1916

ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1916

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ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1916

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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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13TH CONV.
OCT. 16-28, 1916
OFFICERS' REPORTS
TO THE
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION
OF THE
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

October 16, 1916
SCOTTISH RITE BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
REPORT OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD
TO THE THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT
WORKERS' UNION

September 16, 1916.

TO THE OFFICERS AND DELEGATES
OF THE THIRTEENTH CONVENTION
OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Greeting:

The General Executive Board herewith submits to you a report of its activities for the past two years and four months. We trust that it will receive your earnest consideration.

This convention, in accordance with our constitution, should have taken place four months ago. The lock-out and strike of the New York cloakmakers, however, has absorbed the efforts and activities of a great many who were elected as delegates to this convention to such an extent, that it made it impossible for them to leave the battlefield even for a day. The General Executive Board was, therefore, compelled to postpone the convention till this date, October 16, 1916.

These have been stormy and active years in our International, every day and every hour of which were surcharged with ceaseless activity and with honest efforts to carry into effect the numerous mandates of the Cleveland Convention. One campaign of organization followed another in all the centers of the ladies' garment-making industries; at times the International was engaged simultaneously on several fronts, fighting successfully in spite of underhand plots and conspiracies launched against us, and directed at the very life and good name of our great organization.

Indeed, these were glorious years for our International Union. We emerged from our last Convention with an organization, which, while quite powerful in the city of New York, had only a few shells of organizations in the rest of the country. There was Philadelphia, right at our door, with a contingent of ladies' garment workers considerably over ten thousand, all practically unorganized and working under far inferior conditions than the workers in New York. Only a half-year prior to the Cleveland Convention the cloakmakers of this city went through a bitterly contested struggle of twenty-six weeks which was lost. The latent fires of that revolt were still smouldering and the workers looked forward to us, to the International, to take up the fight for them where it had been left off, and to bring their hopes and aspirations to a successful issue. The other trades, the waist and dress lines of Philadelphia, which only had a skeleton of a local, also clamored for relief and for an organization campaign. And well they might have, in view of the fact that the dress industry in Philadelphia had grown to immense proportions and their working conditions had become intolerably bad.

In the West there were Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and many other cities, with greatly increased ladies' garment industries and hardly any organizations to speak of. Chicago had thousands of cloakmakers in the trade with only a slight proportion of them in the Union. Since the Palmer strike of 1911 the locals in that city never seemed to be able to get action and life into them, and were struggling along in a spasmodic way, not being able to exert any control over the trade. Besides, Chicago developed big white goods, waist and kimono trades in the last few years, which were employing women of various nationalities by the thousand, under inferior working conditions.

Cleveland and St. Louis, both with practically destroyed organizations since their defeat in the conflict with their employers in 1911 and 1913 respectively,
the cloak, suit and skirt industry, the waist and dress trades and the raincoat workers of Boston; the cloak and suit industry of Baltimore, to which a new industry of house dresses and white goods was added in recent years, employing thousands of women, all these laid claims upon our attention.

The New York situation was all but restless at the time we assumed the administration of the General Office. The Cloakmakers’ Union had just emerged from a period of violent internal dissentions and agitation lasting for over a year which had done the workers very little good and had left its marks upon the organization. It was already becoming apparent that a new era in the relations between the organized employers and our workers was dawning in the trade, an era in which we were compelled to fight bitterly for the preservation of every advantage secured and every gain achieved. The employers had forgotten the lessons of 1910; the men at the helm of the Association that concluded the peace pact—the Protocol—were gradually being displaced by a different group whose policy it was to substitute rancor and opposition for reason and conciliation, and who spared no efforts to weaken our organization’s control over the workers’ conditions in the trade.

The other trades in New York City and nearby towns were in a condition far from satisfactory. The children’s dress and the house dress locals were broken down owing to extremely bad trade conditions and the utter lack of good faith on the part of their organized employers, with whom our International had entered into agreements in 1913. The membership of these locals was dwindling fast and the active men and women were becoming discouraged. The raincoat trade, also badly hit by trade changes, retained only a shell of its former organization and was looking forward for assistance from the International Union. The ladies’ tailors of New York and Brooklyn, the newly initiated embroidery workers, all were in line looking for advice, aid and leadership from us.

Such was the situation when we entered on our task in June, 1914. Wherever we turned our attention to, we found the workers in a state of disorganization. Soon after, the great world calamity, the European War, broke over our heads, bringing with it immeasurable suffering and anguish. The great majority of our members retain warm ties of affiliations with the lands affected by the bloody scourge raging over Europe, as most of them have their kin and dearest friends over there. The effect of the war upon our workers was not confined only to this keen moral sense of its horrors. It affected the garment-making market very materially and directly. Not the least among the depressing factors was the memorable crash of a great number of East Side banks, all of them workers’ depositories, in which our men and women were deeply interested, some to the extent of their last cent and savings. The havoc wrought and the horrors produced by these calamitous bankruptcies, the untold misery they brought to the workers of the East Side and to our people, had no doubt contributed a great deal to the deep feeling of depression among our members. It took long months until the situation adjusted itself somewhat, and you will readily appreciate that all these factors were a serious hindrance in our way and at times weighed our hearts down heavily. Above all the great conspiracy to railroad some of our members and leaders into jail which was hatched in 1913 in New York, was facing us in all its ugly possibilities. The office of the District Attorney of New York County was already concentrating all its efforts to convict our men at any cost.

In spite of all these difficulties we stood our ground and have achieved for our International Union results which in our estimation will have a lasting and telling effect on the future of the workers in our industry. We went West and East and won one notable victory after another, organizing big and small trades with invariable success. Of all the strikes and campaigns undertaken we can point frankly to only two instances in which our efforts failed, the strike of the New York ladies’ tailors in 1915 and of the New Jersey embroiderers, the specific causes for which will be given below. But even in these cases we made the employers feel that the International is a power to be reckoned with.
We shall now proceed to lay before you in detail the records of the two years and four months, the main considerations that demanded our attention, and the problems which we met, grappled with and endeavored to solve.

THE MEMBERSHIP AND STANDING OF OUR INTERNATIONAL

The numerous organizing campaigns conducted by our International, added big numbers to our ranks and has placed us in the front line of the organized forces of the American labor movement. When we entered on our work in June, 1914, our membership was receding from the high mark it attained in 1913. We only had at that time 65,800 as compared with 78,800 in 1913. The new administration set out to counteract this slide downward by organizing campaigns all over the country, and we are glad to report that our lists for the first eleven months of 1916 already show a membership of 82,000, and the total for the year will probably reach 86,000. Taking the A. F. of L. figures of last year as a basis we are now the third largest Union in the American Federation of Labor. It must not be lost sight of that we do not include in these figures the tens of thousands of our workers who, owing to the peculiar seasonal conditions of our industry, are at the time of this computation not in good standing and are thus barred from our lists.

A TRIBUTE TO MORRIS HILLQUIT

During these two years of arduous work, of crises that arose almost daily, and acute problems that hovered over our heads constantly, the International Union had the exceptional fortune to enlist the master mind of our illustrious and indefatigable counsel and comrade, Morris Hillquit on its behalf and on behalf of its organizations.

Morris Hillquit was more, infinitely more, than counsel or the International. His precious advice and lucid thought meant guidance and valuable leadership to us in every turn of our way and every difficult situation. He went with us to Cleveland, to Philadelphia, and wherever the exigency of the hour demanded his presence. His work left its mark on most of our settlements in the big and small trade disputes in New York and other cities. His brilliant leadership marshalled the forces of the defense in the cases of our indicted brothers in New York and furnished the most telling blows for their freedom.

To speak of the immense services of Morris Hillquit is, indeed, to speak of the record of the ceaseless work and achievements of our International, and on behalf of our organization we feel happy and gratified to render him, our comrade and adviser, our sincerest tribute and expression of admiration.

THE STRUGGLES IN THE CLOAK INDUSTRY OF NEW YORK

Upon assuming office we turned to the situation in the cloak industry in New York our first attention. Very rapidly, we are happy to say, we succeeded in gaining the full trust and confidence of the membership. Our efforts to revive the spirit of solidarity and fraternity and loyalty amongst the large membership, met with enthusiastic response. Brother George Wishnak was elected Chief Clerk of the Union in place of Brother Sidney Hillman who resigned to assume the presidency of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. President Schlesinger addressed mass-meetings, local meetings, shop-chairman meetings, and discussed the problems facing our organization. In return we received their full co-operation and the assurance of their united support.

We next proceeded to take up with the employers' associations the grievances that had been accumulating under the machinery of the protocol, and called for redress. (The details of these negotiations we will discuss later) In the midst of these negotiations with the Manufacturers' Protective Association, and while the relations were considerably strained, the United was suddenly sprung upon us. The United Manufacturers' Association, consisting of about two hundred of the smaller employers informed us that they decided to discontinue their arrangement with us, unless we yielded to some of their demands, and as a first step they stopped the joint ma-
catchy for adjustment of grievances between the Union and the "United" Association. Undaunted, we took up the challenge and prepared for a struggle to the bitter end. This gave us an excellent opportunity to gauge the spirit of our membership. The enthusiasm with which the men rushed to arms was admirable. In one week our forces in the "United" factories were completely mobilized.

This display of determination and solidarity on our part was very effective. The warlike attitude of the "United" underwent a sudden change, and they notified our General Executive Board that they were ready to appear and place their grievances before our board seeking an equitable adjustment. This proposition was readily accepted and all difficulties were rapidly adjusted to the complete satisfaction of our men.

The United Association, realizing that it was no match for our organization, and prompted by the ambition of some of its leaders, immediately afterwards entered into negotiations to amalgamate with the Protective Association which was later accomplished.

THE "PROTOCOL" AND ITS ABROGATION

The abrogation of the "Protocol" in the Cloak Industry of New York and the subsequent struggles between the organized cloak workers and the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association, culminating in the recent great lockout and strike, form a very important chapter in the history of our administration.

The "Protocol" entered into between the Cloak Makers' Unions and the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association of New York at the conclusion of the great general strike of 1910, was a somewhat unique instrument in the labor movement of the country. Essentially it was a collective agreement between an association of employers and the union of the workers, regulating hours of labor, overtime-work, holidays, week-wages, methods of adjusting piece rates and other shop conditions. The novelty of the arrangement consisted mainly in the attempt to abolish all struggles between the individual employer and his workers and to substitute for them a peaceful method of adjusting disputes. To this end the workers surrendered their right to call shop strikes for any grievance whatsoever, and the Union bound itself to order its members back to work in all cases in which such shop strikes would break out.

In return for this surrender of their supreme and most effective weapon, the workers were promised peaceful, fair and speedy adjustments of all their grievances. To secure such adjustments an elaborate joint machinery was devised, consisting of Chief Clerks with numerous staffs of assistants to investigate and adjust grievances, a Grievance Board, and subsequently a Committee on Immediate Action, to pass upon disputed cases, and finally a Board of Arbitration, acting as a Court of Appeals and vested with judicial and legislative powers.

It is this joint machinery, which constitutes the distinguishing feature of a Protocol, as the arrangement has come to be generally known in the needle industries.

So long as the strike of 1910 was still fresh in the memory of the employers the Protocol worked comparatively well, but after a time the workers began to chafe under its operations. The process of adjusting grievances became increasingly slow and uncertain. Active union workers began feeling insecure in their jobs, complaints of discrimination multiplied, the employers grew more arbitrary in the treatment of their workers, and wholesale discharges took place. The Union was compelled to present thousands of complaints to the Association, and the latter surrounded the proceedings for their investigation and adjustment with such intolerable red tape and formalism as to sorely try the patience of the workers.

The workers began to feel that the Protocol had tied their hands and paralyzed their action and had given them in return nothing but the empty form of justice.

To remedy this intolerable condition the new administration of our International in conjunction with the Joint Board...
of the Cloak, Suit, Skirt and Reefer Makers Union at once set itself in communication with the Association. We presented specific demands for the reform of the Protocol machinery and for the establishment of certain fundamental rights of the workers, among them immunity from arbitrary and unjust discharges and from discrimination in the distribution of work in slack seasons. We held numerous conferences with the representatives of the Association, but secured little satisfaction from them. Finally we laid our case before the Board of Arbitration, of which Louis D. Brandeis, now Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, was chairman, and the verdict was in our favor. Resorting again to the method of forced interpretation the employers tried to put false constructions upon the decision, and to distort its unmistakable meaning. Though tried in patience we appealed again to the Board, each time receiving a clearer and stronger decision in our favor. Thus driven to the last ditch the Manufacturers' Protective Association finally dropped its pretenses and on the 17th of May, 1916, abrogated the protocol.

In order to fix the responsibility of this act upon the Manufacturers' Association, we announced at a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden on June 12, 1915, and through a letter addressed to the Association on June 28, 1915, our readiness to come before a new impartial tribunal and lay our grievances before it. This frank appeal for justice won for us the active support of public opinion. After some hesitation the employers consented to allow the Mayor of New York City to appoint such a tribunal to be called the Council of Conciliation.

THE NEW AGREEMENT

The minutes of the hearings conducted by this Council, which was composed of Dr. Felix Adler, Chairman, Louis D. Brandeis, Prof. Geo. Kirkway, Ex-Chamberlain Henry Brebee, Judge Walter C. Noyes and Chas. R. Bernheimer, will forever remain a historic document in the annals of the labor movement of this country. The Council of Conciliation held 23 sessions at the City Hall of New York, at which each and every demand of ours was defended most ably and efficiently by our counsellor, Morris Hillquit, the officers of the International and of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union. The investigation of the Council was most exhaustive, and on July 23, 1915, it finally rendered its recommendations and conclusions.

The recommendations were favorable to us on the essential points at issue. But the Manufacturers' Association hesitated to accept them and we began immediately making preparations for a general strike. We submitted the question of a strike to the entire membership of the locals affiliated with the Joint Board and in a lively referendum in which over 40,000 voted, only 751 were recorded against, while 38,387 voted for a strike. The date was set for August 5, 1915, and every part of the machinery to conduct the strike was fully organized and ready for action. The employers, however, in the meantime took better counsel and accepted the recommendations of the Council. The general strike was averted and a new agreement for the period of two years was established.

Our demands for a standard of prices for piece workers, for an increase of wages for all work workers, for submitting all complaints to an impartial Chairman for Immediate Action, for a Joint Committee to investigate, control and establish standards, were all granted.

But of what avail are decisions and agreements without "good faith." The recommendations of the Council suffered a fate similar to that of the Board of Arbitration. The old practice of interpreting and twisting was attempted. The Council had to be appealed to again and again. Our grievances kept increasing and redress was slow and uncertain.

The climax was reached in the month of February, 1916, when the Union presented a summary of its most urgent grievances to the Council of Conciliation with a request for immediate and effective redress.

The principal demands of the Union were:

1. The immediate organization of a Board for the Enforcement of Protocol Standards.

2. An investigation of a series of complaints charging that in a number of shops
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piece rates had been adjusted so much below the scale that skilled workers could not earn a bare living in the height of the season.

3. For an interpretation of the Preferential Union Shop clause in the Protocol, the Union requesting the Council to hold that only Union members in good standing were to be preferred in the hiring of help, and that the membership of all new applicants for work should be proven by their membership books.

The Council substantially granted the requests of the Union. The Employers’ Association received the decision with violent protest and a few days later cooly informed the Union that it would not accept the decision of the Council with reference to the proposed investigation of unfair settlements of piece prices nor its interpretation of the Preferential Union Shop clause.

The Union, of course, construed this action as an abrogation of the agreement on the part of the Association, and immediately discontinued all formal relations with the latter.

THE STRIKE OF 1916

The balance of the season was concluded in a sort of armed truce between the two organizations. It became evident that another gigantic battle in the industry was imminent, and both sides prepared for it. There was much speculation as to the form and manner which the conflict would assume, but the speculations were set at rest, when on April 26, 1916, all Association members, 409 in number, employing about 26,000 workers, closed the doors of their factories and locked out all of their workers.

It was the most determined and the boldest attack against the Union ever undertaken by the employers, and the Union was quick to take up the challenge.

Five days after the lockout, on May 3, 1916, the Union declared a general strike and issued a list of demands which included an increase of wages for week workers and piece workers, a reduction of the weekly hours of labor, a reduction of overtime work, registration of and strict responsibility for contractors, preference for Union workers and a number of other points. Thus the issue was clear and sharp. The employers had begun the struggle with the object of depriving the workers of their established rights and reducing existing standards. The workers converted it into a fight for the preservation and enhancement of their rights and for the improvement of their working conditions. From the outset it was obvious that it would be a fight to a finish.

Even before the lockout was declared on April 24th, President Schlesinger received a letter from Mayor Mitchel inviting our Union to a conference at the City Hall to discuss the situation in the Cloak and Suit trade. The Council apparently not having entirely lost faith in the possibility of accomplishing the aims for which it was created by the Mayor in 1915, endeavored once more to bring the employers to the recognition of the duties that were imposed upon them by the acceptance of its decision. Its expectations were, however, doomed to fail, as the employers’ association, which was also invited to this meeting, in a most arrogant manner declined the invitation. As a result, this conference at which, besides Mayor Mitchel, such prominent citizens as Jacob H. Schiff and Oscar Strauss, were present, was transformed into a meeting of indignation directed against the arrogant conduct of the cloak employers and their disregard of the elementary requirements of fair play and justice. The sentiment of the meeting was adequately summed up in the closing remarks of Dr. Felix Adler, the Chairman of the Council:

“Mr. Mayor and gentlemen, we had nothing to do with the framing of this preferential agreement. We found it as a part of the situation, as a part of the compact, when we entered on our duties. We had nothing to do but to interpret it. Both parties had accepted the preferential union shop, as it had been previously a part of the protocol arrangement that had lasted five years. We had nothing to do but to interpret it. Both parties had accepted the preferential union shop, as it had been previously a part of the protocol arrangement that had lasted five years. We had nothing to do but to interpret it. Both parties had accepted the preferential union shop, as it had been previously a part of the protocol arrangement that had lasted five years. We had nothing to do but to interpret it.
they threw our decision in our faces, and declined to abide by it, despite the fact that they had agreed to abide by the agreement for two years, and despite the fact that when after 25 sessions in the hot month of July, we finally obtained the consent of both sides to the agreement, it was understood that the Council itself should be the interpreter of this agreement. Mr. Mayor, we were acting strictly in accordance with this understanding, and we were interpreting to the best of our ability and in the best of good faith the language of this agreement, the language which defined the preferential agreement or arrangement, and then we had the mortification of finding that one side refuses to abide by our decision."

Following the unsuccessful attempt of the Mayor and his Council of Conciliation to avert the threatened struggle in the Cloak industry, a number of civic bodies of the highest standing made similar efforts. Both sides were exhorted to come to an agreement and arbitration was urged as the fairest method of settling the dispute. Confident in the justice of our cause and in our ability to sustain our case before any fair-minded tribunal, we received all suggestions for arbitration with favorable attention, and we did not hesitate to state our grievance publicly, whenever and wherever called upon. The employers on the other hand steadfastly declined to consider arbitration in any form, scornfully rejected all offers of mediation, and never missed an opportunity to demonstrate their utter contempt for public opinion and sentiment. The attitude of the Association was frank and cynical. It was out to crush the Union by brute force. It would not deal with the organization of workers in any shape or form but would force the employees by a prolonged process of starvation to return to the shops individually and upon the terms of the employers. The plans of the employers seemed to be well laid. They were confident of the success of their scheme. The Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association is one of the largest employers' organizations in the country. Its membership represents enormous wealth, its treasury was practically unlimited. They had planned the attack deliberately and carefully. They were ready to hold out for months. As against them the workers represented a mass of poverty stricken individuals living from hand to mouth and seemingly unable to withstand the siege of idleness more than a few weeks. It was a hard, unequal struggle. But the employers did not figure with the spirit of loyalty and devotion of the men, nor with the solidarity and comradeship on the part of the organized workers generally.

The organization of the strike was accomplished with remarkable swiftness and effectiveness. A General Strike Committee was constituted, composed of the New York members of the General Executive Board of the International, the Joint Board and the Board of Directors of the New York Cloak, Skirt and Reelfarmers' Unions and of five members of the Executive Board of each affected local. The president of the International was placed at the head of the committee and appropriate sub-committees were appointed from among the most experienced and effective members of the organization. The numerous and difficult problems involved in the task of mobilizing, organizing and supporting an army of fifty thousand striking workers, were met and solved without a hitch and the machinery of the great General Strike worked like clock-work from the very beginning. When the strike was in progress for about two weeks, the New York members of the General Executive Board met and decided to levy an assessment of three dollars on each male member and of two dollars on each female member of our affiliated locals not affected by the strike. The members of the Board, though realizing that this assessment was not fully in accord with the letter of our constitution, made this decision in view of the great emergency and in the firm belief that the membership will gladly pay this tax and that this convention will ratify it and make it obligatory. The funds of the Cloakmakers' Union were thus supplemented by a sum considerably over fifty thousand dollars.

Another substantial source of income was the fifteen per cent assessment levied by the General Strike Committee on the earnings of the workers who returned to
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work in settled shops. This tax was met with enthusiasm and brought in the stupendoius sum of $120,000.00. The General Strike Committee also received contributions from labor organizations outside of our International, amounting to $85,000.00. Of the latter special mention should be made of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union, Cloth Hat and Capmakers' Union, International Furriers' Union, The Workmen's Circle, Forward Association, Socialist Party, United Hebrew Trades, Central Federation of Unions, the relief conferences in various cities and many others too numerous to mention, which are listed in the appended complete financial report.

We also received a contribution of 100 francs from the French Tailors' Union of Paris, accompanied by a very inspiring letter in which they extended fraternal greetings to the strikers.

To all these organizations within and without our International, we herewith express our sincerest and deep gratitude. Their money contributions have largely helped to satisfy the material needs of the striking cloakmakers, but vastly more important was their spirit of true brotherhood and comradeship, which inspired the strikers with courage and confidence, and gave them the strength to carry on their hard struggles from day to day. The whole-hearted support of the striking cloakmakers by their fellow workers in other trades will remain one of the most beautiful pages in the history of our movement.

The strike lasted fully fourteen weeks, and at no time was there the slightest break in the ranks of the fifty thousand members of the Cloakmakers' Union. The picketing and other strike arrangements were conducted with exemplary system and perfect order, and won the admiration of the whole community. The orderly conduct of the strike together with the justice of the workers' cause and the stubborl stand of the employers, gained for us a degree of public sympathy and support, probably unequalled in the annals of American labor struggles. We had the practically unanimous support of the daily press, the city authorities were eminently fair in their dealings with our pickets and the strikers generally, and a committee composed of some of the most eminent citizens of New York, such as Mr. Allan Robinson, Mrs. William H. Baldwin, Jr., Mr. R. Fulton Cutting, Mr. Haley Flase, Mrs. Benjamin Guggenheim, Mr. Learned Hand, Mr. Darwin B. James, Jr., Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, Mr. Sam Lewisohn, Mr. Alfred E. Marling, Miss Ruth Morgan, Mrs. Frederick Nathan, Mr. Eugene H. Outerbridge, Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, Mrs. Ogden Mills Reid, Mr. Jacob H. Schiff, Mr. Isaac N. Seligman, Mrs. Willard Straight, Mr. Samuel Untermyer and Mr. Nelson Spencer, was organized for the moral and financial support of the striking workers. The committee did excellent work in creating public sentiment for the strikers and collected about $60,000 for our strike fund. In this connection it gives us great pleasure to attest with deep gratitude our recognition of the good work of the capable, energetic and sympathetic chairman of the Committee, Mr. Allan Robinson, and also the tireless devotion and valuable services of Mr. Robert Brüche, who contributed very largely towards creating an enlightened understanding of our grievances and struggles by the public. We express our deep appreciation likewise to Miss Mary E. Dreier, the head of the Milk Distribution Committee which was organized by the Women's Trade Union League during the strike and which distributed over 200,000 quarts of milk to the strikers and their families. The systematic way in which this huge work was carried through attests fully to the loyalty and devotion of this committee, which proved of immense help to our men and women during the strike.

At the close of the tenth week of the strike it became clear to the members of the Manufacturers' Association that their hopes of starving the workers into submission would never be realized. The Fall and Winter seasons were fast approaching, and if the cloak industry of New York was to be saved from ruin, terms had to be made with the workers.

On July 8th, and after some parleys through the columns of the daily newspapers, the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association formally invited the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to a conference with a
view to a settlement of the strike. This was the first definite victory of the strikers. The fact that the Association, which had started the war with a declaration that it would never again deal with the Union, was compelled to make the first peace overtures to our International, was in itself tantamount to a surrender. A series of most taxing and exhausting conferences now ensued, which lasted two weeks almost without a break. The Union was represented by fourteen members, including one representative from each local, the main officers of the International and counsel. The Association likewise had fourteen representatives including counsel. During the first few days Brother Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, presided, and by his great tact and experience greatly facilitated the proceedings. At the close of the third day the conference broke up in seemingly hopeless disagreement and Gompers went back to Washington. The conferences were renewed on the next day and from then forward were conducted without the aid of any outside person. It was a ceaseless, hard and enervating process of face-to-face arguing and haggling from the beginning to the end. Every point presented sharp contrasts of views and demands on both sides of the conference table, and every inch of the ground had to be fought for almost to the point of physical exhaustion. On several occasions the conference seemed hopelessly deadlocked, and every time the break was averted by a concession on the part of the employers. At last a tentative agreement was drafted. It was not formally accepted by either side, but was to be submitted to the membership of both organizations for approval or rejection. The agreement as drafted represented substantial gains for the workers, who were then on the thirteenth week of their strike with their funds practically exhausted and the busy season close at hand. But such was the militant spirit of the strikers that they even refused to vote on the agreement until certain objectionable provisions were removed from it.

The proposed agreement was rejected and the strike continued in full force. This demonstration of determination on the part of the strikers had a very salutary effect on the hard-pressed employers, and within one week the conferences were renewed and additional important concessions granted to the workers.

The agreement thus amended proved satisfactory to the workers, who now accepted it by a large vote, thus terminating one of the most significant struggles in the clothing industry of the country.

The chief provisions of the new agreement between the Union and the Association are as follows:

1. The Union is specifically recognized, its members are to be given preference in the hiring of help, and no new worker is to be given employment unless he presents a working card or paid-up membership book to the employer and the shop chairman. The latter provision re-enacts the decision of the Council of Conciliation, which largely caused the Association to abrogate the former agreement.

2. The weekly hours of labor are reduced to 49 per week, Saturday work to cease at 12 noon. Overtime work is limited to the six busiest months of the year, and is reduced from 12½ hours per week to 10 hours.

3. The wages of week-workers are increased from $1 to $1.60 per week. In this connection it must be remembered that a similar increase had been granted by the Council of Conciliation last year. The cloakmakers of New York have thus forced two substantial wage increases within twelve months.

4. The hourly base rate as a guide for fixing piece prices, which was first introduced by the Council of Conciliation, is retained, but the rate is raised from 70 cents per hour to 75 cents for operators, and from 50 cents to 55 cents for finishers. The institution of price committees is retained, and a special joint board of expert price adjusters is to be created for the settlement of price disputes.

5. Contractors must be registered with the Union, and the inside firm is responsible for the observance of standards and payment of wages by the contractor.

6. The Joint Board of Sanitary Control, created by the Protocol, is retained.

7. The Association guarantees the per-
formance of the agreement on the part of each and all of its members.

8. Other conditions of work and shop standards remain practically the same as under the previous agreements.

The principal distinction between the present agreement and its predecessor consists in the machinery for the adjustment of grievances. The former joint organs for the settlement of complaints, such as Chief Clerks, Committee on Immediate Action and Board of Arbitration or Council of Conciliation, are abolished. The present procedure is very simple. All complaints of the workers are investigated by the Union itself. If substantiated on such investigation they are presented to the Association, which has twenty-four hours within which to remedy the grievances. If the action of the Association is satisfactory to the Union, that settles the controversy; if not, the Union is free to secure redress by its own methods—it is free to call shop strikes, whenever and wherever such strikes seem justified and expedient. The special feature of the "Protocol" arrangement is thus eliminated, and the ordinary collective trade agreement between a labor union and an employers' association is adopted. The Union is deprived of the "industrial court" as an instrument for righting the complaints of its members, but on the other hand it is freed from the tutelage and patronage of the employers, and has had restored to it the most potent weapon of trade unionism, which has been withheld from it for six years—the right to strike in order to redress grievances.

Is this new arrangement a step forward or a step backward in the evolution of industrial relations?

Only the future can answer that question. For the time being we are ready to accept the experiment, and we are inclined to believe that it will prove a definite gain to the members of the cloakmakers' union.

It would be idle to speculate whether the "Protocol arrangement" with its elaborate machinery is superior or inferior to the system of the simpler trade agreement. Such questions cannot be answered in the abstract, but depend upon the special circumstances and conditions of each case. The "Protocol" was probably a very suit-
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fare of all men and of the industry in general.

This is our program. We have all the necessary means to carry it out completely, all except one perhaps of which we shall speak later. Our organisation has never been as large and powerful as it is to-day. Our ranks have never been more closely knit together, more solidly united. The victories that we gained over the employers in the long series of controversies as well as the splendid success we had in the courts of justice—all that has won for us a powerful backing in public sentiment.

The one exception above noted is that of funds. The recent cloakmakers' strike, which found the combined treasuries of all cloak makers' locals with less than $300,000, and involved an actual expenditure of almost $700,000, has again forcibly demonstrated that we are not sufficiently supplied with funds for the great tasks confronting us. We must enter upon a powerful campaign of education and organization all over the country, and this will require a big outlay of money. We must also ever keep before our eyes the possibility of conflict and provide for it.

This administration as well as the previous one has urged an increase in the dues and the per capita tax to the International. The present situation should bring home to the delegates and the membership at large even more clearly and vividly the wisdom of this recommendation.

We deem it fair and appropriate to state that during all those trying times and hardships that our local organisations of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer trades have passed through, the officers of the Joint Board and of the local unions have magnificently borne their share of the great burden and have done their utmost to preserve the strength and the integrity of the organisation. Every paid officer of the Joint Board declined to accept wages all through the strike. Of course, it is obvious that space here forbids the mentioning of every name connected with the executive and managerial staff of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York.

THE CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS IN NEW YORK

What was probably the most dastardly and insidious attack ever made upon our international was launched by our enemies in the guise of criminal prosecutions.

These prosecutions were engineered and manipulated by a notorious gang of professional strike breakers and gangsters, who had been brought into the industry by a group of unscrupulous employers during the strike of 1913, and who had infected it ever since. Failing to break the Union by the usual methods of scab herding and strike breaking, the resourceful heads of the gang devised the expedient of organizing an alleged rival cloakmakers' union. They had the audacity to call their mixed crew of scab and gangsters "International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of the World," thus stealing the name of our organisation, and attempting to create confusion in the ranks of the workers. An injunction was immediately obtained by our International against the use of our name by the infamous gang. Checked in this move the latter thereupon hit upon another and even more desperate plan to destroy the Union. By the unlimited use of perjured testimony they fabricated a series of criminal cases against some of the most active officers and members of our International. The blow was planned with diabolical cunning. Wholesale charges of heinous crimes against the most responsible leaders of the International would naturally tend to discredit the entire organisation; a possible conviction would demoralize its ranks, and a costly defense would drain its treasury.

The dastardly plot was facilitated by the attitude of easy credulity on the part of a labor-hating district attorney, who was eager to make a record in the eyes of his capitalist backers on the eve of an electoral campaign.

Accepting the clumsy fabrication of the notorious scab agents and supplementing them with the alleged confessions of one of New York's most notorious thugs and criminals, the district attorney secured indictments against twenty-four officers and
members of our organization, charging them with a variety of serious crimes, from extortion and riot to murder in the first degree.

The indictments were returned in rapid succession in the month of May, 1915.

The charge of murder involved eight defendants: Morris Sigman, then the General Secretary-Treasurer of the International; Saul Metz, a member of our General Executive Board; Julius Woolf, one of the most active officials of the Cloakmakers’ Union; Morris Slupnikor, Abraham Woldlgor, Max D. Singer, Iaodr Ashpita and Julius Holser. It was based upon what was probably an accidental death of a repentant strike breaker in 1910. The “evidence” was wholly furnished by the ring of gangsters above referred to, and was so fantastic, contradictory and incredible, that no fair-minded prosecuting officer would on the strength of it, piece eight men of unblemished records on trial for their lives. But the District Attorney of the County of New York resorted to every known device to secure a conviction.

Our first effort was to have the defendants released on bail, and in order to do so it was necessary to obtain access to the grand jury minutes. We retained special counsel to assist in that task. Every inch of ground was bitterly disputed by the District Attorney. But we fought on, gaining ground slowly but surely. Finally after a confinement in cells for a period of over four months, our men were released on bail. The first battle was won.

And now preparation for the great struggle of the trial began. The cases had thus far been in the hands of our counsel, Morris Hillqutt, and the firm of Levy & Unger. Upon their advice we also retained ex-Judge Olcott. To secure the enormous sums required for gathering evidence, paying counsel and the many incidentals of the tremendous battle, we made appeals to our membership for voluntary contributions besides the tax levied upon the membership at the Cleveland Convention. The response was most generous despite the comparatively slow season in the trade.

Even before the trial opened we scored a victory. The Judge had discharged one of the defendants, Brother Louis Holser, on the ground that there was no evidence against him whatever.

The trial commenced on September 23rd and continued for fifteen days. As it progressed it assumed more and more the character of a searching investigation into the character, aims and methods of our international organization. Not only the eight defendants but our organization as such, and in a measure the entire labor movement, were put on trial.

Our able attorneys, Judge William Olcott, Abraham Levy, Judge Henry W. Unger, Alexander Levana, Jacob Hillqutt and Max B. Levin, under the leadership of Morris Hillqutt, demolished the case of the prosecution with heavy blows, clearly established the innocence of the defendants and brilliantly vindicated the principles and methods of trade unionism. The opening address of Morris Hillqutt was a classic defense of the principles, methods and achievements of our Organization. Two of the defendants, V. P. Saul Metz and Bro. Julius Woolf, were immediately acquitted on motion of the District Attorney. The jury was out less than two hours deliberating on the case of the remaining five. It returned a verdict of “Not Guilty.” The persecution was of vital significance to our Union. It aroused tremendous public sentiment in our favor, and stirred the entire labor and Socialist movement all over the country. Our final victory was hailed as a triumph, not only of justice but of the cause of labor. It rehabilitated the labor movement in the eyes of the public at large and served largely to repair the damage done by the unfortunate McNamara case.

We are happy to congratulate the organization upon the fact that it has passed through this heavy ordeal unscathed and unscathed. Not only have we saved our brothers, but we have also tested the loyalty and courage of our members and found them ready to meet any emergency.

PHILADELPHIA CLOA KM AKERS’ VICTORY

Most of you, doubtless, remember how, after a heroic stand of twenty-six weeks, the general strike of the Philadelphia Cloakmakers was called off in December, 1912. But the struggle was not ended
that time. It was at most an unarmed truce. As soon as the General Officers had disposed of the various matters of internal organisation upon whose entrance into office, immediately after the convention, they directed their attention to the Philadelphia Cloak and Suit situation.

We went about the matter cautiously, testing every step we made; we wanted to gauge the spirit of the workers and their earnestness and belief in the big movement that we were undertaking, in view of the severe trial of strength with their employers that they have just recently emerged from and the economic strain that followed it.

The first big meeting that we called in Philadelphia in the latter part of August, 1914, at which President Samuel Gompers of the A. F. of L., and Abraham Cahan, editor of the Forward, were the principal speakers, quickly assured us that in our movement to standardise the trade conditions in Philadelphia we had behind us the undivided backing of every man and woman in the trade. The success of that meeting in the immense hall of the Academy of Music was so great and the enthusiasm of the workers so overwhelming that we immediately began working out a set of definite proposals and demands, which we shortly afterwards presented to the Philadelphia manufacturers and made preparations for a general strike. At first the employers who were organised in two bodies, the Philadelphia Ladies’ Garment Manufacturers’ Association and the Philadelphia Women’s Wear Manufacturers’ Association, were not inclined to listen to our proposals. They were under the impression that the Union was still weak from the effects of the previous year, and that they would be able to weather the storm without any serious consequences to themselves. But as the movement grew in volume and intensity they began to change front. Public opinion in Philadelphia aroused by the justice of our demands for a square deal for the Philadelphia cloakmakers, was entirely on our side and did not at all cherish the prospect of a repetition of the great strike of 1913.

A number of prominent Philadelphia citizens, among whom were John Wanamaker, Dr. Cyrus Adler, Jacob D. Lit, Wm.

Silverman and A. J. Margolles, interested themselves on behalf of peace, and made several attempts to bring the contending parties together. Finally, Mr. George D. Porter, then Director of Public Safety of Philadelphia, called upon both sides to place their differences before him with an offer to arbitrate them. The result of this conference was an agreement of peace. We established scales for cutters and trimmers in the trade, no scales having existed in it before; assured a regular week work of fifty-four hours; placed limitations on overtime; introduced the half-day holiday on Saturday and completely abolished every trace of inside shop contracting, which had been prevalent in Philadelphia ever since the inception of the cloak trade in that city; assured adjustments of piece prices by price committees, and, in case of disagreement, by price adjusters; abolished home work; and created a Grievance Board composed of representatives of both sides. No time limit was set to this agreement.

This successful settlement was the first substantial achievement of the new administration, and it was accomplished without the irreparable losses which prolonged and bitterly fought strikes bring in their wake. The victory was celebrated in September by another great meeting at the Academy of Music, at which the scenes of the August meeting were repeated with the additional feeling of joy and gratification at the magnificent results which had been achieved.

After the settlement it became evident that there were no more than 100 members in good standing in the Philadelphia locals out of about 6,000 employed in the trade. This anomalous condition was brought about by the terrible unemployment which prevailed in Philadelphia after the strike of 1913. Our people had not worked for months and had suffered acute distress. To remedy this condition after the settlement, the General Executive Board was called together in Philadelphia to decide on a plan of organizing the trade. Brother M. Perlstein was brought over from New York to manage the local office and Bro. H. Weinberg of Philadelphia was engaged to address shop meetings. Bro. J. F. Pierce was ordered to Philadelphia to
organize the cutters. It was likewise decided to keep Brother H. Kleinman there for some weeks to take care of the finances. At present practically one hundred per cent of the trade is organized, and when it is taken into consideration that this complete unionization took place within the comparatively short space of two years, the work of our Philadelphia brothers deserves just praise and admiration.

The Philadelphia campaign was conducted under the supervision of President Schleisenger, who spent a number of weeks in Philadelphia making preparations for the general strike, assisted by Comrade Morris Hillquit and Vice-President Amdur. Brother Amdur has been in charge of the Philadelphia Cloak situation ever since, acting as Chief Clerk for the Union, and it is in no small degree due to his tact and ability and unswerving loyalty and devotion that the Philadelphia organization has attained its present degree of prosperity and the control over the trade.

We desire at this point to record the important fact that when we started the movement in Philadelphia we called upon our New York locals in the Cloak and Waist trades to advance us big sums of money which we deemed necessary to transfer to Philadelphia for the possible emergency of a strike. The locals promptly responded in a generous and loyal spirit, and we went to Philadelphia with a big reserve treasury and with the guarantee that our organization in New York stood ready as ever to make whatever sacrifices that might be necessary in order to unionize the cloak industry in Philadelphia.

THE WAIST AND DRESS ORGANIZATION DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS

The Waist and Dressmakers' Organization in New York City, the biggest single local of the International Union, our local No. 20, has during the past two years contributed an interesting and important chapter to the history of our organization.

For three years peace reigned in the industry. The Protocol that was agreed upon between the Waist and the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association in the mid-winter of 1913 provided elaborate machinery for adjustment of grievances. Yet many loopholes were left in the agreement which gave the unscrupulous employers freedom to harass their union workers, to withhold work from them and have it made cheaper by non-union employes; to reduce the stipulated scales and to violate the provisions of the Protocol directly and indirectly. Of course, these flagrant violations often led to stoppages of work and other forms of resentment on the part of the workers, and it soon became evident that if peace was to prevail, the causes leading to friction must be removed and a number of improvements to the Protocol must be made.

As far back as July, 1914, the Waistmakers' Union addressed a formal communication to the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association, setting forth a demand for a Committee of Immediate Action, such as was that time in operation in the cloak trade in New York City. The inadequacy of the Grievance Board as an agency for settling complaints with any degree of speed, or for settling deadlocks between the parties without resorting to the Board of Arbitration, was becoming apparent and an effective remedy was being sought. Shortly afterward such a committee was organized, but without a permanent impartial chairman. In each case, a new impartial chairman would be called into the situation to settle the grievance. Notwithstanding the establishment of this Committee on Immediate Action, discontent did not abate and was shaping itself into a definite movement for the revision of the Protocol. Among the principal demands of the Union were amendments to the Preferential Shop clause so that preference to union workers should be given not only at the time of hiring, but also during the time of their employment, and that in dull seasons only union workers should be retained; a shorter work day; extra pay for overtime to piece workers; the curbing of the contracting evil that had been making considerable inroads into the trade; and some definite propositions to safeguard the workers against wrongful and arbitrary discharges.

Towards the end of 1915, the conviction
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among the waist and dressmakers in New York that the Protocol must be rewritten had grown to a degree of a certainty. Conferences were arranged with the employers to discuss the proposals that the Union had prepared after a careful study of the conditions and evils that had accumulated in the waist and dress industry during the last three years. The Union had every desire to maintain peace, but it clearly saw that under the great abuses that had crept into the industry, peace was tottering and the only way to preserve it and put it on a firmer and more lasting basis was by revising the protocol of peace to suit the changed conditions. When the conferences were coming to a head and a number of questions were already settled and agreed upon, a proposition came up from the employers maintaining that the movement for standardizing conditions in the industry must include not only the shops controlled by the members of the Waist and Dress Association, but likewise every shop in the city. The Union simultaneously proposed that, in view of the fact that the employers had not lived up to the Preferential Union shop principle all during the three years of the life of the Protocol, a suspension of work for several days be ordered in all the shops of the members of the Dress and Waist Association, and that those of their employees who had not yet joined the Union be given the opportunity and urged to do so during these days. Accordingly, a general walkout in the entire industry was decided upon to take place early in February. This movement was designed to be as a demonstration of unity on the part of our workers in so far as the association shops were concerned, but it meant a genuine strike in all the independent waist and dress houses in New York City. The success of the big movement was foreshad-owed by the fact that during the week when preparations for the demonstration were being made over 500 applications for settlement upon the terms presented by the Union were made by independent firms in the trade. On Wednesday, February 10, 1916, thirty thousand waist and dressmakers left their shops and within a few hours the entire industry was at a standstill.

The demonstration lasted less than a week in the association shops and not longer than two weeks in the independent factories. The Board of Arbitration, presided over by Judge Julian W. Mack of Chicago, who accepted to serve on the board in place of Mr. Louis D. Brandels, chairman of the board for three years, decided in favor of improvements that constitute a distinct gain for the workers, and the gains of the independent shops were in no way smaller than those in the association shops. Comrade Morris Hillquit, who represented the Union at all the sessions of the Board of Arbitration, has been one of the chief framers of this model agreement, and it is our conviction that this excellent document requires only genuine good faith on the part of the employers in living up to its provisions in order to make it a lasting and an effective instrument of collective bargaining between the Association and the Union.

The revised Protocol is a much more satisfactory document than the one it supersedes. First, of all, the demand of the Union for a clear and precise declaration on the question of union preference in the shop was granted in the exact terms in which the demand was made. A number of other points tended to strengthen this clause and to make it workable and effective. The Board of Arbitration also granted the demand of the Union for a reduction of hours, and fixed forty-nine hours as the working week. It granted the operators a minimum rate of thirty-five cents per hour instead of the minimum of thirty cents under the old Protocol. It decided that piece workers shall get paid at the rate of thirty-five cents per hour extra for overtime, a remarkable improvement and innovation of considerable consequence in the labor movement. The cutters were awarded a substantial increase in wages—a minimum scale of $27.50 for full-fledged mechanics and increases for the various grades of apprentices. Piece workers, other than operators, received a flat increase of ten per cent; pressers got a minimum rate of 46c an hour, and ironers 35c an hour on piece work, which was established as the
prevailing system instead of week work as heretofore. Other concessions regarding the methods and machinery for the enforcement of the agreement render the revised Protocol a much more perfect instrument for securing justice and the safeguarding of the rights of the workers. The Board of Arbitration has, however, warned the workers against stoppages which are likely to occur in the industry, particularly during the early period after the settlement, and which may constitute a menace to the peaceful relations between the Union and the Association.

Every individual employer who did not belong to the Association and settled with the Union individually was required to sign an agreement, essentially the same regarding wages, hours, overtime, etc., as the one entered into with the Association. It goes without saying that one of the great gains of the general demonstration was the tremendous increase of membership which has accrued to Local No. 25. At least 13,000 new members have joined the Union, and the organization is making every effort to handle this vast influx with care, patience and judgment.

The tremendous amount of work which was required in accomplishing these results and in the management of the difficult situations which were constantly arising during the months of continuous conferences with the employers and during the weeks of the demonstration and the months that succeeded it, was carried out by the energetic and faithful staff of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union under the management of Bros. Sol. Polakoff, S. Seldman, and S. Lieborman. Secretary Baroff also devoted a great deal of his time during this arduous period to the affairs of Local No. 26. Credit is also due to the tireless efforts of the Board of Directors of the organization of the Waist Makers who have contributed their best to the interests of the local.

In speaking of the various activities of the Waistmakers' Union it is difficult to pass without mention the Unity House venture in Pine Hill, N. Y., the first attempt on the part of any of our locals to establish a summer vacation home for its members.

The splendid success with which this attempt has been crowned from every point and angle, and which is to a great extent due to the able and efficient management of Mrs. Marie H. McDonald, is convincing evidence of the necessity of such vacation places for our members, and along with that, a tribute to the resourcefulness and ability of the management of the Union in putting through this new venture with such gratifying results. Of course, the size and the facilities of the Unity House are as yet so limited that with strained efforts it could not house more than 250 people during the entire season, but it points a road to the establishment of a big vacation center for our men and women of all trades and occupations.

That our International Union as a whole and our locals individually would profit greatly by such an institution is clearly beyond doubt. Aside from the very material results accruing to our thousands of vacationists, at rates half or less than half of those charged at all regular summer boarding places, we can think of no greater lesson in solidarity, of no more effective sermon in unionism that this bringing together under such genial circumstances of the best of our members. Thousands of members of our International in New York are going out every summer for their short vacations to all manner of boarding places and there spend their time among influences wholly indifferent or even hostile to the ideas of organization and unionism. Through such ventures as the Unity House our people could be gathered together under congenial conditions which would prove a boon to themselves and a tower of strength to our organization.

THE CHICAGO CLOAKMAKERS' CAMPAIGN

Early in the Spring of 1915 we decided to enter the Chicago cloak field for an extensive organization campaign. In 1911 the local cloak trade went through a memorable strike, the Palmer strike, which ended quite unfavorably for the workers. Within recent years, however, the after effects of that strike healed up and the trade 'branched out in various directions, but the workers' organization
did not keep pace with the development of the industry.

Early in May, 1915, we held the fourth quarterly meeting of our General Executive Board in Chicago, and from reports submitted to us we realized that our Chicago workers were ripe for an organization. They were actually on tiptoe of expectation, and all eyes in the trade were eagerly directed to the International for leadership. This state of tension was certainly well justified by the actual working conditions that prevailed in Chicago, the low standards and the treatment accorded the workers in the shops; sub-contracting was rampant, and the condition of the men was deplorable. President Schlesinger immediately took advantage of the situation and engaged Brother Philip Finkler as organizer, who conducted the preparatory work in a very able manner and put the local organization into working shape in a short time.

The question presented itself to us as to whether Chicago would have to go through a similar operation to that which New York experienced in 1910, or whether logic and enlightenment would prevail and the employers would avoid a general strike by granting the just demands of the workers. On the other hand, it was contended that the Chicago cloak trade had never had a real shakeup, and that such an operation as a strike was an urgent necessity in order to sweep out old-standing abuses and accumulated trade evils. Still, sober reflections on our part, and a willingness to concede to the just demands of their workers might open a way to radical improvements without resorting to a strike.

The mobilization of our forces and the wonderful response which our call for action received from the Cloakmakers soon convinced the cloak manufacturers of that city that they were face to face with a real, live and powerful force, and they chose the second course of action. After a number of conferences between President Schlesinger and Individual employers which were arranged by some leading Chicago public-spirited citizens, both sides agreed to have all the demands arbitrated by a Board composed of Judge Julian W. Mack as chairman, William O. Thompson representing the Union, and Samuel J. Kilne for the employers. The Board had several hearings, and on Friday, September 14, 1916, it rendered a decision which constitutes the agreement in the cloak and suit industry of Chicago, and which to our mind is the clearest and most lucid agreement so far achieved by our International in any of the cloak and suit markets of the country. This signal victory marked the beginning of a new era in the ladies' garment industry of that city; it introduced the principle of collective bargaining with employers and the adjustment of disputes by conciliation and arbitration. The services of Brother Peter Eiseman and of Brother Ab. Biano, who has since remained as Chief Clerk for the Union, contributed greatly towards the successful solution of the numerous problems which were connected with the questions before the Board of Arbitration.

The demands in main embodied provisions for a fifty hours work week, minimum scales for week workers, half holiday on Saturday, double pay for overtime, seven legal holidays with pay for week workers, an hourly base rate of fifty cents for finishers, seventy cents for operators, sixty cents for pressers and fifty cents for underpressers; recognition of the Union, provisions for a Board of Sanitary Control, and the establishment of an Arbitration Board to settle disputes. But the greatest gain of all was undoubtedly the gain of organization. The Chicago Cloakmakers have finally remedied the backward state they were in for a number of years. The new administration of the International Union has taken up the mandate of the Cleveland Convention in full earnest and placed Chicago in line with New York, Boston, Philadelphia and other organized centres of the ladies' garment industries.

THE MOVEMENT AMONG THE CHICAGO WAIST AND WHITE GOODS WORKERS

Almost at the same time when remarkable occurrences were taking place in the cloak trade in Chicago, a very lively movement among the waist and white goods workers of that city took place which re-
sated in the organization of two of the biggest shops in the city.

There is a big plant in Chicago called the Hertog Garment Co., where women's garments of every description, from negligees to gloves, are being made. The workers in that shop, mostly women, speak a half a dozen tongues and include Jews, Bohemians, Poles, Italians and other nationalities. They were toiling for five, six and seven dollars, sixty hours per week. With the assistance of the Glove Workers' Union and Mrs. Raymond Robbins, president of the N. W. T. U. L., and the Chicago Federation of Labor, the thousand girls in this shop, who walked out in a strike for better conditions, won their fight in a short time. The firm conceded them a 50-hour work week with a half holiday on Saturday, a union shop with raises in wages, and an Arbitration Board to settle disputes and fix over the wages for the workers in the shop. Later this Board rendered a decision very favorable to those women workers.

There was another shop in Chicago, Steinberg & Sonkin Bros., where about 160 people were employed; they went down on strike when the firm discharged three men who belonged to the Union. And when the workers went back to work after a strike of five days they took along with them the discharged three men, and besides that gained an agreement with a 60-hour week, a substantial increase in wages and also an impartial committee to investigate and fix prices for all the workers in the shop. The firm, however, soon proved that they did not mean to carry out their agreement. The result was another strike in February, 1916, which was won after several weeks and which aroused the sympathy and assistance of a number of labor bodies in Chicago.

The situation in these trades in Chicago requires your immediate attention. This convention should decide upon a campaign of organization among the thousands of women workers of these trades in Chicago. There is no doubt in our minds that a general strike would succeed in establishing uniform, union standards in the Chicago shops and would vastly improve their working conditions.

CLEVELAND'S ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN

The victory at Philadelphia in September was an inspiration to us as well as a signal to go ahead with our campaign. The situation in the big mid-western centre of cloaks and suits, Cleveland, which had its big strike in 1911, was similar to the Philadelphia pre-strike situation in 1913 in many respects. In both cities the same number of workers stood in the battle line approximately for the same number of weeks. The demands of the workers were similar, with such variations as were due to local conditions. In both cases the international stood by the workers and helped them financially even beyond its resources in both cases. The international was compelled by circumstances to call off the strike and await a more favorable opportunity. The opportunity came back to Philadelphia in 1914, and the hopes and wishes of the Union were realized. But Cleveland was still lagging behind, sunk in the darkness of non-unionism and subject to the evils that go with such a state of affairs.

It became our first duty, therefore, to lift the Cleveland Cloakmakers out of the state of despair into which they have lapsed since 1911, to inspire hope and interest in the organization of our workers and to rally them to the call of the Union. To be sure, we realized at the outset that this was going to be a gigantic task. Moreover, we were not at all positive that the response to our call would assure such quick and successful results as had crowned our Philadelphia campaign. But the duty before us was plain, and the call to go on forward with the work was imperative and immediate, and President Schlesinger quickly launched a campaign on a big scale.

We sent down to Cleveland Brother M. Perlstein, and later on he was joined by Brother John F. Pierce, Mrs. Lillian Heafsey, and later by Miss Rose Schnellerman. A systematic campaign of education was started which was supplemented in the following winter by an avalanche of literature in the form of a series of circulars in different languages which we prepared at the General Office. Language
branches of Italian, Bohemian and Hungarian workers were established, meetings, big and small, followed without number, as our organizers were gradually undermining the apathy and indifference of the men and women in the cloak shops of Cleveland. Right here it would be in place to refer to some striking developments which have overtaken the cloak trade in Cleveland during the last few years, developments which have proved to be of extreme importance and explain the peculiar difficulties of the local situation which were to be encountered by our organizers in the course of their work.

After the great strike of 1911, the Cleveland manufacturers, in spite of the fact that the Union had eventually, after a flight of half a year, called off the strike, were all but vanquished in the gigantic struggle. Their trade losses were so huge and permanent that immediately after the strike was over they began to look for means to insulate themselves against a possible repetition of this struggle. Accordingly, they hit on the plan of substituting women for men on a wholesale scale in their shops, figuring that the gentler and weaker sex, while strong enough to grind out profits for them, would be less susceptible to the call of unionism and would serve as a barrier against the advancement of the organization. For that purpose they introduced into their shops the section system, a system which for the line of garments they were making, proved to be quite adaptable, and the wholesale eviction of men from their jobs was effected. Needless to say that this process, aside from its direct effect on the earnings of the workers, has proved to be a great handicap in the path of our active men. Added to that, the Cleveland manufacturers, organized and compact, introduced into their factories the so-called "efficiency" system, which, coupled with some "benevolent" features, was perfected to drive the women workers, under the guise of systematisation and welfare, as workers were never driven before in cloak factories, to get maximum profits with a minimum of expenditure and cost of labor.

Yet our organizing staff went ahead with its work undaunted. Little by little locals which had been dormant and inactive since 1911 began to come to life. Open-air meetings, mass meetings in public schools and theatres, meetings in front of shops, and all possible means which organizing ingenuity could devise were brought into play. Great meetings in theatres were addressed by prominent speakers such as Congressman Meyer London, Jacob Fanken, Frank Morrison, Max S. Hayes, H. Weinberg, Morris Bigman, President Schlesinger and many others. From a membership of a few dozen, the organization began to grow into the hundreds, and after a year of incessant work the membership grew to about 1,500 men and women, among whom were workers of every shop, big and small in the city. Conditions were ripe now fast into a state where tangible steps were to be taken to bring the situation to an issue. President Schlesinger endeavored during his numerous visits to Cleveland to open negotiations with the employers. He met them, (once in company with Comrade Hillquit), and became quickly convinced that in order to dislodge them from their superior confidence in their ability to hold their ground against an attack by the Union that they must be made to realize that we were ready, willing and able to take the step.

Unfortunately, the two paramount features of our life in New York during the summer and fall of 1916,—the great conspiracy which has deprived us all of our peace of mind for a long time, and has sorely tried our financial means, and the abrogation of the Cloak and Suit Protocol in May,—placed themselves squarely in the way of our forward march in Cleveland. You will realize that a conflict in Cleveland with an avowed enemy who was unwilling to treat with us in order to avert a struggle, would have required all the resources at our command and all the energy that we could possibly spare for it. Nothing short of such a mobilisation of forces could be expected to drive the entrenched magnates of the cloak trade in Cleveland to a position where they would consent to deal with us as the representatives of the organized ladies' garment workers of the country. But the events of those memorable months of last year clearly forbade such a concentration of strength in Cleveland and we were forced to stand
guard over our rights here in the East, until after our brothers were vindicated and their freedom restored, and the work of the Mayor's Council of Conciliation was brought to an end.

Of course these occurrences in New York have precluded the possibility of the consummation of our Cleveland plans. This state of suspension has naturally had its effect upon the newly rebuilt locals who were expecting the final drive to take place before the fall season. The enforced lull has discouraged a number of new converts, but on the whole, the workers of Cleveland, once aroused from their lethargy, appreciated the great difficulties that had to be overcome by the International in the East and are biding their time.

To-day, the general situation in Cleveland is as follows: We have withdrawn some of our organizers from Cleveland and are for the time being only maintaining one man, Bro. M. Perlstein, in charge of our office there. The membership has dropped considerably, as was to be expected, but the fire that we have kindled in the hearts of our workers in that city will burn bright enough and we are confident that we have instilled in them a spirit that will last until we may at an early future bring to an issue the campaign that was started under such auspicious circumstances. At any rate, all during the two years that we have led the organization campaign, the workers in the shops were materially benefited by the very fact of our incessant activity, as the employers were bending every effort to stem the tide of our success and were introducing concessions and improvements in their shops of their "own sweet will."

The International took care that no workers belonging to the Union be made objects of discrimination on the part of the employers. When the workers belonging to the Union in the shop of Fried, Keller and Kohn were discharged, the Union supported them for weeks until they found jobs. A similar case happened when the workers of the Newman Dress Co. went out on strike, even without having received the sanction of the General Office, and the International supported them with strike benefits for weeks, until all the workers secured jobs and were working. Our people were not slow to see through these facts which served them as a potent illustration of what the organization would achieve for them under more favorable circumstances.

THE CLOAK SITUATION IN BOSTON

Among the very first matters tackled by the International after the last convention was the cloak and skirt situation in Boston. The condition of the four locals that comprised the Boston Joint Board at that time was far from flourishing; in fact, they existed merely on paper, as none of the local unions had a cent in their treasuries, and the general membership did not care to pay their dues and assessments. The conditions in the shops were no less chaotic and in most of the factories non-union workers were employed and very few of the workers were receiving the minimum scale specified in the agreements.

That was the state of affairs in Boston when in July, 1914, at the first meeting of the General Executive Board we decided to appoint ex-president Bro. Ab. Rosenberg to assume charge of the Boston situation as manager of the local Joint Board and also to assist in organizing work in New England towns.

The first thing to do was to wrest out from the manufacturers the permission for the representatives of the Union to visit their shops and thereby to introduce a system of shop inspection which would put the workers under control of the Union. In a short time this was accomplished; the employers saw the wisdom of conceding to this request, as otherwise the Union disclaimed any responsibility for shop strikes and stoppages that were frequently occurring. This move brought the workers flocking into the Union, and in a few weeks the entire trade was thoroughly organized. Following this, the Union undertook to abolish the system of piece work among the pressers. Though the Protocol stipulated plainly that pressers in the Boston shops must be employed by the week only, still in the majority of the shops the workers made deals with their employers to work piece work, thus creating a state
of competition between the workers, particularly in the early part of the season. This was quite a hard proposition to accomplish, as in many instances the workers were themselves stubbornly clinging to the piece work arrangements, and drastic measures were necessary in order to weed out this pernicious system. The result of this campaign was that the week work system was uniformly established, and the pressers are not only receiving the minimum scale established in the trade, but many of them are getting as high as three and five dollars above the scale. At the same time another reform was established in all the shops, a reform which the employers were persuaded to accede to. Resolutions were adopted in all the locals that no man be permitted to accept a position and no employer be permitted to hire a man from the street. If an employer needs any help he is to apply to the Union for same; and all workers who are out of employment must place their names in the office of the Union, and whenever a job is open, the man next on the list is to get it. It took some time to establish this system on a fair working basis, but after it took root, the effect of this innovation had a very beneficial result upon our locals in Boston.

Among other things attained in Boston was an equitable system of distribution of work during the dull season. As a matter of fact, some shops have adopted a system dividing the entire pay of the slow weeks among all the workers; and among the cutters this became the rule in all the shops.

In July, 1916, after a series of conferences with the local Employers' Association, the Boston Cloak Protocol was substantially amended and the standards of all week workers were raised to the extent of about three dollars a week, one half to go into effect immediately and the other half to take effect in August, 1916.

Quite recently our Boston locals encountered some serious trouble with their Association as a result of the arrogant treatment accorded to a price committee by a member of the Association. The involved shop went out on strike. The Association demanded that the workers return to work, but the local did not succeed in sending the men back. The result was that the association declared itself dissolved and they ceased dealing collectively with our locals. President Schlesinger thereupon went to Boston, and after several conferences with the officers of our locals and the officers of the Association, succeeded in bringing about the former relationship between the Union and the Association. But for reasons best known to the officers of the Boston locals, this arrangement has not yet been effectively materialized, and at the time of this writing the Association is still dissolved and the locals are still dealing with the employers individually.

The Skirt Makers who were formerly a part of Local 56, have lately become dissatisfied with the way their special interests were being taken care of by this local, and started an agitation to organize themselves into a separate local. In July, 1916, Local No. 58 sanctioned the granting of a separate charter for the Skirt Makers, and they are now known as Local 24 of our International.

As stated above, the Boston locals made considerable gains in wages, hours, and other conditions of labor. We regret to say, however, that as far as intelligent and responsible leadership is concerned, the locals are in the most backward condition. The Boston Joint Board locals are dominated by an element which is of no credit to our International Union.

In January, 1916, the Joint Board decided to issue a bi-monthly publication with Brother Rosenberg, as editor. Only a few numbers were issued. We are unable to state the reasons that led to the early death of this publication, nor the motives that prompted the Boston locals to spend money on a publication, as we were never informed about them.

Early in May, 1916, Brother Rosenberg informed us that he resigned as manager of the Boston Joint Board, giving as his reason that he could no longer tolerate the actions of the elements above referred to. That occurred during the first weeks of the New York general strike. A danger existed that New York struck cloak firms would try to have their work made out of town. President Schlesinger thereupon
advised Brother Rosenberg not to leave Boston until the strike was over and to guard the Boston shops from making any New York work. Brother Rosenberg took this advice and remained in Boston until the middle of August.

During these four months disputes have arisen between the Joint Board and a number of the local manufacturers. Vice-President Wishnak was sent to Boston to attempt to straighten out these disputes, but owing to the recklessness and irresponsibility on the part of the chairman of Local No. 24, his attempts failed. At the time Brother Wishnak was negotiating an agreement with the M. & C. Skirt Company, the said chairman of Local No. 24, without consulting Vice-President Wishnak, stopped the workers of that shop in the middle of the day against the protest of the firm; and that not only brought to an end the negotiations for an agreement, but it also caused a strike in that shop, which is, at the time of this writing, still on.

THE RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY MORRIS SIGMAN

Soon after the trials ended, Brother Morris Sigman, the secretary-treasurer of our International, resigned his position and retired to private life.

Poor health caused by the great amount of worry in connection with the shameful charges brought against him by the enemies of our Union and the twelve weeks of confinement in the Tombs prior to his full vindication, compelled our beloved brother, Morris Sigman, to give up the strenuous duties connected with his office. We have accepted his resignation reluctantly, convinced finally that the best interests of his health made his leaving an absolute necessity. Brother Abraham B. Roth, eighth vice-president, was elected to fill out the unexpired term of Brother Sigman.

During the seventeen months that Brother Sigman spent in the International Office he rendered conspicuous services to our organization, in spite of the fact that several months of those he was confined through the conspiracy of our enemies in prison. Owing to his personal sympathetic and drawing powers, the General Office became a real living centre where all those who had grievances to adjust or advice to seek came freely.

In November, 1914, Brother Sigman had for a short time the duties of Chief Clerk of the Joint Board of the New York Cloakmakers' Union, and worked for three weeks at that task in order to relieve the congestion that had accumulated at that office. Soon after he went on a trip to St. Louis, Chicago and Cleveland, and upon coming back visited our Canadian locals and Boston. He also made a trip to Cincinnati to investigate local conditions and to help place the organization in better shape.

Early in 1915, Brother Sigman managed the big revival campaign among the cloakmakers in New York City, addressing numerous district meetings and meetings of shop chairmen, together with Brother H. Weinberg, for five weeks in succession. The results of this agitation were of untold benefit to the organization of the cloakmakers in New York City, and showed very tangible results in the form of greatly increased revenues in the local offices. Soon, however, the very ambitious plans of Brother Sigman were cut short by the workings of the pernicious conspiracy that was to drag him and our other comrades behind prison bars for the entire summer of 1915.

The spirit and fortitude displayed by Brother Sigman and his comrades, Brothers Saul Mets, Julius Woolf, Morris Bupoliker, Louis Holtzur, Abraham Weldinger, Ildor Ashpitz and Max Singer will forever remain a source of inspiration to our movement. In spite of the unusually distressing circumstances which surrounded their arrest and long detention during the intolerably hot summer months, they maintained a wonderful attitude and spirit during those hard times, and conducted themselves in such a dignified and splendid way during the trial that it has earned for them the respect and admiration of all those who watched them or came in touch with them during those days.

Among the permanent improvements that Brother Sigman has established in our International Union, the uniform system of
bookkeeping and the creation of an auditing department deserve particular mention. Soon after his entrance into office, we have in pursuance of a well-worked-out plan, engaged the services of an auditor for our International Union, for the purpose of exercising proper control over the accounts and financial standing of our locals in and out of town. A uniform bookkeeping system was prepared and set out to all locals. Ever since October, 1914, our general auditor, Mr. B. M. Rabinovitch, has been auditing the books of our locals in New York City and has made numerous trips out of town, to Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Montreal, Bridgeport, New Haven, Springfield, and Philadelphia, and from our best information we are convinced that this work has been of great value to our International, and that our locals appreciate the wisdom and usefulness of this new departure in the financial department of the General Office.

The loss caused by the retirement of Secretary Bigman from active work in our International Union has been and undoubtedly will be felt keenly by our membership for a long time to come. The immense hosts of friends that he has created during the eleven years of service in the labor movement, including all those who have worked shoulder to shoulder with him in the upbuilding of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York, still feel, in spite of the fact that he is no longer in their ranks to-day, that his spirit and heart will always be with the work towards which he contributed his life's best years, and that in the hour of need and emergency they may always count upon his volunteer services in every way possible.

THE VICTORY OF THE WRAPPER AND KIMONO WORKERS

When we took up our duties at the General Office we soon realised that the Wrapper Makers of New York were destined to be one of the burdens on the hands of the International for quite some time to come. Indeed, they were in a sorry plight. In February, 1918, they had signed up a collective agreement with an association of employers in their trade, which if carried out in good faith by the employers would have given the workers a chance to manage through the following two critical years in a half way tolerable manner. But instead of good faith, the employers had displayed such a spirit of antagonism and bitter fight that it took all the time and efforts of the local to counteract and fight back the employers in times of so-called peace. The hard times that set into the trade had, aside from that, worked havoc with the workers. Shops had been closed for long periods and people were deserting the trade by the hundred.

We took practical charge of the local from the very first day of our administration and have assisted them constantly in every way and manner. We have kept a manager on our pay-roll almost without interruption, trying to keep intact whatever was left of the organisation and waiting watchfully for the first opportunity to start a movement for a general strike which would put the workers in control of their trade.

Meanwhile, the trade crisis seemed to be over. Signs were not falling that better time were coming. President Schlesinger promptly set to work launching a vigorous agitation and organizing movement. Gradually Local 41 became numerically strong enough to strike a blow for wages and other improvements at the next favorable opportunity.

One of the causes that led us to up the weakening of the organization during 1913-14 was undoubtedly the fact that the Kimono Trade in New York is almost to an extent of fifty per cent in hands of Syrian workers. These were not involved in the strike of 1913 and were regarded by many to be quite a dangerous competitive force to the American and Jewish elements in the trade. The employers have upon each and every occasion advanced this plea of real or imaginary competition and have never omitted the opportunity to cover up many of their sins by this defense. When we decided in the fall of 1915 to include the wrapper makers among the trades that were to be involved in the general strike movement in New York, we immediately turned our attention to this end of the proposition.
before us and started quite an active agitation among the Syrian kimono workers. Before this agitation had, however, achieved any material result the movement in the entire trade had reached its highest pitch. During 1916 Brother Sam Martin was placed in charge of both Locals 41 and 56. When the preparatory work of the general strikes in these two industries was definitely decided upon, the General Office appointed Brother A. Goldstein to manage the preparatory work in Local No. 41, and assigned Brother I. M. Chatooff to assist him.

On February 8, 1918, the kimono workers left their shops to a person. Apparently their bitter cup was full to the brim, for In spite of the fact that only a small part had remained in the organization all these long months, their response to the call for the strike was practically unanimous. They did not remain out very long. On the third day of the strike, the employers approached the Council of Conciliation, then in existence in the Cloak and Suit Industry, and asked the Council to intervene for peace in the trade. Soon after, conferences were begun with President Schlesinger heading the committee of the workers. In two weeks we succeeded in signing up a new agreement with the House Dress and Kimono Manufacturers' Association, and the men and women went jubilantly back to work under radically improved conditions.

An analysis of the concessions made to the workers in this trade is certainly gratifying. The Preferential Union shop clause was defined to be the same as in the revised protocol of the Waist and Dress Industry of 1916, in which it was stipulated that union members shall be preferred not only in the hiring of help but In the employing and retaining and in the distribution of work. None but union members are to be employed in the dull seasons. The working week is to consist of 48 hours; overtime is limited to 4 hours a week, double pay for overtime is to be the rule for week workers, while piece workers are to be paid 35c an hour extra for overtime. There is to be no contracting or sub-contracting in the shops, and manufacturers assume the responsibility for maintaining equal conditions in the shops of their contractors within a radius of 35 miles out of New York. No discrimination or discharges for union activity, and equal distribution of work in the slack season.

Piece workers received an average increase of 15%; increases in wages for week workers range from $1 to $3 per week; the minimum wage for cutters is set at $2.50 a week, while cutters' apprentices are to receive an increase of $3 every year until they become full-fledged mechanics. A minimum wage for learners who just entered the trade was put down at $6 per week. The machinery for adjustment of grievances was modeled on the same lines as in the waist industry of New York, except that the Council of Conciliation was designed as the highest Board of Appeal to decide on all matters of grace arising in the trade.

Thus after almost three years of disastrous trade conditions and hopeless struggle, the workers have now a strong organization to protect them. We feel elated that we have made it possible for these men and women to win for themselves the right to work and live under human working conditions.

During the last six months following the strike, the wrapper and kimono local has had to contend with another slack period which has gripped the entire trade and forced many workers to seek employment at other occupations. But the Union remained intact and began an organizing campaign among the bathrobe workers in order to offset the falling off of members in the house dress shops. As a result they control at present twenty more shops than what they had when the strike was settled. The local has during this time made another attempt to organize the Syrian workers and engaged a Syrian organizer for this work.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PHILADELPHIA WAIST AND DRESS-MAKERS

At the January, 1916, meeting of the General Executive Board in Baltimore, in response to an earnest call from the Philadelphia waistmakers to investigate
conditions in the waist and dress trade in Philadelphia. Brothers Max Amdur and Abraham Baroff were appointed to make the investigation and to report upon the immediate steps for the beginning of the active campaign in these trades. Shortly after, upon the recommendation of this committee, we appointed Brother Ab Silver, from New York, to take charge of the waist agitation in Philadelphia.

A campaign of eight months of incessant, hard and tireless work followed. To be exact, these trades, which number at least 6,000 workers, were practically in an unorganized state. There had existed a local union, a mere skeleton of an organization around which clung a handful of loyal and faithful men and women, clung for years, hoping against hope and striving to keep the light a-burning. Some time in 1910 there was a strike in this trade in Philadelphia from which a local union of considerable size had emerged. Unfortunately, the success of that strike was but short-lived. The control of the shops slipped gradually away from the local and for five long years they drifted aimlessly. Needless to say, that the employers took full advantage of this state of affairs in the local organization. Each new season brought new reductions in prices, hours were long and the treatment in the shops intolerable. In addition to that, the contracting evil had grown to immense proportions in the trade, and the effect of this affliction upon the workers could readily be imagined.

The campaign went on right from the start with remarkable success. It seemed as if our call had fallen on ready and willing ears, and the workers in the trade flocked by the hundreds and soon after by the thousands into the fold of the Union. A more grateful response to organization could hardly be imagined. After six months of work it became evident that the realization of the hopes and aspirations of the workers was at hand. Not only the Jewish speaking workers, but the English speaking women of the trade who have always kept aloof from the organization, became interested in the Union. A special American Branch was formed which soon enlisted a large number of American girls, thus removing to a considerable extent this stumbling block in the way of the workers. During these months of agitation the employers began to learn to appreciate the strength of the growing organization, and some of them adopted a milder attitude to their employees, as the workers in the organized shops were beginning to insist on better treatment and conditions. In fact, during that period no less than fifty single strikes took place in these shops, and all of them without exception were won.

When in December, 1915, President Schleinger went to Philadelphia to assume charge of the situation he found that a good, strong army had been mobilized. All sections had been united into a compact organization. On January 3, we issued a notice to the Philadelphia Waist and Dress Manufacturers enclosing the demands of the workers and setting January 10 as the time limit for a reply as to their willingness to confer with representatives of the Union with a view to a settlement. At first the manufacturers hesitated, but they soon learned that they had no other course to pursue but to bow to the will of their workers and recognize their demand to have a voice in the disposal of their labor power. A number of Philadelphia leading citizens had stepped into the situation, and soon after, conferences with the employers were arranged. A number of the demands were discussed and agreed upon during the conferences, and several were decided upon to be given over to a Board of Arbitration for final settlement. It was also agreed, as a means of unionizing the trade and thus perfecting the work of standardizing conditions in the industry, to order a suspension of work in the shops of the Employers' Association for three days and to call out all the workers in the independent shops in order to bring them under the same terms and conditions as the rest of the trade. On Monday morning, January 17, the general strike in the Independent shops and the suspension of work in the Association shops were proclaimed.
The workers have gained a fifty-hour work week, overtime to be paid at the rate of time and a half; five legal holidays for which week workers are to be paid in full; a provision for sanitary conditions in the shops to be enforced by a Joint Board of Sanitary Control; recognition of the Union; a Grievance Board to settle troubles and complaints, and a Board of Arbitration to act upon matters of graver importance that may come up between the Union and the employers which could not be settled satisfactorily by the Grievance Board. During the three days of the general strike a Board of Arbitration was convened for the purpose of settling the remaining points in dispute. Morris Hillei quit argued for the Union before the Board, which was composed of Mayor Thomas B. Smith of Philadelphia, Director of Public Safety Wilson, Judge Patterson, B. Schlesinger, and Mr. Haney. The decision handed down by the Board granted to the Union Price Committees in all the shops and shop chairmen, and authorized the creation of a Wage Investigation Board consisting of an equal representation of each side, the Union and the Association, and one impartial person for the purpose of recommending methods of standardizing prices to be paid for piece and week work and the establishing of a minimum scale throughout the industry in Philadelphia.

The victory was celebrated soon after at two remarkable mass meetings at the Arch Street Theatre, at which no less than 5,000 men and women were present. These wonderful meetings bore a heartfelt tribute to the gains accomplished by the International Union, gains which, in view of the fact that the strike lasted only three days, involving only slight expense and sacrifice, and considering, moreover, that less than a year before these workers were utterly disorganized and completely under the arbitrary rule of the employer, ought to be considered as a great advance.

During this campaign we kept on our staff in Philadelphia a number of men and women who have all done their best to achieve our aim. Recognition must be given to the unerring efforts of Brother Abe Silver, the manager of the organization, and at present the Chief Clerk of the Union. From the first day when the International selected him to lead the local campaign to the very end of the strike, he was ever present at all the meetings, conferences, and bore the major part of the burden of the organization. The Executive Board of the local, composed mainly of young women, has done excellent and loyal work.

An additional gain, worthy of note, was achieved for this organization quite recently, when Brother Silver took up with the representatives of the Manufacturers' Association the question of disciplining workers who refuse to pay their dues in the Union. After a number of conferences the Association agreed not to employ any workers who have failed to leave up to their obligations to the Union.

A NEW UNION FOR THE CHILDREN'S DRESSMAKERS

When we first began taking stock of the situation in New York in 1914, Local 50, the Children's Dressmakers' Union, was practically a local on paper. We realized that there was a lot of excellent material among the workers in the Children's dress trade to build an organization from, but that the adverse trade conditions and the lack of good faith and bitter opposition displayed by the employers of the trade with whom the Union signed up an agreement in 1913, had put the local in poor shape towards that time. We proceeded to build up the local systematically, and kept it up at our expense for a long time. In October, 1914, we appointed Brother S. Martin to assume charge of the local and to go ahead and organize the trade.

The first two seasons that followed were devoted largely towards the gathering of forces and organizing work, with the result that about July, 1916, the membership of the local grew from about 100, a year before, to over 1,600, and soon it became evident that the following spring season would be the one when conclusions between the Union and the employers would have to be tried out in the way of a general strike. The trade seethed with agitation; we appointed a new manager, Brother H. Greenberg, lately of the
Very soon President Schlesinger began to confer with the employers. For two long weeks the conferences went on at which every point at issue was gone over with limitless patience. The Union was ready to avoid a fight if the just demands that it had presented to the employers were acceded to, but the obstinacy of the employers prevented this, and on January 31, 1916, the general strike of the Children's Dressmakers was a fact.

The fight lasted five full weeks. During these weeks the men and women who were engaged in this conflict stood the test of privation, unusually pernicious police abuses and inclement weather, and yet emerged from the struggle victoriously. When the strike began, President Schlesinger had placed Vice-President Samuel Lefkovitz in charge of the situation, and he managed the strike in a very able manner. Towards the end of the fourth week of the strike conferences were again commenced with the employers, at which Morris Hillquit was always present, and finally after a number of sessions the conflict was brought to an end and a settlement agreed upon. The workers won this strike in spite of all the obstacles in their way, and we feel that we did our best to help them win it. The International paid the strikers, who numbered several thousands, strike relief for three weeks, and assumed the expenses of the entire strike machinery during the full five weeks. The Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, our Local No. 10, contributed materially both in finances and men towards the success of the strike, not less than eight of their officers being engaged in this strike, of whom Brothers Jesse Cohen and Jesse Greenberger rendered conspicuous services. Brother Max Stern, one of the business agents of Local 10, who was in charge of the picket committee of the strike, unfortunately lost his life during the first week of the strike, having sustained a stroke of apoplexy, while rallying the workers to do their duty on the picket line from the platform of the main meeting hall of the strikers.

The concessions gained by the agreement concluded at the settlement of the strike include a provision for the observance of the preferential union shop clause, according to which union members shall be preferred in the hiring, employing and the retaining of help and in the distribution of work. A 40 hours' week was granted, overtime was limited to 6 hours in any one week, a Saturday half holiday, six legal holidays with pay for cutters, an equitable method of settling complaints, and equal distribution of work in the shops. A minimum wage of $22 a week for cutters was established and increases were granted to apprentices: operators who work by the week were granted an increase of $1 at the resumption of work, and additional increases of a dollar each on January 1, 1917, and January 1, 1918; operators who work by piece were granted an flat increase of 10%, and the minimum scale for learners was set down at $6 per week. The Council of Conciliation, then in existence in the cloak and suit trade, was agreed upon as the final court of appeal to settle cases of grave dispute.

Local 56 has now approximately 3,600 members in good standing and is yet not through with its work. They are still conducting an organization campaign, and will not relax until every man and woman in the trade has come into the fold of the Union.

This is in brief a summary of the work we have done for this local union during this period. The efforts and the time expended by the International for the New York Children's Dressmakers were considerable indeed, but we are convinced that this investment was not in the least degree wasted and that we have added to the roster of our locals a strong, healthy organization.

THE SUCCESSFUL STRIKE IN WORCESTER

During the past year the International has succeeded in adding to its locals an organization of women waist and white goods workers in Worcester, Mass., that embraces a substantial portion of these trades in that city.

A beginning of this agitation was made in the winter of 1914-15 when the girls
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of the shop of Seder Bros. in Worcester, were called out in order to obtain some concessions in regard to hours and prices. This shop strike lasted several weeks and resulted in a sort of a draw, as no substantial results were achieved. This fight, however, served as a wonderful stimulant, and the women workers of Worcester have been conducting a persistent campaign for organization all during 1915. They formerly belonged to Local 76, the local Cloakmakers’ Union. During last summer they were granted a separate charter as Local No. 43, and began doing business for themselves. After the successful strike of the Boston waist and dressmakers in March, 1916, the Worcester women employed in a number of waist and white goods shops walked out on strike. We then directed Bro. Perlstein, who was just getting through with the Boston strike situation, to proceed to Worcester and take charge of the situation. Soon after, President Schlesinger went to Worcester and found that the strike which involved only about 400 women presented nevertheless a pretty difficult situation and bad well to develop into a very stubborn and protracted affair. All the Worcester employers are banded together in a very strong organization, as a part of the National Manufacturers’ Association, and are backed by a powerful local Metal Trades Association and the banking interests of the town. The machinists have been waging a stubborn and bitter fight in Worcester for several months past for an eight-hour day, and have as yet the conflict on their hands.

We did, however, succeed in getting the interest and cooperation of the public sentiment in Worcester, and after two days of conferring, we signed up an agreement with the seven firms involved in the strike, which gained for the workers a number of concessions, including an immediate raise in wages of 10%, a minimum wage for apprentices, and price committees in the shops. Other questions were left to a Board of Arbitration, consisting of representatives of the Union and the employers, among whom are Messrs. W. D. Lucy, Joseph O’Keefe, J. H. Hankins, and A. M. Spellman, to be decided upon after fifteen days after the signing of the agreement.

The workers returned to work filled with hopes for a better future and a thorough organization of the entire trade in Worcester.

THE REVIVAL OF THE RAINCOAT LOCALS

New York

The condition of our organizations in the waterproof garment trade this year, as compared with that of 1914, offers us a great deal of gratification.

There was a bitter strike of six weeks’ duration in this trade in New York in 1918, which terminated in substantial concessions of wages and reduction of hours to the union workers. In the slack period which followed immediately after the strike, and which was also aggravated by the world-war, the employers, however, threw every written promise to the winds and work-prices were again brought down to the lowest point. The Union could do nothing to prevent this onslaught, as the trade depression got hold of employers and workers alike to a considerable extent, and the belief was widely current that the entire trade was doomed to extinction.

The first signs of returning life to the Union was the strike at the shops of the East Broadway contractors in March, 1916. While the trade had suffered everywhere in the city, it showed its worst decline on the lower East Side. There the contractors—the prevalent type of employers—were slashing prices in such a merciless way that the workers found themselves at the beginning of the season making raincoats actually at one-fourth of the prices that were standard in the trade a couple of years ago. They revolted and came down to the International appealing for help. We gave them every assistance, and the result was that within two weeks they settled practically all of these shops, and about 400 men returned back to work under much improved conditions.

That marked the beginning of better times for the workers and their organization. The old fighting spirit returned with the coming back of work into the trade...
and brought with it such a display of organizing activity that it aroused the hopes of every man connected with the trade for better times. Mass meeting after mass meeting was held in quick succession, as the raincoat makers were determined to make hay while the sun was shining, and within the space of two months the entire trade was aroused for a general strike. There was a small association of employers in the trade, and the Union presented their demands to these manufacturers and to all the independent employers by the end of August, 1915. Preliminary conferences with the employers took place, but the workers apparently thought that in order to stimulate the work of these conferences they would rather walk out of the shops. The strike occurred on August 31, and was settled in a few days to the complete satisfaction of the workers. The collective agreement signed by the Waterproof Garment Association, which was duplicated in every contract signed with individual employers, was even more favorable to the Union than the agreement of 1913. It contained, among other concessions, equal distribution of work in the slow season, observance of ten legal holidays with pay, a strict union shop, $27 for cutters, $24 for pressers, prices for piece work to be based upon a standard of 70 cents per hour.

This agreement was signed for the term of one year and shortly before it expired the Union began to negotiate with the employers in the trade for a new agreement. The demands embodied a 48-hour week, earnings for cementers on the basis of seventy-five cents per hour, $30 per week for cutters, $25 per week for pressers, ten legal holidays, Union shops, responsibility for contractors and Price Committees. On August 29, 1916, a general strike was ordered in the trade. Two days afterwards the Association in the trade settled with the Union conceding practically all the demands of the workers. The independent firms in the trade have showed considerable opposition and the strike lasted for several weeks. Many employers opened up shops out of town and the Union, aided materially by the General Office, extended the fight to wherever shops have been opened. At the present writing, though the majority of the workers have returned to work victoriously, there are still a number of shops out and the Union is bending every effort to make the strike a complete and thorough victory.

BOSTON RAINCOAT MAKERS, LOCAL NO. 7

The prosperity in the raincoat trade reached Boston as well, where the workers had been compelled through deplorable conditions to give up their local, which had become affiliated with the International in July, 1914. This local had belonged to the I. W. W. before it joined the International, and had shortly after its affiliation with our Union, gone through a number of shop strikes which proved quite burdensome and disastrous for the local, in view of the depressed trade conditions. The New York victory of the raincoat makers in September, 1916, has produced a great effect on their Boston comrades, and their extinct local took on new life, and they started an agitation for a General Strike in the trade, which immediately induced their employers to look for means of preventing a strike. They began to confer with their workers and very shortly after signed with them an agreement which gave the workers numerous concessions and important raises in wages. As a result, today practically every man and woman worker in the raincoat trade in Boston belongs to the organization.

CHICAGO RAINCOAT MAKERS, LOCAL NO. 84

This local has existed in Chicago for the last few years and has gone through, along with the other Waterproof Garment Locals, all the ups and downs of the trade during this period. Its existence is marked by a series of single shop strikes which have taxed the strength of the local to its limits at times, and in spite of the small size of the trade in Chicago, have given it quite a stormy career. President Schlesinger conferred a number of times with the Executive Board of that local and on several occasions the general office rendered them financial assistance. During the last few months the locals are in comparatively
of the shop of Seder Bros. in Worcester, were called out in order to obtain some concessions in regard to hours and prices. This shop strike lasted several weeks and resulted in a sort of a draw, as no substantial results were achieved. This fight, however, served as a wonderful stimulant, and the women workers of Worcester have been conducting a persistent campaign for organization all during 1915. They formerly belonged to Local 76, the local Cloakmakers' Union. During last summer they were granted a separate charter as Local No. 43, and began doing business for themselves. After the successful strike of the Boston waist and dressmakers in March, 1916, the Worcester women employed in a number of waist and white goods shops walked out on strike. We then directed Bro. Perlestein, who was just getting through with the Boston strike situation, to proceed to Worcester and take charge of the situation. Soon after, President Schlesinger went to Worcester and found that the strike which involved about 400 women presented nevertheless a pretty difficult situation and bade well to develop into a very stubborn and protracted affair. All the Worcester employers are banded together in a very strong organization, as a part of the National Manufacturers' Association, and are backed by a powerful local Metal Trades Association and the banking interests of the town. The machinists have been waging a stubborn and bitter fight in Worcester for several months past for an eight-hour day, and have as yet the conflict on their hands.

We did, however, succeed in getting the interest and cooperation of the public sentiment in Worcester, and after two days of conferring, we signed up an agreement with the seven firms involved in the strike, which gained for the workers a number of concessions, including an immediate raise in wages of 16%, a minimum wage for apprentices, and price committees in the shops. Other questions were left to a Board of Arbitration, consisting of representatives of the Union and the employers, among whom are Messrs. W. D. Lucy, Joseph O'Keefe, J. H. Hankins, and A. M. Spellman, to be decided upon after fifteen days after the signing of the agreement.

The workers returned to work filled with hopes for a better future and a thorough organization of the entire trade in Worcester.

THE REVIVAL OF THE RAINCOAT LOCALS

New York

The condition of our organizations in the waterproof garment trade this year, as compared with that of 1914, offers us a great deal of gratification.

There was a bitter strike of six weeks' duration in this trade in New York in 1913, which terminated in substantial concessions of wages and reduction of hours to the union workers. In the slack period which followed immediately after the strike, and which was also aggravated by the world-war, the employers, however, threw every written promise to the winds and work-prices were again brought down to the lowest point. The Union could do nothing to prevent this onslaught, as the trade depression got hold of employers and workers alike to a considerable extent, and the belief was widely current that the entire trade was doomed to extinction.

The first signs of returning life to the Union was the strike at the shops of the East Broadway contractors in March, 1916. While the trade had suffered everywhere in the city, it showed its worst decline on the lower East Side. There the contractors—the prevalent type of employers—were slashing prices in such a merciless way that the workers found themselves at the beginning of the season making raincoats actually at one-fourth of the prices that were standard in the trade a couple of years ago. They revolted and came down to the International appealing for help. We gave them every assistance, and the result was that within two weeks they settled practically all of these shops, and about 400 men returned back to work under much improved conditions.

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and brought with it such a display of organizing activity that it aroused the hopes of every man connected with the trade for better times. Mass meeting after mass meeting was held in quick succession, as the raincoat makers were determined to make hay while the sun was shining, and within the space of two months the entire trade was aroused for a general strike. There was a small association of employers in the trade, and the Union presented their demands to these manufacturers and to all the independent employers by the end of August, 1915. Preliminary conferences with the employers took place, but the workers apparently thought that in order to stimulate the work of these conferences they would rather walk out of the shops. The strike occurred on August 31, and was settled in a few days to the complete satisfaction of the workers. The collective agreement signed by the Waterproof Garment Association, which was duplicated in every contract signed with individual employers, was even more favorable to the Union than the agreement of 1913. It contained, among other concessions, equal distribution of work in the slow season, observance of ten legal holidays with pay, a strict union shop, $27 for cutters, $24 for pressers, prices for piece work to be based upon a standard of 70 cents per hour.

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peaceful circumstances, and are building up a pretty good organization.

The problems of the raincoat trades are, however, not at an end yet. A number of small and big shops have recently sprung up in a number of cities in New England, and a great deal of the energy of the locals has lately been diverted towards the checking of this tendency which is manifestly intended to weaken the hold of the organization on the trade. It has already cost the New York and Boston workers a large sum of money to attempt to organize these small town shops, and this problem looks pretty big before them and will very likely engage the attention of our International before long.

**THE SETTLEMENT OF THE BOSTON WAISTMAKERS**

The history of the Boston Waistmakers for the last few years has many points of similarity with the history of the Philadelphia Waistmakers. They, too, had a general strike three years ago, after which a collective agreement was signed providing for union conditions of wages and hours, collective price adjustments in the shops, and dealing with grievances by conciliatory methods, but for want of experienced people to handle the organization, the instrument outlined so well on paper was never perfected. Dissatisfaction in the ranks and disorganization quickly followed, and the membership of the local dwindled down to impotence.

During the summer of 1916, signs of life again began to appear in this local union. There was a faithful group of workers that stuck to the local during all these dreary months, and these now requested the General Office to start a campaign among the Boston Waistmakers, and to reorganize the local. We gladly took up this request and sent down to Boston one of our organizers, Miss Rose Schneiderman, to take up the agitation among them. The work went on successfully, and after several months of preliminary agitation, the movement for a general strike assumed such proportions that President Schlesinger went to Boston to take over the final arrangements for the strike. Together with him went Brother M. Perlstein to assist in the management of the strike.

President Schlesinger found the Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Association ready and willing to enter into conferences with the Union. After several sessions were held, practically all the demands of the workers were agreed upon, in so far as the shops of the members of the Association were concerned. There were, however, a number of employers who did not belong to the Association, and a general strike in all the shops was decided upon, for the purpose of making the gains uniform and equal throughout the waist trade in Boston. Accordingly, the workers were called out on February 10, both in the association shops and in the independent factories, in the former in order to give the strike a character of unity, and a demonstration of strength. The workers walked out of the factories in a splendid manner, and the employers at once felt that they could not stand the tide of organization. They saw the determination of the workers to bring a radical change in their labor conditions and realized that resistance would harm their business; so the independent employers decided best to meet the representatives of the Union and to concede to the demands of their employees.

The strike lasted three days, and ended with victory in all but two shops in Boston. The workers have gained a number of substantial improvements and concessions, among these a 48-hour week, increases from 16¾ to 25¾; double pay for overtime, which affects also piece workers; payment for legal holidays; a minimum wage for cutters, $26 per week, and $22 per week for pressers; a minimum scale for apprentices of $6 per week; shop chairman and price committees in all shops, and the employment of union workers only. In every respect the agreement reached in the waist trade in Boston must be regarded as a model contract.

We trust that the waistmakers of Boston will never again neglect their Union. By their efforts and through the generous assistance of the International Union, Local 49 has taken its place among the substantial out of town organizations of our
Union. Their past has shown them that the Union is their only mainstay and protection, and we have every reason to believe that they have learned this lesson and will carefully guard and watch their organization henceforth.

THE STRIKE OF THE BONNAZ EMBROIDERERS

There has existed among our locals in New York City for several years past a handful of organized Bonnaz Embroiderers that had no influence on the trade, controlled no shops and lived in hopes of seeing better days. There is a considerable number of these workers in New York City, and aside from the Bonnaz machine embroiderers, there is a large and growing Singer and hand embroidery trade, most of them employing women.

They came to us during the summer of 1915 and placed their request before us. They wanted us to carry on an agitation that would eventually unionize the trade. We took up their matter, granted them the services of an organizer, and shortly thereafter they succeeded in calling out on strike a majority of the Bonnaz trade in the city. Owing to the very busy condition of the season, the Bonnaz workers managed to settle the strike very favorably within the space of two weeks. From a few dozen people the local grew to several hundred, embracing every good mechanic in the trade. The settlement of the strike reduced the work hours considerably and gave them exceptionally high increases in wages. The agreement was made for one year.

Shortly after the successful strike they engaged Brother M. Wollinsky, who had been connected some time ago with our Toronto locals, as their manager.

In August, 1916, the Bonnaz Embroiderers called out their workers again in a general strike. Over 500 people were involved and the strike lasted five days. All the seventy-five employers in the trade settled with the Union. Under the new agreement the working hours were reduced from fifty to forty-nine per week and wages raised ten to twenty-five percent. At present the wages for operators range from $23.00 to $30.00 per week.

This last strike brought into the local a number of new members, among them the American element in the trade. Outside of the Bonnaz operators there are at least three thousand Singer and hand embroiderers in New York City still unorganized, and the local is now planning a campaign to organize them.

We are recording these victories in one of our minor trades in New York with the feeling of satisfaction, as we view it in the light of a natural development of the general strong sentiment for organization that has swept our trades during the past years, and towards which we have contributed to the best of our ability.

WHY THE STRIKE OF THE LADIES TAILORS WAS LOST

We are now turning to a page in the history of one of our local trades in New York, which does not offer us the opportunity to recite gains or achievements. It is nevertheless an interesting and highly instructive page and offers a great deal for contemplation and study. May those who read it learn the lesson and profit by it.

When we took charge of the International Office, the New York Ladies' Tailors, Local 28, were conducting a movement for a general strike in the tailor shops of New York. The possibility of such a strike was, however, soon definitely removed after the employers organized as the New York Merchant Society of Ladies' Tailors, had signed an agreement with the Union.

The new agreement was reached after a number of conferences between the employers and the officers of the local and the International Union, and had numerous advantages over any previous agreement in the trade. It provided for a 48 hour work week, for a system of week work in all the shops; it stipulated that no discharges of workers should take place before the complaint against them was heard by an impartial board, and it called for the promotion of helpers to full grade tailors or operators with a gradual increase of salaries. The agreement also granted the immediate hearing of grievances, with three referees to act as im-
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on september 23, 1916, the workers vacated the shops. it was quite a bitter fight. yet early in the strike at least one hundred shops of the firms that did not belong to the association, including some of the biggest firms in the trade, settled with the union. when the strike was called we offered the union every facility of our offices for the work of settling with individual employers. the association of the trade had engaged john b. stanchfield as their attorney, and he began negotiating with counselor jacob panken, attorney for the union, for a collective settlement. it appeared at first that the association wished to have the questions involved in the strike arbitrated before the mayor's council of conciliation. we conferred with mr. stanchfield and succeeded in obtaining his agreement for the employers' association, that the question of the strict union shop which had prevailed in the trade heretofore should be consented to without arbitration, but he insisted upon bringing all the other matters before arbitration. we were confident of winning most if not all of our demands, but the strikers, apparently led by people who came into the strike from the outside to bring into practice theories of irreconcilable syndicalism, refused to go to arbitration on any but the new questions involved in the strike, such as the increase of wages, etc. the new york committee of the general executive board was called into session to handle this matter, and vice-president lefkovits was appointed by the board to take up the situation with the strikers. he visited their mass meeting and put the proposition of the arbitration before them, with the result that it was voted down by 1,100 to 3 votes. the consequences were that the strike in the association shops and the other big up-town shops was lost. unfortunately we are constrained to state that in the demoralized atmosphere that had crept into that strike, an element of treachery had found its place. it was upon investigation located to have been one of the contributing causes of the failure of this strike. we feel grieved over this failure. we have contributed a great deal of work and energy towards the unionizing of the
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Ladies' tailors in New York City, and this last strike will undoubtedly retard the work, for a time, of standardising earnings and conditions in this trade. We hope this experience will serve them as a light in the future, and that they have learned not to let themselves be easily led and persuaded by outside elements; that only by discipline and self-restraint may they ever hope to better their conditions in the future.

During the time of the lock-out and general strike of the New York cloakmakers, the General Strike Committee found it necessary to stop many ladies tailoring establishments in order to prevent the making of samples and models for cloak firms on strike. The workers, largely former members of Local No. 38, left their shops eagerly. When, however, they were called upon to join Local No. 38 they refused. These very men, who only eight months prior fought under the banner of Local No. 38, were now denouncing the policies of that local and threatened to return to work should Local No. 3 decline to accept them as members. The result was that several hundred ladies' tailors joined Local No. 3 and stuck to the striking cloakmakers all during the strike.

After the strike in the cloak industry was settled and peace was restored, a number of ladies' tailor firms (among them some of the biggest in New York) applied to the International for settlements. They insisted on settling with the International directly and refused to have Local No. 38 a party to the agreement. They were just as prejudiced against Local No. 38 as their workers. After long negotiations between President Schlesinger and Vice-President Wishnak with these firms, the International finally signed agreements with them and the workers returned to these shops under more favorable working conditions.

The situation of Local No. 38 at the time of this writing is briefly as follows:—

BROOKLYN LADIES' TAILORS, LOCAL NO. 65

The Brooklyn local of the Ladies' Tailors have been given assistance by the General Office on numerous occasions. Aside from agitation meetings which we have arranged for them, we have helped them financially to maintain a secretary for some time, and during last fall, when upon the decision of the Board they were granted a strike in a certain type of stores where their members are working in Brooklyn, we have given them all the assistance necessary to carry this move into effect. Vice-Presidents Halpern and Lefkovitz have had charge of this strike for the Brooklyn tailors.

The Brooklyn local is too small an organization and covers too small a trade in its territory to be able to maintain itself independently, and we have advised them to amalgamate or merge into one of the bigger locals of the similar tailor crafts in New York. This step has not, however, been carried out yet, but we expect that it will be accomplished before long for the good of the local.

SYRACUSE LADIES' TAILORS UNION, NO. 45

We have upon two occasions during the last two years sent representatives to Syracuse, N. Y., to help our Local 45, a small organization of department store tailors, to sign up agreements and straighten out differences with local employers. Organizer A. Bollivio visited Syracuse in 1918 and Brother B. Fenster
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In 1916. These visits have undoubtedly been of great help to the local, and have been instrumental in keeping up its existence.

PITTSBURG, BOSTON AND PHILADELPHIA LADIES TAILORS

During the last two years ladies' tailors locals were formed in several cities. The local in Pittsburg, No. 99, is composed of a number of department store tailors and alteration workers. During the brief period of its existence this local has had several shop strikes. Bro. Perlstein, our Cleveland organizer, has visited them on two occasions, and quite recently spent a few days with them and rendered them assistance in disentangling some dissensions.

Philadelphia has a ladies' tailors' local, organized within the last few months and chartered as No. 75 of the International. Philadelphia has a big contingent of ladies' tailors, mostly Italians, and the new local is ambitious to go ahead and organize the trade. Boston's ladies' tailors came back to life and revived the extinct local 36 during last August. The Boston ladies' tailors have had a pretty good organization several years ago, and exerted influence on the local trade. Poor management has at that time brought about the destruction of the local, and if experience is a good teacher, they will profit by the lessons of the past and put the new local on a firm footing.

ORGANIZING WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Within the last few years, New Jersey, and particularly Hudson County, has become a center of cloak and skirt production. The employers there consist largely of sub-manufacturers and contractors that try to elude the union influences of New York City in order to be free to exploit their employees, to make their work at low prices and to compete with the workers in New York. In this part of New Jersey are located also a number of factories that make waists, dresses, white goods and kimonos.

In 1913 the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York opened offices in Jersey City and Hoboken and made an effort to organize these workers. The field was by no means an easy one, owing to the stringent anti-labor laws and spirit prevailing in that section. The efforts of the Joint Board did not prove at that time to be very successful. At the first meeting of the General Executive Board held after the Cleveland Convention, this section of New Jersey was recognized as an important point requiring serious organizing efforts.

In view of the fact that, aside from the cloak trade, numerous waist, white goods and dress shops were located in those towns, it was planned to combine the forces of the Joint Board, the Waist Makers' Union, the White Goods Local No. 52, and the Cutters' Union, and to centralize the work for the entire territory under the management of the International Union. It was stipulated that each of these organizations should contribute towards the maintenance of those offices and the expenditure connected with the work. All the parties concerned were agreed that in order to succeed in New Jersey it was absolutely necessary to unite their efforts and to bring cooperation into the work. Aside from Hudson County there were also a large number of waist and white goods shops, and a flourishing corset industry in Newark, where about 1,000 women were employed, most of them American girls. These were working under conditions so inferior that they constituted quite a competitive menace to the organized men and women of these trades in New York City and elsewhere.

However, the plans did not turn out as well as they were laid out. The Joint Board did indeed come into the arrangement as stipulated, and have done their share in the proper manner. The Waist Makers' Union, Local 26, came into the arrangement reluctantly, and did not take up the responsibilities of the maintenance of an office in Newark until about March, 1916. Locals 52 and 10 kept out of their part of the plan altogether, and as a result it was impossible to consummate the original plan of this work as outlined by the International in August, 1914, and the work was for the most part confined to Hudson County among the cloakmakers of the shops of that section.
It was a very difficult task from the very outset. Both the employers, most of them runaway Brooklyn and Harlem contractors, and the element of the people working in their shops, were not an easy contingent to handle. Aside from that, these contractors who had filled up a number of vacant lofts in Jersey City, managed through their landlords to enlist on their side the local police authorities and other political influences which harassed our organizers and baffled every step they made. In spite of that, they managed successfully to overcome these obstacles, and during the fifteen months that the New Jersey offices were under the charge of the General Office a great deal of work was done to eliminate the evils of New Jersey scab-contracting in the cloth field and a foundation was laid to organize the waist and white goods workers of Newark.

In November, 1915, we turned over the New Jersey office back to the New York Joint Board mainly for the above stated reasons of lack of unity and cooperation of the other locals. Ex-Vice-President Dubinsky, who was in charge of the New Jersey office under the supervision of the International Union, has resigned his office, and the Joint Board has appointed a manager of its own in his stead. The most difficult chapter of the work in New Jersey was, however, accomplished in the fifteen months that the staff of the International, which consisted of Brothers H. Dubinsky, John J. Jennings, Mark Durante, M. Schneld and Miss Shindling, stayed in the Jersey City office, and the work of organizing was made much less difficult to handle in the future, owing to the fact that we have by our earnest efforts proved to the local authorities and public that we were striving to improve local working conditions.

As to the Waist and Whitegoods situation in Newark, the International had as far back as March, 1915, engaged there a local woman organizer, Miss Mabel Craig, to work among the girls, after Vice-President Dubinsky had organized some of the workers into a local union, No. 113. Owing to adverse trade conditions, however, the organizing work in Newark had halted for some time, and was renewed in an active manner only towards the winter of 1915. Brother Julius Portnoy, a member of Local 35, was appointed organizer, together with Miss Craig, and after that time Newark awoke to the possibilities of organization. A number of shop strikes were fought through, and it was only because of the fact that we were too busy with numerous general strikes throughout the country, that we were prevented from mobilizing every working man and woman in Newark in our trades for a concerted movement for better working conditions. As it is, the local is in fairly good condition to-day, and there is every reason to anticipate that the complete organization of every ladies' garment shop, from waists to corsets, in the city of Newark is a matter of the very near future.

At our quarterly meeting held in Bridgeport, a committee representing Locals Nos. 35, 50, 52 and 113 appeared and urged upon us the necessity of starting a movement for a general strike in Newark in the waist and white goods trades. This request was granted and the local organization was ordered to go ahead with preparations for the work. At this writing the General Office is considering means and ways of carrying out the decision of the Board.

LADIES' NECKWEAR WORKERS

Our Board at its meeting in Bridgeport has taken up the question of organizing the Ladies' Neckwear Workers in New York City. A local of cutters in this trade, No. 108, has existed for quite some time. Three years ago an agitation among these men was started, but it fell short of success. Lately the sentiment for a Union in this trade became markedly strong and the General Office forthwith appointed an organizer to take charge of the agitation and is at present rendering them every assistance.

ORGANIZING THE NEW ENGLAND CORSET INDUSTRY

The International Union has during the second part of 1915 planted its roots firmly in a new industrial field, the corset industry of New England.

In August, 1915, Bridgeport, Conn., was
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deeply astir with strikes in every industry. Textile workers, laundry workers, machine and screw operators, and metal workers of all kinds walked out of the shops demanding and getting shorter hours, better pay and other concessions. The American Federation of Labor, alive to the possibilities of organization in the big industrial city of Bridgeport, invaded the field with a score of men and women organizers. Among those who participated in the big walk-out were several thousand corset workers, girls and women who struck in the four big factories of this trade, under the leadership of Mrs. Mary Scully, organizer of the American Federation of Labor, and after being out for a few days they won their strike and signed an agreement with their employers.

'Corset workers come under the jurisdiction of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and just as soon as the strike took place we were notified by the New York office of the American Federation of Labor and got into touch with the strike situation without losing time. Soon after two local unions, one of the women corset workers and the other of the men who are employed at the cutting of corsets, were organized and became affiliated with our International.

The agreement signed by the big corset firms with their employees was a very good one, considering in particular the spontaneous origin of the strike, its short duration, and the comparative lack of preparedness for a movement of this magnitude. The week's work was cut down from 68 to 48 hours; charges for defective work and needles were abolished. Prices for 48 hours' work were adjusted to be equal to the 55 hour basis that prevailed heretofore. A 13/4 per cent advance in wages for week workers was granted, and a system of adjusting grievances with a shop committee was established, and other improvements too numerous to mention.

From Bridgeport the organizing movement among the corset workers spread to New Haven, and from there to Springfield, Mass. In New Haven, the workers, upon learning of the remarkable success of their fellow corset workers in Bridgeport followed their example, and with the assistance of Mrs. Scully and other organizers of the Federation, walked out on strike, and in short order won for themselves conditions which were in the main similar to those acquired by the Bridgeport workers. Later on, when Vice-President Pierce visited the strikers after they had returned to their work, they organized two locals of operators and cutters which have subsequently become merged into one local, No. 40. Soon after that the employees of the two corset factories in Springfield, Mass., began to stir. The General Office received information that they were ready for organization, and we then sent down to Springfield our general organizer, Miss Rose Schnelderman, to take charge of the local agitation. Right after her arrival one of the firms, The Bay State Corset Co., discharged six of the girls, appointed as shop committee at a meeting on the previous night. Immediately the shop rose in revolt, and before the noon hour came every one of the 450 girls of the shop walked out. These were soon followed by 50 girls employed by the Quaboag Corset Company.

The whole city was aroused in sympathy for the brave girls who dared to organize to improve their conditions. The local Central Labor Union, with Brother George Wrenn at the head, a loyal and tireless union worker, gave their unqualified assistance to the girls, and after a week of striking they signed up an agreement which conceded to the girls most of their demands. The main concessions were a reduction of hours from 54 to 48 hours a week, abolition of the one system, revision of the price lists to adapt them to the shortened hours of work, and all the other features and points that made up the Bridgeport corset agreement. They were organized as Local No. 55 of the International Union.

At present our New England corset locals are in good shape and in excellent running order. Local 55 in Bridgeport has a membership of about 2,000, and is still adding to its number every week. They have a comparatively good treasury, and the membership of this local is keen to its rights, and is always on guard to
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

defend them. Local No. 34, the Cutters’ Union, is a 100% organization, taking in every man employed at corset cutting in Bridgeport. They have a set of good men at the head of the organization, and are in a thriving condition. The New Haven Local No. 40 is situated similarly. They have no less than 600 members, and have well attended meetings and a substantial treasury. Local No. 56 in Springfield is a somewhat smaller local, having about 300 members, but is also very active and has well attended meetings.

We had Vice-President Pierce in charge of the New England corset situation for the International Union ever since the formation of the locals. He attended all their meetings and acted in the capacity of chief clerk whenever any trouble arose in the Bridgeport or New Haven shops. In fact, the General Office has been attending to all the complaints of these locals.

The corset workers of New England are learning fast the great lesson of organization. They now already know the difference between being at the mercy of the employers and foremen, without a union to protect them, and belonging to a powerful organization which has their interest at heart. They no doubt realize that this organization begins with their local and runs like a thread through a powerful International Union into the two million members of the American Federation of Labor.

THE NEW YORK WHITE GOODS WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 62

We are turning now, with a feeling of sincere delight, to an organization of one of our trades in New York City, an organization of young women, several thousand strong, which from day of its birth, after a bitterly contested strike of six weeks, kept vigilant guard over the affairs of its trade and protected the workers through thick and thin with loyalty and devotion. We are speaking of the organization of the white goods girls in New York, our Local No. 62.

At the close of the strike in 1913 they had entered into an agreement with their employers, the Cotton Garment Manufacturers’ Association, which granted some sweeping changes in the factories affecting the earnings, working hours and the general welfare of the white goods girls in the shops. Unlike any of the previous agreements of peace, concluded by locals of our International, this was the first contract of this sort that was entered into by both sides for a specified time, for two years, with a proviso that six months before the expiration of the agreement, upon notice to each other, both sides were to confer about the renewal of the agreement and the changes and improvements that were to be introduced into the agreement by the contracting parties.

The old agreement terminated in February, 1915. During the two years of its life, the Union lived through a number of events which had enriched its experience and strengthened its spirit and ranks. There were bright days and dark ones, but never was there any doubt that this local of earnest and intelligent girls was ever in danger of losing its firm control over the working conditions in the trade. Early in the winter of 1914 the local began to confer with the Association of the trade, and on March 6, 1915, they signed a new agreement, winning this time a bloodless, though not a less valuable victory for the members of the organization.

The new agreement of the White Goods Workers embodies a number of quite important changes. Among the concessions those deserving of record are the raising of the basis of adjustment of piece prices from 20 to 22 cents an hour; the cutters have received substantial increases, and it was made obligatory upon every manufacturer to employ at least one cutter in his factory, even where no cutters were previously employed. All week workers received an increase of one dollar, to take effect in two installments during the life of the agreement.

An important feature of the new arrangement relates to the problem of unionizing the shops of the members of the Cotton Garment Association. For while, generally speaking, the girls of the trade stood loyally for the Union there were a number of exceptions in some association
shops where the girls, after having joined the Union at one time and having shared in the benefits of the last strike, had selfishly kept aloof afterwards from sharing the burden of preserving those benefits through the organization. A clause of the new agreement provides that "These workers who have at any time during the last twenty-one months been, or may thereafter be, members of the Union, shall be required to be members in good standing in the Union while in the employ of the members of the Association." Wages for learners and newcomers into the trade were also increased and regulated.

That the new agreement was immensely popular with the membership of the White Goods organization is clearly indicated by the results of the campaign of agitation to bring into the fold of the Union new members that followed the signing of the agreement. The year 1915-1916 was a very prosperous one in the life of Local 68. Thousands of new members that have joined the Union during the last year and the number of new shops that have been brought under the control of the Union were the logical result of the tireless and conscientious effort of the leaders of the White Goods workers' Union and of their local Executive Board.

Just at present this local, in accordance with the stipulations in their agreement, has begun conferring with the Cotton Garment Association concerning the changes and new demands which the Union is about to present to the employers at the expiration of the present agreement, five months from now.

THE EMBROIDERY STRIKES IN NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

Some fifteen years ago immigrants from Germany and Switzerland brought the embroidery trade to this country. Prior to that time embroidery had been an entirely imported article. Gradually, the big 16-yard and Automat machines came into existence, and the trade then developed from a domestic family occupation into a regular manufacturing industry. Of late years the tendency to concentrate the entire embroidery trade in America has become very strong, and as a natural consequence of this, there has come about the formation of labor organizations in the trade which aim to improve conditions, to regulate the hours of work and to raise the earnings of the workers.

Earnings and conditions in this trade which had in the early stages of the industry been very good, had begun to decline and deteriorate from year to year, until they had reached quite a deplorable state, regardless of the art and skill that is attached to the trade of embroidery. There was no regulated scale for stitchers, the mechanics of the trade, and men of equal ability were working at radically different wages, depending on the whim and caprice of the employer. There was no understanding as to piece or week work, and it rested entirely in the hands of the manufacturer to change his system at any time he saw fit to do so. In regard to the auxiliary workers, the watchers, shuttlers and menders, conditions were still more chaotic. The wages of a watch, who has to be very careful and handy, varied from $6 to $12 a week. The shuttle boy or girl, though they worked very hard and long hours, were not considered, and sometimes $3 or $4 a week was considered enough for these young people. Even the menders, who sometimes have to make full designs, were very poorly paid, from $6 up. The hours were likewise unsatisfactory. Sixty-five hours were not considered by some employers excessive as the week's work, and 69 hours were regarded as regular in practically all the shops.

Shortly after we had assumed our duties, the two local unions in the embroidery trade, in New York and New Jersey, had joined our International Union, as Locals 5 and 6. On account of the war in Europe, these workers had expected a great stimulation of the domestic manufacture of embroideries, and we were led to believe that it would be possible for us to have the entire trade organized by a general strike; but adverse trade conditions that developed suddenly wrought a change in the entire situation, and put a stop to the strike movement that was begun under such auspicious circumstances. Of course, we were all keenly disappointed, but in view of the slack
For over a year the embroidery trade has been in a condition of comparative inactivity. We have assisted the locals right along in a generous way, and kept up the spirit of the workers. We have paid the salary of the organizer of these locals, both in New York and New Jersey for a long period and maintained their offices for them. The depression that commenced in the trade in October, 1914, still hung over and there did not seem to be any signs of relief. The employers have, as it was to be expected, taken advantage of the unusually bad times in the trade and have kept the earnings of the workers down to the lowest possible minimum. The hours in the trade were also, contrary to the tendency in all trades, being lengthened instead of shortened from season to season.

Finally, towards the end of 1915, it became apparent that the embroidery workers were to get considerably improved trade conditions during the coming season. Work was beginning to come into the factories with a rush, and it looked as if the time had finally come for the workers to stand up and fight back against the encroachments that had been made during the previous hard seasons, and for the righting out of the old and permanent wrongs of the trade. We attended a number of their meetings, and when President Schlesinger saw that the spirit and sentiment of the workers were unqualifiedly for a try-out of strength, he endeavored to confer with the manufacturers and arranged to meet them. But these negotiations fell through for the reason that the employers, who had never before had any dealings with an organization of workers, displayed obstinacy and strongheadedness and would not consent to any of the demands presented by the Union. Consequently a general strike was decided upon, and the workers were called out in New York on Friday, February 4, and in New Jersey on Monday, February 7. The response in New York was wonderful, and in one day practically all the workers left the shops. In New Jersey, where the field was more difficult to prepare, it took a little longer to tie up the industry, but in a few days the men stitchers all stopped and the trade was at a standstill.

The strike lasted in New York fully six weeks. All the 3,600 workers in the trade, with very rare exceptions, had joined the fighting ranks. It was a bitter and stubborn battle. The International Union gave the strikers all the assistance at its command. The entire expense of the strike was borne by the General Office, including all the money paid out in court fines, for hall meetings and thousands of dollars paid for strike relief for four weeks. Finally the manufacturers saw that the workers had made up their minds not to return to work under the arbitrary conditions that prevailed in the factories heretofore, and they changed their tactics. They agreed to meet the representatives of the Union in conference, and after a number of sessions which lasted almost a week and which taxed the endurance and patience of President Schlesinger to the limit, we signed an agreement with them on Wednesday, March 14.

By the agreement the embroidery workers secured a number of very important concessions. Their working hours are reduced from 9 to 82 hours per week, overtime to be paid at the rate of time and a half, payment for three legal holidays, and a general increase in wages of 10 to 20 per cent. Shop committees and chairmen are to be recognized in all shops, and all complaints that cannot be adjusted between the representatives of the Union and the employer are to be submitted to Grievance Board, which is to decide upon them finally.

At present Local No. 61 is in excellent condition. It controls the entire trade in New York and Brooklyn, has very well attended meetings, and has a membership of 2,000, in spite of the dull season that followed the strike. From all appearances they will now make every effort to grow ever stronger, keeping up the same wonderful spirit of solidarity and loyalty and thereby proving worthy of the attention and the moral and financial assistance rendered to them by the International Union in their big fight.
The fight in New Jersey, however, took quite a different turn. From the very beginning the strike promised to be of a protracted and stubborn nature. The employers, most of them rank union haters, procured the aid of the local press and circulated venomous prejudices concerning the International Union. The police, always on the alert on the side of the employer in the New Jersey towns, were never as active, brutal, and more persecuting than during the strike. But all these steps did not in the least succeed in breaking the ranks of the strikers. The longer it lasted the more courage and strength the strikers appeared to have been acquiring. Fifty-two manufacturers had meanwhile settled with the workers, and about a thousand of them went back to work under union conditions. The International gave the strikers all possible assistance and supported them with strike benefits for nine long weeks. First Vice-President Pierce and Brother John J. Jennings of the Cloakmakers' staff in New Jersey, were assigned to lead the strike. Miss Mabel Craig, our Newark organizer and Miss Rose Schemederman also assisted in the strike. Towards the tenth week of the strike President Schlesinger had a number of conferences with some of the biggest manufacturers in the trade, at which terms of settlement were discussed.

Meanwhile a new factor had entered into the situation. The United Textile Workers of America, through their President, John Golden, who had theretofore never paid the slightest attention to the existence of the Embroidery Workers, addressed to us a communication setting forth their jurisdictional rights over the embroidery workers. We are reproducing here the correspondence which passed between us and the Textile Workers on this matter which will serve to illuminate the cause of action which was adopted by us subsequently in this situation.

April 11, 1916.
Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
32 Union Square, New York City, N.Y.
Dear Sir and Brother:
I have been instructed by my Executive Board to officially notify you that the admission of embroidery workers into your International Union is a direct violation of the charter rights of the United Textile Workers of America, as recognized by the American Federation of Labor, which body has recognized full jurisdiction over all textile workers by our United Textile Workers of America.

The reason you have not been officially notified of this fact sooner was on account of learning that after admitting this class of workers into your International Union you engaged in a strike with the embroidery manufacturers in behalf of these people, consequently we were unwilling to take any official action during the strike, feeling sure that had we done so we would have been accused of trying to prevent a satisfactory settlement of the strike.

However, in the opinion of our Executive Board, the time has arrived when your organization should be officially notified of its transgression upon the jurisdiction of the United Textile Workers of America, so that not only will no further encroachments be made upon our jurisdictional rights, but that steps may be taken to rectify the wrong already done.

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) JOHN GOLDEN,
General President,
United Textile Workers of America.

Another letter followed:

April 13, 1916.
Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
32 Union Square, New York City.
Dear Sir and Brother:

There will be a meeting of our Emergency Board to-morrow morning at 10 a.m. at our headquarters, rooms 86-87 Bible House. One of the matters to be discussed will be the question of your International Union transgressing upon our rights, and if convenient to you I would appreciate it if you could meet with our Emergency Board at the time indicated above for the purpose of discussing this matter. The transgression referred to is the admission of Embroidery Workers by your International Union.

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) JOHN GOLDEN,
General President,
United Textile Workers of America.
Our reply was as follows:

N. Y., April 13, 1916.

Mr. John Golden, Gen. Pres.,
United Textile Workers of America,
86 Bible House, N. Y. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have your communication of the 11th inst., in which you raise the claim that the Embroidery Workers come within the jurisdiction of your organization, and, as I understand it, request that the local unions of Embroidery Workers affiliated with our International be transferred to your organization.

The facts with reference to such Embroidery Workers are as follows: We have two local unions of those workers affiliated with the International, one in New York consisting of about two thousand members, and one in New Jersey consisting of about three thousand members. Both of these locals have been affiliated with our International for about two years. The New York Embroidery Workers have recently been on strike, and our International has paid out strike benefits to the members of this local the sum of about $41,000. That strike has been settled on terms favorable to the union. In New Jersey the strike of embroiderers is still on. About four hundred stitchers are out, and a large number of them are drawing strike benefits from our International.

Up to the time of this writing we have expended about $15,000 in support of that strike, and more will presumably have to be paid before the strike is over.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is of the opinion that the Embroidery Workers come properly within its jurisdiction and that they have no connection with the production of textiles. However, we do not feel like entering into jurisdictional disputes with your organization, and if after the above explanation you still desire to assume jurisdiction over the Embroidery Workers, we kindly request you to inform our union immediately whether or not your organization is ready to take charge and care of both embroidery locals at once, and continue to conduct the strike in New Jersey.

We cannot believe that it was your intention to stand by passively, watching us organize the Embroidery Workers and expend our funds in supporting their strike, and then come in at the eleventh hour to claim the fruit of our efforts and money expenditures. Such a claim would be so monstrous as unjust that it could not possibly be tolerated in the organized labor movement.

In your second communication to our union, dated April 12, 1916, just received, you advise us that your Emergency Board will meet to-morrow morning at 10 a. m. We must urge that your Board take immediate and definite action at that meeting, or we shall hold that you have abandoned your claim forever.

We shall await the decision of your Board by to-morrow, April 14th, 1916, at 12 o'clock M.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) R. SCHLESINGER.

President.

We received in reply the following letter:

April 17, 1916.

Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President,
International Ladies Garment Workers' Union,
32 Union Square, New York City.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have your favor of April 13 and have carefully noted its contents. Our Emergency Board did not meet on the 13th, as they were all too widely scattered to be gotten together, but I reached them by telephone, and the unanimous opinion of the members of the Board is that our International Union must insist on the preservation of its charter rights in this case as in all others.

The unanimous opinion of our members being that there is no room for question in regard to the Embroidery Workers coming under our jurisdiction, and that they have no place in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, as they are not employed on garment work.

I note what you say in regard to your having spent $10,000 in support of that strike, and that you have 400 stitchers out, and a large number of them drawing strike benefits from your International Union, and that up to the time of writing your organization had expended about $16,000 in support of the strike, and that more will have to be paid before the strike is over.

It is the opinion of our Board that even if this statement is an actual fact, which we know of no reason to question, nevertheless it has no bearing on and did not decide the question of jurisdiction.

In regard to your inquiry as to whether we desire to assume jurisdiction over the Embroidery Workers, I believe my previous letter stated our position very plainly, and as to being ready to take charge of both of these local unions, while one of them is engaged in a strike and the other just emerged out of a strike, the issues of which we have practically no knowledge, it seems to me that this is not a fair
proposition to make at this time, and I believe the better way will be to render whatever cooperation we could in bringing about a satisfactory adjustment of this strike which was called by your International Union, and then meet to discuss the conditions under which these two local unions could be transferred to their proper International Union.

I am sure you will agree that if the Embroidery Manufacturers discovered that there was a jurisdiction dispute on affecting these strikers, it would only have the effect of weakening this cause, which is a thing that must be avoided.

In regard to it being our intention to stand passively by watching your organisation organize the Embroidery Workers and expending your funds in support of their strikes and then come in at the eleventh hour to claim the fruit of your efforts and money expended, permit me to state that we do not feel that is our position.

We have absolutely no knowledge of the fact that you had been taking these people into your organisation and no knowledge whatever of their being on strike until the conflict had been on for some time. You may rest assured our organisation will do nothing to injure the cause of these workers while they are in contest with the employers. We would much rather do all in our power to assist them, and my only object in notifying you of our claim of jurisdiction over this class of workers was to prepare the ground for having this matter amicably adjusted when the proper time arrived, which is surely not at a time when those most interested are involved in a strike.

Trusting this will clearly explain the position of our International Union, and with best wishes for a successful ending to the strike in New Jersey, I am,

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) JOHN GOLDEN.
General President,
United Textile Workers of America.

Of course the meaning of this reply was quite clear to us. The Textile Workers appeared to be generous enough to allow us to carry on the strike to a successful finish and afterwards to come in and take the Embroidery Workers into their organisation. Under ordinary circumstances this claim on their part would have been easily disregarded by us as one without any justifiable ground. But the news of this jurisdictional controversy had spread throughout the trade, and the injury that could have been expected, was done. The employers, upon learning of this claim, had stiffened up in their attitude, expecting to gain from it, and our negotiations with them were quickly brought to an end. Our General Executive Board was called together to discuss the entire situation, and it was decided that in view of the possibilities that this jurisdictional controversy might develop in regard to the future affiliation of the embroidery workers with our International, that we withhold any additional financial assistance to the New Jersey people. We called in the leaders of the strike in New Jersey and explained to them the entire situation, and it was decided to give up for the time being the conflict in the shops that had not yet settled with the employers. The spirit displayed by these men, however, was so loyal and their decision to stay with the International that had done its very utmost to assist them, so determined that we are confident that the New Jersey Embroiderers will in the very near future double their efforts in a final attempt to wrest out union conditions from their obstinate employers.

THE LAST TWO YEARS IN ST. LOUIS

The general strike of 1912 in St. Louis has left an indelible mark upon the cloak and suit trade of that city. Not only has this bitterly contested struggle which had to be given up after five months of strike, shattered for a time the organization of the workers, but it has also crippled the business of a number of manufacturers, who in blind rage smote at themselves while fighting our men and were afterwards compelled to go out of business in quite a dislocated condition.

We have kept a close watch over this city, and our General Officers have more than once visited St. Louis endeavoring to place the local cloakmakers on a solid footing again. President Schlesinger visited St. Louis early in 1915 and addressed their meetings. Bro. H. Weinberg spoke at agitation meetings, and Morris Sigman spent there a week in organization work, and in trying to straighten out and clear up some unpleasant local charges of financial mismanagement against some of the leaders of the strike of 1913.
But apparently time alone had to be relied upon to cure some of the wounds inflicted on the cloak trade of St. Louis in 1913, and we were compelled to wait patiently with our organizing activity until after the effects of that conflict had somewhat worn off. In October, 1916, the General Executive Board had its meeting in St. Louis, and at the meetings held on that occasion the foundation for a new movement in St. Louis was properly laid. Upon the urgent request of the local organization we sent there Brother Philip Piskier of Chicago to try to bring the old membership of the locals into the union again. His efforts brought considerable results, and after a stay of five weeks, during which over 100 members joined the local, we knew that the St. Louis organization was again on our map, and that by conscientious work and steady plugging ahead it will within the very near future gain a place among the organizations of our Union that exert influence on local trade conditions.

LOCAL CONDITIONS IN BALTIMORE

Local No. 4 of Baltimore did not pass the last two years in a smooth and peaceful way. There were ups and downs, defeats and gains, trade conditions were not favorable, and the Baltimore organization was frequently confronted with the problem of preserving the local union intact during successive bad seasons. About the fall of 1914, Local No. 4, hitherto composed of cloakmakers only, decided to take in ladies' tailors and members of other kindred trades, and they accordingly changed their name to "Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Baltimore." Shortly thereafter a strike broke out in a number of Baltimore's ladies' tailors shops, and the local found itself engaged in a pretty stiff fight. We sent down Vice-President Leckwitz and Brother Julius Woolf from New York to assist them in the strike which lasted for several weeks. It was not successful in the end, and it has materially weakened the local. A state of apathy has for a time pervaded the organization, and in spite of the several visits by General Officers and meetings that were held by our organizers visiting Baltimore, this indifference lasted for a considerable time. President Schleisenger, Morris Bigman, Max Amdur and Brother H. Weinberg were among those who spoke at Baltimore meetings during this time. Vice-President Koldofsky spent several weeks in Baltimore at the request of the General Office, and helped in local organizing work during the winter of 1915.

Lately, however, the old spirit began to reassert itself in the Baltimore local. The active cloakmakers who had been indifferent to the organization for some time came back to the local determined apparently to put it back into its former position and influence in the trade.

Baltimore has during the last several years developed a big industry of dresses and other wash goods lines which employ thousands of women. The officers of Local No. 4 have now turned their attention to these trades, and are earnestly engaged in laying the foundation for an organization of women workers. The early stages of this kind of work are usually attended with difficulties and slow results, which are only gradually overcome. Surely after a foundation will have been laid, we shall have to turn our attention to this new center and strive to place it along with the others among the well organized cities of our International Union.

WORK IN CINCINNATI

The local organization had been in quite a distressed state for a long time. The bone of contention in this city has been the shop of Bishop, Stern and Stein, the biggest cloak shop in town. This firm has patterned its mode of treating the workers in the shop somewhat along the lines of the "benevolent" Cleveland manufacturers. They have introduced the so-called "efficiency" system into their shop, and have at all times tried to divide the workers among themselves and to gain their ends through such tactics. Such was, for instance, their introduction of the section system of work at which they employed none but women who were restrained from joining the Union. They also endeavored by all means to keep their cutters out of the local union. It stood to
reason that these troubles keep the local Joint Board constantly busy and were a source of eternal strife and discontent.

Right after the Cleveland convention we sent Bro. Martin to Cincinnati for a short stay. President Schlesinger, Vice-President Pierce and Brother H. Weinberg have visited Cincinnati on numerous occasions. We also had Bro. Finkler there for a number of weeks. Meetings without number were held at which all these local troubles, particularly those affecting the shop of Bishop, Stern & Stein, were discussed. But apparently the only means of solution of all those problems was an open fight with the Bishop firm, and our Cincinnati workers were not quite ready to undertake it on their own resources.

The General Office has during this time assisted the Cincinnati Joint Board financially and morally, and has upon more than one occasion supplied it with a specially prepared and adapted for local needs series of agitation literature. The General Office has also paid part of the salary of the business agent of the Joint Board for a considerable time, and has stood the expense of some trials which the Cincinnati organization has become involved in during the strike of 1913.

OUR ORGANIZATION IN TOLEDO

The condition of our Toledo local has not undergone any material changes during the last two years. Of course there were stirring times in Toledo, too, and on one occasion it looked very much as if the local would be involved in a strike with a big cloak firm, but this controversy was smoothed over by the efforts of our International.

Shortly after the Cleveland Convention, we sent Brother Martin to Toledo to address a meeting, and during his stay there he organized a small local of cutters. This local, however, did not exist long, for the simple reason that the number of cutters in Toledo was too small to warrant the ambition of some of them to create a separate local. Brother Morris Sigman, President Schlesinger, Vice-President John F. Pierce, Vice-President Saul Metz and Brother H. Weinberg have visited Toledo during the last two years, and have addressed meetings of the local organization.

In October, 1915, a serious trouble broke out in the shop of Friedlander and Cohen, and we directed Brother George Wishnak, who was at that time at the Quarterly Meeting of the Board in St. Louis, to proceed to Toledo to straighten out the trouble. Brother Wishnak succeeded in avoiding a strike in the shop after conferring with the firm, to the full satisfaction of the members of the local.

There exists in Toledo an auxiliary of women, wives and relatives of cloakmakers that have during the few years of its existence contributed considerably from a financial, moral and social point of view to the local organization. At the last convention a resolution favoring the organization of such auxiliaries was adopted, and the General Executive Board was authorized to carry it out. The matter was given over to a sub-committee for consideration, and was reported several months later by former Vice-President Katz adversely to the further extension of this work. This fact and the unusually serious problems that have confront us during the last two years have prevented us from going ahead with this proposition.

OUR LOCALS IN TORONTO

Sometimes before and while we were convening in Cleveland our locals in Toronto were engaged in a general strike in the cloak and skirt shops. It was a well-organized movement, and it bade fair to be a successful fight. Right after the convention we sent Brother John F. Pierce to take charge of the strike in Toronto. Unfortunately, the great European war brought this conflict to an abrupt end. You will readily understand that under the wartime conditions that have suddenly cast their spell upon everything in Canada, the continuation of the fight would have been of little avail or benefit to our workers, and submitting to the inevitable, the strike was abandoned.

The first year of the war was indeed one of gloom and evil prospect to our Toronto organization. The women's garment trades had been greatly affected in Canada, and our people were in many instances eking out their existence at work...
on military garments, the production of which had suddenly assumed very large proportions. Under such conditions it was not to be expected that the locals would prosper. It was well enough that they could maintain their standing as they did in spite of these odds and obstacles. They have had to fight the aggression of some of the employers who wanted to take the advantage of the distressed conditions of trade in a number of shop strikes. Towards the second year, however, the Toronto locals picked up, and owing in a considerable degree to the efforts of Vice-President Koldofsky, who was maintained in the employ of the International Union for several months as Canadian organizer, the local organization assumed its normal aspect and proportions. They have won a few single strikes, and this has brought back to them their confidence and has served to improve conditions in the shops considerably. During this period, Brother Morris Sigman, H. Weinberg and Dr. J. Goldfarb have visited Toronto and have addressed meetings for the local organization. For several months Brother S. Elston, at one time organizer for our International, acted as their business agent. Of course, conditions in Toronto are far from being satisfactory, but we are confident, however, that our Toronto locals will again give a good account of themselves and will complete the work so well begun before the outbreak of the war.

MONTREAL LOCALS DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

Our local unions in Montreal have fared somewhat differently than those of Toronto. Apparently the dislocation in the cloak trade in Eastern Canada was of a more serious nature, and the consequences that the war has caused made a more injurious inroad into the standing of our Montreal locals than in Toronto. As in the latter city, our cloakmakers worked a considerable part of these past two years on military garments which had swamped every garment factory in the Dominion. The attendance and membership of our locals had quite naturally dropped off, and amid the general gloom that prevailed everywhere it could hardly be expected that this state of affairs would be remedied by sheer agitation or even financial assistance. The International office has on more than one occasion sent a general officer to Montreal to try to put some life into the organization. Brother Sigman visited Montreal twice, and Brothers Weinberg and Goldfarb have spent there considerable time for agitation and organization meetings. The International has sent money to the Montreal Joint Board and literature of the same kind which was sent to Toronto and to every other cloak and waist center in the United States. Yet, it appears to us that these attempts to put the Montreal organization in good fighting trim will have to be postponed until the next season.

At the quarterly meeting of our Board in St. Louis, Brother S. Labenshoob appeared and requested organizing assistance for Montreal. It was agreed that President Schlesinger should visit Montreal during January and should endeavor to assist the local organization. However, conditions which you are all familiar with at this writing have prevented President Schlesinger leaving the States and this promise could not be carried out.

There exists in Montreal quite a large trade of waists and dresses employing approximately 8,000 women. Most of these are French women, and our little local organization of waist makers, No. 11J, has on several occasions requested the General Office to engage a French organizer and to begin active work among these French-speaking women. Another local that has been urgently asking for our assistance to organizing the French workers in their trade, are the Montreal Ladies' Custom Tailors, Local No. 61. The general conditions in Montreal and the campaigns in the East have, however, prevented the maturing of these plans, and they will consequently have to be taken up in the future in connection with a general campaign of agitation in Montreal.

LOCALS IN THE FAR WEST

Far away on the Western coast, thousands of miles from the centers of the ladies' garment trades, a few scattered local unions of men and women have
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sprung up within the last few years, and are doing their best to maintain an existence in spite of adverse conditions. During last November, while in attendance at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor in San Francisco, President Schlesinger visited some of these locals and addressed their meetings.

In San Francisco we have had a local union of cloakmakers for a number of years which was disbanded in 1913, after they passed through an unsuccessful strike. In May, 1916, a number of the members of the old local joined hands with an independent union of ladies' tailors that existed in that city, and they managed to revive their organization under the old charter, No. 8, of the International. There are in San Francisco about 40 ladies' tailoring and cloak shops, and they employ about 400 people, aside from those employed at dressmaking and various wash goods lines. There is a lot of good, healthy material in the local and the organization has the best prospects of growth, provided they will stick to the organization life and rules of all the locals of our International and will not wander off into the rash attempts that have disrupted the local before.

President Schlesinger next visited our Los Angeles local, No. 52, quite an old organization of ours and composed of as brave a group of fighters as ever was bunched together in any of our locals. Quite a number of these cloakmakers had belonged to our unions in the East, before fate or adventure had driven them far away from their homes to the blue shores of the Pacific coast. They are about 150 in number and they manage to keep the trade pretty well under control. During the last two years they have had two big strikes that have all but exhausted them. On both occasions we came to their assistance financially and helped them to win their fight. Of course, a small organization of this size could not very well be self-sustaining at all times, and the General Office has during last year kept their business agent on part pay for several weeks and they are receiving the loyal support of the local trade union movement and are getting on to the best of their ability.

President Schlesinger also visited our Stockton local, No. 108, composed of a small group of women department store tailoresses who had during 1915 gone through, together with every other trade union in Stockton, a lockout of six months' duration, which aroused all California and rallied to their support every union man and woman of that State. During this lockout the General Office contributed some money towards their relief, and even now, long after it has passed, they are still suffering the consequences of this fight, and it will take them a long time to recover from it. Mrs. Anna Schmidt, the Secretary of the local, was also the Secretary of the Stockton Central Labor Union, and was in the very thick of the fight and is one of the staunch union workers of the city.

President Schlesinger also met our Denver local at a meeting which was arranged on his way back from the coast. The members of Local 47 are a very able set of young men, and have a small but an ambitious and growing organization. The other meetings in Seattle, St. Louis and Pittsburgh which were arranged for President Schlesinger were not held, as he was hurrying to get back East in response to urgent calls.

PETTICOAT WORKERS BEGIN TO ORGANIZE

During 1915 groups of petticoat workers were persistently asking the general office to lend them assistance in organizing their trade. We had had some time ago a small local in this trade, but it petrified out before it assumed any proportions. Lately the trade has grown immensely owing to changes in skirt styles, and the demands for organization from the workers have become even more persistent. We have granted them a charter as Local 46, and they have commenced doing little organizing work on a small scale under our supervision. Lately we have assigned Miss Rose Schneiderman to help them in their work, and they are gradually increasing their membership and learning their first lessons in organization work. If it were not for the number of strikes that we had to go through last winter, we
would have undoubtedly undertaken an extensive agitation in this trade with a view of standardizing conditions and unionizing the industry. There are no less than 6,000 workers in the trade in New York, a great majority of these being girls; the conditions under which they work are by far the worst of any of our women trades in New York, and with the general expansion and prosperity in this trade, there is no reason why a movement in the near future for human working conditions may not result in the successful introduction of union standards into this trade, too.

The General Executive Board has at its last meeting in Bridgeport decided to sanction a movement for a general strike in the petticoat. Steps to carry out this decision have already been taken, headquarters located and the organizing campaign is well under way.

CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

We had elected at our Cleveland Convention a full delegation to the annual Conventions of the American Federation of Labor. It consisted of five delegates, Brothers B. Schlesinger, John A. Dyche, Sol. Polakoff, Elmer Rosenberg and Alfred La Porta. The delegation, with the exception of Brother Dyche, who has resigned, and was replaced by Brother J. Halpern, attended the convention in full in 1914 at Philadelphia, Pa. In 1916, however, the Convention of the Federation took place at San Francisco, Cal., and the General Executive Board, in the interests of economy, decided that this convention should be attended by one delegate only, President Schlesinger, and that the other delegates might go to San Francisco by advancing their own expenses, pending payment of same by the International at a more favorable time. Sol. Polakoff, who also attended the San Francisco convention, accordingly advanced his own expenses.

At these conventions we have invariably voiced the progressive and radical tendencies of our International in a clear and unmistakable way, and have voted on every proposition that came up before the Conventions in the true spirit of our great organization. At the Philadelphia Convention our delegation had brought before the body a resolution which called for the appointment of a committee to investigate the underlying causes of the split in the United Garment Workers of America, which had resulted in the formation of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, in opposition to the former organization, and to look for means of establishing a needle trades department in the American Federation of Labor for the purpose of strengthening the workers in the needle industries. The resolution read as follows:

Whereas, The task of organizing the workers engaged in the needle trades is attended by extraordinary difficulties on account of the seasonable character of the work and other unfavorable conditions of employment, and yet in the face of all these difficulties the organization in the needle industry has of recent years made extraordinary progress;

Whereas, It is the desire of the American Federation of Labor to encourage growth, insure the stability and aid in the success of this Industry;

Whereas, A division has occurred among the members of the United Garment Workers of America when closer alliance should prevail in order to protect and promote the interests of the workers by uniting and strengthening the organization; therefore,

Resolved, That the President of the American Federation of Labor appoint a committee of five from among the delegates to this Convention with instructions to investigate the matter above referred to, and endeavor to bring about unity and a thorough organization of all who properly come under the jurisdiction of the United Garment Workers of America; and the committee is further instructed to investigate and to report as to the feasibility of establishing a department of the A. F. of L. in the needle industries, the committee to report to the Executive Council at the earliest possible time.

This resolution, however, was not adopted, owing to the quite bitter feeling that existed among the delegates against the workers that had seceded from the United Garment Workers’ organization, and our attempts to raise this question on the floor of the Convention were not successful. Another resolution was offered by our delegation at the 1916 convention, together with the delegates of the United Cloth, Hat
and Cap Makers of North America and some delegates of the International Bakers and Confectioners' Union, pertaining to the offering of the moral influence and the strength of the organized labor movement of America towards the alleviation of the distress of the great masses of the Jewish people in the European countries. The resolution was as follows:

Whereas, It has been the good fortune of the people of the United States to be free from the horrors of the European war and from its hatreds and prejudices; and

Whereas, The people and the Government of the United States can exercise a beneficent influence in aiding the world to lay a foundation for a durable and permanent peace based upon justice to all; and

Whereas, In some of the countries of Europe the Jewish people, notwithstanding the great sacrifices they are making for the countries of their nativity, are still deprived of elementary political and civic rights; and

Whereas, Every form of religious oppression and discrimination is contrary to the spirit of the American people; therefore, be It

Resolved, That the American Federation of Labor requests the Government of the United States to urge upon the governments of the nations of Europe to cease the discriminations now practiced against the Jewish people; and be It further

Resolved, That the same appeal be made by the American Federation of Labor to the organized workers of the belligerent nations.

This resolution was subsequently unanimously adopted.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The Cleveland Convention, among many other important mandates, gave over to us the question of education of our members.

It was recognized that our local unions, like many others, suffer from the fact that a relatively small proportion of our membership has any thorough understanding of the labor movement and its problems, and in consequence of this drawback all the burden of the responsibility in the various locals falls on a comparatively small number of persons. The delegates at the Cleveland Convention agreed that in order that our organization may be strengthened for the great work it has before it, it was necessary to start a work of systematic education of the rank and file. The matter was referred to a special committee on education, appointed by the
General Executive Board, among whom were Brothers L. Langer and Elmer Rosenberg. Our intention was to dwell particularly upon the more solid and preparatory work of education, and not to devote much time to the more superficial forms of agitation and propaganda which have been the main features in our educational work in the past.

Soon after we entered into an agreement with the Rand School of Social Science, a workers' college, located in New York City, which has been doing valuable work for education for more than eight years. Under the joint direction of the Educational Committee and the School a regular course of instruction was outlined consisting of the following subjects: History, theory, and practice of the labor movement, methods of organization, and later a course of English was added to it. These classes were to meet twice a week and were to take in as a beginning 100 of our men and women of the various locals in New York. The establishment of this course created at first quite a sensation in labor circles. Registration commenced quite rapidly, and soon the classes began. This experiment lasted all winter, and while the number of students fluctuated, yet we felt that the venture was worth while to our movement as a test of the sincerity and earnestness of those among us who ostensibly shout for education and indulge in passing resolutions of all sorts in favor. We expected a great deal more of a response to this educational investment which was offered gratis to the thousands of our members in New York, and not having met with it, the committee did not deem it advisable to renew these courses for the following season.

Early in 1916 we engaged the services of Bro. N. Weinberg, the veteran speaker and agitator from Philadelphia, for agitation and education purposes. We maintained him in our office for over a year, and aside from numerous lectures and agitation meetings which he attended for all our organizations in New York, we toured him twice all over the country, including Canada.

During our Philadelphia Waist and Dress campaign we engaged the services of Comrade Charles Irving of Philadelphia, a well-known labor speaker and agitator, to do educational work among our English-speaking women of these trades.

Aside from that, Comrades Morris Hillquit, Abraham Cahan, Congressman London, Jacob Panken, Wm. Karlin and Dr. Max Goldfarb have on numerous occasions spoken and lectured at our meetings in New York and a number of other cities, East and West, and in Canada, and the value of their work cannot be overestimated by our International Union.

The various leaflets prepared by President Schlesinger, which in a lucid and convincing way pointed out the value of organization and discussed the many problems of our industry, have been of great educational value to our workers. These leaflets were printed in Jewish and English and were distributed systematically during the winter of 1916 in tens of thousands in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Toronto, Montreal, and various other cities where organization campaigns were conducted. We must likewise call your attention to the numerous articles and interviews of President Schlesinger, which appeared in the "Forward," "New Post" and the "Ladies' Garment Worker" on such important subjects as the "Protocol Agreement," "Sub-Manufacturing," "Higher Dues," etc., etc.

**HIGHER PER CAPITA**

Our International Union has great responsibilities and a tremendous field. From all parts of the country the organized as well as the unorganized workers of our industry are looking to it for guidance and support. They ask for organizers and leaders, for money to conduct strikes, for agitation literature and educational mass meetings. But the moment we start thinking of giving them the support they need the question arises: where shall we get the money?

Our organizing problem can be solved, first, by maintaining a staff of organizers and extending their activity over the entire field, and, second, by accumulating a strike fund which would insure the success of every struggle that cannot be
avoided. This is so self-evident and so true that it is impossible to imagine anyone trying to dispute it. But again the question arises: Where shall we get the money?

The expenses of running an organization like ours are increasing year by year. They are much higher now than soon after the great strike in 1910. The income, however, has remained stationary. We make great demands upon our officers and leaders. By all means let us try to secure all the best results obtainable, but let us remember that we cannot get something for nothing.

We must once for all abandon the idea that our Union must not cost us much. A union is to our workers an absolute necessity of life. This our members have learned in the last six years, and we should not expect to get the benefits and improvements a union brings without paying for them. The Union is our instrument of protection and improvement. It teaches us how to stand up for our rights in an organized manner and win. Those are the benefits and advantages of organization, and the more superior the union, the richer its funds, the stronger its fighting quality, the higher is the cost of its maintenance.

We are confident that upon due consideration our members would rather have a superior union, a union full of promise and power, a union which could do things. We must aim to make our Union a first-class union, a union of high aim and prestige that should be respected by the employers, and this we can only have by endowing it with finances. A per capita of ten cents per week would eliminate the necessity of levying assessments and begging for donations. Every member would pay a regular sum weekly and be sure of his benefit in accordance with well-defined regulations. If the International had had a big treasury four years ago, the strike at Cleveland would not have been lost. That strike cost a fortune, but the money came from the locals; and each time money was needed for strike benefit it was necessary to collect it and beg for it. True, the locals gave generous donations, but the system enabled the employers to hope that the New York locals would soon get tired and thus relax their generosity. Several times the payment of strike benefit had to be postponed for a few days, and this encouraged the employers to persist in their stubborn attitude. Had they known that the International had its own resources to maintain the strikers, and had the strikers, too, been aware of it, the history of that struggle would have had a different, a more cheering conclusion.

A per capita of ten cents per week would eliminate the necessity of levying assessments and begging for donations. Every member would pay a regular sum weekly and be sure of his benefit in accordance with well-defined regulations. A higher payment per member per year would give us a strong financial standing and would make our employers listen with respect to our demands and would make every member proud of our organization.

We earnestly urge upon the delegates to this convention to decide in favor of raising the per capita to the International to ten cents per week.

A DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Among the many concrete problems that our organizations have had to face in the past few years was the question of obtaining facts and data in connection with standardization of prices for piece and week work in a number of our industries in New York City and outside. For this information, whenever the occasion arose, and it always came about that it was required to solve burning questions, in connection with settlements of strikes, decisions about piece work rates, etc., we had to rely upon outside or temporary agencies, which could not supply the confidence and conviction of the worth of the material, which is such an important
element in all such emergencies. Only during the last year's sessions before the Mayor's Council of Conciliation, when we were called upon to produce convincing evidence of the justice of our demands for a revision of the basis upon which prices were being fixed in the cloak shops, we were compelled to summon people in a haphazard way before the Council from the shops, streets and offices and stake our case upon this eleventh hour testimony. The identical situation occurred when the settlement of the New York and Philadelphia waist and dress strikes were about to take place. How much stronger and surer of ourselves and of our contentions we would have been, were we in a position to marshal our facts, gathered in time by skilful hands, we believe you will not be slow to appreciate.

It is quite true that attempts to conduct investigations have already been made in connection with our trades in New York City, and they were made on quite a large scale, in the waist and dress and in the cloak trades—both of these in conjunction with the organized employers of these respective trades. It is also true that the value of these investigations has been comparatively small owing to a number of inherent drawbacks that have attended them. The fact that these experiments were not all that they were designed to be should not obstruct from our view the realization that the department of research and statistics, always active and constantly within the reach of our International, would be the attainment of a new and powerful weapon in our hands. That this is a feasible plan and does not present any unsurmountable obstacles is quite clear to our mind. We have realized this right along during the past two years, yet we were not in a position to accomplish it for the reason that our burdens, financial and others, were too great for us during this period to undertake new propositions. It would be, besides, out of the question for us to venture to put such a department into operation, relying upon our own meagre resources, which the International per capita yields us. It would be a matter for all the trades that are interested in this valuable information to establish such an institution in a cooperative effort and to maintain it on such a basis under the management of the International Union.

Of all our New York locals, the Cloak Pressers' Union, Local No. 38, is to our knowledge, the only organization that maintains a statistical department, which is gathering facts and data in relation to working conditions and earnings in their particular branch of the trade. The value of this department for the local was clearly shown during the Council of Conciliation meetings in the summer of 1918, when Local 38 was the only one that could present in a more or less satisfactory manner such facts as were requested from tables prepared by the local's statistical bureau. The object of having such a department in our International is of particular importance now, with the creation of solid organizations in a great many trades in all the centres of the country, and is doubtless well worth striving for.

We trust that this Convention will find a way of solving this need in a satisfactory and effective manner.

Our Press and its Needs

Our last Convention in Cleveland expressed its conviction and desire, by more than one resolution, for the amalgamation of our press, and we were thus instructed to carry these wishes of your representatives into effect.

It was argued, and very soundly, too, that our International is one body, with one set of laws governing its relations with its locals. It stands to reason, therefore, that this body should, for the purpose of united action, have one organ issued either directly by the International or by an appointed committee under its supervision. This organ would have its columns open to any member or local for legitimate expression of opinion and for local reports, would speak with authority on any subject pertaining to the organization, would serve as a reliable guide to our membership, and would educate our members to the actual needs of the hour.

We have now several organs, all of which are conducted, both editorially and financially, on independent lines. "The
Ladies’ Garment Worker,” the official organ of the International, published in English and Yiddish, has been in existence since April, 1910. It was the first in the field, and in the pre-strike period of that time the local and active members were enthusiastic for its continuance and gave it every support. After the strike, the Joint Board of New York started the “New Post” in Yiddish and eventually also an Italian weekly organ and a Russian monthly bulletin. At first the problem of the press did not appear to be urgent enough, and since the other problems which were regarded as far more important occupied the minds of the active members, it was allowed to drift.

In 1913, the New York Waistmakers’ Union launched three separate publications in English, Yiddish and Italian, and at about the same time the New York Cutters’ Union started an independent weekly bulletin of its own. Quite recently the Boston Cloakmakers’ Joint Board has undertaken the publication of a bi-weekly paper which has already seen several issues. Apparently this tendency of multiplying local and trade organs, instead of having been curtailed by the Cleveland Convention, is growing, and the question quite naturally arises, that if some locals of the International could publish independent little organs, what is to prevent other growing locals from following suit. The mania for local publications has brought to light such products as the two issues of a “bulletin” issued by the Raincoat Makers’ Local, No. 30, a sample of illiteracy rarely equaled in our press. We are confronted with the possibility of having to speak to our membership not with one voice and one authoritative organ, but through a conglomeration of twenty-five voices, which surely would not be able to advocate our ideas of union and cooperation with more power and effect than one organ grouping around it all locals, that really constitute parts of one organization with one aim and one object.

Aside from that, the wasteful nature of these undertakings, the enormous expenditure involved in printing and publishing them must not be lost sight of. Our locals lose at least $35,000 each year on these separate organs already, and these losses go on increasing forever. What a cooperative effort in this direction could do can easily be imagined. It would bring huge savings in every department, would tremendously enhance the advertising value of the publication, and would place our publication on the same footing as the publications of other international unions stand to-day. There is no reason why, by loyalty and sound business methods, we should not meet with equal success.

During these past two years we have on more than one occasion endeavored to put this mandate of the Cleveland Convention into force. Meetings of the various local publishing committees were held for that purpose, and several sub-committees were appointed to work out practical plans for the merging and amalgamation of our publications. The silent opposition which we have met on the part of locals that have been maintaining these various organs was of such a nature, however, that we made little headway. The extremely busy times, when we were constantly confronted with problems vital to the existence of the organization, that we were plunged into afterwards, made it impossible for us to devote much time to this question.

We believe that it is the imperative duty of this convention to reassert emphatically its conviction in the uselessness of the multiplicity of local organs and of the wastefulness and ineffectiveness of such ventures. We believe that a plan could be devised that would meet all objections from the editorial, financial and managerial points of view and would satisfy every trade, Joint Board, and local as to their legitimate aspirations to voice their needs and plans in the press of our International.

Should, however, this plan of an organ for all the locals fail of realization, we recommend that the International publish instead of the monthly publication that we are now issuing, and which for one or another reason did not gain for itself a great reading public, notwithstanding the fact that our very able and faithful Brother Rosebury has devoted all his energy and time to make this journal as interesting a labor organ as it could be pos-
sibly made) a weekly newsletter of the style and kind issued by the American Federation of Labor, in the English language, which would cover all the events in the life of our Union and give expression to the voice of the International. In view of the reasons advanced above, we earnestly urge upon you that you take up this matter and decide it definitely.

THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ITS MEETINGS

During the last two years we have had the full quota of quarterly meetings of our General Executive Board in various cities, as has been the tradition of the Board since its inception. Our meetings were held in the following cities in consecutive order: New York, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Cleveland and Bridgeport, Conn.

The original personnel of the Board has undergone some changes during the term for which it was elected. Early in 1916, Samuel Glassman resigned, following some charges made against him by the St. Louis local. Later Brothers H. Kleinman and H. Dubinsky resigned having entered private business. Brothers George Wlahnak and Louis Cassatta were elected to fill two of the vacant places on the Board. Later, Louis Cassatta resigned from the Board, having accepted a position as foreman in a cloak shop.

We have already referred to the causes that led to the resignation of Brother Morris Sigman from the office of General Secretary-Treasurer, and the election by the Board of Vice-President Abraham Baroff in his place. On September 2nd, the Board suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Brother Albert Cohen, of Cleveland. His unexpected end, at the prime of life, was a genuine shock to all of us who knew him so well and who have worked with him for many years. Brother Cohen was one of the pioneers of our movement in Cleveland and the friends of cloakmakers that mourned his death, attested to the sincere esteem and love in which he was held by his fellow workers. The General Executive Board at its last meeting in Bridgeport made a provision for his widow and two children and has appointed Bros. Max S. Hayes of Cleveland, Benjamin Schlesinger and Abraham Baroff as trustees for this fund.

Quite recently the Board has lost another member, Jay Katz, formerly from Toledo. The original membership of the Board, which consisted of fifteen elected men, including the General Officers, has thus dwindled down to ten. The New York members of the Board have during this period met a great number of times, far above the number which the Constitution makes it obligatory upon them to meet. There was not a question of importance in the local field that was not handled by this Committee, and in the ready discharge of its duties, the Committee has done all it possibly could to meet emergencies in a conscientious and efficient way.

A LABEL CAMPAIGN

The importance of the union label idea and its extension in application have grown enormously within the last few years. An idea peculiarly American, it has been of great help to those trades where favorable conditions made it possible to spread it wide and carry it into practice. We all know what the printing trades' label, the hatters' label, the shoe label have, for instance, done for the craft of their trade. Our International has at an early time of its existence adopted a similar label for the trade. Indeed, the records tell us that it was the idea of the union label that in 1900 gave birth to our International, as a union label can be issued only by an International, and the cloakmakers were at that time quite anxious to introduce the label as a means of strengthening this organization.

The label agitation has, however, met with very poor results, at the outset, the main reason being that the manufacturers clung to the superstition and even helped to foster that union-label goods are inferior goods. The ulterior motive behind this idea, after all, was to evade union control, which the success of a label naturally implies. The Union at that time was not strong enough to counteract this sentiment by an appropriate campaign of education, and gradually the label has fallen into disuse. After the strike of 1910 and later the waist strike of 1913, there
sprung up among our membership quite a strong sentiment for a so-called White Protocol Label. It was first broached in connection with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in New York when the Board introduced the practice of giving certificates to those manufacturers who maintained the required sanitary conditions. It was then suggested that instead of the shop being certified it would be better if the garments made under union and sanitary conditions exhibited a label as evidence of that fact. In fact, the plan was embodied in the waist and dress protocol of 1918. Later, at the special convention held in Yonkers, N. Y., in May, 1919, the proposition was debated at considerable length, and finally the General Executive Board was empowered to issue a joint label with any of the Manufacturers’ Associations with whom the International Union had entered into a protocol arrangement on appropriate terms.

The Cleveland Convention unanimously reaffirmed the decision of the Yonkers Convention and favored the placing of the label on the market jointly with the manufacturers’ under proper safeguards. The events of the last two years, the disruption of the protocol in the cloak and suit trade in New York, have not been greatly conducive to the advancement of the proposal of a Joint or Protocol label, and in consequence nothing was done in regard to this matter during this time. The question of our own label, the International label, has been brought to our attention very frequently. A week does not pass without requests coming into the General Office for label goods and for advice how and where to procure them from every imaginable source, from ladies’ label leagues which have sprung up throughout the width and breadth of the land to department stores and cooperative institutions, particularly in the Middle West.

We would direct your attention to the discussion of the advisability of a vigorous campaign for our International label. One thing is quite certain to our mind, that this campaign, if it is worth doing at all, must be done on an extensive scale. Our organization has become widely known to the entire labor movement of the country, East and West, through the immense organizing work that we carried on for the last couple of years. Undoubtedly this favorable sentiment could be liquidated to the benefit of our workers, if an aggressive label campaign be conducted. And just as the union label has been of immense help to a number of trade organizations, so it may bring us well ahead and enhance our name and prestige throughout the land.

THE LADIES’ GARMENT SANITARY BOOTH AT SAN FRANCISCO EXPOSITION

In connection with the work of the New York Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the cloak and suit and waist and dress industries, we would call your attention to a very interesting exhibit which was put up by this Joint Board at the San Francisco Exposition of 1915 in conjunction with the National Child Labor Committee and the National Consumers’ League. The Exhibit opened on February 23, 1915, and lasted until December 4, 1916.

A number of lectures and meetings have been held in connection with the Exhibit with a number of social workers and labor organizations. There was a great interest shown by the visitors to the Educational Building to this Exhibit, and it is estimated that no less than 19,000 persons have visited it.

Quite recently a very valuable piece of property located at Kingston, N. Y., on the Hudson River, was donated to our locals in New York by a wealthy woman Socialist who was herself affected with tuberculosis some time ago and was taken over by Comrade Morris Hillquit and Dr. George M. Price, as trustees. Plans are on foot to convert this property, which consists of a big house and considerable acreage, into a sanitarium for those of our members who become afflicted with the white plague and have heretofore been sent by our locals, 9, 23 and 35, who maintain tuberculosis funds, to various resorts in the mountains for a certain length of time.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

EFFORTS TO REVIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCIL IN N. Y. C.

The Cleveland Convention went on record by a resolution to reestablish the District Council of New York, and instructed our General Executive Board to carry out the resolution.

Accordingly, shortly after the convention, President Schlesinger called into conferences representatives of the New York locals, and right at the start encountered at these meetings a strong sentiment and various objections and arguments against a District Council. Some were maintaining that there was no need for a district council because the International Union was supposed to watch over the interests of the various locals and do such organizing work in connection with their trades as might be required. Of course, the hollowness of this argument could be easily seen. The council was primarily proposed as a part of the machinery of the International in New York City, and if properly organized would prove to be very helpful to the officers of the International. Coming in frequent touch with the representatives of each local and gaining from them first-hand knowledge of local conditions and needs, the Council would have each situation clearly analyzed and within grasp; so that the International might have at its disposal reliable information instead of having to search and investigate, or in case of emergency to grasp things blindly, processes which do not often work smoothly or at all. Other motives, based more on feelings of self-interest and feelings of indifference towards other locals were advanced by some members connected with the Joint Board of New York. These maintained that, having a Joint Board, they did not need a district council and that their obligations were there at an end.

All these objections quite evidently overlook the point that every local in a city is a part of the International Union which embraces them all in a bond of unity. This unity cannot be sustained without each local feeling deeply interested in the affairs of its sister locals and being prepared to help them whenever occasions demand it. The actual history of our development is clear proof of this contention. Any defeat, any failure, however unimportant it may seem, spreads a demoralizing influence not only in our own trades but on the entire labor movement. By neglecting our smaller locals, by thinking that we have no business with them, we ultimately bring discredit upon our larger unions, for it encourages the other employers to defy the Union and thwart its efforts.

A properly organized district council would afford us the opportunity and give us the habit of deliberation and caution. The representatives of our various locals in New York, by coming together at regular intervals, learning of each others' needs, exchanging opinions and experiences, would learn and benefit a great deal.

The conferences on the reorganization of the District Council met three times and was beginning to work out some definite plans for a definite basis of existence. Soon, however, the indifference of the attending members of the bigger locals began to assert itself, and the conferences have ceased. We feel that we have done our best to arouse the New York locals to the need of such an institution; the events that have followed our first attempts have, however, taken away our attention from this direction, and we come before you now, frankly stating that, for the causes which we have enumerated above, this resolution still remains unenforced.

THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

During the past two years our general office was the center of the organized ladies' garment workers in New York. Most of the important Executive and Board meetings of our locals were held in our office. The relations between our International and our locals were most fraternal and friendly and our organizations have regarded our general officers as brothers and their advisers. Each committee and individual member that came to our office for advice or with a complaint, was received and treated in a friendly and cordial way. Brother Max Danish, who has for the last two years acted as personal secretary to our President and Secretary-Treasurer, has contributed materially to
the systematic and orderly work in our general office.

Our office consists of five rooms of medium size and one larger assembly room. We pay a rental of $186.00 per month. During the past two years, the office has been considerably renovated and re-furnished in a substantial way. The demands and requirements of the general office, however, in view of the unprecedented increase of the volume of work, call for an expansion of the office, which we hope this Convention will consider and sanction.

OUR ORGANIZING STAFF—MEN AND WOMEN.

The campaign and agitation work of the last two years carried on by our President have required the assistance of a number of men and women who were assigned to different tasks at different times. It appears to us to be, by far the biggest list of organizers that was ever in the service of our International, and the loyal work which they have rendered made it possible for us to achieve the gains and to strengthen our organization in so many localities.

We are reproducing below a list of these workers and the particular organizations which they were attached to at one time or another.

Men Organizers
Max Arodur—Philadelphia, Joint Board.
Abraham Blain—Chicago Joint Board.
H. Dubinsky—New Jersey Office.
M. Durante—New Jersey Office.
I. Epstein—Local No. 20.
P. Fineker—Locals 44-78-63.
Glaesman—Local 78.
A. Goldesfeld—Locals 41-46.
Jesse Greenberger—Local 15.
H. Greenberg—Local 50.
Henry Graessel—Local 50.
John J. Jennings—New Jersey Office.
S. Jacobson—Local 49.
S. Koldotzky—Toronto Joint Board.
A. Mushnick—Local 41.
L. Odoo—Cleveland Joint Board.
A. Pirsan—Local No. 41.
Juttis Portnoy—Local 113.
John F. Pierce—Cleveland, Locals Nos. 33-34-40 and 6.
M. Perlstein—Cleveland, Locals 48-43.
Charles Risuto—Locals Nos. 41-50.
Abraham Rosenberg—Boston Joint Board.
D. Solomani—Cleveland Joint Board.
A. Solovitch—Locals Nos. 28-41-50.
Abraham Silver—Local 15.
M. Sirotta—Local 50.
M. Schneid—New Jersey Office.
L. Schwarts—Local No. 30.
T. Slopak—With General Office.
H. Weinberg—Local 50.
M. Weiss—Local 6.
H. Zucker—Local 41.

Women Organizers
Miss Mabel Craig—Local No. 113, New York, N. J.
Miss Lillian Heffley—Cleveland, Ohio.
Miss Fannie Cohn—Locals 59, 60, Chicago.
Miss Juliet Stewart Poyntz—Local 15.
Miss A. Litwakoff—Local 15.
Miss S. Morgenstern—Local 41.

SOCIALIST AND TRADE UNIONS ELECTION VICTORIES IN NEW YORK

During the past two years the working class movement of New York has achieved two significant victories which cannot be overlooked in the perusal of the story of our unions in Greater New York and towards which our organized workers have contributed in no small degree. We are referring to the election of Comrade Meyer London to Congress from the 12th Congressional District and of Comrade Abraham Shiplakoff to the New York Assembly from the 23rd Assembly District, Brooklyn, which is popularly known as the Brownsville section.

The cloakmakers of New York have taken a remarkably close interest in promoting the election of Meyer London. As far back as 1910, when London received his first nomination by the Socialist Party, groups of cloakmakers were working for him with might and main to elect him as the representative of the workers of the East Side. In 1914 the cloakmakers have organized a strong league, which spent
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

considerable sums of money and furnished a great number of men who have been actively engaged in the campaigning for London. Vice-President Met* was designated by the New York Joint Board as Manager of this Cloakmakers' League and he devoted several weeks to this task, which proved to be one of the main factors in the election of Comrade London.

There are thousands of cloakmakers and other ladies' garment workers in the Brownsville district of Brooklyn, and these have worked very earnestly in 1915 to elect Comrade Shipnackoff to the Assembly.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE Reefermakers' UNION

A full retrospect of the two years that have just passed would not be complete without mention of the ten-year jubilee celebrated by our New York Reefermakers' Union in July, 1915. The history of this local is a splendid illustration of what may be accomplished by faith, courage and persistence of a fighting organization.

In June, 1905, twenty-five young men started the Union. The harsh, almost inhuman conditions in the shops were endurable, and the workers found their refuge in union and organization. To-day the Reefermakers' Union is one of the strongest locals of the International, morally and financially. This union achieved its strength and stability and its standing in the labor movement through almost incessant strikes, including three general strikes, two of which were parts of the great strikes of 1910 and 1916. Its enemies were legion, but the organization was proof against them, and Local No. 17, we hope, will retain for a long time to come its present position as one of the banner locals of our International Union.

APPEAL COMMITTEE

Our Constitution vests appeal powers in the General Executive Board which have been always at the disposal of the membership of the International. These appeals were usually directed to our office upon fines and convictions handed down against members of the various local unions by their Grievance and Appeal Board. The number of appeal cases has during the last period become so great that instead of a temporary appeal committee we have decided to elect a permanent committee consisting of three members to take up all these appeals. Secretary Baroff and Vice-Presidents Pierce, Met* and Lefkovits, have rendered useful and very valuable services as members of this committee. These cases have been duly reported in the minutes of the quarterly meetings of the Board and are on file, at the General Office.

EXTINCT AND NEW LOCALS

A number of new organizations have been added to the list of our International Union. While we have not encouraged the creation of locals of mushroom growth, our wide organization work has necessarily brought into existence a number of new organizations, and those that did come upon our roster were the natural growth of the various activities that we have undertaken. Our Local 9, the Cloak Tailors and Finishers of New York, has during these two years undergone a process of division into a number of locals. In July, 1914, Local 3 was chartered by the International out of the sample makers and piece tailors that were formerly a part of Local 9. In August, 1915, the Alteration Tailors, likewise members of Local 9, were organized into Local 36; in February, 1916, the General Executive Board has chartered the Italian Local No. 48, into which thousands of finishers and tailors belonging to Local 9 entered.

1. Piece Tailors and Sample Makers, Local 3.
2. New Jersey Embroidery Workers, Local 5.
6. Chicago Cloak Pressers' Union, Local 18.
8. Women's Alteration and Special Order Tailors, Local 30.
9. Winnipeg Ladies' Garment Workers, Local 52.
15. Petticoat Workers' Union, Local 46.
16. Italian Cloak, Suit and Skirt Makers' Union, Local 48.
18. Chicago Waist Makers, Local 69.
22. Cleveland Waistmakers, Local 57.
27. Vineland, N. J., Ladies' Garment Workers, Local 74.
29. Waterbury Ladies' Garment Workers, Local 77.

LEGISLATIVE APPEALS AT ALBANY AND ELSEWHERE

The International has on more than one occasion seen fit to exert its influence on behalf of various measures introduced by representatives of labor at the New York Legislature during the past two years. Not that we believe, or ever believed, in the policy of lobbying for or against legislative measures, but these were occasions when the voice of the International had to be heard on behalf of the tens of thousands of our workers, and we did not fail to bring our influence forward.

Miss Pauline M. Newman went twice to Albany to speak for the adoption of the Health Insurance Bill, as representative of our International Union, and advocated the inclusion of the Maternity Clause in that bill. She has also protested in our name against the attempts of big business interests of the State to emasculate the 54 hours law for women workers through various iniquitous measures, notably the Argetslnger Bill.

The International has vehemently protested to the State Department in Washington against the planned execution in Utah of Joseph Hillstrom, and demanded a fair trial for him in the prosecution which has unfortunately cost the life of this young agitator for labor's freedom. The General Office has likewise taken a keen interest in the prosecution of Kaplan and Schmidt, the two labor men who were indicted by the Los Angeles authorities in connection with the dynamiting of the Times Building in that city several years ago, a piece of persecution which bids well to rival the now historic Moyer and Haywood trial, and has contributed $100 towards their defense.

A PAGE OF THANKS

We wish to record, as a matter of duty, and in token of friendship, our thanks to all those, our friends and kin in the labor movement, who have during these years not failed to render assistance to our brothers and sisters in the various conflicts that we were engaged in and the negotiations that we have led with employers to bring our strikes to a successful finish.

Our thanks are due to President Samuel Gompers and Secretary Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor for the assistance they have rendered us in addressing our meetings in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago and New York, and for the material aid given by the office of the Federation in spreading abroad the infamy of the conspiracy to railroad our brothers to jail during the anxious days of their trials; to the United Hebrew Trades of the city of New York for the assistance they have at all times given to all our locals affiliated with them, and to many, many others; to the Socialist Party organizations in the State, city and nation for their loyal assistance during the trying times of the conspiracy against our bro-
thirteenth convention or the I. L. G. W. U. and during all timo»; to the New York State Federation of Labor and the New York Central Federation for similar services on behalf of our persecuted brothers; to the Chicago Federation of Labor and to Brothers John J. Fitzpatrick and Edward Nockles in particular, for their unselfish and tireless services during the Cloakmakers' campaign in Chicago and during the strikes of our women workers in that city; to the National Women's Trade Union League, Mrs. Raymond Robbins, president, for her loyal cooperation in aiding our strikers in Chicago by word and deed; to Bro. James Maurer, president Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, for his ready aid during our campaign in Philadelphia; to the California State Federation of Labor and the Stockton Central Labor Union for the generous aid given to the locked out tailors of Stockton, Cal.; to the Los Angeles Central Labor Union for the constant assistance to our local No. 52 in their local strikes; to the Bridgeport, Conn., Central Labor Union for aid given in the organization of the corset industry of that city; to the Springfield, Mass., Central Labor Union for help rendered our organizers during the strikes of the corset workers of that city; to the Worcester, Mass., Central Labor Union for similar services rendered during the strikes of our women workers during March, 1916, and on many previous occasions; to the Boston Central Labor Body for loyal assistance given to our women strikers during the last strike of the waist and dressmakers of Boston; to the Cleveland Federation of Labor for the continuous fraternal aid given to our organizers during the long months of our work in Cleveland; to the Essex Trade Council for its assistance to our officers in their organizing work among women workers in Newark, N. J.

And likewise we wish to cordially thank our friends and comrades who have at all times, at our public meetings and by their pen in the public press, aided our cause and have defended us against the malicious attacks of our enemies; to Comrade Ab. Cahan, the Editor of Jewish Daily Forward; to Congressman Mayer London; to Assemblyman Abram Shiplakoff; to Dr. Max Goldfarb, the labor editor of the Forward, for his splendid work on behalf of our Union, and likewise to Comrade H. Pencowitz, the Philadelphia labor editor of the Forward; to Comrade Jacob Panken for his brilliant work for our local unions; to Comrade William Karlin for his many and ready addresses for our local unions; to Comrade Max S. Hayes of Cleveland for his loyal assistance to our cause in the city of Cleveland, and to Comrade H. Vieleck, who has by his brilliant speaking furthered the cause of our workers in Philadelphia.

Our thanks are due for the generous and unstinted work of the press of New York and the country on behalf of our International Union and all our local organizations during the numerous fights that we have passed in the last two years, to the Jewish Daily Forward, The New York Call, The Freie Arbeter Stimme and the Nele Welt. We also wish to recognize with thanks the very favorable attitude of the general Jewish press of New York City and the country and to their labor editors, who have kept our cause before the great masses of the public in its true and unprejudiced character and have thus helped to advance the interests of the hundreds of thousands of ladies' garment workers throughout the country.

* * * *

At this juncture, we consider it our duty to express our gratitude to the many gentlemen whose unselfish services on the various Boards of Arbitration and Conciliation have during the past two years contributed so much towards the establishment and maintenance of peace in so many of our industries where labor disputes on a large scale have arisen and have been settled owing in a large degree to the efforts of these public-spirited men. Our thanks are due to the Board of Arbitration in the Cloak and Suit trade in New York City, Louis D. Brandeis, chairman, and Messrs. Hamilton Holt and William O. Thompson; to the Mayor of the City of New York, Mr. John Purroy Mitchel, and to the Council of Conciliation created by the Mayor in 1915, Messrs. Louis D. Brandeis, Charles Bernheimer, Dr. George W. Kirchway, Judge Walter C. Noyes, Chamberlain Henry Bruere, and Dr. Felix Ad-
OFFICERS’ REPORT

ler, chairman of the Council, who have so readily assumed the tasks of conciliation; to the Board of Arbitration in the Waist and Dress trade in New York City, Judge Julian W. Mack, Mr. Robert W. Brutte and Mr. Hamilton Holt, to the gentlemen who have been and are still active on the Board of Arbitration in the Cloak and Suit trade in Philadelphia, Pa., that has so well and effectively settled the great dispute in that city in 1914; to the Board of Arbitration in the waist and dress trade in Philadelphia, who have been of such valuable service in the strike of 1916; to the Board of Arbitration in the Cloak and Suit trade in Chicago, Judge Julian W. Mack, Mr. Wm. O. Tonison and Mr. Samuel Kline, for the splendid work contributed by them in establishing the agreement of peace in 1916; to the Boards of Arbitration in the waist trade in Boston and Worcester, Mass., and in numerous other cities and situations.

CLOSING REMARKS

We have endeavored to give you a faithful narrative of the history of the past two years touching upon all events, big and small, that had a bearing upon the lives of our men and women and left a mark upon the development of our organization. We are confident that the recital of all these facts has brought home to you the conviction that our opening remarks relating to the immense activity that your International Office has displayed during this period, conveyed no exaggeration, but a truthful portrayal of the state of affairs.

Every important mandate of the Cleveland Convention has been carried out, and a number of additional problems, unthought of by that assemblage, were tackled in an unflinching manner. The prestige and influence of our International has risen far higher than at any period of its former history. It must never be lost sight of that these last two years were unusual years in the world’s history, and the bloody spectre that is ravaging every land of the globe is not yet at an end. Our problems were, therefore, made more acute, our struggles more difficult of solution. If we have, therefore, made an almost clean slate of the various knotty situations that we were confronted with during these two years, we believe that we have every reason to be gratified at these results, and we confidently trust that you share in our gratification.

In our work we were inspired by the great ideals, the final aims of the labor movement. Our guiding light, amid our daily tasks and constant striving to improve the working conditions of the men and women in our trades, to increase their earnings and to shorten their hours of labor, was the ultimate ideal and hope of the coming of the day when labor shall get the full product of its work. The Labor Union is one of the most powerful weapons to educate the working class to recognize and to learn of its own great future, and it was our privilege to contribute the best in us towards the strengthening of this union of our workers.

To-day we are giving back into your custody the destinies of the International that you entrusted into our safe-keeping and stewardship two years ago. We say, that whatever pledges we have undertaken and whatever duties we have assumed, we have kept sacred and as a matter of the highest trust. May this spirit of earnestness that has guided us during these years of work, guide you in your deliberations during this Thirteenth Convention of our International Union.

Brothers and Sisters, we bid you all well.

With fraternal greetings,

Benjamin Schlesinger, President.
Abraham Baroff, Secretary-Treasurer.
Morris Sigman, Ex-Secretary-Treasurer.
John F. Pierce, 1st Vice-President.
Saul Metz, 2nd Vice-President.
George Wishnak, 3rd Vice-President.
Max Amduhr, 4th Vice-President.
Jacob Halpern, 5th Vice-President.
S. Koldofsky, 6th Vice-President.
B. Kurland, 9th Vice-President.
S. Lefkovits, 12th Vice-President
FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT

September 15, 1916.

To the Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention, I. L. G. W. U.,

Greeting:

On November 15, 1916, I assumed the office of General Secretary-Treasurer of our International, vacated by Brother Morris Sigman.

It certainly is a great honor to occupy such a responsible position. In ordinary circumstances I should have rejoiced and felt proud of the honor. But I have assumed the office under, to me, painful conditions. Our Brother Sigman, who devoted his best years to the labor movement, began to break down in health. The constant persecutions directed against the leading men of our movement not only rendered his life and liberty at stake, but undermined his health and compelled him to relinquish the secretarial office—a position of responsibility and great usefulness. He decided to step aside from the field of battle and recuperate his physical and mental energies. Such were the circumstances under which I stepped into my new office to complete the work begun by Brother Sigman, who had been continually prevented from attending to it.

In arriving at the General Office it took me a short time to become familiar with my duties and the system in vogue in the financial department. I have not made any changes or introduced new methods, firstly because, in the short time of my tenure of the office, I have had no occasion to dispute or find fault with the existing system; secondly because, immediately upon my arrival, I was drawn into the organizing campaign which six weeks later led to a series of general strikes.

As you will see from the report of the General Executive Board, we have had since last January eleven general strikes in various trades. These strikes absorbed the entire attention and energy of our President and also required my time and labor. Thus I had no time left to think of introducing changes into the financial department.

Our auditor, Brother Rablnovitch, has been occupied all the time in auditing the accounts of our locals. Very often the work of bringing into proper shape the financial departments of some of our locals has been so pressing that from time to time we had to engage two or three additional assistants to attend to it.

The auditing of the local books and accounts was a good reform. We feel that we have been helpful to the secretaries in reducing chaos to order where necessary. But it has cost us a pretty penny, as you will see from my financial report.

In this respect we have devoted our main attention to the New York locals; but from time to time Brother Rablnovitch has been sent to Boston, Philadelphia, Bridgeport, Springfield (Mass.), New Haven, and even as far as Chicago. However, it has been impossible to make regular visits to outside centers. To extend this reform to all the locals of the International, and pursue it systematically and regularly, we need a larger staff of bookkeepers. The present per capita to the International does not provide sufficient means for this purpose.

The following locals have been audited:

Local Nos. 1, 3, 8, 17, 21, 23, 35 and 62 (Audited quarterly).
Local Nos. 11 and 38 (Audited semi-annually).
Local Nos. 2, 53, 69 and 15 (Philadelphia) (Audited irregularly three times during the period).
Local Nos. 7, 12, 24, 49, 56, 73 and Joint Board of Boston (Audited irregularly three times during the period).
Local Nos. 33 and 34 (Bridgeport) (Audited irregularly three times during the period).
Local Nos. 6, 20, 30, 41, 50, 113, the Chicago Locals and the Cleveland Locals (Audited once during the period).
The Joint Board of New York (Audited monthly).
The "New Post" (Audited quarterly).

Besides these regular audits of transactions special audits and investigations were also made, as follows:

1. The St. Louis Strike of 1913.
2. The Cloak Cutters' Union, Local No. 81, Chicago.
3. The Joint Board of New York for the year 1914 (prior to our term).
4. The "New Post" for a period of five quarters (prior to our term).
5. Local No. 10 for five and a half years—Jan. 1, 1910, to July 1, 1915.
6. The strike accounts of Local No. 38—1915.
7. The strike accounts of Local No. 20—1916.
8. The strike accounts of Local No. 18—1916.
9. The strike accounts of Local No. 49—1916.
10. The strike accounts of Local No. 41—1916.
11. The strike accounts of Local No. 50—1916.
12. The strike accounts of Local No. 6—1916.
13. The strike accounts of Local No. 5—1916.
14. The pro rata division of Locals Nos. 9 and 48.
15. The pro rata division of Locals Nos. 23 and 48.
16. The investigation for the Joint Board of the initiation fees collected by Local 1.
17. Examinations of the books of settled manufacturers during the recent cloak strike (made by our junior).
18. We have started our audit of the General Cloak Strike and expect to have our report in by the time your Convention is in session.

The Auditing has not only been paying its own way for our locals, but has done much better than this for them—I can prove this by actual figures, not theory. Take, for instance, the actual cost of such work during the year 1914 in only a few of our locals, and we have the following accounts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The bookkeeper at the International Office costly a year</td>
<td>$1,040.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The auditing of the International books (difference between $18.00 and $10.00 a month, due to change in the bookkeeping system)</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Board of New York (1914)</td>
<td>$890.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locals Nos. 1, 3, 9, 11, 17, 20, 23, 35 and 48—at an average of $60.00</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 10 (paid $255.00 for five quarters)</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;New Post&quot;</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Office for White Goods Strike and Philadelphia Cloak Strike</td>
<td>$375.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Office to Probert &amp; Co. (Local No. 10 matter)</td>
<td>$230.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,240.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This, mind you, includes only ten of our locals and is not an estimate, but represents the actual money paid out for such work, while we now cover over forty locals.

It seems to me that the work of this Auditing Department could be even more widened and should operate on a broader policy than it has in the past. We must, however, point out one important proposition in connection with this reform. While it has benefited our locals and saved substantial sums for them. It has added about $3,000 already to the expenditures of the General Office, and we can see only one rational adjustment and stimulus for the progress of the work of the Audit Department, and that is that the locals should contribute a pro rata share of the burden of the maintenance of this Department.

The International receives 2½ cents per capita. It is hardly necessary to be closely connected with the General Office to realize that with this insignificant per
It is impossible for an organization of our size and standing to carry on all the organizing work in which we become involved, not only in New York but in other cities. It is necessary to remind our delegates that when we speak of organizing all the trades in our industry the question of individual and even general strikes arises. It is hardly possible to organize and maintain the unions in most of our trades without strikes. That means that the international must not only carry on campaigns of agitation, but also maintain organizers, print and distribute propaganda literature, call meetings and so forth. All this involves very large expenses.

When an organizer succeeds in a certain field, a general strike must be called to complete his work and organize the workers of the trade. With the 2½ cents per capita the international has never been able to do full justice to the organizing work demanded on all sides, while with the present growth and extension of our International it is practically out of the question.

Look at the matter from whichever angle you will, the per capita must unquestionably be increased, and this convention is called upon to solve this problem once and for all, otherwise it will be impossible for the International to attain the requisite success in its work. All other matters relating to our future activity are interlaced with the per capita question.

With ample resources we shall accomplish greater results. I, therefore, commend this point to the urgent attention of the delegates. Let it become the central idea actuating this convention.

Fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary-Treasurer.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
MAY 1, 1914 to APRIL 30, 1916

BALANCE, May 1, 1914 ........................................ $10,710.52

RECEIPTS

Dues ........................................ 2,008.45
Philadelphia Assessments .................. 2,008.45
Legal Defence Fund ......................... 650,080.48
1916 Assessments—5 Weeks @ .10 .......... 15,170.30
Charter Fees .................................. 270.00
Constitution Books and Supplies .......... 14,833.59
Garment Worker—Copies .................... 670.25
Garment Worker—Advertisements .......... 60.00
Donations .................................... 204.94
On Notes and Loans .......................... 32,350.00
Loans Receivable ............................ 2,080.00
Exchange ..................................... 2,374.56

Returned for—

Organizers' Salaries ....................... 2,390.35
Organizers' Expenses ...................... 547.35
Cleveland Expense ........................ 38.75
New Jersey Expense ......................... 6,994.35
Executive Board Expense ................. 148.13
Various Expenses Advanced .............. 2,024.40
Revolving Fund (by M. Sigman) .......... 200.00
Bond Premiums ............................. 472.76
Stationery .................................. 2.00
Furniture and Fixtures .................... 45.00
Legal Expense ............................. 32.00
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auditing Expense</td>
<td>$129.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council of Conciliation Expense</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
<td>$15.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest from Broadway Trust Co</td>
<td>$139.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Philadelphia Fund</td>
<td>$20,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportional Contribution of Philadelphia Expense</td>
<td>$2,542.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>$365,351.46</strong></td>
</tr>
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**Disbursements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>$718.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Office</td>
<td>$4,320.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Sundries</td>
<td>$107.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salaries—</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President—2 years $2,000</td>
<td>$15,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>$14,756.39</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$29,956.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning Office</td>
<td>$291.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and ice</td>
<td>$60.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone, Telegrams, Postage, Expressage</td>
<td>$3,169.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Stationary (for office and general organizing)</td>
<td>$5,869.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Printing—Constitution Books</strong></td>
<td>$3,420.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Printing</strong></td>
<td>$38,433.83</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legal Fees &amp; Expense in Connection with Trials</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal—Printing and Binding</td>
<td>$5,200.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
<td>$337.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$671.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries (Cuts, Plates, etc.)</td>
<td>$317.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Legal Fees &amp; Expense in Connection with Trials</strong></td>
<td>$10,572.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. F. of L. Per Capita</td>
<td>$2,576.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizers' Salaries, Expenses &amp; R. R. Fares</td>
<td>$16,624.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Organizing Campaign</td>
<td>$9,579.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey Office and Organizing</td>
<td>$5,544.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous R. R. Fares</td>
<td>$9.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing (Office Books)</td>
<td>$270.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisements—Gen. Office &amp; Various Locals</td>
<td>$1,146.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Work—Rand School Courses</td>
<td>$85,754.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention, 1914</td>
<td>$1,096.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable</td>
<td>$8,553.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving Funds</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Loans</td>
<td>$24,762.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Notes</td>
<td>$689.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange</td>
<td>$2,847.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bond Premiums</td>
<td>$444.51</td>
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<td>Donations (to Locals, etc.)</td>
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<td>Legal Defense Fund</td>
<td>$78,168.85</td>
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<td>Council of Conciliation</td>
<td>$10,090.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 9—Return of Philadelphia Strike Aoc't.</td>
<td>800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 9—In Behalf of Local 38.</td>
<td>333.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 23—Return of Philadelphia Strike Aoc't.</td>
<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local 23—In behalf of Local 38.</td>
<td>200.00</td>
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<td>Special Philadelphia Fund.</td>
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<td>Death Benefit.</td>
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<td>Advanced to Max Pine for Socialist Congress.</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arbitration Expense in Local 50.</td>
<td>250.00</td>
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<td>Clipping Board.</td>
<td>11.00</td>
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<td>National Consumers' League Expense.</td>
<td>21.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xmas Gifts (Bldg. Employees &amp; Mall Carriers).</td>
<td>87.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. F. of L. Convention Expenses.</td>
<td>646.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newspapers, Sails, Bank Charges, etc.</td>
<td>164.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance.</td>
<td>33.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engraving and Engraving Testimonials.</td>
<td>103.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaplan Monument.</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>Return of Miscellaneous Income.</td>
<td>3.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention, 1916, Prepaid Expenses.</td>
<td>58.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE, APRIL 30, 1916.</strong></td>
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**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS—May 30 to Sept. 15, 1916**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Returned from—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizers' Salaries.</td>
<td>410.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carfare and Office Expenses.</td>
<td>1.90</td>
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<td>Bond Premiums.</td>
<td>14.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Board (on Cloak Strike Expenses).</td>
<td>1,202.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange.</td>
<td>36.80</td>
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<td>Journal—Copied.</td>
<td>314.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertisements.</td>
<td>30.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous.</td>
<td>2.89</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL RECEIPTS</strong></td>
<td>224,288.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE</strong></td>
<td>237,837.18</td>
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## DISBURSEMENTS

### Salaries—

**Office Upkeep**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Office</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President—15 weeks @ $60.00</td>
<td>$900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary—5 months @ $166.66</td>
<td>$833.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>$3,172.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning Office</td>
<td>$76.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water and Ice</td>
<td>$77.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>$243.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telegrams</td>
<td>$134.70</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
<td>$241.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carfare, Expressage and Office Expenses</td>
<td>$141.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and Printing (for office and general organizing work)</td>
<td>$1,377.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$16.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outside Stenographic Work</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newspapers</td>
<td>$23.41</td>
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<td>Typewriter Repairs</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>$28.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing—Constitution Books</td>
<td>$7,868.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. F. of L, Per Capita</td>
<td>$1,642.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Organization Work—
  Organizers' Salaries                     | $5,865.00|
  Organizers' Expenses                     | $1,838.16|
  Organizers' R. R. Fare                   | $266.62  |
| New Jersey Expenses                       | $988.40  |
| R. R. Fare and Expenses Gen. Exec. Bd. Meetings | $574.76 |
| Advertisements (for Office and various Locals) | $279.15 |
| Auditing                                  | $30.00   |
| Donations to Locals                       | $906.00  |
| Notes Paid                                | $6,090.00|
| To Local 17 (Philadelphia Strike Account) | $250.00  |
| To Joint Board (Cloak Strike)             | $178,085.68|
| Exp. paid for Jt. Bd. in connection with Cloak Strike | $3,705.58|
| Interest on Notes                         | $664.18  |
| Convention 1916, Prepaid Expenses         | $226.00  |
| To Local 17 for Local 35                  | $100.90  |
| American Labor Year Book, 100 copies      | $100.00  |
| Hearings in Local 35 vs. Prager           | $86.00   |
| Medical Services                          | $15.00   |
| Bond Premiums                             | $14.14   |
| Exchange                                  | $35.00   |
| A. F. of L, Convention Exp. (Bal. of S. Polakoff) | $101.49 |
| Journal—
  Mailing                                 | $76.51   |
| Printing                                  | $1,294.60|
Contributions ........................................ 27.50
Cuts, Plates, etc. .................................. 4.72

Return of Miscellaneous Income .......... 2.00
Miscellaneous Expenses — Error in Deposit .02

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .......................... 216,403.82

BALANCE, SEPTEMBER 15, 1916............ $21,433.26

Balance Certified by
M. CITRIN.
Certified Public Accountant

Statement made by
BEN. M. RABINOVITCH,
General Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET, SEPTEMBER 15, 1916

Assets
Cash in Bank ........................................................ $21,433.26
Cash in Revolving Funds .................................... 1,105.09
Supplies on Hand—at Cost ................................ 1,403.37
Furniture and Fixtures ...................................... 1,403.37
Loans Receivable ............................................. 1,550.00

Due from—
Joint Board (N. Y.) on Advances ................... $42,490.72
Joint Board (N. Y.) on Expenses ...................... 3,491.61
Locals for Bookkeeping Sets ......................... 275.00
Local 10, for Auditing Expenses ................... 400.00

$73,556.75

Liabilities and Surplus
Loans and Notes Payable ............................. $57,000.00
Accounts Payable ....................................... 723.83
To A. F. of L. (Per Capita, September 1 to 15) .... 924.76
To Legal Defense Fund ................................. 7,294.76
Surplus—September 15, 1916 ........................ 7,513.41

$73,556.75

SCHEDULE SHOWING DETAILS OF BALANCE SHEET ITEMS

Revolving Funds—
M. Perlmstein ............................................. $490.00
B. Schlesinger .............................................. 360.00
A. Baroff ................................................. 300.00
Petty Cash ................................................ 15.00

$1,165.00
Loans Receivable—
Local No. 38 .......................... $1,000.00
Local No. 29 ................................ 50.00
Local No. 6 ................................ 500.00

Loans and Notes Payable—
Loan of Local No. 38 (old) .......................................................... $5,000.00
Loan of Local No. 39 (new) .................................................. 10,000.00
Loan of Joint Board, Chicago ................................................... 2,000.00
Loan of Garmakers' Union .................................................. 8,000.00
Loan of Joint Board, Furriers ........................................... 5,000.00
On Notes ............................................................................... 22,000.00

Accounts Payable—
Forward .......................................................... $24.50
Lipshitz Press .................................................. 227.30
Laurel Stationery Co. ........................................ 17.67
Strathmore Press .................................................. 406.15

Alexander Bindery .......................................................... 18.70

Total ........................................................................... $57,000.00

Statement of Joint Board Receipts and Disbursements in the New York General Strike in the Cloak and Suit Trade, 1916.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Locals —</th>
<th>RECEIPTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 1 ..........................</td>
<td>$ 50,440.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 5 ..........................</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 6 ..........................</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 7 ..........................</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 8 ..........................</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 9 ..........................</td>
<td>60,936.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 10 ..........................</td>
<td>21,500.00</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 11 ..........................</td>
<td>4,528.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 12 ..........................</td>
<td>375.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 13 ..........................</td>
<td>211.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; 14 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 15 ..........................</td>
<td>3,800.00</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 16 ..........................</td>
<td>19,962.00</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 17 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 18 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 19 ..........................</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 20 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 21 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 22 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; 23 ..........................</td>
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<td>&quot; 26 and Cleveland Joint Board ..................</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>39 and 40</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>250.00</td>
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<td>43</td>
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<td>111</td>
<td>16.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

$294,101.49

15% Settled Cloak Shop Collections .................................. 118,040.35
The Forward Association .................................................. 5,000.00
Citizens' Committee ...................................................... 52,200.00
Arbeiter Ring Branches .................................................... 4,133.92
Collected Through Out-of-Town Relief Conferences .................. 2,538.12
Flower Day Collections .................................................. 6,142.39
Donations by Outside Benevolent Societies, Aid Committees and Clubs.
The Warbelt ................................................................. 500.00
Yiddish Kemper Street Collections ..................................... 600.00
The Socialist Party ....................................................... 126.00
The Call—Sale of Papers .................................................. 123.67
Novy Mir Collections ..................................................... 54.25
## Contributions by Outside Unions:

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<th>Contribution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amalgamated Clothing Workers.</td>
<td>$28,485.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furriers</td>
<td>$8,640.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beer Bottlers</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painters and Paper Hangars.</td>
<td>$11,644.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithographers</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printers</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinists</td>
<td>$9.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Moulders</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppersmiths</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marble Workers</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer Drivers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upholsterers</td>
<td>$14.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butchers</td>
<td>$119.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Cigarette Makers</td>
<td>$260.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capmakers</td>
<td>$4,452.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cigarmakers</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>$784.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Workers</td>
<td>$67.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry Workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbers</td>
<td>$22.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junk Peddlers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Persian Makers</td>
<td>$18.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tin Workers</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewelers</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suspender Makers</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaners and Dyers</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delicatessen Clerks</td>
<td>$20.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweater Makers</td>
<td>$22.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boot and Shoe Workers</td>
<td>$43.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sailor Suit Makers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Printers' Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mattress Makers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umbrella Handle Makers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail Clothing Salesmen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale Dry Goods Clerks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bed Spring Makers</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters</td>
<td>$102.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush Makers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suit Case and Bag Makers</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Hair Workers</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millinery Workers</td>
<td>$87.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Shoe Workers</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Workers</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt and Boys' Waist Makers</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neckwear Makers</td>
<td>$645.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Machine and Tool Workers</td>
<td>$49.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiters</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stampers and Gold Leaf Layers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trunk Makers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. S. &amp; A. U.</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dock Builders</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatters</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookbinders</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Union</td>
<td>Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasterers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheet and Metal Workers</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spongers</td>
<td>200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local No. 4—U. G. W. A.</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
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Outside Individual Contributions and Collected Through Newspapers | 4,896.58

Total Receipts | $539,872.60

**DISBURSEMENTS**

**Committee Expenses**

Hall Committee—Expense for all strikers, hall chairman, hall secretaries, carfares | $26,385.28
Settlement Committee—Rent for headquarters, telephones, and committees’ expense | 2,993.84
Law Committee—Expenses relative to arrests in and out of courts | 4,364.82
Organization Committee—Investigating conditions of striking shops. Allowances of from $6 to $7 per week to about 100 men | 6,133.68
New Jersey Committee—Picketing expenses, staff attending to striking shops of Jersey and vicinity | 10,310.21
Newark Committee—Expense of strikes in Newark and Passaic | 3,445.54
Out of Town Committee—Organizing, stopping shops doing work for striking houses in New York | 23,738.27
Speakers Committee—Carfares and allowances to speakers | 938.25
Picket Committee—Carfares and allowances to about 300 men to maintain order on picket lines | 32,758.18
Brooklyn Committee—Expense, striking shops picket duty | 4,256.44
Finance Committee—Expenses and allowances to members thereof | 337.85
Relief Committee—Expenses incurred by Relief Committee, clerical help, small allowances to members thereof | 2,229.65

General and Administration Expenses | 117,782.61

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stationery</td>
<td>$367.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
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<td>Official Salaries—Salaries to office help, stenographers, clerks</td>
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<td>and to all non-members of our organization</td>
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<td>Telephone and Telegrams</td>
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<td>Messenger Service</td>
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<td>Bail Expense—Premiums on bail bonds for strikers</td>
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<td>Office Car Fares</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Delegates' and Officers' Expenses—Men attending to settled shops during strike. None received salaries except small expenses of $7 per week being allowed</td>
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<td>Hall Rent—Rent for 32 halls to shelter strikers</td>
<td>34,371.63</td>
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<td>Harlem Expenses—Expenses involved on all Harlem shops and Corona, Long Island</td>
<td>5,447.42</td>
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<td>Information Bureau Expense—Clerks</td>
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<td>Medical Aid</td>
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<td>Expenses of Settled Shops—Carfares to all shop committees employed in settled shops</td>
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<td>Bronx Expense—Expenses, Bronx shops</td>
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<td>Expense of Raising Funds—Circulars, Literature, Postage</td>
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<td>Investigation—Daily investigations of shops on strike</td>
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<td>Court Fines</td>
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<td>Revolving Funds</td>
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<td>Legal Services</td>
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<td>Ladies Tailors Expense</td>
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<td>Relief</td>
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<td>Fixtures</td>
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<td>Parades</td>
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<td>Milk Service—For milk given to strikers</td>
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<td>Arbitration—Meetings at Broadway Central Hotel, State Law Reporting Company expense</td>
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<td>Expenses incurred by the International for Publicity Service, Out of Town Work, Stationery, Postage, etc.</td>
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**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS**                                                      | $632,969.60|
PAYMENTS BY LOCALS

MAY 1, 1914 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1916

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<th>Supplies</th>
<th>Assurances</th>
<th>Betts</th>
<th>Premium Journal Fees</th>
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TOTAL: $1,225,000.00 201,015.01 2,020,000.00 3,325,000.00 154,000.00 1,500,000.00 8,300,000.00
Report and Proceedings
of the
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTER-
ATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT
WORKERS' UNION.

FIRST DAY—MONDAY MORNING
SESSION.


The Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was called to order at 10:30 A. M., Monday, October 16th, in Scottish Rite Hall, President Benjamin Schlesinger in the chair.

At the beginning of and during the morning session the Convention was entertained with various selections by the Kazze's Band, Local 77, Musicians' Union, Philadelphia.

President Schlesinger announced that during the sessions various prominent labor leaders would address the Convention, among them President Samuel Gompers and Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor.

President Schlesinger introduced to the Convention Edward Keenan, President of the Central Labor Union of Philadelphia, who addressed the delegates. President Keenan expressed gratification at being called upon to address the delegates of the Convention and extended to them greetings from the trade union movement of the City of Philadelphia. He stated that it was a pleasure to extend a welcome to a body of men and women who were engaged in the work of such an organization, by far the most advanced and progressive of any of its standing at the present time. He stated that through the sacrifices and activities of the labor movement will come the development of a better race of people in this country and every country in the world. President Keenan expressed the desire and hope that he might have the opportunity before the Convention ended of congratulating them upon their accomplishments in the City of Brotherly Love.

President Schlesinger thanked President Keenan, on behalf of the delegates, for his very able address, and stated that a few years ago it would have been impossible for this convention to meet in the City of Brotherly Love, but fortunately, through the loyalty of the workers of Philadelphia, the International Union had succeeded in reorganizing our disrupted locals in Philadelphia and to make them the strongest in our International Union. He said that the organization in Philadelphia is at present about 100 per cent. organized.

Joseph M. Richie, General Organizer for the American Federation of Labor for the district of Pennsylvania, was introduced to the Convention by the Chairman. Organizer Richie, in speaking to the delegates, extended to them the greetings of the labor movement of the United States and best wishes for a successful convention. He expressed the wish that the deliberations of the Garment Workers' Convention would redound to the benefit of the entire industry. Organizer Richie stated that the working people of Philadelphia were awakening and that during the past two years forty-three local unions had been organized. He spoke of the necessity of taking care of the colored people who were breaking into many industries, and that a campaign was being organized and meetings held for the purpose of interesting them in the labor movement.

Louis Garfinkel, representative of the Philadelphia local of the Socialist Party, was introduced to the Convention, and made an eloquent address. He expressed the honor he felt at being chosen to represent the Socialist Party, and spoke of conditions that existed before the European war broke out.

Mr. Garfinkel stated that after the war was ended conditions would again change and would revert back to the old order; that capital would take advantage of the influx of
cheap labor, and that unless preparations were made by the labor movement of this country, strikes and lockouts would be numerous.

In closing, he stated that while it was not possible for the Socialist Party to open the doors and hand over the keys of the city, it extended its greetings and heartiest wishes for the continuance of organization and development.

President Schlesinger introduced to the Convention Mrs. Mary Sullivan, representing the Women's Trade Union League of Philadelphia, who extended greetings of the Philadelphia League, and stated that she was also representing the President of the Women's National Trade Union League. She spoke of the large membership of the Philadelphia League, which had only been organized two years, and stated that among the members affiliated were 1100 members of the Typographical Union and over 5000 members of the Ladies' Garment Workers. Mrs. Sullivan expressed her pleasure at being able to welcome the delegates in behalf of the Trade Union League of Philadelphia and of the National League of Chicago.

President Schlesinger introduced to the delegates Max Pine, Secretary of the United Hebrew Trades of New York, who made an eloquent address to the delegates, and expressed his pleasure at being able to address them.

S. Altman, representing the Workmen's Circle of Pennsylvania, was introduced, and addressed the Convention, extending to them his appreciation of the work being done by the organization for the labor movement in general, and expressed the wish that their deliberations might result in much good.

Vice-President Max Amdur was introduced to the Convention, and addressed the delegates as a representative of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers of Philadelphia.

Vice-President Amdur spoke with great feeling of the wonderful assistance that had been rendered by the locals of New York to the Philadelphia Locals who had made it possible for the Convention to meet in Philadelphia at this time; he thanked the General Executive Board, and stated that he wished to say to President Schlesinger, who had worked very hard during the past two years, that there was not only an organization of cloak and skirt makers in Philadelphia, but also a powerful organization of dress and waist makers.

At the close of his address, Vice-President Amdur introduced the Committee on Arrangements, who presented to President Schlesinger and Secretary Baroff magnificent bunches of Killarney roses.

President Schlesinger thanked the committee on behalf of Secretary Baroff and himself for the flowers that were presented to them. He then introduced to the Convention A. Silver, Organizer of the Waist and Dress Makers' Union. Organizer Silver stated that owing to their poor financial condition at the time of the Cleveland convention they were unable to send a delegate, but that now their membership numbered 5000. He stated that they were greatly indebted to the officers of the International Union for their assistance, as well as to the entire organization. In closing he welcomed the delegates to the city, and the International President and Secretary were presented with a large bunch of chrysanthemums by the Waist and Dress Makers' Union of Philadelphia.

President Schlesinger made a brief address, in which he said that he wished to thank each one of the speakers who had addressed the Convention, both on his own behalf and that of the delegates to the Convention, and announced that the Arrangements Committee had planned entertainment for the delegates while in the city, which would be announced later.

Delegate Epstein, of the Credentials Committee, requested the delegates to present their due books and credentials to the Credentials Committee for inspection, and requested the delegates from Boston to report immediately to the Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following communication:

Extend the greatest hope of success. I do
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Hope this convention will occupy a prominent part in the history of trade unionism.

PHILIP FEST,
Member of Local No. 23.

International Convention, Scottish Rite Bldg., Philadelphia.
Receive our congratulations wishing you success for future work.
(Signed) Three Hundred Strikers of the M. & C. Skirt Company.

Scottish Rite Hall, Broad and Race streets, Philadelphia.
Congratulations on your thirteenth anniversary convention and wish you success in the future.

CELIA HONER,
Member of Local 15.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Wish success to all your deliberations.
Your representatives being the leading spirits of the Jewish labor movement will in this convention lead this organization to grow up great and powerful.

JULIUS WOOLF,
Ex-District Manager Joint Board C. M. U.
New York.

Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1916.
Mr. B. Schlesinger, Chairman Thirteenth Convention, I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Building.
We congratulate the officers and delegates to the Thirteenth Convention of our International Union. Your work in the past has proven what we could expect in the future. Our slogan is one hundred per cent, organization in Cleveland to the fourteenth convention.

Workers of the Prince-Wolf Company.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Broad and Race streets, Philadelphia.
Accept our heartiest congratulations to the opening of thirteenth convention. Long live the fighting spirit of your International.

UNITED HEBREW TRADES OF CHICAGO.

International Convention, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia.
Hearty congratulations and future success and further success on future work.

SKIRT MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 24.

Abe Haroff, care Scottish Rite Building, Broad and Race streets, Philadelphia.
Greetings, best wishes and success to our International. We hope that whatever you do will be for the best interests of all our members.

LOUIS GOLD,
Secretary Cloak Makers' Union, Local 44.

Long live the International Union, the stronghold of the American class-conscious Socialist proletarian. We rejoice in the achievements of the cloak, dress and other locals in their past struggles. Yours is the success of the entire movement. We are proud of your great, great work and your splendid organization.

New York Down Town Jewish Branch Socialist Party. P. Novick, Secretary.

Thirteenth Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Greetings. May your future work be crowned with further victories as great in their results as in your aims.

Strike Committee, Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, Local 20.

Accept our greetings to the thirteenth convention. We heartily wish the greatest success of your enterprise.

Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Local 21.

The Delegates of the Thirteenth Convention I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Building, Broad Street, Philadelphia.
The cloak makers of Baltimore congratulate you for the fighting spirit you had in the past. Hoping the same spirit will be with you and with our legislators at the convention for the future three cheers for our International.

DAVID COHEN,
Secretary Local 4, Baltimore.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS


Heartiest greetings to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. We hope that among the many ways and plans adopted for the next two years you will also remember Canada. Wishing you the best of accomplishments.

Cloak and Skirt Pressers' Union of Toronto, No. 92, Ben Wohlender, Secretary.

The Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia.
Greetings. May your labor in behalf of the working man and woman in our industry be successful and of help to organize all men and women in our industry. May you maintain unity and harmony amongst our people. We promise to do our part to realize in life all your legislation. We congratulate you upon the success of our International in the past and hope for more in the future.
Joint Board Chicago Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Recording Secretary, Max Casper.

International Convention Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Hotel Walton, Philadelphia.

Heartiest greetings to all delegates. Hoping your present assemblage will result in solving the problems for the betterment of the conditions in our industry. Hoping that our resolutions will find their way among you.
Toronto Joint Board Cloak Makers' Union, Ben Wolhendler, Secretary.


May you gather with a spirit and determination that looks to a betterment of the living conditions of those whom you represent. May wise counsel attend your deliberations and may you return with no note of discord to mar the fraternal harmony in which you went forth.
Joint Board Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Philip Kaplowitz, Treasurer.

Abe Baroff, care Scottish Rite Building, Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia.

We hope that whatever you do will be for the best interests of all our members of our International.

J. McCOFF, Secretary Cloak Pressers' Union 18.

At 12 o'clock the Convention was adjourned to 2 P.M. of the same day.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.
The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock P.M., Monday, June 16th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.
Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Chairman Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Greetings to the thirteenth convention. May your deliberations be crowned with success.
Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union 25, T. Schoenholtz, Secretary.

A. Baroff, Convention Hall, Scottish Rite Bldg., Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia.

To the officers and delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention I. L. G. W. U. brothers receive our heartiest congratulations, hoping that harmony will prevail from beginning to end and this convention will mark a new era in our movement, broaden the way and race ahead. Long live our International and three rousing cheers for the labor movement.
Yours for solidarity.
MAX KIRCHENBAUM, Secretary Local 3.

The Thirteenth Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings. We wish to congratulate the delegation of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. We hope you will carry out the planned work of the convention successfully for the welfare of the members of our great organization.
Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Local 11 of Brownsville, N. Y., J. Elkin, Secretary-Treasurer.

International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Heartiest congratulations to all delegates of your thirteenth convention. The future of our organization depends upon your action. We trust that your work will bring new life into our union.
Brownsville Office, Cloakmakers' Union.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 69

Hearty congratulations. We wish you success in your deliberations.
Ladies' Tailors' and Dress Makers' Union,
Local 85, Philip Elsner, Secretary.

Thirteenth Biennial Convention, I. L. G. W.,
Scottish Rite Building, Broad Street,
Philadelphia.
Best wishes and congratulations to officers
and delegates. Long live our International.
Employes of Rosenberg Bros., 40 W. 22nd
Street, New York.

Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1916.
B. Schlesinger, President Thirteenth Con-
vention, Philadelphia.
We congratulate officers and delegates of
convention of our International Union. May
your work be as faithful in the future as in
the past. Remember Cleveland.
The Operators of the Sunshine Cloak
Company.

Accept our congratulations to thirteenth
convention from pressers of Weinstein &
Brother.
I. BERNARDSKY,
J. SCHLAGIN,
M. DUETCH,
Committee.

Thirteenth Biennial Convention, I. L. G. W.
U., Scottish Rite Building, Broad and
Race Streets, Philadelphia.
My best wishes to officers and delegates.
May unity and harmony guide you in all
your deliberations.
HARRY KLEINMAN.

Thirteenth Biennial Convention, Philadelphia,
Pa.
Three cheers for the International. Let
your work bring success to the working
class. Respect to all delegates present.
MORRIS J. GRODIPKER.

The President introduced Comrade Charles
Erwin, representing the National Committee
of the Socialist Party. Comrade Erwin ex-
pressed his pleasure in addressing the or-
ganization. He stated that he was address-
ing a body of workers who understood not
only the value of a hundred per cent. organi-
zation, but understood that the only goal
that should be reached by a one hundred
per cent. organization is a hundred per
cent. pay, the full value for labor. He spoke
of the wonderful sacrifices and efforts of
the rank and file of the organization in
bringing about the results that obtained to-
day. In closing Comrade Erwin said:
"Every weapon that you can use in your
struggle against the class who live off the
fruits of your toil should be used if you have
the sense to know how to use it. You will
reach the goal when you do two things:
First, when you recognize woman as a
human being with the same rights that you
have, and second when as men and women
you recognize the fact that you never
achieve your goal until you get control of
the powers of government."

Secretary Baroff stated that the Creden-
tials Committee would be unable to report
until Tuesday morning.

Vice-President Amdur moved that the Con-
vention be adjourned until 9:30 A. M., Tues-
day.
The motion was carried, and at 2:30 the
Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at
9:30 A. M., Tuesday, October 17th.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY MORNING
SESSION.
The convention was called to order at 9:30
A. M. Tuesday, October 17th, President
Benjamin Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.
Secretary Baroff read the following com-
communications:
Convention of the International Ladies' Gar-
ment Workers, Scottish Rite Building,
Brothers: Congratulations upon splendid
achievement of last year; especially heroic
and uncompromising cloak makers' strike. Hold high the banner of true un-
compromising trade unionism. We are with you in war and peace. May your convention rise to high planes and adopt measures for relieving Jewish tragedy during war and reconstructing Jewish life when war is over.

Fight for Jewish immigration laws.

Tenth annual convention of the Jewish Socialist Labor Party.

POALE ZION.


Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Conrad and Brothers: I am with you with my whole heart and soul for the best of our beloved and much esteemed organization. I am sure that the spirit of true brotherly love will inspire and lead you through all difficulties which are apt to arise at a convention of such a big organization with so many locals of different interests. Long live our International Union! Three cheers for the cause of labor.

L. FINKELSTEIN.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings to the thirteenth biennial convention. Hope your deliberations will result in the emancipation of the members you represent.

The Skirt Makers' Union, Local No. 23, Louis Gordon, President.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.

Congratulations and success in your great efforts from Local 59, I. L. O. W. U., Philadelphia, N. Kovadlo, Secretary.


Benjamin Schlesinger, President, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Accept my heartiest congratulations. I regret the fact that I cannot be with you. I assure you that although I am not with you in person my soul, spirit and thoughts are with you. I hope that this holy gathering will give no thought to personalities or strife. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union that has so loyally stood for the protection of its membership will now, I am sure, after such glorious battles, devote its entire time for the good and welfare of the organization only. With all good wishes for a successful convention, I am, fraternally yours.

MORRIS G. LEADER, Manager Reeler Makers' Union, Local No. 17.


Abraham Baroff, Secretary, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

To the Officers and Delegates of the I. L. O. W. U., Greetings: Accept our heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the success of this the thirteenth convention, and trust that legislation will be passed that will tend towards the betterment of conditions of the workers in the needle industry.

Fraternally.

NATHAN BARON, Chairman, Executive Board, Local No. 10.


We extend heartiest congratulations to you on this occasion, and best wishes for a still stronger and healthier International Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America.


Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Broad and Race streets, Philadelphia.

My heartfelt congratulations and best wishes in the hope that the Convention will do as much as they possibly can for the welfare of the cloak trade in our town.

M. YAMPOLSKY.


Abraham Baroff, Secretary, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Convey to the delegates of the thirteenth convention my congratulations and best wishes. May their deliberations serve to strengthen our organization. Feel better and will probably join you this week.

J. HALPERN, Fifth Vice-Pres.

Greetings to you sisters and brothers in the name of the Cleveland tailors. I send our heartfelt congratulations to your delegates of our greatest labor organization, and to your beloved and devoted officers. May you succeed in your great work to pave the way for industrial and political emancipation of the working class. Always with you.

SIMON WEISSBERG.


Accept my heartfelt congratulations to officers and delegates of the Thirteenth Convention. Wishing fruitful results. Do the best for St. Louis Cloak Makers' Union.

JOSEPH ABRAMSKY.


Accept our heartfelt congratulations to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of your organization. May your deliberations be crowned with success. We hope to see the International Ladies' Garment Workers marching from one victory to another until the final triumph of the working class.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.

We wish you a most hearty welcome. Long live our International.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 69.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention, Scottish Rite Hall, Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia.

Local New York Socialist party sends greeting to your organisation. May the work of your Convention result in a stronger Union and increase the bonds of friendship and cooperation between your Union and our party and bring home to the American workers the necessity, importance and success of the political organisation of the workers and the necessity of educating the workers to the fact that there is a higher goal than wages and hours; that the ideal of the working class should be the abolition of the wage system and its substitution by the co-operative commonwealth. As the pioneer, as the progressive class conscious organisation we salute you and wish you success.

SOCIALIST PARTY, NEW YORK.

Julius Gerber, Secretary.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Accept our heartiest greetings to the Thirteenth Annual Convention of your International Union. May your deliberations be for further advancement of our cause.

MR. AND MRS. MORRIS SIGMAN.

Cleveland, O., Oct. 16, 1916.

Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Bldg., Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia.

Greetings: Accept our congratulations for the past accomplishments of our International Union and our wishes to successfully continue our good and inspiring work for the ultimate economic freedom of our members.

Joint Board of Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union of Cleveland.

CHAS. KRINDLER, Secretary.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

We congratulate you on your Thirteenth Convention and wish you heartiest success.

M. & C. STRIKERS.


The People's Relief Committee sends its heartiest greetings and best wishes to all delegates assembled.

H. FINGERHOOD.

Secretary.

Cleveland, O., Oct. 16, 1916.

B. Schlesinger, President.


We wish to congratulate the delegates to our Convention. We also wish you the greatest success in the future as you have had in the past.

Raincoat Makers' Union, Local 111.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention.

A hearty welcome to the delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your work be fruitful.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 53.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.

Welcome delegates Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your work be crowned with success.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL NO. 2.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Welcome delegates to Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your deliberations be crowned with fruitful results.

SIMON DAVIDSON, Secretary.

Joint Board Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Philadelphia.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.  

Boston, Mass., Oct. 16.
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia.
Greetings. May your deliberations prove of lasting benefit to the needle trade workers.
INDEPENDENT WORKMEN'S CIRCLE OF AMERICA,
H. Egdall, General Secretary.

International Ladies' Garment Workers of America, Philadelphia.
Greetings, congratulations and best wishes to your Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your deliberations bring success in the future work of your organization and the workers, as it did in the past.
JACOB GORFHEIN,
Sec'y Joint Executive Committee Vest Makers' Union of Greater New York, A.C.W. of A.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
We greet the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and hope that your work may be crowned with success. We hope that Local 45 will constitute an important part of your program, and that you will decide to take some effective measures in behalf of Worcester, for we deem it necessary.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention, Scottish Rite Building, Race and Broad Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
We greet your Convention with as much love and joy as if it were our own. We are one working class family in our interests and aspirations and hope to become such also in organization. We contributed freely to assist you in the struggles against your oppressors and rejoiced with you in your triumphs. Accept sincerest congratulations from workers whose hearts beat with yours.
AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA,
Sidney Hillman, General President;
Joseph Schlossberg, General Secretary.

The Convention of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Comrades, delegates to the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union: We send you our heartiest congratulations. May your work at this Convention bring productive results for the International and its members. We are proud of your organization and we wish to say, together with you, long live the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

WORKMEN'S CIRCLE, AUGUST BEBEL BRANCH, 521,
L. A. Goldberg, Secretary.

Convention of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
We greet the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., and hope that your work may be crowned with success.

CLOAK & SKIRT MAKERS' UNION,
Local 25, Worcester, Mass.,
J. Franklin, Secretary.

Chairman Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Greetings of workers to a workers' convention.

JACOB GORFHEIN,
R. SCHNEIDER,
Financial Clerks of the Waist Makers' Union, Local 25.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia.
Best wishes and prosperous results from the employees of WEINSTEIN AND KLIPSTEIN.

October 12, 1916.
The Brookdale Farm, Lebanon, Conn.
Abraham Baroff,
General Secretary-Treasurer, I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Dearest Friend and Brother:
I have received your kind invitation to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of our International Union, extended to me in the name of the General Executive Board. I deeply regret that circumstances prevent me from complying with your wishes. In spite of my very strong desire to be with you. Indeed, I do wish very much to be with you at this Convention of our beloved organization. Convey, please, to all the members of the Board my heartfelt thanks for their invitation to the convention, including yourself. With kind regards to all my friends and the delegates.

Sincerely yours,
MORRIS SIGMAN.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS


Mr. A. Baroff,

Dear Sir and Brother:

Kindly extend my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. O. W. U.

May your deliberations lead you to higher and better ideals—to be crowned with fruitful results. I hope that the officers and delegates of this Convention, through their deliberations, will bring forth the best achievements for the ladies' garment industry all over the country. I trust that they will use the best judgment and through their wisdom will legislate such laws to strengthen and protect this movement for the benefit of our members. I can proudly say that the officers of our International Union deserve great credit and many thanks for the services they have rendered during our last general strike in bringing about a noble settlement in behalf of our members in New York. Again permit me to state that although I am unable to be present at this Convention, my heart and spirit are with you.

I sincerely hope that when this convention adjourns, peace and harmony will prevail forever in our industry.

With best wishes and kind regards to all,

for the success of our International Union,

I remain,

Fraternally yours,

HERMAN GROSSMAN.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Committee, stated that a telegram had been received from Julius Woolf, Local No. 1, to the effect that he is resigning as delegate to the convention, and the committee recommended that the resignation be accepted and that Nathan Fink be substituted in his place. The action of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Epstein read the following list of delegates against whose seating there was no protest:

New York, October 13, 1916.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U.

Greetings: The Credential and Auditing Committee has examined all credentials submitted to it and we find that the following delegates are fully qualified to represent their respective locals, and recommend that they be seated as delegates to this convention.

Local 1, New York Cloak Operators, nine delegates: Benjamin Schlesinger, Samuel J. Ringer, Peritz Kutler, Max Sterling, Samuel Sapin, M. Rubin, Julius Woolf, A. Padover, A. Goldstein.


Local No. 5, Union Hill, N. J., Embroidery Workers, one delegate, Miss Louise Hofmire.

Local No. 6, New York Embroidery Workers, one delegate, Jacob Lawner.


Local No. 11, Brooklyn, N. Y., Cloak-makers' Union, six delegates: Israel Lipschitz, Jacob Shkarowitz, Samuel Chancer, Miss Minnie Lapidus, Louis Katz, William Barnan.

Local No. 15, Philadelphia, Pa., Waist-makers, five delegates: Abraham Hirsh, A. Posternok, Herman Bernstein, Miss Sarah Coen, Miss Ann Litwakoff.


Local No. 18, Chicago, Ill., Cloak and Suit Pressers, one delegate, M. Tornstein.
Local No. 19, Montreal, Can., Cloak Cutters, one delegate. Abraham Taylor.

Local No. 21, Newark, N. J., Cloakmakers, one delegate, Oscar Stearn.

Local No. 23, New York Skirtmakers, eight delegates: Sam Prisamit, Max Brod- 

field, Barret; Littman, Sam Balleen, Isaac Rubinbaum, Harry Wander, Samuel Reenen-

son, Samuel Berman.


Local 25, New York Waistmakers, ten delegates: Abraham Baroff, Sol. Saldman, 

Sarah Shapiro, Louis Antonini, Harry Silverman, Max Gooman, Jacob Greenstein, Elia Liberman, Sigmund Halman, Benj. Witasbik.

Local 26, Cleveland, Ohio, Cloakmakers, one delegate, John Porus.

Local 27, Cleveland, Ohio, Skirtmakers, one delegate, David Solomon.

Local 28, Cleveland, Ohio, Skirt Finishers, one delegate, Bertha Nechamkin.

Local 30, New York Alteration Tailors, two delegates, Max Marquis, Benj. Skolnick.

Local 33, Bridgeport, Conn., Corset Workers, four delegates: Mary Gould, Grace Osborn, Anna Dunn, Mrs. Sarah Bright.

Local 34, Bridgeport, Conn., Corset Cutters, two delegates: Theodore R. Blacker, 

John F. Pierce.

Local 35, New York Pressers' Union, eight delegates: A. Kavinsky, Jacob Kim-

barowsky, Louis Langer, Max Brokman, Saul Metz, J. Bruslauer, M. Goldovsky, A. Nemtovich.

Local 37, Cleveland, Ohio, Pressers' Union, one delegate, Samuel Stela.

Local 39, New Haven, Conn., Corset Cutters, one delegate, Edward J. Cavanagh.

Local 40, New Haven, Conn., Corset Workers, two delegates: Anna H. Cavanagh, 

Mary C. Jennings.

Local 42, Cloak and Suit Cutters, Cleveland, one delegate, Chas. Kreindler.

Local 43, Worcester, Mass., White Goods Workers, two delegates: Henry Rubin, 

Minnie Sachs.

Local 45, New York Italian Cloakmakers' Union, five delegates: Alfredo La Porta, 

Carlo Carotenuto, Gennaro Licastro, Angelo Toccano, Salvatore Nino.

Local 52, Los Angeles, Cal. Lad. Garment Workers, one delegate, Sam Tauber.

Local 53, Philadelphia, Pa., Cloak Cutters, one delegate, Simon Davidson.


Local 56, Boston, Mass., Cloakmakers, three delegates: Barney Wasserman, Mor-

ris Sarkowitk, Abraham Borenstein.

Local 60, Chicago, Ill., White Goods Workers, two delegates: Miss Fanny Cohn, Max 

Greenspan.

Local 64, New York Buttonhole Makers, two delegates: Harry Dessel, Max Lebow.

Local 66, New York Embroiderers, Bonnas, two delegates: Nathan Reisel, Sam Wagner.

Local 67, Toledo, Ohio, Cloakmakers, two delegates: Louis Friend, Chester J. Pig- 
maka.

Local 67, Philadelphia, Pa., Cloak Finishers, four delegates: Beclie Stein, Max 

Sandler, Rose Ladem, Sarah Greenberg.

Local 72, Baltimore, Md., Dress and White Goods Workers, one delegate, Miss I. Pati- 
galina.


Local 81, Chicago, Ill., Cloak and Suit Cutters, two delegates: Max Stern, Herman F. 

Barsky.

Local 113, Newark, N. J., Waistmakers, two delegates: Julius Portnoy, Fannie Jerome.

Joint Board of Cincinnati, one delegate, Charles Green.

Joint Board of Toronto, one delegate, Samuel Koldofsky.

Joint Board of Montreal, one delegate, S. Labensohn.

Joint Board of Philadelphia, one delegate, A. Snyder.
Joint Board of Cleveland, one delegate, M. Perlestein.

Joint Board of Chicago, one delegate, Harry Schoolman.

Joint Board of New York, one delegate, Louis Wichtor.

Delegate Lofkovits inquired why Local No. 3 had not been mentioned, and the chairman stated that they would be mentioned later, as the report had only been read in part.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the delegates whose names were read by the committee were seated.

Chairman Epstein continued the report as follows:

"We also recommend that Miss Myrtle Whitehead, of the Crown Cork and Seal Operators' Union of Baltimore, be seated as a fraternal delegate of the National Woman's Trade Union League of America, and

"We recommend that Mrs. Mary Sullivan, member of Women's Bookbinders' Union, Local 86, Philadelphia, be seated as fraternal delegate of the Women's Trade Union League of Philadelphia; Miss Sarah I. Tomkins, Baltimore, alternate."

"The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Epstein continued as follows:

"We find upon examination of the financial records that several locals have not paid the assessments levied by the L. L. G. W. U. We have communicated with all these locals, who have requested an extension of time, giving the committee the reason for not having paid.

"The committee has carefully investigated the various requests, and recommends as follows:

"That the delegates of Local 3 be seated on condition that the 1918 assessment amounting to $565.70 be paid by March 1, 1917. Five delegates: Max Kurtz, Max Worchheimer, Bernard Fenster, Samuel Lofkovits, Morris Wiener."

Delegate Fenster asked if the delegates were responsible for the international dues.

President Schlesinger: It is not the delegate who has to stand for the dues, but it is understood that the delegates are seated on condition that the assessments are paid by March 1st.

Upon motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Epstein read further:

"That the delegates of Local 4 be seated on condition that they pay $192 for the 1916 assessments and $484 Legal Defense Fund assessment within one year's time from date at the rate of $50 per month, one delegate, Max Lipsch." The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

"That the delegates of Local 12 be seated upon condition that they pay the assessment amounting to $650, 1916 assessment, and $85 for the legal defense fund assessment by May 1, 1917. Two delegates: M. Tuchman, H. Tocman."

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

"We recommend that the delegates of Local 14 be seated on condition that they pay assessment due for the 150 members, the number they claim they had at the time the assessment was levied, and that the claim of this local that they be relieved of paying assessment for an excess of this number of members be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. Two delegates: Louis Bogard, Nathan Rothstein."

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

"We recommend that the delegates of Local 20 be seated on condition that they pay the amounts due: $576.50 for 1916 assessment, $953 legal defense fund assessment, by May 1, 1917. Four delegates: Simon Rich, David Heller, Philip Herman, Louis Schwartz."

On motion the report of the committee was concurred in.

"We recommend that the delegates of Local 38 be seated on condition that they pay the assessment amounting to $2411 legal defense fund, and $63, 1916 assessment, within one year from date. Three delegates: Sam Drezinsky, Julius Finkelstein, Morris Abramowitz."

Delegate Finkelstein: I want to say that the figures quoted are incorrect, the legal defense fund should be $2251 and the strike assessment for 1916, $49.20, making a total of $2310.20.

President Schlesinger: The information was obtained from the General Auditor of
the International. I don't think a mistake has been made, but if it has the General Auditor will be requested to go over the account.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the report of the committee was concurred in.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 41 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $232.50, 1916 assessment, and $568 legal defense fund assessment by February 1, 1917. Three delegates: Miss Sarah Spanier, Julius Goldstein, Henry Zucker.”

Upon motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

“Local 44 claim that they have paid the amount due for assessments to the International, but owing to an error the amounts have been credited to another account. We, therefore, recommend that the delegates be seated, and this matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. Two delegates: Abraham Gold, B. Malkoff.”

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

“We recommend the delegates of Local 49 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $92 for legal defense fund assessment be paid by May 1, 1917. Two delegates: Miss Anna Thomas, Emma Cashmere.”

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 50 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $657.50, 1916 assessment, $1315 legal defense fund assessment, by May 1, 1917. Four delegates: Miss Becky Levy, Anna Goldkin, H. Greenberg, M. Sirota.”

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 58 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $115, 1916 assessment, $15 legal defense fund assessment, by January 1, 1917. Two delegates: N. Negen, W. Padnos.”

Upon motion the report of the committee was concurred in.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 65 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $322.50, 1916 assessment, and $568 legal defense fund assessment, by February 1, 1917. Six delegates: Gusso Landis, Mollie Lifshitz, Rose Astor, Mary Gob, Anna Rock, N. Zeltz.”

A motion was made and seconded that the recommendation of the committee be concurred in.

Delegate Bernstein: I want to know for a point of information why they have not paid up the debts?

President Schlesinger: The committee was appointed for the purpose of obtaining information and I understand that the committee had a representation from that local to explain why they had not paid until now. The recommendation is that they be seated, and to extend the time of payment of the assessment.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was carried.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 65 be seated on condition that they pay the amounts due, $322.50 for 1916 assessment, $1315 legal defense fund assessment, by May 1, 1917. Two delegates: Miss Yetta Lane, B. Levine.”

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 75 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $123.50, 1916 assessment, prior to the convention. Two delegates: Rose Bushman, Israel Silver.”

The delegates from Local No. 75 not being in the city the chairman stated that the recommendation of the committee would be laid upon the table.

“We recommend that the delegates of Local 78 be seated on condition that they pay the amount of $72, 1916 assessment, $1315 legal defense fund assessment by May 1, 1917. One delegate: S. Friedman.”

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the committee, continued the report as follows:

PROTESTS.

“We received a protest against the seating of S. Pavlotsky as delegate of Local 1 on the ground that he is unfit to represent the I. L. O. W. U. That this member has written certain articles in a publication called “The Cloakmaker” in which he makes serious accusations and assertions against the good name and character of the officers of the Union, and that during the 1916 general strike, in the City of New York, this member had organized a meeting of Cloakmakers for the purpose of breaking up all harmony prevailing in the strike.

The committee also has evidence that this member’s conduct while a member of Local
11. was disloyal in that he was constantly in arrears with his dues, and advised other members not to pay dues to the Union. After the Local had voted him $5 with which to pay his dues, after a plea that he had been out of employment for a long time, he accepted the $5 but did not pay his dues with the money. That at the time he applied for a transfer to Local 11, he was indebted to Local 11 for thirty-six weeks' dues, which the committee regards as an irregularity, as the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. provides that no transfer be issued unless all indebtedness of a member shall be paid.

"The committee recommends that E. Pavlovsky shall not be seated as a delegate."

A motion was made and seconded that the report of the committee be concurred in.

Delegate Padovar, Local No. 1, spoke against the report of the committee and in favor of seating S. Pavlotsky.

Delegate Selzman, Local 25: Before we go any further in this matter I would like to request that the chairman of the Credentials Committee read the articles in question.

The chairman stated that if the Credentials Committee wished to read the articles in justification of its recommendation it could do so.

Delegate Sapin: I want to know what the main objection really is.

The chairman stated that all of the objections were of the same character.

Delegate Shuster: While I think the committee was impartial, I make a motion that a committee be appointed to investigate this again.

The chairman ruled that the motion was out of order.

Delegate Rubin spoke in favor of seating Mr. Pavlotsky.

Delegate Nathan Fink, Local 1, discussed the question at some length and suggested that the delegates should not act hastily in the matter, but that Pavlotsky should be given another chance.

Delegate Metz, Local 35, made an appeal to the delegates to accept the recommendation of the committee and not to seat Pavlotsky.

Delegate Thomas, Local 49, spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

Delegate Lefkovits, Local No. 3, discussed the matter at some length, and said that while he was willing to give every man a chance, he felt that Brother Pavlotsky had proven himself unworthy of a seat in the convention or on the Executive Board of the local union and that the recommendation of the committee should be concurred in.

Delegate Goldstein, Local No. 1, spoke against the report of the committee and in favor of seating Pavlotsky.

A motion was made and seconded that the privilege of the floor be extended to Mr. Pavlotsky to state his case. (Carried.)

Mr. Pavlotsky stated his case at some length and read the articles that were objected to. He said that he believed in being allowed to express his views, and that as the union papers would not publish his articles he had resorted to this means of getting his sentiments before the public.

Delegate Chancer, Local 11, stated that Pavlotsky had received the five dollars from the local.

Delegate M. Lapidus stated that the five dollars was given as charity and not to pay his dues.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Committee: I want to state that the findings of the Credential Committee on this case of Brother Pavlotsky are based on information received and after a careful investigation had been made; they were not based on the opinions of any individual member but arrived at after discussion of the facts as presented to the committee. As to the five dollars that was given, we received that information from the secretary of the local, who showed us the records of the meeting wherein Brother Pavlotsky was voted that sum, and he also gave us the information that he did not pay his dues after he was given the five dollars. With regard to the information referring to the meeting held to break up the strike, that is also based on facts that we have received from members who were present at that meeting and who informed us that Brother Pavlotsky was chairman and also as to some of the things that were spoken by Brother Pavlotsky during the meeting. There was also another article published in the Cloak Maker, written by Brother Pavlotsky and I have it here.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

if you care to have it read. I also wish that the articles appearing in this publication were printed a year before the Conciliatory Council.

President Schlesinger stated that Sigman was sent to prison the first time in April, 1914, and the second time in May, 1915. His first imprisonment was about a year before the article was published and that it was three or four months before he went to jail; the second time in May, 1915, that this article was printed.

On motion, debate was closed.

A request was made for a roll call. The chairman stated that the request was out of order, as the convention had not yet been organized.

The motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee was carried, and Mr. Pavlotsky was not seated as a delegate.

"We have received a protest against the seating of I. Freedman as delegate of Local 26 on the grounds that while an Executive Board member and chairman of the shop of Bijou Wafai Company he caused the wrongful discharge of several members of that shop and accepted a sum of money from the employer to do his bidding. This member had been tried on these charges and had been found guilty by the Executive Board of Local 26, which decision was confirmed at a regular meeting of the Local, and was later sustained on appeal to the I. L. G. W. U. As an additional penalty for his actions, this member was barred from holding office for a period of two years. The two years having elapsed and the Committee realizing that the legal bar has been removed, takes cognizance of the fact that a member of the I. L. G. W. U. found guilty of such serious charges, is undesirable as a delegate to this Convention.

"The Committee recommends that I. Freedman shall not be seated as a delegate."

Delegate Luigi: I move that the report of the Committee be rejected.

President Schlesinger: The motion is out of order. In order to open the discussion, an affirmative motion must be made.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Portnoy, Local 113, stated that Mr. Freedman appealed to the Executive Board of Local 26 and also to the General Executive Board and all the charges but one were rejected; that the General Executive Board sustained the action of the Local Board and took away Mr. Freedman's right to hold office for two years' time, but that after a year and a half he was reinstated. He spoke in favor of seating Mr. Freedman as a delegate and against the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Prisman, Local 23, in discussing the case, said that it was entirely a Local affair, and that he did not feel that Freedman should be persecuted, and that he should be seated as a delegate to the Convention.

Delegate Bornstein, Local 9, spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

Vice-President Pierce spoke against the recommendation of the committee. He said that Freedman had worked hard for the Union, and that he felt he was entitled to a seat in the Convention.

Delegate Lefkowitz in discussing the question said that he had followed up this man's activities and that he was a good Union man, and expressed the hope that Mr. Freedman would be seated.

Delegate Hyman, Local 25, said that if all the facts were known Freedman would not be seated in the convention, but notwithstanding that fact after an examination of the entire subject he had come to the conclusion that he was entitled to the rights of a delegate.

Delegate Perinstein stated that as Mr. Freedman had been accepted by his local, he was entitled to all the privileges as a delegate to the I. L. G. W. U.

Chairman Epstein stated that Freedman did not deny the crimes referred to and did not think it advisable to seat a delegate who had been found guilty of such an offense.

Delegate Deutsch spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee and said that Freedman had admitted his activities.

Mr. Freedman was granted the privilege of the floor in his own behalf, and in stating his case produced two letters which he handed to the President and which were later read by the President. He appealed to the convention for justice and fair treatment.

President Schlesinger made a short statement, in which he said that he did not know
of the verdict that Brother Freedman was not to be an officer for two years and that he had seen the letter to which Mr. Barott's name is signed, for the first time last Thursday, such letter referring to the reinstatement of Mr. Freedman in the International. He said the same statement would apply to a letter under date of October 29, 1914, signed by Morris Sigman, in which it was stated that Freedman should be debarred from holding office in the Union for a period of two years.

The recommendation of the committee was again read by Delegate Epstein, and the motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was lost, and I. Freedman was declared seated.

At 12:30 the convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 2 p.m. of the same day.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION

The convention was called to order at 2:20 o'clock p.m. Tuesday, October 17th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Barott read the following telegrams:

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Greetings to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your decisions bring the up-lift of our organized labor.

CHAS. MARTINI,
Actg. Mgr. of the Italian Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Local No. 48.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' of America, Philadelphia.
Congratulations. We rejoice at your tremendous successes attained.
Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Joint Board of Boston.

The Delegates of the Thirteenth Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.
Greetings: Being a part of the largest labor organization of the Jewish proletariat in America, we wish to express our deepest feeling that your work shall be crowned with success for the interests of us all.
Employees of Kanowitz & Rosen.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Employees of Feinberg & Stumacher, Philadelphia.

David Silverstein, Shop Chairman.

Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the delegates of the Thirteenth Convention. Hope that your actions will bring improvements to the workingmen of that trade. Long live the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Workers of Weinstein Bros.,
Joe Weinstein, Shop Chairman.

The Scottish Rite Temple, Philadelphia.

Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia.
Accept our best wishes and great hopes for betterment of conditions.
EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL 38,
Harry Hilfman, Secretary.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Bldg., Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia.
The strikers of Woolf & Schulhof send their greetings to the delegates of the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, and sincerely trust that same will mark a new era of redemption for the workers in the ladies' garment industry.

ALFREDO CONSIGLIO.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.
Best congratulations and successful future wishes of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Local 67, of Toledo.

S. STRULOVITS, Secretary.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

I. L. O. W. U., 154 Broad Street, Philadelphia.

Fraternal greetings, wishing you success in your deliberations.

JOHN J. JENNINGS
and Staff, Jersey City Office, Cloak Makers' Union.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Accept our heartiest greetings to this historic convention. We appreciate the tremendous work the International did for us last year. Hope you will continue organizing women.

BOSTON WAIST MAKERS, LOCAL 49.

The Delegates of the Thirteenth Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings: Feeling that you are summing up the highest balance in the history of the International, we are hereby wishing you the best success, and we are confident in your enterprise aimed for the welfare of our members you will achieve the happy moment of social justice and economic equality.

CLOAK OPERATORS' UNION,
Local No. 1, H. Fried and B. N. Rubin, Secretaries.

B. Schlesinger, Philadelphia.

Our heartiest welcome to the delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your work be crowned with success. Long life to our International Ladies' Garment workers' Union.

EMPLOYEES OF A. WEISS & SONS,
Max Feinberg, Shop Chairman.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

We congratulate you upon the steadily increasing circle of our International. Let our success in the past serve you as a torchlight in the future.

CLOAK PRESSERS' UNION,
Local No. 36, A. E. Kazan, Secretary.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings from the thousands of tailors of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. May all your battles and victories.

District Council No. 2, of Philadelphia.
S. Gillis, Secretary.


Accept my best wishes for our Thirteenth Convention.

HYMAN HURWITZ.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Accept our heartiest greetings to our Thirteenth Convention. Wish you luck and success.

BOSTON PRESSERS, LOCAL 12.

B. Schlesinger, I. L. O. W. U., Scottish Rite Temple, Philadelphia.

Accept my heartiest congratulations and wish you success in your future undertakings.

MAX BERNSTEIN,
Ex. Joint Board Delegate of Local 17.

Delegates of Thirteenth Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings: We wish you all a hearty success. May all your deliberations lead to higher and better ideals to be crowned with fruitful results.

Yours fraternally.
Children's Dressmakers' Union, Local 50, of New York.


We wish you success. Strive to abolish the system of the deceitful exploitation of the working class.

Jewish Branch, Sixteenth Assembly District.

I. L. O. W. U., Broad and Race Streets.

Our hearty greetings to your Thirteenth Convention. Organize and erect your Unions as strong as rocks and they will stand any weather.

BRANCH 81, WORKMEN'S CIRCLE,
M. Katzman, Secretary.


Heartiest congratulations for your Thirteenth Convention. Trust your deliberations will bring success.

CLOAK MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 56.
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Committee, continued the report as follows:

"We have received a protest against the seating of Peter Lucausi, as a delegate of Local 25, on the grounds that after he had been elected as a delegate to this Convention, he had violated the laws of the Union by working on Sunday at the IUH Costume Company. This brother having applied at the office for permission to work, was refused, and ignored the orders of his officers and went to work anyway. The facts of this case were admitted by the member, who pleaded that it was necessary for him to work on Sunday in order that he may not lose his position. The Committee is of the opinion that there is no excuse acceptable for a violation of this nature by a member who, as a delegate to a convention ought to set an example to others. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Peter Lucausi shall not be seated as a delegate."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate LaPorta stated that this case was similar to Delegate Freedman’s and he hoped the same action would be taken.

President Schlossingor in discussing the matter said that the cases were not analogous; that in the Freedman case the man was prohibited from holding office for two years and after the time expired was elected as a delegate, but that in the present case after the man was elected he committed the offense.

Delegate Ninio spoke against the report of the committee and stated that Lucausi was an active member of Local 25 for the past five years and had worked hard among the Italian element. He stated that in order to hold his position and to do picket work on Monday morning, he was compelled to do the work on Sunday.

Delegate Bernstein, Local 9, spoke in favor of the report of the committee, and stated that Lucausi had violated the rules of the organization, and had worked overtime and on Sunday without permission from his local union, and that it would be establishing a bad precedent for the convention to allow him a seat in the convention.

Delegate Shapiro, Local 25, discussed the question. She said that Mr. Lucausi was an active member of the local and always attended the shop meetings; that she had never heard any objections against Mr. Lucausi, although she was a member of the Executive Board. She urged that Mr. Lucausi be seated as a delegate.

Delegate Gorenstein discussed the question, and spoke against the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Luigi, Local 25, in discussing the question, stated that Lucausi was compelled to do the special work on Sunday, referred to in the committee’s report, because of the hard work he did during the strike, and he did not favor the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Brodfield objected to the report of the committee, and suggested that Lucausi was always ready to do his part for the cause of labor when called upon, and that his past record was a remarkable one.

Delegate Fanny Cohen, in discussing the question, stated that the question was not one of race, but a question of principle; that every delegate should live up to the rules and regulations of the International, but that in this case, owing to his past record, she was in favor of the delegate being seated.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Committee: I wish to state that when the Credential Committee received the protest of Local 25 we were informed that the offenses took place only recently; it was during the month of September. He appealed to the office for permission to work on that day and was refused, and it is also true that he was allowed pay for the time he lost as a picket, so there was no necessity for his working, and furthermore that we awaited the action of the local before we rendered any decision.

Mr. Lucausi was granted the privilege of the floor and in discussing his case said that he had always been an active member of the local and had made many sacrifices; that he had been out of employment for sixteen months because the employers had put him on the blacklist. He spoke of his work among the Italian element in the various factories where he had been employed. He said that he had been told to report for
picket work on Monday and that it was necessary for him to do the work on Sunday in order to hold his place.

The motion to concur in the report of the committee was lost, and Delegate Licanski was seated.

Brother Epstein continued:

"We find upon investigation that Louis Horowitz, of Local 53, Philadelphia, is not eligible as a delegate, as he had not been a continuous member of the International for two years. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Louis Horowitz shall not be seated as a delegate."

A motion was made and seconded that the recommendation of the committee be concurred in.

The motion was carried, and the local instructed to send its alternate.

"We have received a protest against the seating of Benjamin Horn, as a delegate of Local 56, of Boston, on the grounds that he is morally unfit to represent the I. L. G. W. U."

"The Committee was informed by our President, Benjamin Schlesinger, that recent events in the City of Boston in connection with the conduct of the office of the Union, and the disclosure of the actions of the business agents of the Joint Board, in conjunction with a so-called "strong arm" squad, made it necessary for the Joint Board to close the offices of the Union in order to eliminate the business agents.

"The facts as they were brought out before the Committee, are briefly stated as follows:

"That Boston has for a long time been afflicted with a small number of cloakmakers, who, when inspired by an overindulgence in the use of fiery spirits, become imbued with a desire to interfere with the orderly conduct of business, dictate to the officers, and intimidate the membership; that Benjamin Horn, acting in the capacity of business agent, was influenced by the rowdy element to the extent that he became a willing tool in their hands, and by his general actions did not perform the duties appertaining to his office, to the best interests of the Union.

"The Committee had before it all the delegates from the various locals of Boston, most of whom testified as to their knowledge of the case. A copy of a circular that was distributed in Boston was presented to the Committee, which informed the members that they were no longer to deal with the business agents and stating the reasons for closing the office of the Union. This circular was signed by Abraham Rosenberg, as Organizer of the International.

"Brother Abraham Rosenberg also stated before the Committee what he knew of the situation in Boston, and while not making any direct accusations against Brother Horn, intimated by his general remarks that Brother Horn was not morally qualified to represent the labor movement in the City of Boston.

"The Committee finds that while no specific case of malfeasance, or misconduct, on the part of Benjamin Horn, has been produced before the Committee, that the action of the Joint Board of Boston in closing the offices of the Union, was founded upon substantial facts, which cannot but reflect upon the character of the business agents.

"The Committee, therefore, recommends that Benjamin Horn shall not be seated as a delegate."

Delegate Rosenberg, Local No. 1, spoke at some length about the conditions in Boston, and expressed his opinion that Mr. Horn should be seated as a delegate.

Delegate Lieberman, Local 26, discussed the question in a general way, and suggested that either Delegate Rosenberg should be unseated or Mr. Horn should be seated as a delegate.

Delegate Wiener moved to close debate.

The motion was seconded and carried, with the proviso that any delegate from Boston desiring to speak on the subject could do so.

Mr. Horn addressed the convention at length in his own behalf.

Delegate Posen, Boston, spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

Delegate Berman spoke at some length in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

The motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee was carried unanimously, and Mr. Horn was not seated in the convention.

"We have received a protest against the seating of Mike Ginsberg, as a delegate of the Joint Board of Boston on the grounds that this member had worked during a strike at the Columbia Skirt Company, in that city, about four years ago, and had refused to quit when requested to do so by the pickets and by officers of the Union.

"After full investigation of the facts, and
upon the admission of Brother Mike Ginsberg that he did act in the capacity of a strike breaker, the Committee recommends that Mike Ginsberg shall not be seated as a delegate."

Delegate Wiener moved that the recommendation of the committee be concurred in. (Seconded.)

Delegate Cohen, Local 78, stated that he had found Mr. Ginsberg to be a full-fledged union man, in fact, one of the most active in the organization; that he was responsible for the upbuilding of the Boston local and should be seated as a delegate.

Delegate Sharkowitz spoke against the recommendation of the committee.

Upon motion, debate was closed.

The motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee that the delegate from the Boston Joint Board be not seated, was carried unanimously.

"We have received protests against the seating of Julius Woolf, A. Padover and Myer Rubin as delegates of Local No. 1, and also against Nathan Pink, as an alternate of Local No. 1. The Committee having made careful investigation, finds that there is not sufficient grounds to reject these brothers as delegates, and have recommended their being seated.

The Committee has also examined the books, accounts and financial reports of the General Office for the period beginning May 1, 1914, and ending September 16, 1916, and have found them to be correct.

"The Committee finds one item of expenditure of which no satisfactory explanation has been made: Voucher No. 2947—payable to Dr. Isaac A. Hourwich for the sum of $200 on account of special services and consultation.

"The Committee desires to call the attention of the Convention to the fact that while the Credentials Committee, appointed by the General Executive Board, is required to audit the books and accounts of the General Office, and to make a complete report to the Convention, we find that to comply with the technical construction of the law, and make a thorough examination and audit, would require considerably more time than is allotted to the Committee, in view of the fact that the audit is for a period of two years, and entails an examination of thousands of items of income and disbursements.

Realizing, however, that the necessity of a thorough audit of the financial accounts of the International Union, and with a view of impressing its importance upon this convention, and with the double object in mind, of relieving the Credential Committee of the responsibility, and the establishing of a method whereby the financial accounts may be audited with a proper degree of efficiency, and in order that a periodical control and check upon all receipts and expenditures may be had the Committee recommends as follows:

That the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. be so amended, that the Credential Committee will be relieved of the duties of auditing the financial accounts and that a com-
committee. Five members shall be elected by the convention to be known as an Auditing Committee, who shall be empowered to engage a certified Public Accountant to audit the books, accounts and financial records of the General Office. Such audits to be rendered to the Auditing Committee, who shall meet quarterly and act upon same. The Auditing Committee to render a report to the next Convention.

The Committee also calls attention of the Convention to the fact that several locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have not paid the assessment levied in 1913 for the Philadelphia and St. Louis strikes, and refers this matter to the convention for suitable action.

Fraternally submitted,

ISIDORE EPSTEIN,
Chairman.

LOUIS LAUGER,
Secretary.

MORRIS DEITCH,
S. SEIDMAN,
HARRY SCHOOLMAN,
M. IRISHKIN,
S. LABENBOHN,
Credential Committee.

Delegate Hyman: I move that the last recommendation of the committee on auditing be referred to the Committee on Law and Constitution. (Seconded.)

A delegate asked how the $200 had been spent.

Chairman Epstein: The committee has gone over every voucher in the files in the general office and the vouchers that call for the disbursement of certain sums have been investigated. The information was obtained from the secretary or others in the office and all questions were answered satisfactorily, with the exception of this one.

President Schlesinger: The President will answer at his own discretion.

The motion made by Delegate Hyman was carried.

President Schlesinger: As to the statement of the committee about the $200 that was not satisfactorily explained, I would say it was paid to Dr. Hourwich on account of special services rendered. Comrade Morris Hillquit and I have had to have three consultations with Dr. Hourwich during the lockout and general strike in New York. I don't think it is necessary to go into the details of this matter. It was in reference to the strike and the bill was sent by Dr. Hourwich for $200, which was paid.

A motion was made that this expenditure be approved. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

Vice-President Pierce: I move that the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted as a whole.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously, and the report of the Credentials Committee as a whole, as amended, was accepted.

Vice-President Amdur moved that the thanks of the convention be extended to the Credentials Committee for the good and valuable services rendered. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

President Schlesinger: As the Credentials Committee is now through with its report, I take great pleasure in opening the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and I declare this convention open and ready for business.

Mr. Jacob Panken, of New York, counsel for a number of locals affiliated with the international organization, was introduced to the delegates, and was warmly welcomed.

Mr. Panken, in addressing the delegates, said in part: I am grateful this afternoon in a double capacity, first, for the opportunity that I was accorded to address the convention by your General Executive Board, and grateful to the convention for the reception you have given me, and also grateful to your President for the warm words in which he referred to me. I did not think that I had the influence that Bro. Schlesinger has spoken of. I don't think we individuals have an influence on others, excepting that the influence is interchangeable. We all exert an influence upon one another, but every influence we exert on another is simply because of the fact that others exert that influence upon us. To make myself clear, no man can really be of any service to a community, to an institution, to an organization, unless there is on the part of that institution, that organization, that community, a reciprocal influence.
In speaking of his work among the immigrants, Mr. Panken said: "This work has been successful largely because of the fact that the men and women that constitute the organizations such as the International Ladies' Garment Workers have responded to our appeal, responded to our methods. It has been said that those who come to those shores from other lands, on the other side of the Atlantic were a menace to American institutions and a menace to the American standards of life. I deny that. I dispute it. The immigrants who came to this shore in 1882 and the increase in immigration that started somewhere in the nineties and the beginning of the twentieth century have had a good effect upon the conditions and the standard of life of the American workmen and have tended to the improvement and benefit of American workmen because these immigrants who have come have brought with them new ideals, they have brought the new spirit, they have brought the rebellious spirit of the other side to those shores.

I feel that this movement of ours has a body, that it has a soul; it is not merely materialistic, but this movement of ours has a spiritual and ethical side. One night during the car strike in New York I went up to Fifth Avenue at about 8 o'clock and I found about 10,000 people on each block from Twenty-eighth street to Thirty-eighth street; there were probably in all a hundred thousand men and women. And when I looked at their faces I recognized a great many of them. There were trucks there, improvised with straps, and the girls who worked at the machines from early morning until sunset that night, the girls who stood on their feet with the irons in their hands, the girls who stood at the tables examining all day, the girls whose wages were not sufficient to pay for the actual needs of existence, those girls were on Fifth Avenue waiting for some truck, for some moving van, for some furniture wagon in order to get up on that van and hang to the straps, to board it at Thirty-eighth street and ride all the way to the end of the Bronx. They refused to ride on cars operated by scab drivers and those girls were willing to give 25 cents of their $2.50 in payment for their fare up to their homes, because they felt the soul of the trade union movement, because they felt the spiritual and ethical side of the trade union movement; because they knew that they did belong to the union merely to get more bread, because they knew that they did not belong to the union merely to get another waist or another skirt; because they know they were in this movement as members of the working class, because they realized and appreciated the soul of the movement.

In closing, Mr. Panken said: Your organization has many victories to its credit. I want to be a part of you. I don't belong to your trade, I don't work in your shops, but I want to be a part of you. I want to be a part of your body, I want to be a part of your soul. I want to feel with you, and I want you to feel with me. I want to be possessed of the same psychology, I want to be influenced by the same ideals, for there is nothing in life worth living for unless it is the struggle of the working class from the ground upward; there is nothing in life worth living for other than those ideals in the labor movement which hold out to the future of a human race a noble and a beautiful world. I want to be able to picture in the future a world in which the brotherhood of man will really exist.

Delegate Louis Langer moved that the thanks of the Convention be extended to Comrade Panken for his very able address. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

President Schlesinger read the following list of committees:

**SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS OF CONVENTION.**
- George Rubin, Local No. 2
- Samuel Chancer, Local No. 11
- Henry Krakoff, Local No. 17

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.**
- Saul Metz, Local No. 35, Chairman
- M. Rubin, Local No. 1
- Louis Hyman, Local No. 9
- Elmer Rosenberg, Local No. 10
- Sarah Cesar, Local No. 35
- Isaac Passor, Local No. 24
- Luigi Antonini, Local No. 25
- Anna H. Cavanagh, Local No. 40
- Anna Thomas, Local No. 49

**COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.**
- Max Amdur, Local No. 2, Chairman
- John C. Ryan, Local No. 10
- Wm. Barcan, Local No. 10
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

No. 11; Louis Bograd, Local No. 14; D. Nisnawits, Local No. 17; Max Brodfield, Local No. 23; Miss Grace Osburn, Local No. 33; M. Goldofsky, Local No. 35; Chas. Green, Joint Board of Cincinnati; Henry Zunker, Local No. 41; Miss Lena Germain, Local No. 65.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Jesse P. Cohen, Local No. 10, Chairman; Henry D. Cohen, Local No. 7; Oscar Stein, Local No. 21; I. Rubeschan, Local No. 23; Max Marquis, Local No. 30; H. Labinsky, Local No. 35; Henry Dessel, Local No. 64; N. Rofael, Local No. 66; Louis Wichter, Joint Board of New York.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Samuel Lefkowitz, Local No. 3, Chairman; S. Sapin, Local No. 1; M. Edelman, Local No. 9; M. Edelman, Local No. 10; J. Heller, Local No. 17; A. Taylor, Local No. 19; Miss Sarah Shapiro, Local No. 25; J. Breslauer, Local No. 35; Louis Friend, Local No. 67; Miss Rose Ledman, Local No. 89.

COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Abraham Rosenberg, Local No. 1, Chairman; A. Goldstein, Local No. 1; Morris Weiner, Local No. 3; Philip Berman, Local No. 9; M. Cornstein, Local No. 10; J. Heller, Local No. 17; A. Taylor, Local No. 19; Miss Sarah Shapiro, Local No. 25; J. Breslauer, Local No. 35; Louis Friend, Local No. 67; Miss Rose Ledman, Local No. 89.

COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORT.

Sitas Lieberman, Local No. 25, Chairman; Samuel J. Ringer, Local No. 1; B. Fenster, Local No. 3; M. Kovinsky, Local No. 9; Samuel Martin, Local No. 10; J. Kimbarchofsky, Local No. 35; B. Mallof, Local No. 44; A. Snyder, Joint Board of Philadelphia; Harry Wander, Local No. 23.

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Sitas Lieberman, Local No. 25, Chairman; Samuel J. Ringer, Local No. 1; B. Fenster, Local No. 3; M. Kovinsky, Local No. 9; Samuel Martin, Local No. 10; J. Kimbarchofsky, Local No. 35; B. Mallof, Local No. 44; A. Snyder, Joint Board of Philadelphia; Harry Wander, Local No. 23.

COMMITTEE ON EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL NATIONS AND RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS IN THE WAR-STRICKEN COUNTRIES.

Max Sterling, Local No. 1, Chairman; J. Wertheimer, Local No. 3; Rubin Bernstein, Local No. 9; A. Goldin, Local No. 17; A. Gold, Local No. 44; Salvatore Nino, Local No. 48; Miss Mollie Lifshitz, Local No. 62; Miss Becky Stein, Local No. 69; R. Friedman, Local No. 78.

COMMITTEE ON LABEL.

S. Goldofsky, Joint Board of Toronto, Chairman; J. P. Cohen, Local No. 10; B. Prisampt, Local No. 25; M. Goosen, Local No. 25; Miss Mary Gould, Local No. 32; T. R. Hackert, Local No. 34; E. J. Cavanagh, Local No. 38; Abraham Bernstein, Local No. 56; Max Stern, Local No. 81.

COMMITTEE ON LAW.

John F. Pierce, Local No. 34, Chairman; P. Kottler, Local No. 1; Morris Deltech, Local No. 35; Louis Langer, Local No. 35; Alfredo La Porta, Local No. 48; Miss Pannie M. Cohn, Local No. 50; M. Perelstein, Joint Board of Cleveland.

PRESS COMMITTEE.

Isidor Epstein, Local No. 10; M. Sandler, Local No. 69; Louis Langer, Local No. 35; Jacob Lawner, Local No. 8; S. Feldman, Local No. 25.

COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORT.

Sitas Lieberman, Local No. 25, Chairman; Samuel J. Ringer, Local No. 1; B. Fenster, Local No. 3; M. Kovinsky, Local No. 9; Samuel Martin, Local No. 10; J. Kimbarchofsky, Local No. 35; B. Mallof, Local No. 44; A. Snyder, Joint Board of Philadelphia; Harry Wander, Local No. 23.

Upon motion, the appointment of the various committees was confirmed.


Organizer Nellegar said in part: As your President has announced, I represent the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, and like yourselves we have a label or watermark. You hear from time to time through your trade journals and through the advice of your international officers of the obligations what every worker owes to the other.

There is no organization that demands the patronage of goods with their label more than the garment workers, and yet I find that in some cases they have disregarded their obligation to their fellow trade unions. It is not my intention at the present time to censure you, as I think perhaps the neglect to patronize paper with a watermark has
been an oversight on the part of some of your local unions.

Mr. Nellegar said he had two letterheads of local unions that did not bear the watermark and he presented a resolution to the President, requesting that it be read to the delegates and concurred in by them.

President Schlesinger thanked Mr. Nellegar and suggested that the resolution would be turned over to the proper committee for action.

At five o'clock P. M. the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9 o'clock A. M. Wednesday, October 18, 1916.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.


The convention was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M. Wednesday, October 18th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Haroff read the following telegrams:

To the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers of America, the Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Comrades: We are all with you. Yours for socialism.
JEWISH BRANCH, S. P.
Buffalo, N. Y.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.
Accept our heartiest congratulations. We are always with you for the best of the working class.
JEWISH BRANCH, S. P.
Washington, D. C.

Accept our heartiest congratulations. You have the blessing of the great masses in our industry.
WHITE GOODS WORKERS' UNION,
Local 62.

Vice-President Pierce asked the privilege of the floor and stated that about four weeks ago a strike broke out in the factory of the Bay City Corset Company, of Springfield. He said that the girls in that factory had been organized for about one year and it was found that a number of employees of the factory did not walk out when the strike was called. Vice-President Pierce stated that the girls had made vigorous endeavors to have all the employees to join the union but were unsuccessful, and finally the demand was made upon the firm that unless the girls were forced to leave the factory they would refuse to work any longer and would declare a strike.

Vice-President Pierce gave a further history of the case, and stated that the strikers were badly in need of financial assistance; that they had received donations from various sources, but had only called upon the International Union in the last four weeks for $200. He said that among the strikers were a number of young girls and married women with children dependent upon them and that he had just received a telegram saying that in order to complete the payments for this current week the sum of $500 was needed, and made a motion that a committee be appointed by the convention to investigate the matter and report back to the convention immediately, and that it bring in a resolution endorsing the strike, both financially and morally. (Seconded.)

Vice-President Amour: I move as an amendment that the matter be referred to the resolutions committee. (Seconded.)

Vice-President Pierce stated that the money was needed immediately and that his request was for a special committee, so that the matter could be acted upon at once.

Delegate Martin discussed the matter briefly and stated that as immediate action was necessary, he was in favor of the original motion.

The amendment was voted on and lost. The original motion to appoint a special committee was carried.

President Schlesinger introduced to the delegates James H. Maurer, President of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

President Maurer made an interesting address. He urged upon the delegates the danger of the passage of State Constabulary laws, stating that in the near future the fifth edition of a book of 150 pages, giving the history of the State Constabulary, would be ready for distribution. Any one desiring a copy of same could secure it by sending his address to the Pennsylvania State Federation. President Maurer stated that at any time he could be of service in assisting the organization to defeat any bill along that line that might come before the Legislature he would be very glad to appear before the legislative, Senate or House committee, without cost to the local organizations.

Mr. Maurer also urged upon the delegates the importance of class-conscious deliberation among the workers; and that they should have in mind but one thing, the uplift and protection of the working class, and that petty jealousies should be left outside. He stated that even among the workers the tendency was toward the psychology of the capitalist, and that the organized groups being so small compared to the unorganized, it was very hard to develop psychology in accordance with the economic interests of the working classes. Mr. Maurer said that he had been in the labor movement for thirty-six years, and compared conditions at the time he joined the movement and now. He stated that at that time, when the Mollie Maguires were hung, the labor movement had no press, but at this time labor was accorded the weapon of the press, and could reach every corner of the country. He impressed upon the delegates the fact that they should patronize labor papers and not give their sanction to the capitalist press; that in his opinion no man should be allowed to hold membership in a local unless he would subscribe to at least one daily labor paper and a few weekly papers.

President Maurer made an impressive statement as to the effect of the high cost of living; that the price of food products, such as meat, potatoes and bread, were almost prohibitive, and that coal was demanding a price that the working people could not reach. He stated that at this time, although coal was mined with modern machinery, its cost was 150 per cent. higher than in the days when it was mined with the pick and shovel. He stated that when the laboring people ask for an increase in wages, the government informs them that the employer cannot afford to pay more, as it would make inroads in his profits, but when they ask for cheaper commodities in order that they may live, they are told that the government cannot interfere with a man's private business. He asked the cooperation of the delegates in endeavoring to prevent the exportation of food products to the warring nations of Europe, as the only means of rectifying the conditions existing in this country, as he had described them.

In closing, President Maurer requested the convention to pass a resolution favoring an old age pension law. He stated that either a State or Federal law would have the same effect, and that such law should cover the granting of an old age pension and also a pension to all persons incapacitated because of occupational diseases. He also spoke of the necessity for more rigid child labor laws for the State of Pennsylvania, which would prevent the parents from exploiting their children.

Upon motion of Delegate Fenster, a rising vote of thanks was tendered President Maurer for his able and interesting address.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

Delegate Epstein reported that the committee had received the credentials of William Green, Joint Board of Cincinnati, in place of Benjamin Plider; also the credentials of James B. Hookins, Local 53, Philadelphia, in place of Louis Horowitz.

Upon motion, the delegates were seated. Vice-President Pierce in the chair.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD.

President Schlesinger commenced the reading of the report, printed copies of which were distributed to the delegates. At 12 o'clock, the reading of the report was postponed until the afternoon session.
Louis Schleifer, of Local No. 720, Street
Railway Men of New York, asked the
privilege of the floor, which was granted
after Vice-President Pierce read the cre-
dentials which he presented.

Mr. Schleifer informed the delegates that
he was one of a committee representing the
car strikers of all of the locals of New York,
and asked permission to pass through the
audience and take up a collection to assist
the striking street car men of that city.

A motion was made and seconded that
the committee be allowed to take up a col-
clection.

Delegate Ringer moved as an amendment
that the request of the street car men be re-
tered to the resolutions committee to bring
in a report.

The amendment was declared out of
order.

Delegate Silberman offered as an amend-
ment that the convention donate the car
strike $100.

The amendment was declared out of order.

The motion, that the committee of street
car men be allowed to take up a collection,
was carried.

The committee, assisted by several dele-
gates, passed through the audience.

President Schlesinger appointed the fol-
lowing committee to act on the Springfield
strike case, which was notified to go into
session immediately:

Secretary Baroff, Vice-President Metz.
Local 35; Delegate Fadover, Local 1; Dele-
gate Levine, Local 2; Delegate Bernstein.
Local 35; Delegate Silverman, Local 28;
Delegate Blackett, Local 34.

The women delegates were requested to
meet immediately upon adjournment, for
the purpose of having a photograph taken.

After the announcement of committee
meetings, the convention was adjourned at
12:30 to reconvene at 2 p.m. of the same
day.

THIRD DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.
The convention was called to order at 2
o'clock p.m., President Schlesinger in the
chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.
Secretary Baroff read the following com-
munications:

Mr. B. Schlesinger,
President, Thirteenth Convention I. L. G.
Accept our congratulations to the officers
and delegates to the Thirteenth Convention
of our International Union.

WORKERS OF SCHRAM & FORSCH.

B. Schlesinger,
Accept our heartiest congratulations to the
Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.
EMPLOYEES OF A. SCHNEIDER,
17 W. 17th St., New York.

International Garment Workers’ Conven-
tion, Philadelphia, Pa.
Congratulations to you delegates and of-
ficers in your great effort to unite all gar-
ment workers into one great union.

JEWISH SOCIALIST FEDERATION,
Max Lulow, Secretary.

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Conven-
tion, Philadelphia, Pa.
The Cutters’ Local, No. 73, of Boston, ex-
tends its best wishes to the delegates of the
Thirteenth Annual Convention of the I. L.
G. W. U. and hopes for a successful solution
of the most vital problems that ever came
up before a convention of the International.
WHITE, Chairman.

Benjamin Schlesinger,
Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Our heartiest congratulations to all dele-
gates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention.
We hope good spirit will prevail and your
harmonious work and deliberations will help
elevate the members of the I. L. G. W. U. to
higher standards and more intellectual life.
Three cheers for our president, Schlesinger.
Employees of the Star Ladies’ Tailoring Co.
New York, Oct. 18, 1918.
Chairman and Delegates,
Scottish Rite Hall.
Best wishes to Thirteenth Convention.
Let your work be crowned with success.
Rutin Board, Local 67, I. 0. W. U.

New York, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1918.
May your deliberations mark an epoch in the advancement of organized labor in the United States and Canada.
ANDREW WENNER, Secy.-Treas., International Fur Workers' Union, United States and Canada.

New York, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1918.
Accept our hearty congratulations to the opening of the Thirteenth Convention.
We hope that this Convention will give the labor movement an example of solidarity.
Button Hole Makers' Union, Local 58.
JACOB UREN.

New York, Oct. 18, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia.
Greetings to the delegates. May your efforts in behalf of the workers be crowned with success.
Joint Board, Furriers' Union, New York.

Thirteenth Biennial Convention, Philadelphia.
Greetings: Regret we cannot be represented. Remember the thousands of unorganized ladies' tailors and dressmakers of Philadelphia. May your deliberations bring improvements to the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union, Local 66, of Philadelphia.

New York, Oct. 18, 1918.
The organized cap makers and millinery workers extend their heartfelt greetings to the officers and delegates to your Convention. May the splendid record of your organization for the past year encourage you to further activity for the benefit of your membership and the welfare of the entire labor movement.
M. ZUCKERMAN.

New York, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1918.
Accept our heartyest greetings to the Thirteenth Convention. Success to your good work.
Pressers' Branch of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 35.
HENRY TEK, Secretary.

Convention I. L. O. W., Philadelphia.
Greetings to you, men of labor. Wish you success in your good work. Striving for emancipation of the working class.
Branch 273, Workmen's Circle, Philadelphia.

New York, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1918.
Benjamin Schlesinger, President.
Accept our heartiest congratulations for the wonderful work conducted by your splendid organization in improving and enforcing human conditions in every branch of our great industry. Let victory and success crown all your future undertakings.
Business Agents of Mr. Wiener's Dept. of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, New York City.

NATIONAL WORKMEN'S COMMITTEE ON JEWISH RIGHTS,
175 East Broadway,
New York City.
October 18, 1918.
To the Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Greeting: The National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights directs me to convey to your assemblage our best greetings and sincerest congratulations.
Our committee was organized for the sole purpose of promoting the idea and work of Jewish emancipation the world over. Our activities were spurred on and intensified by the bloody consequences of the great tragedy that is ravaging the nations of Europe. It demonstrated to the entire world the depth of the helplessness and sufferings of the Jews in all countries where human rights are denied to them. Hundreds and thousands of Jewish soldiers are heroically fighting on the bloody fields of Russia, Galicia and Roumania, while, behind these very fighting lines their families and kin are ruthlessly driven and persecuted.
The first task of our committee was to sound the call for help among organized labor of the United States. The American Federation of Labor as well as the Socialist
party responded magnificently to our call. Upon this occasion we wish to record the fact that the organizations connected with your International Union have contributed strongly to the success we have achieved in arousing the great public opinion of America to the fate of our brethren in Europe.

Sisters and Brothers, the mad carnage in Europe is still on. The sufferings of our kin and brothers in the devastated lands is daily increasing in volume and intensity. It is high time for us to come to their aid and to arouse the liberty and freedom loving minds of the world to the effect that the Jews who have so nobly proved their devotion to the lands of their birth and adoption should be granted full equal civil, national and political rights wherever these essential human rights are denied to them.

National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights,

Dr. Max Goldfarb, Secretary.

Delegate Rosenberg, Boston: I move that the telegram from the National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights be referred to the Committee on Equal rights. (Seconded and carried.)

Delegate Heller, Local 17, was granted the privilege of the floor, and after a short statement introduced the following resolution:

Whereas, Brother Morris O. Leader was active in our movement for over a quarter of a century, both as paid and unpaid official; and

Whereas, his sickness, to our regret, prevents him from being present at this, our Thirteenth Convention; be it therefore, Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union expresses its regret at Brother Leader's absence and hopes to see him back again in our Movement, ready and able to defend the cause of our members as he has heretofore done; and, be it further Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention send a telegram to Brother M. O. Leader in the sense and spirit of this resolution.

S. Saplin, S. Lefkovits, Local 3,
Samuel J. Ringor, Local 1,
S. Haiman, Local 25,
Max Brodfield, Local 23,
Samuel Martin, Local 10,
M. Zeitz, Local 62,
Dudel Nisnevitz, Local 17,
J. Heller, Local 17,
Raphael Fisler, Local 17,
Henry Krukowski, Local 17,
Abraham Paszin, Local 17,
S. Kowlesby, Local 3.

Delegate Martin: I move the adoption of the resolution and that it be embodied in the regular minutes of the proceedings, and that the Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to send a telegram today to Brother Leader embodying the sense of the resolution. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

President Schlesinger in introducing Miss Mary E. Dreier, of the New York Women's Trade Union League, said: Miss Dreier has done wonderful work, not only in our industry, and is known not only to the members of our industry but to the workers throughout the country, and particularly to the women workers. I think she has done more to elevate the women workers in this country than any other person that I know of.

In speaking, Miss Dreier gave a short history of the cloak makers' strike in New York, especially insofar as it affected the children and babies. She said that 200,000 quarts of milk had been distributed by the League in six weeks of that strike, but that this was entirely inadequate. She stated that they were only able to distribute milk to children under five years of age, and that the deficiency was caused by lack of funds. She urged the advisability of putting in cooperative stores, so that a greater amount of food could be obtained than from an individual. She stated that it was impossible during the time of a strike to buy enough food for three dollars to feed a family of father and mother and three children for one week, unless commissary stores were established. She praised highly the work done by the cloak makers in New York, Chicago and other places.

Miss Dreier spoke of the medical department established by the League in New York, and the wonderful work being done by the medical clinic established by one of the New York locals of the Garment Workers, and urged that this work be extended. She also spoke in favor of establishing a health insurance department for the workers and their families, in order that they might have expert medical advice when needed, at a minimum cost.

She congratulated the convention on the number of women delegates present and expressed pleasure at the fact that the last convention of the Garment Workers passed a resolution endorsing woman suffrage and asked for the support of the delegates of
New York State in the 1917 campaign, when the subject would again come before the Legislature, Miss Dreier requested that the convention instruct the unions of New York State to help women to get the franchise.

Delegate Martin: I move that the matter of woman suffrage as referred to by our guest, Miss Dreier, be made a matter of record for the Resolution Committee to take up and refer back to this convention for action. (Seconded and carried by unanimous vote.)

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SPRINGFIELD STRIKE.

Secretary Haroff, for the committee, reported that the committee recommended that the $500 requested be sent to the local, and that later the best manner of conducting the strike would be determined.

Upon motion of Delegate Flasser, duly seconded, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Vice-President Pierce in the chair.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Delegate Henry D. Cohen, Secretary of the committee, reported as follows:

"Mr. Chairman and Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

"We herewith submit for your approval the following rules and regulations by which the Convention shall be guided:

"Rule No. 1. The Convention shall be called to order at 9:30 A.M., and remain in session until 12:30. Convene at 2 P.M. and remain in session until 5:30 P.M., except on Saturday, on which day the session shall be from 9:30 A.M. to 12:30."

Upon motion, the report of the committee was adopted as read.

"Rule No. 2. If a delegate, while speaking, be called to order, he shall, at the request of the Chair, take his seat until the question of order is decided."

Upon motion, the report of the committee was adopted as read.

"Rule No. 3. Should two or more delegates rise to speak at the same time, the Chair shall decide who is entitled to the floor."

The report of the committee was adopted as read.

"Rule No. 4. No delegate shall interrupt another in his remarks except it he be called to a point of order."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted as read.

"Rule No. 5. A delegate shall not speak more than once upon a question until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity to do so."

Upon motion, the report of the committee was adopted as read.

"Rule No. 6. A delegate shall not speak more than once on the same question without permission from the Convention."

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 7. Speeches shall be limited to five minutes, but the time of speaking may be extended by vote of the Convention."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Hyman, Local 25, objected to the report of the committee on the ground that important questions could not always be covered in five minutes.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, objected to the recommendation of the committee, and moved that the committee's report be amended by extending the time to ten minutes.

The amendment was adopted and the report of the committee as amended concurred in.

"Rule No. 8. A motion shall not be open for discussion until it has been seconded and stated from the Chair."

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 9. When a question is pending before the Convention, no motion shall be in order, except to adjourn, to refer, for the previous question, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone for a certain time, to divide or amend, which motions shall have precedence in the order named."

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 10. Motions to lay on the table shall not be debatable except as limited by Roberts' Rules of Order."

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 11. A motion to reconsider shall not be entertained unless made by three dele-
gates who voted in the majority, and shall receive a majority vote.”

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

“Rule No. 12. That the reports of committees shall be subject to amendments and substitutes from the floor of the Convention, the same as the other motions and resolutions.”

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

“Rule No. 13. It shall require at least twelve members to move the previous question.”

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

“Rule No. 14. All resolutions shall bear the signature of the introducer and the title of the organization he represents, and shall be in duplicate.”

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

“Rule No. 15. No motion or resolution shall be voted upon until the mover or introducer has had a chance to speak, if he or she so desires.”

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Vice-President Pierce asked if it meant that if twenty people signed a resolution, that all of them would be heard.

Chairman Cohen, of the committee, spoke in support of the report of the committee, and stated that as a rule only two or three names were signed to a resolution and that it was not probable that twenty people would desire to speak.

Delegate Portnoy offered an amendment that if the maker of a motion has not had a chance to speak on it he will be given the privilege of the floor.

Delegate Hyman: I would like to have it made clear that it be a debatable question, not one that has been laid on the table.

Vice-President Pierce: The chairman so rules. There being no objection, the rule will be amended that after a previous question has been called for, provided the maker of a motion has not had an opportunity to speak upon it, he will be accorded that privilege.

Chairman Cohen stated that where a controversy arose between two locals, a representative from each side should have an opportunity to express his opinion before the vote would be taken.

Delegate Epstein: I make an amendment that the rule of the committee read that no motion, no debate shall be declared closed until the maker of the motion or the author of the resolution, or at least one of the signers shall have the privilege of the floor. (Seconded.)

The amendment was carried and the report of the committee as amended was adopted.

“Rule No. 16. After a previous question has been put and decided upon, the parties involved in the particular question shall be permitted to speak in their own behalf.”

The report of the committee was adopted.

“Rule No. 17. No resolutions shall be received after Monday’s session, October 25th, without unanimous consent of the Convention.”

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, discussed the question and offered as an amendment that no resolution be accepted by the President after 12:30 Saturday. (Seconded.)

Delegate Frazier favored the amendment and moved as an amendment to the amendment that the consent of two-thirds of the convention be secured. (Seconded.)

Delegate Lawner spoke against the amendment to the amendment.

On motion, debate was closed.

The amendment to the amendment was voted on and carried, the motion to amend was carried, and the report of the committee adopted as amended, Rule No. 17 to read: “No resolutions shall be received after Saturday at 12:30 noon, without the consent of two-thirds of the delegates.”

“Rule No. 18. When a roll-call vote has been taken, and all delegates or delegations present have had the opportunity to record their votes, the ballot shall be declared closed.”

The amendment was voted on and carried, the motion to amend was carried, and the report of the committee adopted as amended, Rule No. 18 to read: “When a roll-call ballot has been ordered, no adjournment shall take place until the result has been announced.”

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.
"Rule No. 20. Roberts' Rules shall be the guide on all matters not herein provided."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 21. When a delegate addresses the Convention in any other than the English language, the main points of his remarks shall be interpreted by the chairman or any other delegate appointed by the Chair."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"Rule No. 22. Registration cards shall be furnished by the Convention for each session. Any delegate not registering within thirty minutes after the Convention is called to order shall be marked absent, and list of absentees shall be printed in the daily proceedings."

Vice-President Pierce spoke in opposition to the report of the committee, and said that ten minutes would be enough time to allow the delegates.

Delegate Epstein: I raise a point of order that if the chairman wants to discuss the matter he should vacate the chair.

The point was declared not well taken.

Delegate H. D. Cohen, Secretary of the Committee, suggested that it would take thirty minutes for the delegates to get their cards signed up and in their seats.

Delegate Gorenstein made a motion to accept the recommendation of the committee. (Seconded.)

Delegate Deutch spoke in opposition to the motion.

President Schlesinger spoke in opposition to the report of the committee and suggested that there was no reason why the delegates should not come to the hall at 8 o'clock so that the convention could get down to business by 9:30, and they should also be ready for business at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. He stated that fifteen minutes should give them ample time.

Delegate Epstein asked if a delegate would be excused if he were attending a caucus. Vice-President Pierce stated that a delegate attending a committee, but not a caucus, would be excused.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was lost.

Delegate Deutch moved as an amendment that the delegates be allowed fifteen minutes instead of thirty. (Seconded.)

The motion to amend was carried and the report of the committee as amended was adopted.

"Rule No. 23. Roll-call may be called upon any question at the request of not less than twenty-five delegates."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee. (Seconded.)

Delegate Schoolman, Chicago, moved to amend by providing that ten delegates be sufficient for a roll call. (Seconded.)

Delegate Cohen, Chairman of the Committee: The committee in looking over this question of a roll call has deemed it advisable to make it more than ten, as one local having ten delegates might want to prolong the discussion of a question for hours. We have made it twenty-five so that more than one local would be necessary to call for the previous question.

Delegate Portnoy spoke in favor of the amendment and moved as an amendment to the amendment that the ten delegates must be from three locals. (Seconded.)

Delegate Ryan moved as a substitute for the whole that ten delegates be required for a roll call and that the ten delegates come from five locals.

The amendment to the amendment was carried, and the report of the committee as amended was adopted.

Delegate Cohen, Chairman of the Committee: We have left out the rule in regard to the elections because we believe the convention will follow the rules and orders that have been carried out by past conventions.

Delegate Friend: I move that the manner of carrying on the election of the International Convention which will be held on the last day be referred back to the Rules and Regulations Committee for them to submit their plans, etc., to this convention. (Seconded and carried.)

Delegate Cohen, of the Committee: The main body of the hall shall be reserved for delegates only.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Delegate Cohen, of the Committee, moved the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded, and the report
of the committee was adopted as a whole as amended.

The report was signed:

J. P. COHEN, Chairman.
HENRY D. COHEN, Secretary.
MAX MARQUIS,
I. RUBINBAUM,
H. LUBLINSKY,
HARRY DRESSEL,
LOUIS WICHTER.

Committee.

Vice-President Lefkovits in the chair.

President Schlesinger continued the reading of the officers' reports, which had not been completed at the morning session.

At 5:30 a motion was made to adjourn.

At 5:30 the convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 o'clock a.m., Thursday, October 19th, 1916.

FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 9:45 o'clock A.M., Thursday, October 19th.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Greetings.

We wish to congratulate the delegation of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention and hope that your deliberation in behalf of our great membership will be crowned with success.

WRAPPER, KIMONO & HOUSE DRESS-MAKERS' UNION, Local 41.
I. N. Chatcuff, Secretary.

Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

We congratulate you on your Thirteenth Convention. We wish you success for your future work.

UPHOLSTERERS AND TRIMMERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, Local 77.

Vice-President Amdur in the chair.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

President Schlesinger proceeded with the reading of the officers' reports.

At the completion of the reading of the report the delegates applauded vigorously for several minutes.

President Schlesinger stated that, in accordance with the rules of the constitution, the report would be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports, to be reported upon later.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

Secretary Baroff: My attention has been called to several errors in the financial report. The first is in regard to the salary of Brother Schlesinger. I want to say that I have not gone over this fully, especially the salaries. Brother Schlesinger entered the office after the Cleveland convention and began to draw a salary from June 24th, and according to the report it is May 1st. That is one error. The second is the difference in his salary from the first of May until the 15th of September. I do not know whether this is seven or eight or nine weeks. It was during the time of the strike. The item is put down as $750, while it is less than $500. I will do justice to President Schlesinger and will have the books gone over and then will correct the report.

President Schlesinger during the time of the strike did not receive any salary.

President Schlesinger: I am very sorry to have to read to you a telegram that came unexpectedly. You remember that yesterday Brother Heller, of Local 17, presented as a resolution to this convention that we send a telegram to Brother Leader, of Local 17, who was unable to attend the convention on account of illness, being confined at Mount Sinai Hospital. The convention adopted the resolution and the telegram was accordingly sent expressing our regret at his illness. I have here a telegram from Mrs. Leader, which reads as follows:

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia.

Your kind wishes received too late. My husband, Mr. Leader, passed away at six P.M. yesterday.

MRS. M. G. LEADER.
The delegates arose, and President Schlesinger said: "Mr. Leader was one of the oldest members of our International and a member of the union since it was organized in the year 1899. Let us all rise for the purpose of honoring our dead brother."

Delegate Ringer moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of Mr. Leader. (Seconded, and carried unanimously.)

Delegate Pinkelstein made a motion that a wreath of flowers be sent to the funeral of Brother Leader. (Seconded.)

Delegate Elmer Rosenberg offered an amendment that a committee of five be selected to be sent to the funeral of Brother Leader.

President Schlesinger stated that the motion would read: That a committee of five be appointed to attend to the duty of sending a wreath of flowers to the funeral of Brother Leader. (Seconded, and carried unanimously.)

The chairman appointed the following committee of five: Delegates Fink, Local 1; Rosenberg, Local 2; Delegate Kostan, Local 9; Delegate Fish, Local 10, and Delegate Lifshitz, Local 11.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, stated that the credentials of M. J. Ashpis, Cloak Operators' Union, Local No. 1, New York, had been received, and recommended that they be accepted.

Upon motion Delegate Ashpis was seated in place of Victor Pavlotsky.

Delegate Snyder made a brief statement regarding the strike of the Philadelphia cloak makers in 1913, which was lost after the strike had lasted for twenty-six weeks. He stated that among those most actively engaged were two members of the Picket Committee, Charles Schwartz and Joseph Bober, and also David Gratz; that the three men named had been arrested at that time on the charge of assault and battery, and all three were convicted and sentenced to a term of three years; that these men are serving their sentences, Charles Schwartz and Jos. Bober, in the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, and David Gratz in the State Prison at Trenton, N. J. Delegate Snyder read a resolution, signed by a number of the delegates, extending sympathy to the brothers named.

President Schlesinger stated that the resolution would be referred to the Resolutions Committee for action.

There being no committee ready to report and no further business before the convention, the rules were suspended and the session was adjourned at 10:45 A. M. to reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.

At the close of the morning session the following resolutions were presented:

Resolution No. 1.
Introduced by Vice-President B. Kurland; I. Rosen, Local 24; N. Berman, Local 24; M. Ososky, Local 24; A. Rosenberg, Local 7; A. Herrstein, Local 56; H. Wasserman, Local 56; Wm. Richman, Local 73, and M. Tuchman, Local 12, Boston.

Whereas, The Boston locals, namely: Nos. 12, 24 and 73, are now engaged in a bitter struggle with the M. and C. Skirt Company, of Boston, and

Whereas, Over 350 members of the above mentioned locals are now out on strike for the past six weeks, and

Whereas, The members of these respective locals were assessed heavily to finance this strike, and the treasuries of the locals are depleted, and

Whereas, Financial aid is the only way to bring this strike to a victory for the Union; be it therefore,

Resolved. That this Convention appropriate the sum of $1,000 for the immediate relief of the sufferers of this strike.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 2.
Introduced by Vice-President B. Kurland; O. Posen, N. Berman and M. Ososky, Local 24; A. Rosenberg, Local 7; A. Herrstein and H. Wasserman, Local 56; Wm. Richman, Local 73; M. Tuchman, Local 12.

Whereas, Through the efforts of several ex-officials of the Boston Local Unions, a strike has been instigated in the firm of the M. and C. Skirt Company, where 350 men and women are now involved, for over six weeks; and
Whereas, During the six weeks of the strike several attempts have been made to bring this strike to a successful termination, with the result that the M. and C. Skirt Company refused to negotiate with the officers of the Boston locals; and

Whereas, The M. and C. firm has made it clear to our representatives that they would abide by any decision the International Union may render in their strike; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed by the President of this Thirteenth Convention with full power to settle that strike to the best of their judgment; and, be it further

Resolved, That this committee proceed to Boston immediately after the adjournment of this Convention.

Referred to the Committee on Report of Officers.

Resolution No. 3.

Introduced by S. Metz, J. Braslawer and J. Kimbrofsky.

Whereas, Two of our best friends and comrades in arms, Brothers Morris Hillquist and Meyer London, are at present waging a strong campaign for their election to Congress in the Twelfth and the Twentieth Congressional Districts of New York, on a platform of clear-cut and uncompromising working class principles, with the sole purpose in view of obtaining representation for the workers of New York in general, and for the thousands of the members of our Union in particular; and

Whereas, These brothers and comrades of ours have, during a number of years past, contributed their best minds and energies toward the upbuilding of our International Union by counsel and loyal leadership and spared no efforts to win for our men and women improvements in working and living conditions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in convention assembled at Philadelphia heartily endorses the congressional candidacies of Brothers Morris Hillquist and Meyer London, and calls upon our members all over the country to actively support their campaign for election to Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention contribute the sum of one thousand dollars ($1000) towards the campaign fund of the Labor Conference organized for the purpose of promoting the election of the above named representatives of our Union, hoping that this contribution may further the ends of their campaign, in insuring their election.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 4.

Introduced by H. Silberman, Local No. 25.

Whereas, It is a well established policy among trade unions to favor week work and to oppose piece work, and

Whereas, The principal locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union pursue an opposite policy and even force their members against their will to work piece work when they favor week work, and

Whereas, Careful investigations by the Public Health Service in our own industry as well as in other industries have demonstrated that piece workers suffer more from nervous breakdowns and other diseases than those who work under a week work system; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union be and hereby is instructed to make a careful study of the entire subject, and of the effect of the two different systems in our industry on the earnings, regularity of employment, the spirit of solidarity, and health of the workers; also of the reasons for the different attitude on the piece work question in this and other unions; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be authorized to engage an expert investigator for the careful study of the entire problem; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board submit a report on the subject, with definite recommendations for action, by the next Convention and that said report be published in the official organs of the International at least three months before the next Convention to enable the locals to dis-
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Resolution No. 8.

Introduced by S. Nuncio, A. LaPorta, A. Toscano, C. Carotenuto and L. Licastro, Local No. 45; P. LiCausi and L. Antonini, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is an organization embracing over 100,000 members in the United States and Canada, banded together for the purpose of improving the conditions of its membership, and the working class in general, and

Whereas, The standards of life among the people in the cloak and suit industry throughout the United States and Canada are gradually being lowered through the keen competition among the working people employed in the industry as well as among the employers, and

Whereas, Through experience we ascertained that all attempts to remedy these evils by organizing a single general strike proved fruitless, it being impossible to force the manufacturers of a single center or city to grant decent living conditions to their workers in reality, and not on paper agreements, which was proved in Cleveland, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Boston and New York, and also because in the same said large organized cities it is impossible for our officers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to prevent the manufacture of samples or ordered garments for cities where strikes are declared by manufacturers from out of town and

Whereas, This same resolution was accepted by the Twelfth Convention in Cleveland in 1914 and referred to the General Executive Board and that Board had to discuss the advisability of action on the plan, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board either did not find the advisability of acting on the plan contained in the resolution, or ignored it altogether; be it

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union decide on a policy to be adopted in the event of a general strike being called, that a strike in the entire cloak and suit industry, including all of the United States and Canada should be called and that
the incoming General Executive Board shall be instructed to submit this resolution to a referendum vote of the membership, not later than March 31, 1917.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 7.
Introduced by N. Riese, M. Berman, Local 66.

Whereas, Local 66 is confined only to Bonnaz machine embroidery, and

Whereas, Singer hand embroidery constitutes a part, and is closely connected with the Bonnaz embroidery, being one industry; be it

Resolved, That the charter of Local 66 be changed to Bonnaz, Singer and Hand Embroidery, and same local be given jurisdiction over the Singer and Hand Embroideries.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 8.
Introduced by S. Ninfo, A. LaPorta, A. Toscano, C. Carotenuto and L. Licastro, Local No. 48; P. LiCausi and L. Antonini, Local 25.

Whereas, The Twelfth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union adopted resolution No. 60 favoring the amalgamation of all the needle trade unions, the United Garment Workers of America, the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America, the International Fur Workers' Union and our International Union, and that the General Executive Board was instructed to meet with representatives of all the above named organizations willing to amalgamate, and that the plan which would be suggested by the General Executive Board was to be submitted for approval to a referendum of our members not later than March 1, 1915, and

Whereas, The membership did not hear anything of this resolution from the present General Executive Board up to the present time, and

Whereas, During these two past years the United Garment Workers were divided and another International Union was created, called the Amalgamated Clothing Makers of America; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to carry out this resolution and to submit the suggestion for approval to a referendum vote of our members not later than March 31, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 9.
Introduced by S. Ninfo, A. LaPorta, A. Toscano, C. Carotenuto and L. Licastro, Local No. 48; P. LiCausi and L. Antonini, Local 25.

Whereas, A great number of Ladies' Garment Workers throughout the United States and Canada are of the Italian nationality and are unorganized, and

Whereas, Only a part of them are members of the various locals of our International, and

Whereas, These members of the various locals are dues paying members only, having no conception of unionism; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Incoming General Executive Board shall be instructed to appoint a general Italian speaking organizer for the purpose of propaganda work for the above named purpose, also for organizing and general work. Through such efforts the general office will be in a position to detect the real causes of conflict existing among the different factions, and take whatever action they may deem necessary in order to restore peace and harmony for the good and welfare of the organization.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 10.
Introduced by S. Ninfo, A. LaPorta, A. Toscano, C. Carotenuto and L. Licastro, Local 48; P. LiCausi and L. Antonini, Local 25.

Whereas, The delegates of the Thirteenth Convention are aware of the many moral and material inconveniences experienced in the last six years of active life, and

Whereas, Though fruitful, we may yet call it an experimental period in which many lessons have been learned by us and we found that unity of action against us is a practice of the manufacturers as well, and
Whereas, The partition of big union like ours into different local unions, representing such craft gives use to unnecessary local selfishness which often, as at present in the cloak industry in the City of New York, sidetracks the aspirations of the workers, and

Whereas, Such state of affairs renders the average union member a local patriot and a forced dues payer instead of an active member and a class defender, and

Whereas, Our present means of defense and struggle have proved to be completely inadequate, as we have seen during our last general strike in New York, because the financial situation with such a complicated system causing excessive expenses are consuming all our funds, and

Whereas, The power attributed to each local executive board generally, and especially at present, with the protective division shops conflicts with the proper authorities who are in charge of the business; therefore, be it

Resolved, That all locals of the same industry, in any big center or city, shall amalgamate into one body of men and women industrial local union, as is at present Local 25, who are to elect a proportionate number of representatives by a referendum vote once every year, and who are to form a deliberating body, as at the present joint boards in the various cities; and be it further

Resolved, That any subdivision of this industrial local shall be made only in regard to nationalities and to craft; and be it further

Resolved, That there shall be one financial administration which shall have all power belonging now to each local union with their managers, secretaries and finance committees and to each joint board.

Whereas, That in the city of Baltimore there are trades such as waist, dresses, children's dresses, which are wholly unorganized and the number of people employed in these trades under miserable conditions because of being unorganized, will reach approximately to not less than ten thousand (10,000), and

Whereas, The whole possible energy of the skirt makers of Local No. 4 has always been spent on the organization of their trade while the dress making shops are always

To amend Article 6, Section 2, to read as follows:

A regular or special convention shall have the power, whenever it may deem it necessary, to raise the per capita, and it shall become operative when majority of delegates present shall vote in favor of such an increase. Clause VI, Article II, shall not be regarded as a bar to the enactment of this clause.

Resolved No. 11.


Resolved No. 12.

Introduced by Local No. 26, Boston Cloak Makers' Union.

At a meeting held Monday, October 16, 1916, it was resolved that this local recommend to the delegates of the Thirteenth Convention of the International Union to take actions in the case of manufacturers moving their plants out of town in the event of labor troubles.

Resolved No. 13.

Introduced by Local No. 66, Boston Cloak Makers' Union.

At a meeting held Monday, October 16, 1916, it was resolved that this local recommend to the Thirteenth Convention to take actions regarding all sections engaged in the cloak industry to work week-work, instead of the present method of piece-work.

Resolved No. 14.

Introduced by Ida Patlgalla, Local 72, and Max Lipsch, Local 4.

Whereas, That in the city of Baltimore there are trades such as waist, dresses, children's dresses, which are wholly unorganized and the number of people employed in these trades under miserable conditions because of being unorganized, will reach approximately to not less than ten thousand (10,000), and

Whereas, The whole possible energy of the skirt makers of Local No. 4 has always been spent on the organization of their trade while the dress making shops are always
competing very much under the lower scale that they are working, and our members of the Union are unable to control the trade of skirts under such conditions and are compelled to work under the prices that we would and could get as members of a union, and

Whereas, That there has never been any attempt made by our International Union to organize the above mentioned trades, except as to what our own Local No. 4 did in organizing Local No. 72, which is even now not self-supporting, and certainly plays no part and has no effect on the trades above mentioned in the city of Baltimore, in comparison with the effect our sister locals have on the same trades in other cities such as Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Chicago, where the above-mentioned trades are organized; be it, therefore

Resolved, That a permanent organizer under the direct management of the general officers be appointed to organize complete the above-mentioned trades, and, if necessary to achieve this purpose, even to give power to General Executive Board to call a general strike in these trades as it has been done in the other cities mentioned above, as this was our only method in the past of organizing trades where there were no unions existing.

Referred to Organization Committee.

Resolution No. 15.


Whereas, The recent happenings in Boston have proved conclusively that the idea of democracy and home rule for each union is not always to the advantage of the interests of the organized workers in various localities, and

Whereas, The Boston situation has demonstrated that the right of autonomy has brought about disruption among the locals instead of doing any benefit, by electing undesirable elements as officers in their Executive Boards as well as in the Joint Board, whereby the collective agreement, entered into with the Manufacturers' Association in March, 1913, has been abrogated contrary to the wishes of the general officers and the rank and file; and

Whereas, By abrogating the collective agreement it became possible for some elements in the unions to use methods contrary to the customs pursued by trade unionists, thereby creating a system which have proved to be detrimental to the interests of trade unionism of this country; therefore, be it

Resolved, At this Thirteenth Biennial Convention that the franchise right be taken away from Locals 12, 24, 56 and 72 and that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to ask for the resignation of all local officers and that for at least one year all officers of the aforementioned locals be appointed under the supervision of the general office; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to assign one of its organizers or a member of the General Executive Board to take charge of the organization work in Boston; and be it further

Resolved, That all paid officers of the Bos- ton locals be paid directly by the General Office, and the General Office shall collect the salaries for the Boston officers from the locals, and be it further

Resolved, That the General Office shall be empowered to remove any paid officer in Boston at its discretion, upon one week's notice.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 16.

Introduced by Saul Freedman, Delegate, Local 78, St. Louis, Mo.

Whereas, There is an impossibility for us to organize and maintain union conditions and standards in the cloak trade, due to the fact that the main industry in St. Louis consists of skirt making, and

Whereas, Ninety per cent of the employees of the skirt trade are English-speaking women who cannot be organized without the aid of women organizers, and

Whereas, The city of St. Louis offers a great and extensive field for organization
work among these women engaged in the various branches of the Ladies’ Garment Industry; therefore, be It

Resolved by the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union to inaugurate an organization campaign in St. Louis, to last for a period of time until the entire trade is organized.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 17.

Introduced by Joseph Levitz and William Snyder.

At a special meeting of the Ladies’ Tailors and Custom Dressmakers’ Union, Local 78, held at 505 Reed street, Saturday, October 14, 1916, the following motion was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, In the city of Philadelphia there are over five thousand unorganized men and women working in the ladies’ tailoring and dressmaking industry, and

Whereas, The ladies tailors and custom dressmakers of Philadelphia are working as high as 72 hours a week, including overtime in the busy season, while their wages average nine dollars a week, and even less than that, and

Whereas, In the last ten years four attempts have been made to form unions in the said industry by individually organizing the thousand shops of the Industry, each attempt failed to materialize, owing to the numerous small shops, and

Whereas, It is our firm conviction that the ladies’ tailors and custom dressmakers of Philadelphia can only be organized through a general strike called at the proper time; therefore, be It

Resolved, That the Convention take the necessary steps and appoint a special organizer to organize and prepare the workers of the said industry for a general strike or any other steps necessary for the uplift of the trade.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 18.

Introduced by Saul Freedman, Local 78, St. Louis.
Whereas, Carlo Trinca and eleven other comrades are facing a death sentence because they were loyal to the iron miners, strikers of Minnesota, be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union decides to donate from the International fund the sum of one hundred dollars to help in the fight for their immediate liberation.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 21.

Introduced by delegates of Local 66.

Whereas, The cloak and suit, skirt and dress manufacturers are not responsible for the sanitary conditions and price standards of their embroidery contractors under the existing agreements of the I. L. G. W. U., with associations of the above mentioned industries, and

Whereas, As a local of the International, we are entitled to fair protection from unscrupulous contractors; be it

Resolved, That the International is to use in future all means at its disposal that Union contractors be given the embroidery work that is being made in the cloak, suit and dress skirt houses.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 22.


Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was established for the purpose of bettering the conditions and to advance the rights and interests of its members as producers, and

Whereas, The daily increasing cost of living is assuming such dangerous proportions as to almost nullify the advantages gained on the industrial field; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in convention goes on record against the unjustified daily increases of the cost of living by arranging mass demonstrations, calling the public's attention to these evils, sending petitions to Congress to lay an embargo on life necessities, etc., etc., and be it further

Resolved, That in order to make this fight more efficient and effective, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union shall unite for concerted action with similar organizations and hereby best serve the interests of its members, not only as producers, but also as consumers.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 23.


Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is a progressive labor organization founded upon the express declaration that 'the only way to acquire our rights as producers and citizens and to bring about a system of society whereby the workers shall get the full value of their product, is to organize industrially into a class-conscious labor union politically represented on the various legislative bodies by representatives of our own party and class'; and

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and is convinced that the welfare of the organized workers of this country will be best served by an enlightened class-conscious progressive and aggressive policy on the part of the administration of the American Federation of Labor, and

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is of the opinion that the past policies of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor have in many instances been timid, conservative, inefficient and inconsistent, that the chief executive officers of the Federation have committed the largest and most powerful body of organized labor in this country to a policy of undignified and unfruitful political lobbying and begging and have attempted to make the Federation an auxiliary to one of the old political parties, managed and conducted principally in the interests of the employing classes; and that several high off-
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Officials of the American Federation of Labor have openly and prominently allied themselves with the National Civic Federation, an organization called into life by shrewd capitalists, for the purpose of weakening and destroying the militant spirit of the American labor movement and of demoralizing their struggles against the capitalist system, and

Whereas, The American Federation of Labor has failed to teach their members in a more radical manner as to the existing conditions of organized capital against labor at the present time, and on that account the General Sympathetic Strike which was supposed to take place in the city of New York so as to help the car men strikers in their grievances against organized capital, which involved a principle pertaining to all organized labor, proved to be a failure, and also on account of the lack of the spirit of labor solidarity, and

Whereas, To prove that the more radical unions of the city of New York were ready to go out on strike in sympathy with the car men, but could not have any effect on account of the lack of co-operation of all other labor unions, as General Organizer Fitzgerald admitted that the workers of the East Side, who are more radically and socially inclined, due to the teachings of their unions, were ready to strike in sympathy with the car men immediately, while the other unions of different crafts, who are not radically inclined, failed to join the ranks; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union emphatically disapprove of the policies and conduct of the officers of the American Federation of Labor; and, be it further

Resolved, That the delegates of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union to the next annual convention of the American Federation of Labor are hereby instructed to introduce a resolution that a more radical agitation of the principles of industrial general strikes be adopted.

Resolved to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 24.


Whereas, The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, at its Twelfth Biennial Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, decided to commence an agitation for an eight-hour work day in the ladies’ garment industry, and

Whereas, In our judgment some work in that direction has been done, but not sufficient to carry out this decision; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention urge upon the incoming General Executive Board to make preparations for a much wider agitation, and see that the eight-hour work day is carried out.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 25.


Whereas, On the 26th of June, 1914, the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union granted a charter to and for the Piece Tailors and Sample Makers, known as Cloak and Suit Piece Tailors’ and Sample Makers’ Union, Local No. 3, of New York, said charter setting forth as follows:

“The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union do bind themselves to support said Local No. 3 of the city of New York in their demands, rights and privileges and benefits as a subordinate union.”

 Whereas, Since such charter has been granted, Local No. 3, by virtue of said charter, has and should have the jurisdiction of making samples in the cloak and suit trade of New York City; be it therefore

Resolved, That samples for the cloak and suit trade of the city of New York shall be made by members and under the sole jurisdiction of the Cloak and Suit Piece Tailors’ and Sample Makers’ Union, Local No. 3.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 26.


Whereas, The American Federation of Labor, being a federated central body composed of International unions, whose present form of organization and methods do not
Whereas, The past experiences prove that the labor movement of America suffers most through the lack of combined efforts and unity of action, as class conscious working men and women due to the methods and policies, and also to the form of organization of said American Federation of Labor, and

Whereas, The capitalistic class of America has long since abandoned its former individualistic tendencies and actions, and combined themselves into gigantic trusts, in order to monopolize and dictate terms as a unit upon the markets for their merchandise, and are also united and act as such in industrial disputes, in order to deprive labor of its benefits; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in session, goes on record and adopts the principle and form of Industrial unionism and instructs its delegate to the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor to do their utmost and to promote the said principles and form of industrial unionism and also to introduce such resolution at the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Referred to Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

Resolution No. 27.

Introduced by M. Weiner.

Whereas, There exists in the Cloak, Suit, Skirt, Waist, and many other industries a system of sub-manufacturing and sub-contracting, and

Whereas, Sub-manufacturing and sub-contracting is a recognized evil which deprives many of our members of an opportunity to earn a living, and

Whereas, Such of our members who are employed in these shops of the sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors are subject to greatly inferior conditions than the insiders obtain in the inside shops, and

Whereas, A good many so-called active members of our Union become sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors, although they are aware that it is the greatest evil and the greatest weapon against our organization, and

Whereas, It has been proven that a good many of the so-called sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors were compelled to give up their business for various reasons, such as, failing to live up to Union conditions in their shops, and failing to comply with the Union standards, and, after giving up their business, again become members of our Union, and then try to become paid or unpaid officials, and since we can place very little faith in such men; be it therefore

Resolved, That at this Convention an amendment be made to Article XIV, with an additional section to read that no member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who has been a sub-manufacturer or sub-contractor shall be eligible to hold a paid or unpaid office in any office of our Local Unions, or of the Joint Board, or of District Council, for at least two years after they have given up their business and have become members of our Union.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 28.

Resolved, That the delegatee of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled in Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., send greetings of sympathy and encouragement to you for the suffering you are going through because of your activity for the cloak makers of Philadelphia.

We hope and wish to soon secure your freedom.

Signed,

A. SNYDER,
M. AMDUR,
G. RUBIN,
M. GRISHKAN,
M. ADELMAN,
M. LEVIN,
H. ROSENFELD,
M. SANDLER,
J. P. HOCKINS,
S. DAVIDSON,
BECKIE STEIN,
ROSE LEDMAN,
SARAH GREENBERG.

Chas. Schwartz and Joseph Bober,

Signed,

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 29.

Introduced by Delegate A. Baroff.

Add Section 1a to Article 16, to read as follows:

Any member who is charged with dishonesty or treason, and is found guilty of same, shall be deprived of ever holding any paid or unpaid office in the I. L. O. W. U. or any of its affiliated locals.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 30.

Introduced by Delegate A. Baroff.

Any member who violates this section shall be subject to a punishment either, by fine, or by being deprived of the rights and privileges of membership for such a period of time as the Executive Board of the I. U. of which he is a member may decide.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 31.

Introduced by: Max Brodfeld, delegate, Local 23; S. Prisant, Local 23; I. Rubinstein, Local 23; B. Littman, Local 23; S. Berenson, Local 23; Sam Berman, Sam Ballenson, Harry Wander.

Whereas, There are two (2) Local Unions in the City of New York, viz.: Local No. 23 and Local No. 25, both having jurisdiction over the dress trade, each one having established a different rate of wages and conditions of labor, and

Whereas, This results in constant jurisdictional disputes and strife, the result of which is a number of unorganized workers in shops with no individual Local or person to place responsibility on; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the General Executive Board to change the charter of Local No. 25 to read Waist Makers' Union, and the charter of Local No. 23 to read Skirt Makers' Union, and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be empowered to proceed with organizing a Local of Dressmakers in the City of New York and to instruct Locals 23 and 25 to transfer their members, dressmakers, to the newly organized Local of dressmakers.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 32.

Introduced by Max Brodfeld, delegate, Local 23; S. Prisant, Local 23; I. Rubinstein, Local 23; B. Littman, Local 23; S. Berenson, Local 23; Sam Berman, Sam Ballenson, Harry Wander.

Whereas, Article XVII, Section 9, of our Constitution, reads "that if a Union member from one trade goes in to work in a shop for another trade, he should transfer his Union book within two weeks, and

Whereas, Compliance with the rule of Article XVII, Section 9, which didn't sufficiently meet the purpose is very difficult in practice, since it is impossible for any person to realize in two weeks whether he will remain at this trade or not; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention change Article XVII, Section 9, to read "four weeks" instead of two.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 33.

Introduced by Max Brodfeld, delegate, Local 23; S. Prisant, Local 23; I. Rubinstein, Local 23; B. Littman, Local 23; S. Berenson, Local 23; Sam Berman, Sam Ballenson, Harry Wander.

Whereas, The working class realizes that the economic and political struggle is the only way of bettering their conditions, and

Whereas, The Socialist Party is the only party who is fighting for the workers, both on the industrial and political fields, and

Whereas, Two of our best comrades, London and Hillquit, are candidates for election to Congress; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention appropriate $500.00 for the present campaign for the Socialist Party in New York.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 34.

Introduced by several delegates.

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled in the city of Philadelphia, on the 18th day of October, 1910, hereby pledges its support to the International Brotherhood of Papermakers, by insisting that its officers and its locals demand in the future paper
that bears the union label of the International Brotherhood of Papermakers water-marked on it.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 35.

To the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Whereas, Our delegate Brother O. Stein unexpectedly took sick and could not go to the Convention to represent our Local, we therefore wish to ask that you take up the following request of our Local, which is according to our opinion very important:

In Newark and vicinity there are about six hundred (600) ladies’ tailors and alteration tailors unorganized, working sixty (60) hours and more per week for very low wages. About five years ago we had these two trades organized, but on account of a lost general strike in this city in these two trades we have lost their membership, and until to-day we only have a few ladies’ tailors who belong to our Local Union. We, therefore, wish to request that the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. adopts a resolution instructing the incoming General Executive Board to send a special organizer to organize the ladies’ tailors and alteration tailors of Newark into a separate Local of the I. L. G. W. U.

Hoping you will realize the importance of this communication and will grant our request, we remain with best wishes for a successful convention.

Yours fraternally,
S. CHACHKES,
President.
G. GLASS,
Secretary.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

FOURTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 2 o’clock P. M. Thursday, October 19, 1916, President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Convention, Philadelphia.
We extend to you our sympathy and good wishes of the tens of thousands of our members who are with you heart and soul. Your organization, as the pioneer of the Jewish labor movement, we hope will always set the example for noble deeds in the continuous struggle of the laboring class. May your present deliberations imbue your membership with new hope for a better life and better conditions under your leadership.

ALEX. COHEN,
Secretary New York Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

Convention of the I. G. W. U., Philadelphia.
Accept our congratulations to the officers and delegates to the Thirteenth Convention, wishing you the greatest success.

JOSEPHINE MOULTHROP,
Financial Sec’y. Corset Workers’, Local 33.

A. Baroff, Scottish Rite Building.
To the Officers and Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention:
Accept my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for your future success.

ROSE BISENHOUSE,
Executive Member Local 62.

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Philadelphia.
Accept my heartiest greetings. Wishing success for better conditions in the silk suit trade and a good time for the delegates.

HYMAN KAPLAN,
Chairman of Finance, Local 16, Phila.

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Convention.
We thank the Convention for rejecting Horn and Ginsburg as delegates and upholding the honor and dignity of the Boston Locals. We also appreciate the recent change in the Boston administration.

EMPLOYEES OF RAPHEL SHOP.

I. L. G. W. U., Philadelphia.
Wishing our Convention every success. Sorry we have no delegate to represent us. We will support all resolutions adopted by you.

J. GALINSKY,
Secretary Local 68.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.


Wishing success in your work and hoping you bring good returns, we are with you.

Wish success in your work and hoping you bring good returns, we are with you.

Workers of
ZELENKO & MOSKOWITZ.


Congratulations and success in your great efforts.

C. NEIBAUER,
Secretary Local 2.

Chester W. Wright, editor of the “New York Call,” was introduced by the chairman.

Editor Wright, in addressing the convention, spoke of the need for a broader trade union movement in this country. He described conditions in Bayonne, N. J., in Ohio, and on the Pacific Coast, where there had been strikes, and where men had been active in the labor movement had been sentenced to prison, and said that these cases were the logical development of the social order existing at this time. He stated that there was nothing that would mean so much for labor, for all who work, if it would take its place in the world and use the brain power and capacity for good. He said we must broaden our social viewpoint; we must prepare to take our place with those who run the world as well as those who do the work.” (Lively applause.)

President Schlesinger: I don't think I need to introduce the comrade whom I am going to present now to those delegates who have attended our conventions before, or those who have been in any way affiliated with the labor movement; as a matter of fact, the delegates who are assembled in this hall, who came to America from other lands, know the name of the gentleman even before they came to this country, but I want to say a few words to the new delegates, those who are at the convention for the first time and those who have perhaps not heard much of the labor movement until they joined their respective locals. The brother whom I am about to present to you is the editor of the Jewish daily paper, The Forward, and that publication, if not wholly responsible, is to a great extent responsible for the growth and rise of this organization at this time. This paper has not only advocated the organization of the workers in trade unions and in socialist organizations, but it has also led the workers in a good many strikes and it is due to that paper that many of the strikes have been won and also have been so liberally financed by the various organizations as well as by working people in general. While this gentleman is the editor of a Jewish paper, he is just as well known in English literary circles. He has written a number of books in English and they have been spoken of very highly by some of the best literary authorities in this country as well as in Europe.

I now have the great pleasure of presenting Comrade Abraham Cahan.

ADDRESS OF EDITOR CAHAN.

Comrade Chairman, Friends and Delegates to this Glorious Convention: To begin with, I have come here to extend the warmest greetings of the Jewish daily, The Forward, to your convention, and that means the greetings of the Jewish labor movement and of the Socialist movement.

There are two points that stand out distinctly in my mind as I appear here before you this afternoon. One of these points is that the labor movement during the last few months has been through some experiences that have inculcated an indelible lesson on the minds of those who are interested in that movement, and that is, in the first place, that a labor movement that is confined to the economic phases wholly and exclusively is like a body without a soul. The Socialists are exactly those who have, first, and last and all the time, been advocating the doctrine of economic interpretation of the philosophy of life in general, and yet it is these very Socialists that have been unceasing in insisting upon something beyond the pure economic interests in the labor movement. When a man or a woman is struggling for higher wages and shorter hours wholly and exclusively, a movement based on these principles does not amount to very much; it does not go very far, it is just like a human being that has a splendid body without any brain or feelings; he is not very much of a human being. For, a spirit is necessary to complete the life of the labor movement, and
this spiritual side is what we call variously, in various terms and languages, but which all amounts to the one particular thing, and that is a great idea, the Idealism added to economic interests. There must be a soul to that body, an Idealism, and that Idealism is the case of the labor movement is called Socialism. It does not make much difference which way you arrive at it. Some people arrive through one avenue, another through some other lane or byway or highway, but they all arrive at the same spot.

The labor movement in this country and in England was started and developed entirely on this one particular idea, and it is accepted as such all over Europe, at least on the Continent, and is all traveling in the same direction. I remember the time when we used to speak of trade unionism as pure and simple trade unionism. Now, we used to find a number of men who were simple; they were more simple than pure, but a great many were pure and simple, and their simplicity drowned everything else in them. I remember some thirty or forty, or even as recently as twenty-five years ago, that when a man began to preach Socialism he was set down as a fanatic or a dreamer, and I remember distinctly in this great city of Philadelphia that that feeling was very strong in those days, and we were laughed at and scorned, but I am very happy to say that it is out of this city that a man like Benjamin Hanford came. You remember the name, and some of you have known him; he is dead now. He was one of the most active and best members of the Socialist Party; he was a typesetter in Philadelphia about twenty-five years ago, and believed in pure and simple trade unionism, but did not believe in Socialism. And I remember the Sunday afternoon when I had the pleasure of being invited to deliver a lecture on Socialism, and a man who did such a thing then was looked upon as a monkey; they don't take any stock in him. I was called upon by an organization, the name of which I forget, most of the members of which were free thinkers and used to get together to discuss religion; they did not believe in the kind of religion that ordinary people believed in; they were free thinkers and had broken away from the ordinary way of thinking, and Benjamin Hanford was one of them, but he was not a Socialist. He was a pure, simple trade unionist. I came forward humbly and submitted to them my socialist ideas, and he fought like the deuce, as he afterwards expressed it, and he handed it out to me. Why, he fought me so hard that he talked himself blue in the face, and I threw back at him my socialist ideas and not more than three weeks later Benjamin Hanford became a member of the Socialist Party.

There is another man we were proud of. Mahlon Barnes. Now he is managing the campaign for Morris Hillquit, in New York, where we are going to elect Hillquit to Congress, as well as re-elect London. Barnes was one of the most charming fellows in the labor movement in my entire acquaintance, and like a good many Americans, he didn't want the trade unions to get mixed up in religion or in politics. He thought the trade union was not a Philadelphia gang or Tammany, it was something which should be kept away from all that; it was all a matter of trade business. Barnes became later on one of the most active members of the Socialist party. I am harking back to those days when it was ridiculous to announce yourself a Socialist. Some of us tried to deliver lectures at the Labor Lyceum in the city of Philadelphia, which was run by the Germans, but we could not get any hearing in Philadelphia. It was very hard to get a fellow like Barnes, a man who spoke English, to preach Socialism. The people did not think there was anything in it for a man of common-sense. They said we are too practical, we people here in America, to lend an ear to all kinds of dreams of that sort. Twenty-five years ago in this city, New York, Boston and Chicago, we used to hold Socialist meetings and invite trade union people, but we only reached people who did not understand English. We had a few Yankees, indeed, but they did not come from this country, they came from Galicia. I want to inform you that to-day, in the labor movement, in the trade union movement, among those born to speak English, we find a great number of Socialists, and also find that the Socialist influence is growing rapidly in America among the laboring classes. I have the profoundest respect for Samuel Gompers, whom I have known for thirty-five
years; I don't agree with him, that is clear; I don't agree with him, but I take my hat off to the man for his achievements and activities. But I say again we don't agree with him, that is all there is about it!

But there is another side to the American Federation of Labor, and that is the Socialist side. It is getting a stronger grip upon the soul and heart of trade union people in this country; it is getting larger and stronger every day. But that is the slow way of getting this Socialist movement aroused. There is another way—the Russian-Jewish way. Thirty-five years ago when Schlesinger came to this country, as a young boy, I was here already; I was twenty-one years of age when I came, and we brought all our Socialist ideas readymade. We were first Socialists and then trade unionists, and the result was that the people who were red hot Socialists made pretty bad trade unionists. We forgot that we had to learn our A B Cs. It was all upside down. We learned our A B Cs at the same time we were well up in algebra and geometry, but the two roads meet at one point, and in the course of time we all came together. Our first trade union was started on the east side of New York, and one almost simultaneously in Philadelphia, and for a few years it was so permeated, so intensely imbued with Socialism, that there was very little practical common sense or trade unionism in it. Now, you want both together; just as a body without the soul is unacceptable, the soul without the body is of no practical use, and so it was with our people; it took them about twenty-five years to train up, and little by little they have done so in order that they might become practical union people. The first cloak makers' union in New York, which I was active in organizing, was a great deal of a soul without a body. We used to organize every year or so, and we used to succeed, but after every triumph or success we would fall to pieces, as there was no body to it.

Now, I congratulate you delegates. You have a glorious convention. And I congratulate you first of all upon the fact that there is a body as well as a soul in the cloak makers' organization, and secondly, as I said before, the Jewish trade union movement would not amount to very much if the Americans were far behind us. The American labor movement can teach us a great lesson in discipline and practical work, but we can teach them something in enthusiasm and idealism.

There is another point I want to develop as briefly as possible, and that is the question of discipline that I just happened to broach. It is an awfully important thing for all of us, perhaps more than in the case of some of the old American trade unions. This is something that we have still a lot to learn about—in which we are still greenhorn—the question of practical discipline. I hope you will allow me to talk freely and frankly about this. You are the cream of the movement. You have representatives in every State and every city where your trade is estabished; you are the best. I see so many faces before me that I know and have known for years, but all of you want and need advice, and I want to impress on your mind the importance of this idea, and that is the practical side of the movement. It is still in its infancy, and there is still room for improvement.

When I see a new union that has just sprung into being, and the people flying off the handle and losing their heads in time of great strife, I would naturally observe that these people have still a great deal to learn. They are like fresh troops, they are at the first excitement they lose their heads and as a result there comes the chance for the blatherer. By the way, I hope you know the meaning of the word. It means to talk loud and act low. There is a class of people who make a tremendous amount of noise and do a lot of mischief, in fact, they are always
looking for a chance to do mischief—you know the kind of people I mean, the fellow who is always fishing in muddy water. It is muddy because you can’t see what he is doing, and he therefore gets a chance to get in his fine work. Now, we have to figure upon that, we have to reckon with that element, and I have observed that when there is a great deal of excitement some of the best men in the union, on account of five or six blatherskites, are liable to lose their heads. The most staunch, the most straightforward and devoted members of the organization lose their heads because they get scared, they dinch; and sometimes, in such moments action is taken of which you are sorry afterwards. The real trade union man is the one who marches shoulder to shoulder with the next man and does not lose his head, and that is the main point.

I was going to write an article, but will not do so for some time, to be entitled, “Shall we vote, or shall we knock a fellow’s teeth out or knock a fellow down!” I want to be perfectly frank with you and I will cite an instance that happened in a certain city. A certain representative of a union brought in a certain proposition and it was a question whether the union was going to adopt it or reject it. It was simply a matter of common sense for the trade union, for the rank and file to vote either yes or no, but they did not do this, they began boxing and they knocked down a couple of fellows and the rest of them began yelling and shouting. They were intimidated, and voted against their own convictions, and as I sat there in my office reading of this I thought, “There are still a number of people who have something to learn, they must learn the lesson of real trade unionism, the lesson of discipline and practical common sense.” I see before me many familiar faces and I know that you are all well trained, that you don’t follow those methods, but I simply deem it my duty to try to impress upon the minds of each one here the necessity of going back to your various organizations and trying to teach the rank and file that they must be well ordered and well disciplined in order to be real trade unionists. That is what you must do, go back and teach the rank and file that lesson.

Just one more word, and that is, beware of the blatherskites. I congratulate you upon your remarkable convention, upon the fact that you have kept out this element. I know what happened here yesterday or the day before. You are all right, get rid of them; keep them out! There is a saying in Jewish that “A little cat can do a lot of mischief.” You have got to beware of the cats, don’t allow them to come to the front. You must try to educate the rank and file and tell them the tremendous importance of being gentlemen and not blatherskites. I want to tell you that if the blatherskites had their way you would not have such a remarkable convention. The fact that you have this shows that you have an excellent organization all the way through; the blatherskites are not in it, put them out if they do get in. If they were in it—Professor Hourwich, for whom I have a great deal of respect, would have had the opportunity of tearing the organization to pieces two or three years ago. There would have been nothing to it, because he was knocked at that time by just this element. There is an element that can get on the platform and talk and go out and publish a circular and wherein they get about $1.50 worth of advertising and notoriety, and the best thing to do in my opinion is to drive them away from us. This is tremendously important and every one of you knows that this is a basic idea, and without bearing this in mind you cannot have a real union.

Another thing I want to tell you, comrades, friends, ladies and gentlemen, delegates to this convention, I don’t remember ever attending a convention of yours; they were all held in other cities and when I was invited last time it was utterly impossible for me to accept, so this is my first chance of addressing your convention. You have done remarkable work. I am not going to go over that, the work of the protocol. I understand our comrades and my very intimate friend, Schlesinger, has distinguished himself this time among other things by having written a wonderful document, his report that he has read to you, and it has made a great impression upon us all. I want to tell you that I have learned a great many things since I have been in the labor movement. When I came to New York city I was an anarchist. There were a bunch of us, and thirty-five years ago we thought that all that was necessary was to declare a social
revolution and we would have a social revolution. I remember a little later on we used to jolly each other and say, "Let's put it to a vote and it will go through unanimously," and then we would go out into the streets and get a clubbing from a policeman. We are learning the lesson of patience and the need for practical achievement.

I visited Germany a year and a half ago and also was there about four years ago and I made a study of the trade union situation in Germany, the great country of socialists. Some of you have heard of Liebig, the leader of the trade union movement in Germany, he is also a member of the Socialist party and is a Socialist representative at the Reichstag. I talked with him and with others and find that they have learned the lesson of practical achievement. There was a time when they used to think that all that was necessary was to come forward and proclaim from the housetops that the capitalist system was rotten and tell them to send it to the waste basket and substitute the socialist commonwealth for it. Well, that was all right but after they met with a number of reverses they came to the conclusion that every little while they were up against all kinds of obstacles. Germany has the greatest socialist movement in the world. They have outstripped England in trade unionism and have a greater movement, and this has all been achieved in twenty-five years simply because they have learned the lesson of patience and practical result. We have got to do that.

You have achieved great results. It is shown by the last strike of the cloakmakers' union in New York, which is intimately affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, that the union has come to stay. It is not as in former years when we had a new union every year or so. There used to be a time when none of us believed a union had come to stay. You know a man can build a boat and it looks good, it looks all right, but until that boat has crossed the ocean and stood the test of weather, of inclement weather, you don't know whether the boat is shipshape or not. Your boat looked to be strong, but it had to go through experience and bad weather, and you have gone through two great strikes, the strike of six years ago and the strike recently. The question is not how fast you can organize. Our Jewish people particularly, the moment they hear the sound of a trumpet will come in a rush for union books, but the question is not how fast they come, the question is whether they will stay, how long are they going to stay and whether they are strong enough to weather the storms.

That is about all I wanted to say. I congratulate you, not so much upon the fact of your beautiful organization as upon the fact that it is an organization that has weathered the storms, that has stood the test of time. In other words, I am full of confidence that the various unions of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are well seasoned, that you have a real sound organization and that it is one of the best in the United States. You know that you represent one of the most important industries in the United States; why the two or three hundred men and women delegates here represent half of the population of the United States. Every woman in this country must wear a cloak, a suit, a waist, they must wear something, and you represent the fingers that make it, you represent the fingers that construct it. You are all right.

Just one more word. I really want to call your attention to one remarkable fact that came out during the situation of the car strike in New York. What I am going to say may sound like racial egotism on my part, but it has nothing to do with racial prejudice at all. I want to point out the fact that hundreds and thousands of people were willing to sacrifice their money and time and health to avoid going by the streetcars. They used the jitneys which meant five times as much money as they could afford, and they had the very lives shaken out of them going from downtown up to the Bronx, and I am awfully glad to say, and I want everybody that happens to be here to know it, 90 per cent. of all the hundred thousand people were Jewish people of the East Side. This was not because there is something peculiar about them which makes them hate a scab, there are lots of Jewish scabs in the world, don't you be afraid of that. We have the best of everything and the worst of everything, but I tell you, this shows the feeling of the majority.

Comrade Wright's paper is still compara-
tively young. Our paper is much larger; in fact, it is the largest paper of the East Side and has been spreading the spirit of Socialism day in and day out for the last twenty-five years among the Jewish cloak makers. I want to speak of the girls particularly—not because I am so much of a ladies' man, perhaps I am—but really it is a remarkable fact that the girls have been the staunchest friends of the strikers and have sacrificed more than anybody else in doing what they have done. I know that very few of the people here differ with me, but if anybody should ask you a question about our workers you could point that out to them, that remarkable fact of what has been done by these girls and the spirit of the East Side in New York City. Some people used to say that boys and girls were afraid to travel on the cars, afraid a brick might be thrown at them. Not at all. The fact that somebody might shy a brick did not count. But what was the cause? They were afraid of the public opinion of the people around them. A girl or a man who had patronised a scab car would not have the audacity to face his friends. So much the better.

Brothers and sisters, the atmosphere here is saturated with a certain spirit upon which I wish to congratulate this convention; it is something that we expect in the course of ten or fifteen years will inspire every convention, every labor convention in the United States. I look forward to the time, and it is close at hand, when every American convention of labor will be characterised and inspired by the same spirit of idealism that I have seen mirrored on your faces here this afternoon.

I thank you for your attention.

Delegate Ringer moved that a vote of thanks be extended the speaker for his address. (Seconded, and carried unanimously.)

Delegate LaPorta made a motion that the speech be printed in the daily minutes in full. The chairman stated that that would be done.

Delegate Wlchter moved that the thanks of the convention be extended to Comrade Wright for his address. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

The chairman announced that as the delegates would have to vacate the hall on Friday, there would be no session on that day.

The chairman asked if any of the committees were ready to report, to which no response was made.

Delegate Prisamt made a motion that the convention be adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Saturday. (Seconded.)

Delegate Martin objected to the motion, as it would delay the work of the convention, and moved an amendment that the chairman of any committee who had prepared a partial report should present the same. (Seconded.)

The chairman stated that there was no necessity for such an amendment, that if any committee was ready to report the convention would remain in session.

The motion to adjourn was not put to a vote, as the Committee on Resolutions had a partial report.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

Delegate Lefkovitz, Chairman of the Committee, reported as follows:

Introduced by Vice-President B. Kurland.

I. Rosen, Local 24; N. Berman, Local 24; M. Osolkey, Local 24; A. Rosenberg, Local 7; A. Bernsteain, Local 66; B. Wasserman, Local 66; Wm. Richman, Local 73; and M. Tuchman, Local 12, Boston.

Whereas, The Boston Locals, namely Nos. 12, 24, and 73, are now engaged in a bitter struggle with the M. and C. Skirt Company, of Boston, and

Whereas, Over 350 members of the above-mentioned Locals are now out on strike for the past six weeks, and

Whereas, The members of these respective Locals were assessed heavily to finance this strike, and the treasuries of the Locals are depleted, and

Whereas, financial aid is the only way to bring this strike to a victory for the Union; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention appropriate the sum of $1,000.00 for the immediate relief of the sufferers of this strike.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Langer stated that he had no objection to giving assistance, but made a motion that a committee be sent to Boston to investigate.

President Schlesinger: I don’t believe I can entertain this motion for the reason that the report of the officers spoke about the situation in Boston and about this particular strike and I am quite sure that the Committee on Officers’ Reports will make some report as to the general situation in the city of Boston at the present time.

Delegate Stein, of Local 10, discussed the resolution and moved as an amendment that the resolution be laid over until such time as the Committee on Officers’ Reports would bring in a final recommendation. (Seconded.)

Delegate Martin suggested that the amendment was out of order because it was made upon the imaginary idea of what the maker thought was happening in Boston.

President Schlesinger stated that the amendment was out of order for the reason that the mover had first made a speech.

Delegate Wicchter moved as an amendment that the resolution be laid over until after the report of the Committee on Officers’ Reports. (Seconded.)

On a show of hands, the motion to amend was carried by a vote of 68 to 55, and action on the resolution was postponed.

Resolution No. 3.

Whereas, Two of our best friends and comrades in arms, Brothers Morris Hillquit and Meyer London, are at present waging a strong campaign for their election to Congress in the Twelfth and Twentieth Congressional Districts of New York, on a platform of clear-cut and uncompromising working-class principles, with the sole purpose in view of obtaining representation for the workers of New York in general, and for the thousands of the members of our Union in particular, and

Whereas, These brothers and comrades of ours have during a number of years past contributed their best minds and energies toward the upbuilding of our International Union by counsel and loyal leadership and spared no efforts to win for our men and women improvements in working and living conditions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, in convention assembled at Philadelphia, heartily endorses the congressional candidacies of Brothers Morris Hillquit and Meyer London, and calls upon our members all over the country to actively support their campaign for election to Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention contribute the sum of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) towards the campaign fund of the Labor Conference organized for the purpose of promoting the election of the above-named representatives of our Union, hoping that this contribution may further the ends of their campaign, in insure their election.

The committee recommended that the sum of $500 be contributed.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Stein offered an amendment that the convention go on record as endorsing the candidacy of Jacob Panken, Elmer Rosenberg and Shiplofaff in their Assembly districts, and that the money be distributed among them all. (Seconded.)

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, spoke in favor of the report of the committee and against the amendment. He stated that while he favored the candidacy of all of these men, he felt more good could be accomplished by donating the money to the campaign of London and Hillquit.

Delegate Mets made a short statement in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

On motion of Delegate Shapiro, debate was closed.

Delegate Hyman offered an amendment, which was declared out of order as debate had been closed.

The motion to amend was lost.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.
Resolution No. 5.
Whereas, Carlo Tresca and eleven others are detained in the Duluth, Minn., jail on several charges, and the principal one, that of murder in the first degree, and
Whereas, Tresca and his colleagues are not guilty of any crime other than to lead the Minnesota miners to obtain human conditions, and
Whereas, The charges are made by persons connected or influenced by the steel trust magnates, and mine owners, and
Whereas, These men are innocent of the crimes attributed to them, for at the time of the murder they were twenty miles away from the scene of action; therefore, be it
Resolved, That the delegates of the thirteenth convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union recognize in these charges nothing but an attempt to paralyze the honest and conscientious work of those who are leading organized labor to better conditions and to brand as criminal such activities as strikes, etc.; and be it further
Resolved, That we protest against the arbitrary action of the Commonwealth of Minnesota and demand the immediate liberation of Carlo Tresca and the other eleven prisoners who are guilty of no other charge than that of trying to procure more bread for the poor iron miners; and, be it further
Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of Minnesota, to the District Attorney in charge of the prosecution, and to the Secretary of the Minnesota Prisoners' Committee, Camillo De Gregoris, 226 Lafayette street, New York City; and, be it further
Resolved, That a telegram be sent to Carlo Tresca and the eleven other prisoners extending our sympathy.
The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution.
Delegate Metz moved that the report of the committee be adopted. (Seconded.)
President Schlesinger stated that he had one objection to the resolution that the names of all those who were arrested were not mentioned, and it looked as though they were more interested in the welfare of one man, because they happened to know him, and requested that the introducers of the resolution get the names of all the others concerned.
Delegate Ninfo stated that he had endeavored to get the other names, but it had been impossible at that time.
President Schlesinger stated that his suggestion was that Delegate Ninfo wire to the secretary in New York for these names.
Delegate Fenster moved that the resolution be referred back to the committee for the purpose of having the introducers complete it as to the names. (Seconded and carried.)

Resolution No. 7.
Whereas, Local 66 is confined only to Bonnaz machine embroidery, and
Whereas, Singer hand embroidery constitutes a part, and is closely connected with the Bonnaz embroidery, being of one industry, be it
Resolved. That the charter or Local 66 be changed to Bonnaz, Singer and hand embroidery, and same local be given jurisdiction over the Singer and hand embroideries.
Chairman Lefkovits: We had the signers of this resolution before us and we have got all the information from them. It is merely a difference in the construction of the machinery, but the work is the same. They both have machinery, and the hand embroidery is really a part of the machine. They explained to us that up to the present time there was no objection from the workers in general. They have had jurisdiction over these trades and they did try to organize the trade, but they want to have the sanction to change the charter of their organization. We also have asked them if there is a local union of single machinery, and I found that there is not, so the committee does not see any objection to granting the request and they report favorably upon it.
Upon motion of Delegate Padover, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 21.
Introduced by delegates of Local 68.
Whereas, The chalk and suit, skirt and
dresses manufacturers are not responsible for
the sanitary conditions and price standards
of their embroidery contractors under the
existing agreements of the I. L. G. W. U.,
and the associations of the above mentioned
industries, and

Whereas, as a local of the International,
we are entitled to fair protection from un-
scrupulous contractors, be it

Resolved, that the International is to use
in future all means at its disposal that union
contractors be given the embroidery work
that is to be done in the cloak, suit and dress
shirt houses.

Delegate Lefkovits: The committee recom-
mends that this resolution be given over
to the incoming General Executive Board
and they shall make whatever disposition
they shall see fit, and that they do all in
their power to assist the embroidery work-
ners.

Upon motion, the report of the committee
was concurred in.

Resolution No. 10.

WHEREAS, the delegates of the Thirteenth
Convention are aware of the many moral
and material inconveniences experienced in
the last six years of active life, and

WHEREAS, though fruitful, we may yet call
it an experimental period in which many
lessons have been learned by us and we
found that unity of action against us is a
practice of the manufacturers as well, and

WHEREAS, the partition of a big union like
ours into different local unions, represent-
ing such craft gives use to unnecessary local
selfishness which often, as at present in the
cloak industry in the City of New York,
sidetracks the aspirations of the workers,
and

WHEREAS, such state of affairs renders the
average union member a local patriot and
a forced dues payer instead of an active
member and a class defender, and

WHEREAS, our present means of defense
and struggle have proved to be completely
inadequate, as we have seen during our
last general strike in New York, because the
financial situation with such a complicated
system causing excessive expenses are con-
suming all our funds, and

WHEREAS, the power attributed to each
Local Executive Board generally, and es-
pecially at present, with the Protective Di-
vision shops conflicts with the proper au-
thorities who are in charge of the business;
therefore, be it

Resolved, that all locals of the same in-
dustry, in any big center or city, shall amal-
gamate into one body of men and women
(industrial local union, as is at present
Local 25) who are to elect a proportionate
number of representatives by a referendum
vote once every year, and who are to form
a deliberating body, as at the present Joint
Boards in the various cities; and be it fur-
ther

Resolved, that any subdivision of this in-
dustrial local shall be made only in regard
to nationalities and to craft; and be it fur-
ther

Resolved, that there shall be one financial
administration which shall have all power
belonging now to each local union with their
managers, secretaries and finance com-
mittees and to each Joint Board.

Chairman Lefkovits: The committee has
a majority and minority report. The ma-
jority is for the adoption; the minority is to
reject. Those who signed the majority re-
port are: Delegates Lefkovits, Kushner,
Edelman, Sapio, Taylor and Ledman. The
signers of the minority report are Delegates
Gorenstein, Shapiro, Brelawer and Friend.

Delegate Martin moved that the minority
report be adopted. (Seconded.)

Delegate Elmer Rosenberg made a short
statement in favor of the minority report.

Delegates Langer and Lieberman spoke in
favor of the minority report.

On motion debate was closed.

Delegates Nitx, the introducer of the reso-
lution, was given the privilege of the floor,
and discussed the resolution at some length.

Chairman Lefkovits spoke in favor of the
majority report.

President Schlesinger discussed the reso-
lution briefly, and stated that in his opinion
the plan proposed in the resolution would
not reduce expense. He favored the minor-
ity report.

The motion to adopt the minority report,
to reject the resolution, was adopted.
Resolution No. 22.

Whereas, The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union was established for the purpose of bettering the conditions and to advance the right and interests of its members as producers, and

Whereas, The daily increasing cost of living is assuming such dangerous proportions as to almost nullify the advantages gained on the industrial field; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union in convention goes on record against the unjustified daily increase of the cost of living by arranging mass demonstrations, calling the public’s attention to these evils, sending petitions to Congress to lay an embargo on necessities, etc., etc., and be it further

Resolved, That in order to make this fight more efficient and effective, the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union shall unite for concerted action with similar organizations and hereby best serve the interests of its members, not only as producers, but also as consumers.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution.

Delegate Mel* moved the adoption of the committee’s recommendation. (Seconded.)

Delegate Martin offered an amendment that the committee go on record as adopting the resolution as read, but that the carrying of it into effect be referred to the incoming Executive Board.

President Schlesinger: The chairman of the committee informs me that the resolution reads that way, so the amendment is out of order.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 24.

Whereas, The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, at its Twelfth Biennial Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, decided to commence an agitation for an eight-hour work day in the ladies’ garment industry; and

Whereas, In our judgment some work in that direction has been done, but not sufficient to carry out this decision; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention urges upon the incoming General Executive Board to make preparations for a much wider agitation, and see that the eight-hour work day is carried out.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

The President announced that representatives of the Radical Library, Branch 273, W. C., the Socialist party of Philadelphia and the Kropotkin Publication Society, were present and requested the privilege of the floor.

Upon motion, the privilege of the floor was granted to them.

Chas. T. Schneek, representing the Kropotkin Publication Society, was introduced to the delegates and told of the work of the society, which had been formed to translate into Yiddish all the classics and the works of some of the best authors. He said they endeavored to translate and publish one book a year and asked for subscriptions to help them this year, as they were in financial need because of the high cost of paper.

President Schlesinger suggested that any delegate wishing to subscribe could do so.

Joe. Shepley, representing the Socialist party of Philadelphia, was introduced to the convention. He made a short address, in which he expressed the hope that the relations between the labor movement in general and the Socialist movement would soon be as cordial as those existing between the Ladies’ Garment Workers and the Socialist party. He requested their earnest support in the political battles that were soon to be waged.

William Schuman, representing Branch 273, Women’s Circle, the Radical Library, made a brief address. He spoke of conditions on the Pacific Coast and of the imprisonment of several members of a labor union because of their activities during a strike. He requested the cooperation of all those interested in the labor movement.

Announcements were made, and at 5
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

O'clock P. M. the convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9 o'clock A. M., Saturday, October 21, 1916.

Corrections: Second Day, Morning Session.—In the discussion on the Freedman case Delegate Prisomt, Local 23, wished his statement to read that no matter whether a man is a member of the Executive Board or not, as long as the charges which were made against him were found substantial, that he should not be seated, as the delegates are expected to be 100 per cent. trade unionists.

During the discussion on the Freedman case, Delegate Silverman, Local 25, spoke in favor of seating Freedman, saying that most of the delegates were radicals and did not believe in persecuting a man.

At the close of the session the following resolutions were presented.

Resolution No. 36.

Introduced by George Rubin, Max Grossman, Local 2; Saul Meix, Local 35; H. Bernstein, Local 15; A. Snyder, J. B. Philadelphia; Max Handler, Local 99.

Whereas, The Kropotkin Publication Society is an organization whose aim is to uplift the intellectual standard of the people through introducing and translating books of high educational value; and

Whereas, It is a free and voluntary organization whose sole dependence consists of subscriptions and voluntary contributions; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention goes on record to recommend all its members to become subscribers of this organization; and

Resolved, That this convention donate one hundred dollars ($100.00) to enable the Kropotkin Publication Society to continue the good work.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 37.


The above, members of Local 73, working in the waist and dress shops controlled by the Waistmakers’ Union, hereby petition the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union to grant us permission to organize a cutters’ branch of Local 49, so that our interests can be better protected and our existence as a union secured.

Referred to Organization Committee.

Resolution No. 38.

Introduced by S. Haiman, Local 25.

Whereas, Many of our most active members of the different local unions have been compelled to leave their former occupations as workers or officials in their respective Locals, because of being defeated in an election or being unable on account of union activity to obtain employment at their respective crafts; and

Whereas, Such members while they are out are still donating their valuable services to the I. L. G. W. U. or to their Locals who really need their services; be it therefore

Resolved, That any such members, if they are not engaged in hiring and employing labor and if they are not engaged in such business which brings them in contact with the manufacturers of the local unions with which they are connected, shall be entitled to all the rights of membership in the I. L. G. W. U. and may represent their locals in any capacity or at any convention; and,

Resolved, That each and every local shall have a right to pass upon such members, whether they consider them worthy to retain membership, and may also make exceptions in cases where it is necessary, to allow them to indulge in any occupation in order to secure their existence, providing it
will not involve employing, hiring and discharging workers.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 39.

Introduced by S. Hatman, Local 25.

Whereas, The Locals of our International Union must engage legal services in dealing with the manufacturers, especially those Locals which have protocol agreements, and

Whereas, Such legal advice is too costly and is a great burden for the individual Locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union engage such lawyers for all the New York Locals, the cost to be covered by the different Locals, together with the general office, according to the membership. This to be only for attorneys' services in connection with dealings with manufacturers, but shall not include police court cases.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 40.

Introduced by S. Hatman, Local 25.

Whereas, Many Locals of the I. L. G. W. U. in the city of New York have their own publications, which are usually run at great financial loss to the different Locals, and

Whereas, Such publications are printed in private printing establishments, which make great profits on such work; therefore be it

Resolved, That a similar committee to the one elected at the last convention be elected at this convention, whose duties should consist of bringing about an amalgamation of the publications of the different Locals according to language; and, be it further

Resolved, That this convention appropriate $10,000 for the purpose of establishing a co-operative printing plant under the supervision of a committee of all the Locals involved, and shall engage an experienced manager to print such publications at actual cost, with the addition of a certain percentage to pay off the $10,000 to the I. L. G. W. U.

This committee should submit its report to the convention of 1918, or to any special convention that may take place.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 41.

Introduced by S. Hatman, Local 25.

Whereas, Our International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has grown to be one of the largest Internationals in the American labor movement, and

Whereas, Its growth has been marked with many interesting phases of rising and declining under certain circumstances, and

Whereas, The struggle it lived through may be a good object-lesson for our future progress; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention appropriate $5,000 for the purpose of engaging a good writer who shall gather material and write a history of our International and of all its Locals in detail; this work to be done under the supervision of the General Executive Board.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 42.

Introduced by S. Hatman, Local 25.

Whereas, The jurisdiction questions that arise between the Locals take a good deal of time at our conventions, and

Whereas, The convention as a whole can not always solve these questions in a form satisfactory to the Locals concerned, and

Whereas, Such questions are complicated and demand a special study of the different problems involved; therefore be it

Resolved, That a special committee of five shall be elected at this convention to study such questions and they shall have the power to employ expert help, in the solution of such questions, and each Local shall submit their disputes to such committee before they bring them to the convention, so that this committee may have the opportunity to either bring about an adjustment of such questions, or in case of disagreement submit their report and their findings to the convention.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 43.

Introduced by F. M. Cohn, Local 40; S. Spanier, M. Zucker, Local 17; H. Chancer, Local 11; H. Krakoff, Local 37; G. Rubin, Local 2; A. Litvakoff, Local 15; L. Goldstein, Local 41; J. Finkenstein, Local 33; S. Levin, Local 65; M. Sacks, Local 41; M. Lapidus, Local 77; S. Haiman, Local 25; A. Dunu, Local 33; E. J. Cavanagh, Local 39; M. C. Jennings, Local 40.

Whereas, The reading of the report of the General Executive Board submitted to this convention and read by the President took up almost three sessions; and

Whereas, The report was mailed to every delegate before the convention; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention decide that in the future no report shall be read before the convention, but instead, a short outline in the form of an address shall be read by the President at the opening of the convention. This will save time for the delegates and strain on the President.

Refered to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 44.

Introduced by S. Koldofsky, J. B., of Toronto; S. Labensohn, J. B., of Montreal; L. Bogard and A. Taylor.

Whereas, On account of the situation arising from the European war, our local unions have for some time gone through a crisis and suffered in various ways, and the condition of the great mass of cloakmakers and ladies' garment workers generally, has also during the past two years become worse because of reduced prices for labor, and increased prices of the necessaries of life; and

Whereas, At the Cleveland Convention, after considering the situation in the Canadian cloak industry, the G. E. B. has been empowered to call a general strike of cloakmakers in Toronto and Montreal, as all previous efforts to improve conditions through the method of shop strikes, etc., have proved ineffective; and

Whereas, The previous conditions of the International Union, as well as the local situation did not warrant the G. E. B. to undertake such action up till now; and

Whereas, The conditions of the International Union, and the local circumstances have not altered and there is now a great and growing desire on the part of the Canadian fellow-workers to take decisive measures to improve the conditions and to bring about higher standards in the cloak industry; and

Whereas, President Schlesinger's visit to Toronto and Montreal a short while ago, and his promise of support for a campaign of organization greatly encouraged the workers to rally our local unions and prepare for action; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention, viewing with satisfaction the awakened spirit of unionism amongst our Canadian fellow-workers, reaffirms its previous decision, giving to the incoming General Executive Board the power to aid in continuing the said campaign and to take all necessary steps to carry out a general strike in the cloak, skirt and dress industry of Canada, so as to bring about improved standards of labor as is required by the local conditions.

Refered to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 45.

Introduced by A. Gold and B. Maloff, Local 44; M. Stem and H. Baraky, Local 81; M. Bernstein, Local 18, and H. Schoolman, J. B., of Chicago.

Whereas, A great many of the employees in the cloak, suit and skirt industry are of Polish nationality, and

Whereas, Most of these Polish employees are not members of the Cloak and Skirtmakers' Union; and

Whereas, We consider Chicago a large field in the cloak, suit, dress and skirt industry for the purpose of organization, be it therefore

Resolved, That an organizer of Polish nationality be stationed in Chicago to cooperate with Locals 18, 44 and 81 in organizing the Polish people working in the trade.

Refered to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 46.

Introduced by H. Schoolman, J. B., Chicago; A. Gold and B. Maloff, Local 44; M.
Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union keeps control of the assessments and dues paid out by the members of the respective locals through a system of stamps which serve as receipts to the members for the money paid; and

Whereas, This system has proven to be an efficient mode, on the part of the International, to have knowledge and be able to control the finances of the respective locals; and

Whereas, The initiation fees, as collected by the respective locals are simply recorded by the secretaries in writing, through numerous different modes of entry, so that the International is not very well informed and cannot keep control of the money collected for the initiation fees by the respective locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Executive Board be empowered and ordered to issue stamps in the denomination of one, two and five dollars, to be sold to all of the respective locals at a discount of 99 per cent. on the dollar, so that the members receive a receipt from the International for initiation fee, paid in stamps, to be pasted in the membership books and also that the International be kept informed as to all money collected for initiation fees in all of the respective locals.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 48.

Introduced by H. Schoolman, J. B., of Chicago; A. Gold and B. Maloff, Local 44; M. Stern and H. Barsky, Local 81, and M. Bernstein, Local 18.

Whereas, Brother Abe Bians, Chief Clerk of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt-makers' Union of Chicago, has faithfully supported the cause of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for a great many years and has served in several capacities as an officer of our organization, both in Chicago and in New York; be it therefore

Resolved That this convention extends to Brother Bians an invitation to come to Philadelphia and participate in the proceedings of this Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 49.

Introduced by M. Perlstein, J. B., of Cleveland; J. Porris, Local 26.

Whereas, An organization campaign has been going on in Cleveland for the last year and a half to organize the cloakmakers of the city of Cleveland; and

Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage where fundamental betterment ought to be brought about in the trade by establishing a minimum scale of wages for week workers, pressers and cutters, and standards in the other branches of the trade; and

Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage that the principle of collective bargaining must be recognized by the manufacturers of this city; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union empower the incoming General Executive Board to seek to establish minimum scale of wages and standards in the cloak and skirt industry of the city of Cleveland, and also enforce the principle of collective bargaining.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Reports.
Resolution No. 60.

Introduced by H. Schoolman, J. R., of Chicago; J. B. Arnowsky, M. Stern and H. Barsky, of Local 81; H. Maloff and A. Gold, of Local 44; Miss F. M. Cohn, Local 60; and M. Bernstein, Local 18.

Whereas, There are approximately between seven and eight thousand people that are not yet organized working in the dress and waist and skirt industry in the city of Chicago and vicinity, and

Whereas, These workers are working for a mere pittance, and under conditions that are unbearable to humanity; be it therefore

Resolved, That this body shall provide organizers for the above named city to organize these workers; and, be it further

Resolved, That said organizers be sent to this city immediately, as the sentiment of organization is strong among this body of workers.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 61.

Introduced by L. Hyman, M. Palefsky, R. Bernstein, M. Deitch, M. Marquis, S. Bender, M. Kushner, J. Kesten, M. Kovinsky and H. Schuster, of Local 9; and M. Marquis, Local 30.

Whereas, Experience has clearly proven that the piece-work system is largely responsible for the existence of sub-manufacturing, creating competition between the workers of the inside and outside shops, also endless friction between the workers and employers, whereby in many instances the best union men who endeavor to maintain union standards are discriminated against, and

Whereas, All the remedies tried by the Union have so far been ineffective; be it therefore

Resolved, That the thirteenth biennial convention go on record in favor of a week work system and instruct its incoming General Executive Board to work in that direction.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 62.

Introduced by Local 43. Henry Rubin and Minnie Backs.

Whereas, Our Local went through a tremendous struggle for better conditions for its members, and, in consideration of the fact that our efforts were only partially successful on account of the lack of good work and more agitation on the part of the majority of the workers engaged in our industry, and

Whereas, The question of hours was left with the Board of Arbitration, which has postponed action, due to the competition of the unorganized shops; be it therefore

Resolved, That we request the Thirteenth Biennial Convention to go on record for a strong and effective campaign in the city of Worcester before the next spring season; and, be it further

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union assign an organizer for a short period, in order to advance our good work started.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 63.

Introduced by H. Silberman, Local 25.

To amend Article IV, Section 1, to read as follows:

Local Unions should have local by-laws or rules and regulations, copies of which should be in possession of the G. E. B. In case of controversy in any Local Union over the interpretation of any rule, the G. E. B. should be in authority to interpret same. Such by-laws or rules and regulations should not be in contradiction to the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U.

Section now numbered No. 1 to be No. 2.
Section now numbered No. 2 to be No. 3.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 64.

Introduced by P. M. Cohen, Local 60; H. Bernstein, Local 16; A. Pasternack, Local 8; S. Cesar, Local 16; A. Hirsh, Local 15; A. Litvakoff, Local 15; S. Spanier, Local 41; S. Ninfo, Local 48; H. Zucker, Local 41;
Whereas, There is going on an earnest and constant agitation among organized labor to demand merchandise with the union label only, and

Whereas, The union label is the only guarantee that merchandise bought by our members is made under union conditions, and

Whereas, Our attention was called to the fact that locals of the I. L. O. W. U. are using scab made writing paper, be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention go on record as instructing the President and General Secretary-Treasurer to the effect that no communications from any Local Union have recognition unless it is written on paper with the union label, the General Office to notify all affiliated Local Unions to that effect.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 55.

Introduced by F. M. Cohn, Local 60; H. Bernstein, Local 15; S. Ninfo, Local 45; A. Litvakoff, Local 15; H. Zucker, Local 41; M. B. Gollin, Local 10; E. Rosenberg, Local 10; J. C. Ryan, Local 10; E. Rosenberg, Local 10; M. Lapidus, Local 77; B. Haiman, Local 25; P. J. Cavanagh, Local 39; M. C. Jennings, Local 40; A. Dunn, Local 25; B. Feldman, Local 25; M. Goosman, Local 25; E. Lieberman, Local 25.

Whereas, It is a regretful fact that many of the members of the I. L. O. W. U. are not attending the meetings of their respective Local Unions, and

Whereas, No Union can be strong enough unless all its members participate in its management; be it therefore

Resolved, That this thirteenth convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to take up at once this subject for this purpose, and form an education committee, the duty of which shall be to cooperate with the Local Unions in every possible way.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 56.

Introduced by Delegates Annie Thomas and Anna Cashner, Local No. 49:

Whereas, There are many ladies' garment workers in the city of Boston and vicinity in the waist and dress trade not yet organized; be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to appoint organizers in the above named city, in order to accomplish that purpose.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 57.

Introduced by Elisa Lieberman, Local 25:

Whereas, The contracting or so-called submanufacturing evil has spread in all the trades affiliated with our I. L. O. W. U., and

Whereas, This evil undermines the very existence of some of our unions by making union members of one local of the same international unconsciously compete with each other, and

Whereas, This evil was brought about by some economic factors that require careful and thorough consideration; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board at its first quarterly session to appoint a committee of five to investigate same and bring in its recommendation at the earliest opportunity; and, be it further

Resolved, That the committee so appointed be empowered to engage expert advice, if it deems that necessary.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 58.

Introduced by S. Koldofsky, J. B., Toronto; S. Labensohn, J. B., Montreal; L. Bograd, and A. Taylor:
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 59.
Introduced by J. B. Arnowaky, Local 81; H. Schoolman, Chicago, J. B.; B. Maloff, Local 44; M. Bernstein, Local 18; M. Stern, Local 81; A. Gold, Local 44; H. Barsky, Local 18.

Whereas, There is no provision in our Constitution relating to the subject of recall of officers properly elected, for incompetence, dishonesty, or unfaithfulness to their obligations, and

Resolved, That this Convention insert a provision in our Constitution giving each local the right to recall elected officers in case they are found guilty as above referred to, by a proper tribunal; and, be it further

Resolved, That this provision apply also to the general officers of our organization.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 60.
Introduced by S. Shapiro, Local No. 26.

To amend Article VII, Section 1, to read as follows:

The General Executive Board shall have the power to declare a levy of 10 cents per week on all members of the affiliated local unions for a continuous period not exceeding fifteen (16) weeks during any one year to assist in the support of an affiliated organization engaged in strike, lockout or in any other urgent financial need of similar character. Such assessment should be collected by the local union through assessment stamps assessed by the I. L. O. W. U. No local union should have the right to assess its members for purpose above mentioned.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 61.

Whereas, The organization of the various crafts of the needle industry in the United States and Canada requires the outlay of large sums of money; and

Whereas, We realize the fact that with an empty treasury and exhausted resources, our International cannot maintain its standing and increase its forces; and

Whereas, Whenever a strike or lockout takes place there is always a lack of finances to conduct and maintain such struggles in a successful way, and

Whereas, Such a state of affairs endangers the conditions of our locals and is a hindrance to our forward march for gain and accomplishment; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention enact and enforce a uniform per capita dues tax of 26 cents per week for a male member and 20 cents per week for a female member throughout the locals of our International Union.

Referred to Committee on Law.
FIFTH DAY—SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.


The Convention was called to order at 9:45 a.m., President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

May the spirit of unity guide your work.

LADIES' TAILORS' UNION.

Local 26, of Boston, M. Hemlin, Organizer.


International Ladies' Garment Workers Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Accept our heartiest congratulations to the Thirteenth Convention. We hope your deliberations will prove successful.

Employees of M. Cauman & Co.


A. Baroff.


To the Officers and Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention.

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the success of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. Our hearts and souls are with you.

The Big Trio of Sixty-two.

SHORE, LANG, DAVIS.

Cleveland, O., Oct. 20, 1916.


Accept my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

May your deliberations prove to be a new epoch in the history of the working class for the improvement of conditions for those who till.

I. S. FEIT,

Ex-Vice-President.


Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Congratulations.

Jewish Branch of Socialist Party.


Worthy comrades, we extend our heartiest congratulations and sincerest wishes, hoping you will be successful in all your worthy endeavors for progress and the solidarity of all the workers.

Yours fraternally,

Consumers' League of the Bronx.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings and wishes for progress and success at your convention.

The Embroidery Workers' Union, Local 5.


B. Schlesinger, President.

Care International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings to all the delegates and officers of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention. May your deliberations and harmonious work lead our gigantic organization to greater success and splendor.

Chairladies Waist, Suit and Children's Dressmaking Union of Philadelphia, Local 15.


The Officers and Delegates I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Bldg., Philadelphia.

My heartiest congratulations to your delayed Convention. Wishing you success in all your enterprises for the betterment of conditions of all the members you represent.

A. QUYER.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

The undersigned members in good standing of the Boston locals hereby express their gratitude to the Convention for the splendid work you did for Boston, and hope that you will continue it along the same line. We stand ready and willing to help the International in all their efforts.

THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.


Mr. A. Baroff, Secretary.
Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings: The workers of our shop, all devoted members of our International, wish the Thirteenth Biennial Convention success in all its deliberations.

WORKERS OF I BROD'S SHOP,
Members of Local 16.


Mr. A. Baroff, Secretary.
Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings: Our heartiest congratulations to the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of our International. May you be as successful in the future as you have been in the past.

WORKERS OF ZOLLOT SHOP,
Members of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 15.


Chairman, Delegates:
Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

We wish you success in your deliberations and hope that your deliberations will be such that will lead to the emancipation of the working class.

COBELL, Chairman Local 30.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Greetings: After a lapse of two years you are again assembled in convention in the City of Brotherly Love. We trust the spirit of the founders of this city may permeate the convention as to bring about the most absolute good for our International industry.

Chicago Cloak and Suit Cutters', Local 61,


Thirteenth Annual Convention, I. L. G. W. U., Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia.

We wish you success. We thank you for the beginning that you made in Boston. Hope that you will finish it. With best wishes.

Employes of Goldman, Silverman and Badel.

Shop Chairman

LOS ANGELES, CAL., OCT. 20, 1916.

A. BAROFF, Secretary.

Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

Greetings and best wishes from our local. We hope that this Convention will be to it that our International shall be finan-
President Schlesinger stated that the convention was honored by the presence of four distinguished guests, each of whom was an important factor in the labor movement and each of whom would be presented to the delegates in turn. He first introduced Comrade S. Yanovsky, representing “The Freie Arbeiter Stimme” of New York, and said in part: “Judging from the articles that Comrade Yanovsky has written and the editorials he has printed in his paper, as well as from the private conferences and conversations that I have had with him, I think he understands the problems of our trade as clearly as you men understand them. I believe that he knows exactly the troubles we are having in our industry and the causes of those troubles, and I hope that when he addresses us now he will be able to tell us how to solve those problems.”

In addressing the convention Comrade Yanovsky stated that he would first say a few words to the delegates in English and then address them in Yiddish, as he seldom spoke in English. He expressed his pleasure at being invited to address the convention, and said that while he felt he understood the problems of the cloak makers’ trade to some extent, he also felt that an outsider could not possibly understand them as well as those who were making their living by that trade and devoting all their time and energy to it, and for that reason he could not teach them how to solve such problems; that they could better solve their own problems. Comrade Yanovsky congratulated the Ladies’ Garment Workers on their achievements as a powerful and influential organization, and said that he had endeavored to do his part as far as possible in connection with the great strikes and controversies that had occurred. (Vigorous applause.)

Upon motion of Delegate Padover, duly seconded, a rising vote of thanks was extended to the speaker for his address.

President Schlesinger introduced to the convention Dr. M. I. Stone, and stated that while Dr. Stone was not considered to be a labor agitator, he had helped the labor movement considerably, especially the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, in the way of gathering statistics, some of which he would present to the delegates.

Dr. I. Stone, in addressing the convention, laid especial emphasis on the existence of the sweat shop, which he declared to be the greatest hindrance to the progress of labor at the present day. He stated that every few years it is thought the union has achieved a signal victory by its abolishment, but that the sweat shop always reappears and is in existence today. He spoke of a New York firm which the waist and dressmakers’ union of New York was fighting, and which he said was deliberately violating the protocol. He suggested that the only way to bring the manufacturers to terms, to regulate or abolish altogether contract shops is to have control of the market, and that should be the watchword of the International—“On to the market; we are going to control the markets of the United States.” . He referred to the importance of the label as a means of accomplishing that, and earnestly insisted upon the co-operation of the International and all trades connected with it, with the Consumers’ League, through which the organization could get a tremendous amount of publicity in this country free of charge; that three years ago the Consumers’ League called a national convention in Buffalo, at which time the label was discussed, and they expressed their willingness to withdraw their own label, and adopt one that would be sanctioned by the manufacturer, the union and the League. He expressed the opinion that now was the opportune time to take up this matter, and push it to a conclusion, which the International had been prevented from doing before, owing to unfavorable conditions.

Delegate Flaster moved that the matter of the label be referred to a committee to bring in a report. President Schlesinger stated that the officers’ report contained certain recommendations in regard to the label, which would be reported upon at the proper time.

President Schlesinger, in introducing to
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Address of Robert W. Bruere.

I want to tell you, Mr. Chairman and Delegates, that I respond out of the depth of my heart to this welcome. Your President speaks of me as having conferred a gift upon you, speaks of me as a university-trained man who has come to you to give you help, but I know that you have given me a deeper understanding, not only of the labor movement, but of the object of our democracy, and I owe you a deeper debt than I have ever owed to any school, to any college, to any university, and I do not hesitate to say to any organization whatsoever.

A year or two ago I was walking along a country road and I met a very old man with his wife going to some holiday dinner with a neighbor. I joined them and walked with them, and it was not more than a minute or two before the old man began telling me about Gettysburg, about the fact that he had fought under Hancock at Gettysburg, that he had had a hand in turning the tide of the great war. That was the great moment that filled his spirit, that made his old age full of a kind of romantic joy. When I think of last summer and know that I too some day shall be an old man, I know that when I look back I shall think about the strike last summer very much as that old man talked of the battle of Gettysburg. I found there a group of men devoted to the cause, not only of their own union, but to the cause of organized labor and the fundamental principles of democracy, such as I had never met before. I met Schlesinger, Baroff, Sigman, and my good friend Max Danziger, who were giving their energy, their spirit, their enthusiasm, their lives, not only to you, not only to the Cloak and Suit Makers' Union, not only to the International, but to the cause of organized labor, the triumph of which, the development of which means the emancipation not only of the working class, but the emancipation of our whole democracy. I learned to know the meaning of solidarity, I felt the loyalty of one to another, I felt the real meaning of the phrases to which we all give lip service perpetually, I felt the meaning of the saying that "What is good for one is good for all, and the cause of one is the cause of all." "We will fight and strive, and we will give everything we have in the world in order that the cause of the movement, the cause of all may triumph." It was a wonderful experience.

You talk about university men. My contact with university men as a result of that strike was a revelation to me, and a totally new one. I have been in colleges and universities, though my father was an immigrant and landed in Hoboken with a dollar in his pocket, a fact of which I am very proud. I started in the university in 1892 and I have worked in universities for twenty years. And then came this strike, and the union said to me, "We want you to go out and speak to the public about this strike; we want you to go out and advertise the righteousness of our fight; we want you to go out and help the committees to understand what the rights of the cloakmakers are."

I thought I would take a shot at the university men, those men who have never taken any active hand, as a rule, in labor disputes, so I went to Columbia University, and I met one man and I was very careful how I approached him. It was James Shotwell, the historian, and I said to him, "Jim, do you know anything about the cloakmakers' union in New York; do you
know anything about the organizers of the union; do you know anything about the members of the union, 150,000 of them? Do you know what they are doing for industry and democracy and for the labor movement? And he said: "No, I have lived for many years near New York, but I don't know anything about these things." I told him they were on strike at that time and that he as a college man should know something about that strike and should stand back of them, as the labor movement was one of the living forces in the democracy. I told him, "You ought to attend to it," and he said, "That does sound interesting to me. I would like to know more about it. I wish you would come here Monday and meet three or four men and talk this thing over."

I went up Monday and met a number of prominent men dealing with social, economic and political questions, and what I was able to tell them about the real power, the real intelligence, the real loyalty of the labor movement in New York was a revelation to them, as it had been to me. They said: "We want to know more," and they organised a big meeting of the faculty and I invited Brother Schlesinger to come up, and he came up and he told them some things about the labor movement as it confronted the leaders of the cloakmakers' union and the President of the International. The thing that surprised me and encouraged me was that every one of those men reacted as I did. I thought it would be some trouble to get them to give their time, I thought I would be putting myself in the union's debt; but it was just the same with those men as it was with me and I believe that the words that Brother Schlesinger spoke to them have done more to put life into Columbia University than anything that has happened to them in years.

Those men said, "This is a big thing, we have been living in the past, we have been digging into statistics, but here is the live stuff right at our door, here are men who are handling problems concerning the welfare of 150,000 workmen, with a treasury of a million dollars—very few corporations have such an annual income—these men have been working at our very door, handling these big problems and we have not known anything about it. It is a disgrace to the university." They have organised a permanent group, a permanent faculty, a permanent division to keep in touch with the labor movement union in New York, and particularly the needle trades.

Now, I could go on and give you the history of the strike which involved almost every public organization in New York City. We had hundreds, literally hundreds of organised workers working on the publicity jobs, we had every possible instrument of public opinion back of us. And why? Not because of anything that I said, not because of any personal pull, because most of these people had not paid any attention to me; I had broken away from them and had gone into the Socialist movement, and I was making my own living. I was a wage earner, Brother Schlesinger, whose scale of wages was not always up to the scale of wages of your operators and your cutters. These people had not paid any attention to me, but when I brought them in touch with the labor movement, when I brought them in touch with the able statesmanship and leadership of the unions they felt its power as I have done; they felt that there was something about it that they must understand because if they did not understand it it might do something to them. They were timid, they were apprehensive, but at bottom most of them wanted to understand it because of a spirit of democracy. So in all of these groups, they said after the first meeting, "It is not a question of what we can do for the union, it is a question of what the union can do for us." Now that is your great strategic opportunity, as I see it today.

I was greatly interested in Brother Yanovsky's splendid address, and at bottom your greatest problem, your first problem, is organization. You must be strong, you must be loyal to one another, you must be loyal to your union, you must get rid of dirty politics that have disgraced the American municipal government, and which sometimes creep into labor organizations. You must develop, and you must do those things that Dr. Stone told you about. You must do all of these things, and remember that you must have power, for without it you can do nothing; but in addition to that, and this is a thing that the labor movement seems to be just beginning to appreciate, you must realise that you are a great public force.
Your organized numbers have a weight on public opinion, and if you have got yourselves organized, if you have the co-operation of all those interested in your industry you will see what you can do to the administration of the government, of the city, of the legislation of the State. If you see those things and will organize your public connections as you have organized your internal machinery, you can become one of the greatest forces in this nation for the development of an intelligent, fundamental democracy, and the right understanding of the labor movement.

I shall give only one illustration of what I mean, and then I am done. One of the things that touched me most in the strike last summer was the new discovery, because I had not known it before, of the conditions under which the children of many of our workers lived. We ran school luncheons for them, we got the Board of Education to allow us to use the public schools and to organize kitchens there, and every day there were thousands of children coming in. As a citizen of the community of New York City I was ashamed and humiliated to see thousands of children coming there, ill-fed, ill-clothed, without proper resources to grow into fine manhood and womanhood. Now, the first solution of that is organization in a better way of the control of industry. But there is another: you as organized workers ought to have your representatives on a board of estimates and apportionments, you ought to have your spokesmen before the nation, you ought to have your finances organized, I want to see you have your finances organized, I want to see you prepared for strikes, but beside that—I speak as one of you—I feel that public sympathy, instead of being asked for, can, through proper education, be secured without asking. That is to me one of the great lessons that the strike has taught. We have seen how little the decisions of the Board of Arbitration have amounted to when the union was not strong enough to enforce them, but it was not until last summer that the tremendous power of the organization was felt, and you want to impress this on the public, you want to educate them. If you will hold together, if you will be loyal and strong and develop, you cannot help but succeed. You have a wonderful leadership and you have got your minds set upon large questions in the future, as well as the immediate questions of the day, of daily bread.

I want to thank the International for the association I have had with it, and I thank it for the privilege of speaking to you here this morning.

Delegate Silberman moved that the thanks of the Convention be extended to Mr. Brueka, and that his address be given in full in the minutes. (Seconded.)

A suggestion was made that the address be printed, framed and sent to the International office to be hung on the walls of the office, as it was of an educational nature.

Delegate Sterling offered as an amendment that a rising vote of thanks be tendered to the speaker. (Seconded, and carried unanimously.)

President Schlesinger: In introducing the next speaker, I would say that he has been associated with us for the past two years and five months and that he is the real leader of the International. I now introduce to you Brother Morris Hillquit.
ADDRESS OF MORRIS HILQUIT.
Legal Adviser of the International.

Comrades and Friends, I want to thank you for the hearty reception you have given me. I think that if all of you would be my constituents and would move over to the Twenty-fifth Congressional District I would have but little doubt about my election. I don't really suppose you are in a receptive mood for speech-making because the heartiest cheer I ever heard in my life was last night when the chair said that speaking would be eliminated, and I can sympathize with you fully. I shall therefore not make a speech to you, but as counsel to the International I consider myself as a sort of officer of your organisation and my talk to you will be a sort of informal report. You have had a formal report as part of the general report but I shall try to give you just a few brief side lines, a supplementary report.

My professional connection with the International began with the administration about two and a half years ago, and I want to say to you now that this has been probably the most strenuous period in my life and in my professional career. I had a very peculiar client in your organisation and particularly the President of your organisation, the honorable Benjamin Schlesinger. From the day he honored me by acquainting me that I had been made counsel for the International, right up to the present I have had practically no time for anything else and I have had about the most troublesome, worrisome, taxing sort of a practice any lawyer has had, and when I say it, I say it not by way of complaint, but I also fully admit that I have had the most interesting and, on the whole, the most gratifying time I have ever had in my life.

No matter what the future may hold in store for you and for me, or our mutual relations, of one thing I am certain and that is that I shall always think about the two and a half years of our mutual work with delight and with pleasure, because I feel we have been fighting a good fight, we put up a brave fight, and that on the whole we have every reason to be satisfied with the result. I don't know how many of you realize to the full extent the critical character of the period that has intervened since your Cleveland Convention. Those of us who have been called upon to take an active part in the various fights, to ponder on the various problems and phases realize the magnitude of it all. To start with, we practically had an unformed movement at the beginning, we had a movement which had sprung up suddenly a few years before, but which had not had time to crystallize, to find itself, to develop definite aims; we had a big, tremendous understanding and we had very little experience in the past to guide us in the handling of the problems.

The first and most troublesome problem, of course, and which probably still is, was the large body of workers in the International Union, the cloakmakers. You know they are an awfully troublesome lot. It started out with a certain movement for a reform of that instrument which had more or less made the cloakmakers' union—the famous protocol. It was not a well formulated, definite, express movement, but it was a movement of dissatisfaction and a growing movement, and my first job was to formulate the general, inarticulate dissatisfaction into a concrete demand, into a concrete battlecry. The protocol itself was a great advance over all other previous agreements in the cloak industry; it had the great merit that it proclaimed the rights of the workers in the shop; that it demolished the old, antiquated and reactionary notion that a shop or factory is the private property of the employer, to be handled by him as he pleases, without any responsibility to his workers or to the public at large. It introduced the principle that a shop or a factory is a place of a public character, that it has a public function to perform and that the worker in the shop is the living tool, the living instrument, the factor that makes and creates the commodity, the factor that, after all, keeps a large portion of our population supplied with the necessities of life, that the worker is an important factor and has certain rights in the industry.

The bipartisan system of adjusting grievances and disputes, the voice given the worker in certain phases of the management of a shop was a great advance, but by no means perfect, it was generalized. The two new principles which we took up, and for the establishment of which we fought at the beginning of this administration, were vital principles, not only in our industry, because they biased the trail for
other workers, they established a few philosophies in relation to the worker and employer, and those two principles were, first, the right of a worker to his job; and, second, the right of all workers to distribute the available work and earnings among all of them on an equitable basis.

Now, we are all so used to these phrases, "permanent employment," "equal distribution of work," that it practically means little to us, they are just phrases. But when we come to think of them they are a veritable revolution, conceived in this world of work: the right to a job, not necessarily a life tenure, not necessarily a permanent job, but some kind of a recognized, substantial right to keep a job, on the part of a worker. What does that mean? It means the entire claim of the worker to a right to work, to a right to live. It means a breaking down of the old system of absolute, uncontrolled, irresponsible private ownership of our industry. The worker today is deprived of his tools, of his Instruments, he depends upon the owner of the tool and the Instrument for the possibility to earn a living. Under these circumstances, if a man born into this world has a right to live, he must have a right to work; and if he has to have a right to work, he must have a right to a place of employment, a right to a job, a certain guaranteed right of access to the tools, to the machinery which are needed for this work.

It was left to this organization of ours to assert for the first time in the history of the labor movement in this country, in definite and concrete terms, the vital principles which underlie the lives of the working class of a whole country, and similarly the right of all workers to share in the available earnings, in the available work, a principle which at once put an end to the pernicious war between worker and worker for a job, the pernicious fight among the workers which tends to lower wages, tends to deteriorate the standing and puts him in absolute dependence upon the employer.

We came before the Board of Arbitration, the chairman of which was Louis D. Brandeis, with this proposition, and when we first made our claims in broad and bold terms, we said we claimed that the worker had a right to his employment, that the worker had a right to share whatever employment there was among them, and immediately there was a howl on the part of the employers. We were called all sorts of names, socialists, anarchists, and so on. But we are still living, and day after day for many weeks there was hearing after hearing. We went into the entire problem, to its root, to its very depth, and the result was that after we had been heard and after our claims had been stated, we did finally secure a certain recommendation. We did not get all we asked for, but we did secure an expression, they recognized the general right of the worker to his job, the general right of the worker to share the work with his fellow-worker, to share the available work and earnings, and this decision of the Board of Arbitration, no matter what the immediate practical results were, as a statement of principle will remain in the annals of the labor movement of this country, and you may congratulate yourselves upon first having introduced it. Our employers did not think so, our employers were not pleased with it. Then began a long, weary year of strife, and stress, and struggle for every inch of the ground. The Employers' Association tried its best to break down the force of this decision, and we tried our best to uphold it, and extend it. Stormy conferences were held day after day and week after week, until you remember it came to the great break. A strike was imminent, when the public authorities in the city of New York, principally the Mayor of the city, interposed and brought about the Council of Conciliation.

There is another period in the history of the labor movement which probably few men really appreciate. For the first time, I believe, in the political history of the city of New York the city as such officially recognized and proclaimed the principle that labor struggles are not private feuds, but they are matters of public concern, that the public at large is vitally interested in them and has a right and has a duty to interfere and to regulate the relations between employer and worker, if possible. Six men were selected to pass upon the dispute, who probably do not have their equal in this country in point of experience and general standing in the community, and again we had a battle royal for several weeks, day after day, in the official Municipal Building in the city of New York, in the City Hall.
Your representative speaking for you and speaking for the working class at large, laid before the public of the city, before the public of the country, not only your grievances, but also your militant claims, your demands. What was the result? The result was that when the decision of the Council was rendered it contained a new vital principle for the labor movement, and that was that no matter how much the employer spoke about efficiency, no matter how much he spoke about business expediency, it was not efficiency alone. It was not business expediency alone that should rule the relations between employer and worker, that the workers were not just machines, that they were breathing, human, living beings who had rights. The principle laid down was that the human rights of a worker should never be sacrificed to business expediency.

It seems a plain proposition to us, but it does not seem to go far enough; to me it seems it does not go far enough. In fact, I know it does not. The human rights of the worker are not only a factor equally important to the principle of efficiency, the human rights of the worker are vastly superior, the human rights of the worker are the rights of a human being, the rights of the people of this country; their rights, their welfare, their benefits should stand above any and all business consideration, and any and all questions of profit. But with all that, this statement proclaimed at that time marks nevertheless a new and radical departure from the accepted notion; and again it was your organization which introduced that principle, and that principle has been incorporated in the general public sentiment on the subject, even though it might not have had concrete, definite results at that time upon the cloak makers in the city of New York. No power on earth can wipe out the effect it had on the public at large, the effect it had on the labor movement at large, upon the principles that were established.

But that was not the end of the cloak makers' struggles. There was trial after trial and tribulation after tribulation until the time came when the employers felt that the rights of the workers were fine on paper, but when asserted in the shop they objected to it. Again began a long series of controversies, which terminated, as you know, in a new abrogation of the agreement, which brought on the memorable strike of the cloak makers which was conducted for many weeks. And while it is still fresh in my memory, I want to say a few words to you, that if you considered the original protocol a great step in advance, recognizing the right of the worker to organize, recognizing the right of the worker to have a say in the management of the industry, if you recognized the discussion of the Board of Arbitration as giving to some extent a permanent right of the worker to his job and an equal distribution of available work and earnings, and if you recognized through the decision of the Council of Conciliation placing human rights at least at a par with the principles of efficiency—if you recognized them all, I consider the greatest and most important step in our struggle, the last and the second, the emancipation of the Cloak Makers' Union in the city of New York and elsewhere.

Whatever criticism may be offered on one point or on another, the great outstanding fact in this agreement is that the cloak makers have had rendered to them, given back what they wanted in their own keeping. There has been a time when the Cloak Makers' Union needed care and protection on the part of outsiders, and it has had such care and protection. There was a time when the cloak makers could not be entrusted with the management of their own affairs, with the making of their own fate and destiny. That was a time when they were too young and weak, but the time has come when even the benevolent interference of outside elements, the well-meaning protection of outsiders has become an onerous burden upon the workers. It grew and became strong and powerful, and began to feel its strength and wanted to work and fight for itself, and you see what it has accomplished, not only the establishment of their present relations and arrangements, under which they will get what they consider right, or they will fight for it. They will accept absolutely nothing less.

The agreement is as yet young, and its
practical application has not yet been seen, and personally I feel that the agreement will be just what the union is—if the union is weak the agreement will be weak. If the union is strong the agreement will be strong. We must think of the things behind the struggle, the consultations and endless negotiations, the heavy sense of responsibility for every step, the sacrifices, the anxious days and nights which all of that has meant very largely to those who were most responsible. It has meant all of this to Brother Schlesinger, Brother Sigman, Brother Baroff and other leaders of your various unions, who were particularly concerned in the strike, as well as to the rank and file. It was a successive round of struggles and fears and worries day and night, debating with one's self, debating with others, until it was thoroughly realized just what would constitute the real life and sense of that fight. All of this does not appear in the printed account of the strike, and struggle in the report, and it cannot be appreciated by those who have not lived through it.

The cloak makers were not the only ones, there were others, and I must say that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, every part of it, took an active interest. The waist and skirt makers in the city of New York also went through their struggle, and they have a different problem to meet. The Cloak Makers' Union consists of men full grown, men more or less steadily engaged in their occupations, but the waist makers have a problem in the fact that they consist largely of women and girls who are not quite as steady, not quite as well trained and organized. Then in the fertile minds of the managers of the union, Brother Polakoff, Lieberman, Sigman and others, new ideas generated; their ideas of an organization and the relation of the employer to the worker, and practically a complete constitution for the government of their offices was formulated. This necessitated a discussion and decision on each and every detail which would meet the difficulties of the various industries. This became a new protocol, and I started out with it in January, and let me tell you a little story. I was first asked to take up this fight in January, and was told it would only take two weeks, or three at the most. Well, we worked on it during January, February, March and April, and we are at it yet, and we have not finished it. It will still take a little while, but we have so far succeeded in laying a powerful foundation for a revision and change in all matters bearing upon the relation between the waist makers and their employers. We have taken every problem and we have tried to face it, we have tried to go to the innermost depths of it, we have tried to solve it. I believe we have solved some of these problems. There were still others, the cloak makers, the waist makers in Philadelphia, and in Boston, in Chicago, in St. Louis and elsewhere, and everywhere in the needle industry that trouble occurred, there immediately you would find Brother Schlesinger, and where he is in most cases you will find your humble servant. He did not ask whether I had another engagement or other important business, he did not care, the work of the International always came first and everything else had to go.

I remember at one time just before one of the strikes of the cloak makers I was about to go to Europe; it was an important conference, I thought, and I was delegated to go, so I told Schlesinger I had to go to Europe and could not accompany him. He looked at me quietly and said, "If I thought that by going to Europe you could end the war, maybe I would excuse you, but as I have no reason to believe that you can, I think the cloakmakers in New York more important than any conference in the world." The joke is, I had to take it; you may know him by this time and you mostly have to do what Schlesinger wants, even though you don't feel like it. I must say at the same time that all of the struggles were not only important, but in the way they were conducted they were the most remarkable that I have ever witnessed. You know your President does not believe in small things and did not think of the fight of the cloak and waistmakers in Philadelphia in any other light than the most important thing in the world. I remember one day he was in Philadelphia and telephoned me to come over on the next train. I said, "What is it?" He said, "The cloakmakers in Philadelphia are about to strike." I said, "I have other work to do today," and he said, "Well, that can go until some other day, but
the most important thing for today is the cloakmakers' strike. I have already enlisted the assistance of John Wanamaker, Judge Schuylkill, the Department of Labor of the State and the Mayor of the city," I said, "Hold on, haven't you called up President Wilson?" and he said, "Why, do you think it is necessary?" I feel perfectly sure that if he thought it was necessary, he would have asked President Wilson to come to Philadelphia to settle that strike.

It was this spirit in which your fights and struggles have been conducted, and I think if you will do no more than take just bare figures and just ask yourselves how much has been accomplished by this International in the last two years and a half in organization, in struggles and in victories, I am free to say without any exaggeration that there is not another union or organization that can point to such a record for a similar period of time.

You all remember the great trial for murder against some cloakmakers in the city of New York, you all read about it, and your hearts went out. There were eight men, and subsequently seven men of the cloakmakers union tried for their lives, with always the dread chance of forfeiting their lives, and as human beings, as comrades and friends of the accused you felt for them, but it was more than the lives of seven men and these particular seven men were very precious. It was not merely the saving of their lives, however, it was the saving of the honor of the organization, as the arrest and accusation against these men were a direct blow at the labor movement.

For many weeks I thought and ate and slept and dreamed about that trial, for many weeks I was so fully absorbed by it that perhaps its significance is a little exaggerated in my mind. The fact is, that it was the most deliberate, most dastardly attack ever made by the employers' class against organized labor generally, against the working class of this country generally. This was not a mere trial for murder, this was not a mere charge against seven men for the commission of a crime, this was a charge against the labor movement as a criminal combination, and consequently a thing to be stamped out of existence, and every occult power in the city of New York and everywhere else was giving aid and support to this infamous prosecution. I don't know of any prosecution on the charge of murder in the first degree that was so arbitrary, so fully framed up, but without the slightest foundation. And I don't know of any one that was so cunningly framed up. When finally we had the trial after weeks of preparation—it seems when they were acquitted it was quite natural—but at the time when we had the entire testimony against us, the entire facts of the district attorney's office, the powerful combination of employers building up a case against us, scores of witnesses ready to swear against these men, to perjure themselves, it seemed that we were fighting against something that was impregnable. I must confess that there was a time when I felt that we could never win the case of these men before a Jury of twelve American business men, with no sympathy of any kind for labor and labor struggles. I knew this would be so as the district attorney would surely weed out any sympathizers. Think of witnesses being called day after day who testified against these men, what chance did we stand? I felt like a physician or a surgeon who is called in to treat a serious case in his own family, to perform a very delicate and dangerous operation upon his child, upon his wife, upon his brother. These men were not mere clients to me, the case was not merely a case in court; these men were flesh of my flesh and bone of my bone. The labor movement was not just a mere client to whom I owed legal responsibility; I knew what the trial meant, and for two or three months I think I had the most anxious moments in my life until we unraveled the mystery, until we built up the defense, until we penetrated into the prosecution, until we got the threads of the fabrication. Even so, during the trial new surprises came up hour after hour.

The case was tried, the jury retired to deliberate, to bring in a verdict which might send our men, our comrades, our fellow-workers and leaders to the electric chair or set them free, which would put a stain upon the labor movement, or clear it. And when they were out deliberating and when through the court room the rumor spread that the jury had agreed upon a verdict, finding two of them guilty and acquitting the others, I spent what were probably the
darkest moments of my life, the heaviest
fifteen minutes of my life. I thought of
those two, and probably two of the best
men declared guilty of murder in the first
degree and sent to Sing Sing to the death
cell and afterward probably to the electric
chair.
The jury finally filed into the room and I
watched them come one by one and it
seemed an eternity until the foreman
opened his mouth and made the statement
and said the words, "Not Guilty." We felt
that it was the turning point in the labor
movement of the country, and surely in the
Jewish labor movement. I am very happy to
see one of those men here today. He does
not seem to have the slightest intention of
flirting with the electric chair, he is full
of life; the man I refer to is brother Saul
Metz.
I am also glad that your President has al-
lowed another man to come, although he is
not a delegate. He is not of the same type
as Saul Metz, not even a leader in your
movement, but is one of the rank and file
of your members, a good, simple, unsophisti-
cated soul, devoted to the labor movement;
I mean our good-natured, strapping, big
and staunch friend, Morris Stupnicki.
In conclusion, I want to say that those are
the deeds of the past and the future is still
before us. I feel that the future holds a
great many problems for you, more strikes,
more struggles. There is not an organiza-
tion probably that has more struggles than
your industry. Your industry is an enigma
to any one who tries to study its problems
and solve them. It is a young industry, it
is still largely in the making. It is not es-
ablished, it is not fixed, it is an industry
that is guided by styles and seasons, with
all the curse of long periods of unemploy-
ment, without proper methods of compensa-
tion, with its problems about piece work.
an industry that has problems arising from
the make-up of its men and women who are
mostly immigrants and have not yet had
time to definitely accustom themselves to
the existing conditions and who work for
employers of the same type. You have a
hundred and one other problems, as well as
the important and general problems that
confront other labor organizations, no mat-
er of what trade or of what industry. You
have problems affecting about one million
human beings in this country, bear that in
mind. The workers in your industry are
estimated at about two hundred and fifty
thousand. Most of them are the heads of
families, so I think there are fully a million
affected by your decision. That is more
than the entire population of some of the
States; it is much more than the sovereign
Duchy of Luxembourg in Europe, which is
an empire by itself, and you men and women
here are charged with the welfare of this
million human beings; your responsibility
is greater than that of a mere political ad-
ministration, a State or small country, be-
cause your responsibility is not merely the
camac form, it is for the essential facts of
life and liberty and happiness of this
tremendous mass of people.
Upon your deliberations and actions in
this convention, and between conventions,
will very largely depend whether or not
your task will be completed. You will adopt
resolutions, you will lay out plans of action,
you will map out a campaign, you will elect
your officers to lead you in the fight to carry
out this campaign, you will return to your
constituents with a spirit born in this con-
vention, you will enlist them in your serv-
ice. Therefore be careful in your delibera-
tions. You must remember that your or-
ganization is merely a factor in the labor
movement of this country. All trades, oc-
cupations, all organizations are so Inti-
mately connected with each other that the
progress of one means the progress of an-
other, the defeat of one means the defeat
of another. You have certain duties which
you owe to the labor movement at large,
you are a fighting, militant organization, a
progressive organization, and you have the
duty, the task to lead in the general labor
movement of this country and all other
countries, not merely for the paltry, tem-
porary improvement that might be gained,
but for the general improvement and the
general emancipation of the entire working
class.
Just one hundred and forty years ago an-
other memorable convention was held in
this very city of Philadelphia, and it was
that convention that gave to us and gave to
the world the first true formulae of human
rights, the right to life, the right to liberty,
the right to the pursuit of happiness. It is,
something that the ruling classes do not
consider today, they speak of it merely as a scrap of paper, and that is called the Declaration of Independence, which is read sometimes on the Fourth of July, without understanding and appreciating what it really means. The ruling classes in general and employers have departed from the sublime ideas that were formulated by that convention. The vital principles were to secure life, through healthful work, a life of enjoyment to the worker, to secure for them liberty, true liberty and not only nominal political liberty, but industrial liberty, and to secure for them happiness in every way, complete human happiness that expresses itself in the enjoyment of the good things of life, to secure all the blessings of civilization, of the arts and sciences. This nation should be in the hands of the working class.

I hope your deliberations will tend toward the ultimate emancipation of the workers of your own industry and the workers of the land in general.

The delegates arose to their feet and applauded vigorously for several minutes.

Delegate Snyder moved that the speech be printed in pamphlet form and distributed to the membership as largely as possible. (Seconded.)

President Schlesinger stated that such a motion would have to be presented in the form of a resolution.

Vice-President Amdur: In the name of the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and in the name of the Arrangements Committee I want to express our appreciation to Brother and Comrade Hillquit for his wonderful services during the past two and one-half years, and also for his speech. We also wish to present Comrade Hillquit with this bouquet of flowers, to show our appreciation.

Delegate Ashpls: I move that a vote of thanks be extended Comrade Hillquit for his address. (Seconded.)

Delegate Wiener offered as an amendment that a rising vote of thanks be extended. The motion to amend was seconded, and carried unanimously.

President Schlesinger stated that there was another brother who wished to speak, but that the hour for adjournment had arrived and asked the pleasure of the delegates.

Upon motion, the session was continued, to remain in session until the addresses were completed, then to adjourn until Monday morning.

President Schlesinger presented to the Convention Mr. A. J. Margolin of Philadelphia.

Mr. Margolin addressed the Convention briefly and reminded the International of its promise to contribute a certain sum to a ball fund which had been established in Philadelphia. He suggested that the Cloak Makers' Union means about 25 per cent of organized labor, that the drains on Philadelphia when a strike occurs among the garment workers are enormous, and that he felt they should contribute a substantial sum.

He made a further request for a donation towards a lyceum in Philadelphia, to cost in the neighborhood of a quarter of a million dollars, and explained briefly to the delegates the need of such a Lyceum in Philadelphia by the labor movement.

President Schlesinger reminded the delegates that all resolutions should be presented at once.

At 12:30 the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 o'clock A. M., Monday, October 23, 1916.

At the close of the Saturday session, the following resolutions were presented.

Resolution No. 62.

Introduced by Executive Board of Skirtmakers' Branch of Philadelphia; Skirtmker, H. Rosenfold, Nathan Klein, Abe Libera-stein, Sam. Z. Veitel, Ph. Snyder.

Whereas, The skirtmakers, who are attached to Local No. 2 of Philadelphia who number about 1,000 members, working in the cloak, suit and skirt shops of Philadelphia, feel and believe that they could obtain and secure better conditions if they had a local union of their own for skirtmakers only; and

Whereas, Such being the facts, beliefs and convictions of the majority of the skirtmakers of Philadelphia, we do petition the
Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to grant the skirtmakers of Philadelphia their request; namely, a local union of skirtmakers. Therefore be it

Resolved, that we, the Executive Board of the Skirtmakers' Branch, representing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia, submit this petition to you, believing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia request should be granted.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 63.

Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, During the many strikes which we have had in the last two years, the majority of the organs of the Jewish press have been in sympathy with us, especially the Jewish Daily Forward, the New York Call, the Folkszeitung, Die Freie Arbiter Stimme, and the Neue Welt; be it therefore

Resolved, that this convention express its deep appreciation and thanks for their action.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 64.

Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, The Conventions of the International involve the locals in much expense, which is a heavy burden upon our locals; be it therefore

Resolved, that our International have its convention once every four years, instead of biennially, as heretofore.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 65.

Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, The membership of our International has been growing in a remarkable degree of late, and the number of active workers in our International have not grown in proportion to it, because the environments in which our workers live do not permit them to devote any of their time in the pursuit of education; be it therefore

Resolved, that this convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to combine with other International organizations for the purpose of founding a Trade Union College, where those of our members who are fit for this activity will be encouraged to study.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 66.


Whereas, During the last two years, since President Schlesinger has been in office as the leader of our International, our organization has grown immensely in influence and membership, and has won a notable series of strikes in the waist, dress, cloak, children's dress, kimono and raincoat industries under the supervision of the International and the leadership of President Schlesinger; be it therefore

Resolved, that this convention express deep gratitude to the outgoing General Executive Board and that it present Brother Schlesinger with a suitable token of its recognition.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 67.

Introduced by Benjamin Danceiger, President Ladies' Neckwear and Novelty Cutters Union, Local 108.

At our regular meeting held Thursday, October 19, 1916, a motion was passed to send in writing a copy of resolutions, as follows:

Whereas, Since we organized in June, 1913, chartered under the Ladies' Neckwear and Novelty Cutters Union, Local 108, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, few attempts have been made to organize our trade;

Whereas, In 1914 a few months before the Convention, an organizer was appointed by the International, but could not accomplish much on account of the change of administration;

Whereas, We believe that the poor conditions and lack of progress in our local has been due to the short term of the general officers;
consider today, they speak of it merely as a scrap of paper, and that is called the Declaration of Independence, which is read sometimes on the Fourth of July, without understanding and appreciating what it really means. The ruling classes in general and employers have departed from the sublime ideas that were formulated by that convention. The vital principles were to secure life, through healthful work, a life of enjoyment to the worker, to secure for them liberty, true liberty and not only nominal political liberty, but industrial liberty, and to secure for them happiness in every way, complete human happiness that expresses itself in the enjoyment of the good things of life, to secure all the blessings of civilization, of the arts and sciences. This nation should be in the hands of the working class.

I hope your deliberations will tend toward the ultimate emancipation of the workers of your own industry and the workers of the land in general.

The delegates arose to their feet and applauded vigorously for several minutes.

Delegate Snyder moved that the speech be printed in pamphlet form and distributed to the membership as largely as possible. (Seconded.)

President Schlesinger stated that such a motion would have to be presented in the form of a resolution.

Vice-President Amdur: In the name of the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and in the name of the Arrangements Committee I want to express our appreciation to Brother and Comrade Hillquit for his wonderful services during the past two and one-half years, and also for his speech. We also wish to present Comrade Hillquit with this bouquet of flowers, to show our appreciation.

Delegate Ashpis: I move that a vote of thanks be extended Comrade Hillquit for his address. (Seconded.)

Delegate Wiener offered as an amendment that a rising vote of thanks be extended. The motion to amend was seconded, and carried unanimously.

President Schlesinger stated that there was another brother who wished to speak, but that the hour for adjournment had arrived and asked the pleasure of the delegates.

Upon motion, the session was continued, to remain in session until the addresses were completed, then to adjourn until Monday morning.

President Schlesinger presented to the Convention Mr. A. J. Margolin, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Margolin addressed the Convention briefly and reminded the International of its promise to contribute a certain sum to a ball fund which had been established in Philadelphia. He suggested that the Cloak Makers' Union means about 25 per cent. of organized labor, that the drains on Philadelphia when a strike occurs among the garment workers are enormous, and that he felt they should contribute a substantial sum.

He made a further request for a donation towards a lyceum in Philadelphia, to cost in the neighborhood of a quarter of a million dollars, and explained briefly to the delegates the need of such a Lyceum in Philadelphia by the labor movement.

President Schlesinger reminded the delegates that all resolutions should be presented at once.

At 12:30 the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 o'clock A. M., Monday, October 22, 1916.

At the close of the Saturday session, the following resolutions were presented.

Resolutions No. 62.

Introduced by Executive Board of Skirt-makers' Branch of Philadelphia; Skirt-makers, H. Rosenfeld, Nathan Klein, Abe Liberman, Sam. Z. Veitel, Ph. Snyder.

Whereas, The skirtmakers, who are attached to Local No. 2 of Philadelphia who number about 1,000 members, working in the cloak, suit, and skirt shops of Philadelphia, feel and believe that they could obtain and secure better conditions if they had a local union of their own for skirtmakers only; and

Whereas, Such being the facts, beliefs and convictions of the majority of the skirtmakers of Philadelphia, we do petition the
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Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. to grant the skirtmakers of Philadelphia their request; namely, a local union of skirtmakers. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Executive Board of the Skirtmakers' Branch, representing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia, submit this petition to you, believing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia request should be granted.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 63.
Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, During the many strikes which we have had in the last two years, the majority of the organs of the Jewish press have been in sympathy with us, especially the Jewish Daily Forward, the New York Call, the Folkszeitung, Die Freie Arbiter Stimme, and the Neue Welt; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention express its deep appreciation and thanks for their action.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 64.
Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, The Conventions of the International involve the locals in much expense, which is a heavy burden upon our locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That our International have its convention once every four years, instead of biennially, as heretofore.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 65.
Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, The membership of our International has been growing in a remarkable degree of late, and the number of active workers in our International have not grown in proportion to it, because the environments in which our workers live do not permit them to devote any of their time in the pursuit of education; be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to combine with other international organizations for the purpose of founding a Trade Union College, where those of our members who are fit for this activity will be encouraged to study.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 66.

Whereas, During the last two years, since President Schlesinger has been in office as the leader of our international, our organization has grown immensely in influence and membership, and has won a notable series of strikes in the waist, dress, cloak, children's dress, kimono and raincoat industries under the supervision of the international and the leadership of President Schlesinger; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention express deep gratitude to the outgoing General Executive Board and that it present Brother Schlesinger with a suitable token of its recognition.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 67.
Introduced by Benjamin Danegar, President Ladles' Neckwear and Novelty Cutters' Union, Local 108.

At our regular meeting held Thursday, October 19, 1916, a motion was passed to send in writing a copy of resolutions, as follows:

Whereas, Since we organized in June, 1913, chartered under the Ladies' Neckwear and Novelty Cutters' Union, Local 108, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, few attempts have been made to organize our trade;

Whereas, In 1914 a few months before the Convention, an organizer was appointed by the International, but could not accomplish much on account of the change of administration;

Whereas, We believe that the poor conditions and lack of progress in our local has been due to the short term of the general officers,
We therefore recommend that the term of each officer be lengthened.

Whereas, the Conventions in our trade are very poor, and in order to organize the trade thoroughly a strike will have to be called:

We therefore recommend that the General Office grant us the privilege to call a strike.

Resolution No. 68


Article 16, Section 1

This section shall be read as follows:

Any member who is leaving the country, or retires from the trade, shall withdraw from membership by paying all debts due at date of withdrawal, surrendering his book or card and giving notice of withdrawal to his local union.

The secretary shall then give to such member a certificate of withdrawal.

Section 2

Any member who leaves the country or retires from the trade, and does not become a foreman, etc., according to Article 14, Section 6, may remain an honorary member of his local union if same was asked for within 30 days, but shall not have any right to be an Executive Board member, or be a delegate to a convention.

Section 3

In case a member leaves the trade in order to become a foreman or an employer (as set forth in Article 14, Section 6), his membership in the union shall automatically cease.

The next section should be Sections 4 and 5, and the Section 4 shall be read as follows:

Members who withdraw from membership or whose membership has automatically ceased, can again join the Union only, as new members.

Members who remain honorary members of the local may get their old rights and privileges after three months of their return to the trade.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 69


Article 13, Section 1

This section shall be called Section 1 A, and in addition there should be another section that should be called Section 1 B, and shall be read as follows:

The election for officers of local unions shall be held at a special meeting, the date of which shall be announced to the members at least three days before the election, through letters or advertisements in the daily newspapers.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 70


Article 12, Section 5

To add the following paragraph with the first sentence:

The Joint Board shall have the power to select a Joint Grievance Committee, from different locals, to try the members in cases when members of different local unions are accused of violating the constitution or the rules of the Union. The Joint Board shall also have the right to elect an Appeal Committee which shall have the right to decide on appeals for members, etc.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 71


Article 12, Section 4

Resolved. That Article 12, Section 4, shall be amended to read as follows (in four parts, a, b, c, and d):

(a) The Joint Board shall consist of an equal number of delegates from local unions engaged in any one particular trade to which its jurisdiction shall be confined.

(b) It being understood that all branches engaged in the manufacture of cloaks, suits, reefer and skirts to be considered one trade, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PRO-
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VIBED IN SUBDIVISION "b" NEXT FOLLOWING.

(b) The Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Unions of New York City and vicinity shall consist of delegates from local unions engaged in the manufacture of cloaks, suits, reefer, and skirts, the number of delegates from each local to be equal to one-half of its representation at the last preceding convention of the I. L. G. W. U., pursuant to Article 3, Section 4, a fractional number to be counted as a full delegate; provided that no local shall have less than two delegates to the Joint Board.

(c) The Joint Board shall have the power to decide the amount of per capita or dues for each affiliated local for the transaction of the business of the Joint Board. The Joint Board shall also have a uniform initiation fee for members.

(d) The Joint Board of every city shall have the right to decide with a majority vote to admit special representatives from branches of a certain nationality or language, if they should find it necessary. The majority of the Joint Board voting for admitting such representatives shall also define the rights of such representatives at the Joint Board.

Further Resolved. That subdivision "b" of the preceding amendment, if approved by this convention, shall be submitted for ratification to a referendum vote of the membership affiliated with the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Unions of New York.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 72.


Article 10, Section 8.

To amend the end of the paragraph as follows:

"Nor shall the General Executive Board have the full power to sign any agreements, make arrangements or submit to arbitration questions which may in any way bring a change in the existing conditions established in the industry; discontinue or cause discontinuance of agreements without the consent of the locals concerned in this action.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 73.

Introduced by P. Kottler and M. J. Ashpis, Local 1.

Article 8, Sections 10, 12, 13.

To put the words "or Grievance Committee of the local" after the words "local union" in all three sections.

Resolution No. 74.

Introduced by P. Kottler and M. J. Ashpis, Local 1.

Article 8, Section 15.

Said section should be amended and should be read as follows:

Any officer or member of a local union of the I. L. G. W. U. who wilfully slanders or libels any other member, local or general officer of the I. L. G. W. U., or who wilfully violates the provisions of this constitution, may be fined or expelled at the option of the local union or Grievance Committee of the union on conviction thereof, according to Article 8, Section 8.

In cases where a general officer has been slandered or libelled by a member of the I. L. G. W. U., the above officer is preferred in bringing charges against said member.

The charges shall be presented to the secretary of the local union of which he or she is a member. If the officer is the one to make the charge, the trial shall then proceed as follows:

The official shall then select three members from one or more locals, and the accused member shall be permitted to select three, and said six to constitute a committee, empowered to select the seventh. From now on, the section shall read the same as the old one.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 75.


Article 8, Section 8.
The second part of Section (A) shall be amended and shall read as follows:

"Charges made by any member of the I. U. O. W. U. against another must be submitted in writing to the secretary of the local union of which the defendant is a member. The secretary shall submit the charges to the Executive Board, or to the Standing Grievance Committee of the local, and they shall notify the accused of the nature of the charges and of the time and place of trial, which shall be within one month upon receipt of charges. The accused member shall have the privilege to be tried before a special committee in case he proves that the Standing Grievance Committee or the Executive Board is in any way prejudiced against him. The accused shall have the right to question witnesses, etc., in the same manner as provided in Article 8, Section 5. If the accused member fail to appear, except for good and sufficient reasons, when notified, the Executive Board or the Grievance Committee shall proceed to take testimony the same as if said accused members were present. If the decision of the Executive Board or Grievance Committee is for expulsion, it shall then be sent to the local union for approval."

Resolution No. 76.

Article 5, Section 8.
This section be changed and should be called Section 10, and should read as follow:

The General President and General Secretary shall receive such compensation as the Convention at which they are elected shall deem proper.

Resolution No. 77.

Article 5, Section 17 (new).

Any member of the General Executive Board, who is a paid organizer of the General Executive Board, for more than six weeks, during the three months from one meeting of the General Executive Board to the other, shall not be eligible to remain as a member of the General Executive Board.

Resolution No. 78.

Article 6, Section 18 (new).

Any member of the General Executive Board, who is a paid organizer of the General Executive Board, for more than six weeks, during the three months from one meeting of the General Executive Board to the other, shall not be eligible to remain as a member of the General Executive Board.

Resolution No. 79.

Article 3, Section 7.

At the end of this section should be added the following: "Nor should be eligible to be a candidate, a member, who within the last three months prior to the convention, is employed for four weeks or more at another trade or profession.

Resolution No. 80.

Article 3, Section 6.
Should be amended to read as follows:

Delegates shall be elected by ballot at a special meeting of the Local Union called for that purpose immediately after receiving notice of the General Secretary-Treasurer, according to Article 13, Section 1 B, and a majority vote shall constitute an election, etc.

Resolution No. 81.

Whereas, Educational enterprises are an absolute necessity for the welfare of our organisation and to the labor movement at large; and
Whereas, The life of the Educational Committee elected by the General Executive Board was very short and did not make any progress where educational work was concerned; be it therefore.

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. elect a Special Educational Committee for the purpose of teaching the principles of Trade Unionism to our members through lectures and books published for that purpose. The committee shall get at least $2000 every year from the General Executive Board to cover the expense of the above work, and shall work under their supervision.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 82.

Introduced by Fannie M. Cohn, Local 60-41; Sarah Shapiro, Local 25.

Whereas, Recent estimates by the United States Public Health Service show that $180,000,000 is the annual cost of medical treatment to the American workers and that their annual wage loss, due to sickness, exceeds $600,000,000 more; and

Whereas, Longing to one craft, even though the charter of Local 1 provides for the making of cloaks and suits, and the charter of Local 17 for the making of reefers and children's cloaks exclusively; and

Whereas, Complaints were lodged at the Boston Convention in 1910 against Local 17 by Local 1 that the former local is not confining its membership to workers in the reefer and children's coats line, but encroaching upon the jurisdiction of Local 1 and making full sized ladies' coats, thereby creating competition in the shops between Local 1 and 17. That Convention had, in fact, appointed a committee to investigate these charges, and that committee had found same to be true and had reported upon it to the Toronto Convention in 1912. This latter Convention had resolved, passed and instructed Local 17 to confine itself to the limits of its charter and the then elected General Executive Board had attempted to see that the resolution was carried into ef-

Whereas, The United States Public Health Service, the Department of Labor, and the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations recommend a Governmental system of Health Insurance as the most economic and efficient method of meeting the contingencies of sickness and industrial disease, and

Whereas, European experience, as well as our own experience in Workmen's compensation laws, show that insurance legislation results in much prevention of sickness, accidents, and industrial disease; therefore be it

Resolved, By the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in convention assembled, that the Convention favor a universal system of Health Insurance with contributions by employees, employers, and the State, in order that the enormous suffering and great economic burden, now entirely borne by the wage-earners, may be lightened and that proper emphasis may be placed upon the prevention of sickness and industrial disease.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 83.

Introduced by P. Kottler, chairman delegation Local 1; S. J. Ringer, Local 1.

Whereas, There exists in the City of New York two local unions in the cloak and suit trade, Locals 1 and 17, both actually benefit, but this attempt was at that time frustrated by Local 17 through an injunction; and

Whereas, Ever since that time Local 17 had continued to infringe upon the jurisdiction of Local 1 in the ladies' garment department of various shops, and at the same time neglected to organize such shops which are properly under their jurisdiction; and

Whereas, We consider that their action and policy have tended towards demoralization in the trade, and that many manufacturers have benefited through this disagreement between the two locals and made their work cheaper; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention shall instruct the incoming General Executive Board to make a thorough investigation of the existing evils, due to the existence of two locals in one city practically belonging to one craft and in the event that they find conditions as stated above, the General Ex-
executive Board shall be empowered and instructed to eliminate these evils, and if necessary, to dissolve the two existing locals and to establish one local, subdivided into branches, in accordance with the line of work made by these two locals; and be it further

Resolved. That this investigation be made within the next six months.

Referred to Grievance and Appeal Committee.

Resolution No. 84.
Introduced by Anna Golker and Becky Levy, Local 50.

Whereas, The 1914 Convention appointed an Educational Committee which organized classes for the members of the New York locals, conducted in English only; and

Whereas, This committee did not realize that the members of the I. L. G. W. U. who do not know the English language will not be benefited by these courses; be it therefore

Resolved, That in addition to the present membership of the committee others of various locals be added; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the Educational Committee to organize classes and lectures both in English and Jewish, so that members speaking either language may be benefited by same.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 85.
Introduced by Mary Gould, Local 33; Sarah Bright, Local 33; Anna Dunn, Local 33; Grace Osborne, Local 33; Marie C. Jennings, Locals 40; Edward J. Cavanagh, Local 39; Lena Gersman, Local 55; Anna M. Cavanagh, Local 40.

Whereas, In the course of organizing work undertaken by the I. L. G. W. U. it was demonstrated that workers of all nationalities and tongues must be enlisted in order to make the work effective; and

Whereas, Our International Constitution is printed in almost all languages spoken by its members except the Hungarian; and

Whereas, A large percentage of our members are Hungarians and read the Hungarian language only; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention decrees that the International Constitution be
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Resolution No. 88

Introduced by H. Schuster, Local 9; M. Weinner, Local 3; H. Zucker, Local 41.

Whereas, A resolution was adopted at the Cleveland Convention, instructing the O. E. B. to carry on educational work among the membership of our International; and

Whereas, This work, though undertaken by the General Office in the city of New York did not bring the proper results; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. appoint a permanent Educational Committee to carry out the resolution of the Cleveland Convention, which is to report to the coming Convention on its work.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 89.

Introduced by H. Schuster, Local 9; H. Zucker, Local 41.

Whereas, Many American labor unions have established employment bureaus in connection with their organizations, thus enabling many of their unemployed members in some localities to get work in other localities; and

Whereas, Our I. L. O. W. U. has entered into many agreements with employers, containing preferential union clauses which provide that the manufacturers may hire non-union help only in case union help is not obtainable; and

Whereas, It is a well known fact that in one city a certain trade may be in a busy condition and in need of help, while in another city the same trade is overcrowded with workers belonging to the union; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention instructs the incoming O. E. B. to establish a Central Employment Bureau where the unemployed of affected trades shall be registered, and their local unions shall be notified wherever and whenever there is need of help.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 90.

Introduced by S. Chancer, Local 11.

To add the following at the end of Article 3, Section 11:

In case a delegate is not seated at the Convention, the General Secretary shall immediately notify the local represented by this delegate of said action.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 91.

Introduced by H. Zucker, Local 41; J. Goldstein, Local 41; S. Spanier, Local 41; L. Nigen, Local 58; W. Podnus, Local 58.

Whereas, it is a well known fact that the manufacturers of house dresses and kimonos controlled by Local 41 are also making street dresses that should be under the control of Local 25, and most of the manufacturers of cotton street dresses controlled by Local 25 are also making house dresses; and

Whereas, The manufacturers of misses and children's dresses controlled by Local 50 are in many instances making dresses of the same quality and also that are being made in the shops controlled by Locals 25 and 41; and

Whereas, The local unions of all the above mentioned trades (where it is very difficult to draw a line of distinction between the work made in a shop controlled by one local union and another) are wasting large sums of money and energy employing managers, organizers, business agents, clerks and secretaries, and paying rents and telephone bills, etc., for separate offices in different localities of Greater New York; and

Whereas, Under the present system each local separately dealing with the different employers' associations cannot offer to its members the protection and strong support that could be given them when they would act and deal united; and

Whereas, There are yet many factories in the above mentioned trades unorganized in New York and vicinity, owing to the fact that the locals separately cannot undertake to do organization work on a wide scale; therefore be it
Resolved, That this Convention of the L. O. W. U. instruct Locals 26, 41, 50, 58 and the miscellaneous department of Local 10, to immediately form a Joint Board, to be known as The Joint Board of The Dress and Waistmakers Unions, whose prime object and duties would be the same as those of the Joint Board of The Cloak and Skirtmakers Unions of New York.

Referred to Committee on Organisation.

Resolution No. 92.

Introduced by H. Zucker, Local 41; S. Spanier, Local 41; J. Goldstein, Local 41.

Whereas, The Wrapper, Kimono and House Dressmakers' Union, Local 41, of New York, consisting of a membership of about nineteen hundred, with an average weekly income of about $225.00, has, owing to the fact that the shops under their control are spread in different localities of the Greater New York, a weekly expense of about the same amount as their income; and

Whereas, There are in the city of New York over three thousand Syrians and about eight hundred Turkish and Spanish Jews working in unorganized kimono and dress shops, who are working longer hours and under lower standards than the workers in the organized shops, and this competition is threatening the existence of the union; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming G. E. B. to appoint a Syrian and Spanish organizer, and with all the possible help of Local 41, to try and organize the entire house dress, kimono and negligee trade.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 93.

Introduced by H. Zucker, Local 41; H. Schuster, Local 9; J. Goldstein, Local 41; S. Spanier, Local 41; M. Goldowsky, Local 35; S. Ballenson, Local 23; L. Katz, Local 11; H. Greensburg, Local 50; B. Chancer, Local 11; N. Hines, Local 1; F. M. Cohn, Local 60; S. Ninfo, Local 48, and L. Nigen, Local 58.

Whereas, The preferential union clause in the many agreements entered into between employers' associations and the I. L. G. W. U., giving preference to union workers in the hiring of help, has proved to be unsatisfactory to the unions as weakening instead of strengthening the locals; and

Whereas, The preferential agreement protects scabs and those that refuse to pay dues to the union, and permits union workers to mingle with and tolerate the non-union workers as neighbors in the shops, which has a demoralising influence upon the union workers, and frequently causes cessation of payment of dues on their part; and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. is already large and powerful enough to force emp-
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ployers to recognize real trade union agreements; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instructs the incoming G. E. B. that in the future the preferential clause be done away with and be substituted by a simple union clause, to read: "The employers agree to employ none but members in good standing in the unions."

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 98.

Introduced by H. Zucker, S. Spanier, J. Goldstein, Local 41.

Whereas, Wrappers are no more being made in the shops controlled by Local 41; and

Whereas, Local 41 is now controlling many shops where bathrobes are made; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the charter of Local 41 be changed to the name of House Dress, Kimono and Bathrobe Makers' Union Local 41, I. L. G. W. U.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 99.

Introduced by H. Deitch, Local 9.

To amend Article 4, Section 1.
Change words "2½" to "3½."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 100.

Introduced by M. Deitch, Local 9.

To amend Article 4, Section 4, to read as follows:

"The General Executive Board shall meet 20 days prior to the convention and appoint a Credential Committee of seven delegates to the convention, four of whom shall be from Greater New York and the remainder from other localities. These delegates shall meet two days prior to the convention at the convention city, and shall examine all credentials and membership books of the delegates."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 101.

Introduced by M. Marquis, Local 30; R. Bernstein, Local 9; M. Palefsky, Local 9; S. Pasetsky, Local 9; B. Bondor, Local 9; M. Kushner, Local 9; M. Kovinsky, Local 9.

Whereas, A great number of English-speaking women are employed as alteration tailors in the department stores of New York; and

Whereas, In order to organize these
women workers, special women organizers are required; and

Whereas, Experience has shown that it is impossible to ameliorate the conditions in the alteration tailoring trade unless these women are organized; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to give moral and financial support to the organization of these women.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 103.

Introduced by M. Bernsstein, J. B. Cleveland and Charles Green, J. B. Cincinnati.

Whereas, The growth of the ladies’ garment industries in the various cities in the western part of the country has assumed enormous proportions of late, and

Whereas, The unorganized condition of these growing trades is a constant menace to the organized workers in the same trades in the other parts of the country; and

Whereas, Under the circumstances, the General Office being located in New York, has to a certain extent neglected the work which must be done in the above referred to section of the country; be it therefore

Resolved That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to open a central branch office in charge of a manager and of a staff of organizers in one of the western cities, to conduct in an efficient and desirable manner the work outlined above.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 104.

Introduced by Max Tuchman, Local 12.

Whereas, Steam machines for pressers are being introduced at present on a large scale in the skirt shops of the city of Boston, and

Whereas, These steam machines are a menace to the health of our workers who have been employed at them, a fact which has been established beyond dispute, and

Whereas, These steam machines have been displacing men in the shops, throwing them out of their jobs to an alarming degree, thus increasing constantly the army of our unemployed; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention adopts a certain system whereby the number of steam pressing machines in a shop be limited to a ratio of one to ten pressers working, and thus put a stop to a growing menace to the health and well-being of the Boston pressers.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 105.

Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, The work of the International has been greatly increased of late, to the extent that it requires many more men to carry on the work than heretofore, and

Whereas, The membership of the New York locals represents two-thirds of the entire membership of our International; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention elect fifteen Vice Presidents instead of thirteen, as at present, and that nine of these Vice Presidents be elected from the New York delegates and the other six from the delegates of other localities. The clause in the Constitution to be amended to that effect.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 106.

Introduced by M. Deitch, Local 9; M. Palefasky, Local 9; M. Marquis, Local 30; C. Stein, Local 10; M. Gollin, Local 10; M. Gorenstein, Local 10.

Whereas, Brother Shipkoff, Socialist Assemblyman of Brownsville, N. Y., has ably and conscientiously represented the interest of the workers in the New York Assembly, and

Whereas, Assemblyman Shipkoff is now a candidate for re-election for the same office, and

Whereas, Brother Elmer Rosenberg, Socialist candidate for Assembly in the Sixth Assembly District of New York, member of our Local 10, has an admitted good chance to be elected at this coming election; be it therefore
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Resolved, That the delegates assembled at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. go on record as endorsing the above mentioned Brothers; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention donate the sum of $200 to be equally divided between the districts of these candidates.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 107.

Introduced by M. Goldofsky, Local 35.

Whereas, Many of our locals in New York are publishing weekly journals which involve large expenditures, and which, at the same time, fail to satisfy the needs of the members of their locals because they are too small and insignificant; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention goes on record instructing the General Executive Board to publish a big weekly organ for all the locals, which would satisfy the needs of our membership, and that the small local organs should go out of existence.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 108.

Introduced by Mollie Lifshitz, Local 62.

Whereas, Thousands of women workers are engaged in the needle industry and need the vote in order to secure political rights which will help them in their industrial struggle; and;

Whereas, The I. L. O. W. U. has gone on record as favoring Woman Suffrage; and

Whereas, In November, 1917, the voters of the State of New York will again decide whether or not the women shall be released from their political bondage; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. instruct its incoming Executive Board to call upon their local unions in the State of New York to appeal to their members to vote for the suffrage amendment, which will again come up in 1917.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 109.

Introduced by F. M. Cohn, Local 69; H. Bernstein, Local 18; H. Spands.

Whereas, One-half of our citizens are deprived of their political rights on the ground that woman's place is at home; and

Whereas, Statistics show that more than eight million women are toiling in the mills and factories of our country; and

Whereas, Sex prejudice is not in accordance with the progressive tendencies of our time; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention goes on record as being in favor of equal political and economic rights to both sexes, and, furthermore, requests all its members to vote in favor of Woman Suffrage whenever they have an opportunity to do so.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 110.

Introduced by Julius Portnoy, Local 113.

Whereas, There are about 8000 waist, dress and white goods workers employed in Newark, N. J., under non-union conditions; and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, assembled in Bridgeport at their last quarterly meeting, have decided to indorse and start a movement for a general strike in Newark for January, 1917; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention approves of this indorsement; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take up this matter at their first meeting and carry through this strike to a successful end.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 111.

Whereas, The raincoat makers of New York are engaged in a furious struggle to better the conditions of their industry; and

Whereas, A few of the manufacturers in this industry have moved their shops out of town in order to be able to maintain starvation wages and inhuman conditions in these shops; and

Whereas, This flight of Local 20 has a great bearing on the future development of this organization as well as on the entire trade, and has placed many of our active members in jeopardy of their freedom on account of trumped-up charges by the enemies of our organization; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention grant financial support to this local in order that the strike of the raincoat makers is brought to a successful termination.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions

Resolution No. 112.

Introduced by Max Labow.

Whereas, The buttonholemakers of New York in the raincoat trade, at present belong to Local 20, and, at the same time, are organized among themselves into a separate society; and

Whereas, There exists in New York a Buttonholemakers' Union, our Local 64, for a number of years, as a part of our International; be it therefore

Resolved, That all the buttonholemakers in the raincoat trade should belong to this Local 64, and that Local 20 is instructed to transfer all their buttonholemakers to this local.

Referred to Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Resolution No. 113.

Introduced by J. Finkelstein, Local 38.

Whereas, At the time of the cloakmakers' strike of New York in 1916, ladies' tailors were taken down on strike and were enrolled as members of the Locals 3 and 48; and

Whereas, A Ladies' Tailors' Union is in existence in the same city; be it therefore

Resolved, That said ladies' tailors be transferred to Local 38, within a period of 30 days after the Convention.

Referred to Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Resolution No. 114.

Introduced by J. Finkelstein, Local 38.

Whereas, On many occasions the International placed faithful organizers to organize and to manage work that is concerned with a general strike; and

Whereas, The poor financial condition of Local 38 makes it impossible to obtain such necessary help; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to appoint an organizer for Local 38 immediately after the Convention.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 115.

Introduced by J. Finkelstein, Local 38.

Whereas, The Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union, Local 38, had improved the conditions of its workers, since its existence, but unfortunately in a lost strike the conditions that prevailed were partly lost; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention endorse a general strike for the near future, in order to get back the conditions that prevailed before the lost strike.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 116.

Introduced by J. Finkelstein, Local 38.

Whereas, In the city of New York there are ladies' tailor firms where women are employed on the manufacture of dresses, and work under deplorable conditions because they are not yet organized, and are a hindrance to the men tailors, already partly organized; and

Whereas, There are probably between 8,000 and 10,000 workers in this trade, and as our local is not in a financial position to carry on an extensive organizing campaign; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention empower
the incoming General Executive Board to give us all moral and financial assistance possible, and appoint a woman organizer to take care and work for Local 38 until our object will meet with success.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 117.


Whereas, The children's dressmakers of the city of New York have won their recent general strike; and

Whereas, The success of the general strike was due in a great measure to the valuable assistance rendered by the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10; and

Whereas, One of the foremost of the active workers of Local 10 came to an untimely death in the general strike, while on the firing line; and

Whereas, This Convention desires to express its sorrow at the loss of our esteemed and beloved brother, Max Stern; and be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled in Philadelphia this 19th day of October, 1916, inscribe upon its records the regrets of the Convention at the loss of Brother Max Stern; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention present a set of engrossed resolutions to the widow of Brother Max Stern, as a mark of recognition and appreciation of his many years of active service in the cause of labor.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 118.


Whereas, After an examination of the workers of the cloak and suit, waist and dress industries, made by the Federal Public Health Service in conjunction with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, it was found that a great number of our members are afflicted with the frightful proletarian disease known as tuberculosis; and

Whereas, Locals 9, 23 and 36 have established a fund for the purpose of fighting this disease, and protecting their members, and have succeeded through medical observation and prevention in the early stages of the sickness to aid and cure many of our afflicted members; and

Whereas, The need of a sanitarium for our members cannot be overestimated, insomuch as many who suffer from tuberculosis are now compelled to beg for admission into the various sanitariums; and

Whereas, Locals 2, 9, 17, 23 and 35, representing a membership of over 30,000 have already begun building a sanitarium on the estate donated to them by a certain Miss Henschel, of Kingston, N. Y.; and

Whereas, The international, being the parent body of all these locals, should, in our opinion, become the owner and controller of said sanitarium; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention gives this movement its endorsement; and be it further

Resolved, That the sum of $2,500.00 be donated toward the construction and equipment of this institution; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be and is herewith instructed to study ways and means of making this institution the property of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
SIXTH DAY—MONDAY MORNING SESSION.


The Convention was called to order at 9:30 o’clock A. M., Monday, October 23, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegates Cutler, Local No. 1; Kuban, Lovins, Local No. 3; Kusiner, Palesty, Kovinsky, Hyman, Bender, Kesten, Pansky, Local No. 6; Ryan, Local No. 10; Katz, Local No. 11; Posternak, Bernstein, Local No. 15; Passin, Local No. 17; Taylor, Local No. 19; Puisant, Ballenson, Wadler, Barenson, Local No. 23; Grosman, Local No. 24; Goosman, Luccasi, Local No. 26; Osborn, Local No. 33; Kimberries, Menta, Local No. 35; Kriembler, Local No. 42; Angelo, Local No. 43; Davidson, Local No. 53; German, Whalen, Local No. 65; Wagner, Local No. 66; Cohen, Richman, Local No. 73; Breisky, Local No. 81; Portnoy, Local No. 115; Koldovsky, Toronto; Curtis, Warshheimer, Local No. 3; Bogot, Local No. 34; Herman, Schwartz, Local No. 23; Dreminsky, Abramowitz, Local No. 38; Levy, Goldstein, Greenberg, Local No. 39; Lano, Local No. 65; Bushman, Local No. 75; Friedman, Local No. 76.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Montreal, Quebec, Oct. 23, 1916.

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union Convention, Philadelphia.

We heartily congratulate you and wish you success in your future work.

Montreal Cutters’ Local, No. 19.
LEON FIELDMAN, Chairman.


With pride in the work accomplished, we wish you still greater success for the cause of labor. May your deliberations lead us from victory to victory to the great improvement of the labor class.

Yours, Employees of EDELSON & HANEL, 35-39 W. 22d St.


Delegate Padover, Goldstein and Rubin asked that they be recorded as having objected to the vote of thanks extended to Editor Cahan of The Forward, who spoke on the fourth day of the Convention.

Delegates Rosenberg, of Local No. 7, asked for the privilege of the floor, and made a statement regarding Resolution No. 1, which had been reported on by the Resolutions Committee and laid over by the Convention to await the report of the Committee on Officers’ Reports.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that he was willing that action on the resolution be deferred, except that the strikers of the M. & C. Skirt Company were in urgent need of money, and requested the Convention to appropriate about $400 immediately; that the question of a further remittance could be taken up when the report of the officers was taken up, but that they were in great need of the amount he named at once. He made a motion that $400 be donated immediately. (Seconded.)

Delegate Liberman: I move that we reconsider the motion made at the previous session, to lay the resolution over until after the report of the Committee on Officers’ Reports.

Delegate Ringer: On behalf of the Committee on Officers’ Reports, I wish to state that this resolution with reference to the M. & C. strike has been discussed and the committee will bring in a report on it, so I don’t see why we should be in such a hurry.

President Schlesinger stated that he desired Delegate Ringer and the other delegates to understand that it might be some little time before the report of the Committee on Officers’ Reports was submitted; that
in the meantime the strike must be carried on and Delegate Rosenberg felt that the strikers were in need of immediate assistance.

Delegate Figmaka, Local No. 67, spoke in favor of taking the matter up at once.

Delegate Thomas spoke in favor of Delegate Rosenberg’s request being granted.

Delegate Mota requested the opinion of the President on the matter, as he felt President Schlesinger was familiar with the conditions in connection with the strike.

President Schlesinger, in discussing the question, stated that as he understood the situation, there were not 350 workers on strike; that the firm had employed about that number, but that most of them were working in other shops, and it did not mean if the strike was settled that 350 strikers would return to the M. & C. Company. He said that there were about one hundred who needed assistance at this time. President Schlesinger then read the following telegram:

We, the 350 strikers of the M. & C. Skirt Company, appeal to you for speedy financial relief. If no help is sent at once it may be disastrous for the strike. Don’t punish the innocent for the guilty ones.
The Strike Committee, by
HYMAN HURWITZ.

President Schlesinger stated that in his opinion the $400 should be appropriated as soon as possible, and that action as to anything further to be done could be taken later.

A delegate asked if the International had a representative in Boston.

President Schlesinger stated that the telegram he had just read had come from the representative of the International there.

On motion, debate was closed.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local No. 7, made a further statement as to the number of workers on strike, saying that 350 workers had been affected by the strike; that a few had obtained permanent positions, but a great many of the workers had only had temporary work, substituting for people who were on vacations. He stated that there were about 175 workers on strike who could find no employment, and that if assistance was needed for the entire 350 the $400 would not be enough even for two days.

President Schlesinger suggested that as to the need of financial assistance, there seemed to be no difference of opinion.

The motion to donate $400 at once was carried.

Former Secretary Morris Sigman was escorted to the platform and was greeted enthusiastically by the delegates. The chairman stated that Brother Sigman would not address the Convention until the afternoon session, when other addresses would also be made.

President Schlesinger stated that there were still a number of resolutions to be printed in the minutes, and suggested that the committees should put in more time on their reports in order to expedite the work of the Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Delegate Lefkovits, Chairman of the committee, reported as follows:

Chairman Lefkovits: Resolutions Nos. 4 and 13 cover the same subject matter, and read as follows:

Resolution No. 4.

Whereas, It is a well established policy among trade unions to favor week work and to oppose piece work, and

Whereas, The principal locals of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union pursue an opposite policy and even force their members against their will to work piece work when they favor week work, and

Whereas, Careful investigations by the Public Health Service in our own industry as well as in other industries have demonstrated that piece workers suffer more from nervous breakdowns and other diseases than those who work under a week-work system; be it therefore

Resolved, That the General Executive Board of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union be and hereby is instructed to make a careful study of the entire subject, and of the effect of the two different
systems in our industry on the earnings, regularity of employment, the spirit of solidarity, and health of the workers; also of the reasons for the different attitude on the piece work question in this and other unions: and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be authorized to engage an expert investigator for the careful study of the entire problem; and be it further.

Resolved, That the General Executive Board submit a report on the subject, with definite recommendations for action, by the next Convention, and that said report be published in the official organs of the International at least three months before the next Convention to enable the locals to discuss the report and to instruct their delegates thereon.

Resolution No. 13.

At a meeting held Monday, October 16, 1916, it was resolved that this Local recommend to the Thirteenth Convention to take action regarding all sections engaged in the cloak industry to work week work, instead of the present method of piece work.

The committee recommended that the resolutions be concurred in.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 23.

Whereas, The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union is a progressive labor organization founded upon the express declaration that "the only way to acquire our rights as producers and citizens and to bring about a system of society whereby the workers shall get the full value of their product, is to organize industrially into a class-conscious labor union politically represented on the various legislative bodies by representatives of our own party and class";

Whereas, During these two past years the United Garment Workers were divided and another International Union was created, called the Amalgamated Clothing Makers of America; therefore be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to carry out this resolution and to submit the suggestion for approval to a referendum vote of our members not later than March 31, 1917.

Chairman Lofkovits: The committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for the following reason: The resolution which was passed by the Twelfth Biennial Convention at Cleveland could not be carried out, because right after the Convention a split occurred in the United Garment Workers. It was intended to have an amalgamation of all the workers in the Industry and not a partial amalgamation, as that would have been worse than nothing. The committee therefore recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for whatever action it sees fit.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Lofkovits read the following resolution, with certain amendments, which he stated had been made by the committee and the makers after the resolution had been printed:

Resolution No. 23.

Whereas, The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union is a progressive labor organization founded upon the express declaration that "the only way to acquire our rights as producers and citizens and to bring about a system of society whereby the workers shall get the full value of their product, is to organize industrially into a class-conscious labor union politically represented on the various legislative bodies by representatives of our own party and class";

Whereas, The membership did not hear anything of this resolution from the present General Executive Board up to the present time, and
Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is of the opinion that the past policies of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor have in many instances been timid and conservative; that the chief executive officers of the Federation have committed the largest and most powerful body of organized labor in this country to a policy of undignified and unfruitful political lobbying and begging and have attempted to make the Federation an auxiliary to one of the old political parties, managed and conducted principally in the interests of the employing classes; and that several high officials of the American Federation of Labor have openly and prominently allied themselves with the National Civic Federation, an organization called into life by shrewd capitalists, for the purpose of weakening and destroying the militant spirit of the American labor movement and of demoralizing their struggles against the capitalist system,

Whereas, The American Federation of Labor has failed to teach their members in a more radical manner as to the existing conditions of organized capital against labor at the present time, and on that account the General Sympathetic Strike which was supposed to take place in the city of New York so as to help the carmen strikers in their grievances against organized capital, which involved a principle pertaining to all organized labor, proved to be a failure, and also on account of the lack of the spirit of labor solidarity, and, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to the next annual convention of the American Federation of Labor are hereby instructed to introduce a resolution that a more radical agitation of the principles of industrial general strikes be adopted.

Chairman Lefkovits: The committee has a minority and a majority report. The majority report is to accept and the minority report to reject. The signers of the majority report are: Lefkovits, Sapin, Edelman, Kushner, Shapiro, Taylor, Friend, Ledman. The signers of the minority report are: Gorenstein, Heller and Breslawer.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the majority report.

Delegate Breslawer spoke at some length in explanation of his reasons for signing the minority report.

Delegate Shapiro discussed the resolution, and stated that the delegates should have a right to criticise their own organization, or any other that was not doing its duty; that it was not the sense of the resolution that the organization withdraw from the American Federation of Labor or condemn it, but that it have a right to send delegates to the A. F. of L. Convention to protest against everything not in accordance with the principles of unionism.

Delegate Bernstein, Local 15, spoke in favor of the resolution, and that if the American Federation of Labor did not act in accordance with the ideas of the International Union, he was in favor of withdrawing from that body.

Delegate Weiner discussed the question at length and said that in his opinion the thing to do was not to withdraw, or to condemn the Federation, but to send delegates to the Convention of the A. F. of L with resolutions, who would see that those resolutions were adopted.

Delegate Metz, in discussing the resolution, said that he favored the resolution but thought that not the officers of the A. F. of L, but the policy it had followed was to be criticised.

Delegate Friend discussed the question at length.

Delegate Heller discussed the minority report at some length, saying it was the most radical resolution that had ever been printed in the records of the International and contained nothing for the betterment or improvement of conditions.

Vice-President Amdur in the chair.

President Schlesinger discussed the different parts of the resolution, stating that there
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

were really five separate resolutions covered in one. He suggested that while he was not in the Convention to justify or defend the American Federation of Labor or its officers, he desired to say there was not one thing done by its officers that they were not ordered to do by the Federation, which was composed of the various labor bodies.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

A motion was made and seconded that the resolution be referred back to the committee to bring in a further recommendation. (Carried.)

The President made a short statement, suggesting that it would expedite the work of the Convention if the committees were able to bring in complete reports, and suggested that as no further committees were ready to report that the Convention stand adjourned.

Delegate Jesse P. Cohen stated that delegates from Local No. 10 had received a special letter requesting them to return home to take up an important question with the manufacturers in the cloak and suit line, and desired to be excused.

President Schlesinger stated that they would be excused.

At 11.15 the rules were suspended, and the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.

SIXTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock P. M., Monday, October 23, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegates Levine, Local No. 2; Kushner, Local No. 9; Osborn, Dunn, Local No. 33; Brookman, Menis, Local No. 35; Sacha, Local No. 43; Taylor, Local No. 17; Berman, Local No. 23; Grossman, Local No. 24; Antonini, Local No. 26; Gooch, Greenstein, Lieberman, Local No. 25; Sokolitch, Local No. 39; Sandler, Lederman, Local No. 69; Richman, Local No. 75; Perlstein, Cleveland; Wachter, New York Joint Board; Drensky, Abramowitz, Local No. 29; Lane, Local No. 65; Bushman, Local No. 76.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SPRINGFIELD STRIKE SITUATION.

The committee on behalf of the Springfield strikers met. Delegate Mary Whalen, President of Local 55, Springfield, appeared before our committee and after hearing a detailed report of the situation of the strike in Springfield, the committee recommends:

First—That the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. decides to finance the Springfield strikers until a settlement is reached.

Second—That the incoming General Executive Board soon after adjournment of Convention sends its representative to make all arrangements as to successfully conducting the strike.

Third—That $1,000 shall be sent to Local 55 this week for the purpose of helping the strikers.

Signed,

H. SILVERMAN.

Padover, Levine, Bernstein, Blackhart and Borek.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, chairman of the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 16.

Whereas, The recent happenings in Boston have proved conclusively that the idea of democracy and home rule for each union is not always to the advantage of the interests of the organized workers in various localities; and

Whereas, The Boston situation has demonstrated that the right of autonomy has brought about disruption among the locals instead of doing any benefit by electing undesirable elements as officials in their Executive Boards as well as in the Joint Board, whereby the collective agreement entered into with the Manufacturers' Association in March, 1913, has been abrogated contrary to the wishes of the general officers and the rank and file; and

Whereas, By abrogating the collective agreement it became possible for some ele-
Resolved, At this Thirteenth Biennial Convention that the franchise right be taken away from Locals 12, 24, 56 and 73 and that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to ask for the resignation of all local officers and that for at least one year all officers of the aforementioned locals be appointed under the supervision of the general office; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to assign one of its organizers or a member of the General Executive Board to take charge of the organization work in Boston; and be it further

Resolved, That all paid officers of the Boston locals be paid directly by the General Office, and the General Office shall collect the salaries for the Boston officers for the locals; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Office shall be empowered to remove any paid officer in Boston at its discretion, upon one week's notice.

The unanimous opinion of the committee is that the resolution be adopted, with the following recommendations: First, that the management of the offices of the Joint Board be taken over by the General Executive Board immediately, and that the incoming General Executive Board appoint a manager and as many paid officers as they find necessary to conduct the business and carry on relations between the unions and the employers, and pay the salaries of the officers, which should be collected from the locals. Second, a general election of all the officers should be immediately ordered by the General Executive Board and take place under its supervision.

Third, that all expenses to be made by the locals or by the General Board be approved by the General Executive Board or by the manager appointed by it.

It is with regret that the committee recommends such drastic measures, but conditions prevailing in this local and the fact that it is the request of the membership of the same locals justifies its recommendation.

Delegate Wander: I move that this resolution be laid aside until we hear the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports. (Seconded and carried.)

Resolution No. 44.

Whereas, On account of the situation arising from the European war, our local unions have for some time gone through a crisis and suffered in various ways, and the condition of the great mass of cloakmakers and ladies' garment workers generally has also during the past two years become worse because of reduced prices for labor, and increased prices of the necessaries of life; and

 Whereas, At the Cleveland Convention, after considering the situation in the Canadian cloak industry, the G. E. B. has been empowered to call a general strike of cloakmakers in Toronto and Montreal, as all previous efforts to improve conditions through the method of shop strikes, etc., have proved ineffective; and

Whereas, The previous conditions of the International Union, as well as the local situation did not warrant the G. E. B. to undertake such action up till now; and

Whereas, The conditions of the International Union, and the local circumstances have not altered and there is now a great and growing desire on the part of the Canadian fellow-workers to take decisive measures to improve the conditions and to bring about higher standards in the cloak industry; and

Whereas, President Schlesinger's visit to Toronto and Montreal a short while ago, and his promise of support for a campaign of organization greatly encouraged the workers to rally our local unions and prepare for action; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention, viewing with satisfaction the awakened spirit of unionism amongst our Canadian fellow-workers, reaffirms its previous decision, giving to the incoming General Executive Board the power to aid in continuing the said campaign and to take all necessary
steps to carry out a general strike in the
cloak, skirt and dress Industry of Canada,
so as to bring about improved standards of
labor as is required by the local conditions.

The committee recommended striking out
the last Resolve and substituting the fol-
lowing: "Resolved. That this Convention
reaffirm its stand taken at the last Con-
vention and that the incoming General Ex-
ecutive Board be instructed to take any nec-
esary steps in order to obtain better con-
ditions for the cloackmakers of Canada."

A motion was put and seconded to adopt
the report of the committee.

Delegate Koldofsky stated that the cloak
makers in Canada were very strong for
a general strike and expressed himself as
being in favor of the recommendation of
the committee.

The motion to concur in the recommenda-
tion of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 45.

Whereas, A great many of the employees
in the cloak, suit and skirt Industry are of
Polish nationality, and

Whereas, Most of these Polish employees
are not members of the Cloak and Skirt-
makers' Union; and

Whereas, We consider Chicago a large
field in the cloak, suit, dress and skirt Indu-
try for the purpose of organization; be it,
therefore,

Resolved, That an organizer of Polish
nationality be stationed in Chicago to co-
operate with Locals 18, 44 and 81 in or-
ganizing the Polish people working in the
trade.

The committee recommended the adop-
tion of the resolution and that the General
Executive Board be requested to take imme-
diate action on the matter.

On motion, the recommendation of the
committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 50.

Whereas, There are approximately be-
tween seven and eight thousand people that
are as yet unorganized working in the dress
and waist and skirt Industry in the city of
Chicago and vicinity, and

Whereas, These workers are working for
a mere pittance, and under conditions that
are unbearable to humanity; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this body shall provide or-
ganizers for the above named city to or-
ganize these workers, and be it further

Resolved, That said organizers be sent to
this city immediately, as the sentiment of
organization is strong among this body of
workers.

The committee recommended the adoption
of the resolution and that it be referred to
the incoming General Executive Board, with
the request to take action as soon as they
have an opportunity.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt
the report of the committee.

Delegate Ringer suggested that as the
Committee on Officers' Reports had taken
up this matter the resolution be laid aside
until their report had been submitted.

Chairman Rosenberg discussed the ques-
tion briefly, objecting to the suggestion of
Delegate Ringer.

The question was discussed further by
Delegate Ringer and Chairman Rosenberg.

President Schlesinger stated that as this
resolution submitted no plans, it would not
interfere with the recommendations of the
Committee on Officers' Reports.

Delegate Fanny Cohn, Secretary of the
Committee, spoke briefly in favor of the
resolution.

The motion to adopt the report of the
committee was carried.

Resolution No. 52.

Whereas, Our Local went through a tre-
mendous struggle for better conditions for
its members, and in consideration of the
fact that our efforts were only partially suc-
cessful on account of the lack of good work
and more agitation on the part of the ma-
jority of the workers engaged in our in-
dustry, and

Whereas, The question of hours was left
with the Board of Arbitration, which has
postponed action, due to the competition of
the unorganized shops; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That we request the Thirteenth
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Hanniel Convention to go on record for a strong and effective campaign in the city of Worcester before the next spring season; and, be it further

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union assign an organizer for a short period, in order to advance our good work started.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming Executive Board for action.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 56.

Whereas, There are many ladies' garment workers in the city of Boston and vicinity in the waist and dress trade not yet organized; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to appoint organizers in the above named city, in order to accomplish that purpose.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming Executive Board for action.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 57.

Whereas, The contracting or so-called sub-manufacturing evil has spread in all the trades affiliated with our I. L. G. W. U., and

Whereas, This evil undermines the very existence of some of our Unions by making union members of one local of the same International unconsciously compete with each other, and

Whereas, This evil is brought about by some economic factors that require careful and thorough consideration; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board at its first quarterly session to appoint a committee of five to investigate same and bring in its recommendation at the earliest opportunity; and, be it further

Resolved, That the committee so appointed be empowered to engage expert advice, if it deems that necessary.

The committee recommended that the resolution be adopted and referred to the incoming General Executive Board, to have such committee appointed to do the work.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Epstein stated that he had introduced a similar resolution at the Cleveland convention and it had been referred to the General Executive Board, but no action had been taken, and spoke at some length in favor of the resolution, urging that some action be taken. He suggested, however, that he was in favor of the recommendation of the committee, with the exception of hiring outside advisers.

Delegate Greenberger moved as an amendment that the last resolve in the resolution, referring to the employment of expert advice, be stricken out. (Seconded.)

Chairman Rosenberg suggested that in his opinion the adoption of the amendment would mean preventing the committee doing its work, as it was sometimes necessary to engage outside help.

The question was further discussed by Delegate Epstein.

Delegate Jesse Cohen spoke in favor of the amendment, giving it as his opinion that those inside the organization were more capable of giving advice than any one on the outside.

On motion, debate was closed.

Delegate Cohn, Secretary of the committee, made a brief statement, saying that the Executive Board might call on the locals for the expert advice, that the resolution did not say anything about who the experts might be.

A vote was taken on the motion to amend. The chair declared himself in doubt as to the result. A show of hands was called for, and the motion to amend was carried by a vote of 58 to 43.

The report of the committee was adopted as amended.

Resolution No. 59.

Whereas, A great number of Ladies' Garment Workers throughout the United States
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and Canada are of the Italian nationality and are unorganized, and

Whereas, Only a part of them are members of the various locals of our International, and

Whereas, These members of the various locals are dues paying members only, having no conception of unionism; therefore be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board shall be instructed to appoint a general Italian speaking organizer for the purpose of propagandist work for the above named purpose, also for organizing and general work. Through such efforts the general office will be in a position to detect the real causes of conflict existing among the different factions, and take whatever action they may deem necessary in order to restore peace and harmony for the good and welfare of the organization.

Chairman Rosenberg: The committee unanimously agreed to refer this request to the incoming General Executive Board for whatever action they might find necessary.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 12.

At a meeting held Monday, October 16, 1916, it was resolved that this local recommend to the delegates of the Thirteenth Convention of the International Union to take action in the cases of manufacturers moving their plants out of town in the event of labor troubles.

Chairman Rosenberg: The unanimous opinion of the committee is to refer the request to the incoming General Executive Board for further action.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 13.

Whereas, That in the city of Baltimore there are trades such as waist, dressers, children's dresses, which are wholly unorganized and the number of people employed in these trades under miserable conditions because of being unorganized, will reach approximately to not less than ten thousand (10,000), and

Whereas, The whole possible energy of the skirt makers of Local No. 4 has always been spent on the organization of their trade while the dressmaking shops are always competing very much under the lower scale that they are working, and our members of the Union are unable to control the trade of skirts under such conditions and are compelled to work under the prices that we would and could get as members of a union, and

Whereas, That there has never been any attempt made by our International Union to organize the above mentioned trades, except as to what our own Local No. 4 did in organizing Local No. 72, which is even now not self-supporting, and certainly plays no part and has no effect on the trades above mentioned in the city of Baltimore, in comparison with the effect our sister locals have on the same trades in other cities, such as Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Chicago, where the above mentioned trades are organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That a permanent organizer under the direct management of the general officers be appointed to organize complete the above mentioned trades, and, if necessary to achieve this purpose, even to give power to General Executive Board to call a general strike in these trades as it has been done in the other cities mentioned above, as this was our only method in the past of organizing trades where there were no unions existing.

Chairman Rosenberg stated that the representatives of Local No. 72 appeared before the committee and outlined the situation in Baltimore, and after hearing all the facts the committee decided that the matter be referred to the General Executive Board for immediate action, and that as soon as the Convention was adjourned something should be done to improve the miserable conditions that prevail in the city of Baltimore.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the report of the committee.

Delegate Patgallo, Local 72, made a brief statement as to conditions in Baltimore, owing to the workers being unorganized, and requested that a capable organizer be sent to that city.

Delegate Litwakoff spoke in favor of send-
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Resolutions

Resolution No. 18.

Whereas, There is an impossibility for us to organize and maintain union conditions and standards in the cloak trade, due to the fact that the main industry in St. Louis consists of skirt making, and

Whereas, Ninety per cent. of the employees of the skirt trade are English-speaking women who cannot be organized without the aid of women organizers, and

Whereas, The city of St. Louis offers a great and extensive field for organization work among these women engaged in the various branches of the Ladies' Garment Industry; therefore be It

Resolved by the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to inaugurate an organization campaign in St. Louis, to last for a period of time until the entire trade is organized.

Chairman Rosenberg: The committee unanimously agreed to recommend that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed at once to take up the organization work as demanded by the signers of this resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 31.

Whereas, There are two (2) Local Unions in the City of New York, viz.: Local No. 23 and Local No. 25, both having jurisdiction over the dress trade, each one having established a different rate of wages and conditions of labor, and

Whereas, This results in constant jurisdictional disputes and strikes, the result of which is a number of unorganized workers in shops with no individual Local or person to place responsibility on; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the General Executive Board to change the charter of Local No. 25 to read Waist Makers' Union, and the charter of Local No. 23 to read Skirt Makers' Union, and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be empowered to proceed with organizing a Local of Dressmakers in the City of New York and to instruct Locales 23 and 25 to transfer their members, dressmakers, to the newly organized Local of dressmakers.

Chairman Rosenberg: The committee had representatives of the two locals before them and after a long discussion, it was decided to recommend the following: That a joint committee composed of two members of Local 25, two members of Local 23, and one member of the incoming General Executive Board should investigate and make recommendations to the quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board for action.

A motion was made that the report of the committee be concurred in. (Seconded.)

Delegate Jesse Cohen stated that this matter involved others besides the two locals mentioned, and that while he was in favor of the recommendation of the committee he felt that Local 10 was also vitally interested.

Chairman Rosenberg stated that the committee would amend its report to read: That a joint committee composed of two members from Local 25, two members from Local 23, two members from Local 10, and one member of the incoming General Executive Board should investigate and make recommendations to the quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board for action.

Delegate Prisant stated that the introducers of the resolution did not desire to bring in the questions of jurisdiction, but were only desirous of better trade conditions.

The report of the committee was adopted.

President Schlesinger introduced to the Convention Sami London, Secretary of the United Hebrew Trades of Philadelphia, who addressed the delegates briefly, welcoming them to the city and congratulating them on the work the organization had accomplished.

William Karlin, a New York labor attorney, was introduced to the Convention by the chairman. Mr. Karlin spoke to the delegates of the importance of the International organization in protecting the unions.
against the bosses and congratulated them upon the great work they had done in the past, and predicted for them greater things for the future.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Lefkowitz, for the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 18.

Whereas, After an examination of the workers of the cloak and suit, waist and dress industries, made by the Federal Public Health Service in conjunction with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, it was found that a great number of our members are afflicted with the frightful proletarian disease known as tuberculosis; and

Whereas, Locals 9, 23 and 35 have established a fund for the purpose of fighting this disease, and protecting their members, and have succeeded through medical observation and prevention in the early stages of the sickness to aid and cure many of our afflicted members; and

Whereas, The need of a sanitarium for our members cannot be overestimated, inasmuch as many who suffer from tuberculosis are now compelled to beg for admittance into the various sanitariums; and

Whereas, Locals 2, 8, 17, 23 and 35, representing a membership of over 30,000 have already begun building a sanitarium on the estate donated to them by Miss Henschel, of Kingston, N. Y.; and

Whereas, The International, being the parent body of all these locals, should, in our opinion, become the owner and controller of said sanitarium; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention gives this movement its endorsement; and be it further

Resolved, That the sum of $2,500.00 be donated toward the construction and equipment of this institution; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be and is herewith instructed to study ways and means of making this Institution the property of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

The chairman stated that after hearing the explanation of the different locals interested, it recommended concurrence in the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Metz offered an amendment to the resolution that it read Comrade Miss Henschel. (Seconded.)

President Schlesinger spoke briefly in explanation of the resolution.

Delegate Hyman stated that he didn't know how his name appeared on the resolution, but that he had no objection to the resolution. He stated, however, that he didn't see what good it would do for the International to take over the plan of building a sanitarium and subscribing the amount named.

President Schlesinger made a further explanation of the resolution.

Delegate Hyman stated that if a sanitarium was acquired for the members, that means should also be found to provide a place for any member of the International. He did not favor establishing a sanitarium otherwise.

Delegate Heller: A point of order. The resolution does not bind the International; it simply asks the General Executive Board to take that into consideration.

The chairman declared the point of order well taken.

Delegate Sterling offered an amendment that the organization subscribe the sum of $5,000.

The chairman declared the amendment out of order, as the resolution did not request that amount.

Delegate Fanny Cohn moved that the privilege of the floor be extended to Miss Pauline Newman to enlighten the delegates on the subject. (Seconded and carried.)

Miss Newman outlined briefly conditions in the sewing trades and told of the good work that had been done by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in New York. She said, in part, in reference to the proposition for a sanitarium and the offer of Miss Henschel: "Miss Henschel, of Kingston, N. Y.,
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who, while not a member of the Socialist Party, is nevertheless socialistically inclined, and who is herself a consumptive, in fact is practically on the verge of dying. Thought it would be a good thing to leave her property and a good deal of her money to a worthy cause. She corresponded with Dr. Price and Miss Wall, of the Board of Sanitary Control. Dr. Price conferred with her, and after she became acquainted with the needs of the organization she decided to leave her property and three acres of ground upon which tents could be erected if necessary, and was also willing to change her will and give money, so the property could be reconstructed and turned into a sanatorium.

Inasmuch as this is a donation from a person who is dying and she expresses her wish to see this place completed before she passes away, I trust the delegates will decide to donate this amount. We would like to have it constructed by next March."

Miss Newman stated that if the organization secured a sanatorium for the use of its members, it would be the only organization owning such a place except the Printers.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was carried.

Delegate Metz moved that a telegram of thanks be sent to Comrade Miss Henschen for her generous donation. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

Resolution No. 26.

Whereas, The American Federation of Labor, being a federated central body composed of International Unions, whose present form of organization and methods do not sufficiently unite and benefit the workers affiliated with it, and

Whereas, The past experiences prove that the labor movement of America suffers most through the lack of combined efforts and unity of action as class conscious working men and women due to the methods and policies, and also to the form of organization of said American Federation of Labor, and

Whereas, The capitalistic class of America has long since abandoned its former individualistic tendencies and actions, and combined themselves into gigantic trusts, in order to monopolize and dictate terms as a unit upon the markets for their merchandise, and are also united and act as such in industrial disputes in order to deprive labor of its benefits, be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, in session, goes on record and adopts the principles and form of industrial unionism and instructs its delegates to the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor to do their utmost and to promote the said principles and form of industrial unionism and also to introduce such resolution at the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The Committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 28.

Resolved, That the delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Unions, assembled in Scottish Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., send greetings of sympathy and encouragement to you for the suffering you are going through because of your activity for the cloak makers of Philadelphia.

We hope and wish to soon secure your freedom.

Chas. Schwartz and Joseph Bober,

David Gratz,
State Prison, Trenton, N. J.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

Upon motion of Delegate Silverman, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 33.

Whereas, The working class realizes that the economic and political struggle is the only way of bettering their condition, and

Whereas, The Socialist party is the only party who is fighting for the workers, both on the industrial and political fields, and

Whereas, Two of our best comrades, Lou-
don and Hillquit, are candidates for election to Congress: be it therefore.

Resolved, That this Convention appropriate $500 for the present campaign for the Socialist party in New York.

The committee stated that action on Resolution No. 3 covered this resolution, as they contained the same subject matter.

Resolution No. 34. Introduced by several delegates.

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled in the city of Philadelphia, on the 16th day of October, 1918, hereby pledges its support to the International Brotherhood of Papermakers, by insisting that its officers and its locals demand in the future paper that bears the union label of the International Brotherhood of Papermakers watermarked on it.

Delegate Epstein stated that there was a similar resolution but a little stronger than this one.

Chairman Lefkovitz stated that it was Resolution No. 64, and was included in the committee's report. He read the resolution, as follows:

Resolution No. 64.

Whereas, There is going on an earnest and constant agitation among organized labor to demand merchandise with the union label only, and

 Whereas, The union label is the only guarantee that merchandise bought by our members is made under union conditions, and

 Whereas, Our attention was called to the fact that locals of the I. L. G. W. U. are using scab-made writing paper, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention go on record as instructing the President and General Secretary-Treasurer to the effect that no communications from any local union have recognition unless it is written on paper with the union label, the General Office to notify all affiliated local unions to that effect.

The committee recommends the adoption of both resolutions, but there may be instances when no union-made paper can be bought, and in such a case the member is recommended to communicate with the International.

Delegate Epstein: I move to adopt the recommendation of the committee without the "but." (Seconded)

Delegate Jesse Cohen discussed the question briefly, and suggested that the resolution should apply to all trades.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted as moved by Delegate Epstein.

Resolution No. 38.

Whereas, The locals of our International Union must engage legal services in dealing with the manufacturers, especially those locals which have protocol agreements, and

Whereas, Such legal advice is too costly and is a great burden for the individual locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union engage such lawyers for all the New York locals, the cost to be covered by the different locals, together with the General Office, according to the membership. This to be only for attorneys' services in connection with dealing with manufacturers, but shall not include police court cases.

The committee recommended the rejection of the resolution, as the International could not be expected to take up time with such a matter as engaging lawyers for the different locals.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Lawner spoke briefly in favor of the resolution, as there were a number of small locals who could not afford to employ counsel.

Delegate Stein, Local 10, spoke against the resolution and stated that in the case of a local that could not afford to employ legal advice it should apply to the International, as in other matters.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.
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Resolution No. 41.

Whereas, Our International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has grown to be one of the largest Internationals in the American labor movement, and

Whereas, Its growth has been marked with many interesting phases of rising and declining under certain circumstances, and

Whereas, The struggle it lived through may be a good object lesson for our future progress; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention appropriate $5,000 for the purpose of engaging a good writer who shall gather material and write a history of our International and of all its locals in detail; this work to be done under the supervision of the General Executive Board.

The committee recommended the rejection of the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 42.

Whereas, The jurisdiction questions that arise between the locals take a good deal of time at our conventions; and

Whereas, The Convention as a whole can not always solve these questions in a form satisfactory to the locals concerned; and

Whereas, Such questions are complicated and demand a special study of the different problems involved; therefore be it

Resolved, That a special committee of five shall be elected at this Convention to study such questions and they shall have the power to employ expert help, in the solution of such questions, and each local shall submit their disputes to such committee before they bring them to the Convention, so that this committee may have the opportunity to either bring about an adjustment of such questions, or in case of disagreement submit their report and their findings to the Convention.

Chairman Leftorvits: The committee is of the opinion that the Convention elects a General Executive Board for the purpose of taking charge of jurisdictional questions that come up between Conventions. Therefore, we recommend rejection of this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 51.

Whereas, Experience has clearly proven that the piece-work system is largely responsible for the existence of sub-manufacturing, creating competition between the workers of the inside and outside shops, also endless friction between the workers and employers, whereby in many instances the best union men who endeavor to maintain union standards are discriminated against; and

Whereas, All the remedies tried by the Union have so far been ineffective; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention go on record in favor of a work system and instruct its incoming General Executive Board to work in that direction.

The chairman of the committee stated that the subject matter of this resolution was covered by Resolutions Nos. 4 and 30, which had been acted upon.

Resolution No. 48.

Whereas, Brother Abe Blano, Chief Clerk of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt-makers' Union of Chicago, has loyally supported the cause of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for a great many years and has served in several capacities as an officer of our organization, both in Chicago and in New York; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention extends to Brother Blano an invitation to come to Philadelphia and participate in the proceedings of this Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

The committee recommended that the invitation be extended to Brother Blano to address the Convention, but not to participate in it, he not being a member of the union.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.
Resolution No. 68 was read and referred back to the committee for action.

Resolution No. 63.

Whereas, During the many strikes which we have had in the last two years, the majority of the organs of the Jewish press have been in sympathy with us, especially the Jewish Daily Forward, the New York Call, the Volkszeitung, Die Freie Arbiter Stimme and the Neue Welt; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention express deep appreciation and thanks for their action.

Chairman Lefkowitz: The committee wishes to change the language of the resolution, as the Call is an English paper and the Volkszeitung is a German paper. Otherwise we recommend the adoption of the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Hyman stated that the resolution should not be adopted, as it endorsed these papers in general, whatever these papers might do.

President Schlesinger stated that the resolution only expressed appreciation of the action of these papers during the strike.

Delegate Goldstein spoke in favor of the resolution, but desired to include other papers.

Delegate Prisarat: I wish to make an amendment to include the papers mentioned by Brother Goldstein.

The chairman ruled that a resolution would be necessary to cover that amendment.

Upon motion, debate was closed.

The report of the committee was adopted, with the correction as stated.

Resolution No. 66.

Whereas, During the last two years, since President Schlesinger has been in office as the leader of our International, our organization has grown immensely in influence and membership, and has won a notable series of strikes in the waist, dress, cloak, children's dress, kimono and raincoat industries under the supervision of the International and the leadership of President Schlesinger; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention express deep gratitude to the outgoing General Executive Board and that it present Brother Schlesinger with a suitable token of its recognition.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation.

President Schlesinger: I have had pay for everything I have done and a present or token of appreciation is not necessary.

Delegate Padover moved as an amendment that the resolution be deferred until after the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports. (Seconded.)

The amendment was voted on, the original motion was voted on, and the chair declared himself in doubt as to the result. He called for a show of hands, which resulted in 18 votes for the amendment and 65 votes for the original motion, and the motion was declared carried.

Delegate Greenberger moved that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to buy a suitable present for the President. (Seconded.)

The chair refused to consider the motion.

Delegate Greenberger insisted on his right to have the motion acted on.

Secretary Baroff in the chair.

The motion that the chair appoint a committee of five was carried.

Delegate Greenberger moved that the Convention donate the sum of $200 for the present.

President Schlesinger said that while he appreciated the good intentions of the delegates, he would not accept a present that would cost such a sum.

Secretary Baroff appointed the following committee:

Delegates Berenstain, Local 15; Greenberger, Local 10; Keaten, Local 9; Feldman, Local 25; Langer, Local 25.

President Schlesinger in the chair.
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Resolution No. 86.
Whereas, The Sergeants-at-Arms of this Convention are discharging their duties loyally, energetically and successfully; it is therefore
Resolved, That the Convention present each of them with a gold fob made in the same style as the badges of the delegates to this Convention.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Ninio suggested that action on the resolution be deferred until the day before the Convention adjourned.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 87.
Whereas, In the course of organizing work undertaken by the I. L. G. W. U. It was demonstrated that workers of all nationalities and tongues must be enlisted in order to make the work effective; and
Whereas, Our International Constitution is printed in almost all languages spoken by its members except the Hungarian; and
Whereas, A large percentage of our members are Hungarians and read the Hungarian language only; be it therefore
Resolved, That this Convention decrees that the International Constitution be printed in the Hungarian language as well as in the languages at present issued.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

Delegate Jesse Cohen moved that the recommendation of the committee be rejected. (Seconded.)

Delegate Cohen discussed the question briefly and stated that the Hungarian workers could not understand the workings of the organization, unless the Constitution was printed in their language.

Delegate Blackett spoke briefly in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Padover spoke in favor of the motion to reject the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Epstein spoke in favor of the resolution, stating that the method suggested was a good opportunity to do some educational work among the Hungarians.

Delegate Rosenfeld spoke briefly in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Friend suggested that the committee did not recommend that the resolution be rejected, but merely that it be referred to the incoming Executive Board.

Delegate Litwakoff spoke briefly in favor of the Constitution being printed in all languages, not only the Hungarian language.

Vice-President Pierce discussed the question briefly and recommended an amendment that the committee report the matter favorably to the incoming Executive Board.

Chairman Lafkaits again stated that the committee did not reject the resolution, but referred it to the incoming General Executive Board, that they might investigate the matter and decide whether there were sufficient Hungarian workers to justify the printing of the resolution in that language.

The motion to reject the report of the committee was carried.

Delegate Rubin moved that the question of printing the Constitution in the Hungarian language, as well as any other languages of members, be referred to the incoming International Executive Board, with instructions that they take favorable action. (Seconded and carried.)

Resolution No. 89.
Whereas, Many American labor unions have established employment bureaus in connection with their organizations, thus enabling many of their unemployed members to get work in other localities; and
Whereas, Our I. L. G. W. U. has entered into many agreements with employers, containing preferential union clauses which provide that the manufacturers may hire non-union help only in case union help is not obtainable; and
Whereas, It is a well known fact that in one city a certain trade may be in a busy
condition and in need of help, while in another city the same trade is overcrowded with workers belonging to the union; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Thirteenth Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to establish a Central Employment Bureau where the unemployed of affected trades shall be registered, and their local unions shall be notified wherever and whenever there is need of help.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming Executive Board for study.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 94.

Whereas, The preferential union clause in the many agreements entered into between employers' associations and the I. L. G. W. U., giving preference to union workers in the hiring of help, has proved to be unsatisfactory to the unions as weakening instead of strengthening the locals; and

Whereas, The preferential agreement protects scabs and those that refuse to pay dues to the union, and permits union workers to mingle with and tolerate the non-union workers as neighbors in the shops, which has a demoralizing influence upon the union workers, and frequently causes cessation of payment of dues on their part; and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. is already large and powerful enough to force employers to recognize real trade union agreements; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instructs the incoming G. E. B. that in the future the preferential clause be done away with and be substituted by a simple union clause, to read: "The employers agree to employ none but members in good standing in the unions."

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board and that they be instructed to act in whatever way would be best for the union workers.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

President Schlesinger read the following telegram:


Benjamin Schlesinger, Philadelphia:

I made every effort to come to Philadelphia to address your convention, but find it impossible, and it causes me genuine regret, for I would have much desired to personally express the great pride I feel at the great successes your organization has achieved in the work and lives of the toilers in your trades. Though absence is enforced, my felicitations are none the less sincere and my hopes and expectations for your future progress just as genuine. Please convey hearty greetings to officers, delegates and rank and file.

SAMUEL GOMPERS.

President American Federation of Labor.

President Schlesinger also announced that the Director of Public Safety of the City of Philadelphia was unable to be present.

He introduced former Secretary-Treasurer Morris Sigman to the delegates, who was greeted with prolonged and vigorous applause.

ADDRESS OF MORRIS SIGMAN.

Mr. Chairman, Sisters and Brothers and Delegates to the International Convention:

I thank you very much for the hearty applause you have given me. It gave me just that much time less to speak and if you had kept on a little longer you might have taken the entire time of my speech. Those who know me well will know that I am not an eloquent speaker and therefore I will just make a few remarks. I am glad of this opportunity to be at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of this organization to say a few words of the experience I have had during the time I held office.

About thirteen months ago eight members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union were confined in jail under a conspiracy composed, I believe, of prominent employers in the city of New York, with the aid of gangsters and others of the lowest grade in the community, and the charge that was made against these eight members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was murder. While all the members of the International, as well as those who were
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confined in jail, were sure that there was no reason for this imprisonment, still the eight men were not sure that they would have the opportunity to meet the delegates at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention, as there have been cases in the past history of the labor movement where innocent working people have been imprisoned for life because the capitalists did not like their activities in the labor movement. We are certainly glad to be here today, not only because we have been liberated, not only because of the fact that the accusations have been declared false, and these accusations were against the International as a whole and probably against the labor movement, but I say it is not this fact alone that makes us glad, but there was something of more importance than this.

If you study carefully the situation in the International since its last convention, you can easily see that right after we came back from that convention and spread the new spirit among the members, as soon as the administration had been changed, that very moment the activities on the other side began. You know the conditions in the cloak and suit industry, and let me tell you, Comrades, that the main object of this conspiracy was to destroy our International Union. You know that the protocol was abrogated in the cloak industry before the trial commenced, and before we had a chance to get through with the trial the general strike came, so we have had a great deal of trouble, and it has been particularly hard for the officers of the International, who have had to contend with all this hard work. But in spite of all the attempts made to destroy the International, it has grown tremendously, and we are proud of the fact that it is fully fifty per cent. stronger and bigger in its power and membership than it was at the last convention.

While I am on the floor and not being a delegate to the convention, I want to express a few thoughts that I hope this convention will take up. During the struggles we have passed through in the past two years, we have learned that while we are strong in membership and growing in influence, still there is something that this convention must do in order to put the International on a more solid basis. In all the strikes during the past few years we have proved the fact that the ladies' garment workers' industry has the best army to fight, but we cannot compare with other organisations in the matter of preparedness. Therefore, we must take up this matter, we must better conditions.

I know that there is a recommendation in the report of the General Executive Board and as far as financial matters are concerned, I know that this question has come up at three or four conventions and I know that many resolutions have been heard on the floor of these conventions, and I know that many opinions have been expressed, but as soon as the convention adjourned and the delegates went back to their locals, the question became a dead one. It is absolutely necessary that the per capita to the International should be raised, so that we can put our organisation in such a position that the employer will not dare to make the attempts that they have made in the past, and we should not place ourselves in the position where we will have to call on those who are really not our friends to assist us.

We really should take as our examples some of the more conservative American unions in this matter.

I believe in being radical, I believe in being revolutionary, I believe in spirit, but I want to tell you, my friends, that you cannot fight always with spirit, you cannot fight with phrases; when it comes to a bitter struggle with the enemy you must have strength you must have proper organisation, you must be prepared in all lines. If a strike is called and it is necessary to prolong it for twenty, thirty or forty weeks, you must see to it that those who are on the battlefield have at least a loaf of bread for their wives and children and are able to stay in the fight and demand the rights of the worker. You have got to settle this question once for all; you have got to find a way so that your enemies will know that there is strength in this organization, so that in the future they will be afraid to fight a battle with the International.

While I was in office I remember there were many days when President Schlesinger has walked from one corner of the room to the other, wondering where he would go to get money to conduct the fight. He always did what he could, and no one knows better
than I do how much work he has done for the International.

As far as I am concerned, I am still a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, although I was forced by circumstances to resign from office. At the present I am only a guest, but I am always ready and willing to give my help in any important question. We must educate the members and you can depend upon it that you can always call on me and I will do my share.

I trust that when we meet at the next Convention the International will be even stronger and more powerful than it is today. I thank you.

President Schlesinger read the following resolution:

Whereas, Brother I. Silver has been one of our most active members, and Secretary of Local No. 76, of Worcester, Mass., and

Whereas, The untimely death has stopped his activities in his prime of life, the news of his death reaching us on Saturday, October 31st; and

Whereas, The Worcester Local of the I. L. G. W. U. and the labor movement in general has lost in him an earnest and good worker for our cause; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention inscribes upon its records the regret of the Convention for his untimely death.

HENRY RUBIN, Local 43.
MINNIE SACKS, Local 43.

Vice-President Pierce moved that the resolution be spread upon the records of the Convention. (Seconded and carried.)

Secretary Baroff announced the following committee to select a token of appreciation for President Schlesinger:

Delegates Berstein, Local 15; Greenberger, Local 10; Keaten, Local 9; Seldman, Local 25; Langer, Local 35.

Delegate Epstein stated that he had received certain protests, which would be turned over to the Grievance Committee.

President Schlesinger stated that a representative of a local of the United Garment Workers of America was present, and would like to make an appeal.

Mr. Albert, representing the Shirt Makers of Philadelphia, made an appeal to the Convention for financial assistance for the Shirt Makers' Union of Philadelphia, the members of which were on strike.

At 5.30 the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9.30 A.M., Tuesday, October 24.

The following resolutions were introduced during the afternoon session:

Resolution No. 119.


Whereas, Our International Union has grown in membership and therefore acquired a great responsibility in carrying out the wishes of the membership; and

Whereas, The present system has brought about a higher cost of all commodities, thus causing our organizations very large expenses, which is impossible to be disbursed with the present dues paid by our locals; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention go on record to establish a uniform higher dues.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 120.

Whereas, Comrade Morris Hillquit, legal adviser for the I. L. O. W. U., honored us by coming to the Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union to address our delegates; and

Whereas, Comrade Hillquit’s address was a history of the activities and achievements of our International Union, and we believe this speech would be a great additional value to the educational work carried on by our International Union; be it therefore

Resolved, That this address be printed in pamphlet form and be distributed among all members of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union as largely as possible.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 121.


Whereas, H. Weinberg, the famous labor agitator, has done such excellent work in the labor movement generally, in the ladies’ garment industry particularly, causing the workers of this industry to become better organized; and

Whereas, Time and over again the International had in their employ H. Weinberg as a lecturer as well as an organizer to help advance the cause of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union; and

Whereas, The General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. have experienced the impossibility of obtaining organizers as well as agitators for their purpose at the desired time; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention go on record that H. Weinberg, the famous labor agitator, shall constantly be on the organizing list of the I. L. G. W. U., under the supervision of the General Executive Board.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 122.


Whereas, The present system of per capita of the International, which is two and one-half cents per member, hardly covers the organizing work of the General Executive Board; and

Whereas, It has been proven the necessity of having a large fund by the International to be able to conduct all the strikes so as to bring them to a success; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention go on record to increase the per capita of the International to such an extent so that the International shall be able to conduct all strikes and pay the benefits thereof.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 123.


Whereas, It is an actual fact that a meeting of the International Convention is the cause of spending a large sum of money to carry on the business and arrange its affairs; and

Whereas, These moneys to carry out the above purpose must be contributed by our members through per capitiation tax or assessment, which means an added expense and sometimes a great burden to the members of the organizations who comprise the I. L. G. W. U.; and

Whereas, Such being the facts we believe and feel that it is necessary to avoid the above mentioned expenditures; and

Whereas, We further believe that when officers elected at the International Convention, the longer their terms of office reason-
ably last, the more proficient and efficient they become in performing their duties in establishing the aims and objects that this International stands for; therefore be it.

Resolved, That Article 3, Section 1, of the International Constitution, which reads: "The I. L. G. W. U. shall meet biennially in general convention;" to be amended to read as follows: "That conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. shall be held every four years hereafter."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 124.

Introduced by S. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto, L. Prisam, Local No. 23.

Whereas, The International is bending every possible effort to organize and solidify its gains for our workers, and

Whereas, One of the important problems in our trades is the sweat shop and the working conditions that prevail in them, and

Whereas, A label introduced in the various trades of our International would greatly aid in solving this problem, as much as it would eliminate the above referred to type of shops and their low standards; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention empowers the incoming General Executive Board to engage a staff of men and women as label organizers, to work all over the country and popularize the label of our International Union in the market, in order to create a great and steady demand for it.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 125.

Introduced by H. Shuater, Local No. 9; S. Labenson, Local No. 13; Henry Zacker, Local No. 41; H. Krakoff, Local No. 17; A. Goldstein, Local No. 1; Henry D. Cohen, Local No. 7; M. Marquis, Local No. 33; Fred Monsen, Local No. 7; S. J. Ringer, Local No. 1; Henry Rubin, Local No. 43; Elmor Rosenberg, Local No. 10; M. Menin, Local No. 35; B. Cohen, Local No. 73; E. Fine, Local No. 10.

The subject matter of this resolution is the following letter:

Dear Friend and Brother Abraham Rosenberg:

I don't think that it is necessary for me to describe to you my personal condition, as I neither have the time for it, nor do I want to bother you. I do not know how long I may be able to drag my existence in this manner. My only hope is for the Convention to help me in my dire straits. I know that my days are numbered. I have toiled for thirty years and it is too hard for me to become a beggar in my old age. I want you to see, please, President Schlesinger and some delegates, and endeavor to introduce a resolution to assist me.

If it were possible I would suggest that you propose a volunteer stamp for sale among the members at 6c each, or a regular tax of 6c. The office of the International may be able to help me so that I could meanwhile go away and try to save my life.

My dear Brother Rosenberg, try to do your best for me and I will never forget your loyalty as long as I live.

Fraternally yours,

HERMAN GROSSMAN.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 126.

Introduced by Molly Jfishitz, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Anna Rock, Gussie Landie, Morris Zietz.

Whereas, New York is practically the only city in which the white goods Industry is organized and Union standards and conditions prevail, and

Whereas, Due to these circumstances, there is an apparent tendency on the part of the manufacturers to leave New York and move to these unorganized centers, and

Whereas, This is a situation which is detrimental to the interests of our Union and its members; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to engage special organizers and make an energetic effort to bring about a uniformity of standards, by an effective campaign of organization of all
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white goods workers throughout the country.

Resolution No. 127.

Introduced by Ida Patsigalis, Local No. 72.

Whereas, Local No. 72, of Baltimore, has been organized only five months, and

Whereas, Local No. 72 has as yet a very small membership and their means are very small, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention advances to the delegate of this Local the expenses involved in the attendance of the Convention.

Referred to Committee on Resolution.

Resolution No. 128.

Introduced by Abraham Baroff, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The practice at the General Office has demonstrated to us that whenever information in reference to very important matters relating to the business and financial management of our International, our local financial secretaries have been very tardy and often negligent in forwarding same, and

Whereas, Owing to this lack of information is has been found often impossible to present to the membership on many occasions data and facts which were of importance and necessity to them; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That if secretary of any Local fails to forward information desired by the General Office upon the request of the General Secretary-Treasurer, that said Local be fined $5.00 the first time, $10.00 the second time, and upon the third offense, the Local shall stand instructed to dispense with the services of the secretary of said Local.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 129.

Introduced by Max B. Gollin, Charles Stein, Max Gorenstein, Local No. 10.

Whereas, Our brother and comrade, Morris Hillquit, the attorney of our International Union for the past two and a half years, the most critical years in the history of the International, has served our interests with such ability and almost superhuman devotion as to provoke praise, love and admiration from the organized workers of this country and the public at large, and

Whereas, Brother Hillquit's masterful address, if distributed among the members of our International, would enlighten them as to the history of our struggles for the past two and a half years and would also give them a clearer insight into our future problems; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this, the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. instructs our Educational Committee to issue Brother Hillquit's address in pamphlet form and distribute it among all members of our International.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 130.

Introduced by Annie Thomas and Emma Cashner, Local No. 49.

Whereas, There are troubles arising between Local No. 49 and the other Boston Locals affiliated with Joint Board of that city, and

Whereas, These troubles have brought about complications with employers, resulting in strikes and lockouts in the trades; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Convention to investigate and work out a plan to avoid these frictions in the future.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 131.

Introduced by Harry Shuster, M. Delitch, Local No. 9.

Change the word "biennially" in Section 1, Article 3, of the Constitution, to read "Every three Years."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 132.

Introduced by M. Perlestein, J. B. Cleveland.

Whereas, Section 2, Article 16, of our Constitution, absolutely contradicts Section 1 of this same article; be it, therefore,
Resolved, That this Section be stricken out in its entirety.
Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 133.
Introduced by M. Sterling, Local No. 1, and Reuben Bernstein, Local No. 9.

Whereas, The immigration bill (HR 13584) passed by the House of Representatives March 30, 1818, provides that certain restrictions against immigration shall not apply to persons convicted of or advocating the commission of “offenses purely political,” and

Whereas, The Committee on Immigration of the United States Senate has added as an amendment to the above provision the words “unless such offense is a felony” (Senate bill, May 18, 1916, p. 10, line 7), and

Whereas, This amendment, if enacted into law, would deprive of the right of asylum champions of liberty in countries suffering from political oppression, in which resistance to tyranny is classed as a felony; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, in the city of Philadelphia, this 22d day of October, 1916, protests against the amendment of the Senate Committee on Immigration as un-American and running counter to the time-honored policy of this Nation to extend the right of political asylum to political refugees of all the world, as so eloquently stated by President Wilson in his message of January 28, 1915, vetoing a similar bill; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention give Local No. 65 jurisdiction over all the Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' shops of Brooklyn, according to their Charter.
Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 135.
Introduced by Samuel Levin, Local No. 65.

To the delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention:

Whereas, The I. L. O. W. U. issued a charter to the Brooklyn Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union in the year 1912, and

Whereas, It was understood that in all these shops garments are to be made to order under the jurisdiction of Local No. 65, and

Whereas, A great number of Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' shops were taken away by the Cloakmakers' Union. In spite of the fact that Local No. 65 is still in existence, be it, therefore

Resolved, That the Convention give Local No. 65 the jurisdiction over all the Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' shops of Brooklyn, according to their Charter.
Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 136.
Introduced by Saul Metz, Local 35.

Whereas, The Locals of our International have in the past indulged in the practice of placing in good standing members of their organizations who were in arrears, by method of obtaining the sanction of the Executive Boards of these Locals to that effect only, and
Whereas, Such a method is clearly one that deprives the treasury of the International of its per capita tax due on the weekly stamps; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That no Local of the International is permitted to make good the standing of any of its members, except when the per capita tax to the International is computed and forwarded to the International in each acted upon.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 137.

Introduced by B. Koldofsky, J. N., Toronto; B. Lebenecha, J. B., Montreal; S. Bograd and A. Talmor.

Whereas, The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is the representative body of national trades unions in Canada and is exercising the same functions in Canada as the A. F. of L. in the United States; and

Whereas, All the principal International Unions of America, numbering forty-nine, have their Canadian locals affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

and

Resolved, That the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union affilites its entire Canadian membership with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 138.

Introduced by Elias Lieberman, Local 25.

Whereas, The contracting or so-called sub-manufacturing evil has spread in all the trades affiliated with our I. L. G. W. U.; and

Whereas, This evil undermines the very existence of some of our unions by making union members of one local of the same International unconsciously compete with each other; and

Whereas, This evil was brought about by some economic factors that require careful and thorough consideration; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board, at its first quarterly session, to appoint a committee of five to investigate same and bring in its recommendation at the earliest opportunity; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee so appointed be empowered to engage experts’ advice if it deems it necessary.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 139.

Introduced by Louise Hoffmire.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers’ Union, Local 5, of New Jersey, was engaged in a struggle lasting over twelve weeks, which had to be abandoned on account of various difficulties which had arisen at that time; and

Whereas, The rank and file in the embroidery trade of New Jersey have not yet given up hope of being properly organized, so as to be able to demand recognition and better conditions; and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. and its officers have done and are still doing their best not to allow New Jersey to go by the wayside; and

Whereas, The workers in the embroidery trade in New Jersey look up with hope and fullest faith to the I. L. G. W. U. to be their guide and leader in getting concessions; be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board and the officers of the International again take up the question of the embroidery trade in New Jersey at the earliest possible opportunity, so as to bring about a thorough organization of the embroidery workers in New Jersey; and be it further

Resolved, That Local 5 expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the I. L. G. W. U., and especially to President Schlesinger, for the work performed and the liberal assistance and aid given to them since their affiliation with the International.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 140.

Introduced by Jacob Lawver and Louise Hoffmire.
WHEREAS, The Embroidery Workers' Unions, Locals 5 and 6, in Greater New York and New Jersey, are at present controlling the Swiss embroidery industry, operated by the shuttle machines; and

WHEREAS, The Swiss embroidery industry includes also the steam and hand machines, due to the similarity of its production and operation; and

WHEREAS, Most of the shops possessing shuttle machines operate also steam and hand machines and are very often changing some workers from the former branch of trade to the latter, and vice versa; be it therefore:

Resolved, That the Embroidery Workers' Unions, Locals 5 and 6, get full jurisdiction over those workers, thus enabling them to organize and enroll all workers of the hand and steam machines into their respective locals.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 141.

Introduced by Henry D. Cohen, Local 7; Louis Schwartz, Local 20; David Heller, Local 28; Simon Rich, Local 20; Fred Mamonson, Local 7; Philip Herman, Local 20; A. Rosenberg, Local 7.

WHEREAS, The raincoat trade has developed into a large and staple industry in which thousands of men and women are at present engaged, and, in consideration of the fact that said industry is developing outside of the reach and jurisdiction of the locals at present in existence; and

WHEREAS, The unorganized centers are detrimental to our locals and are the main obstacle in the way of bettering the conditions for our members; and

WHEREAS, There are big centers of said industry in every part of the United States and Canada, where for one reason or another, no attempt has yet been made to organize the workers, and in consideration of the fact that in order to maintain our present locals and the present conditions which were obtained by many sacrifices on the part of our members, they must be organized; be it therefore:

Resolved, That the I. L. G. W. U. start a vigorous campaign to organize the raincoat trade, and that an organizer be placed in the field for that purpose, and also to strengthen the present existing locals.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 142.

Introduced by Abraham Baroff, Local 35.

WHEREAS, The American Federation of Labor, in convention in 1914 and 1915, adopted a resolution which provided for the calling of a Labor's World Peace Congress for the same time and place that the General Peace Congress after the cessation of hostilities will convene in Europe; and

WHEREAS, On March 26, 1916, the American Federation of Labor communicated with the International office, requesting us, as a national center, affiliated to the International Federation of Trade Unions, to send two delegates to this proposed International Conference, and that these be elected in time, so that they may be ready to render service whenever called upon; and

Resolved, That this Convention goes on record as endorsing the plan for Labor's World Peace Congress, and that the Convention elects two delegates to represent it at this Congress.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 143.

Introduced by Max Lipshc, Local 4.

WHEREAS, The Baltimore Ladies' Garment Workers' Local 4 owes the General Office a sum of more than $500.00 for assessments for the Legal Defense Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Baltimore local, having had a number of strikes during the past two years, has had its treasury almost exhausted, so that it was utterly impossible for them to meet this tax, and they have indebted themselves to a great extent; be it therefore:

Resolved, That this Convention donate the amount due to the General Office from
Local 4, and thus relieve them of this obligation.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 144.

Introduced by J. Lawner, Local 6, and Louise Hoffmire.

Whereas, the stamped embroidery workers, employed mostly in waist and dress shops, are doing the same kind of work which the menders in the Swiss embroidery trade are engaged in; and

Whereas, a great many girls of the Swiss embroidery trade secure employment in waist shops and places operating exclusively stamped work during the slack period; and

Whereas, those girls, upon getting employment elsewhere, become confused as to what organization to belong to; and

Whereas, the Embroidery Workers' Union, Local 5, at present controls both the menders and the stamped workers of their trade, be it therefore

Resolved, that the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. grant full jurisdiction to the Embroidery Workers' Union, Locals 5 and 6, over the stamped workers, which will enable them to have full control of all workers in the trade.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 145.

Introduced by S. Shapiro, Local 25; L. Antonini, Local 25; P. M. Cohn, Local 60; S. Spanier, Local 41; H. Bernstein, Local 15; P. LaCausi, Local 25; H. Silverman, Local 25; E. Lieberman, Local 25; M. Goodman, Local 25.

Whereas, the problems of our industry are numerous and complicated; and

Whereas, we are constantly confronted with a dearth of organizers and business agents properly equipped to meet and solve these problems with an understanding of trade union policy, and a knowledge of the methods and operation of trade union agreements, and of methods of adjusting wage rates, such as have been worked out in various industries and countries; and

Whereas, the rapid growth in membership of our organizations demands for their management officers trained in the best methods of business administration; and

Whereas, the protection of our workers through the law demands in their representation a knowledge of politics, government and labor legislation; and

Whereas, the progress of our organizations henceforth is largely dependent on the increasing enlightenment of their membership so that our organizers become to an ever-increasing degree the teachers of the workers and need themselves there for training in the history, theory and practice of the labor movement; be it therefore

Resolved, that we, the delegates of the I. L. O. W. U., in convention assembled, realizing the administrative, technical and educational requirements of those in charge of our organization, hereby recommend the appointment of an Educational Committee which shall be given full power to develop plans for and establish a training center for business agents and organizers in connection with our International, which shall have for its aim the work outlined above.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 146.

Introduced by M. Rubin, M. Padower, A. Goldstein, Local 1.

Whereas, the Officers' Report of the General Executive Board to this Convention is of the utmost importance, covering the entire work of the past two years of our International; and

Whereas, some of the vice-presidents have, according to the statement of this report, resigned during their term; be it therefore

Resolved, that this Convention invites these vice-presidents who have resigned during their term, to this Convention, in order that the delegates may receive an all-sided report of the work of the Board, and also to get a statement from them about their resignation from their positions, to which they were elected and for which they were responsible.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 147.

Introduced by M. Peristats, Joint Board of Cleveland.

Whereas, Some local unions have established sick benefit and tuberculosis funds, and some have not, and it happens very often that members who pay for a length of time for these funds to their respective Locals, lose the benefit of their payments when they transfer themselves to another Local; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be empowered to work out a plan of sick benefit and tuberculosis funds for all the members of the I. L. G. W. U., under the supervision and management of the General Executive Board, and report to the next Convention.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 148.

Introduced by Louise Hoffmire, Local 5; Jacob Lawner, Local 6.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Union, Locals 5 and 6, of New Jersey and New York respectively, have struggled for a number of years to organise and improve the conditions of the workers in that trade and were only successful after affiliating themselves with the I. L. G. W. U., thus getting its support and aid, and

Whereas, After two years of organisation work by the International a general strike was finally declared in February, 1916, in both Locals, and after a struggle of six weeks Local 6, due to the unifying financial and moral support of the International, and especially to the efforts of President Schlesinger, finally succeeded in entering into an agreement with the manufacturers, thus gaining considerable concessions for the workers, and

Whereas, While the strike of Local 5 in New Jersey was still in full progress, backed by the financial and moral support of the International, which did its best to whip the employers into line, John Golden, of the United Textile Workers of America, in a letter to President Schlesinger, claimed jurisdiction over the embroidery trade, thereby not only encouraging the manufacturers to fight the workers more bitterly, but also discouraging many of the strikers to the extent that the strike had to be called off for the present, after a hard struggle of twelve weeks, and

Whereas, The United Textile Workers will probably bring up this jurisdictional fight at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, and

Whereas, The process of operating embroidery is on needle machines and hence has no direct or indirect connection with the textile industry, and

Whereas, The shifting of these Locals to another organization would encourage the embroidery manufacturers of New York and New Jersey, and give them ample material to bring chaos and discord into the rank and file of the embroidery workers, with the aim of bringing back into the trade the pernicious conditions of disorder, long hours and low wages, and

Whereas, The rank and file of the embroidery Locals, thrilled with high appreciation and admiration for the work done for them by the International and its officers, feel that only under the beloved banner of the I. L. G. W. U. can they further achieve their ends and aims; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. goes on record against the action of the United Textile Workers, which action was directly responsible for the failure of getting concessions for the New Jersey embroiderers In their last strike, and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board and the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. do all in their power to fight any claims of the U. T. W. of A. over the embroiderers, and be it further

Resolved, That the delegates to the Convention of the A. F. of L. be instructed to be on guard for our interests and to contest any effort of the textile workers to obtain jurisdiction over the embroidery trade that may be brought forward at that Convention.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 149.

Introduced by Charles Green, Joint Board of Cincinnati.
Whereas, For more than two years the Cincinnati Locals have repeatedly requested the General Office to organize the ladies’ garment trades into a compact organization, and to use all trade-union means in accomplishing this end, and

Whereas, In May, 1915, when the General Executive Board met in Chicago, Brother Charles Green appeared before that body as a representative of the Cincinnati Locals, asking for immediate action in inaugurating the desired campaign, and the General Executive Board sanctioned our request, and

Whereas, Since that time the International has been tied up with the Sigmund Metz and other court cases, and later the abrogation of the protocol, and finally, the general strike of New York, which made it impossible for the General Executive Board to execute its mandate; be it, therefore,

Resolved, By this Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to inaugurate a campaign for organization in the entire ladies’ garment trades in Cincinnati, and

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be empowered to call a general strike in Cincinnati, if peaceful means will fail to accomplish the desired end.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 150.

Introduced by Molly Lifshitz, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Anna Rock, Morris Zietz.

Whereas, The White Goods Workers’ Union is on the verge of entering into negotiations with the Cotton Garment Manufacturers’ Association with respect to the renewal of the contract, and

Whereas, Our Executive Board deems it necessary for the sake of the preservation of the very life of our Union, to make new demands and insert amendments to the old provisions of the contract, and

Whereas, We are determined that our program, which is reasonable and just, be carried out; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union instructs the incoming General Executive Board to endorse a general strike in the white goods trade in New York, in the event the manufacturers in the industry fail to grant the demands presented by the Union.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 151.

Introduced by Saul Friedman, Local 78.

Whereas, Our St. Louis Local 78 finds itself in very difficult financial circumstances, and has contracted a number of debts which have become urgent obligations, some of them remaining over from our general strike in 1915; and

Whereas, It is impossible for us to go on with further organizing work until these debts are paid up; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention donates to the St. Louis Local 78 the sum of $200.00 for its present urgent needs.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

SEVENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.


The Convention was called to order at 9.30 o’clock A. M., Tuesday, October 24th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegates Hoffman, Local 5; Hirsh, Local 15; Osborn, Dunn, Local 33; Whalen, Local 65; Wagner, Local 66; Rich, Berman, Local 29; Dreitsky, Abramowitz, Local 38; Lane, Local 65; Bushman, Silver, Local 78.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegram:


The Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Philadelphia.

Our heartiest congratulations to all delegates and officers. May your deliberations result in closer solidarity, stronger unity, and greater achievements and accomplishments to the members of our great and beloved International.

I. SAREMSKY,
Secretary Joint Board, Embroidery Workers’ Union, Locals 5 and 6.
There being no committees ready to report, upon motion of Delegate Perlstein, duly seconded, the rules were suspended and at 10 o'clock the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.

The following resolutions were referred to the Committee on Law:

Resolution No. 152.
Amend Section 1, Article I. Substitute the word, "language," for the word "nationality" after the word "particular" in line eight of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Resolution No. 153.
Amend Section 2 of Article III to read as follows:
Upon the written request of five (5) local unions in good standing (not more than two (2) locals to be of any one city), a special convention shall be called. The place for holding such a convention shall be determined by the G. E. B.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Resolution No. 154.
Amend Section 10 of Article III. Substitute the words "paid officers" for the words "walking delegates, business agents," in lines three and four of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Resolution No. 155.
Amend Section 15 of Article III. Substitute the word "but" for the word "or" after the words "fifty and less than 500" in line four of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Resolution No. 156.
Add the following sentence to Section 1, Article IV: Upon the written request of three (3) Vice-Presidents of the I. L. G. W. U. (not more than two (2) from any one city), the General President of the I. L. G. W. U. shall call a special meeting of the G. E. B.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
Amend Section 2 of Article XII to read as follows:

Locals shall pay to the I. L. G. W. U. promptly and in full all per capita and general assessments for each and every good-standing member. The G. E. B. shall be empowered to suspend any local union which fails to pay such amount within thirty (30) days after a demand for such payments has been made by the G. S. T. A local union shall have the right to excuse any of its members from paying their arrearages to their local union whenever in the opinion of the Executive Board circumstances warrant such action on their part; provided, however, that the local does not waive the payment of per capita and general assessments for such members.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Amend Section 13 of Article XII.

The regular funds of the local union derived from the payment of dues, initiation fees, fines, and assessments shall be used for administrative purposes, such as the payment of rentals, salaries, stationery, supplies, printing, conducting strikes and organization and educational work. The regular funds may also be used for the purpose of aiding other labor unions and other organizations as are identified with the movement. The local union may also, at its discretion, donate reasonable sums to individual members, but only in extreme cases. Donations and contributions for other purposes outside of those specified above must be raised either by voluntary contributions or by the creation of a special fund by the local union. Any Treasurer or Financial Secretary or other officer making payments in violation of this rule shall be subject to legal prosecution.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Amend Section 1 of Article XVI to read as follows:

Any member who leaves the country, quits his trade or accepts a position as foreman, forclady, designer, or enters business, shall not be permitted to continue holding membership in the I. L. G. W. U., but shall immediately withdraw from membership in the I. L. G. W. U. by giving written notice to that effect to the Secretary of the local union of which he or she is a member. Said notice must be accompanied by a remittance of all dues, assessments and fines due to the local at the time of his or her withdrawal, and also surrendering his or her membership book. The local Secretary, upon receiving such notice, membership book and remittance, shall immediately issue to the member a Withdrawal Card. Any member failing to withdraw, as prescribed above, shall be automatically expelled from the I. L. G. W. U., and his or her name shall be dropped from the books of the local of which he or she is a member.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Amend Section 2 of Article XVI as follows:

Any member who had withdrawn, or had been automatically expelled from the I. L. G. W. U., according to the provisions of Section 1 of this Article, and wishes to return to his or her former trade, may be readmitted to membership under the following conditions:

A member who has secured a Withdrawal Card, and applies for readmission within one (1) year from date of withdrawal, shall be admitted to all rights and privileges of an old member by paying an initiation fee equivalent to the per capita and general assessments for the period of his withdrawal. This initiation fee to be refunded to the I. L. G. W. U.

After one (1) or more years have elapsed, the applicant can only be admitted as a new member, and shall pay an initiation fee not exceeding the one that prevailed at the time when the Withdrawal Card was issued. A member who had been automatically expelled under the provisions of Section 1 of this Article can only be readmitted as a new member. He must also pay all dues, assessments and fines which he owed to the local at the time of expulsion, in addition to the regular initiation fee which prevailed at the time when he was expelled.

The Executive Board of the Local Union shall, however, have the power of making
exceptions in the payment of initiation fees and arrearages of expelled members, but not in their privileges of membership.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

SEVENTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock P. M., Tuesday, October 24th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Rubin, Hahn, Local 63; Lane, Local 65; Bushman, Local 75.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:


Thirteenth Biennial Convention, Philadelphia.

Our best congratulations. We hope that you will accomplish good work for the benefit of the working class as a whole, and especially of our International.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Local No. 7, Waterproof Garment Workers' Union.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Bldg., Philadelphia.

Great rejoicing for the invitation extended to our chief clerk, Brother Blum. Express our thanks to the Convention.

M. CASPER,
Secretary Joint Board, Cloak Makers' Union.

President Schlesinger stated that a resolution had been submitted to him by Delegate Grishkan and several other delegates, which he desired to read to the Convention for their decision as to whether it should be referred to the proper committee, as it was past the time for the introduction of resolutions, except with the consent of two-thirds of the delegates.

President Schlesinger read the resolution and a motion was made and seconded to refer to the Law Committee.

After a short debate by Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, President Schlesinger and Delegate Paderov, the motion to refer was carried, 45 votes for to 40 against.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Delegate Laskovits, Chairman of the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 58.

Whereas, Our late brother, Morris Lapludus, former Vice-President and Organizer of our International Union, steadily and intelligently worked in the interest of the trade union and the Socialist movement most of his life; and

Whereas, Our deceased brother, after being ill and unable to work for more than eight months, died very poor, and his wife and four children find themselves in very hard-pressed circumstances now; and

Whereas, Brother Lapludus has not been affiliated with any organization other than the Union of his trade, and his family therefore cannot expect assistance from any other source; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention express its deep sorrow at the death of Brother Lapludus and extend its sympathy to his family, and appropriate the sum of $300 for the assistance of his wife and four children, in their present need.

The committee recommended that that part of the resolution extending sympathy be concurred in, but not the part extending financial aid, as the organization was in need of all the money in its treasury to carry on its work.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Bogorai, Local 14, opposed the report of the committee and favored donating the $300.

Delegate Haiman offered as an amendment, that the incoming General Executive Board be given the power to financially aid the family of Morris Lapludus. (Seconded.)

Delegates Litwakoff and Bernstein, Local 15, spoke in favor of donating the amount requested.

Delegate Labensohn spoke in favor of the amendment.

On motion, debate was closed.

The motion to amend was voted on and
The chair expressed himself in doubt. A show of hands was called for, and the amendment was declared adopted by a vote of 47 to 17.

Resolution No. 95.

Whereas, Wrappers are no more being made in the shops controlled by Local 41; and

Whereas, Local 41 is now controlling many shops where bathrobes are made; therefore be it

Resolved, That the charter of Local 41 be changed to the name of House Dress, Kimono and Bathrobe Makers' Union, Local 41, I. L. G. W. U.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 104.

Whereas, Steam machines for pressers are being introduced at present on a large scale in the skirt shops of the city of Boston, and

Whereas, These steam machines are a menace to the health of our workers who have been employed at them, a fact which has been established beyond dispute, and

Whereas, These steam machines have been displacing men in the shops, throwing them out of their jobs to an alarming degree, thus increasing constantly the army of our unemployed; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention adopt a certain system whereby the number of steam pressing machines in a shop be limited to a ratio of one to ten pressers working, and thus put a stop to a growing menace to the health and well-being of the Boston pressers.

The committee reported that it was of the opinion that the Convention could not go on record against these machines, but that it recommended that the resolution be referred to the General Executive Board, so that in the event a case should come up in any city, or a question arise concerning the matter, the Board might do what it could for the workers.

Upon motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 108.

Whereas, Brother Shiplakoff, Socialist Assemblyman of Brownsville, N. Y., has ably and conscientiously represented the interest of the workers in the New York Assembly, and

Whereas, Assemblyman Shiplakoff is now a candidate for re-election for the same office, and

Whereas, Brother Elmer Rosenberg, Socialist candidate for Assembly in the Sixth Assembly District of New York, member of our Local 10, has an admittedly good chance to be elected at this coming election; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the delegates assembled at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. go on record as indorsing the above mentioned brothers; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention donate the sum of $200 to be equally divided between the districts of these candidates.

The committee recommended that the resolution be adopted when amended to read that only $100 be donated instead of $200.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Epstein discussed the question briefly and offered as an amendment that the report of the committee he accepted in so far as the endorsement is concerned, but not including financial support. (Seconded.)

Delegate Levine, Philadelphia, spoke against the amendment.

Delegate Stein, Local 10, spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

Delegate Berman spoke in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Kovinsky opposed the resolution.

Delegate Figmaka, in discussing the question, stated that while he endorsed the candidates on the Socialist ticket, he did not believe in giving them money needed by the International for other purposes.

Delegate Elmer Rosenberg discussed the
question briefly and urged the delegates to adopt the recommendation of the committee, as it would be an encouragement to the Socialist movement.

On motion, debate was closed.

The motion to amend the committee's report was lost, and the motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 107.

Resolution No. 107 was read and action deferred until after the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports had been presented.

Resolution No. 108.

Whereas, Thousands of women workers are engaged in the needle industry and need the vote in order to secure political rights which will help them in their industrial struggle; and,

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. has gone on record as favoring woman suffrage, and

Whereas, In November, 1917, the voters of the State of New York will again decide whether or not the woman shall be released from their political bondage; be it, therefore.

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instruct its incoming Executive Board to call upon their local unions in the State of New York to appeal to their members to vote for the suffrage amendment, which will again come up in 1917.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 109.

Whereas, One-half of our citizens are deprived of their political rights on the ground that woman's place is at home, and

Whereas, Statistics show that more than eight million women are toiling in the mills and factories of our country; and

Whereas, Sex prejudice is not in accordance with the progressive tendencies of our time; be it, therefore.

Resolved, That this Thirteenth Convention goes on record as being in favor of equal political and economic rights to both sexes, and, furthermore, requests all its members to vote in favor of woman suffrage whenever they have an opportunity to do so.

Chairman Lefkovits stated that in substance the resolutions were the same, the only difference being that No. 108 called for the vote of the members of New York State, while Resolution No. 109 appealed to the members of all States.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 111.

Whereas, The raincoat makers of New York, are engaged in a furious struggle to better the conditions of their Industry; and

Whereas, A few of the manufacturers in this industry have moved their shops out of town in order to be able to maintain starvation wages and inhuman conditions in these shops; and

Whereas, This fight of Local 20 has a great bearing on the future development of this organization as well as on the entire trade, and has placed many of our active members in jeopardy of their freedom on account of trumped-up charges by the enemies of our organization; be it therefore.

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention grant financial support to this local in order that the strike of the raincoat makers is brought to a successful termination.

Chairman Leokovits stated that representatives of the locals had appeared before the committee and explained that the workers were still out on strike and that they were in great need of immediate assistance. The committee recommended that the sum of $500 be donated to Local 20.

A motion was made to adopt the recommendation of the committee. (Seconded.)

Secretary Haroff: I am very glad to see the spirit that prevails at this Convention, but I would like to call the attention of the delegates to one fact. It seems to be
the impression that we have such a large treasury that we can donate anything we want. I expect there will be other resolutions asking assistance, and if we keep on at this rate I am sure we will have to hunt somewhere to procure money to proceed with the business.

I would therefore suggest that in matters of finance, you refer the resolutions to the General Executive Board, as they will be in a better position to judge what ought to be done than you can at the present moment.

Delegate Greenberger favored the recommendation of the committee, and stated that if money could be donated for other purposes, the strikers in this case were entitled to $500.

Delegate Berman, of the Rain Coat Makers' Union, spoke in favor of the committee's report and stated that if they were not given the financial aid requested at once they would lose the victory they had already gained and the International might as well take back its charter.

Delegate Wichter stated that it was a question of who knew more about the treasury, Secretary Baroff or Chairman Lefkovits.

Delegate Lieberman offered as an amendment that the matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. (Secnded.)

Delegate Epstein urged the adoption of the committee's report.

Delegate Friend spoke in favor of donating the money.

On motion, debate was closed.

The motion to amend to refer to the General Executive Board was lost.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee to donate $500 was carried.

Resolution No. 115.

The chairman stated that this resolution would be referred to the Organization Committee.

Resolution No. 117.

Whereas, The children's dressmakers of the city of New York have won their recent general strike; and

Whereas, The success of the general strike was due in a great measure to the valuable assistance rendered by the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10; and

Whereas, One of the foremost of the active workers of Local 10 came to an untimely death in the general strike, while on the firing line; and

Whereas, This Convention desires to express its sorrow at the loss of our esteemed and beloved brother, Max Stern; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled in Philadelphia, in this 19th day of October, 1916, inscribe upon its records the regrets of the Convention at the loss of Brother Max Stern; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention present a set of engrossed resolutions to the widow of Brother Max Stern, as a mark of recognition and appreciation of his many years of active service in the cause of labor.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolutions Nos. 119 and 122 were referred to the Committee on Law. Resolution No. 124 was referred to the Label Committee.

Resolution No. 126.

The subject matter of this resolution is the following letter:

Dear Friend and Brother Abraham Rosenberg:

I don't think that it is necessary for me to describe to you my personal condition, as I neither have the time for it, nor do I want to bother you. I do not know how long I may be able to drag my existence in this manner. My only hope is for the Convention to help me in my dire straits. I know that my days are numbered. I have toiled for thirty years and it is too hard for me to become a beggar in my old age. I want you to see, please, President Schlesinger and some delegates, and endeavor to introduce a resolution to assist me.
If it were possible I would suggest that you propose a volunteer stamp for sale among the members at 5 cents each, or a regular tax of 5 cents. The office of the International may be able to help me so that I could meanwhile go away and try to save my life.

My dear Brother Rosenburg, try to do your best for me and I will never forget your loyalty as long as I live.

Fraternally yours,

HERMAN GROSSMAN.

The committee recommended that the resolution be tabled.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation.

Delegate Deitch moved that the resolution be rejected. The chairman stated that that was the report of the committee.

The report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 133.

Whereas, The immigration bill (HR 10364) passed by the House of Representatives March 30, 1916, provides that certain restrictions against immigration shall not apply to persons convicted of or advocating the commission of "offenses purely political," and

Whereas, The Committee on Immigration of the United States Senate has added as an amendment to the above provision the words "unless such offenses be a felony" (Senate bill, May 18, 1916, p. 30, line 3); and

Whereas, This amendment, if enacted into law, would deprive of the right of asylum champions of liberty in countries suffering from political oppression in which resistance to tyranny is classed as a felony; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, in the city of Philadelphia, this 22d day of October, 1916, protests against the amendment of the Senate Committee on Immigration as un-American and running counter to the time-honored policy of this Nation to extend the right of political asylum to political refugees of all the world, as so eloquently stated by President Wilson in his message of January 28, 1915, vetoing a similar bill; and be it further

Resolved, That the president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is hereby instructed to bring the matter to the attention of the Senate; and be it further

Resolved, That the delegates of this organization to the Convention of the American Federation of Labor are hereinafter instructed to bring the matter before said convention with a view to enlisting the cooperation of the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated organizations in bringing about the elimination of the above amendment in the bill now pending in the United States Senate.

The committee reported concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

Chairman Lefkovits stated that Resolution No. 134 was referred to the Organization Committee.

Resolution No. 136 was referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

Resolution No. 138 was referred to the Law Committee.

Resolution No. 137.

Whereas, The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is the representative body of national trades unionism in Canada, and is exercising the same functions in Canada as the A. F. of L. in the United States; and

Whereas, A large number of International Unions of America, numbering forty-nine, have their Canadian locals affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; and

Whereas, It is absolutely essential to the interests of our Canadian membership to be affiliated with the same Congress; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union affix its entire Canadian membership with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Chairman Lefkovits: After hearing the arguments of the representative of this resolution, the committee came to the conclusion to refer it to the incoming General Executive Board.
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

President Schlessinger suggested that there was one correction that should be made. In the second whereas, instead of reading "all the principal" internationals, it should read "a large number of."

There being no objection, the chairman of the committee stated that correction would be made.

The motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee was adopted, with the correction as stated.

Chairman Lofkovits stated that Resolution No. 138 had already been reported upon by the Organization Committee.

Resolution No. 139.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Union, Local 6, of New Jersey, was engaged in a struggle lasting over twelve weeks, which had to be abandoned on account of various difficulties which had arisen at that time; and

Whereas, The rank and file in the embroidery trade of New Jersey have as yet not given up hope of being properly organized, so as to be able to demand recognition and better conditions; and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. and its officers have done and are still doing their best not to allow New Jersey to go by the wayside; and

Whereas, The Officers' Report of the General Executive Board to this Convention is of the utmost importance, covering the

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 140.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Unions, Locals 5 and 6, in Greater New York and New Jersey, are at present controlling the Swiss embroidery industry, operated by the shuttle machines; and

Whereas, The Swiss embroidery industry includes also the steam and hand machines, due to the similarity of its production and operation; and

Whereas, Most of the shops possessing shuttle machines operate also steam and hand machines and are very often changing some workers from the former branch of trade to the latter, and vice versa; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Embroidery Workers' Unions, Locals 5 and 6, get full jurisdiction over those workers, thus enabling them to organize and enroll all workers of the hand and steam machines into their respective locals.

Chairman Lofkovits: After hearing the committee, the Resolutions Committee decided it would be a good thing to go a little further into this question. We have nothing against giving jurisdiction over these workers to Locals 5 and 6, but as we have not the practical knowledge of the matter, we recommend that it be given over to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

The report of the committee was concurred in.

The chairman stated that Resolution No. 141 belonged to the Organization Committee.

That Resolutions Nos. 142 and 144 would be reported on later.

Resolution No. 145 was referred to the Educational Committee.

Resolution No. 146.

Whereas, The Officers' Report of the General Executive Board to this Convention is of the utmost importance, covering the en-
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

The work of the past two years of our International; and

Whereas, Some of the vice-presidents have, according to the statement of this report, resigned during their term; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention invites these vice-presidents who have resigned during their term, to this Convention, in order that the delegates may receive an all-sided report of the work of the Board, and also to get a statement from them about their resignation from their positions, to which they were elected and for which they were responsible.

The committee recommended the rejection of the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

President Schlesinger made a short statement in reference to the resolution explaining why the different members of the Board had resigned and that there was nothing underhanded in connection with the matter.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 147.

Whereas, Some local unions have established sick benefit and tuberculosis funds, and some have not, and it happens very often that members who pay for a length of time for these funds to their respective Locals, lose the benefit of their payments when they transfer themselves to another Local; be it, therefore.

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be empowered to work out a plan of sick benefit and tuberculosis funds for all the members of the I. L. G. W. U. under the supervision and management of the General Executive Board, and report to the next Convention.

The committee recommended, in view of Resolution No. 18, which had already been acted upon, that Resolution No. 147 be referred to the General Executive Board.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 148.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Union, Locals 5 and 6, of New Jersey and New York respectively, have struggled for a number of years to organise and improve the conditions of the workers in that trade and were only successful after affiliating themselves with the I. L. G. W. U., thus getting its support and aid, and

Whereas, After two years of organisation work by the International a general strike was finally declared in February, 1915, in both Locals, and after a struggle of six weeks Local 6, due to the unifying financial and moral support of the International, and especially to the efforts of President Schlesinger, finally succeeded in entering into an agreement with the manufacturers, thus gaining considerable concessions for the workers, and

Whereas, While the strike of Local 5 in New Jersey was still in full progress, backed by the financial and moral support of the International, which did its best to whip the employers into line, John Golden, of the United Textile Workers of America, in a letter to President Schlesinger, claimed jurisdiction over the embroidery trade, thereby not only encouraging the manufacturers to fight the workers more bitterly, but also discouraging many of the strikers to the extent that the strike had to be called off for the present, after a hard struggle of twelve weeks, and

Whereas, The United Textile Workers will probably bring up this jurisdictional fight at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, and

Whereas, The process of operating embroidery is on needle machines and hence has no direct or indirect connection with the textile industry, and

Whereas, The shifting of these Locals to another organisation would encourage the embroidery manufacturers of New York and New Jersey, and give them ample material to bring chaos and discord into the rank and file of the embroidery workers, with the aim of bringing back into the trade the pernicious conditions of disorder, long hours and low wages, and

Whereas, The rank and file of the em-
broidery Locals, thrilled with high appreciation and admiration for the work done for them by the International and its officers, feel that only under the beloved banner of the I. L. G. W. U. can they further achieve their ends and aims; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. goes on record against the action of the United Textile Workers, which action was directly responsible for the failure of getting concessions for the New Jersey embroiderers in their last strike, and be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board and the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. do all in their power to fight any claims of the U. T. W. of A. over the embroiderers, and be it further.

Resolved, That the delegates to the Convention of the A. F. of L. be instructed to be on guard for our interests and to contest any effort of the textile workers to obtain jurisdiction over the embroidery trade that may be brought forward at that Convention.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Chairman Lefkowitz stated that Resolutions 149 and 160 would be handed over to the Committee on Organization and that the committee would make a further report later.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, Chairman of the committee, read a resolution introduced by members of Local 7, which he stated had been mislaid and had not been printed and requested the pleasure of the Convention.

No objection being offered, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Resolutions. The resolution reads as follows:

Resolution No. 166.


Whereas, Our manager, Henry D. Cohen, and our local vice-president, Joseph Hanken, have been arrested in Providence, R. I., on a trumped-up charge of inciting to riot and hiring men to assault, with the intent of killing, one I. Katz, a professional strike-breaker, employed by the American Raincoat Company, and

 Whereas, The District courts of the State of Rhode Island had convicted them of this serious charge, and they are now to go before the Superior Court of the State of Rhode Island; and

 Whereas, At the time of their arrest, brother Rosenberg, at the time organizer for the New England States, communicated with the General Executive Board, with the result that he was ordered to engage counsel to defend said brothers; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention goes on record as protesting against this unwarranted accusation against our Brothers Henry D. Cohen and J. Hanken, and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to stand all the expenses in connection with this trial.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 17.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Philadelphia.

October 18, 1916.

At a special meeting of the Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers' Union, Local 76, held at 505 Reed street, Saturday, October 14, 1916, the following motion was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, In the city of Philadelphia there are over five thousand unorganized men and women working in the ladies' tailoring and dressmaking industry, and

Whereas, The ladies' tailors and custom dressmakers of Philadelphia are working as high as 72 hours a week, including overtime in the busy season, while their wages average nine dollars a week, and even less than that, and

Whereas, In the last ten years four attempts have been made to form unions in the said industry by individually organizing the thousand shops of the industry, each
attempt failed to materialize, owing to the numerous small shops, and

Whereas, It is our firm conviction that the ladies' tailors and custom dressmakers of Philadelphia can only be organised through a general strike called at the proper time; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Convention take the necessary steps and appoint a special organiser to organise and prepare the workers of the said industry for a general strike or any other steps necessary for the uplift of the trade.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution and that it be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 35.

Whereas, Our delegate, Brother O. Stein, unexpectedly took sick and could not go to the Convention to represent our local, we therefore wish to ask that you take up the following request of our local, which is according to our opinion very important.

In Newark and vicinity there are about six hundred (600) ladies' tailors and alteration tailors unorganized, working sixty (60) hours and more per week for very low wages. About five years ago we had those two trades organized, but on account of a lost general strike in this city in these two trades we have lost their membership, and until to-day we only have a few ladies' tailors who belong to our local union. We therefore wish to request that the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. adopt a resolution instructing the incoming General Executive Board to send a special organiser to organize the ladies' tailors and alteration tailors of Newark into a separate local of the I. L. G. W. U.

Hoping you will realize the importance of this communication and will grant our request, we remain with best wishes for a successful convention.

Yours fraternally,
S. CHACHKES, President,
O. GLASS, Secretary.

(Seal)

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 57.

Members of Local 73, working in the waist and dress shops controlled by the Waistmakers' Union, hereby petition the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to grant us permission to organize a cutters' branch of Local 49, so that our interests can be better protected and our existence as a union secured.

Chairman Rosenberg: The Committee on Organization has consulted the several members of the various cutters' locals and we have come to the conclusion that this resolution should be referred to the committee which will deal with the Boston situation, and when the General Executive Board appoints a committee to straighten matters out in Boston they can take this resolution into consideration.

President Schlesinger: Is it intended to have one committee or different committees?

Delegate Rosenberg: That is for you to decide.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 62.

Whereas, The skirtmakers, who are attached to Local No. 2, of Philadelphia, who number about 1,000 members, working in the cloak, suit and skirt shops of Philadelphia, feel and believe that they could obtain and secure better conditions if they had a local union of their own for skirtmakers only; and

Whereas, Such being the facts, beliefs and conditions of the majority of the skirt-makers of Philadelphia, we do petition the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to grant the skirtmakers of Philadelphia their request; namely, a local union of skirt-makers. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Executive Board of the Skirtmakers' Branch, representing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia, submit this petition to you, believing the skirtmakers of Philadelphia request should be granted.
Chairman Rosenberg: The committee is of the opinion that while in principle we are in favor of granting a charter to the skirt-makers, but at the present time the splitting up of the Local 2 board would be detrimental to the interests of all concerned, we therefore recommend that each of the three branches of Local 2 be entitled to equal representation on the Joint Board until the General Executive Board will find it necessary to grant such a charter, and also that the representatives on the Joint Board be elected by each branch.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 47.
At our regular meeting, held Thursday, October 19, 1916, a motion was passed to send in writing a copy of resolutions, as follows:

Whereas, Since we organized in June, 1913, chartered under the Ladies' Neckwear and Novelty Cutters' Union, Local 108, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, few attempts have been made to organize our trade.

Whereas, In 1911, a few months before the Convention, an organizer was appointed by the International, but could not accomplish much on account of the change of administration;

Whereas, We believe that the poor conditions and lack of progress in our local has been due to the short term of the general officers:

We therefore recommend that the term of such officers be lengthened.

Whereas, Our employers are watching the future plans of our International as regards organization work in our and other cities in the corset industry, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take up the matter of appointment of an organizer for the Eastern States in our industry; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board appoint such an organizer for our industry in the above referred to territory.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 85.

Whereas, The life and existence of these locals depend upon such action as our International may take in the future; and

Whereas, Our employers are watching the future plans of our International as regards organization work in our and other cities in the corset industry, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board take up the matter of appointment of an organizer for the Eastern States in our industry; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board appoint such an organizer for our industry in the above referred to territory.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 91.

Whereas, It is a well-known fact that the manufacturers of house dresses and kimonos controlled by Local 41 are also making street dresses that should be under the control of Local 25, and most of the manufacturers of cotton street dresses controlled by Local 25 are also making house dresses; and

Whereas, The manufacturers of misses and children's dresses controlled by Local 50 are in many instances making dresses of
the same quality and size that are being made in the shops controlled by Locals 25 and 41; and

Whereas, The local unions of all the above mentioned trades (where it is very difficult to draw a line of distinction between the work made in a shop controlled by one local union and another) are wasting large sums of money and energy employing managers, organizers, business agents, clerks and secretaries, and paying rents and telephone bills, etc., for separate offices in different localities of Greater New York; and

Whereas, Under the present system each local separately dealing with the different employers' associations cannot offer to its members the protection and strong support that could be given them when they would act and deal united; and

Whereas, There are yet many factories in the above mentioned trades unorganized in New York and vicinity, owing to the fact that the locals separately cannot undertake to do organization work on a wide scale; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instruct Locals 25, 41, 50, 58 and the miscellaneous department of Local 10, to immediately form a Joint Board, to be known as The Joint Board of The Dress and Waistmakers' Unions, whose prime object and duties would be the same as those of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirtmakers' Unions of New York.

The committee recommended that the incoming General Executive Board should take up this question and try to establish such a joint board on a basis satisfactory to all locals concerned and also include Locals 46 and 62.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Silverman moved to amend that the wording should be changed, "That the incoming General Executive Board shall take up this matter and form a new local," and not say "try" to form a new local.

Delegate Lieberman stated that that was the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Rosenberg again read the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Stein stated that he wished to amend the amendment to include the dress and waist division of Local 10.

Delegate Greenberger stated that according to the Constitution it would have to be called a district council instead of a joint board.

President Schlesinger stated that a district council had been formed in New York but had failed, for which reason they probably desired to form a joint board.

Delegate Fordyce moved to reject the entire resolution. (No second.)

Delegate Zucker, Local 14, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Lieberman opposed the forming of a joint board.

Delegate Martin requested that Local 10 be included in its entirety.

The chairman stated that the committee would have no objection to that.

The resolution was concurred in by Delegate Goldstein.

Delegate Goldman offered as an amendment that the incoming General Executive Board investigate and ascertain if it were possible to have a joint board.

Delegate Jesse Cohen discussed the resolution and favored the report of the committee.

Delegate Goldovsky moved that the General Executive Board select a committee to investigate the shops of Locales 25 and 41 and establish a joint committee if they see fit. (Seconded.)

Delegate Litwakoff spoke in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Goff asked why Local 62 had been included. The chairman stated that when the committee investigated and took the matter under consideration, they decided to include Local 62 so there would be no hard feelings, and that the forming of such a joint board would be working along the lines of industrialism in its truest sense.

On motion, debate was closed.

Delegate Fanny Cohen, Secretary of the committee, made a brief explanation of the resolution.
President Schleierger stated that the recommendation of the committee would read: That the incoming General Executive Board shall institute an investigation into the trade conditions and if they find it necessary, will establish a joint board.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 92.

Whereas, The Wrapper, Kimono and House Dressmakers' Union, Local 41, of New York, consisting of a membership of about nineteen hundred, with an average weekly income of about $225.00, has, owing to the fact that the shops under their control are spread in different localities of the Greater New York, a weekly expense of about the same amount as their income; and

Whereas, There are in the city of New York over three thousand Syrians and about eight hundred Turkish and Spanish working in unorganized kimono and dress shops, who are working longer hours and under lower standards than the workers in the organized shops, and this competition is threatening the existence of the union: therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to appoint a Syrian and Spanish organizer, and with all the possible help of Local 41, to try and organize the entire house dress, kimono and negligee trade.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution and that the General Executive Board be instructed to take action as soon as possible.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Lefkovits: I would like to suggest that a change be made in the language of the resolution, and that the word "Jews" be stricken out in the third line of the second whereas.

The committee stated that the correction would be made.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried, and the resolution adopted with the correction as stated.

Resolution No. 101.

Whereas, A great number of English-speaking women are employed as alteration tailors in the department stores of New York; and

Whereas, In order to organize these women workers, special women organizers are required; and

Whereas, Experience has shown that it is impossible to ameliorate the conditions in the alteration tailoring trade unless these women are organized: be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to give moral and financial support to the organization of these women.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 93.

Whereas, It would be to the interest of the cloak, skirt and dressmaking industries of the Dominion of Canada that conditions be equalized in every cloak, skirt and dressmaking center, both as to scales of wages, hours of work, and general conditions; and

Whereas, There are at present only two such trade centers in the Dominion of Canada, viz.: Toronto and Montreal; and

Whereas, By bringing these two trade centers together at different periods, through their Joint Boards, it would help us to attain such equalization of scales of wages, etc.; and

Whereas, By bringing these two trade centers together it would simplify and, to a very great extent, help the International to thoroughly organize these two very important trade centers and thereby also the entire industry in the Dominion of Canada: be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention considers the importance and necessity of having such a body, and also recognizes such as an official body under the name "The Canadian
Joint Board of Montreal and Toronto; and be it further

Resolved, That this body shall at all times be able to make demands upon and representations to the General Executive Board.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution, with the understanding that this Joint Board have the same rights and privileges as any other Joint Board.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 102.

Whereas, An organization campaign has been going on in Cleveland for the last year and a half to organize the cloakmakers of the city of Cleveland; and

Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage where fundamental betterment ought to be brought about in the trade, as a minimum scale of wages for week workers, as pressers and cutters, etc., and standards in the other branches of the trade; and

Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage where the principle of collective bargaining must be recognized by the manufacturers of the city of Cleveland; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union empowers the incoming General Executive Board to seek to establish minimum scale of wages and standards in the cloak and skirt Industry of the city of Cleveland, and also to enforce the principle of collective bargaining.

President Schlesinger stated that Resolution No. 49, which had been acted upon previously covered the same subject matter, and action on this resolution was unnecessary.

Resolution No. 103.

Whereas, The growth of the ladies' garment industries in the various cities in the western part of the country has assumed enormous proportions of late; and

Whereas, The unorganized condition of these growing trades is a constant menace to the organized workers in the same trades in other parts of the country; and

Whereas, Under the circumstances, the General Office being located in New York, has to a certain extent neglected the work which must be done in the above referred to section of the country; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to open a central branch office in charge of a manager and of a staff of organizers in one of the western cities, to conduct in an efficient and desirable manner the work outlined above.

The committee reported favorably upon the resolution, and recommended that should such an office be established, it be located in the city of Chicago.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 110.

Whereas, There are about 8,000 waist, dress and white goods workers employed in Newark, N. J., under non-union conditions; and

Whereas, The conditions in those trades are not only detrimental to those who are employed, but are also undermining the Union conditions of the same trades in New York and other cities, in many cases being branches from New York shops; and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, assembled in Bridgeport at their last quarterly meeting, have decided to endorse and start a movement for a general strike in Newark for January, 1917; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention approves of this endorsement; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take up this matter at their first meeting and carry through this strike to a successful end.

The committee recommends to reaffirm the decision of the General Executive Board and refer this resolution to the incoming General Executive Board.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Portnoy stated that he could not
understand why the incoming General Executive Board should investigate a decision that had already been arrived at by another Executive Board.

President Schlesinger explained that the recommendation was that the Convention concur in the decision of the General Executive Board.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 114.

Whereas, On many occasions the International placed faithful organizers to organize and to manage work that is concerned with a general strike; and

Whereas, The poor financial condition of Local 38 makes it impossible to obtain such necessary help; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to appoint an organizer for Local 38 immediately after the Convention.

The committee reported favorably and recommended the adoption of the resolution and that the General Executive Board be instructed to take action thereon.

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 115.

Whereas, In the city of New York there are ladies' tailor firms where women are employed on the manufacture of dresses, and work under deplorable conditions because they are not yet organized, and are a hindrance to the men tailors already partly organized; and

Whereas, There are probably between 8,000 and 10,000 workers in this trade, and as our Local is in a financial position to carry on an extensive organizing campaign; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention empower the incoming General Executive Board to give us all moral and financial assistance possible and appoint a woman organizer to take care and work for Local 38 until our object will meet with success.

The committee reported favorably and recommended the adoption of the resolution and that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take action thereon.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 126.

Whereas, New York is practically the only city in which the white goods industry is organized and Union standards and conditions prevail; and

Whereas, There are other cities in the United States which are powerful factors in the industry, but are utterly unorganized, and

Whereas, Due to these circumstances, there is an apparent tendency on the part of the manufacturers to leave New York and move to these unorganized centers, and

Whereas, This is a situation which is detrimental to the interests of our Union and its members; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to engage special organizers and make an energetic effort to bring about a uniformity of standards, by an effective campaign of organization of all white goods workers throughout the country.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 134.

Whereas, Local 65, Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union of Brooklyn, has a large field to organize the ladies' tailors and dressmakers, but lacking finances, couldn't advance, and

Whereas, If the said Local 65 could obtain moral and financial support, the enterprise would meet with success; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Convention should go on record as giving Local 65 an organizer.

The committee recommended to adopt the resolution and to instruct the incoming General Executive Board to act upon it as soon as possible.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.
Resolution No. 141.

Whereas, The raincoat trade has developed into a large and staple industry in which thousands of men and women are at present engaged, and, in consideration of the fact that said industry is developing outside the reach and jurisdiction of the locals at present in existence; and

Whereas, The unorganized centers are detrimental to our locals and are the main obstacle in the way of bettering the conditions for our members; and

Whereas, There are big centers of said industry in every part of the United States and Canada, where for one reason or another no attempt has yet been made to organize the workers and in consideration of the fact that in order to maintain our present locals and the present conditions which were obtained by many sacrifices on the part of our members, they must be organized; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the I. L. O. W. U. start a vigorous campaign to organize the raincoat trade and that an organizer be placed in the field for that purpose, and also to strengthen the present existing locals.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution and that it be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

The motion to concur in the resolution was carried.

Resolution No. 149.

Whereas, For more than two years the Cincinnati Locals have repeatedly requested the General Office to organize the ladies’ garment trades into a compact organization, and to use all trade-union means in accomplishing this end; and

Whereas, In May, 1915, when the General Executive Board met in Chicago, Brother Charles Green appeared before that body as a representative of the Cincinnati Locals, asking for immediate action in inaugurating the desired campaign, and the General Executive Board sanctioned our request; and

Whereas, Since that time the International has been tied up with the Sigmund Metz and other court cases, and later the abrogation of the protocol, and finally, the general strike of New York, which made it impossible for the General Executive Board to execute its mandate; be it, therefore,

Resolved, By this Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. to inaugurate a campaign for organization in the entire ladies’ garment trades in Cincinnati, and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be empowered to call a general strike in Cincinnati, if peaceful means will fail to accomplish the desired end.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution and that it be referred to the General Executive Board for action.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 150.

Whereas, The White Goods Workers’ Union is on the verge of entering into negotiations with the Cotton Garment Manufacturers’ Association with respect to the renewal of the contract, and

Whereas, Our Executive Board deems it necessary for the sake of the preservation of the very life of our Union, to make new demands and insert amendments to the old provisions of the contract, and

Whereas, We are determined that our program, which is reasonable and just, be carried out; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union instructs the incoming General Executive Board to endorse a general strike in the white goods trade in New York, in the event the manufacturers in the industry fail to grant the demands presented by the Union.

Chairman Rosenberg: The committee recommends that the last resolve be changed to the following: “Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to utilize all their power to bring about a fair and reasonable adjustment between the white goods
workers, Local 62, and their employers, and the General Executive Board is also requested to participate in the negotiations when demands will be made to amend the present agreement.”

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Lifshitz stated that there would be no objection to the changing of the wording of the resolution.

The report of the committee was concurred in.

Delegate Rosenberg: That concludes the report of the Organizing Committee, which is signed:

ABRAHAM ROSENBERG, Local 1, Ch’n.
A. GOLDSTEIN, Local 1.
MORRIS WIENER, Local 3.
PHILIP BERMAN, Local 26.
SIGMUND HYMAN, Local 25.
JULIUS FINKELSTEIN, Local 28.
ALFREDO LA PORTA, Local 48.
FANNIE COHN, Local 60.
M. PERLS TEIN, Joint Board of Cleveland, Sec’y.

On motion, duly made and seconded, the report of the committee as a whole was adopted, as amended, and committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Secretary Rosenberg stated that a number of resolutions had been introduced dealing with the subject of education, but that no action had been taken on them because the committee had drafted a plan of action on the subject. He stated that among the resolutions were 65, 81, 84 and 88.

Secretary Rosenberg read the following report:

"To the Chairman and Delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.:

Greetings—Your Committee on Education has carefully and thoroughly considered the subject of carrying on a systematic method of enlightenment among our members upon matters of vital concern to them, both as members of our International, and as a part of that great army called the working class. The committee unanimously recognized the fact that only through a well disciplined, well trained organization can our members gain better conditions for themselves and their families. We also realize the shortcomings of the membership of our organization in some of the things needed for so large and militant a body as ours.

"To correct these shortcomings the committee recommends to this Convention the adoption of a plan which has been worked out and is a substitute for the many resolutions introduced on the subject of education. This plan has also taken into consideration our first real effort of two years ago, when a regular course was arranged for by our international. In our present plan we retain what we believe was good in the first, eliminate what we believe was its shortcomings, and add such things as will result in a successful undertaking.

"After thorough consideration of the subject of education of our members your committee came to the realization that our method must be twofold, first, that they be enlightened on the functions, aims, possibilities and limitations of a trade organization. They are to be taught about the contents of our existing agreements with employers, their rights as well as their obligations under the agreement. In short, this part of the educational system is to enlighten our members upon all matters concerning labor, and make of them a well disciplined and reliable body of men and women who cannot be misled and incited by anybody who desires to do so. This is to be accompanied by lectures, pamphlets, etc.

"The second part of the plan is calculated to supply a deficiency in our organization caused by a dearth of sufficient men and women from which to choose officers. To this end the committee recommends the creation of a regular course in which some of our ablest and most intelligent members are to be trained for duties as officers. The committee does not wish to enter into a detailed and minute description of such a plan, but provides for the following:

"First, That an Educational Committee consisting of five members, residing in the
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city of New York, be appointed by the chair, whose duty it shall be to conduct the work, in conjunction with and under the jurisdiction of the O. E. B. "Second. That the Educational Committee and the General Executive Board be empowered and instructed to select a suitable person to act as director of the educational work, said director to be paid by the International. "Third. That the Educational Committee together with the proposed director work out a detailed plan of action as laid down by this Convention. "Fourth. That the By-Laws of all of our locals include in the list of their committees an Educational Committee to consist of at least three members, who are to arrange lectures in their respective locals. The chairman of such local committees shall be in constant touch with the Central Educational Committee. "Fifth. That the Educational Committee, through the proposed director, route speakers and lecturers to our locals periodically, and also cause suitable pamphlets to be printed and distributed among our members. Such pamphlets to be printed in Yiddish, Italian and English languages. "Sixth. That the Educational Committee get in touch with other trade unions for the purpose of creating a workingman's college to be supported at joint expense, said institution to conduct a regular day course in training members of trade unions for trade union activity. "Seventh. That the locals of our International create a fund out of which men and women who volunteer to undertake the course be supported during their stay at school. Candidates for such course are to receive the approval of the Educational Committee as to their fitness to undertake the study. "Eighth. That this Convention vote the sum of not less than $5,000 to be placed at the disposal of the proposed Educational Committee, to be used in the work outlined above.

Respectfully submitted,
SAUL METZ, Local 35, Chairman.
ELMER ROSENBERG, Local 10, Sec.
LOUIS HYMAN, Local 9.
SARAH CEASAR, Local 15.
M. RUBIN, Local 1.

ISAAC POSNER, Local 24.
ANNA H. CAVANAGH, Local 49.
ANNA THOMAS, Local 49.
LUIGI ANTONINI, Local 26.
Committee on Education.

A motion was made that each point of the report be discussed separately. (Seconded and

Secretary Rosenberg: It is a well-known fact that education consists of the written word and the spoken word, and the committee has so divided the report and suggests that first of all a campaign of education shall be started which will reach every member throughout the organization, that the work shall not be confined to one central place and shall be extended to locals outside of New York.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the first paragraph of the report, with the explanation as given.

Delegate Kovinsky spoke against the adoption of the report.

Delegate Davidson discussed the question at length.

On motion, debate was closed.

The motion to adopt the first provision of the report was carried.

Delegate Hines moved that the entire report be incorporated in the day's minutes, so that the delegates would know exactly what the recommendations of the committee were, and that the report be acted on later.

The motion was seconded and carried.

President Schlesinger read the following:

Resolution No. 36.
Whereas, The Kropotkin Publication Society is an organization whose aim is to uplift the intellectual standard of the people through introducing and translating books of high educational value; and

Whereas, It is a free and voluntary organization whose sole dependence consists of subscriptions and voluntary contributions; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention goes on record to recommend all its members to become subscribers of this organization; and be it further
Resolved, That this Convention donate one hundred dollars ($100) to enable the Kropotkin Publication Society to continue the good work.

The committee recommended that the amount donated be $50 instead of $100, and that the part reading that the Convention so on record as recommending that all of its members become subscribers be stricken out.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

The following privilege resolution was introduced:

Whereas, Hon. Comrade Meyer London has largely contributed to the success of our International Union; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention extend its invitation through a telegram to Comrade Hon. Meyer London to address the Convention.

(Signed): M. Palafsky, S. Pasetsky, S. Bender, H. Bernstein, Harry Shuster, M. Kushner, Joseph Keaton, Local 9; Louis Friend, Local 67; Elmer Rosenberg, Isadore Spoden, Local 10; L. Wichter, Joint Board, New York; H. Schoolman, Joint Board, Chicago; M. Bernstein, Local 18; H. P. Barskey, Local 81.

President Schlesinger stated that he had received word that Comrade Meyer London would address the Convention on Wednesday.

Delegate Bernstein suggested that another telegram be sent to Comrade London, as it would be more impressive.

President Schlesinger stated that there would be no objection to doing that.

The delegates of Local 10 offered a resolution, which was read by Delegate Stein, but was rejected by the Convention.

At 5:20 P.M. the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 A.M. Wednesday, October 25th.

EIGHTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.


The convention was called to order at 9:30 o'clock A.M., Wednesday, October 25th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegram from the Los Angeles Consumptives Sanitarium:


Patients and management send you heartfelt greetings and wish you a successful convention as well as a successful future. Dr. A. M. Levin will greet you personally on our behalf.

R. COHN, Executive Secretary.

Secretary Baroff read a communication from the Dress and Waist Pattern Makers' Association, regarding a charter, which was rejected by the delegates.

He also read resolutions pertaining the strikers' bail fund, an erection of a labor lyceum and the request of the Shirt Makers' Local of Philadelphia, all of which were referred to the Resolutions Committee.

The following letter was also read:


Mr. B. Schlesinger, President, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Scottish Rite Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Your check for $400 received to-day, and we send you our heartiest thanks for same. On visit to Locals 24 and 55 yesterday I found everything in perfect condition. Meetings were well attended and orderly, and everything was as perfect as we ourselves could have wished it.

Fraternally yours,

HYMAN HURWITZ.

Boston Manager pro tem.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Delegate Elmer Rosenberg, Secretary of the Committee, reported as follows:

To refresh the memory of the delegates, I want to say that we stopped at the first part of this proposition which is presented by the Educational Committee, the education of the general membership. This is the second part with which we are laying the foundation of the work, and it deals with the proposition that the incoming committee that is to be appointed to carry on educational work
shall get into touch with as many other labor unions as are willing to enter into a conference, and together they will erect a working-men's college where any men and women who are chosen may be trained for the purpose of becoming efficient organizers, office holders and efficient workers in general for the union. Now, there is nothing definite about this proposition, except that the committee is instructed to take some action on this, and it would be up to the committee to try and create some form of instruction to individuals, to a selected group. We have already received one communication from the Rand School of Social Science, which Institution has declared its willingness to participate in the movement which we are trying to bring about in the International. The thing you are to vote on now is to give your approval to bringing in other trade unions and the details will be explained to you later.

Secretary Rosenberg read the section pertaining to the second part of the plan.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Padover spoke in opposition to the plan of the committee, and stated that the entire membership should be included in any educational scheme, and not groups of members.

Delegate Hyman favored the report of the committee, suggesting that every one would not be eligible to take up an educational course such as was outlined.

Delegate Lefkovits spoke in favor of the section, and stated that the first part of it dealt with the education of the general membership.

Delegate Metx favored the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Lieberman spoke in support of the report and added that some action should be taken to carry out these principles.

A motion was made to strike out the word "day" in the sixth line. The motion was carried and the report of the committee was adopted, the section to read as follows:

"The second part of the plan is calculated to supply a deficiency in our organization caused by a dearth of sufficient men and women from which to choose officers. To this end the committee recommends the creation of a regular course in which some of our ablest and most promising members are to be trained for duties as officers. The committee does not wish to enter into a detailed and minute description of such a plan, but provides for the following:"

The Secretary of the Committee read the first paragraph of the second part of the plan, as follows:

"First. That an Educational Committee consisting of five members, residing in the city of New York, be appointed by the chair, whose duty it shall be to conduct the work, in conjunction with and under the jurisdiction of the G. E. B."

Upon motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Secretary Rosenberg read the second paragraph.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Lieberman moved as an amendment that the words "and instructed" be stricken from the paragraph. (Seconded.)

Delegate Ahpils moved to further amend by adding the words "together with the General Executive Board" after the words "educational committee" in the first line. (Seconded.)

On motion the amendments were carried, the report of the committee was adopted as amended, the section to read as follows:

"Second. That the Educational Committee, together with the General Executive Board, be empowered to select a suitable person to act as director of the educational work, said director to be paid by the International."

The third paragraph of the report was read, as follows:

"Third. That the Educational Committee, together with the proposed director work out a detailed plan of action as laid down by this Convention."

Upon motion the report of the committee was adopted.

The chairman read the fourth paragraph of the report, as follows:

"Fourth. That the By-Laws of all of our
lorals include in the list of their commit-
tees an Educational Committee to consist of
at least three members, who are to arrange
lectures in their respective locals. The
chairman of such local committee shall be
in constant touch with the Central Educa-
tional Committee."

Upon motion, the report of the committee
was concurred in.

Secretary Rosenberg read the fifth para-
graph, and recommended that the words "in
as many languages as the committee deems
it advisable" be added after the word
printed," in the fifth line, the paragraph
to read:

"Fifth. That the Educational Committee,
through the proposed director, route speak-
ers and lecturers to our locals periodically,
and also cause suitable pamphlets to be
printed in as many languages as the com-
mittee deems it advisable, and distributed
among our members. Such pamphlets
to be printed in Yiddish, Italian and English
languages."

On motion, the report of the committee
was concurred in.

The sixth paragraph was read by the sec-
retary, and a motion made and seconded to
adopt.

A motion was made to amend by strik-
ing out the word "day" at the end of the fifth
line. (Seconded.)

President Schlesinger made a short state-
ment on the amendment.

The amendment was adopted and the re-
port of the committee concurred in as
amended, the section to read:

"Sixth. That the Educational Committee
get in touch with other trade unions for
the purpose of creating a workingman's
college, to be supported at joint expense,
said institution to conduct a regular course
in training members of trade unions for
trade union activity."

The seventh section was read by the sec-
retary of the committee, as follows:

"Seventh. That the locals of our Interna-
tional create a fund out of which men and
women who volunteer to undertake the
course be supported during their stay at
school. Candidates for such course are to
receive the approval of the Educational
Committee as to their fitness to undertake
the study."

The section was discussed by Secretary
Rosenberg.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt
the report of the committee.

Delegate Ringer spoke in favor of
amending the clause to include a night
school.

Secretary Morrison, of the American Fed-
eration of Labor, in the chair.

The seventh section was further discus-
sed by Delegate Epstein, who said he did not
think the directors should pass upon the fit-
tness of the candidates, but that it should be
the duty of the General Executive Board,
and expressed the hope that the committee
would include in their curriculum the teach-
ing of trade union methods as well as theo-
retical teaching.

Delegate Wander spoke in favor of
amending the clause to include a night
school.

The eighth section was read by the sec-
retary, as follows:

"That this Convention vote the sum of
not less than $5000 to be placed at the dis-
posal of the proposed educational com-
mittee, to be used in the work outlined above."

Upon motion, the report of the committee
was adopted.

The report was signed:

Saul Metz, Local 25, Chairman.
Elmer Rosenberg, Local 10, Sec.
Louis Hyman, Local 9.
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SARAH CEASAR, Local 15.
M. RUBIN, Local 1.
ISAAC POSNER, Local 24.
ANNA H. CAVANAGH, Local 49.
ANNA THOMAS, Local 49.
LUIGI ANTONINI, Local 25.

A delegate asked for the decision of the Convention on Resolution No. 62, and President Schlesinger read the report of the Committee on Organization on the resolution.

President Schlesinger introduced to the delegates Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor. After prolonged applause, Secretary Morrison addressed the Convention as follows:

ADDRESS OF SECRETARY MORRISON.

President Schlesinger and Delegates to the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union: I suppose we are all human—I know that I am—and I appreciate the kind words of your good President and the hearty greetings of the delegates, both the ladies and the gentlemen. I do not know of any class of delegates that are more enthusiastic than the delegates representing the needle trades.

There is a reason why I have always taken a great interest in you, why I have always responded to the call of your officers where I have felt that I could be of assistance, or the Federation could be of assistance. About seventeen years ago, when your organization was formed, and for many years after, you had a very small organization, which included perhaps two thousand or twenty-five hundred members, some in New York, some in Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, and I suppose some in Philadelphia: I do not recollect at this time as to that. The great effort of your officers was to keep the members of the union in good standing, and the difficulty of the union was to keep the members in good standing and secure improved conditions.

I was in Dayton at one of the most marvelous gatherings of workers, struggling to secure improved conditions, that I have ever witnessed, and perhaps the greatest that it would be my satisfaction and pleasure to witness. I was at a gathering at Madison Square Garden in 1910, when the entire needle trades called a mass meeting to fight for improved conditions. I stood with others upon the second gallery and I looked down on the men with their coats off, the entire floor being filled to overflowing and the three galleries filled with garment workers who were there to demonstrate their willingness and their desire and their insistence that they should secure improved conditions. At that great meeting they formed a greater organization and your protocol agreement was outlined.

I can also recall the first convention of your organization that I attended at Toronto, and I said to the delegates then, "If you will continue your collective bargaining, if you will insist on the protocol agreement, you will not only retain the conditions you have secured, but you will be able to secure further improvements. If you desire to hold what that great meeting and your splendid organization have forced from the employers, the members must retain their membership in the organization, and you must insist on keeping the agreements that you have made; you must do more, you must insist that the employers shall live up to their agreements that they have made with you in good faith."

It is a satisfaction, it is a great gratification to know that, notwithstanding the attacks made upon you by the manufacturers, notwithstanding the efforts made to destroy your union, that the members remained faithful, and you persisted in your effort to keep intact this magnificent organization, an organization that has risen in a few years from about seventh place in the American Federation of Labor, until last year it was the third great unit of the Federation. I have reason to be proud of the fact that in nearly every effort that you have made in New York, in Philadelphia, in Cleveland and other places, I have had the pleasure of speaking at your mass meetings, urging the members to organize and to assist in securing better conditions.

When your last struggle was on, I was sometimes fearful that your organization might surrender what you had won at a great sacrifice. I want to say to you delegates, and to the women delegates, that there have been great struggles among other trades, but I do not know of any organization that has attracted so much attention, to which has flowed greater sympathy from the trade unions and the pub-
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tic, than has flowed toward the needle trades in their struggle to unshackle themselves from long hours, and to enforce the demand of a living wage to the workers of your trade. You have made progress. If you persist, and thoroughly organize the workers in the future as you have in the past, you will soon have an organization that the machines of the enemies of the workers will be helpless in preventing you from securing the conditions that you should have.

I know something of your struggles, and they are not ended. I predict that within two years, or the time when this agreement expires, the employers will not be idle. They will repeat their tactics; they will have their emissaries throughout your union for the purpose of creating distrust, for the purpose of destroying the union, that organization that has enabled you not only to sustain conditions, but to wring from the employers the three years' agreement, with a recognition of the union. That means much to the workers. You have now an organization that you should be proud of, and I am sure you are proud, not only of your organization but of your officers who have worked day and night to assist in bringing victory to it.

I am not unmindful of the effort of the employers to intimidate your members; I am not unmindful of the fact that your members were indicted and your organization had to expend large sums to defend your members. But what has occurred to your organization has occurred to all the other organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. It is one of the tactics used by the employers, first to try to destroy the membership and create distrust among the officers and the members, and then they adopt tactics that will deplete the treasury, that will force you to expend money needed for organization purposes in defending your members. But the trade union movement has had to fight just these tactics for many, many years.

I can recall not so many years ago the manufacturers' association met in Indianapolis, or New York—New York seems to be the center of capital and as such is the center of all the machinations to destroy the unions. They decided to appropriate the sum of $500,000 a year for the purpose of destroying trade unions. And then appeared the Sherman Anti-Trust law, and they added an amendment to it to read "for educational purposes." Representatives of the manufacturers' association went from city to city, gathering together every union-hater into citizens' alliances, for the purpose of destroying the trade union movement. But it did not destroy the movement; instead it was strengthened.

When this attempt was launched by the manufacturers' association, the American Federation of Labor had a million members, but after a year and a half of effort to destroy the trade union movement, it met them with a million and a half members to continue the fight. It did not stem the tide of trade unionism, but simply made the members more active. You can destroy a union, but you do not destroy the members. The members still live, and the man whose organization has been destroyed, whose wages have been reduced and hours increased, carries in his mind the desire to show those employers that he is still alive, and the unions are reorganized and can go on the firing line and secure recognition. The attack of the employers did not discourage your members, did not cause you to be afraid, instead it created a sentiment stronger than existed before.

Perhaps it would be well, inasmuch as you have adopted a proposition for educating your members in the trade union movement, to suggest that those taking advantage of the course proposed, enter into a contract that they will give their services to the trade union movement for, say, ten or fifteen years, so that they would be able to repay to the movement an equivalent of the benefits of education received at the expense of the local unions.

I would have been with you during the first week of the convention, but was prevented by a meeting of the Executive Council of the Federation. At this time, however, I desire to extend to you, President Schlesinger, to the officers and to the delegates the greetings of President Gompers and the members of the Council, for the future success of your organization. The American Federation of Labor is a Federation of all the international unions. As I said, last year your organization was the third largest of 110 international organiza-
tions. The Federation was organized for the purpose of organization; that is, to organize the unorganized workers into local unions and the local unions into national and international unions. It was also organized for the purpose of securing remedial legislation from the Congress of the United States, and in the various States and cities for the wage workers. A further aim has in view is to take action that will result in the creation of a demand for union-label products.

Secretary Morrison stated that when the Federation was organized thirty-five years ago, at the time he was elected secretary, it had 265,000 members, but that it had increased that until the present time they had a total of 2,000,000 members, and that the recent affiliation of the International Union of Bricklayers brought into the fold of the American Federation of Labor every organization of the building trades. He also stated that the Federation was carrying on the work of organizing through its organizers, its city central bodies, Its state bodies and through the International unions.

Secretary Morrison continued: Last year the American Federation of Labor erected in Washington a seven-and-a-half-story brick building, with ninety-one rooms, which is the property of the Federation, and where the work will be carried on in the future.

And now just a word in respect to the work of the Federation: The officers of the American Federation of Labor consist of the president, secretary, treasurer and eight vice-presidents. These officers are elected by delegates that attend the conventions of that body. They are the choice of the delegates representing the 110 International unions. These delegates are sent to the conventions by the federal and state bodies, and the local unions, and they are instructed what to do. The officers of the Federation simply carry out the instructions of the convention, and I want the delegates to understand that every action taken by President Gompers and the Executive Council is simply carrying out the instructions of the delegates, among whom are delegates from your own International Union. We are instructed in regard to securing legislation that is of benefit to the wage workers, to have laws enacted that will protect the wage workers, such as factory laws, child labor laws, anti-injunction laws, etc., and as a result of the effort of organized labor, we have had a child labor law written into the statute of every State of this Union, taking the children from the mines and mills and factories, and placing them in schools where they will be given an education. If the day comes when the educational feature of the American Federation of Labor has been carried to the extent desired, there will be no necessity of having either a day or night school to educate the wage workers in the trade union movement.

I want to indicate to you the procedure of the American Federation of Labor in regard to securing remedial legislation, the manner in which they were instructed to proceed. We find that the great interests, the railroads, the mines, the steel trust, packing house trust and others, had their representatives in Congress, and their representatives in Congress, and their representatives were placed on the committee that were opposed to the trade union movement, to wage workers receiving any remedial legislation.

In 1906 there was a gathering of all the representatives of labor at Washington for the purpose of securing legislation. A bill of grievances was drawn up and presented to President Roosevelt, President Frey, of the Senate, and Speaker Cannon, and I can recall that old standpat Republican saying, "Why, the organized wage workers are not the only pebbles on the beach," and we said, "That may be true, but the wage workers represent the majority of the pebbles in this country." We said, "If you do not allow our legislation to come out of the committee, we will endeavor to defeat your men and elect our friends," and we succeeded in electing five representatives. In 1908 we had ten; in 1910 we had fifteen; in 1912 we had seventeen. In every Labor Day speech up to 1912, I stated that I would never rest satisfied until we had a Department of Labor, a member of organized labor to sit in that department as secretary and to be a member of the President's cabinet. As a result of our campaign, to-day we have a member of the mining union as secretary of the Department of Labor. We have a senator representing the wage workers. We have seventeen trade unionists that we call the "Labor Group," who meet at the call of the chairman, and in that group is a man well known to you—Meyer London.

(Prolonged applause.)
I am glad to see that spirit. It shows that the man that represents the wage workers must understand their aspirations and hopes, and we expect at the next election to add to that group, so that it will be more favorable, more influential, so that the balance of power will secure from Congress still greater benefits for the workers.

Of the bill of grievances referred to, we have secured the enactment of all but two. These two are hanging in the balance and will be taken up at the next session of Congress. We have secured a declaration by Congress—the first declaration that has been made by any nation in this world—that the labor of a human being is not an article of commerce, nor is it a commodity, that it is a part of the living being, and should not be treated as a barrel of flour, or any other commodity; and it is declared in our bill of rights that we have a right to organize, a right to strike, a right to free locomotion; we have a right to picket and a right to be at or near a place where we have a legal right to be. That has been enacted by the Congress of the United States.

It is true injunctions have been issued by the different States, enjoining men from picketing, enjoining them from doing a thousand things they have a right to do, but the American Federation of Labor has started a campaign in every State in this Union to enact into the statutes of these States the same laws that have been enacted by the Congress of the United States, and those laws are going to be enacted. In securing the enactment of these laws in the various States, the officers of the Federation are carrying out the instructions of the convention.

My friends, it has been a real satisfaction to be with you, to make these few statements to you. I can only see greater organization, shorter hours and greater prosperity in the future for the trade union movement, but at the same time I will say we are going to have that because of industrial organization, because of the splendid unions that exist, such as the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. I thank you.

On motion of Delegate Ashpis, a rising vote of thanks was extended to Secretary Morrison for his splendid address.

President Schlesinger introduced to the delegates Mrs. Ella Reeve Bloor, General Organizer of the International Cloth Hat and Cap Makers.

Mrs. Bloor, in addressing the delegates, spoke of the program the labor unions had made in Europe, and stated that the aim of the labor leaders there was to train the boys and girls so that they would be strong in body and mind. She congratulated the organization of Garment Workers upon its achievements, and expressed the hope that there would be more women delegates present at the next convention of that body.

President Schlesinger presented Abraham Bismo to the delegates, and said that he would speak to them later.
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"Whereas. While our International has grown to be the third largest international Union in the American Federation of Labor, the label has only remained as an emblem of our Union, no practical use having been made of it, and

"Whereas. The importance of the Union label and its application has grown enormously within the last decade, and in many trades the workers are now enjoying better conditions on account of the demand of the public for Union label products, and

"Whereas. An extensive agitation for our Union label would surely educate the public to demand the Union label on ladies' garments and would help us to a great extent in our continuous struggle for better conditions and higher standards in our various trades, and

"Whereas. There is already a considerable demand for the Union label on ladies' garments from various ladies' leagues and organizations, as well as from manufacturers and retail stores; be it, therefore.

"Resolved. To issue same labels to manufacturers where strictly union and sanitary conditions prevail.

The Committee has not agreed on the first resolve and changed it to read as follows:

"Resolved. That the incoming General Executive Board appoint two or more persons, who shall conduct the business of the Label Department, and who shall report to the General Executive Board at the quarterly meetings on the doings of said department. All work of this department shall be under the supervision of the General Executive Board; and, be it further.

"Resolved. That the General Executive Board shall appropriate not less than $10,000 a year, which shall be used to advance the Union label upon all garments produced by the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Fraternally yours,
S. KOLDORFSKY, Chairman.
J. P. COHEN, Secretary.
S. PRISANT.
M. GOOSMAN,
MISS MARY GOULD,
T. R. BLACKERT,
E. J. CAVANAGH,
A. BERNSTEIN,
MAX STERN."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Padover made an amendment that the sum to be appropriated suggested by the committee be stricken out. (Seconded.)

Delegate Jesse Cohen spoke in favor of the report of the committee and against the amendment.

Delegate Ringer offered an amendment to the amendment, that the part pertaining to the appropriation of money be laid over until the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports was submitted. (Seconded.)

Delegate Hyman asked what label the committee referred to.

President Schlesinger stated that they referred to the International label, and made a brief statement in reference to it.

Delegate Max spoke in support of the amendment to the amendment.

President Schlesinger suggested that the matter had been referred to the committee that was reporting, for its opinion, which should be considered.

On motion, debate was closed.

At the suggestion of President Schlesinger, the original report of the committee as read was voted upon.

The report of the committee was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Delegate Lefkovits, chairman of the Committee, read Resolution No. 127, which was referred to the Committee on Convention Arrangements.

Resolution No. 151.

"Whereas, Our St. Louis Local 78 finds itself in very difficult financial circumstances, and has contracted a number of debts which have become urgent obligations, some of them remaining over from our general strike in 1913; and

"Whereas, It is impossible for us to go on with further organizing work until these debts are paid up; be it therefore.

"Resolved, That this Convention donates to the St. Louis Local 78 the sum of $200.00 for its present urgent needs."
The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 5.
Whereas, Carlo Tresca, James Schmidt, Sam Scarlett, Mrs. Militza Masanowitz, Philip Masanowitz, James Orlanditch, Joe Nicitch, Joe Chernogradewitch and the nine-months' old baby of Mrs. Militza Masanowitz, are detained in the Duluth, Minn., jail, on several charges, and the principal one, that of murder in the first degree; and

Whereas, Tresca and his colleagues are not guilty of any crime other than to lead the Minnesota miners to obtain human conditions, and

Whereas, These charges are made by persons connected or influenced by the Steel Trust magnates and mine owners, and

Whereas, These men are innocent of the crimes attributed to them, for at the time of the murder they were twenty miles away from the scene of action; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the delegates of the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladles' Garment Workers' Union recognize in these charges nothing but an attempt to paralyze the honest and conscientious work of those who are leading organized labor to better conditions and to brand as criminal such activities as strikes, etc.; and, be it further

Resolved, That we protest against the arbitrary action of the Commonwealth of Minnesota and demand the immediate liberation of Carlo Tresca and the other eleven prisoners who are guilty of no other charge than that of trying to procure more bread for the poor iron miners; and, be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of Minnesota, to the district attorney in charge of the prosecution, and to the Secretary of the Minnesota Prisoners' Committee, Camillo De Gregorio, 228 Lafayette Street, New York City; and, be it further

Resolved, That a telegram be sent to Carlo Tresca and the eleven other prisoners extending our sympathy.

Chairman Laskovitz stated that this resolution had already been adopted, but had been referred back to the committee to have all the names inserted.

Resolution No. 20.
Whereas, Carlo Tresca, James Schmidt, Sam Scarlett, Mrs. Militza Masanowitz, Philip Masanowitz, James Orlanditch, Joe Nicitch, Joe Chernogradewitch and the nine months' old baby of Mrs. Militza Masanowitz, are facing a death sentence because they were loyal to the iron miners, strikers of Minnesota, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union decides to donate from the International funds the sum of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) to help in the fight for their immediate liberation.

The committee recommended concurrence.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

At 12:20 the Convention was adjourned to reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.

Delegate Chancer desired to be recorded as having been present at both the morning and afternoon sessions on Tuesday.

EIGHTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, October 25, 1916, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegates Golden and Nisanowitz, Local 17.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, stated that he had been requested by certain out-of-town delegates to say that their locals had not been able to furnish them finances for more than a week or ten days, and unless they received some assistance from the International would be compelled to go home immediately.

President Schlesinger stated that a special committee, consisting of Secretary Baroff and others, which had been appointed by the Executive Board, would take care of that matter.
Delegate Lieberman, chairman of the Committee, reported as follows:

"To the delegates of the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.:

"Your Committee on Officers' Reports wishes to report as follows:

"We have carefully gone through the report of the General Executive Board, and noted its activities for the past two years and four months.

"The report, as we find it, is to be divided into two parts, i.e., (1) dealing with the work already accomplished, (2) dealing with recommendations for the future.

"As to the work that has been accomplished by this administration, we wish to call the attention of the delegates of this Thirteenth Biennial Convention to the great number of strikes and conflicts which this administration was confronted with, and almost all of which have been victorious. These strikes affected almost every trade in our industry throughout the country—Philadelphia Cloakmakers; Waist and Dressmakers of New York; Cloak and Skirt Makers and Reefer Makers of New York; Cloakmakers of Chicago; Boston Cloakmakers; Waist and Dressmakers of New York; Children's Dressmakers, of New York; Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers; Raincoat Makers of Boston and Chicago; Boston Waistmakers; Bonnus Embroidery Workers of New York; New England States Corset Industry; New York White Goods Workers; and Embroidery Workers of New York and New Jersey.

"It is not our intention to go into a detailed description of each and every struggle. The delegates to this Convention are, no doubt, acquainted with most of them. Success in all these instances is due to the untiring devotion and excellent leadership of the present administration in the persons of our President Schlesinger and Secretary Baroff. While speaking of these remarkable achievements, we are glad of the occasion to express our sincere admiration of our President, Benjamin Schlesinger, who, with his energetic and faithful service is largely responsible for the great success of our International for the past two years. We also congratulate our administration for utilizing the services of the distinguished counsel and comrade, Morris Hillquit, whose brilliant leadership and remarkable statesmanship have enabled our International to secure its present position as the third largest union in the American Federation of Labor. We also wish to extend our thanks to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and other outside organizations not mentioned in the report, for their timely and brotherly assistance rendered to our International."

"On motion, duly made and seconded, the first section of the committee's report was adopted.

"As to the recommendations referred to us, we wish to report as follows:

"(1) Due to the extraordinary circumstances under which the General Strike of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union in the city of New York was called, the General Executive Board levied an assessment of $2 on every female and $3 on every male member of our International Union. This was not fully in accord with our Constitution, but we recommend the approval of their action and caution against similar practices in the future."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

President Schlesinger: During the lock-out in New York, which was proclaimed by the employers, the members of the General Executive Board residing in New York called a meeting and decided to levy an assessment upon all the members of the International $2 on every female and $3 on every male. It is not in strict accordance with the By-Laws and Constitution of the International, but they felt that the emergency required it and the General Executive Board recommends in its report that this assessment of $2 and $3 be mandatory, that the locals should have to pay it.

Chairman Lieberman re-read the report of the committee, and stated that while the committee approved of the action of the Board, according to the Constitution it could not be made mandatory.

Delegate Ashpis offered an amendment, that the first part of the report be accepted as to the levying of the assessment, but
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that it shall not be mandatory and that the words "caution against similar practice in the future" be stricken out. (Seconded.)

Delegate Sterling spoke in opposition to the report of the committee.

Vice-President Pierce in the chair.

President Schlesinger explained fully the reasons why the Executive Board took the action they did, and stated that the failure of the cloak makers' strike would have meant, to a certain extent, the failure of the entire organization; that the money raised and paid in by them, had, to a large extent, financed the different strikes that had occurred in the organization, and that this assessment was placed on the members only after very serious consideration.

A motion was made and seconded to close debate.

The motion was voted on and the chair expressed doubt as to the result. A show of hands was called for, and the motion to close debate was carried by a vote of 67 to 48.

Delegate Lieberman, Chairman of the Committee, spoke in defense of the report of the committee, and said that while the cloak makers had paid in a great deal of money, other locals had done their share and that his own local, 26, has paid in $54,000 in assessments during the last three years, and repeated that it was against the constitution to make this assessment mandatory.

The amendment to strike out the words "caution against similar practice in the future" was carried.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee that the assessment be approved of, but that it be not made mandatory, was adopted, as amended.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

"BOSTON SITUATION"

"With reference to the cloak situation in Boston, we have made a painstaking investigation, and we are sorry to state that the cloak and suitmakers' locals, especially Local 24 and 56, are in a doleful condition. They were intrusted in the hands of officers of questionable reputation. (We regret that the General Executive Board has failed to take care of this situation in proper time.) These locals, namely: 12, 24, 56 and 73, must be revived; a new atmosphere must be created; and, we, therefore, recommend to displace with the autonomy of the above named locals. Furthermore, we suggest that they are to be placed under the direct supervision of the incoming General Executive Board. All paid and unpaid offices shall be filled by the incoming General Executive Board through appointments. In our opinion only such a complete and radical change can help to put these locals on a solid basis."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

The question was discussed briefly by President Schlesinger, Delegate Asblish and the chairman of the committee.

President Schlesinger discussed the situation and said that he had not been consulted by the committee and that no member of the Executive Board had been called before it and objected to the language used in the report.

A motion was made to concur in the report of the committee and to strike out the sentence beginning with the word "regret."

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 1, made an extended explanation as to the situation existing in Boston, and the causes that led up to the trouble.

Delegate Ofkovits spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee in so far as it recommended that the general officers take charge of the Boston local, but was opposed to that part condemning the action of the Board.

The chairman stated that the committee was willing to strike out that part.

Delegate Ofkovits made a further statement in favor of the Board taking charge of the local.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee as corrected, was carried.

"With reference to the strike of the M. & C. Skirt Co., we are of the opinion that this strike could have been avoided were the local unions guided by a more responsible leadership than the one now in power.
Being that the strike is now going on, we recommend that this Convention appropriates the sum of $1,000 towards the strike, as requested by the Boston delegation; the disbursement of said money to be made under the supervision of the General Secretary-Treasurer of our International.

A motion was made by Delegate Prisant to adopt the report of the committee. (Seconded.)

Delegate Wander moved to strike out the words "this strike could have been avoided were the local unions guided by a more responsible leadership," and that only that part remain as to the amount to be given to the strikers. (Seconded.)

Delegate Kesten spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, spoke against the amendment; that the only objection to a settlement urged by the managers of the M. & C. Skirt Company was the leadership of the union in Boston.

Delegate Shapiro discussed the question and said that the Convention should go on record as endorsing the strike.

Delegate Seidman offered an amendment that instead of mentioning the amount to be donated, the report of the committee read "that the General Executive Board conduct the strike in Boston until they have had a victory in the M. & C. Skirt Company." (Seconded.)

Delegate Posen stated that he had received a letter acknowledging receipt of the $400 by Local 24, that they had paid $200 out for expenses and were in great need of help.

President Schlesinger stated the report of the committee and the amendment to refer the matter of financial assistance to the incoming General Executive Board, and the report of the committee was adopted as amended.

"Resolution No. 2, dealing with the strike of the M. & C. Skirt Company, was referred to us by the president. It reads as follows:

"Whereas, Through the efforts of several ex-officials of the Boston local unions, a strike has been instigated in the firm of the M. & C. Skirt Company, where 350 men and women are now involved, for over six weeks; and

"Whereas, During the six weeks of the strike, several attempts have been made to bring this strike to a successful termination, with the result that the M. & C. Skirt Company refuses to negotiate with the officers of the Boston locals; and

"Whereas, The M. & C. firm has made it clear to our representatives that they would abide by any decision the International Union may render in their strike; be it therefore,

"Resolved, That a special committee be appointed by the President of this Thirteenth Convention, with full power to settle that strike to the best of their judgment. And be it further

"Resolved, That this committee proceed to Boston immediately after the adjournment of this Convention.

"The Committee recommends that this request be granted and such a committee be appointed immediately."

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

"LOCAL No. 38.

"The history of this local is to a great extent the history of continuous friction existing in this local, which led almost to its complete destruction. The lack of responsibility is very conspicuous; the failure of the strike is due to the causes above mentioned. In view of these facts, we recommend that this local be completely reorganized and placed under the direct supervision of the incoming General Executive Board, and that all paid and unpaid offices to be filled by the O. E. B. through appointment."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

At the request of President Schlesinger, Morris Sigman made a statement in regard to a circular which had been printed in Yiddish, and distributed to the delegates, raising the question that immediately after the General Office learned that the union membership had voted down the question of arbitration, they were ordered to leave the office of the International. He stated that
they were not ordered out but were asked to go to a different room, as on his return from prison he had a great deal of work to do in his private office.

The question was discussed by Delegate Finklestein.

Delegate Rosenberg asked the committee as to the conditions in the local that prompted them to make the recommendation they did.

President Schlesinger referred Delegate Rosenberg to the report of the officers dealing with the situation in Local 38, New York.

Delegate Langer spoke in support of the recommendation of the committee.

Secretary Isroff made a brief statement in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

On motion, debate was closed.

President Schlesinger discussed the question further, stating in answer to Delegate Finklestein that all locals had to pay their obligations and stated that it would be a very good thing for Local 38 to come under the supervision of the General Executive Board.

Delegate Finklestein: The recommendation should read: "A committee of three of the General Executive Board should be appointed to take charge of the work in conjunction with the local, and that the words 'completely reorganized' be stricken out."

The committee accepted the amendment to strike out the words "completely reorganized," and the report of the committee was adopted as amended.

"We further recommend that the present Locals 38, 55 and 36 be amalgamated into one local, the number of which shall be designated by the incoming General Executive Board."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"GENERAL ORGANIZATION WORK.

"in spite of the many organizing campaigns conducted by our International office for the past two years, yet there is a wide field for organization work left to be done in the East as well as in the West. At the last quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, it was decided to start a movement for a general strike among the waist, dresses and kimono workers in Newark and Hudson County. It was then also decided to sanction a movement for a general strike in the petticoat industry. The committee recommends the approval of this decision."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Martin suggested that the children's dresses should also be included.

The chairman stated that that was intended.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

"WESTERN STATES.

"We wish to call the attention of the delegates to this Convention to the fact that the Western States are lately becoming a prominent factor in the manufacturing of ladies' garments. Due to various reasons, our main attention has been devoted mostly to the Eastern States; the West was visited only occasionally. It is high time to start a systematic campaign in the Western States. We therefore recommend that a central office for the Western States be established in one of the Western cities, preferably Chicago."

"A general organizer to be appointed by the incoming General Executive Board, with a definite understanding that he is not to be connected with any particular local union. He shall be charged with the duty of effective general organization work of that district."

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

"CLEVELAND SITUATION.

"Resolution No. 49, referred to by President Schlesinger, reads as follows: —

"Whereas, An organization campaign has been going on in Cleveland for the last year and a half to organize the cloakmakers of the city of Cleveland, and

"Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage where fundamental betterment ought to be brought about in the trade by establishing a minimum scale of wages
for week workers, pressers and cutters, and standards in the other branches of the trade, and

"Whereas, The organization work has come to a stage where the principle of collective bargaining must be recognized by the manufacturers of this city; be it there-fore,

"Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union empowers the incoming General Executive Board to seek to establish a minimum scale of wages and standards in the cloak and skirt industry in the city of Cleveland, and also enforce the principle of collective bargaining.

"Considering this request and carefully going through the situation in Cleveland, we recommend that this matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. In the meantime the organization work shall be continued on the same scale as of late."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"EMBROIDERY WORKERS.

"Considering carefully the correspondence exchanged between our International Union and the United Textile Workers of America with reference to the jurisdiction over the Embroidery Workers' Locals, No. 5 and No. 6, we came to the conclusion that the stand taken by our International is absolutely justified. The operation of embroidery is performed on ladies' garments on cloth made beforehand by workers of the United Textile Workers of America. It is, therefore, not weaving, but ornamenting or trimming. It is, therefore, recommended that the General Executive Board be instructed to insist upon our rights in this matter, when the final disposition of this case will be taken up with the American Federation of Labor."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"HIGHER PER CAPITA.

"A per capita of ten cents per week has been recommended by the General Executive Board. This amount to include the payment of strike benefit by the International office direct. Agreeing in principle that the payment of such benefit properly belongs to the International, it is our opinion that the time is not yet ripe for this reform, due to the fact that a great many locals are not ready to surrender their privilege in this regard. On the other hand, we feel that the present per capita is not sufficient to cover the administration expenses with the many organizing campaigns we expect to carry on. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the per capita be raised from 2½ cents to 4 cents on each member per week. This is to go into effect beginning Monday, February 6, 1917. We further recommend that an amendment to the Constitution be enacted to this effect."

Chairman Jiebeman: The sum of four cents per capita will enable the International to go on with its work, it will give us $64,000 a year more than at the present time. A good many of the locals complain that at present the dues are not sufficient for them to keep up their offices and they want to raise the dues. A movement was made in the Cloak Makers' Union in New York to raise the dues to twenty or twenty-five cents and it was found very hard to make this raise, and if you have to raise the per capita and the dues both it will not be an easy job. Now to raise it for local purposes and also for International purposes, you would have to raise it twenty cents. The reason why February is mentioned as the time is because that is the busy season.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Friedman, St. Louis, discussed the question and moved to raise the per capita tax to five cents. (Seconded.)

President Schlesinger explained the report further to Delegate Friedman.

Delegate Kovinsky spoke in support of the report of the committee.

Delegate Metz in the chair.

Delegate Sapol spoke in opposition to the report of the committee.

Delegate Rubin favored the report of the committee.

Delegate Wiener explained that Delegate Sapol, who had discussed the question in Yiddish, favored the report of the committee, but also felt that it would decrease the in-
Delegate Wiener favored the per capita tax of four cents.

Delegate Bernstein spoke in favor of the adoption of the report of the committee.

Delegate Heller stated that while he approved of an increased per capita, there should be some other source of income and the Joint Board should create such a source, and recommend that the question be referred to the General Executive Board.

Delegate Rosenbaum favored the report of the committee.

Delegate Sterling raised a point of order that it should be submitted to a referendum vote, according to the Constitution.

President Schiealnger stated that the Convention could amend the Constitution.

Delegate Feldman favored the report of the committee, and objected to the matter being referred to the membership at large.

Delegate Sterling spoke in favor of raising the per capita but against doing so at the convention: that the matter should be submitted to the members at large.

Delegate Snyder favored the report of the committee.

Delegate Lawner spoke in favor of adopting the report of the committee.

Delegate Ringer in the chair.

On motion debate was closed.

Vice-President Pierce in the chair.

President Schiealnger: As you all know, we have had a great deal of trouble in New York, not because as some manufacturers have said, that our people were disturbers of the peace, un-American, etc., but, as I believe and others in the labor movement believe, because of the character of our industry. Today there was a man on this platform addressing the Convention, Frank Morrison; he is secretary of the American Federation of Labor and it is perhaps part of the game to come to a Convention and compliment the delegates, but I want to tell you that he said the very same thing to me before the Convention started. He said he had never met a more intelligent lot of men and women than he finds in our organization. He was at a number of our conferences as well as at meetings of our Executive Boards. It is not the fault of the representatives which are sitting at the Convention, who are the leaders of our locals, that our people have to struggle so much to earn a livelihood. I think we are just as good as any body of labor leaders that can be mentioned. If you should visit the Executive Board of the Bricklayers' Union you would not find them any more intelligent than your own executive committees. It is not the fault of the business agents or of the officers, it is not the fault of the local officers, for they are just as good as the officers of any other labor organization. We are all working very hard, we are working night and day trying to solve the problems that confront this industry, and every worker is making sacrifices and enduring all kinds of trouble. We have gone through strikes which have lasted for months and our problems remained unsolved. If our industry was so as situated and of the same character as the building trades, there is no doubt in my mind that we would have the most powerful organization in the country and perhaps in the world, but the trouble with our industry is that as soon as we succeed in raising wages and in reducing hours in one part of the country, immediately a new industry springs up in another part of the country. I will just illustrate my statement. I had occasion to be in St. Louis a short time ago, and I was surprised to learn how our industry has developed in St. Louis during the last two or three years. They now have from twelve to fifteen thousand girls working on skirts. Are you surprised that you have no work in New York, that the skirt makers in New York are going around without any work or working on half time? I am speaking of the New York skirtmakers because I know what they are up against. Let us consider this matter very seriously and try to come to an intelligent conclusion.

The less work we have the higher must be the price of labor on each and every garment. In the past the prices were not so high because the cloakmakers knew that they would work eight or nine months in the year, but when the seasons became shorter it became necessary for the workers to demand higher prices in order that they are able to live all the year round; and the
result was that more new manufacturing markets sprung up and our seasons have thus been reduced to only about four or five months during the year. I want to tell you that this is the most prosperous year that this country has ever enjoyed; everybody is working, there are some cities where you would not find any one, man or woman, without work, and quite naturally, when people are working they are able to buy dresses, suits and all of our commodities. And here are the cloakmakers in New York, who have been on strike practically seventeen weeks, and notwithstanding this seventeen weeks’ idleness they are now working only three days a week. They are in the shops six days, but all the work could really be done in three.

As I said, the country is prosperous and people have the money to buy garments. The department store managers will tell you that there never was such a demand for garments as this year and yet we have no work in New York. It is not because the work is not being done, but because it is being done in other places. I discussed this problem with one of the leading corset manufacturers who runs an organized shop. This man told me that the only reason he could run on the forty-eight-hour schedule with the increased wages was because business, in general was very good, but that even so he had to meet with very keen competition coming from the West. What will be next year? Will that man be able to give work to his girls if the corset industry in the West will remain unorganized? That is the problem that the manufacturer is thinking of, and he is right on this matter, no matter what you may say about him in other matters. You all know that unless we can organize the entire industry we will not have success.

Now, how are you going to accomplish this work? Let us discuss it from a business point of view. In our industry we have about a quarter of a million men and women, about half of whom are organized. We have 85,000 members in good standing and about forty or fifty thousand more who are not in good standing. A great number of the unorganized are not intelligent, for if they were they would have belonged to the union already; but it is our duty to try to organize these people. The majority are foreigners and to a large extent come from the peasantry and these girls go to the factory in order to help a little their folks. These are the hardest people to organize. If you will not make provision for this work it cannot be done. Local 1 by itself cannot do it, nor can Local 23 or any other single local; it is the concern of all, and you must unite to do this work. It is the work of the International. We must have a hundred per cent. organization, and I appeal to you to give to the matter or raising the per capita your careful consideration and to decide in favor of it.

As far as leaving this to the membership to decide, I will say that although our members are very intelligent, perhaps more than the members of any other organization, but when it comes to a question of raising dues it is very much harder for our organization than for any other because of the seasons and because so many of our members are going around idle. When you talk about raising the dues they will say to you “Give us work and we will give you ten cents.” The members at large do not understand the situation as good as we do; we are the leaders whom they themselves appointed to advise them and to tell them what is good for them, and I am confident that if we pass this and then explain the situation to the members, they will be satisfied. I think it is just what Brother Snyder said a few minutes ago. He told you that the cloak makers in Philadelphia have worked less in the last four years than those in any other city, but still they are paying twenty-five cents. I attended their meeting Saturday night and heard the reading of the financial report of that union, and from the way the members received the report I am certain that they would pay thirty cents a week if the International would order them to do so. The attitude of the cloak makers in Philadelphia should be the attitude of the cloak makers everywhere; it is simply a matter of self interest. When you go back to your locals, tell them that the representatives of the International from all over the United States and Canada held a convention in Philadelphia and had two hundred delegates present; that there the question was discussed to start a campaign of organization and that the delegates unanimously decided to adopt the four cents
per capita, which means a cent and a half more than they have been paying in order to be able to carry on the organizing campaign. I am sure that the majority of the members will give it their hearty support, and therefore I appeal to you to pass this.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers, which was organized two years ago, receives a per capita of fifteen cents a month, and by raising our per capita to four cents per week it would make ours approximately two cents higher than theirs. I appeal to the delegates to accept this proposition and when the Law Committee presents its report they will bring in a recommendation to adopt this and make it a part of the Constitution.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

Delegate Lieberman, chairman of the Committee, again urged the adoption of the report, and asked for a roll call.

The request was not supported.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee that the per capita be increased to four cents per week, was carried.

The President stated that the law committee would have to act on the part of the report as to the Constitutional amendment.

Delegate Ninfo moved that the remarks of President Schlesinger be printed in full in the daily minutes. (Seconded and carried.)

"DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS.

"We recommend that the Thirteenth Biennial Convention endorses the establishment of a Statistical Department as a matter of experiment, same to be started on a small scale."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"PRESS.

"It is our conviction that the amalgamation of all publications will result in a great economy to our locals and will place our publications on a much higher standing than they are now. We, therefore, recommend that the incoming General Executive Board make all efforts possible to consolidate all publications in a weekly under the supervision of a Press Committee consisting of one representative from each organization issuing such organs. Should this attempt fail, we recommend that the incoming General Executive Board shall discontinue the issuing of the monthly publication, The Ladies Garment Workers' and instead a weekly news letter in the English language be published."

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

"DISTRICT COUNCIL.

"The incoming General Executive Board shall be given the full power to organize district councils in whatever city they deem it necessary."

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

"In conclusion, we wish to state that all our recommendations submitted to you are the result of careful consideration of the problems involved.

"Trusting that it will meet with your approval.

"Patriotically yours,

ELIAS LIEBERMAN, Chairman.
SAMUEL J. RINGER, Secretary.
M. KOWINSKY,
H MALLOFF,
E. FENSTER,
A. SNYDER,
SAMUEL MARTIN, Local 10:
J. KIMBAROFSKY,
HARRY WANDER,
Committee on Officers' Reports."

Delegate Asplin moved that the report of the committee as a whole be adopted. The motion was seconded and carried, and the report of the committee as a whole was adopted as amended.

Delegate Lieberman read the following.

"I am requested by some members of the Committee on Officers' Reports to inquire of the General Executive Board as to what has been done with the resolution referred to the General Executive Board by the Cleveland convention with reference to the finishers of Local 17, transferring their membership to Local 9."

President Schlesinger said he could not state what action had been taken until he could procure a copy of the proceedings of the Cleveland convention.

At 6.30 P. M. the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9.30 A. M., Thursday, October 26th.
NINTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 9.30 o'clock A. M., Thursday, October 26th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: None.

COMMUNICATIONS.
Secretary Baroff read the following telegram:

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia.

Accept our heartiest greeting to the Thirteenth Convention, We wish you great success in the future as in the past. We hope to come to the Fourteenth Convention with a 100 per cent. organization in all parts of the United States.

Workers of ISDANER & SCHMIDT,
Members Local 15.

Secretary Baroff also read a communication presenting Samuel P. Kraemer, of the Naturalization Aid League of New York.

Mr. Kraemer addressed the delegates briefly, explaining the mission of the league, and asking the co-operation of the International. He requested that the Educational Committee work in conjunction with this league, and suggested that when strikes occur naturalized citizens can do more effective work than those who have not received their papers.

Delegate Rosenberg moved that the matter be referred to the proper committee to bring in a resolution on the subject. (Seconded and carried.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

Vice-President Amdur, Chairman of the Committee, submitted the following report:

"To the Chairman and Delegates, Thirteenth Biennial Convention, in convention assembled, Greeting:

"Your Committee on Appeals and Grievances had a number of cases before them to dispose of.

"In all the cases we have had before us, almost every complainant and defendant has been heard and also a number of witnesses were summoned to appear before this committee and we are ready to submit to you the following report:

Case No. 1.

"To the Chairman and Delegates of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

"Gentlemen and Brothers: We, the undersigned, representing 600 pressers of the Brownsville district, wish to submit our appeal to you, the highest Court of Appeals in our organization. Our last chance for justice lies with you, gentlemen. We ask for nothing more than a fair trial—a weighing of evidence on the scale of justice. If this wish of ours is fulfilled we are sure that our cause will be given a satisfactory verdict. The circumstances are the following:

"It is generally known among you, gentlemen, that the pressers of Brownsville were organized and known as Local 68, I. L. G. W. U. That was four years ago. At that time Local 35 took it upon itself to try its utmost to have our local union dissolved. At the Convention held in Toronto, Canada, in 1912, and through their efforts our charter was taken from us and our organization dissolved. Their grounds for this action was that Brownsville had no use for such an organization within its limits when, as a matter of fact, there was existing and now exists a local of the International here in Brownsville, but they are only operators, and the Brownsville presser really has no home.

"We have in Brownsville 124 shops employing 500 pressers who must be organized and controlled.

"At the time our local was dissolved the said Local 35 made many promises as to our future welfare. As things stand now, we have no means of communicating with each other. Our welfare is becoming alienated. The men are going at things in an unsatisfactory manner, doing things when pushed. The directors of Local 35 are making no effort at all to control and organize our district. The men see now that it is impossible to get along according to the International requirements without our own local.

"Gentlemen, it is up to you to see that
your brothers are treated fairly and squarely. We want you to reunite and give us our local. We have tried all honorable methods and now our final appeal is to you. Gentlemen, we ask you to consider our predicament. If additional information is desired, we can send to representatives who are well familiar with the facts of the case.

"Very respectfully yours,

"J. HOROWITZ, President,
"MEYER BRASS, Secretary,
"Brownsville Cloak Pressers."

"Meyer Brass, member of Local 35, who claims to represent the pressers of Brownsville, appeared and stated that since they were transferred to Local 35 the representatives of the Joint Board in the Brownsville office have not proved to be able to control the present situation in Brownsville.

"That the Executive Board of Local 35 ignores the pressers, the former members of Local 68.

"That during the last general strike, Local 36 did not take care of the pressers in Brownsville and they were forced to form a committee of their own to take care of the pressers' situation in the strike.

"That they appealed to Local 36 for aid, but nothing was done for them. Instead of working by week, they all worked by piece and prices have gone down as low as 10 cents per garment for pressing.

"That most of the pressers in Brownsville are working from 5 A. M. to 12 o'clock midnight, and nothing is done to eliminate this.

"That the pressers of Brownsville are called to the Grievance Committee in New York, which is a physical impossibility for any of them to attend after a hard day's work in the Brownsville shops, and the result is that many members are fined heavily for not appearing before the Grievance Committee in New York.

"That only a pressers' local in Brownsville would put them into shape to take care of themselves and have a good control over the pressers there.

"Mr. Brook, Chairman of the Executive Board of Local 11, of Brownsville, appeared with a plea that Local 11 is suffering on account of the present situation of the pressers in their shops. The pressers are revolting against Local 35 and against the decision of the Joint Board, and this reflects on and injures the interests of the operators and finishers of the same shops.

"That the pressers in Brownsville have threatened to go out on strike and demand recognition from the employers as an independent union, and therefore he concludes that it is necessary to form a local of pressers there.

"A few other delegates of Local 11 corroborated the statements of Brothers Meyer Brass and Brook and spoke in favor of granting them a separate local.

"That the delegation of Local 35 stated that Local 35 was forced to bring this matter up in the 1912 Convention to dissolve Local 68 of Brownsville, for the reason that that local never observed any of the rules of the Joint Board and they were officially known to work by piece instead of week work, and the Convention at that time came to the conclusion that this local be dissolved.

"That it never was an actual union, but a "benefit society."

"That most of the members of Local 68 were working in the New York shops, and if a charter be granted them, it will only injure the interests of the pressers in New York, for the reason that there are a few who are agitating to have a local of their own in order to get paid jobs as local officers.

"Delegate Vlichter, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Joint Board of the Cloak Makers' Union of New York, stated that a committee of pressers of Brownsville have hired a lawyer to help them get a separate local from the International.

"That this lawyer appeared before President Schlesinger for information, which was refused him by the President.

"That the entire matter of Brownsville was brought before the Board of Directors by the manager of the Brownsville office, and a committee was appointed to investigate into all the details on the entire situation of the pressers there; and that they are ready to grant them to have a Grievance and Appeal Committee in Brownsville, and also other concessions to make it convenient for the Brownsville pressers, just as much as for those working in New York.

"Delegates Metz, Kimberofsky, Braslover,
Lubinsky and Langer have all corroborated the statement of Delegate Vlchter."

The committee recommended that the request of the Brownsville pressers for a charter for a separate local be rejected, and further recommended that the incoming General Executive Board shall look into the affairs of the Brownsville pressers, and see to it that proper care be taken of them by Local 35.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Chancec discussed the question at some length, and opposed the report of the committee, and stated that while the report of the committee recommended rejection of the charter, it also instructed the General Executive Board to see that Local 35 pay a little more attention to them. He spoke in favor of referring the entire matter to the General Executive Board for a full investigation into the merits of the case.

Delegate Silverman discussed conditions in connection with the Brownsville pressers and objected to Meyer Brass representing them in the Convention.

Delegate Lubinsky discussed the matter at some length and favored the recommendation of the committee.

A motion was made to close debate. (Seconded.)

A vote was taken and the chair declared himself in doubt as to the result. A show of hands was called for, and the motion was lost.

Delegate Aspils moved that as a committee representing the Brownsville pressers was present, the courtesy of the floor be extended to one of them. (Seconded.)

Delegate Mets objected on the ground that Meyer Brass was not in good standing in the International.

President Schlesinger stated that the motion did not specify who the speaker would be, only that he would be one of the committee.

A vote was taken on the motion. The chair declared himself, in doubt as to the result, and a show of hands was called for. The motion was lost.

Mr. Brook, of the committee representing the Brownsville pressers, made a speech in Yiddish, setting forth the conditions existing there, and making a plea in their behalf.

Delegate Mets discussed the question briefly.

In discussing the report of the committee, Chairman Amdu stated that the entire matter had been threshed out at a former convention and before the Executive Board, and that the local had been refused a charter, and further stated that if the committee had found that the state of affairs existing among the Brownsville pressers at that time had been changed, it would have considered that matter and might have made a different recommendation; that the committee had reached the conclusion that it was not a charter which the Brownsville situation needed, but strong discipline, and that results could only be obtained under the supervision of the General Executive Board, with the assistance of Local 35.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

Vice-President Amdur, for the committee, continued the report, as follows.

Case No. 2.


"To the Chairman and Members of the G. E. B. of the I. L. G. W. U.

"Gentlemen: I hereby wish to file a complaint against Brother Rosenberg, member of the I. L. G. W. U. and the Joint Board of Boston.

"I was in New York on union business, and when I returned a member of the Union came over to me and told me that he was at the Joint Board office and he heard Brother Rosenberg say that as soon as I came back from New York he will tell me to take a back seat. When I returned I waited two days and Brother Rosenberg did not tell me anything. So I called a meeting of the business agents of the Joint Board, including Brother Rosenberg, and I asked Brother Rosenberg whether he said that as soon as I will return from New York he will tell me something. He said that he never did and does not know anything about it. I told him what I heard, that he said that..."
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when I come back I should take a back seat.
That occurred on September 27, 1916.

"On Saturday, October 7, 1916, the President of Local 24, by the name of Sam Kaufman, came over to me and told me that Brothers Rosenberg and Herman told him to tell me that I should not work for Local 24 any more. This Brother Berman is no officer of the local at all, and I told the chairman that I have nothing to do with individual locals and that I am elected from the Joint Board, and if anybody wants to discharge me I can get discharged from the Joint Board. On account of the holidays we could not have any Joint Board meetings, so the Chairman of the Joint Board, Brother Ginsburg, gave me an order to call a special Joint Board meeting. I called a Joint Board meeting and Brother Rosenberg went to the locals and told them to advise the Joint Board delegates not to attend any meetings of the Joint Board.

"It seems to me that if any officer or business agent is not satisfactory, there is no reason why the office should be broken up on that account, that in order to get out an undesirable person.

"On Sunday, October 9th, I came to work and found that the office has been broken up and the furniture has been taken out without telling me a word about it.

"I was employed as business agent five years ago and now I am working three years again. I am elected for a year since last July, and during all the time I have worked for the Union I have always been respected by everybody and never heard any one complain about me either as officer or plain member.

"I am a man who has to make a living, and when Brother Rosenberg came to Boston he played some sort of a trick that I cannot understand. As I am a man of little education, I cannot write as good a letter as is necessary to explain this matter, but what I want is this: If there is any complaint about me, I wish that it would be investigated at once; as there isn't any more Joint Board here in Boston, I cannot have any hearing, except from the International or the G. E. R.

"I know that you gentlemen are very busy now, just before the Convention, and if you people have not the time to take this case up, I would ask you to please take it up at the Convention.

"Hoping to receive a reply from you, I remain.

"Fraternally yours.

"L. AMSELL."

Delegate Rosenberg testified that it was Mr. Amsell who was instrumental in having a man, by name of Kauffman, assault him last year; that it was Amsell and others who terrorized and intimidated each and every one who dared to protest against any wrong acts of the Business Agents of the Boston Joint Board.

That he was threatened by Amsell and certain undesirables of the underworld many times, and it was due to the actions of those men that the office of the Joint Board was broken up.

That Local 24, the Boston Skirtmakers' Union, have at last decided at their meetings that they don't want to have anything to do with Mr. Amsell any more as their paid representatives.

The rest of the delegation of the Boston locals have corroborated the statements of Delegate Rosenberg.

The committee recommended unanimous rejection of the appeal.

On motion, duly made and seconded, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Case No. 3.

"New York, October 17, 1916.

"To the Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

"Gentlemen and Brothers: I am a member of Local 64 and a button-hole maker by trade. I have been blind for six months and have done my duty before being blind. I have turned over my position to the office of my local, No. 64, with the understanding that at any time I may wish to return that the office shall let me do so. My local has given me the privilege and consent that I can have my place back by a unanimous vote. But the man who has been employed in my place claims that it is his own. He has appealed to the Joint Board, where he was given the privilege to work in that place. I, on the other hand, have appealed and lost.
Now, gentlemen, what am I to do? For a button-hole maker is not a tailor or operator or presser, who can go to work where there are more than one employed in a place. Every button-hole maker has his own place in which to work. And if I am to start again I will have to make another man suffer or will have to deprive him of making a living.

"I hereby appeal to justice and reason. What shall I do? I have applied to your office for any job and there has been no vacancy. I tried to become a salesman but could not succeed.

"Now, gentlemen, what can a man like me do? I am willing to work and earn a living. I am in debt and have spent over fifteen hundred dollars. I do not want to live on charity, I want to work. I ask for reason and justice. I have the sympathy of all, but no justice. I can't live on sympathy.

"I ask once again, to act as soon as possible, as upon your decision depends my livelihood.

"Hoping that you will act upon same as soon as possible, as by so doing you will very greatly oblige.

"Respectfully yours,

"FRANK ROSENBERG.

"P. S.—I have been working for the concern of Feller & Sternberg, 88 University Place, New York City.

"My address is 36 St. Marks Place, New York City."

Delegates Max Lebow and Harry Dessel, of Local 64, testified that some members of the Executive Board of Local 64 told Mr. Rosenberg that they will try their best to see to it that when he shall recover from his sickness to get him back on the job.

But it happened that during the few months that he was away from the trade he was working as a salesman in the same concern where he was working as a button-hole maker and was also employed as a salesman in another concern.

When he wanted the local to reinstate him to his old position—the representative, Lebow, of Local 64, tried his utmost, but the employer absolutely refused to employ him.

The case was brought to the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirtmakers' Union of New York, where it was decided that the employer cannot be forced to re-employ this button-hole maker after he has been employed by the same firm as a salesman during the time he was absent from the factory.

The committee recommended that, as it had come to the conclusion that the Union had already done all that was necessary for this member in trying to reinstate him, the repeal be rejected.

A delegate moved to amend by striking out the word "necessary" and inserting "possible."

The committee accepted the amendment, and, on motion, the report of the committee was adopted as amended.

Case No. 4.

"To the Delegates of the Convention, I. L. G. W., Mr. Baroff, Secretary, Scottish Rite Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Dear Sir and Brother: I wish to appeal against a decision rendered in regard to the objection I have made before the Credential Committee at 32 Union Square, New York City, against Delegate Fink, of Local 1.

"The objection reads as follows:

"During the recent strike of the Cloak Makers' Union in New York of 1916, Delegate Fink was appointed as a manager in Westchester County, city of Mount Vernon, to lead the strike. He settled a strike in a certain firm, named Sirswich, and after the settlement he received a sum of $25.00, which Fink himself admits and claims that this said sum was a present. After a few weeks, when he had heard that some people knew of it, he went and gave $15.00 out of the sum of the $25.00 to the Strike Relief Fund and left $10.00 in his pocket. After that a committee of strikers from Mount Vernon and also a committee from the shop of Max Dorf, appeared before the General Strike Committee and complained that Delegate Fink was protecting the above mentioned firm to do scab work for the firm of Max Dorf.

"Delegate Fink stated that it was not true. He said, before the General Strike Committee, that he already investigated the shop twice and had never found any scab work done there.
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"Brother Petchersky and myself were appointed to investigate this complaint and we found that this above mentioned firm had made work for the firm of Max Dorf, which was then out on strike.

"It seems to me that the said present was given to Delegate Fink in order to protect the above mentioned firm, so that they should be able to produce scab work.

"I am therefore of the opinion that such a person as Fink is not to be trusted to represent a union at the Convention, which all the members of the I. L. G. W. U. depend upon to strengthen and uplift the conditions of the workers in general.

"Hoping that the delegates of the various locals will take into consideration to exclude Delegate Fink as a representative from this Convention, I remain,

"Fraternally yours,

"ISAAC FRIEND,

"Member of Local 35, Ledger No. 8285."

Delegate Fink, of Local 1, was summoned before the committee and he stated that at the time of the last general strike in New York he was appointed by the General Strike Committee to take charge of the shops in Westchester County.

In Mt. Vernon, a city of Westchester County, there was a manufacturer by the name of I. Sirowitch who had formerly owned a shop which was not controlled by the Union. He stated that Mr. Sirowitch called upon him and asked him to settle the strike satisfactorily for him, for which he would reward him. Mr. Fink stated that he had notified Delegate Langer, who was the secretary of the General Strike Committee, and Brother Kaplowitz, who was secretary-treasurer of the General Strike Committee, of Mr. Sirowitch's offer, and that Langer and Kaplowitz only laughed at it.

Mr. Fink further stated that when the strike was settled, Mr. Sirowitch said to him: "You are not working now, and as you have done your work well, I will give you a present of $25.00." He refused to accept the present offered, but Mr. Sirowitch put the $25.00 into his pocket. A few days after that he informed Delegate Langer and Brother Kaplowitz that he had been given a treat of $25.00 by Mr. Sirowitch, and he gave $15.00 of this amount to Kaplowitz, keeping $10.00 for himself, with which to pay rent. He had already appeared before Langer and asked him for a month's rent, but that appeal had not been granted.

He further stated, with regard to Sirowitch making work for Max Dorf, that on strike that he had received another complaint from New York and had sent up Harry Smullin, known as "Louie," to investigate this matter, which investigation disclosed the fact that Sirowitch was doing work for Lieberman & Dorf, and not for Max Dorf.

That when a committee of strikers appeared before the General Strike Committee, complaining that Sirowitch was working for Max Dorf, having received a report from said Smullin that an investigation had been made and it was found that there was no ground for this accusation, he (Fink) then made a statement on the floor of the General Strike Committee that he had investigated the matter and found that no work for Max Dorf had been made. He also stated that he was ignorant of the fact that an officer of the Union was not allowed to accept a present from an employer.

After hearing the statement of Delegate Fink, the committee decided to summon Brother Friend, who had made the complaint in this case, and also Brother Kaplowitz, to appear before the Appeal and Grievance Committee on Monday.

Brother Friend stated that a committee of the strikers of Max Dorf appeared before the General Strike Committee on a Tuesday night (he could not remember the date) and complained that their work was being made by Leiberman & Dorf only.

Friend further stated that Fink had said that night before the Strike Committee, that he had personally made an investigation on the previous day when Langer had called upon him about the matter, and he found that the statement of the committee of strikers was based only on imagination—that work was being done for Lieberman & Dorf only.

The General Strike Committee appointed Friend to go with Brother Petchersky to make a thorough investigation of the matter of the Mt. Vernon shop, and also to ascertain whether the statement made by Delegate Fink was correct. Upon investigation they found that ninety (90) plush coats had already been made, and fourteen (14) were
being made at the time—all of which proved to be Max Dorf's work. They also found ten or twelve numbers of styles which were being made, but no record could be found as to the party for whom they were being made.

Friend also stated that Fink was to go with them on the investigation, but as they did not find him in the office, they were forced to go with Smullin or "Louika."

That when they had been elected by the Strike Committee to investigate this case, Delegate Fink had informed them of the fact that he had received $25.00 as a present from the firm, $15.00 of which he turned in to the union.

Friend further stated that he had made this complaint to the Credential Committee as he considered it a very serious charge, and he cannot see why the Credential Committee has ignored this complaint. He was therefore compelled to appeal it to the Convention.

Brother Longer was then called in the case. He stated that Sirowitch's brother was the backbone of the "Sulka's Scab Agency" in the cloak trade in New York. That the Strike Committee was anxious to settle up with this firm in Mt. Vernon. That Delegate Fink had told him that he could settle the strike and that he would send a present to him. That he believed the present to be an ordinary dinner, so he simply laughed the matter off, and told him to go on and settle the strike.

Brother Longer further stated that several days later Fink informed him that he had received $25.00 from Sirowitch, and Longer told him that he had done wrong by accepting the money, further saying: "Fink, du wirst liegen in der erd dafür." Fink made no reply to that remark, but went to the Financial Committee soon afterward and gave them $15.00 of the $25.00.

That Delegate Fink had appeared before him and asked for rent, but he told him that it was not his duty to pay any rent and that he was entitled to regular strike expenses only, and referred him to the Relief Committee.

Three or four days after the money was paid to Delegate Fink, a committee of strikers came to him and informed him that Sirowitch was working for Max Dorf, then on strike. He then called up Delegate Fink and informed him of the fact. The Committee also appeared before the General Strike Committee four days after that and complained that Fink protects the firm of Sirowitch.

Brother Kaplowitz stated that on Saturday afternoon Delegate Fink came into his office where there were present a few men, among whom was Julius Woolf. Fink stated that he had received $25 from Sirowitch, and Woolf remarked in a joke: "If you will make it fifty-fifty with me it will be all right."

After that, Delegate Fink paid $15.00 to the bookkeeper—not to him personally—and said money was entered in the books: "A treat by a manufacturer through Nathan Fink." That he did not actually know whether he gave in $15.00 or $25.00. Delegate Fink again stated that he had received a present from the boss, that the boss liked him, and that he thought that he was a good man. Fink further stated that the reason he did not go with the committee to make an investigation in the Sirowitch shop was because he was busy in New York and had to see some people with regard to this strike. That when he made an investigation in the shop as to whose work they made, he did not look over the books, but simply asked the workmen of the shop, who told him that it was not Max Dorf's work and again stated he never knew that an officer had no right to take presents from an employer.

When asked by Chairman Amidor, of the Committee, why he stated at first that he gave the $15.00 to Brother Kaplowitz, he answered that he gave it perhaps to the bookkeeper, but cannot actually remember.

Delegate Epstein, the Chairman of the Credential Committee, was summoned before our committee to testify why the Credential Committee did not report the case of Delegate Fink on the floor of the Convention. He stated that there were a few delegates in the committee who were not favorable inclined toward Delegate Fink being seated at this Convention, but being that the committee decided not to have majority and minority reports, but that all reports should be unanimous, he was not objected to.

Delegate Delitch, of the Credential Committee, stated that the delegation of the Credential Committee conceded that the act of Delegate Fink was wrong, but they con-
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considered the man to be ignorant and irresponsible and did not care to make an issue of him. He corroborated the statement made by Delegate Epstein, and also informed the committee that no witnesses were heard in this case.

The committee recommends, after having gone carefully through all the facts and evidence presented to them in this case, that Delegate Fink shall be rejected as a delegate to this Convention.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Prazetaky spoke in opposition to the report of the committee.

A point of order was raised, that the Committee on Appeals and Grievances were not entitled to bring the case before the Convention, as the defendant had already been acquitted by the Credentials Committee.

President Schlesinger again read the first two paragraphs of the committee's report, and said: "According to the report of this committee, the Committee on Credentials heard any witnesses on one side or the other of this particular case. I cannot understand how the Credentials Committee could have acted on the proposition at all. When a charge is made against a member, that member should be called in, together with the parties who are making the charges. As far as the Convention is concerned, it did not know what objections were raised against Brother Fink."

President Schlesinger read the report of the Credentials Committee in the minutes of the second day's proceedings, and stated that all the report contained was simply that charges had been made, which were rejected by the committee and Fink seated.

Referring to the point of order, President Schlesinger said: "My answer to the point of order is, that as this case came up before the Credentials Committee, that the Credentials Committee has not investigated the case, as stated in the report by Brother Ditch, who was a member of the Credentials Committee, and the Convention did not know what the charges were, I cannot rule your point of order well taken."

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, stated that there was a trial in the case of Delegate Fink, and that when Delegate Ditch referred to the fact that no witnesses were called, he meant no witnesses other than the principals involved. He stated that both Friend and Fink had appeared before the committee and a full statement of the circumstances made; that Fink had admitted accepting the money, but that inasmuch as the committee appointed by the Strike Committee had not seen fit to take any action, it was hardly fair for the Credentials Committee to do so; that he had reported the matter to his superior officers, and they had taken no action against him.

Delegate Epstein made some further remarks in defense of the action of the Credentials Committee.

In answer to an inquiry by Vice-President Andur, Delegate Epstein stated that the report brought in was the opinion of the majority of the committee; that the opinion of the majority of the committee was reported in every case.

In answer to a question by President Schlesinger, Delegate Epstein said that if the opinion of the entire committee had been reported, there would have been a minority and a majority report.

Delegate Landie, Local 62, spoke in support of the report of the committee.

Delegate Luigi discussed the question briefly, and supported the report of the committee.

Delegate Wertheimer, Local 3, spoke in opposition to the report of the committee, and offered an amendment that the case be turned over to the Executive Board of Local 1. (Seconded.)

Delegate Lieberman raised a point of order, that the question under consideration was one of seating Fink in the Convention.

Delegate Metz asked if the Convention was the highest body to try cases, or if convention cases should go to Local 1.

President Schlesinger stated that, according to the Constitution, if it is a question of trying a member on charges, the case must first go to the lower court which would be the local union; that if the member against whom the charges are preferred feels aggrieved by the action of the local
union, he can take it to the Joint Board; if
the decision of the Board is not in his favor,
he can appeal to the General Executive
Board and then to the Convention.

Delegate Eidelman, Local 2, discussed the
question, and suggested that in his opinion
the debate that had taken place was enough
punishment for Delegate Fink.

On motion, debate was closed.

Delegate Hines requested the privilege
of the floor for Delegate Langer, Secretary
of the New York Joint Board, which was
granted.

Delegate Langer gave a resume of the case
as he had understood it, and defended the
action of the Credentials Committee.

The privileges of the floor were asked for
Delegate Kovinsky, of the New York Joint
Board, to which objection was offered.

Henry Zucker, Secretary of the Committee
on Appeals and Grievances, discussed the
question at some length in defense of the
report of the committee.

President Schlesinger: I want to ask two
questions of Delegate Fink. First, I would
like to know from you how long after you
received the $25 did you inform Longer of
the fact that your employer had given it to
you. Second, if the statement of the com-
mittee here is correct, that you said that
you did not know that an officer of a union
must not accept any presents from an em-
ployer, why didn't you take the money in
stead of permitting the employer to put it
in your pocket?

Delegate Fink: A week before I got the
money I came over to Langer and Kaplo-
witz and told them the boss wanted to give
me a present.

President Schlesinger: And the present
you got was $25?

Delegate Fink: I did not tell him what
it was; I did not know what the present
would be.

President Schlesinger: How long after
you saw that the present was actual cash,
how long after you had received the $25, did
you tell Langer and Kaplowitz?

Delegate Fink in replying to President
Schlesinger stated that the boss called him
in and said that he, Fink, had settled the
strike quickly, and that he would like to
reward him and wanted to give him some
money, but that he did not want to accept
it. However, the boss insisted, saying that
Fink was a poor man, and put the amount
in his pocket. He stated that that occurred
on Friday, and on Saturday he went to the
office and told them the boss had given him
$25.

Delegate Ryan raised an objection, stating
that he was a member of the committee and
felt that the discussion of the case in the
convention was a re-hearing and a reflec-
tion on the committee.

President Schlesinger stated that it was
merely his desire to clear the matter up and
for that reason was asking the questions.

President Schlesinger: If you took the
money with the intention of giving it to the
union, and you did not see any harm in it,
why did you not bring all of the $25, why
did you keep the $10?

Delegate Fink: I informed him the next
day.

Delegate Fink then made a further state-
ment in Yiddish in his own behalf.

Vice-President Amdur, for the committee,
made a further statement in defense of the
report, and said that Fink's own statements
had convicted him, that he had done some-
thing that he knew was wrong and should
not be seated as a delegate.

President Schlesinger stated that the orig-
inial motion was to adopt the report of the
committee and that an amendment had been
made to refer to the Executive Board of
Local 1.

Delegate Goldman raised a point of order
on the amendment, stating that Delegate
Fink was not being tried as a member of Local 1, but as a delegate to the convention.

The chairman declared the point well taken.

The report of the committee was voted on, and the chair declared himself in doubt as to the result. A show of hands was called for, and the motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried by a vote of 99 in the affirmative to 14 in the negative.

Local 1 was notified to send an alternate.

Chairman Amdor continued the report of the committee, as follows:

"The Committee further recommends that this Convention shall go on record that in the future no committee shall have a right to decide beforehand to bring in only one unanimous report."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Ringer: I believe this is a Constitutional matter and should be referred to the Committee on Law.

Delegate Halman raised a point of order that the committee could not make such a recommendation.

The point of order was declared well taken.

The motion to adopt the report was carried.

Vice-President Amdor continued the report as follows:

Case No. 5.

"President and Delegates, I. L. G. W. U., Greeting:

"In the name of the Cloak and Skirt-makers' Unions of New York, I beg of you to grant me the privilege to state before you my complaint against the present Recording Secretary, H. Menin, of Local 35.

"On Sunday, the 10th of September, I saw Mr. Menin on Chatham Square Station of the Third Elevated Line, which line happens to be on strike. I had been watching him all that week and saw him ride daily on the trains and on subways. I approached him and asked him why he rides on scab cars. His answer was that he cannot afford to spend 10 cents on a ride on five ways and that he does not consider the strike a just one.

"I am now working in the same shop with him and know for a fact that he makes on an average of $15.00 and $16.00 per week. I know that since the 16th of February last until the 1st of May, he earned $226.00, and from the 1st of May until the 16th of August he earned $100.00. This $100.00 he earned by taking 50 cents for each meeting that he attended there except the $20.00 he received as a strike benefit and $20.00 for local office work and $20.00 a week for four weeks being an officer of the Union. From the 16th of August until October 16th he made over $180.00 in the shop as a worker and as Recording Secretary he received $40.00 salary, that being a total of $440.00.

"A man who has earned more than the average presser and an officer of the Union, at that, he should not ride on scab cars. I think, therefore, he is not fit to be a delegate to this Convention.

"With brotherly wishes.

"CHAS. HUROWITZ,

"Ledger No. 589, Local 35, New York."

A decision in this case has already been rendered by the Credential Committee and brought on the floor of the Convention, where it was decided that President Schlissinger shall mete out a fine in this case. The committee unanimously decided to demand that the President be very strict in this matter.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

Case No. 6.

"May 29, 1916.

"Chairman and Delegates of the Thirteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Greeting:

"I wish to appeal against the decision of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union of New York, to which body I appealed twice and have not received any justice. On February, 1915, I was brought before the Grievance Committee of the said Board, accused of three complaints against me, two of them being personal and one general.

"1. That I refused to give my pay book..."
to the shop chairman of the shop where I
was employed.

"2 That I was instrumental in reducing
the prices on garments that have been set-
tled by reducing five cents on each garment
with the understanding that the employer
will not hire any new workers in the em-
ploy of the firm.

"3. That I am not fit as a union man to
work in a shop.

"I proved to the Grievance Committee
on the first complaint that I lost my pay
book, and as a matter of fact, I had to buy
a new book which I then gave to the chair-
man.

"On the second charge I proved that I
had nothing to do with reducing the prices;
that another man in the shop was the one
who was actually guilty in that crime.

"The third, that I am not a good union
man, is a charge that no one can prove
that as a fact.

"I was not notified of this complaint in
time, so I could not bring any witnesses to
appear before the Grievance Committee. I
was fined $5.00, this fine being for the second
offence; two other offences were dropped. I
then appealed this case to the Appeal Com-
mittee of the Joint Board. My appeal was
rejected but they reduced the fine to $3.00.
I then appealed this case to the Joint Board.
My appeal was rejected there, but they re-
duced the fine to $1.00.

"It is true that with each appeal the fine
has been reduced, $2.00 every time, so that
I had to pay only $1.00 fine. It is not the
money that I care for, but I do not want to
be on record as guilty of a crime that I
did not commit.

"Therefore, I appeal to this convention as
the highest court to exonerate me of these
charges.

"With brotherly regards.

"BENJ. KIRSHNER.

"Local 1, Ledger No. 4947."

Delegate Ashpis testified that he was
working with Brother Kirshner in the same
shop when this matter came before the
Grievance Committee of the Joint Board,
that he never believed this man could be
implicated in any of those charges and never
expected him to be fined. That it was neces-
sary at that time to reprimand a few of the
workers in the shop for their misconduct
in the settlement of prices to remedy the
conditions of the shop. That he believes
that Brother Kirshner is innocent of the
charges.

Brother Ringer, then secretary of the Joint
Board, stated that he never acted on the
committees who had to deal with this case.

Brother Kimbarowsky, then chairman of
the appeal Committee of the Joint Board,
could not recollect the details of this case.

The Appeal and Grievance Committee
came to the conclusion that the fact that
Kirshner's fine has been reduced twice, by
the Appeal Committee and then by the Joint
Board, shows that the committees that tried
him were not sure of his guilt. The com-
mittee, therefore, recommends that Brother
Kirshner be exonerated and his fine be re-
mitted.

On motion, the report of the committee
was adopted.

President Schlesinger read a resolution
recommending that a contribution be made
to the Kaplan defense fund, and no objec-
tion being offered, it was referred to the
Committee on Resolutions.

A resolution asking that an assessment
of 25 cents be levied on the members for a
legal defense fund was rejected by the dele-
gates.

A resolution was read referring to a de-
cision of the Cleveland convention. A mo-
tion to refer to the Resolutions Committee
was lost.

At 12:30 the Convention was adjourned, to
reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.

NINTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2
o'clock P. M., Thursday, October 26th, Presi-
dent Schlesinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegate Sachs, Local 43;
Delegate Davidson, Local 53; Delegate Lane,
Local 55.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPEALS
AND GRIEVANCES.

Vice-President Amdur, Chairman of the
Committee, continued the report as follows:
Resolution No. 28.

Whereas, On the 25th of June, 1914, the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union granted a charter to and for the Piece Tailor and Sample Makers, known as Cloak and Suit Piece Tailors and Sample Makers’ Union, Local No. 3, of New York, said charter setting forth as follows:

“The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union do bind themselves to support said Local No. 3 of the city of New York in their demands, rights and privileges and benefits as a subordinate union.”

Whereas, Since such charter has been granted, Local No. 3, by virtue of said charter, has and should have the jurisdiction of making samples in the cloak and suit trade of New York City; be it therefore

Resolved, That samples for the cloak and suit trade of the city of New York shall be made by members and under the sole jurisdiction of the Cloak and Suit Piece Tailors and Sample Makers’ Union, Local No. 3.

The committee recommends that the request of Local No. 3 be granted, and also that the incoming General Executive Board see to it that this recommendation is carried out.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Lichter spoke in opposition to the report of the committee.

Delegate Ringel, Local 1, discussed the question, and urged upon the delegates the injustice of Local 3 claiming what did not belong to them, stating that Local 3 should proceed with the system of work as in the past.

Delegate Fenster, Local 3, discussed the resolution, urging the delegates to grant their request.

Delegate Hines, Local 1, spoke in opposition to the resolution.

Delegate Wertheimer, Local 3, stated that conditions were such that if their request was not granted, the International would probably have to take the charter of No. 3.

Delegate Sterling opposed the report of the committee, stating that it would not harm Local 1 so much, but would harm Local 3 if it were adopted.

Delegate Lefkovits spoke at length regarding the conditions in the trade, and favored the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Ashby opposed the report of the committee.

Delegate Barcan, Local 11, supported the recommendation of the committee, stating that Local 3 was fighting for existence.

On motion, debate was closed.

President Schlesinger: I am against the recommendation of the committee and I urge upon you to vote it down. You have heard from the resolution that Local 3 is called “Sample and Piece Tailors’ Union,” and that means that all those who are piece tailors can work as sample makers, and all those who are sample makers can work as piece tailors. If after a piece tailor has worked twenty-five or thirty weeks as a piece tailor, and he should want to go and take a job as a sample maker there is nothing to prevent him, he does not have to change his card; he does not have to get a transfer. He goes into the next shop and becomes a sample tailor, notwithstanding the fact that he has been working for months as a piece tailor.

Now let us take the operators, they are not working any longer than the piece tailors. The question I want to ask in this, “Why should the piece tailor be permitted to work on samples and the operator not be permitted to work on samples.” We are not going to force the employers that they should employ operators, and we are not even making rules to encourage operators to go on sample work; but if we accept the report of the committee we simply do something that will work to the detriment of the operators; they should have the same rights and benefits of this organization as the piece tailors.

Secretary Zucker, of the Committee, discussed the resolution, stating that the representatives of Local 3 had appeared, before the committee, and that the committee had called upon Local 23, Local 3 and Local 1, and they reached a mutual agreement, with the understanding that a charter should be granted to No. 3 which would make it a sample makers’ union exclusively.
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Secretary Raroff in the chair.

On motion, debate was closed.

A vote was taken on the motion to adopt the report of the committee. The Chair was in doubt as to the result, and a show of hands was called for, and the motion declared lost.

Delegate Laskovits asked for a division.

A count was had, and the motion to adopt the report of the committee was lost by a vote of 61 in the negative to 42 in the affirmative.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances made a further report, which will appear in the printed proceedings for Friday.

A resolution was read by Delegate Ringer with reference to the salary of the President during the strike. No objection being offered, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

A resolution was read by the chairman, regarding a token of appreciation for Max Dania. No objection being offered, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

President Schlesinger stated that he would later make a statement as to the decision rendered two years ago at the convention in Cleveland.

President Schlesinger, replying to an inquiry made by the delegates of Local 9 on Wednesday in regard to decision adopted two years ago at the convention in Cleveland in reference to the finishers who were members of Local 17 being transferred to Local 9, stated that the General Executive Committee decided to investigate and find out the true state of affairs existing in the finishing business as far as the reefer trade was concerned, but that such an investigation was never made for the reason that during the last three years each and every member of the Executive Board had more important affairs to attend to, such as strike conferences, etc.

A motion was made and seconded that the incoming Executive Board carry out the decision of the convention of two years ago, which calls for an investigation of the finishers in the reefer trade.

Delegate Heller: While we are not opposed to having the General Executive Board make an investigation, and we feel we can stand an investigation as well as any local in the International, I want the decision of the American Federation of Labor to go into the records of the International.

President Schlesinger: I am quite sure when the General Executive Board goes into an investigation of this matter they will do it in an unbiased way, and at that time you can present whatever arguments you may wish.

The motion that the incoming Executive Board carry out the decision of two years ago, was carried.

President Schlesinger introduced Abraham Bisno, and said: "I presented Brother Bisno to you yesterday and will not add anything, except to say that Brother Bisno is a man who never gets angry, you can say what you want about him and talk to him in any manner, but he is always the lovable Bisno."

ADDRESS OF ABRAHAM BISON.

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Workers: This kind of a reception embarrasses me, as I am not used to it, and I wish instead of applauding me and being enthusiastic about me, that you would pay attention to what I say and take it into your mind. If you find that what I say is wrong, do not cooperate with me, but if you find that what I say is right, then join me in this struggle that I am carrying on and have been carrying on for some time past, and support me. People somehow seem to like me, they applaud me and speak well of me, but when it comes to the great cause that I represent and that I am trying to bring into light, I say it frankly, I don’t find any support; so I really am not proud of this applause which you have given me. I will be able to say, in a year from now whether or not you mean business. I have been working in your movement for years to give clearness and definite form and purpose to our movement, and as the years go on I find that I have not progressed; if anything our people are not as progressive today as they should be, and as the years go on I must frankly say that I feel myself disappointed.
more or less, and a sense of hopelessness permeated my whole being.

Today I am going to tell you my purpose, and if you will find reason in what I say I ask you to cooperate with me and engage in the struggle. You understand that the trade unions have to make an effort to live. The first effort in the beginning of the trade union movement was carried on along the lines of what is called guerilla fight. We were not recognized as a power; our representatives were being disregarded, our members were being thrown out of employment, and every little question that came up called for a strike. This is the period in the life of the trade union which is rightly called the period of guerilla warfare. Until we assume larger proportions, have more power and really and seriously threaten the manufacturer with the ability to inflict damage, we cannot hope for our rights; only when the situation changes, the manufacturer becomes willing to make terms with us and we cannot hope for our rights; only when and the nature of the union's relation to the employer is established in some form of steadiness. It is then that the working men and women realize the importance of the trade union movement, and we begin to function as a social power. Upon that depends our future, and in these negotiations with the employers our people must have intelligent representation and forceful principles to establish the importance and dignity of the labor union. They must be of a uniform type and establish an industrial law, an industrial constitution.

Now, it is on this point that the life of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the lives of the other unions in the respective industry depends, and it is on this very point that they have failed so miserably. Our agreements with the manufacturers have been a joke. Our understanding a pretense, and it has influenced the movement so that what should be significant of the very best, the most sacred and important thing in the life of the movement has degenerated into a farce. I want to point out this very clearly to you, so that in your future negotiations and agreements with the manufacturers you will make them what they should be.

First of all, your agreements must be logical, the principles involved must be sound, and that ought to be the platform of this organization. Speak of these things to the men and women at your shop meetings and at the convention, at the board meetings, so that everybody who hears may know about it, so that this principle may be established as the cardinal basis of your organization.

We all know that it is important for the workers to make a decent living; I don't have to urge that on you; you know it and we have worked together for it. You know that you want decent hours and I know it, so I don't have to speak about that. You know that you must establish some sort of an agreement on week work and piece work, you must fix prices so that week work does not compete with piece work, otherwise you will give the employer a chance to establish competition between the workers, and this sort of competition is dangerous to the unions. It is not sufficient to say that one whole shop will work piece work and another shop by the week, because very often the employer has two shops in the same place, and these two shops will be working in competition with each other and the cheaper shop will have more work, so we cannot countenance an agreement with the employer that does not establish a uniform method in the whole industry. An agreement which does not provide against an employer being really responsible for the merchandise is contrary to the principles we wish to establish, because it sets in competition union men against union men. I would rather have no agreement than a poor one, one that sets in competition the membership of one union against another.

In our industry it is almost impossible to make successful agreements with the average individual employer, and the reason is this; it is impossible for the employer who is under the agreement to compete with the employer who is not. So I submit this to you, that we can only deal with manufacturers who are themselves organized and make a collective agreement, and any manufacturer who does not come under the agreement should be outlawed and driven from the industry, just as the individual worker who will not belong to the union. There are several ways of conducting the business of the union in relation to the employer, and one way is a form with which you come to
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the employer and say, "These are our terms, these are the conditions under which we are willing to work; you comply with them or we will fight." That is one way; and the other way is by establishing among ourselves a constitution and industrial law in our relation to each other, a constitution which will be mutually selected by the various trades who will establish a mutual agreement for all concerned, and this, in my opinion, is the best method, the democratic form of relations with the employer, and I find that it works very well. It has worked well in Chicago. I know that some of you people have no confidence in the members of unions, but I feel that sentiment is not warranted. I believe that if the union and the manufacturer will unite and select an impartial man to carry out the provisions of an agreement, the third party will not be on either side, he will be unbiased and will recommend such an agreement that both sides can adopt. I have found that it is easier for me to protect the man in the shop through the authority of the Board of Trade than I could protect him through the ability of the unions to call a strike and enforce it that way.

On the subject of prices, a fair adjuster will give you the benefit of what you are really entitled to; he really has no interest on the other side and will make a price that will be fair to both sides. It becomes simply a question to ascertain what the garment is worth and then any fair man that understands the industry will give you the benefit of his judgment and eliminate all possibility of war.

There is one other point that, in my opinion, is not very clear in our movement and this point is in relation to the tenure of employment. Originally our people used to say that a man ought not to be fired because he is active in the union, and the manufacturers used to fire such men on that account. But the principle of checking the employer from firing men for no cause goes even further than that, and this principle is being recognized by almost every fair-minded person. You can see it in our Government, where they require more and more that people take a civil service examination; they are introducing requirements to get positions in large corporations as well as the Government. It used to be said that if a man worked in the same place for any length of time he ought not to be discharged. The religious Jew believed this, and this principle is being carried further as time goes on.

We are giving our lives, we are making the employers rich by our labor, we are supporting the country, we are making wealth for it, why are we not entitled at least to our job? I believe that every man in the industry has a right to his job the same as the boss has a right to his factory, and this is a point that must enter into our agreement. We have a little union out in Chicago, about 3,500 people or so. We found that these things were not clearly understood by our people, so we took the matter up and succeeded in establishing agreements that have proved fairly satisfactory. The people are not altogether satisfied, but we hope to be able to do more in the near future. Working men and women cannot be expected to be entirely satisfied with their conditions, but under the conditions that prevail now we find they are fairly satisfied. We have established an agreement which is easily lived up to. I believe that you could establish an agreement, and I am satisfied in my mind that this last strike has taught the New York manufacturers this one point, that the union has come to stay and they will have to deal with it. The most intelligent way to deal with a labor union is by an agreement, an agreement that will establish a decent wage and hours, and this agreement must be entered into with manufacturers who belong to one association, and it cannot be accomplished until the manufacturers are organized. This is a practical proposition and the union should make agreements only with collective bodies and such agreements must provide for a tenure of employment and guarantee that competition will not exist between one shop and another, between week workers and piece workers. The manufacturers must know that our people are fighting for principles, and I am confident that such an agreement can be established and will be of benefit to the entire union. When the working people have secured an agreement which will establish a standard wage, shorter hours, tenure of employment, they will be able to live decently and will have the power to develop mentally, physically and spiritually.
President Schlesinger read a communication introducing Mrs. Love, of the Jewish Sheltering Home, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Love made a brief appeal to the delegates for financial assistance.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAW.
Vice-President Pierce, for the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 18.
Whereas, A number of locals of our International Union cannot be represented at the Convention, and some of the locals cannot have a full representation on account of lack of funds, and

Whereas, It is absolutely in the interest of our great International Union that every local should be represented; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union levy an assessment of twenty-five cents ($0.25) a year on every member of our organization to defray all the necessary Convention expenses.

The committee recommended non-concurrence in the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 27.
Whereas, There exists in the Cloak, Suit, Skirt, Waist, and many other industries a system of sub-manufacturing and sub-contracting, and

Whereas, Sub-manufacturing and sub-contracting is a recognized evil which deprives many of our members of an opportunity to earn a living, and

Whereas, Such of our members who are employed in these shops of the sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors are subject to greatly inferior conditions than the insiders obtain in the inside shops, and

Whereas, A good many so-called active members of our Union become sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors, although they are aware that it is the greatest evil and the greatest weapon against our organization, and

Whereas, It has been proven that a good many of the so-called sub-manufacturers and sub-contractors were compelled to give up their business for various reasons, such as failing to live up to union conditions in their shops, and failing to comply with the union standards, and, after giving up their business, again become members of our Union, and then try to become paid or unpaid officials, and since we can place very little faith in such men, be it therefore.

Resolved, That at this Convention an amendment be made to Article XIV, with an additional section to read that no member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who has been a sub-manufacturer or sub-contractor shall be eligible to hold a paid or unpaid office in any office of our Local Unions, or of the Joint Board, or of District Council, for at least two years after they have given up their business and have become members of our Union.

ARTICLE XIV.
Membership.
Section 1. A candidate, male or female, to be admitted to membership in a Local Union attached to the I. L. G. W. U. must be employed in the manufacture of any garments of ladies', children's or misses' apparel, and working at the trade at the time of his or her application.

The committee reported concurrence in the resolution.

Upon motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 29.
Chairman Pierce read Resolutions Nos. 29 and 30, as follows:

Add Section 1a to Article XV to read as follows:

Any member who is charged with dishonesty or treason, and is found guilty of same, shall be deprived of ever holding any paid or unpaid office in the I. L. G. W. U. or any of its affiliated locals.

Resolution No. 30.
Introduced by Delegate A. Baroff.

Any member who violates this section shall be subject to a punishment either by fine, or by being deprived of the rights and privileges of membership for such a period
of time as the Executive Board of the Local Union of which he is a member may decide.

The committee submitted the following substitute for Resolutions Nos. 29 and 30:

Add Section 1a to Article XV, to read as follows:

"Any member who is charged with dishonesty or treason and is found guilty of same shall be subject to a punishment, either by fine or by such other penalty as the Executive Board of the Local Union of which he is a member may decide."

The committee recommended the adoption of the section.

Delegate Hyman suggested that the committee use another word instead of treason.

Delegate Aspilis opposed the report of the committee and spoke in favor of the resolutions as submitted by Secretary Baroff.

Secretary Baroff made a brief explanation of the two resolutions as submitted.

Delegate Portnoy spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee and opposed original Resolution No. 29, as he believed a man should not be deprived forever of the privilege of holding office.

Delegate Finkelnstein favored the original resolutions as submitted.

Delegate Ringer urged that the laws be made more strict.

Delegate Silverman opposed the report of the committee, and stated he was in favor of giving a man a second chance.

Chairman Pierce: The committee took this matter under consideration and thought the two questions could be embodied in one. We do not want to have too many laws and think that this one amendment will cover the entire situation and the committee recommends its adoption.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 32.

Whereas, Article XVII, Section 9, of our Constitution, reads: "That if a Union member from one trade goes in to work in a shop for another trade, he should transfer his Union book within two weeks, and

Whereas, Compliance with the rule of Article XVII, Section 9, which didn't sufficiently meet the purpose is very difficult in practice, since it is impossible for any person to realize in two weeks whether he will remain at this trade or not, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention change Article XVII, Section 9, to read "four weeks" instead of two.

The committee recommended the rejection of the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Prisant discussed the resolution and urged the adoption of the amendment, as a man should be given a chance to know whether he would succeed in the work before being transferred.

Delegate Bernstein, Local 5, spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Fanny Cohen spoke in favor of the original resolution.

Delegate Finkelnstein spoke in support of the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Litwakoff favored the resolution.

Delegate Pasternak opposed the recommendation of the committee.

Upon motion, debate was closed.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried by a vote of 67 in the affirmative and 46 in the negative.

Resolution No. 33.

Whereas, Many of our most active members of the different local unions have been compelled to leave their former occupations as workers or officials in their respective Locals, because of being defeated in an election or being unable on account of union activity to obtain employment at their respective crafts, and

Whereas, Such members while they are out are still donating their valuable services to the I. L. G. W. U. or to their Locals who really need their services; be it therefore

Resolved, That any such members, if they are not engaged in hiring and employing labor and if they are not engaged in such
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business which brings them in contact with the manufacturers of the local unions with which they are connected, shall be entitled to all the rights of membership in the I. L. O. W. U., and may represent their locals in any capacity or at any convention; and be it further

Resolved, That each and every local shall have a right to pass upon such members whether they consider them worthy to retain membership, and may also make exceptions in cases where it is necessary, to allow them to indulge in any occupation in order to secure their existence, providing it will not involve employing, hiring and discharging workers.

The committee recommended the adoption of the resolution, when amended, by striking out the words "may represent their locals in any capacity or at any convention," in the second resolve.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the report of the committee.

Delegate Ashpis opposed the resolution.

Delegate Gorenstein moved that the resolution be laid over, as there was another resolution of the same nature. Vice-President Pierce said that there was a difference in the resolutions, and the committee would pass on the other resolution later.

Delegate Gorenstein offered an amendment to the motion to read, that any man who has left the trade to go into an occupation where he is not engaged in the capacity of hiring or discharging people may still remain a member of the International, with the exception that he cannot be a paid or an unpaid officer. (Seconded.)

Delegate Shapiro spoke in favor of the amendment and against the recommendation of the committee.

President Schlesinger: According to your ruling, a member of the organization who leaves and is not employed in the capacity of hiring or discharging people may still remain a member of the Union but cannot hold office?

Chairman Pierce: Yes.

Delegate Metz asked if a man whose occupation was seasonal, took another job to tide him over would be entitled to membership?

President stated that there were a number of people engaged in the industry in New York who worked for a few months during the season, but who owned their own business, a candy store, or something of that sort.

Delegate Portnoy moved that the resolution be referred back to the committee. (Seconded.)

Chairman Pierce stated that the committee would meet and take into consideration all the suggestions that had been offered by the delegates.

The motion to refer back to the committee was carried.

At 5.30 P. M. the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9.30 A.M., Friday, October 27, 1916.
TENTH DAY— MORNING SESSION.


The Convention was called to order at 9.30 A. M., Friday, October 27th. President Schissinger in the chair.

Absentees: Delegates Hyman, Local 9; Bushman, Local 75; Jerome, Local 113.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

(Submitted Thursday Afternoon.)

Vice-President Amdur, Chairman of the Committee, continued his report as follows:

Resolution No. 83.

Introduced by P. Kottler, chairman delegation Local 1; S. J. Ringer, Local 1.

Whereas, There exists in the City of New York two local unions in the cloak and suit trade, Locals 1 and 17, both actually belonging to one craft, even though the charter of Local 1 provides for the making of cloaks and suits, and the charter of Local 17 for the making of reefer and children's coats exclusively; and

Whereas, Complaints were lodged at the Boston Convention in 1910 against Local 17 by Local 1 that the former local is not confining its membership to workers in the reefer and children's coats line, but encroaching upon the jurisdiction of Local 1 and make full sized ladies' coats, thereby creating competition in the shops between Locals 1 and 17. That Convention had, in fact, appointed a committee to investigate these charges, and that committee had found same to be true and had reported upon it to the Toronto Convention in 1912. This latter Convention had resolved, passed and instructed Local 17 to confine itself to the limits of its charter and the then elected General Executive Board had attempted to see that the resolution was carried into effect, but this attempt was at that time frustrated by Local 17 through an injunction; and

Whereas, Ever since that time Local 17 had continued to infringe upon the jurisdiction of Local 1 in the ladies' garment department of various shops, and at the same time neglected to organize such shops which are properly under their jurisdiction; and

Whereas, We consider that their action and policy have tended towards demoralization in the trade, and that many manufacturers have benefited through this disagreement between the two locals and made their work cheaper; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Convention shall instruct the incoming General Executive Board to make a thorough investigation of the existing evils, due to the existence of two locals in one city practically belonging to one craft and in the event that they find conditions as stated above, the General Executive Board shall be empowered and instructed to eliminate these evils, and if necessary, to dissolve the two existing locals and to establish one local, subdivided into branches, in accordance with the line of work made by these two locals; and be it further

Resolved. That this investigation be made within the next six months.

The Committee on Resolutions, with the consent of the delegates of Locals 1 and 17, offered the following resolution as a substitute for Resolution No. 83:

Introduced by delegation of Locals 1 and 17 in conjunction with the Appeal and Grievance Committee. P. Kottler, Nathan Hines, M. J. Aasbjo, Samuel Sapin, M. Sterling, A. Goldstein, M. Ruben, A. Padower, Nathan Fink, for Local 1; Daniel Niemelius, Abe Goldin, J. Heller, R. Flaster, A. Passin, Henry Krakoff, for Local 17.

Whereas, There exists in New York two local unions of operators, to wit: Locals 1 and 17; and

Whereas, There does not exist a sharp line of division between these two locals, indicating the end of the jurisdiction of one local and the beginning of the other; and

Whereas, This state of affairs may lead to unnecessary misunderstandings and complaints of one local against the other with reference to prices, etc.; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to make a thorough investigation of this matter, and should they find these complaints well founded, to be empowered to work out
plans that will avoid the recurrence of such
complaints in the future between these two
locals for the welfare of the entire trade;
and be it further

Resolved, That these two locals pledge
themselves to obey the decision of the
General Executive Board, in accordance with
the Constitution of the International Union.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt
the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Hyman stated that Local 9 was
involved in the question, and that he desired
to discuss that phase of it.

A point of order was raised that if Local
9 had any differences to adjust with Locals
1 or 17, a resolution should have been in-
troduced. The point was declared well
taken.

The motion to adopt the report of the
committee was carried.

Resolution No. 112.

Introduced by Max Lebow.

Whereas, The buttonholemakers of New
York in the raincoat trade, at present belong
to Local 20, and, at the same time, are or-
ganizing among themselves into a separate
society; and

Whereas, There exists in New York a But-
tonholemakers' Union, our Local 64, for a
number of years, as a part of our Interna-
tional; be it therefore

Resolved, That all the buttonholemakers
in the raincoat trade should belong to this
Local 64, and that Local 20 is instructed
to transfer all their buttonholemakers to
this local.

Vice-President Pierce: The committee
recommends that all buttonholemakers em-
ployed in the shops of Local 20 are to be
transferred to Local 64, no extra initiation
fee to be charged by Local 64.

We further recommend that Locals 64
and 20 shall in conjunction work out plans
whereby the buttonholemakers of the rain-
coat shops shall be fully taken care of.

A motion was made and seconded to con-
cur in the recommendation of the com-
mittee.

An inquiry of President Schlesinger as to
whether a buttonholemaker, a member of
Local 20 working on raincoats, if he became
a member of Local 64, would have the privi-
lege of working on everything controlled
by that Local, was answered in the affirma-
tive by Delegate Lebow.

Vice-President Pierce made a further short
statement and again read the report of the
committee.

The motion to adopt the report of the
committee was carried.

Chairman Pierce continued the report as
follows:

Resolution No. 113.

Introduced by J. Finkelstein, Local 38.

Whereas, At the time of the cloakmakers'
strike of New York in 1916, ladies' tailors
were taken down on strike and were en-
rolled as members of the Locals 2 and 48; and

Whereas, A Ladies' Tailors' Union is in
existence in the same city; be it therefore

Resolved, That said ladies' tailors be
transferred to Local 38, within a period of
30 days after the Convention.

The committee recommends that all
Indies' tailors who are at present members
of Local 2 and Local 48, be transferred to
Local 38, and we further recommend that
the incoming General Executive Board be
empowered to take charge over the entire
affairs of the said Local 38 for a period of
six months.

A motion was made and seconded to
adopt the report of the committee.

President Schlesinger stated that in view
of the decision rendered by the Convention,
that the affairs of Local 38 were to be super-
vised by the General Executive Board, at
least until the trade was reorganized, he was
opposed to the report of the committee. He
stated that in his opinion the matter of
transferring the members of Local 3 was
a matter for the Board to decide.

An amendment was offered, that the entire
matter be referred to the incoming General
Executive Board.

The committee signified its willingness to
accept the amendment, and the report of
the committee was adopted as amended.
CHARGE AGAINST MEYER RUBIN.

"New York, October 21, 1918.

"To the Delegates of the Convention of the
1. L. G. W. U.,

"Greeting:

"I hope that this Convention will take up
my request that Meyer Rubin be unseated
as delegate to this Convention, on the
ground that he is at present under charges
before the Grievance Committee for having
assaulted me. I am surprised that, while
some delegates have been rejected for un-
fitness, this hypocrite, Meyer Rubin, is still
unpunished and he is even placed on the
Educational Committee. A lot of education
does he possess! When Brother Slotchin
asked him to apologize for the assault, he
stated that he is not ashamed of it, because
Kier Hardie and Boruch Spinoza have also
attacked others. I have also read that his
brother, the secretary of the local, has pub-
lished a yellow book. It seems to me that
he has forgotten to mention the fact in his
book that I have twice brought in these
charges against his brother in the "Cabinet
of Ministers" of Local 1, and that these
charges were quashed. When the letter of
the Grievance Committee came to the shop
at 10-12 Division Street, where this Rubin
is working, the shop chairman, Harry Grots,
and Abraham Zilcherbrod, together with
Meyer Rubin, did not let the shop know
that he was being called to the Grievance
Committee. I will not occupy too much of
your time, but will state only that he
assaulted me because I stated that we had
in that shop one of the best union factories
in the city until this Meyer Rubin and his
bunch came up to work there, and have
made the place a nest of scabbery. Indeed,
this man, Meyer Rubin, works Saturdays and
Sundays, all day long, and if you will Investi-
gate this matter you will find it to be
correct.

"With fraternal greetings, I am

"ISIDORE MERKIN,
"Member Local 1.

"N. R. A committee of the shop where
Rubin is working came inquiring why this
man was not rejected by the Convention
after the Credential Committee has cleaned
out a number of unfit delegates."

The committee recommended that as no
evidence had been produced to substantiate
the charge, the matter be dropped.

The report of the committee was con-
curred in.

APPEAL OF B. STIEL.

"October 17, 1918.

"International Ladies' Garment Workers'
Union, 32 Union Square, New York City.

"Gentlemen:

"This is an appeal to you to see that I
am treated justly by my fellow-workers.

"I am at present employed by the C. & B.
Embroidery Workers as a stitcher.

"I was fined by my Union, Embroidery
Workers, Local 6, $50.00, unjustly, for some
reason or other that I am sure I was not
guilty of.

"I was brought before the Board of Di-
rectors to explain my case and was given
no justice, as all members on the Board
were my enemies. So I ask you to look into
this matter immediately, and oblige

"Fraternally yours,

"B. STIEL,
4226 Hudson Boulevard,
"West Hoboken, N. J.

"The committee recommends that owing
to the fact that this case happened two
years ago and the fine has not yet been
paid, the appeal be rejected.

On motion, the recommendation of the
committee was concurred in.

COMPLAINT AGAINST DELEGATE
MORRIS SARKOWITZ.

"We have received a complaint signed by
a few members of the Boston Unions, com-
plaining against Delegate Morris Sarkowitz,
charging him with taking bribes from em-
ployers and also taking money under false
pretense from the Unions and individual
members.

"The Appeal and Grievance Committee
made a thorough investigation in this case
and could not find any facts to substantiate
the charges.

"We, therefore, decide to drop the case."
On motion, the report of the committee
was concurred in.

"We have received an appeal from N.
Ginsburg, of the Boston Joint Board, plead-
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

The Appeal and Grievance Committee came to the conclusion that owing to the fact that this Thirteenth Convention of the I. J. G. W. U. has rejected him on the charges that were preferred against him to the Credential Committee, this same Convention cannot at the present time vindicate him of the same charges.

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

President Schlesinger introduced to the delegates Dr. A. M. Levine, representing the Jewish Consumptive Relief Association, of California, who addressed the delegates briefly, asking financial assistance in keeping up the sanatorium which had been established for the purpose of caring for victims of the white plague.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAW.

Vice-President Pierce, for the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 43.

Introduced by F. M. Cohn, Local 60; H. Spanier, H. Zuckert, Local 41; S. Chancer, Local 11; H. Krakoff, Local 77; G. Rubin, Local 17; L. Goldman, Local 41; J. Pinkelstein, Local 38; S. Levin, Local 65; M. Sacks, Local 45; M. Lapidus, Local 77; B. Halman, Local 28; A. Dunn, Local 33; E. J. Cavanagh, Local 39; M. C. Jeannace, Local 40.

Whereas, The reading of the report of the General Executive Board submitted to this Convention and read by the President took up almost three sessions; and

Whereas, The report was mailed to every delegate before the Convention; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention decide that in the future no report shall be read before the Convention, but instead, a short outline in the form of an address shall be read by the President at the opening of the Convention. This will save time for the delegates and strain on the President.

The committee recommended rejection of the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 46.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union keeps control of the assessments and dues paid out by the members of the respective locals through a system of stamps which serve as receipts to the members for the money paid in; and

Whereas, This system has proven to be an efficient mode, on the part of the International, to have knowledge and be able to control the finances of the respective locals; and

Whereas, The initiation fees, as collected by the respective locals are simply recorded by the secretaries in writing, through numerous different modes of entry, so that the International is not very well informed and cannot keep control of the money collected for the initiation fees by the respective locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Executive Board be empowered and ordered to issue stamps in the denominations of one, two and five dollars, to be sold to all of the respective locals at a discount of 99 per cent. on the dollar, so that the members receive a receipt from the International for initiation fee, paid in stamps, to be pasted in the membership books and also that the International be kept informed as to all money collected for initiation fees in all of the respective locals.

The committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the Incoming General Executive Board, and not made mandatory, but that it be left to the general officers and the General Executive Board to decide whether it would be advisable to put it into effect.

Upon motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 47.

Whereas, It is difficult for the shop chairman to control the payments of dues of our members in the respective shops and factories, through the control of due books or working cards; be it therefore

Resolved, That members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union be required to purchase a button, to be issued monthly by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and that no member
of the Union be permitted to work in any factory unless he wears in the shop during working hours a button received from his local designating membership in good standing on the face of the button, and of the month and year during which he is working.

Chairman Pierce: The committee desires to report on this resolution that they deemed it a very good thing in certain localities, but that it might not be advisable in other localities, and recommend that the matter be referred to the Executive Board of each of the different locals throughout the country.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

An amendment was offered to reject the resolution, which the chairman declared out of order until the motion to adopt was voted down.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 83.

To amend Article IV, Section 1, to read as follows:

Local Unions should have local by-laws or rules and regulations, copies of which should be in possession of the G. E. B. In case of controversy in any local union over the interpretation of any rule, the G. E. B. should be in authority to interpret same. Such by-laws or rules and regulations should not be in contradiction to the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U.

Section now numbered No. 1 to be No. 2.
Section now numbered No. 2 to be No. 3.
The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 89.

Whereas, There is no provision in our Constitution relating to the subject of recall of officers properly elected, for incompetence, dishonesty, or unfaithfulness to their obligations; and

Whereas, Under democratic forms of government such provisions are a great aid to the proper control and maintenance of the administration of organisations; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Convention insert a provision in our Constitution giving each local the right to recall elected officers in case they are found guilty as above referred to, by a proper tribunal; and be it further

Resolved. That this provision apply also to the general officers of our organization.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 60

To amend Article VII, Section 1, to read as follows:

The General Executive Board shall have the power to declare a levy of 10 cents per week on all members of the affiliated local unions for a continuous period not exceeding fifteen (15) weeks during any one year to assist in the support of an affiliated organization engaged in strike, lockout or in any other urgent financial need of similar character. Such assessment should be collected by the local union through assessment stamps assessed by the I. L. G. W. U. No local union shall have the right to assess its members for purpose above mentioned.

The committee reported that the section in the Constitution was the same as the amendment, with the exception of the last sentence in the amendment, and recommend the rejection of the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 61

Whereas, The organization of the various crafts of the needle industry in the United States and Canada requires the outlay of large sums of money; and

Whereas, We realize the fact that with an empty treasury and exhausted resources, our International cannot maintain its standing and increase its forces; and

Whereas, Whenever a strike or lockout takes place there is always a lack of finances to conduct and maintain such struggles in a successful way; and
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Whereas, Such a state of affairs endangers the conditions of our locals and is a hindrance to our forward march for gain and accomplishment; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention enact and enforce a uniform per capita due tax of 25 cents per week for a male member, and 20 cents per week for a female member throughout the locals of our International Union.

The committee recommended nonconcurrence in the resolution.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

The chairman of the committee read the following resolutions, all covering the same amendment:

Resolution No. 64
Whereas, The Conventions of the International involve the locals in much expense, which is a heavy burden upon our locals; be it therefore

Resolved, That our International have its convention once every four years, instead of biennially, as heretofore.

Resolution No. 122
Whereas, It is an actual fact that a meeting of the International Convention is the cause of spending a large sum of money to carry on the business and arrange its affairs; and

Whereas, These moneys to carry out the above purpose must be contributed by our members through per capitaation tax or assessment, which means an added expense and sometimes a great burden to the members of the organizations who comprise the I. L. G. W. U.; and

Whereas, Such being the facts we believe and feel that it is necessary to avoid the above mentioned expenditures; and

Whereas, We further believe that when officers elected at the International Convention, the longer their terms of office reasonably last, the more proficient and efficient they become in performing their duties in establishing the aims and objects that this International stands for; therefore be it

Resolved, That Article III, Section 1, of the International Constitution, which reads. "The I. L. G. W. U. shall meet biennially in general convention"; to be amended to read as follows: "That conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. shall be held every four years hereafter."

Resolution No. 131.
Change the word "biennially" in Section 1, Article III, of the Constitution, to read "every three years."

The committee recommended nonconcurrence in the resolutions.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 68.
After some short statements regarding this resolution, Delegate Gorenstein moved that it be referred back to the committee, to be acted upon after the report of the committee on Resolution No. 68 was brought in.

Resolution No. 69.
Article XIII, Section 1.
This section shall be called Section 1a, and in addition there should be another section that should be called Section 1b, and shall read as follows:
The election for officers of local unions shall be held at a special meeting, the date of which shall be announced to the members at least three days before the election, through letters or advertisements in the daily newspapers.

The committee recommended as a substitute for Resolution No. 69 the following: "The election for officers of a local union shall be held by ballot or at a special meeting, the date of which shall be announced at least three days prior to the election."

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 70.
Article XII, Section 6.
To add the following paragraph with the first sentence:
The Joint Board shall have the power to select a joint Grievance Committee, from
different locals, to try the members in cases when members of different local unions are accused of violating the Constitution or the rules of the Union. The Joint Board shall also have the right to elect an Appeal Committee which shall have the right to decide on appeals for members, etc.

The chairman of the committee read Section 5, Article XII, of the International Constitution, as follows:

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Joint Board to see that harmony among the locals shall prevail. They shall also have the right to decide on appeals from members against their respective locals, in which case the decision of the Joint Board shall be final, subject to an appeal to the General Executive Board.

The committee recommended adoption of the amendment, when amended to read: "The Joint Board shall have the power to select a Joint Grievance Committee from different locals to try the members of their affiliated locals." etc.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Gorenstein asked whether, if the clause was added, the locals would have a right to have a grievance committee of their own and try their own cases.

President Schlesinger replied that in accordance with the Constitution they would have that right.

Delegate Ringer asked if a member who was fined by a special local Grievance Committee was entitled to appeal to the Joint Board. The President stated that under the Constitution he could appeal and that the decision would be binding until the case was carried to the General Executive Board.

In reply to a question by Delegate Gorenstein, the President stated that the case must first go to the local.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in and the section was adopted, when amended by inserting the words "of their affiliated locals" after the word "members" in the third line.

Resolution No. 71.
Article XII, Section 4.
Resolved, That Article XII, Section 4, shall be amended to read as follows (in four parts, a, b, c, and d):

(a) The Joint Board shall consist of an equal number of delegates from local unions engaged in any one particular trade to which its jurisdiction shall be confined. (It being understood that all branches engaged in the manufacture of cloaks, suits, reefers and skirts to be considered one trade). EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION "b" NEXT FOLLOWING.

(b) The Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Unions of New York City and vicinity shall consist of delegates from local unions engaged in the manufacture of cloaks, suits, reefers and skirts, the number of delegates from each local to be equal to one-half of its representation at the last preceding Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. pursuant to Article III, Section 4, a fractional number to be counted as a full delegate; provided that no local shall have less than two delegates to the Joint Board.

(c) The Joint Board shall have the power to decide the amount of per capita or dues for each affiliated local for the transaction of the business of the Joint Board. The Joint Board shall also have a uniform initiation fee for members.

(d) The Joint Board of every city shall have the right to decide with a majority vote to admit special representatives from branches of a certain nationality or language, if they should find it necessary. The majority of the Joint Board voting for admitting such representatives shall also define the rights of such representatives at the Joint Board.

Further Resolved, That subdivision "b" of the preceding amendment, if approved by this Convention, shall be submitted for ratification to a referendum vote of the membership affiliated with the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Unions of New York.

The chairman of the committee read the original Section 4 of the Constitution, and stated that the committee had two reports to present, a majority report, which was to reject the resolution, and a minority report by Delegate Kettner, of the committee, to accept.

Delegate Prats made a motion to adopt the majority report. (Seconded.)
 Delegate Kottler discussed the resolution, and urged the delegates to accept the minority report, as he felt that the locals should have equal representation on the Joint Board, in order to protect their interests.

Delegate LaPorta and Delegate Ashpis spoke in favor of the minority report.

Delegate Friend, Local 67, favored the adoption of the majority report.

On motion debate was closed.

A vote was taken on the motion to adopt the majority report of the committee, to reject the amendment, which was declared carried.

Delegate Sterling asked for a roll call, which was supported by a sufficient number of delegates from three locals.

Roll call on the motion to adopt the majority report of the Committee on Law on Resolution No. 71:

Ayes—President Schlesinger; Delegate Amdur, Local 2; Delegates Kurtz, Wertheimer, Fenster, Lefkovitz, Weintraub, Local 3; Lipach, Local 4; Lawton, Local 6; Cohen, Mannous, Local 7; Deutsch, Kushner, Palofsky, Kovinsky, Shuster, Bernstein, Bender, Keaton, Paasstyk, Local 9; Rosenberg, Stein, Gorenstein, Martin, Epstein, Greenberger, Local 10; Lipshtis, Sherkowitz, Lapidus, Katz, Barcan, Local 11; Tuchman, Tockman, Local 12; Popper, Bernstein, Cesar, Lutwakoff, Local 15; Fleser, Goldin, Nishwits, Passin, Krakoff, Heller, Local 17; Bernstein, Local 18; Taylor, Local 19; Heller, Berman, Schwartz, Local 20; Prisant, Brodfield, Littman, Balmanson, Rubinbaum, Baronne, Herman, Local 23; Osowsky, Posen, Local 24; Baroff, Feldman, Shapiro, Haiman, Local 25; Pous, Local 26; Marquis, Local 30; Gould, Osborn, Dunn, Bright, Local 33; Blackett, Pierce, Local 34; Kimbrofskof, Langer, Brookman, Metz, Braslawer, Goldovsky, Local 35; Dreisinsky, Finkelstein, Local 38; Cavanagh, Local 39; Cavanagh, Jennings, Local 40; Spanier, Goldstein, Local 41; Rubin, Local 43; Angelo, Ninio, Local 45; Thomas, Caschner, Local 49; Levy, Goltz, Greenberg, Sirota, Local 50; Hookins, Local 53; Garman, Local 55; Wasserman, Sarkowitz, Borenstein, Local 56; Nigen, Padnos, Local 58; Cohen, Local 60; Landis, Astor, Rock, Goff, Local 62; Dessel, Labow, Local 64; Lame, Local 66; Friend, Pigmaka, Local 67; Stein, Lederman, Greenberg, Local 69; Patagala, Local 72; Friedman, Local 78; Stein, Barsky, Local 81; Portnoy, Local 113; Green, J. B., Cincinnati; Golofsky, J. B., Toronto; Lebowitz, J. B., Montreal; Perlestein, J. B., Cleveland; Schoolman, J. B., Chicago; Wicher, J. B., New York—122 votes.

Nays—Delegates Ringer, Kottler, Hines, Sterling, Sapin, Rubin, Padower, Goldstein, Ashpis, Local 1; Rubin, Levine, Katzman, Rosenfeld, Local 2; Rosenberg, Local 7; Fine, Local 10; Antonini, Silverman, Goosman, Greenstein, Lieberman, Friedman, Lucci, Local 26; Labinsky, Rentovick, Nestin, Local 35; Gold, Maloff, Local 44; LaPorta, Carotenuto, Garman, Local 48; Lifshitz, Local 62; Sandler, Local 69; Rydter, J. B., Philadelphia—33 votes.

The motion to adopt the majority report of the committee, to reject the amendment, was carried by a vote of 122 in the affirmative to 33 in the negative.

Chairman Pierce read the following resolution and also Section 8 of the Constitution:

Resolution No. 72.

Article X, Section 8.

To amend the end of the paragraph as follows:

"Nor shall the General Executive Board have the full power to sign any agreements, make arrangements or submit to arbitration questions which may in any way bring a change in the existing conditions established in the industry; discontinue or cause discontinuance of agreements without the consent of the locals concerned in this action."

Sec. 8. No local union shall formulate conditions of labor, or adopt by-laws the enforcement of which may lead to strikes or lockouts, without being submitted for approval to the G. E. B., nor shall the General Executive Board have the full power to make any agreements, arrangements, discontinue or cause the discontinuance of agreements without the consent of the locals concerned in this action.

The committee reported nonconcurrence in the amendment.
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Aahplis discussed the resolution and opposed the report of the committee.

Delegate Antonini objected to the delegates speaking in Yiddish, and President Schlesinger suggested that if the delegates found it necessary to speak in Yiddish, they make their speeches a little more brief, so that time could be taken to translate them.

President Schlesinger briefly explained Delegate Aahplis' argument, as follows: "He said that when we come to a Board of Arbitration the manufacturer insists on arbitrating some of their demands that they have against the Union, and he, Aahplis, thinks the officers should, first of all, whenever a proposition of this kind is made by the employers come to the members and ask if they are willing to have such questions arbitrated, and the officers would not have a right to do it if the members did not want it."

President Schlesinger stated that he felt the committee should change its decision on that question, as the members are the ones to decide who must go on strike.

Chairman Pierce stated that originally the committee was in favor of the amendment, but later some delegates appeared before the committee and asked that the amendment be reconsidered, that Delegate Kottler was in favor of the amendment, and through some misunderstanding was not present at the later meeting when the committee was convinced that it should reserve its decision and recommend a rejection of the amendment.

Delegate Liebman raised a point of order, that the difference between the amendment and the original section was only in one word, the original section containing "to make arrangements," which was sufficient, as it used the word "arrangements."

President Schlesinger declared the point well taken, and after reading the section again said: "When you agree with an employer to go to arbitration, naturally it means an arrangement, and it means you have arranged to go to arbitration, and since you say no arrangements can be made but must have the consent of the unions it means when you come to arbitration arrangements cannot be made unless you have the consent of the local unions."

President Schlesinger: I am afraid that if you put in a provision in the Constitution stipulating that if the manufacturers would make demands upon the unions that certain procedure would have to be gone through, it would simply be a hint to the manufacturers to make such demands. Taking this into consideration, and also that your contention is fully covered in the provision which says that the General Executive Board shall not make any arrangements with the employers unless the unions or the members authorize the General Executive Board to do so, I consider Delegate Lieberman's point of order well taken.

Delegate Sterling discussed the question and favored the provision which provided that the workers should be consulted before action could be taken.

President Schlesinger made a further statement that the Constitution covered the question, and if things did not turn out as the members thought they should, it was more the fault of the officers than the Constitution.

Delegate Sterling asked if a vote of the members was taken before the last agreement was signed with the employers, to which the President replied that the agreement had not been signed before the membership had voted upon its acceptance. He added that at a conference with the employers, it was stipulated and put in the minutes that the agreement would be accepted only when the members of both sides had indicated their willingness to accept the agreement. The draft of the agreement was O.K.'d so that the manufacturers could not afterwards bring in a different copy.

Delegate Sterling: Your answer is that the General Executive Board has no right to make any arrangements or sign any agreements without the vote of the members?

President Schlesinger: Yes.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 74.

Article VIII, Section 15.

Said section should be amended and should be read as follows:

[Continued text]
Any officer or member of a local union of the I. L. O. W. U. who wilfully slanders or libels any other member, local or general officer of the I. L. O. W. U., or who wilfully violates the provisions of this Constitution, may be fined or expelled, at the option of the local union or Grievance Committee of the union on conviction thereof, according to Article VIII, Section 8.

In cases where a general officer has been slandered or libelled by a member of the I. L. O. W. U., the above officer is preferred in bringing charges against said member.

The charges shall be presented to the Secretary of the local union of which he or she is a member. If the officer is the one to make the charge, the trial shall then proceed as follows:

The official shall then select three members from one or more locals, and the accused member shall be permitted to select three, and said six to constitute a committee, empowered to select the seventh. From now on the section shall read the same as the old one.

The committee amended the resolution to read as follows:

Resolution No. 74.
Article VIII, Section 15.

Said section should be amended and should be read as follows:

Any officer or member of a local union, or any officer of the I. L. O. W. U., who wilfully violates the provisions of this Constitution, or slanders or libels any other member, local or general officer of the I. L. O. W. U., or who wilfully violates the provisions of this Constitution, may be fined or expelled, upon the recommendation of the Grievance Committee, with the approval of the Executive Board of the local union.

In cases where a general officer has been slandered or libelled by a member of the I. L. O. W. U., the above officer is preferred in bringing charges against said member.

The charges shall be presented to the Secretary of the local union of which he or she is a member. If the officer is the one to make the charge, the trial shall then proceed as follows:

The official shall then select three members from one or more locals, and the accused member shall be permitted to select three, and said six to constitute a committee, empowered to select the seventh. From now on the section shall read the same as the old one.

The committee amended the resolution to read as follows:

Resolution No. 75.
Article VIII, Section 3.

The second part of Section (A) shall be amended and shall read as follows:

"Charges made by any member of the I. L. O. W. U. against another must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the local union of which the defendant is a member. The secretary shall submit the charges to the Executive Board, or to the Standing Grievance Committee of the local and they shall duly notify the accused of the nature of the charges and of the time and place of trial, which shall be within one month upon receipt of charges.

The accused member shall have the privilege to be tried before a special committee in case he proves that the Standing Grievance Committee or the Executive Board is
in any way prejudiced against him. The accused shall also have the right to question witnesses, etc., in the same manner as provided in Article VIII, Section 3.

Shall the accused member fail to appear, except for good and sufficient reason, when notified, the Executive Board or the Grievance Committee shall proceed to take testimony the same as if said accused members were present.

If the decision of the Executive Board or Grievance Committee is for expulsion it shall then be sent to the local union for approval.

Chairman Pierce: The committee, in taking up this matter, considered the proposition of appointing special grievance committees; after the grievance committee and the local executive committee and the local union had passed upon a case, and then a special committee could be appointed, the Law Committee came to the conclusion that in every case where a man was found guilty, a special committee would have to be appointed to try his case again. The committee, therefore, recommends a rejection of this amendment.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Ashley made a short statement to which Chairman Pierce replied that the organization had machinery which allowed a member to appeal.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 78.

Article V, Section 8.

This section be changed and should be called Section 10, and should read as follows:

The General President and General Secretary shall receive such compensation as the Convention at which they are elected shall deem proper.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 77.

Article V, Section 17 (new).

The convention shall elect six substitutes, three for New York and three for the country, who shall, according to their votes, fill out the vacancies which may occur in the General Executive Board.

The committee reported that there were two reports, a majority report to reject the resolution and a minority report in favor of the resolution.

Delegate Kottler discussed the question and spoke in support of the minority report, and stated that in his opinion, as the convention elected the members of the General Executive Board, they ought to also elect substitutes who were competent to fill any places that might be vacated on the Board during the period of two years which elapsed between conventions.

Delegate Ringer spoke in favor of the resolution and said it was not a question of taking away power, but that the convention should have the power to vote upon an alternative to fill any vacancies occurring.

Delegate Prasert discussed the resolution, concurring in the statements of Delegates Kottler and Ringer.

On motion, debate was closed.

Delegate Portnoy, of the committee, spoke in favor of the majority report, stating that in his opinion the Constitution should not be changed.

A vote was taken on the motion to adopt the majority report of the committee, to reject the resolution. The chair was in doubt as to the result.

A show of hands was called for, and the motion to adopt the majority report was carried by a vote of 53 in the affirmative to 46 in the negative.

Resolution No. 78.

Article V, Section 18 (new).

Any member of the General Executive Board, who is a paid organizer of the General Executive Board, for more than six weeks, during the three months from one meeting of the General Executive Board to the other, shall not be eligible to remain as a member of the General Executive Board.

The committee recommend rejection of the amendment.
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Asplin made a short statement in support of the resolution.

Delegate, Friend spoke in favor of the report of the committee.

The motion to concur in the recommendation of the committee was carried.

Resolution No. 80.

Article III, Section 6.
Should be amended to read as follows:

Delegates shall be elected by ballot or at a special meeting of the Local Union called for that purpose immediately after receiving notice of the General Secretary-Treasurer, according to Article XIII, Section 18, and a majority vote shall constitute an election, etc.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 90.

To add the following at the end of Article III, Section 11:

In case a delegate is not seated at the Convention, the General Secretary shall immediately notify the local union secretary represented by this delegate of said action.

The committee reported concurrence in the amendment.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the report of the committee. (Carried.)

Resolution No. 97.

Strike out entire Article VII of Constitution.

Strike out entire Section 8, Article XIV, of Constitution.

Strike out entire Section 3, Article XVI, of Constitution.

Add a new section to Article XVI to read as follows:

"Any member who leaves his respective trade must withdraw from the local union upon request of the local. Should the member refuse to take out a withdrawal card the local union shall have the right to expel such member."

After reading the resolution, Chairman Pierce read Article VII of the Constitution, and stated that the committee had a majority and minority report on Resolution 97; the majority report to reject the resolution and the minority report to accept, and that Delegate Deitch had signed the minority report.

Delegate Sterling moved that the minority report be adopted. (Seconded.)

Delegate Asplin: I wish to raise a point of order. We have adopted an amendment giving the General Executive Board full power to levy an assessment, and if we strike out that part of it is contrary to the decision already made.

Chairman Pierce stated that a resolution had been submitted by Delegate Shapiro. The President stated that the difference between the original provision of the Constitution and Miss Shapiro's amendment was in reference to assessments that any local union might decide of itself to levy upon its members, and was rejected.

Delegate Deitch spoke in support of the amendment, stating that when the members have an assessment levied upon them, they neglect to pay their dues and also fail to pay all of the assessment; he spoke in favor of a voluntary assessment.

Delegate Seidman discussed the question and suggested that while he was in favor of a voluntary assessment, it could not be said that the International had no right to levy an assessment; that if it did not have that right, the manufacturers would know the International would have no means of securing money to carry on strikes.

Secretary Kottler, of the committee, made a brief statement in support of the majority report, and stated that the organization could not afford to go on record at any time in such a way as to show the manufacturers that funds could not be secured when they were needed; that the organization had never levied an assessment in any case unless they were compelled to, when involved in strikes.

President Schlesinger read the resolution and the original section to the delegates.

The motion to adopt the minority report, to strike out Section 7, was lost.

The second part of the resolution, to strike
out Section 8, was taken up, and the committee recommended concurrence.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Shapiro opposed the recommendation of the committee, stating that unless there was some provision made as to initiation fees, they were fixed so high in some unions that the members could not afford to pay them, and were compelled to remain outside.

Delegate Asplin stated that at the last Convention he introduced the resolution fixing the initiation fee as provided by the Constitution, and opposed the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Gorenstein raised a point of order that the delegate was not talking to the motion; that the question was whether Section 8, Article XIV, should be eliminated.

The chair declared the point well taken.

Delegate Asplin discussed the question further.

On motion debate was closed.

Delegate Gorenstein requested the privilege of the floor, which was refused.

Delegate Detlich made a statement in support of the resolution, stating that some members would leave and start in business for themselves, and if the initiation fee was low would come back in when they felt like it.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee, to strike out the section, was lost.

President Schlesinger read the following resolution:

Resolution No. 166.

Whereas, Congressman Meyer London has always been a devoted friend of the workers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and

Whereas, Being now very busy in a hard struggle for his re-election he was kept back from coming to address the Convention up to date, and

Whereas, The majority of the delegates to this Convention will not be satisfied and contented unless Comrade London would come to visit the Convention; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to bring Congressman London to the Convention Hall to-morrow morning to make the closing address:

H. ZUCKER, Local 41;
MAX GORENSTEIN, Local 10;
CHAS. GREEN,
Joint Board of Cincinnati.

Saul Mets, for the delegation of Local 35;
F. Monosson, Local 7; M. Sarcovitz, Local 156; Max Stern, Local 81; M. Bernstein, Local 18; B. Maloff, Local 44; Jesse P. Cohen, Local 10; Sam Martin, Local 10; Jesse Greenberg, Local 10; John C. Ryan, Local 10; Isadore Epstein, Local 16; Chester J. Figniak, Local 67; Harry Krakoff, Local 17; S. Liebenson, Joint Board, Montreal; A. Taylor, Local 19; J. Finkenstein, Local 35; S. Levin, Local 65; A. Litwackoff, Local 68, J. Goldstein, Local 41; S. Spanier, Local 41; Nathan Rinnel, Local 66; Marie C. Jenning, Local 40; Lena Gersman, Local 55; Anna Cavanagh, Local 40; B. Denver, Local 3; H. Wertheimer, Local 3; M. Weiner, Local 3; M. Furtz, Local 3; S. Lefkovitz, Local 3; E. Cashner, Henry Rubia, Local 43; H. Silberman, Local 25; L. Antonini, Local 23; Peter Liecasl, Local 25; Harry Greenberg, Local 50; Max B. Gillin, Local 10; Salvador Nino, Local 48; Gennaro Lucastro, Local 48; A. L. Port, A. Jozano, D. Heller, Local 20; Philip Berman, Local 20; Louis Schwartz, Local 20; J. Sharkowitz, Local 11; William Barcan, Local 11; Barnett Littman, Local 22; Anna Golker, Local 50; Bocky Levy, Local 50; Joseph Keisun, Local 9; Harry Schuster, M. Kusher, Local 3; M. Margulis, Local 30; H. Rosenfeld, Local 2; J. Packins, Local 53; Bocky Stein, Local 69; M. Pessin, Max Libow, Local 64; Henry D. Coen, Local 7; Fannie M. Cohen, Local 41.

A motion was made and carried that the chairman appoint a committee of three to accompany Congressman London to the Convention hall and the following committee was appointed: Delegate Max Gollin, of Local 10; Delegate Gasie Lander, Local 64, and Delegate Goldfusky, Local 35.

At 12 o'clock the Convention was adjourned to reconvene at 2 P. M. of the same day.
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

TENTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock P.M., Friday, October 20th, President Schlesinger in the chair.

All delegates present.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAW

Resolution No. 98.

To amend Article V, Section 3, to read as follows:

"The First Vice-President shall act as chairman in the absence of the President, and as chairman ex-officio on all committees."

The committee recommended concurrence. On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Secretary Greenberg, of the committee, read the following resolutions, stating that they covered the same subject matter:

Resolution No. 99.

To amend Article IV, Section 4, to read as follows:

"The General Executive Board shall at their first meeting elect a Finance Committee of three members of the board. These shall not hold any other paid office through the General Executive Board, and shall control the income and expenditures of the General Executive Board and report on same at each quarterly meeting of the Board."

Resolution No. 158.

Add to Section 17, Article V, to read as follows:

Section 17. The G.E.B. shall elect a Finance Committee consisting of three (3) members of the Board. It shall be the duty of this committee to review, at least once a month, all items of expenditures incurred by the General Office and to submit to the G.E.B. their criticisms upon such items which they consider as having been improperly or unnecessarily expended. They shall also recommend the curtailment of expenditures such as in their opinion can be eliminated.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Chairman Pierce: The committee recommends that the amendment be accepted, when the words "shall control the income and expenditures" in Resolution 99 are stricken out, and Resolution 158 is amended to read "three (3)" members of the Board and the words "with the First Vice-President as its chairman" are stricken out.

The amendment was discussed by Secretary Greenburg, of the committee.

On motion the report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 100.

To amend Article V, Section 14, to read as follows:

"The G.E.B. shall meet twenty days prior to the Convention and appoint a Credential Committee of seven delegates to the Convention, four of whom shall be from Greater New York and the remainder from other localities. These delegates shall meet two days prior to the Convention at the convention city, and shall examine all credentials and membership books of the delegates."

The committee submitted a majority and minority report, the majority report recommending concurrence in the resolution, when amended by striking out reference to the convention city and providing that the General Executive Board meet one week prior to the Convention.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the majority report.

Delegate Delach discussed the minority report.

The question was discussed by Delegate Ryan, Secretary Pierce, Delegate Gorenstein.

The motion to adopt the majority report of the committee, to adopt the section as amended, was carried.

Resolution No. 105.

Whereas, The work of the International has been greatly increased of late, to the extent that it requires many more men to carry on the work than heretofore; and

Whereas, The membership of the New York locals represents two-thirds of the entire membership of our International; be it therefore
Resolved, That this Convention elect fifteen Vice-Presidents instead of thirteen, as at present, and that nine of these Vice-Presidents be elected from the New York delegates and the other six from the delegates of other localities. The clause in the Constitution to be amended to that effect.

The committee recommended nonconcurrence.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 138.
Whereas, The locals of our International have in the past indulged in the practice of placing in good standing members of their organizations who were in arrears, by method of obtaining the sanction of the Executive Boards of those locals to that effect only; and

Whereas, Such a method is clearly one that deprives the treasury of the International of its per capita tax due on the weekly stamps; be it therefore

Resolved, That no local of the International is permitted to make good the standing of any of its members, except when the per capita tax to the International is computed and forwarded to the International in each acted upon.

Resolution No. 162.
Amend Section 2 of Article XII to read as follows:

Locals shall pay to the I. L. G. W. U. promptly and in full all per capita and general assessments for each and every good-standing member. The General Executive Board shall be empowered to suspend any local union which fails to pay such amount within thirty (30) days after a demand for such payments has been made by the General Executive Board. A local union shall have the right to excuse any of its members from paying their arrearages to their local union whenever in the opinion of the Executive Board circumstances warrant such action on their part; provided, however, that the local does not waive the payment of per capita and general assessments for such members.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

The committee provides that a person cannot be reinstated unless they have at least thirteen stamps in their book, and recommend the adoption of the amendment.

A motion was made and seconded to concur in the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Ringer opposed the report of the committee.

Delegate Gorenstein moved as an amendment that the balance of the section, commencing with the words "A local union" in line 8, be stricken out.

Delegate Metz spoke in favor of Resolution No. 136.

Delegate Hyman opposed the resolutions.

Delegate Wiener spoke in favor of Resolution No. 136.

Delegate Pasetsky favored the resolution.

Delegate Portnoy opposed the adoption of the amendment.

Delegate Schoolman favored the adoption of the resolution.

Delegate Amidor spoke in support of the resolution.

Upon motion debate was closed.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was lost.

Delegate Flaaster moved that the original resolution offered by Delegate Metz be accepted. (Seconded.)

A vote was called for; the chair was in doubt; a show of hands was called for, which resulted in a vote of 65 for the motion and 68 against. A division was asked for but not granted.

Resolution No. 152.
Amend Section 1B, Article I. Substitute the word "language" for the word "nationality" after the words "particular" in line eight of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Referred to Committee on Law.

The committee moved concurrence. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 153
Amend Section 2 of Article III to read as follows:
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Upon the written request of five (5) local unions in good standing (not more than two (2) locals to be of any one city), a special convention shall be called. The place for holding such a convention shall be determined by the G. E. B.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Referred to Committee on Law.
The committee recommended concurrence.
The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 184

Amend Section 10 of Article III. Substitute the words “paid officers” for the words “walking delegates, business agents” in lines three and four of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended concurrence.
The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 185

Amend Section 15 of Article III. Substitute the word “but” for the word “or” after the words “fifty and less than 250” in line four of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 186

Add the following sentence to Section 1. Article IV: Upon the written request of three (3) Vice-Presidents of the I. L. O. W. U. (not more than two (2) from any one city), the General President of the I. L. O. W. U. shall call a special meeting of the G. E. B.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Referred to Committee on Law.
The committee recommended concurrence.
The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 187

Amend Section 11 of Article V. Substitute the word “decide” for the word “direct” in the first line of this section, and also substitute the word “become” for the word “be” before the word “final” in the last line of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended adoption of the resolution.
The report of the committee was adopted

Resolution No. 188

Amend Section 3 of Article VI. Insert the words “and privileges” after the words “benefit” in the last line of this section.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended concurrence.
The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 189

Add the following section to Article VI:

Section 1a. A local Defense Fund shall be established by a levy of 6 cents per month (or 60 cents per year) upon all good-standing members of the I. L. O. W. U.; said fund shall be kept in a separate account and shall be used for litigation purposes only.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended rejection of the amendment.
The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 190

Change Section 1 to Article VIII to read:

Any elective or appointive officer of a local union may be removed for any violation of the Constitution or for any act calculated to impair the dignity or usefulness of the organization, provided such violation or act be deemed by the Executive Board of local union of sufficient consequence to warrant such removal.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.
The committee recommended concurrence.
The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 191

Amend Section 13 of Article XII.
The regular funds of the local union derived from the payment of dues, initiation fees, fines and assessments shall be used for administrative purposes, such as the payment of rentals, salaries, stationery, supplies, printing, conducting strikes and organization and educational work. The regular funds...
to be an Executive Board member, or be a delegate to a convention.

Section 3.

In case a member leaves the trade in order to become a foreman or an employer (as set forth in Article XIV, Section 6), his membership in the union shall automatically cease.

The next section should be Sections 4 and 5, and the Section 4 shall be read as follows:

Members who withdraw from membership or whose membership has automatically ceased, can again join the Union, only, as new members.

Members who remain honorary members of the local may get their old rights and privileges after three months of their return to the trade.

The committee recommended rejection of the Section 1 of the resolution.

Delegate Ashby suggested that this section should be referred back to the committee, which was done.

The committee recommended concurrence in Section 2 of the resolution. The report of the committee was adopted.

The committee recommended concurrence in Section 3. On motion the recommendation was concurred in.

Resolution No. 97 was read and referred back to the committee for further consideration.

Resolution No. 119

Whereas, Our International Union has grown in membership and therefore acquired a great responsibility in carrying out the wishes of the membership; and

Whereas, The present system has brought about a higher cost of all commodities, thus causing our organizations very large expenses, which is impossible to be disbursed with the present dues paid by our locals; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention go on record to establish a uniform higher dues.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

The committee recommended nonconcurrence in the resolution. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

President Schlesinger read the following communication:

"International Garment Workers,

"Mr. Baroff, Secretary:

"A popular protest against the arbitrary action of the police in preventing freedom of speech and peaceable assembly on the City Hall Plaza and other similar places will be held in the form of an open-air meeting on City Hall Plaza, Saturday, October 30th, at eight P. M.

"Believing that every organization which stands for the welfare of the community must be interested in the constitutional guarantees of the right of free speech and peaceable assembly, which have safeguarded the progress of our people since the birth of our country, we invite your organization to cooperate in this meeting of protest.

"Yours respectfully,

"OLIVER McKNIGHT,

"Secretary.


Delegate Hyman moved that one member of the International be selected to attend the meeting as a speaker. (Carried.)"
Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to stand all the expenses in connection with this trial.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

Delegate Uoberman moved to amend that the Executive Board be "empowered" instead of "instructed" to stand all the expenses in connection with the trial.

The committee accepted the amendment and the report of the committee was adopted.

Robert C. McCauley, on behalf of the Free Speech Committee, made a short statement, and thanked the delegates for the action that they had taken in regard to sending a speaker to the meeting at the City Hall Plaza.

Resolution No. 168

Whereas, Brother Dave Kaplan has always been one of the most devoted and loyal men of the labor cause, and

Whereas, A man of such excellent character is a blessing to the working class and detrimental to the master class, and

Whereas, Dave Kaplan was unfortunate enough to be made a victim of a conspiracy in a trumped-up charge and is at present on trial for his life, and

Whereas, To prove his innocence, it was necessary to engage good lawyers and for this purpose a "Kaplan Defense Fund" was created; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union contribute the sum of $100 to the above mentioned fund as a matter of duty which will help prove the innocence of our brother, Dave Kaplan.

(Signed) A. SNYDER.
Joint Board Philadelphia;
J. P. HINKUS.
Joint Board Philadelphia;
M. LEVIN, Local 2;
S. GREENBERG, Local 69;
M. EDELMAN, Local 3;
B. STEIN, Local 69;
M. GRISHKAN, Local 2.

The committee recommended concurrence.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 168

Introduced by the Resolutions Committee.

Whereas, The Credentials Committee in their report called the attention of the Convention to the fact that several locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have not paid the assessment levied in 1913 for the Philadelphia and St. Louis strikes; and

Whereas, According to the information received, these locals have no means of paying these assessments, as they are in very poor financial circumstances; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention absolves these locals from the obligations incurred by these assessments.

The committee recommended that the locals pay their assessment whenever they have the money to do so.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Martin objected to the resolution, as the Credentials Committee had already reported and allowed the locals up to a certain time to pay their debts, and that he offered the objection as a point of order.

Chairman Metz called for a statement from the chairman of the Credentials Committee.

Delegate Epstein stated that in going over the books the Credentials Committee found that there were several locals that had not paid the 1913 assessments, and it was the opinion of the committee that they should recommend that these debts be wiped out, but as chairman I did not feel this was the duty of the Credentials Committee and we therefore brought it to the attention of the Convention.

The chairman declared Delegate Martin's point of order not well taken.

Delegate Seldman offered an amendment. That the Convention decide to wipe out the old St. Louis assessment of those locals not in a position to pay it until this time.

(Seconded.)

The report of the committee was adopted.
to be an Executive Board member, or be a delegate to a convention.

Section 3.
In case a member leaves the trade in order to become a foreman or an employer (as set forth in Article XIV, Section 6), his membership in the union shall automatically cease.

The next section should be Sections 4 and 5, and the Section 4 shall be read as follows:

Members who withdraw from membership or whose membership has automatically ceased, can again join the Union, only, as new members.

Members who remain honorary members of the local may get their old rights and privileges after three months of their return to the trade.

The committee recommended rejection of the Section 1 of the resolution.

Delegate Ashplas suggested that this section should be referred back to the committee, which was done.

The committee recommended concurrence in Section 2 of the resolution. The report of the committee was adopted.

The committee recommended concurrence in Section 3. On motion the recommendation was concurred in.

Resolution No. 97 was read and referred back to the committee for further consideration.

Resolution No. 119

Whereas, Our International Union has grown in membership and therefore acquired a great responsibility in carrying out the wishes of the membership; and

Whereas, The present system has brought about a higher cost of all commodities, thus causing our organizations very large expenses, which is impossible to be disbursed with the present dues paid by our locals; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention go on record to establish a uniform higher dues.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

The committee recommended nonconcurrence in the resolution. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

President Schlesinger read the following communication:

"International Garment Workers,

"Mr. Haroff, Secretary:

"A popular protest against the arbitrary action of the police in preventing freedom of speech and peaceable assembly on the City Hall Plaza and other similar places will be held in the form of an open-air meeting on City Hall Plaza, Saturday, October 23th, at eight P. M.

"Believing that every organization which stands for the welfare of the community must be interested in the constitutional guarantees of the right of free speech and peaceable assembly, which have safeguarded the progress of our people since the birth of our country, we invite your organization to co-operate in this meeting of protest.

"Yours respectfully,

"OLIVER MCKNIGHT,

"Secretary.

"Single Tax Party of Pennsylvania."

Delegate Hyman moved that one member of the International be selected to attend the meeting as a speaker. (Carried.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Delegate Metz in the chair.

Resolution No. 187

Whereas, Our manager, Henry D. Cohen, and our local vice-president, Joseph Hanken, have been arrested in Providence, R. I., on a trumped-up charge of inciting to riot and hiring men to assault, with the intent of killing one I. Katz, a professional strike-breaker employed by the American Raincoat Company; and

Whereas, The district courts of the State of Rhode Island had convicted them of this serious charge and they are now to go before the Superior Court of the State of Rhode Island; and

Whereas, At the time of their arrest Brother Rosenberg, at that time organizer for the New England States, communicated with the General Executive Board, with the result that he was ordered to engage counsel to defend said brothers; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention goes on record as protesting against this unwarranted accusation against
our Brothers Henry D. Cohen and J. Hanken; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to stand all the expenses in connection with this trial.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

Delegate Leberman moved to amend that the Executive Board be “empowered” instead of “instructed” to stand all the expenses in connection with the trial.

The committee accepted the amendment and the report of the committee was adopted.

Robert C. McCaulay, on behalf of the Free Speech Committee, made a short statement and thanked the delegates for the action that they had taken in regard to sending a speaker to the meeting at the City Hall Plaza.

Resolution No. 168

Whereas, Brother Dave Kaplan has always been one of the most devoted and loyal men of the labor class, and

Whereas, A man of such excellent character is a blessing to the working class and detrimental to the master class, and

Whereas, Dave Kaplan was unfortunate enough to be made a victim of a conspiracy in a trumped-up charge and is at present on trial for his life, and

Whereas, To prove his innocence, it was necessary to engage good lawyers and for this purpose a “Kaplan Defense Fund” was created; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union contribute the sum of $100 to the above-mentioned fund as a matter of duty which will help prove the innocence of our brother, Dave Kaplan.

(Signed) A. SNYDER,
Joint Board Philadelphia;
J. P. HINKUS,
Joint Board Philadelphia;
M. LEVIN, Local 2;
B. GREENBERG, Local 69;
M. EDELMAN, Local 3;
B. STEIN, Local 69;
M. GRISHKAN, Local 2.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 169

Introduced by the Resolutions Committee.

Whereas, The Credentials Committee in their report called the attention of the Convention to the fact that several locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have not paid the assessment levied in 1913 for the Philadelphia and St. Louis strikes; and

Whereas, According to the information received, these locals have no means of paying these assessments, as they are in very poor financial circumstances; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention absolves these locals from the obligations incurred by these assessments.

The committee recommended that the locals pay their assessment whenever they have the money to do so.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Martin objected to the resolution, as the Credentials Committee had already reported and allowed the locals up to a certain time to pay their debts, and that he offered the objection as a point of order.

Chairman Metz called for a statement from the chairman of the Credentials Committee.

Delegate Epstein stated that in going over the books the Credentials Committee found that there were several locals that had not paid the 1913 assessments, and it was the opinion of the committee that they should recommend that these debts be wiped out, but as chairman I did not feel this was the duty of the Credentials Committee and we therefore brought it to the attention of the Convention.

The chairman declared Delegate Martin’s point of order not well taken.

Delegate Seldman offered an amendment, that the Convention decides to wipe out the old St. Louis assessment of those locals not in a position to pay it until this time. (Seconded.)

The report of the committee was adopted.
Resolution No. 142

Whereas, The American Federation of Labor in convention in 1914 and 1915, adopted a resolution which provided for the calling of a Labor’s World Peace Congress for the same time and place that the General Peace Congress after the cessation of hostilities will convene in Europe; and

Whereas, On March 26, 1918, the American Federation of Labor communicated with the International office, requesting us, as a national center, affiliated to the International Federation of Trade Unions, to send two delegates to this proposed International Conference, and that these be elected in time, so that they may be ready to render service whenever called upon; and

Whereas, The tremendous questions which the war has brought to labor in Europe and all over the world will have to be solved by the combined efforts and intelligence of organized labor in every country and of every nationality; be it therefore

Resolved. That this Convention goes on record as endorsing the plan for Labor’s World Peace Congress, and that the Convention elects two delegates to represent it at this Congress.

The report of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 143

Whereas, The stamped embroidery workers, employed mostly in waist and dress shops, are doing the same kind of work which the menders in the Swiss embroidery trade are engaged in; and

Whereas, A great many girls in the Swiss embroidery trade secure employment in waist shops and places operating exclusively stamped work during the slack period; and

Whereas, Those girls, upon getting employment elsewhere, become confused as to what organization to belong to; and

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers’ Union, Local 6, at present controls both the menders and the stamped workers of their trade; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U, grant full jurisdiction to the Embroidery Workers’ Union, Locals 5 and 6, over the stamped workers, which will enable them to have full control of all workers in the trade.

Chairman Laskovits: The committee called in the representatives of Local 25 and 62, and after obtaining the information from them, came to the conclusion to concur in the resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 144

Whereas, The Baltimore Ladies’ Garment Workers, Local 4, owes the General Office a sum of more than $500 for assessments for the Legal Defense Fund; and

Whereas, The Baltimore local, having had a number of strikes during the past two years, has had its treasury almost exhausted, so that it was utterly impossible for them to meet this tax, and they have indebted themselves to a great extent: be it therefore

Resolved. That this Convention donate the amount due to the General Office from Local 4, and thus relieve them of this obligation.

Chairman Laskovits: The committee is of the opinion that we cannot act upon this resolution, as the Credential Committee has reported about it, and the Convention decided to grant two years for paying this tax.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 170

Whereas, The Shirt Makers’ Union of Philadelphia, Local 153, U. G. W. of A., is at present conducting a strike at Needles & Brooker Co., which has proved to be a very stubborn fight and has drained their resources; and

Whereas, The strikers have appealed to this Convention for financial aid; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention donates $25.00 to the strike fund of the Philadelphia shirtmakers.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.
Resolution No. 171

Introduced by A. Pasternack, Local 15; Bernstein, Local 15; Sara Cazier, Local 15; G. Rubin, Local 2; Anna Litvackoff, Local 15; A. Hirsh, Local 15; A. Snyder, Local 2; M. Grishkan, Local 2; M. Amdur, Local 2.

Whereas, The Strikers’ Ball Fund of the Central Jewish Branch, Socialist party, United Hebrew Trades, and Cloakmakers’ Union of Philadelphia, has done good work for the past three years:

Whereas, The Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union wishes to encourage and assist all such movements of the workers for greater protection during strikes, and

Whereas, This Convention desires the workers to protect themselves during strikes by having their own ball fund rather than asking the assistance of wealthy outsiders; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention give the Strikers’ Ball Fund of Philadelphia financial support.

The committee recommended that $100 be donated to the fund.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 171a

To the Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, held in Philadelphia, October, 1916.

Brother President and Sisters and Brethren, Delegates to the Convention:

We, the undersigned, finishers in the cloak industry of Greater Boston, acting as an appeal committee lawfully elected at a special meeting held on Monday, October 16, 1916, herewith wish to call your kind attention to this letter.

We, the Finishers, join one local with the operators of the same industry. Since this local (56) is in existence, our interests were always neglected. The reasons were many, of which a few we will give here:

1. The finishers’ body is constituted of women and old men who were ignored and not listened to whenever he or she was talking in their behalf. The psychology of women, as well as of old men, their manner to talk about and solve different problems, are much different and always therefore misunderstood by others, and this is why often to the meetings they served as comedians for the operators, whose body is constituted of young men. This brought about a condition when only about ten out of over 500 finishers were attending to the meetings.

2. It was always for the benefit of the operator (and it was so practiced) to ignore the demands of the finishers—they should not have to be troubled, and it is for this reason only why the average wage of a finisher in Boston does not exceed $8.00 per week, and for many of ours the average weekly wage is still less. Our interests were never looked for. Instead of raising, prices were lowered.

Our special meeting considered these and many other questions, and following resolution was enthusiastically accepted:

We, the Finishers of the Cloak Industry of Greater Boston appeal to the Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to grant us a charter for a separate local. We ask your honorable body to pay full attention to this matter, and whereby this letter should be given over for action to the organization committee of the Convention or to the executive to be elected, we strongly appeal this matter of ours not to be delayed.

Fraternally yours,

FINISHERS OF GREATER BOSTON, MASS.

Appeal Committee.


Members in good standing of Local 66.

The committee recommended that the matter be given over to the General Executive Board, as the Boston situation is to be taken up by them.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 172

Introduced by A. Pasternack, A. Bernstein, Sara Cazier, Anna Litvackoff, A. Hirsh, Local 15; and A. Snyder, M. Edelman, M. Grishkan, G. Rubin and M. Amdur, Local 2.
Whereas, The Thirteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union recognizes the fact that a great Labor Temple is a necessity for the Jewish trade unions of Philadelphia; and

Whereas, This Convention knows that the Jewish trade unions of Philadelphia have grown strong enough within the last five years to support such an institution; and

Whereas, This Convention knows that a great Labor Temple would serve to bind more closely and to inspire to greater efforts the Jewish trade unions of all communities, as well as Philadelphia; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention give the Committee of Fifteen, which is working for this movement for a great Labor Temple, their financial support.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

The committee recommended reference of the matter to the incoming General Executive Board.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 173

Introduced by Louis Friend, Local 67.

Whereas, The Jewish Socialist Federation is organized for the purpose of disseminating knowledge and education among the workers, and for the training of our men and women for active work of emancipation of the working class on the political and the economic field; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention donate $100.00 towards the educational fund of this Federation, in order to advance their work of education, and thus assist in the task of spreading light, knowledge and valuable information among our masses.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 177


Whereas, Brother Max Danish has attended devotedly to the interests and work of this Convention and spared no efforts to properly take care of the issuing and printing of the daily reports of the Convention, giving up his entire nights for this purpose, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention presents Brother Danish with a suitable present in token of appreciation of services rendered.

The committee recommended concurrence, and suggested that the committee acting in the case of President Schleinger should also take up this matter.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 174

Introduced by the Resolution Committee.

Whereas, A representative of the Los Angeles Consumptive Sanatorium, Dr. A. M. Levin, appeared before this Convention on behalf of the Los Angeles Consumptive Sanatorium, requesting aid from the International; be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union subscribes the sum of $100.00 yearly to the funds of the Los Angeles Consumptive Sanatorium.

On motion the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 175

Introduced by the Resolution Committee.

Resolved, That this Convention donates the sum of $26.00 to the Jewish Day Nursery of Philadelphia.

On motion the resolution was concurred in.

Resolution No. 176

Introduced by P. Kuttler and Samuel J. Ringer, Local 1.

Whereas, During the last general strike of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, all paid officers of the New York Joint Board unanimously agreed to work without getting paid, and their salaries to go to the general strike fund; and

Whereas, Brother Schlesinger, then chairman of the General Strike Committee, de-
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clined to accept the salary he was then to receive; and

Whereas, Brother Schlesinger is not an officer of the Joint Board, but of the International; and his salary for nine weeks, amounting to $450.00 remained with the treasury of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention returns to Brother Schlesinger the above named amount.

The committee recommended concurrence in the resolution.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 177.

Whereas, The organized labor movement of this country has in the New York Call a consistent advocate of unionism and working class solidarity both on the political and the economic field;

Whereas, The Call has been fighting the battles of labor since the first day of its publication; and

Whereas, It brings to us each day the news of labor's activities as well as throws a searchlight of truth on the news of the world in general, and gives the most complete publicity for the information of our membership; and

Whereas, The Call is generally recognized as the leading English daily for Labor in this country and its contents are widely copied by the labor and Socialist press throughout this country and Canada; and

Whereas, The time is now ripe to make it once and for all time the great daily organ and advocate of the hopes and aspirations of labor; and

Whereas, The circulation of The Call is over double that of a year ago, and financially it is on a sounder basis than ever in its history; and

Whereas, A fund is needed to provide new mechanical equipment and facilities to meet the increased demands and to inspire its success as a great daily of labor; and

Whereas, Organized Labor is co-operating with The Call to raise $60,000 by a bond issue for this purpose, and

Whereas, The Call has the endorsement at the present time, in addition to many local unions and radical organizations, of the New York State Federation of Labor; the New Jersey State Federation of Labor; the Central Federation of Greater New York, the Central Labor Union of Brooklyn and Queens, the Essex Trades Council of Newark, N. J., the White Plains Central Labor Union, the Central Labor Union of Hudson County, the Paterson Trades and Labor Assembly, and the Central Federation Bodies of Greater New York and vicinity; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers, in convention assembled, indorse The New York Call and recommend to all local unions and individual members that they subscribe for bonds of this $60,000 issue, which bear interest at 4 per cent., payable annually, with principal maturing in ten years from date of issue; and be it further

Resolved, That the secretary be and be hereby is instructed to send a copy of this preamble and resolution to every local union, urging them to read The Call and to subscribe for as many of these bonds as is possible for them to do; and be it further

Resolved, That we pledge the hearty cooperation of this Organization to The Call in all its efforts.

ISADORE EPSTEIN, Local 10;
JESSE P. COHN, Local 10;
SAMUEL MARTIN, Local 10;
JESSE S. GREENBERGER, Local 10;
JOHN C. RYAN, Local 10;
Committee on Resolutions.

The committee recommended concurrence.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Lefkovits: This concludes the report of the Committee on Resolutions, which is signed:

Samuel Lefkovits, Local 3, Chairman; S. Sapin, Local 1; M. Edelman, Local 2; Meyer Kushner, Local 8; M. Gorenstein, Local 10; J. Hebler, Local 17; A. Taylor, Local 19; Miss Sarah Shapiro, Local 25; J. Breelauer, Local 25; Louis Friend, Local 67; Miss Rose Ledman, Local 89.

Committee on Resolutions.
Delegate Lieberman moved that the report of the committee as a whole be accepted, and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

The motion was seconded and carried, and the report of the committee as a whole was adopted, as amended.

Vice-President Pierce in the chair.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES

Vice-President Amdur, for the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 178

To the Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

Chairman and Delegates,

As a member of the International since 1909, I am now forced to appeal to you as the highest tribunal of our organization, with the hope of receiving justice and a fair deal in my present circumstances, of which crime I am innocent.

I am a member of Local 35, Ladies' Tailors' Union of New York. During the entire time I had the honor to be the local's representative as a paid officer for two years, giving my entire time and energy for the labor movement in general and no one ever questioned my honesty in any way or not being loyal to the cause until September, 1916, when I was requested by the Executive Board to take charge of the last general strike that ended so unfortunately in chaos and disorder for the local and myself. The reasons for the loss of this strike I do not have to explain to you, as I am sure that the General Officers will tell it to you in their report.

Although the strike was lost I did not become pessimistic, but with renewed energy started again and succeeded, to a certain extent, in keeping up the conditions in the shops until a few of my political enemies and a few low lives in conjunction with some employers, brought the matter into the Union and they hired detectives to frame me up and succeeded through criminal ruses to bring me to trial before the General Executive Board, on the charge of being a traitor. The same identical charge was brought against me before the General Executive Board some time ago, but with a few lies and false statements; it was brought against me with more strength than it had been previously. They have succeeded this time in ruining me. I have taken this matter very easy and did not consider it so criminally framed up against me, that I did not defend myself as I should have. I again assure you that I am not guilty of the charges that have been brought against me and for which I have been convicted.

I am sure that the committee that tried me was not prejudiced against me, as from the evidence they received I do not see how they could have found me guilty and put such a terrible verdict on me—being expelled as a member of the Union.

I am now morally ruined. I cannot get employment because I am considered a traitor to my cause. I cannot make a living for my family now, and I ask you, delegates, please take up my appeal and look very closely into the evidence, give me a chance to defend myself properly, so that I may be able to prove my innocence.

Hoping that you will call upon me to appear before you with evidence to show that I had nothing to do with this crime, and again hoping to get justice at this tribunal, so that it will enable me to become a member of the Union again and do active work for the labor movement, I remain

Yours truly,

BENJAMIN PRAGER.

The committee recommended that, "Owing to the fact that we did not have the stenographic minutes of the trial, and owing to the fact that Prager could not bring witnesses from New York to Philadelphia, and not being able to judge this appeal in one day, the Committee recommends that a sub-committee of three members of the Appeal Committee, together with a committee from the General Executive Board, look into any evidence that may be brought in this appeal, and that committee shall be empowered to decide whether this appeal be granted or rejected."

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Vice-President Amdur appointed as a committee Delegate Ryan, of Local 30; Delegate Zucker, of Local 15; and Vice-President Amdur.

President Schlesinger in the chair.
Resolution No. 179
Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. issued a charter to the Brooklyn Ladies’ Tailors and Dressmakers’ Union in the year 1911; and
Whereas, it was understood that in all these shops garments are to be made to order under the jurisdiction of Local 65; and
Whereas, A great number of Ladies’ Tailors and Dressmakers’ shops were taken away by the Cloakmakers’ Union in spite of the fact that Local 65 is still in existence; be it therefore,
Resolved, That the Convention give Local 65 the jurisdiction over all the Ladies’ tailors and dressmakers’ shops of Brooklyn, according to their charter.
The committee recommends that all ladies’ tailors and dressmakers who are employed in stores that make order made work only shall be transferred to and controlled by Local 65.

No objection being offered, upon motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Vice-President Amdur: This completes the report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, which is signed:
Max Amdur, Local 2, Chairman; Henry Zucker, Local 41, Secretary; J. C. Ryan, Local 10; William Barcan, Local 11; N. Hogard, Local 14; D. Nisenewitz, Local 17; Charles Green, Joint Board of Cincinnnati; Max Brodfield, Local 23; Miss Grace Osborn, Local 33; Max Goldowsky, Local 35; Miss Lena Gersman, Local 55.

Upon motion of Delegate Ringer, the report of the committee was adopted as a whole as amended and the committee discharged, with the thanks of the Convention.
The chairman stated that, of course, the report was accepted with the exception of the progress case and the special committee on the appeal case.
As the hour of adjournment had arrived, a motion was made to remain in session until the work of the educational and law committees was completed. (Seconded and carried.)

Resolution No. 120

Whereas, Comrade Morris Hillquit, legal adviser for the I. L. G. W. U., honored us by coming to the convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union to address our delegates; and
Whereas, Delegate Hillquit’s address was a history of the activities and achievements of our International Union, and we believe this speech would be of great additional value to the educational work carried on by our International Union; be it therefore
Resolved, That this address be printed in pamphlet form and be distributed among all members of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union as largely as possible.
The committee recommended that the resolution be concurred in and submitted to the Committee on Education, for them to print in as many languages as they deem necessary, and also such other addresses delivered on the floor of this Convention that may be found advisable.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 129
Introduced by Max B. Gollin, Max Greencstein, Local 10.

Whereas, Our brother and comrade, Morris Hillquit, the attorney of our International Union for the past two and a half years, the most critical years in the history of the International, has served our interests with such ability and almost superhuman devotion as to provoke praise, love and admiration from the organized workers of this country and the public at large; and
Whereas, Brother Hillquit’s masterful address, if distributed among the members of
our International, would enlighten them as to the history of our struggles for the past two and a half years and would also give them a clearer insight into our future problems: be it therefore

Resolved, That this, the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U., instructs our Educational Committee to issue Brother Hillquit's address in pamphlet form and distribute it among all members of our International.

The committee recommended concurrence.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 180

Whereas, It is to the interests of the working class, both in its economic struggles as well as in its political struggles, that all its members be citizens; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the Educational Committee of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union make a part of its work the work of naturalization, and co-operate for this purpose with the Naturalization Aid League.

On motion, the resolution was concurred in.

Secretary Rosenberg: This concludes the report of the committee, which is signed:

B. Metz, Local 35; Chairman; M. Rubin, Local 1; Louis Hyman, Local 9; Elmer Rosenberg, Local 10; Sarah Cesar, Local 15; Isaac Posner, Local 24; Luigi Antonini, Local 25; Anna H. Cavanagh, Local 40; Anna Thomas, Local 49.

Committee on Education.

On motion of Delegate Padovar, the report of the committee was adopted as a whole, and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAW.

Vice-President Pierce, chairman of the committee, continued the report as follows:

Resolution No. 38

Introduced by S. Halman, Local 25.

Whereas, Many of our most active members of the different local unions have been compelled to leave their former occupations as workers or officials in their respective locals, because of being defeated in an election or being unable on account of union activity to obtain employment at their respective crafts; and

Whereas, Such members while they are out are still donating their valuable services to the I. L. O. W. U. or to their locals who really need their services; be it therefore

Resolved, That any such members, if they are not engaged in hiring and employing labor and if they are not engaged in such business which brings them in contact with the manufacturers of the local unions with which they are connected, shall be entitled to all the rights of membership in the I. L. O. W. U. and may represent their locals in any capacity or at any convention; and be it further

Resolved, That each and every local shall have a right to pass upon such members, whether they consider them worthy to retain membership, and may also make exceptions in cases where it is necessary, to allow them to indulge in any occupation in order to secure their existence, providing it will not involve employing, hiring and discharging workers.

Resolution No. 97

Introduced by M. Deitch, Local 9.

Strike out entire Article VII of Constitution.

Strike out entire Section 8, Article XIV, of Constitution.

Strike out entire Section 3, Article XVI, of Constitution.

Add a new section to Article XVI to read as follows:

"Any member who leaves his respective trade must withdraw from the local union upon request of the local. Should the member refuse to take out a withdrawal card the local union shall have the right to expel such member."

Resolution No. 154

Amend Section 1, of Article XVI, to read as follows:

Any member who leaves the country, quits his trade or accepts a position as foreman, forelady, designer, or enters business, shall
not be permitted to continue holding membership in the I. L. G. W. U., but shall immediately withdraw from membership in the I. L. G. W. U. by giving written notice to that effect to the Secretary of the local union of which he or she is a member. Said notice must be accompanied by a remittance of all dues, assessments and fines due to the local at the time of his or her withdrawal, and also surrendering his or her membership book. The local Secretary, upon receiving such notice, membership book and remittance, shall immediately issue to the member a Withdrawal Card. Any member failing to withdraw, as prescribed above, shall be automatically expelled from the I. L. G. W. U., and his or her name shall be dropped from the books of the local of which he or she is a member.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

The resolutions were all referred back to the committee and they deal with the same subject. We have drafted a substitute, which reads as follows:

Any member who leaves his respective trade must withdraw from the local union upon request of the local union or General Executive Board. Should the member refuse to take out a withdrawal card the local union or G. E. B. shall have the right to expel such member.

The committee recommends the adoption of the substitute.

On motion the recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Resolution No. 121

Introduced by Philadelphia delegation of the Cloakmakers' Union.

Whereas, H. Weinberg, the famous labor agitator, has done such excellent work in the labor movement generally, in the ladies' garment industry particularly, causing the workers of this industry to become better organized; and

Whereas, Time and over again the International had in their employ H. Weinberg as a lecturer as well as an organizer to help advance the cause of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; and

Whereas, The General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. have experienced the impossibility of obtaining organizers as well as agitators for their purpose at the desired time; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Thirteenth Biennial Convention go on record that H. Weinberg, the famous labor agitator, shall constantly be on the organizing list of the I. L. G. W. U., under the supervision of the General Executive Board.

This matter has been referred to the Law Committee, which recommends that it be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. —

That the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. be so amended that the Credential Committee will be relieved of the duties of auditing the financial accounts and that a committee of five members be elected by the Convention, to be known as an Auditing Committee, who shall be empowered to engage a certified Public Accountant to audit the books, accounts and financial records of the General Office. Such audits to be rendered to the Auditing Committee, who shall meet quarterly and act upon same.

The Auditing Committee to render a report to the next convention.

The committee recommended that in view of the fact that an amendment has already gone into the Constitution, that a committee of three be appointed by the General Executive Board to examine into the finances and report to the General Executive Board every three months, the committee respects this amendment.

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

In conclusion, the Committee on Law recommends that the incoming General Executive Board appoint a committee to compile and revise the Constitution and by-laws.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Pierce, Local 34, Chairman; P. Kottler, Local 1; Morris Deutsch, Local 9; H. Witskin, Local 25; John Porans, Local 26; H. Greensberg, Local 50; S. Davidson, Local 52; N. Selita, Local 53; Julius Portnoy, Local 113.

Committee on Law.
On motion, the report of the Committee on Law has been adopted as a whole, as amended, and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Delegate Rosenberg, Local 7, Chairman of the committee, reported as follows:

Resolution No. 181

Introduced by Samuel Levin, Local 65.

Whereas, The Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union, Local 65, had improved the conditions of the workers in the trade; and

Whereas, Unfortunately, The lost strike of 1914 deprived them of their improved conditions; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention endorses a general strike for the near future in this trade in Brooklyn in order to regain the conditions that prevailed before the last strike.

The committee recommended that the matter be referred to the International Executive Board.

On motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

Chairman Rosenberg: This completes the work of the Committee on Organization. The report is signed:

Abraham Rosenberg, Local 1, Chairman; A. Goldstein, Local 1; Morris Weiner, Local 3; Philip Berman, Local 20; Sigmund Hyman, Local 25; Julius Finkelstein, Local 38; Alfredo L. Parka, Local 48; Miss Fannie M. Cohn, Local 60; M. Perlstein, Joint Board of Cleveland.

Committee on Organization.

On motion of Delegate Ringer, the report of the committee was adopted as a whole, and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EQUAL RIGHTS

Delegate Bernstein, secretary of the committee, reported as follows:

To the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

Greeting:

Your Committee on Equal Rights has the honor to bring the following report and recommendations to your attention.

We have received two resolutions pertaining to this matter, one resolution, No. 3, introduced by M. Sterling, Local 1, and R. Bernstein, Local 9, recommending the endorsement of a resolution introduced by Congressmen Mayer London, in the House of Representatives, (H. R. 28) and by Senator Lane, in the Senate, requesting the President of the United States to do all in his power to bring about the termination of the terrible war devastating Europe. The second resolution, No. 11, introduced by Saul Mets and Elias Lieberman, Local 25, made reference to the inequality of the Jewish nation in a political, national and civil sense, and called upon this Convention to urge upon the governments of the nations of Europe where such inequality in existence to cease the discriminations now practiced against our people, and also requested that this Convention endorses the program of the National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights.

Your committee has duly considered the above referred to resolutions, and in consequence, has prepared a substitute resolution, which, in its opinion, covers fully the subject-matter of the above referred to resolutions, which we now submit for your consideration.

The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, the European war is daily growing in extent and horrors, and the unfortunate nations involved in it seem to be powerless to check the fury of mutual destruction and wholesale bloodshed; and

Whereas, Many nations in Europe are held in political subjugation by the great powers, are deprived of the right of self-government, hampered in their free national and cultural development, oppressed, maltreated and persecuted, and the existence of such oppressed nationalities, and their natural and legitimate struggles to liberate themselves constitute a fruitful source of international strife and war; and

Whereas, Some of the warring countries of Europe still withhold from the Jewish people the political, national and civic rights enjoyed by other citizens or subjects of those countries, although the Jews are making
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untold sacrifices in goods and blood for the countries of their birth or adoption, and

Resolved, That this Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled in Philadelphia on the 25th day of October, 1916, give its hearty endorsement to the Joint House resolution introduced by Congressmen Meyer London in the House of Representatives, and by Senator Lane in the Senate, calling upon the President of the United States to convene a congress of neutral nations with the object of terminating the fratricidal war in Europe and establishing a durable peace upon just terms which shall include effective machinery for the peaceful settlement of international disputes in the future and ample provisions for the political independence and self-government of the oppressed nations and the removal of all political, national and civil disabilities of the Jewish people.

Resolves further, That the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the organized workers of the United States generally are urged to render moral and material assistance to the full extent of their means to their suffering fellow-workers, the victims of the war and of political, religious and racial persecutions.

Resolved further, That this Convention levy a tax on each and every member of our International of 5 cents assessment, and also an additional voluntary 5-cent stamp to be issued and spread broadcast among our members through our local organizations, this assessment to be collected within ninety days after the close of this Convention. This money, which we hope will, through generous response from our members, reach the sum of $10,000, should be forwarded by the incoming General Executive Board to the war sufferers in Europe.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the report of the committee.

Delegate Rosenberg moved that the report of the committee be amended to read 10 cents.

Delegate Schoolman offered an amendment that it should be six months.

Secretary Sterling: My advice to the delegates is to accept the recommendation of the committee.

The motion to adopt the recommendation of the committee was carried.

The committee also feels that our International is duty bound to make the terrible conditions prevailing among the war-stricken and oppressed nationalities of Europe known to organized labor in America, and thus enlist its sympathies and activities in full for them. We recommend that this Convention instructs its delegation to the coming Convention of the American Federation of Labor to bring this matter on the floor of the Convention, and that the Convention authorizes the purchase of three hundred copies of the "Black Book," issued by the National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights, for distribution among the delegates of the Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Rosenberg offered an amendment to supply as many copies as it will be necessary, to supply the delegates to the American Federation of Labor. (Seconded and carried.)

Fraternally Submitted,

MAX STERLING, Local 1, Chairman.
REUBEN BERNSTEIN, Local 9, Sec.
A. GOLDIN, Local 17.
A. GOLD, Local 44.
SALVATORE NINFO, Local 48.
MRS. BERTIE NISJITZ, Local 62.
MRS. HENRY STEIN, Local 89.
R. FRIEDMAN, Local 78.
MORRIS WENTHEIMER, Local 5.

Committee.

On motion the report was accepted and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Convention.

President Schlesinger introduced Dr. Max Goldfarb to the delegates, who addressed the Convention.

ADDRESS OF DR. MAX GOLDFARB.

Sisters and Brothers:

I am addressing you this afternoon not as delegates of the ladies' garment industry. I have listened to your discussions during the many sessions of this Convention, and have observed your earnest handling of the various subjects that have demanded your attention, and I have come to the conclusion that you are not alone representing an industry, but that you are delegates of humanity; your action in so cheerfully accepting the excellent recommendations of your Committee on Equal Rights has planted this conviction in my heart.

We are living in a world of united interests, of intertwined problems, controversies and inequalities. The march of the world's progress is marked all along the line by the endeavor of the weaker, smaller and oppressed nations to gain for themselves human, civil and political equality. For let me tell you, my friends, that the ruthless policies of oppression are a moral and spiritual burden and curse upon the very heads of the so-called ruling nations. It has been a boomerang and a draw-back to the oppressors and has retarded their own progress.

There was a time when the workers saw only and sought to fight against economic oppression. Gradually, the idea that economic and political inequalities are closely affiliated with each other, has found its way among the workers, and they began to organize and fight politically. Now the tragedy of national oppression is looming up larger and larger before the eyes and minds of the workers, and they are becoming mighty interested in it. The events of the last few years, the crushing of Belgium and the strangling of Greece were demonstrated in all its horrors to the world the inequalities of the small, helpless nations and has proved beyond cavil that so long as the bleeding sword is the only final arbiter of world problems, the only Supreme Court of international appeal, the fate of the weaker, the oppressed nations will remain as tragic, and profoundly helpless as to-day.

I am thank you for your loyal and brotherly action in the name of the National Workmen's Committee on Jewish Rights. Your decisions will resound far and wide on this continent, and will find an echo all over the world. Your mighty protest against the civil, political and national discriminations will, I am confident, help materially in the task undertaken by the liberal forces of the world to work with might and main to remove these disabilities, to help those who suffer and bleed under them and to give mankind a happier, saner and more beautiful place to live in.

Sisters and brothers, I thank you.

The thanks of the Convention were extended to Dr. Goldfarb for his address.

COMMUNICATIONS.


International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.: We wish you success.

BR. E. S. P., PATTERSON, N. J. U.

At 6 o'clock P. M. the Convention was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 A. M., Saturday, October 27th.
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CORRECTIONS.

At the request of Delegate Leokovits the minutes on page 9, of Thursday's session, on the action on Resolution No. 25, were corrected by President Schlesinger to read: That it was the consensus of opinion that if any differences will arise in New York, in the matter of the sample makers, the matter shall be referred to the Joint Board of New York.

ELEVENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 9.30 A. M. Saturday, October 21st, President Schlesinger in the chair.

Secretary Baroff read the following:

Mr. Abraham Baroff, Secretary.
My Dear Sir: Received your enthusiastic telegram of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and wish to thank the Union for their appreciation and their thoughtfulness in remembering my very little service. I assure the Union that I consider it a great privilege to have been instrumental in making my former property available to so many people.

Mr. Hensche I and myself decided to declare the Union heir of all our possessions in case of our death, but we do not care for receiving much publicity. We simply and humanely assist the very men who through his useful work creates wealth, beauty, etc. That this action will take place only after our death is due to the capitalistic system in which we are at present compelled to live.

With best wishes for success, believe me
Sincerely your's,

MARTHA H. HENSECHL.
and father.

ERNST HENSECHL.

Corset Workers' Union, Local No. 55.
Mr. A. Baroff, Scotch Hall Rite Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother: We are in receipt of your check for, one thousand dollars ($1,000.00), for which we are most thankful.

We extend to you our heartiest congratulations and sincere wishes. Hoping you will be successful in all your worthy endeavors for the progress of all the workers.

Fraternally yours,

MARY WHALEN,
President.

NEW BUSINESS.

Delegate Sterling moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the Arrangements Committee of Philadelphia, which was seconded. Delegate Prisear moved to amend, that a suitable gift be presented to the Committee. The amendment was accepted by Delegate Sterling and the motion as amended was carried.

Delegate Lieberman obtained consent to present the following resolution:

Resolution No. 179.

Introduced by Elias Lieberman, Local 25:

Whereas, A number of publications are issued by various locals of our International Union, and

Whereas, All of these publications are assisting continually in the great organisation and educational campaigns conducted by our International Union, and

Whereas, The publications New Post, Gleichheit, Message, Ladies' Garment Worker, La Opera, Lotta De Cless, edited by Comrads Shub, Sperel, Miss Poyntz, Rosenberg, Consiglio and Bonds, have helped to make victorious the various struggles conducted by our International; be it

Resolved, That the convention go on record that it appreciates the good work done by them, and hereby extends its thanks to the editors.

The resolution was concurred in by the convention.

Vice-President Amdur in the chair.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Vice-President Amdur: We are now ready for the nomination of officers. Nominations for President are in order.

Delegate E. Rosenberg: I believe that one of the most important parts of the business of the convention is about to be transacted. The organization is charged with the big responsibility of creating better conditions for the workers, and it is important that we have at the head of the organization a man full of strength, morally and mentally; a man who can command the respect of the rank and file, and yet a man respected by the manufacturers. I have such a man in
mind, and I believe it is the duty of this convention to speak in such terms to him that he will be compelled to accept the nomination. It is an obligation he owes to the labor movement of the United States and to the workers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who have at all times appreciated his work among them.

I wish to place before you the name of our Comrade and Brother, Benjamin Schlesinger.

The delegates applauded vigorously for several minutes.

Several delegates seconded the nomination.

There being no further names presented, upon motion nomination were closed.

Vice-President Amdur stated that nominations were in order for General Secretary-Treasurer.

Delegate Liefshin placed in nomination for Secretary-Treasurer, Abraham Baroff, stating that Mr. Baroff had at all times given his best efforts to the workers and had helped to make the International successful.

The nomination was seconded by Delegate Kovinsky.

No further names being presented, on motion of Delegate Longer, duly seconded, nominations were closed.

The chairman stated that the next nomination in order was that for First Vice-President.

Delegate I. Epstein, Local No. 10, was placed in nomination by Delegate Longer. The nomination was seconded by Delegate Jesse Cohen.

Delegate Bernstein placed in nomination Delegate Elmer Rosenberg, of Local 10. Seconded.

There being no further names presented, upon motion nominations for the office of First Vice-President were closed.

Chairman Amdur stated that nominations were in order for six Vice-Presidents from New York.

Jacob Halpern, Local No. 9, was placed in nomination by Delegate Kovinsky.

Samuel Lefkovitz, Local No. 3, was placed in nomination by Delegate Wiener.

Delegate Wander, Local No. 33, was placed in nomination by Delegate Prisant.

Delegate Nebelman, Local No. 26, was placed in nomination by Delegate Hallman.

Delegate Mets, Local No. 38, was placed in nomination by Delegate Breslauer.

Delegate Greenberg, Local No. 40, was placed in nomination by Delegate Bernstein.

Delegate Ninno, Local No. 45, was placed in nomination by Delegate Jessa Cohen.

Delegate Zucker, Local No. 41, was nominated by Delegate Goldstein.

Delegate Kottler, Local No. 1, was nominated by Delegate Asplis.

Mollie Lifshitz, of Local No. 55, was nominated by Delegate Beller.

There being no further names presented, on motion nominations were closed.

Chairman Amdur stated that nominations were in order for candidates for six Vice-Presidents from organisations outside of New York City.

Fanny Cohen, Local No. 60, was placed in nomination by Delegate Patalsky.

S. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto, was placed in nomination by Delegate Bogorad.

Vice-President Max Amdur was placed in nomination by Delegate Snyder.

R. Schoolman, J. B. of Chicago, was nominated by Delegate Goldlin.

Vice-President John F. Pierce was placed in nomination by Delegate Martin.

Delegate Porges placed in nomination M. Perlstein, J. B. of Cleveland.

Delegate Sarah Shapiro, Local 25, stated that, as she failed to get the floor at the time Delegate Fanny Cohen was nominated, she desired to second that nomination.

N. Herman, Boston, was placed in nomination by Delegate Perls.

Delegate Friend made a statement, and asked for a ruling of the chair as to whether a member of a New York Local could be nominated as a General Executive Board member for the country.

Chairman Amdur ruled that he could be nominated.

Delegate Asplis objected to Delegate Friend's statement, and stated that Perlstein's nomination had not been objected to.

No further names being presented, upon motion of Delegate Green, nominations for candidates outside of New York were closed.

Vice-President Amdur stated that Meyer
London had not yet arrived at the convention, but that word had been received that he would reach the hall at 2 o'clock, and asked whether the convention should remain in session until his arrival.

Delegate Jesse Cohen moved that the convention remain in session until Congressman London arrived. Carried.

Delegate Stein, Local 10, received permission to introduce the following resolution:

Resolution No. 180.

Introduced by M. Perlstein, J. B. Cleveland; Saul Metz, Local 25; C. Stein, Local 10; Morris Goldofsky, Local 35; J. Kimbartsky, Local 15; L. Friend, Local 57; N. Hines, Local 1; Delegate Langer, Local 35; E. Lieberman, S. Selzman, Local 25.

Be it Resolved, That the salary of the General President be increased to $4,000 per year; and, be it further Resolved, That the salary of the General Secretary-Treasurer be increased to $50 per week.

A motion was made and seconded to refer the resolution to the Committee on Resolutions.

Chairman Amdur ruled that the motion could not be entertained, as the Committee had concluded its report and been discharged.

A motion was made and seconded that the convention take immediate action on the resolution. Carried. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution.

Delegate Padover discussed the question and opposed the resolution.

Delegate Goldofsky moved the previous question.

The chairman refused to entertain the motion until each delegate who wished had a chance to express his views.

No objection being offered, on motion debate was closed.

A viva-voce vote was taken on the motion to adopt the resolution. Delegate Seldman stated that a count should be taken on the motion.

The chairman stated that the motion would be put to a count. A show of hands was called for, and on a count being taken the motion to adopt the resolution was carried by a vote of 97 in the affirmative to 4 in the negative.

A delegate asked for a roll call, but the request was not supported by a sufficient number of delegates, and the resolution was declared adopted.

Chairman Amdur stated that the committee that had been selected to purchase a token of appreciation for President Schlesinger was ready to report, and that further nominations would be postponed until they had reported.

Delegate Langer, in behalf of the committee, said: We were selected to purchase a token of appreciation for Brother Schlesinger, which we have done and which we wish to present to him on behalf of the two hundred delegates to this convention. These delegates representing about one hundred and thirty or forty thousand members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

We have worked with Brother Schlesinger in the organization for over two years, and we realize that he is an able man; we all realize how sincere Brother Schlesinger was to the cause of our workers in the City of New York and elsewhere, and this present is a remembrance for all the achievements that Brother Schlesinger has accomplished in the past two and one-half years.

We are all proud that Brother Schlesinger has been re-elected and the masses of our workers will be glad when they are informed of it. In the name of the convention, in the names of the delegates, in the names of the hundreds of thousands of people in our industry, we congratulate Brother Schlesinger and wish him success during the next two years.

A handsome mahogany grandfather's clock presented to President Schlesinger, who was enthusiastically applauded by the delegates.

President Schlesinger: I want to thank you delegates from the bottom of my heart for the appreciation you have shown of the work we have done during the past two years, as well as for the present, which is an expression of your appreciation. I want to say to you, however, that it was not the desire for a gift, or even appreciation, that
prompted me in all the work I have undertaken. It is, perhaps, one of my characteristics that when I work at a certain thing, I like to work ardently for it, and when I worked during the past two and a half years for our organization, it was not because I expected anything, but simply because this is my nature—one of my characteristics—and if I had been working at anything else I would probably have given it just as much attention.

When I was a cloak maker, and worked as operator for about sixteen or seventeen years, I worked just as hard at the machine as I have done as an official of the union. I was manager of The Forward for about six years, and I worked there just as hard as I have for this organization, and I am quite sure when I take up a different occupation I will work just as hard, if I am only physically strong enough to do it.

I really do not feel that I can tell you anything more at this time, but there is one thing that I would like to impress upon you, that our successes and achievements, as some of the people call it, are not altogether due to the activity of the General Executive Board, or to any individual, including myself. I want to say to you that during the last two and a half years I came in contact with almost each and every officer of each and every local union connected with our International; I came in contact with the paid officers and with the unpaid officers, and I have never, in all my experience, seen people who were more devoted to the cause than I have met in all of the locals connected with our organization. When you take into consideration the strikes we have had, that 60,000 men and women in the City of New York have been ready to fight and suffer, almost to the point of starvation, for fifteen or sixteen weeks, I think you will say that they themselves have been the masters of the situation.

When we speak of our successes in Philadelphia or other cities, the credit should be given to the workers themselves, because they have responded so faithfully and so loyally to the cause of this organization.

I feel that some of the delegates may not approve of this, but I want to say to them that this present will not make me feel any better or any worse, that I will do my very best, regardless of presents. As far as I am concerned I was not looking for this, I have done everything that I could to try to convince you that this was not necessary. So I again thank you from the bottom of my heart for your appreciation, for your gift, not because it is a gift, but because it expresses the feeling of the majority of the delegates attending this convention.

Delegate Greenberger, for the Committee:

Your committee also has the honor to express the appreciation of the delegates to this convention to one who, during the past two and a half years has worked very hard and faithfully and conscientiously in the employ of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Every one of the delegates present here found on his table every morning the report of the previous day's proceedings in printed form, which meant that Brother Danish had to work the greater part of the night in order to get the proceedings ready for the following morning. In token of appreciation of the delegates to this thirteenth biennial convention we therefore wish to present Brother Danish with this little gift.

Mr. Max Danish was presented with a handsome gold watch and chain.

Mr. Danish: Just a few words, brothers and sisters. I wish to express to you my deep appreciation and thanks for your recognition of my efforts to do the best I could for you. The past two years and a half have been years of busy activity on the part of every one, and I would suggest that whoever has been under the leadership of our President Schlesinger could not help being busy. I thank you very much for your kind appreciation. These have been two very happy and active years in my life, and I trust, if I continue in the employ of the organization, I will be able to serve you just as well in the future as in the past.

The committee was discharged with the thanks of the convention.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Delegate Ashpis made a motion that before the nomination of officers was proceeded with, the names already presented be acted upon. Seconded and carried.

Chairman Amdur appointed the following tellers: Delegate A. Rosenberg, Local 7; Martin, Local 10, and Shapiro, Local 25.
Delegate Ashpit moved that, as only one candidate was nominated for President, the Secretary be instructed to cast one vote for Benjamin Schlesinger for President, and that the election be made unanimous.

The motion was seconded and carried, and Benjamin Schlesinger was declared the unanimous choice of the convention for President for the ensuing term.

Delegate Lieberman moved that as there was but one candidate for Secretary-Treasurer, the President be instructed to cast one vote for Abraham Baroff for Secretary-Treasurer.

The motion was seconded and carried, and Abraham Baroff was declared the unanimous choice of the convention for Secretary-Treasurer.

Delegate Friend made a motion that two more tellers be appointed, making the number of tellers five. The motion was accepted and the chair appointed Delegate Hyman, Local 9, and Delegate LaPorta, Local 48.

As the roll was called, each delegate came forward and cast his ballot for First Vice-President, the result being as follows:

Delegate Isadore Epstein.................. 12 votes
Delegate Elmer Rosenberg.................. 101 votes

Elmer Rosenberg, Local 10, was declared duly elected to serve as First Vice-President for the ensuing term.

NEW YORK MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD.

J. Halpern, Local 9.......................... 140 votes
B. Leitkovits, Local 3........................ 123 votes
S. Saldman, Local 25....................... 89 votes
Saul Mets, Local 35......................... 121 votes
H. Greenberg, Local 50.................... 65 votes
B. Ninio, Local 48.......................... 101 votes
P. Rottler, Local 1.......................... 55 votes
Mollie Lifshitz, Local 62................... 53 votes
H. Zucker, Local 41........................ 56 votes
H. Wander, Local 23........................ 101 votes

The six candidates receiving the highest number of votes were declared duly elected, and are as follows:

J. Halpern................................. 140 votes
B. Leitkovits............................... 123 votes
S. Mets..................................... 121 votes
H. Wander................................... 110 votes
B. Ninio.................................... 101 votes
S. Saldman................................ 89 votes

Delegate Wiener moved that the convention adjourn to 3 o'clock. Seconded, but not carried.

President Schlesinger stated that he wished to appoint Miss Rose Schniederman to address the Free Speech League meeting, as that meeting was to be held shortly at the Philadelphia City Hall Plaza.

The election was proceeded with as follows:

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD FROM LOCALS OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK.

B. Koldofsky, Toronto....................... 108 votes
Max Amdur, Local 2........................ 104 votes
H. Schoolman, Chicago..................... 117 votes
John F. Pierce.............................. 124 votes
M. Peristel, Cleveland..................... 105 votes
N. Berman, Local 34........................ 96 votes
Fannie Cohn, Local 60..................... 96 votes

The six candidates receiving the highest number of votes were declared duly elected, and are as follows:

John F. Pierce................................ 124 votes
H. Schoolman................................ 117 votes
B. Koldofsky................................. 108 votes
M. Peristel.................................. 105 votes
Max Amdur................................. 104 votes
Fannie Cohn................................ 96 votes

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

The following delegates were nominated:

B. Schlesinger, Local 1; A. LaPorta, Local 48; M. Gorenstein, Local 10; H. Wiltskin, Local 26; J. Breitwasser, Local 35; J. Breitwasser, Local 28; J. Grossberger, Local 10; A. Snyder, Local 2; A. Rosenberg, Local 7; M. Delitch, Local 9; Sarah Shapiro, Local 28; B. Prisam, Local 28; J. Huller, Local 17; M. Wiener, Local 3; M. Brodfield, Local 23; I. Epstein, Local 10.

Delegates Brodfield and Epstein declined the nominations.

A. Rosenberg, Local 7, and Miss Shapiro, Local 28, being among the candidates, were replaced as tellers by Delegates Koldofsky and Lifshitz.
The candidates accepting the nomination received the following number of votes, respectively:

B. Schlesinger, 90 votes; J. Heller, 69 votes; M. Goreinstein, 61 votes; A. Rosenberg, 61 votes; M. Deitch, 54 votes; B. Shapiro, 54 votes; A. LaPorta, 21 votes; D. Witsakln, 34 votes; J. Wreahlauer, 22 votes; J. Greenberger, 39 votes; A. Snyder, 33 votes; S. Prisant, 30 votes; M. Wiener, 23 votes.

B. Schlesinger, J. Heller, M. Goreinstein, A. Rosenberg, M. Deitch and B. Shapiro, having received the highest number of votes, were declared duly elected delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention.

Delegate A. Rosenberg installed the newly-elected officers.

President Schlesinger: I will not take up very much of your time, because you are all tired. This day has been a great strain upon each and every delegate, so I will not attempt to make any so-called speech. But I do want to say a few words. I was elected officer of this organization two years and a half ago, and I know that the delegates at that convention expected a whole lot from me, but all I could tell them at that time was that I would do my best. We are finding out as time goes on that our International is becoming one of the largest organizations in the country, and I must say that I am gratified at the results obtained during the last two and a half years. I don't know whether you all feel that way, and I presume that there must be a good many who have expected more. And I will say in that regard that I myself expected more results than we have achieved, but each and every one who has served, you during the last two and a half years has done his very best and has given you everything that was in him.

I have worked with the General Executive Board during this time, and I know how they have worked. You know they are busy men. Some of them are men who are working in the shops, but whenever there was work to be done they were always ready and willing to come, and every one worked faithfully.

I do not feel that we will accomplish as much in the next year and seven months as we have during the past two years and a half, but I want to tell you that I will do my utmost. I have only one life, and I am ready to put that life into the movement. I am ready to do everything, to give everything that is in me to the movement to make it a success.

(At this juncture Congressperson Meyer London arrived, and was escorted to the platform, accompanied by cheers and applause.)

President Schlesinger: Congressperson London will speak to you presently, and I will say in advance to those who have not had the pleasure of hearing him that the applause will even be greater after you have heard him.

At present our organization is in a more or less dangerous position, and for no other reason but because it is a strong organization. When we had just a small union of a few thousand workers, if a mistake was made by a local organization or by the International, there was no danger that the organization would suffer much on account of that mistake; there was nothing at stake. But if a mistake is made now, it is a very serious matter, and might bring about the ruination of the organization. You all must appreciate the present state of the organization, the state of the Industry. I believe we have in the Industry about a quarter of a million workers, a little over 125,000 of whom are organized; and these people who are organized must make an effort to organize the 126,040 who are not. Otherwise the workers who are organized will suffer, for they will not have enough work to make a decent living. Now, I can assure you that the General Executive Board that you have elected to-day will do, and I myself will do, all that it is possible for any body of men to do to bring about the organization of the unorganized. We will give to this organization all there is in us, and will try to come back to you in a year and seven months from now and report success, not failure. I am going to ask the delegates to go back to your respective locals and try to bring the proper spirit of solidarity among the members. Do not permit quarreling among the members, as we have had sometimes in the past. Try to forget each others' faults and bring enthusiasm into your work, together with a determined purpose of building up this organization and making it the strongest in the country. Go back and take with you that spirit, that life, that en-
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thusiasm that is necessary, and you will succeed, and we will return to the next convention and report of wonderful success.

President Schlesinger in the chair.

Secretary Daroff: Brother President and delegates, it gives me great pleasure to be re-elected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. It is a great honor to be one to lead an organization, and I will tell you that I am not only happy because of the confidence you have placed in me, but because you have made it possible for me to be working with the same President. I have been with President Schlesinger a little more than a year, and I have always looked upon him as one who was absolutely necessary to the organization; and I am convinced that if he should leave us we would suffer. I am happy to know that he has at last decided to remain with us. I will do all I can to help the organization, and will promise to do whatever is in me to help advance the labor movement. It is not a new thing for me to be a leader of an organization, as I have been in the labor movement for practically twenty-five years. I can assure you that I will work faithfully for the organization during the next two years.

President Schlesinger asked Dr. Max Goldfarb to speak a few words to the delegates, which request he complied with, addressing them in Yiddish.

Dr. Goldfarb stated in brief his impressions of the distinguishing features between the aims, purposes and aspirations of organized labor in this country and Europe. He recalled, among other things, with warmth the remarkable fight which the ladies' garment workers of the country have put up to secure life and freedom for their eight brothers who were accused of some dastardly crimes over a year ago. This historic event, Dr. Goldfarb said, has deeply affected his entire conception of the strength and loyalty of the labor movement in America, and has dispersed forever the heavy clouds that hung low over organized labor, and has given every man and woman in our trades lasting hope and inspiration.

President Schlesinger appointed the following delegates as members of the Committee on Education: M. J. Ashpis, Local 1; M. Kovinsky, Local 9; E. Lieberman, Local 36; L. Langer, Local 36; A. Sayder, Local 1.

President Schlesinger, in presenting Congressman Meyer London, stated that he introduces him as the Congressman of the working people of the country, and told of the wonderful assistance he had given to the International.

ADDRESS OF CONGRESSMAN MEYER LONDON.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers and Sisters: When you hear me now, if you do hear me, you will realize why I could not come here before. I expected to be here last Wednesday, but caught a very severe cold last Tuesday and could not speak above a whisper, and even now I am making an extraordinary effort to be heard. For me you convention and the International have a profound significance. It is in the labor movement, it is in the union that the dreamer must descend from the clouds and place himself on solid ground and learn to work. It is well to dream of a future wherein the regeneration of society, the rejuvenation of the world will be accomplished, but there is no way of testing a man's work except by his sacrifice, his devotion and his labor. That is why I have always looked upon the labor movement, upon the work of the men and women in that movement, as the foundation, the only hope of possible success of our aspirations.

We cannot rely much upon the professions, upon colleges, upon universities and upon the philosophers. There have been philosophers, thousands of them; there are wonderful universities in every big city and in every civilized country, there have been biologists and astronomers, and while these astronomers were studying the stars and while the biologists were writing and studying the history of evolution and the processes of life in the vegetable and animal world, and long-haired professors were lecturing to students, none of them gave any thought to the great problems of the world, the problem of the poverty of the masses.

I have always said to myself: What good are our colleges, our universities and schools, our books, our libraries as long as millions of men and women are uncertain of
their bread, as long as the rush of the season is followed by the dreadful stretch of unemployment, as long as poverty knocks at the door, as long as women are taken from their homes and forced into factories, as long as millions of children compete with their brothers and sisters for the bread. What good is all the education that we talk about? We will never be educated people, we will never be a great people until the great masses of working men and women are the educated class, and until the great masses of the men and women who are in the factories are the noble class. The difference now between the workers and the capitalist is not that the worker is nobler, but that he is poorer than the capitalist. There is too much selfishness and narrowness and littleness even among the workers. Consider recent events. We have perhaps the strongest union in the history of the country in the railroad brotherhood. They presented their demands recently and asked for an eight-hour day, and they had the power to enforce those demands. Congress took notice of it, the President considered them and offered to arbitrate, offered to legislate, and did legislate for them. Now, if these 400,000 men were not narrow and were not selfish they would say to the people of the United States and to the Congress of the United States, "We are 400,000 strong; we are powerful; we can sustain our rights; we can cripple the traffic of the land by simply folding our arms, and in one week we can do more damage than can be compensated by years of additional work, but we are going to use that tremendous power of paralyzing the traffic of the country not only for us, the 400,000 men, but for the 1,700,000 workers engaged in other occupations on the railways."

This they did not do. I don't know whether they would realize now that they should have done it. The reason they failed to do it was because the labor movement still needs a soul; it needs a philosophy and a religion, if you please, and it is your movement, ladies' garment workers, that supplies the religion and the soul and the philosophy to the labor movement. That is why all your conventions are of such great importance. What a splendid thing it is that you have so many women delegates at your convention; that you can say to the world that you have succeeded in organizing the element which has heretofore been thought incapable of organization. I have not any doubt but that you will grow and prosper and succeed, and try and try again, and if your work occasionally does fail you will try again. There is no such thing as failure. Strike out the word "failure" from the dictionary of the labor movement, because we must be ready to fight until we win.

It is too late to make a long speech. I know you are all worn out, and I myself do not feel ready to make one now. I don't want to go into the historical analysis of the labor movement and its various tendencies. I suppose you must have heard enough speeches during your convention. I have looked over your proceedings, and find that every day you had a dose of a speechmaking, and it appeared to me that my visit here was more a matter of form than anything else, a mere ceremony, and after all, I am not a great believer in ceremony. If you need me to help in a fight, you can always get me, and not for your sake only, but for my sake.

As I go back to my young days, and I compare my work and my life with my present position, even before I was elected to Congress, with those who sold their souls to the demand of commerce, with those who put their energy and their services into the hands of cash, to those who recognized no aristocracy but the aristocracy of cash, I would not exchange all the millions of all the multi-millionaires of America for your love and devotion and for your praise. Comrades, it is a mistake when you speak of me as a leader. I am not a leader. I have never been one, because I speak my mind too frankly, and a leader must not do that. I have never been a leader, nor am I an organizer. I am just a voice, and when I speak I feel that it is not speech, but action. I feel it is my heart, my soul, my entire self, and the reason I am a voice is because I feel it is my function to interpret and translate into words your sentiments and your desires and your aspirations. Comrades, go back to your organizations determined to fight on. Many of you work in petty little factories, where you deal with small employers. Many of these employers started in without any capital, and you know that there is always
the ambition and tendency among the workers to become small employers. Now, I want to tell you that there is more joy and happiness in being a part of the labor movement than even in becoming a business man. One of the officers connected with the International asked me ten or twelve months ago about this very thing. He said: "Things look miserable. Shall I stay or shall I not stay?" I said: "If I stay they will throw me out anyway." He said: "It is the duty of every man in the labor movement to stay until he is thrown out." The man who works for organized labor must be ready to make sacrifices. Some time or other the very workers whom he has helped will trample on him and throw him into the gutter, but that is a part of our sacrifices, that is part of our life work. We must be ready for great sacrifices in the labor movement, for the sneers of the capitalist and the ridicule of the doubting Thomases, the envy of the weak and the incompetent. We must be ready for it. That is what it means to be in the labor movement, because if there were no viciousness, no indifference, no stupidity and inertia there would be no need of a labor movement.

You have heard of Charles Edward Russell. He told me some time ago: "All we need is to awaken the working class." I said: "Brother Russell, if we awaken the working class there will be hell. What we need to do is to give them more intelligence, and then when they wake up they will be all right." It is the business of the labor movement to supply more intelligence and to develop those virtues which cement men into a strong, forceful body. That is our function; that is our work. I know that our paths will not be strewn with roses. I know that it is a difficult task, particularly in the smaller centers, where numbers are limited. In New York we have the inspiration of numbers. When 50,000 men come together, the very volume of the things, the bigness of the thing inspires you to push forward. But in those little towns in small trades, with limited numbers, and still more limited opportunities, it is there that we need unlimited devotion; it is there that we need an unlimited readiness for sacrifice in the cause of labor.

Comrades and friends, brothers and sisters, you have done a splendid piece of work. There is one thing that can be said about the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union: it never goes backward; it marches on. This is a great big task which must be accomplished by the labor movement of this country.

When the results of the election become known in a few weeks, and the world knows whether America first is elected or America efficient is elected—you know it is one of the interesting things about this campaign that both of the old political parties are announcing that they are for America, just as if one was going to be elected as President of Poland or President of Germany—capital is going to bring pressure to bear upon Congress and upon the President, no matter who is elected, and no matter what the membership of Congress may be, to take back the few little things that have been given to labor lately. When this war is ended, and it will end some day, there will be another effort made to reduce the conditions of labor to the same level that existed before the war. At no time is the history of the country was there so much need for united, energetic, broad-minded, intelligent action as there is today in the labor movement. I want to say to those who are not Socialists, that so far as the labor movement is concerned, so far as organized labor is concerned, I don't care whether I am elected a member of Congress or not. I have the life work of organized labor stands first, foremost and all the time. I will not surrender to the law-making cowards the extension of the boundary of human liberty. That liberty must come through constant effort, that must be the result of the devotion of those who, day after day, give their thought and energy to the struggle. It cannot be given to you by the powers above, the Legislature or Congress, or by the President; it must grow out of your hearts and your souls. Let no man, no matter what his political views may be, feel that he is out of place in this organization, because we are tolerant and we must be tolerant with one another if we are to cooperate.

I know that you are all worn out, and I, too, hate speech-making—I literally hate it. A speech is a good thing when it means action, when it does something, and when I speak to you now, if I can inspire any of you with a desire to work a little harder than you did before and have a little more
faith in the labor movement, then, and only then, my speech is worthwhile.

There is a great glorious future before you, and let me say there is a wonderful future in your trade. You know the Jewish politicians go around speaking of the glories of the Jew in the past, that we have given to the world the Bible, have given philosophers, scientists, musicians, that we have given the conception of one God, but we have not done yet our full share in America. We have given America a lot of cloak manufacturers, but they are not worthwhile; we have given plenty of cheap lawyers, but they are not worthwhile; we have contributed a fair percentage of crooks to American life, we have contributed our share of politicians, but we are yet to make our great contribution to this Republic. We shall contribute dreamers and fighters and lovers, because it is only the combination of the dreamer and the fighter and of the lover that makes the true, real man. We are yet to contribute to America, the greatest of all Republics, everything that is pure in us, everything that is noble, and this can only be done through pain, through agony, through martyrdom. This is going to be accomplished by the labor movement, and that is why I am willing to join in three cheers for the Ladies' Garment Workers.

(Prolonged and enthusiastic applause.)

At 6:30 P.M. the thirteenth convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was adjourned sine die.