Keywords
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.

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PEACE WITH HONOR IN NEW YORK CLOAK INDUSTRY
Cloak Manufacturers Withdraw Their Demands — Working Standards Remain As Heretofore — No Reduction in Wages

The settlement of the controversy in the New York cloak industry is, under the guise of the industrial relations, a splendid achievement and a great credit to the organized workers in these trades.

We do not wish to speak here in terms of victory. The conferences between the representatives of the Union and the Cloak Protective Association were not conducted in a spirit such as to ‘defeat’ the other party was manifested by either side. The present leadership of the Protective Association, to its credit we must state, came to these conferences in a peaceful frame of mind, which enabled the negotiations to continue in a friendly spirit. It is true, they have persisted right along upon carrying out the three demands embodied in the resolution of their association, namely, a reduction in wages, the shortening of work hours and the indiscriminate right to discharge. After our conference endeavors had, for several years that the concession of these demands is unthinkable, they have, however, finally agreed to a compromise to come to a peaceful settlement in which there would be neither victors nor vanquished.

The terms of the settlement, indeed, fully, reflect this spirit. The principle that the workers who make life possible everywhere should also be interested in the progress of its development, was accepted as the basis of the negotiation in the case of the Cloak Manufacturers. The conference committee of the Union, however, insisted that industrial progress must not be made exclusively at the expense of the workers, and defended its point of view very energetically. The conference committee of the Union continually drew the attention of the conferences to the fact that it is in the interests of the industry that the 'workers' in the shops, in order to fulfill their obligations honorably, are given humane conditions and satisfactory working standards.

The following is the official memorandum which was adopted at the last conference as the working basis in the understanding reached between the Union and the Association:

MEMORANDUM
June 2, 1931.

1. A letter of agreement was signed by the Joint Board, the Cloak Protective Association, the Amalgamated and the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, setting forth the following:

1. Both sides agree to comply with the terms of the agreement.

2. The first to be apprised of this settlement were the delegates of the Joint Board, who gathered in regular meeting, on Wednesday evening, June 3, at 62 East 106th Street. President Schlesinger, the Chairman of the Conference Committee of the Union, arrived at the hall in company with Vice-President Sigman and Secretary Adler. The chairman of the latter的作用 on the committee to the delegates.

The report was listened to in profound silence. The delegates had already become familiar with most of the clauses of the understanding at former meetings. But at that time, however, it was not altogether certain how the negotiations would terminate. The conference was complete and the big job at an end. Small wonder that the delegates of the Joint Board were drinking with that rapid attention, every syllable and word of the final report masterfully presented to them by Reuben Schlesinger. There was pride and satisfaction in the glint of every eye. As the minutes of strength of their organization was unfolding itself before their eyes, while the terms of the agreement were gradually read to them.

After the report was ended, a hearty and stormy applause broke out. The air of the meeting room was full of enthusiasm and an immediate sense of victory. The report was unanimously adopted and the conference committee recommended the Joint Board for its conscientious and tireless work.

At the last meeting of the Board there was an adopted a very important decision—to order election for business agents, instead of having them appointed, as was the practice for quite some time. (Continued on page 2, column 4)

Amalgamated and Furriers
Greet Cloak Settlement

The general office of the International received a large number of letters and telegrams congratulating it upon the settlement in the New York cloak industry. Among these are telegrams from the Amalgamated and Furriers, the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United Garment Workers of the United

JULIA ADLER, JENNIE VALIERE AND MAURICE NITKE AT UNITY OPENING CONCERT

Executive Boards of All International Locals Invited to Send Delegates

The program for the opening concert at Unity House is now complete. Jennie Valiere, the noted vocal artist, who has successfully played on the Yiddish stage, is one of the artists who will appear at this concert. Maurice Nitke, the well known violinist is another. Julia Adler, daughter of the celebrated Jewish actor, Jacob P. Adler, and Sadie Chaitoff, pianist, complete the list. Miss Julia Adler is art of the program and will be giving an interesting and enjoyable performance.

The following message was received from the Furriers’ International:

"Accept our hearty congratulations upon the organization of a new American Federation and the work done so far by you and your committee. We hope that the organization will go on from strength to strength and that you will do great things for the American working man."

"ROBERT A. KAPLAN, Pres.
"ANNA WERNIK, Sec."
WASTE IN INDUSTRY

IT would have probably been of no moment had that report of the Committee on Elimination of Waste in Industry of the American Engineering Societies made public last week been published about 20 years ago. It was then, in the early days of the anti-unions drive, that the combined influence of the employers and of the press that labor was slackening and that its non-productivity was "mining" the industries of the country.

That particular cry, as will be remembered, lasted not only for about a year and was supplanted, later, by a complaint that wages cutting on the pretext that labor was "hold- ing up the prices of commodities at a high level" through its refusal to permit a reduction in earnings. The assertion that the workers were not as productive as they had been previously was never heard much of since.

Now comes this authoritative report on the derelictions on the part of the employees, which in every way is the entire guilt for whatever waste of labor is to be found in industry. Labor is charged with less than 25 per cent by the Board of the total costs of production in industry. Labor is held responsible for more than half of the waste, duplication and loss arising from the operation of the unit of industry in the country. Briefly, the report finds that billions of dollars are being lost in the operation of employment; that duplication on bids in bidding trades run into millions of dollars. It is what is highly interesting, that laborers are not as expansive as popularly supposed.

In making recommendations designed to eliminate waste on a national scale, the report suggests that:

That a national information service be established to report on industries.

That a national statistical bureau be established to cover employment.

That a national health policy be adopted; that a national policy be adopted for handling labor disputes.

That industries standardize and adopt efficient methods; that trade associations help standardize their lines, and that the public distribute their purchases through the year to stabilize production.

After all, it is better late than never. This punctuation of the new production bubble, with which labor was charged only a white age, is a wholesome thing. It comes at the position of labor in its daily contest with capital and points again the only true road to the elimination of chaos and anarchy in industry.

ENGLISH COAL STRIKE

After several weeks of dilatory, in the court which Lloyd George has made already, on the side of the miners, the mine owners and the miners held for the first time during the present coal deadlock a full and frank conference on the situation, without the presence of government representatives, last week. The situation, the miners accepted the owners' invitation to meet them, and at the end of the first conference it was agreed by the press that the discussions were being held in a friendly manner. No decision or conferees would be assumed.

It is considered possible that the final conference to be opened at the gates' conference, and, if necessary, arrange for a national ballot on the question of the wages question, or form a union. It is reported that a second conference would be held in a friendly manner. No decision or conferees would be assumed.

The strike, of course, involved only a small part of the issues, but it is a matter of workers. It, nevertheless, tied up, while it lasted, a certain part of the industrial productivity of the country. And as it affected the paper, it naturally received a lot of public attention.

The preliminary agreement is to run for 68 days, the workers return to their jobs at their old wage scale. In event no agreement is reached within 63 days, the matter goes to arbitration and the award will be retroactive to the date of the recognition of work.

The expectations about a report of the result of the interview of Mark, President of the Department of the Foreign Office, engineers are now receiving 25 $100 a year, and 60 $100,000 a year, in the demands for an $8 increase. They will not put them on the paying of all organized trades.

ITALIAN STATE EMPLOYEES ON STRIKE

A n item of news of absorbing interest has filtered through the cable dispatches last week which takes notice, if limited attention in the American press.

The employees of the Italian government engaged in the form of a peculiar strike against the State, declared on Wednesday, in the form of refusing to do work in part in all the State departments, including the police. Under the general plan, every day, fall three hours, all public offices will be deserted by the office holder. This situation was being held. This apparently will continue until the new Parliament, June 11, will pass a law increasing all initial monthly salaries by 200 lire.

The salaried classes employees in Italy are woefully inadequate, not having been increased in years. It would appear that with the burden of paying money for armaments and the navy that the Italian government has been able to bear because of this deficit which has been caused thereby, the government cannot find any means for increasing the salaries of employees unless it resorts to additional taxation.

The government proposes to solve this problem by decreasing the number of the employed officials and raising the salaries of those that remain. As this cannot be done before Parliament meets, it is proposed to take a compulsory leave in the form of a bonus at the end of each month. The leaders of the employees are to return to their posts, disassociated with this proposal and they have declared hostilities on the Golliet, Golliet, in full trial.

STRIKING ENGRAVERS RETURN TO WORK

The strike of the newspaper photo engravers, which continued much of a stir in New York, which issued an order for the publishers to refuse an $8 increase, has come to an end last week. The engravers were returning to work after being under suspension.

The preliminary agreement is to run for 68 days, the workers return to their jobs at their old wage scale. In event no agreement is reached within 63 days, the matter goes to arbitration and the award will be retroactive to the date of the recognition of work.

AUSTRIA AGAIN NEAR COLLAPSE

LAST fall the Social Democrats and the Communist were replaced in power by a Liberal government. It was deemed that at that time that the position of the Socialists from power would place, to a certain extent, the Allied powers and would give the Austrian authorities an opportunity for an economic condition of the country.

After several months of holding power, the Liberal cabinet has proved to be as it was already, in the April legislature elections (which no longer includes Vienna), the majority of the clericals fell heavily and the clericals again increased their strength.

Today, Austria is practically with the French. The Liberal Cabinet resigned and no government appears to assume the position of administration. The un-official referendum which went in the various provinces of Austria have disclosed considerable desire on the part of the population of Austria to unite with Germany. The Empire will not permit, and as the government was compelled to hold out against the de- cision of the majority of the country, it was doomed to fail. Today, Austria lies more prostrate than ever before, and its unity is in doubt. It is shameful that to whether the Social- ist parties should attempt to form a cabinet as long as they have not the power that still belong to Austria are in a state of economic condition of the city of Vienna. The general economic condition in that distressed country is described as severe, and the people continue to function to bring their goods to the market, particularly to Vienna, in expectation of the return of the people. The cities unemployment and starvation is continually on the increase.

So Austria theta long, divided against itself, with no powerful possessing authority and daring to do anything, big or small.

rail wagers cut $400,000,000

more to follow

The Railroad Board is expected to announce any day, and swift on the railroads. As mentioned in these columns, it has ordered a general reduction in wages, to take effect on July 1. Last week, this it is ordered that approximately two-thirds of the railroad workers shall take a $3 a month reduction, and all railroad employees a year ago by this date.

Last July, after a struggle which lasted months, the railroad workers who had been ordered a general reduction in wages, by an order which amounted to approximately $100,000. At this rate, two-thirds of the workers have been affected, and 94 per cent of the reductions directed by the Board last week. The reduction average 12.1 per cent of the workers' wages and affects, so far, 196 lines. Already another 140 railway lines have applied, on the strength of this order, to the Railroad Board for similar reductions, and, from all appearances, the Board will grant these applications. It would be a very surprising surprise, if after all these reductions the Board, last year's increase will have been completed.

The attitude of the leaders of the Railway Brotherhood with regard to these reductions has been made known. So far comment on the Board's decision has been withheld. But a conference announced that a meeting will be called at Chicago on July 1 to discuss the situation, and when the Railroad Board last announced, three weeks ago, that it would dangerously cut the railway unions estimated that they would be able to save at the Board's decision. Further indications, however, it appears that the Board's decision will not result in any offer any determined opposition to these reductions.

STUBBORN HACKENSACK FIRM SIGNS WITH UNION

S. Weinacht, of Hackensack, N. J., who is well known in New York clock circles and whose controversy with the Clockmakers' Union last August has led to a fight in the local courts, has now signed a new agreement with Local No. 154, of the International.

Nathan Weinacht, International Organizer for New York, signed the agreement on behalf of the Union, and as a result the largest clock factory in New Jersey, will now be a real union shop, under the terms of the agreement.

For over a year the Weinacht shop has been an "asylum" for clockmakcrs, and as such called a "bad" with the Clockmakers' Union. The agreement, as well as the New York Union, is very much pleased to congratulate themselves on this settlement.

(Continued from page 3)
At The Waterfront

BY HARRY LANG

The Open-Shoppers Reasoning

From the Californian ("Labor Clarion")

While most of those who talk about the open shop really mean to favor the shop closed to the organ- ized worker, the practical question comes upon a person who honestly believes in a genuine open shop, where organized and unorganized work together. It is true, of course, that such a person has had little, if any, great amount of experience in the modern industrial world, else they would not entertain the delusion that an open shop will, as long as it lasts, remain an open shop. Lin- coln's statement that the government of the United States could not long endure half slave and half free is not applied to industrial establishments as to governments. In the end they must become one or the other, union shops or non-union shops. The history of our industrial development amply proves this contention.

One of the favorite questions of the open shop advocate is: "Must a man pay dues to work?" The union answer: "In order to work in organized labor, he must pay dues." It is not fair that I should pay a part of my earnings in the shape of dues to better working conditions and bring about reasonable pay. This man is entitled to take advantage of these improve-

ments without contributing anything toward bringing them about. To the question of whether or not this is entirely logical were he to ask: "Must a man pay taxes in order to live?" The civilized man can not exist in an environ- ment because of the benefits it brings to society as a whole would reply: "To live with a man a man must pay taxes. It would not be fair to pay taxes in order to enjoy the benefits flowing from government without contributing anything to- ward the enjoyment of benefits."

There may be some employers who will contend that the unions are not necessary, a fact in itself, as being a second-class citizen, is a detriment to him, but there are also men, known as an- cient advocates of government, who are not willing to take part in the government of the United States, who think that the government of the United States is not entitled to the benefits of union meetings. This, it seems to us, is the logic of the situation. We must face the question of whether or not we should merely justify the position he takes with reference to the union shop or we shall come with regard to government.

The "ship on fire!" An echo that-faced a shipowner, and told them they must take a shipowner, and told them they must take advantage of these improve-

ments without contributing anything toward bringing them about. To the question of whether or not this is entirely logical were he to ask: "Must a man pay taxes in order to live?" The civilized man can not exist in an environ- ment because of the benefits it brings to society as a whole would reply: "To live with a man a man must pay taxes. It would not be fair to pay taxes in order to enjoy the benefits flowing from government without contributing anything to- ward the enjoyment of benefits."

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EDITORIAL

CREDIT TO ALL WHOM CREDIT IS DUE

Our International has scored a splendid success. The victory is every bit as great, if not greater, than its predecessor. While the cloak mill did not resist with force, a contest in which tact, patience and reasoning have been the principal factors.

For ourselves, we never, from the first hour of the conferences, doubted that the issue was wholly unnecessary, and, under the circumstances, entirely senseless in this controversy. The arguments advanced by the opposition side, their tone, and the insidious impression of President Schlesinger's statement at the very first conference, have led us to believe from the outset that only a great blunder on either side could cause a permanent rupture of the peaceable relations which have for a long time characterized labor-management relations in the cloak industry.

Nevertheless, from time to time, we must admit, certain nervousness did overtake us, particularly when, after the first two conferences, we received word that a settlement was in prospect. The general industrial situation in the country was a strong factor conducive to uneasiness, coupled with the daily accounts of wage reductions in our member mills, which were amplified by the fact that all cloak manufacturers might not, in view of these facts, abandon their belligerent attitude and would insist upon their original demands, which the news media had already announced that the Union had agreed with the manufacturers that all trade conditions and scales remain as heretofore for the next five months, our hearts, indeed, were filled with joy. And this feeling of sincere gratification was echoed among the countless thousands of the membership of our International and our friends in the labor movement as a whole.

To whom, then, is credit due for this truly remarkable achievement?

First of all, of course, it is the great Cloakmakers' Union that deserves the credit. Had the employers in the cloak industry known of a single vulnerable spot in the workers' organization, they could not have resisted the temptation of attacking it. Our cloak manufacturers, however, were not acted as if they were intelligent men upon the true and logical assumption that notwithstanding the many advantages on their side, they could not wage a successful battle against this Union. Second, full credit is due to the able leadership of the union, and above all, to its President, Brother Schlesinger.

But the employers also deserve the credit, in that they have conceded the employers with the fact that they cannot expect concessions from the workers in this controversy. Most of the employers are so blinded by their heads like a bolt from the clear sky. A tremendous amount of preliminary work had to be done before these negotiations could be effective, and our campaign was presented almost entirely by President Schlesinger. Misfortunes do not happen nowadays, and those who are inclined to wonder how it occurred that after their warning proclamations, our cloak manufacturers have begun to see facts in the light of moderation and reason, can be assured that this was the result of incessant and persistent misrepresentation which we supported in our conferences and which changed the entire aspect of the situation.

And again, full credit is due—and we give it wholeheartedly—to the leadership of the Executive Associate. Upon less intelligent employers our arguments, no matter how convincing, would have had little effect. It is, indeed, a creditable fact that regardless of the circumstances these men have labored in the wise and best course would be to agree with the union and to adopt the logical and just method of averting a conflict in the industry. Their attendance at our meetings and their full support with their signatures as standing head and shoulder above the ordinary employers in our industries in their ability to appraise correctly their own true economic situation and the economic outlook of the industry. The popularity which they have gained among their workers through this act will not cause them regrets in the future. Our lambs have turned into lions, and the difficult and splendid work achieved by their own leaders and the very human and liberal attitude of their employers.

It is, perhaps, difficult for others to render the importance of the results of these conferences. Suffice it to say that there are very few industries in this country today in which wages have not advanced in the last five years. In scales of wage payments, for example, our workers have in fact received somewhat of an increase in their earnings. For, while not all commodities have come down in price, the cost of living has been reduced to an extent during the past twelve months. And if our workers will earn during the coming season as much as they have earned during that similar period a year ago, they will be the gainer to that extent. This is a concrete and substantial gain and therein lies the true meaning of the cheerful news of last Friday. Of course, our manufacturers had expected this. The question arises, how can this recognition be best expressed?

The agreement meets this point as follows: Upon the proposal of our own colleagues, who are well known to our readers, of six, three from each side, whose task it shall be to study all important facts and available data in our industry and upon the basis of these observations the investigations of the three men from the Union and the Protective Association after the five months of "truce" will be held in New York. This is a splendid admission. In addition, it will also be charged with the duty of investigating cases of underproduction upon complaints on the part of employers, who may feel that their workers are being judged too severely, and that as judges in cases of underproduction they will always find an empty calendar and that such cases will not occur in the cloak industry of New York.

We do not want to be misunderstood, of course, as advocating a system of task and over-intensified work such as prevailed in the good old days of piece work. This victory was not expected to be obtained. They must not work beyond their strength, and we can hardly believe that our employers would expect them to do that. We, however, believe that our employers could agree below their normal strength, and that they will not endeavor to give less than a fair return, in accordance with what they are in reason expected to give. The employers have asserted that there were in the past such workers who have not produced as much as they were expected to, according to their ability. This, we hope, will not happen. The employers are hereby put on their honor to the employers for its thousands of members, that there will be no more "under-production" or what is called "soldering on top" in the future. This pledge of the union and will increase thereby its influence and strength in the industry.

The achievements in the cloak industry will pave the way for all our industries in every other city in the land. It was not only a victory for the men but the victory for the principle of membership in general. We may justly reiterate the sentence with which we have begun this statement: Our International has won the respect, the admiration of the men of this industry, and it is greater for the fact that it was a bloodless contest, a contest without resort to force and brutality, a contest in which tact, patience and reasoning have been the principal factors.

A WORD TO THE A. F. OF L CONVENTION

No matter what one may think of the A. F. of L, one must admit that the A. F. of L represents the only labor movement we have in America. The chief purpose of one of the main objects of the American labor movement is what? How deep is its greatest significance to every friend and foe of the Federation. The A. F. of L of the masses of workers see the greater good and that they disagree with it cannot point even to a vestige of a labor movement that would be even likely to take its place.

The truth is that the American labor movement did not fail to plume our minds from the blue skies. It isn't the result of the good or evil will of this or that particular leader. It is the result of money and that our energies cannot be anything else but what it is. A true friend of the labor movement must not, therefore, endeavor to injure or wish ill of the Federation. He has no other choice but to be made whole of his energies to make it better, more wholesome, more militant and class conscious.

We disagree with many and many dogmas of Lenin's gospel. We agree with him, however, on one point: An intelligent worker must not remain without the labor movement, struggling and striving, but that he must look to the Federation for the energy to eradicate what is wrong and false in its philosophy and practice. Our attitude to the A. F. of L, even though we have not failed to make the work of the Federation, its so-called "critics" have, has always been an attitude of friendliness and fraternity. The leaders of the A. F. of L were never "front" men and are not likely to use that title.

Such an attitude of animosity to the only labor movement in America we always regarded as detrimental and unjust in the extreme.

Of course, we frequently disagree with the A. F. of L, but we do it not in spirit of enmity, but acted by the sole desire to do what we believe to be right to the end. We have not gone headway. And unless we are totally in the wrong, our labor movement is forging steadily ahead, slowly perhaps, not as fast as we wish it to, but we believe it will do so.

We would hope, therefore, that the present Convention, which begins next Monday, June 13th, in Denver, will register a substantial forward step in the development of our Labor during the past year. The voice of protest and combat have been heard to say that the question of the conspiracy break down the labor movement in America surely will be heard louder than ever at this convention. Judging by the spirit of the present movement, the leaders of the Federation and the statements to the Executive Council, we may expect that this convention will not rest contented with hackneyed phrases of protest, but will deal with the matter and be prepared to make a counter-attacking against the dark schemes of capital for the subjugation of the workers.

We believe that this convention will adopt a firm attitude against Brindellism, which has found a nest in many A. F. of L unions. We have stated and reiterated our opinion in these columns that it is a matter of good and bad faith. For, that document to have housed a Brindell within its invoros and that a judge and jury were required to remove this pest from the body of the
A goodly part of the proceedings of the meeting were devoted to the discussion of the New York cloak situation and the matter of history, after the settlement of the controversy in that industry. We can only mention in connection with this matter, the report of a committee of the Joint Board of the New York Cloakmakers' Union, consisting of Bros. F. Feinfisch, L. Frankvsky, L. Langer and others, which is at the present time the most important case involved in the New York cloak dispute to the members of the Board.

The G. E. B. Declared itself in full accord with the action undertaken and carried out by the Conference Committee of the Union during these negotiations, and expressed its full confidence to Presi-
dent Schlesinger, empowering him to do all he might deem necessary in going on with these negotiations.

The results have proven clearly that the G. E. B. had made no error in vetoing out of consideration the compromise made by President Bros. Schwilke, with full authority and trust. As a matter of fact, these discussions did not consummate too much in the way of anything constructive with the cloak controversy was so concrete and clear that it could bring about but one decision, that is, a determined attitude and a war.

The situation in the Waist and Dreamers locals in New York City took up a good deal more time. Readers of "Justice" are quite fa- miliar with that problem, as it was discussed in these columns more than once. All the members of the Board were thoroughly acquainted with every side and feature of the problem and all agreed that there exists a deadlock, a condition which is hurting a small, though vociferous element, which constitutes a menace to the entire trade. However, a difference of opinion among the members made it very hard to decide what should be the best means of com- battant this element and of saving these locals from destruction.

Some were of the opinion that these union-smashers who disturb meetings, create scandal, and scatter defaming and libelous handbills against the officers of the union (such as they have been in the district) must be thrown out of the union without loss of time. Others believed that such action against the union would be of little help to the situation. They advanced the following arguments: The locals 22 and 25, affects to a greater or lesser extent the entire industry, and it is a serious fact that a handful of men or girls would only give them a halo of martyrdom and would do no good for the union. The real position of the situation would be much better. Still others believed that it would be perhaps the best for the union to expel these locals and leave them to drift for themselves. This opinion was fortified by the following facts:

The Waist and Dreamers' Unions has bad things rather nice and convenient during the last few years. Whenever an attack was levied across these locals they ran to the union and it showed that they have not been offered to make things comfortable and easy for them. The members of these locals have been accustomed to regard this as a matter of course, in the belief that so it ought to be. Each one of them has a right to his or her convictions and are entitled to agitate for their principles among their associates. The International stands firmly for the right of every member to their ideas without fear of per- sonal, political and social questions, if it should not be clear to all leaders of the International would persecute anyone on account of his opinion of affiliation. The International demands only one thing: That the Union as such should not take a share of the affections and sympathies of its members. In this, it is not only the interest of the workers; to the necessary organization plans and ac-
tivities, the continuous strengthening and solidifying of its forces. It insists, therefore, that the meet-
tings of the union and a body of and ordnance the discussion of union and break or continue the exist-
ing of the union as enemies of the organization who betray its inter-
national and of remaining part and parcel of the organized labor move-
ment.

However, regardless of the strength of this argument, it did not prevail in the most of the votes, and the G. E. B. It was admitted that such an occasion would not be appropriate. It nevertheless har-
cored a great menace, namely, that these local would be dominated and destroyed in the course of this op-
teration. The shops may be filled with non-union looters who will, in the general apathy and lack of interest, might become intensified. It was a most unfortunate vindication of this sort upon the living body of the organization.

According to the result of the new elections, which consumed two situations of the Board, it was decided to ap-
proach the action of the special

new Executive Board of Local No. 25

This, however, does not complete fully the recital of the activities of the International during this period. It may be more fitting to recapitulate that the International had decided several months ago to build a home of its own, a new Executive Board of Local No. 25 will proceed along the lines that it marked out for itself, every ounce of strength that the International can muster will be given to it generously in this highly deserving and constructive task.

organized building trades' workers of New York City. The action of the Building Trades' Department of the Federation, in silencing the attempt of the New York Central Railway to eliminate the Council to investigate the Building Trades Council of New York, was a travesty upon the principle of labor union autonomy, after all. We hope that this painful and unfortunate affair will soon be laid to rest. We are inclined to believe that the members of these local's have the best interest of the International at heart, and that they will do their best to keep their local in the International. Leaving aside this question, there is another matter of concern, the question of autonomy is central to the discussion.

As in former years, our International will be represented at the convention by six delegates: Benjamin Schlesinger, Louis Langer, Saul Metz, Harry Benk, Mary Levy, and myself. We are going to attend this convention to try to have the International stand up for the principle of autonomy, and to make our views known to the world.

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THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD OF LOCAL No. 25

We were present last Friday night at the installation of the new Executive Board of Local No. 25. The impression we gained on that evening was that the election was a thoroughly successful one, quite a few tumultuous events that bore their power of resistance.

The new Executive Board of Local 25 has taken place already. It is to be hoped that these men will be found to be composed of the best material with-
in the organization. Very soon the election was decided by the vote, and its chairmanship will participate in the discussion. In fact, a vote is not to be expected that the new Board will not have a sufficient number of votes to carry on. In view of the fact that the new Board will be composed of the best material with-
in the International, it is to be hoped that the settled and sincere motives

of the new Board will be given to it generously in this highly deserving and constructive task.

The report of Vice-President Pas-

surplus, and other things make it seem that the organization is in a state of moribundity. All were, on the contrary, agreed that labor education is a very im-
portant matter. The question was about the kind of education the workers of the organization should receive. A doubt was expressed by some about the true value of the educational work conducted heretofore by the International. It ap-
peared to those who doubted that the results did not justify the pre-
sumed benefit. It was proposed that various classes have become more

intelligent union members through their educational efforts.

Vice-President Miss Cohn, the Secretary-Treasurer, reported upon the various efforts which she has made in the development of the educational work of the organization. While no con-
cretes were given, the impression was that the most important endeavor of the Union has gained by the maintenance of these classes. It is allo-


cated that the educational work is economically unprofitable; no gains can be safely calculated.

The debate attracted the general interest of the members, but it was not clear that we would want to work overtime on this partic-
ular subject, the educational re-
instry was generally fully approved of.

(Continued on page 7)
Educational Comment and Notes

WHAT SHALL WE HAVE NEXT SEASON?

During the summer vacation, when our minds think of woods, lakes, and mountains, the Junior Department is busy preparing the work for next season, so that when the schools open, our program will be ready for serious intellectual work, the classes, teachers, and equipment will be in perfect condition. The plans are being completed now and detailed announcements will be made. We are sure you will be interested in the plans, and we are promised some interesting work. Perhaps the most important and significant announcement will be the opening of the first Junior Department in the Workers' University on the subject of Trade Unionism. This course will be given by Dr. Leo Wolman whose class attracted so many students last year. In this course our members will have an opportunity of studying the organization and methods employed by the workers of the USA. Of course, the course will be for specialists in industrial fields, but will also be open to the interested public, and the practical knowledge of the subject will supplement the theoretical material of the course. In addition, it is expected that those of our members who are anxious to understand the importance of trade unionism will be attracted to this course in large numbers.

It is planned to give the same course in Yiddish in various parts of the city for the benefit of those of our members who cannot attend the Workers' University.

Other courses will be described in the following issues of "Justice" very soon.

The Opening of Our Summer Unity Home

The summer is upon us. We find ourselves thinking of swimming, fishing, and dreaming of cool, green spots in the mountains, fields, meadows, and mountainsides. Everyone enjoys vacation in some beautiful spot where nature has been unspoiled by man.

But under our present system not all can spend the summer resting, playing, or relaxing. Many of our members are unable to do this. The workers are denied these opportunities as well as many others.

But we have learned that in spite of the obstacles which the present economic system presents, the human spirit can achieve a great many of the things in life by working together—by practicing the spirit of cooperation. We have learned that it is through our Union which gives it to us. Today we can secure not only higher wages, shorter working hours, better working conditions, better health, cheaper food, cheaper homes, better education, more recreation, and more cleanliness.

This is the fundamental idea underlying the educational movement of the International and of our Unity Home.

Three of our local unions own splendid Unity homes in the West and Dressmakers of New York, the summer resort of the West and Dressmakers of Philadelphia, and finally the summer home of the Italian Section of New York are illustrations of what can be accomplished when we get together, pool our efforts, and by combined enterprise decide to accomplish a common purpose.

The opening of Unity House in Forest Park, on June 17, will be a striking event in the activities of the International. On that day members of the Unity Home and friends and leaders in the Labor Movement from New York and other cities will come together to celebrate the second anniversary of our active members coming out to wish success to Unity House. The University has made arrangements to celebrate the third year of the existence of Unity Village and special significance will mark the opening this season on June 17.

Unity Village has already become the subject of much interest and they know that this is the place where they can meet their friends and fellow workers as well as their teachers and spend a few days in pleasant companionship.

The plans are that only because of the opportunities it offers to our workers to enjoy some of the simple things in life—amusing ourselves owned and controlled by ourselves, but also because it forges a stronger bond of comradeship and gives the results of education a solid base.

Perhaps in time there will be other proofs that our educational activities have real value. Perhaps every child will be happy and rest dissatisfied unless they live in beautiful homes, in beautiful sections of the city, in the beauty of nature and art and spending all their leisure in beautiful surroundings. All that is necessary is to continue raising the ideals of the masses—imparting to them an understanding of the beauty of activities. Once these ideals are firmly planted in their minds, and they could later carry out their ideas in action.

Unity House is a beginning. There should be no limit to what will follow.
Lay The World Over

WHY IS BREAD STILL SO HIGHT?

"We would like to know," says a representative of a pension plan, "in its press bulletin, "why bread still sells at war prices in most of the country, even though wheat has fallen to one-half its last year's price, so that the wheat in a pound of bread costs 2.3 cents."

"We would like to know why the farmers have not received the benefits of the reduced wheat prices," the pension plan representative adds, "to build up the farmers' output and the consumer's purchasing power."

The government's price of wheat is $3.50 per bushel, while the average price of wheat on the Chicago Board of Trade is $2.80 per bushel. This disparity means that the farmer is getting only about 80% of the market price for his wheat.

HOW PACKERS GOUGE

He Chose meat packers have forced farmers' prices down to pre-war levels, largely because of the reduced wheat prices, was shown by Congressman McLaughlin of Nebraska, who quoted from the National Provisioner, published by the meat packers.

In the first half of 1921, the average price of cattle on hoof in the Chicago market had fallen to $52.40. This is the same price at which they sold the first week in February, 1914, the average price of beef to the consumer.

"So live cattle," said Congressman McLaughlin, "may be said to have returned to pre-war prices."

Against these figures are the prices of dressed beef sold in Chicago during the same period, while large increases are recorded in every product of beef and pork.

GOOD WAGES LOW

The government pays $50, $60, $70 and $83 a month to $7,000 of its employees, according to witnesses who urged the house labor committee to favor the Nolan minimum wage bill.

The witnesses said large numbers of government positions are vacant because of low wages; that the high turnover is in the government services, due to low wages, costs millions of dollars annually, and that these low-wage employees cannot operate to demand that abolition of monoplists and prices and to secure the full benefits of the fruits of the industry to those who labor to create them.

BAD CONDITIONS SHOWN

The United States child labor bureau says that the average first federal child labor law has shown the vicious circle of child labor, illiteracy, poverty, and perversity. In five states it was found that many of the children were underweight when examined by a physician and requiring special care in the mills for several years. Some gained quickly when taken out of the mill and put on a diet rich in fat and protein. When it was difficult to reach even the low standard called for by the physical examination of the workers was reported unable to pay for medical attention, and in most cases no public clinics were available to lend assistance.

One-fifth of the children in the five states left after they were in the fourth grade, almost one-tenth of them had never attended school or had at least a grade for all full-time government employees. It has twice been approved by the house, but has been defeated in the senate.

THIS EMPLOYER WAS

"It is a surprising fact that opposition to reduction in wages in the building trades is found only among workers who form part of organized labor."

The above discovery has been made by E. D. Farnam, chairman of a committee of employers who are conducting a fight against carpenters who have been locked out because they refuse to accept any changes without a voice in the proceedings.

It might be stated that Mr. Farnam's discovery is the real reason why certain employers insist on the union shop.

SWISS RESIST WAGE CUTS

The Swiss Trade Union Commi- nion has issued its declaration against wage reductions:

"The Swiss Trade Union Commit- ttee has the right of the employ-

ers and their organisations to reduce the wages of workers under the pre-

vious conditions, while they themselves are largely responsible for a reduction as long as they refuse to consent to a reduction of their profits. It is not the present time, when the economy is being made in commerce and industry."

QUARTERLY MEETING OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

(Continued from page 5)

It is about to begin its reconstruction. It is intended to convert this old place into a real labor temple, a monument to the International in New York City, as Secretary Barrow expressed himself. It is, of course, a very important undertaking and will require a big outlay of money before it can be fully accomplished.

We must add to it the organization work undertaken by the International in New York City and in out-of-town territory. It is true the report about this particular work was far from satisfactory. A lot of energy and money was expended in this direction without any gratifying results. This, however, cannot be accepted to lack of initiative or energy on the part of our organizers. All that could be done under the circumstances was done. Yet it appears that the industrial conditions of this period are not favorable to a wide organization campaign in the smaller towns and the G. B. B. has therefore decided, much to its own dislike, to slow down for the time being its organizing work in this particular direction. At the same time it was decided to undertake strenuous organization work in New York City proper, where conditions are not as unfavorable as in the smaller towns. According to reports there are tens of thousands of workers in New York City who are not organized. These work under very inferior conditions and it is the opinion of the G. B. B. that a strenuous organization effort must be launched right here in New York City.

Thus the task set for this work with the best chances of success, it was decided that First Vice-President Gilmour should act as General Organizer in charge of the New York territory. It is to be expected that he will persevere in his work with the same ability and success that he has carried out every other undertaking in connection with our International.

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The situation in the cloak and suit industry has been "ironed out" at a number of conferences held between committees representing the cloak and suit manufacturers' Protective Association and the union.

According to the terms of this pact, there will be no lengthening of working hours, nor a reduction in the pay of the workers in the trade. As a result of the conference, the manufacturers agreed to pass on to workers and the public, and on every case on its merits, as it presents itself. This agreement will prevent all complaints of non-productivity, as well as all other grievances.

Of course, we need not tell our readers that the cry of non-productivity against the workers, raised by certain manufacturers' associations of different industries, was simply a false alarm. In an industry comprising 55,000 workers, there may be, of course, a few individuals who will try to take advantage of the work-week system, "to "lay down" on their jobs. But these are so few and far between that they do not justify a general accusation.

As a matter of fact, the members of the Cutters' Union, have always worked week-work, and there have hardly been any complaints against us for non-productivity during this time. The union, and it is very much opposed to "soldiering" on the job by any of its members, but it will demand sufficient and convincing proof before it will permit a discharge.

The special meeting of the Waist and Dress Division, to be held on Monday, May 21, will prove of great interest not alone to the members of this particular division, but to others also.

The special business of the evening will be the impeachment proceedings brought by the Executive Board against Bro. Julius Levine, delegate to the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Industry. The case in this involves the fundamental principle of representative government. The case will have to be answered by the membership that evening. That evening is for all workers, representative of the union to another body, who is given definite instructions on what to do, and in certain instances, can, in defiance to the membership, assume and maintain a totally different attitude.

The Executive Board contends that the delegate to the Joint Board is fully entitled to his own ideas and views on any subject whatever. It further contends that once a question has come up before the membership, been discussed and finally decided upon by a majority of votes, that that decision is obligatory on all members of the union, including the delegates to the Joint Board. Any elected official who fails to carry out the orders and instructions given him by the membership is subject to removal through impeachment, for malfeasance of office.

It is to be expected and hoped that the members of the Waist and Dress Division will attend this next meeting in large numbers, as the importance of the meeting calls for.

The following are extracts from the last meeting of the Executive Board:

Max Merker, member of the Annapolis chapter of the Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Protective Association, appeared on summons. Brodlher Merker was granted the privilege of working in the dress trade some eight weeks ago, having been out on strike for considerable time, and he is now charged with having received a little time and a half for over time. Broder Merker denies that he abused the privilege granted to him and states that some two weeks ago he worked three hours overtime. The firm paid him only single time. He argues the point, he who in turn complained to the chairmen, who in turn complained to the officer, and a collection was made for double time. This statement was corroborated by Bro. Philip Orscey, Business Agent of the Ladies Joint Board, who informed the Executive Board that the difference between time and a half and double time was not collected. On motion, case against Brother Merker was dismissed.

Charles Gerohan, No. 5492A, appeared on summons, charged with working over time without any complaint. On motion, the case was dismissed.

Isidore Marcus, No. 5552A, appeared on summons, charged with working over time without any complaint. On motion, the case was dismissed.

Harry Strumwasser, No. 3729, appeared on summons, charged with working day work and hour work at the Federation Cloth Co., 24 West St. Strumwasser stated that he worked day work and hour work, as well as the regular 9-hour work. On motion, the case was dismissed. Strumwasser was then instructed to report on a full week's work, which he received. On motion, he was charged and case was dismissed.