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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.
GREAT PICKET DEMONSTRATION NEXT MONDAY!

VICTORY OF THE STRIKING WAIST MAKERS IS VERY, VERY NEAR.

One half of the strikers, fifteen thousand in number, have already won out. The whole city is excited over the strike. Shlesinger is the "business man in town," as the saying goes. Besides all kinds of conferences with the bosses, both the ladies' waist bosses who keep on falling away from and breaking with the association, and the bosses of the other trades which are included in the International, he must give lectures in the various churches, ladies' clubs, to satisfy the people who are very eager to hear what the President of the International has to say about the main issues of the strike. And the entire staff of the International is as busy as its President. The White Goods Makers are getting ready for the fight. Now is their moment. The White Goods, Kimono and Ladies' Waist Makers are preparing to take the war path—and all utter the same battle cry: A 44-hour work week, a raise in wages and all the other demands which the Ladies' Waist Makers have put forth. The Children's Dress Makers' Union is being granted all its demands by the association without strike. Yet there remain unsettled the independent and non-union shops, and in these shops the fight will begin next Monday. Last Monday morning there took place a great and inspiring demonstration which will never be forgotten by those who attended it. This Monday the demonstration must be a still greater one. Schlesinger, Baroffi, Sigman, Seidman and the entire general strike committee will be in the picket line.

Of course, if the leaders of the bosses association of the ladies' waist industry could have foreseen four weeks ago, all that has happened from the moment when they so light-hearted called forth strong strike that now stands upon thousands of workers, then you may bet ten to one, that they would never, never have done so. But such is the nature of foolish men. A moment of madness comes upon them, an insane moment. He forgets all the lessons taught him by the past, and he brings trouble upon himself. Take for example Wilhelm and Nicholas. Flower makes one blind, mad. Such people begin to suffer from a certain mania. They persuade themselves there are none greater, or stronger than they. They believe that the whole world must lie at their feet and back in the light of their eyes. And they call forth a conflict which lasts, sometimes a long and sometimes a short time, and which always ends disastrously for them and for their foolish ambitions.

One cannot be angry with these maniacs, although they cause so much woe and suffering in this world. They are spiritual-sick. They should be sent to a hospital for the spiritually sick rather than to a prison.

The bosses of the association were utterly taken aback by the spirit of spiritual blindness when they permitted their workers to leave their shops on Tuesday the 21st of January. They did this because they had persuaded themselves that, in the first place, their workers would never leave the shops. How could they leave, give up their jobs in middle-winter, when food was so high and when very few of them had anything put away? Then again, they figured, that if the workers did leave the shops, they would soon return. What good is there in wandering about through the streets? Then they thought if their own workers would not return, there could be others eager to do the work.

Such were the unfortunate miscalculations of the bosses. And what has now come of all these hopes? Ruin! The workers left the shops but they did not return, pleading for work. There are no others to take their places. Half of the strikers have already returned to work but on the conditions set by them, and the entire bosses fraternity which just a few weeks seemed to be so stable and united, seems like a very old, rotten building, and the fight of the ladies' waist makers grows more energetic, more determined each day.

This is the result of a four week fight. And did we not warn them? Did we not tell them that they would regret the course they take? But this did not help. When men have grown insane over their all-gripping interest there is no help for them. But now they see, for themselves, how wrong they were. Many of them have put aside their weapons and surrendered. But there have remained enough stubborn ones among the bosses. And the question comes up how many parties can pass before they see the light? And we appeal to the strikers now: help them, your situation is the same as their's as quickly as possible. Let your feelings be stronger than your wrath, and let not those few men who have work worked on themselves on as well. Many of them have already realized that each additional hour of the strike brings them nearer to ruin.

They, your bosses, are blind; they may think that because you are relying on your strike so quietly, so deliberately, without any noise, then they may take it as a sign that your hearts are not in this great conflict. They cannot understand that your calm manner comes from your confidence in final victory, your consciousness that nothing on earth can wrest this victory from you. To understand this one must know psychology. But your bosses are not such men. Make them understand this by your demonstration next Monday. Let them see that you will never, never return to their shops until they will grant the necessary demands of your unions.

The greater your demonstration at next Monday, the greater significance will it have not only for you but also for all your brothers and sisters of the White Goods Industry, for the Wrapper and Kimono Industry, and for the Children's Dreamers' Industry. In these industries, too, the bosses are blind. They do not fear a great defeat awaits them. Let your demonstration of next Monday open their eyes if such a thing is possible. Save them from their own blindness and from their own crazes. Give them to understand, by your demonstration, that it is dangerous to begin a conflict with workers who have some self-respect, who know the value of union among themselves, and who are conscious of their strength and the justice of their cause.

See to it, brothers and sisters, that the demonstration next Monday shall be an epoch-making one in the history of your great International. Remember that this may be your last picket demonstration, that on the next morning, if not the very same day, the bosses may come to their senses and yield. See to it, therefore, that you shall be able to look back to the demonstration with sentiments of pride and joy after returning to your work.

No one must fail to come to the demonstration next Monday, for you are fighting for your life and you would be wrong to miss it. Remember, brave strikers, that the White Goods Makers of four weeks ago, looked so strong and impenetrable, is now tottering, crumbling, and just give it one good push and it will fall. Then let the demonstration of next Monday be a great victory, this victory-bringing push.

Let that day, next Monday, be your victory day, your victory day of victory. Celebrate on that day the victory which has already been won and this victory which must soon come.

And it must come. All good forces have joined you in your great conflict. The whole city is with you. All who think and feel as you do are with you. Your President is an honored guest among the elite. The members of churches and prominent ladies' clubs wish to see and hear him. But no one wants to listen to the bosses. The city knows what they want; and it has turned its back to them. Demonstrate yourself to the city in your full force, to the city which sympathizes with you, and you will see with what acclaim you will be received.

And again: this is not only your fight, which is almost won. You must here give warning to all other bosses of the various industries that belong to our International and to the others, that their end cannot be different from that of the association bosses of the ladies' waist industry. Who knows, perhaps, by your demonstration next Monday will help that many other conflicts shall be avoided because the bosses from the first hour of their fight against the workers is a hopeless one.
In spite of all the great events which have taken place at the conference at Paris, the happenings in Germany and in Russia have somewhat managed these days to secure for itself the front page of our press. This question is a twofold one: one, the great and important one of the Russian revolution in the East; the other, the number of strikes which are taking place all over the country.

About unemployment much is being written, but as yet very little has been done. War Secretary Baker has assured us that every returning soldier will be provided with work. Similar statements have been made by other industrial leaders of the country.

But in the meantime we keep on receiving miserable reports, which seem to indicate that the returned men are looking for jobs. The labor masses grow greater by the day. It is expected that within a very short time the number of unemployed will exceed one million.

More sensational, of course, is the news about the strikes. General Electric is under the strike in Seattle, Washington. There were all the workers of all the plants on strike. They used their tools and went out on a sympathetic strike to help the striking men.

Seattle was entirely paralyzed for a week. No cars were run and all the stores, restaurants were closed and the schools were closed. The employers have ordered the guards to maintain order and opened soup kitchens to feed the strikers who had no homes and had to eat in restaurants.

The strikers, especially the mayor, condemned the strikers and threatened that they would send the militia to put a stop to the whole thing. A horrid business. The business men and bosses informed the public that the mine was going on a revolution, and a Bolshevik revolution into the bargain. The feeling is that the strikers and the employers must send seed soldiers who should take the strike in hand.

The conservative union leaders were also against the strike and from the very first day they wanted to break it. At the writing of these lines, contradictory reports keep coming in from Seattle, which state that the strike is broken.

But no matter how it ends, it will have one result—the President of the country is to visit Seattle. Let's see what happens when the President visits Seattle.

The strike in Butte is also a radical one. The demands of the workers are very radical, they demand a wage of $48 and hours that they should receive the same wages that the miners of Butte receive. Only the leaders of the strike are of the left wing of the movement. This gives the employers a chance to spread the strike. And this is the same as what was reported at the headquarters of the car workers' strike. The car workers were sent to the car workers and all traffic was stopped.

The strike in Patterson is also a radical one. The demands of the workers are very radical, and to pick the American labor movement. They show that there is being developed in our labor circles a certain class consciousness and a certain revolutionary spirit which have been foreign to them till now.

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In Butte, Montana, there has long been going on a fight between the labor and management. It seems that the miners have gone still further than the Seattle strikers. They have organized a strike, and the miners there are a very many returned soldiers and so the Soviets bear the name of soldiers and workers councils. These owners have sold the miners to do picket work, especially do they not permit the sending of seed soldiers.

A very interesting and significant occurrence in this strike is the condition of the miners. When the strikers boarded the street cars to go to picket the streets, the strikers were told that they were "seeds" and were permitted to return to the mines. And this was reported at the headquarters of the car workers. The strikers were told that they are entitled to this.

The prohibition amendment, it seems, will not have such bad results with the law as it is expected from various quarters. First of all, there is great disinclination among the workers of various trades. In New Jersey certain unions passed resolutions saying that they would strike if they are not to drink. Tho miners have been convinced from the workers in other states.

The representatives of the American labor movement. They are very much against this. Just how serious these threats made by organized labor can be accepted is a question that can be answered from now on when the new amendment will be enforced.

The situation is being reported from abroad. English and Italian millionaires have large investments in the American copper mines. It is thought that these sums reach into the hundreds of millions of dollars, and that they will not permit the amendment to destroy their property and will use the government of the United States to defend their investments.

And they have their arguments on the attitude of the United States government toward the nation in Mexico. The Mexican government passed a law limiting the consumption of the Mexicans over the oil wells of Mexico. This law affected the investments of American capitalists in Mexican oil wells before the law was passed. Since then the country has been on about this between the Mexican and the American government. Now the American capitalists have their investments in the Mexican oil wells before the present law was passed.

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While the great peace conference is settling the affairs of the world, at the Quai D'Orsay there has been another conference in other parts of Europe, of the utmost importance which in their way is of at least as much significance as any of the world events of the day. The assemblying there were some eighty-seven delegates from a dozen countries. Among the delegates there were Arthur Henderson, of England; Albert Thomas, of France; Karl Liebknecht, of Bavaria; Emile Vandervelde, of Belgium; Camille Hoyos, of the International Socialist Bureau, and many other international politicians. The delegates numbered 137.

The most important of the German Socialists were absent because they are meeting the Socialists' Assembly at Weimar, sitting at the same time, but the party of the Socialists is represented by Karl Kautsky, its foremost thinker and writer, and several others.

The Socialist party of the United States was unrepresented because the Socialist National Assembly in New York was unable to get their passports in time. While the Congress of the Australian Socialists was being addressed by Onal and Algeron, received passports from the United States, their American leader, for the first time, for the first time, was denied a passport because of his socialistic beliefs.

Victor L. Berger, on whose paper, the Milwaukee Leader, was written, was permitted to sail.

At this writing, however, neither Lee nor Onal has been able to sail because their passports have not been issued by the British consul, a necessary step because the delegates expected to sail on an English steamer.

The first days of the Congress at Weimar had a strange look to them, which might be the quixotic one of "fixing the responsibility" for the war.

Albert Thomas, one of the extreme "right" of the French Socialists, began denouncing the Germans for participating in the war. Dr. Mueller, one of the German delegates retorted, defended the course of the Germans. For a while, it seemed as if the meeting would break up into a row, but after the meetings have broken up in jangling, discord and fruitless wrangling, an understanding was reached of who started the war.

The note of discord was quelled however, by the calm, clear, cool head of Karl Kautsky, who made a bitter attack upon those of the delegates who supported the Kaiser in the ignoble war. This action cleared the air.

Emile Vandervelde, the brilliant leader of the Socialist party, at the head of the Left cabinet at the outbreak of the war was one of the foremost advocates that President Wilson had expressed a desire that this bill should be passed, and he said it was almost to a man voted for it.

JOSEPH ABAHAM L. L. GOLDENSLAM

By William Morris Faigenbaum

ABRAM L. GOLDENSLAM

Our Cause Spreads Over Land and Sea

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абы, who said he would refuse to meet the Germans. But his actions at Berne, stern and unfriendly, made it clear that the Socialist and labor world is rapidly coming to see that the working class can no more fight each other — not against each other. He met them and carefully discussed the situation with them. Frank Bohn, an American, attempted to address the Congress but the chairman, in the hope of preserving the conference, refused to do so. The Congress, however, in rejecting him, has shown that the Socialist leaders are interested, not in the opinions of individuals, that to them the interests of the Socialist party of America be represented than individuals. No matter how right they may be to come and make speeches. The delegates who agreed fully with Bohn's views, were emphatic in rejecting him as were those who differed with him.

It is becoming apparent, that the Berne congress is but the beginning of a conflict that will result in the rebuilding and the re-integration of the international labor movement.

The Spartacus group of Germany was represented at Berne, while some of the most powerful of the revolutionaries in the country was there.

The chairman of the Congress was Hajnal Branting of Sweden, one of the most prominent of the European labor leaders, the temper of the Congress was conservative. Its work seems to have been the striking of the first blow for the rebuilding of the International union of the workers so urgently needed now.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt refused to join with the workers from other lands. He will not come, he alleged, because many of the Europeans are beginning to wonder if he knows that the war is over yet. It is probably the case that the Congress is a "German plot."

While the congress has been in session the International Assembly has been meeting in the historic old city of Berne. They decided to form a Spartacus-Bund to prevent the holding of the congress failed. Some 357 delegates are working collectively. The congress found a new place.

Emilie Ebert, the chancellor opened the discussion with a speech in which he declared positively, that the old order was dead, and it would not come back in any form. Amid great enthusiasm, he welcomed Austria into the German Republic. The Congress as the Assembly saw the election of Dr. Eduard David, a moderate Socialist as president.

The Ebert ministry seems to have a good record of government beforehand to be presented to the Assembly. The Assembly went to the election, up it will accept without much change, and debate.

Whatever the future of Germany, it will most certainly be a Republic, of one form or another. Meanwhile, the Spartacists, defeated in their attempt to prevent the holding of the Assembly, have been active in one city after another. In Bremen, Hamburg, and other sections, the members of this party have been setting power, compelling it for white, and then relinquishing it.

The great strikes in Great Britain, have come to an end. There is a development that has hitherto been unheard of, the "shop stewards system." The "shop stewards" is the English expression for what we call shop chairmen. These chief chairmen of the trade unions have been building up the organization of the workers from within the factories, and through controlling the control of the shops for the workers directly through the shop stewards. It is to be realized that the strikes that are still gripping the United States are, pretty much in the sense that they are not so much for the winning of a living, but as a step towards the final socialization of the industries of the country for the workers.

The Russian situation has been an international question again. The invitation of the Peace Congress to the Russian delegates to meet the islands to discuss all matter relating to Russia has been accepted by the Russian government. The United States has designated William Allen White and George William Curtis as delegates to the conference. The Soviet government has not yet selected delegates.

White is a liberal journalist from Kansas, while Herring is a New York Socialist who has experienced much discrimination. He is the founder of the Rand School (named after his late wife, Ida Tarbell, who left America because of the savage persecution visited upon him because he was the better half of Ida and married another which is not altogether an unusual occurrence in this country. The journalist Jackals called him a "freelover," and a "conspiring with the enemy." He has called out the country for it. Herring has become one of the greatest labor leaders recently, and he seems to have given up his former internationalism. These men at least represent the workers of the Bolsheviki party, and work out some sort of agreement on the subject of international relations. This means that the Soviet Government will be won of the world, is recognized.

The situation is very interesting and will be followed with interest. It is an interesting fact that the workers have not been able to make the workers of the world responsive. The labor movement of America has been built on the back of the workers who have died for the freedom of black slaves.

Lincoln did not think that the negroes would be free. Neither did the slaves think that black slaves would tolerate so much white slavery.

What would be said today to the negro, who is always in the forefront of the fight, that he is a slave? He is starved, tortured and killed under worse slavery conditions than existed in the days of Lincoln?

What would be said today if he saw in the factories, mines and on the plantations (as outlined on page 8)
JUSTICE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTE BOOK

MORE ABOUT THE STUPIDITY OF THE ASSOCIATION BOSSES

One of our readers who, for reasons best known to himself, did not consider it wise to give his correct name, writes us the following:

"It occurs to me that you were very wrong in what you said in your issue of January 25th about the omnipotent stupidity of the association bosses. You wish to prove merely that some of their actions were contrary to what you think that if they had been the efficient, stupid men you picture them as being, they would have been able to conduct such efficient, splendid businesses? Granted that a few of them are comparatively wise men, I cannot say this about all of them. Just because you are too easy-hearted and too ready to believe what you are told makes me wonder whether you would not have judged more wisely had you not been taken in. In the case of one who had been wrongly slandered, of a martyr? I must say that I should like to see how you would have forgiven if I had actually made a statement for which I had not very good grounds. And I shall, therefore, here repeat the facts which have been so many times confirmed. These show plainly that the bosses are far, far from being truly efficient businessmen who understand their own interests.

Number one — The boss, the employer, has a great desire to keep his employees, as much as possible—the desire to get the maximum for his money. In order to be successful as an exploiter, he must understand how to manipulate his employees. He must understand, for instance, that he cannot bring back the old time union. If the workers were the property of the slave-owner, he must take the means to control his property. He must know how far advanced we are. He must know that there are certain things which may be desirably achieved, but which he cannot ever again get. All these things a worker should keep in mind. He meets his employer half way; he understands that the time has gone by when one can be unreasonably obstinate.

Have the association bosses done this? The answer of every unbiassed person to this question must be decidedly "no." Because what is there in the demands of the workers about which a man with the least bit of common sense will say that that is not reasonable? The workers have asked for and are still demanding, a 44-hour week instead of a 56-hour week, as was the rule up till now. Is this an impossible demand? Why by the very nature of things, by the very-growing division of labor, the work is being turned over to the machine. The machine must tell us, say, was the case a few years ago. Everybody knows that the production of the association bosses is due not only to the exceeding of labor in any way, you, unwillingly, do the bosses a good turn.

Intelligent people would soon realize how well-founded is this demand. And yet when the association bosses heard of it, they raised an outcry. Just as though their factories were taken from them, they would have the same privilege of one who has been wrongly slandered, of a martyr? I must say that I should like to see how you would have forgiven if I had actually made a statement for which I had not very good grounds. And I shall, therefore, here repeat the facts which have been so many times confirmed. These show plainly that the bosses are far, far from being truly efficient businessmen who understand their own interests.

Number two. Every sensible man understands that once the workers have gained some power, the bosses will hold fast to this gain and fight with all his power against any attacks on the same. Just as the new invention. Because it is in the nature of man to progress, not to go back, and many a man who thinks that he can shove the worker back to the condition which he held up five years ago—back from the position he has won for himself, that great gain seems to be very clear. And yet the association bosses desired nothing less than to have the workers return to conditions of six years ago. Surely, and until they won for themselves the privilege of not being discharged without cause, and if the bosses have to stifle in their hearts this noble desire, and subdue themselves, they must all return to conditions of six years ago and they think that they can succeed in the same way.

Of course everyone knows that behind this desire to have the worker back to six years ago, there lies hidden the still stronger desire to smash the union. The union is, after all, the only union which a small union can have no power if it is not able to defend the rights of its members. To the boss the question is it is not the height of idiocy to think that the Ladies' Waist Workers' Union can be broken? And is this what the bosses intend to do? Is it then an exaggerated idea that the bosses are great, blooming idiots?

Number three. In the fight between the employers and the manufacturers, it is not only the two parties in the struggle who are interested in it. There is a third party—the great public. It is there that the employers and manufacturers are concerned to try to win the sympathy and the good will of this third party. The workers, although feeling themselves strong because of their numbers, have no knowledge of the justice of their demands, nevertheless, from the very first instant, out of the dullest worker could get a true conception of their side of the issue and fight for it. In every one of the meetings very beginning they stated that they were willing to put up the whole affair in the hands of an impartial judge and let him arbitrate.

Then consider another thing. According to a statement made by one of the workers, 'Times of last Sunday, the wages paid to the garment or wait staff, constitute only fifteen per cent of the price of the garment. Therefore, an increase of one half of fifteen per cent would raise the price of the waist only a very insignificant amount. Let us take for example: The price of a waist, let us say, is one dollar, and for this the worker demands gettacents and the remanuing eighty-five cents is spent for material and other things. Therefore, fifty cents, which is the profit which goes to the boss. When the worker demands fifteen per cent of the wage, this means that instead of fifteen cents he will receive several dollars and the balance, which is all. The worker will receive two cents more for making a one dollar waist and the employer receives one dollar. Is such a great demand? Can a truly paid union organizer be found who will not, of itself, to call forth a strike because of this and lose so many hundreds of dollars.

Number two. Every sensible man understands that once the workers have gained some power, the bosses will hold fast to this gain and fight with all his power against any attacks on the same. Just as the new invention. Because it is in the nature of man to progress, not to go back, and many a man who thinks that he can shove the worker back to the condition which he held up five years ago—back from the position he has won for himself, that great gain seems to be very clear. And yet the association bosses desired nothing less than to have the workers return to conditions of six years ago. Surely, and until they won for themselves the privilege of not being discharged without cause, and if the bosses have to stifle in their hearts this noble desire, and subdue themselves, they must all return to conditions of six years ago and they think that they can succeed in the same way.

Of course everyone knows that behind this desire to have the worker back to six years ago, there lies hidden the still stronger desire to smash the union. The union is, after all, the only union which a small union can have no power if it is not able to defend the rights of its members. To the boss the question is it is not the height of idiocy to think that the Ladies' Waist Workers' Union can be broken? And is this what the bosses intend to do? Is it then an exaggerated idea that the bosses are great, blooming idiots?

Number three. In the fight between the employers and the manufacturers, it is not only the two parties in the struggle who are interested in it. There is a third party—the great public. It is there that the employers and manufacturers are concerned to try to win the sympathy and the good will of this third party. The workers, although feeling themselves strong because of their numbers, have no knowledge of the justice of their demands, nevertheless, from the very first instant, out of the dullest worker could get a true conception of their side of the issue and fight for it. In every one of the meetings very beginning they stated that they were willing to put up the whole affair in the hands of an impartial judge and let him arbitrate.

A WORD ABOUT WEEK-WORK WORKERS

Somewhere in this issue the reader will find a report about the meeting of all shop stewards in the Ladies' Waist Workers' Union, at Cooper Union, last Thursday, which was, in truth, a sort of real inspiration for all those who were present. The very fact that the great hall was filled to overflowing and the speeches well for the great, truly wonderful strength of the Clothing Workers' Union. At the meeting the first mention was made about the resolution which was passed at the last convention for the Yiddish in their industry, that is, the substituting of week work for piece work.

Such has been said and will be said about the need for this resolution. The resolution contains an article by Mr. Sigman, manager of the Joint Board of
DEMOBILIZATION AND THE WORKERS
By M. Koltchin

Four years ago when England began to think of not continuing her en-
gaged military service, the govern-
ment of that country also began to
give the working classes the idea of a future demobilization. Special commissions and committees were formed which, in their latter
committes were of the opinion that they were the usual "fake" commissions and that later they applied themselves energetically to the problems. And, indeed, the English government had already worked out a plan of demobiliza-
tion. It was such a plan that this plan was or whether the workers, especially the old and new workers, are in keeping with it. The fact is that a plan had been worked out.

I am told for a moment that the English government is more liberal or that the English government is more efficient than ours. We have seen that in the USA the English government accomplished more in the field of demobilization than the English in three. And the reason why the English government accomplishes more is because America is richer than she was before — better, would be a way of speaking. The English government, on the other hand, is not a jaundiced and is a way of speaking. The English government on the other hand, is not a.u.a.p.a.n.de. and is, in general, more fresh — but because America represents itself in one big business firm with many earnest businessmen. Every business or firm does the following when awarding 'America opens or is about to lose a market. If the event is a trifling one, a great deal is made of it, and the business amuses themselves — they do not take it seriously, as at the English government does.

The English have always known that the English government is a business firm, and that the business firms in England — from the time they are tired of something and everything is done with all the energy called for by the affa-

This is why America is in the short time of a year and a half the thing that engine force and built up such a mighty military machine. And if the war is over, then Germany has been trolled in the En

But if the thing means "busi-

ness," is something real serious, then it is regarded a sin of the English are done, and everything is done with all the energy called for by the affa-

The Clackmakers. Union in which a few points are made clear and in such a manner that nothing can be said against them. Other articles will appear making clear other points. The main point of all is that the piece work system does not allow the workers in the shop to be really good union men. In-

stead of there being a spirit of solidarity in the shop, an essen-
tial for good union men, there is a spirit among the workers a spirit of competition.

It is to be wondered at that this state of affairs could have existed for such a long time without the workers discovering it. If the leaders of the union and the observant observers did not notice the situation, it would have been very little to help matters. The piece work system is a chronic disease of the working class and most of the workers, up to a very short time ago, believed that this is the best way to do with the workers and the workers had little to do with them. Labor in America, remained silent, and the problem of demobiliza-
tion was none of its affairs. The official labor leaders not only did not wish to hear anything about reconstruction or demobilization, but what the official labor leaders had a good excuse, or at least they thought they had a good excuse, for that was the government's business. But they kept on saying that there was no plan of demobilization and not of demobiliza-

tion; now they could nothing to point out. All that is left is the only problem to be consider-
ed was war.

And the English government, too, bothered very little about these matters and one cannot blame them, for they were not thinking of their own condition; if the labor leaders bothered little about demobiliza-
tion, then why should the govern-

ment occupy itself with these

matters? If so many other affairs to be con-

sidered? No plan was worked out and nothing was done.

Of course there are plans, many plans, individual as well as governmental. For example, the fact that we have so many plans and that we make use of all of them. Then there is the fact that there is no one who is worse than they would be if we had no plans at all. We go from one plan to another of all at the same time, or de-
mobilize without any plan at all. And now we are asking for a definite plan, no well worked-out plan.

At the end of the war Amer-

ica had an army of four million men. About one million of these men were in Europe and two million in the camps. To this number must be added those who worked at peace,

For the time being there are the same number of peo-

ple in the armed forces as there were before the war, but how many of these were, how great was their number, and how many of them estimates begin with three mil-

lion and reach to five million. It is estimated that in two years, out of four million soldiers, we have also an army of four million war workers who have been made en-

sured — eight million people. And we must also bear in mind that the majority of these workers in the industries were formerly workers and that the majority of the soldiers are returning to peacetime work. It is impossible to understand this fact, but even before the war, some of which kept on with their work in the time they have now enough work. The workers must find work, and there is no work; there can be no work in such a state of affairs. The big industries must shut down, when capital is withdrawn from them, it means the closing of the mills and the shutting of to other fields of invent-

You know very well that the problem is a great one, and it cannot be solved under the conditions in our present state of society. Still more — even a better, more nor-

male and more organized societ-

y could not solve these prob-
lems very speedily. But the pro-
cess of demobilization can be carried on so that the workers' living conditions will be kept. As a little as possible because of the fact, or it can be done in such a way that the country will suffer, and cause a wave of unemployment to sweep over the country, so that these things will happen. The employers should therefore have a plan ready to carry out a plan of demobilization as the government would have to take care of the government's ac-

count. But the workers had no plan.

And what are the results? From all sides come reports about a swelling army of unem-

ployed workers. The workers leaders who didn't wish to hear anything about plans for demobilization are now in a very uncomfortable position. Employment. Three hundred thousand, four hundred thousand, five hundred thou-

sand — shouts President, Mr. Morri-

son, general secretary of the A. F. of L. And the number is in-
creasing. Each day tens of thousands of soldiers are being demobilized, and every single soldier has already been discharged, and eight hun-

dred thousand a week will go home this month. Each day ships filled with soldiers arrive from the camps, and thousands of them find a hiding place in the nearest city, but that is not enough. Of course the govern-

ment is looking for jobs for soldiers, the big employers promise jobs, and the government has promised every soldier his pay as long as he will remain idle, but still they are not enough. Now, without work, they put all workers in danger. Labor conditions grow worse steadily. It is needless to tell here of the left's way that the talk among the army of unemployed has upon the condition of all workers. When the army is discharged the door stand thousands of hun-

gry ones who are willing to work any number of hours for any kind of wages, and under any labor conditions as long as they stayed in the army. These employed workers cannot think of shorter work days, higher wages, better working conditions.

Owing to the approach of a great crisis, a great crisis, unemployment, hunger and suf-

fering. And to certain extent the workers, the workers to blame for this, especially the offi-
cial labor leaders who refused to prepare for this crisis.

Cleveland, February 12th — On Monday evening, the 10th of February, there was held here a mass meeting of the members of the Cleveland CIO central, and it was decided that a tax for a general strike fund should be imposed on every member of the union. Every man will pay five dollars and every woman three dollars. All promised to pay this tax within the next five weeks.

M. PERLSTEIN.
The Conquest of Leisure

By Juliet Stuart Poyntz

No right is more precious to the working woman than the "right to leisure," which means the freedom from the control of work for the limitation of hours that is sweeping over trades employed in the trade in which a large number of women will bring to the working woman the great boon of time to rest and to play, time to be human.

The sweeping reductions of five or six hours a week have been demanded and won in the textile industry and the clothing trade men a Labour Movement which is bound to be onward that the woman's labour movement has taken in recent years.

The ten thousand watchmakers who are marching back to their jobs after two weeks strike with a permanent conquest of five hours a week do not realize perhaps with what great efforts they are won today as compared with the efforts of struggle and suffering that were required to start the movement for shorter hours.

Sir Robert Peel, the great statesman, faced with a great depression following a war period just as at present the depression of the depression over hours of work was first born. It was immediately after the Napoleonic War that the "Four Day Week" came into being. Following the German Socialist, made the extraordinary discovery that it was not necessary to work more hours a week than the children of seven years old sixteen hours a day in order to make a contribution to the working class of factories. A servant, professor, for the type existed even in the early 18th century. The whole profit of the manufacturer was made in the last hour of the day. Yet only when these were reduced there would be no profit from the business. The profession had his way until the shameful conditions of employment for women and children forced the first legislation for the normal working day in 1832, and wonderful to relate, the fifteen hours law was made by law.

Think of it, privileged workers of a better day! This great gift of leisure was only given to the women in the cotton mills the opportunity of working only from half past eight in the morning till past eight in the evening, with short periods allowed for meals. Even these humane conditions were lacking in the dressmaking trade.

In one account of "seamstress slavery" we read, "The young slaves are worked in garages in 11-ventilated rooms. Their occupation is to sew from morning till night, and from night till morning. The pause, without speech, without a smile, without a sigh. In the great majority of their lives, they are never at work. From six in the morning until nine at night it is strictly forbidden to interrupt their work; and if by any chance they are interrupted, they are paid with the scolding of the foreman. The needles are then set in motion once more until one, two, three o'clock in the morning. Stitch, stitch, stitch. Even during their meals their needles are never out of their hands. In sleeping pens, ten in a room large enough for two. The seamstress is never allowed to save her strength, to doubt, but what awaits them on the other side of the door? -starvation, starvation and finally, not, prostitution and its consequences." In the same book, "The White Slaves of England," Richard Corden gives instances of dressmakers who had gone blind from sitting too long. "Some lost their sight in eighteen hours a day and sometimes more, another who had run up an operation at night and worked ten hours and nights with only an hour or two of rest occasionally, while one had worked for the whole day without an interval, and during the season often 30 hours.

It is well for us to reflect upon conditions such as these, showing us where we would be today if we were not for the organisation of the working people in the exerting itself to secure better conditions through organisation. For the Ten Hour Act of 1847 in England secured the first real victory in the struggle for shorter hours was fought with great bitterness for twenty years.

And when it was finally made a law that no woman should work for more than ten hours a day in a garment shop, the first important step was taken along the road to the forty-hour work week and the forty hour week of the near future, and the thirty hour week which was to come in the earlier days the effort for shorter hours was made almost entirely because trade unions were not yet strongly developed, and there was no trade union to do this work of justice urgent, if the strength and future of the working class was not to be broken. The fight has always been a very strong argument for the legal protection of the helpless, the weak. The selfless fight.

Even the most selfish employers were forced to admit that the overwork of the prospective mothers of the race was a serious menace to the health of the next generation. The resolutions of the Factories Commission from the earliest days of the movement, in the last decades, in working class districts were dying like flies because of overwork and the injury to public health and the exhaustion of the mothers. And so women who were more educated were more likely to be the victims of the machine system, and women who were given some legal protection from the most extreme exploitation of the employer.

Working men have had to work out their own salvation in the matter of hours. The good old fashioned policy of "let-it-be" in which the ruling classes proceeded held that government could not interfere in the matter of hours of work between worker and employer. Only weaklings, women and children were left to the mercy of the state, small as it was. Strange enough there were some working class women that Regulations who protested against the protective legislation of the working men that they were forced to work with their freedom to work! Naturally these fierce de
demands were made by the class women, and unfortunately they were unable to carry their demand to the manufacturing industries where men and women were employed together. The women could not count on the shorter hours of the women, since it did not pay to keep the machinery running for only part of the workers."

The progress of trade union movement has brought greater influence in reducing the hours than did legislative action.

As women have learned the lesson of organisation, they too have profited by direct action. In the case of New York for example, while the law still allows unorganized women to work forty-four hours, a work committee of the organized women of the needle trades have for several years made their own trade union law which now provides for only forty-four hours. Ten years more of the same struggle is necessary in order to make shorter hours the standard of the industry that comes with greater leisure. How many of us for instance are aware of the forty-eight hour week in the labor movement that are spent every Saturday afternoon that were wrested from the bosses with such difficulty? The groups that are working every Sunday afternoon in our Unity Centers are making their time for dealing with their educational development, and those who are spending their hours at the Labor movement is providing for its members in ever increasing measure are winning their shorter hours twice, first when they took them from the employer, and secondly when they learned to use them for themselves.

The labor movement should teach the people the pleasant task of organizing leisure for the workers just as fast as they get their leisure. The wider extension of our already thriving educational movement is an important step towards organizing the workers in their own organizations. The workingman, the teacher, the priest, the doctor, the lawyer, the so-called professional men, the general public are all concerned in the solution of the problem of the conquest and use of leisure. And all of these should be undertaken by the workers themselves through their own organizations, so that they may breathe the life of the people and form a vital expression of their needs and aspirations.

The Testing

God mixed in man the rapture the tears and the fears And scattered them in his brain the stary stuff He said, "Behold! Yet this is not enough. For I must test his spirit to make sure That he was created to endure.

With the image of death He will withdraw the lifeless, Veil Me in shadow for a certain space, And leave Me only a broken clue, A crevice where the glory glim Some whisper from the sky Some footprint in the road to track Me by.

I will withdraw My face, I will withdraw My face, I will withdraw My face, I will withdraw My face. I will withdraw My face, I will withdraw My face, I will withdraw My face. I will withdraw My face.

I will leave man to make the choice. Will lie leave him torn between the no and yes? Leave him unrighteously left to choose.

I will draw upward by the choice that makes him free. Leave him the moral loneliness to choose With all in life to win or all to lose."

Edwin Markham.
New Life in Montreal:

During the past two years the Montreal raincoat industry has had a hard road to travel. The outcome of the strike last winter may be regarded as a great extent and put the organizer on the down grade. The Woolen Workers’ Union, a local of the International, has had a hard road to travel. The outcome of the strike of 1917 was a disastrous one for the organization. The number of its members decreased from 5,000 to 1,000. The union’s finances were in a parlous state, and the local was in danger of being disbanded. However, a new spirit has been gathered in the local, and a new organization is being formed. The Woolen Workers’ Union has decided to merge with the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, and the new organization will be known as the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union of Montreal.

The International is sending every assistance to the organizer, and the meetings are being conducted in Montreal. During December, 1917, Elmer Rossen, a unit of the International, spent a week in Montreal on behalf of the General Office and addressed the workers. The brother Joseph Schubert, the indefatigable secretary of the Montreal local, is making every effort to organize the workers.

The International will send out a new organizer, who will be instructed to work closely with the local organizer, and to make the meetings as successful as possible. A new spirit is gathering in the local, and the organization is on the up grade.

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Word For Word
Conventions, Mass Meetings, etc.
REPORTED
Notary Public, Translations, Multigraphing, Addressing, Mimeographing, Public Penmanship, etc.

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN
(Concluded from page 3.)
and kills the large numbers of children who are tortured and robbed of life even before they begin to live.
The work which Lincoln did is only a beginning; the greater part remains still to be done.
Who will sign the proclamation which will make it a crime to use for profits the bodies, the health and the strength and future of a child?
What man, what party, will rise above all the others, without having in mind any benefits or profits, and free the children from the factories, and will not permit such terrible slavery and atrocities?
When Lincoln wanted to free the blacks, his opponents told him that this would ruin business and lessen profits.  And when today one talks about improving the conditions of the worker, one hears again the same answers: business will suffer, profits will fall, goods will cost more.
How sad it is that when one wishes to better the condition of human beings the only thing that stands in the way is profit and money.
Great was Lincoln who fought for justice and who liberated the black slaves.
So great will be the man, and let us hope that he has already been born, who will do for the poor children, for the tired women, for the great army that works without hope and without a future, what Lincoln did for the black slaves of his day.

TO ALL LABOR UNIONS, WORKINGMEN AND WOMEN!

A SPLENDID CHANCE TO BUILD THE FUTURE LABOR MOVEMENT . . . TO EDUCATE THE YOUNG TO THE MEANING OF SOLIDARITY . . . SO THAT "SCAB" —

WILL BE THE MOST HATED WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE EDUCATIONAL DRIVE!

2,500 WILL START IT!

Delegates, BRING THIS TO THE
Organizers, ATTENTION OF YOUR
Secretaries, EXECUTIVE AND LOCAL
Members.

Make all checks and money orders payable to Robert Spector,
Co-Socialist Party, Room 508, 7 E. 18th St.

Act quickly — Give as much as you can — Money means Education. — Education builds our Movement.

CUTTERS

All members of Local 10 employed in trades not on strike, or in settled shops, are urged to pay their Work Tax of $3 per week beginning February 3, 1919, and for the duration of the General Dress and Waist Strike. This decision was passed at the Special General Meeting held on February 1, 1919.

SAM B. SHENKER.
Secretary. HARRY BERLIN,
President.

TENTH LOCAL NO. 10
I. L. G. W. U.

ANNUAL MEETING

on Saturday Evening, March 8th, 1919

at PALM GARDEN
58th Street, Between Lexington and Third Avenues

Musical by Prof. Schiller's Jazz Band.

Tickets, 50 Cents.