7-15-1921

Justice (Vol. 3, Iss. 29)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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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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PHILADELPHIA CLOAK JOBBERS’ STRIKE IN FULL SWING

The strike in the Philadelphia cloak and skirt shops belonging to the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union of America is spreading to the shops in the sub-manufacturers and “repairs” section on Wednesday last, July 6th, proved to be a splendid success. As expected, these 130 shops became vacant on that morning and the strikers all marched to the building of the Cloak and Skirtmakers’ Union, at 812 North 9th Street.

The enthusiasm among the strikers is very high. They are determined to stick to their strike until the employers give in. They exult in the thought that if they do not lose a single one of their number in the shops of the sub-manufacturers and “repairs,” it will place them in the position of the independent manufacturers in the unions of the tailors and the dressmakers. The employers, it is expected, will not be able to defeat the strike by making cut-rate agreements with the strikers.

The employers and the sub-manufacturers will not be able to get away with this trick. If they once fail to meet the demands of the strikers, they will be unable to get away with it. The strikers are determined to take their stand and fight for the right to organize and to get union protection.

The strike affects only as many workers as have already struck. The employers are making every effort to break the strike by making cut-rate agreements with the strikers. The employers are also making every effort to get the strikers to agree to cut-rate agreements.

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President Schlesinger left last Tuesday for New York to confer with the leaders of the international unions of the tailors and the dressmakers of that city.

On Tuesday evening a conference took place between the Cloakmakers’ and the Waists’ and Dressmakers’ Association, at which President Schlesinger was present, for the purpose of examining the collective agreement in the cloak trade of Philadelphia. This agreement is the result of the work of the committee of the cloak employers of Philadelphia which was established by the international union.

The cloak employers of Philadelphia have agreed to the terms of this agreement, and the committee of the cloak employers of Philadelphia has agreed to the terms of this agreement. The cloak employers of Philadelphia have agreed to the terms of this agreement, and the committee of the cloak employers of Philadelphia has agreed to the terms of this agreement.

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As readers of "Justice" remember, the understanding reached between Local 15, the Waist and Dressmakers’ Union of Philadelphia, and the employers of the cloak trade in Philadelphia, last spring, involving wage scales and other conditions of work, was to last until July 1st, when new negotiations were to be started.

Accordingly, a conference was arranged for Wednesday last, July 12th, between both parties in the Philadelphia Schlesinger and the employers’ association, at which time the proceedings of the conference were completed. The conference was completed, and the negotiations of the parties were completed.

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TOPICS OF THE WEEK
By MAX D. DANISH

RAILWAY LABOR TO HOLD REFERENDUM

The membership of sixteen railway labor organizations, including the Big Four brotherhoods, will decide, through a referendum vote by September 1st, whether or not to accept the wage reduction that went into effect on railroads throughout the country on June 1st. The vote will be taken by the chief executives and 1500 general chairmen of the rail- way unions in conferences at Chicago.

The general chairman decided that they could not assume responsibility for the results of this vote. The final decision will be made by the members of the railway labor forces for the wage reductions that have been enforced by the Railroad Labor Board. It would be, indeed, neither fair nor wise on the part of the rest of the labor movement to criticize or condemn the leaders of the railway workers for measures that have caused such drastic measures to counteract the world crisis. The actions taken by the union leaders in the face of the general anti-labor propaganda conducted by the press throughout the country have, unfortunately, been lastingly assertions that labor was the principal factor in bringing on the present crisis. The wage cuts, such an act, for instance, as a general strike on the railways with the consequent loss of life, would have brought in its wake, could not be decided upon the Chicago conference.

Of course, it is a long time between July 1st and September 1st. It could be that the conference in August, September 1st the railway workers will have become reconciled with the wage reductions and labor will not strike. The responsibility of throwing two million men out of work and the efforts of industry to employ 2 million unemployed are already crowding the streets of American cities. The potential for a strike balance against very definite decisions.

DISARMAMENT FORGES AHEAD

WHATSOEVER its practical consequences, last week will be remembered as a milestone in the world's history for the concrete step towards world disarmament in the United Nations.

Events, indeed, followed each other with lightning rapidity. Only a week ago the House and the Senate had adopted a joint resolution calling upon the President to convene a conference on disarmament of the three principal naval powers, America, Britain, and Japan, for the direct purpose of reducing, for a certain term of years, naval armaments. The adoption of this resolution was a distinct triumph of the Congress. Senator Borah of Idaho. Several days later President Harding has informally asked the governments of France, Italy and Japan to participate in a conference on an limitation of armaments. The Senate, in a resolution recommending the conference, issued an official explanatory statement that it is a step towards international peace and that the conference should discuss not only armaments but all matters pertaining to the Pacific in relation to common problems. Of course, this latter statement was in anticipation of the participation of China in this conference.

It would seem, therefore, that this step by the Department of State means the setting up of an international body of a world conference. In a way it could be interpreted as the laying down of the catalyst of a world conference. If, such matters of worldwide importance like disarmament, the settlement of Far Eastern affairs, the problem of the "open door" in the Pacific, are to be settled by a special conference or by the principle of collective power, then the participation of all nations in the institution cannot be emphasized any stronger.

BRITISH RAILLAIN STAND BY THOMAS

Last week witnessed another echo of the recent settlement of the Johnson and Thomas dispute. It came in the form of a motion to defeat J. H. Thomas for the supreme leadership of the British labor party in England at a conference held by that organization at Newcastle.

It will be recalled that Thomas was the head of the Triple Alliance, the federation of the British railway workers. The union workers, affected for the purpose of mutual offense and defense in times of emergency, and now the decision will be recalled, this Triple Alliance was relied upon to call out the railway workers in case of a war. A sympathetic general strike to aid the miners. During the preparatory period for a strike the Triple Alliance came, however, apparent that neither the dockmen nor the railwaymen were enthusiastic for a general tie-up of the country. When it became known that Hedges, the leader of the miners' union, was making independent overtures to leaders of Parliament for a settlement of the dockmen's dispute, the leaders of the Triple Alliance, headed by Thomas, called upon the miners to withdraw from the proposals of the government.

This act has brought down at that time considerable wrath upon the Triple Alliance. The label "traitor to the cause of America" has been applied to the British Trade Union Congress at the American Federation of Labor Congress at Denver. Though bucked by a number of Irish partisans, Thomas was not in any sense disgraced as a man of remarkable ability far-sightedness and integrity. He rebelled against the government's action because he considered it a special convention of his organization at Newcastle. The resolution for union was finally adopted by the executive committee of the Railways Union. His popularity and genuine leadership, however, proved too much an obstacle to overcome for his opponents, and after this resolution was adopted another motion confirming the apportionment of Thomas was carried by a vote of 17 to 15.

It would seem therefrom that, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding, the Thomasites have adopted by Thomas such for the sake of the trip, that he will not-model a general strike and file who represented the railwaymen of England at the New- Unemployment still rising

The monthly Industrial Survey of the employment service of the Department of Labor shows that employment took another slump of 2.9% in the United States during June, according to figures released from January 31st to July. The figures are based on a survey of 1429 industries in 28 States and 6600 factories in industrial centers.

Practically all industries with the exception of the meat-packing industry and flour, show a decided decrease. Unemployment still prevails on a high

scale throughout New York State, New York City showing a decline of 2.8% in the city in the week ended by the report. The cities reporting the greatest employment increases in the week were New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Bridgeport, Conn., Baltimore, New Orleans, Washington, D.C., Chicago, III., and a number of other large industrial centers. As a whole, a few thousand workers lost last week slight increases in the number of employed.

There is most depressing in the absence of any signs of a return to normal conditions. What with the continuing sharp contrast between the unfavorable balance of exchange with Europe the situation would seem to be so much the same, that we are faced with the imminent possibility of the passage of the Ford bill, since no further steps for the relief of domestic industrial conditions, but obviously purported to be more important to America and the prospects for a revival of industry are meager indeed.

LIGHT ON THE LEGION

There have appeared during the past few weeks in the liberal press, a few critical articles on the American Legion, which we commend to the attention of the readers of this paper. The Legion is an abysmally ignorant body, given to an unashamed light upon the policy and methods of the Legion, an organization of young Americans, and has given up the task of the past years. But as members of the Legion during the course of the World War.

In these articles the American Legion is charged with having made and having violated terms without number its oath to uphold the constitution and laws of the land. It is charged against the Legion runs from breaking up peaceful meetings to ''terrorizing German and Austrian refugees."' Kate Richards O'Hare, the Socialist speaker, Arthur Warner, the author of The End of Europe, brings to the Legion the details and places of the specific cases referred to in these charges. The points the facts in the point that the Legion has "carelessly thrown to the wolves" the clause in its constitution forbidding political activity. It cites a number of cases of the Legion's modus operandi, including, among other things, a ligation for rigid restriction of immigration, total exclusion of the foreign born, violation of the rights of Victor Berger, publication of theacker list and against the re- union of conscientious objectors and the penalty for political prisoners. It is, indeed, in fact, the function of the public conscience and of a general return to democracy, this merciful exposure of a quack national organization that is bound with anti-labor and reaction. In the long run, this agitation for Americanization is a crusade. It should be a matter of sincere gratification to every lover of freedom and a national problem that we are able to see the merciless glare of public exploitation and are gradually losing their influence for ever.

MORE HOPE FOR MOONEY

We have been accustomed to hear of the extradition cases of Mooney and his fellow martyrs that we are inclined to believe that the trend is toward freedom with caution and considerate inferences.

Nevertheless, standing by themselves these stories would seem to us to mean that all is not yet lost and that the innocence of the victims of that horrible frame-up is not yet proven. But the case of Mooney and Billings has been in jail long enough to have given the substitute nominee some held in their stead. It is now, accordingly, being asserted that a certain "demonstrator," W. J. in jail for the violation of the war time laws and his wife are the ideal substitute nominees. LaFollette's Day bomb outrage of 1916 for which Mooney and Billings are serving life sentences in the Wisconsin State Penitentiary has been substantiated by Chauncey McClurg, the handwriting expert who played a prominent part in the Mooney trial, and who now declared in this同城 the correspondent who had written threatening letters to Mayor Ralph of San Francisco and the warings prior to that parade in July, 1916.

The matter has now been turned over to a special Grand Jury for action. From the examination of this story it is evident that the San Francisco authorities can manage to place these charges together and find plausible reasons for Mooney and Billings, that their crime was "unfair." There is no doubt, there is not a bit of reason or genuine effort to recant for the horrible interrogations in post on Mooney and Billings evident in these proceedings. If the powers that be are interested in keeping Mooney, it will be only wanted to free Mooney on the merits of his innocence, the revelation of the facts in the frame-up against them being against them during their trial would have been more than sufficient. The persecutors of Mooney, however, want to have their faces by continuing to demand his extradition. The arrested for the demonstrator in the places of the reluctant one given up Mooney and Billings. Perhaps in that, and in that alone, there lies a ray of hope for those two martyrs of labor.

HOWAT FOUND GUILTY

Alexander Howat, president of the Kaufman and Brox, of California, together with Vice-President Dorothy, have been found guilty of violation of the Alien Registration law. The court gave the jury both a federal and a state conviction. They were held guilty of a misdemeanor and were released on bond pending appeal.

The unionists give no indication of accepting the law, and they are backed by the organized trade union movement of this state. The workers' determination has created a ground for Governor Allen and his support. familiar in the man fighting the bear.

In commenting on his conviction President Roosevelt said, "It is not the end of a felony or a guilty of stealing. It was the judge's instructions that did

SEWES' NEW WORK

Both Houses of Parliament in Great Britain have decided to continue working hours on the basis of those laid down at the Washington labor conference.

Exemptions, however, have been provided for, and the eight-hour day will not be enforced in establishments employing less than five persons. Furious em- German states may also be called on to work for longer periods.
Among the Custom Dressmakers

By J. Bernasky

The warm season has brought slack conditions in our trade together with a general decline of business. We understand that the season is over, some of our employers have apparently made up their minds to lay off workmen, and those of their workmen who were not sufficiently "obedient" to suit their ideas have been sent out of work. The complaints are varied: discharge, unequal distribution of work, inability to get back of work, and the pretense that living has become cheaper in New York. It is possible that the discriminations in our trade grieve the same song about the reduced cost of living. So all these complaints have been settled to the satisfaction of the members of the union. We just let our bosses know that in case they permit in giving trouble to the union, during slack time, that they will have to pay dearly for it when the season comes round. It would appear that this admonition has helped quite a lot. We hope that they will not be faced with any acute fighting and should some of the more obstinate employers make up their minds to understand with measure towards the union, it should only be treated as they have in poor judgment this time.

At our last general meeting, the new agreement which is to go into effect in September 15, 1921, was discussed. The union has been receiving in our trade the agreement without practically any opposition except from some employers. This time, however, there have been acrimony of number questions which must be, once for all, definitely decided. These problems have made it much more difficult for the union to submit new shops. Talks, for instance, the question of equal distribution of work between the shops, due to the slack season, when so many workers are idle; or the question of sanitary conditions in the shops. In the custom dressmaking shops this last point is a matter of considerable importance, and in our next meeting we expect to have these improvements inserted: without fail. It is to be hoped that the existing employers will sign the agreement with much good will.

Recently, the question of "shop committees" has become quite popular among us of our International. When one speaks with the adherents of this scheme one is always impressed with the statement that the "union officers would not permit the members to be active and afraid that they might lose their jobs." Is this true? Do they not know that the officers of the union are deeply interested in the work in the shops and the better living of all the workers and members and women.

We are mentioning this fact because our own Executive Board has called together, two weeks ago, a committee to consider the question of forming a committee and to pose them a plan for stimulating activity among our members in the shops. They were prompted to make this proposal, firstly, because we are very much interested in the good and intelligent element of workers in our shops, and secondly, because we believe that the workers should be enabled to aid the union in its organization work. They may call it "shop committees" but it is not that it matters, as long as these members will aid the union in strengthening the organization and increasing its control. Our Executive Board

members are not a bit afraid of losing their posts. On the other hand, they would be mighty glad for others to take them and their places and continue their work.

Our committees have been active within the last year in distributing quantities of circulars around the union, and as a result of this work, organized several shops. In these new shops, the workers are already enjoying union conditions and feel quite content. In the other non-union shops a decided improvement has taken place, rather tardily but we hope that these, too, will be union shops before long.

We request all members of International locals not to ask for work in the following shops: Hattie Garcia, 2137 Broadway; Gold, 2228 Broadway; Gold-Ruby, 167 W. 97th St.; Madame Karun, 2221 Broadway; and other workers in the above mentioned shops.

Union Health Center Raises Charges To Non-Participating Locals

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Union Health Center, the so-called "responsible committee" was adopted to charge the members of all locals of the International Garment Union $1.00 for insurance and $35.00 except Locals Nos. 1, 6, 9, 10, 11, 23 and 35, for medical services $1.00 for each examination and treatment, leaving the charge of $1.00 to the members of Locals 1, 6, 9, 10, 11, 23 and 35.

This applies only to the Medical Division and does not apply to the Dental or Chiropractic Divisions, which will remain the same as to members of all Locals of the International.

This action was necessary for the reason that Locals 1, 6, 9, 10, 11, 23 and 35 are paying extra for medical treatment of members of their Locals and it would seem unfair for members of these locals to enjoy the same privileges without their Locals paying for them.

As for the activities of the United Con- structive Accountants has been re- ceived on the cost of the building, Local No. 26 has paid $50,000, all of which, except $15,000, has been contributed by the local.

An extensive and intensive educa- tional campaign to acquaint the members of the International with the work of the Union Health Center will be launched with the fall with the hope that all our members will take advantage of the special and dental facilities of the Union Health Center.
EDITORIALS

THE PHILADELPHIA CLOAKMAKERS’ STRIKE

The history of the last few years of our International offers the lesson that it will be a hard thing to avoid a strike. Its best efforts have been devoted to avert conflicts where a possibility, no matter how meagre, existed for peaceful settlement, but such victories were accomplished as a result of peaceful negotiations.

The present strike of the cloakmakers in the Philadelphia shops belongs to jobbers, subcontractors and contractors—an strike ordered in spite of other unfavorable industrial conditions—has, nevertheless, received the full sanction of the International. The response to the strike can only be due to an unavoidable and additional proof that the walkout was ordered not because of any whim or caprice or on account of some trifling cause, but because it was at least as much an issue as the very existence of our Philadelphia Union.

It must be stated here that the Philadelphia Cloakmakers’ Union has but recently concluded an agreement with the local Cloak Manufacturers’ Association. Most of these employers are abiding by it, although there is no doubt that the post-process strike is intended to affect the walkout. There have, however, come to the surface during the last few years in Philadelphia a number of small shops, the so-called contractors, who are still dealing to subcontractors where cloak jobbers have been making up their garments at ridiculously low prices. In these small shops the “swelling” business of old in full swing and it is needless to emphasize, that with 1,500 cloakmakers in Philadelphia working for meager pay and under unspeakable conditions in competition with the International, it will be impossible to have any of these contractors in the future which would either be compelled to close down or sink to the level of these scab nests.

Under such conditions the Union, of course, had little choice but to order a strike in these shops. The jobbers who supply these sweatshops with work had to be made to realize that they cannot get their work done cheaper than the legitimate manufacturers who comply with all Union standards.

This cloak strike, therefore, has a double significance: It is a definite step in the direction of abolishing the scab nests that have sprung up in Philadelphia, and it is a notice and warning to the jobbers that they cannot stimulate and develop such a state of affairs. We are confident that this strike will not only relieve the pressure of the International on these unions but that it will not only benefit the workers in these shops to the call of the Union is in itself the best guarantee for its success. On the other hand, the Philadelphia cloak jobbers are perfectly satisfied. It will be to their advantage if the Union means business and that they cannot get their work done except under full Union conditions, they will accept the inevitable.

The Union is equably determined to settle once for all the small-shop problem in Philadelphia. These shops have, perhaps, lulled themselves into a sense of security during the last few years and a feeling of immunity against Union control, largely because of the small size of the shops and the terms of their “mosquito” size. This time, however, these illusions will be made to disappear. If they are to remain, these shops will be put under the rigid control of the Union. If accepted, the wages and standards as prevail in the bigger Union shops. If they refuse, we say that the complete elimination from the Philadelphia cloak market is inevitable.

AN INJUNCTION THAT MUST BE APPEALED

In a decision handed down a few days ago by Justice Donnelly in the New York Supreme Court, the International is permanently restrained from “interfering with the making of any of the products of the firm of C. C. Martin, of Toledo, Ohio, in any of the shops controlled by the Union, under any other name whatever.”

This is an amazing injunction. Through this writ New York union workers can be compelled to make the work of a firm against which their brothers are on strike in another city. In case it is seized of this right, it loses its reason for existence. On the other hand, not to obey this injunction would mean the taking up of a fight against the courts. As a consequence the Union finds entire International, cited in contempt of court and made to face severe punishment.

IN THE PHILADELPHIA DRESS INDUSTRY

A few months ago the dress and waist manufacturers in Philadelphia presented, as the fashion is these days, a set of demands to the Waist and Dressmakers’ Union of that city. They made demands on the position of the State, the position of workers and similar other drastic innovations. The Union, of course, would not concede these demands, and for a time it looked as though a strike was imminent. After a number of conferences between the Union, represented by President Schlesinger, and the leaders of the manufacturers, Messrs. May and others, and Mayor Moore of Philadelphia, the waist manufacturers have, however, agreed to allow things to remain as before, until July 1st, when negotiations would begin anew over these demands of the employers.

In the course of the next few days the first conference on this subject will be held. At the time that these negotiations were started, these negotiations is still very much in the dark. Will the dress employers of Philadelphia still insist upon their attitude of a few months ago in the face of the demands of the Union? We are told that they finally realized that their demands cannot and will not be conceded by the Union, no matter what come?

The last statement is based principally upon the general uncertainty of the factors involved in the situation. While the general price spoke of material reduced in Philadelphia will hold, it is obvious to all that the price of almost living necessaries was as high as during the years of the war. It was calculated that an interval of a few months would turn up in the paper money and the price of necessities. When the position of either one or the other party to this controversy.

Can it be honestly asserted at present that the slump in the consumer goods is, actually, a real slump, that food, shelter and clothing are still as forgivingly high as before. It is the true price of automobiles has come down, but, as known to manufacturers, automobiles costed in Philadelphia. They would, therefore, appear to be perfectly clear that if the dress and waist employers of Philadelphia had consented last year to the demands that were made, they would have been in the position in the expectation of cheap prices, that they should logically consent to a further postponement of their demands for a few months. We are not against the slump in prices. In the last few months our International has concluded a two-year agreement with the dress and waist manufacturers in Chicago and Cincinnati. These employers have conceded the fact that the time for wage reductions is not yet at hand. It is difficult for them therefore to hold on any longer. If the Dress employers of Philadelphia can refuse to accept such a justified and reasonable proposition. They should, in reason and justice, consent to a few months, as the cloak employers of New York and Chicago have consented.

We may, therefore, reasonably expect that the coming conference will be an amicable one. It is obvious to all that the Chicago union will, we are certain, contribute his best efforts toward the attainment of such a result. Outcome of negotiations do not, however, always depend upon desires. The International, therefore, is ready to face the situation in perfect calmness. Whatever the result of these conferences, the Philadelphia waist and dress workers will defend their rights, lives under humane conditions with every ounce of strength they possess.

AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD

In a former issue of "Justice" we have engaged in a pessimistic prophecy concerning the outcome of the Socialist Party Convention in Detroit. We are doubly pleased therefore to be able to state at present that we have been proved in our judgment.

The decision of the Detroit Convention to make common cause with all other radical groups in America is, indeed, an epoch-making event. American Socialists, it seems, have arrived at the conclusion to the rational conviction that today, less perhaps than at any other time, the policy of "splendid isolation" and of clinging to old slogans in the blissful expectation that the world would, somehow or other, come to accept their holy gospel, is impractical, illogical and erratic. In America, we must be frank, the Socialist Party has heretofore had the bad fortune of standing out on a footing upon our soil. DeLeuson, though officially banned, has, nevertheless, not lost its hold upon American Socialists for it has had its admirers, and all these admirers, and all the accepted Socialist dogma was regarded as harmful heresy and was proscribed. It was this state of affairs that had made it impossible for us to take any stand with any of the other groups. Indeed, it appeared to us that America, if she desired to operate without the taint of the "Russian revolution" in America, it depended for its functioning upon the good will of the Finnish, Russian, Jewish and such other federations, themselves hardly competent to hold the reaction, the clubbing of the reaction that followed has put almost the finishing touches upon whatever was left from the internal upheaval.

But the third world congress of the Detroit Convention must have in mind that they have finally gathered courage enough to break with their old isolation policy and to make common cause with other radical and progressive elements in the land. They their present meager forces will not bring a social revolution in this country. They have finally come to realize that these days, when reaction is in the saddle and sweeping everything in view,
WHY ANTONINI VOTED FOR LEWIS

Mr. E. Yanosky.
111 Union Square. City.

Enclosed you will find some of what I am able to get.
Freddy Antonini.

July 5, 1921.

Editor The New York Call,

In to-day's issue of the Call, under the headline: "Front Gates Seized for Voting for Lewis," you reprint an editorial from the currency of the.org. The following is a letter to the editor, Mr. S. Yanosky, expresses a desire to know the ground's immediate position and to commit this outrage. Mr. Yanosky could not be reached without troubling him

The reasons why I voted for Lewis are various and manifold, but before I close my letter I must state that I have not voted for Gompers last year in Montreal and that therefore I must be entirely unmoved by the last campaign against him, my opposition to the above anything else to any one man remaining at the head of any kind of union, to the taxation for, to say nothing more than forty years, there is no record of any such a character having ever anything where in the world since the halcyon days of Queen Victoria and Porfirio Diaz.

That I was right in my appraisal of Mr. Gompers whose machine must be diminished and accepted. O.1. Organized Labor is ever going to rise from the present quagmire, is proven by the facts that in the first year of the history of the A. F. of L., in Mr. Gompers' own admission, the President left the room when a member of the Executive Council was present to tell them what did Mr. Gompers now know? No less a personage than Tom Bickert, President of the defunct United Garment Workers, a number of a kind of union, to the taxation for, to say nothing more than forty years, there is no record of any such a character having ever anywhere in the world since the halcyon days of Queen Victoria and Porfirio Diaz.

(2) That I voted for Lewis because this was the most effective way of registering my protest against the perjury of Samuel Gompers, his policies, his politics, his leadership and his perjury of himself. I am and have been for very many consistently and irrevocably opposed to any proposition for innumerable reasons, the major of which are due to his hypocrisies and blunders. In the movement, his systematic campaign in an unholiness alliance with all that is black and vicious in the land, the medical forces must not be broken up in tiny factions and split in various isms. They have finally learned the truth that those who regard themselves as the vanguard of progress must not be crushed, but avowedly that they must forever keep in mind the tardiness of the masses, the slow march of those who remain behind them.

This will be, of course, the only direct way out of this predicament. It is obvious that these groups will not be swallowed up by the Socialists and will put forth certain definite terms as a condition of their affiliation. The Socialists to accept these terms without the loss of any of the fundamental principles for which this alignment may be sought is, of course, hard to say. The no clear-thinking men within the Socialists, however, must not be deflected by these difficulties and must continue on the telephone, but as I have so well marked out in the Detroit Convention.

THE PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN OF THE CLEVELAND JOINT BOARD

As the reader will find elsewhere in the issue of "Justice," the Cleveland Joint Board has decided to collect within the next two months from the members of all its locals an assessment for a reserve fund.

We welcome this decision as a measure of supreme importance for the Cleveland organization of our International. It is true that in the course of the last two years there were no conflicts between the union and the Cleveland employers. It is likewise true that a strong desire for peace exists equally among the workers and the employers of that city. All that has been accomplished in Cleveland for the last few years was, in point of fact, based upon this self-same desire to have peace in the local industry.

Let us all hope that nothing will occur on the Cleveland horizon in the future that might provoke a conflict. Nevertheless, we can vouchsafe the future of even a well-ordered industry. Thoughtful and intelligent workers must, therefore, be ready for any event. This is the underlying idea of the assessment in Cleveland, and we hope that the members of the Cleveland locals will gladly contribute to this tax and will raise an imposing fund for whatever emergency there might arise in the future.
A Letter From Helen Keller

(Reprinted from the Unity House Journal)

25 Seminole Avenue, Forest Hills, L. I., N. Y., January 11, 1931.

I am deeply interested in the "Workers’ Unity House" project. I think it will be of absorbing interest to all workers to come and see the delightful environment of the Blue Ridge Mountains. When they have seen the "Up There" they will be interested in it in a new way and will want to help. They may ask: "What will they leave behind for a little while the hard conditions that surround them?" I hope they will be able to forget the anxieties, the high price, the low pay, the lack of work, and unemployment which are an integral part of the wage-system. They will need all the health, rest, and relaxation and happiness that they find in wind and lake and hillsides. For, unless I misread the signs of the times, the future is full of trials for those who do the work of the world. The days

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On the page:

- "A Letter From Helen Keller"
- "THE CIVIL WAR"
- "History of the American Labor Movement"
- "Outlines of Lessons Given in the Unity Centers of the I. L. G. W. U."
- "NEW ATTEMPTS OF FEDERATION AND REORGANIZATION"
- "The Knights of Labor (organized 1869)"
- "The Knights of Labor reached its greatest strength in 1886 when it numbered about 600,000 members. Since then it steadily declined."
The House of Unity
A Letter by a Visitor

Through human ingenuity and numerous improvements and contrivances, life is made sweet and pleasant at Unity House. At the end of a windswept path lies "Unity Lake" the "Lake of Youth," a product of nature's splendor and generosity. It stretches far and wide, a bed of silver surrounded by high, green walls of beautiful trees. And over all it the sky, great, wide—now deep blue and clear, now strewed with opalescent clouds. Encumbered by these beauties, one can readily believe that here somewhere is to be found the "Fountain of Youth."

Through the crystal waters of the lake, countless fish can be seen gliding and rushing blithe and childlike, driven either by a conscious will or by some mysterious force. And in the woods, with its numinous creatures, struggling for existence, the soaring of the bird, the whirring of the insect, the quiet, mysterious rustling of the leaves, transport one to thoughts of primeval days. This place is sacred, Man, so take off your shoes are you approach it!

From many a shop and factory the young folks flock to this place, all sorrow, grievances and bitter feelings left behind. Here are all united by one idea—to enjoy life, to revel in the beauty and wonder of nature.

Young folks have to contend with grief, sorrow and heart-rending toll in the long march of the years. But now, they forget these; their problems are no more. Their only desire is to get back close as they can to nature, to be part of it. Joy and love live here. Is there anything sad in all the universe than the human heart filled with sincere devotion to the human kind?

Listen to their tales, dear! How human, how sweet! Is there anything that can challenge the depth of feeling of the "plain folks." Folk songs are the expression of the people. Their melodies are the stories of the "plain folks." The vastness of the ocean is but a plaything in comparison with the human soul. To mine listening to the folk songs, or watching the folk dances and games, is to mine dear moments, indeed. Those who have yet had this opportunity of seeing workers managing their own homes, gardens and fields, cannot comprehend the future where these will work will be the masters.

How grateful I am to the union of the workers and dreammakers for the splendid opportunity of having been in Unity House. Long live the House of Unity!

R. Gerber,
Member Local 3.

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Canadian Unions to Confer

The annual convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress will be held in Winnipeg, beginning Monday, August 22. In the convention call of the congress say:

"The period of reaction through which we are passing has brought about failures on the part of all trade unions, and many new ones which organized labor is called upon to face.

"The struggle of the workers to maintain their standard of living under these adverse circumstances has been taken advantage of by many employers, and throughout the Dominion to arbitrate collective bargaining under the guise of the introduction of 'open shop' methods of employment, and similar subterfuges.

"Powerful groups of employers have organized in an attempt to prevent the establishment of progressive social and industrial legislation, and it is noticeable that legislation has been left in abeyance calling for the eight-hour day and the employment insurance, protection of women and children, and other conditions recommended at the first annual meeting of the international labor body, the Washington Labor Congress, six years ago, and in which the Canadian government delegate concurred. On these and similar questions organized labor must again make itself heard in no uncertain voice."

The Canadian Trades and Labor Congress consists of A. F. of L. affiliates.

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ATTENTION of

DRESS and WAISTMAKERS

In view of the fact that some manufacturers are attempting to use this slack period as an opportunity for not employing cutters and also for settling prices for piece workers in an improper way, in violation of our agreement, you are requested, specially the chairmen,

FIRST--To report to the officers of our Union whether your firm is employing a cutter or not;

SECOND--Before settling any prices for piece workers, come to the office of the Union for advice.

Fraternally yours,

JOIN BOARD DRESS and WAISTMAKERS' UNION

J. McCORMIC, General Manager

M. K. MACKOFF, General Secretary

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