may be settled by a strike, one way or the other, after a longer or a shorter fight. Our program, however, implied, first, a radical change of the whole cloak industry, the elimination of the small shop and the concentration of cloak manufacturing in some 800 or a 1,000 shops in place of the nearly 3,000 shops where cloaks are made today. Its second main object was to change the status of the jobber and make him a factor responsible for labor standards—on an equal level with the regular manufacturer in the cloak trade. Another paramount demand was the guarantee of a fixed period of employment, the first step in the direction of providing employment and a livelihood for our workers in the cloak trade all year around.

To carry out such a program force alone is not sufficient. It requires statesmanship of a high order and a policy of give and take rather than a policy of extortion by sheer strength.

Professional "class-struggles", no doubt, will be horror stricken at such heresy, such rank "treachery" to the cause of Labor as this. Should the majority of the delegates at our next convention consist of phrase-worshippers, we are positive that not only will they not contribute anything toward the solution of our program but will materially hinder it. We are certain, nevertheless, that most of the delegates at the next convention are clear headed men and women who know well enough that this terrible business of "compromising" is part and parcel of trade union practice and policy.

Our Union never has put forth any demands which it believed could not at present be realized. It puts forth measures of industrial improvement that can be put into practice at once—and this, of course, is in itself compromise pure and simple. When our Union, and for that matter any other trade union, goes on strike it seldom gains all its demands and is contented to get part of them for the time being. Naturally, this is compromise, and when a trade union submits its demands to be arbitrated by an impartial chairman it, of course, practices compromise. Trade union practice is, essentially, compromise, and that beautiful stock phrase—"a fight to the finish"—is, after all, nothing but a meaningless collection of words.

In the case of our own program it is even more important to bear these thoughts in mind. Phrases and loud mouthing will not reconstruct an industry. Such reconstruction requires sound sense and a thorough familiarity with all facts and factors of that industry. Only such a rational frame of mind and such a sane attitude may enable the convention to properly appraise all that

has been accomplished heretofore by the Union and to understand that the intervention of the Governor's Commission is not a matter to be sneered at, but a development in our situation for which the leadership of the Union should be given praise and credit, had they themselves planned it and brought it about.

But, as we stated last week already, we are not inclined to believe that, even under the most favorable circumstances, our problems will be solved without a great and hard struggle. And it is, therefore, very much in place now to point out here under what conditions such a struggle can be made relatively certain of a victorious outcome.

To win such fight, the Union would have to convince public opinion that it had not desired such a struggle but that this fight had been forced upon it as a means of last resort. Premature aggressive tactics or antics on the part of some of us, the play in soap-bubble "revolutions" are likely more to injure than to benefit our cause. Another condition precedent of success, is unity in our ranks, without which no such arduous campaign may be undertaken with any prospect or hope of victory. Factions, sects, groups—each with a policy and a program of its own would doom a stupendous undertaking of this kind in advance. The Union must cease being the football of politics and parties, it must thoroughly be cleansed of the influences which had nearly brought it to the brink of ruin. Such irrelevant question like a Labor party, or the recognition of the Soviets, which are bound to provoke sharp antagonisms, should not be made battle slogans at our convention. The I. L. G. W. U. needs, first and foremost, unity and a solid front as a trade union organization and not as the happy hunting ground for outside political influences.

Another condition is a sound treasury. Most of our locals are today in a precarious financial situation. Bad seasons, the stoppage, the internal warfare, and other causes had drained their resources. To talk under such circumstances of "a more aggressive policy" is sheer nonsense. The convention must see to it that the Union is first of all placed on such a financial footing that it is able to put up a fight if a fight becomes necessary.

But, whether such a general struggle is impending or not, our Union is daily in the throes of a fight, and, strange as this may sound to some "revolutionary" ears, this daily fight requires large expenditures. The convention should not forget this and should do all in its power to improve our financial situation, especially with the possibility of a big conflict so close at hand.

These questions are dealt with broadly in the report of the General Executive Board to the convention. The convention, we trust, will treat them earnestly and with all the deliberation they deserve, and will waste little of its precious time on the chimerical panaceas which our new-fangled "revolutionists" are given to nursing.

We shall touch on some of these all-cures, these so-called "new" slogans in our next discussion of the problems facing our convention. For the present, the most we can say concerning them is that some of them do not belong at all at a trade union convention, while the rest are the product of immature thinking and of very shallow insight into the essentials of trade unionism.

### THE RENEWAL OF THE CLEVELAND AGREEMENT

The Cleveland Joint Board, and its locals, are to be congratulated for the renewal of their agreement with the local cloak employers' association.

We know that some of the Cleveland cloak manufacturers were not very anxious to renew the agreement with the Union. Some of them, perhaps, have begun dreaming of late of a "new era", without impartial chairmen, boards of referees, shop chairmen, etc.—like in the good old days. But the Cleveland Union and its leaders apparently succeeded in impressing upon all the local cloak manufacturers the fact that those days are gone forever, that the Union is a factor which has come to stay and must, therefore, be reckoned with.

To have forced again the acceptance of this viewpoint on all the local employers, is an achievement of which the Cleveland Joint Board may justly be proud. Peace in the Cleveland market is now assured for another year, a fact which is of considerable importance at present, when the unions in the other cloak centers are not nearly as strong as they used to be in the past. True, the Cleveland organization of our workers could probably fight its own battles, but it must be borne in mind that in the event of a prolonged struggle, they might need the aid of their sister unions in other cities, and we are not quite sure that such aid would be forthcoming in sufficient measure from other places should the Cleveland fight have demanded it.

The renewal of the Cleveland contract is, therefore, good news. Let us hope that in the course of this year our unions everywhere will strengthen their positions to such an extent that the employers in any of our markets would no longer even be tempted to risk a fight for the restoration of the pre-Union period in our industry—when the employer was the lord of all he could survey and the workers mere dust under his feet.

### SEVEN YEARS OF OUR EDUCATIONAL WORK

This Saturday, the I. L. G. W. U. celebrates the end of seven years of its educational activity. Space and time permitting, we could have written a long survey of this phase of our Union's activity, which, unfortunately, is being underestimated by many in our midst.

We shall only point out here the influence of this educational work on the Labor movement as a whole. Only a few years ago, Workers' Education was quite an unheard of matter. Only few

## Basic Industries in America

By STUART CHASE

### 8. Meat Packing

One of the most important industries in the United States, both to wage-earning consumers and to farmers and ranchmen, is that called meat packing and slaughtering. It is primarily important to the consumer, of course, because it furnishes him with some of his principal foodstuffs, and to the producer because it furnishes a market for his livestock. But all this might be said of the old-fashioned local butcher. Few realize in what a genuine sense meat packing has become a great manufacturing industry, typical of modern capitalism.

The total value of the products of these engaged in the business (excluding those who butcher solely for the retail trade) was in 1913 \$2,585,808,888 or about one-twentieth of the total national income. What it paid for its materials, including fuel, was \$2,174,395,241. It is difficult to appreciate such large figures. The difference between the two—which was what remained to be divided among the workers and owners of the industry or to be paid out in overhead expenses—was \$411,497,647. Out of this sum, the wage-earners received \$167,569,106 or about 40 per cent. Out of every dollar paid by the wholesale purchaser of meat products, the meat worker received something less than seven cents.

The importance of the industry to the farmer may be judged when we consider that it turned out nearly five billion pounds of fresh beef in 1923, over three and a quarter billion pounds of pork, and about half a billion pounds each of veal and mutton.

But of course fresh meat is not its only product; less than half its income arises from this source. We all realize that the packers also sell things like cured meat, canned goods, sausage, hides, lard, tallow, and so forth. But that is not all. Every part of the animal is put through a manufacturing process so that almost nothing is wasted. Blood is dried, powdered, fed to calves, used in fertilizers and manure, used in the surface of leather. Horns and hoofs are pressed and stamped into combs, buttons, hairpins, napkin rings, umbrella handles, etc. Skin bones are used for knife and razor handles, pipe stem, dice, chess men, collar buttons and teaching rings. Hair is sold for plaster and upholstering; fine hairs from the interior of the ears are used for artists' brushes. Gelatine is extracted for cooking, for ice-cream stiffening and for clarifying beer (or near beer). Gall is used in mixing paints and inks; gall stones are sold to the Japanese for gallstones, stomach walls of calves yield rennet for cheese; pigs give forth peppin for medicine and chewing gum. Then there are over twenty classes of oil and grease, and 48 preparations for the medical profession. There is glycerin for commercial uses and for high explosives to be used in industry and war. And of course there are soap and candles.

It is no wonder that with such an elaborate process of manufacture, and such wide and varied markets, the big

establishments have crowded out the small ones to a large degree. There are something less than 1,600 establishments altogether, but of these about one-fifth, each doing a business of a million dollars and over per year, employ 90 per cent of the worker and turn out over 90 per cent of the products of the industry. And of these big establishments the majority are owned by the "big five" packers—Swift, Armour, Morris, Cudahy and Wilson. Although the industry is carried on all over the country, about one-quarter of it is located in Illinois, and over half the production is turned out in the five states of Illinois, Kansas, New York, Nebraska and Missouri. These firms engaged not only in the meat packing business as above outlined, but also control stock-yards and sell butter, eggs, cheese, etc.

The "big five" packers have been enormously profitable almost ever since they were formed, and have built up their businesses largely by reinvesting their surplus profits rather than by securing new cash from investors. Stock dividend has followed stock dividend until the holdings of the owners have increased in value many times. During the war the rise in prices of meat gave them inflationary profits, and when the deflation of 1922-23 occurred they suffered correspondingly, having bought large quantities of materials at high prices and being forced to sell them at lower prices. These difficulties, however, were only temporary.

They have often been attacked as trusts both by those who were dependent on them for a market and by representatives of consumers. A governmental prosecution at length was

ended by a "consent decree" in 1920, by which they consented to divest themselves of the ownership of stock-yards, retail business, etc. This decree, however, has never been carried out and has now been rescinded. A regulatory act was recently passed by Congress, but has never gone into real effect because the packers refuse to open their books to the government authorities in the Department of Agriculture. This matter is now being fought out in the courts. Meanwhile new mergers are being made among the "big five" themselves. They remain in absolutely dominant positions in the industry.

The wage-earners, about 150,000 in number, have not shared in the prosperity of the owners. Always underpaid for the most part, they have at numerous times attempted to organize, and during the war they succeeded in maintaining unions and somewhat improved their position under an arbitration plan fostered by the federal government. After the war, however, this plan was scrapped by the packers who defeated a strike and subsequently formed "company unions" amenable to their wishes. Meat packing employees, according to the National Industrial Conference Board, an employers' organization, received in July, 1925, an average of \$25.54 per week against \$26.31 for all industries.

Employment varies both with the seasons and with the state of business. Between 15 and 20 per cent of the total number of employees are out of work in the dull seasons. Midwinter and, to less extent, midsummer, are the busy seasons, while the slack season is in the spring.

## Who Gets the Coal Money?

Hard coal might now be called in many cities of the East, hard-to-get coal. It is therefore of interest to see who is profiting by the shortage.

Facts bearing on this question are available in a report of the Federal Trade Commission covering the period of the 1923 suspension. In 1923 the suspension was short enough so that there was little actual scarcity; conditions were less severe than now, but the fear of a shortage created a public panic which enabled prices to be raised.

The average sales price per ton of four big "railroad" coal companies—the "railroad" companies control the bulk of the production—was \$6.75 in the first quarter of 1923, a normal period, \$7.66 in the last quarter, when the effect of the suspension was left. Fourteen independent companies increased their average price per ton from \$7.50 in the first period to \$7.95 in the second, or much less than the big concern.

Of course, in the last quarter of the year the companies were paying higher wages, on account of the 10 per cent increase made by the settlement. But the Commission estimates the increased labor cost at 33 cents per ton for the railroad companies and 42 cents for the independents. This compares with a price increase of 31 cents

and 15 cents, respectively. Thus the big companies profited by the strike, while the independents lost.

Wholesalers, almost without exception, profited immensely. Their ordinary gross profit is about 25 cents a ton. Yet for one strike week their gross profits were \$1.00 a ton of more on over one-tenth of the output, and 50 cents a ton on 66 per cent. By the end of January these profits had fallen to more normal figures. These increased profits were induced by the fact that they had to pay very high prices for part of the coal they bought, but not for all of it. Yet they figured their margins on the higher prices they paid. It must be remembered that many wholesale distributors of anthracite are closely affiliated with, if not owned by the big producing interests.

The panic demand also caused much speculation by wholesalers, coal being sold and resold unnecessarily before it reached the consuming public, each time at a profit. Out of all anthracite handled in the 1923 strike period, the percentage handled by two or more wholesalers ranged from 42 per cent for the week just before the suspension to 15 per cent for the last week in the year, when the demand had subsided.

The question may arise, if a strike is so profitable to the anthracite interests, how is it of any advantage to the miners? Can they put any economic pressure on the operators by striking? Wouldn't the operators like to have the strike go on forever?

There are two answers to this. One is that the longer the strike continues, the less coal there is to be sold, and no matter how high the profit per ton may be, the lack of tons to sell will

## Pretty Soft

By GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

Just one full thousand years of loafing for two hundred and eighty-five thousand leeches in Illinois—in one industry alone—think of it. And that's pretty soft, isn't it?

Oh, don't worry. I'll show you how it is—right here.

The total supply of coal in Illinois is 238 billion tons. At one dollar and fifty cents a ton, per ton this country will yield \$37 billion dollars—profits will be equal to the present total cash value of the American Republic. This \$37 billion dollars would provide a 5,000-dollar income for 71,600 families for one thousand years,—that's right, a thousand years.

Pretty soft, isn't it? Yes, a nation of people must be pretty soft, soft-headed, to let 71,600 families loaf—on one industry in one state—for a whole thousand years. These 71,600 families, averaging 4 members per family, represent a total population of 285,600. Rather soft.

This 357 billions in profits represents a social mortgage loan by a group of the ruling class, a mortgage on the lives of the workers. For, remember, the coal, in the earth is a gift, an absolutely free gift of nature. As the workers mine and haul the coal they will create a profit, a net profit, of \$357,000,000,000.00. Thus in Illinois—in one industry—there is a mortgage of \$357,000,000,000.00 on the lives of the workers.

If the workers only had sufficient intellectual courage and self respect to investigate Socialism! But the mortgage-holding loafers stily keep the workers economically and politically soft-headed—oh so very soft—by feeding them cheap and noisy lies about Socialism.

Pretty soft. Pretty soft!

What of periodic joblessness inherent in the industry; while now the union has addressed itself to the operation of the International Union Bank, one of the strongest of the labor cooperative banks, and the erection of garden apartments in crowded New York City. These and the various educational and social activities of the International have received a thoughtful treatment in Dr. Levine's book, which we commend as a model for future union historians.

eventually counteract the gains to the operators from high prices. The other answer is that the largest companies are closely affiliated, through banking connections if not directly, with the anthracite-carrying railroads. They take their profit not merely from the mines but from carrying the coal. But if there is less coal to carry the railroads suffer immediately, because they cannot immediately increase their rates, which are controlled by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Gross revenues of the seven anthracite railroads, even in September, 1925, when there was still much coal to be moved, and their net earnings declined 30.8 per cent. This is where the shoe pinches most, and it is what will in the end be likely to carry the most influence for a settlement on the part of the operators.

## Step By Step

Step by step the ingest march how 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. Single stone, singly none."

interested themselves in supplying adult workers who had been robbed of their chance of a schooling in their youth, with information and the smattering of an education. Our International Union has been since 1917 the pioneer in this field and it has found a path for Workers' Education which the whole Labor movement is now following.

We congratulate the Educational Department upon the beginning of the eighth year of its work, and we hope that it will continue to gain greater headway among the masses of our workers in New York City and elsewhere.



# EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



## Some Courses This Week

### SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

By Alexander Fichandler

Mr. Fichandler's course in "Social Psychology" is being given every Wednesday evening, 6:30 A. M. in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street. The lesson lasts one hour, from 6:30 to 7:30. Our members who work in the neighborhood should take advantage of this convenient hour which leaves the rest of the evening free to themselves. We expect mem-

bers who are not working at present to attend also. It is not too late to join now.

Admission free to our members.

**CLASSES IN WORKERS' UNIVERSITY TOMORROW, SATURDAY, NOV. 14, 1:30 P. M., Washington Irving High School, Room 538.** Introduction to "A Social Study of Literature" by Professor Emory Holloway, 2:20—Introduction to course in "History and the Worker" by A. J. Muste.

## Classes in English at Unity Centers

Our members can still join the classes in English which have been arranged in our Unity Centers in various parts of the city. They are located as follows:

- F. S. 25—338 E. 5th street.
- F. S. 61—Crotona Park East and Charlotte street, Bronx.
- F. S. 43—Brown Place and 135th street.

P. S. 71—103rd street between Madison and Fifth avenues.

P. S. 150—Christopher avenue and Sackman street, Brooklyn.

English classes are organized for beginners, intermediate and advanced students.

Later on we expect to give in each Unity Center, courses in Economics, Sociology and Trade Union Problems.

## A Social Study of Literature

By Emory Holloway

Introduction to Course to Be Given at Workers' University of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Saturday, Nov. 14, 1:30 P. M., Washington Irving High School, Room 538

**Lesson 1.** Two fundamental concepts exist as to what a writer should attempt: one is that he should paint an ideal, an imagined existence, affording thus an escape from the dullness and injustice of actuality; the other is that he should photograph that actuality with realism so stern as to inspire the reader to rebellion and reform: To do justice to either kind of books the reader must compare them with life itself. While no work of art can live long without beauty, yet no literary work has a satisfying beauty so long as it is divorced from what is strong, natural and lovely in life.

The present course of six lessons will present a study of representative writers, from colonial times down to vital books of our own day, as the simplest method of making comprehensible the great changes of thought and aspiration which have dominated American history, and the economic, social, political and intellectual conditions which brought about these changes.

Franklin and Edwards will first be studied, complementary exponents of

the two characteristics which have always made the American character a paradox to the world—the power of energetic adaptability to practical conditions and the tendency to dream of an ideal world, an ideal humanity. These traits will later be traced as they fuse in writers like Emerson and Whitman, Irving represents the American giving his first memorable impression of love for the land in which he lives, though fearful of its democratic experiment and bemoaning its lack of dignity and old-world charm. In Emerson the American spirit looks forward rather than backward, the idealism of the Puritans is translated into homely philosophy and morality, the "wagon is hitched to the star". Hawthorne puts the mysticism of Bunyan to the test in concrete stories: like Irving he suffers from that restlessness which leads to romantic escape from ill-fitting moral and social inhibitions. Two carries this protest against reality to its greatest extreme. Whitman on the other hand is able to embrace reality because he has jaded from Puritan idealism on the one hand and from evolutionary science and philosophy on the other, as well as from intimate contact with many phases of life, that there is a "power not ourselves" but in us which "works for righteousness." More mystical than Emerson, more courageously scientific than Franklin, he is the apostle of human brotherhood, national and international.

## The Philharmonic Concerts

This year, as usual, our Educational Department has made arrangements with the Philharmonic Society, where

by our members may obtain tickets for concerts at reduced rates. We have just received the coupons entitling our members to this reduction, but the coupons must be exchanged for tickets at Room 1081, 113 West 57th Street, any day from 9 to 5 and from 9 to 12 on Saturday.

The next concert will be Sunday afternoon, December 13 at three P. M. in the Metropolitan Opera House.

Apply for coupons at the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

**Opening Exercises of The Educational Activities of the I. L. G. W. U.** will take place on Saturday evening, November 14, in the auditorium of Washington Irving High School. This event will be celebrated with a concert and dance. Prominent artists will participate.

## Weekly Educational Calendar

I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING, 3 WEST 16TH STREET

Wednesday, November 18

6:30 P. M. Alexander Fichandler—Social Psychology.

This course will consist of ten lessons and will be continued on Wednesday evenings.

**WORKERS' UNIVERSITY**

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street, Room 538

Saturday, November 14

1:30 P. M. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature. This course will consist of six lessons, and will be followed by a course in English literature to be given by Mr. B. J. R. Stolper.

2:30 P. M. A. J. Muste—The Place of Workers in History. Mr. Muste will give the introduction to his course on Saturday, November 14, but the remainder of the lessons will be given Sunday mornings. The course consists of ten lessons.

**AUDITORIUM OF WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL**

Saturday, November 14

7:30 P. M. Concert—Opening Celebration of Educational Season. Saasha Jacobsen, violinist and Mme. Gita Glaze, soprano will participate in musical program.

After the Concert there will be a Dance in the Gymnasium.

**UNITY CENTERS**

English classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, have been organized for our members in the following Public Schools:

- P. S. 35 335 E. 5th St., Manhattan.
- P. S. 171 103rd St., between Madison and Fifth Ave.
- P. S. 43 Brown Place and 135th St., Bronx.
- P. S. 61 Crotona Park E. and Charlotte St., Bronx.
- P. S. 150 Christopher Ave. and Sackman St., Brooklyn.

## Union Health Center Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

Large Throng Visits Opening of Two New Clinics

On Thursday, November 5th, the Union Health Center kept open-house in celebration of its fifth anniversary. Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, shop chairmen, union officials, representatives of the Amalgamated Food Workers' the Painters' Union, Musicians' Union and other labor organizations walked all day through the newly equipped medical offices of the Union Health Center inspecting this unique institution.

The second floor of the Union Health Center which had formerly been the office of the Dental Clinic, is now converted into large medical examination rooms. Visitors to the Health Center last Thursday, were amazed at the remarkable facilities which the Center offered to its workers of New York. Among social workers who came to see the new clinics were: Mr. Robert W. Bruere of the Survey, Mr. Walter Pettit of the New School of Social Work, a representative of the Cornell Dispensary and of the Bellevue Hospital, Mr. Harry Wander, Mr. Brodouchowits and a number of other members of the Board of Directors of the Union Health Center received the visitors.

On Friday, November 6th, the Dental Clinics at 222 Fourth Avenue, celebrated its official opening. The features of this opening was a special program of speeches from dentists and union officials interested in the work of this new undertaking. Dr. George M. Price, Director of the Union Health Center, made the introductory speech and told of the hardships of building up a Health institution which workers could feel was their very own. He described the history of the Union Health Center from its very beginning and showed how important a part dental work was in its development.

Dr. Arthur M. Hunter of the Dental Division of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, spoke on the importance of dental prophylactic work and the new era in oral hygiene. He congratulated the Dental Clinic of the Union Health Center on being one of the first workers' clinics in the country and indicated that he hoped the new clinic would mark an era of more intensive prophylactic work among the workers.

Miss Fannia Cohn, Vice-president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, next spoke on the importance of such institutions as the Union Health Center when owned and operated by workers. She declared that the Union Health Center marked one constructive experiment successfully undertaken by workers and run for their benefit. She further urged that the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, continue their interest in and cooperation with this remarkable institution.

Dr. Martin J. Loeb made a brief speech on the value of the undertaking of the Dental Clinic.

Among visitors present at this celebration were: Dr. James Warshaw of the Cooperative League of America, Dr. Gillette, Dr. Brown of the Oral Hygiene Committee of the Woman's City Club, and Miss Terwilliger of the New York Tuberculosis Association.

**GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY!**

The Office of the International, 3 West 16th street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase.

"The Women's Garment Workers' at half price—\$2.30.

## The White Menace

By NORMAN THOMAS

The League of Nations as between European people seems to be becoming a useful agency of internationalism. Toward non-European peoples it has been almost impotent for good, if not a positive agency of imperialism.

The best illustration of this fact is to be found in the utter failure of the League, up to the time of writing, to bring the French to book for their infamous conduct in Syria, which country they hold nominally on a mandate from the League. The French Governor-General, Sarrail, having provoked unrest and open revolt in Syria by his blundering militarism, actually ordered the bombardment of Damascus. With no shadow of military excuse he destroyed large sections of one of the great historic cities of the world. He gave American citizens no notice of his intention so that even the outrageously pro-French American Ambassador Herrick was compelled to protest. We know no act of Germany in war so indefensible. Yet the League has done nothing. The Great Powers which brought Greece and Bulgaria to time will do nothing. America will scarcely make effective protest in behalf of her own citizens. And why? Simply because all of the big powers wish in race and capital-ism in economics are turned with the same dirty imperialist stick. The real danger to world peace is not the Yellow Peril but the White Menace.

### The United States and the League

The Locarno treaties and the vigorous action of the League in preventing war between Greece and Bulgaria ought to go far to commend the League to doubtful Americans. We believe that the time is coming fast when America might with mutual advantage join the League, not because the League is perfect, still less because it is of itself a sufficient guarantee of peace, but because it shows genuine signs of becoming an agency of internationalism as between white nations. There are conditions which we believe America should lay down—conditions which at some more appropriate time we may discuss.

Again we would remind critics of America's so-called isolation policy that by staying out of the League the United States refrained from underwriting the triumphant allied imperialism in the days of late following Versailles. Without the United States the imperialists in the League could not use it as an instrument for enforcing a wicked peace. Gradually Europe has been forced to return, if not to reason, at least to a less violent insanity than was manifest at Versailles. She has been putting her own house in order faster than if she had had Uncle Sam to call upon. This wholesome process continues for some time longer without injury to world peace.

"The world needs gas (that is, poison gas) more than any other one thing to preserve law and order." Who says so? Some Hun? No, Major General Friess, head of the Chemical Warfare Service of the U. S. A. He has prepared a nice cheerful little booklet telling all about how to use various kinds of gas in foreign war and domestic strikes. You, and I, brothers and sisters, pay for it.

### Peace Between France and Germany

The work done by the British, French and German diplomats at Locarno did something to undo the mischief done at Versailles and was an

important step toward peace in Europe. Whether the treaties there drafted will be ratified is not yet entirely certain owing to the downfall of the French government on financial questions and the opposition of the Nationalist Party in Germany to the treaties.

Assuming, however, that the treaties will be ratified, we have an agreement between France and Germany which almost amounts to the outlawry of war along the Rhine which in the last two thousand years so often has mirrored frightful carnage between neighboring peoples. In case the treaties are broken and the demilitarized Rhine zone is crossed by the armies of one nation or another, Great Britain and Italy will come to the help of the innocent nation. The machinery of the League of Nations is to be utilized for the settlement of disputes.

Germany also signed arbitration treaties with Poland and Czechoslovakia. These are less satisfied because while Poland and Czechoslovakia keep the French alliance, Germany has no promise of support if these nations attack her. Meanwhile, it is hard to believe that the very artificial boundaries imposed at Versailles can continue to exist without creating serious quarrels. These east-ern treaties therefore are less of a settlement of issues than a sign of a new spirit between the nations.

What Germany gains under these treaties is recognition as an equal in the council of the nations and an end of fear of French aggression in the West. She has probably also been assured privately of the rapid evacuation of the Rhineland and of certain special considerations when she joins the League of Nations. All this is tremendously worthwhile and greatly diminishes the likelihood of war in Europe. Moreover, it makes the League of Nations more nearly an agency of true internationalism, at least in Europe, instead of a camouflaged league of victors.

One dangerous weakness, however, still remains both to the League and to the success of these new treaties. Russia is absolutely ignored. Yet, whatever you think of Russia, Russia cannot be ignored in any pact involving the peace of Europe—least of all a pact in which Poland is concerned.

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## РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

### В ОТДЕЛЕ.

Незамысловатое жюри соборно Русско-Польского Отдела, составленное в повелениях 9-го ноября и числящимся 315 Нет 10-ая ж. с присутствием около 400 членов, приняло с большим усердием. Было сделано много рефер, которые, за малым исключением, были изумительного характера, и, как видно из результатов голосования, имели обратное действие на членов, ибо когда дело дошло до приема кандидатур в правление Отдела, новые люди, к которым принадлежали ораторы, отказались принять на себя ответственность ведения дел Отдела на 1926 году и Исследовательский Комитет Отдела был оставлен за малым исключением, на старых работников.

Некоторый шумлява, правда, был произведен при приеме кандидатур на должность секретаря Отдела, на кандидатуры которых пришли кандидатуры четыре члена жюри, а именно: В. Рымановский, П. Петровский, А. Суляга и Н. Шевченя.

Собрание началось с чтения протокола Исследовательского Комитета Отдела от 2-го ноября, в котором были изложены некоторые изменения в процедуре выборов, а именно, что вице-председатель и депутаты в Дювет Борд должны избираться общим большинством, а не Исследовательским Комитетом, как это было в прошлом году. Протокол был принят без поправки.

После этого секретарь Отдела Шевченко доложил о работе за весь прошедший год. Секретарь доложил, что через комитет Отдела проведено 482 заседания, включившая жюри по стране, состоялось 19 раз митингов, сделано 73 заявления в мастерские. Секретарь также доложил, что за это время было напечатано 92 номера разного характера, выслано для членов Отдела около 1200 экземпляров страстного сообщения, переведено и доложено собранию 38 протоколов Дювет Борда и 37 протоколов Совета Директоров. Собрание Русско-Польского Отдела состоялось — 11-м. Ком. 21 в объекте 22.

Когда было приступлено к обсуждению порядка дня, возникла разногласия в отношении конституции Н. Ю. П. Ж. О. Секретарь Отдела заявил, что в конституции следует внести поправки, а именно, избирать отставку и выбирать комиссию. Тов. Суляга заявил, что сначала надо номинировать кандидата, а потом избирать отставку и выбирать комиссию. Собрание решило поступить по конституции.

В отставку и выбирать комиссию избрали товарищи: Русак, Березовский и Маневич.

После этого было приступлено к номинации правления Отдела на 1926 год.

Кандидатуры в председатели Отдела принесли тов. В. Котиня.

Кандидатуры на заместителя

секретаря Отдела принесли тов. В. Рымановский, И. Петровский, А. Суляга и Н. Шевченко.

Кандидатуры в депутаты Дювет Борда принесли товарищи В. Котиня, А. Давидович и И. Зверожский.

Кандидатуры в Исследовательский Комитет доклада 35-го принесли товарищи Н. Пилд, А. Новичкий, И. Бабяк и В. Мардичевский.

Кандидатуры в Иск. Ком. доклада 2-го принесли тов. А. Садюнский.

В Исследовательский Комитет Русско-Польского Отдела кандидатуры принесли товарищи В. Котиня, А. Давидович, И. Зверожский, Н. Пилд, В. Мардичевский, А. Новичкий, И. Бабяк, А. Садюнский, П. Суляга, А. Имановский, В. Ковский, Н. Давидовский, Н. Суляга, А. Арлеинский, С. Шия и А. Амановский.

На собрании также был принят вопрос об организации отдела службы печати, как и Отделом думали. Перед голосованием этого вопроса секретарь Отдела объявил собранию, что этот вопрос подлежит рассмотрению комиссии жюри и что отдельные комитеты и отделы не имеют права устанавливать правила, не согласующиеся с правилами конституции жюри. После этого тов. Суляга сказал следующее: мы по этому вопросу предлагаем.

Тов. Березовский сделал предложение переименовать название отдела, которое было принято большинством присутствующих членов и с помощью голосования было принято.

### ВНИМАНИЮ ВСЕХ ЧЛЕНОВ ОТДЕЛА.

Последние Отделом письма членам возвращаются в большом количестве за неправильными адресами. Во избежание этого просим членов, которые Отделом просит всех членов сообщать в комитет о правильном адресе.

### ОБЯЗАТЕЛЬНО ПОСЛЕЩЕНИЕ ЧЛЕНАМИ СОБРАНИЯ ЮНИОНА.

Доводит до сведения всех членов Русско-Польского Отдела, что администрация нашего союза решила, что все члены должны посещать собрания своего отдела и что некоторые комитеты или члены штабы на заседаниях собраний, или эти штабы в том случае как не будут возвращаться.

### ВНИМАНИЮ ЧИТАТЕЛЕЙ БИБЛИОТЕКИ РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКОГО ОТДЕЛА.

Мысль о товарищеской библиотечной державке является нам в читательские книги по 3-6 в больше месяцев. Такое отношение читателей совершенно разрушает порядок и вызывает перестройку библиотечной и совершенно уничтожает ее ценность, тем более, что выбор книг библиотечной является очень ограниченным.

Поэтому комитет Отдела просит товарищески возвращать в библиотечку Отдела книги, которые выданы им в державке более назначенного времени.

В противном случае, согласно правил библиотечной, книга будет инвентаризирована читателям будут объявлены виновными в вето.

Секретарь И. Шевченя.

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# The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

The action of the Executive Board in requesting the previous staff of business agents to serve temporarily in the Joint Board until an adjustment of the situation with this organization is made for the regular staff was approved by the members at the meeting of last Monday night, November 9th, by a vote of four to one.

Those of the members who urged concurrence in the action of the Executive Board stated that this proves that the action is not antagonistic towards the Joint Board, but is rather intended to serve the best interests of Local 10 and the Joint Board. While the members saw this to be the effort by Local 10 the Joint Board, it may be said with regret, did not come to the same conclusion.

The action of the Joint Board at its last meeting on this question resulted in a tie vote and the local is forced to go another week without business agents pending the outcome of the action by the local executive boards to whom, in accordance with the accepted procedure, the matter is now referred.

While a great deal of interest has been displayed by the membership when the question of business agents to the Joint Board was taken up, nevertheless, the attention from that subject was entirely detracted when an unexpected incident occurred. This was the announcement by Manager Dubinsky that with the close of the present year his election as manager ceases, and that he will not accept nomination for re-election when this matter comes up at the next meeting, two weeks later.

## Another Expression of Confidence in Administration

That Dubinsky's announcement came as a shock was evidenced by the fact that for a time only silence greeted it. Later, however, during the course of his discussion on the question of business agents and when he said that the vote on this question would be taken as signifying one of confidence or a lack of it, the real feeling was expressed when the overwhelming majority of the members voted for the action of the Executive Board and roundly applauded the manager upon his conclusion of the discussion. The genuineness of the feeling of the members showed more forcefully when after the meeting hundreds of members gathered around him and urged him to change his mind.

"I want to make it clear," said Dubinsky following the announcement of his intention as respects holding office, "that although I have enjoyed the confidence of the membership of Local 10 at all times and my policies as well as those of the administration have always been upheld, I never wavered, nevertheless I have come to the conclusion that I shall not accept office any more."

Dubinsky, during the course of his remarks, quoted from various leaflets in which the invisible clique which is passing under the name of "progressive cutters" and is skeptical about the successful work of the present administration is looking for a "goat" upon whom to throw the blame for any failure that the new Joint Board may make, and already insinuating that the leaders of the organization have gone so far as to combine with the police, the underworld, and manufacturers' associations, in order to frustrate the future efforts of the union. They apparently expect that by these efforts they will demoralize the confidence of the cutters in the Administration and their loyalty to the

organization and create mischief between the cutters and the other crafts in the industry.

"And if this clique," Dubinsky said, "by their leaflets and other propaganda, have the approval of the leadership of the Joint Board, who constitute the present administration of the Joint Board, and should they have any inclination, because of my heading Local 10, to hurt the interests of the cutters, then I firmly intend not to accept nomination again."

"I owe it to the membership of Local 10 for the respect, confidence and appreciation they have given me on so many occasions, that I should not be the cause of any possible injury to them."

## Membership Ignores Lies About Local 10 and Its Officers

How the membership feels on the question of confidence in the administration of the local was easily seen when Dubinsky, during the course of his remarks, read to the members a viciously lying article in the Jewish organ of the Communist party. This article purports to be a report of a meeting held by ex-officers of the Joint Board together with Dubinsky, at which the questions of an organization detrimental to the union was discussed; in fact, according to the article, the organization was already accomplished.

It was not necessary for Dubinsky to say that he had not seen those ex-officials for weeks, and some for months, for when he read excerpts from the article the members joined him in the laughter which the reading elicited.

## Joint Board Fails to Fill Quota

It was the question of business agents that consumed the greater part of the business of the meeting.

The members are no doubt familiar with the important phase of this matter. It was taken up at the previous meeting and was the subject of the report in these columns last week. No candidates for the office of business agent for Local 10 appeared on the ballot of election in the Joint Board. Neither Nagler, Permuter, Frubling nor Sachs, filed his application as candidate for the coming term.

## Members Insist That Business Agents Serve

When a week passed and no sort of an adjustment had been made for representation of business agents for the local in the Joint Board, The Executive Board authorized Manager Dubinsky to send the following letter:

Mr. Louis Hyman,  
General Manager,  
Joint Board of Cloak  
and Dress Makers' Unions.

Dear Sir and Brother:  
I am directed to inform you that the Executive Board of Local 10, at its session on Thursday, November 5, 1925, was informed that following the installation of the new business agents of the Joint Board, the previous staff of business agents for Local No. 10 did not report to the office.

## Statement by David Dubinsky Manager, Cutters' Union, Local 10, I. L. C. W. U.

In the "Fretful" of November 9, there appeared an article in which, among other insinuations, irresponsible junk and calumny, it is stated, in the form of a "spy" story, that some two weeks ago I, together with some persons, who were formerly active in the Cloakmakers' Union, have formed a secret organization to consist of members of Local 10, former Local 17, and Local 35, with the object of secretly conspiring and undermining the organization, and to break down the power of the "lefts".

This Communist sheet, having utterly failed in its eighteen weeks' campaign of slander to present any tangible material against Local 10 and its officers, has finally decided to resort to this "spy" story, which cannot be substantiated by any living person.

The Communist sheet, in printing this fake, clearly intends to injure the cutters' organization, to smash its morale and to disrupt it as they had demoralized some of the other locals. The Communists know that the cutters will not read the filthy attacks, but their aim is to feed the other workers in the cloak and dress shops on such wild and crazy stories so that they might indirectly demoralize the cutters and incite them against their officers and their local.

It is hardly necessary for me to tell the cutters and to every other honest and fair-minded cloak and dress maker that this "spy" story in the Communist sheet is an infamous lie; that it has no foundation in fact, and that it was fabricated wholly with the malicious intent to disrupt our local and drag it down into mud and disrepute, and to create mischief between the members of our local and the workers in other crafts.

I am making this statement not because I think it is worthwhile making denials of any of the scandalous fakes that appear in that Communist sheet. This filth does not and cannot touch me personally. But I have in mind some of the cloak and dress-makers who might be misled by such wild stories, and for their sake I deem it my duty to nail it down as an obnoxious lie and as a part of the general campaign of the Communists to discredit our Union and to destroy the cutters' local as they have demoralized every other union on which they have laid their grasping hands.

This Local No. 10 was left without business agents in the Joint Board for the present.

The Executive Board, therefore, decided to request the old staff of business agents to continue in office temporarily until the matter of Local No. 10's quota will be adjusted, in order that the complaints of the cutters and other routine work are not neglected in the meantime.

Fraternally yours,  
(Signed) DAVID DUBINSKY  
Manager-Secretary

Those of the members at the meeting who had uppermost in their minds the welfare of the union could see no objectionable features in the letter. Julius Kwait aptly characterized the letter by the statement that "his communication of the Executive Board is a step toward cooperation between Local 10 and the Joint Board."

## General Manager Recognizes Craft Peculiarities

When this communication was read to the Joint Board at its meeting on Friday, November 6th, General Manager Hyman, in urging the Joint Board to adopt the terms of the Executive Board of Local 10, admitted the existence of a condition peculiar only to the cutting trade.

In stating the case for the local before the Joint Board, Dubinsky emphasized the fact that whatever the method towards filling the quota of business agents for Local 10 may be, a temporary arrangement is absolutely necessary in order that the welfare of the local and the Joint Board is not neglected.

He pointed out that no good reason had as yet been offered against the staff which served the Joint Board previously. No one questioned the ability of the previous staff. Dubinsky warned the Joint Board against pursuing a policy of forcing a staff of officers upon the membership of Local 10 or upon any other local, who have not the confidence of their constituents.

It was after the remarks by Dubinsky that the general manager was consulted to admit the immediate necessity of the services in the Joint Board of an experienced staff of Local 10's business agents. Hyman said that the communication of Local 10 could not be rejected, for whatever steps were to be taken in the future, he sees in the meantime need for the services of the previous staff.

This need is emphasized by the handling of such questions peculiar to the cutters as overtime, week work and division of work. Nevertheless, in spite of the appeal of the general manager, his own followers at the Joint Board ignored his appeal, and the request of Local 10 was deadlocked by the Joint Board, and until the locals will act upon this the cutters' union continues without business agents.

## Prestice Necessary for Cutters' Welfare

More than one effort was made by some of the opposition to force a statement that Local 10 proposed to break from the Joint Board. The members, however, were warned against falling victims to these hysterical remarks and the statements in the circulars, that it is nothing more than an effort on the part of the so-called "left" element to stir up the other crafts against the cutters and create mischief and an uproar in the local.

## Miscellaneous Members to Make Nominations

At the next meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch, which takes place in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, on Monday, November 16th, 1925, the members of that division will be called upon to nominate their quota of candidates for the Executive Board of the local. The members are urged to attend the meeting.

# CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Special Miscellaneous Meeting... Monday, November 16th

Nomination: Candidates for Executive Board

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place

Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.