The Ladies' Garment Worker, Volume 1, Issue 5

Description
First published in April 1910, *The Ladies' Garment Worker* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) through 1918. The journal appeared monthly and included sections in English, Italian, and Yiddish. *The Ladies’ Garment Worker* was discontinued at the end of 1918 and replaced in January of 1919 by the new weekly journal of the ILGWU, *Justice*.

Keywords
International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, The Ladies’ Garment Worker, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States, English, Italian, Yiddish, Jewish

Publisher
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU)
Owing to our staff having been busy on the various Committees of the General Strike, our August number had to be postponed and is unavoidably late.

HOW THE CLOAK MAKERS OF NEW YORK CELEBRATED THE 4th OF JULY.
THE TRADE UNION AS A BUSINESS UNDERTAKING.

The trade union is a natural institution. He is a merchant. He sells a commodity. It is his labor power. A swarm of others are in the same or similar trades. If all are offering to sell their labor power for more than the lowest wage, it is not to their advantage to sell it that low. That is true of all the laborers taken together; it is in general true of the wage-earners of each trade.

The over-supply of labor power in the market is not recognized as a fact by many of those who sell it. A laborer is in the same position as an employer. He only needs to wait until he finds one that has no ability or willingness to buy his labor power. Then he must fill its satisfaction to the employer.

Wage-workers in the course of their experience, however, have reason to learn how hard it is to find a permanent job that pays wages which will enable a man to live in decency and comfort. Even when they are skilled and capable, the fact that their wages tend downward, owing to one present circumstance beyond their control individually. This circumstance is the current of the general trade, which is easy to one willing to take their places at a lower rate of wages. It is this desire of choice (or woman) to take another's place that is the manifestation of the over-supply of labor.

Employers are a class desirous to keep up this over-supply. They try to manage their affairs in various ways. They discourage the attempts of laborers even to prove the fact of the over-supply of labor.

The wage-worker, when discouraged in his efforts to find the good, highly-paid, surely permanent situation awaiting him, reaches the conclusion that he has been the victim of a delusion. The conditions in America to-day, in all wage-working occupations, and especially in the unskilled, are by no means so far as to guarantee all the steady wages they were accustomed to. It is the employer's business to keep their rates down at the lowest. However, they ask themselves what they are going to do. They may accept the principles embodied in the workman as an employer, and thereby earn a daily wage at a lower rate of wages. The employer may accept the principles embodied in the workman as an employer, and thereby earn a daily wage at a lower rate of wages.

We advocate of trade unionism are qualified by the proven events of the past fifty years to assure the wage-workers that unionism is, first of all, a practical method for self-help immediately. Further, it embodies other forms of assistance. It brings men together for discussion and action; it unites them; it teaches them collective thrift and management; it leads to several distinct branches of mutual aid; it makes itself a force in the community; it is always separated from those who are overshadowed; it enables them to influence the laws protecting women and children; in its newspapers and in its meetings it affords means of discussing social problems.

The economic formula by which a union works is simplicity itself. It has been described thousands of times, but is no less true now than in the earlier years. Given a hundred and ten competing wage-workers to a hundred situations, and the surplus ten competing, the employers may play them off against one another as they offer their commodity, labor, in the market.

The trade-union is a natural institution. He is a merchant. He sells a commodity. It is his labor power. A swarm of others are in the same or similar trades. If all are offering to sell their labor power for more than the lowest wage, it is not to their advantage to sell it that low. That is true of all the laborers taken together; it is in general true of the wage-earners of each trade.

The trade union is the best instrument of the wage-working class which is ready to hand. It has brought good results. It is as practicable as ever. There is no good reason why it should not stand in the way of other means of uplifting the masses.

J. W. SULLIVAN.

REDUcing LABOR COST.

In an article in the Saturday Evening Post Mr. James H. Collins points out a condition which has been the subject of In Germany and England. The article contains much food for thought. We quote from it below:

A great field in which labor cost can be reduced is in a manner which both employers and employees will be found in better arrangement of working hours. Within a generation it will become a common practice to alternate days of work. In the factory an averaging of occupations in the average industrial plant, instead of one shift working over-time five nights a week, which is large by the present method.

The other day an impatient essayist, sighing for the good old times that probably never were, made the general assertion that every labor-saving contrivance developed by man the past century, such as the railway, the typewriter, and typewriting, had really made man's labor easier. In the end he found himself engaged in the task of proving that the factory was times the effort required to light the ten-hour day. That is true of all the American plants.

This general trend toward shorter hours has a problem that unions must be prepared to meet. It may accept the principles embodied in the workman as an employer, and thereby earn a daily wage at a lower rate of wages.
THE FIGHT FOR THE UNION.

The shoemakers' brave fight has reached the second stage. It is now not merely a fight for better conditions, but a determined stand for the recognition of the union. This alone can insure the permanence of any concessions wrong from the employers.

At the recent conference the manufacturers' representatives would, very possibly, have come to terms upon the question of wages, hours and other demands. Such concessions would leave them very much in their old position. They could easily make the continuing public pay over and beyond many additional dollars which higher wages and shorter hours would cost them.

But to recognize the union would mean giving these concessions a lasting character. It would mean giving the union the right to watch with these new gains remain intact and inviolate. It would mean that the union would acquire the power to enforce its continuance; and would clearly mean that the bosses would be deprived of the power he willed to mould his employees at will, to dictate their wages and their hours and thus virtually control their very lives.

Hence, the wide world over, capitalists, trusts and bosses fight so bitterly against the recognition of the union. For more than a century they have been in the habit of keeping numbers and masses of workers in subjection, bodily and morally. Backed by courts and judges and fortified by the laws of their own making; supported by priests and by that section of society which derives its power and influence from Labor's toil, they have amassed a sort of divine right over their helpless "hands" and are naturally both to give it up.

The individualism of the nineteenth century has fostered and tacitly sanctioned this anti-social fight against the following disquieting: "individual liberty," "freedom of contract," "sacredness of property." Such were the high-sounding phrases with which the possessing classes and their paid supporters have covered a multitude of sins oppression and tyranny practised against the helpless laborer.

But those times, the dark ages of labor have gone, never to return. Progress has been gradual and slow but sure. We are now, in the twentieth century, at a time when organization has become the watchword of all parties and all sections of the community. It is the one word which makes for progress all round. All human agencies throughout the civilized world have adopted and are striving to attain it in a more perfect form every year. Without organization there can be no success and no progress.

Even more so has organization become the hope, nay, the salvation of the working class—their sole weapon and only source of protection against the immoderate, wealth-amassing appetite of the employing class. The rich may help themselves with money, but the poor have nothing but their labor force and the power afforded them by joining with their fellows in a strong and effective organization.

While the benefits of organization have been generally recognized in every sphere of life; while in national and international commerce, industry, scientific research, education and government the cry has ever been organization and efficiency, organization as a right and privilege has been only sparingly conceded to the toiling wealth producers.

Again and again has this right been curtailed and taken away by all manner of legal guilds; their leaders and organizers have been persecuted and imprisoned under conspiracy laws and restrained by injunctions from carrying out what may be called a law of human society in an age of competition.

Within the shop and the factory of whatever trade, organization is strongly insisted on, and the employer will grudge no expense to attain it in a high degree. This is because he feels that the employer organized for the purpose of production the bigger his profits.

When, however, the employees combine with their fellows in the trade, in order to secure their due share of the wealth produced, and to maintain and defend their rights, the employers use every means, fair or foul, to prevent, to hinder and destroy the trade union.

Yet, Trade Unionism has conceived and survived all its traduced and persecutors. It has become a national institution and a power to be reckoned with. Not a year passes without registering an increase in its numbers and an extension of its influence. At every strike public opinion is seen to range itself more and more on its side. It has won all along the line. It has been steadily advancing and hardly receding. Just as its present influence is greater than its past so will its future influence be greater than its present.

Therefore, for employers and trusts to raise the cry of non-recognition; for cloak manufacturers to say that they will not recognize the union, is as though to say that they do not recognize the advancing tide or the coming of tomorrow. The plea is fast becoming obsolete and will soon appear extremely foolish. Teh sooner it is discarded the better it will be for all parties concerned.

Properly considered the union shop may become far more beneficial even to employers than the open shop. This will be borne out by the large number of employers who have introduced it. The union shop is capable of producing harmony and discipline, thereby accelerating production. In the open shop friction and ill-will between one employee and another must constantly arise, thereby impeding production.

The employer who is jealous of the influence of the union, using the open shop as a means of weakening its power, only succeeds in fostering strife and hostility, which ultimately injure his own interests. In reality he is but an intense egotist who cannot endure the idea of giving up his undue domination over his employees.

The great progress of Trade Unionism is due to the fact that in this democratic country the more the people are becoming enlightened the less they will stand any kind of domination, whether political or economic.

A. ROSECRANS.

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES.

Poor factory inspection and its relation to an increase in occupational diseases in the United States was recently discussed by F. S. Hoffman, statistician for the Prudential Life Insurance Company, before Cornell students. He thought the tendency in the United States toward occupational diseases was on the increase.

"We find," said he, "the proportion of the persons employed indoors is on the increase, and the proportion of those employed in the open is on the decrease. If we do not take the precautions to reproduce the conditions in Europe we must take time by the forelock and see that the danger is understood by the public, by the employee, and the State. Where facts are studied it is possible to bring these dangerous causes under absolute control. But any such programme requires trained minds.

"The average factory inspection is done by men who have not sufficient training, and who have not studied the trade they are inspecting, but seek the idea that anything could be gained by it. In Europe the inspecting is done by highly trained men. In Germany, where prevention of occupational diseases is so very important, the causes of diseases and the methods by which they may be prevented are studied closely. In this country there has not been a single treatise written upon the subject.

"But we are beginning to wake up. Massachusetts published a report on the unsanitary conditions of the factories of that State, and New York has made reforms, although as yet they are only crude ones.

"Wherever there is a great deal of ill-health there is also a great deal of dust. Dust is the most injurious of all. If you will look into the work of the steel grinder you will find that in this country the wheels turn so that the steel and stone fly directly into the air and thus get into the atmosphere. In Europe the danger of this was seen and the wheel reversed, so that the dust goes to the ground.

NEEDED LEGISLATION.

Women.*

The Brandeis Brief.

Mr. Louis D. Brandeis, the distinguished Boston lawyer, who, as is well known, has given his services to the State of Illinois in defence of the ten-hour law, has filed his brief with the Supreme Court at Springfield. Along with his own he bears the name of Miss Josephine Goldmark, who has collected most of the material. The legal points are not dwelt upon at any length, nearly the whole of the volume, which contains 250,000 words, being devoted to evidence and illustration gathered from all over the world as to the injurious effects of long hours upon the health of women. The brief, which is one of the most remarkable legal documents ever put forth, and certainly most interesting reading, is to be published by the Russell Sage Foundation, which has borne the necessary expenses involved in its preparation.

*Note—This book should help on the agitation for the eight-hour day for both men and women.
Why the Conference Failed?
MEYER LONDON EXPLAINS.

Mr. JULIUS HENRY COHEN,
Attorney for the Cloak, Suit &
Skirt Manufacturers' Protective
Association.

Dear Sir:

It has been impossible to submit
your proposition to the organization
because of the limitation of time
you have imposed.

I cannot recommend the submitting
of the question of wages and
hours to arbitration. Any reduction
of wages or lengthening of
hours would necessarily affect
those who have already returned
to work on union conditions, and
there are about 18,000 of them.

Should we consent to a reduction
of wages without creating a new
classification in respect to skill, the
members of your Association would
be enabled to engage in unfair com-
petition with those who have al-
ready signed the union agreement.

In order to prevent such unfair
competition it would be necessary
to lower the wages of those who
have already returned to work
under union conditions, and
therefore the basis of a settlement
of the strike.

Unless my suggestions meet
with your approval I fear that the
submitting of your proposition to
the organization will be a mere matter
of form.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) MYER LONDON,
Attorney for the Cloak & Skirt
Makers' Union.

THE NEW MOTHER
(Prize Song by E. Block)

The nations have been toiling
in a steep and rugged road,
Resting not by stream and mountain,
besting the heavy load.
Gazing toward the coming Jordan
from the anguish of the good.
For the hope has led them on
labor, famine, war.

Glory, glory, halleluiah!
Glory, glory, halleluiah!
Glory, glory, halleluiah!
For the hope has led them on.

In the western strong republic,
der the skies pierced through and through
With a light of noble foresight, life be
composed more rich and true.
And a mightier strength is given in the
hands that strive and do.
While the hope still leads them on.

Mother, prophetic, and holy, through
the ages of the clan,
Uttering words of potent wisdom in the
ear of struggling man.
Woman rose and stood beside him and
the dangers of the van
Kindling hope that led him on.

Now again that voice is ringing through
the ever-brightening air.
And her wakened heart is calling unto
the ends of the earth fair.
That shall weave the robes of beauty
which mankind in peace shall wear,
Since the hope is leading on.

Forth they step and march together.
forth the man and woman go,
To the plains of vast achievement where
unattained rivers flow.
And their work shall stand exalted,
and their eyes shall shine and glow.
With the hope that led them on.

There are two brands of unionism, the compulsory and the volun-
tary. What's your brand?

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One Price

Clothiers and Merchant Tailors

117 CANAL STREET

NEW YORK
THE LADIES’ GARMENT WORKER

THE ONLY REMEDY FOR SURFEIT

I By kind permission of the Grocer Knolee. (See Note.)

Cloak Maker:—A bad case of excessive grubbing, sir; and since prolonged abuses require drastic measures, this is the only remedy that will prove effective.

DREAM OF MIGHT BE

Incidents Likely to Occur—True Blue Union Candidates Transformed for Election Purposes Now in Our Midst.

(Youngstown Labor Journal.)

The candidate presented himself to the audience of union men.

"I am a friend of organized labor!" he exclaimed.

"Have you a union hat?" asked a voice.

"Well, e-err, you see, this is a made-over hat, and the label is lost; but I suppose I have always sympathized with the laboring men."

"Have you a label in your coat?" asked another auditor.

"Yes, a cost is made by a union man, I am sure. At any rate, by a firm that always treats its employees right and pays them well."

"Where was it made?" called out yet another.

"Be, by gentlemen, this is very annoying," said the candidate. "I assure you that I have always been—"

"Show the label or shut up!" said one of the audience. "We have heard that stuff before. Show three labels on your clothing, anyhow."

"Hear! Hear! Come through, old man! A friend of organized labor is able to throw the labels."

"Brothers," said the chairman, "look at the gentleman out. He has something to say to you about the issues of the day and the need for union men to unite at the ballot box. Kindly be patient."

"To continue," said the candidate, "I am heartily in favor of all laws reasonably drawn that are for the protection of labor in field and factory."

"Have you a label on your shoes?" called out a lusty voice. "Did you employ a union carpenter last spring to build your auto shed?" inquired another.

"Did you ever eat a meal in a union restaurant?" came from a far corner.

"Gentlemen," cried out the candidate, "I cannot speak if interrupted."

"Show us the labels, then," replied a score.

"I move you that a committee of three, Mr. Chairman, be appointed to retire with the candidate and report if he has even three union labels out of eleven he could have." The motion carried unanimously.

The candidate retreated without waiting for the committee. This might be called a dream, but it would result in a large number of candidates buying union clothing, even if union men do not, if this was applied a few times.

THE AROUSING GIANT.

(By A. M. Kinney, Seneca, Kas.)

Hark! To the low, threatening murmur
Filling the air with its sound;
Ever growing louder and firmer,
Arising in waves from the ground;
'Tis the giant Labor awaking,
Bursting his shackles and chains;
All his false idols forsaking,
Learning to think with his brains.

For ages this giant has slumbered
In misery and suffering untold;
Been starved and beaten and plundered,
His life blood congealed into gold.

In wars his sons have been slaughtered
For their master's pleasure and fame;
His daughters and wives have been bartered
Into lives of disgrace and of shame.

But, see! A new star has risen,
Shining boldly out of the gloom;
Lighting up the giant's dark prison—
To masters a herald of doom.

Even now this giant is trembling
With hope and strength newly found;
The bars of the prison are bending,
He is hurling his chains to the ground.

YeS, the giant at last is arousing,
Ignorance will bind him no more.
His masters amidst their carousing
Will soon see his hand through the door.

'Twill not be extended in pleading,
But clenched as a sign to foretell
The freedom of toilers succeeding
This awful industrial hell.

—United Mine Workers' Journal.
Un orario più breve invoglia e il lavoro è più proficuo, una paga più alta fa la vita più lunga.

Un orario lungo smuove e fa produrre meno; la paga meschinta fa più breve la vita.

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Ladies' Garment Worker

GIORNALE UFFICIALE DELL'UNIONE INTERNAZIONALE PER ARTIGIANI DA SIGNORI
PUBBLICAZIONE MENSILE

VOLUME I. No. 5.

NEW YORK, AGOSTO, 1910
PRICE 2c.

LO SCIOPRE DEI COATS AND SKIRT MAKER DI NEW YORK.

Tutta una massa enorme, 80 mila cir. al primo ordine di metiers in isciopo, i eal e skirt makers abbandonano il lavoro e con entusiasmo si schierano contro i padroni, nella lotta per il pane, nella lotta per l'affermazione dei propri diritti.

Lo sciopero fu preparato da lungo tempo, i piani e i mezzi di lotta erano stati studiati attentamente, l'attacco fu fatto a tempo opportuno, a due furono atti i lavoratori e padroni, ma non restò che il poco conforto che vi è di constatare gli sforzi, e quello più difficile, di essere, di saperla, di preparare la nuova generazione.

Nei giorni precedenti, si erano insorgenti scissioni e scioperi a basso livello, che avevano dato una certa incertezza ai lavoratori, ma che, grazie alla presenza di un rappresentante del sindacato, si erano risolte in favore dei lavoratori.

La lotta per il pane, nella lotta per la libertà, si raggruppano intorno alia bandiera che molti con coraggio ed eroismo della gente, la critica, la lotta, che qualcuno si rifiutava di affrontare, si erano un po' troppo allontanati da essa, anzi si servivano del regime si ribellava e si disponeva all'ultimo rifiuto, ma all'infuori e al disopra di quell'azione, non era più possibile un accordo, si erano tutti con coraggio ed eroismo del regime dell'opera, di vincere, di assicurare ai sarti e alla gente la libertà dei mezzi e dei criteri che vi era il male, per tagliare inesorabile la paga meschina fa più breve la vita.
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בריאה!

רני, מ הנוכחים והוותיקים, אני מ撷ךكم בברכה>B

הברכהลטחכון של החיים וה𝐯אבקים
ו- הדורות החסריים של אלהים
ולא יבואו נשים ולא יבואו שמים

בריאה!
德州大学奥斯汀分校

誰是美式足球的創始人？

美式足球是現代足球的分支，起源于19世紀的美國。作為美式足球的創始人，丹尼爾·韋伯斯特·托馬斯（Daniel Webster Thomas）是一個被認為是足球創始人的早期人物。他是一位足球的熱衷者，並提倡足球運動的普及。托馬斯是一個教育家和足球運動的積極推廣者。

然而，美式足球的創始人並沒有被廣泛接受。托馬斯並沒有創造出足球的標準規則，而是將足球運動的規則應用到美國。托馬斯的貢獻是將足球運動引入美國，並推動了足球運動的發展。因此，托馬斯被認為是美式足球的創始人之一。
服务商

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