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

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

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A YEAR and today!

There were thirteen million unemployed in America in September, 1933, and at least half that many altogether unemployed. Boys, dark passion, and stark poverty held the highways and byways of the land. Credit was almost obliterated, and though the President, in his first address, called the situation "the most serious in the history of the nation," and though the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the New Deal, was a hopeful, beckoning question mark already at work.

Two months later, the American masses did what they had been expected to do. They consigned the "prosperity"-the crumbs of the Hoover solution. The "New Deal," a hopeful, beckoning question mark, has begun.

With a speed that all but blinded America's population accustomed to the do-nothing, procrastinating policy of the old plutocratic gang at the administrative helm, things began to happen in America, fast reaching and transforming things. The bank "holiday," which disclosed the hopeless tangle into which the money changers and the financial pirates had thrown the entire exchange and credit systems of the country, the decision to move to repudiate Prohibition, and, finally, the passage of the National Recovery Act, followed each with astounding success. From one end of the land to the other resounded the slogans, "Jobs for the unemployed!", "Billions for social security!", "Tribunes for the workers!", and America began breathing, for the first time in four years, a breath of hope. And for the first time in our history, the American masses, with the help of the strong "captains" of industry and finance, had heard a great new voice which proclaimed that the old order of "rugged individualism" was gone forever; that the "New Deal" meant Government control and participation in business, and that, if the present social system were to be saved, if it is worth living at all, it must be reorganized on a radically different basis and revamped internally as well as outwardly.

In true American fashion, this new national hope at once began to bear the stamp of the NRA, the spearhead of the new industrial policy of the Government. America trusting has blotted all its stars to the NRA wagon in the hope that it might lead her out of the wilderness and bring her to the promised lands of economic security.

Can America conquer the crisis by way of NRA? Will America have enough of the mild, "labor-saving" methods of its Government? The "New Deal," a hopeful, beckoning question mark, has begun.

Editorial Notes

THE GREAT CAMPAIGN OF 1933 is still on.

The stupendous organizing drive of the I. L. G. W. U., which began early in the Spring, has not spent its full force. It has swept already a half dozen towns, some of them of great size, into the structure of the I. L. G. W. U. Garment Workers' organization. It has added nearly a hundred thousand members to the rolls of our International Union, and the end is not yet.

The terrific pressure of the campaign leaves no time for those actually engaged in it for back-keeping or retrospective evaluation. All we know is that in size, depth and significance this Campaign of 1933 transcends everything that had happened in the history of our Union before. It has been the year 1909, in overshares 1910, and leaves the other historic landmarks of the I. L. G. W. U. far behind.

The gigantic achievements in the New York dress industry, the strike in Chicago, in St. Louis, in Boston, in Philadelphia, in Cleveland, the organization of the entire garment industry strip around New York with its hundreds of shops and countless thousands of workers, the strikes in the embroidery trades, in the raincoat industry, in the general absence of strikes, the fact that not one of them a failure, adding each host of new members and strengthening the position of the Union in every branch of the garment industry.

And on the order of the day.

The general strike in the underwear industry involving at least eighteen thousand workers; the coming strike in the ladies' tailoring which promises to be the most effective in the history of the agreement negotiated and the prospective strike in the blue and white industry involving some thirty thousand workers in and around New York; and the very large strike in the Dominion goods industry in Brooklyn and New York affording thousands upon thousands of bathers unorganized and badly exploited workers; the looming strikes in the children's wear industry with at least ten thousand workers concerned in it; the last organizing work conducted by the I. L. G. W. U. in the men's wear trades which bids well to culminate in a strike; the drives in Los Angeles and in Kansas City—all these activities developing on a huge scale and rushing last to the courts.

A program that ordinarily would by its size and divergence appear almost fantastic of full accomplishment even at the beginning of the year, in our time has developed into a movement that bids well to culminate in a strike; the drives in Los Angeles and in Kansas City—all these activities developing on a huge scale and rushing last to the courts.

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auxiliary force for economic justice. To many of them, its past and present, is still just a big question mark.

In addition, the very problem of administering these greatly enlarged functions has been complicated by the question of their own constituencies, of meeting periodically with the various branches and divisions, the adjustment of grievances which will not doubt be aired by the strike. The moral and the spirit of the workers are being tested by the strike. The moral and the spirit of the new workers are being tested by the strike.

It is probably no exaggeration to say that we can see the horizon of our Union if no progress is made on this important task of educating this very important membership to a full realization of the strike and to their duties in the shops and their position in the industry.

The future of our organization, especially in the strike, under present conditions, it will be difficult for us to bring about a sufficient number of workers to their duties and to our Union, that they will be the Union.

THE CHICAGO DRESS STRIKE is settled; the strike in St. Louis is only settled in part. The silk dress industry in St. Louis has been settled for a year and a half, and the tailors are back at the machines. The cotton dress strike is still pending and back at it, and at this writing, their workers are still out.

There is, nevertheless, hardly a doubt that the cotton dress manufacturers of St. Louis will be brought to terms before long. The spirit of the St. Louis strikers is so marvelous, their resistance is so amazing and vital, that their eventual success is conceded on all sides.

CLOAK EXAMINERS THANK DUBINSKY, NAGLER

The Cloak and Suit Examiners, Beggars and Seekers Union, Local 63, adopted at its special meeting held on August 27, 1922, the following resolution: The union has for the past 17 years had a wage for a beggar and a seeker. It is now for the purpose of testing our workers and ensuring their welfare, and to prepare them to meet conditions of unemployment, that we express our appreciation to President Dubinsky, to General Manager Nagler and to the workers and employers in the cloak and suit industry, and we hereby announce that we are forever bound by our Union’s Constitution and our Strike Committee for the purpose of the settlement of the strike in St. Louis and to prepare them to meet conditions of unemployment.

It is of the utmost importance that our Strike Committee should be forever bound by the Constitution and our Strike Committee for the purpose of the settlement of the strike in St. Louis and to prepare them to meet conditions of unemployment.


In conclusion, we would like to say here a few words.

In New York, in Philadelphia, in Boston, where organization is proving the question of the strike. The women workers have gone through a school of experience which has gained for them a reputation the city like as the spiritual独一无二的progression. The women workers have been convinced that the strike is their fight. The moral and the spirit of the new workers are being tested by the strike. The moral and the spirit of the new workers are being tested by the strike.

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"Labor Recovery Policy Vindicated by NRA"

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By Harry W. Katorkey
Manager, Cleveland Joint Board

A labor strike to the successful organiza-
tion, and believes that the American Recovery Act will be a milestone in the history of labor. The strike was called because the employers were not willing to recognize the Joint Board's authority, and the workers went on strike to get what they thought was fair. The joint board's main objective is to increase wages and working conditions for the workers. The strike was a success, and the workers received a raise in wages and better working conditions. The strike was a victory for the workers and the Joint Board, and it showed that the American Recovery Act was a success.
Our New York Map At A Glance

Justice

The Strike of the Underwear Workers

And what a strike! The entire industry, including the trade union, is in a state of near panic. The strike is the result of a long and bitter struggle for better working conditions.

The House Workers

Strife has erupted in the factories. The workers are being called out on strike every day.

The Child's Dress

Here is another industry that is rotten to the core. From the looks of it they will not wage a strike before long. The organizing activity in the child's dress shop has actually begun several months ago, at the time when the preparations were started for the dress strike.

The Housewives' Strike

There are about 150 shops in New York with small to medium-sized workrooms, mostly all women except for men clerks.

The Fifth Avenue

Stores Organized

The last major strike, or what is generally known among the members as the Fifth Avenue trade, is deeply organized.

Dress Code Hearings in Washington

August 22-23, 1933

In the Auditorium of the House Office Building of the House of Representatives.
NRA Cloak Label Goes Into Effect October 9

How The Machinery of the Cost and Suit Authority Operates—ROBERT A. VITALE, NRA Label and Authority’s Power to Withdraw It—What the Worker and Consumer Must Know About Label—A Talk with F. Nathan Wolf, Secretary of Cost Authority

On October 9, the NRA label of the Cost and Suit Code Authority became effective in the cloak and suit industry.

All women’s coats and suits, and either for workers or in retail stores, will have a label sewn on them, one of the most important parts of the listing. The label will have on it a blue eagle, the world’s NRA and the word that it is manufactured under Cost and Suit Authority. The label will also show the name and address of the manufacturer. The factory where it was made, as well as the name of the worker who made it, will be shown on the label.

The Act of the Authority is that the Cloak and Suit Industry is divided into three departments, each of which will operate on its own, separate, and independent basis. The NRAs label of the Cost and Suit Code Authority has been designed to meet the needs of the industry and its workers.

The Cloak and Suit Code Authority

The chairman of the Authority in this industry is Robert A. Vitale, former director of the United Outfitters, and secretary of the Cloak and Suit Code Authority. The executive director is George W. Reider, former director of the New York Cloak and Suit Industry. The executive director of the Authority is Mr. Reider.

The NRAs label of the Cost and Suit Code Authority consists of the following parts:

1. National Labor Committee


3. For the Northeast Labor Committee: L. O. Ratts, president, and F. W. C. Cleveland.

4. For the Western Area: Max. A. Weisblit, executive director, and Alexander Printz of the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers’ Association.

5. National Labor Committee

6. For the National Labor Committee: E. H. Lewis, executive director, and M. A. Hare, executive director.

7. For the Western Labor Committee: L. O. Ratts, president, and F. W. C. Cleveland.


The Authority also contains the following parts:

1. The National Labor Committee

2. For the National Labor Committee: E. H. Lewis, executive director, and M. A. Hare, executive director.

3. For the Western Labor Committee: L. O. Ratts, president, and F. W. C. Cleveland.

4. For the Eastern Labor Committee: J. L. Cooper, executive director, and J. C. Norr, executive director.

5. The National Labor Committee

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In Kansas City Women's Wear Market

By Ray Owens
Member, Local 117

The Kansas City stock, suit and dress manufacturers are facing a serious problem. Three months ago there hardly was any hope in the market, today the manufacturers, and regardless of the difficulties we have had in Kansas City in the past, I feel that we are well started.

The Nightmares That Passed

Dean was a little worn out in mind that the others were told always have been the pick of the trade. But the night before they were the opposite. The manufacturers who today are giving their women's wear a little more of the time is because they reckoned without our President Dean.

But the manufacturers who today are giving their women's wear a little more of the time is because they reckoned without our President Dean.

The Fight of the Rainstorm Builders

By Israel Feinberg
Vice-President, Intl. Organization

I know that readers of "Justice" would like to know something about the still current rainstorm buildup in Kansas City. It is true, this is exactly what you are getting in the rainstorm industrial operation (ashing) as it does in many industries. But the differences are striking.

From the viewpoint of the rainstorm, the situation is not very different from anything else in the living conditions of the railstorm makers of today. The supervisors must make a number of important decisions, of course, and they are concerned with the well-being of the whole group. The most important of these decisions is to decide how much rainstorm to employ. This is a central issue in the whole rainstorm operation.

In Kansas City, the suit and dress manufacturers are facing a serious problem. Three months ago there hardly was any hope in the market, today the manufacturers, and regardless of the difficulties we have had in Kansas City in the past, I feel that we are well started.