Justice (Vol. 16, Iss. 10)

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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Boston Strikes Bring New Pacts In All Trades

Dress Strikers Make Gains Under New Agreement

Vice-President Philip Kramer, in charge of the Boston Joint Board, reports by wire as we go to press: "The drive begun on April 6 in the skirt shops, to compel the employees to renew agreements on union terms, came to an end on May 8 after 14 firms had signed contracts with the Joint Board. It was a stubborn skilocks fight involving several hundred workers. The strikers were paid regular benefits raised by a 2 per cent tax on earnings of all Boston members."

"In the cost and suit trade here the agreement expired on March 6. We succeeded in signing up all the employees—jobbers, contractors and outside firms alike—38 of them, through two associations."

"On February 15, our agreement with the dress employers came to an end. They refused to negotiate a new contract; we kept after them until forced on May 2 to call the 2,800 dressmakers in Boston on strike. Forty shops responded, and after a week out we won all along the line, driving back the five firms which resigned some time after the association in order to abate union conditions. 500 new workers joined the Union. Several work-terms were improved, in the new contracts including a readjustment of piece prices for finishers and operators."

3rd Quarterly Session Will Handle Big Agenda

With the return of President Dubinsky from Europe, where he went at the urgent request of President William Green of the A. F. of L. to represent the American trade unions on the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization in Geneva, the third quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I.L.G.W.U., was definitely fixed to begin on Monday, May 27, in Philadelphia. Pa.

All I.L.G.W.U. Locals to Hold N.R.A. Meetings

The General Office of the International has notified all affiliated organizations throughout the country to arrange at once, jointly with the Amalgamated and other trade unions and central labor bodies, mass meetings for full extension of the N.R.A. and in favor of the Wagner Labor Disputes Bill. These meetings, President Dubinsky declared, should also emphasize the urgency of the passage of the Connery 20-Hour Work-Week Bill.

Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Rally to the Great Mass-Meeting

In MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

Thursday Afternoon, 3 O'clock, May 23

FOR—

A GREATER AND STRONGER N.R.A.;
THE WAGNER LABOR DISPUTES BILL;
THE 30-HOUR WORK-WEEK.

AGAINST—

Bronzen and Continued Attempts by the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Manufacturers' Association and Allied Industrial Interests to Dominate and Dictate to Congress and to Sabotage All Labor and Progressive Legislation.

SPEAKERS AT THE MEETING WILL BE:

WILLIAM GREEN, President American Federation of Labor;
FIORELLO H. LA GUARDIA, Mayor of the City of New York;
JOHN L. LEWIS, President United Mine Workers of America;
ROBERT F. WAGNER, United States Senator from New York;
SIDNEY HILLMAN, President Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America;
MAX ZARITSKY, President Millinery Department, United Hatters of America;
DAVID DUBINSKY, President International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union;
Chairman: JOHN P. RYAN, President Central Trades and Labor Council of New York.

Parade from the Shops in Mass Formation to Madison Square Garden!

APPRISE THE WHOLE WORLD THAT THE ORGANIZED WORKERS ARE SOLIDLY UNITED BEHIND THEIR DEMANDS FOR A NEW LABOR DEAL IN AMERICA.

PARADE TO BEGIN AS SOON AS THE MEETING CLOSES.

COME ON TIME! ADMISSION BY UNION BOOK OR BY TICKET, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED IN ALL UNION OFFICES, OR THROUGH YOUR BUSINESS AGENT.
A Survey of the Past and a Glance Into the Future—Union Will Reel at the Last Return to Auction-Bot to System

By Ildoro Nagler
General Manager, Joint Board
Chinamakers' Unions, New York

The recent move by various associations of carriers and specialist in the coat and suit industry to abolish "limitation of contractors" calls for an exhaustive analysis of this phase of the collective agreement. It is interesting to note that the agreement as a whole is a reflection of the present-day situation.

We shall endeavor to make such analysis by first, giving a concise outline of the background of developments in our industry during the past two decades which prompted us to set forth the demand of "limitation of contractors," as early as 1931, our present efforts stems from that time to assure such "limitations" until now, when we feel that the agreement embodied in our code and in our collective agreements is badly needed.

The jobbing-contracting system began to assume some importance about two years ago, and more so since 1919, when the work-week system was inaugurated. Under the system of jobbing, the union set up a powerful controlling machinery for the enforcement of labor laws, which are in the vital interests of the industry, and particularly the workers. This system, however, enabled the contractors to work around the work-week regulations and thus, the jobbing-contracting system continued to function in an entirely different manner from what it was intended to be.

The change, however, was only as apparent one. The manufacturer who decided to go up his "inside" shops would be compelled to abandon their "inside" shops and to make an agreement with his employees to a new type of machinery who came to be known as "shops" or "slatteries".

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JUSTICE

Page Three

I. L. G. W. U. News from West Coast Cities

All Along the Coast Front

By Israel Feinberg, V.P. I. L. G. W. U.

Representative

In Los Angeles, the cloak and suit season is practically over.

The season is long, but not of brief duration. Right now we are on the eve of negotiation. We have fought and fought manufacturers and expect to go to the, ..... with the workers in the near future. If our employers are not looking for trouble, there should be no harrassment in renewing the contract. Should they, however, develop a fighting disposition, we shall be prepared to meet them. We have a fine organization with which to meet their challenges.

As for work, the work and the work of the Joint Round are concerned, it is being carried on very well. As for the Banderas, we are looking forward to a fruitful Braune.

As we go along, it is the feeling of this Business that the union is strong. We are building our union and our union is strong.

Poor, Cold Season in L.A.

In the textile industry, the season is far from satisfactory due to unfavorable climate conditions. We have been struggling to make ends meet in this industry. We are making fine headway in the Mexican Branch of the union.

The Spanish union, Brother Trujillo, is doing excellent work together with the union in the Mexican Branch. We have had a number of meetings with the company and the results have been satisfactory.

The Mexican dressmakers are also actively interested in the union. They express their support of the union in their meetings and contributions. The Mexican union has a strong presence in the city.

Mexican Girls Run Radio Hour

By Rafael Trujillo

The enthusiastic Mexican members of Local 96 of Los Angeles, Calif., have decided on a new move to boost their organization. The establishment of a daily radio program is planned.

For the radio, to be able to appreciate the importance of this step, it is necessary to bear in mind that Los Angeles is the second largest "Mexican City" in America. There are over 200,000 Mexicanos, operating every kind of business—prospectors, facsimiles, warehouses and commercial enterprises of every description.

Besides business and industry, the Mexicans in Los Angeles are also actively interested in the arts. They have intensely their music, their songs, and their language. Their interest is centered in the general life of the radio station "El Eco de Mexico." The union members present on the program are members of the Puerto Rican community. At the same time, we shall very soon meet the Mexicanos in Los Angeles, possibly an hour or more. The public receives the dressmakers' reports and the general life of the union.

Campaigns To Get On

The conference voted to continue its special attack on Pacific Coast union members for purposes and to intensify its campaign in the West Coast. The following officers were elected:


Third Pacific Coast Conference in Session

Among the Underwear Workers, Local 62

By Samuel Shoro
Manager, Local 62

An Educational Season Comes to an End

With the approach of Summer, our educational season draws to a close, to be resumed again. At present we are fitting ourselves so that an account of the work carried on by the Educational Department will be given to our members. The function of a union is primarily economic, and the routine business of the Union is with the welfare of its members in the shops. Yet, the entry of the Union into the field of education is not without connection with its routine business. Courses in Trade Unions by Mr. J. C. Ass праз, one of the most popular instructors, and literature broaden the outlook of the members in their relationships to industry, and the courses in English and Public Speaking give them an instrument in the hands of which they can effectively address the multitude of men, valuable to the member both as an individual and as a member of the Union, and consequently valuable to the Union.

Club Room, Radio Room

During the present educational season, 1934-35, the above-mentioned courses have been held, and the Radio Room has spoken, of our educational program. All of our members, officers, headquarters, spacious and attractive rooms being assigned for the purpose, the Radio Room, a club room with a radio and a library of 400 books and a great number of magazines, containing these books and magazines free to members of the Union. Most of the members find it an eye to their literary merit and their reading material; others have chosen for light reading and diversion. To this end, the course in literature is one of the Social Relations of Literature. The magazines are of the best kind, including the Nation, Harper's, and the Atlantic Monthly, to name a few. The spirit's primary purpose of the Radio Room in a serious and interesting understanding of a subject, due to intensive study and the furtherance of the educational program.

Classes, Gym, Sports

The advertising of classes and registration of members have also been attended to at the beginning of the season, and correspondence has been written to our teachers, and by Sister Mary Grace. The schedule of classes and classes attended was issued in the Monday-Currents, 21.

Trade Unions, Volume 21

Tuesday—Public Speaking, 22.
Mandolin Orchestra, 25.
In the Keg Room, 25.
Advanced English, 24.

JUSTICE

A Labor Magazine
Published twice monthly by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union

Volume XVII, No. 10
May 15, 1935

I. L. G. W. U. Sports Parade—By Bill Spiro

Better Uplift Ball

The score was tied, the bases were jammed with runners on their toes, the count was three balls and two strikes. Everything depended on the next pitch, and as the pitcher took his windup, I vowed that I would win the game with a homer. The ball left the pitcher's hand, out of the heart of the plate, shoulder high. I took a lead, advanced my spikes in the dirt and pulled all my strength in my swing, and swung myself right out of bed.

I couldn't help it. I had been dreaming about the game we were playing against Local 163 at the baseball opening on Saturday, May 18. It is going to be a woe of a day. The game that you will all be there to launch a baseball season.

Justice has just made an official schedule that has been released by the Education Department for the first half.

May 18 10:00 at Springfield Park
61 vs. John Hart Rotter
May 26 11:00 at Alexander Hamilton Park
163 vs. 164 at Alexander Hamilton Park
June 1 10:00 at Springfield Park
163 vs. 162 at Alexander Hamilton Park
June 8 10:00 at Alexander Hamilton Park
160 vs. John Hart Rotter
June 15 10:00 at Springfield Park
25 vs. 160 at Alexander Hamilton Park
June 22 1:00 at 160 at Alexander Hamilton Park
June 29 10:00 at Springfield Park
160 vs. John Hart Rotter
July 7 10:00 at Alexander Hamilton Park
162 vs. John Hart Rotter
July 14 40 vs. 160 at Springfield Park
July 21 10:00 at Alexander Hamilton Park
August 10 10

This is only the first half of the baseball season.

Tennis

Would you be willing to spend $2 to play tennis for four hours on some very fine city courts? Well, this is what the Athletic Department is offering you every Saturday for the next ten weeks from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Questions and Suggestions

Almost every column now and then must be a column regarding questions, letters, or suggestions. I think this is a good idea and it may supply some useful suggestions. Let me have them from you, no matter how they are afforded. If you have any pet projects, prove you better likes, you can get up your sheet, let us know from you. I can assure you we will give it some thought.

As we go to press, we receive word from Bayonne that Local 160 trounced their first ball game of the season and boast the Standard Barred Owl to the tune of 21-14, in a generous game of rebalanced weather throughout the season. Brother Louis Schaefer.

Appreciation

We, the workers of Bergan Goodman, PHB Ave. and STH St., have some reasons to be grateful. On the 23rd of April there was a meeting of Local 23, to express our appreciation to our chairman, leaders, and the Union. We feel that we are being placed in the hands of a capable, dedicated and loyal man, Mr. Jack Barshak, assigned to us by the Educational Department of our International, and we are so arranged as to permit an interesting program of discussion, games, and enjoyment.

We are pleased in our course at the conclusion of the season, and believe that at that time we will have an increased registration. We wish to extend our thanks to you for your help and cooperation rendered us by the Educational Department of our International Union, and the efforts of Brother Mark Blitt, Sister Pessina, M. Cohen, and Brother Louis Schaefer.

The courts are located at Kingston and Lefferts Avenue, Brooklyn, and are known as the Kingston Tennis Courts. Four courts are now available, but it demands a big and is well used in the Bronx or upper Manhattan. We are currently soliciting tickets for 20 weeks, and we are in the process of setting Bill Bosty of the International to handle this matter. See him for all tickets.

Soccer

Our locals' athletic teams bid fair to secure up all available ball fields. A schedule of games being set up by several locals, and it is hoped that perhaps, it will be a worthy rival to our great national pastime, baseball. Local 16 is engaging in their first game on May 20 at Starlight, 177th St. and Bronx River.

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Higher Rates Won for $3.75 Workers

KATEE--An Operator

What would happen to Katee in her native Germany? Mr. Head-Chopper Hitler would brand her a traitor to "her country" because she is faithful to her class. Our Dressmaker Union, marching forward under the I. L. G. W. U. banners of Humanity, cares much more for Katee than for slavish, wriggling lines on a map or the false standards of birth or color. Our Union has become the real "homeland" for the uncounted thousands of workers from every corner of the globe. This series of human portraits continues to show our Union as really international--an International that will play a vital part in the new society when blood-drenched nationalism has been swept away and every worker is a "citizen of the world."

MAY DAY 1935

Banners have been stored away...

Tight-shouldered little Eighth Avenue peddlers squealed about a few peonies in their tills when they filed parade protests are soft and comfortable again.

Central Park Mall is once more "respectable."

But the endless battalions of dressmakers are still marching in victory. Better times are on the way.

May Day Demonstration New York has seen.

Shallow-minded reporters with Cony Island intellects saw only "nude clap" aspects of the parade.

They heard bands and saw floats, but the electric thrill of unity that flowed through the long line of march was invisible to them.

The crash and swing of revolutionaries and heroes stirred that sense of rhythm, but not their souls.

In trying to count a hundred thousand bobbing heads, they missed the singleness of spirit--it was the labor movement swinging along. Swooping along "to Seventy-Second Street," they said. Police charts would call them right; but History will say they were wrong.

That parade did not stop at any street... the spirit marched on.

While the official destination... across man-made boundaries that divide worker from worker... it is marching today, is marching tomorrow and next year... it will continue marching until the world is one and won for the worker.

A photographic review of the part played by the Dressmakers in the May Day Parade and Demonstration is on display, 5th Floor, Joint Board Office, 220 West 40th Street. It tells better than words why the Dressmakers are so proud of the important contributions they made to the splendid showing of the I. L. G. W. U.

Barron Honored

We, the workers of the Josephine Waltz and Dress Shop, 1244 Broadway, want to express our deep appreciation of the activity and devotion of our shop chairman, Brother William Barron, and his hard work in cooperation with our progressive administration of Local 22, in determining conditions in our shop. In recognition of his services, we have decided to present him with a fine radio. Shop Committee: Schaeffer, Goodman, Kiss, Brown, and others.

Union Scores Major Victory Without Workers Losing Day: $4.75 Stoppage Showed Power

Important increases in the rates on the $4.75 regular and cheaper lines are now in effect following negotiations carried through to a successful conclusion by Julius Hochman, Joint Board General Manager. Driving straight through the conclusion of business, this agreement made rates effective, added more work to the jobber and the notice filed that Union action would be taken for "recalcitrance of employers." 

Through the days and nights of negotiations that followed, the Union held steadfastly to its contention that rates would have to be increased on the $3.75 and cheaper lines.

The splendid display of Union solidarity in the $4.75 stoppage, during which the discipline of the workers had a marked effect on the minds of the employers, was always a strong point at the negotiations. Up to the very last moment when it seemed that the employers had not yet learned their lesson, it seemed that another stoppage was inevitable. But they were finally convinced and capitulated under the pressure of Union arguments as presented by Brother Hochman.

The shop rates which went into effect Monday, April 29, are shown to the following effect:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING</th>
<th>Dress Suit</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.75 and below</td>
<td>25 35</td>
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<td>3.25 and below</td>
<td>35 50</td>
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<td>3.75 and above</td>
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<tr>
<th>PRESSING</th>
<th>Dress Suit</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.75 and below</td>
<td>25 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.25 and below</td>
<td>35 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.75 and above</td>
<td>45 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average rate of $3.25 on dresses and $3.75 on suits is a very fair one, and we believe it is accepted by the trade as fair. Since the major part of the production at this time of the year is in men's suits, we feel that the increase in pay are significant.

Brother Hochman is commending the settlement.

"We must take every opportunity to increase the earnings of the workers. Following the conclusion of successful action in the $4.75 stoppage, we took the next step in the Timber region. The splendid discipline of the $157 workers in the stoppage was an important factor in forcing the $3.75 settlement without a stoppage. We were ready for that event. And I am glad that the employers recognized our stronger position.

Right Address Saves Union Funds

Thousands of dollars are wasted annually in postage and the work of the Union hampered because the correspondents fail to make sure that the Union has their correct addresses.

By N. M. Minkoff

Make sure the Union has your new and correct address.

If you fail to receive Union mail that your fellow workers are receiving, make sure the Union has your correct address.

If you fail to receive your copy of the Union newspaper, make sure the Union has your correct address.

Check up when you pay your Union dues and make sure the Union has your correct address.
Union Might In Gala Display at "22" Installation

Hochman Stresses Power
Julius Hochman, general man-
ager of the Designers Joint Board, who
installed the new officers, han-
m ered home the fact that only the
power of militant unionism as
expressed by the solidarity of the
workers, could win even the
slightest of concessions.

"We were not hypnotized by the
NLRB or the New Deal," he said.
"Only through the power of organiza-
tion of the lot of the worker battered. It is in an effort to keep us in the
streets so that we dreamers have always
been good strikers but poor union builders.
This meeting tonight tells us
that we have gone forward.
I don’t know in all the plights
that we are always the same
when our respected employers start
in on an attack. There is always the problem
of containment—and in this way we must always be ready to
sway the big stick." Brother Hochman
stressed the importance of coming
union activity as a union leader.
The 30-hour week, the unit
employment, the government’s
enactment of such measures on the
policies of the employers’ pres-
tices by representatives of the
committees of workers, absolute, unshakable
contractors, and increased jobber
responsibility. He paid a graceful
tribute to the courage and
fearlessness of Local 22’s educ-
ational program.

No Room For All
Chaim Dominov, the new
appointed manager, expressed regret
that only a few thousand members, who had
attentively listened at the
apartment house had been forced
to stay outside because of lack of
space. The organization was
about to hold a meeting in the
building.

Hochman’s annual report
revealed many interesting
facts and figures. The League of
Nations had 20,000 members, and
the organization collected
amounts of $1,000,000, 000,
in addition to the $1,000,000,
drawn from Relief and Agitation
Funds. The total disbursements
amounted to $1,000,000, 000
and the services of 10,000
members, who were
considered in the official report.

 Antonioni Warns Against Fascist Agents

The activities of the squads and
agents of the Italian Labor Institute,
which has been established in
the country to bring about the
leadership of the Italian workers,
and has been directed by having
already won some converts in
the country among the members
of the Italian Dreamers’ local.
This claim has been firmly con-
firmed by the organization’s
secretaries. The secretaries have
directed the following: Labor
Agent, Luigi Antoni
di has issued its official warn-
ing to all affiliated members, which
concludes by announcing that
it is the duty of all members to
help in the work of the Institute
and to be involved in the
International and Joint Board.

Hochman Stands against Fascists

The hard facts that make the
unions of the country, the only
means through which contact with
the working class can be obtained,
should be brought to a mass meeting
of workers, professional crafts-
mencing and more than 500
workers at the 15th Street, 5th
Avenue, on May 5, by Julius Hochman, Board
Agent-General Manager. The
meeting will be held in the
lofts of the New York Labor
Institute and the
membership of the Institute
participate. In
the investigation, it is recommended
that all American unions should
be involved in the
subversion of Fascism.
Enforcement Collections Pass $300,000

Workers Receive $50 Surprise Checks and Raises

This happy scene was recorded at the Joint Board Offices when the workers for the Sator-Mold Queen Company were called in, handed checks for $50 each and informed that sales increased ranging from $2.50 to $5.25 weekly were theirs. The whole matter came as a surpris-- to them because they had not known that a Union investigation of the books of their employer had been in progress for some time. The firm was charged with paying $3.75 rates for $4.75 garments. Alex Cantor, head of the National Department, and Joseph Sadowsky, business agent, are shown with the workers.

President Dubinsky On "Voice of Local 89" Broadcast

"The Voice of Local 89"—the weekly radio program of the Italian Dressmakers' Union, which is broadcast every Saturday Morning from 10 to 11 A.M., Daylight Saving Time, from Station WWV (1590 kc.), will present next Saturday, May 18, President David Dubinsky, who will address the members of the International Union, which is soon to be delivered locally. First Vice-President Luigi Antonini will deliver his regular weekly message in Italian. An imposing music program will be included, as usual, by the orchestra and artists of the Chicago Opera Company, under the direction of Giuseppe Bamboscheh.

Garment Town Corners

By Horace Laser

Three "Wise Guys"

At the corner of 39th Street, I paused and looked east along the side of the Metropolis. Across the entire block, there was hardly a moving figure or a bright color. On the sidewalk was dotted with . . . only men... standing in groups of two or three... and the few females simply holding silent conversation with each other, as if daunted by the social scene that might have added spice to their picture. The sidewalk was aglow, but the picture was not so bright when one looked down the street.President Dubinsky put us permission to stand here. They wanted to change, but President Dubinsky put us permission. As long as we don't obstruct traffic we have permission. "Well," I said, "I'm going to sketch a little."

Feeding the Wife

There's one, with her wife, probably... must be, because she's doing the same kind of work with a sour face... I'll bet he'll take it on his work. They'll be better off if he's eating. Why is it that the buses and the women always wear their clothes so well? It's not that the same jollies as if they may bust at the next moment! The cutters all look fine for their work! They bust sometimes that the same jollies as if they may bust at the next moment! The cutters all look fine for their work! They bust sometimes.

Knitgoods Workers Vote for Sick Relief

Two thousand members of the three branches comprising the Knitgoods Joint Council voted, at a general meeting held at the Hotel Pierre on April 28, at the Annual Meeting of the Union in Brooklyn, three to one, in favor of establishing a system of sick relief in the organization.

I had been appointed the committee of Knitgoods Joint Council and the two branches comprising it, the National and the International, were given a vote on this question. The vote was taken by a show of hands, and the result was that the union voted in favor of establishing a system of sick relief in the organization.

"I think," said one of the members, "that the union should take care of its members in case of sickness." Others agreed, and the vote was taken. The result was that the union voted in favor of establishing a system of sick relief in the organization.

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Dubsinsky Speaks on Shorter Hours at Geneva

Extract from Report of Proceedings, Governing Body I. L. O., In Session April 10-12, at Geneva, Switzerland

Mr. Dubsinsky said that as this was the first occasion upon which American workers were officially represented at the Governing Body, he would take the opportunity of making some observations, even though they had not directly to do with the subject on the agenda.

American Employers Not So Liberal

He appreciated the remarks made by Mr. Frumin, who represented the United States employers. It might be inferred, however, that the American trade and the trade union movement were in a particularly favorable position, because of the "liberal" attitude of the employers. That was not altogether the case. Although conditions of labor were advanced in some respects, his country was perhaps somewhat backward in social legislation as compared with some other countries. Serious consideration was, however, being given to the present Congress to social legislation. Among the American employers was a shorter working week, and the workers of other countries; but, on the other hand, there was widespread unemployment.

It was somewhat surprising to the American workers to hear so much discussion of the shorter working week. In the United States most industries already had a 35-hour week, and an endeavor was being made to secure a 36-hour week through legislation.

Work-Hours and Unemployment

There was some misconception in European countries as to the facts regarding the National Recovery Act. The United States employers were operating on a 30-hour week, but most worked 40 and some 44 hours a week. When the N.R.A. was first initiated, its purpose was to reduce working hours and to increase purchasing power in order to promote economic recovery. Through the code, many industries had secured a shorter working week. The industries in the so-called "ladies' garment industry," was one of the first to secure a 35-hour week. The labor-officials represented in the industries applied for codes, considered desirable from the standpoint of industry. The Government representatives encountered great difficulty in inducing those industries to accept a 40 or even a 44-hour week. In some industries compromises were reached for a 44-hour week, while in others, the whole situation had changed.

The President of the United States, in a broadcast speech in September, 1933, had said, in effect: "The real demoralization, caused by vast unemployment, was the greatest menace to social order in the United States." He had gone on to say that although many people maintained that the country must make up its mind that it would not interfere permanently with businesses, it was an experienced observer of other countries who had for over a decade, could not have foreseen that for the next 40 years, an era of depression and unemployment. The President of the United States was fully justified in the presentation of this situation. Mr. Dubsinsky did not doubt for the Governing Body to consider the situation of other countries to consider the hours of labor.

Time-Tidings from Chicago Union Front

By Morris Bialisk, V.P.
Manager, Chicago Joint Board

First, a few words about May Day:

We stopped off the clock and fired on industry on that day and held a huge mass meeting in the Ashland Auditorium—in the same hall where the opening of last year's convention took place. Brother M. A. Goldstein was chairman of the meeting. Brother Max, from the International, presented the L.G.W.U., and I were the speakers.

Reinforcing the speakers, we had an audience of 1000 people presented by stars of the Chicago Civic Opera Company. We were not so favored by weather conditions on that day; they were not as favorably disposed toward the speakers as they had been toward the speakers in New York. It rained the entire first day of May, and this dampened considerably (both in size and enthusiasm) the outdoor enthusiasm.

Injunction

By this time, you know of the victory we obtained in the Illinois Appellate Court. The injunction that had been issued by Judge


David Dubsinsky

Workers May Force Action

If the workers were denied the right to which they were entitled, a time would come when they would be willing to take action to secure those rights. He did not advocate such a course, but if at such a time as the present, when millions of men were unemployed, industries and government would not assume the responsibility of shortening the working week, it would be necessary, he believed, that the workers should consider to what extent they could adopt such action.

The workers of the United States were somewhat disappointed at the achievements of the International Labor Organization after fifteen years' existence. If anything would justify the existence of the Organization, it was the potential and actual action on the shorter working week. It was evident that the United States and other countries would not be willing to work for the establishment of the shorter working week.
Connecticut Locals
Active in All Fields

By Bernard Schub
Connecticut State Organizer

Page Nine

May Day Rallies in
"Out-of-Town" Cities

By S. Romualdi

In many New Jersey localities, May Day was for the first time of

fully obeyed by the Central Lo

rations, upon initiative of the representatives of our I.L.R.G.

W.U. Locals. This is an indication of the influence which our Union

has established in the family of organiza-

ional labor in those localities and of the

new spirit it is able to in-

fluence the workers where it may. May Day was regarded with suspicion and a

great deal of misunderstanding.

The Central Labor Union of Hud-

son County observed May Day with a

three-hour meeting in the ever-

active shop, at the Italian Cooperative

Hall in Union City. The manager of our Dressmakers’ Union, Local

25, Brother William Altman, spoke for our Union, whose members were present in full force. Earlier in the

afternoon the dressmakers, who had left the shops at noon time, assembled in the Community Hall to hear dressing-room and Manager Altman speak on the sig-

nificance of the International Labor Day and the necessity of
dance until the time for the joint meeting of the Central Labor Body.

Pataskala, Newark

Save Big Meetings

Pataskala, N. J., our dressmak-

er’s local, which has a good-natured audience. Following the meeting, Brother Nazak, a

citizens’ union which was organized to aid the dressmakers in New York, called together a

number of distribution meetings which was presided over by Brother Louis Salinger,

manager of our dressmakers local, Local 25.

The dressmakers of Local 11 of Pataskala, located in the neighborhood of the

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in Pataskala, had the same meeting. Broth-

er Jack Kornbluth, who is president of this local, was given an opportunity to

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We are glad to announce that our dressmakers’ union has been called to

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On the meeting, Brother Altman stated that the strike of dressmakers in New York had

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"Labor, Industry, Government"

By Matthew Wall, D. Appleton-Cen-

tury Co., New York, 1926. 9.20.

By M. D. U.

Matthew Wall has written a book on the labor movement at the current hour in its relations to industry and the Government. It is a book that every thinking person will want to read, for it deals with the problems that are keenly felt to-day. The book itself is a protest against the tendency to put aside the labor problem merely as a matter of wages and hours and work conditions, and to consider the labor movement as a threat to the stability of the nation.

The book is divided into three parts: The Labor Movement, the Industry Movement, and the Government Movement. Each part is further divided into several sections, and each section is carefully studied and analyzed.

In the first part, the author deals with the history of the labor movement, and shows how it has developed from the earliest times to the present day. He traces the growth of the labor movement from the time of the early workers, who fought for better working conditions, to the present time, when the labor movement is considered a menace to the stability of the nation.

In the second part, the author deals with the industrial movement, and shows how it has developed from the early times to the present day. He traces the growth of the industrial movement from the time of the early workers, who fought for better working conditions, to the present time, when the industrial movement is considered a threat to the stability of the nation.

In the third part, the author deals with the government movement, and shows how it has developed from the earliest times to the present day. He traces the growth of the government movement from the time of the early workers, who fought for better working conditions, to the present time, when the government movement is considered a threat to the stability of the nation.

The book is a valuable contribution to the study of the labor movement, and is a must for everyone who is interested in the study of labor and industrial problems.
One, especially one who experiences his first thrill of an air-flight, be-comes a physical wallowing in a comfortable seat in an airplane above the clouds, at 6 in the evening when one is looking down on a yellow-blue sky, below the clouds like a monster sea and on the side a beautiful hummer.

It takes some 20 minutes to reach Kansas City, the actual trip by train from New York to Kansas City, besides the delay of changing trains, etc. The same trip is made by plane in seven and one half hours. In Kansas City I still, somehow, couldn't believe that I had arrived at Kansas City. I was still looking around, as if in the airplane, like a giant bird, few with the same wonder. The weather was perfect. With the west wind the air pressure on the ears around the country.

In the Clouds -- Down to Earth Again

By Meyer Feinlin

LIFE BEGINS AT $40

You can put it down that, regardless of calendars which mark off the days, life begins from more routine living, for most of the human race, dependent upon the amount of spendable cash in the family funds.

Purchasing power below a certain level brings home to the parlor, bedroom and bath those things that enable plain Jack and his pipe to get on a passable living. We do not rag to plain and obvious respectability, with mighty little thought for that long list of good things that means living beyond the pale of the debt collector.

The cold, a common disease, an affection which is at once a poisonous and a threat.--Kipling and O. F. K.

Life Begins At $40

Below that line, which is fatal, or magic, according to point of view and want, is all that green which ranges from turpentine to office workers. Above that line, all that green is -- when times are good, -- the top level of office workers, upper executive and professional workers, junior executive, executive business men and that less than one percent in six to ten figures.

For the sake of the population it is important to know where the boundaries of the life. The lie de the line which is that of $40 with less than $40 per month to live on.

For the sake of the population it is important to know where the boundaries of the line of life, the lie de the line which is that of $40 with less than $40 per month to live on.

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Justice

The NRA is Still the Law of the Land

By Charles H. Green
Director Code Observance Bureau

This is a period of uncertainty for all those whose interest are affected by the NRA.

The National Industrial Recovery Act

The present Act requires the cooperation of the trade associations. The Schecter case has already been argued before the Supreme Court. The law is now set forth in the decision. Accordingly, the law is a precedent for the involuntarily

One of the things that is holding up action by Congress is the fact that the Supreme Court has already handed down the new Supreme

Corporation which will rule on the

The Schecter case has already been argued before the Supreme Court.

Niska is in the minds of all.

Those who are in close touch with Senate and House leaders know that Congress will not enact the National Industrial Recovery Act, with per

June 14. Of course, the final decision of Congress will be greatly influenced by the Supreme Court's decision.

The management of his Union sent him a letter. It is too bad to see a man in the Union get into trouble. It is too bad to see men get rid of the job. We expect them to have more control over the work than they have now. But, faced with the realization that he is no longer able to provide for himself, the management of the company let him go. The company, in turn, informed him that he was no longer able to provide for himself.

A tattletale has genuine merit. It

When you are a man of power, you have to be cautious about every step you take. You have to be careful not to be seen in a bad light. You have to be careful with the press. You have to be careful with the public. You have to be careful with your friends. You have to be careful with your enemies.

No Whimple for Him

penguin... but instead of turning to the penguin... he has turned to... his penguin... his clothes are the best... and his in excellent taste. He is completely impervious to the phoma of the soft mode in the gift.

A tattletale is such a means of

while seated himself at my table

"Yes,"... and more... I answer. I do not think that the observer is thinking of that.

"Oh..." and more... I answer. I do not think that the observer is thinking of that.

"Yes,"... and more... I answer. I do not think that the observer is thinking of that.

Mr. C. is, comparatively speaking, a young man. He is not old enough to be a tattletale, being young being four years old. His need to be a tattletale is that he is doubtful whether he will ever get back to his former health. We referred him to a doctor, but he had to wait five weeks before he could take him in. There was no need to send him to a doctor. He had to wait five weeks before he could take him in. Now I am informed that before he can be operated upon he must have a blank from the doctor.

The story has no end for such a blank. The story has no end for such a blank. The story has no end for such a blank.

But just as our Union, by the way, has been working for the enforcement of the law, the Union has been bothered by the government. The government has been bothered by the government. The government has been bothered by the government. The government has been bothered by the government.

The program is tremendously successful and Victor Vanes reigns as King of the Art. But little Orphan Neil is the winner in his works. Originally, the girl who won her first dollars working for other artists, the Lysoil hour, she has now, on the Vanes program, become a partner of the world and the membership, is Orphan Neil's wife.

A tattletale has genuine merit. A tattletale has genuine merit. A tattletale has genuine merit. A tattletale has genuine merit.

The film is moving slowly because of its deep slow motion. It is slow in terms of its script, to the beat of music, to the beat of music, to the beat of music, to the beat of music, to the beat of music.

May 15, 1932

The Youth of Maxim

The Youth of Maxim is the first of a series of feature films in Mademoiselle, revolutionary. In the present film the circumstances that led to his transformation from a happy, care

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Books By and For Workers

Join Our Hikes

"I have never known a man or woman, loving the out-
doors, who did not have something distinctive." - Arthur Gilman

We gather workers, of all ages, and the opportunity to be outdoors, where sunshine, exercise, and an abundance of fresh air offer us a chance to restore the life energy burned up during the winter months in shops and factories.

We gather workers spend much money within the four walls of the shop. Outdoor life is indeed a vital need for our health and it stimulates and inspires us to carry on—and to fight for a better world.

In response to this need, the Educational Department reopened the hiker season on Sunday, May 12. At these hikes we make friends and spend a few hours in a spirit of comradeship. We learn to love and respect the beauty of nature.

Such hikes will be conducted by experienced leaders. The program will consist of recreational, as well as cultural events, such as games, ball playing, story telling, dramatic recitations, readings, and other activities. The effect of this will be to make those who hike a success. They can increase their knowledge and better understand their environment.

Hikes will be conducted every Sunday. We request the shop chair-
men to cooperate with us in making these hikes a success. They can help by inviting all employees from each department to their members.

Directions: Every Sunday, May 12, to 5:30 p.m., Broadway Avenue Subway to Dyckman Street Station at 2:30 a.m. Our hike leader will meet you.

For more information, see the notices of your local union or with the Brooklyn Labor Council at the I.L.G.W.U., 3 West Street, New York City.

Sound Track For Union Purposes

A sound track, to be used by the United Textile Workers as an organizing vehicle, was dedicated Saturday night, November 11, by the presence of Senator Frank Mur-
ritt, of the A.F. of L, and several members of the executive board.

The stock is equipped in sound track, musical, and speaking voice, and is made capable of reproducing 35 new tracks. This is modern in every re-
spect, and is to be used for amusing and entertaining purposes. It is to be used in schools, factories, and other places, to make the work of the union more interesting.

We Shall Be Free

"Live!" Warmly Praised

The following are only a few of the unsolicited compliments paid to our "Live!"

We are glad to announce that the locals have already asked for parcells of the local posters to be mailed at the rate of 10,000 copies in all. Will all the other locals let us know immediately what their precise needs are likely to be? Prepare already to use them in order to stimulate the class programs for the Fall.

We are contemplating order-
ing a new supply before the type is broken up and it is imperative that the local order at once.

For a great many years I have been engaged in publishing that trade union literature was too expensive. Why should we not introduce a little "Livei into the adv-

"Live!" is the best union advertising I have ever read.

--Dr. Goodwin, Teacher, Teachers Union, Columbia University, N. Y.

"Congratulations on your pamph-
let, "Live!" It is real compelling power and two things suggest themselves: Instead of appealing to women and a sense of discussion, which is too much by the public."

--M. H. Dorsey, Director of Research, I.W.W., Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Washington, D. C.

"Congratulations on the publica-
"Live!" It's the best union advertising I have ever seen.

--Dr. Goodwin, Teacher, Teachers Union, Columbia University, N. Y.
Can The Garment Work-Seasons Be Made Longer?

By Edith King

Since the women's garment industry became one of the country's major industries, there have been many attempts to "stabilize" this industry. Because of the nature of the trade, the work has always been highly seasonal. After the peak of each season, there remains the problem of large numbers of unemploment. In good seasons an average worker may be employed from 26 to 30 weeks in a year, in bad seasons the number of work weeks has dwindled dangerously low. This results in the comparatively high wage scale in the industry, the workers have suffered tremendously, particularly during the past depression, for the average yearly earnings have been very low. At the end of each season, thousands of men and women are thrown out of work, to remain idle until the next season opens.

White or Pastel Clothes A Factor

For many years the question of "lengthening the work season" has been on the agenda of the unions. In recent years, the efforts have been led by its facility and unanswerability. At least, in the "fall season," the "fall season," but with the introduction of a steel-hearted spirit of the workers, interest in heavy, expensive clothes began to wane, and the manufacturers began to make of lighter weight clothes, and to concentrate on a sec- ond season, which is called the "summer season." This season has also lengthened, although due to the increased cost of white and pastel clothes for both town and resort wear. Despite this, the manufacturers have not increased their efforts of any degree. Not only of the leaders in the industry, both among the unions and the manufacturers, do not understand the underlying causes for lack of stability in the industry, and some of the unions to overcome the condition, but they repeatedly say that the only way to get the industry to work together with a purposeless of an effort, is to give it a second season, which has caused both manufacturers and workers untold harm.

Fair Practices, Lower Markups

The retailer must be convinced that the trade practices are established by the codes; the most fragrant abuses of which are mis- treated above. He might also cover that with a slightly lower mark-up on his own stock to increase, and there would be less mark-downs at the end of a season. And also, that a constant succession of "special promotions and sales raises his opportunities of doing business on legitimate merchandise.

The problem is to improve business conditions and spread employment, as outlined by Josiah Norton, general man- ager of the John Cloak, Joint Board, to see first, that the abuses men- tioned above are eliminated, and that the trade practices are not adhered to throughout the industry. Secondly, they must continue for a shorter work-season and be permissively. Over- time tends to overproduction in peak seasons with resultant surplus. The short work-season will aid in absorbing more of the unemployed. Thirdly, they must limit the number of new workers allowed into the industry. Under present conditions, with thousands unemployed, there is no place for new workers. I have discussed this subject with manufacturers, retailers, union leaders, and members of the code authorities. They all seemed quite satisfied. yet the same old forms are used, and the problem exists in the same industry are common knowledge. The retailers must understand our point of view, and limit them, make sure that they are doing what is required. Some manufacturers, contractors and others keep the work they have hired, levy a tax, instead of their needed share to be driven. The result? White standards and working condi- tions are lowered, and the consum- er doesn't have the money to buy the_merchandise sold by the retail- er. It is a vicious circle—a circle that only can be ended when all those who are responsible and speak for the industry will realize that the elimination of labor Euclid and usual trade practices will prove beneficial not only in the workers. of the individual manufacturers concerned, but in the entire in- dustry.

The Scare-Crow

(A Fable)

By Nathaniel Y. Wood

In gaudy rags, a scare-crow in the garden stood, Though tiny strain of taste and style and man.
It scared away the birds so much That never did they dare the garden to approach.
I know not how, but once A jolly and a mighty careless little d孤儿, A sparrow, found
Him sitting there on a piece of thistle, But he was young and quite unwise From all the evils and the codes... his heart was pure
And being sure The blessings of the earth, the plenteous and food for the hungry's sake and good, He talked to him, a hearty meal, and store, And there he went thereafter every day... So quite distinct, It was not for all the winds, That scare-crows are not dangerous, indeed, One only has to use his wit... And the result was wonderfull new and striking, Of one who called himself the owner of the garden, He, realizing something wrong was with his garden, (For who could think that birds are cunning, even bold?) Decided high the scare-crow to re-look. He trimmed it nicely here and there And changed its rags, its hat, and with great care He put in an artistically planted one. He even put a hooker stick into its hand...

Yet, this is not enough, to my surprise, For birds, they say, are too wise, And so by a dandy modern scare-crow, they No longer will be scared away.
Among the Cutters of New York

By Samuel Petrie

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Fines Collected for Violation of Workmen's Hours

It appears that notwithstanding the precautions and measures of enforcement employed by the local against attempts of employees to violate the 13-hour week, there are still some who cannot resist the temptation of having the cutters work overtime. However, in almost every case we are successful in apprehending the violators and collecting fines for these violations.

In the instance of Robert Hinds, 304 West 35th Street, a fine of $10 was imposed by the Union's Committee on Monday evening at 8:30 P.M. on a Thursday and found Bounder C. Ferrara and Morris Weiss working. Upon the committee's attempt to enter the shop, one of the men had left the shop and tried to prevent them from investigating the conditions in the cutting department. The door being locked. The Union's committee insisted that they be allowed to enter the premises in order to maintain the terms of the collective agreement with the firm, and they agreed to accompany the members. While this conversation was going on, the committee, of the firm, and all the men managed to gain his way in and seized three cutters at work.

The cutters were then stopped from work for a full week, after which the Association met and fined all the cutters a fine of $100, or, for the first offense, and the cutters in question were to be employed in the execution of the second offense, and allThrough.

Reminiscence of Fines Through Association

On many occasions in the past, when violations were committed by employers and companies, the Association would act, and, on securing a majority of the members, a fine was imposed, which in turn would bring about a reduction in the number of such offenses. Such an action forced the local to become more active in carrying out the stipulated duties by employing agents in various places until they would pay penalties for those who were not active.

This finally produced a very tiring effect upon the Association itself, and after a number of such stoppages, it called upon the Union to take this action with respect to the firm. In this instance, the Association, realizing that the firm was not in any way obliged to comply with the agreement, insisted that it should be made part of the contract, and that such unions as members of the firm would be the ones to carry out the consequences of these violations.

The Union determined that it would take whatever action was necessary to enforce the agreement. This was done by the committee, who, after the above-named fine, were put in charge of the fine, and after being questioned, admitted their guilt, and agreed to begin working on a new contract. The above-named committee was then instructed to go to the shop, where it was demonstrated that the firm had engaged in the employment of men who had forced them to work overtime.

The cutters were then instructed to present their grievances, and they were permitted to work on Saturday, Sunday, or other days during the week. They were asked to appear at the meeting of the committee, where their grievances were considered, and it was decided that the firm should engage in the employment of men who had forced them to work overtime.

Back-Pay Collections

In the case of Albert Coon, 130 West 35th Street, the firm's attorney informed the committee that Cutters Henry Orlando was not receiving the full rate of wages. He was, however, to be certain, receiving $60 per week. A complaint was filed and subsequently $50 was collected from the firm for back pay. The firm was then summoned before the executive board and fined for not adhering to the agreement.

On an investigation made in the firm of Mr. Davis' Maid Outfit Corp., 1 East 56th Street, it was found that the firm had not paid the wages to the workers. The workers were then instructed to present their grievances, and they were permitted to work on Saturday, Sunday, or other days during the week. They were asked to appear at the meeting of the committee, where their grievances were considered, and it was decided that the firm should engage in the employment of men who had forced them to work overtime.

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The committee then ordered the firm to cease and desist from any further violation of the agreement.
The jobbers in the New York coat and suit industry still loudly maintain that they will not renew the collective agreement with the I. L. G. W. U. and the Cloak Joint Board if the contract limitation and jobber-responsibility clauses are retained in it. In the same breath they glibly declare that they "stand ready to discuss with the Union wages and hours." It is the only of a number of events in the past one may have been inclined to credit the cloak jobbers with any measure of sincerity concerning their stand on contractor limitation, this profound realization on their part to discuss "hours and wages." ...shyning at the same time at limitation and responsibility... puts such suspicion of sincerity completely at rest. For, what good are discussions or even decisions on hours and wages in the cloak industry without adequate control to enforce such decisions or agreement clauses? And what other effective means of control—in the light of history and experience in the cloak industry for the past fifty years—are there available besides contractor limitation and jobber responsibility?

Regardless of optimistic prospects prevailing in some cloak quarters to the effect that there might not be a strike in the industry and that the jobbers and their allies in opposition to the Union's contractual safeguards will eventually back down, the Cloak Joint Board in the meantime stands on its immediate immediate position. To win, one must prepare for victory, and the $350,000 already reported in the defense chest of the Cloak Joint Board is a clear indicator that the leadership, as usual, therefore, that at any time in its foot. Nor would the Union be caught napping in the matter of Fall merchandise stocks. General Manager Naglee's order to all shop chairmen to permit no production of finished garments in the cloak shop, while probably not interfering with legitimate sample making, definitely disposes of the danger that many cloak manufacturers might rush through large volumes of Fall stocks in anticipation of a strike. And until further notice this order stands.

"Breaks" in Cotton Dress Struggle
Two things have occurred in the past two weeks in the cotton dress fighting area which have cast a few bright rays upon the gristy, solemn battle-lines in which thousands of women workers for months have been engaged, in as grumbling a fight for elementary human rights as could be matched by any clash in recent American industrial history. First, came the reversal by the Illinois Court of Appeals of the temporary injunction issued to the General Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association by a Chicago judge, an injunction, by the way, which for a time actually paralyzed picketing in front of the strike-bound Chicago cotton dress firms. Second, the decision on May 3rd by the Seattle Regional Labor Board, ordering the Olympic Garment Company and Dolly Meyers, Inc., two firms involved in a strike with the Seattle locals of the I. L. G. W. U., to allow the strikers to set up shop and grievance committees, to provide equal division of work in their shops, to take every striker back to work and to comply henceforth with Section 7A of the N.R.A.

In Seattle this decision is of particular significance in view of the fact that for the past month an anonymous "Committee of 500" has been carrying on a vicious Fascist fight against the Union mobilizing against our strikers all forces of reaction and blackguardism on the West Coast.

The fight in the other strike cities—in St. Louis, in Decatur, in Dallas, still continues unabated, and will not terminate until settled on terms satisfactory to the strikers. By the same token, the organizing activity in Kansas City, Mo., will not be swept back by all the power, cunning or fury of the Jim Reeds and their henchmen.

Whatever the outcome of this struggle—and the outcome may not be alike in places—the result will be deeply-rooted cotton garment workers' organizations everywhere. This conflict, indeed, has brought to the surface a trade-union spirit of fighting quality and matchless militancy. The indomitable courage displayed by the Dallas, Decatur and St. Louis girls in this struggle is of a caliber that cannot be downed.

Labor Demands
Wagner Bill
The organized labor movement of the United States, in the Wagner-Curryey Labor Disputes Bill. It should be passed promptly, without amendments designed to weaken any of its principles.

Essentially, the Wagner Bill is a measure to supply teeth, or enforcement power, to the National Recovery Act. It is conceded by friend and enemy alike that, original intentions notwithstanding, the N.R.A. has not done nearly as well as was expected from it largely because it is faced with an outstretched hand. The Wagner Bill aims squarely in that direction. It makes collective bargaining a reality—not merely a phantom right to be accepted or rejected at will by employers. It creates a special Labor Relations Board as a disciplining arm of N.R.A. enforcement, and it also affirms the majority rule in the election of representatives of collective bargaining. In reality, it overturns company unions.

Along with the Wagner-Curryey Bill, organized labor stands unequivocally behind the demand that the N.R.A. be extended for another two years. The scheme to extend it for ten months would create uncertainty and demoralization in the entire code machinery established after countless labor and cost. Legislation demands the enactment of the 30-hour law as the only effective measure for reducing unemployment and bringing jobs to millions of idle workers.

For the moment, at least, the tide in Washington may seem to have swung toward labor. In the light of former experience, however, this apparent veering toward the side of the administration may be only a delusion. It is, therefore, of supreme importance, at this time, not to allow overconfidence to fool any partisan of the workers' cause into a sense of false security. The fight for the full-time extension of the N.R.A. for the Wagner Disputes Bill and for the 30-Hour Law still has to be won. Every pressure available, every effort still not brought to bear must be exerted on the House of Representatives and on the Senate to insure the passage of these vital law-provisions and of the entire "social security" program now pending before Congress.

Company Unions
"As Is"
A special research staff of the Twentieth Century Fund, whose trustees could not be chartered with any particular pro-trade-union bias, has issued a report on company unions as part of a study of the role of government in labor relations. In view of the general public interest aroused in the so-called "company unions" by the Wagner-Connery Bill, the report is both valuable and timely. A few of its conclusions are herewith given:

"Company unions," the reporters of the Twentieth Century Fund state, are "a great corporation for membership with the regular trade unions. About 4,200,000 workers are now organized under such plans, compared with a total trade union membership of about 4,200,000. An especially rapid growth in company unions has occurred since 1933, largely to the influence of Section 7A of the N.R.A.

Where trade unions were unseelome, the company union offered itself as the obvious substitute, especially in the mass-production industries.

On the basis of an intensive investigation of 80 specific plants, the report further maintains, it was revealed that "company unions are usually inadequate agencies for collective bargaining because direct or indirect employer influence can, in the nature of this type of organization, never be entirely absent.

While many plans' guarantee against discrimination, company union representatives, being on the employer's payroll, are handicapped by fear that they may be discharged, disciplined, or otherwise penalized by the employer if they are too aggressive. Company unions can rarely back up their demands by a strike threat. Bargaining equality cannot be maintained where one party has disproportionate economic power.

A more succinct indictment of this bastard offspring of management's interest in the company union—could hardly be imagined. The temperate language in which the report of the Twentieth Century Fund investigators is couched adds to its convincing force. A copy of this report should be placed in the hands of every intelligent person whose pen or word contributes to the moulding of public opinion in this country. That translation monotony, the company union, should be outlawed.

May 13, 1935

Labor—President Dally, a few Hours Off the Steamer Which Brought Him Back from Europe, Addressed the Great Gathering.