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Justice (Vol. 8, Iss. 50)

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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Negotiations With American Ass'n Broken Off

Submanufacturers insist on Reorganization and Restricted Admission of Business Agents to Shops

The developments in the controversy between the cloak strike leaders and the American Coat and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the cloak submanufacturers, over the past week and up to press time are, as follows:

The leaders of the strike sent a letter last Monday afternoon, December 7, to the delegation of the American Joint Board, suggesting that they withdraw their ultimatum to close the shops on Tuesday morning and that, if the Union would meet with them on Tuesday and attempt to reach an agreement, the ultimatum thereupon would be withdrawn. On Tuesday both sides met in the office of the Imperial Chairman, Raymond V. Ingargiola, but reached no agreement. The submanufacturers insisted on their present being accepted, which includes reorganization rights and restrictions of admission of business agents to the submanufacturers' shops and submission of their demands to arbitration. The strike leaders continued to oppose all these demands.

Another meeting was arranged for Wednesday afternoon, December 8 at the office of the present Imperial Chairman. Discussion failed to bring about an understanding. The situation is therefore deadlocked and the prospect are that the submanufacturers will close their shops.

Cloak Cutters Get Flat Increase of $3 Dollars

Dubinsky, Manager of Local 10, Announces Industrial Council Firms Will Give Cutters General Wage Raise

The members of Local 10, the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, were in high spirits last Monday afternoon, December 7, as David Dubinsky, the manager of the cutters' organization, announced at a special meeting held at Arlington Hall, that he had succeeded in obtaining from the Industrial Council the concession that all cutters employed in the shops will get a flat increase of $3 per week.

It should be borne in mind, in this connection, that the cutters, whose minimum scales had been raised through the settlement with the Council 48.99 per week, have practically hardly benefited at all through this raise, as nearly all of the cutters had been working at rates far above the minimum scales. The raise which Dubinsky now obtained for the cutters, therefore, is the real wage advance the members of Local 10 had got since the strike was called and this gain they obtained, too, through the direct negotiations of their manager and the employers' association.

When Dubinsky announced this news to the cutters assembled at the meeting, a din of applause burst out in the hall. At the same meeting, the cutters nominated officers for the coming election — manager, assistant manager, business agents and executive vice-president. Dubinsky was reelected for manager. The meeting also elected an election committee consisting of the following: Morris Levine, Elias Dun, Harry Goldstein, Ben Evry, Saul Rosnes and Abraham Reiss.

G. E. B. Meeting Condemns Cloak Strike Management


The last day of the third quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, Friday, December 5, was devoted exclusively to a critical analysis of the disastrous 23-week old cloak strike in New York and the portion of it still left unsettled—the strike against the jobbers and the submanufacturers' association. The day before, President Sigman read and proposed to the members the draft of a statement recommended to all members of the International Union, summing up the issues, development and results of the cloak strike and placing responsibility for its failures upon the Communist agents who directed it. The resolution was adopted by the vote of all but the three Communist members of the Board, David Goldberg obtained from voting. (The statement appeared in full in last week's issue of "Justice.""

President Sigman Telus Under What Condition the International Would Take Over

"The International is ready to take over the cloak strike provided Communist leaders get out and stay out," declared President Morris Sigman in reply to a question, or rather a "challenge" by Julies Pontor, one of the Communist members of the Board. Sigman emphasized the point that the General Executive Board is prepared to do all they can for the strike despite the almost helpless situation into which the Communist leadership has dragged it. Confronting the Communist strike leaders at the meeting, he declared that "your insubordination and servility to Communist party orders had all but broken the strike. They had put your present demands with hundreds of submanufacturers and contractors, before settlement with either the Industrial Council or the Jobbers' Association had been made, has disrupted the entire strike."

(Continued on Page 2)

Big Cooper Union Meeting Demands Communists Resign Leadership of Cloak Union

Huge Assembly Thunders Denunciation of Communist Politicians — Places Responsibility for Communist "Experimentalists" in Cloakmakers' Organization — Special Committee Brings President Sigman and Vice-President Dunsky to Cooper Union Meeting

Last Friday night was a night of great events for the cloakmakers of New York City. The point-up bitterness and indignation against the mismanagement and consequent failure of the cloak strike among the members of the cloak workmen in New York City burst forth, for the first time, in a storm that assumed the dimensions of a genuine revolt. The thousands of cloakmakers who gained admission into the hall and the thousands who were compelled to go away for lack of room united in a tremendous demand that the Communist politicians who are at present running the Cloakmakers' Joint Board and several of its locals resign and turnover the administration of the Union to the cloakmakers themselves.

The meeting which was held under the auspices of several groups of cloakmakers who represent the organized discontent in the ranks of the workmen with Communist dictatorship over their Union, passed an splendid order. The chairman of the meeting was R. Zackerman, who declared the meeting to be the beginning of a new era in the strike.

Denouncing the Communists for their mismanagement of the strike and accusing them of causing the defeat of the main issues of the strike, the assembled cloakmakers adopted a resolution calling upon the strike leaders to resign and requesting the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to take charge of the situation and bring about a settlement with the jobbers and the submanufacturers. The resolution, adopted by the "Strike Workers' Party" its agents and its press "for employing contemptible means to snuff power in labor's hour of need for their political purposes, thus destroying the foundations on which a union must rest."

The action taken by the meeting followed up the resolutions of members of the Executive Board and the American Joint Board the strike leaders of betraying the workmen to the Communist Party in whose interests the strike was conducted. A proposal to send a committee for President Sigman and Vice-President Dunsky who are at the close of the meeting of the General Executive Board at Hotel Continental was adopted in which a committee of twenty-five cloakmakers was at once dispatched to invite these leaders to address the Cooper Union meeting.

Both President Sigman and Vice-President Dunsky received a tumultuous ovation as they entered the hall.

(Continued on Page 2)

White Goods Workers Have Dance This Saturday

All preparations for the Reunion Dance being given by the White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62 are now complete. The dance will be held Saturday evening, December 11th, at Washington Irving High School, 14th Street and Irving Place, under the auspices of the local Educational Committee. A good dance orchestra has been engaged and there is every indication of a record attendance and a jolly get-together. Members may still obtain tickets if they call immediately at the office of the local, No. 117 Second Avenue.

Invitations have been sent out to those girls who were formerly members of the local and who may now be working in open shops, so that the dance will offer an opportunity for them to keep up their contact with the Union and its activities.
G. E. B. Meeting Condemns 
Cloak Strike Leadership

(Continued from Page 1)

and strike the foundation from it.
"Notwithstanding the fact that the strike hit itself was in the dullest season; that both the international and all its subsidiary organiza-
tions have been drained to the last cent by the extravagant manner
in which this strike had been conducted, and the slim prospects of getting a
satisfactory agreement from the job-
bers at this late hour," the G. E. B. is
ready in line. It is in order to serve the cloakmakers and take
over the strike jointly with a com-
mittee of cloakmakers who are in
strike, strikers who are free from
any political party or clique domina-
tion, and to pull the Union out of this
calamity. Therefore, however, be one
condition to this: the present blunder-
ing leaders of what remains of the
strike, with very few exceptions,
should take their hands off the entire
situation.

Philadelphia Delegation Registers Bi-
ter Protest Against Communist
Malignant Charges

On that same day, the General Re-

current Board received and gave a

hearing to a committee of Philadelphia

cloakmakers, which consisted of

Maurice Domsky, for 32 years a mem-

ber of the cloakmakers' union of that
city and for years blacklisted by the
Philadelphia manufacturers; George

Stilman who had suffered imprisonment
and deportation; Robert Heist, Louis
Porter and L. Dub-

noh, all true and tried members of the
International Union. In vivid, burn-
ing words they told how the Com-

unists of New York and of Philadelp-

hia have for many years tried to

behead the good name of the Philadelphia

cloakmakers' organization imposing to
government and church bodies.

all because the Philadelphia Joint

Board would not accept Communist

leadership and continue to make a trade

union organization. The members of

the General Executive Board were

deeply stirred by the account of the

Philadelphia Committee.

The committee further told the

Board that all the Philadelphia shops
today employ only 200 workers. Each

shop had been thoroughly, investigat-
ing since the New York strike broke

out and kept under most vigilant con-
trol. Some employers, against whom

charges of the Chicago Daily News

were lodged, were fired. If the New

York leadership of the strike

would have done one-third of the

work done by the Philadelphia trades

would not have had the strike

over the strike against scavengers, the

strike would have been in far better

shape.

A UNIQUE CONCERT OF
HEBREW MUSIC

New York will have a unique con-
cert of Hebrew music in Carnegie Hall

on December 28, when music collected

by the Jewish Ethnological Expedition

will have its first important American

presentation. Under the direction of

the composer Lazar Samuelsky, who

was a member of the Expedition, folk

songs and dances gathered from ro-

mews Jewish tribes, among them the

Daghestan and Circassians, will be

sung. The songs ascended to famous

rabbits and cantors and works by com-pasture Hungarian Jewish com-

position will also be given.

The soloists, several of whom will

participate in the Petrograd concert at
which the "Mani Folk Songs" first
made the songs public, are the

singers Eugenia Katsos, formerly of

the Kluger Opera Company, and Ziri

Gill, who came to America with the

Polish Opera Company; Ignace Hille-

berg, Gordon Oren, Max Barret and

William Herson, pianists; Yasha

Fishberg, violinist, and Odat Sosetsk

cellist. The concert is being given as a

benefit for the purposes of the

League of Zionists-Revolutionists.

While programs of Hebrew music are
not uncommonly given in New York,
you generally include folk and liturgical
music which is now discredited

by scholars as an authentic tradition.

Maurice Saminsky, one of the foremost

living scholars of Hebrew music,

has eliminated from the archives all
songs of questionable musical

derivation, in order to make the list

Exclusively

New Address of Pressers Local 35

The Cloak, Skirt and Dress Pressers' Local No. 35, has removed its offices from 273-2nd Avenue to

10 East 22nd Street.

Its new telephone number is Ashland 5774-5775.

For communication with Local 35, refer to this new address and telephone number.

J. GOROTSKY, Manager.

Canadian Trade Unions Fight To Make Picketing Legal

The Executive Council of the Trade
Unions has arranged with Mr. Mac-

Kendal King, premier of Canada, and

with Mr. La Fontaine, Minister of Jus-

tice in the Dominion, for a hearing on
the subject on December 14. It is
also being planned that organized labor
appear before a special session of Parliament in request that the pro-

\n

cision in the old code be abolished and

a new clause embodied in the Federal

legislation declaring picketing legal.

At the invitation of Tom Moore, the

president of the Canadian Trade Un-

ions, Bro. Sol Polesnik, inamnor of the

Toronto Joint Board, will be pres-

ent at the hearing before Premier

King in Ottawa.

Cooper Union

(Continued from Page 1)

President Jurgis was carriage to

the platform on the shoulders of a
crowd of workers. He was weekly
 endorsed when he called upon the cloakmakers
to drive the Communists from the

union and restore the organization

to its old standing as a bona fide labor

union.

Max Heistian and Nicholas

Krentman, two workers who addressed

the meeting, called upon the L. C. C.

U. W. to take over the Joint Board of

the Cloak and Dress Makers' Unions

and to put an end immediately to the

Communist rule in the union.

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teed.

express charges. A box of these makes

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COLUMBUS TEA

EASTERN SUN TEA

Exclusive

An Entertainment & Lecture

will be held

for the English Speaking Members of Local No. 22

AT LAUREL GARDENS, 78 21st STREET

ON FRIDAY EVEN, DECEMBER 10th at 8 P. M.

JULIET STUART POYNTZ

will lecture on

"Can Labor Improve its Conditions and How?"

A. HUGH will play the Violin

accompanied by REBECCA BROOKMETER

THERE WILL ALSO BE A SINGER AND PIANIST

AN INTERESTING AND GOOD TIME IS ASSURED

All dressmakers are requested to come

and bring their friends.

Aspists of LOCAL No. 22

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Committee for Preservation of Trade Unions to Have Conference on December 21

Will War on Communist Activity in Labor Unions

Calling for unswerving war against Communism within the trade unions, representatives of organized labor announced at a conference of the Committee for the Preservation of Trade Unions, at the Waldorf Astoria, that plans for the complete liquidation of Communists from the labor movement will be continued.

The conference will be held Tuesday, December 21st, at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 55th Street, at 7:30 P.M.

"We call for war upon Communist disruption," the statement of the conference declares, "we call for the workers in all unions to unite against the enemy, the Communist. The division between the labor movement and the Communist adventurers must be definitely established."

Coming on the heels of the announced intention of the Trade Union Educational League, the trade union wing of the Communist Party, to hold a convention here January 1st, the organization of the Committee for the Preservation of the Trade Unions in December is a cause for concern among the ranks of the workers. The conference called declared that their move does not mean that the Communists are particu- larly interested in labor. "The fact is that the Communist interlopers in the trade unions were never so weak as they are now," said former Almaden Abraham Bel, president of the Committee, and a former chairman of the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and a signatory of the conference call." "Except in the 'frontiers' and cloakmakers' unions, locally, they are without power or prestige. In all other unions they are negligible. They are determined to take them and stamping them out. In the 'frontiers' and cloakmakers' unions, the Communist activity has been very much lessening. We hope that the Communist leaders in these unions are planning to do something for the workers. There is a great deal of worker unrest and they are trying to stamp it out in the 'frontiers' and cloakmakers' unions."

The striking textile workers of Passaic, N. J., have been having a very hard fight. They are trying to get a settlement of their dispute with the Espining Company and settle with their striking workers.

Under the auspices of the Passaic Central Trades and Labor Council, the General Relief Committee Textile Strikers, and Passaic Local, No. 1803, of the U. T. L. W., the strikers have held a great eight-day New Jersey State Bazaar to be held in the strike zone.

The bazaar opened its gates last evening, December 17th, at Kaplan's Auditorium, this city, and will continue through eight days, winding up on Saturday night, December 18. Proceeds have been decided to be divided equally between the eight workers' relief bazaars, and will contribute the articles for their own benefits with the money for their relief. Many bazaars will be run by strikers, and for these bazaars an urgent appeal is made to our fellow brothers of the General Relief Committee. 473 Main Avenue, Passaic, N. J. Every local organization and every worker and every sympathizer with the just struggle of these striking workers for recognition of their rights to organize and do collective bargaining is asked to contribute articles or money to buy articles for these bazaars.

It is anticipated that more than one thousand hundred thousand workers and labor sympathizers will visit the bazaar from New York and New Jersey. The bazaar has the endorsement of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor, the Essex County Federation, President 4 MacMahon of the United Textile Workers of America, and as such it was expected that the bazaar would have the financial support of the union.
THE STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

The statement issued last week by the General Executive Board in the name of "Justice," and which in a few days will be mailed to every member of the International Union all over the country, is a document of first-rate importance, a historic declaration which should be studied with utmost care by every man and woman belonging to our organization.

It appears at a moment when our members, stunned by the terrific blow they have received as a result of the collapse of the cloak strike in New York, are faced by the hard problem of coming to terms with the strike leaders. It is a protest against the terrible mismanagement of this strike by our Communist leaders and directors, and an appeal for a new policy that has been termed by the members of the Joint Board "the keystone in our organization." It is an appeal for leadership that would lead out of the morass into which the political adventure has dragged them.

As members know from the statement of the G. E. B.'s statement, supplies this light abundantly. It lifts the curtain over the New York cloakmakers' tragedy and exposes mercilessly the hypocrisy, ignorance, and spinelessness of the leaders of the Socialist party, who, under the cloak of the Communist camellia, have displayed from the first day they became the masters of the destiny of the 35,000 cloakmakers involved in it.

Our readers must keep in mind that the statement issued by the General Executive Board is one of the most important decisions because the Communist directors of the cloak strike and of the Joint Board have started, within the last two weeks, a new sinister and provocative campaign against the International Union. The leaders of the New York cloak strike have attempted, in a reckless manner, to throw up a barricade of false propaganda and disorganization over their own dismal failures and mismanagement, obviously in the hope that by this stratagem they can pull the wool over the eyes of the cloakmakers and stem the flow of the strike that threatened to sweep them out of position of leadership in the cloakmakers' organization. The leaders of this sinister propaganda and to cut off their retreat, now that they have failed, the General Executive Board decided that it owes a sacred duty to the cloakmakers to speak the truth to the labor movement, as a whole to the nation and to the world, in the interest of the Communist, Isolated New York cloak strike by a committee from the International Union, which was very much in the interest of the Communist movement at the present time, and in the interest of every worker.

In its indictment of the Communist leaders of the cloak strike, the General Executive Board wants every member of the International Union to understand that the whole strike has been engineered and directed by Communists, along the lines of Communist strategy and for the glory of their cause and slogans.

Communists were in the very heart of the most important committees of the strike, and wherever a non-Communist was placed in a committee, he was surrounded by a host of "commissars" and Communist spies who lurked behind every step and move and thwarted every independent action on his part.

True, throughout the long agonizing months of the strike, the officers of the International Union and all other active non-Communists in the Union have cooperated faithfully with the leadership of the strike "to the extent they were permitted to cooperate. They have endeavored, as good and honest trade unionists, to do their share of the work of organizing, without falling gullible of the strike leadership, and to work for extending the strike in the interests of their members, and against the leadership of the strike, which, as the members of the International Union have all during this time abundantly proven, from publicly denouncing the destructive tactics of the strike leadership and expressing their firmness, that no matter how merited, such declarations, while the active fighting days of the strike were tottering the already worn-out structure of the strike.

The statement directly charges the leaders of the cloak strike with having sabotaged the strike against the jobbers and with having dipped overboard the principal issues for which the workers were called out on this strike, and that in a platitudinous manner, way they had bungled up the entire situation and confused the whole purpose of the fight. It sums up the gains which were acquired by the cloakmakers from the settlement with the Industrial Council in this terse and illuminating phrase—that the strikers have "gained a union which was only worth fighting for, and lost a union which was offered to them voluntarily a half a year ago.

The statement further inculcates the Communist leaders for having "involved this New York job in the most utter and complete shambles" and the Communist leaders who never were given an opportunity to vote for or against it, despite the promise made by these leaders several weeks before the strike commenced to give an opportunity to a committee of the Joint Board to determine whether a strike should be called or not.

This is the first time in the history of the Cloakmakers' Union that a strike of such proportions and with such ramifications in the industry was utterly and completely managed and controlled by Communist leaders.

The Communist leaders would not let the cloakmakers decide whether they wanted a strike, because this strike was decided for them. And when it was advanced in the strike, to the "Educational" League, just before the Government's Commission had made its recommendations, and would have been called to notify what concessions the Commission would have granted the workers.

There are several other important points which the statement of the General Executive Board clears up, points that cloakmakers should have in mind so that they might be able to answer some of the lying charges which the Communists are spreading about the International Union and the Joint Board "in cooperation with the strike leaders.

The Communist directors of the strike, for instance, are broadcasting a claim that President Sigman was not opposed to calling the strike but that he opposed to calling the strike because of his address to the heads of the industry. They are trying to shift part of the responsibility for its failure to the leadership of the International. In true Communist fashion they, however, do not name the Communist leaders of the strike who were responsible for anything.

The statement of the G. E. B. brings out the fact that before the strike was called, President Sigman urged the leaders of the Joint Board "not to play the cloakmaker" to the employers' associations in the industry, without first attempting to negotiate an agreement on the basis of the Governing Commisions recommendations. When after the Governing Commission's negotiations, President Sigman pointed out to them time and again, were obtained with one important group of employers, the "insulating" of the union organization, it would be the foundation of an excellent strategic and political advantage to concentrate its strength and wiles against the employers. And a victory against the jobbers would justify every effort and every member might be called upon to bring because the jobber-submanufacturers who are trying to defend themselves against the charges that they had settled in a haphazard way with hundreds upon hundreds of individual firms, sending 16,000 workers back to the shops before a settlement was reached with any of the important employers in the industry.

The Communist leaders of the strike, instead of trying to succor the strikers by building a united front with the jobbers, are trying to destroy the International Union and the Joint Board, and encourage the employers. They are making a great error in an economic and political point of view, and now that no work in them is made for the jobbers; our workers also know that the members of the Industrial Council were very much interested in the employers' definite desire, they had hastened, and they certainly would not voluntarily help the jobbers to turn over their orders. But it was quite a different affair in the case of a number of sub-contracting independent shops, where hardly any control was carried out and where in the nature of things such a control is extremely difficult. Therefore, the Communist leaders of the strike have been expected — scale production on a huge scale that played splendidly into the hands of the jobbers and stiffened their opposition to the Union's demand.

The G. E. B. statement emphasizes the point that, thanks to the blundering strategy of the present administrators of the Joint Board, the leaders of the New York cloak strike have a situation almost unique from itself public sympathy and public support. This antagonism showed itself clearly in the manner the strike had been treated in the press. It was very much in the interest of the Communist party to maintain the same.

The Communists are also trying to defend themselves against the charges that they had settled in a haphazard way with hundreds upon hundreds of individual firms, sending 16,000 workers back to the shops before a settlement was reached with any of the important employers in the industry.

The statement of the G. E. B. presents the new development very much in the interest of the Communist party, a development which has made it possible to put on a large scale that played splendidly into the hands of the jobbers and stiffened their opposition to the Union's demand.

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Wastes In Distribution
(Facts for Workers)

The distance by direct rail from Underwood to Bayonne, N. J., is a little over thirteen miles. A freight train can travel this distance in an hour. But the Post Authority of New York tells of a line of idle rail from Underwood to Bayonne, carrying a ton of freight and costing the public thereby the loss of $20,000,000 per year. In other words, the Post Office is using the services of half a dozen millionaires.

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Weekly Educational Calendar

Washington Irving High School, 16th Street and Irving Place, Room 530

Saturday, December 11
1:30 p.m. Emory Holloway—A Social Study of American Literature. Carl Sandburg.
2:30 p.m. Current Labor Problems—lecture to be announced.

Sunday, December 12
11:00 a.m. A. J. Muste—Current Events in the Labor and Social World. Giant Power.
1:30 p.m. B. J. Rodman—History of American Literature. "Yiddish Literature & a Literary Visit!"

EXTENSION DIVISION
McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

Friday, December 17
8 p.m. St. Nieger—The Social Significance of Yiddish Literature.

Headquarters Local 91, 7 E. 16th St.

Monday, December 13
6:50 p.m. Dr. Theresa Wolfson—"Our Changing Morality"

UNITY CENTERS

East Side Unity Center
P. S. 1, 224 E. 5th St., Manhattan
Wahlsenker's Unity Center
P. S. 45, 320 E. 20th St., Manhattan
Harlem Unity Center
P. S. 23, Lexington Ave. at 135th St., Manhattan
Yiddish Unity Center
P. S. 3, Freeman St. and Interval Ave., Bronx
Lower Bronx Unity Center
P. S. 85, Brown Place and 15th St., Bronx

Brownsville Unity Center—N. 185th, 13th Ave., Brooklyn

EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER
P. S. 25, Room 410, 330 East 5th St.

Tuesday, December 14
3:50 p.m. Dr. Theresa Wolfson—"Our Changing Morality"

ELITE MEETING

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Friday, December 10
5:30 p.m. Alexander Pichandler—How to Learn to "Think Straight!"

HARLEM UNITY CENTER
P. S. 72, Room 406, Lexington Ave. at 105th St.

Wednesday, December 15
5:30 p.m. Robert Metzler—Labor Problems.

5 p.m. A. J. Muste—History of Civilization

Wednesday, December 22
7 p.m. Robert Kerlin—English Literature.

UNITY REUNION DANCE

Saturday, February 12, Lincoln's Birthday, Ballroom Manhattan Opera House

Much interest is being shown by our members and friends in the Unity Reunion Dance. Groups are planning to spend this evening together in sociability and good fellowship. The famous Paul Whitman band will supply the music.

Reserve Lincoln's Birthday, Satur-

Thursday, February 11 for this occasion.

For further information apply to Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

GREGORY MATUSEWICH
WILL GIVE A RECITAL IN TOWN HALL, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 26

Gregory Matusewich, virtuoso of the English concertina, will give his third recital at Town Hall, Sunday, December 26, 3 P. M. He will give an excellent program with the well-known pianist Yasha Famoso, his accompanist. He will also be assisted by Lora Cea, his violinist.

Mr. Matusewich is well known to our members who heard him at First of the Year meeting, and at strikek's entertainments.

We suggest to our members to attend this recital as we are sure it will be of cultural treat.

Tickets may be obtained at the office of our Educational Department, 2 West 16th Street.

REGISTER AT ONCE for the courses and lectures offered by the University Extension Department of our federation, and get in touch with us at 2 West 16th Street.
Annual Report of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22

To the Members of the Dressmakers’ Union, Local No. 22:

Greetings:

This report submits a report of the activities of the Executive Board from November 25, 1926, to November 25, 1927. The report of the Executive Board for the past year, as well as the report of the Board of Directors for the past six months, were presented to the meeting. The number of union members decreased rapidly, as at times it seemed to be lower by thousands of members than it was. Standards and working conditions were lowered. Discipline, in the shops, was destroyed. The record of the dearth of affairs in the Joint Board, the administration of our local was compelled to devote itself to the maintenance of the administrative affairs of the local, to the general work of the Union so as to give to the Joint Board, our own organization and save it from further deterioration. To fully explain the significance of these reports, it is necessary to cite some figures about the number of shops under the control of our union before and after the latter situation.

We have investigated the records of the State and the Joint Board and have found no report of the number of shops under union control during the past three years prior to the date of the report of the number of shops under our control. Our report was dated July 12, 1925, that is, a report immediately after the new administration took office. The number of shops at the main office, at that time, was 966. In the eight districts of the Union, there were number 103, which together totaled 1069 shops.

We found one report dated October 20, 1925, which gives the number of shops in the main office as 883, the number in the eight districts as 103, as mentioned at all. This report cannot be considered as reliable because of the fact that during the last two months prior to the date of the report, the business agents did not visit any shop and it was therefore impossible to check the number of shops that had dropped out of the union. We have therefore compiled a report of shops which dropped out from the month of July till December 1, 1925, with the result that during this time there was a reduction of 1069 shops and organized 154 new shops which brings the number of lost shops to this date at 1069. The number of shops which had been organized after the new administration took office. It was a well-known fact that the number of shops which many of the shops go out of business yearly and it is necessary for that reason to continue the effort to organize shops continuously so as to keep up union control. However, at no time before has there been a similar record within the course of a few months. In 1925, for the same period, the number of shops which dropped out was 1069, and in 1926, was 159, that is, 212 shops less. This rapid loss of shops would have been even greater had it not been for the organization drive initiated at the beginning of the spring season. The number of shops in our industry today is 1022.

The total number of shops organized for the past year was 562. Great was the loss in the number of members organized. The number was even greater. When we took office, we found that 4700 members had dropped out of our local. It seemed as though the situation was entirely hopeless. While it is quite true that in Local No. 22 it is a condition which has been made good. It was with great effort that this drain on our membership was checked, and about 4000 members regained. The present standing of our local, according to our records, as well as those of the international, is 10,620.

Our branch meetings have been attended by thousands of members. This fact is brought out most clearly in the report of the activities of the Joint Board in the activities of our Union. Of the thousands of members in our organization, no more than 11,600 are active in the joint board and are participating in the work of our organization. We take particular note of the fact that even during the past two months, our speaking branches and thus have brought closer to our Union the large number of members on the grid, and that the officers and committees have been constantly working to build the officers and committees, and one has been elected a member of our Executive Board.

(To be Continued)

Congress of the Dutch Federation of Labor

A congress of the Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions was held at Utrecht from the 14th to the 21st of October. After considering various internal questions and adopting the annual report for 1934-1935, the Congress referred the delegates to the various subjects, including the work and organization of women, the participation of young workers, the interests of the worker in good primary education, the protection of young workers and cultural work, etc.

The Congress re-elected the Executive Committee to work energetically on behalf of various social measures.

The Congress declared that it was not desirable for Holland to join the International Federation of Trade Unions against Communist affiliations that an American dock strike, and that the same demand was made of the shipping industry.

The Congress of the Netherlands Federation of Labor adopted the views expressed in the report of the special commission representing the national central and the Social Democratic Party, declaring that Belguim's membership in the International Federation of Labor was not desirable for Holland.

The Growth of the "Free" Trade Union Centre of Argentina

The national trade union council has adopted a resolution supporting the "Free" Trade Union Centre of Argentina, as presented by the I. F. T. U. in such council at its meeting of the end of March. The council is the result of an appeal to the central bodies for the formation of a national council to bring together the trade unions affiliated with it even during the few months it has been in existence. The council is composed of members of the trade unions affiliated with the International Domestic Services' Union of Buenos Ayres, and the General Workers' Union of the Argentine Republic. Propaganda committees have been set up to recruit workers in industrial centers not affiliated with the existing councils, and the council has consolidated into full union.

The Syndicalist National Centre is on the other hand steadily declining. It has recently lost one of its strongest unions, the printing workers' union, and the next council of the latter union season passed at a meeting of these unions, it was stated that the leaders of the union, which was only formed in 1923, have given all power to the movement to the brink of ruin by their divisions and their neglect of the protective and practical trade union work.

Trade Union Strength in Australia

Although the labor movement of Australia works under exceptionally favorable conditions, there are, in addition to the comparatively small section of workers who are ineligible to join any organization, still many thousands of workers not organized. Out of the total of 2,632,141 employees (male and female) of 28,721 establishments, a little over 50 per cent, or a little over 50 per cent, are trade unionists. On Germany and the United States, where the trade unionists are 50 per cent and mark 90 per cent and in trade unionists of the United States 12 per cent to 21 per cent, we find the "workers", from which these figures are taken. We found the following information: Australia has a large percentage of non-unions, however, a mere comparison of the numerical aspect of the trade unionists with the percentage of the entire labor force, gives no idea whatever of the real strength of the unionists. To discount the statistics, however, as is the case in many countries, that many thousands of workers are non-unions is superfluous reasoning. The power exerted (through collective bargaining) is immense and far-reaching that the unorganized units, however, useless their numbers, are hopelessly overwhelmed and overruled in every conflict which may arise.
The Week in Local 10

BY SAM E. SHENKER

It was for the purpose of nominating candidates for office for the ensuing year that the members filled the spacious meeting-room of Arlington Hall last Monday night, December 9th. But it was not expected to hear the announcement from Manager Dubinsky, amid tumultuous applause and shouts of approval, that beginning with the first week in January, the cloak and suit cutters will receive a flat increase of $2.

Increased Minimum Only on Paper

When the settlement between the Joint Board and the employees was announced yesterday, both on paper and when the cloak and suit cutters learned that their salaries would be raised $2, their increased minimum provision was to be increased immediately and general. The men insisted at the meeting that would have been held immediately following the settlement for the purpose of issuing cards and instructions, that in point of wages they secured the gains on paper. One of the leaders of the General Strike Committee, following an infor- mation that he had received, informed the officers of Local 10 that the wages were raised to $65 minimum provided that they would work, under the same conditions as the other crafts, that is, day and hour work. But such a proposition was not considered.

The demand by the cloak and suit cutters at shop meetings for an increase in wages became very intense. They expressed the opinion that after a strike of nearly twenty weeks it was only a matter of the other crafts, particularly the finishers and the examiners, whose wages were considerably advanced through the $5 minimum provision contained in the new agreement. And the reason for that is that these crafts in the main work at the minimum rates, while the cutters, on the other hand, work for rates of wages considerably higher than other the old or the new minimum wages.

New Minimum Gain for Other Crafts Only

It was not necessary for Manager Dubinsky to remind the employees of the dissatisfaction of the cutters and their insistence upon an increase in wages to which they were entitled under the new agreement. In fact, the employees could not refer to their old work and want to return to work on the old wages. But Dubinsky pointed out to them at the shop meetings that to begin a demand for an increase in wages at the time would be inopportune.

It was pointed out to the men that only about five per cent of the employees raise their wages and, at that only very slightly, by the increase of the minimum. This was borne out by a statistical study of the wages and earnings of the various crafts in the clothing industry.

While about fifty per cent of the other crafts worked for the minimum, the cutters' wages were $65 or more, as was expected according to the report of the Governor's Commission it was indicated that the average of the cutters was $1.00.

It was within the past two weeks that at least Dubinsky, in company with Louis Nagler and Samuel Perlmuter, succeeded with the leaders of the Joint Board in convincing the employees that to go out on strike and instead accept a proposition of working day work during the slack period. If such a proposition were affected, the employers promised that they would grant the cutters a $2 increase.

The leaders of the association were informed that while the proportion of work lost in the near future would be chiefly on the part of the cutters, as well as the cutters, necessarily. It must be admitted that it also has great advantages at the same time. And due to this the cutters might consider a proposition of changing a week into ten and a half days during the slack period. This, provided that they could get a substantial increase on minimum as well as on their wages. The employers' representatives were not inclined to accept any such proposition, but they did admit that in the score of the increase accorded the workers in the new agreement, almost all of the only ones who had made headway in this direction.

On Friday, December 3rd, Dubinsky, Nagler and Perlmuter again met the employers and during the course of this conference a good deal of talk was opened around the subject of wage. Finally, however, on Monday afternoon, December 4th, another conference was opened at which the employers conceded to a flat increase of $2 for all cloak and suit cutters, which is to go into effect on the first week in January.

Renomination of Administration

Heartily Seconced

Just what the overwhelming majority of the men felt about the administration in respect to their record of service was clearly manifested when last approval was lent each time an officer of the administration was nominated. It was necessary for Dubinsky to wait for some moments for the aplause to die down to signify his acceptance following Nagler's recommendation that he be renominated as manager.

The first to be renominated was Philip Amel, present secretary, for the second term. But in a brief statement he declared that he was compelled, owing to his physical condition, to decline the honor of serving the membership for the next year. He declared, however, that his declining the nomination was not mean that he was retiring from activity in the union. He pledged his unflinching efforts in behalf of the cutters and declared that he would, as long as he was physically able, stand ready to serve Local 10. It was Perlmuter who seconded Mauve W. Jacobs, the present chairman of the executive board, for the office of president.

A new feature which will make the present election unusually interesting is that there will be two ballots given each member to vote upon. One ballot will continue the candidates for the local proper, that is, manager, assistant manager, president, vice-president and delegates to the Central Trades and Labor Council, inner guard and executive board members. The second ballot will contain the names of the candidates running for the office of business agents who will serve from the Joint Board.

In a forceful speech which marked his acceptance, Dubinsky declared that his service in Local 10 will always be marked by such policy: the employment of the unif or for and in behalf of his members along trade union lines. He will not permit the division of the union's affairs by any outsiders political forces. He emphatically declared that neither he nor any of his colleagues will be servants of any political party.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR LOCAL 10

Saturday, December 18th

in ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE

Polls Open From 12:30 to 6 P.M.

AT THIS ELECTION, LOCAL OFFICERS, SUCH AS MANAGER, ASSISTANT MANAGER, PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AS WELL AS BUSINESS AGENTS TO THE JOINT BOARD, WILL BE ELECTED.

Due to the strike, members owing up to nine months' dues will be permitted to vote.

MEMBERS WHOSE BOOKS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE STRIKE COMMITTEE SHOULD APPLY TO THE OFFICE OF LOCAL 10 THIS COMING MONDAY AND TUESDAY, WHERE THEY WILL RECEIVE THEIR BOOKS OR WILL BE GIVEN OFFICIAL DUPLICATE MEMBERSHIP RECORD CARDS. THESE CARDS WILL ENABLE THEM TO VOTE WITHOUT THEIR DUES BOOKS.

Because of this, registration of all cutters participating in the coming election will take place.

SURE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION OF LOCAL 10!

SURE THAT YOUR NAME IS REGISTERED, signifying that you were among those who participated in the election!

DO NOT LEAVE IT TO OTHERS to elect those to whom you are entitled the affairs of your local for the coming year!

ELECT THOSE IN WHOM YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE and in whose hands you are willing to place the future of your economic conditions!

Don't Be A Slacker!!

STRIKERS OF WEBSTER HALL are urged to appear on Monday between 12 and 3 in the afternoon in the office of Local 10, and see Manager Dubinsky regarding their due books.

Watch further details on this page in connection with the increase for the cutters in the cloak industry, which is to go into effect the first week in January.

Miscellaneous Members to Nominate Candidates December 13

This special purpose of the meeting will be the nomination by the members of candidates for the quota of two members on the executive board.

The meeting of the miscellaneous section will take place next Monday, December 13, in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.