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ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1910
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International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, industrial relations, conventions

Comments
The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union founding convention in 1900 included 11 local delegates representing roughly 2000 members. Reports and Proceedings of the Conventions of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union was published annually from 1900-1908, biennially from 1908-1924, then sporadically until 1937 from which time the convention was held every three years until the union’s merger with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union in 1995 to form UNITE, the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees. In addition to election of officers and committee reports, topics discussed include the working conditions, sweatshops, labor unity, organizing, wages and hours, union labels, boycotts, strikes, women's garment industry, labor relations, internationalism, labor legislation, labor education, women's rights, member benefits, and union health centers. The best available original was selected for digitization. Occasionally the original is difficult to read, missing pages, or partially cut off.

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10TH CONV.
JUNE 6-11, 1910
PROCEEDINGS OF THE TENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES’ GARMENT WORKERS’ UNION.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass., June 6, 1910

President Rosenberg called the convention to order at 11:30 A.M. and introduced Mr. M. A. Murphy, President of the Central Labor Union of Boston to address the convention.

President Murphy spoke in part as follows:

In the name of organized labor in the city of Boston he greeted the delegates of the Tenth Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union. He hoped that they may spend their time in this city in the most agreeable manner. He was very sorry indeed that organized labor had, as yet, no labor temple to which they could be invited. He hoped, however, that they would soon be in a position to erect a splendid home which shall serve as a monument of the labors of the trade unionists of the capital of Massachusetts.

He also hoped that their labors would prove beneficial to the delegates themselves and the organizations they represented.

President Murphy announced that he had been requested by Vice-President O’Brian to be excused for his non-appearance. As a representative of organized labor in the State House he had to attend very important committees, but begged him to convey his heartiest wishes for the success of the delegates in their work.

President Rosenberg called upon Mr. D. Driscoll, of the Massachusetts State Federation, to address the convention, who spoke in part as follows:

Brother Driscoll hoped that the delegates would meet with success in the city of Beans and Culture. Culture which goes to the rich, and Beans to the poor—and they do not get too much of that, either. They were in a city which waged an earnest fight against dual and seceding organizations. Then the officers of the labor organizations were fighting for labor legislation. They practically abolished child labor in the State of Massachusetts. They had the best labor laws in the United States. He was sorry to see that our locals were not affiliated with the State Federation of Labor. He knew that when the locals were in trouble they appealed to the State Federation for help. He was of the opinion that if the State Federation is good for the people in time of trouble, it should also be good in time of peace.
Brother Driscoll would like to see the label on goods in every store in Boston and elsewhere. They had lately succeeded in passing a bill in the State Legislature, making it compulsory for employers who advertise for help in the papers to state whether there is any strike or lockouts in their establishment. They were now trying to pass laws to legalize picketing and abolish injunctions. He hoped shortly to see in the State Legislature more members representing organized labor. He would also like to see the defeat of Governor Draper, who vetoed labor legislation which recently passed the State Legislature. Let the delegates go back to their respective cities and work earnestly and attentuously to increase their membership.

President Rosenberg called upon John F. Tobin, President of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, to address the convention.

President Tobin said that he came to speak to the delegates of the experience he gained in fifteen years as an officer of his International Union. His organization went through all forms of unionism. They had gone through constant strikes, low dues and per capita. He found that carrying on an organization with a system of low dues and per capita was a waste of time and energy. He expressed his opinion to the effect that, with the present system, the delegates were wasting their time and can expect no results. The greatest factor in a labor union was discipline, but so long as the delegates are in favor of a system of low dues and per capita they can have no discipline. Small dues cannot prevent strikes. The International office, with no treasury and paying no benefit to the local unions, cannot dictate to the locals when and where to strike. They, the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, had this until 1899. At the Rochester convention they abolished the system of paying per capita to the office and a system of paying 10 cents a week, and instituted the present system of paying two-thirds of the local's income to the general office. It is this system that has built up their organization and brought it to its present standing.

They kept a record in the office of every member throughout the United States and each member has a primary interest in the International Union, where most of his payments go. This system enabled them to gain a thorough control over their locals and members. It was true that the enforcing of this discipline has made many enemies among the rank and file of the shoe workers, who still insist upon the old method of striking whenever they feel inclined to do so, and also expressed dissatisfaction with the system of arbitration introduced by the International. Through this system of arbitration, however, they achieved the greatest success and raised their wages to the highest standard. Last year they paid $100 strike benefits and $70,000 sick benefits.

He advised them that their agreements must be faithfully kept. When this system was introduced they met with a great deal of opposition among the members of their own craft, but the delegates who remained loyal determined to build up the organization, in the teeth of the opposition.

President Tobin contended that delegates are not merely messenger boys, coming to a convention to deliver a message. The delegates to the convention must vote on every proposition they think proper, and not be afraid of what
their members will say. They must act according to their own conviction of what is right for the success of their organization.

The first thing to do is to abolish their present system of per capita and adopt a system of paying to the general office a percentage of their income. All strikes should be carried on by headquarters, and not by the local unions. He found in their own case that the new system has enabled them to withstand all the opposition both from within and without the organization and made it a success. He felt certain that if the delegates would follow his advice and adopt similar methods they would meet with equal success.

President Tobin invited the delegates to visit their headquarters in Summer Street and examine their system of carrying on the organization. Any time they felt inclined to do so they would receive a hearty welcome.

President Rosenberg introduced Mr. Abrahams, President of the Cigar Makers' Union of Boston.

Mr. Abrahams said that he endorsed every word uttered by the previous speaker. He contended that the organization which the delegates represented seemed to be nothing more than a rope of sand. No organization can be a success without a system of high dues and a chain of benefits. It is within the power of the delegates at the convention to introduce changes suggested by the President of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union. He believed that no organization is worth its name unless it has a uniform system of dues and initiation fees. Without reserve funds it is very easy to call and lose strikes. He would rather have three local unions representing thirty members who pay high dues and who have high benefits than a large membership without them. The Waist Makers' Union won a big strike, but they relied upon public sympathy to carry out the strike. Mr. Abrahams was positive that if the Ladies' Waist Makers were to go out on strike again without sufficient funds they would not get enough support to enable them to gain a victory, for public sympathy is very fickle indeed. The convention can pass resolutions tending to build up a strong and solid organization.

Let the delegates decide not to leave the convention hall without adopting all necessary reforms, with a view to building up a solid and durable organization.

President Rosenberg then introduced Miss Ida McFeatters, of the Label Section.

Miss McFeatters said that if the label were on every garment and, bearing in mind that the label stood for better sanitary conditions, shorter hours, and higher wages; if every Union member would ask for the label on his goods we could then demand that the stores sell Union goods only. She would like to see the locals of the International Union represented at the Central Labor Union, and urged its members strongly to use none but label goods. One of the largest department stores in Boston was supplying labelled goods, while several other large houses in the city of Boston promised to supply labelled goods. If this could be accomplished in Boston, it would help by the adoption of the label in other cities.
President Rosenberg then introduced Miss Mabel Gillespie, of the Women’s Trade Union League, who felt it a great honor to address the convention in the capacity of Fraternal Delegate. The Women’s Trade Union League were willing to help, to the best of their power, the trade union movement in general and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in particular. It was through the Women’s Trade Union League that one of the largest department stores in Boston put in a stock of label goods. It was difficult to place the label in one store, but when this was done it was easier to make the others follow suit. Although they felt they could inspire work along this line, still, she thought, the bulk of the work must come directly from trade unionists themselves.

President Rosenberg then introduced Mr. Freedman, of the International Cap Makers' Union, who said that he has been traveling in the interest of his organization through the length and breadth of the country, advocating the label of his International Union, and he found the label to be the most important weapon the Union possessed. The cap makers and cloak makers seemed to be much alike. They join the Union easily, but leave the organization just as quickly. They fight among themselves in the shops, and so waste the energy needed to gain better conditions. He hoped to see the International Union double its membership within the next two years.

Delegate Jesse Greenberger moved that the General Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to write to the speakers who have addressed the convention, thanking them on behalf of the International Union for their interesting and encouraging addresses. Carried.

The President then appointed the following delegates as Credential Committee: J. Woolf, of Local 1; A. Mitchell, Local 9; J. Katz, Local 98; H. Kleinman, Local 23; and H. Siegel, Local 21.

The session was then adjourned, to reconvene at 3 P.M.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Rosenberg in the Chair.

Report of Credential Committee.

Delegate Woolf, Chairman of the Credential Committee, recommended seating of the following delegates, their credentials being in order:

Local 1—A. Axelrod, Bernard Fried, Abe Rosenberg, P. Seidenberg, I. Shaff.

Julius Woolf.

Local 4—Sam Goldin.

Local 9—Morris Deitch, Abe Mitchell, Salvatore Ninfo, Solomon Polakoff.

Local 10—A. Bloch, Jesse P. Cohen, Harry Goldstein, Jesse S. Greenberger, Samuel Martin, James McCauley. Delegates refused to show their dues books, and were, therefore, referred to the convention to decide the matter. After some discussion the President ruled that the Credential Committee retire, to consider the matter and report to the convention.

Local 11—Louis Goldberg.
Local 12—Sam Flashner, Sam Weisberg.
Local 15—J. Averbach; but Charles Fromer was objected to, in accordance with Section 5, Article 3.
Local 17—The delegates not seated, because of the local's indebtedness to the I. L. G. W. U. of $368.00.
Local 21—Harry Siegel, seated.
Local 24—B. Zolotoroff, seated.
Local 25—Ab. Baroff, Louis Epstein, Sam Hyman, Beckie Rothstein. Louis Weisglass, B. Witashken. Committee reported that local owes over $500.00 to the G. O., but the delegates claimed that local had a counter claim against the general office for using their funds in the interests of Local 15. Upon motion, agreed that delegates be seated and the mutual claims of the G. O. and Local 25 to be referred to a committee for investigation after the convention.
Local 26—Abe Cohen seated. Israel S. Feit reported he could not produce his Union book. By a vote of 30 against 20, the delegate was seated.
Local 27—Sam Prisam, seated.
Local 32—Josephine Smaltz, Mary Martin, seated.
Local 34—M. Hertzbach, seated.
Local 35—Morris Goldofsky, Ike Saslaver, Morris Sigman, seated.
Local 36—W. Gitlin, Philip Benjamin. Local owes I. U. $75.00, but in view of the fact that they have just emerged from a ten months' strike the committee recommended that they be seated. Upon motion, the recommendation of committee was concurred in.
Local 38—Sam Pismanoff, Simon Pitchersky, Abraham Solovioff, seated.
Local 41—Harry Klein, to be seated.
Local 44—S. Elstein. Objected to on the same grounds as Brother Fromer.
Bennie Hyman, to be seated.
Local 49—Gertrude Berger, Mary Tattelbaum, to be seated.
Local 50—Sam Rosenson, to be seated.
Local 56—Harry Dubinsky, Max Jacobson, to be seated.
Local 58—Jacob Katz, Max Sandler, to be seated.
Local 64—Isidor Cohen, to be seated.
Local 65—G. Rubin, to be seated.
Local 68—Meyer Brass, to be seated.
Joint Board of New York—Louis Gordon, to be seated.
Joint Board of Boston—Gabriel Jacobson, to be seated.
Joint Board of Philadelphia—Max Amdur, to be seated.
District Council of New York—Samuel J. Ringer, to be seated.
Women's Trade Union League of Boston—Mabel Gillespie.

Upon motion, agreed to refer all disputed cases back to the Credential Committee to bring in a final report.

Delegate Greenberger quoted Section 6, Article 3, which reads as follows:
Delegates shall establish their rights to a seat in the convention by credentials signed by the presiding officer and the Secretary and bearing the seal of the
Local Union or S. L. U. He, therefore, claimed that the Credential Committee had no right to demand their Constitution books. The ruling of the Chair was called for upon this point, and the Chair decided that the contention of Delegate Greenberger was in accordance with law.

After a long discussion, agreed that delegates of Local 10 be seated. On the question of the seating of Brothers Fromer and Elstein there was a majority and minority report. Majority in favor of seating them without a vote, and minority against them being seated at all. A long discussion followed, and finally by a vote of 32 against 15 the majority report was accepted.

Regarding the delegates of Local 17, committee recommended that delegates should pay $163.00 at once and the balance to be paid by January, 1911.

Delegate Pinkofsky claimed that, according to their calculation, they owed altogether $163.00. They were ready to pay $100.00 at once, and the balance within sixty days. Upon motion, agreed not to concur with the recommendation of the committee, and the delegates to be seated on payment of $100.00 at once and $63.00 within sixty days, the balance of the claim to be investigated by a committee after the convention.

Upon motion, agreed that all delegates be seated in accordance with the recommendation of the committee and also in accordance with the special motions passed by the convention.

President Rosenberg then proceeded to appoint the various committees.

S. Prisant protested against the appointment of the committees by the chairman, and moved that the committees be elected by the convention. A discussion followed.

Delegate Polakoff called attention to Section 18 of Article 3, which reads as follows:

"The rules and order of business governing the preceding convention shall be in force from the opening of any convention of the I. L. G. W. U. until new rules have been adopted by action of the convention." He, therefore, contends that the right of appointing committees rests entirely with the President. President Rosenberg then announced the appointment of the following committees:

Rules and Regulation Committee—James McCauley, Local 10; Meyer Brass, Local 68; G. Rubin, Local 65; Max Albert, Local 23.

Press Committee—Samuel Martin, Local 10; Morris Deitch, Local 9; H. Dubinsky, Local 56; Wm. Gitlin, Local 26.

Finance Committee—James McCauley, Local 10; B. Fried, Local 1; Max Sandler, Local 98; Mary Martin, Local 32; G. Jacobson, Joint Board of Boston.

Resolution Committee—Jesse Greenberger, Local 10; B. Witashken, Local 25; Israel S. Feit, Local 26; Sam Prisant, Local 27; S. Polakoff, Local 9; A. Axelrod, Local 1; Max Amdur, Joint Board of Philadelphia.

Laws Committee—Morris Deitch, Local 9; Alexander Bloch, Local 10; Wm. Gitlin, Local 26; Morris Sigman, Local 35; Harry Klein, Local 41; Meyer Brass, Local 68; M. Hertzbach, Local 34.

Appeal and Grievance Committee—Morris Goldofsky, Local 35; Benjamin Hyman, Local 44; Samuel J. Ringer, District Council of New York; Louis Ep-
stein, Local 25; A. Mitchell, Local 9; M. Weisberg, Local 12; B. Zolotoroff, Local 24.

Report of Officers Committee—Harry Kleinman, Local 23; S. Martin, Local 10; I. Shaff, Local 1; B. Zolotoroff, Local 24; Josephine Smaltz, Local 32; Max Amdur, Joint Board of Philadelphia.

Label and Miscellaneous Committee—Harry Goldstein, Local 10; I. Saslaver, Local 35; Mary Tattelbaum, Local 49; Beekie Rothstein, Local 25; Louis Epstein, Local 25.

Organization Committee—Ph. Seidenberg, Local 1; Salvatore Ninno, Local 9; Sam Rosenson, Local 50; A. Cohen, Local 26; Ab. Baroff, Local 25; Harry Dubinsky, Local 56; Sam Goldin, Local 4.

Strike Committee—Alex. Bloch, Local 10; J. Woolf, Local 1; S. Polakoff, Local 9; J. Averbach, Local 15; Louis Goldberg, Local 11; S. Feit, Local 26; S. Prisam, Local 27; Jesse Greenberger, Local 10; Max Amdur, Joint Board of Philadelphia.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7—MORNING SESSION.

President Rosenberg in the Chair.


Committee on Rules and Regulations to govern the convention reported as follows:

Section 1—Session to open at 9 A.M. and continue until 12:30 P.M. Afternoon session to open at 2 P.M. and continue until 5 P.M. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Section 2—No night session to be held, except by a three-fourths majority vote. Concurred in.

Section 3—All resolutions to be written in proper form and in English only. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Section 4—All resolutions shall be introduced during the first three days of the convention. No resolutions will be accepted after the end of the second session of the third day, except with the unanimous consent of the convention. Concurred in.

Section 5—No delegates to be allowed to speak more than once on any one subject under debate, except with the unanimous consent of the convention. Concurred in.

Section 6—No delegate may speak longer than ten minutes. Concurred in.

Section 7—Intending speakers must keep strictly to the subject. Concurred in.

Section 8—On several delegates rising to address the convention, the Chair to exercise the right of naming or recognizing the first one. There shall be no list of speakers. Not concurred in.

Upon motion, agreed Paragraph 8 to read as follows:
Any delegate wishing to address the convention shall send his name to the Vice-President who shall keep a list of speakers, and the name of the delegates to be called by rotation.

Section 9—The previous question may be called by five delegates. If a majority of the delegates present decide in its favor, the debate to be considered closed.

Section 10—Roll call may be called for by not less than ten delegates. Concluded in.

Section 11—Delegates absenting themselves thirty minutes after roll call to be counted absent. Concluded in.

Section 12—The President to rule the convention in accordance with Roberts' Manual. Concluded in.

Section 13—Any committee bringing in a majority or minority report the President shall at once order the convention to vote on both reports without any debate. Not conduced in.

Upon motion, agreed that the Officers' Report to be read at an Executive Session. Carried.

Upon motion, agreed that the Report of Officers be read at the beginning of the afternoon session.

The following telegrams were read and ordered placed on file:

TOLEDO, Ohio, June 6, 1910.

Tenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

We wish your gathering great success. Look forward to better times, and never be discouraged by the present. Freedom to the oppressed, slavery to be abolished. Defend rights and abolish wrongs.

CLOAK AND SKIRT MAKERS OF TOLEDO, OHIO, LOCAL 67.

BROOKLYN, June 5, 1910.

Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

We send our best congratulations to all delegates.

WRAPPER AND KIMONA MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 41.

* * *

NEW YORK, June 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U., Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Mr. John A. Dyche.

Brothers and Sisters: The Cloak Makers of New York are waiting for your deliberations.

Over 50,000 wage earners and their families are looking to you for help. Have them in mind.

Best regards to all delegates.

THE CLOAK AND SUIT TAILORS' UNION, LOCAL 9,

A. Guyer, Secretary.
I. L. G. W. U.

John A. Dyche, General Secretary,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Extend our hearty greetings to the delegates at the convention. Best wishes and success to our International Union.

Cloak Pressers’ Union of New York, Local 35,
H. Manin, Secretary.
New York, June 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U.

John A. Dyche, General Secretary.

We received an injunction from the Outer Skirt Co. Do not worry. Go ahead with your work. Strike in good shape.

Best wishes to all.

Joint Executive Board,
A. Guyer, Organizer Pro Tem.
New York, June 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U.

Greetings to the delegates assembled at the Tenth Annual Convention, Work and extend movement for the emancipation of labor.

Skirt Makers’ Union, Local 23,
J. Abramsky, Secretary.
Boston, June 6, 1910.

General Secretary, I. L. G. W. U. Convention.

We congratulate you on the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

John R. Liss,
Ex-Secretary, Local 56.

Seid Sokoloff, Berman, Deiner, Finkel, Grouk, Kouris,
Ideal Cloak Co. Employees.
New York, June 6, 1910.

Berkeley Hall Convention, I. L. G. W. U., Boston, Mass.

Brother Rosenberg and Delegates.

Hoping the convention will take action to organize all the Ladies’ Garment Workers of all the cities in the United States.

Yours,
B. Frashwasser.
New York, June 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U., Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

We greet the convention and wish them success in their work. We thank all locals for their aid in our struggle.

Ladies’ Tailors’ Union, Local 38.
Cleveland, Ohio, June 6, 1910.

Convention Hall,
I. L. G. W. U., Boston, Mass.

Cloak makers of Cleveland send greetings. Hope convention may find ways for a better arrangement of present deplorable conditions of the trade.

Local 26.
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., JUNE 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U.

Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Local No. 33 of Atlantic City, greets the Tenth Convention.

With brotherly regards, (Not Signed.)

New York, June 6, 1910.

Convention, Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Reefer Makers' Union, Local 17, sends heartiest greetings. Earnestly wish your deliberations will result in extending the growth of the International Union and bring about improved trade conditions throughout the land.

Morris Leader, Business Agent.

Cleveland, Ohio, June 6, 1910.

Mr. John A. Dyche,
I. L. G. W. U.

Pressers' Union No. 37 sends heartiest congratulations and best wishes for successful convention. Very much regret our inability to be present with you.

I. Stolmack, President.
M. Levine, Secretary.

New York, June 6, 1910.

Convention, I. L. G. W. U.,
Berkeley Hall.

Heartiest congratulations and high appreciation for the splendid and good work done for the Waist Makers' Union, Local 25, in helping with such effect in obtaining good results from our general strike. The eyes of tens of thousands of waist makers are looking to you with hope and confidence that your work will result in organizing and building up our International Union into one of the strongest national bodies affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

S. Shindler, Secretary.
Local 25.

Cleveland, Ohio, June 6, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Berkeley Hall.

Congratulations on the opening of our Tenth Annual Convention, and our best wishes for the future.

Local 26.

Boston, Mass., June 6, 1910.

Convention, I. L. G. W. U.,
Berkeley Hall.

Welcome to delegates. We wish you success in your work, and hope and trust that delegates will improve our conditions.

With kindest regards of your brothers of Shirlip's shop, 103 Bedford Street.

B. Horn,
L. Brook,
H. Goldman,

Committee.
Cleveland, Ohio, June 6, 1910.

Mr. John A. Dyche,
I. L. G. W. U., Berkeley Hall.
Skirt Makers' Union, Local 27, sends heartiest congratulations and best wishes for successful convention.

Sam Tauber, Vice-President.
New York, June 6, 1910.

John A. Dyche, General Secretary.
Best regards from the Italian Cloak Makers of New York.

L. Cassatta, Chairman.

Convention, I. L. G. W. U.,
Boston, Mass.
Fraternal Greetings. May your deliberations be for the best interests of all wage workers. Do not overestimate or underestimate your power.

B. Schlesinger.
New York, June 7, 1910.

Conventin, I. L. G. W. U.
United Hebrew Trades of New York, at their meeting last night, send their brotherly congratulations to your Tenth Convention.
We wish your International Union success in the coming year as in the past year. Long live the unity of the workers.

B. Weinstein, Organizer.
New York, June 7, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U., Berkeley Hall.
Petticoat Makers' Union, Local 39, congratulates the delegates and wishes them success.

New York, June 7, 1910.

Convention, I. L. G. W. U.,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Success to the International.

Executive Cloak Operators' Union, Local No. 1.
President announced that the delegates were invited to visit the State House and be introduced to Governor Draper.
Meeting adjourned.

TUESDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Roll call. Absentee—Harry Dubinsky.
Meeting in Executive Session. President Rosenberg in the Chair.
Upon motion, agreed that Miss Pauline Newman, label agitator, be present during the session.
First Vice-President Max Amdur in the Chair. President Rosenberg read his Report, which was referred to Reports of Officers Committee.
TO THE OFFICERS AND DELEGATES OF THE TENTH CONVENTION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

GREETING:

As president of our International Union since 1908, I have pleasure in submitting my report for the last two years and I trust you will give it your earnest consideration.

You will remember that I have been elected as president at a time when an economic crisis made itself felt throughout the land; when our locals hardly existed and when our General Office was in such a deplorable financial position that there was hardly sufficient to cover the usual office expenses such as rent and secretary's salary; to say nothing of taking up organizing work.

After discussing this matter with our General Secretary we decided to request the American Federation of Labor to appoint for us an Organizer for a few weeks, and the American Federation of Labor has been good enough to grant us $125.00 for that purpose.

This enabled me to go to Boston where, after a few weeks' effort, I succeeded in organizing the Cloak and Skirt Makers, now Local 56. This union has been making progress ever since.

The Pressers' Union, Local 12, had then also been in a state of decay, and through my efforts this Union has been much strengthened.

Encouraged by our success, in Boston, we came to the conclusion that, given the financial means to enable us to send out an Organizer to the West, it would be possible to build up a strong International Union.

With this idea in my mind, I availed myself of the first opportunity which occurred, to proceed to Chicago for a few months. There I put myself in communication with a number of workers in our trade in the middle Western cities and upon my return from Chicago, I visited Milwaukee, Wis., Cleveland and Cincinnati.

I remained there a few weeks and succeeded in organizing the Cloak Makers of Cleveland as Local 26, and the Skirt Makers as Local 27, and also the Cloak Makers of Cincinnati. Sometime after the Pressers and Cutters of Cleveland were organized and unions were likewise formed in Milwaukee and Toledo. When I visited our Middle Western locals six months after, I found them all in good condition; and were it not for the strike at Prince-Biederman, the Cleveland Cloak Makers, Local 26, would now be flourishing.

On my second trip to the West I also visited Toronto, Canada, with a view to organizing the Cloak Makers there, but this has not been realized as yet. I have since visited, several times, our local unions of Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The following is a list of local unions which we have organized in the course of the last two years, as a result of our agitation:
CHARTERS ISSUED SINCE MAY, 1908.

Local 55. Philadelphia Silk Suit and Waist Makers.
Local 56. Boston Cloak and Skirt Makers.
Local 57. New York Wrapper Makers.
Local 58. Milwaukee Ladies’ Garment Workers.
Local 59. Philadelphia Cloakmakers.
Local 60. Omaha, Neb., Cloak Makers.
Local 62. New York Ladies’ Costume Dressmakers.
Local 63. Newark, N. J., Ladies’ Tailors and Dressmakers.
Local 64. New York White Goods Workers.
Local 65. Cleveland Cloak Makers.
Local 66. Cleveland Skirt Makers.
Local 67. Cincinnati Cloak Makers.
Local 68. New York Buttonhole Makers.
Local 69. Philadelphia Pressers.
Local 70. New York Waist Cutters.
Local 71. Cleveland Pressers.
Local 72. New York Ladies’ Tailors.
Local 73. New York Petticoat Makers.
Local 74. Philadelphia Ladies’ Tailors.
Local 75. Chicago Cloak Makers.
Local 76. New York Cloak and Suit Cutters.
Local 77. Atlantic City Ladies’ Tailors.
Local 78. Cleveland Cloak and Suit Cutters.
Local 80. Denver Ladies’ Tailors and Dressmakers.
Local 81. Boston Ladies’ Waist Makers.
Local 82. Newark, N. J., Shirt Waist Makers.
Local 83. Carmel, N. J., Ladies’ Garment Workers.
Local 84. Brownsville, N. Y., Misses’ and Children’s Dressmakers.
Local 85. Toledo, Ohio, Cloak and Skirt Makers.
Local 86. Brownsville, N. Y., Cloak and Skirt Pressers.
Local 87. Philadelphia Cloak and Skirt Finishers.
Local 88. New York Misses’ and Children’s Dressmakers.
Local 89. Chicago Ladies’ Tailors Union.

LOCALS REORGANIZED.

Local 11. Cloak and Skirt Makers’ Union of Brownsville, N. Y.
Local 41. Wrapper Makers of Brownsville, N. Y.

LOCALS DISSOLVED.

Local 6. Cloak Makers’ Union of St. Louis, Mo.
Local 8. Cloak Makers’ Union of San Francisco, Cal.
Local 19. Quaker City Association of Cutters, Philadelphia.
Local 31. Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union of Seattle, Wash.
Local 47. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Massillon, Ohio.
Local 48. Cloak Makers' Union of Toronto, Ont.
Local 52. Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union of Detroit, Mich.
Local 61. Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union of Boston, Mass.
Local 59. Ladies' Garment Workers, of Omaha, Neb.

**Chapters Refixed.**

Local 10. Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union of New York.
Local 53. Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union of Greater New York.

**Amalgamated With Other Locals.**

Local 20. Waist Cutters of New York City, joined Local 10.
Local 60. Costume and Dressmakers' Union of New York, joined Local 25.

**Trouble With Local 10 Adjusted.**

I am glad to be able to report that the differences between Local 10 and the International Union have been adjusted and that the Cutters have rejoined the International. Judging from present smooth relations the Cutters appear to have realized that it is better to be united than separated. There can be no doubt of the benefits both to themselves and to us resulting from a continuance of amicable relations.

**Strikes and Lockouts of the Last Two Years.**

Many strikes were called by our local unions during the last two years, and I will refer to the more important struggles. The first of these occurred in the city of Boston. In June, 1909, a number of employers in the Ladies' Tailoring trade locked out their employees, the members of Local 36. Our general officers soon appeared on the scene and endeavored to their utmost to bring about peace. Unfortunately both parties were so obstinate that all efforts were of no avail. Upon the demand of Local 36 we maintained an organizer at Boston at our own expense for a number of weeks. The strike was marked by injunctions and cases of contempt for contempt. All our local unions have supported Local 36 to the best of their ability, both morally and financially. The strike eventually came to an end in March, 1910, by a mutual agreement that all court cases against members of the union in progress at the time should be withdrawn by the employers and that all present differences and those likely to arise in future should be submitted to a standing Board of Arbitration, composed of employers and employed.

The second general strike broke out in Baltimore, Md., in connection with the Cloak Makers' Union, Local 4, early in September, 1909, and came to an inglorious end towards the end of February, 1910. This strike also was marked by injunctions and cases of contempt of court. To our great regret three strikers were each sentenced to four months imprisonment.

Let me here call attention to the fact that were our General Executive Board invested with the authority to settle strikes at their discretion, whenever they thought it necessary to do so, this strike would certainly have resulted in victory. The Baltimore Cloak Manufacturers were willing to concede all the demands of the union. Their only wish was that two scabs should remain at work, but this the union refused to accept.
Then came the strikes of the Ladies' Waist Makers in New York and Philadelphia, respectively. In New York the strike embraced about 20,000 workers, while in Philadelphia 5,000 persons were involved. In New York eighty per cent. of the strikers won better conditions of labor. In Philadelphia a compromise was arrived at. Despite the gratuitous prediction that because the settlement was by compromise therefore it meant defeat, time showed that the concessions wrung from the employers were in reality gains more substantial than we ourselves originally anticipated.

Apart from these there has been a strike in progress for the last six months in New York, in a ladies' tailoring shop controlled by Local 38. Though owing to injunctions the strikers have necessarily slackened their activity for a time, the strike is still in progress, there being strong hopes that the union will finally secure a victory.

Another, not less important, strike has been in progress in Cleveland, Ohio, where the Cloak Makers have made a brave stand against the firm of Prince-Eiederman. There are only 75 workers engaged in the strike against this firm. The seriousness of this struggle arises from the fact that the Manufacturers' Association of Cleveland is directly conducting this struggle against the union.

But the union has realized the character of the fight and is doing all in its power to keep up the strikers until the next winter season, when victory is hoped to be certain. It is satisfactory to note that organized labor in every city has shown its practical sympathy and has responded generously to all our appeals for financial support.

The Movement for a General Strike in the Cloak and Skirt Trade in New York.

A strong movement in favor of a general strike has now arisen among the Cloak and Skirt Makers of New York, and hundreds of new members are now being initiated. Preparations are being made by the responsible officials for exercising a proper control over the proposed strike in order to achieve the best possible results. But, although the locals of New York are already preparing for the fight, it is essential that the Convention should take the matter up and make all necessary arrangements. For, it is possible that apart from the 40,000 workers of New York, Cloak Makers of other cities might also be involved. We must therefore be prepared financially and otherwise.

I should mention, by the way, that the resolution of the G. E. B. adopted at its semi-annual meeting to institute a referendum vote on the question whether or not all members of the International should be taxed two dollars has been accepted by a large majority, but I am sorry to say that as yet very little has been done so far to give practical effect to the resolution.

The Union Label.

The International Office has recently set afoot a vigorous label agitation and has spent a large sum of money to spread the label, and so far succeeded in placing our label with two important firms. The cause of this partial success may be attributed to the apathy of our own members in the various cities. If every Local Union were to appoint Label Committees to visit Women's Clubs
and other societies and to interview the storekeepers of their respective cities, the demand for the label would grow and increase.

Recently, since the strikes of ladies' waist makers in New York and Philadelphia, the Women's Trade Union Leagues of New York and Boston have initiated a movement for the creation of a demand for Union Label Goods, and a number of shirt waist manufacturers have adopted the label, but the number is not large enough to warrant us in calling the result of the agitation a success.

ORGANIZING WORK.

As already indicated, our International Union has issued thirty-six charters to newly organized unions in various cities. A large number of these unions are only slightly acquainted with the Labor movement. Some, if not many of these local unions do not know how to conduct a meeting properly; and although myself and the General Secretary-Treasurer have visited many locals and endeavored to instruct them as best we could, our occasional visits were not sufficient in themselves and it is necessary to have organizers who should devote themselves especially to this work.

I would therefore make the following recommendations to the Convention, and trust that you will give them your serious consideration.

I. That the next President-elect should be a paid officer and act as organizer.

II. That two additional Organizers—one man and a woman—be elected. One of the Organizers should be assigned the work in Greater New York, the other two should visit our locals of New York at least once in three months and also agitate for our label. As a means to enable the General Office to carry on its propaganda, it will be necessary for this Convention to raise the per capita tax at least 4 cents a month. It is also necessary to raise the per capita tax to such an amount as to enable the International Union to pay strike benefit to its members.

It is also essential to introduce a system whereby every member connected with any local union, the date of his entrance or exclusion, should be fully recorded in the archives of the General Office.

OUR OFFICIAL JOURNAL.

At the last Convention in Philadelphia the general officers informed you that they were publishing the Wrecker, a Jewish monthly paper to inform our members of the standing of our local unions, also to agitate for the principles of trade unionism in general. Unfortunately, on account of the economic crisis, we had to stop its publication September, 1909.

As soon as the finances of our General Office warranted it, we started publishing the Ladies' Garment Worker, a monthly Journal in Jewish, English and Italian. The first number of this Journal was issued April, 1910.

Up to the present time the cost of the Journal has been covered by the General Office. The affiliated locals and the individual members have done very little to maintain the existence of this publication. To make the Journal self-supporting
I would suggest that the Convention levy a tax of 25 cents per year. This tax will cover a yearly subscription for each member.

INJUNCTIONS.

Recently, ever since we began to figure in the conflicts between labor and capital, the success of our strike has been prevented in a large measure by injunctions. Sooner or later we shall, like other strongly organized labor bodies, be compelled to resort to political action. I would, therefore, advise as a preliminary step that an agitation be commenced among our members, urging them to take a more active part in the movement of organizing an independent labor party.

In conclusion I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to our General Executive Board for the assistance and encouragement with which they have been good enough to favor me, and especially to the Jewish and English labor press for the financial and moral support they have rendered to our local strikes. I am particularly indebted to the Jewish daily Vorworts and the English daily Call.

I also wish to thank the American Federation of Labor for the first financial support with which they favored us at the right moment and also for the services rendered by their organizers in helping us to form local unions in various States.

In the hope that my report, respectfully submitted, will be accepted by the Convention and that my recommendations favorably reported on, I remain,

With fraternal greetings,

A. ROSENBERG,

General Secretary-Treasurer read his report and same was referred to the Committee of Report of Officers.

TO THE OFFICERS AND DELEGATES OF THE TENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

GREETING:

At the time of the last Philadelphia Convention our International Union reached its lowest ebb of vitality. With our present system of almost complete local autonomy and a per capita of two and a half cents per week, the General Office has neither the authority nor the means of doing anything substantial for its locals. Confined as it is to rendering merely "moral support," something which is dimly understood by the average members, the General Office has been condemned to lead a hand-to-mouth existence, dependent for its very existence upon the good will or caprice of the few leading members in each local.

It is no wonder, therefore, that at the last financial crisis we were not only unable to render any assistance to our locals, to defend the earnings of our members and assist them against the aggression of their employers, who took full advantage of the slackness of trade, but we had to concentrate all our energies to keep our National body from dissolution and hold the remnant of our locals together. Thanks to the loyalty of a few New York locals, we succeeded in keeping the organization alive, overcame all attacks from without and dissensions from within, and waited patiently for better times which some of us were convinced were bound to come. That time came sooner than we expected and more than realized our expectations.
I cannot help recalling the fact that when at a meeting of the General Executive Board in 1907 I expressed my conviction that within five years I expected the membership of our International Union to reach the number of 20,000, my remark was greeted with incredulous smiles and looks of astonishment. Well, I believe that there is hardly a single delegate present who will think it an exaggeration to say that before these five years will elapse our membership will be more than double that number and that our National body will take its place in the front rank of American International Unions.

**AMALGAMATION WITH THE UNITED GARMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA.**

It was probably due to the feeling of depression and despair that the Philadelphia Convention passed Resolution No. 3, calling for amalgamation with the U. G. W. of A.

Soon after the adjournment of that Convention we began negotiations with the General office of that body and with the result that on the 12th of January, 1909, President Rosenberg, Vice-President Woolf and myself met in conference President Th. Rickert, General Secretary B. A. Larker and Board Member S. Landers, of the U. G. W. of A., at their headquarters in New York, and after considerable discussion the representatives of the U. G. W. of A. agreed to draw up a plan of amalgamation and submit it to their and our General Executive Board for approval. If adopted by the two bodies the plan would then be submitted to a referendum vote of the membership of both International Unions.

The following letter was received from the United Garment Workers of America, dated March 3, 1909.

**MR. JOHN ALEX. DYCHER, Secretary.**

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
25-27 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y.

**DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:**

At the conference held by our committee with your representatives in February, it was agreed that the writer was to draw up one or two propositions, either of which might be adopted as a basis on which our two International Unions could amalgamate.

I have given the matter a great deal of attention and thought, and finally submitted it to our General Executive Board in session during the past week. From all the information at hand, our Board is of the opinion that your organization now consists only of about one thousand members and, owing to the small membership, the best thing to do would be for your International to return its charter to the American Federation of Labor, and the membership to come over to our International as local unions. This is the only proposition that the Board is willing to make at this time.

Trust you will consider this matter favorably. I remain,

Respectfully yours,

**THOMAS A. RICKERT,**

**General President,**

United Garment Workers of America.
The representatives of the Garment Workers may have since found that our membership is larger than one thousand and they may now be inclined to offer us more dignified terms. I hardly believe that there is a single delegate present who is inclined to entertain any form of amalgamation with the U. G. W. of A.

Superficially, amalgamation of kindred trades in one great International Union may sound very fine and will appeal strongly to those who take an academic interest in the trade union movement, but the practical workers in the movement are well aware that the bringing together into one organization of a great variety of trades, whose technical details and various conditions of labor are unknown to each other, makes the adoption of a common plan of action impossible; and instead of being a help are more often a hindrance to each other.

Uniformity of action is essential to the success of any organization, but this uniformity can be achieved only in trades where conditions are more or less homogeneous.

We have already as large a variety of trades as we can conveniently manage without entering into entangling alliances with other trades and organizations.

OUR ORGANIZING WORK.

One of the main reasons why many of us were in favor of amalgamation was because until recently we have been unable to keep an organizer in the field and keep in touch with our locals outside of New York. Later, when we had the means at our disposal, we found it difficult to obtain the services of suitable persons for this work.

Owing to the fact that the members of our locals are composed largely of immigrants, the person whom we could employ must not only possess the ordinary amount of energy, ability and force of character to be able to command the respect of both the members and employers; he must also be in command of more than one language.

For obvious reasons people possessing these qualifications do not care to stay long in our movement; they find more remunerative occupations elsewhere.

Yet the success of our organization will mainly depend upon our ability to retain in our services as organizers able, conservative and cautious men, able to command the following of their members and the respect of the employers, with whom they have often to deal. They must be thoroughly versed in the methods, tactics and diplomacy of unionism, the need of which the great majority of our members do not understand.

It is due to the difficulty in finding suitable persons among our members that the G. E. B. were often compelled to use the services of men outside of our organization, which is not exactly in accord with the Constitution of our International Union.

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION WHO ARE NOT QUALIFIED ACCORDING TO OUR CONSTITUTION.

It is due to the lack of competent trade unionists among our own members that our locals have often been compelled to engage as organizers and business
agents outsiders, and it is only natural that, having found them suitable for the work, they should send them as delegates to our Convention, and so we find that at every Convention we have to deal with such delegates.

While the framers of our Constitution were perfectly right in their anxiety to keep out from our Conventions outsiders and adventurous politicians who are ready to use our organization for their personal advancement and notoriety and bring in influence not in harmony with the objects of our organization, yet I feel that some provisions should be made which should permit business agents from our locals, not Ladies' Garment Workers, but who have been in the employ of the locals for some time and understand the needs of their constituents to be able to participate in our Convention. I, therefore, suggest that the precedents established by former Conventions, namely, that such delegates shall be admitted, but shall have no vote, be enacted into law. This will avoid a good deal of wrangling and waste of time which we had to contend with at every Convention.

With the same object in view, I would suggest to dispense with the provisions of our Constitution which requires the reading of the minutes of the General Executive Board sessions and the reading of the minutes of the previous Convention.

The twenty-two meetings held by the G. E. B. during this last two years covers seventy closely written big octavo pages, all of which have been sent to the locals soon after each meeting. The minutes of the previous session of the Convention are read at the opening of each session and are then printed in book form and sent to the locals. The reading of them again at the opening of the Convention is a useless repetition and waste of time. I doubt whether any of us will be of the opinion, after taking into consideration that each session costs us at the very least $500.00, that the time spent on reading the minutes of the G. E. B. meetings and of the previous Convention is worth its cost.

APPOINTMENT OF FINANCE AND CREDENTIAL COMMITTEES.

With the same object in view, I would suggest that our Constitution be so amended as to empower the General President to appoint a finance committee a few days prior to the opening of the Convention, who shall go over the accounts of the General Secretary at the General Office in New York and bring their report to the Convention. It is absolutely unnecessary during the time of the Convention that the account of the General Office should be revised. Taking into consideration the fact that the revenue is increasing and that the finance committee has two years' income and expenditures to look over, it practically means the taking away of several evenings of the delegates when they can spend their time for other work and attend to the business of the International Union arising at the Convention.

The same applies to the credential committee. At several of our Conventions the sessions had to be postponed because the credential committee were not ready with their reports and precious time was wasted because of it. The credential committee could examine the eligibility of each candidate before the
opening of the Convention and so avoid much unnecessary delay. This is a practice adopted by several International Unions, for the purpose of saving time and also by the American Federation of Labor.

PROTECTION OF THE FUNDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION.

Until quite recently the General Office was practically without any reserve fund. With the recent growth of our organization and the increase of our treasury we have deposited $2,000 of our funds into a savings account with the Public Bank of New York, President Rosenberg and Vice-Presidents Kleinman and Polakoff acting as trustees. With the rest of the funds we are keeping an open account in the same bank and the Corn Exchange Bank.

I propose that provisions shall be made for the General Secretary to hold an open account for one thousand dollars only, and give bonds for the same amount. All money above that amount to be deposited with some trust company, savings institution or invested with the United States Government bonds.

Further, before the General Secretary-Treasurer issues his monthly Financial Statement his accounts shall be audited by two members of the General Executive Board and their signature to be affixed to this Statement.

Considering the large sums handled by the General Secretary-Treasurer, the present provision of our Constitution which requires the books of the General Office to be audited only once in six months is quite inadequate and unsafe. While it is only right that we should have all the trust and confidence in our officers in all matters which cannot be checked and verified, in financial transactions of which a complete record is kept there is no need for such blind confidence.

THE SITUATION IN CLEVELAND.

Our locals in Cleveland are facing a critical situation which requires the attention of this Convention.

In December, in the early stages of the strike of Local No. 26, at the firm of Prince-Biederman & Co., I interviewed one of the heads of that firm—Mr. Fish—and before I left him I was almost sure that a satisfactory settlement had been reached. Mr. Fish agreed to reinstate all discharged employees and have shop committees settle prices, but owing to the fact that the other partners of the firm were out of town Mr. Fish took my New York address and promised to wire me the final reply.

No such reply reached me, and the strike is still in progress. At first I was rather puzzled over this unexpected change; but later on I learned that the firm are members of the Cloak Manufacturers' Association of Cleveland, who are a branch of the National Manufacturers' Association.

Three-fourths of the cloak manufacturers in Cleveland belong to that association, and every time our locals make an attempt to improve their conditions they are confronted with this powerful organization.

Realizing the situation, I came to the conclusion that it would be advisable to interview the officers of the organized employers and ascertain if there is any
way of coming to some understanding with them, and establish a Conciliation Board or a permanent Board of Arbitration.

At the end of April, I interviewed Mr. Hurwich, of the firm of T. M. Silver & Co., the Secretary of that organization, and Mr. Black, of the firm of M. Black & Co.

From the long conversation I had with both of them I am convinced that nothing but a stubborn and bitter fight can bring them to their senses and wring from them some form of recognition.

Mr. Hurwich gave me the impression to be a kind of Individualist Anarchist, who recognizes no form of organization. He frankly admitted that he will not employ anyone who may be on strike against any firm; for, as he expressed himself, "he will not do his neighbor dirty." He will not even recognize a shop committee. Each one of his employees must appear before him individually, and "justice will be done to him."

As to Mr. Black, there was the air of "divine right Baer" in his speech. So long as he can be at the factory and see his employees with his own eyes and hear their complaints with his own ears, no committee or organization shall stand between himself and them. When I pointed out to him that by establishing a permanent Board of Conciliation he may avoid costly and disastrous strikes and from a pure business proposition this method of adjusting disputes would be less costly, he replied that he is guided by higher motives than pecuniary considerations. The trust bestowed upon him to look after the welfare of his people with which he has been intrusted is of greater consideration to him.

It is important that the Convention should be informed of the true state of things prevailing in Cleveland and the forces that are working against us in that city.

OUR LABEL.

Until the last strike of the Ladies' Waist Makers in this city we had no single firm using our label. But this strike gained us such widespread attention and sympathy from the general public that a demand for our label began to be noticeable with the result that two important shirt waist firms adopted it.

The Women's Trade Union League took the matter up and accomplished excellent work in the way of popularizing it.

We then were fortunate enough to secure the services of Miss Pauline Newman as a label agitator who spent most of her time in the New England States, with the result that in Boston and Haverhill, Mass., we have several large department stores selling waists with the label of our International Union.

Singularly enough, the people who buy these goods are not the working women, but those of the better-off class.

Owing to the fact that the buyers of these goods are women who, as a rule, are guided in their purchases more by the consideration of economy than by principles, and that a woman's garment is more or less an ornamental article, I do not believe that however much money we may spend on advertisement, our label will ever become as popular as that of the United Garment Workers. We
should, therefore, be guarded and careful in spending and making expenditure in advertising it.

At the beginning of the season or before the buying season commences, it is advisable to have a label agitator on the road, but the rest of the time it will be enough to confine our work of advertising the label by circularizing women’s clubs, societies and labor organizations.

RADICAL CHANGES NEEDED IN THE ORGANIC LAWS OF OUR CONSTITUTION.

Ever since I assumed the office of General Secretary-Treasurer I felt all along that as long as our locals will “enjoy,” as they do now, almost complete local autonomy and our present per capita from which the members get no more “moral support” in case of need, that our International Union, however large its membership may be at any time, will never be more, to put it bluntly and frankly, than a paper organization, always depending on its very existence on the few influential members in each local and for the great bulk of our members, it will never be more than a mere name.

It is quite a common occurrence among our locals that, whenever a bill from the General Office comes up for payment, a member should take the floor and ask what this payment is for, why do they need the International, and what benefit have the members from it? The meeting then enters into an academic discussion as to the meaning, function, etc., of an International organization.

To my mind the average member, with his constant questioning as to the use and benefit he has from the International Union, is perfectly in the right. To the unsophisticated mind, if one pays to an organization, he expects benefits of a more substantial nature than mere “moral support,” and if the two and one-half cents a week he pays to the General Office is not enough to give him the support he expects it is not his fault. It is the fault of the framers of the Constitution who gave him an International Union from which he can expect no substantial benefit when he needs it most.

We had to suspend locals for the refusal to pay a ten-cent assessment, or even for an attempt to refuse regular payment of per capita, which now depends largely upon the good will of the Financial Secretary.

So loose is the attachment of the locals to the International Union that it is enough for a local leader to find fault or take a personal dislike to a general officer to have his local secede from the National body and “save for the treasury of the local the per capita,” as one of the members of such a local told me recently:

Every one of us knows what a nuisance to the organization is the average member who pays to his local for the sake of principle only, and who expects to derive from the union no material benefit; how he makes you feel that he is doing you a personal favor each time he pays his dues or attends a meeting. Precisely the same is the case with the local that pays to an International organization and expects no material advantage from such an affiliation.
With our present system of complete local autonomy, of allowing each
local to fix the amount of initiation fees and dues they choose, and calling,
or, rather, precipitating strikes whenever the members feel inclined, the
locals in most cases live a hand-to-mouth existence, regulating their income
just sufficiently to cover the running expenses and having no surplus fund
to fall back upon in case of a strike.

We have now a local union in the cloak trade whose membership is
composed of men only, who charge 50 cents initiation fee and 10 cents a
week dues.

A closer acquaintance with the causes of the strikes in which our
locals have been engaged will reveal the fact that nine-tenths of them would
never have taken place if the General Office had the means of financing them
and the authority to dictate where and when they should take place.

The ten months' strike of Local No. 36 would not have taken place if
I had been invested with proper authority. The employers at the end of
the spring season declared for the open shop. The Executive Board of the
local advised the members to remain at work, but the members reversed that
decision, and after they wired for me, and I urged upon the board to stand
by their original decision and ignore the declaration of the employers, but
to deal with each employer separately when any one of them would intro-
duce into their shops non-union men, my plea was ignored.

Subsequently, when I opened negotiations with the Employers' Associa-
tion, and was having my own way, the representative of the local put an
end to the negotiations by declaring that I had no authority to settle for
the local.

After ten months of bitter struggle Local No. 36 had to accept much
worse conditions from the employers than they were willing to give at the
first stage of the struggle.

We had a similar case in Baltimore in August last. There we had a
general strike, which originated by a firm who discharged an employee, and
after the local Executive Board investigated the matter and reported to the
local that the employer was perfectly justified in discharging the member,
the local meeting decided to call a strike if the member was not reinstated.

During the course of the strike, when I began negotiations with the
President of the Cloak Manufacturers' Association of Baltimore, I was told
by him that a committee of the local told him that the employers would
have to deal with the local, and that the General Office of the International
had nothing to do with the case.

The strike of Local No. 38 against the firm of Stein & Blein would
never have taken place if the General Office had been made aware of the
dispute prior to the strike having been called. When I was informed of
it the strike had been in progress for some time, and my intervention came
too late.

Four weeks after the strike of Local No. 15, when they were very
few strike-breakers, and the employers were hard pressed, the local received
a proposition from the President of the Waist Manufacturers' Association
to submit the whole controversy to a Board of Arbitration. In vain did I
plead with the strike committee to accept this proposition. Our Kampf-
lustige members would hear nothing of arbitration.

Several weeks later, when the shops were half filled with strike-breakers
and the strike fund empty, the local was compelled to accept arbitration,
but on much worse terms than was offered to them before that.

Here I must state that besides the ordinary difficulties we have with
the average member who is aware of the possibilities of unionism, but who
cannot perceive its limitations, who underestimates the power of unionism
when he is outside of the organization, and who always overestimates it
when he joins his organization, there is always this difficulty, that our immi-
grant members have their heads full of revolutionary stuff which they read
in the Jewish radical press, written by men who have little sympathy with
our movement, understand it less, and to whom unions and strikes are only
useful as a means of carrying on "the class war." To them the idea of
adjusting labor disputes without constantly resorting to strikes is gall and
wormwood.

These are only a few instances where strikes and lockouts could have
been avoided if our International Union would have been vested with some
authority in the matter.

There are hardly half a dozen locals whose members are capable of
conducting an organization. The rest conduct their business in a slipshod
fashion and have not the slightest notion of using diplomacy and tact in deal-
ing with employers. They resort to strikes at the slightest provocation,
instead of using it as a last resort only.

It is no wonder that our locals more often than otherwise dissipate their
energies in costly and protracted strikes, which bring nothing but disaster
to all concerned.

Thus we preserve this antiquated system of local autonomy which has
long since been forgotten by many American labor organizations, some
of them going as far as to suspend any local for engaging in a strike without
the sanction of the General Office.

The International Typographical Union, by the rule adopted at its St.
Louis Convention in 1904, makes it obligatory on the part of its General
Executive Council to "immediately disown all strikes occurring without
its sanction and to not guarantee protection to all members who remain or accept
work in all offices affected by illegal strikes."

Thus we see while most of the American International unions, with their
stable memberships, will not allow their subordinate locals to call strikes
without the knowledge or sanction of their Executive Board, our Interna-
tional Union, with members composed of new recruits, is always ready to
lend its moral support to any strike or dispute. I am positive that as long
as this system, or, rather, want of system, will exist we will never make
any real progress and always be subjected to the perpetual ups and downs—
mostly downs—ever obliged to begin anew without being in a position to
obtain anything in the way of solid or substantial benefits to our members.
After giving this matter considerable attention I came to the conclusion that we ought to inaugurate the following changes to start with: Each member to be entitled to $50 death and total disability benefits after 12 months' membership; this benefit to increase $50 each year until it reaches the sum of $500 after ten years' membership. To meet this payment each member to pay a special assessment of 50 cents. Members who have reached the age of 50 years or over at the time of their initiation, or who fail to furnish a doctor's certificate, to receive one-half of this amount. This levy, with our present membership, will bring us close to $15,000, enough to meet this obligation for some years. Since the great majority of our membership consists of young people under 30 years of age, I am positive that we will find no difficulty in meeting this payment for some time to come.

The present per capita to be raised to 6 cents per week, 3 cents of which to pay the ordinary expenses of running the General Office, keeping up an adequate staff of trained organizers, and providing each member with a copy of our official Journal, and 5 cents to go for the payment of strike benefit, only when such strikes have been sanctioned by the General Executive Board.

The inauguration of the payment of these two kinds of benefits will give the locals and the average member a vested interest in the International Union; will bind the individual member to his local, and the local to the International Union, and will be to the interest of the individual member to see that his or her local is in good standing with the General Office, and that the officers of the local union shall obey the laws of our International Union.

This proposition may look novel and drastic to some of the delegates present, and to many of our members; but the great majority of the International Union, both in this country and abroad, have long since emerged from our primitive, antiquated system of promiscuous strikes, and low dues and initiation fees.

Secretary Frank Morrison, in his last report at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, held at Toronto, makes use of the following statements:

"Nearly every International organization has greater power to day to protect its members than 12 years ago. That still greater success has not been achieved by a number of the International unions is due in a great measure to the fact that they were organized and conducted on the basis of a cheap per capita tax, a form of organization which fails to provide funds necessary for organizing work to hold and increase membership. . . . Nearly all secession movements have occurred in the International unions having a low per capita tax."

The fact is that many of our members have been looking for some time to changes of this nature, but, owing to the fact that until lately the locals were in such poor shape, they did not think it advisable to introduce a system which requires higher per capita.
Now is the most opportune moment for changes of this character, and if you will not do it now, you will fail in your duty to your constituencies.

It is true that these changes may call forth opposition among the more indifferent and short-sighted members, whose only object is to pay as little to the organization and get the most out of it; but the opposition will be overcome if the delegates will return to their respective locals and make up their minds to carry them through.

There is all the difference in the world if you present your demands to the employer representing a single local union with little or no treasury or come to him in the name of an International organization with a large treasury and with tens of thousands of members to back you up.

I would also suggest that no charters should be issued to any local union the dues of which are less than 15 cents per week, and no local with a membership of 100 or over should charge less than $1 initiation fee.

In my first report at the New York Convention in 1905, I made use of the following statement:

"The measure of success we achieved in the first few years of our existence was chiefly due to the fact that we had been borne on the crest of the wave of trade unionism which was then sweeping this country. We had not, however, in its years of growth and prosperity, developed within it a force which should enable it to withstand the tide of reaction. At best, our International has never been more to the locals than a figurehead. Some belonged to it from a mere sentimental desire of seeing at some future time a strong central organization embracing all branches of the Ladies' Garment Trades; others, again, paid their per capita to the General Offices, as otherwise they would have been cut off from the American Trade Union movement and the American Federation of Labor."

None of the locals expect any substantial help in time of need. The adherence to the International has always been of the most loose character, and the payment of the per capita depends upon the caprice and good will of the local leaders.

Since then the position has not changed. It is true that our membership is much larger than it was 5 years ago, but we have not yet developed a force within our International Union which should enable us to withstand any tide of reaction which we might have to face sooner or later. Unless something is done on the lines suggested above, we might be thrown back to the position of 1905.

I am aware of the fact that there are several weaknesses and shortcomings in the changes I offered, probably due to the fact that they do not go far enough. I simply put it as a beginning. I would be glad if resolutions would be introduced to strengthen them, and provide us with means of raising a larger defense fund than my propositions contain.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Dyche,
General Secretary-Treasurer.
### Payments by Locals from May first, 1909 to May first, 1910

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local 1.—Cloak Operators’ Union of New York, N.Y.:</th>
<th>1909-1910</th>
<th>1910-1910</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Local 6.—Cloak Makers’ Union of St. Louis, Mo.</th>
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<tr>
<th>Local 8.—Cloak Makers’ Union of San Francisco, Cal.</th>
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<th>Local 10.—Cloak and Suit Cutters’ Union of New York, N.Y.:</th>
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<td>Due Stamps</td>
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<td>Charter Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local 37.—Cloak and Skirt Pressers’ Union of Cleveland, Ohio:</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps .................................. $85.00       $85.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 28.40       28.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessments .............. ..................... 2.00        2.00</td>
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<td>Charter Fee ............... ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong> .................. ........................ $125.40</td>
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<tr>
<th>Local 38.—Ladies’ Tailors’ and Dressmakers’ Union of New York, N.Y.:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps ............... ..................... $25.00       $167.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 78.05       78.05</td>
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<td>Donations ................. ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
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<td>Charter Fee ............... ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<th>Local 39.—Petticoat Makers of New York, N.Y.:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps ............... ..................... $15.00       $15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 4.00        4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Fee ............... ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong> .................. ........................ $29.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local 41.—Wrapper Makers’ Union of Brownsville, N.Y.:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps ............... ..................... $93.75       $93.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 19.50       19.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessments .............. ..................... 12.00       12.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong> .................. ........................ $125.25</td>
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<tr>
<th>Local 42.—Cloak and Suit Cutters’ Union of Cleveland, Ohio:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps ............... ..................... $29.70       $29.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Fee ............... ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>Local 43.—Ladies’ Custom Tailors’ Union of Philadelphia, Pa.:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Due Stamps ............... ..................... $25.00       $25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies ................. ..................... 17.00       17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Fee ............... ..................... 10.00       10.00</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong> .................. ........................ $52.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local 50.—Misses' and Children's Dressmakers' Union of Brownsville, N. Y.:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due Stamps</td>
</tr>
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<td>Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Local 51.—Ladies' Shirt Waist Makers' Union of Newark, N. J.: |
| Due Stamps | $0.70  | $0.70  |
| Supplies   | 2.38   | 2.38   |
| Charter Fee| 10.00  | 10.00  |
| **Total**   | **$13.08** |        |

| Local 52.—Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union of Detroit, Mich.: |
| Due Stamps | $5.00  | $5.00  |

| Local 53.—Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union of New York, N. Y.: |
| Due Stamps | $5.00  | $5.00  |
| Supplies   | 9.80   | 9.80   |
| **Total**   | **$14.80** |        |

| Local 54.—Skirt and Cloak Pressers of Philadelphia, Pa.: |
| Due Stamps | $70.00 | $70.00 |
| Assessments| 5.00   | 5.00   |
| **Total**   | **$75.00** |        |

<p>| Local 55.—Silk Suit and Waist Makers' Union of Philadelphia, Pa.: |
| Due Stamps | $100.00 | $90.00 | $190.00 |
| Supplies   | 5.05    | 21.40  | 26.45   |
| Donations  | 5.00    |        | 5.00    |
| Charter Fee| 10.00   |        | 10.00   |
| Assessments| 8.00    |        | 8.00    |
| <strong>Total</strong>   | <strong>$239.45</strong> |        |</p>
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<th>1909-1910</th>
<th>1910-1910</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union of Boston, Mass.:</td>
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<td>Due Stamps</td>
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<td>Charter Fee</td>
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<td>Cloak Makers' Union of Philadelphia, Pa.:</td>
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<td>Charter Fee</td>
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<td>Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Omaha, Neb.:</td>
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<td>Costume and Dressmakers' Union of New York, N. Y.:</td>
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1909-1910

Local 62.—White Goods Workers’ Union of New York, N. Y.:

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Local 63.—United Cloak Makers of Cincinnati, Ohio:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1909-1910</th>
<th>1910-1910</th>
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<tr>
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Sub-Local 63.—Cloak Makers of Cincinnati, Ohio:

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<tbody>
<tr>
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Local 64.—Cloak Button Hole Makers’ Union of New York, N. Y.:

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Local 65.—Cloak and Suit Pressers Union of Philadelphia, Pa.:

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Local 66.—Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union of Carmel, N. J.:

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<th>Organizing</th>
<th>Per Capita Tax</th>
<th>A. F. of L.</th>
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<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
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### RECEIPTS

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## Receipts

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<th>Charter Fee</th>
<th>Supplies</th>
<th>Assessments and Donations</th>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
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Balance on hand May 1st, 1908 $105.04
Receipts for the year 1908-1909 $2349.70
" " " 1909-1910 17086.34
Total $19541.08

Expenses for the year 1908-1909 $2304.93
" " " 1909-1910 14595.60
Total $16900.53

Balance on hand May 1st, 1910 $2640.55

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## Expenditures

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**Total:** 6061
The following telegrams were read and ordered placed on file:

**New York, June 7, 1910.**

Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Greetings and best wishes to your Tenth Convention.

**Suit Case and Bag Makers’ Union.**

**New York, June 7, 1910.**

John A. Dyche, General Secretary,
Berkeley Hall.

Hope you will accomplish work that will be a credit to the labor movement.

Amalgamated Ladies’ Garment Cutters’ Ass’n, Local 10.

Nathan Baron, Vice-President.

Upon motion, vote of thanks was given to Miss Mayerson, Assistant General Secretary.

President declared that meeting stands adjourned and will reconvene June 8th at 9 A.M.

**Wednesday, June — Morning Session.**

President Rosenberg in the Chair.

Roll call. Absentee—Max Albert.

Chairman announced he substituted Delegate Weisglass on the Label and Miscellaneous Committee for Epstein. He also announced the appointment of Delegates Witashken and Solovioff on the Special Committee on General Strike.

The following telegrams were read and placed on file:

**Toronto, Canada, June 7, 1910.**

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations. Best wishes for success.

**Independent Cloak Makers’ Union.**

**Brooklyn, N.Y., June 7, 1910.**

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Boston, Mass.

Congratulations to the delegates of the Tenth Convention. Hope you continue your good work. Three cheers for the coming general strike and industrial improvement.

**Local 11, Brownsville, N.Y.**

**Brooklyn, N.Y., June 7, 1910.**

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations to delegates of Tenth Convention. Hope you will continue your good work. Three cheers for the coming general strike.
In the absence of the label promoter, Miss Pauline Newman, General Secretary-Treasurer read her report, which was referred to the Label Committee.

TO MR. JOHN A. DYCZE, GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

GREETING:

If there ever was a time or an opportunity to spread the sentiment for the demand of the union label on the shirt waist, the time is now, and the opportunity is here.

No strike in the history of the labor movement received so much attention from the public at large as the strike of the Waist Makers. And even now, when all is over, when everything is settled, we find that every newspaper and every magazine is still writing about the great strike, and these writings are being read and talked over everywhere, even from the pulpit.

This being the situation, we ought to grasp the opportunity and take advantage of the attention we received and agitate for our label.

When I left New York the 20th day of March last, in behalf of the union label, it seemed that there was only one idea and one method of propaganda, and that was to agitate among the labor unions and to interview the buyers of the different stores. But after having spoken several times before the labor unions, I realized that while my arguments were received with much enthusiasm I felt that this form of agitation was an indirect one. At union meetings you find men only, for, sad as it is, it is nevertheless a fact that the great mass of working women are not organized as yet, and cannot be reached at the meetings. Because of this I had to look for a more effective method of agitation, and this I did.

I succeeded in interesting the newspapers, and I must admit that they gave me more space than I ever expected to receive. Through this publicity the publicity society women and women's clubs were rather anxious to have me come and speak before them.

These women have a strong influence upon the big department stores, and if they make a demand for something it is found to bring results.

Many of these women were once very strong opponents of trade unions, and thought that the label of the consumers league was all they needed; but, after hearing me, they changed their opinions and had to admit that the union label is the only label that counts for anything.

Through contact with these women I next got the opportunity to speak in the churches, so reaching a great number of unorganized women. With the exception of the Catholic Church, there was not a church in Boston and vicinity that did not grant me the privilege of speaking to their congregations.

Strong facts must convince, and with these at my command I succeeded in gaining them over to our side.

The enthusiasm and willingness to do something that prevailed at my meetings can hardly be described.

My trip as a whole was a great success. During my stay in Boston I also spoke in the following places, where I had very successful meetings:
The following telegrams were read and ordered placed on file:

New York, June 7, 1910.

Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Greetings and best wishes to your Tenth Convention.

Suit Case and Bag Makers' Union.

New York, June 7, 1910.

John A. Dyche, General Secretary,
Berkeley Hall.
Hope you will accomplish work that will be a credit to the labor movement.

Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Ass'n, Local 10.

Nathan Baron, Vice-President.

Upon motion, vote of thanks was given to Miss Mayerson, Assistant General Secretary.
President declared that meeting stands adjourned and will reconvene June 8th at 9 A.M.

Wednesday, June—Morning Session.

President Rosenberg in the Chair.

Roll call. Absentee—Max Albert.
Chairman announced he substituted Delegate Weisglass on the Label and Miscellaneous Committee for Epstein. He also announced the appointment of Delegates Witashken and Solovioff on the Special Committee on General Strike.
The following telegrams were read and placed on file:

Toronto, Canada, June 7, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Congratulations. Best wishes for success.

Independent Cloak Makers' Union.

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 7, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Boston, Mass.
Congratulations to the delegates of the Tenth Convention. Hope you continue your good work. Three cheers for the coming general strike and industrial improvement.

Local 11, Brownsville, N. Y.

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 7, 1910.

I. L. G. W. U. Convention,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Congratulations to delegates of Tenth Convention. Hope you will continue your good work. Three cheers for the coming general strike.
In the absence of the label promoter, Miss Pauline Newman, General Secretary-Treasurer read her report, which was referred to the Label Committee.

TO MR. JOHN A. DYCHE, GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

GREETING:

If there ever was a time or an opportunity to spread the sentiment for the demand of the union label on the shirt waist, the time is now, and the opportunity is here.

No strike in the history of the labor movement received so much attention from the public at large as the strike of the Waist Makers. And even now, when all is over, when everything is settled, we find that every newspaper and every magazine is still writing about the great strike, and these writings are being read and talked over everywhere, even from the pulpit.

This being the situation, we ought to grasp the opportunity and take advantage of the attention we received and agitate for our label.

When I left New York the 20th day of March last, in behalf of the union label, it seemed that there was only one idea and one method of propaganda, and that was to agitate among the labor unions and to interview the buyers of the different stores. But after having spoken several times before the labor unions, I realized that while my arguments were received with much enthusiasm I felt that this form of agitation was an indirect one. At union meetings you find men only, for, sad as it is, it is nevertheless a fact that the great mass of working women are not organized as yet, and cannot be reached at the meetings. Because of this I had to look for a more effective method of agitation, and this I did.

I succeeded in interesting the newspapers, and I must admit that they gave me more space than I ever expected to receive. Through this publicity society women and women's clubs were rather anxious to have me come and speak before them.

These women have a strong influence upon the big department stores, and if they make a demand for something it is found to bring results.

Many of these women were once very strong opponents of trade unions, and thought that the label of the consumers league was all they needed; but, after hearing me, they changed their opinions and had to admit that the union label is the only label that counts for anything.

Through contact with these women I next got the opportunity to speak in the churches, so reaching a great number of unorganized women. With the exception of the Catholic Church, there was not a church in Boston and vicinity that did not grant me the privilege of speaking to their congregations.

Strong facts must convince, and with these at my command I succeeded in gaining them over to our side.

The enthusiasm and willingness to do something that prevailed at my meetings can hardly be described.

My trip as a whole was a great success. During my stay in Boston I also spoke in the following places, where I had very successful meetings:
Especially has the idea of a general strike gained ground when, during the slack season, our employers took advantage of the situation and tried to force us back from the place we occupied.

Both men and officers of the local unions became convinced that only by a vigorous and concerted effort was it possible to regain the position and maintain it. To organize single and mostly small shops was recognized as a failure at first. The Joint Board did not look upon the general strike idea favorably. But, seeing the great demand for such action and the strong arguments put forward in its favor, the Joint Board has at last fallen into line and began an agitation for strong organization and for a strike on a large scale.

With the fall of the opposition unions of the Industrial Workers of the World, our trade in all its branches began to have more confidence in our International Union and in the New York Joint Board. Large numbers of men and women are now entering our locals, and everywhere we feel the beginning of a new epoch. The Joint Board leaves the question of a general strike to the judgment of the delegates assembled at our Tenth Convention. We hope that the delegates will see the wisdom of such action, and vote for it.

The New York Joint Board has lately held several mass meetings in the largest halls in New York. All the meetings were highly successful. Committees of the Joint Board or local Unions now get a more cordial reception at the various shops.

We are now planning a great organizing campaign. An extensive manufacture of cloaks and skirts is now being carried on in New York, under the name of "jobbing trade." This consists of a lower class of goods, and is made up during the slack season of June and July, for next to nothing. The employers in this trade, fearing a general strike, began to work on a much larger scale.

The Joint Board has therefore taken up the organization of the jobbing trade workers and in many instances it has met with success. In some shops the prices have been raised and in others certain work was stopped. By this action the prospects of the proposed general strike have been considerably improved.

Perceiving the necessity of a press fully devoted to our trade interests, and finding that this cannot be sufficiently obtained from our present Jewish newspapers, we have therefore decided to issue three times a week a bulletin containing two and three columns of trade and shop news.

Up to the present time we have published ten numbers, and they are eagerly read by the mass of workers in the trade. About 40,000 copies have been distributed.

During the past two years the Joint Board carried on 77 strikes and lockouts, of which 57 were settled in favor of the Union and 20 ended against us. These strikes and lockouts cost a good deal of money. The Joint Board raised the necessary funds and gave the strikers all possible help. The financial income of the Joint Board is derived from half of the initiation fee and five cents from every per capita stamp sold by the affiliated locals. Our in-
come from January, 1908, to April, 1910, has reached the amount of $10,571.63; our expenses for all purposes, $8,891.44, leaving a balance in hand of $1,680.19.

Our latest work includes the formation of an Italian branch of the trade. This branch was formed from members previously belonging to Locals 1, 9, 23 and 35.

We close this report in the belief that we have done our best in the past, and we cherish good hopes for the future.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS GORDON, Delegate.

Upon motion, agreed to dispense with reading of the minutes of the District Council of New York and other printed reports of the locals.

The President read his report as the delegate to the A. F. of L. Convention.

TO THE OFFICERS AND DELEGATES OF THE TENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION:

Two years ago, at our last convention in Philadelphia, Brother Charles Jacobson was elected to represent our International Union at the two conventions of the American Federation of Labor. But, as you are already aware, the finances of the General Office were then so low that we were unable to send a delegate to the convention held in Denver in 1905. In 1909 our financial position improved, but a short time prior to the convention Brother Jacobson informed us that it was impossible to give up his employment for two weeks' time, and the General Executive Board elected the General Secretary-Treasurer in his place. Again, almost at the eleventh hour, it was found that Brother Dyche could not leave the office, and so I had the honor of being the substitute.

Under the circumstances I had no specific instructions to submit to the Toronto Convention any resolutions concerning our International Union. However, I thought it necessary to submit a resolution proposing that the women's Trade Union League, which has always been represented by fraternal delegates without a vote, should henceforward have their delegates seated with full rights and privileges. I was moved to this action by the knowledge that the League had rendered yeoman services in helping to organize the women workers of our trade. I have also borne in mind the good work of the League in the strike at the Triangle Waist Co. Owing, however, to certain technical reasons, the Resolution Committee reported against my motion. The convention was mainly occupied with the case of the Buck Stove Range Co., of St. Louis, Mo., in connection with which President Gumpey, Vice-President Mitchell and Secretary Frank Morrison were sentenced to imprisonment for contempt of court. Much time was taken up in settling jurisdiction disputes between the various national unions. The
convention succeeded in bringing about amalgamation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters with the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners.

I was also called several times before the Grievance Committee in connection with the dispute between our International Union and the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters, formerly Local 10.

The result of this was that the dispute was settled and an agreement was signed by myself, Brother Herman Robinson, the organizer of the American Federation of Labor; Brother Harry De Vaux, the representative of the Central Federated Union of New York, with the consent of the convention. For the terms of this agreement I would refer you to the minutes of the General Executive Board.

While the convention was yet in session it became known that the appeal of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison was rejected by the Court of Appeals. Many of the delegates thought that the sentence would be immediately carried out, and therefore certain arrangements were made for taking charge of the General Federation office in their absence. It so happened, however, that a stay of proceedings was granted pending an appeal to the United States Supreme Court, and they remained out on bail as before.

In conclusion I wish to thank heartily the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the General Executive Board for the honor and opportunity afforded me in attending this convention of the most extensive labor organization in the world.

The next Federation Convention will take place in St. Louis, Mo. This convention will, no doubt, decide to be represented as in the past.

With fraternal greetings,  

A. B. ROSENBERG.

Mrs. Charlotte Smith, President of the Women's Industrial and Rescue League, addressed the convention.

Mrs. Smith said that there were 70,000 homeless women in Boston, and of the $8,500,000 devoted to charities in this city none of it went to provide a home for destitute women. Low wages was the cause of 50 per cent. of fallen womanhood. Women in this city were receiving 17 cents per dozen for underwear, and earning $2.00 or $3.00 per week. The department stores which buy these goods are making their profits out of the flesh and blood of those women, and the press does not take it up and give it publicity. She tried to appeal to the churches, but found that the churches were absolutely indifferent to the welfare of those women, because the patrons of those churches are themselves financially interested in the concerns which make huge profits out of the sweat and blood of those unfortunate women. She appealed to the Central Labor Union of Boston, but so far nothing has been done. She would like to see co-operation between organized labor and their Rescue League to help those fallen women. What is necessary is publicity and the force of public opinion.

Miss Milanda Scott, delegate of the National Women's Trade Union League, stated that the only way to help those women is to organize them and raise their standard of living and earnings, and the W. T. U. L. is doing it, and invited Miss Charlotte Smith to co-operate with the League.
Miss Rose Schneiderman contended that by providing women with free homes their wages would be reduced by the amount of their savings of their lodging, and things would remain the same. There is no other way of remedying the evils of white slavery except by increasing their earnings, and this can only be done through the agencies of the trade unions.

Additional reports of locals were then called for.

Delegate Dyche quoted Section 14, Article 3 of the Constitution, which explicitly states that only such reports can be read at the convention which have been sent in fourteen days prior to the opening of the convention.

The President ruled this objection out of order, on the ground that this fourteen days' time is not found in the Yiddish translation.

Decision of the Chair was sustained by a majority vote.

Upon motion, it was finally agreed to temporarily suspend Section 15 of the Constitution, and that additional reports from locals be read at the convention.

Upon further motion, agreed to have no verbal reports.

The following reports from locals were read and placed on file.

**REPORT OF LOCAL I.**

It affords us great pleasure to present our report to the Convention, in which mention is made of the remarkable progress of our local Union. At the Philadelphia Convention our delegates reported that the crisis had badly affected our local. We then consoled ourselves with the idea that ours was not the only local Union to have been hard hit by the crisis. Naturally, under those circumstances, having been left with a membership of 200 only, we could do nothing to improve trade conditions. It was not a question of trade conditions, but rather one of keeping up the local. Thanks to a few loyal and energetic members, who were determined to maintain the local at any cost, we were enabled to endure adverse conditions and to hope for a better future. Our hopes were justified and our labors amply rewarded. We are now glad to report to you the remarkable growth of our local. Our membership has increased so much that we have been compelled to divide our local Union in two sections, which meet at Harlem and downtown respectively. One Executive Board unites them both.

With regard to the business part of our local union, although much is done by the Joint Board, we have our hands full of work—so much so that our Financial Secretary, who used to attend in the evenings only, has, since last year, been compelled to give all his time to the work.

During the last two years we carried on about eight strikes. Three of these were of some importance, namely, that against R. Simons, Bernsein, Meyers & Kashowitz. It should be noted that the strike against R. Simons had attracted the attention of the workers of other firms. About 500 employees, working in the same building, left their shops in sympathy with the strikers. This sympathy strike has convinced us that strikes against individual employers are detrimental to the Union. Accordingly, we immediately began an agitation for a general
strike. Our labors have been crowned with success and we now feel fit to engage the enemy in a general strike.

Our present membership is above 2,000, and our current weekly expense is $60 a week, apart from the per capita we pay to the Joint Board. It must be borne in mind that during the last three months the per capita we have paid over amounted to $2,100.

Our local is in good condition generally, and we are represented at this Convention by six delegates, which is a sign of good progress. In conclusion, we desire to express the hope that at the next convention our delegates will represent a mighty organization, embracing all the workers of our trade.

With fraternal greetings,

J. WOOLF,
A. AXELROD,
I. SHAFF,
PH. SEIDENBERG.

Upon motion, agreed that Report of Local 9 be read at the afternoon session.

REPORT OF LOCAL 17.

At the last Philadelphia Convention our local Union reported having survived the great crisis from which all the other unions have suffered. This we have been able to do, despite the hard struggles and frequent strikes against individual employers. We have been victorious all along the line, having forced the bosses to introduce electric power. We have since also organized many infants' cloak shops, including those we had lost two years ago. The Union has now one or two strikes on hand. Negotiations were in progress when we left New York, and no doubt they will be settled in our absence.

We have about 600 members and about $500 in our treasury. Recently we have engaged as business agent Mr. Morris G. Leider, who is well known in the labor movement, and hope to make good progress in the future.

With greetings,

D. SHAIFER,
M. NISNENITZ,
WM. PINKOFSKY.

Upon motion, agreed that Report of Local 25 be read at the afternoon session.

REPORT OF THE SKIRT MAKERS' UNION OF NEW YORK,
LOCAL No. 23.

Thanks to the personal loyalty, perseverance and self-sacrifice of a few of our members we are enabled to be represented at this Convention by three delegates. The crisis, which has nearly put an end to our existence, has made itself felt within our ranks a long time after it was over. We were left with a remnant of about a dozen members and with a debt of several hundred dollars in
addition. Under such circumstances it was much more difficult to revive the old union than to form a new one.

But this remnant consisted of members who stood by the local from its birth, who have passed through all its ups and downs and who were thus enabled to predict that this hopeless state was not destined to remain forever.

They have now the satisfaction of seeing their prediction fulfilled. True, we have yet a large field to conquer; for, there are about five thousand persons employed in the skirt trade of New York. But, compared with the past, we may congratulate ourselves upon having attained to a membership of 650, all in good standing and new recruits are daily joining our ranks.

Financially, our position is also fairly satisfactory. We have paid all our debts, and our treasury is now worth $1,200.00.

It is impossible for us to report on the number of strikes which we have either won or settled, because this, as well as the general work of organization, comes within the sphere of the Joint Board working on behalf of all the locals.

We are gratified to state, in conclusion, that our Local provides quite as large a number of active workers and fighters for our cause as certain other locals. We also make bold to say that our Local has ever been and will continue to be loyal to the International Union, prepared to help in carrying out all plans to be adopted by this Convention, calculated to benefit our trade and the Labor movement generally.

A. Albert,
John A. Dyche,
Harry Kleinman,
Delegates, Local No. 23.

REPORT OF SKIRT MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL No. 24, OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

During the last two years the Skirt Makers' Union, Local No. 24, of Philadelphia, has made no progress. Almost all its strikes have been failures. Whenever there is any trouble in the shops the workers join the union, but as soon as the trouble is over their interest in the union ceases. Most of the troubles end unfavorably for the employees because their employers know that they have never been and never will be union men. Being each for himself in the shops, the employers are enabled to tackle and overcome them individually. There is, in other words, no sense of solidarity among them, and for that reason many strikes result in failure. Naturally they make this a pretext for staying away from the union until the next trouble occurs.

Hitherto strikes were called in an illegal manner and without proper consideration of the causes and likely results. The organizers, or those who acted as such, seemed to have imagined that the union existed only on Saturdays. During the week-days they took the liberty of calling shops on strike without reference to the executive or general body, so that in many
cases strikes were of sudden and unexpected occurrence. This accounts in one way for the backward condition of our union.

Another cause of our backwardness may be traced to the fact that for some time the skirt manufacturers had turned their attention to the making of dresses and princesses. That has to a certain extent hindered our efforts to organize the trade. Now, however, the manufacturer of skirts is to the fore again, and there is a broad field for organizing activity. But I believe the future to be uncertain unless the International Union will assume supreme control over the locals and prevent them from mismanaging their affairs, and therefore I submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The power at present possessed by the locals to declare strikes in and out of season, without reference to wishes of the G. E. B., leads to useless, illegal and impractical conflicts and to a waste of energy and financial resources, be it

Resolved, To increase the per capita tax, so as to enable the International Office to create and manage a strike fund for all its members, and to pay out strike relief in accordance with a new set of rules embodied in the Constitution.

With fraternal greetings,

B. ZOLOTOROFF,
Local No. 24.

REPORT OF LOCAL 34.

Our local was at one time a strong organization of New York State, our membership numbered 150 in good standing at the end of December, 1909, but through the lack of organizing powers we have suffered much and lost ninety-two members, nearly two-thirds of our entire membership. This report is a true statement of the position of our local Union. We fear that the organization will gradually lose its entire membership unless organizers are set to work among the people of our craft.

Local 36—Report to be read at the afternoon session.

REPORT OF LOCAL 38.

Our local joined the International Union in October, 1909. You are well aware of the fact that, on a union beginning to show signs of activity, strikes are bound to occur here and there. This was precisely our experience. You can imagine what it means to go through a strike of twenty-five weeks' duration.

We are very grateful to all the local unions for their generous support, amounting to $400. The strike has involved us in an expense of nearly $5,000, and we are even now in debt about $300.

The difficulties of organizing the trade, especially the Italian workers, are laborious. We hope the convention will grant our request for financial
and moral support, to enable us to organize the workers before the next season.

With greetings,

Ab Solovioff.

Local 49—Report to be read at the afternoon session.

REPORT OF LOCAL 56.

For a period of eighteen months after the last general strike there had been no local union of cloak and skirt makers in Boston. But with the assistance of the General Office and the support of the American Federation of Labor, Local 56 has been organized. The local is now in a comparatively good condition. We have succeeded in organizing nearly all the cloak makers, but the majority of the skirt makers are still outside the Union.

In the course of our existence we found it possible to donate to various other organizations a total sum of $1,000.

We have no Union shops properly so called, but wherever cloaks and suits are made we manage to control the shops indirectly.

All our organizing work is done by volunteers. Only the Financial Secretary is paid for his services.

Our relations with the manufacturers are rather unfriendly, but we continue to make progress.

With fraternal greetings,

Local 56.

Local 58—General Secretary Treasurer stated that he received a Report from Local 58 in time; but, owing to an error on his part, it was left at the general office and, therefore, moved that the Report of Local 58 should be incorporated in the printed proceedings. Motion carried.

REPORT OF LOCAL 64.

Our local was organized some time in July, 1909.

We had four strikes and won them all; but, withal, the victories cost us dear, and our treasury has been practically defaulted. However, we are fighting for the good cause and initiating new members from time to time.

We also tried hard to get the buttonhole makers and pressers, who belong to Local 17, transferred to us, as we felt that they should be members of our local, and referred the matter to the District Council, but have not as yet been successful in getting them into our Union.

Our charter is known as the Cloak Buttonhole Makers, but we are of the opinion that it should be changed to read simply “The Buttonhole Makers' Union,” so that we could, by so doing, be in the position to control the entire buttonhole makers' trade.

We have also suffered from our inability to obtain the services of a capable financial secretary, and therefore could not have a clear financial report.

Isy Cohen.

Motion made and seconded that all resolutions be printed for afternoon session.

Meeting adjourned.
At the last convention our delegates reported having a membership of 250 not in good standing, and a treasury entirely in default. But we had then expressed the hope that after the convention things would improve. About July 5 the firm of R. Simon & Co., the only firm which was thoroughly unionized, and whose agreement with the Union expired on July 1, 1908, locked out its employees, among whom were many of the most active members of the local. We took up the fight which R. Simon & Co. forced upon us. Being without funds, we were compelled to levy an assessment of 50 cents upon our members. These were our only resources. This strike, which lasted until the end of September, 1908, was finally lost. We were willing to effect a compromise, but the Arbitration Committee appointed to settle the strike decided completely in favor of the employers. It is hardly necessary to state what a terrible shock this was to our members, considering that all our energy and money was wasted in the fruitless effort to win the strike. Our members never recovered from its effects, and, discouraged with the sad result of the strike, the members finally abandoned the organization, leaving the Union in a demoralized condition. But a few members remained loyal to the Union, and did not give up hope of rebuilding a strong organization. They kept the Union alive by taxing themselves repeatedly in order to pay the various expenses necessary to carry on the business of the Union, such as rent, light, etc. The financial and recording secretaries always offered their services free of charge. This struggle for the maintenance of the Union was kept up until December, 1908.

About the beginning of January, 1909, we succeeded in organizing the employees of J. Weil & Co., the majority of whom were high-grade tailors. We also succeeded in organizing the employees of Slivak & Co., also high-grade tailors. This was the beginning of a successful attempt to organize our craftsmen. Having organized the above two firms, many active members who abandoned the Union in 1908 rejoined us, and with them came a new spirit into the organization. Since then the organization has been steadily growing, remarkable improvement taking place every week.

In November, 1909, two firms, Kaschowitz Bros. and Rudinsky Bros., locked out their employees, among whom were many of our members. The lockouts were contested by the Joint Board, and we paid strike benefit to the members concerned.

The two strikes were carried on vigorously by the Joint Board until January 15, 1910, the beginning of the spring season. By this time the members, realizing that there was no hope of victory, decided to go to work in other shops, and we resolved to call off the strikes.

With the beginning of the last spring season our members became convinced that most strikes affecting individual firms were failures, that to
fight the bosses individually was like chasing the wind. In order to effect a radical change and a positive betterment of the conditions of our trade, it was necessary to have one huge strike affecting our entire industry. Along those lines we have carried on our agitation since, and this has brought hundreds of members into our organization. The sentiment for a general strike in the cloak and skirt trade in the city of New York is now very strong. After a vote upon the subject, the local decided unanimously to instruct its delegates to the Tenth Annual Convention to introduce a resolution requesting the approval of the convention for the calling of a general strike in the cloak and skirt industry of New York.

Now, fellow delegates, it is up to you to deliberate on our behalf. Your approval means to us the uplifting of our industry throughout the country. The conditions prevailing in our industry in New York City at the present day are miserable beyond description, and can only be remedied by a general strike. Petty strikes can not and will not accomplish anything under the present circumstances.

After several fruitless attempts in the past to organize the Italian members of our trade, we succeeded, with the aid of the Joint Board, in getting into our local about 250 Italian members. This is very significant, and as the Italian members do not understand the Yiddish language, in which the business of our local is transacted, we have allowed them to hold meetings in their native language in conjunction with a few Italian members of Locals 23 and 35. However, we intend to grant them a charter as a sub-local in the near future.

Our members were involved in 77 strikes and lockouts, 57 of which were won and 20 lost.

The costs of these strikes amounted to $875.50.

We have paid out the above amount in strike benefits only, all other costs were paid by the Joint Board.

Our initiation fee is $3, and our dues are 15 cents per week.

Respectfully yours,

Cloak and Suit Tailors' Union, Local 9.

S. Polakoff,
M. Deitch,
A. Mitchell,
S. Ninfo,

Delegates.

Roll call—Absent, M. Gillespie.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' WAIST MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 25.

At all the previous conventions our local presented gloomy reports of the condition of the Union. All possible means used to organize the waist makers of New York were of no avail, and it appeared that the Union would never emerge from its stagnation. To this convention, however, we come with a joyful report. Within the last year our membership has mounted up to between
13,000 and 15,000 and we now control 350 strictly Union shops. The Ladies’ Waist Makers’ strike of New York will long be remembered in the ranks of organized labor. That general strike was declared on November 22, 1909, and all the waist makers of New York, Brooklyn and Brownsville responded to the call. About 25,000 workers took part in the struggle. The strikers could not be shifted from their determined position, even under the most distressing circumstances of hunger, cold or workhouse. Quite a number of the strikers were sentenced to various terms of such imprisonment. During the fourteen weeks of the strike the bosses employed the foulest and most unscrupulous means in order to defeat the Union. Gangs of the lowest individuals surrounded the shops. Twelve injunctions were granted by the judges against the officers of the Union and its Executive Board. But all this could not deter the strikers from picketing the shops or damp their loyalty and enthusiasm for the good cause.

We take this opportunity to refer with gratitude to the generous support received from the Women’s Trade Union League, the United Hebrew Trades and various other unions. The strike has cost about $100,000, and a good deal of this money came from outside sources during the first ten weeks. About $60,000 was paid in strike benefits. Court fines amounted to about $5,000, and the balance was used in payment of general management and organizing expenses, including $2,000 to the general office.

Our Union is now one of the strongest both numerically and financially. To deal efficiently with this enormous number of members it has been found expedient to divide the Union into nine sections, six of which are in New York City, one in Brooklyn and a sub-local in Brownsville, each district being under the supervision of one organizer. All the sections are represented on the Executive Board, which is composed of twenty-eight members.

For the last four weeks the Union has been engaged in two strikes, involving 300 members. These receive from $3.00 to $5.00 a week strike benefit. The slack season has given the manufacturers an opportunity to make trouble. But we are confident that their attempts will be frustrated. We hope that at the next convention our delegates will be in a position to report that all the workers in the trade are controlled by a strong and powerful Ladies’ Waist and Dressmakers’ Union.

With fraternal greetings,

Delegates of Local 25.

REPORT OF THE CLOAK, SKIRT AND REEFER PRESSERS’ UNION, LOCAL 35.

At the convention of 1908 our local union did not possess sufficient funds to pay the delegates’ expenses to Philadelphia, and enjoyed only a nominal existence.

To this Convention we send three delegates, at the expense of the Union.

We have come to the conclusion that in the future matters must not be allowed to proceed as in the past. In order to build up a strong Union of cloak and skirt pressers, two Unions in the same trade must not be allowed to exist in New York City. At that time there was in the field
the Cloak Pressers' Union, Branch 6, Local 59, I. W. W., and we had thought it advisable to enter into negotiations with that Union regarding a proposal of amalgamation.

The negotiations were conducted by Morris Goldofsky, of the International Cloak Pressers' Union, and Morris Sigman and H. Mellin, of the Industrial Cloak Pressers' Union. After several conferences it was resolved that Branch 6, Local 59, I. W. W., should be dissolved and enter the ranks of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Pressers' Union, Local 35. On December 31, 1908, the amalgamation of the two bodies took place at a mass meeting, in the presence of Bro. Ab. Rosenberg, the President of the International Union.

Following that event the active members have applied themselves with much energy to organizing the pressers. They met with some success, and the local grew both numerically and financially.

Thus matters stood on July 1, 1909, when the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Pressers' Unions began to exert itself with fresh activity. Not only our delegates on the Joint Board, but many members, began to work with renewed efforts, and their labors were crowned with success.

Our local union now has a membership of 800.

Our income, from July 1, 1909, to April 1, 1910, amounted to $2,900. We paid half the initiation fees and 5 cents of every dues stamp to the Joint Board. We have also carried on two strikes, which cost the Union nearly $260, and have repaid part of the debt to the General Office for 1908. We are left with a balance at Jarmlowsky's Bank of about $800.

We hope shortly to have thousands of members in our local union.

With greetings,

H. Menin, Secretary.

REPORT OF LOCAL 36.

Five years ago the conditions of the ladies' tailoring trade in Boston were so bad that it was impossible to earn a living. As conditions tended to become worse, the employees of a few principal shops met and decided to form a union. Workers of various nationalities responded to our appeal and joined as members. Soon after, we resolved to apply to the I. L. G. W. U. for a charter, and for this the German and Italian workers withdrew from the Union.

But this did not deter us from setting to work, and we began to organize the better class of Jewish workers, and endeavored to obtain for them better conditions of labor. We then resolved to introduce week work, and this caused a strike at the firm of Janesky. In a few days the firm settled, conceding all our demands.

We were, however, only at the beginning of our troubles. The employers looked with disfavor on the Union men and their repeated demands, and sought ways and means of crippling the Union. We sent committees to the employers, asking that Union men should be properly treated. We also framed rules and regulations for the organized Union shops, insisting that the employers comply
with them. This organizing work proceeded slowly, but eventually we succeeded in having agreements signed by twenty-six firms in Boston. We waged a strike of sixteen weeks' duration with the firm of Rosen Bros., and we stood our ground so bravely that the firm finally conceded all our demands, and also paid us $125 strike expenses.

Then fresh trouble arose with the firm of Levy, owing to an attempt to reduce wages. Negotiations failed and a strike was declared. In the course of a fight with scabs, a member was arrested and we were compelled to pay $50 fine. This shop afforded unfavorable opportunities for picketing, and partly for this reason we had to abandon the struggle. Now we have good prospects of being able to unionize the shop.

In February, 1909, the firm of Hurowitz Bros., leaders of the United Ladies' Tailors' Association, attempted to break its agreement with the Union. As they refused to negotiate with our committees, the Union had no alternative than to declare their shop on strike. But in one week victory was ours. The shop remained a Union shop and the employers paid $50 strike expenses.

In all these cases we paid the strikers their full wages as strike benefit. Owing to the small seasons, we could not expect fathers of families to be on strike for weeks, living on $3.00 to $5.00 a week. We think that even idealists cannot live by principles alone.

We have also introduced an employment bureau, an institution which few locals of the International Union have thought of. Years ago those in search of work would knock at the doors, offering to work for low wages. In other cases the employers who advertised for help were enabled to cross-examine the applicants and to choose those whose terms were the lowest. This also enabled them to blacklist the leaders of the Union, and cause much suffering to those who were most devoted and loyal. But our employment bureau made this a thing of the past. To-day, on a boss requiring help, he comes or telephones to the Union; so that the less skilled workman stands as good a chance of securing a job as the more skilled, frequently on his own terms.

On May 30, 1909, ten employers, members of the Association, presented an ultimatum to their employees, requiring them to work in open shops. The employees forthwith consulted the Union. Believing that a hard and protracted struggle might ensue; the Executive Board advised the employees tacitly to work in the open shop till the beginning of the season and then to make a determined stand for their rights. The majority of the members, however, strongly protested against the view of the Executive Board, reluctant to yield the benefits gained as a result of many a hard struggle.

The bosses thereupon locked out the workers concerned, and thus forced the Union to declare a strike. For ten months our men held out valiantly, in spite of hunger, privation, arrests and court trials. Only two members failed in their loyalty. The bosses were granted injunctions against us and we became involved in two cases of contempt of court. We spent many weeks at the courts at a considerable expense of money and time. Thanks to the indefatigable efforts of
our attorneys. we emerged creditably from all these trials. Our biggest fine amounted to $150. During the ten months four firms settled with the Union.

The employers admit that we are a body to be reckoned with; and that they never imagined that we were capable of giving them such a brave fight. At this moment conferences are being held between us and the employers, and we hope to adjust matters so as to prevent strikes in the future and yet to secure Union conditions.

Our thanks are due to the International Union, the various local Unions, especially Local 56, the Central Labor Union of Boston, as well as private individuals, for the generous support afforded us during the late strike.

With greetings, William Gitlin.

REPORT FROM THE CHICAGO CLOAK MAKERS' UNION,
LOCAL No. 44.

John Dycie, Secretary-Treasurer.

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union.

Dear Sir and Brother:

In the official blank I gave you the information asked for concerning our activities for the last two years, but there are just a few matters, we think, necessary to explain a little more fully.

We organized about July, 1908, and during this period about 800 members have been enrolled into the organization, of which number, however, less than half remained. Nearly all of those who joined the union did so because they worked in shops where they were able to make use of the influence and power of the union to better their position, especially in a financial sense. As soon as the worker changed his or her position, and found himself in a place surrounded by non-unionists, the member became delinquent in the payment of dues. Then, dissatisfied with the meager help they could get in the time of trouble in the shop, gave up their payments to the union altogether and then, of course, fell out of the organization. And so we could not, at any time during the two years keep our membership above the two hundred and fifty or three hundred mark.

Chicago is a city where unionism is comparatively strong, yet the trade union movement among the immigrant Jews is very weak. Although we have about sixty thousand workers in the various branches of the garment trade alone, regrettable to admit is the fact that there are only about twenty-five hundred organized.

The workers in the cloak and skirt trade number at least two thousand, and that is a rather small number, yet from out of that number we have only from between two hundred and fifty to three hundred members—from this it can be easily seen how limited is our power.

In our trade we have for many years done nothing but been keeping up our organization for the purpose of getting better prices. Naturally this work is very important, but the work of bargaining for prices can only be done success-
fully two months during the year—during the months of February and August. During the remainder we have no opportunity to keep our members. Our powers have as yet not been very great to protect our members from a reduction in prices. Still, we have been an influence for good in all shops, but not to the extent our members expected.

At the moment of writing this report there is no particular reason why our co-workers in the trade should not organize, except the obstacle of ignorance and petty jealousy in the shops.

We have our organization sub-divided into branches—the Polish-speaking members, the Skirt Makers and the Cloak Makers meet separately to conduct their particular business, but they are all considered as sub-divisions of the Cloak Makers' Union, Local No. 44. The Pressers have been very active lately and did considerable good for their members, gaining for them higher wages and better moral recognition. The most important question for them is the abolition of the sub-contracting system, where one workman employs another and tries to get the most out of him for the least pay. The Pressers consider that if they were all employed by the firm directly, and working as they do now by the week, they would be better able to improve their conditions of labor. There are only seventy-five of them in good standing.

It is the earnest desire of the Pressers that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union should re-affirm their decision regarding the non-admittance of the sub-contractors into the union, and call upon the other branches of the trade to give the Pressers their full support in their struggle to abolish the system of sub-contracting. As we have pointed out before, the other branches of the trade have no particular problems except the great problem of organization, though in a measure we are much hindered in that by the cheap labor of our brothers in the East, especially by those of New York. If only our New York brothers would organize, and raise the prices for their labor, Chicago would find itself better able to ask concessions much more quickly, with better chances of success.

For the next season (the Fall season) we intend to demand the following conditions from our employers, namely:

1. All work to be priced by a committee, in the presence of the business agent of the union.
2. All should stop work on Saturdays at noon.
3. There should be extra pay for overtime.
5. Wages to be paid in cash instead of by checks.

(In some shops these conditions have already been established, but it is our aim to make them general.)

All strikes we have had were battles for higher wages. We have not attempted to strike for other conditions, such as the reinstatement of employees in case of discharge. In a few cases men were discharged because
they stood up for a better price. In others, they were discharged for activity on behalf of the union. These members were not told expressly that they were discharged for the above reasons, yet the reason was evident in almost every instance. Our local, on the other hand, was not able to defend them, because the employers sent them away in the slack season; and, apart from that, the general feeling was that striking to reinstate men in their positions has, on the whole, been more costly than other strikes, since the demand upon the employer to reinstate them has many complicated points which are very often hard to define.

We have lately discussed the question of sick benefit and death insurance in our organization, and have accepted it in principle as a means of helping our members to obtain these benefits at less cost than the friendly societies are charging them. We think that, as in the older labor organizations, it would give us a stronger disciplinary power over the members, making them pay their dues more regularly, and also that they would be encouraged to stand by the rules of the organization more faithfully. A committee is now at work, trying to find the minimum cost, and the best means of administering the funds.

In the Western cities, and especially in Chicago, we have a greater number of Polish people, men and women, at work in the Ladies’ Garment Trades than elsewhere; especially is this true of the skirt trade, where they are in the majority, and we have no adequate means by which we can reach them. We have few in our organization who could talk to them on unionism, and among the Polish element there are few also who have the ability of conducting an organization’s business, even though we succeed after much effort in organizing them. We think that the General Office should write up a series of leaflets in Polish, and have two pages of the official Journal, given up to Polish, so that we might be better able to reach those people and bring them into the trade union movement.

As regards the present death benefits of the International, we are of the opinion that the same should be enlarged and be put forward as a benefit which the workers should consider of importance. If our International Union should take upon itself the payment of death benefits, say, from $100 to $250, it would give the International a better standing with the locals, and would help the locals to bring into their activities the payment of sick benefits for a small sum.

As we mentioned before, in Chicago the trade union movement is comparatively strong, and from among the working class and middle-class women we have often received inquiries for the union label. Our International Union has not carried on an agitation for the label, and our employers can afford to ignore the demand of the few. We think that an agitation for our label should precede its adoption by some manufacturers. We think
that our manufacturers should be made to feel that there is a demand for the union label cloaks and skirts. Then only will it be much easier to make them adopt it as a mark of workmanship. This, in short, has been done during the above-mentioned period, and that we think should be done in the near future.

Fraternally submitted,

S. Elstein,
Business Agent.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' WAIST MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 49, OF BOSTON.

During the strike of the Ladies' Waist Makers of New York, a number of girls working at this trade in the city of Boston ran a dance for the benefit of the New York strikers. It then occurred to us to form a Union of ladies' waist makers. Fifteen girls joined at once, and decided to get a regular meeting place. The first meeting took place on February 11, 1910. In this we have been assisted by Mr. Charles Fromer, who then acted as organizer of Local 36.

Soon after, the Cloak Makers' Union, Local 56, of Boston, gave us much assistance, and helped us to obtain our charter and become a local of the International Union.

We thought it advisable to proceed quietly and cautiously during the first stages of our existence, gradually increasing our numbers and training them for future action. At present our membership is only forty-five.

A mass meeting on our behalf, called by the Joint Board of Boston locals, was held on May 13, 1910, when we initiated ten additional members.

Mary Tattelbaum, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE CLOAK MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 58, OF PHILADELPHIA.

Recently the Cloak Makers' Union of Philadelphia has made much progress. During the three years of its existence we have experienced many difficulties. After having lost one strike after another, at a cost of $4,000, and having been compelled to give up our Union shops, our enemies looked forward to our total disappearance from the field. Strange to say, our own brothers looked on indifferently while the conditions of the trade were sinking to the lowest level, playing often into the hands of the bosses and allowing them to do their worst.

Again and again the cloak makers of Philadelphia were organized, went out on strike and lost, and finally abandoned the Union. But all this belongs to the past. Of late a change has taken place. We still carry on strikes, sometimes without success, but without harm to the Union.

We have at present a membership of 400 and $4,000 in our treasury. This really exceeds our expectations. A great change has also been taking place in our working conditions. Formerly our 900 members in the shops pur-
sued the course of every one for himself and the devil take the hindmost. Members often underbid and undersold each other. It was possible for an employee to get a raise of 50 cents apiece behind the back of his fellows, and quarrels about "bundles" often happened. As to the regular payment of dues, the necessity for this could never be impressed on the members. With the first payment of $1 members imagined themselves free from all duties. Occasionally a member would pay in 50 cents at his pleasure; yet no member was then ever expelled. Once his name and address was entered on the books he was considered a member for all time.

Our methods of carrying on strikes were also peculiar. Applicants for strike benefit were never questioned as to their membership, or as to their particular shops on strike. No such inquiries were made for fear of the applicant becoming a scab.

In the busy season the Union had no difficulty in settling the working prices and controlling the shops. But when slack time came our Union men would lose all sense of discipline and loyalty and would privately negotiate with the boss in their own selfish interests and to the disadvantage of their fellows.

This state of things lasted until Brothers Weinberg and Amdur were engaged as business agents. Applying themselves to the work with energy and perseverance, they have to a certain extent succeeded in abolishing these evils, and have laid a solid and firm foundation for a strong and powerful Union. One of their constant watchwords was that a Union man must also be a man and a brother in the shop and perform all the duties required of him in the Union.

We have also introduced sick and other benefits, similar to those paid in societies and lodges, and an extra strike benefit. Now, when a member pays no dues he is suspended from benefits, and a member disregarding shop discipline finds no place among his fellows. These disciplinary measures have enabled us to introduce some order into the shops and to improve the morale of our members.

Our progress may thus be described as having succeeded in changing our methods of work and in sweeping away all abuses.

We still have among us a few cloak makers of twenty-five years' standing who refuse to join the Union because of the innovations, but we can afford to ignore them.

Thus we learn from the past while working for the future, with good hopes for onward progress. M. Sandler, Secretary.
REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NEW YORK.

TO THE TENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES’ GARMENT WORKERS’ UNION.

Mr. President and Delegates:

The District Council of New York was reorganized in November, 1909. The District Council of former times, having consisted of the officers of Local No. 10 only, had come to an end with the expulsion of that local from the International Union. During the crisis which had the effect of nearly wiping off all our locals, there was no work for a District Council to do.

But with the passing of the crisis the old locals gradually revived, new locals were organized, and independent unions affiliated with the International Union. The General Office at that time maintained only one paid secretary; and as it was both inadvisable and inexpedient to enlarge the sphere of his duties, the necessity of reorganizing the District Council became quite clear, for the newly organized locals stood in great need of proper guidance and practical advice.

Almost all the locals of New York responded to the call of the General Office for the formation of the New Council, and appointed as delegates their most experienced members. To enable it to perform useful and efficient work, the newly appointed secretary was required to devote his whole time to the duties devolved upon him.

The Council is financed by the locals composing it. Every local is required to pay $1.50 per week, and the balance is covered by the General Office, the G. E. B. having decided to contribute $10 a week towards the expenses of the Council.

Ever since the Council has come into being the meetings of the various locals have been frequently visited by the secretary, or by a specially appointed committee. The locals are also assisted in various other ways, for it has to be stated with regret that, since many of the locals have mostly inexperienced secretaries, their financial account-keeping is in a neglected state, so that their books are occasionally examined and revised by members of the Council.

The Council now consists of delegates from fourteen locals, one of which has been organized by themselves, and a number of newly organized locals shortly intend to join the Council. The income from these would now render it self-supporting, provided the locals could be induced to pay their dues punctually. It is remarkable that those who are the most negligent in the payment of dues, or in attending meetings, are also the loudest to make frequent calls on the Council’s assistance. The Council has also been instrumental in procuring support for the Ladies’ Tailors’ Union, Local No. 38, in its strike at Stein & Blein.

Generally speaking, there is a wide field for the activities of the District Council. It would be enabled to perform important duties if the locals and their appointed delegates could only realize the urgency of the work. Of late the locals have increased considerably in membership, but unfortunately the number of able organizers and volunteers have not kept pace with this increase. Those
who possess such qualities find sufficient outlet for their activities in the immediate work of the locals, namely, executive boards and committees, while the delegates to the Council are often appointed without regard to their ability to contribute to its efficiency. It is to be hoped, however, that with the growth of our locals in New York City, both in number and efficiency, the District Council will continue to grow with them and become a potent force in the life of our general movement.

H. Kleinman,
Secretary.

Mr. James Duncan, First Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor, was then introduced, and he spoke in part as follows:

It afforded him great pleasure to convey the good wishes of the A. F. of L. to this convention. He hoped that harmony would prevail and the result of their deliberations would be in the best interests of their International Union.

He was not going to tell them of their needs, nor to advance arguments in favor of organizing the people of their craft. No one knew it better than they themselves, and the mere fact of their presence at this convention proved it. He had spent a good deal of time both in the East and the South, and he was acquainted with the troubles which the organization had to go through from the very beginning to the recent past. He said that the State authorities, as well as the Federal authorities, have come to recognize that the trade union movement in this country has come to stay and must be dealt with. This was not the case when he entered the trade union movement.

In his trade, a workman who has no union card is not recognized as a mechanic to whom an employer will trust a responsible job.

They had 96 per cent. of their trade organized, and they were satisfied that 4 per cent. should remain outside of their organization to serve as a comparison. Some years ago, when he appeared before the United States Senate in favor of an eight-hour law he was told that the unions should carry through and demonstrate its practicability, and that the government would then entertain this proposition to carry it into law. The following year they revised their constitution and made it obligatory upon their members not to work more than eight hours a day. In 1900 no man was to work more than eight hours per day under any circumstances, including Uncle Sam, or anybody's uncle, for that matter; and they demanded an increase of 23 per cent. in wages. When the spring of 1909 came round his organization went out on strike, and after ten weeks' fight they won an eight-hour day, and compromised to accept 16 per cent. increase. Such matters as reduction of hours of labor they did not care to trust to the United States Congress; they preferred to fight it out themselves. The judges in Colorado and other States had declared that an eight-hour law is unconstitutional, but there can be no injunction against an eight-hour law carried by the unions. It is true that his organization had not got all their men wanted, for as soon as they got one improvement they kept on demanding
another. It is this constant demand for improvement that makes for better citizenship and a higher civilization. They are getting their pay in cash instead of checks, and weekly instead of monthly payments, as it used to be. When they first got their first five years' agreement from the employers' association the employers boasted that the union would be broken up. For, it was thought that if their members had secured uniform conditions for five years they would lose interest in the organization and it would fall to pieces. But the union knew better. At the expiration of the agreement, having had five years of peace, their treasury grew to $400,000. The employers then offered to renew the agreement, and were afraid of a fight with their organization. Last year the employers declared a lockout which affected one-third of their membership. At the end of thirteen weeks the employers admitted they were licked and the men went back to work with an increase of 4 per cent. in wages. Their treasury was then reduced to $140,000. Their members assessed themselves fifty cents a day to support the strike. After the present agreement expires in March, 1913, they will work forty-five hours a week.

The dues of their membership is $1 per month, from which the organization pays $500 in case a member loses one eye. When a member reaches the age of fifty he pays only 50 cents a month dues, and after sixty he does not have to pay any dues. He is then entitled to $6 per month for six months in the year as old age pension.

He hoped that they would soon be in a position to pay their members this benefit twelve months in the year. Their organization has had no convention since 1880, their business being transacted through a referendum vote. They would, however, soon have a convention to revise their laws which need a change.

Upon motion a vote of thanks was given to Brother Duncan for his able address and to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor for the generous support they rendered to our International Union in the past. Brother Duncan, in reply, stated that he was very glad to be able to attend the convention and be in a position to report the wonderful progress this International has made to the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., which will meet on the 20th of this month.

Vice-President Amdur in Chair.

DELEGATE KLEINMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE ON REPORT OF OFFICERS.

Committee recommended that that part of the President's report relating to the general strike be referred to the Strike Committee. Motion carried.

Part dealing with special assessment on Page 17, committee recommended to be referred to the General Executive Board.

Vice-President Woolf moved that that part of the President's report be taken up after the special Strike Committee had sent in their report. Motion carried.

That part of President's report dealing with the label on Page 17 be referred to the Label Committee. Concurred in.
Recommendation of President that the next President-elect shall be a paid officer. Committee recommended that the recommendation of President be concurred in.

Upon motion, recommendation of the Committee concurred in.

Part of the President's report recommending the election of two organizers, committee recommended be referred to the General Executive Board. Conceded in.

Part of the President's report referring to a tax of 25 cents per year to cover the cost of an official Journal, the committee recommended to be referred to the Resolutions Committee. Conceded in.

Part of the President's report to keep a record of each member in the archives of the General Office the committee recommended to be referred to the Resolutions Committee. Conceded in.

Part of President's report relating to injunctions and formation of an Independent Labor Party, committee recommended to be referred to the Organization Committee. Recommendation concurred in.

Upon motion, agreed that the report of the President, including the recommendations of the Committee of Officers and the amendments be accepted and placed on file.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

General Secretary-Treasurer's report.

Part of report dealing with the delegates not qualified, committee recommended to be referred to the Law Committee. Conceded in.

Part of the Secretary's report relating to dispensing with reading of the minutes of the previous convention, recommendation of the committee to be concurred in. As to the minutes of the General Executive Board, committee recommended they should be printed in pamphlet form and become part of the proceedings of the convention. Recommendation of the committee concurred in.

Part of the report dealing with the Financial and Credential Committees, committee recommended not to concur in.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was rejected.

President declared that the convention stood adjourned until Thursday morning, June 9.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9—MORNING SESSION.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

Previous minutes read and adopted.

Roll call—Absentees, Louis Goldberg, Gertrude Berger, Mabel Gillespie.

Delegate Bloch moved that in view of the fact that Miss Gillespie's absence was due to her activity in the movement, she be excused.

Upon motion, agreed to reconsider the decision at last session that the recommendation of Committee of Officers' Report relating to the appointment of a Finance Committee and Credential Committee, not concurred in. Motion carried.
B. Weinstein, bearing credentials of the United Hebrew Trades, asks the privilege of addressing the convention. On motion, agreed that Brother Weinstein be granted the privilege of the floor.

Mr. B. Weinstein spoke in part as follows:—

The United Hebrew Trades did not represent workmen of any particular race, nationality or religion, but simply people who speak the Jewish language. He conveyed to them greetings from seventy locals and hoped they would increase next year at the same rate as they did in the past. He recalled the great strike of the Ladies' Waist Makers in New York, and the services rendered by the United Hebrew Trades. Last year the Jewish-speaking working people of the East Side had twenty-one general strikes, of which twenty had been won. There was only one still in progress, namely, that of the Suit Case Makers, who were out on strike for eleven weeks, and requested financial and moral support.

Upon motion agreed to refer the request of Brother Weinstein to the Resolution Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORT CONTINUED.

Vice-President Kleinman—That part of the General Secretary-Treasurer's report relating to the appointment of a Finance and Credential Committee, committee recommended not to concur in.

Upon motion the recommendation of the committee concurred in.

Part of the General Secretary-Treasurer's report relating to the protection of funds of the International Union, committee recommended to accept the recommendation and refer to the Law Committee to amend the Constitution in accordance with the recommendation. Concluded in.

Part of the General Secretary-Treasurer's report relating to the creation of a death and total disability fund, committee recommended to accept the recommendation of the General Secretary-Treasurer and to refer to the Law Committee to draft amendments to the Constitution in accordance with the recommendation. Concluded in.

Upon further motion agreed that all members who are now in good standing for one year and over should enjoy the benefits provided by the present laws relating to death and total disability fund.

That part of the General Secretary-Treasurer's report relating to the raising of the per capita to 8 cents per week, committee recommends to accept the recommendation of the General Secretary-Treasurer and to refer it to the Law Committee, and amend the Constitution in accordance with the recommendation. A long discussion followed, in which Delegates Fromer, Hyman, Epstein, Elstein, Ringer, Witschken, Solovioff, Bloch and Amdur took part.

Upon motion, agreed to refer that question back to report of the Committee of Officers.

The following telegram read and placed on file:


Fourth Annual Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers of America, Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Brothers: May your work be harmonious, your efforts fruitful and your deliberations crowned with success to promote the welfare of your thirty-five thou-
sand organized wage slave members, also lending your helping hand to your brother workers of the world.

We stand with you for Union and Liberty, now and forever.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IND. WORKMEN'S CIRCLE OF A., INC.,

S. EGDALL, National Secretary.

Meeting adjourned.

THURSDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Absentees—S. Elstein, B. Hyman, Gertrude Berger, Rose Schneiderman, Ma-
bel Gillespie and Milanda Scott.

The following telegram was read and placed on file:

PHILADELPHIA, June 8, 1910.
The Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.
Local 15 wishes you good speed in your deliberations for benefit of trade.

WILLIAM OKUN, President.

Upon motion, agreed to adjourn meeting so as to give committees time to report.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1910—MORNING SESSION.

Roll call. Absentees—Axelrod, I. Shaff, Woolf, Salvatore Ninno, J.
Averbach, Charles Fromer, Harry Sigel, H. Kleinman, Beckie Rothstein,
Gertrude Berger, Isidor Cohen, Mabel Gillespie.

Minutes of the previous session adopted as read.

Report of Committee of Officers' Report continued. Part of General Secret-
tary-Treasurer's report, dealing with the issuing of charters to locals, charging
low dues and initiation fees, committee recommends to be referred to Law
Committee. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Part of General Secretary-Treasurer's report, dealing with per capita,
committee recommended to be referred to the Law Committee. Recom-
mandation of committee concurred in.

The balance sheet of the General Secretary-Treasurer to be referred to
Finance Committee. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Upon motion, agreed to accept the report of the General Secretary-
Treasurer, with the recommendations and amendments passed at the con-
tvention.

Delegate Greenberger, for the Special Strike Committee, read resolu-
tion No. 1, as follows:

WHEREAS, The standard of life among the working people in the cloak
and skirt trade in the city of New York is gradually being lowered, through
the keen competition among the working people of that trade as well as
among the employers, the hours of labor becoming longer and the earnings
smaller, while the cost of living is rising almost daily; and
WHEREAS, Through bitter experience we have learned that all attempts
to remedy these evils by means of organizing single shops and striking at
individual firms proved fruitless, it being impossible to force a few manu-
facturers to pay a living wage and grant their working people humane work-
ing conditions while the great majority of the manufacturers get their work done
for next to nothing, thus forcing the employer who is paying fair wages out
of business; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention decides that a general strike shall be
called during the coming fall season in the cloak and skirt trade; this being
the only means of effecting the needed improvements in the above-mentioned
trade.

Committee reported a majority for the resolution and minority against
the resolution.

Various amendments having been offered, Delegate Dyche proposed a
substitute to the last paragraph of the resolution, to read as follows:

Resolved, That this convention is of the opinion that the conditions of
labor in the cloak and skirt trade in the city of New York justify the calling of a ge-
neral-strike in that trade—may, render it an imperative necessity; and
therefore empowers the General Executive Board to make all necessary
preparations and to call a general strike whenever it finds it advisable.

A long discussion followed, in which Delegates Katz, Dubinsky, Wits-
zechken, McCauley, Weisglass, Mitchell, Amdur, Prisam, Seidenberg, Green-
berger, Fromer, Ninfo, and Ringer took part. The previous question having
been called, President Rosenberg addressed the convention in favor of a
general strike.

The time of adjournment having arrived, motion carried to suspend
rules of the house and to adjourn, after roll call.

The roll having been called, the General Secretary-Treasurer announced
the result as follows: Ayes, 55; Noes, 10.

Ayes,—A. Axelrod, Bernard Fried, Ab. Rosenberg, P. Seidenberg, I.
Shaff, Julius Woolf, Sam Goldin, Morris Deitch, Ab. Mitchell, Salvatore
Ninfo, S. Polakoff, A. Bloch, Jesse Cohen, Harry Goldstein, Samuel Martin,
James McCauley, Louis Goldberg, Sam Flashner, J. Averbach, D. Nisna-
witz, W. Pinkofsky, D. Shapiro, Harry Siegel, Max Albert, John A.
Dyche, Harry Kleinman, B. Zolotoroff, Louis Epstein, Sam Hyman, Becky
Rothstein, Louis Weisglass, B. Wodash, Max Genzeloff, Ralph Yudell, Ab.
Cohen, Israel Feit, Sam Prisam, Josephine Smaltz, Mary Martin, M.
Hertz-bach, Morris Goldofsky, Ike Saslaver, Morris Sigman, Philip Benjamin, Sam
Pismanoff, S. Pitchersky, A. Soloviov, Harry Klein, Bennie Hyman, Sam
Rosenson, Isidor Cohen, Meyer Brass. Louis Gordon, Max Amdur, Samuel
J. Ringer.

Noes,—Jesse S. Greenberger, Sam Weisberg, W. Gitlin, Mary Tattle-
baum, Harry Dubinsky, Max Jacobson, Jacob Katz, Max Sandler, G. Rubin,
G. Jacobson.

President declared substitute carried amid tremendous applause.
AFTERNOON SESSION.

Roll call, all present.
The following telegrams were read and ordered placed on file:

New York, June 10, 1910.

Convention, Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Hebrew Bakers' Union, New York, greets your Convention, wishing success to your deliberations and promising all aid and assistance in your future battles.

Joint Conference,
S. Miller, Secretary.
New York, June 10, 1910.

Convention, Garment Workers,
Berkeley Hall.
The Executive, Central and Sanatorium Committee of the Workmen's Circle congratulates your organization on the splendid achievements you have made in the past; and wishes you a prosperous future.

J. Weintraub, Secretary.
New York, June 10, 1910.

Officers and Delegates, I. L. G. W. U.
Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass.

Greeting: May your courage, perseverance and harmony result in permanent success for the cause of Unionism.

Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Ass'n, Local 10.

Upon motion, agreed that there shall be a night session from 7 until 10 P. M.

Resolution No. 2.

Whereas, We, the delegates assembled at the Tenth Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., in the city of Boston, on June 10, are in possession of news that the Russian Government are persecuting the Jews of that country, and

WHEREAS, We American citizens, believing in liberty and freedom of conscience, are therefore opposed to any system which creates race and religious prejudices; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Convention do hereby appeal to the United States Congress to use their good offices and intercede with the Russian Government with a view of preventing further persecution of the Russian Jews.

(Signed) Alexander Bloch,
Samuel Martin,
Jesse Cohen,
James McCauley,
Harry Golstein,
Jesse S. Greenberger,

Motion carried.
Report of Resolution Committee, by Delegate Greenberger.

Resolution No. 3.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Tenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, We find that women are an important factor in the industrial world; and

Whereas, They are subject to the same unjust industrial and social conditions under which they live as well as men; and

Whereas, Experience has taught us that in the different strikes and in matters of organization that women are competent and well able to handle matters pertaining to social welfare, be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention go on record as being heartily in favor of the enfranchisement of women, and in that way help to equip our women with the political weapon which we have found indispensable in promoting the condition of our class.

Jesse Cohen,
A. Bloch,
Jesse Greenberger,
Samuel Martin,
J. McCauley,
Harry Goldstein,
Delegates, Local 10.

President Rosenberg in the chair.

Resolution No. 4.

Whereas, The President and General Secretary-Treasurer have worked to their utmost, and

Whereas, They could increase the staff, but did not do so, in order to save expense, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Convention presents the President and General Secretary-Treasurer with souvenirs, same not to cost more than $100.

I. Sablaver, Local 35.
M. Albert, Local 23.

Committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

Concurred in.

Resolution No. 5.

Whereas, The ladies' garment trade employs a great number of Italian workingmen and women, especially in New York, who are unorganized, and who are a disturbing factor in our trade; and

Whereas, We have found it impossible for the Jewish working people to organize the Italian working people of our trade; therefore be it

Resolved, That the I. L. G. W. U. shall create an Italian bureau in New York, with the object of organizing the Italian working people employed in the ladies' garment trade. The expense for carrying on this bureau shall be covered by the General Office.

(Signed) A. Solovtsoff, Local 38.
Recommendation of Committee, that the G. E. B. be empowered to appoint an Italian-speaking organizer. Recommendation of the Committee concurred in.

RESOLUTION NO. 6.

WHEREAS, The bi-annual and also the monthly financial reports are made by the General Secretary-Treasurer himself, and
WHEREAS, The International office is in duty bound to send financial reports to all the locals affiliated with it; therefore be it

Resolved, That the financial statements of the income and expenditures of every month, and also of the bi-annual report, shall be audited by an accountant before they are sent to the various locals, with the signatures of the accountant and General Secretary-Treasurer.

(Signed) A. SOLOVIOPF, LOCAL 38.

Committee recommends the rejection of this resolution. Recommendation of Committee concurred in.

RESOLUTION NO. 7.

WHEREAS, The agitation for the Union label garment is becoming a national cry, and
WHEREAS, We, and the makers of such garments requiring the label, are and have been deeply interested, and
WHEREAS, We, as a Conventional Delegation here assembled, have pledged ourselves to the agitation of such Union label, and
WHEREAS, The women of the National Trade Union League of Chicago particularly have extended their utmost efforts, energy, time and labor toward the advancement of the label, and
WHEREAS, The Women's Trade Union League of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago have also, through their untiring efforts, advanced the use of the label to its present state with better prospects for the future; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates here assembled at our Tenth Convention, go on record indorsing their efforts and endeavors to promote the Union label; and be it further
Resolved, That we go on record by sending an engrossed resolution to the National Women's Trade Union League, thereby showing our appreciation of their work; and be it further
Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to provide said resolution.

Fraternally yours,
ALEX. BLOCH,
H. GOLDSMITH,
S. MARTIN,
JESSE P. COHEN,
J. GREENBERGER,
JAS. MCCAULEY.

Concurred in.
Miss M. Scott thanked the convention on behalf of the League.
RESOLUTION NO. 8.

WHEREAS, We were left with a debt of $1,500 after our strike and had to pay it off from a balance of $600 in our treasury and from other sources, and

WHEREAS, Owing to the nearness of the slack season, our income is very small and we have not enough money to maintain our officers and our headquarters, without which our organization would be completely demoralized; therefore be it

Resolved, That the International Union help Local 15 financially during the following three months, which comprise the dull season in our trade. Without this aid we entertain fears as to the future of the organization.

J. Auerbach, Local 15.

Committee presents a majority and minority report. Majority in favor of advancing to Local 15 the sum of $100; minority against. Agreed to be laid over for new business.

RESOLUTION NO. 9.

WHEREAS, We know that it is of great benefit to labor unions to provide sick benefits for their members; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention devise ways and means of establishing a fund for the payment of such benefits.

(Signed) Morris Sigman,
Morris Golofsky,
Ike Saslaver,
Local 35.

Committee reported favorably. On motion, agreed to be referred to the Law Committee.

RESOLUTION NO. 10.

WHEREAS, The translation of the Constitution into the Yiddish language has not been made correctly, and has been found to contain many errors and omissions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Convention shall order a revision of the said Yiddish translation, whereby all errors should be corrected.

S. Polakoff and Abe Mitchell, Local 9.
M. Amdur, J. E. B., Philadelphia.

Committee recommends the adoption of the resolution. Recommendation of Committee concurred in.

RESOLUTION NO. 11.

WHEREAS, We were forced to carry on a prolonged strike for ten months and were also charged with contempt of court, arising from injunctions issued against our local, at much expense, and

WHEREAS, Under such circumstances, we were not in a position to pay our per capita regularly, and

WHEREAS, Members have been owing dues to the Union for months, on account of the strike, and have asked to be made clear on the books, which request we feel compelled to grant; therefore be it
Resolved, That this Convention cancel the old debt due to the International, so that the opportunity to work on a clear field can be opened up to us, and so enable us to reorganize our ranks.

(Signed) Philip M. Benjamin,
William Gitlin, Local 36.

Committee recommends that Local 36 be given time to pay their indebtedness until January, 1911. Recommendation of the Committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 12.

Whereas, The present salary of the General Secretary-Treasurer, amounting to $1,000 per year is ridiculously small for such an office as that of General Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union; therefore be it

Resolved, That the salary of the General Secretary Treasurer be increased to $1,500 per year.

(Signed) S. Polakoff, Local 9.
M. Amdur, J. B., Philadelphia.

Committee reports favorably on motion. Recommendation of Committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 13.

Part of the President's Report referring to the Resolution Committee, under the heading of "Our Official Journal," on pages 7 and 8, which reads as follows:

At the last Convention in Philadelphia the general officers informed you that they publish The Wecker, a Jewish monthly paper, to inform our members of the standing of our local unions, also to agitate for the principles of trade unionism in general. Unfortunately, on account of the economic crisis, we had to stop its publication in September, 1909. As soon as the finances of our General Office warranted it, we started publishing the Ladies' Garment Worker, a monthly Journal in Jewish, English and Italian. The first number of this Journal was issued in April, 1910.

Up to the present time the cost of the Journal has been covered by the General Office. The affiliated locals and their members have done very little to maintain this publication. To make the Journal self-supporting, I would suggest that the Convention levy a tax of 25 cents per year. This tax to cover a yearly subscription for each member.

Committee recommends the following:

That when a system of benefits has been established in our International Union, then the General Executive Board shall have full power to take up the recommendation of the President and refer it to a vote of the membership.

Concurred in.

Resolution No. 14.

The matter referred to the Resolution Committee by the Convention assembled in regard to the striking Suit Case Makers' Union of New York, the Committee recommends:

That the sum of $100 be donated to the striking Suit Case Makers' Union of New York.
Majority and minority report.

Upon motion agreed to concur with majority report and donate $100 to the striking Suit Case Makers' Union.

Resolution No. 15.

The Resolution Committee recommend to the Convention that the Law Committee be instructed to frame a law whereby in future no donations be given by the Conventions to local unions not affiliated with their International Union.

Concurred in.

Resolution No. 16.

Whereas, It has been customary that although a person of a particular craft, when appointed to act in the capacity of organizer for another craft that does not come under the jurisdiction of the I. L. G. W. U., still was considered a member of the local of the craft in which he was formerly engaged, because of his keeping up the payment of dues, and was given all rights of members still allied with the craft, as regards the transaction of the regular business at the meetings of the local; and

Whereas, It has been found that, owing to the fact of their lack of acquaintance with various circumstances arising in the trade, their motions may be detrimental to the welfare of the Union, be it therefore

Resolved, That such person should not be elected or appointed to any office of the local.

(Signed) Morris Sigman,
M. Goldofsky,
E. Saslava.

Committee recommends adoption of resolution. On motion, recommendation of Committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 17.

Whereas, The progress of Local 21, of Newark, N. J., is impeded for the lack of an organizer; and

Whereas, The said local is not in a position to pay for the services of such an organizer or business agent, be it therefore

Resolved, That an organizer be appointed, for at least two months, at the expense of the I. L. G. W. U. for the benefit of said Local 21.

(Signed) H. Sicel, Local 21.

Committee recommended that it be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action. Concurred in.

Resolution No. 18.

Whereas, The organization of the Ladies' Waist Makers of Boston is essential to the general welfare of the I. L. G. W. U.; and

Whereas, The organizing of the waist makers has been greatly hampered by the girls employed at petticoats, white goods, and wrappers; and

Whereas, These girls can very easily take the place of waist makers when on strike, be it therefore
Resolved, That this Convention devise ways and means by which an organizer can be placed in the field to organize the workers employed in these trades, in Boston and vicinity, and thus insure the permanent organization of Local 49 of Boston, Mass.

(Signed) GERTRUDE BERGER,
MARY TATTLERBAUM.
Local 49.

Committee recommend the matter be referred to the General Executive Board. On motion, recommendation of Committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 10.
Whereas, An injunction has been issued against the officers and members of Local 4 during their last general strike; and
Whereas, The effect of this injunction makes it impossible to continue the organizing work among the ladies' garment workers in the city of Baltimore, without running the risk of being charged with contempt of court; and
Whereas, The locals are not in a position to raise enough money to fight this injunction, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the General Executive Board to take this matter up.

Committee reported favorably.

Upon motion, agreed that the matter be referred to the General Executive Board with full power to act.

Resolution No. 20.
Whereas, We have in our trade a system of sub-contracting where one member of the trade is enabled to employ another at a profit; especially is this a prevailing system in the pressers' craft; and
Whereas, This brings into our trade a system of sweating and a feeling of hatred among the workers, and that it is necessary to reaffirm our previous decision to the effect that no one in our trade employing another, or who has the power to engage in or to discharge from employment, should be admitted or kept a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, be it therefore

Resolved, That our local unions at once take up the question of sub-contracting in their midst, with a view to abolishing this evil system.

BEN HYMAN,
S. ELSTEIN, Local 44.

The Chairman declares this resolution out of order, as the substance is covered by Section 6, Article 14 of the Constitution.

Resolution No. 21.
Whereas, There are a large number of unorganized wrapper makers in Greater New York, the majority of whom are working ten and eleven hours per day, and that it is very easy to organize them, provided an organizer is put in the field, therefore be it

Resolved, That the General Executive Board shall pay $10 a week towards defraying the expenses of an organizer for three months, beginning July 1, 1910.

HARRY KLEIN, Local 41.
Majority of committee recommend to concur in and minority to refer to the General Executive Board. On motion, agreed to accept recommendation of the minority report.

**Resolution No. 22.**

Whereas, The Middle Western States constitute a large center of the ladies' garment trade; and

Whereas, The employees are mostly Americanized immigrants of various nationalities and therefore require an English-speaking organizer; and

Whereas, Such an organizer could do much to extend the organization and strengthen the Western locals which are engaged in a hard struggle for existence, therefore be it

Resolved, That we engage an English-speaking organizer for the Western States with Cleveland as his headquarters. S. Prisam, Local 27.

Committee recommends be referred to the General Executive Board.

Recommendation of Committee concurred in.

**Resolution No. 23.**

Whereas, Our local union has only recently been organized, and has moreover suffered from the strike at Prince & Biederman; so that its position is now weaker than before; and

Whereas, The local is financially reduced and unable to engage the services of an organizer, therefore be it

Resolved, That the General Office maintain at its expense an organizer at Cleveland for a period of at least three months, in order to strengthen the locals there and thus prepare the way for creating a powerful organization of cloak and skirt makers in this Middle Western city.

N. Levin,
J. Stolmack, President,
Cloak and Skirt Pressers' Union, Local 37.

Recommendation of Committee to refer to the General Executive Board. Recommendation of committees concurred in.

**Resolution No. 24.**

Whereas, The manufacturers of ladies' waists and dresses in the City of New York, have been trying their utmost to injure our organization, Local 25, by establishing open shops in the surrounding towns, therefore be it

Resolved, That the I. L. G. W. U. should employ organizers in order to unionize the employees in the shops of the cities around New York.

B. Witashken, Local 25.

Committee recommended that the matter be referred to the General Executive Board for action. Concurred in.

**Resolution No. 25.**

Whereas, The number of cloak makers in New York reaches to seventy-five thousand; and

Whereas, The organizing of the cloak makers of New York is of the utmost importance for all cloak makers in other cities, therefore be it
Resolved, That this Convention sanction the placing of an organizer in the field, in New York, for at least six months.

(Signed) PH. SEIDENBERG, Local 1.

Committee recommended its rejection. Agreed resolution be withdrawn.

RESOLUTION No. 26.

WHEREAS, The ladies' waist makers of Boston have recently organized into a local union known as the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union, Local 49; and

WHEREAS, Said local is experiencing great difficulty in organizing the craft, on account of the lack of capable organizers, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Tenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. deliberate on behalf of said Local 49 and appoint an organizer for the purpose of effecting a thorough organization of the ladies' waist makers of the city of Boston.

GERTRUDE BERGER, Local 49.

Recommendation to adopt this resolution and the General Executive Board be instructed to act upon it immediately. Concurred in.

RESOLUTION No. 27.

WHEREAS, Local 55, Silk, Suit and Waist Makers' Union, of Philadelphia, has never proved itself an effective factor in influencing the conditions of labor over which it has jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Its existence has been a hindrance rather than a help to Local 15 therefore be it

Resolved, That the charters of both locals be revoked and that an amalgamation shall take place between the above mentioned locals and one charter granted to them, covering the jurisdiction of both silk and other waists.

Committee recommended General Executive Board shall enforce Section 4 of Article 11 and withdraw the charter of Local 55.

Amendment carried, that before the General Executive Board takes any action in this matter, a conference should take place under its auspices and some mutual agreement drawn up between the two locals and one charter granted to them.

RESOLUTION No. 28.

WHEREAS, Our members suffer a great deal in time of strike, and

WHEREAS, A weekly strike allowance would be of much benefit to our members, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union establish a strike benefit fund.

M. DEITCH, Local 9.

Agreed—resolution to be taken when the question of the amount of per capita is decided upon.

RESOLUTION No. 29.

WHEREAS, We have a very large number of Italians and Polish people in our trade to whom the principles of trade unionism are like a sealed book; and

WHEREAS, Our official Journal is a costly means to distribute information broadcast, therefore be it
Resolved, To instruct the General Executive Board to publish a number of short leaflets in the above mentioned languages so that the locals may have a convenient and cheap means of spreading the principles of trade unionism among the workers of those nationalities.

B. HYMAN.

S. ELSTEIN, LOCAL 44.

Committee recommended to be concurred in and referred to the incoming General Executive Board for consideration.

Meeting adjourned, to reconvene at 7 P. M.

NIGHT SESSION, JUNE 10.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

Upon motion, agreed to dispense with roll call and with reading of minutes of previous session.

Moved and seconded that the election of officers should take place on Saturday at 2 P. M. prompt. Motion carried.

Upon motion, agreed to appoint a committee for purchasing the presentations to the President and General Secretary-Treasurer in accordance with Resolution No. 9. The following were appointed: W. Gitlin, J. S. Greenberger, H. Dubinsky, M. Saslaver, A. Axelrod.

Delegate McCauley, President of Finance Committee, read his report as follows:

BOSTON, June 10, 1910.

We, the undersigned committee, known as the Finance Committee, appointed by Chairman Rosenberg to audit the books from May 1, 1908, to May 1, 1910, find as follows:

The printed Balance Sheet issued to the delegates by the General Secretary-Treasurer is correct, according to the books kept by the General Office. We find that on May 1st there was a total balance of $2,640.55 of which there is on deposit in the Public Bank of New York $2,000. On the same date the Secretary-Treasurer had in a general fund the sum of $640.55, which totals the fund of $2,640.55 on May 1, 1910.

We find that the receipts for the Journal are $82.50, and the expenses are $332.07 for the two months of March and April. Deficit, $249.57.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES McCauley,
MAX Sandler,
GABRIEL JACOBSON,
*BERNARD FRIED,
MARY MARTIN,
Finance Committee.

Upon motion report of committee accepted and placed on file.

RESOLUTION NO. 30.

WHEREAS, The majority of the ladies' tailors of the City of New York, still remain unorganized; and
WHEREAS, Owing to the abnormally long working hours, prevailing in our trade, the seasons are very short, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Union shall provide ample funds for the purpose of organizing the trade in the above city.

(Signed) B. Solovioff, Local 38.

Committee recommended matter to be referred to the General Executive Board. Concluded in.

RESOLUTION NO. 31.

WHEREAS, The majority of the members of the New York Cloak and Skirt Makers’ Locals are Hebrew-speaking, and their meetings and business is conducted in Jewish; and

WHEREAS, A great number of Italians are employed in this trade in the City of New York who cannot and do not care to belong to the existing Locals for the reasons above named, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed immediately after this convention to form an Italian local of Cloak and Skirt Makers in the City of New York. (Signed) H. Kleinman, Local 23.

Committee reported favorably.

Upon motion, agreed that the matter be held over until the Law Committee brings in a report, dealing with the subject of jurisdiction.

RESOLUTION NO. 32.

On the General President’s recommendation to commence a movement in favor of an Independent Political Labor Party, referred by the convention to the Organization Committee, we recommend as follows:

This Tenth Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Berkeley Hall, Boston, Mass., goes on record indorsing the recommendation of the President; and instructs every delegate who represents any local union affiliated with the I. L. G. W. U., represented at City Centrals, State Federations, District Councils, Joint Boards and similar bodies, to advocate the formation of a new trade union political party; and that the delegates of the I. L. G. W. U. to the convention of the A. F. of L. shall do the same; so that by our co-operation in this movement and our voting at elections we shall be in a position to elect as representatives to the various Government bodies, State, Municipal and Federal: men who have Union cards in their pockets and are therefore best fitted to represent the interests of the working classes; and who will fight for the right of picketing, striking and boycotting, and for the abolition of injunctions and labor disputes, and for the absolute freedom of speech and press.

Committee fully recommended that such a Labor Party shall enter into no alliances with the existing capitalist parties.

Motion to table resolution lost by 21 against 14.

Roll having been called, Secretary declared the result of the vote as follows:


Prisanti, Josephine Smaltz, Mary Martin, Ike Saslaver, W. Gitlin, Sam Rosen-

Noes: Sam Goldin, Abe Mitchell, Louis Goldberg, Sam Flasner, Sam Weis-
berg, Daniel Nisnawitz, W. Pinkofsky, N. Zalotoroff, Sam Hyman, Beckie
Rothstein, L. Weisglass, B. Witashek, Max Genzeloff, R. Yudell, I. S. Feit,
H. Hertzbach, M. Goldofsky, P. Benjamin, Sam Pismanoff, S. Pitchersky, B.
Hyman, Harry Klein, M. Tattelbaum, J. Katz, M. Sandler, G. Rubins, M. Brass,
L. Gordon, S. Ringer.

Resolution No. 33.
Whereas, Some of the locals of the I. L. G. W. U. are affiliated with Central
Bodies not under the jurisdiction of the A. F. of L.; and
Whereas, We know from experience that dual Central Bodies are just as
injurious to the working people of our unions as dual unions are to the local
unions of our I. L. G. W. U., therefore be it
Resolved, That all local unions of the I. L. G. W. U. must be represented
at the Central Bodies of their cities wherein they are situated; and be it further
Resolved, That no local union of the I. L. G. W. U. shall be represented at
any dual Central Body in the city in which they are situated and failing to with-
draw delegates from such dual Central Bodies, not chartered by the A. F. of L.,
after being duly notified, they shall be suspended from the I. L. G. W. U.

(Signed) A. Bloch, Local 10.

Committee recommended that only that part of the resolution be accepted
which calls upon the locals to join the city Centrals and State Federations of their
respective localities, but to reject the other part.

Delegate Dyche called the attention of the Chair to the fact that at the last
convention a similar resolution was voted down and a substitute proposed by
him carried, that our International Union shall take no action in the matter of
affiliation with the United Hebrew Trades until ordered to do so by the Executive
Council of the A. F. of L.

President ruled that the first part of the resolution, dealing with unaffiliated
bodies, to be out of order.

On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 34.
Whereas, The charter of the Wrapper and Kimona Makers, Local 41, reads:
"Local 41 of Brownsville, N. Y.," we beg to recommend that for the interest of
our Union the charter be changed to read, "The Wrapper and Kimona Makers'
Union, Local 41, of Greater New York." (Signed) H. Klein, Local 41.

Committee recommended the adoption of the resolution. Concurred in.

Resolution No. 35.
Whereas, Various changes have taken place in our trade, one particular
change being that, instead of ladies' waists, 75 per cent. of the manufacture in
our trade is ladies' dresses, be it therefore
Resolved, That the charter of Local 25 be changed to read as the "Ladies'
Waist and Dressmakers' Union." (Signed) S. Hyman, Local 25.

Committee recommended its adoption. Concurred in.
RESOLUTION NO. 36.

Whereas, The piecework system in the cloak and skirt trade makes it impossible for the organization to control the earnings and conditions of the members in the organized shops; and

Whereas, This is the chief obstacle in the way of maintaining and keeping the members in the organization, be it therefore

Resolved, That one of the objects of the International Union, through its official organ and otherwise, shall be the abolition of the piecework system and the establishment of a system of time pay in these trades.

(Signed) MAX ALBERT, LOCAL 23

Committee reports favorably, and refers to the General Executive Board for action. On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

RESOLUTION NO. 37.

Whereas, Cleveland is a great cloak center, yet the Cloak Makers' Unions in Cleveland have made no progress; and

Whereas, The greatest hindrance to the unions is a certain contracting class, known as the Newburger contractors; and

Whereas, The local itself, after hard work, has not been able to organize the Newburger contractors, therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention find ways and means whereby the Newburger contractors shall be joined in some way with the inside working people.

ISREAL S. FEIT,
Delegate Local 26, Cleveland, Ohio

Committee recommended to refer this to the General Executive Board, with the understanding that this matter be taken up immediately after the adjournment of the convention.

On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

Report of Grievance committee, Dal. Goldovsky:--

RESOLUTION NO. 38.

Resolved, That the Ladies' Shirt Waist Makers' Union, Local 25, shall have jurisdiction over any members of another craft working in shops where ladies' waists and dresses are manufactured.

BENJAMIN WITASHEK.

Committee recommended the rejection of the Resolution. Delegate Dychen moved an amendment to this resolution, to substitute the word "local" for "craft." It would then mean that when a member of another local accepts a job in a waist shop as a waist maker, he or she must abide by the ruling of Local 25, the same as the rest of the members of that shop.

Amendment carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 39.

Whereas, Article 12, Section 6, of the International Constitution, reads as follows:

Only dues stamps of the I. L. G. W. U. shall be used by the locals as receipt for dues; all other forms of receipt for payment of dues to be illegal. Any local violating this rule wilfully may be suspended or expelled from the International Union," and
WHEREAS, Local 17 has lately installed a system of monthly working cards, instead of the weekly dues stamp of the International; and

WHEREAS, A few weeks ago, when the General Executive Board, upon investigating their books, found that they intentionally disregarded the above rule of the Constitution, failing to use the stamps of the International in accordance with this section, be it therefore

Resolved, That Local 17 be suspended from the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

J. Woolf, Local 1.

Committee recommended that Local 17 must pay up this deficiency to the International Union not later than January, 1911. Concluded in.

Resolution No. 40.

WHEREAS, Local 17 has failed to comply with Section 3 and 3A of Article 12 of the Constitution, and do not belong to the Joint Board, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Tenth Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instruct Local 17 to become affiliated with the Joint Board of New York and be guided by all the rules and regulations of the Joint Board which do not conflict with the General Constitution.

Samuel J. Ringer,
District Council of New York.

Committee recommended that Local 17 became a part of the Joint Board within 20 days.

On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 41.

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the International provides that every city in which two locals or more are affiliated with the I. L. G. W. U. there shall be a Joint Board; and

WHEREAS, So far this has not been complied with by the various locals, particularly in the case of Local 26, represented at this convention, therefore be it

Resolved, That the matter be investigated by the Grievance Committee.

(Signed) Sam Prisam, Local 27.

Committee recommended that the General Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to notify the Cleveland locals, particularly Local 26, to be represented at the Joint Board in accordance with Article 12, Section 3, of the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 42.

Grievance Committee read the following communication:

I am instructed by the Joint Board of New York to bring the following letter, addressed to the Joint Board, before this convention, and request action upon same.

Trusting that our request will be granted, I remain,

I. Gordon,
Delegate Joint Board of New York.
TO THE JOINT BOARD OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

DEAR SIRS:—Two weeks ago, on the 19th ult., I applied to Local 1, asking to be enrolled as a member, and paid the initiation fee, etc. I have now learned that the Executive Board of the local has refused to admit me. I am exceedingly surprised at their peculiar decision. I am a cloak operator of old standing, and have been in the labor movement over twenty-two years. My object in writing to you is to protest against their treating me with such utter disregard. There can only be two reasons for their action: either they object to having a member possessed of such experience in the trade union movement in general, and in the ladies' garment trade in particular, or there is perhaps a certain jealousy abroad at my having accepted the position of business agent of the Reeler Makers' Union. If the Executive Board of Local 1 thought that by refusing to admit me as a member they excluded me from membership in the I. L. G. W. U., they are much mistaken. For my part, I have complied with the requirements of the Constitution, and I can see no reason for their action. I should be glad for you to take this up, if possible, as a matter of justice to myself.

Awaiting the favor of your reply,

Fraternally yours,

M. "G. LEAVER.

Committee recommends that the case be referred to the General Executive Board. On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

Meeting adjourned.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1910—MORNING SESSION.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

Upon motion, agreed to dispense with the minutes of the previous session and also the roll call. Carried.

Report of Label Committee. H. Goldstein.

The part of the President's and General Secretary-Treasurer's report dealing with the label, committee, recommended that the General Executive Board shall be empowered to spend as much upon the label as they find necessary. On motion, recommendation of committee concurred in.

RESOLUTION No. 43.

WHEREAS, Local 17 is composed of members working in various branches of the cloak trade, such as operating, finishing, pressing, cutting, etc.; be it therefore,

Resolved, To revoke the charter of Local 17 and that the members of that local shall join the respective locals of the International Union of the City of New York, who have jurisdiction over the craft they are engaged in, such as Local 1, 9, 16 and 35.

(Signed) Morris Sigman,
Morris Goldofsky,
I. Sarauer.

Committee recommends that the present charter of Local 17 be revoked and that a charter be issued to them bearing the name of "Infants' Cloak...
and Reefer Operators' Union," and that the other members of Local 17 who are not operators shall join the locals of their respective crafts.

Upon motion, recommendation of Committee concurred in.

Resolution No. 44.

Whereas, Local 17 presented to the General Executive Board a claim of death benefit from the beneficiaries of one of their members who had been three years in good standing with that local, in accordance with Section 4, of Article 18, of the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U., and

Whereas, The General Executive Board refused to pay that claim and informed that local that such claim can only be entertained by the convention; be it, therefore,

Resolved, This claim should be paid by the International Union, in accordance with the above-mentioned section.

Committee reports majority against payment of benefit, on the ground that the local was not in good standing with the I. L. G. W. U.

Minority for payment. On motion, majority report concurred in.

REPORT OF STRIKE COMMITTEE.

Delegate Bloch:

The Strike Committee recommends that this convention decides to levy a special tax of $1 on every male member, and 50 cents on every female member of the I. L. G. W. U., which must be paid by July 15. The incoming General Executive Board be empowered to levy an assessment of 25 cents per week upon every male member, and 15 cents per week on every female member, that may be working during the time of the strike. That the General Executive Board be instructed to inform the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor of the proposed strike and make a copy of grievances, and also frame a list of the demands the Committee recommends, that the first demand shall be that the eight-hour workday is recognized throughout the United States. Therefore, we, the I. L. G. W. U. in convention assembled, decide that the first demand shall be to decrease the hours of labor to eight hours a day.

Upon motion, agreed that the first paragraph of the recommendation of the Strike Committee, which refers to levying of a special assessment of $1, male, and 50 cents female, be referred to a referendum vote.

Upon further motion, agreed that the recommendation of the Committee, including the amendment, be accepted.

REPORT OF LAW COMMITTEE.

The Law Committee, realizing the importance of creating Sick, Death and Strike Benefit Funds and the benefit to the International Union which would accrue from the institution of such funds, the committee feels that such an important question requires considerable deliberation and time, and
being aware that the time of some delegates is limited, the Committee, therefore, recommends that the President shall appoint a special committee of five to devise ways and means of incorporating into our Constitution laws providing for the payment of Sick, Death and Strike benefits. Said committee to present their recommendations to the incoming General Executive Board, who shall immediately send same to all members of the I. L. G. W. U. for a referendum vote and, if accepted, shall become law.

Upon motion, recommendation of the Law Committee concurred in.

Upon further motion, agreed that the appointment of this committee shall take place after the election of the General Executive Board.

Resolution No. 45.

Whereas, Certain delegates that have been sent to represent various locals at the present convention of the I. L. G. W. U. were not given expenses such as may be incurred by their attendance at the same, and

Whereas, There is no particular time schedule for the close of its session; be it therefore

Resolved, That the business of the convention must be closed by Thursday night.

Committee recommends its rejection.

Concurred in.

Resolution No. 46.

Whereas, Article 11, Section 4, states that no two charters should be granted in one trade in any one locality, and

Whereas, In the City of New York there are members speaking various languages engaged in the trades, and we not being able to conduct business in their language, and vice versa, it makes it impossible for us to be united in one local union; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this paragraph be changed to the effect that to members speaking various languages engaged in one craft separate charters be granted, but all sub-locals be affiliated with the Joint Board of their particular city.

(Signed) P. Seidenberg, Local 1.

Committee recommends the rejection of this resolution.

Concurred in.

Resolution No. 47.

Whereas, The present state of factory legislation makes it easy to obtain license for tenement home work, and

Whereas, Factory inspectors are not allowed to visit such places after 6 P. M., and

Whereas, As the result of this state of factory legislation, many cloak makers are compelled to take work home, to be performed after the factory closes, and

Whereas, This practice is the direct cause of sweating, low wages and the spread of contagious diseases among the people; therefore, be it
Resolved, That the General Executive Board start an agitation forthwith for an increasing vigilance on the part of factory inspectors and for the ultimate abolition of home work.

MORRIS DEITCH, LOCAL 9.

Committee reports favorably.

Concurred in.

NEW BUSINESS.

Resolution No. 8 referred to New Business considered.
Recommendation of Committee that we give $100 to Local 15.

Motion made and seconded to appoint a special organizer for five weeks.

Substitute proposed to refer the question to the General Executive Board.
Substitute carried.

Resolution No. 48

WHEREAS, The Cloak Makers' Union, Local 26, Cleveland, Ohio, has not done anything as yet to improve the condition of their members as regards the increase of wages, reduction of hours, etc.; and

WHEREAS, There is a Cloak Makers' Manufacturers' Association in Cleveland which opposes any betterment of conditions, increase of wages, shortening of hours, etc., a general strike being the only way of effecting such changes; and

WHEREAS, On the advice of President Rosenberg and General Secretary-Treasurer Dyche, this entire affair has been postponed until the convention, be it therefore

Resolved, That this matter be discussed by the convention and a time be fixed upon when this strike shall commence.

I. S. FEIT, LOCAL 26.

Special Strike Committee declared that they have no report to offer.

Delegate Feit, in support of his motion, read as follows:

At the beginning of the year, 1909, President Rosenberg came to Cleveland to organize a local union for the International. With pleasure I beg to state that he organized Local 26, which now consists of 700 members.

In the Fall of 1909 we had six small shop strikes, and we succeeded in gaining an increase in wages, ranging from 10 to 25 per cent. In the Spring of 1910 the cloak manufacturers agreed to test our strength and made a lockout at Printz-Biederman, who stated that if we will go out on strike now the firm will drive us out of town with clubs, and our wives and children will then have to beg for bread of them.

Since then we have been fighting the firm, with great bitterness and determination on both sides. They have hired Pinkerton detectives, they abused us right and left, they crippled and disabled many people, have made wholesale arrests and inaugurated a system of blacklisting and do not accept in their employ any people who are involved in the strike. We, on our side, have not been asleep. The Executive Board of Local 26 appointed a committee to collect funds, to pay benefits to strikers, and also to devise
ways and means for carrying on the strike. We have assessed our members $1 a week; the assessment brought in $6,000. We organized a Business Men's League, which gave us quite a nice sum of money. Also carried on entertainments, from which we realized money, and this gave us an opportunity to pay strike benefit from $5 to $15 per week. We were also compelled to pay large sums of money for lawyers' fees and various other expenses for carrying on the strike. They have also appealed for an injunction, which we contested and the Court decided in our favor. The next step they took was to get professional strike breakers, and they canvassed the strikers, house to house, asking them to come to work and promising them large sums of money for so doing. Thus far they have not succeeded to cut one man from out of our ranks.

They brought about 150 strike breakers from New York during that time, but we always succeeded in inducing them to go back, with the exception of a few Italians.

During the strike Secretary Dyche called upon the manufacturers and wanted to bring about a settlement, but they entirely ignored him and told him they wanted to hear nothing of unionism. In spite of all our efforts, we have not yet succeeded in making the fight a decisive one in our favor. Printz-Biederman, on their side, have the support of the cloak manufacturers of Cleveland and also the support of the manufacturers of the State of Ohio. Also the aid of a set of contractors known as the Newburg Bohemians. So far, experience has taught us that we cannot gain anything through single strikes, so that Local 26 decided to appeal through their delegates to the Tenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. and also to the incoming General Executive Board to fight the Cloak Manufacturers' Association of the city of Cleveland with their own weapon and order a general strike.

On motion, agreed that matter be referred to the General Executive Board.

Vice-President Polakoff in Chair.

Under the heading of new business, Delegate Ringer called the attention of the delegates to the Workmen's Compensation Act now before the State Legislature of New York and supported by the Central Federated Union of New York City. Wished the convention to go on record as supporting that measure and also that the convention shall call upon all affiliated locals to be represented at the Central Federated Union and State Federation of Labor and urge the passing of the measure.

Delegate Elstein—He would support the motion of Delegate Ringer if it would include also factory and social legislation in general, and that our local shall be represented also at all organizations and societies who have for their object the furtherance of Factory and Labor Legislation and social reforms. Delegates Bloch and Dyche spoke in support of amendment proposed by Delegate Elstein.

Motion in its amended form carried.

Delegate Elstein moved that convention urge all members of the I. L. G. W. U. to see that each local appointed a special Journal Committee and
that the object of such committee shall be to collect subscribers for our official organ and also to see that each member shall be provided with a copy of The Ladies' Garment Worker.

Upon motion, agreed that this convention go on record as thanking the Central Federated Union of New York City and the Central Federated Union of Brooklyn for the generous help they have rendered to Local 25 during their last general strike.

Delegate A. Bloch, for the Law Committee, asked privilege of the house to introduce an amendment to Article 1, Section 4, of the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U.

Amend Article 4, Section 1, to read as follows:

The general officers of the I. L. G. W. U. shall consist of the General President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and twelve Executive Board members, all of whom should form the General Executive Board. Nine members of the Board shall be residents of New York City and vicinity.

(Signed) S. Polakoff, Local 9.

Committee recommends article to read as follows:

The general officers of the I. L. G. W. U. shall consist of the General President, General Secretary-Treasurer, and nine Vice-Presidents, 4 of whom shall be residents of the City of New York. The General Executive Board shall hold meetings at least once a month.

Upon motion, recommendation of the committee concurred in.
President declared the amendment carried.
Meeting adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

Upon motion, the roll call and minutes of previous meeting were dispensed with.

Nominations and election of officers was then proceeded with.

Delegates Fromer, Elstein, Miss Pauline Newman appointed as tellers. Delegate Martin placed in nomination Alexander Bloch for the office of General President.

Delegate Polakoff placed in nomination President Rosenberg.

Delegate Abe Cohen placed in nomination Israel Feit. Feit declined, Bloch and Rosenberg accepted.

The vote, by ballot, was then proceeded with.

General Secretary-Treasurer declared the vote as follows:

Abraham Rosenberg, 38; Alexander Bloch, 24 votes.

General Secretary-Treasurer declared Delegate Rosenberg elected for office of General President for the ensuing term.

President-elect thanked the convention for the honor bestowed upon him.

Nominations for the office of First Vice-President were then taken.

Delegates I. Feit, A. Bloch, J. S. Greenberger were nominated. Feit and Bloch declined.
There being only one nominee for the office of First Vice-President, the General Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to cast a ballot for Delegate Jesse S. Greenberger.

General Secretary-Treasurer complied with the instructions, and President declared Delegate Jesse S. Greenberger elected for the office of First Vice-President for the ensuing term.

Delegates James McCauley, Jesse P. Cohen, Alexander Bloch, H. Goldstein wished to go on record as being opposed to the election of Delegate Greenberger to the office of First Vice-President.

Jesse Cohen placed in nomination John A. Dyche for the office of General Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing term.

There being only one nominee, the General Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to cast for the convention, one ballot for himself.

The General Secretary-Treasurer complied with the instructions, and the President declared John A. Dyche General Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing term.

Election of three Vice-Presidents for the City of New York was then proceeded with. The following were nominated: Julius Woolf, Morris Sigman, Benjamin Witashken, Harry Kleinman, Sol. Polakoff.

General Secretary-Treasurer declared the vote as follows:

J. Woolf, 11; M. Sigman, 10; H. Kleinman, 51; S. Polakoff, 52; B. Witashken, 54.

President declared Delegates Kleinman, Polakoff and Witashken elected Vice-Presidents for the City of New York.

For members of the Board outside of the City of New York the following were nominated: J. Katz, of Philadelphia; Harry Dubinsky, of Boston; W. Gitlin, of Boston; Israel Feit, of Cleveland; Max Amdur, of Philadelphia; B. Zolotoroff, of Philadelphia; Mary Martin, of Peekskill, N. Y.; M. Hertzbach, of Baltimore; Harry Siegel, of Newark, N. J.

Delegate Siegel declined.

General Secretary-Treasurer declared the result of the ballot as follows:

Gitlin, 55; Feit, 55; Amdur, 48; Miss Martin, 44; M. Hertzbach, 44; J. Katz, 20; H. Dubinsky, 16; B. Zolotoroff, 20.

President declared the following elected as Vice-Presidents for the ensuing term: Miss Mary Martin, M. Hertzbach, W. Gitlin, Israel Feit, Max Amdur.

For delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention, the following were nominated: James McCauley, J. A. Dyche, A. Bloch, Samuel Martin.

McCauley and Martin declined.

There being only two candidates for the two offices, the General Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for Delegates Bloch and Dyche.

The General Secretary-Treasurer complied with the instructions, and the President declared Delegates Bloch and Dyche elected as delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention.
For alternates, the following were nominated: Samuel Martin, A. Rosenberg, S. Ninfo, James McCauley.

Martin declined. Agreed that the election of alternate shall proceed by show of hands.

General Secretary-Treasurer declared the result of the vote as follows: James McCauley, 33; Rosenberg, 25; Ninfo, 18.

President declared McCauley and Rosenberg elected Alternates to the American Federation of Labor Convention.

Delegate James McCauley installed, and administered the oath to the newly elected officers.

President then declared Delegate M. Deitch, of Local 9; Alexander Bloch, of Local 10; B. Zolotoroff, of Local 24; S. Elstein, of Local 44; and J. Katz, of Local 58, to serve on the committee to prepare a plan for the payment of benefits and fix the amount of per capita.

It being understood that the recommendation of this committee shall be submitted to the General Executive Board, who will submit same to a referendum vote of the membership of the I. L. G. W. U.

Convention adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING,
HELD AT CASTLE SQUARE HOTEL, BOSTON, MASS.,
ON SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 11.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

All present.

A Committee of Local 15, consisting of Brothers Fromer and Auerbach, appeared before the Board and asked for financial assistance in accordance with Resolution No. 8.

President Rosenberg suggested that the General Executive Board appoint Brother Fromer as special organizer for five weeks at $20 per week.

S. Goldin, of Local 4, appeared before the General Executive Board and asked for financial assistance to fight an injunction case in accordance with Resolution No. 19.

Upon motion, agreed that the General Secretary-Treasurer should go to Baltimore and see the lawyers, and spend in the case not more than $250.

Meeting adjourned at 9 P. M., to reconvene Sunday morning at 9 A. M.

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, SUNDAY MORNING SESSION,
CASTLE SQUARE HOTEL, BOSTON, MASS.

President Rosenberg in Chair.

Absentees—Miss Martin and I. Feit.

Resolutions on the Appointment of Organizers—Referred by the convention to the General Executive Board, read and discussed. Agreed to empower the President to appoint as many organizers as he found it necessary.

Resolution No. 23—Action postponed.
Resolution No. 5.—Postponed until organizer is placed in the field.

Resolution No. 22.—Agreed to instruct the General Secretary-Treasurer to communicate with Brother Allman, of Cleveland; and, if possible, appoint him as organizer for a period of three months.

Motion carried to thank the Editor of the Vorworts for its editorial and at the same time express regret at the error which appeared in their report of the convention, stating that the General Secretary-Treasurer objected to the reading of reports in Yiddish. The Secretary-Treasurer objected to the reading of any reports, both Yiddish and English, which were not filed fourteen days prior to the convention, in accordance with the Constitution.

Resolution No. 24.—Action postponed until organizers are appointed.

Resolution No. 26.—Action postponed.

Resolution No. 30.—Action postponed until organizers are appointed.

Resolution No. 36.—Action postponed.

President Rosenberg appointed a committee to investigate the affairs of Local 17. Committee consisting of Brothers Greenberger, Kleinman and Witashken.

Resolution No. 47.—General Secretary-Treasurer instructed to write to all locals in Cleveland, instructing them to immediately comply with Section 3 of Article 12 of the Constitution, namely, to form a Joint Board and the activity of the local to be conducted by and through that Board, in accordance with the above section.

Resolution No. 42.—President appointed Vice-Presidents Greenberger, Witashken and himself to investigate if Mr. Leader, at the time of making an application, had been working in a cloak shop.

Upon motion, agreed to instruct the General Secretary-Treasurer to immediately revoke the charter of any local union which will call a strike without the sanction of the Joint Board, or will sanction a strike in any shop or shops which had been called without the knowledge and sanction of that local.

A Committee consisting of President Rosenberg, the General Secretary-Treasurer and M. Hertzbach to appear before the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and ask their moral support for the proposed general strike in the cloak and skirt trade in New York City.

First Vice-President Greenberger and Polakoff also appointed to see President of the New York Central Federated Union for the same purpose.

Agreed that the salary of the General President should be $24 a week.

Organizers’ expenses, when outside of his home or city, to be not more than $3 a day and railroad fare.

Agreed that the regular meetings of the General Executive Board should be held the first week of each month.

The following were appointed to act as trustees for the International Union: Vice-Presidents Greenberger, Kleinman and Polakoff.

President announced that he received from the General Secretary-Treasurer, intended for the convention, two letters of congratulations from Brothers Leventhal and Grossman and also an appeal to the convention from
the latter against the decision of the General Executive Board. Through misunderstanding on his part, those letters were not read. Agreed that letters be read and made part of the minutes of the General Executive Board.

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 4, 1910.

To the Tenth Anniversary of the International Ladies' Garment Workers.

One of your old members and ex-delegates to the last convention from Local 1 sends his heartiest congratulations to your Tenth Convention.

I hope you will make a big success, morally and financially, as you have done at your past conventions.

Best regards to all the delegates,

Nathan Leventhal.

518 East 139th Street, Bronx.
New York, June 5, 1910.

Mr. John A. Dyche,
General Secretary-Treasurer of the I. L. G. W. U.

My Dear Sir and Brother:—Kindly deliver my congratulations to the delegates of the Tenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, as I am not worthy to be present at the convention at Boston.

May success and prosperity crown your efforts. May the delegates use all their energy to the best of their ability for the benefit of all the workers of our trade, and try to lift the burden from their shoulders.

Do not relax your energy until the emancipation of labor has been accomplished.

With best wishes and kind regards to all the delegates, I remain,

Herman Grossman.

The following appeal was received from Brother Grossman:

New York, June 5, 1910.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Tenth Convention of I. L. G. W. U.

Greetings:—As ex-President of this International Union, I wish to enter a protest against the injustice that I received from the General Executive Board, also from my local, Union No. 1, of which I am a member since its inception. On April 12, 1910, nominations were made for delegates to the convention, and objections were raised as to my eligibility as a delegate. The reason was that I had not been in the organization six months. I wish to state that, owing to the fact that for years I acted as organizer of the Cloak Makers' Union, no manufacturer in the city will give me employment. It seems that there is a conspiracy not to give me work. Of course I was not able to pay my dues, but never resigned as a member of my organization. A remark was made at our regular meeting, Local 1, that I am not in good standing: I explained the situation at the meeting.

Brother Axelrod, a delegate to this convention, was then President of Local 1. He instructed Brother Fried, as Secretary of Local 1, to give me a duplicate. The duplicate reads: "Duplicate issued April 4, 1910. Initiated,
1896." Now, if there would be any discussion on the floor whether I should be declared a new member, I would object to it at the time.

The members were satisfied with the instructions of the President. When the question came up to elect delegates to the convention, the Executive Board of Local 1 declared me as a new member, in order not to be eligible as a candidate for the convention. I appealed from their decision to the members of my local union, but the chairman being partial used his influence against me.

Brother Shaff raised a point of order that I should appeal to the International Union, and the chairman ruled the point of order as well taken.

I appealed to the General Executive Board for justice on the 8th of May. Brother Dyche objected that there were no due stamps on my book. I asked Brother Polakov and Brother Woolf to supply me with stamps, and they directed me to Brother Fried or Brother Sigman; but Brother Fried absolutely refused to sell me stamps. Consequently I was unable to appear before the General Executive Board to receive justice.

I, therefore, appeal to this convention for justice, and hope and trust that my appeal will be handed over to the proper committee to act upon it.

With best wishes, I remain, 

Herman Grossman.

President Rosenberg appointed a committee consisting of Brothers Greenberger, Dyche, Witzhaken to investigate into this matter and report to the next meeting of the Board.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, 

John A. Dyche,

General Secretary-Treasurer.