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Justice (Vol. 1, Iss. 20)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments
Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of Justice were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of Justice shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of Justice.
Victory! Victory! Victory!

The settlement committee did some very hard work at the conferences with the manufacturers, but it had little difficulty with the General Strike Committee and the entire body of the strikers. All provisions of the agreement have been adopted enthusiastically and unanimously. The principal features of the agreement are: the introduction of work throughout the industry; a work week to consist of 44 hours; a minimum wage for all workers employed in the cloak industry. In the case of cloak operators and reeferers the minimum wage is to be one dollar per hour, or 44 hours per week. The wages of workers of other crafts in the industry are to be proportionally increased. Practically every worker will get a weekly increase in wages amounting to 4 dollars. Overtime work is to be paid on the basis of time and a half. The agreements that some workers had with their employers by which overtime work was to be paid double the normal, are to be considered as still valid.

Each and every cloak shop must be a Union shop and only union workers may be employed there. The rules and regulations covering the work and conduct of the workers of the individual shops must be drawn up jointly by the employer and representatives of the Union.

Association manufacturers must register with the Union all the contractors and sub-contractors doing work for them and guarantee the same union conditions in the subsidiary as in the principal shops. Moreover, the Association Manufacturers guarantee the wages of the workers employed by their contractors. Every case of discharge, for whatever reason, must be settled within 48 hours after the time of discharge. If the manufacturer refuses to abide by the decision his shop is to be declared on strike. In case of a shortage of help and upon the failure of the union to furnish it the manufacturers may, with the approval of the Union, hire apprentices and helpers.

No cloak manufacturer may employ fewer than 14 "machines". No manufacturer may do work for a firm against which the Union declared a strike. All cloak workers are entitled to six and a half legal holidays with full pay. If a legal holiday falls on Saturday the workers who celebrate Saturday at the Sabbath day are to get Sunday off with full pay.

During the dull season, if there is not sufficient work for all, the work is to be divided equally among all workers as far as such division is practicable.

The agreement between the committee and representatives of the manufacturers has been enthusiastically and unanimously ratified by the General Strike Committee and later by the entire membership. There is not a point in the agreement but spells victory.

The workers have won all along the line. They won their demand of week work — which is the greatest gain, which is the realisation of the Cloakmaker as a craftsman who has been hoping for these many years and which at last is a fact. A minimum wage of wages has been won for all workers and it is much higher than their average earnings in the past. And it must be emphasized here that the minimum wage is really a premium, for many workers have already signed agreements with manufacturers by which they will get $90, $70 and even $80 a week. Following is the minimum wage for various cloaks and garments in the cloak industry:

CLOAKS, SUITS, REEFERS AND DRESSES.

Operators, $41; Cutters, $89; Top-predictors, $50; Bottom-predictors, $86; Piece-tailors, $35; Finishers, $35; Finishers' helpers, $25; Button makers, $25; Examiners, Pinners and Markers, $35; Bushlers, $25.

SKIRTS.

Operators, $42; Cutters, $34; Top Predictors, $25; Basters, $30; Drapers, $15; Button hole makers, $1.10 per 100 button holes, the employer to furnish machine, silk and finishing.

The agreement provides for a Board of Sanitary Control and for various improvements in the shops.

Then comes the great victory — the 44-hour week with only 10½ hours overtime in the heat of the season. This means the complete emancipation of the Cloak Maker from the inhuman slavery during the busy season.

Many more demands have been gained, chief among them is the fact that from now on every employer must reckon with the Union and admit a considerable control of his business in so far as it affects the workers. Thus the manufacturers must register their contractors and be answerable for them to the Union in every respect.

Equal distribution of work during the dull season is another of the important gains.

After this the Cloak workers will have given some thought to their present victory and they will agree at least with their former struggle against a great idle and impressive as they may have been.
Tuesday evening, May 31, 1916

THE ESPIONAGE ACT AND STRIKE

The situation in the capital of the American Federation of Labor reports a remarkable case where the Espionage Act was applied against a striker.

A negro, named Dennis, a foreman, was caught by the workers, said to his colleagues that he would not be a bad idea to strike. The railroad where he and his gang worked was used to carry troops, and the head of the government issued an order to the President of the Espionage Act, because he ordered the government in 1917. Of course, was quite innocent of the charge. He wanted to get Dennis for a foreman. But the judge did not see it in this light and the negro was sentenced under the Espionage Act.

THE STRIKE IN WINNIPEG NOT SETTLED YET

Many attempts on the part of the government both of the city and province of Winnipeg, has so far ended in a fiasco, and the strike is still on. The strikers have decided that the workers renounce the principle of the sympathy strike. On the other hand, the workers have organized the collective bargaining and the recognition of the unionization of workers, on the other hand, maintain that the sympathy strike is all too often used as a weapon to be abandoned, and they demand the employers the unconditioned right of entering into the union.

At the same time the city government notified the postal and telephone workers and the strike leaders that if they would not return to work immediately they would be considered as fired, and that they would be hired to take their places; but the strikers refused to return, and whatever the strikers did not return.

Volunteers offered their services to take the place of the strikers, to work around the railway stations, to work around the windows, and little progress has been made. Moreover, when the workers of the Canadian government learned of the strike, the government took steps to protect the railway workers. If they carried out their decision, the workers of Calgary, Edmonton and other cities of Western Canada are now on strike.

It is also possible that the strikers will be retained by their railway workers.

Government authorities are determined to crush the movement in the city of Winnipeg, as a revolt against the government, since an organized movement would create a political system. The strike leaders deny that they have any sympathy for the labor movement, and that the strike is an attempt to create a independent union. The strike is clear and their side is just and they will fight until the end.

The government holds several regiments in readiness in case of necessary to use them. Winnipeg is quiet, perhaps too quiet, because everything there is at standstill.

TWO GREAT MEETINGS

Two great meetings were held in Madison Square Garden last week. The meeting of last Sunday day was called to protest against Allied intervention in Russia and and the foot soldiers of this country. At the foot soldiers of this country. Alfred, Fredric C. Howe, U.S. Commissioner of Immigration, was the chairman of the meeting. Among the speakers were Dr. J. Warner, Dr. G. M. Woodrow Wilson, and others. The resolution was adopted to the effect that we should fight and right ourselves for United States, violating especially the special section of Wilcox, because the resolution of United States, right of self-determination is promised Russia.

At a similar meeting which took place the day before, thousands of persons protested strongly against the Prohibition Act. The Chairman of the meeting was Edward N. Hannah, president of the Central Federation. He urged the workers to demand of the Republican and Democratic parties to give personal and moral support to the American Labor Party. Other speakers spoke in the same vein. One of them said, "There are serious questions regarding alcoholic drinks is a moral question which has nothing to do with law.

A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SPY LAWS

Barring the large vote in the House of Representatives in favor of equal suffrage for women, there are many indications in the Senate to the measure, the Congress has not yet accomplished its purpose. Meanwhile there are rumors to the effect that it will soon set about the task of suppressing 'Reds' and spy laws and immigration law may be passed against them; and if this would not be enough, it is planned to continue the Espionage Act in operation in the hope that it may be possible to strengthen the immigration law.

It is thought in some quarters that both of these measures are not quite American in character and are contrary to our democratic principles. President Wilson refused to sign such an anti-immigration bill, but if he signed it this time even Wilson will not hesitate to sign it. It is, indeed, unsafe to believe that the American people are open to all kinds of dangerous Bolsheviks.

Besides, Samuel Gompers, and with him the entire American Federation of Labor, are thoroughly against the anti-Russian movement. They would want all immigration stopped for a period of two years.

As to adapting the Espionage Act for peace times, this task was undertaken by members of Congress who know something about these things. Among them are Hon. Abraham of Philadelphia, Attorney General Palmer, Congressman Davis of Ohio and other prominent leaders of their kind. They may be relied upon to pass a law which will give the 'Reds' no living chance. It is only one chance that they may make the law too good, so much so that we will still have a red terror; but even so, the danger is not very great. In times like these the less talk the better.

ENGLAND FAR FROM CALM

England is still in a state of turmoil. According to recent reports, there was some disturbance with the harmony between Capital, Labor and government which has an important position in the world, and which gave rise to the opinion that England is an exception and that the present economic system would be revolutionized there in the most peculiar manner. All reports from England are very brief. Whether they are abbreviated in the American situation, there is no question that in England, matters little. But short as they are, they are sufficiently long to give us a good view of England, for it is very restless, if not critical.

This, thousands of discharged soldiers and sailors marched to the Parliament with stones and other missiles, and the police succeeded in dispersing them. Later the same unemployed men marched to the Buckingham Palace.

Peace is near. The peace conditions are worked out. The Germans will probably sign them. The first demands were made by the Germans.

And there is a legend for you. When our president for the first time expressed the fact that he was working for the peace in the peace deliberations an old Indian Chief came to him—so the newspapers state—and asked him to sign the peace and smoke the pipe of peace.

The Indians have a custom of giving the white man the first pick of making peace; then sit in a circle and smoke the pipe of peace pipe from mouth to mouth. The Indians are saying that it is said. They know of no tricks. They can smoke the pipe with the bury the war hatchet. They smoke the pipe of peace and the war, but the Indians recognize in the Indian savages certainly know nothing.

The former Indian Chief, the first of the genuine Americans, the 100 per cent American, decided that America needs a pipe of peace at the Paris Conference. But he forgot that a pipe will be buried in Europe, and from this—the legend—goes—all the trouble originates from this.

And when Poland is dealing blow to Ukraine and Romania and Galicia, and the Germans are demanding better terms against Russia and when on the eve of the world war between Italy and Jugo-Slavakia and of all against all, it is the beginning of a war that has not been buried.

Properly speaking, we have half peace for some time, since almost all have been imposed, since six months. But the Paris Peace Conference, is the peace of the kind of itch. The disease was developed in the trenches and bat- battlefields and it spread throughout the world, especially affecting the Paris Peace Conference.

The truth of the fact that it is not a disease. The person affected is in every way, is satisfied with the victory and glad of the peace. But he feels a half of the peace.

Germany celebrated her holiday of the Revolution and the revolutionaries hailed her as a celebrated victory and strength. And Russia glorified in Socialist Revolutions, and it is the same with us. And the same is true of Italy, Poland and all of them.

It is true that the war originated from the war and the like war itself cannot be got rid of.

This itching was later complicated by the influenza disease, also a heritage of the war. People cried and shed tears, as if they were evil and shed tears. They danced in jubilation over the victory.

And all this is probably because the Indian Chief forgot to smoke the pipe of peace and also to bury the war hatchet.

We return to the point. We have peace.

The peace conditions were adopted by the delegates from the Peace Palace which consists of mirrors throughout. And wherever a peace conference is to be held, there is a peace face, and all others present would

Peace is From the Yiddish of A. Vogelver

Irene is the victory and glad of the peace. But he feels a half of the peace.
Either a different character.

No signs of the old were visible. In this march of the clockmakers one felt the certainty of their early triumph.

With calmness and dignity they bear witness, with the profound realization that they are fully entitled to their demands.

And again I think of the three great historic marches of the clockmakers within the last decade. I think of the realization that each of these "peaceful" marches has added a glorious page to the history of the labor movement.

500 Scientists Join Federation of Labor

Five hundred scientists and technologists met in this lecture hall of the U. S. National Museum at Washington and voted by a large majority to affiliate, and I stand on United Federation of Employees, with the American Federation of Labor. The gathering included botanists, zoologists, physiologists, pathologists, physicists, psychologists, and various other research workers employed in such branches of the Government as the United States Geological Survey, United States Army, United States Bureau of Animal Industry, and Entomology, in the Department of Agriculture, Standards in the Department of Commerce, and Patents in the Department of the Interior.

As I look at the marchers I recall the last two historic strikes of the clockmakers, of 1910 and 1916, and before my mental vision rises up vividly scenes of those strikes.

I see before me the march of the same clockmakers in 1910. I see them leave their shops with hesitating steps, with bent heads, and a wandering, wan look in their eyes. No self-confidence, no faith in their own power—the same that 50,000 organized workers can wield.

The scenes shift rapidly before me, and I see another march, a tens of thousands of workers marching in every part of the city. There is anger in their eyes, there is bitterness and resentment in the very cadence of the marchers. This is the directed action of the workers, who, after a prosperous season in the course of which the employers had made millions in dollars for their employers, the latter locked them out of their shops and refused to renew contracts. The workers renounced their Union, which they had built up at such sacrifice and labors, were impotent enough to demand that the workers renounce their rights to be united in their own action or through it to join the organized labor movement which had aided them in their struggle, and to the elementary human rights and had given them a position of prestige in society.

I see them marching with firm steps with a determination to the end. The employers to fight till victory. This was the clockmakers' reply to the impotence of the clock manufacturers in 1910.

The march of the clockmakers on Wednesday, May 14, 1910, was
Editorials

Cloakmaker Victory at Hand

At the time of the present writing we are not yet in a position to announce the end of the strike. The conferences between strikers and the representatives still continue. When they will come to a close the tentative agreement will be submitted to the strikers to pass upon. For this reason, it is not possible to say the exact day and hour when the strike will be officially declared at an end.

But the progress made at the conferences warrants the prediction that the end of the strike will be near indeed. We are in a position to state that both sides have seen the handwriting on the wall and are ready to state the principal questions at issue, and that the remaining differences, though of a serious nature, will in all likelihood not stand in the way of a final and complete settlement of the dispute.

A Timely Warning

Evidently we have been mistaken. We thought that the current strike was the natural result of the stage of mental infancy, and that it is time for him to put away those early impulses and take up higher studies.

A recent meeting of the Ladies' Waist-Makers' Union at the Webster Hall, at which we were present, made us realize our mistaken notion. We have come to the conclusion that most of the debaters who boast of belonging to a "Workers' Council of the Waist and Dress Industry" who consider that their present progressive, and have not the least conception of trade unionism.

At this point we have resolved to begin again from the first page of the primer. We are sure that a J. B. C. C., who are many of these workers of their unfounded views which are so common to the end of the essential union activities.

But this we do not intend to attempt to present. We will devote some space each week for this task; and we hope thereby to make it easier for more intelligent union men to discern the difference between a number of our readers. From this we give our earnest warning to the "Workers' Council". We call you members. Until now the Union treated them with generous degree of tolerance. They were deprived of their right of opinion, they were even allowed to make use of the union platform for their "preachers" pulpits, more than any others, and we are in a position to tell you that this is maladroit obstruction of the Union; and they are even going as far as maliciously slander the Union members, by further lies on this question, the worst lies under their feet. At this point there is no more room for tolerance.

We cannot yet go into de- tails, but it is safe to say that the recommendations of the "workers' council" is a threshold of a great epoch-making victory, which will justify the amount of revolution, by which the present strike is generally designated.

The paragraph begins: "The workers of the Associa- tion may discharge his workers under the following conditions:"

It is obvious to all who have any knowledge of the facts, that the use the Union cannot go on with its work if the duties are not performed properly. The "council debaters" did not attempt to prove that the Union can go on with its work if the duties are not performed properly. Members of a Union who are cynical enough to state publicly that they are not interested in the Union to whom they belong; members who do not understand their responsibilities toward the Union and who laugh and jeer when the payment of their dues is suggested, such members need not be expelled from the Union, for with such persons the Union can carry out its obligations to its loyal members. All such ememies are hoping for its destruction.

We, therefore, warn these persons not to turn to be corrupt or hired agents of the manufacturers, but merely to repeat the absurd words and phrases in paral- lel, without grasping their mean- ing. They have got too far with their mischief. The prestige of the Union is at an end. Our enemies have eaten, and they will have good cause to regret their conduct.

The strike is on a hand bill recently issued by this "workers' council". It is entitled: "To the Waist and Dress Industry. Just read what mem- bers of a union permit themselves to say about their own union: "Comrades! Our long strike is over. But we gained not. Notwithstanding the efforts of our official leaders to convince us of the correctness of our attitude, the strike ended in a mean compreme- mise, for by the agreement the strikers have been compelled to accept anything they can send any work- er away from the shop. This vir- tue in reality is an admission that the strike ended as badly as the case of the late Union leaders.

Take for instance the practice of the International of making contracts with the manufacturers and contractor associ- ations. As a result of it, twenty thousand workers are denied to their shops leaving only 5,000 in the field to conduct the hard struggle against the Manufactur- ers' Association."

Well, on the surface of it, it may have been a part of the demand, but in reality it is a lie. The Waist and Dress Makers' Union properly work under any industrial conditions which have but jettison in common. One is the dress indus- try, the other is the manufacturing industry. As long as the strike broke out, the manufacturers of both the industries were not willing to agree to the demands of the Union. Therefore, it is evident why the Union should let 27,000 workers to go on strike. For, with their idleness they could remit aid to the remaining 8,000 who were employed in an entirely different industry.

On the contrary common sense would have dictated a return to work by and contributing a certain per cent of their earn- ings to the Union. For the workers, who go on with their strike as long as necessary. No secret was made by the Union at these meetings. The other leaders explained it at many meetings; and these in- clude the strike is to make explicitly that an employer may discharge a worker only under certain conditions, which means that the right to discharge is nei- ther absolute nor can it be exerted administratively.

And now, you, syndicists, read, fury.

"The first two weeks of the em- ployment of any worker shall be his trial period and there shall be no discharge of any workers during the trial period. In case a worker is discharged after the trial period the discharged worker shall be entitled to, review of the case shall be brought before an impartial chairman."

But it is established whether the discharge was just or unjust... and in case of the above-mentioned rules in the case was unjust, it must be dealt with in accordance with the union's constitution.

Shortly after the strike was called the Union received the news that the union's strike did the difference between the discharge of workers for Union membership. Without hesitation, we will not take up time to repeat what we then wrote. This is a good reason to make a statement to the effect that the Union suffered a crushing defeat that day. It is not impossible that any time discharge any of their workers in a base, vile piece of slander which the Union people vil- icate. Such syndicists would be dealt with summarily in the Legislature, and they would not be in a position to do any more blundering. But here we tolerate such creatures, and a new opportunity is given them before them only because they libelers and slanderers garner them into the fold of the name of "workers' council."

The entire hand bill is full of lies, and one important to point out is only more case of idle and baseless demands in the idea of "workers' council". It is important to point out only more cases of idle and baseless demands in the idea of "workers' council".
Concerning the decision of local 25 to raise the membership dues and the obstructions of a few extremists.

The wage maker strike cost our Union upward of half a million dollars. About $220,000 was paid out in strike benefits alone, $125,000 was spent to stop the work of the country shops and no less than $40,000 was spent on bail, court, lawyers fees, and fines in connection with 3500 arrests that took place during the strike. When the financial report of the strike, now given to the Union, is made public we will first have an idea of how expensive a war the wage makers waged and won.

It is quite natural that the present conditions of the country 25 should be rather deplored as a result of a strike of this magnitude. Some of the manufacturers are taking advantage of the present financial condition of the Union and are dodging the control of the Union.

To remedy this the wage maker Union decided to raise its dues $2 a month, an increase of 45 cents per week, an increase of 3 cents over the present dues.

Little effort is required to spout about a "seizure" and a "council of war," about "enemies" in the waist and dress industries. The waist and dress manufacturers are not scared or even impressed by these empty phrases. To make them consider the provisions of the agreement quite a different weapon is needed—a strong Union and wealthy treasury.

I, therefore, urge every shop chairmain and chairwoman to see to it that the workers of their shops pay their arrears in dues. The new rate of dues will soon become effective and those who will have failed to make good their arrears by that time will have to pay in accordance with the new rate.

We are facing a situation upon the manufacturers that we are going to make them observe the provisions of the agreement and submit to the control of the Union. This will be the first step in the right direction if necessary the recent strike will not have been the last.

Brothers and Sisters! The future is ours. But we will take possession of it not by phrases and pious wishes but by organization and unity.

Benjamin Schlesinger, President, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
ON THE ROAD TO THE UNIT HOUSE

Some years ago the author of this article took a brief vacation in a small town in the country. He was there to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life and to enjoy the simpler pleasures of country living. The town was a small, rural community that offered a contrast to the author's urban existence. He spent his days exploring the woods and fields, and his evenings socializing with the locals.

The town was not unlike many others in the region, with its small stores, churches, and schools. The author was struck by the simplicity of life in the countryside, and he was grateful for the opportunity to experience it firsthand. He returned home with a renewed appreciation for the beauty of nature and the joys of a simple life.

JENNIE M. MATAS

MINIMUM WAGE LAW IN THE DISTRICT

The minimum wage law, which was passed by the United States Supreme Court in 1918, is a law that establishes a minimum wage for workers in the District of Columbia. It was passed to ensure that workers are paid a fair wage for their work.

The law guarantees that workers are paid a minimum wage of $10 per hour. This ensures that workers are paid a wage that is adequate to support themselves and their families. The law also prohibits employers from paying workers less than the minimum wage.

The minimum wage law has been a critical piece of legislation in ensuring that workers are paid fairly. It has helped to improve living standards for workers and their families, and it has contributed to the overall economic stability of the District of Columbia.

CANADA TO TRY AN IM

The Canadian government recently announced plans to try an international shipping policy. The plan aims to address the issue of international shipping by reducing the cost of shipping goods.

The plan includes measures such as the creation of a single customs authority, the introduction of a single customs document, and the implementation of a single customs tariff.

The plan is expected to make shipping more efficient and reduce the cost of shipping goods.

SHIPYARD MEN TO STICK

Shipyard workers are not expected to go on strike this year. The workers have agreed to continue working under the terms of their current contract.

The workers have been fighting for better wages and working conditions for several years, and they have been successful in gaining some of their demands.

The workers are pleased with the outcome of the negotiations and are looking forward to a stable and prosperous future for the shipyard.

UNITED PRESS TIED UP

The United Press is a news agency that provides news and information to newspapers, radio stations, and other media outlets. The agency has been losing readership and advertising revenue in recent years.

The United Press is hoping to reverse its fortunes by introducing new products and services, such as online news and mobile apps.

Construction Projects Held Back

According to statistics gathered by the Department of Labor, there are now being held up for various reasons 2,200 public projects, approximating more than a billion and a half dollars in construction.

There are also in a small city 2,200 public projects, Illinois worth approximately $12,500,000.
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PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS.

2 MEETINGS OF CUTTERS UNION LOCAL 10

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DRESS AND WAIST BRANCH

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Monday, June 9th

Meetings start at 7.45 P. M.
at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place

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The Dress and Waist Branch of the Cutters Union is Local 10 is completing plans for the control of shops in the dress and waist trade. This districts will be apportioned, among the busiest agents and then will begin a survey of the conditions as they exist under the agreement signed recently.

This is the first time that the trade will be completely controlled since the general strike. Up to now the office was flooded with complaints for back pay. Seldom since the dress and waist branch was organized were there so large a number of complaints filed. The agreements signed with the independent employers and with the Dress Contract Manufacturers' Association provided that pending the final settlement of the strike with the entire trade, the increase in wages shall be retroactive to the date when the agreement was signed.

UNUSUAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS

Wherever there are cutters who were retained since the signing of the agreement there was little difficulty in the collection of back pay due. The greatest difficulty was experienced in cases of cutters who were hired after the signing of the agreement and laid off before the final settlement was effected. In such cases the employers were, surprisingly, of the opinion that cutters thus laid off were not entitled to the increase, hence the difficulty. However, up to date every such complaint filed has been properly adjusted.

In the coming control the office expects to find a few cases where cutters did not as yet receive their back pay, partly because the notification went out by the union did not reach some employers and the cutters are ignorant of the provision, and partly because of individual understandings between cutter and employer. In the former cases the official will notify the employer and will secure the amount due the cutter, and in the latter cases the employer will be compelled to pay the necessary amount and the cutter will be dealt with according to the Executive Board:

RIDING UNION OF EMPLOYERS

Another problem that will very likely confront the agent is to compel employers who have recently entered the dress business to establish proper sanitary and working conditions. A number of these employers are very sure to be the new members of the cutters' union. It has come to the attention of the organization that quite a number of cutters have entered the dress and waist business. The union has already formed an executive board to do their own cutting for the first few months of their new endeavor has been abolished and the business agents will insist upon their resignation and the employment of a union cutter. In order to effect this more thoroughly the Executive Board has decided to have its Attorney visit the Hall of Records at least once a week with the view of uncovering cutters who have become employers and still retain their membership in the union, and insist upon the hiring of a union cutter.

CONTRACT ASSOCIATION AND THE UNION

As to the gains—one of the factors largely making for them is the creation of the Dress Contract Manufacturers' Association. The organization of this class of employers has somewhat solved the problem of placing cutters to work where employers were in the habit of doing the cutting. Among the provisions in the agreement with this new association is one which makes it a violation of the agreement for an employer to cut. Thus far the union has had the proper co-operation in the carrying out of this clause. This also made it possible for the organization to place cutters to work in quite a number of shops which formerly could not boast of cutters.

IMPORTANCE OF WORKING CARD

The membership will recall that when the 81 tax was decided upon by the membership the Board decided to charge this weekly tax against every cutter whether or not he was employed at that time. This assessment has been in force for ten weeks. Should a cutter prove to the satisfaction of the office that he has not been working these ten weeks, he will be credited accordingly. However, a number of men failed either to procure a working card when they started to work or return it when they were laid off. And the furnishing of the necessary proof generally resulted in a good deal of trouble for some of these men.

Another result of the failure of some cutters to secure working cards is underpayment of wages. As the agreement has been drawn an employer is required to pay the cutter in accordance with the scales written on the working card. Hence where cutters fail to secure a working card they usually find it difficult to secure their proper scale of wages, which results in the filing of complaints.

CUTTERS LIABLE TO FINE

It can, therefore, readily be seen how important it is to secure a card. Aside from this, failure to secure a card is a violation of the Union rules and cutters are liable to fine. In order to avoid all this it cannot be too strongly urged upon the membership to observe the provisions of the union's rules.

The Business Agents have been instructed by the Manager to look up cutters who fail to have in their possession their dress books and working cards. Hence every cutter is urged to have his working card and union book with him in the shop during the coming shop control.

MEETINGS

Reports of the coming investigation will be rendered at every branch meeting, as well as reports of the trade and the dealings with the employers.

Cutters are urged to attend the coming meetings, one of which will take place Monday evening, June 7th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

GRAND CONCERT AND CELEBRATION

of the Opening of the

UNITY HOUSE

of the

LADIES' WAIST AND DRESSMAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 25

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 1st, — at 2 P.M.

NEW STAR CASINO, 107th STREET AND PARK AVE.

CONCERT

Maurice Nitke, Violinist
Vida Milholland, Soprano
Lantern Exhibition of 75 views of the new Unity House Special admission to members of the International 10 cents Get tickets at office of your local.