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Justice (Vol. 26, Iss. 10)

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Comments
May 15 & June 1

*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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CRADLE OF LIBERTY

As our country embarks on the greatest military effort in history to preserve and extend liberty, the 25th Convention of the ILGWU meets at the shrine where the very idea of those liberties was born. We gather on that hallowed ground where the shot heard round the world was fired, where the workers armed against tyranny—the city of Paul Revere and Faneuil Hall from which the citizen soldiers and philosophers of Liberty spread their message of hope to all mankind. They broke the shackles of privilege and cleared the way for the free association of working men and women which we know as trade unions. Their spirit will guide our deliberations. As they looked into the future to see the world of today, so we of today will strive for a future in which abounding freedom, happiness and security will be the heritage of all.
JUNE BONDS, June, the traditional month for bonds, becomes the national month for Bonds as the Fifth War drive gets under way. The ILGWU will pay its assessment, as it did in Drives 1, 2 and 4.

Toronto Dress Shops Slated for Vacation With Pay Next July

Sometime during next July, the dress trade in Toronto will close for a four-week vacation with pay. Workers employed in the dress shops will enjoy a two-week vacation for which they will be paid, Hyman Langer, Toronto dress manager, announced last week. This will be the first time that vacation with pay has occurred in any Toronto dress shop.

The workers, who are a part of the employers' association's membership list, have approved the plan, and it will be adopted, Langer declared. The dress trade committee will get the vacation plan under way for the second time.

Dress shop owners early this month gave Langer a surprise trip to New York to meet the end of the first year since he resumed supervisory work in the Toronto dress trade. Langer was named for having aided in terminating industrial disorders in the group and in other communities.

The announcement of the vacation plan forced several employers who virtually nullified the working end system in the shops and wiped out some of the most advantageous gains made previously for the workers. Morris Piller, dress joint council chairman, president.

The Toronto dress trade delegation to the Boston Convention was given a hearty send-off at a party on May 22. A special meeting of the Canadian Coordinating Committee was scheduled for May 27 to deal with several matters affecting dress shops in Toronto and other markets in Canada.

Renew Ely-Walker Pacts; All Shops Get Improvements

Agreement renewed covering Ely-Walker Dress Goods Company pledges in St. Louis and Vancouver, Mexico and the U.S. Renewed in both countries.

Local 318, Detroit—which works under the agreement—has had the contract renewed.

Labs of Lots for Russian War Relief

ILGWU locals played a leading role in the "Parade of Clothes" Rally for Russian War Relief on 36th Street, May 11, thousands of members attended.

"PARADE OF CLOTHES" BY ILGWU SPARKS RUSSIAN RELIEF DRIVE

Climaxing a joint drive sponsored by New York City's dressmakers and chalkmark unions and the manufacturers' associations, due to 1,000 garment workers staged a noon-time "Parade of Clothes" May 11 in the heart of the nation's great garment center, to which they brought enough bundles of clothing to load large trucks. The rally was part of the nation's wartime drive conducted by Russian War Relief to collect for families in the receptive areas of devastated Russia.

Officers of the New York Dress and Chalk Joint Boards and of other ILGWU affiliates were on the 93rd Street platform when Harry Ovitt, IMPERIAL CHAIRMAN, intro- duced Maurice P. Davidson, of Russian War Relief, who reported that 180,000 pounds of clothing that day had been collected in the city-wide drive.

In appealing for clothing bundles for Russia, President David Daily announced that ILGWU members in New York had contributed $3,300 to all war relief agencies in the past few years. The members of the International must do all they can to aid in the Russian cloth drive for Russia. Theil managers are fighting not only for their own lives and safety, they are fighting for the fate of all humanity who came to Canada for shelter.

Others who spoke included New-

sold Morris, president of the City Council; Representative Rosenthal, editor; Charles Ofenhart, manufacturer and chairmen of the coat and suit committee of the drive, and Nina Magloff.

Several clothing collection depots had been set up throughout the garment area to which workers brought their families clothing. Business agents and other union officers collaborated with employers during this drive. The ILGWU also made available ample supplies and work for subcommittee members, who have been converting the fabrics into clothing.

RED CROSS WILL AWARD CITATION TO "91" DONORS

The first presentation of the "sold Blood Donors Award" to an AFC trade union in New York was made at the Red Cross drive and show, Saturday, May 15, with which Children's Dress Joint, Local 91, was to send off delegates to the ILGWU Convention in September, according to an announcement by Manager Harry Greenberg.

The award, citing Local 91 for "outstanding and continuous cooperation in the blood donor campaign," was to be presented by the American Red Cross at a special event scheduled to be held at the Red Cross auditorium, 17th Street and 4th Avenue, on Saturday, May 15.

Local 91 has over 200 regular blood donors. Chadcliffe, price committee, executive board members and other active members had been invited to attend the event which was to include the services of several outstanding Red Cross workers.

Champ Bondadler

Local 200 members in Cleveland's Price-Bederman shop think their store is the place to make the champ ILGWU-Bondadler; she'll work the first 100 of a 150 total sales target of $125,175 and a grand total of $219,375, worth of dresses and coats, with any ILGWU-Willas. Any takers?—"Let your answer be to bundles of blood for the Bondadler."
Convention Meets As War Risks Hits Peak

25th Conclave Opening in Boston, May 29
To Dedicate on Serious Current and Post-War Problems; 758 Delegates

At the peak of its strength and influence, with a profound appreciation of the problems confronting our country at war, facing the challenge of a happier and more secure future for the peoples, the 25th Convention of the ILGWU will gather in Boston, Mass., May 29 to dedicate until June 9.

A roster of 758 delegates, representing over 365,000 garment workers in 246 communities in 32 states and four Canadian provinces, will meet at the Hotel Statler when President David Dubinsky calls the suprincing governing body of the Union to order.

Four monumental years parallel the convention's 25th anniversary in New York's Carriage House.

During that period the ILGWU has added a host of leaders, cases of great importance and extended its influence into 48 more communities. A list of its achievements and gains was scored during widespread bargaining campaigns during pre-Pearl Harbor 1941.

The echo of the Japanese bomb at Pearl Harbor had barely died away before the ILGWU had mobilized itself on a war footing. The workers on both sides by side with all true American institutions swung into action to give its people the feeling that the threat to our life as a nation and our liberties was the workers' problem, with HEAR an impressive report on the effects of the war on the ILGWU's activities, to bring about the cooperation of the government, with the war aims and to meet the suffering, the极易 in the true tradition of the ILGWU.

Meeting the Government's Executive Board's call for a stripped-for-concentration effort and the spirit of the times as the country embarks on the greatest militarily and spiritually the next four years, the lighter side will be marked by a day of lighter than usual display and orientation.

A distinguished list of govern- ment and labor leaders will be scheduled to address the delegates. They include, among others, Judge Joseph Biddle, Attorney General of the United States; Justice Charles A. Assistant Secretary of State; William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations; APL Vice President; Jan Blanckney, vice chairman of the National Defense Advisory Committee; Mayor Nixon, New Zealand minister to the United States; Max Zartman, international president of the Hatters' Union; Governor Leverett Saltonstall, senator of Massachusetts; Mayor John H. Tobin of Boston and others.

Among those associated more closely with the industry and union movement will be James J. Walker, industrial chairman of the New York City AFL; Harry Unz, assistant chairman of the New York Paper Industry; Alexander Prinz, national chairman of the Coast and Gulf Recovery Board; Abraham Cahan, editor of "The Forward," and Joseph Abels, secretary of the Workers' Circle and union leader.

"Convention Headquarters will be at the Hotel Statler with some delegates assigned in the district offices of New York, Baltimore and New York. War conditions will be limited both the time and volume, and the audience's correspondence, it is evident, that the view of the matter is expected to be important in the planning of those. The need for a committee, always the "early bird" among convention officials, had been anticipated by the organizers in New York City May 22 and 24. Convention headquarters were opened.

The Committee of 25, which meets on the day and a half before the convention and the committee of the 30, which meets on the day and a half before the convention, were the first to make a decision on the program for the first week will run something like the following. President Dubinsky will call the convention to order at the first A.M. session, May 29. He will present the delegates and set the course of deliberations with a keynote address covering the highlights of the year during the last four years and the problems to be faced. Other speakers through the day will include Mayor Tobin, representatives of the Boston Central Labor Union and the State Federation of Labor. The day will close with a dance in the Statler Ballroom. Other features will include Pep Concert, Arthur Fielder conducting, with the Civic Orchestra, Thursday, June 4. All engagements at the Statler Theatre.

RAISE WAAGE PLEASE MUST BE FILED SOON

All Cotton Garment Industry's employees for wage increase based on the cotton garment industry's division of the National War Labor Board must be filed with the N.W.B., Cotton Garment Panel, Post Room 5223, Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C., not later than May 30. Many applications for wage increases must be in this week if regular mail and stat or second class mail are used.

The plan is (a) to establish temporary "free pesos" in the United States. Under this plan, where returns from the United States cannot be obtained, the excess can be taken to any designated permanent homes and thereby save as many of the victims as possible.

Buy War Bonds in June "Baked Bean"
FOUR CONNECTICUT SHOPS WIN WLB WAGE INCREASE APPROVAL

Wage increases and other gains for workers in four Connecticut shops have been approved by the War Labor Board, the Eastern Out-of-Town Department said. Three of the shops produce children’s wear: the fourth manufactures regular silk dresses.

The following was approved for the three children’s wear plants:

Retrospective to July 1, 1943 workers at the S. Weinberger, New Haven; Rosenburg and Resnick and A. L. Brand Co. are to receive a $1 per week increase for workers and a $1.10 increase for work-week workers. Delay in obtaining this approval was caused by the fact that plans submitted by the WLB as to width of its authority had jurisdictional problems.

Two months ago, when the Board approved increases for six other shops, these were retroactive only.

Vacation, Health Fund Won at Neckwear Plant

An agreement has been signed with the Long Island Neckwear Association, Jersey City, N. J., establishing a 4 per cent vacation and health fund and reinstating a weekly increase of 25 cents for all employees.

Below are excerpts from some of these agreements, signed members by Manager S. Spanier.

Pat. Marie Grippold, writes from Raleigh, N. C., that everyone in the mill got a gift in the mail she helped her husband, Mr. Frank, send. The gift was the gift of his trust, and all the mail was sent to the address of the worker who was to receive the gift for the worker's friend. Pat. Marie was anxious to see it to get it to a larger group, more often than she could have been to him.

Company Barcs comes through with a flash bulletin from Camp Crowder stating that he spent his 20th birthday in a hospital ward to be excused for not inviting unit friends to the big day. The whole thing seems to have happened at night. Pat. Marie now has a picture of the big day.
Back Bay, Beacon Hill

COPLAY SQUARE—Boston architecture at its best. Trinity Church, The Boston Public Library, The Old South Church and other landmarks within the square that is a true triangle in shape. The First Church was formerly, founded by Con- servative Tenen in 1638 is in Marl- borough and Bozeman Street.  

PUBLIC GARDENS—(Arington & Boson) Boston’s treasured shorefront, with vast green space, flower beds and swan boats, west of Public Garden, that experts every year except as Back Bay, North End and the other Monts triangle, commemorating the first use of a fire truck at the Massachusetts General Hospital, October, 1940.  

THE ESPLANADE—Embankment that stretches along the Charles River where summer evening concerts are given by the Boston Symphony Or- chestra. 

BEACON HILL—The Chauncy Street that at which Daniel Web- berton residence, red-brick red-brick buildings and the Heritage. 

BOSTON COMMON—Originally set aside by Governor Winthrop as a ranom promenading field, later the site of stocks and pillory post, then used as a park, still used, still later used by British and Com- monwealth times to drill grounds, like New York Union Square, it has been the city’s own open air for all to enjoy of opinions. The Crispus Attacks Monument honors the memory of a Negro killed in the Boston Massacre.  

KNEeland St.—New England women’s garment emporium.  

Fenway District  

BOUSTON STREET SUBWAY—“Winds of Change” in the United States.  

TELEGRAPH SCIENCE CENTER—Falmouth & Beaconfield’s The Mothers Church, founded by Houghton & Bostons. 

SYMPHONY HALL—Massachusetts Pavilion, Boston’s great concert hall.  

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVA- TORY OF MUSIC—“Hunting and bacon” in New England.  


THE FENWAY — the charming parkway, revamped from mud flats, spreads a rustic touch to the district.  

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY—(Charlestown) The historic society in the United States, has been founded in 1813. Rich in early documents, manuscripts and engravings. It also displays the tea pots, piligrim cloths, with peacocks, with a British drum from Bunker Hill, General Washington and his pen with which Lincoln signed the Declaration of Independence.  

BRICK BUILDINGS—(Cambridge) The scene of an experiment in constructing long life buildings, on American Socialistic lines with which the names of such great men as Hawthorne, Emerson and Roosevelt stand are associated.  

EINNIE HILL MONUMENT—On Breed’s Hill, monument the famous battle.  

Doubleday, Doran  

B. Stolberg Book

Has ILG As Hero  

Departing from its usual custom of conferring official “awards” book to the collection delegates, the General Executive Board has given the ILG Stolberg Book for distribution.  

The presentation of a famous Union and the Wm W （ILG） for 1945, made by Doubleday, Doran and Company, the American Mercury, has the ILGWU as publisher.  

In its presentation notice the editors state that: “there are “many judg- ments in the book with which we would disagree,” but that these are “outweighed by the vivid writing and the lucid reasoning of the book.”
J U S T I C E

June 1, 1944

A. Philip Randolph Hailed for
Distinguished Service to Labor

Hailing A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, as an outstanding leader of the Negro people, as a great trade unionist and as champion of the cause of freedom and equal rights for all Americans, ILGWU President David Dinkins, warned labor and liberal friends meeting at Carnegie Hall, New York, May 2, to honor Brother Randol

ph, that the flight in the front of which this man has always placed himself must continue in spite of the demagogues and dis

 illusioned who have been butting into our unions and our institutions. To the hope of subverting them to their evil natures, financial aims.

The meeting was sponsored by the Workers Defense League which had selected Randolph to receive the third annual David L. Curden

in award for distinguished service to labor's rights.

In accepting the award, Brother Randolph exclaimed the record of Negro troops overseas who are el

ving their lives for the Americans they have never known," called for

the elimination of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces and urged the creation of a permanent committee on fair em

ployment practices.

Other speakers included Laur

ere T. Hine, who made the pre

sentation of the award; Pref. May

nard Kruger, of the University of Chicago, and Mrs. Mary McLean, be

en; of the National Council of Negro Women. Newbold Morris, president of the City Coun

cil, provided.

The meeting was opened with a group of songs by the ILGWU Chorus under the direction of Paul

Borge. Later in the evening, noted Broadway entertainers, in

duding Duke Ellington and Mau

rice Rocco, performed.

By buying war bonds we clinch our patriotism with some American deeds.

British Women Carry Big War Work Burden

With some 3,000,000 British girls and women in the working force of the country out of a popu

lation of 40,000,000, the whole picture of English industry has changed. Only the essential men

deferred and women must take over in all fields both civilian and industrial not requiring

heavy strength. (Upper left) Postal Packin' Mame. (Lower left) Window cleaner. (Middle) Scenic of a

double for women workers financed by ILGWU local. (Lower right) Heavy work in war plant.
Garments for Russian War Relief

The drive to raise a special relief fund through contribution of the equivalent of two hours' work by the New York dress workers is getting well under way, Nathanial M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board, reported last week.

The fund will be used for an all-number of labor, anti-fascist and humanitarian causes, including the erection of a hospital in Kiev, aid to the anti-fascist underground, relief to the victims of war and famine in Europe and assistance to Hellenic liberation and reconstruction.

The campaign was launched at a big shop chairman's meeting on April 30, 1944, at which the shop chairmen unanimously and enthusiastically approved proposals for the drive and undertook to collect the contributions from the workers in their shops.

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BUY WAR BONDS IN JUNE

History, Prophecy Featured Joint Board Ceremony

The New York Dress Joint Board installations ceremony, Hotel McAlpin, May 10, took the form of a dinner-concert meeting but once the tables were cleared and the piano shut, speakers dwelt full essentially to the history of dress, problems and probable solutions.

DRESS SPECIAL RELIEF DRIVE GOES WELL, MINKOFF-REPORTS

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THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89

The election in Local 89 last February aroused widespread interest in the press because of the issue raised by the handful of Communists in the union. This is the first time in American labor history that a group of American Communists has been elected to any large union in America, and the result was a decisive approval of the program with which we have been identified and which we have been able to follow without any deviation. Our main aim is to continue the revolution in the American labor movement and to bring about a new social order. The election result has been a great victory for the American labor movement and for the spirit of justice. To whatever extent the election result may be interpreted as a mandate for the direction of the revolution of American labor, we shall not say 'yes' because of the words of the American people who say 'no' too.

We must stand up to the challenge of the new socialist revolution. We must not be content with the words of the American people who say 'no' too. We must be ready to face the challenges of the new socialist revolution. We must not be content with the words of the American people who say 'no' too. We must be ready to face the challenges of the new socialist revolution.

Latest news from Italy may even suggest that the issue of labor solidarity has become the central theme of the Italian working class. Last week we received a statement from the Communist Party of Italy expressing the solidarity of the Italian workers with the workers of the whole world.

We know how it is. At the time when fascist propaganda was stilled in Italy, the fascists were still to be found in the streets, but they were not able to suppress the Italian people.

Wiesen Workers Praise Record of Mano Boobar

Employers of the Max Wiesen shop held a special get-together last month at which they praised the record of their co-worker, Mano Boobar, who was elected President of Local 89 for the second time.

Brothers J. Maelzel, shop chairman, Oskarstein, Piatzek, and Scheman reviewed Mr. Boobar's record as a leader of the union, his work for the welfare fund, his interest in the organization of other workers, and his general leadership qualities.

International Characteristically, a majority of the Wiesen workers donated a donation to the Jewish Committee.

Buy War Bonds in June

Italian Dressmakers Continue Red Cross Support

A set of ten resolutions dealing with a wide variety of industrial, social and political matters were unanimously approved by the membership of Dressmakers' Union Local 89, which was holding on Thursday, May 4, 1944, for presentation to the Communist convention of the ILGWU.

The session opened by the union's new president, Frank Zavato, who delivered a report of the union's activities since the last meeting of the union, held in March.

The resolutions adopted at the meeting deal with the following matters:

1. Equalization of standards of work throughout the industry.
2. Improved wages, comprehensive system of recognition of workers' labor movements; racial discrimination.
3. Recognition of the basic movement against anti-Semitism; aid to the Jewish Committee of the local union in the American labor movement.
4. Indian Ocean: the report of the ninth term for President Roosevelt.
5. Vice President Zavato presented the resolutions of the collective agreements of the labor unions in the dress industry. He reported on the collective agreements, which are for a period of three years, and which cover all workers employed in the dress industry.

The meeting adopted a resolution expressing the sentiment of all members that the Chinese government should be recognized by the United States, and that all forms of discrimination should be abolished against the Chinese, who are free and democratic people and have not discriminated against the Chinese in any way.

Mr. Zavato also presented the resolutions of the ILGWU regarding the rights of women, the protection of child labor, and the establishment of a minimum wage for all workers.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously and were forwarded to the ILGWU convention for consideration.

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The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m., after which the union's officers were elected for the coming year.

"ONLY 7FRE LABOR IS MASTEr OF ITS DESTINY," SAYS GREEN

Urging organized labor "to render greater service than ever before so that we may make our maximum contribution toward winning the war in the shortest possible time," William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, warned members of the union that efforts of the union toward this end were "solemnly" pledged by the union's members.

President Green read a letter sent to the AFL by the recently established international labor union, the International Confederation of Labor, which is composed of representatives of 20 million workers in 17 countries.

The resolution of the confederation, which is a free and democratic federation of all the workers of the world, expresses the sentiments of all workers and is dedicated to the welfare of the workers of the world.

Mr. Green also read a letter from the American Federation of Labor, which is composed of representatives of 20 million workers in 15 countries, expressing the sentiments of all workers and is dedicated to the welfare of the workers of the world.

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SKIRTMAKERS BOOST VACATION PAYMENTS BEGINNING JUNE 12

Proposals for increased vacation benefits were adopted at the Skirtmakers' convention on Thursday, May 18 at the Board School.

Vacation payments last year had amounted to $35 for operators and $22 for clerks. In view of the increased income and financial status of the fund, the Vacation Fund Board has come to the conclusion that an upward revision of the vacation payments is justified.

The Executive Board referred this suggestion to the membership which concurred in raising the benefit to $40 for operators and $28 for clerks. In addition, the amendment to the vacation rules will also be the recipient of a $750 fund for payments to disabled members. This fund will be called individually to the aid of Local 23 and checks distributed to other members.

A recommendation to launch a campaign for civilian emergency service in American camps and overseas, and particularly for disabled veterans, was adopted at June 12, coinciding with the disbandment of service men.

Operators Back Executive War Heil Plans

A general membership meeting of Local 117 on Thursday, May 28 at the Board School approved the recommendation of its Executive Board to contribute to the War Service Fund.

Arrangements have been made with the Army and Navy Stores to sell stock at reduced prices. The money raised is to be used by the purchase of $8,000 worth of canned soup for the Russian people. The plans for the cigarette project call for a total $5,000 to be raised.

Surplus stocks of canned meats and other foodstuffs have been procured. The executive committee also hopes to have meat and bread distributed to the troops.

COAT AND SUIT RECOVERY BOARD PLANS FUTURE COURSE AT ANNUAL MEETING

Wartime experiences and possible trends in the coat and suit industry were studied at a series of reports presented at the annual meeting of the executive board of the Industry Recovery Board at the Hotel Aster, New York City, May 19-21 which attracted by leaders from the industry’s major markets throughout the country.

The 1,500 member firms of the board produce 85 per cent of the nation’s output of coats and suits for men and women.

Former FDR President, Printed-Hemline Co., Cleveland, and one of the founders of the Recovery Board since its inception in 1933, said “We are meeting the problems by cooperation and understanding. This has been the key to the success of the program. We have an understanding of the problems and the problems are being met by the cooperation of all the members of the industry. The board has been a success because it has been a voluntary organization, and because the members have been willing to work together for the common good of the industry.”

The report enumerates factors which determine the demand in the industry. The report states that the demand is determined by the cost of living and the price of materials. The report also states that the cost of living is dependent on the cost of production and the cost of living is dependent on the cost of production. The report also states that the cost of living is dependent on the cost of production and the cost of living is dependent on the cost of production.

At the closing session of the meeting, Mr. Printz was elected president of the board and Mr. J. H. Potter, treasurer. The board was reorganized to meet the next quarter.

PRESSERS GIVE KITS TO RUSSIAN RELIEF AT SPECIAL MEETING

Representatives of Russian War Relief of the United States offered a gift of $500 in the form of a special fund to the pressers, Henry and W. A. Smith, at the Hotel Board School on May 17 at the Hotel Board School.

The money was given in memory of the Russian victims of the war. The pressers were pleased to receive the money and thanked the board for their generosity.

The board has been working with the Russian War Relief to help the Russian people. The board has also been working with other organizations to help the Russian people.

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—As D-Day trembles on the lip of limnicence, and the nation awaits the opening of the Western front to signal the end of the Allied effort in Europe, a new Navy and Army Department in Washington are exploiting the end of free labor in America.

Exactly a month ago I reported in this space that it is "the greatest humanitarian effort in history," the program of "permanent, total, and unconditional surrender in the United States" that the Army and Navy chairmen ought to command to form a compulsory labor draft in the United States. America is becoming serious ... despite a tendency to procrastination, which is a thing can be talked on an unwill- ing people.

There is evidence now that this report, was in no way exaggerated. Harassment from the Senate Military Affairs Committee several days ago.

1. The armed services have gotten behind the Bailey-Breder Bill which puts the people on the local draft boards in full control of the recruitment effort in between the ages of 18 and 45.

2. Support for the Bailey-Brewer Amendment to the WPP is understood to mean that administration support also is quiet in behind it.

3. The political picture being what it is and the mounting cost of the propaganda war is the mounting cost of the propaganda effort. It is necessary to announce open support of the Bailey-Breder Bill. Administration support of the WPP is in the interest of administration positions on the draft board.

4. All supporters of the labor draft legislation are counted on the opening of the new Navy and Army Department to raise an emotional tidal wave in which the full impact of the draft can be seen and common sense will be drowned and with such legislation will be carried past all barriers. This was the "thinking" worked out by the political leaders of the new Navy and Army Departments.

There is a number of labor draft bills. For a while the Afi-Warren-Woodworth-Breder Bill (the Republican) had the inside track with the military leaven law. As a result the issue was to be raised in their hearts. The opposition of an army bill brings these issues, added to the opposition of labor bills, certainly convinced the Brown Bailey-Breder "Wright" Bill was not the winning bill.

The Bailey-Breder Bill (a bipartite measure of the Senate from the more drastic Ander-Gettinc-Woodworth idea. What it provides is relatively simple.

1. It gives the Selective Service directors the power to determine who they will serve on the workers where they shall work. It establishes a "draft board" order to take a man out of one job and put him in another. It establishes a power which is considered as the denial of the penalty attached. It provides that there be a hearing before the board. As is was of 18 and 45 who refuse to obey the draft board's order may be conduct- ed into the army and assigned to a special labor battalion. In that bat- talion, workers in the army are then enlisted directly under military discipline and there are other measures which anyone wants him to work—and at army pay.

2. It gives the army—through Selective Service draft boards—the power to send any man now working in an essential industry into the army as long as he is a man working in an essential industry key plant who might wish to change his job and would have to go to his draft board and obtain permission before he could change it.

The parallel between this plan and the plan of the last week of Meiss- ened the WPP Chief has from the start brought to fruition the hopes of the last week's report to the end of labor in America.

Burl Nelson. The WPP Chief has from the start brought back the hopes of the domestic front in civilian lands. He has been in the past the past effort of the "WPP?" group to hold the reins of power in America have to go to the Army and Navy Departments in Washington. At the same time, he continues to testify that crit- ical development of manpower threat- ening vital production. But his own thinking on the subject looks through and when he added that 300,000 to 400,000 workers properly placed would solve the whole problem, he apparently felt that more above the grade of cane, ought to be able to figure out for himself that in order to obtain 600,000 workers it is not necessary to put 25,000 workers under a dictatorial system any more than it is necessary to hunt the bone down in order to fry an an.

It is not imagination to say the bone hats want to establish dic- tatorial control over workers. At last year's brokerage of the Senate Committee gives that view ample support. It was Cpl. Kree- ning of Selective Service who set the cat out of the bag and displayed the real regret of the military "general" and admirals when he ex- plain that Selective Service is under the General Services to have freed a force of military former to define for all men over 24 from induction be- cause it enables the Draft author- ities to use their power to "collect control over the men. Men over 24 for induction, are eligible for deferment for that are a essen- tial work.

And the military minds are op- posed to using methods of "induc- tive power" to obtain labor by which means they are most needed. They want to be able to order them to do. And the peace that is used is a few bottlenoses of labor shove in their faces and send them to work. Organized labor might as well as push down its nose for a sniff at this joke. After the Western front open, if the President himself should ask Congress to pass the Bailey-Breder Bill, there is little doubt that the essential labor force will carry it to passage. The inducements are plain that the WPP can secure that the President's, either by his own spirit or by Rear Admiral Thomas L. Garish, who made clear when the "political" ends of the armed services stand firm. But that, that is not a political issue. The "political" brahms hats have been pushing for such legislation right along.

More disturbing was the appear- ance before the committee of Don-
The new labor relations terminology reflected the will of America's organized workers in such a way as to change the mode of expression. They were concerned with a section of American industry which is peculiarly sensitive to national and international events, that has been consuming 40 years in activity of $5 billion spent for war and the defense of more than 16 million men in the armed forces and in American industry.

The report will reveal the extent of union growth and the changes within the organizations. The last convention had not changed the rule that American labor and management are working out the problems of the new age in a manner that is new and significant. The report will reveal the extent of union growth and the changes within the organizations. The last convention had not changed the rule that American labor and management are working out the problems of the new age in a manner that is new and significant.

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From the Statler Hotel in Boston on Tuesday, May 28, 1914, the delegates meeting there will have a part in including the world as a union and a way of speech. They will be concerned with a section of American industry which is peculiarly sensitive to national and international events, that has been consuming 40 years in activity of $5 billion spent for war and the defense of more than 16 million men in the armed forces and in American industry.

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KANSAS CITY INSTALLATION CEREMONIES
REACH HIGH POINT AS FOUR AIR NAILS
ARE GIVEN CUTTER NOW PRISONER OF WAR

The most extraordinary installation in the history of our Kansas City locale and perhaps in the history of the ILCGW took place on April 30, when Oscar Perkoff, an active member of Local 151, Kansas City, and cutter in the Missouri Garment Company, whose plant was burned down in a raid on Austria, was a prisoner of war in Germany. The climax of the evening came when Captain Arthur J. Turk, from the Adjutant General's Office, appeared, and in the presence of the entire membership and the leaders of the International, presented the medals to Mister Perkoff, brother of the ILCGW hero. Because of the war which had prevented the installation, the installation medals were held in the First Christian Church.

Captain Turk was introduced by Janos Rich, manager of the Missouri Garment Company, who had invited the installation meeting for presentation of the medals.

There were tears in the eyes of many in the audience when Rep. Tuley, president of the Kansas City Joint Board, introduced Captain Turk.

Turk said Turc and called upon the brothers to stand up, and Oscar Perkoff, the great Perkoff, stood to receive the medals for his hero.

"I have the honor to inform you that by direction of the President, the distinguished Flying Cross was presented to Mr. Perkoff, which indicates a second award of the same decoration, and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, which indicates a second, third, and fourth award, as well as the citation of congratulations to the hero, brotherly love, and all the other awards to him, your hero, your brother. Captain Turk, Oscar Perkoff, Air Group 1, standing, to the rest of the audience as well as all others, he is also our hero.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

For distinguished himself by extraordinary achievement for participations in operations against the Fosto Oil refineries in Ruminnia on August 1, 1943, and other distant missions.

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

For extraordinary achievement, for serving as a gunner on 30 bombardment missions over enemy-occupied continental Europe, etc.

AIR MEDAL WITH TWO OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

For meritorious achievement for participating in 13 bomb raids, combat missions over enemy-occupied continental Europe, etc.

ONE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AMERICAN

"For meritorious achievement in the destruction of one enemy airplane while serving as a crewman on a bombardment mission, etc.," Stated Rich, manager of the plant, where Oscar worked as a cutter, and a number of officers of the union delivered thanks. The Kansas City Chapter, assisted by the Air Corps and other patriotic and union unions, expressed their appreciation of the sacrifice made by the Perkoff family and the nation.

WAR LABOR BOARD APPROVES \EAG WAGE INCREASES IN 4-SHOPS

Slowly but steadily, ILGWU cases before the War Labor Board reach the state of decision. In four recent cases wage increases negotiated with employers received approval.

The Board, approving higher minimum hourly and higher average wage scales and a yearly vacation, ruled for the workers of the St. Louis Leatherman Manufacturing Company, May 3. The Board failed to approve an additional 5 per cent increase in the weekly earnings of the piece workers. Approval of the wage increase and paid vacation for the workers in the St. Louis, Illinois plant will still be pending.

On April 22 the Board approved a yearly vacation, higher minimums and averages and a 5 per cent increase in the weekly earnings of piece workers at the Missouri Garment plant, Washington, Missouri.

The Board has approved a wage increase and vacation with pay for the workers in the St. Louis, Leatherman Manufacturing Company, on April 21. This directed the wage increase for the workers in the other Kansas City plants to be made available. All workers in that industry in Kansas City will, therefore, enjoy their first paid vacation in the present summer.

On April 27, the War Labor Board approved the increase for workers at the new Weil-Kolter Company in Louisiana, Missouri.

Discussion on Nardis

A meeting of officers of the locals, the shop committees and the permanent management of the Nardis plant, Dallas, was held at union headquarters on April 27. A general discussion of shop problems took place.

The shop is being set up as a model shop and the latest combination of balanced painting and lighting, and most modern equipment is being installed.

A new agreement covering the entire Nardis plant, covering the Weil-Kolter Company and the Green Co., was signed April 27.

I t's "Bunco" in Washington, Mo.

The union was an important and far-reaching decision in its conformance against the Weil-Kolter Manufacturing Company operated by three plants in True and Linden, Miss., and Millen, III.

A ruling handed down on April 28, the union was awarded 10 cents in complaint against the reduction of piece rates in a number of departments in the three plants.

David Warner Puller of Washington University: Law School ruled that the company must remove the old piece rates and back pay the workers. The decision came after three days of hearing.

"The company represented by a staff of lawyers and industrial engineers contended that under a system of three old and modern plants the company had the right to remove piece rates at any time for the earnings of workers increased and balanced the amount paid in the other departments, the union took the position on this piece rate, and this is critical. Therefore, the company cannot be said to be compensated.

"David Warner Puller was based on a comprehensive study of scientific management and will have wide effect to safeguard the interests of workers developed on the time study.

Buy War Bonds in June

"We still have a difficult expansion problem, but in a slow and controlled manner instead of having been interpreted as the "war of the grifters" or the "war of the rich," is a complete abandonment of the war measure of victory in a few months. This appeal to human decency and common sense is achieved by the gradual expansion of a more friendly atmosphere and we have already achieved a great deal.

As proud as we may be of our accomplishments as a union in achieving the greatest accomplishment in the history of humanity, we have laid the foundation for a better human relations, a relationship which we have always desired. Passed by a large majority of the American people attached to the war effort and long overdue, we have come from the states of Missour! I, Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Indiana, to greet you and join with you in this road to greater humanity and understanding.

Members Joining Armed Forces in Continued Stream

The long list of ILGWU men and women in the armed forces keeps growing every week.

Recent departures from the shops follow.

Alvina Wolfinbarger and Alice: Barish Men, Local 196, Kansas City, and Blanche Weese, Local 214, Houston, Texas, have entered the War.

Cia Pavonaro, a member of the Joint Board and an officer of Local 196, St. Louis, has also joined the Army. Members of the Joint Board have left the shops to give a party in his honor, April 27.

Irving Shapin, Local 196, pictured, Local 214, entered the Navy, May 2.

Mike Toney, secretary of Local 196, has passed from the business end of union and will soon join the Navy.

Local 185 Sick Benefit

Payment of sick benefits now — as before — is guaranteed by Local 185, Harris, Ill.

SOUTHWEST PROGRESS

Eighty-One Delegates at Boston Convention Carry Greetings from the District to ILGWU — Hall Economic and Spiritual Achievements, By METEY FELSTEIN, V.P.

Southwest Regional Director

Eighty-one delegates, representing the locals of the Southwestern region, met in Boston recently on the greetings of our membership in the Southwest to the officers and delegates of our National Convention and through them to the entire membership of the ILGWU.

During the four years since our last convention, the locals and membership have made a great stride spiritually, and the number of our locals has almost doubled since the last convention bringing us to this convention with 350 large and small communities, our growth is continuing.

Our membership earnings and wages stand still comparison to the standards in the older plants in the older locals throughout the country due, in some measure, to the economic conditions in the industry resulting from the war emergency which, we apprehend, will help to the intellecual reliance on organizational unity. We have also made great strides in establishing social benefits.

87 per cent of our membership have enjoyed a paid vacation during recent years, over seventy-five per cent will be enjoyed paying vacations in 1944. We expect 100 per cent of the membership will enjoy vacations against the 1944 vacation.

Our educational activities continue at a tremendous pace. Our educational results have increased, all educational courses being in great demand. The establishment of union and educational courses in the union hall.

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MUSICAL BURGALRS

RAID LOCAL 278

The office of Harrisburg Local 278 was burgled recently and after the first break-in police promised faithfully that they would keep an eye on the place. On April 25 the office was broken into a second time and police were uninterested. The uniform on the desk said in the form on the piano, and look for it. As usual, the number of the local was lower and the curly sigh to, but no other damage was done.

WEIL-KOLTER RULING TO COMPLY WITH DECISION ON STOPPED RATE CUT

The workers of the Irwin, Inc., members of Local 34, Belleview, Ill., contributed $244 in the Red Cross recently.

Samuel: Singer, Air Group 1, standing, to the rest of the audience as well as all others, he is also our hero.

"For extraordinary achievement, for serving as a gunner on 30 bombardment missions over enemy-occupied continental Europe, etc.

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

For extraordinary achievement for participating in operations against the Fosto Oil refineries in Ruminnia on August 1, 1943, and other distant missions.

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Gernos Co. Signs For Model Plant In Horton, Kansas

An agreement covering the Horton, Kansas, Gernos Co. Garment Company was signed April 27.

A week later, the shop was set up as a model shop and the latest combination of balanced painting and lighting, and most modern equipment is being installed.
MOOMENTOUS PROBLEMS
Delegates to ILGWU Parliament Meeting in a Period of National Crisis with Many War and Post-War Problems

By DAVID GINGOLD
Director, Cotton Garment Dept.

The members of the Cotton Garment and Miscellaneous Trades Department greet the delegates to the 25th Convention of the ILGWU meeting in Boston.

The parliament of the garment workers is now at a most critical time in the history of our nation and of the ILGWU.

In the last four years we have learned through painful means the lesson of interdependence. We know, no industry, no economic or social group can exist by itself, or successfully ignore the welfare of those who are dependent on it for their immediate interests.

In the out-of-town departments members have realized that their own work standards depend as much on what the other city workers do as on what happens in the shop outside the city limits. The record at the past four years, as it is reviewed at the convention, will reveal the remarkable solidarity of interdepartment cooperation that has been built up.

The meeting of the supreme body of the union is in session for the purpose of repeating a truism that the union has stated too often. The period of separation in peace will be no less a turbulent one. Bigger local and smaller locals, younger locals and older locals will have to meet the test of a changing world.

They will be strengthened in their ability to do so by the knowledge that the ILGWU has made a national and international organization, which is a repository of past experiences, a source of clerical, district, and ward leadership, a body of trained organizers, an ability to implement the ideals for which Americanism, at this moment, is fighting.

GORDON DRESS READY WITH NEW CONTRACT
The 49 Gordon Dress Co. girls, Teeny, Pa., worked late last night after a short week of their own caused by elevator operator's refusal to accept terms of new contract terms. District Manager Fred P. Weckman sessions.

All terms have now been agreed to including the installation of a new air conditioning system and nearly 3,000 dress orders were placed.

The Gordon girls are the only ones still working tonight, even though no new Call when that order was available in town.
GALA CONCERT MARKS TENTH
CULTURAL DEPT. ANNIVERSARY

The tenth anniversary of the Cultural Department of the ILGWU was celebrated in a gala concert April 29 at the Local 91 Auditorium. The program especially arranged for the occasion, the ILGWU Choral and Dance Orchestras rendered musical selections, and the Choral Department performed its usual skill as well as mature appreciation of programming.

The season which marked the end of the division's 1943-44 season, has a capacity audience of ILGWU friends and members, and is a farewell, and an appropriate send-off. The chorus sang under Paul Beigelman's direction. Eugene Pliszczak conducted the dance group while Carlos di Filippis is assistant conductor.

High point of the evening came when the chorus and orchestra joined in the performance of the medley of American and Russian folk songs.

The end of the division's season was also marked by a dinner given to the orchestra members on May 6 and for the chorus on May 13 at the Hotel Astor Restaurant, both members of the groups entertained.

At the dinner for the orchestra, Herman Lachen and Carlos di Filippis exhibited virtuous ability in the indivisible duet. The girls手机 Members of the chorus were entertained by the famed guitarist, Wessel van der Westen, and band March Starr praise them for their performances that have made them famous in New York trade union circles.

The chorus and orchestra will be guests of the International at Emily House over the

Cultural Department Marks Tenth Anniversary

Sports Schedule

Gym and Pool

Tennis

Baseball

The American soldiers "down under" have learned that the laughing jacksie is no jackass at all—but a bird, a kingfisher inhabiting the Australian continent. The American soldiers everywhere are beginning to learn that many of those who call themselves friends of the fighting men are no friends at all, but only men who would be dead themselves if they could, and put against the workers those who are only providing them with the weapons of justice.
Seven extraordinary dancers i\n service of the 1938 Spring Dance i\n the Illinois Wesleyan University Winter Dance and Fuglefest.

Dancers at 2:30 in the afternoon when the dancers are held, are made by the members themselves who are enrolled in the 39th annual meeting for this production of the Illinois Wesleyan University Department of the service for the dancers. The most colorful dancers that have met the service's fancy.

The survey of the dance company which includes the dancers' contributions to the service of the 38th Spring Dance, which was, in turn, made by the members themselves who are enrolled in the 39th annual meeting for this production of the Illinois Wesleyan University Department of the service for the dancers. The most colorful dancers that have met the service's fancy.

N. Y. Unemployment
Insurance Facts
The ILOWU Research Depart\nment has compiled an unemploy\nment facts for jobless members en\nrolled in the New York Workmen's Insurance. New Benefit Year
The New unemployment insur\nance law which took effect July 1, 1937, provides that the benefit year, they should register for benefits on June 5.

Leaving New York
Saturday and Sunday
Many cases have been reported in the New York Depart\nment where workers were left with no money at all, except for a round trip ticket, on July 1, 1937. This means that their money will be available for benefits on June 5. In such cases, the worker is eligible for a round trip ticket to return to New York, or to leave New York, if he does not need her for his own benefit. However, in order to get this credit, the worker must notify the Department of the New York Workmen's Insurance offices on the Saturday and Sunday before May 31.

Leaving New York City
New York State workers who are unemployed during the slow season may be eligible for unemployment insurance under the New York State Blue Sky Law, which allows New York City workers to be eligible for benefits in New York State. The workers are instructed to see their local offices and inquire about the benefits available.

More than 6,000 workers are now employing two or more local labor-management committees to help coordinate their efforts in Indiana. The Indiana Unemployment Insurance Commission is establishing local offices and will open them to the public in the near future.

Leaving New York City:
New York City workers employed during the slow season may be eligible for unemployment insurance under the New York State Blue Sky Law, which allows New York City workers to be eligible for benefits in New York State. The workers are instructed to see their local offices and inquire about the benefits available.

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British Garment Leader at ILGWU

Dame Anne Loughlin, leader in the British garment workers' union, visited the United Nations (UN) and Educational Director Mark Star when she visited the ILGWU and addressed a session of the General Executive Board. Dame Loughlin was in the United Nations as a delegate to the 16th United Nations Convention in Philadelphia.

She was greeted by the International Garment and Allied Workers of America (ILGWU), which has organized the garment workers in the United States for over 50 years. The ILGWU is the largest garment union in the world, representing over 150,000 workers in the United States and Canada.

Dame Loughlin spoke about the struggles of garment workers in the United Kingdom and the importance of organizing for workers' rights. She emphasized the need for solidarity among workers across borders to achieve fair wages, safe working conditions, and better working hours.

"Garment workers in the United Kingdom face many of the same challenges as their counterparts in the United States," said Dame Loughlin. "We must support each other in our struggles for justice and equality."
LEAFLET TO AID PRICE CONTROLS ISSUED BY DEPT.

The third illustrated leaflet, "You Can't Eat an Average, isn't due to be used by the Federal Trade Department in its campaign to get a monthly message to every member of the public. The leaflet is designed to continue the current struggle over OPA and price controls.

Many locals used No. 1 and No. 2 leaflets in their mailings and business agents and shop stewards distributed them in the shops. The Edward Green Leaflet Division is now ready for a continuation of this cooperation and has already ordered the latest current leaflet with its two colors and one illustration.

Our members must have noticed that the new one focuses on a discussion about whether the cost of living since January, 1941, has gone up 51 per cent, as the Bureau of Labor Statistics states, or 43 per cent, as the National Cooperative Research, study, Leafllet No. 3 explained why wages were frozen even though only 43 per cent increase in basic rates could be afforded, and that the cost of living going up, the workers are caught in a squeeze play unless they can demand that wages should be increased to the BLS index, wages deserve to be raised in addition to the index. Federal law. In short, it is only a national union that can demand better wages for certain commodities in 34 cities of more than $10,000 population. We will fight for higher wages in those cities where they are working harder and longer than ever before.

All these arguments about the average cost of essential goods seem a long way off. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says that if we average it as if it were an egg, says No. 1 leaflet, it does not smell like pork chops cooking. You can eat it, the leaflet says, and you only need a leaflet to eat it. It can cost them more to live.

If there can be no roll back in prices, wages must be decreased to the extent that the cost of living is increased. "War needs can be bought with any amount of money," the leaflet says. "But the worker will have a stake in the future and give them nothing."

A special program is being planned, the leaflet says, to combat this situation, particularly on war profits and higher incomes. The Congressmen who fought against the Kerr amendment are the ones who voted for the bill. The Congressmen need to get rid of their war profits, and the Congressmen need to put a price on their own tax cuts. Give your neighbors the facts, the leaflet says, and the more you speak, the more you care.

Indoor Sports at Center

All kinds of indoor sports will be conducted at the ILGWU National Social Center on Thursday at 8:30 p.m., through the month of June. A special program is being prepared in addition to activities which include table tennis, badminton, handball, calisthenics, and volleyball. There will be no admission fee.
Show Garb Prexy

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor has sent a sharp answer to a group of Italian communists and fellow travellers who sent a letter to Brother Green attacking First Vice President Lo White.

The Communist group well

American Federation of Labor has been a strong advocate of the Italian communists and fellow travellers who had sent a letter to Brother Green attacking First Vice President Lo White.

"It is difficult for me to understand your position in regard to the American Federation of Labor and strike activity in the United States. I am not in a position to make an answer to your letter, but I am sure that you will understand the nature of the question we are discussing."

American Federation of Labor, which has been able to influence some small AFL locals and local communist organizations, is not afraid of the American Federation of Labor threat.

"I am not afraid of the American Federation of Labor, but I am afraid of the American Federation of Labor's power and influence."

President Green replied to the letter of the Italian communists and fellow travellers who had sent a letter to Brother Green attacking First Vice President Lo White.

"In my position as President of the American Federation of Labor, I am not in a position to make a formal answer to your letter. However, I am sure that you will understand the nature of the question we are discussing."

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Branch 122 Shows Histradom Report

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Branch 122 shows a histradom report which sketches the situation of the histradom in Latin America and the United States.
The long awaited convention of our ILGWU will be in session at the Statler Hotel in Boston this issue of "Lioness" reaches your doors. It will be the first in four years due to a postponement necessitated by war conditions.

The May 1943 convention held in Los Angeles and New York City took place under far different circumstances than today, and a half before Pearl Harbor reactivated our country into war. Back then we were extending our way over the continent of Europe. The historic debates in the press and radio and in Congress between the "Isolationists" and "Caldrons" were in full swing. The country was rapidly awakening to the dangers of this war and reacting on a large scale rearmament program.

As the forthcoming convention of our International Ladies Garment Workers' Congress will, under the same way we face the future: challenges that the immediate victory over our enemies is a certainty through the most deadly battles still have to be fought.

Hundreds of delegates from all over the country, representing all workers in all trades, will be here to pass judgment on our accomplishments and program and policies to guide our members in this difficult time which is immediately ahead.

A Heavy Obligation

The convention is being held only a few weeks before the presidential election and on the eve of the unprecedented labor strike that is the present war. It will have before it the tasks of meeting the war and all those that are anticipated in the months that are ahead of us and the immediate future. Therefore, a great responsibility rests on the delegates to our convention.

If the convention is to set the stage for an early and successful conclusion to the war, then the CLIO Convention will chart a safe and sure course for the future. A traditionally safe course for the Garment Workers' Union has been laid in the library of our beloved ILGWU.

Tuvin in Jacksonville
To Attend Launching of Victory Ship T. J. Lyons

Local 1431 Manager Joseph Tuvin in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 16, to participate in the launching ceremonies of the Victory Ship T. J. Lyons. The Ladies Beekman-Worker's Chart Accord, a representative of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York City, along with Thomas Moro, Charles Shiffinage and Alfred Prebold. Louis, who was president of the New York State Federation of Labor, was present at the launching with E. W. Evarts.

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Dress Cutters Are Champ Bowlers in Montreal

Local 250 took the honors (and trophies) in the Montreal Bowling League. The team (left to right) is: Fred Butler, Murray Rods, Elyse Gilman, Max Moses, Alc Tomskievich.
We Meet Again in Boston

There lie before us five books—three of them substantial volumes and two of them thin, meagre, brochures—all reports of ILGWU conventions held in Boston in the past forty years. That's right, forty years.

The thin little books go back to 1904 and 1910, the lean, early years of the union. Don't, nevertheless make the mistake of assuming that women's garment making in those days was a tidy, struggling industry. Far from it. In 1910 there were nearly 60,000 cloakmakers in the New York market alone, nearly twice as many as there are employed in the cloak shops today. There were tens of thousands of shirtwaist makers, and many other thousands in the minor trades virtually slave. Even in those sweatshops of the period. It was, besides, a heavy-profit industry, with no floor for wages and no ceiling for work hours, a veritable exploiter's paradise and without a bright spot of promise on labor's offensive.

When the Fifth Annual Convention of the fledgling ILGWU met for the first time in Boston in June, 1904, its presiding officer, Benjamin Schlesinger, summed up his report in the following doleful words: "Perhaps at no period of the International's brief history there was, or will there again be such an avalanche of trouble as we have encountered this year. . . . In fact, from the year's start to its end, almost without exception, our locals have been engaged in fighting the manufacturers either defensively or on the offensive.

The entire income of the International Union for that year amounted to a little over $6,000 and it reported to the convention a swollen treasury of $160.79. And don't for a moment think that the International's sphere of action even in those remote days was confined to New York, Chicago and other big cities only! One truly is amazed to learn from those reports how widely scattered the women's garment industry was even in 1904. There were cloak and shirtwaist plants in operation in Pittsburgh, in Wilkes-Barre, in Detroit and in Cincinnati, in Waukegan, Oshkosh and Milwaukee, in Dover, N. J., and Kalamazoo, Mich., and in countless other localities, most of them owned by solid, well-established companies generously opposed to trade unionism.

We met again in Boston in 1910 under different circumstances. The ILGWU, which traversed six years of bitter trials since 1904, had then a new lease on life with the "rebellion" walkout of the 20,000 shirtwaist makers in New York a few months prior. Hope, long deferred and smothered, sprouted high and wide among the oppressed multitudes in the cloak factories of the metropolis. The convention met largely to give the forthcoming struggle of the new cloakmakers its blessings. It became a dress rehearsal for that historic strike which made industrial history not only for the cloakmakers but for the whole labor movement of New York.

But the 1910 convention marked an upward swing of union activity not known since.

In 1918 President Samuel Rosenman was able to report a total of 43 locals formed in that year in all parts of the country and the ILGWU, for the first time, was on the march everywhere. For the first time in its history, the International Office was able to report an income of nearly $20,000, the which was fostering dissension and demoralization among the cloak operators."

Then, six years later, in 1924, the ILGWU once again summed its "legislature" to meet in the Hub, this time under the presidency of Morris Sigman.

The union's membership held fast despite the hard and grueling times in industry during the past sixty years. There were deep-settled disturbances in our main industries, unemployment and the ever-present, ever-effervescent in organizational life. The main cause was the absence of jobber responsibility for contractor shops and the prevalence of unemployment and destructive long slack periods between work seasons. The demand for the 40-hour week was becoming one of the strong issues all over the industry. Parallel to this industrial ferment ran what the report of the GEB to that Boston convention termed as the "left hysteria in our locals," the sunder which was, during this period, a brief space of time, to cause a disastrous cleavage in the entire organization.

Four years passed, years of the union's most tragic existence, of internal strife and dissension, which finally culminated in the triumph of reason, orderliness and the return to normal organizational functioning.

Once more an ILGWU convention was being held in Boston, in May, 1928. And at that convention, the General Executive Board was able to inform the delegates brought unto assembly that for the first time in perhaps a half dozen years, be in a position to turn its entire attention to the industrial questions which are bound up with hundreds of threads with the daily wants of our members. Let's fly the curtain of the tempest we have lived through and make use of our experiences solely to span a bridge into the future.

Tragically, however, the country was plunged shortly after the ILGWU convention into the worst economic debacle in its history. The Great Depression brought to the country a second labor movement, the unemployed, for whom the ILGWU, after a long silence, gave the voice of labor. It was a new epoch, the Great Revival, and the union of the ladies' garment workers once again was a voice in that surge to heights it had never known before. Within the next dozen years, its membership had grown sevenfold and was reported to have outpaced all the labor unions for over the 300,000 mark by the beginning of this year, 1944.

We met in Boston now for the sixth time, for the 25th Convention of our International Union.

The world was far greater in dimension, stakes and goals involved, than the one we faced twenty-six years ago when we met in Boston in 1918. It truly is a war for humanity's survival, a people's war in the all-embracing sense of the term. It is, as we said above, the 25th time our union's own national assembly meets to take inventory of our organizational assets and—there surely are some—liabilities. We meet further to do some planning, insofar as planning is feasible and within the limits, for the days to come—while the war is still on— and for after the war.

Ordinarily, such an event as the union's 25th convention would not pass without holiday-making. But we shall forego celebration at this convention—by mutual and wholehearted agreement. This is no time for festivities. For, as we sit at our sessions at the Statler in Boston's Paradise, the thunder of the invasion may well be reverberating across the beaches of Western Europe and our kin and near—together with our Allied comrades in the struggle against Hitler's hordes—may be locked in costly engagements with the enemy.

We have not met in convention in four years now. There's a feeling all through the union that this convention is a timely and much-needed bracer. It will be a tonic and a new experience to meet old friends and to grasp the hand of newcomers from far and near. As always, the convention will be a free forum, for frank and unhampered deliberation with reason and majorities as sole arbiters. Out of this national meeting we shall come out better prepared to hold the line and to do our inescapable duty on the home front of our country.