The Ladies’ Garment Worker, Volume 1, Issue 5

Description
First published in April 1910, *The Ladies’ Garment Worker* was the official publication of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union (ILGWU) through 1918. The journal appeared monthly and included sections in English, Italian, and Yiddish. *The Ladies’ Garment Worker* was discontinued at the end of 1918 and replaced in January of 1919 by the new weekly journal of the ILGWU, *Justice*.

Keywords
International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, The Ladies’ Garment Worker, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States, English, Italian, Yiddish, Jewish

Publisher
International Ladies’ Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU)

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Owing to our staff having been busy on the various Committees of the General Strike, our August number had to be postponed and is unavoidably late.

HOW THE CLOAK MAKERS OF NEW YORK CELEBRATED THE 4th OF JULY.
control individually. This circumstance
and comfort. Even when they are
wages tend downward, owing to one
ployers are wont to say there is always
employers generally feel that the
usually tell them it is not a fact. Em­
many laborer in America. Employers
is the manifestation of the over-tupply
is that some one else is frequently will­
to seek it until he finds it, and then he
employers! far more labor power than
is the merchant. He sells a commodity.
conditions in America to-day, in all
another as they offer their commodity,
such as—to guarantee all the steady
labor, in the market.
and may in instances be the salvation
union works is simplicity itself. It has
Given one hundred and ten competing
have been described thousands of times, but
by the discussion of details, the gossip
The trade union is the best instru­
REducing labor cost.
An article in the Saturday
Evening Post Mr. James H. Coll
points out a method which both
employers and employees will be found
in better arrangement of working hours.
Within a generation it may become a
common practice to rotate groups of
workers in the average industrial
plant, instead of one shift working over­
time five nights a week, which is large­
ly the present method.
The other day an impatient essayist,
seeking for the good old times that prob­
ably never were, made the general as­
sertion that every labor-saving contriv­
sen by man the past century,
sufficient to maintain those
in the character of one of its foremen,
may be conducted by sending employees to the com­
plan by which he may improve his
plan was tried in a way that kept the
second shift started at 11 P. M. and w.irked
A. M., finishing at 3:30 P. M. A sec­
ond shift started at 1 P. M. and worked
ning nominally on an eight or ten-hour
work as it will during regu­
near unionism. It is often obscured
character or motive of another.
when some of the most progressive manufac­
Germany, and in the latter country
man is not afraid of an honest m
who makes an honest, straight fi
not stand slanderous abuse. 1 •'
Why should an honest and ablest minds, Snd above all, nci •
who makes an honest, straight fi
man is not afraid of an honest m
not stand slanderous abuse. 1 •'
Why should an honest and ablest minds, Snd above all, nci •

BEWARE OF HIM.
Beware of the fellow who in­
ences but does not make an honest
is he not only dishonest, but is a coward at heart, with a
perverted mind as well. The
church, fraternal, social and labor
organizations are frequently rent
asunder by the miserable pervers
en who can stand against the
character or motive of another,
without any reason or foundation,
except personal spite or aggrandise
ment. He is a moral degenerate
who seeks to create discord, had
blood and finally dissension and
disruption. Fortunately the best
lement in organized labor have be­
come accustomed to these people
and their influence is largely de­
stroyed. Good men, however, are
frequently driven out of organi­
sions simply because they are
constituted that they cannot or will
not stand slanderous abuse.
The movement needs all the best and
ablest minds, and above all, the
honest men as officers. The home
man is not afraid of an honest man
who makes an honest, straightforward
charge against him, but he is
one is safe from the miserable,
ceptable neutral in the race, who is
always making insinuations and
ally without any foundation upon
which to base them, and has
more to retard progress than an
other agency in operation.—En
change.
THE FIGHT FOR THE UNION.

The dressmakers' brave fight has reached the second stage. It is now not merely a fight for better conditions, but a determined stand for the recognition of the union. This alone can insure the permanence of any concessions wrong from reluctant employers.

At the recent conference the manufacturers' representatives would, very possibly, have come to terms upon the question of wages, hours and other demands. Such concessions would leave them very much in their old position. They could easily make the continuing public pay over and beyond every additional dollar which higher wages and shorter hours would cost them.

But to recognize the union would mean giving these concessions a lasting character. It would mean giving the union the right to watch that these new gains remain intact and inviolate. It would mean that the union would acquire the power to enforce its constancy; and would clearly mean that the boss would be deprived of the power he would despise to mold his employees at will, to dictate their wages and their hours and thus virtually control their very lives.

Hence, the wide world over, capitalists, trusts and bosses fight so bitterly against the recognition of the union. For more than a century they have been in the habit of keeping numbers and masses of workers in subjection, bodily and mentally. Backed by courts and judges and fortified by the laws of their own making, supported by priests and by that section of society which derives its power and influence from Labor's toil, they have hurled a sort of divine right over their helpless "hands" and are naturally both to give it up.

The individualism of the nineteenth century has fostered and firmly sanctioned this anti-social fight under various disguises: "individual liberty," "freedom of contract," "sacredness of property." Such were the high-sounding phrases with which the possessing classes and their paid supporters have covered a multitude of sins of oppression and tyranny practised against the helpless laborer.

But those times, the dark ages of labor, have gone, never more to return. Progress has been gradual and slow but sure. We are now in the twentieth century, at a time when organization has become the watchword of all parties and in all sections of the community. It is the one word which makes for progress all round. All human agencies throughout the civilized world have adopted and are striving to attain it in a more perfect form every year. Without organization there can be no success and no progress.

Even more so has organization become the hope, nay, the salvation of the working class—their sole weapon and only source of protection against the immoderate, wealth-amassing appetite of the employing class. The rich may help themselves with money, but the poor have nothing but their labor force and the power afforded them by joining with their fellows in a strong and effective organization.

While the benefits of organization have been generally recognized in every sphere of life; while in national and international commerce, industry, scientific research, education and government the cry has ever been organization and efficiency, organization as a right and privilege has been only sparingly conceded to the toiling wealth producers.

Again and again has this right been curtailed and taken away by all manner of legal guile; their leaders and organizers have been persecuted and imprisoned under conspiracy laws and restrained by injunctions from carrying out what may be called a law of human society in an age of competition.

Within the shop and the factory of whatever trade, organization is strongly insisted on, and the employer will grudge no expense to attain it in a high degree. This is because he feels that the stronger the organization is the bigger his profits.

When, however, the employees combine with their fellow workers in the trade, in order to secure their due share of the wealth produced, and to maintain and defend their rights, the employers use every means, fair or foul, to prevent, to hinder and destroy the trade union.

Yet, Trade Unionism has come into its own, and has remained a powerful weapon. It has become a national institution and a power to be reckoned with. Not a year passes without registering an increase in its numbers and in the extension of its influence. At every strike public opinion is seen to range itself more and more on its side. It has won all along the line. It has been steadily advancing and hardly receding. Just as its present influence is greater than its past so will its future influence be greater than its present.

Therefore, for employers and trusts to raise the cry of non-recognition; for cloak manufacturers to say that they will not recognize the union, is as though to say that they do not recognize the advancing tide or the coming of tomorrow. The plea is fast becoming obsolete and will soon appear extremely foolish. Too soon it is discarded the better it will be for all parties concerned.

Properly considered the union shop may become far more beneficial even to employers than the open shop. This will be borne out by the large number of employers who have introduced it. The union shop is capable of producing harmony and discipline, thereby accelerating production. In the open shop friction and ill-will between one employee and another must constantly arise, thereby impeding production.

The employer who is jealous of the influence of the union, using the open shop as a means of weakening its power, only succeeds in fostering strife and hostility, which ultimately injure his own interests. In reality he is but an intense egoist who cannot endure the idea of giving up his undue domination over his employees.

The great progress of Trade Unionism is due to the fact that in this democratic country the more the people are becoming enlightened the less they will stand any kind of domination, either political or economic.

A. ROSECRANS.

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES.

Poor factory inspection and its relation to an increase in occupational diseases in the United States was recently discussed by F. S. Hoffman, statistician for the Prudential Life Insurance Company before Cornell students. He thought the tendency in the United States toward occupational diseases was on the increase.

"We find," said he, "the proportion of the persons employed indoors is on the increase, and the proportion of those employed in the open is on the decrease. If we do not want to reproduce the conditions in Europe we must take time by the forelock and see that the danger is understood by the public, by the employee, and the State. Where facts are studied it is possible to bring these dangerous causes under absolute control. But any such programme requires trained minds.

"The average factory inspection is done by men who have not sufficient training, and who have not studied the trade they are inspecting, but seize the idea that anything could be gained by it. In Europe the inspecting is done by highly-trained men. In Germany, where prevention of occupational diseases is so very important, the causes of diseases and the methods by which they may be prevented are studied closely. In this country there has not been a single treatise written upon the subject.

"But we are beginning to wake up. Massachusetts published a report on the unsanitary conditions of the factories of that State, and New York has made reforms, although as yet they are only crude ones.

"Wherever there is a great deal of ill-health there is also a great deal of dust. Dust is the most injurious of all. If you look into the work of the steel grinder you will find that in this country the wheels turn so that the steel and stone fly directly into the air and thus get into the atmosphere. In Europe the danger of this was seen and the wheel reversed, so that the dust goes to the ground.

NEEDED LEGISLATION.

Women.*

The Brandeis Brief.

Mr. Louis D. Brandeis, the distinguished Boston lawyer, who, as is well known, has given his services to the State of Illinois in defence of the ten-hour law, has filed his brief with the Supreme Court at Springfield. Along with his own he bears the name of Miss Josephine Goldmark, who has collected most of the material. The legal points are not dwelt upon at any length, nearly the whole of the volume, which contains 250,000 words, being devoted to evidence and illustration gathered from all over the world as to the injurious effects of long hours upon the health of women. The brief, which is one of the most remarkable legal documents ever put forth, and certainly most interesting reading, is to be published by the Russell Sage Foundation, which has borne the necessary expenses involved in its preparation.

* Note—This book should help on the agitation for the eight-hour day for both men and women.
Why the Conference Failed?

MEYER LONDON explainS.


Mr. JULIUS HENRY COHEN,
Attorney for the Cloak, Suit &
Skirt Manufacturers' Protective
Association.

Dear Sir:

It has been impossible to submit your proposition to the organization because of the limitation of time you have imposed.

I cannot recommend the submitting of the question of wages and hours to arbitration. Any reduction of wages or lengthening of hours would necessarily affect those who have already returned to work on union conditions, and there are about 18,000 of them.

Should we consent to a reduction of wages without creating a new classification in respect to skill, the members of your Association would be enabled to engage in unfair competition with those who have already signed the union agreement.

In order to prevent such unfair competition it would be necessary to lower the wages of those who have already returned to work under union conditions, and to insist that the members of your Association pay the scale of wages proposed by the union, or agree on a new classification in regard to skill.

I wish to say that the scale of wages represents the minimum, and that before the strike such wages were paid in many legitimate houses.

You cannot ask the union to consent to a reduction of wages.

Nor is it desirable that the conference should result in the appointment of another conference or Board of Arbitration. As it is, the prolonging of the conference has prevented hundreds of manufacturers from reaching an understanding with the union.

I realize that in order to make the concession of the employers permanent and to permanently remove the evils of which the union complains, and the existence of which evils has been conceded, such as tenement house work, sub-contracting, night work, charges for electricity and material, discrimination and oppression against the employee-conscious of his rights, and in order to establish a living and uniform standard of wages, it is necessary that there shall be an organization of the employers and an organization of the workingmen, and that the two organizations shall cooperate as far as the law will permit to eliminate the "sweat" shop boss and "sweat" shop conditions.

If your people mean well, and I am willing to admit that all of them do mean well, there should be no objection to a union shop. Our people fear that the establishing of what you designate as an experiment, a system where the employer is to be the only one to decide the question of the respective abilities of the union and non-union men, will enable the unscrupulous manufacturer to discriminate against the union man, so that his factory will become an open shop for the non-union men and a closed shop against the union men.

I ask you to agree with me that there are very few employees in the cloak industry who are in principle opposed to belonging to the union. In most cases a non-union man, in the cloak industry, means one who has no consciousness of his rights as a man, who, having become accustomed to the low standard of living prevailing in other countries, is willing to work for any wages that the employer will offer. It is just this very man that we must educate and uplift. It is just this very man that we must get into the union, so that he may learn to fight intelligently for his rights and not become the helpless victim of the "sweater." Let us not deceive ourselves. It is this helpless, ignorant workingman who enables the greedy, unscrupulous employer to compete with the honorable manufacturer who has a sense of right and wrong, and thus force down the standard of living.

Of course, under no circumstances will our men consent to work with the professional strike-breaker. It is impossible to conceive a more contemptible creature than the man who makes it his business to break strikes, irrespective of the merits of the strike.

The union is an open union. Its initiation fees are small, and no man of good character is excluded from its membership. It has been made clear at the conference that the $500 in installments of $50 the union has never asked for the per month.

right to control the employer's business, nor does the union expect the employer to collect dues or to take upon himself the performance of the functions of a shop steward or union delegate.

If you can advise your client to reach an understanding with the union on the questions of wages and hours, and to agree to the employment of union men, as long as the union is in a position to furnish men who can do the work required in a competent manner, I will not hesitate to recommend that your proposition, thus modified, shall be the basis of a settlement of the strike.

Unless my suggestions meet with your approval I fear that the submission of your proposition to the organization will be a mere matter of form.

Very truly yours,

(MR. JULIUS HENRY COHEN, Attorney for the Cloak & Skirt Manufacturers' Union.)

THE NEW MOTHER

(Prize Song by E. Block.)

Oh! the nations have been toiling
On a steep and rugged road,
Resting oft by stream and mountain
Beneath the heavy load.

Gazing toward the coming freedom
From the anguish and the gloom,
For the hope has led them on
In the western strong republic,
Where skies are pierced through and through
With a light of nobler foresight,
Life becomes rich and true,
And a mightier strength is given to the hands that strive and do.
While the hope still leads them on.

Mother, prophetess, and holy,
Through the ages of the clan,
Uttering words of potent wisdom in the ear of struggling man.

Woman rose and strode beside him
With the hope that led them on.
Kindling hope that led him on.

Now again that voice is ringing through
The ever-brightening air.
And her wakened heart is calling unto fair.
That shall weave the robes of beauty
Which mankind in peace shall wear.
Since the hope is leading on.

Forth they step and march together
With the man and woman go.
To the places of vast achievement where unfettered rivers flow.
And their work shall stand exalted and their eyes shall shine and glow.
With the hope that led them on.

There are two brands of wisdom, the compulsory and the voluntary.

What's your brand?

Telephone 2697 Orchard.

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NEW YORK
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THE ONLY REMEDY FOR SURFEIT

Cloak Maker:—A bad case of excessive grubbing, sir; and since prolonged abuses require drastic measures, this is the only remedy that will prove effective.

DREAM OF MIGHT BE

Politics! Incidents Likely to Occur—True Blue Union Candidates Transformed for Election Purposes Now in Our midst.

The candidate presented himself to the audience of union men.

"I am a friend of organized labor!" he exclaimed.

"Have you a union hat?" asked a voice.

"Well, yes, you see, this is a made-over hat, and the label is lost; but I have always sympathized with the laboring men."

"Have you a union label in your coat?" inquired another auditor.

"M's coat is made by a union man, I assure you. At any rate, by a firm that always treats its employees right and pays them well."

"Where was it made?" called out another.

"By, gentlemen, this is very annoying," said the candidate. "I assure you that I have always been..."

"Show us the labels, then," replied a score.

"I move that a committee of three, Mr. Chairman, be appointed to retire with the candidate and report if he has even three union labels out of eleven he could have."

The motion carried unanimously.

The candidate retreated without waiting for the committee.

This might be called a dream, but it would result in a large number of candidates buying union clothing, even if union men do not, if this was applied a few times.

THE AROUSING GIANT.

(By A. M. Kinney, Seneca, Kas.)

Hark! To the low, threatening murmur
Filling the air with its sound;
Ever growing louder and firmer,
'Tis the giant Labor awaking,
Bursting his shackles and chains;
All his false idols forsaking,
Learning to think with his brains.

For ages this giant has slumbered
In misery and suffering untold;
Been starved and beaten and plundered,
His life blood congealed into gold.

In wars his sons have been slaughtered
For their master's pleasure and fame;
His daughters and wives have been bartered
Into lives of disgrace and of shame.

But, 'see! A new star has risen,
Shining boldly out of the gloom;
Lighting up the giant's dark prison—
To masters a herald of doom.

Even now this giant is trembling
With hope and strength newly found;
The bars of the prison are bending,
He is hurling his chains to the ground.

He has heard that bold declaration
Of freedom from bondage and pain,
Proclaiming a new dispensation,
Demanding that Justice shall reign.

His pulse is jumping and throbbing.
New blood coursing his veins with a rush;
Never more will he answer the crack of the lash.

Yes, the giant at last is arousing,
Ignorance will bind him no more.
His masters amidst their carousing
Will soon see his hand through the door.

Twill not be extended in pleading,
But clenched as a sign to foretell
The freedom of toilers succeeding
This awful industrial hell.

—United Mine Worker's Journal.
Lo sciopero dei Coats and Skirt Makers di New York.

Tutta una massa enorme, 30 mila circa, al primo ordine di mettersi in sciopero; i clot e skirt makers abbandonano il lavoro e con entusiasmo si schierano contro i padroni, nella lotta per il pane, nella lotta per l'affermazione dei propri diritti.

Il sciopero fu preparato da lungo tempo, i pianeti e i mondi di lotta erano stati studiati attentamente, l'attacco fu fatto nel tempo opportuno, a dieri furono scelti attivi e competenti uomini, l'entusiasmo regnava in tutti, e su l'entusiasmo centra il Comitato generale di vinceri, di assicurare ai sarti quei diritti che invano sperarono. 

Stimato il sindacato, ma i diritti che invece sperarono a lungo tempo, dall'Unione che vive dal lavoro; e che si gettano nella lotta con animo fortemente di inizi, da tutti con coraggio ed eroismo dovuto ad infinito da il voto di fiducia rinata in essi per il futuro; critica questa che stringa, che disrigan di scabia, no il serto della vittoria, della pace e della felicità dei contadini e di quelli che sono rimasti nel terreno della lotta.

Gli, i primi effetti, le prime vittorie parziali che hanno messo a posto più di 30 mila scioperanti, hanno dato i risultati positivi richiedendo oltre al minimo di salario, anche a maggiore controllare lo sciopero e sostituire quelli che sono rimasti sul terreno della lotta.

Sappiamo che mentre la lotta non è finita ancora, anzi fiero prejaziono, perché i colossi di questa industria hanno gettato la sfida che gli operai raccoglierei impauriti, qualche padrone che ha rispetto la fazione, interpera a modo suo il contratto, ma sappiamo che il Comitato dello sciopero agisce energicamente perché il contratto venga rispettato, e si terrà di controllare due a sciopero in un altro.

Lo sciopero, abbiamo provato che se lo sciopero non era tanto grande, i combattenti sono non diversi per razza, per lingua per religione, procede ordinato, senza perdere per un solo istante l'obiettivo, per cui il loto senza aver mai obbligati in alcun modo.
לפי הוראותfersפראט

けれ פיקוס 17.5

שאלה בעלות הועצה

ר"י מסדר-פרותרוןزع "ר"י גרדן קנו""
ורט לודג'ס במקורות הירקון

מהו הביטחון של הירקון? יニア?
א. ברכת שבת ליל

ץ"א ידוהי סופר הדרקן
THE LADIES' GARMENT WORKER
PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION
AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.
A. ROSENBERG, Pres't
J. A. DYCHE, Gen'l Sec'y

GENERAL OFFICE, 11 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK CITY

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זאבותוט מלובסטר העלב העידונו ואביימע זא די נ쁨סטנטש ששלפר

יֵשׁ אֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה דָּרָשֶׁתִּים לְשָׁמוֹן מֵאֲשֶׁר לֹא בָּאָכְחוּ לֵיהוּ דְּרָשֶׁתִּים לְשָׁמוֹן

יֵשׁ אֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה תְּמוֹנָה לְשָׁמוֹן לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה

בֵּית בָּהָר לֶהוּ הָאָכֶל שָׁמוֹן לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה לָאֵלֶּה תְּמוֹנָה

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