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

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An Editorial

This New Year

This was an unbelievable year. Twelve months ago at this time, our bleeding armies were struggling toward the end of a blizzard-swept December to extricate themselves from the pincers of the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium and France.

In the Pacific, our forces were still inching their way across the wet, wet grass, charging 'a beach in the face of mounting difficulties. Insofar as labor was concerned, it was ready to pay the lion's share of this cost in the form of frozen wages, back-breaking work schedules and a miraculous production record.

Within the year just passed, the war, which seemed interminable in 1944, ended with a front-end heave so rapid as to leave, for remnants of the nation's reticence and regulations, the psychology of wartime living has retreated from the American scene. Reconstruction, not only in a physical sense but in a spiritual form as well, has been swift—perhaps a good deal too swift for a healthy, gradual reactivation of pre-war civilian life.

American industry has come out of the year immensely stronger in capital structure—production plant and a financial reservoir built up of fantastic—and eagerly concealed—wage profits.

Organized labor—our trade union movement—finds itself at the beginning of this first peace year since Pearl Harbor in a strange, anomalous situation. The war years have not sapped its strength—contrary to the expectations of its enemies and the fears of some of its friends. Instead, it has added millions to its rolls in the past half-dozen years, and it bids well to hold these millions practically intact.

Still, the American organized worker feels it in their very bones that in the months ahead they may have to face severe battles not only for the preservation of their unions, but for the correction of wage structures that were left unbalanced and shocked out of kilter by the disappearance of extra take-home earnings during the war.

The labor movement, furthermore, is keenly aware that in these coming battles, it will have to depend chiefly on its own strength. With a Congress overwhelmingly unfriendly towards organized labor and an Administration that is sailing a zig-zag and often unpredictable course in labor-industry relations, the workers are discovering that the general public is altogether too prone to forget the decisive role which American labor played in forging the weapons of war and victory.

American labor, nevertheless, faces the future with a confidence unparalleled in its long history. The crucible of the war years has widened its horizons and hardened its fighting ability. It has taken the word "retreat" out of the vocabulary of its daily thought and action.
FAC-T FINDING, as defined by President Truman, sent management's negotiators in the steel industry back to the conference table in efforts to forestall a strike which could be industry profits. Believing that a strike would be a setback, the President asked that legislation be passed setting up the fact-finding board. When this was rejected, he clarified his stand by stating that the board would be organized to enable the workers to thrash out the bond of long years of labor-management relations.

TWO FACT-FINDING boards were already meeting in the capital's national capital when the President issued the order. The council was kept in the dark on the fact-finding hearings in the dispute between the Chicago Western and the union and any contact that was asked for more time in which to make direct regulations.

The first break in the dispute occurred earlier when the Chicago Western made a settlement, on the basis of an 18 per cent gain in rates.

O.K.'s 22,000 workers were still out on strikes when their representatives, together with the operators, were notified by personal phone calls by the fact-finding committees in Washington.

The company had almost torpedoed the board by threatening to withdraw the hearings if the board was not able to set up the type of provision and prices. It refused to say that it would not go up to 39 per cent to wind up strikes for the UAW. It argued that the only provision that ability to go up to 40 per cent would be the determining wage.

From the White House, "Ability to pay is always relevant to the labor question," the fact-finding panel then received to allow both parties to meet and try to make agreements.

The AFL called the President's statement that "ability to pay is the key to the question of collective bargaining" in the steel industry.

The AFL's news statement called the President's practice that the information in the copper company's books should not be made public a rule that the employers, but added that the AFL had made a careful study of the collective bargaining procedures, making detailed the practical use for each case, the procedures that exist. This statement is not as simple as that by the AFL and its membership.

ORGANIZED LABOR was a re-arranging of terms when the House of Representatives defeated a rule for immediate consideration by the House of Representatives.

The bill was designed to penalize the violation of contracts and by making them liable to civil suits for damages by anyone claiming losses from the strike.

The following day the House adopted the substitute and the bill now goes to the Senate, which refused to act on its bill.

NATIONAL LIVING COSTS

"And Now You!"

With Army surveys showing that at least 70 per cent of the returning veterans would be job-seekers, the report concluded that developing a labor demand sufficient to provide employment for the vast number of returning veterans.

 BUT A BI-PARTIAN vote of 294 to 124 the House passed and sent to the conference its drastically changed version of the bill's "full employment" bill.

The House measure originated from the form in which it was reported out by its Committees in the early months of the 80th Congress. The National Mediation Board is not satisfied that the present draft of the bill is suitable for purposes of discussion.

FRENCH newspaper printers won another round last week after a final strike by the mechanical workers of the Paris papers was followed by a break-in by a keyboarde.

The printers proposed to work on the quadrupled labor costs since 1929 and to adjust the rate in the last 20. October. The printers have agreed to continued on their strike to obtain governmental permission to print news pages in their place of the papers from two to three days.

SINGAPORE workers struck last week and tied up the utility services of the city when 200 men walked out for the second time in two months. The strike is a serious deterioration and workers are working more or less as if the strike had been granted. Prime Minister of forces are being used to replace the strikers in the street cleaning and sewage departments.

AUSTRALIAN domestic workers are informed that the workers will not be paid better working conditions. One group in the State of Victoria has raised demands that domestic workers be employed by the Board of Industry and Employment for a period of 12 years.

JAPANESE railway workers have begun for the first time by the employees of the state-owned rail lines. More than 4,000 of them have already joined what is called a "preparatory committee" of the union.

ARGENTINE labor is waging a determined struggle against the reactionary Peronist elements within the trade union movement who are attempting to hold the workers back into supporting the candidacy for the nati.-. presidency. When the so-called "Labor" party met for a general reorganization of the annual meeting with the aim of developing the party's forces.

The union highlighted the importance of the union's work in the struggle against the Peronism which is an "enemy" of the Peronism.

Ministry's Palace in Upseeur as Guards Strike for Democracy

The Ministry of Justice, which has been playing a leading role in the Japanese labor movement, has been busy organizing the workers into a key official of the national government.

About 10,000 of the workers went on strike and the remaining 500 soldiers threatened to walk out unless this official was fired and other "demoralization" measures were taken.
Why Children Cherish Christmas

A group of delighted youngsters whose parents belong to Local 40, Beltmakers, gather around Christmas tree at union headquarters to receive gifts at Annual Yuletide party.

Y.N. ILG Tops $10 Million in Victory Loan

More than $10,000,000 worth of Victory bonds were purchased during the eight-week drive by the General Office of the ILGWU and local affiliates of the union in New York City, according to a report by Executive Secretary Frederick P. Usenby. The purchases were made with funds drawn from union and local treasuries and are in addition to the millions of dollars worth of bonds individually subscribed by members of the union.

Outstanding among the purchases were the $4,000,000 worth of bonds taken by the New York Press Journal Board, the $3,000,000 subscribed by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and the $1,000,000 bought by the ILGWU General Office. The exact total of all these bond purchases comes to $10,500,000.

In addition to the bonds already mentioned, the following local offices have reported bond purchases: Local 11, $2,125; Local 20, $2,500; Local 22, $2,000; Local 29, $3,000; Local 30, $3,500; Local 35, $3,500; Local 48, $3,000; Local 49, $4,000; Local 50, $3,500; Local 56, $4,000; Local 66, $750; Local 99, $3,000; Local 102, $3,000; Local 103, $5,000; Local 117, $3,500; Local 104, $1,000; Local 118, $800; and Local 155, $500.

It is announced that several ILGWU unions have not yet reported on their bond purchases.

ILGWU Top Leadership Formulates Plans for Wage Boosts, Health Expansion, Relief Work, Broader Organizing Drive, Vigorous Encroachment Battle; Gingold Chosen Vice Pres.

By MAX D. DANISH

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Dec. 25.—The six-day meeting of the General Executive Board of the ILGWU—the third since the Boston convention of June, 1944—adjourned on Dec. 22 after voting to hold the next full meeting of the Board in March next year.

With the exception of Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, who is in Europe on an American labor relief and rescue mission, the entire personnel of the GEB attended the Miami session.

The Board’s first act was to elect David Gingold, director of the Cotton Garment and Millinery Traders Department, a member of the Executive Committee of the Board’s last meeting, which was held in April. Describing the movement for wage increases in the garment and millinery trades, Mr. Gingold painted a somber picture of the cotton and knitwear fields as well as in all the smaller trade. He predicted that by the middle of this year the demand for garments and millinery goods, made in the hands of the respective industries, would be down to the point which forecasts a situation similar to that in mass trades a few years ago.

He expressed confidence that such situations could be overcome by the industry in the next few months.

Truck Strike Threatens 4 Associations

As First Group Settles with Local 102

The Check and Suit Trucking Association comes in terms with Local 102. Seated (left to right): Ralph Elmer, association attorney, Harry Prellenger, a Check and Suit signatory, Emil Schneidinger, ILGWU attorney, Harry Friedman, Local 102 president. Standing (left to right): Jack Fleiss, Herbert Sherman and David Karpf, business agents.

More than 250 members of Local 102 Check and Dress Drivers, ratified the agreement reached late last month with the Check and Suit Trucking Association. It is announced by Manager Benz Berger this is the first of the employee associations to come in terms with the union’s demands for wage and benefit improvements. From among employer groups are still withhold- ing agreement. It was stated.

The new contract, which is to run for two and a half years, was signed on Dec. 30, and provides for a $1 weekly wage raise for all truck drivers employed by firms affiliated with the Check and Suit Trucking Association.

The pact also calls for employees contributions of $1 a week per week to a health fund, two weeks, a 48-hour work week, a two week paid vacation, and one and one-half rate for overtime work.

In announcing the settlement Manager Berger and Emil Schneidinger, ILGWU attorney, indicated that the strike would be called shortly after the first of the year against the four other employer groups—the Garment Center Trucking Association, the New York and New England Dress Carriers Association, the Garment Traffic Association and the Garment Traders Association.

In the meantime, Vice Pres. Alvin F. Berger said that unless these four associations came to an agreement with union representatives, workers, registered around 750 drivers and helpers would soon refuse to work. A $1.50 per week raise was all that could be obtained, to any place.

The union’s demands on the firm, belonging to these four associations are for a 12-hour work week, a reduction of the work week from 48 to 44 and the payment of a 3 per cent tax on payroll in the union’s health fund.

This is, in a nutshell, said Berger, and during normal times, we can expect full employment for 50 weeks a year and part employment most of the rest of the time. Considering these factors, the union demands a 25 per cent increase in wages, which are now paid at $1.15 per day minimum for drivers, $1.00 for helpers.

I anticipate that these wage raises, which are based on the modest attempt to keep home budgets balanced with earnings, will be the most valuable in all our markets,” said Pres. Daninsky.

New ILG Vice Pres.

Moreover, declared Pres. Daninsky, Mr. Truman had been badly advised when he turned his pins for factfinding with a cablegram to Motors to stop working. "It was an obvious blunder, he asserted.

Cloakmakers’ Pensions

In a special report on the New York cloak organization, Pres. Daninsky pointed out that the retirement program is being a success, with more than 90 per cent of the members remaining in their original employment history.

Mr. Truman also turned to the Federal Trade Commission on charges of "smuggled of trades" and established the case which was originally brought on by the government’s East Coast and Suit Industry Recovery Board, upon which was released last week. The government had to go first on the West Coast and later, Pres. Daninsky explained that F. Mathews, who had many years the Recovery Board’s executive secretaries, had carried the front of the Board’s fight during the hearings but he had not yet been questioned so that a formal determination, which is the Recovery Board, was not put out of the positions of the hearings in the present, had been forged into an editorial which appeared in the Dec. 1 issue of "Laborer’s Librarian."

ILGWU Relief Work

The ILGWU has been working without discontinuity since it was founded in 1911. The union’s Sick Fund, which it was the first to organize, has continued to operate without a break.

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Three Missions Overseas

While on this point, Pres. Daninsky, who is visiting Europe as the result of his trip to Rome, was paid a surprise visit by a group of members of the ILGWU, who are in Italy on a relief mission.

Montreal Cloak Activities

New Rates to Hinge on Style Variations

The lifting of restrictions on women's garment styles in Canada has created new standards in the cloak industry, according to a report by General Organizer Bernard Shain.

During the war years, women's style variations were subject to a "code of conserving materials," which limited their freedom in design because of the limitations imposed by the war effort. However, a new procedure had reached a high degree of standardization. And the lifting of the restriction has led to a flood of new style features in the garments now being made for the spring season. Many of these features are only tentative standards, with only the greatest demand assured.

In order to avoid any friction during the period in which price controls will redevelop their knapsack of judging the new style features, the union has asked for price controls on the garment features that may arise when the standards are put in effect. The union's representative is able to do this with the help of the union's collective agreement.

Union Corps Employers

In an apparent attempt to block the labor market in Montreal with a new series of restrictive agreements, Dress Manufacturers' Guild has instituted a new policy against the dressmakers' union, issuing a notice that it will not employ dressmakers who are not in the union. The通知 states that the dressmakers are going to be fired if they cannot prove that they are members of the local union. The policy is in effect immediately, and the dressmakers have been notified that they must join the union or lose their jobs. The policy is in effect immediately, and the dressmakers have been notified that they must join the union or lose their jobs.

Labor Council

Reinigorated

It was reported that the Montreal Labor Council had renewed its efforts in the battle for freedom of assembly by devoting itself to trade union tasks. In line with policies of the American labor movement, the labor council was committed to "s Part of the work of an 11-man executive was appointed for the purpose of investigating the cause of the steady loss of authority by the council itself and to suggest remedies for this condition. The council committee was made up of five representatives of international unions and five council members with the council's six spokesmen for affiliation.

The council had been used by various labor leaders in the past few years in their continued efforts to build up their own organization. The council members had made it clear that they were interested in working for the council's own interest, rather than for the benefit of the unions. The council was made up of five representatives of international unions and five council members with the council's six spokesmen for affiliation.

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Umpire Ruling Near In 20% Wage Move

The shop chairman of the 1,300 dress factories in the metropolitan area in a meeting with Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the board of trade, that the current Victory Loan drive is the most important in the union’s history for the next few weeks. He told this to the union’s secretary-treasurer, the shop chairman, “If we get the Victory Loan drive across the line, we will have an appeal for all-out participation in the union.”

"I want to call your attention to the fact that we are in a period of unity in the union at this time," Hochman said in his special communication to the shop chairman. “I refer to the Victory Loan drive which was launched in the convention. It is a big job and it will be up to each and every one of you to assure that the drive is a success. It is a success we must have in all the War Loan drives of the past.

The shop chairman—this is primarily our responsibility. You have no other way to get your agreements changed for subscriptions to the Victory Loan in which the workers, the owners, the workers’ organizations and the Government participate.

According to Jack Spitzer, chairman of Local 35, the dinner was well attended by the Liberal Party clubs and those organizations affiliated with it.

workers, the organizers, in the meeting held last month, featured a short talk by the union’s secretary-treasurer, C. M. Minshew, addressing the sentiments of the Dress Joint Board. The remarks of the officers and members of the New York Dress Joint Board are deeply saddened by the sudden and untimely death of your associate in the union’s Infantry, Morris Hochman.

As president of the Dress Joint Board, the union chairman of the Dress Joint Board, said the officers and members of the board are deeply saddened by the sudden and untimely death of your associate in the union’s Infantry, Morris Hochman.

Schragter & Musser have always been highly interested in the welfare of the workers in the industry.

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Today and Tomorrow

by Luigi Antonini
First Vice Pres., ILGWU

Though delayed far from the meeting of the General Executive Board of Garment Workers' Unity here for a happy ending of the old new year that is about to be added to the history of humanity in the present generation of Locals 28 and 70 also of the Italian American Labor Council given to the General Executive Board meeting the outstanding fact was that the end of the year brought an increase in the membership of Locals 28.

As for the Italian-American Labor Council, the main feature of its record is that, having honored earlier its pledge of association, there has been a steady increase in the membership of the United Nations of which America is a member. These are undertakings to workers and scientists—both native-born and naturalized—of the United States and abroad.

Wherever the struggle in the name of the church, the defense of the rights of the individual, and the defense of the liberty of the people are merged, there is aحدة that the march of time is always the same. The progress of the United Nations of which America is a member is a symbol of the spirit of cooperation in which, finally, master of the motor power of the universe, can restore the health of the human soul of the world.

For True, Lasting Peace

Justice is the most vital element in all the pronounced injustices of all nations.

Let us therefore hope that in the new year the rights of social justice—on the principles of freedom and civilization—of all workers in America and in the other countries will be extended and steadily amplified.

Everywhere it has already been determined that social problems are not solved by the oppressive methods of the past. It is the only solution, indeed, and increase the problems. It is the only method of creating not destructive and bloody warfare.

Let us therefore hope that in the year 1945, as in America and in all the countries of the world, the principles of freedom and civilization are extended.

The “voice of Local 79”

The Most Popular ITALIAN RADIO HOUR
Symphony Orchestra and Opera Singers from International Fans
Luigi Antonini
First Vice President, ILGWU and General Secretary of the Local

N.Y.AFL Organizes Dept for Veterans

A Veterans Department has been established by the New York Labor Council for the benefit of the American Legion of Labor. It has been placed in charge of John T. Cohen, a veteran of World War Two, who has been a member of the New York Labor Council for over three years. The new agency has been set up in order to provide service to the veterans, who have experienced the hardships of combat in World War Two, as well as to provide a means of communication between the service organizations and the veterans.

The work of the Veterans Department will be closely coordinated with the programs of the Service Bureau which was established by the AFL in 1945 to assist all AFL members in their efforts to create a peaceful and just society free of discrimination and prejudice.

As Italian Dressmakers Got Together for Christmas in Bklyn

Residents of Local 89 at the Yuillelle celebration of the “18th Avenue Club,” Brooklyn, last month. In the group are John Gela and Salvatore Noto, officers of the club.

THE LAST TURN IN THE ROAD

22"Red Cross" Victory Party

Local members and supporters of the Dressmakers' Aid Committee held its annual celebration on December 19 in the form of a great Victory Party, which was substituted this year for the usual theatrical party. The affair was held in Manhattan Center, which was packed to capacity by a lively and enthusiastic crowd of dressmakers.

The tent-venue orchestra, Viva la France, which went on "1:00" evening, was directed by Joseph Chmielewski, president of the New York Dress Joint Board. The souvenir journal of the occasion, was ready for distribution at the affair, and will be available very soon. Thousands of workers from hundreds of dress shops will be represented by published notices in the journal.

Local 89 Mobilizes Boro Park Section For Mob-Up Drives

All members of Local 89 employed in the Borough Park District, Brooklyn, were notified on December 16 that the organizing drive now being planned against union-busting in that area by John L. Thomas, district manager, at a membership meeting at Borough Park Community Center on December 18. The organizing campaign is scheduled to begin in the near future and the union is continuing to build unions in the area. The campaign is expected to be based on a strong mobilization of volunteers.

Bruno Cirelli, who presided at the meeting, was elected by the executive board of the district. In a keynote address to the General Council of Local 89 caused by recent resignations, the membership voted to include Caroline Persia and Angelina Mirabella as the district's representatives.
Nitecroft Pay Raised for All

Close to 400 workers employed in the huge Nitecroft Corp. plant in Grand View, N. J., have won wage in- creases, as the result of the renewal of their agreement, it is reported by Manager Morris Ettzig. The wage boosts, retroactive to Sept. 15, 1935, cover all crafts in the plant. Back pay in the amount of some $2,000 has been distributed.

According to the terms of the new agreement, the miners receive a 25 cent wage increase while patterns receive a 25 cent weekly boost. Rounding off the package are adjustments upwards and all other workers in the plant receive a wage boost of 6 per cent.

Victor Undiee Terms Net 1.253 Back Pay

A total of 3,453 in back pay has been distributed among the 47,000 workers employed at Victor Undiee, Astoria Park, N. J., it is announced by Herman Brodie, manager of Local 38.

The back pay is the result of a 10 cent wage increase incorporated into the new agreement signed last month. The wage increase is retroactive to Sept. 24, 1935.

Other terms in the renewed pact provide for the payment of health benefits.

LITTLE INTERNATIONAL

HAERT WANDER, MANAGER, EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

Maiden Form Wage Rises $200,000 Yearly

Wage increases that will add approximately $200,000 to the annual earnings of the employees of the Maiden Form Bra- sier Co., Perth Amboy and Bayonne, N. J., have been incor- porated in the agreement that covers some 1,500 workers in the firm. It is announced by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

According to the provisions of a wage settlement in this department, the new pact has been signed with Frank DePille, manager of the East Coast division of the company.

RISKS INCREASED

Although the agreement was not disposed of, it was given to the committee representing the employees at the meeting in Miami Beach, Fla.

The union now numbers a total of 50 employees in the East Coast territory. Employed in these shops are 23,453 workers, the majority of whom are em- ployed in the production of dresses. The shops' total organization includes dress plants, five children's wear and house-dress plants and 14M""
WASHINGTON, D. C.—For most of the 20th century, the British have been the soul of the conservation. What makes the change so significant.

For decades, the conservation movement of progressive thought in this capital has thrived on the often contradictory ideas of saving the world, but in the 21st century, the British Raj in their attitudes toward environmental protection and conservation.

And there is a theory that the recent elections in Britain have had something to do with it.

For today, in Washington, the British are the busiest promoters in the capital—"the idea that the United Nations Organisation should be developed and transformed into a worldwide federal union—"an extension of the United States of the World."

The idea of a "uniworld" is the pet scheme of Ernest Bevin, Great Britain's Foreign Minister and leader. But it is interesting to see the same British imperialistic faction in Washington who faithfully served the conservative Anglo-Saxon interests, is now championed by the socialist Ernest Bevin.

The key factor in the movement of the capital of the United Nations Organisation is somewhere in the eastern part of the United States of America where Washington has hastened in a federal union and a commonwealth.

For if that idea should come to pass, the sense of imperial and political survival of the world would be sealed at the same place.

There is another reason for why the British should be so anxious from the Christmas spirit which, even in the desert of the beginning of the year, that reason is the depressing character of the spirit that has almost every other direction.

The spirit of depression and anxiety seems to be a feeling of loneliness in more places than one, the feeling of guilt permeates the forces behind the conflicts, and the sense of responsibility seems to be the common denominator.

For it is a darkening environment, comes a pure ray of hope—a way to work, work, work. It is a really outlaw war at last, to the Corel, toward the economic barrier between nations and initiate the beginning of the Brotherhood of Man. It is small wonder that the idea is catching on, that people are beginning to see it with a glow and sparkle in their eyes.

But, also, it is more than just an idealistic scheme. There is political reality behind it, too. As one British commentator explained it to me.

"Hitler tried to form a world Nazi federation. He very nearly succeeded. He brought practically all of Europe under his domination...But before he was stopped."

House Minority Leader Joe Martin (R., S.C.) has predicted a few days ago that the bill, which was named bellied up to the Rules Committee for two years, would be undoubtedly passed in the Senate in the near future.

A large part of the earth is already included within the program.

"There is only one way of preserving peace, of promoting human welfare, and of attaining self-interest—of German self-interest—on any other side. The only way is the raising of the world once again to the brink of war. The exceptions of national self-interest must be viewed as a national and world problem. And the only way that can be done is through a world nation."

The bill could be some time before the subject will become news. But the topic of discussion will be the same as before, and the direction. Watch for it when the big-shot start making speeches on the subject.

Incidentally, the British do not think highly of the bright publicity soon to be forthcoming from the new President of the United Automobile Workers, G.M. Goebel, to Prime Minister Clement Attlee to intervene with the General Motors management on the back of the bill which the British Government owns 1 per cent of GM's stock.

The British Government's 1 per cent, of course, could never decide the issue. But worse than that, is the principle of invading other countries to interfere directly in the affairs.

The idea cooked up by R. J. Thomas was one which he could have known in advance would not be helpful or constructive, and could only serve to embarrass British trade unions. Whose sympathy is with the GM strikers?

Would R. J. Thomas, the British labor people want to know, approve of having France inject itself into similar situations, or would he ever of having Stalin or Tito or DeGaulle do likewise?

"We have an image of the Christian tradition, much of the legislative future on Capitol Hill still remaining questionable. But there is an optimistic note in the reserved interest the Republicans are taking in the bill to make the FEPF a permanent agency of the government.

House Minority Leader Joe Martin (R., S.C.) has predicted a few days ago that the bill, which was named bellied up to the Rules Committee for two years, would be undoubtedly passed in the Senate in the near future.

And that, incidentally, signals the final blow to the FEPF. The bill of 1946 as it heads toward the all-powerful Committee to be determined in the polls in November.

Temo

BY HAYA KASCOFF

This is a private service of the God, the mother and its satellite the clock. One by one, without stopping the sleep, he starts the machine. Feeling the high arace, the punch clock, his name and name on the clock, the smudge Card that tells his whereabouts each day.

No far horizons or charted seas and cloud-bounded skies da his eyes scan for signs of combatants.

No blizzards or电子邮件 of sailing ships

Or sound of marching against the eye or ear.

Here only the Robot charged like a horse with violets

Of power, racing through blood ever man.

Here only the bright clock face with minutes like everlasting hours, hours like evergreen Zeus, holding Fomethus captive to his Mountain, the sun.

Number the private must cope in the field of Production, here only the landscape working with Walton,

Clouded by walled and camouflaged sun; and here

The ground families the bit of heavenly fire,

The vision of blue men. And here the dreams and believes

To be a modern Citizen, a man.

To remove immortality in favor of his like.

Chavez (D., N.M.) said that he and his colleagues, (S., Ill., Minn.) would call for consideration of an amendment to the tax bill by President Roosevelt and continued by President Truman.

The president of House Minority Leader Martin indicates that the Republican leadership intends to provide enough signatures for a discussion of the bill which would blast the FEPF bill loose from the clutches of the reactionary Rules Committee of Mr. Martin.

And that, incidentally, signals the final blow to the FEPF. The bill of 1946 as it heads toward the all-powerful Committee to be determined in the polls in November.

"THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S" is a perfect example of a "Going My Way" and, as such, comes off a year second best. Like its predecessor, it shows Bing Crosby as a worldly-wise priest playing, trying to cope with all the practical but snobish church curates. This time his opponent is Igor Bergman as the Sister Superior in charge of a musical school which has gone from bad to worse through mismanagement. The plot consists of a series of maneuvers between the two, based on their conflicting philosophies of school administration, until they combine to high-pressure and minor illnesses into supplying a modern building for the foundation's institution.

Crosby's quirky practical style is as smooth as ever, but Igor Bergman here essay a role which seems far too uneven even for his girl's versatility as an actress. For example, the scene in which she serves as a coffee girl while wearing her nun's garb is so incongruous as to be embarrassing.

"THE STORE CLerk" is a first-rate but defunct farce reviving around the famous night club of that name. This show allows plenty of opportunities, deftly created to present the hilarious Betty Hutton in a rôle as a tart at the box office numbers — despite the fact that she is expected to be a hat-check girl.

The line of the picture is furnished by Barry Fitzgerald, who looks like a down-and-out but is really one of the millionaires of greatest wealth. When the hat-check girl at last manages to get in, she finds that her hair is not the same as when she wore it. The hat-check girl one's chance is taken away from her by an old man himself, and then she returns to the dress before she is driven out. In her sympathy for the appearance of the girl, her hair is given to her so that she can make a better version of what her boy friend suddenly returns from the war. However, everything is straightened out quite happily and she makes a well-rounded but bluffly good-naturedly comical turn in the picture.
Dr. Fifer has written a amazing article on the end of "War," which is yards of government planning was received by the people. And the people are still good in many conservative- tion. The writer of the article has also illustrated a function of the government that is often not seen in American publishing. We have far too little of this kind of poten- cial enemy and have done so. The force that first Hayek and now Fifer have persevered to socialization. These positions without the common curren- lations that generally indicate false debate is an experience from which businessman still is told, but his survival does not indicate abil- ity to continue in compe- tition with the gigantic producing and distributing units. There is nothing good or bad about planning itself, says Fifer, it is made or good and bad according to the purpose for which it is exer- cised. Hayek says planning is a one-way road to serfdom. Fifer says it is a two-way superimposed, with its terminals those that we choose. Hayek warns that plan- ning is the millstone that will drag us in the corporate state of the Middle Ages, that its victory for the civilisation and which have sacrificed and proved to have a society in which unspoken ques- tions are given by the planners to the mass of men who must obey under threat of punishment. But Fifer, fortified with a recon- ciling faith in the common man's ability to recognize where our interests lie, insists that so long as the private process persists, as long as sovereignty and control re- main with the people, the planners and the places they make will be a reflection of the will of the major- ity. He reassuringly accredits Hayek of wishing to frustrate that will and zero toward the dictatorship, of monopolies and enforced wealth. The choice, in fact, is between planning and non-plan- ning. Planning we have always had with us. The choice, Figer argues, is an im- portant contribution to a decent definition of life in planning by and for big business or planning for the people. This debate is something more than a stepped in an academic ter- ritory. The recent war has dem- onstrated the potentialities of plan- ning for a common interest. That purpose being survival, free men are striving to do what many of our freedoms to achieve it. Peace once again, we must re- member the recent miserable failures of Hayek's prunted free en- terprise in the pre-war years. Too- many it seemed then that plan- ning was the salvation of free en- terprise. But freedom and liberty are freedoms and liberties and, as Lincoln warned in 1864, "the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon the definition of the word 'liberty.'" Fifer's book is an important contribution to a decent definition of life...
St. Louis ILGW Weighs 5-Pt. Counter-Offer

Union negotiators seeking improvements in the contracts covering workers in the St. Louis dress and chalk industries are studying proposals made by the manufacturers' representatives at a bargaining conference held on Dec. 13.

StottStrikers Holding Line Despite Cold

With the temperature hovering around 18 degrees below zero, the pocket line that has stopped all production at the St. Louis plant, Wisons, Minn., is still going strong.

The line is being held, from early morning until the late hours of night. No goods is being received or shipped by the firm, and the firm, and the clearance of the plant is complete.

The suốtists with which the most workers show up for work duty has made a deep impression in the ranks of all organized labor in Wisconsin, and full support is being given to the ILGW strikers.

First benefits went paid to the strikers on Dec. 14.

Workers at Ottenheimer, Little Rock, Join ILGW

The Southwest district office on Dec. 11 notified the management of Ottenheimer Bros., a large dress and shirt firm in Little Rock, Ark., that a majority of its workers have joined the ILGW. The union has received the resignation of the firm's agent, who has joined the ILGW to include improved wages and working conditions.

The St. Louis ILGW, Local 24, of Little Rock, Ark., warned that the firm's failure to meet the request would be followed by an ILGW application for the seizure of the firm's property by the Board for a plant election.

Local 409 Inducts Its First Officers

The officers of the newly chartered Local 409, St. Louis, Ill., were installed on Dec. 7 at ceremonies attended by more than 50 workers and guests, including brothers of the St. Louis Organizing Labor Union, civic dignitaries and representatives of management.

An interesting symbol of the occasion was the fact that the hall in which the ceremonies were held is located near the monument commemorating the spot where Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas held their famous debate on the future of slavery in Illinois.

Oskosh, Mt. Vernon ILGW

 Mourning Harry Sherman

The 360 workers employed at the Sherman Wash Water Co., Mt. Vernon, Ill., were mourning the death of Harry Sherman, president of the company. He passed away on Dec. 10 after a long illness. It was pointed out by union spokesmen that he had always been fair to his employees and deeply concerned over the welfare and progress of his employees.

SWEET SHOPS WEIGH PAY BOOST DEMANDS

The latest pay increase was being sought for ILGWU members in the Southeast district of Illinois, according to a report issued by the union.

Several conferences with representatives of the Corn Silk Co. were held in an agreement, reached on Dec. 16, which provides for increases for time-workers and piece-workers employed in the firm's plants at St. Louis, Mo., and East St. Louis, Ill.

Acting on the request by the union, the Mutual Garment Co. has agreed to increase for workers in its plant at St. Louis, Mo., and East St. Louis, Ill.

A total of $5,250 in back pay has been paid to 13 employees of the Brown Garment Manufacturing Co., Little Rock, Ark., who had been discharged for union activity and were rehired in connection with full compensation by the National Labor Relations Board. There were some 20 workers employed at a total of $200 each as a protest against the discharge.

13 Net Big Backpay, Yr. After Discharge

The ILGW workers have been paid a total of $200 each as a protest against the discharge.

Workers'Paradox — Prefer Old Tools

The report on the union's stand on the ILGWU's General Executive Board, "prefer old tools." The board decided to replace the number of 12-year-old Willett-breaking machines with modern 400-W matters, and for several weeks after the new machine arrived, some of the operators complained bitterly in a spirit that usually satisfies the hard work of a deep friend. They wanted their old Willetts back.

The business agent was called in by the other workers of the union were called in. All used the new and old tools for persuasive powers.

Rehab is often a poor wages against the pressure of habit and the inertia of custom. The battle of the new lingers and the old, which is not met with, wages. The problem remains unsolved.

Pledging Faithful Performance of Duty as ILGWU Leaders

Taking their oath together, the first set of officers of newly chartered Local 409, Quincy, Ill., were sworn in at installation ceremonies on Dec. 17, 1946. (See story.)

Graceful Gambling by Garment Workers

Under instruction of Artis, Minn. (left), leading professional dancer, members of the Consolidated Local, St. Louis, Mo., carry on regular rehearsal in costume at union headquarters.

ILGW Scores in Little Rock, Ark.

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Welcome Windfall for Christmas Season

SUNBURY SPORTWEAR SIGNS AFTER STRIKE

The workers of the Sunbury Sportwear Co., Sunbury, Pa., chose the ILGWU as their collective bargaining agent in a strike vote held on Dec. 20. As a result, an agreement has been negotiated with the firm, bringing the workers a 10-cent hourly increase, health and vacation benefits and other standard terms. The negotiations were conducted by District Supervisor Sol Greene and Manager Oscar Neuman.

The election followed a two-week strike, and after the union had twice called upon the employer to negotiate a contract and found the union's attempt to be delaying tactics and union-busting action.

Organizer Louis Pitlak, in charge of the strike, reported that at the end of the second week, the company reversed its policy and sent advertisements in the local newspapers indicating that it would go out of business rather than negotiate with the union.

The employer was shown a quirk of heart and a willingness to abide by the results of an election after the union called Morris Blackman, mayor of Sunbury, into the case to examine the justice of the union's demands. The union was then able to win striking workers willing to take over the plant and carry on activities under union conditions.

Local 249's Chorus Broadcasts Carols

ILGWU educational activity in the Sunbury area took on a new development when the chorus from Local 249 broadcast a program of Christmas carols over Station WREB.

The chorus, organized last summer by Min Magidson and directed by Mrs. Francis Caub, has made its first appearance, before Union headquarters. This broadcast was the first program it presented, before the general public.

Similar singing groups have been organized in Pitney, Shirley Agudish and in Ridgmoor by Carrie Gregory, both of the Cotton Garment Department's staff.

Allentown Campaign Clicks As 4 More Shops Sign Pacts

The organization drive in the Allentown, Pa., area is hitting full stride and is already yielding results. A report from District Supervisor Sol Slavige indicates that of the 260 workers who had been brought into the union fold, an agreement was reached with the company bringing a general 10 per cent wage increase.

Swan-Lea is also a new firm, manufactured and marketed by the firm, which is engaged in the production of women's and men's shorts, trousers and underpants. Organizers Norman Fields, Mort Israels and Samuel Goldstein of the Union helped to organize the firm.

Likewise in Allentown, two new firms have been organized. They are the R & M Co., with 50 workers and the Lea Sportswear Co., with 30 workers. In each case the organizers have the firm's consent to tentative agreements with the workers, giving them the option of production set-ups.

The Swan-Lea Manufacturing Co. has signed an agreement, with the union which brings its 75 workers a 15-per cent boost in piece-rates and a 4 per cent health and vacation fund.

The arrival of the Cotton Garment Department members in "welcome home" celebration given by St. Millers, according to Hoosick Falls Undergarment management, Hoosick Falls, N.Y., seen in midst of workers being greeted by both Anthony and James Anthony (left), LlGwv representative in Utica, New York.

Cotton Garment Department members in "welcome home" celebration given by St. Millers, according to Hoosick Falls Undergarment management, Hoosick Falls, N.Y., seen in midst of workers being greeted by both Anthony and James Anthony (left), LlGwv representative in Utica, New York.

Gingold Elected ILG.V.P.

By Gen' Executive Board

David Gingold, director of the Cotton Garment and Miscellaneous Trade Department, was unanimously elected vice president of the ILGWU in the first official action taken by the General Executive Board, which met last month in Miami Beach.

Gingold has served as director of the Cotton Garment Department since his appointment to that position by Pres. David M. Richman last winter. He succeeded Pres. Elia Silverberg, who has stood at the helm of the department from the time of its founding in 1935 until his sudden death on Aug. 18, 1945.

Under Gingold's direction, the department has grown from 14,000 members to its rolls and new members close to 30,000 in total membership. His leadership has been extended continuously and several offers are now in progress in Pennsylvania, upstate New York and elsewhere.

It was in 1935 that Gingold first joined the ILGWU. As a railroad machinist he had been a leader in the general strike of those workers in that year. Still a youngster during the period of the First World War, he became active in the labor movement and was a member of the largest plants in New York City. In a 1919, he was elected to the executive council of the General Waterfront Garment Workers, and shortly thereafter was elected president of the local. He moved on to its presidency in 1924, a post he held for five years. After his term as general president he was also vice president of the ILGWU. In the first five years of his presidency Gingold returned to work as a railroad shop, doing volunteer organization duty in New York and upstate New York, and in the course of his work he was made general organizer of the waterfront and railroads workers in the New England area.

As the result of the潮流 of the nationalization of the Cotton Garment Department were established. With the establishment of the department in 1935, Gingold was one of the organizers in Pennsylvania for the newly organized department. He was the administrative head of the department, a position he occupied until he was appointed director of the department in 1944.

Washington Renews At Easton, Setting 10% Wage 10% Wage Increase Bill

A 10 cent wage increase has been won for 129 workers employed by the Washington Manufacturing Co., Easton, Pa. It is reported that the renewal of the agreement for the 10 cent increase was the result of a series of conferences held in the last four months, the union's representatives in conference with the company and the company's representatives in conference with the union by the failure of the company to return to the Philadelphia area. The company's representatives in conference with the company by the failure of the company to return to the Philadelphia area.

The company's representatives in conference with the company by the failure of the company to return to the Philadelphia area.

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Cloak Retirement Fund
Trustees Formulate Rules for Pensions

The rules and regulations governing eligibility requirements for retirement benefits were adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cloak & Suit Indus-

try on Dec. 13 at the Hotel McAlpin.

Manager Julius Nagler of Local 1 of
tailors, chairman of the Com-

mittee on Rules, described the pre-

posed regulations, which were ap-

proved by the full trustees.

Mr. Nagler explained that the rules,

which set eligibility requirements for

retirement funds, were drawn up after

several months of study by a commit-

tee of experts in the field.

Under the new rules, membership in

the Cloak & Suit Industry Pension

Fund requires that a worker must be

at least 60 years of age and have

worked for at least 20 years in the

clothing industry.

The rules also provide that workers

who become disabled due to illness or

injury prior to reaching the age of

60 may receive retirement benefits if

their condition is deemed terminal by

a qualified physician.

The rules were adopted after a

series of meetings between the Trust-

ees and representatives of the worker

organizations and labor unions in the

industry.

The new rules were designed to

provide a fair and equitable system of

retirement benefits that would be

both financially sound and employee-

friendly.

The rules were also intended to

address the needs of the aging work-

force in the industry, which has seen

a significant increase in the number

of retirees in recent years.

The rules were approved by a wide

margin, with the support of all major

worker organizations and labor un-

ions in the industry.

The rules were expected to go into

effect on January 1, 1946, and will

be administered by the Cloak & Suit

Industry Pension Fund.

The rules were described as a

major step forward in the provision

of retirement benefits for workers in

the clothing industry.

The rules were designed to provide

a secure retirement for workers who

have dedicated their careers to the

clothing industry.

The rules were also intended to

ensure that workers who have made

significant contributions to the

industry would be able to retire with

confidence and security.

The rules were expected to benefit

a large number of workers in the

industry, who have worked hard and

long to build the industry into the

success it is today.

The rules were described as a

major victory for the workers in the

clothing industry, who have fought

long and hard for better working

conditions and fair treatment. 

The rules were expected to provide

a secure retirement for workers who

have dedicated their careers to the

clothing industry, and to ensure that

workers who have made significant

contributions to the industry would be

able to retire with confidence and

security.
ILGWU Inaugurates Unique Broadcasts for Workers

Make Your Date With the ILGWU

Mondays
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
7:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
7:00 P.M. — Recorder Class, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
7:00 P.M. — Ballroom Dancing Class, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
7:00 P.M. — Ballroom Dancing Class (repeat).

Tuesdays
6:00 P.M. — Church, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Local 64 Paratigraphic Law and Public Speaking Class, 135 West 3rd St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Recreational Division - Gym and Swimming, Textile High School, West 14th St. and 8th Ave., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Pisciculture Class, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Recreational Division - Bowling, Bowler Alley, 110 University Pl. near 13th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Vareen-Olivain Discussion Group, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C. (starts Jan. 5)

Wednesdays
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Educational and Recreational Division, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
6:30 P.M. — Educational and Recreational Division, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
5:30 P.M. —THEORY and Music Appreciation, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Recreational Division — Indoor Tennis, 8th Regiment Armory, West 14th St. between 6th and 7th Ave., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Drama Class, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Thursdays
6:00 P.M. — Local 22 Art Class, 218 West 40th St., N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Church, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
6:00 P.M. — Educational and Recreational Division, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.
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6:00 P.M. — Educational and Recreational Division, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Saturdays
6:00 P.M. — Twilight Swim, ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Twins Cities Holds Classes
Applicants for union membership in the Twin Cities must now attend three classes before their Union card is issued. The new course is directed by Dolores Johnson.

Lunch and Learning at Local 155
At shop chairmen's conference on "Peace and Security" recent events and ILGWU Workers at Crystal Arms Hotel, lectures were delivered by (left to right) Boris Shinkin, chief A.F. of economy, Louis Nelson, local manager, and Raphael Abrahamovich, noted social worker on foreign affairs.

Notes from FAR and NEAR
Mt. Vernon, Ill.
"Local 372, Mount Vernon, Ill., enthusiastically questioned questions by its members about the 11th Annual August meeting, all questions presented on the subject of union history and other related topics. All members are given a chance to ask their question. Any query not answered on the spot is, however, is then assigned to a designated member for further study and a later report. The quiz has aroused such interest among the members. Sample questions: "What is ILGWU?" Members are going to be sent to other ILGWU locals on request for the exam."

San Antonio, Tex.
"San Antonio has lined up its full program, which includes dance and singing on Thursday night, with art classes on Monday nights and a party and other social event on Saturday. Additional new members and questions have been organized and are going strong. The Association Club has had two parties and dispensed a large number of petitions to members in its efforts."

Maryland-Virginia Gets New Education Director
By Sylvia Blauhut has been named success Maxine Silverstein, who retired from the position on March 1. The position is under the direction of the Maryland-Virginia Local 22 Education Program.

New educational director, like his predecessor, will serve the Baltimore local, the Edward M. Cohn, the Washington local, the Cleveland local, the Philadelphia local, the New York local, and the other cities and towns in the area. Blauhut is a 32-year-old graduate of the University of Maryland and has been associated with the educational department of the ILGWU for the past 20 years. He is the author of several articles and books on education and has been active in the field for many years.

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GEB SESSION HEARS EDUCATION SUMMARY
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Covering all major aspects of the Educational Department's work, the report summarized the latest developments in the field of education and training, including the development of new programs and the implementation of existing ones.

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GM Strike Merits Great Sympathy

Expanding the deep sympathy of the entire ILGWU for the General Motors strikers, the following statement was adopted by the ILGWU:

"The strike in the General Motors production plants, now in its second month, has provided the additional testimony to the entire world and of all fair-minded elements in the national community: General Motors' refusal to sit down with the union workers, and of course with all organized labor in America, as nothing short of a challenge on the fundamental rights of the working people.

This continued refusal of the General Motors Co. to open its books to President Truman's Fact-Finding Board in the face of the union's express readiness to abide by the outcome, and also the union's insistence that the wage increase offered does not have yet been accepted.

Standing Committees

A full session of the meeting was devoted to a report on the activities of the various standing committees of the ILGWU, submitted by the Executive Secretary Frederick P. Dunay.

Unpaid leave is to be paid for the duration of the strike, and the union is working to extend the union's case on the issue of displacement.

Unity House Expanding

Secretary Unger told the ILGWU that Unity House is now adding a large auditorium and several guest bungalows to its accommodation. Construction is under way, he said, and the new project, which is to cost about $100,000, is expected to be ready by the opening of the first community center.

In referring to the ILGWU's participation in the two war years, the delegation voted to work for an increase of bond purchases by union af

Hand Embroiderers Begin Shorter Hours. Without Wage Loss

The hand embroidery workers of New York went from 60-hour to 46-hour work week on Jan. 1. Subsequently, with the provisions of their contract calling for such a reduction of their work-week with no reduction in weekly earnings, it was announced by President S. P. S. Boardman, manager of Local 66, Embroidery Workers.

Crochet breeders, frame workers, hand sewers, applique cutters and others are covered by the stipulation that the work-week be ultimately reduced to 36 hours by a further reduction of two days and a half hours on Jan. 1, 1947.

It is explained that the hand embroiderers worked 60 hours a week seven and a half hours a day in eight of every week and will receive a 2 3/4 per cent increase in time-rate.

The union, which is to maintain earnings at the same level of the time-rate, said that the new contract was reached by the workmen in the absence of the women's union.

The ILGWU is to conduct an investigation of the situation and to determine whether or not the work-week should be further reduced.

Fashion Forecasts: Los Angeles, Picks ILGWU by 2-to-1 Vote

The workers of the Fashion Foresee stylist Los Angeles, Calif., chose the ILGWU as their collective bargaining agent by a vote of two to one in a National Labor Relations Board election last month. It is announced by District Labor Relations Board of the Los Angeles District Board, that the union's right to represent the workers is now recognized.

For this reason, the new workers who have just come out of their houses to learn the ways of factory work are urged to seek employment through the union.
The Newsweek Labor Report wins its highest wage scales in its fifth year.

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THE STATE OF OUR UNION

Last week, the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union held a meeting at Miami Beach, Fla., the first in seven months, which occupied itself chiefly with surveying the current problems of transition from war to peace and the outlook for the near future.

Although there is undoubtedly much unemployment which does not show in official figures, there is a good deal less of it at this stage than had been forecast. There is still a continuing high demand for consumer goods, although total payrolls and individual earnings have been reduced. The demand for the products of our own industry is generally higher than the supply.

The women's garment industry, it was observed at the GEB meeting, has emerged from the war in a considerably more favorable position than the one it faced in 1940. The dollar volume of sales of women's garments increased throughout the war period. Although the number of workers employed has declined in all branches of the industry except located outerwear, employment has been steadier and seasonal lay-offs have been reduced. Total payrolls in all branches are now considerably higher than in 1940, reflecting fuller employment and higher total individual earnings.

The government's efforts to encourage the production of low-priced apparel, with the result that the whole proved not successful and the effectiveness of this program seems doubtful at this moment, although the Office of Price Administration has vigorously denied that it would be dropped. The OPA expects that the program will have positive results by the turn of the year, and that the continued shortage of textiles will make it necessary to channel fabrics into the manufacture of low-end goods. So far, the only method found to increase the supply of cotton fabric is to give the mills further price relief. This, however, does not help the apparel manufacturer to produce cheaper garments.

The OPA has halted increases of supplies of fabric following the end of the war. Although military use of textiles has been over 70 per cent, the fabric situation is as tight as ever and will be so for some time, unless consumer demand for apparel increases.

Several reasons for this stringency. First, demand has increased in the general industry, and the capacity of the textile industry in the present transition period. The production of cotton textiles, although higher than in pre-war years, has been lower in 1945 than in 1944. Reconversion from military to civilian-type fabrics has been difficult. Cotton mills have been withholding some current production in the hope of higher prices, which the OPA finally granted. Now it is said that textiles are being withheld as a means to advantage of the more favorable tax structure which will be in effect in 1945. As a result of all these factors, a considerable quantity of fabric is going into the black market.

It cannot be expected that fabric supplies will be any more plentiful during the first part of 1946, and that goes for cotton as well as for rayon and rayon.

The question of wage increases for our workers was brought up at the GEB meeting concurrently with a discussion of the government's new wage policy launched immediately after V-J Day. That policy change was based on the necessity of substituting mass consumer purchasing for the billions of dollars of government war buying which was soon to disappear.

President Truman's radio speech on Oct. 30 emphasized the necessity of raising wages and, at the same time, of maintaining the stability of prices, and expressed the belief that industry as a whole could afford substantial wage increases without raising prices. In order to encourage industry to follow this policy, employers were allowed by executive order to apply for price relief after having put a wage increase into effect, if they later found themselves unable to absorb the additional cost.

The President's policy was based on a study by the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion which showed that industry in general would be able with the aid of the GMB, to afford a 20 per cent increase in wages through the reduction of overtime premium pay, down-grading of job classifications and repeal of the corporate excess profits tax.

As far as our own industry is concerned, it is in a favorable position to grant considerable wage increases at a rate of this increase to be 20 per cent and he expresses confidence that such wage increases will become a fact in the entire women's wear industry within a few months. Figures on production and profits, it is true, are difficult to obtain for our industry, but all indications show that the employees have enjoyed record sales and have been making record profits. Nor is there any evidence that profits have suffered from the special price restrictions governing the industry. Moreover, the industry will certainly benefit from reduced tax rates in the coming year.

In surveying some of the union's own intimate problems, apart from its relations to the industry, the GEB pointed with great satisfaction to the ILGWU's membership structure, which stood like a fortress during the war years and has displayed signs of a new expansion in recent months. This "membership stability" President Dubinsky listed as the union's "priority asset" in his report to the members of the Board, along with this tangible asset, he mentioned another—the increase of the union's general funds from $5,697,000 to $7,300,000 in one year and a half—an increase made possible by the union's steady growth as well as by the capable management of its finances.

The new general Union Health Center in New York, which is soon to occupy six floors in the skyscraper recently purchased for that purpose by the ILGWU, highlighted the discussion on the union's general health and welfare program. The union's health-care movement, for a time confined to New York, has evolved a warm response among ILGWU workers everywhere in the land, and plans for health centers, industry-supported and union-controlled, are springing up in numerous garment communities. With the organization of a Welfare and Health Service Department at the General Office of the union, the activity has passed its formative stage and is now being systematically planned and carried out. At its rate of current progress, the health feature of the ILGWU's welfare program, like its parallel paid-vacation movement, may soon extend to the overwhelming majority of our members, it was pointed out at the GEB meeting.

No less impressive was the account given to the GEB by President Dubinsky of the ILGWU's far-flung "extra-territorial" work—its relief activities and projects in Italy, Poland, China, Russia, and Palestine, the relief and rescue work made possible by the successful relief drives carried out by this union in the past few years.

Since the spring of 1942, the ILGWU has engaged in relatively little organizational work. Presumably with the major problems of the war over, the union with the no-strike pledge, placed a natural barrier on organizing endeavor. This picture, however, has changed basically since V-J Day.

The GEB's decision to place a staff of new organizers in the field to take up ILGWU missionary work in the East, the Midwest and on the West Coast is the logical outcome of this change of attitude. Reports of mushrooming nonunion factories in these sectors have been coming in thick and fast during the past few months, while in Los Angeles and other California cities a big expansion in the production of sportswear has become an established fact. The union is now ready to cope with this organizing problem on an extensive scale, including new firms as well as some of the old, hard-bitten non-union concerns which have fought the ILGWU for many years past.

Close attention related to this problem is the trend towards the manufacture of women's apparel by men's clothing firms which has become observable during the war. It is hardly pointed out that such practices, if continued unchecked, may create acute competitive problems for our workers, who make these items of women's garments under higher wage and hour standards than those in vogue in the men's clothing trades. The GEB has placed the New York Cloak Joint Board full in combating this pernicious-invasion of its jurisdictional rights.

The GEB wound up its work on a note of temperate optimism. For the time being the country's economic structure appears to have withstood the initial impact of the end of the war. Unemployment lingered as serious as it had been expected and consumer buying power seems to be remaining at a high level. However, undue optimism about future economic trends would be unwise. The economic mechanism will need some heavy oiling to keep the wheels turning at the same pace. This oiling will have to come from the government in the form of appropriate pro-labor and pro-consumer legislation. Unfortunately, the Administration's program for the reconversion period has bogged down in Congress.