Justice (Vol. 17, Iss. 6)

Keywords
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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.
New York Cloak Makers Mobilize Forces

The New York cloakmakers have spoken. Through the Board of Directors of their Joint Board, through the joint meeting of all the executive-boards of their locals, through a meeting of 4,000 shop-chairmen—all in less than one week—they have sent a warning to their employers, inside manufacturers, jobbers and contractors alike, that contractor-limitation shall stand, and that the responsibility of the jobbers for work conditions in the factories of their contractors shall remain a living clause in the forthcoming collective agreement if such an agreement is to be renewed in the New York coat and suit industry as a result of round-table discussion.

What is most important, from the Union's viewpoint, the cloakmakers have spoken not merely with words. They have voted to raise a defense fund of a half-million dollars, and as these lines are being written, tens of thousands of dollars are already pouring into the treasury of the Cloak Joint Board for this fund.

At the meeting of the shop chairman, at Webster Hall, President Dubinsky put the situation into a nutshell when he stated that the "Union will not accept any compromise on the question of contractor limitation; it is a question of life or death to our workers, a question of working under conditions of comparative decency or of returning to the sweatshop of the not-so-long-ago. On this issue we are ready to rally to the aid of the cloakmakers all the resources of the I.L.G.W.U."

Dressmakers of Dallas Walk Out For Higher Pay

13 Factories Affected; Majority of Workers Close Shops in First Days of Strike

Responding to the decision of the organization, adopted one evening last week, the dressmakers of Dallas, Tex., walked out of their shops on the morning of March 7 and tied up the manufacture of the dresses industry in the local market.

The Dallas dress strike had been foreshadowed two weeks ago when, after the discharge of several of their fellow workers for union activity, the dressmakers employed by the Morton-Davis Company struck for their reinstatement and for union recognition by their firm. Violent attacks on the Morton-Davis pickets and the latter antagonism displayed by that firm towards collective bargaining with the Union, in which it obviously was being supported by the other dress-manufacturing firms of Dallas, hastened the action of the workers of that city, that a strike for union recognition became inevitable.

As in the case of the Morton-Davis firm, the police are harassing the pickets and placing every obstacle in the path of the strikers.

The strike, which is being directed by Local 121, Ladies' Garment Workers, and 504, Colliers, under the leadership of Meyer Perlstein, I.L.G.W.U. field representative, is nevertheless, being carried on with remarkable effectiveness. Among other things, the Union demands: (1) increased pay; (2) price committees in shops; (3) anti-discrimination for union activity; and (4) collective bargaining and arbitration machinery.

Scranton Cloak Firm Signs After Sixteen Years

Under Bros., Cotton to Terms With I.L.G.W.U. on Union Shop Basis

One of the largest knitted sport coat houses in Pennsylvania, the firm of Under Bros., operating with 550 workers in Scranton, Pa., after resisting organization for sixteen years, signed, on Saturday, March 15, an agreement with the Union.

The Linder firm once was operating in Philadelphia, but left the city in order to avoid contractual relations with the Union. In recent months, representatives of the I.L.G.W.U. time and again had the opportunity of meeting with this firm at code hearings. These contacts finally brought about negotiations which, after the Union had succeeded in organizing a substantial number of the firm's workers, resulted in the signing of an agreement.

Present at the signing were Martin Linder and Messrs. Max, Nathan and Ben, for the firm, and President Dubinsky, Frederick P., Linkey and Samuel Otto, for the Union.

SEATTLE DRESS FIRM CALLED ON OUT OF STRIKE

As we go to press, we are in receipt of a telegram from Vice President Rose Petolla in Seattle, Wash.: "Only Meyer Cotton Dress factory walked out on Monday, March 9. Splendid spirit among workers. Production tied up completely. Full cooperation from Seattle Central Labor Council pledged."

A Short Wage Chain for White Collar Slaves

DEAR CHILDREN, YOU HAVE TOO MUCH PERSONALITY, AMBITION AND CHARM TO BELONG TO A UNION.... UNIONS ARE ONLY FOR SUCH COMMON PEOPLE AS BRICKLAYERS PRINTERS OR GARMENT WORKERS.

Two Injunctions Against Chicago Dress Strikers

Carson Pirie & Scott and Central Cotton Garment Association Obtain Temporary Writs

The strike in the cotton dress shops of Chicago, now three weeks old, is threatening to end in an all-out struggle to the last employee. The strikers are standing, with their employers, applying to 17 courts for injunctions and surrounding their factories with Chicago's choicest guards and sureties.

On Monday, March 11, Carson Pirie & Scott Co. Wholesalers, assured from Judge Joseph L. Bender in the Superior Court a temporary injunction, substantially the same as was granted by Judge Lewis to the Central Cotton Garment Manufacturers Association, now two weeks ago, which limits the number of pickets to three. The members of the Central Association, who three weeks ago were proclaiming their willingness to have a National Labor Relations Board vote among their employees, on the assumption that the I.L.G.W.U. would not obtain a majority vote in such an election, have now changed front on this subject and would have no election. Apparently, these employers figure that if they could break the strike with the aid of injunctions and guards, why trouble about voting?

A significant fact is that, although the injunctions normally restrain the strikers from following other workers going to or from work, it permits them to maintain pickets at their homes in order to induce them to cease their employment ofbatters. The strikers are taking full advantage of this clause.

Move to Impeach Decatur Sheriff

Illinois City Workers Dig In to Win Their Strike

Vice President Morris Blaine, who together with Harry Rufer heads the strike of the cotton dress workers in Decatur, Ill., wired: "The strike is in full swing. All my experience I haven't had to much brutality, by deputy sheriffs and the police alike, as in this women's strike. Rufer and I were behind the meeting of the "Decatur Trades and Labor Council and the Council, after listening to our story, adjourned its meeting and then, in a body, went over to the sheriff's office to voice an indignation protest. They are also collecting funds for the sheriff's imprisonment. We have begun paying strike benefits here two weeks ago, and we have the fullest faith that the strike will be won. The Decatur girls are staunch strikers.

Council of Government
JUSTICE

March 15, 1935

Horrors in
San Francisco Chinatown

By Jonnie Mayas

Our Chinese Branch is fighting against huge odds—Chinese "Mis-
crementalism" and the machete rule, for the sake of a just and jus-
tory rule. For our organization, in endeavoring to set the new
city up, we can get new leftists, but how do the Chinese know
who until now appeared to be un-
commonly strong in this district. We
have, at last, succeeded in persuading two of our Chinese
criminals to turn in and testify against code-chinelling in their factories
for Mr. Pruder, of the local Coven Code-Crime Authority. Through
to these statements, we may now be able to check on other viola-
tors, and a few or two in paying
collected from their employers
might have some of the other
frugally silent Chinese workers.

$12.50 for
44 Hours

A fighting man, as we well imagine, is rampant. One of the
workers who testified received $11.50 for 44 hours of work.
The other fellow, working on the same average $35 a week,
could afford the cost of being in a
board. In many of the largest
in the city, the employers have employed a system whereby the
employer supplies lunch and din-
ner, and the worker must work 56
hours a week. The workers sleep at home
for the rest they live in the new
buildings. The railway engineers play Mah Jong there—and just
get into the game. When the patrol
committee comes in, after work, all is quiet on the Chinese
front. The Chinese are playing Mah Jong. When the workers
stop and play, however, it

Workers' "Homes"

The worker becomes tired and is about ready to fall off to
sleep—about midnight or one-
of-the-morning. He goes to his
home to sleep. Home! A small
room, about the site of one of
our small bedrooms, he could do
be half a dozen banks arranged in there—like
the cheapest beds in some of the
cheapest hotels. He eats in
these crowded box rooms there three meals a day, on the
m presence of rats or mice,
which sometimes work in, work
in, occasionally. The Chinese
situation, of course, is
between the million of the
local market. Our employers are
watching Chinatown with sardonic
smiles, and are thinking of the
beginning to ensnare a
new and fascinating subject, which we should watch with keen
attention, ourselves.

William Green Appointed
Member of The Governing
Body of the International
Labor Office

William Green, President of the
American Federation of Labor,
has been appointed a member of the
International Labor Office of the
International Labor Office of the
International Labor Office

Cleveland strikers returning to work.
By Anna Kida
ILGWU, Organizer

The ILGWU has picked Pas- saic: N. J., the largest hand-kerchief center in the United States, having over 65 per cent of that indus- try and employing over three thousand workers, as a field for organizing, the union.

The workers are distributed in twenty-one different plants, which is probably the largest in the country, employ- ing over eight hundred workers, and the small shops have on the average of 25 to 35 workers.

Most of the workers employed on handkerchiefs in Passaic are of European origin, chiefly Polish. They are not easy people and they are carrying on a vigorous campa- ign in cooperation with the em- inent, to establish a strong hand- kerchief union. But it is the fact that the industry is so large and so impor- tant in the Passaic area and also because it must meet severe competition from Japan, China, and Puerto Rico, where the finest hand-work is done for only a few cents a day, agitators attacks are slender. Of course, the ILGWU has under- taken an extensive campaign in Puerto Rico, but work terms there are so miserable that it will probably take a consid- erable time before they are im- pressed.

The handkerchief trade provides less than a living wage, $12 for a 40-hour week. In addition, it is per- mission to use the coal to em- ploy girls at $1 a week as appren- tice to work in handkerchiefs while there is no representation of the handkerchief workers on the code authority. Miss Rose Schindler of the Labor Advisory Board said that the workers were employed by experienced work- ers, who have been in the trade for 20 to 30 years, and they pay 12 and 14 less than the minimum. Some of their en- gineering fabricating work, and the code authorities say that they have been investigated and had their wages raised adjusted to conform with the "average" scale.

Another difficulty in building a union in the handkerchief trade in Passaic is due to the fact that the workers were being twice dis- pointed, the last time 1928, dur- ing the textile strike led by the Communists. Memin of that strike are still vivis, as most of the workers are. They may be handkerchief factories were in- volved in that strike. The house- wives who are so concerned with the help of the Chamber of Commerce, the prom- ising the employment to the workers who are all interested in labor and are wa- ting with the hope of ending unemploy- ment.

However, we have succeeded in our effort to have a code shop to keep us informed at all times of the progress being made. A great number of the workers have been educated to the extent that they even bring complaints to the union although we have no contractual relations with the em- ployers, and in some cases we have been successful in retaining work- ers who had been discharged for union activities. We are very hope- ful that, as the pre-season season is approaching and the shops will start work in full force, the con- structive work we are carrying on now will move at a faster pace and we shall achieve greater results.

Season Peak
Speeds Code Enforcement

An intensive drive for code en- forcement is now under way in the four that seasonal pro- duction in the cloth and still mar- ket is starting its peak. V. Nathan Wolf, chief enforcement officer and secretary of the Out and West Code Authority, announced in a recent statement, "It is true that the code authority's efforts are being made to speed up the enforcement efforts in the cloth and still market. Our organization is moving fast ahead and bringing good results. The new effort is being made.

We have just now settled with Wolf & Levy of 45 West 26th St., and a new plant that was operating in the West 17th St. Both firms joined the Association and accepted the collective agreement on the basis for settlement. We regard the settle- ment with the Artistic as a signifi- cant milestone because this shop is one of the largest in the trade, manu- facturing an expensive garment.

The strike which our union de- clared against the Findorv Brasi- lian Co. on February 23, is still con- tinuing. The firm has applied for an injunction and the shop is being guarded by a number of police and detectives. Several of our pickets were arrested on false charges, but were freed in court. We have reasons to believe that the owners of the Findorv establishment will soon come to realize that garments cannot be made by even friendly police.

Union of the Offing

We had a membership meeting on February 28, which elected the big Beechwood Hall to capacity. We had a campaign for the executive board and for all officers. At Hirsch was named for re-election as president, and the writer-for re-election as manager of the local. A report covering activities for five months was received with keen attention and approved in its en- tirety. The data of the election will shortly be announced by an advisory board appointed at that meeting. The advance sale of tickets for our annual ball on April 8 at Hotel Delano is very promising. Everything points to a busy, enjoyable affair.
Among the Underwear Workers, Local 62
By Samuel Shore
Manager, Local 62

Real Recognition Finally Achieved
Among the most important gains in recent months have been in the form of union recognition. In point of fact, rank-and-file workers in the underwear industry have been among the minor demands of the workers in their battle with the employers. Only a single shop can be considered a union shop where all workers are members of the union. This is the fundamental condition of a union shop. Unless this is the case, the union cannot exercise its necessary control and obtain for its members the benefits of minimum wages and maximum hours, security of the job, equality in division of work, etc.

Clause Honored More in Breach
Citizens of our collective agreement with the various employers' associations with which we deal, as well as of the individual contracts, provides that "employees engaged by an employer shall be deemed for the first two (2) weeks of their employment to be the first worker in that period. After the period of two (2) weeks they shall be deemed regular workers. All new workers shall join the Union not later than two weeks from the date of employment."

We found to daily experience frequent violations of this provision. In many instances, the responsibility for such violations rested with the chairlady who neglected her duty in not registering the new workers in the Union the fact that a non-union worker was employed in the shop. This, however, did not relieve the employer of his responsibility under the contract. Particularly in

Hampered Workers, Members of Local 62, and Their Friends on a Visit to a Museum of Science and Industry.

In addition to regular union activities in the factories and homes, the "Underwear Workers" in Puerto Rico take a very prominent part in the social and educational field in behalf of its members. Several conferences have been held to establish a list of standing committees, and a legislative committee, to aid the workers in their general social and educational activities.

Garment Knitters Tie Up Malden Knitting Mills
by Rose Podesta, V.P.

Demand 25 Per Cent Increase of Pay Rates and Strict Code of Observance

Several hundred workers employed in the Malden Knitting Mills, Malden, Mass., walked out on work stoppage of work, with the promise of increase in the piece-rate pay and the strict observance of the work terms prescribed by the kiln wear code.

The Malden Knitting Mills have always been an open shop. William Ros and David Gregorio, I.L.G.W.U., are in charge of the strikers, assisted by Mrs. Florence Allen of Roxbury and Mrs. Mary Gordon Thompson of Boston, who represents the federation of the local women's trade union league.

Samples of Obscenity

The strike was called after a committee of the workers who attempted to present their demands to the firm was refused a hearing. The chairlady and the representative of the local women's trade union league.

Firms Changing Lines to Cheaper Pay

The employers openly tell the workers that the Puerto Rico needle workers' code has been bolustered and is now in a better position to cut out wages. Other employers, who have been manufacturing with the laborious method of making garments, are trying to change the line-jp production methods, claiming that the cotton codes are lower than the silk codes. Also, in the men's shirts and pants factories, the Union is also fighting to maintain the old system of work, which was gained after a bitter fight last September.

Fortunately from union in San Juan, several factories are paying per cent on the goods that the freight men were enrolled in the local. Many workers who were the beneficiaries of such a union in the past and now are seeing the fruits of their union work. It is estimated that 90 per cent of the women workers are now in the local.

A Two-Day Limit

After several clashing, it was finally agreed that every new worker, whether a member of the Union or not, would be required to obtain a working card from the factory, who engaged and submitted it to the local. When a worker would not produce a working card, he should not be allowed to work.

We appeal to the chairladies to be alert and diligent and carry out the Union's instructions. We can only do this arrangement of the labor movement for the benefit of the workers in our industry. It is an accomplishment of which we may be justly proud.

One of the chief problems con-
BY F. M. HALE

WE WANGLE WASHINGTON INTO WANTING WHAT WE WANT—Now-a-days every body seems to be going to Washington. It's the busiest place in the world. You are never sure whether you will get a room in a hotel or have to spend the night on the Capitols steps. As a rule we spend very little time in Washington. We usually find it more profitable to fight things out with the employers on the basis of our Union and our agreement. But last week we simply had to make the trip.}

Washington: vs. the Code. The representative of the Union on the Code Authority and the representative of the employers had a little difference of opinion. When it comes to differences of opinion, we are experts. Fortunately, enough, the employers often disagree amongst themselves. The contractors as often as not canceled their agreements and were making faces at each other. But this time all the employer representatives gathered up on us and the Union group found itself outvoted.

SIMPLE ISSUE

And what do you think was the issue? Was the Union making new demands? Were we asking for something terrible and unreasonable? No at all! We simply asked that the Code Authority enforce the minimum to which the employers agreed during the general strike. Now, minimums involve time recording and nobody did much recording that we know about. Of course, the power of the Union was always at hand—but it always involved time and trouble and lost time. The employer always insisted on paying less—the worker in self-defense had to insist on more—and compensation was the only way out. Maybe the employers felt that the minimums in our code were a sort of fiction—but we always disagreed with them. And we sought quick and effective ways of enforcing them. They were more than a mere declaration of principles—the Union enforced them—and we were not unwilling to put the Code Authority on the necks of the employers to help us out. Proper enforcement involved proper information and statistics. Proper information involved proper time cards and payroll reports for the industry. But all the employers kicked the stones.

HANDBOOK ON WRITING

Many of you know that many a contractor finds it more profitable to keep his records incomplete than to keep them complete. And when they are not complete, they are useless. As the jury in the case of Washburn & Moen v. United States has stated, "We need not read this book," the jury had better not read any book. The jury in that case in 1890 decided in favor of the employers. We never said that the union was perfect. For example, Saenger wanted statistics and so long as we wanted the same statistics, why, to Washington we would go. After all, the employers had "voluntarily" agreed to some statistics but had refused to go all the way and if we had to force them to be "voluntary" again, why, we'd buy our tickets and swallow a few ciders on the train.

WE ARGUE IT

A full sight was spent arguing against the attempt on the part of the majority of the Code Authority to gang up on labor by refusing to attend the meetings and to make use of the minimum as a mot ter of course. Of course, as we said, we relied chiefly, on the power of our Union to do any enforcing, we had a position to maintain on the Code Authority. We don't really believe anyone could say that in Washington the question of majority or minority had little influence on the discussion. Better arguments won out—the employers, had a majority of the employees, made a majority of the newspapers, and Washington ruled, as described in another column, that time cards and payroll books would have to be introduced to the industry with a proper enforcement.

But don't think it will take long now. And when those uniform systems are introduced, we have an idea they will be used not only for statistics but also for enforcement.

UNION WINS VICTORY IN CODE CHANGE FOR HOURS, WAGE REPORTS

While the world follows the downward path of Nationalism that leads inevitably to War, Fascism, and modern slavery, the International Union holds firmly to the principle that all workers are brothers and sisters without regard to race, color or creed—without regard to the accident of birth or the false distinctions of prejudice. Beginning with this issue the Dressmaker Section of "Justice" will publish a portrait study of the many racial types in the United- Negro, Italian, Spanish, Jewish—they list is almost endless—but they are all DRESSMAKERS, standing shoulder to shoulder in the shops and on the picket line.

Hochman Suggestions Law After Washington and Local Hearings

Accurate time clock and payroll information will have to be kept by all dress manufacturers and contractors and furnished weekly to the Dress Code Authority, according to the terms of an amendment to the Dress Code Authority for which Julius Hochman, general manager of the Joint Board, conducted a long drawn-out battle in both New York and Washington. The new system will be introduced shortly.

Publication of the reports or failure to make the records available in the required form will constitute a violation of the code. For the first time in the history of the industry really accurate and material information with respect to hours and production will be available.

This will be of immense importance to the Union in the formation of their strike plan and their understanding of its relations with the employers.

Groundwork for the victory was laid shortly after the Great Strike of 1921 when it became evident to Brother Hochman that the "wappening paper bookkeeping" of certain elements in the industry and the failure to keep uniform records rendered the unionization of the industry impossible. Despite the fact that industrial history failed to show any precedent for such delving into what has always been considered the intangible and unwritten contracts, the battle was carried forward to its present successful conclusion.

An abbreviation of the new regulations follows:

Pay checks must be made up in accordance with prescribed forms. One copy must go to each worker. Weekly rates of week workers, code minimums for all crafts, hours worked and total hours for the week, total earnings of each employee, total number of garments produced by each worker during the week, the wholesale price of each garment, and price paid for each style. In addition, contractors are required to enter the number of employees, the name of each firm and weekly expenses.

A rigorous system of time keeping under which the worker is to keep a column of original entries is provided for. Every employee must enter the time of each job and the type of each job. A time card must be kept for each worker each week. In addition, during the last half of each week the number of each job card must be sent in for inspection.

The following information is called for on the form: Name, craft, position of each worker, weekly rates of week workers, code minimums for all crafts, hours worked daily by both week and piece workers, total hours for the week, total earnings of each employee, total number of garments produced by each worker during the week, the wholesale price of each garment, and price paid for each style. In addition, contractors are required to enter the number of employees, the name of each firm and weekly expenses.
What Every Dress Maker Should Know

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE AGREEMENT
By Julius Hochman
General Manager Dress Joint Board

Questions from members about parts of the agreement not yet reached in this series about "What Every Dressmaker Should Know About the Agreement" and requests for more details on those sections already printed are covered in the "Question Box" at the end of this installment. I deeply appreciate the interest members are taking in the series. The more our members know, the more they will be able to insist on their rights in the shops, and the more they will benefit from the conditions given them by the Agreement.

The series is existing so much comment that a steady stream of questions is pouring in. The agreement is coming to us in such demand, we contemplate reprinting the entire series in the form of a special pamphlet to be distributed by the Joint Board to the members of our Union. Meanwhile, continue sending in your questions. They will be promptly answered. For obvious reasons the names of questioners will be omitted unless a special request is made that their names be printed.

Now continue with the Fourth Installation, which continues the discussion of prices and wages.

Repayment of Prices

Question: Repayment in full is settled but the workers fail to make the minimum at the settled price. Answer: In such cases, file a complaint at the Union and the Union representative will file it in writing, and the prices will be reduced.

Question: If it is found that the full number of workers do not make the minimum, are they entitled to pay all the prices on the particular garments? Answer: Yes.

Unsettled Garments

Question: Are we supposed to work on garments that have not been settled? Answer: In contract shops no work should be operated, finished or paid until the prices on the garments are settled.

Question: What about ready-made manufacturing shop? Answer: In an inside manufacturing shop you may work on garments, but not in an outside one.

Reduction of Prices and Wages

Question: Is the employer permitted to reduce or settle prices? Answer: No, and we strongly advise you not to accept any settlement or price. Some workers are in a position where they can make an agreement and accept some money, but little or no responsibility for the shop. Checks sometimes turn into trouble and lose money.

Question: Does it ever happen that an employer fails to pay wages? Answer: Yes, but it does not happen. Particularly if you are doing it in one easy way, it will happen quickly.

Question: What shall we do in such cases? Answer: Report it immediately to the Union, and we will want to examine the situation. If you believe it has been done on purpose, you have a right to file a complaint. Let us have a chance to look at the facts before making a settlement.

Question: What is the correct amount for wages? Answer: Yes, we believe the amount is 50 cents. This is a minimum amount, and we will fight for it.

Question: How must we prove the amount of wages paid? Answer: This is based on the pay day facts and it is possible for an agreement to be made for the payment of wages not later than two days after the work has been completed for the previous year. Since we work five days a week and pay is to be received by you not later than two days after you finish the work, the contractor is responsible for these days. Here again, we would like to emphasize the importance of checking your pay. The complaint is not to be filed by the same person.

Question: When must a complaint be filed? Answer: There is no time limit for filing a complaint, but it is advisable to file it as soon as possible.

Question: The complaint is not to be filed by the same person. Answer: Yes, it is advisable to file it as soon as possible.

Question: The complaint must be filed by the same person. Answer: No, it is advisable to file it as soon as possible.

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Goldman Settles For $6,000.00; Back Pay Totals Rise

Faith In Union Brings Results

(The following letter is printed without comment. It shows that the worker firmly grounded in Union principles is armed against the job-kidnapping device of the company.)

Justie,
3 West 46th St,
New York City,

Dear Brother:

I am sending you this letter written for me by a worker in the "Justice" to show all members of the I. L. G. W. U. that our Union and Brothers and Sisters have a manager, are always on the watch to protect the dream-makers in the shops absolutely without discrimination because of race.

I am a finisher and have been a member of the Dreammakers' Union the last five years. Last year, I came into a dress shop more than ten years ago and have worked in the same shop and for the same boss ever since. Because I have been so loyal to the Union, I was stood up for my rights as a person in the company's book of plans.

Eight weeks ago, we were given a new style dress to work on. This happened that everybody made it wrong. On Friday of the same week, everybody was given the dress back and told to do it over again—everybody except me. At the close of the day, as I was leaving the shop, the boss came over to me and told me I was discharged. I asked him, "Why?" Polishing to a rack on which hung some of the dresses I had worked on, he said, "I can't use these dresses. You've ruined them. Your stitches are too big." I asked him why he didn't give them back to me to do over as he had done with the other finishers. There was no answer.

Files

Complaint

I immediately went to the Union to file a complaint. I saw my business agent, Brother Goldsby and explained to him what had happened.

On the following morning, Brother Goldenberg and myself, together with a representative from the Association, went to the shop. After arguing for some time we were told we could not get the shop back and the case was taken to the Association. The representatives of the Association tried to have me get back my three weeks' pay for doing the job. They said, "Because the boss doesn't like you."

(Continued from Page 4)

and in manufacturing shops within two days after he starts to work. If your employer makes it a habit to employ non-union workers, have your children come down to the office of the Union and ask the complaint department about this. These will then refuse to give work cards to non-union workers when your employer tries to work. In this way we will force him to take on union workers. As a matter of fact, in a matter can work in the shop unless he is a member in good standing of the Union.

When Discipline Becomes Necessary

In the democratic administration of a union with as large a membership as the Joint Board has, a Grievance Committee charged with the investigation of complaints relating to the activities of workers is necessary. This shows the Joint Board Grievance Committee just before a session devoted to the 35-hour week. Standing, left to right: Morris Strauss and John张某; seated: Benjamin Evry, Mania Rosenthal, Sam Landsman (chairman), V. Hassen, Charles Carlocco.

"PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL LIFE," general title of the course of lectures, and the standing of Dr. Goodwin Watson, Professor at Teachers College, Columbia University, is attracting an unusual number of students. The first lecture was given by a packed classroom shown above. "We joined the Union and now we have fun."

No More "Wall Flowers" Among Happy Unionists

If you want to dance—but don't know how—do you dance on everybody else's feet but your own—if you yearn for the happy social contacts possible only on the dance floor—just join one of the Union's classes in Social or Ballroom dancing.

There are two classes every Tuesday at the Donovan Dancing Academy, 308 West 89th St, at 5.30 and 6:30 P. M. Also Roy Herman, a graduate of the Savage School of Physical Training, is in instructor. The first class, shown above, shows one of the first classes learning the simple technique of keeping time to music. Register for the class at the Union offices.
March 15, 1935
JUSTICE

WORKERS' EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT

Page Nine

ATHLETICS, MUSIC, DRAMA

News From the Basket

With the I.L.G.W.U. basketball season now in full swing, the basketballers are hard at work showing the results of steady hard practice. The games played are showing a decided increase in skill and experience by all teams. The games played during the last month were all marked by thrills and beautiful basketball, and, in some cases, by surprising spoils. On February 23, in a game featured by the most expert passing and defense yet seen on any inter-club court, the Sons of Loyal 17 defeated the strong Local 10.

Forthcoming Events

March 15
8 P.M. First session of central class in Music Theory and Survey taught by I.L.G.W.U. members. I.L.G.W.U. Auditorium, 2 W. 16th St., N. Y. C.
March 16
11 A.M. Trip starting from 3 West 16 St. Participation must notify Education Dept. or your Local three days ahead. Singing, a light luncheon, visits, under skilled guidance, to Museums of Natural History, History of Science and Industry.
2 P.M. General Dramatic Rehearsal (I.L.G.W.U. Players), Rand School, 7 East 15th St.
7 P.M. Basketball Game and Dance, Hotel Lichtenstein, 57 West of B'way, Double Headed.
Locals 101, 102 and Local 22 vs. Dress Joint Board. Admission 40 cents.
March 17
11 A.M. Trip starting from 3 West 16 St., N. Y. C.
3 P.M. Visit to Daily News (42nd St. near Third Ave.) by Locals 10, 101, 102 and Local 22 vs. Dress Joint Board. Admission 40 cents.
March 30
11 A.M. Trip starting from 3 West 16 St., N. Y. C.
11 A.M. Visit to Art Dept., Metropolitan Museum, by Local 22. General Choral Rehearsal (46 tallies later).
April 3-5
Workers' Dramatic Festival. Three programs of plays by workers for workers at New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th St., N. Y. C., presented jointly by dramatic groups of Breakwood Labor College, Young Circle, Rebel Arts, No. V. Joint Board, A.C.W., and I.L.G.W.U.

March 16
STAND BY FOR DETAILS OF BIGGEST DEMONSTRATION EVER.

10 Cutters' team by a score of 22-18. The mandolin groups marks the first game of the team of Local 102, which was replayed by Local 60's quintet by a score of 21-8. These games, aboard the "I.L.G.W.U. Illusion," were witnessed and cheered by the largest crowd of the present season.

Two Hard Fights

On February 23, Local 60 showed remarkable strength against Local 10. A hard-fought game in the entire game. Because of technical difficulties of the game was called at the last minute with Local 60 winning, 10-8. That same evening, the Local 100 bunch rounded trimmed the Dress Joint Board to the tune of 21-16 in a hard-fought contest.

On March 2 two New York teams traveled to South River to meet Local 150 quintets. The first game, an evening which was also the first 11 girls' game of the season where the Little Lake 150 girls when they defeated the Local 22 dress makers' team by 21-12. The West 16th team beat them out of the game, the score all the end of the first half, being 22-2. Local 22 finished the game by triumphing over the Local 110 quintet by a score of 20-6. There was a bit of an accident which was not quite so serious when one of the local boys on the left side of the court stumbled into the back court, breaking the glass, and was not quite so serious when the local boys on the left side of the court stumbled into the back court, breaking the glass, and was...
INFLATION

Slaves Turn Into Freeman

By Saul Metz
Manager, Local 102

In its fight to free virtual slaves of economic bondage, the Clock and Drees drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 102, I.L.G.W.U., has, during the past three weeks, scored a significant victory.

Workmen whose lives, had they two years ago been at the absolute disposal of bosses’s whims, looting from ninety in a hundred hours a week, are today secure in their position, assured of a decent livelihood, in return for forty-eight hours’ work in a week. This bare fact of welding into a compact, well-disciplined, and class-conscious union the meaning of organization, stands out as a singular lesson to American labor movement, and perhaps to the American people as well, that reservations of a decent livelihood, in return for forty-eight hours’ work in a week. This bare fact of welding into a compact, well-disciplined, and class-conscious union the meaning of organization, stands out as a singular lesson to American labor movement, and perhaps to the American people as well, that reservations of a decent livelihood can only be obtained by united action.

In the relatively short time, following organization and recognition of the union, wages have risen from twelve, to fifteen dollars, in the course of a few months, in the course of a few months. At first, even without the advent of new unionists, the wage increase was slow. The union has purposely the unionists, the wage increase was slow. The union has purposely kept the pace of wage increases moderate, in order to prepare the way for the necessity of discharging for no adequate reason.

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Items of Live Interest from Garment Industry

By Francis Keenan

"When is a suit not a suit?"

There has been much discussion and recrimination between members of the dress industry and the Labor Board in the past few weeks, concerning this point. Charges of overlapping in the making of suits by different manufacturers have been flung wide and far, with the result that hearings are being conducted new on this question before the Labor Board. Edward L. Mayer, impartial chairman, is presiding.

Since the hearings began in the early part of March, several types of garments in conflict have been presented by the Coat and Suit Code Authority. Testimony by experts has been offered with regard to the presentation of each garment. Submitted in evidence that far were a two-piece man's suit, a coat and dress suit, a separate coat, a separate suit, unlined, and a three-piece ensemble. Before the conclusion of the hearing, several other samples will be submitted.

Garment, a man's suit ensemble, consisting of blouse, coat, and skirt, purchased at Belk's, bears a dress code label, which states that it is made of 70 percent wool and 30 percent cotton. The dress code label was challenged and offered expert evidence that the garment was a tailored ensemble and should belong in the coat and dress suit category. But this dress code sample, evidenced by the assertion that it was a dressmaker ensemble and offered testimony to prove this fact.

At the conclusion of the hearings, the Inter-Code Agency, consisting of Morris Klein, chief of the dress and garment division, presented testimony for the coat and suit industry and Mr. Mayer, will take all testimony under advisement and make recommendations tending to establish proper classifications for the types of garments shown.

In Canada the payment of sweat shop wage scales and employment of child labor in the textile and clothing industries is illegal. But similar offenses carry heavy penalties if Parliament adopts the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Labor-Management Problem. The main recommendation is for the establishment of a new Labor Department with jurisdiction over labor problems in both industries. Under this body, the federal government would establish collective bargaining regulations which will carry penalties of $100 to $250 for violation. The Commission will go to the limit to wipe out child labor. A minimum wage in Canada is not, for there is fear that such a minimum wage may become the basic working wage in all Canadian industries.

The forthcoming report of the Commission will doubtless eliminations the minimum wage boards on the basis of necessity. The report, which is to be made within a short period, recommends that the Minimum Wage Board, for instance, be shown to be the head of a large paid factory employing a large number of girls who were receiving less than the minimum wage scales. With such conflicting proposals as are presented in that Board, it is obvious that the natural desire of its chairman to manufacture an effective garment and to convince his jurisdiction to abide by the rules of the Board.

The yearly cost of producing all N.R.A. suits was indicated by Mr. Mayer to be a considerable amount, and with an average Basek rate of 15 percent of the volume of sales by coded industries.

The suit was reported by a special accounting unit under H. H. Brown, N.R.A. budget director, who estimated the authority budgets passed on by N.R.A. and also of those pending. The suit is the only one of the estimated expenditures of code authorities which operate on the basis of percent contributions from the industry. These figures are not final and indicators are that after code authorities complete their organization and are able to build up a normal volume of work, the actual expenditure of the total expenditures will be further reduced.

A bill designed to end the much discussed "style pirating" has been introduced in the New York State Assembly by Assemblyman Mayer. The bill provides for the filing with the county clerk and the secretary of state a statement of styles which are to be sold, names, and for publication thereof in a newspaper, and makes unlawful the use of such styles punishable by a maximum fine of $50.

The Garment men have complained bitterly of this pirating of styles, but have been unsuccessful in their attempts to eliminate the practice. This section, according to Mr. Mayer, has had no effect in eliminating this bill, said that "before the creator of a design has an opportunity to place his article on the market, it is pirated and the name of the designer is lost." Under the new code the authorities will maintain a register of labels, but the N.R.A. is the only one of its kind in America that reasonable cases exist for further investigation. In such a case a committee is appointed to investigate the matter. The Code Authority holds that the manufacture of foreign labels are principally affected by such labels.

Many firms employ highly paid designers and incur tremendous expense in maintaining separate departments for the manufacture of original, individual styles and designs. Often, a great many styles and designs are created and then discarded by the manufacturers because a suit that would meet with wider appeal, and after all of this experimental stage has been completed and great expense incurred by the manufacturer finder that some irresponsible person has pirated this design and flooded the market with a cheap grade of merchandise, thereby greatly reducing the demand and value for the original design.

The Code Authority has told manufacturers to make sure that if there is a violation, the label agency has the power to approve the manufacture of a label for a record of the case may then be sent to the compliance and enforcement director, who may take any action he deems necessary. Division Administrator Preston L. Conley, who made a three-week inspection of the label situation, found that the label has proved an effective and palatable instrument of enforcement under difficult conditions. The label has also proven an excellent method of raising money to detect code violators, and an accurate gauge of sales volume.

Nagler Denies Union Failed To Tout NRA Shops

Points to Growth of Industrial Council and Alternatives Group

As Proof of Union's Activity

The charge that the tailor union's vision of New York had failed to live up to its promise to organize the so-called "N.R.A." shops, made recently by the Industrial Council of the Cloth, Suit & Shirt Mfrs. Inc., met with a vehement denial from J. D. Nagler, General Manager of the Cloth Joint Board.

"We maintain," said Vice-President Nagler, "that the so-called "N.R.A." shops, that is, the unregistered factories operating under the Code but not under the collective agreements, produce less than 20 percent of the total output of the New York market, and are not a serious competitive factor to the Industrial Council members. We have a great many of these, more than step by step, we have eliminated the companies. The stay of the Code provisions may be terminated for any manufacturer or contractor found to have violated the regulations or code.

To increase the effectiveness of labels in code enforcement, an ordinance approved the Code Administration centering final authority over the use, suspender and hosiery, and it sets a term for the use of these labels in the enforcement.

A number of codes for needle trades contain mandatory label requirements, which are not applied to dress codes. The Code Authority holds that it is not possible to include all mandatory elements in it.

"It is unfair on the part of the Industrial Council to state that the

ATTENTION!

Cutters of Miscellaneous Branch Local 10

A special meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch will take place on

Monday, March 18

in ARLINGTON HALL

23 St. Mark's Place

at 7:30 P. M.

for the purpose of nominating officers for the Miscellaneous Division for the term of 1935.

All underwgar, negligence, corset and brassiere, children's dress and blouse cutters are urged to attend this meeting.

ATTENTION!

CUTTERS, MEMBERS OF LOCAL 101

A Good and Welfare Meeting will be held on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1935

at ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place

at 7:30 P. M. Sharp

Each and every member is urged to attend this meeting without fail.
EDITORIAL NOTES...

Cotton Dress

Battles Still Raging

The widely scattered conflicts in the cotton dress factories still continue, at this writing, with unabated force.

From Decatur, 111., where the employers, having failed to break the ranks of the strikers by honeyed words, are now attempting to "convince" them by means of the court, with unabated force from St. Louis, where the Forest City Company is staging daily pogroms on the picket lines; from Chicago, where the employers have banded together into a group to prevent the movement of the Union, and from Dallas, Tex., where a general strike has now been called—the news is hourly pouring into the General Office attesting to the superb courage and unexcelled union spirit which these strikers, the majority of them women, have demonstrated against this heroic struggle for their elementary rights as citizens and workers.

It is fight all along the line, fight to a finish, of the kind that brings to memory the battles which the men and women in the garment industry had fought a generation ago when the first foundations of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union were laid. The unyielding spirit of these strikers appears all the more remarkable as one considers that a few young women and men have joined the Union but recently—new recruits, as it were, yet camping it their life like tried veterans.

The rank and file of the rank and file, who are engaged now in this similar struggle, will come out of it victorious no matter how long it takes to fight this conflict out.

Minority or Majority

The Cleveland Press, a Cleveland, Ohio, newspaper, which emphasizes a point that its "editorial attitude in the past has been favorable to the organization efforts of the I.L.G.W.U." appears to be considerably wrought up over an alleged attempt by the Cleveland organization of our Union to have forced, through a unionized minority, the majority of the dress workers in the L. N. Gross Company factories into a strike which had as its purpose collective bargaining and a union agreement. The strike was settled on March 5.

In a series of questions, addressed editorially to President Dubinsky, who visited Cleveland while the strike was on, the Press raising the argument that, since it had obtained the information that only a minority of the workers were actually participating in that strike, the Union had no moral right to involve the entire shop in the conflict.

This question of "minority" and "majority," as it looks to us, is not quite as rigidly simple as it may appear to many an outside observer. It is not a secret, for instance, that our colonial Tories, supported by friendly publicists in England, had consistently challenged the fact that the revolutionists represented a majority of the population of the thirteen colonies. The "rebels," of 1861-1865, no less vehemently denied the assertions of the Northerners that the South spoke for a majority of the population of the States of that period.

Right at this moment, however, we are not prepared to dispute the allegation by the Cleveland Press that only a minority of the Gross Company employees took an active part in that strike. It is common knowledge, nevertheless, that in all strikes, even in general strikes, only an active and visible minority carries the burden of the fight, while the successful outcome of the struggle is usually dependent upon a consensus of support from the entire membership of the union. A unity and solidarity is often necessary to win where a single-minded majority would fail.

The Gross strike was no exception to this rule. All the workers, as admitted by The Press, stayed away from the factory, while the leadership of the conflict, naturally, was taken over by a mobile minority which organized the picketing, solicited support from other organizations and acted as a link between the strikers and the community. While the strike was on, it is also worth while mentioning, the committee had consistently charged that the firm employed various stratagems to make many of the strikers stay away from the union hall.

That no element of compulsion or force essentially was involved in the conduct of the strike is evidenced by the terms of its settlement. It provides for collective bargaining with the union members among the workers, with the usual shop chairman, price committee, complaint adjustment committee and impartial machinery for deadlocked disputes. Obviously, a sufficiently large number of the Gross workers took part and were interested in the strike to have induced both sides to accept such an arrangement. The Union, it is quite clear, has every hope that within a short time it will convince the rest of the workers to join it, thereby peacefully completing the job of unionizing the Gross factory.

To the question posed by The Press, we trust in a friendly spirit, whether the I.L.G.W.U. is planning to follow similar tactics in its efforts to organize the workers employed in the other cotton dress factories of Cleveland, we, in all frankness, state as follows:

The dress workers of Cleveland are fully familiar with the objectives and the purpose of the I.L.G.W.U. This union does not operate in the dark and it has met the majority of the workers and told its members clearly to the workers and to the public.

The workers of Decatur, St. Louis, Chicago and Dallos, who are engaged now in a similar struggle, will come out of it victorious no matter how long it takes to fight this conflict out.

The drive to raise a fund, firstly, to contribute to the maintenance of the Los Angeles Sanatorium and, secondly, for the erection of a library at the Sanatorium dedicated to the memory of the late presidents Benjamin Schlesinger and Morris Sigman, will begin on March 15.

Friedrich F. Umhey, executive secretary of the I.L.G.W.U., announced this week.

This drive was endorsed by the Chicago convention and the recent meeting of the G.E.B. of the International voted to carry it out during the current Spring season. " Honor Roll" lists were printed and forwarded to all locals and joint boards throughout the county to distribute among shop chairmen and active members who would make collections among the workers for that purpose.

The Los Angeles Sanatorium for years has received with utmost generosity of the International striken with the white plague who had been ordered by their physicians to go to the balmy climate of Southern California for recovery. The decision of the convention to erect a library on the sanatorium grounds at Duarte, Cal., has also aroused a lot of enthusiasm among our workers. It is, therefore, expected that this drive for the institution, itself, and for the library, will raise substantial funds.

Plan of Schlesinger-Sigman Memorial Library at Duarte, California

Los Angeles Sanatorium and Library Drive on March 15

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