1918

ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1918

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/ilgwuconv

Thank you for downloading an article from DigitalCommons@ILR.

Support this valuable resource today!

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union (ILGWU) at DigitalCommons@ILR. It has been accepted for inclusion in ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1900-1929 by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@ILR. For more information, please contact catherwood-dig@cornell.edu.

If you have a disability and are having trouble accessing information on this website or need materials in an alternate format, contact web-accessibility@cornell.edu for assistance.
ILGWU Convention Reports and Proceedings, 1918

Keywords
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.

This article is available at DigitalCommons@ILR: https://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/ilgwuconv/7
14TH CONV.
MAY 20TH -
JUNE 1, 1918
OFFICERS’ REPORTS

TO THE

FOURTEENTH CONVENTION

OF THE

International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union

MAY 20, 1918

CONVENTION HALL

BOSTON, MASS.
REPORT OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

Greeting:

We are met again to analyze and take account of the returns and events of the recent past of our industry, to legislate on the problems and conditions of the great masses of our workers, and to promote by all means within our power and wisdom their welfare, happiness and progress.

The period between the last Biennial Convention of our International in Philadelphia and our present gathering, was a time of great stress, which tried the soul or every man and woman in our land. Shifted from a peace footing to war environments, our industry, the ladies' garment trades, underwent a number of shocks and dislocations which have not yet been fully adjusted and brought into proper alignment. It was apparent from the very beginning of the participation of the United States in the World War that our trades, with their highly seasonal character and sensitive markets of production, would reflect the disturbed economic conditions and the changed psychology of the country quicker than any other trade or industry. The methods of production in our trades are, to an overwhelming extent, individualistic, with thousands of employers and shops, small and large, located in the big centres of population; and an economic shock finds our industry, therefore, less prepared to meet the inevitable consequences that follow in its wake, and our workers undergo in such times greater and more general privations.

The economic uncertainty, the atmosphere of caution and often unnecessary reservedness, which is so natural in times of war, brought about very acute and unsettled conditions during the first season succeeding the entry of our country into the war. During the months of November and December, 1917, and part of January, 1918, there were from thirty to forty thousand idle ladies' garment workers in the City of New York alone. The main causes of this unprecedented unemployment were, in our estimation, the strong sentiment of economy that developed during the first half year of the war among all classes of the population. Both the producers and buyers were strongly impressed with this new war psychology, and curtailed output and buying. The fall season of 1917 was, therefore, very poor and unusually short. The second factor that contributed to this situation was the high cost and scarcity of piece goods. The woolen and textile market was called upon to supply, to a very large extent, the cloth needed for the army contracts, and a number of mills which ordinarily supply the general market, limited their work to government contracts exclusively.

It would, therefore, stand to reason that organizing work, in the strict sense of campaigning in new and unexplored fields, was more limited during this term of our administration than during the term that preceded it. However, even during these difficult times the organizing activity of the International was never at a standstill. During the past year and a half campaigns were undertaken, with varying degrees of success, in New York, Chicago, Toronto, Montreal, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Baltimore, St. Louis and many other points on which we shall dwell in detail in the further course of this report. We have succeeded during this period in increasing the earnings of our workers in practically every trade of every city where we have organizations. These increases of wages and shortening of hours have had, outside of the purely material advantages which they gave to our workers, a very important spiritual influence on the membership of our organization and have inspired us with a new faith and confidence in the work and destiny of our International Union.

The present membership and standing of our International Union is a living illustration of the healthy and thoroughly sound condition of our organization. We are happy to report that our good standing
OFFICERS' REPORT

Membership has increased during the past period about seven thousand, and our voting strength at the next Convention of the American Federation of Labor will approximate 90,000 instead of 82,500 in 1917 and 85,000 in 1916, which raises us to the position of the fourth largest International Union in the American Federation of Labor. These figures gain special significance in view of the fact that according to the statistics of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the cloak and suit and waist trades of New York City, the actual number of persons engaged in the cloak trade in New York City, has diminished from 58,000 in 1913 to 42,000 in 1917, due to the fact that immigration has practically ceased since 1914.

It must be understood that the figures of our representation at the conventions of the American Federation of Labor are only an approximate criterion of our membership and strength, as they do not include the tens of thousands of our members, who, owing to the peculiar seasonal conditions of our industry, are at the time of these computations not in good standing, and are thus barred from our lists. With these included our membership safely reaches the total of 125,000.

We have passed quite recently through a very serious disturbance within a section of our organization in New York, the Cloak Operators' Union, Local No. 1. The origin of this disturbance dates back to the time of the notorious "Hourwich Affair" in 1913, which gave a chance to a group of unscrupulous demagogues to foster dissension and demoralization among the cloak operators in New York. The Cleveland Convention in 1914, as you well know, brought about a complete change in the administration of the International Union. Nevertheless, this group of irresponsibles did not abate its malign efforts, and proceeded to plot and undermine the unity of our organization.

In the years of 1915 and 1916, during our big controversies and strikes in the cloak trade in New York, this small though vociferous band on many occasions treacherously thwarted the activities of the Union, and worked by underhand methods to defeat our objects.

Early in 1917 this group again, in defiant disregard of every democratic tradition in our organization, and using most abominable methods of fraud and terror, elected themselves to the offices of the operators' local. Finally we took the inevitable step, and reorganized the local. The mists of delusion that had clogged the minds of some of our workers quickly disappeared, and today we have the entire rank and file of the operators back again in Local No. 1, and the influence of the malefactors has vanished forever.

We have sketched this occurrence in brief in order to make it clear to you that our organizing work was retarded, to a considerable degree, by this untoward event. We felt at times that the energy applied in eradicating this internal evil was badly needed in other fields—to organize the men and women of our trades into the fold of our International. However, speaking retrospectively, we must state that it was well spent and a noteworthy accomplishment to have rid the International and the New York labor movement of a malignant cancer of disruption and demagogy.

We shall now submit to your consideration and approval a report of the activities of your General Executive Board for the past term, together with a number of recommendations; the achievements and most important events of our national and local organizations; the plans that were laid and have matured; the contests that we have gone through; the gains that we have made;—in a word, a faithful narrative of the progress and present standing of our organization since our last Convention in Philadelphia.

THE CLOAKMAKERS OF NEW YORK.

The gigantic conflict of 1916 in the cloak trade in New York has brought to a halt the union-smashing schemes and tactics of the cloak employers of New York for a long time to come. The experience has had a salutary effect upon the manufacturers, and it has strengthened and stimulated the workers as no other event of recent years.

In the early part of 1917, toward the end of the spring season, the cloakmakers of New York began making preparations to demand an increase in wages. The war has given employers a pretext, here and
there, to drive hard bargains with the workers and to intimidate them into accepting lower prices and wages, while taking care of their own end of the business. In this connection a series of meetings were started by the New York Joint Board in preparation for the season, which culminated in a large meeting held in Cooper Union on May 19th. In June the International officers and the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Unions of New York addressed a communication to the Association demanding an increase of twenty per cent, for all week and piece workers, and pointing out the enormous increase in the cost of food and the other necessaries of life since the date of the last agreement, concluded in August, 1916. Similar requests were sent out to the individual manufacturers in the City of New York. The employers at first refused to concede to the demand of the workers, but after a series of conferences the matter was settled without resorting to warlike means. The increase ranged from $1.00 to $2.00 per week for week workers, and the base rate for piece workers was increased five cents per hour (from 75c to 80c for operators and from 55c to 60c for finishers). To appreciate this gain it must be borne in mind that the agreement with the manufacturers, signed after the strike of 1916, was for a period of three years, and still had fully two years to run. From the standpoint of the cold letter of the agreement, we had no right to ask for a revision and a higher wage schedule. But we based our case on the fact that the cost of living had mounted unprecedentedly high, and as wages represent, after all, the value of life's necessaries they must therefore be correspondingly increased.

The management of affairs of the New York Joint Board has since our last convention undergone a pronounced change for the better. Brother Morris Sigman, who was called in to assume the general management of the organization early in 1917, has been at the helm of the Joint Board ever since, and the prevailing harmony and cohesion in the big Union is to no small degree attributable to his untiring work. Today the relations between the Joint Board and its component locals are excellent, and the budget system of covering the disbursements of the organization, which was instituted during the past year, has put its finances in a much sounder and safer condition than they were before.

Other events of vital importance to the cloakmakers of New York, such as the unfortunate turmoil in Local No. 1, and the week-work problem, are treated under separate captions in this report. The International officers have faithfully cooperated with the Joint Board in all matters which required mutual aid and cooperation.

In speaking of the New York Joint Board we must record in brief the present condition and standing of the locals that compose the Joint Board.

Local No. 3, the Piece and Sample Tailors Union, has since 1914 found it difficult on many occasions, particularly during conflicts with employers, to draw distinct lines between its own members and the regular ladies' tailors in New York City. The piece tailors and the ladies' tailors are working side by side in ladies' tailoring and cloak shops in season and out of season, and the question of shop jurisdiction and transfers from one local to the other, forced and voluntary, was a source of endless vexation and irritation. The International Office has been called upon more than once to find a way of conciliating these differences. When after the strike of 1917 the ladies' tailors succeeded in building up an organization of considerable size and solidity, the piece tailors began seriously to consider the question of amalgamating with Local No. 80. The proposition found a ready response among all ladies' tailors, but on the suggestion of President Schleicher a joint council was formed between these two locals to take up and adjust all questions of mutual concern, and this joint council has achieved satisfactory results.

Local No. 9, the Cloak Tailors and Finishers Union, lost a considerable number of its members during the past several years. Thousands of its Italian members were transferred to Local No. 48, and the sample and piece tailors went to Local No. 3. The cessation of immigration from Russia and the southeastern countries of Europe since 1914 has affected the initiation of new
members into the local. Another factor was that this local had more workers of middle and old age than any other local in our International. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, Local No. 9, is one of our best managed organizations and is a powerful and loyal factor in the Cloakmakers' Union in New York. It is strongly interested in sick and other benefit funds and has contributed materially to the growth of the Sanitarium idea for afflicted members of the International in New York.

Local No. 10, the cutters organization of New York City, has during the past year made steady progress along with the other organizations in our trades. The local has a large good standing membership. During the past few years the membership of this local has undergone a quiet but nevertheless radical change. Last year the management of this local went almost completely into new hands, who are at present earnestly coping with the problems of the organization. Among those who were replaced by the new officers were men who were active in the local for many years and who were instrumental in building up this organization.

We are devoting a special chapter in this report to the affairs in the Reefer Makers' Union, Local No. 17.

Local No. 23, our Skirt Makers' Union, had a comparatively quiet existence during the past term. It has retained its former membership and the local is efficiently and ably managed. It is also taking a considerable interest in sick and tubercular benefits.

Local No. 35, the Pressers' Union, finds itself today in a very prosperous condition. It is easily one of our best organizations, both from the point of view of numbers, discipline and loyalty. This local has quickly rallied from the financial drain which was imposed upon it by the strike of 1916, and has today the largest treasury of any local in our International Union. This local was the first in New York to follow the example of the Philadelphia cloakmakers in the introduction of sick and tuberculosis relief funds. It has also been the leader in prompting the idea of a Union Sanitarium.

The Italian Cloakmakers' Union, Local No. 48, has during the past three years, succeeded in placing on its books the vast majority of the Italian cloakmakers in New York City and has during our contests of the last few years taken active part in all our work. The local did not escape factional dissensions, which have at times affected the fortunes of the organization. Fortunately, the Italian cloakmakers have been united with their co-workers of other nationalities, and these periodical disagreements, however unpleasant, they may have been, did not affect the general condition of the workers.

Locals No. 11, No. 64 and No. 21 have kept their membership intact and have been making steady progress. They have considerably strengthened their treasuries and position during the past term. Local No. 11 is still incorporated, notwithstanding the fact that incorporation of unions is against the policy of the American labor movement and is strictly forbidden by our constitution.

The spring season of 1918 in New York has surpassed every expectation. Our people have had abundant work in the shops and have secured good earnings. At the present writing the prospects for the coming fall season are equally good.

THE REORGANIZATION OF LOCAL NUMBER 1.

The unsavory "Hourwich affair" of 1913 and the agitation that accompanied it, had brought to the surface an element in our New York cloakmakers organization, which, for selfish and unscrupulous reasons, began unceasingly to campaign against the Cloakmakers' Union, stirring shop against shop and local against local on the pretense of bogus issues and "reforms," thus placing the organization, on more than one occasion, in dire stress and peril. Being unable to sway the honest opinion of the majority of the membership of the Cloakmakers' Union, they resorted to the iniquitous method of organizing a so called "propaganda league" whose chief object was to sow seeds of hatred and dissatisfaction against the Joint Board and its officers through sneaky, lying handbills, and back-stairs meetings usually attended by a few dozen of the dregs of the organization.

With the aid of Mr. Hourwich, who could
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

apparently never forgive the Cloakmakers' Union for having dispensed with his services, this group began an agitation against the protocol agreement which was at that time in existence between the Cloakmakers' Union and the Manufacturers' Association. Numerous shop strikes were incited and trade problems which should have been the subject of calm and deliberate discussion, became, through these demagogic efforts, a veritable vortex of bitterness and rancor. A regular system of terror was introduced at the local and section meetings and at the meetings of the Joint Board. These irresponsibles, under the cloak of a so-called "radicalism," soon began to dominate the affairs of the operators' local by an unscrupulous playing upon the lower instincts and cheap flattery of the masses. The dull conditions in the trade were utilized as a means of stirring up feeling against the organization and paraded as an argument of the inefficiency of the union to protect the interests of the workers.

The International, in strict accord with the spirit and the letter of its Constitution, did not take any drastic action to counteract the disrupting effect of this insignificant minority of demagogues within our Union. As long as they made an outward pretense of fighting for trade problems and "reforms" we were obliged to limit our means to persuasion and arguments, even though we knew perfectly well their unscrupulous designs and aims. We visited their meetings frequently and gave them generous advice, but all this was of no avail. Soon, however, an occurrence took place in the Cloak Operators' Union which at once roused us to strenuous action. Late in the fall of 1916 this group succeeded, through fraud and terror, in electing itself to the offices of the local. When evidence of these palpable frauds was brought to the attention of the General Executive Board at the Baltimore quarterly meeting, and was not denied by the members of this group who were called to the meeting to state their defense to these charges, we immediately ordered the local to have new elections, under the supervision of the International. Having gained access to the treasury of the local, these new "officers" immediately engaged their old adviser, I. A. Hourwich, to fight the General Executive Board, and, as a result, they refused to obey the order of the International. Moreover, they began to put into practice a cherished plan of theirs,—the separate election of business agents by that local,—independent of the Joint Board, in order to provide a score of their henchmen with jobs. The policy of having separate agents for each local in the Cloakmakers' Union had on many occasions been repudiated by the locals of the Joint Board, but that did not deter these fellows from going ahead with their plan.

In February, 1917, we called a special meeting of the General Executive Board in New York City to take final action in this matter, and after a thorough hearing which lasted several days, the General Executive Board decided to submit the entire matter to a special convention of the International. This special convention was, however, later recalled upon the request of the New York Joint Board and a number of its affiliated locals, who expected a turn for the better in the affairs of Local No. 1, from temporary indications at that time.

But this proved to be a delusion; and shortly afterward the so-called executive board of Local No. 1 withdrew from the Joint Board, elected their own business agents, established branch offices all over the city, and began spreading threats and insinuations of organizing an opposition union to the International in case the International would enforce the provision of the Constitution against them. The chaos which was brought into the cloak shops of New York City by this dual management is not difficult to imagine, and quite naturally, the only people who benefited through this intolerable system were the employers. The General Executive Board at its Boston meeting in August, 1917, ordered Local No. 1 to rejoin the Joint Board and to become again a part of the central organization in New York City, in accordance with our Constitution. They retaliated that they would not rejoin the Joint Board unless Local No. 17, the Reefer Makers' Union, would be put out of the way and eliminated as a factor in the trade. Of course, we knew that this was nothing more than an attempt on their
part to cloud the real issue. The General Executive Board, however, assured them that whatever grievances they had against Local No. 17 would be taken up in regular order and investigated, but that they would first of all have to reaffiliate themselves with the Joint Board as before. The General Executive Board notified them that they would be given time until September 15, 1917 to obey the order, and that in case of failure, Local No. 1 would be reorganized. In reply came a series of blackmail agitation and meetings and a veritable avalanche of lies and distortions. As a crowning effort came a strike-breaking circular addressed to the ladies' tailors of New York and signed by this group, which was scattered at a general meeting of the tailors, who assembled to decide on a general strike in their trade in September, 1917. This malicious circular attacked the International and advised the tailors not to strike and to break away from the organization. On September 15, we ordered a reorganization of the local and attached its treasury, which consisted of over $13,000.00, thus immediately depriving this gang of irresponsible of their resources for carrying on their work of blackmail and treachery. Numerous meetings were held and the members of the organization began to register with the reorganized local. Our undertaking proved a success. Within the short period of four months practically the entire membership of the local was enrolled on the books of the reorganized Local No. 1, and the organization emerged from this crisis with remarkable vigor and vitality. Suffice it to say that not less than ninety-five per cent of the cloak operators of New York already belong to the reorganized local and have paid their dues up to date,—an occurrence which was not familiar in the history of the old local. To cite an instance of the remarkable "coming back" of the reorganized local, we may mention the fact that the dues in the operators' local have been since raised from 16c to 25c per week, and that this raising of dues met with the general approval of the membership. Moreover, Local No. 1 comes to this Convention with eleven delegates instead of ten as at the last Convention, which augurs well for the future well-being and development of the organization.

We are frank in stating that this victory must be put down primarily to the credit of all the loyal elements within the Cloakmakers' Union. Credit must be given to the Executive Board of the reorganized Local No. 1 and to its officers, to the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, to its managers, business agents and other paid and unpaid officers whose courage and devotion was a material factor in the successful outcome of this affair. It has served as a notable lesson to the Jewish labor movement in general and has proved to us that the heart and the soul of our movement is healthy and clean, and that it is responsive to an honest and earnest appeal. It has also placed the indelible stamp of Cain upon those vociferous demagogues who, under a false mantle of radicalism, sought to fasten their hold upon the necks of our biggest labor organization in the city. Their prompt and whole hearted repudiation by the masses will serve as a lasting warning to these impostors in the future and as a beacon light of guidance for ourselves.

The Local No. 17 issue, however, did not automatically die out with the reorganization of Local No. 1, and the General Executive Board deemed it advisable to investigate the contentions of the various sides interested in the matter; to sift through their merits and to render an equitable decision. For that purpose the General Executive Board appointed a committee to investigate the shops of Local No. 17. The committee consisted of President Schlesinger and Vice-Presidents Koldofsky from Toronto and Schoolman from Chicago. President Schlesinger, not being able to attend to this matter personally owing to some pressing demands on his time, appointed Dr. Frank F. Rosenblatt to supervise the investigation. The complaint against Local No. 17 consisted in the charge that the members of this local are competing in prices with the cloakmakers of the other locals who are employed in the regular cloak shops on the same lines of garments, and that this competition had done immense injury to the cloak operators. An.
other grievance was that Local No. 17 demanded that all cloak operators employed in Local No. 17 shops be transferred to Local No. 17. The investigating committee found after three weeks of systematic work, that while it was true that the prices were lower in the shops of Local No. 17 than in the regular cloak shops, the average weekly earnings were nevertheless higher in the Local No. 17 shops because there the workers are getting bigger lots of garments and the work is simpler and more uniform; they are losing less time on their work than the operators in the regular cloak shops, where hundreds of styles are made each season and where a worker is often obliged to change his work three times daily. The General Executive Board, in accordance with the findings of the committee and in order to prevent a condition which might give the employers a chance to take advantage of disunion in our organization and to lower the standards and earnings of the New York cloakmakers, decided upon the following arrangement, to remain in force until the next Convention of the International in May, 1918, when all questions of jurisdiction and disputes would be finally decided:

1. All grievances of workers arising in shops controlled by Local No. 17 shall hereafter be taken up for adjustment directly by the Joint Board instead of the office of Local No. 17.

2. The Joint Board shall attend to all grievances of workers of such shops from one office and shall take care that such office be managed and conducted by a manager and business agents fully familiar with the various grades of work made in Local No. 17 shops as well as with the system of work prevailing in such shops.

3. Every member in good standing of any local affiliated with the Joint Board shall have the right to work in any shop controlled by the Joint Board without the formality of a transfer. The General Executive Board recommends that the membership dues of all such locals be made uniform as soon as possible.

4. All jurisdictional controversies that may arise between Local No. 17 and other locals of the Joint Board and any and all controversies with respect to the meaning or practical application of the above decision shall be submitted to and passed upon by the General President of the International subject only to an appeal to the convention.

The General Executive Board is fully convinced that the proposed arrangement will in no way interfere with the working conditions and excellent control of the shops of Local No. 17, and that it will make for greater harmony and more effective work of the workers in the entire industry. The Board expects that the above decision will be carried out in good faith and in a spirit of comradeship and solidarity by all bodies affected by the same as soon as possible.

Local No. 17, to the astonishment of all, refused at first to carry out the order of the International, to move its complaint office into the office of the Joint Board. The General Executive Board thereupon declared to the local that they would be expelled without delay if they would persist in defying the International Union. They were given time until March 1st, 1918, to comply with this decision. On the 1st of March, Local No. 17 complied with the order of the International and moved their complaint office into the office of the Joint Board.

As already stated, this arrangement under the decision of the General Executive Board, which, in our deepest conviction, was based upon equal concern for all sides to the controversy, was intended as a temporary measure, until this Convention. It is now up to the Convention to approve of the action taken by the General Executive Board and to express its final judgment in this matter.

THE BOSTON CLOAK SITUATION.

If anyone who attended our last Philadelphia Convention would have hazarded a guess that the next convention of the International Union would assemble in Boston only with a year and a half from that date, it would have been regarded as an idle dream.

The cloak and skirt makers' locals of Boston, especially Locals No. 24 and No. 55, were in a deplorable state at that time. Their management was entrusted in the hands of officers of questionable reputation, who brought the locals into disrepute and on the verge of ruin. In fact, two of the delegates who had been elected to represent the Boston workers, came to that
Convention under serious charges and were not seated. The presence in Boston for two years of Brother Abraham Rosenberg did not improve conditions in the locals at all. The Philadelphia convention took up the Boston situation very earnestly and issued a mandate to the General Executive Board to reorganize the Boston locals and to put them on a sound basis; also to encourage the rank and file and the better elements of the organization who had heretofore not taken any interest in the Union to come forward and to assume control over affairs.

Some time prior to the convention, the group of men who had been running the affairs of the Cloakmakers’ Union in Boston called a strike in the M. & C. Skirt Company, one of the biggest shops in Boston, which eventually grew into a bitter struggle. The International spent a lot of money on this strike, and in spite of the generous aid given, the strike was lost, as the firm moved out of Boston and scattered its work among a number of small non-union shops in New England. This added to the gloom that prevailed within the ranks of the local cloakmakers.

Early in November 1916, a special committee of the International, consisting of Secretary Broff and Vice-President Lefkovitz, left for Boston, and after assiduous work of two weeks, succeeded in reorganizing the Boston cloak locals and the Joint Board. A full staff of officers was appointed from the better and loyal members of the locals, in full accord with the wishes of the Philadelphia Convention, and these were placed under the direct supervision of the International Office. The auditing department of the International soon afterward audited and installed new books for the locals, and the finances of the organization were started in a proper and orderly manner. Brother Abraham Snyder, for a long time an officer and an active member of the Philadelphia Cloakmakers’ Union, was appointed by the special committee to manage the Boston Joint Board. He held this position for over a half year and contributed greatly to the upbuilding of the organization. The old and corrupt element which had for years past been a stumbling block, was swept out of the way by this ardent and aggressive action of the International, and it has since never dared to lift its hand. In fact, it has ceased to be a factor in local affairs.

The general conditions in the Boston cloak trade have been practically the same as in most other cities. It must be noted that the trade has not increased during the past eighteen months, but on the other hand, a few cloak shops went out of business during the early part of 1917. However, the working conditions in Boston have improved considerably during that period. We visited Boston quite frequently; had conferences with the manufacturers, and, today it may be safely said that Boston is a well organized cloak city. The Boston ladies’ garment manufacturers’ association disbanded a considerable time ago; the “management” of affairs by the old “regime” was in part responsible for this fact, and since that time the Boston cloakmakers have been dealing with their employees individually. The increase in wages and the regulation of working hours have been uniform throughout the trade in Boston. In spite of the absence of an employers’ association, and today the delegates to this convention are doubtless gratified with the excellent work which was done by the International committee in reorganizing Boston. This put the organization on a solid basis and has given the members of the International enough confidence to select Boston for its meeting place this year.

During the past six months, the management of the Joint Board of Boston was in the hands of Brother Hyman Hurwitt, formerly assistant to Brother Snyder, who has helped considerably to put it in its present excellent condition.

Philadelphia Cloakmaker Locals.

The last three seasons in the Philadelphia cloak trade have been attended by unusual circumstances, and they reflect, to a considerable extent, the abnormal times through which the cloak trade all through the country has passed, owing to changed conditions due to the war. Our locals are in good shape at present, and the fact that they have withstood the
rather poor seasons without going backward, is ample guarantee that the organization in Philadelphia is built on rock-bottom and will endure. Both the spring and the fall seasons of 1917 were marked by scarcity of work in the Philadelphia cloak shops. Fortunately, a large number of the local cloakmakers went to work in shops where military garments were being made, and thus managed to subsist and earn a living. Even during the exceptionally good spring season of 1918 a large number of Local No. 2 members remained working in the military garment shops.

During the summer of 1917, the Union had a number of conferences with the manufacturers, in reference to a new agreement in the cloak and skirt trade, at which President Schlesinger was always present. They tried to reach an understanding with the manufacturers in regard to an arbitration agreement, as both parties were tired of the frequent stoppages which were possible under the old agreement.

The new agreement was finally drafted on August 13th, at the office of the International Union between the Philadelphia Employers' Association and a committee of the Union headed by President Schlesinger. This agreement embodied a number of concessions relative to shorter hours, increase of wages, equal distribution of work, regulation of outside shops, etc., etc.

The Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union celebrated its tenth Anniversary this year. During these ten years it has gone through various trials and tribulations. It had an unsuccessful twenty-six weeks strike in 1913, but the faith of the membership in the organization was not undermined by the defeat. Six months after that strike, the International, under the new administration, began getting ready for another strike, and the employers who had tasted the bitterness of the recent struggle conceded most of the demands of the International without another conflict. Since that memorable settlement the union has exercised a strong influence on the local trade, in spite of the fact that the seasons never came up to the expectations of the workers.

The International has every reason to point to the Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union with pride and hope for a splendid future. A great deal of the credit for the solidarity in the ranks of the Philadelphia locals is due to the wise and devoted leadership of our Vice-President, Bro'th'r Max Amdur, who has been with the Union from its inception until this day, except for a short interval of three months last summer, when he resigned his position and went to Montreal. During that period his place was filled by Brother I. S. Felt, once an active member of our Union and a Vice-President of the International, from Cleveland. The Philadelphia cloakmakers, however, soon called Brother Amdur back to take charge of their organization.

THE CHICAGO CLOAKMAKERS.

The Chicago Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, composed of locals 18, 44 and 81, is a solid, compact organization, with an approximate membership of three thousand. This Union has had a stormy history, full of strikes and contests, but until 1915 it only maintained a precarious existence without any appreciable control over the local trade. In that year, however, the Joint Board, under the leadership of the International began an organizing campaign, and as we have already reported to you at the last Convention in Philadelphia, succeeded in signing a collective agreement with the two cloak and suit manufacturers' associations in that city, and in introducing uniform standards in the industry. President Schlesinger, who led that campaign, assisted materially in the successful outcome of the agitation. The cloakmakers' union now controls practically the entire trade.

The Chicago cloak manufacturers are of a much smaller calibre than those of New York, and the workers generally get better results in their shops, and make a better living than the workers in most other cities. The locals have accumulated a considerable treasury; the members have always been paying high dues, and they have had sick benefit and loan funds.

The agreement of 1915 expired in the summer of 1917. Shortly before that the union presented to the associations a request for an increase of 25 per cent in wages, and for shorter hours. They also requested double pay for overtime, and that
a remedy be provided against the sub-manufacturing and sub-contracting evils. After a conference, it was decided, in accordance with the terms of the expiring agreement, to submit these demands to arbitration, with the explicit understanding, that all decisions become enforceable and retroactive as of July 1, 1917. The decision rendered by Judge Julian W. Mack, on whom both sides have agreed to be the sole arbitrator, granted substantial increases in earnings and wages for all piece and week workers, and reduced the working week from fifty to forty-nine hours; the pay for overtime to week workers to remain time and a half, and piece workers to receive extra compensation of 30 cents for supper money. The provision that this award become effective as of July 1st was, however, omitted, and the Chicago cloakmakers were very much dissatisfied; and another controversy was started between the local organization and the Chicago manufacturers' association on that account. President Schlesinger thereupon went again to Chicago and Washington and succeeded in obtaining a revision of this decision by Judge Mack through which these gains and increases went into effect as of July 1st, 1917. Later, Judge Mack granted the installation of gas air irons in the pressing departments of the shops, for which the workers have been contending for a long time.

The Chicago Cloakmakers' Union, thanks to the fertile activity of its secretary, Vice-President Schoolman, has a number of unique features, among which the button system is not the least interesting and which might be adopted with profit to themselves by other locals. Each fully paid up member receives a button which he is to wear in his lapel as a sign of good standing in the union. The color of the button changes every month, and shop chairmen are on the lookout that the workers have the proper buttons displayed on their coats monthly. The Sick and Death Benefit Fund is functioning with merited regularity, and the Strike Reserve Fund has been steadily growing. The Chicago Joint Board is contemplating erecting or buying a cooperative home for their own needs as well as for the needs of the other organizations in the ladies' garment trades of their city, and knowing as we do the energy and the resourcefulness of these men, we are confident that they will realize their hopes in not a distant future.

We state with great satisfaction that during the waist, dress, skirt and white goods workers' strike in Chicago in the spring of 1917, the Joint Board and its affiliated locals have devoted all their forces and resources to that strike, and have given the strikers every aid and assistance. They have displayed a spirit of solidarity and loyalty to their fellow workers, of which our international may well be proud.

THE CINCINNATI CLOAK AND SKIRT MAKERS.

The Cincinnati cloak and skirt makers come to this Convention of our international with an organization that comprises the vast majority of the local workers and which bids well to become a 100 per cent organization in the near future. Our last Convention instructed the General Executive Board to inaugurate a campaign in the ladies' garment trades of Cincinnati, which were at that time in a state of total disorganization. The Board was empowered to call a general strike in Cincinnati if peaceful means would fail to accomplish the desired end. Consequently, an energetic campaign to bring about improved conditions for the cloakmakers in Cincinnati was started by President Schlesinger, and later Vice-Presidents Leikovits and Perlstein were called to take care of the situation. After some attempts to negotiate with the manufacturers and to settle the grievances in a peaceful way, a strike was called on February 7th, and it was responded to with enthusiasm by the workers. Within three weeks the general strike was won, practically all the shops having settled on the basis of a forty-eight hours work week, and a satisfactory scale of wages for both week and piece workers. Vice-President Leikovits, who conducted the strike in Cincinnati, has managed the strike as well as the settlements, with energy and ability. The shop of Bishof, Stern and Stein, the largest in Cincinnati, also settled, and the cutters of that shop, who had been for years the main obstacle in organizing the trade in
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Cincinnati, joined the Union. The membership of local No. 63 has a large proportion of women, who have joined the union through our agitation and the strike. Their devotion to the union and strong interest in its affairs has had a very beneficial influence on the local organization.

A few months after the strike, we transferred Vice-President Perlstein from Cleveland to Cincinnati, to take charge of the organization in the capacity of business manager. We may state that the organization in Cincinnati has become an active factor in the life of the local labor movement; it is exerting considerable control over the local trade, and it looks confidently into the future.

ORGANIZING THE ST. LOUIS CLOAKMAKERS.

Since the last strike of 1913 the problem of reorganizing the cloakmakers of St. Louis has always been before the eyes of the International Union. In 1916 an effort in that direction was made but it fell short of accomplishment, and working conditions in St. Louis gradually sank far below the level of conditions which prevailed in other cities.

The Philadelphia Convention instructed the General Executive Board to take steps to organize St. Louis. Accordingly, shortly after the Convention, we put two organizers in the field, a man and a woman, the latter for the purpose of interesting the women workers of the city in our organization. The results obtained fell far below our expectations. The General Executive Board thereupon decided to discontinue with the services of the woman organizer for the time being and to appoint Brother B. Gilbert in place of the former man organizer. Since the appointment of Brother Gilbert the St. Louis local has taken on new life and has organized practically every shop in the city. Price committees and regular union conditions now prevail in all the cloak factories, notwithstanding the fact that most of the firms have no agreements with the union. The local adopted, under the direction of President Schlesinger who visited them several times, the policy of single shop strikes when needed, and accordingly succeeded in bringing under their control practically every shop in the city.

We must apply our efforts to organize the women workers of St. Louis, and with an organization of cloakmakers existing in that city, the International will find it less difficult to conduct an organization campaign among them, which we expect the Convention to decide upon. A nucleus has been formed, and the International should avail itself of this opportunity to undertake a broad campaign among the women workers of St. Louis.

THE SITUATION IN CLEVELAND.

We started our campaign in Cleveland early in 1915 and have since maintained an office in that city, which was in charge of Vice-President Perlstein for nearly two and a half years. The details of our work in Cleveland for the first year and a half were reported to the Philadelphia Convention. We regret to state that we can not render a more gratifying report on the state of affairs in Cleveland at present.

During the summer of 1917 a revival had taken place among the cloakmakers of that city and our membership at once rose to 1400. Soon, however, this number began to dwindle down. The rise of the membership was due chiefly to the agitation for a general strike which Vice-President Perlstein had conducted there with merited zeal and energy for several months previously. Had this general strike been called and resulted successfully, the Cleveland cloak trade would have been today completely organized. It was, however, not possible for us to call a general strike in Cleveland; firstly, because the season was an extremely dull one; and secondly, because we were not sufficiently prepared financially. You must remember that a general strike in Cleveland, if judged by the standards of the past, would mean the expenditure of tremendous sums of money. We could not, and under the circumstances would not, undertake this drive unless the situation was decidedly promising and favorable. When it became clear that a general strike could not be called, those who had joined the union with this expectation dropped out.

We trust that it is clear to you that the
OFFICERS’ REPORT

Cleveland situation is one of the most complicated ones that we have on the program of our International Union. The Cleveland problem came to us as a heritage of the past—a problem not of our own making—but one which we have tried our utmost to solve, having in view the interests of the cloak industry of the entire country as a whole.

The unfortunate strike of 1911 created special conditions in Cleveland, a special attitude on the part of the manufacturers, and a distinct psychology among the cloak-makers of that city. In the number of women working as operators in the shops, in the methods of work, in the relations between the manufacturers and the workers, and in the grade and quality of work which is being generally made in the shops, Cleveland presents a cloak problem all its own. The deep-seated impression which was gained in Cleveland in 1911 created an atmosphere of total dependence among the workers. Again and again, in our efforts to organize Cleveland we have been confronted with this feeling of helplessness which has been, more than anything else, responsible for the lack of local enthusiasm among the workers for a strong organization of their own by their own efforts, which is so manifest and strong in other cloak centres.

Cleveland has already cost the International a lot of money, and if we are determined to have the workers in that city organized we must make special financial provisions for it at this Convention. It is the duty of the delegates to this Convention to take up this situation along with the other serious problems presented to them and to find a solution for it.

OUR CANADIAN LOCALS.

Our Canadian organizations, particularly those in Montreal, have lived through a period of difficult times since the last Convention in Philadelphia. That Convention adopted a resolution giving the General Executive Board the power to start a campaign for a general strike in the cloak, skirt and dress industries in Canada, in order to bring about improved standards of labor. Soon after the Convention, the General Executive Board endorsed immediate action upon this resolution, and President Schlesinger was empowered to act in the impending situation as conditions would warrant. The General Executive Board decided that wherever the employers would assume an unreasonable attitude and would refuse to redress the grievances of their workers through mediation, conciliation or arbitration, a general strike should be called.

Early in 1917 President Schlesinger took charge of the organizing campaigns in Montreal and Toronto. He visited these cities several times and had meetings with the general membership and numerous conferences with the Joint Boards and the local executive boards. The movement for the establishment of collective agreements with the employers found a very enthusiastic reception. In the latter part of November, 1916, we called a conference of the Joint Boards of Montreal and Toronto for the purpose of discussing the trade conditions in both of these cities; to prepare demands to the manufacturers of both cities, and to decide upon a general simultaneous movement in both cities for the spring season of 1917. At that conference, after a thorough discussion, it became clearly apparent that the trade and working conditions in these two cities were radically different from each other and that it would be impractical and inadvisable to present the same demands or to adopt the same means of enforcing them in these two cities. From the reports submitted to this conference we learned that the Montreal cloak and suit trade employs approximately nine hundred people, of whom seven hundred or about 75 per cent belonged to the Union; while of the 2,300 employed in Toronto, only about four hundred were organized. We further learned that while the trade in Montreal is scattered among forty-five small manufacturers, the trade in Toronto is concentrated in about twenty shops, some of them of a big calibre—the Eaton Company alone employing approximately twelve hundred men and women.

We also learned that the Montreal operators and finishers were all piece workers and the cutters and pressers worked by the week, while in Toronto the pressers worked by the piece and were strongly in-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

...istent on preserving this system of work, and among their operators and finishers a great number worked by the week. Other striking differences were the working hours which in Montreal were fifty per week, while in Toronto they worked forty-four hours per week in the Eaton factory, forty-six and a half hours in other shops, and in no shop longer than forty-eight hours per week. Another point of difference was the fact that the majority of the workers in Montreal are men, and Jews, while in Toronto the majority are women, and Gentiles, and, consequently, not an easily organizable element. These facts presented to us a convincing set of circumstances why different demands and methods should be presented and adopted in these two cities. While the nature of the small shops and the above stated general characteristics of the trade in Montreal, and the fact that almost all of the workers belonged to the Union made it practicable to demand a collective agreement and to call a general strike in the event of a refusal by the manufacturer, it seemed clear that in Toronto the demand for a collective agreement would be untimely and hardly feasible of accomplishment, and that the only sane and safe method would be individual shop strikes and settlements on a basis of uniform conditions throughout the trade. On January 18th we addressed a letter to the manufacturers' association of Montreal, together with a list of demands, and invited them to confer with us. In these demands we asked for a working week of 47 7-4 hours, with a maximum of six hours overtime per week; minimum wages for cutters of $27.50 per week; for pressers $27.50 per week, and prices for piece workers to be adjusted on all garments by the firm and price committees, on the basis of 80c per hour for cloak operators; 75c per hour for skirt operators, and 60c per hour for finishers, all of average skill and experience. We also asked for sanitary conditions in the shops, abolition of home work, a preferential union clause, equal distribution of work, and adjustment of grievances between the union and the manufacturers' association through mediation and arbitration.

We had two conferences with the employers and right at the beginning when we took up the question of a collective agreement, the manufacturers laid before us a number of counter-propositions which included the changing of the pressers' system from week work to piece work, and they insisted upon the retention of the open shop. After the second conference, which was marked by the stubborn refusal on the part of the manufacturers to come to an agreement on any of the vital points of our demands, it became clear to us that the employers, inspired by a few of their more obstinate members, had made up their minds that they could defeat the demands of the workers, and we decided to call a strike.

The response of the workers to the call was as we had expected. All the cloak shops in Montreal struck. A few days before the strike was declared, we called in Vice-President Amdur from Philadelphia and asked him to assume the leadership of the strike, as the duties of President Schlesinger were taking him to other cities and he could not stay permanently in Montreal. Much to our regret, Vice-President Amdur had to leave Montreal after a stay of three weeks, to go back to Philadelphia and it took more than a week until Vice-President Elmer Rosenberg replaced him. This lapse was quite unfortunate, and in our opinion, tended to prolong and to retard the strike. Indeed, the length and obstinacy of this Montreal strike was wholly unexpected, as we had at the outset the right to believe that it would be of short duration; firstly, because seventy-five per cent of the workers were organized; and secondly, there was plenty of work and a noticeable scarcity of labor. As it is, the strike lasted nine weeks, entailing a lot of privation and sacrifices for our workers, and, in the end, it was settled only in part. A number of manufacturers signed independent agreements, and in the remaining shops an arbitration committee was to decide upon the grievances and the demands of the Union.

The Montreal strike proved amply to the manufacturers that a conflict with the International is a costly and inexpedient thing. Unfortunately, shortly after this strike, owing to a system of persecution and maltreatment adopted by the employ-
era, a strong reaction set in among the members of the local organization, which rapidly began losing its membership. The end of the season brought a condition of general unemployment in the trade, which, after the long strike, added materially to the privation among the cloakmakers. This period of idleness lasted for several months and the following fall season was also a rather poor one. With the approach of the spring season, a noticeable change for the better took place. The General Executive Board held its fifth quarterly meeting in Montreal and decided to undertake a persistent and thorough organizing campaign in that city. Brother Labensohn was appointed organizer, and the city was during the following months frequently visited by Vice-Presidents Metz and Halpern. Shops which had, after the trying strike of 1917, dropped out from the fold of the Union, began to come back to the organization. During the spring of 1918 the feeling of depression gave place to one of confidence and renewed determination to organize and to win better conditions in the Montreal cloak trade.

At present, Vice-President Lefkovits is in charge of the Montreal situation, and the International is determined to take up the fight at the point where it was left off a year ago, at the first opportune moment. In view of the lesson which the manufacturers of Montreal have received as a reward for their obstinacy in the strike of 1917, we may reasonably expect to unionize the cloak trade of Montreal and obtain a collective agreement for the workers of that city in the near future, without too great sacrifices.

As stated above, the condition of the cloak trade in Toronto had led us to adopt different tactics and methods in that city. The plan of a general strike having been decided as impracticable, it was agreed to present to the manufacturers only such demands that would cover questions of hours, overtime and wages; in case our demands would be rejected, we decided to strike against each firm individually or against some of them in groups. The demands included substantial increases in wages for week workers; a regular working week of forty-four hours, and not more than forty-eight; overtime not to exceed six hours per week, and prices for piece work to be adjusted by a price committee and the employer, on the basis of 80c per hour for cloak operators; 75c per hour for skirt operators; 75c per hour for pressers, and 60c per hour for finishers.

Within the two weeks that followed, settlements were made in most of the Toronto shops, working hours were reduced from forty-nine in most shops to forty-six and a half hours, with the exception of several shops where the working hours are only forty-four. A minimum scale for week workers was adopted, which raised their pay from $1.00 to $4.00 per week; the piece workers received the scales which they demanded. In some shops where the workers were dissatisfied with week work, we abolished it. Vice-President Koldofsky handled the Toronto situation during this campaign, and was for a short time assisted by Brother S. Elstein. Brother Thomas J. Black was engaged by the Toronto Joint Board, who helped to organize the cutters and the women in the industry. During that period President Schlesinger had a conference with the Eaton firm and succeeded in getting the firm to make a number of improvements in their big shop.

The Toronto locals have made steady progress, and have since the above stated settlement, gained additional raises for the men and women in the trade. They now have a membership of 1800 as compared with 400 before our campaign began and a branch of Gentile women workers.

Baltimore Cloak and Skirt Makers.

The Baltimore cloak and skirt makers have made great headway during the last year and a half in strengthening their organization and in improving their working conditions. Our Local No. 4 of Baltimore has practically the entire cloak, skirt and reefer trade under its control, every shop in the city is strictly union, and the workers earn a decent living.

President Schlesinger has visited them several times and has participated in their deliberations with regard to various earnest clashes which they have had from time
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

to time with some of the local manufacturers. Some Baltimore employers who still cannot become accustomed to the thought that their workers are entitled to humane conditions and a decent standard of living, have resorted lately to the old method of opening shops in the surrounding little towns, where they employ girls at $6 and $7 per week. The General Office has on several occasions sent special organizers to these towns, and the work of these organizers was quite successful. As a result of these efforts a local of cloakmakers was recently organized in Cumberland, Md., and chartered as local No. 38. During the time that we conducted our organization campaign among the workers in the waist and white goods trade, the officers and the active members of Local No. 4 assisted us considerably. They also helped in organizing the ladies' tailors local, No. 101.

Our locals in Baltimore have recently formed a Joint Board, and with the financial assistance of the International they are maintaining a large, centrally located office and have four paid officers (two women and two men), who are working hard to organize the workers of all our trades in Baltimore and vicinity.

THE TOLEDO LOCALS.

Our Toledo organization consists of Local 67, cloakmakers, and Local 84, cloak cutters. Both these locals are self-sustaining and flourishing organizations. During the last year and a half they have succeeded in obtaining, without any too strenuous efforts, material increases of their earnings and in reaching closer understanding with their employers in regard to general working conditions.

As these locals have no paid officers, the more serious disagreements which they have had with their manufacturers, were straightened out through Vice-Presidents Pierce and Perlstein, who visited Toledo several times at the request of the general office.

The General Executive Board had its sixth quarterly meeting in Toledo, in February, 1918, and we were heartily pleased to acquaint ourselves with the membership of these two locals at a banquet and a mass meeting which were arranged in our honor, by the Toledo locals.

LOUISVILLE, KY. CLOAKMAKERS
LOCAL NO. 31.

We granted a charter in September, 1917, to the skirt and cloak makers of Louisville, Ky. Vice-President Perlstein has visited that local several times during the last few months and has helped them in their organization work.

About 5-6 years ago several attempts were made by the General Office to organize the cloak and skirt makers of Louisville. At one time in 1912, a number of workers were already enrolled and organized into a local. But before the end of the year the local ceased to exist.

Louisville has about three hundred cloak and skirt makers; they are all week workers, and their working hours are long and their wages much lower than in other cities. We hope that it will be possible for the International to obtain for the Louisville workers, at the beginning of the next fall season, the same standard conditions which prevail in other cities where our workers are organized.

THE WAIST AND DRESSMAKERS OF OF NEW YORK

In the family of our local unions Local No. 25 deservedly occupies a unique position. It is our biggest local. There are many national unions within the American Federation of Labor that have not one half of the huge membership of this single local of ours—and it exercises a profound influence over one of New York's biggest and richest trades. Above all, it has a standing and a position in our labor movement which is equalled by none, and it has ever since its organization been a source of strength and inspiration to the entire labor movement, both in New York and elsewhere.

During the past year and a half, the waist and dress trade has been in a condition of comparative tranquility. Of course there were numerous shop strikes, and during last winter a campaign of consid-
enable magnitude was also carried out with success against a number of shops which were still unorganized or which had for some reason slipped out from under the control of the union. But in its larger field, the union confined its efforts to conferences and collective bargaining and has thereby scored a number of gains and concessions for its membership.

The spectacular strike of 1916 in the waist and dress trade, which strengthened the local and increased its ranks, brought some essential improvements for the workers. However, the undue increase in the cost of living that followed it, soon wiped out every effect of the increases in earnings which they had gained, and early in 1917 the workers found themselves with even more limited sources of income to meet the new burdens. The union thereupon presented demands to the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association, which consisted, in substance, of a general increase of twenty per cent. in the earnings of all workers in the industry and a working week of forty-eight hours instead of the forty-nine established in 1916. The Manufacturers' Association, however, declined to grant these demands, and they were consequently submitted to the Board of Arbitration for decision. During the month of February a rupture of relations had been feared in some quarters and predicted in others, but the possibility was finally averted by the Arbitration Board, which met the demands of Local No. 25 and of the waist and dress cutters half way, and granted the workers some substantial improvements. Among the concession granted by the Board of Arbitration were a proportionate increase in wages, from seven to twelve per cent; the working week was arranged so as to reduce by one hour the time on Saturday; the Protocol Agreement was limited to two years, leaving the questions of wages and hours, even during that time, subject to revision by the Board of Arbitration; the preferential union clause in the agreement was made even more strict and tight.

Local No. 25 had during that period and the following summer, experienced considerable difficulties in its administrative department and management. After the retirement of Brother Polakoff as Chief Clerk of the Association Department, and after Vice-President Seidman left his post as manager of the Independent Department to take charge of organizing the Chicago waist and dress trade for the International, Brother Elias Lieberman accepted temporarily the office of Chief Clerk of the Waistmakers' Union. (The position vacated by Vice-President Seidman was filled by Brother Silverman.) Brother Lieberman's stay in office was short and soon the local found itself without an administrative head. In casting about for an administrator, the Waistmakers' Organization invited Abraham Biano of Chicago, to take the job. He readily accepted it, but his stay was abortive, and it did more harm than good to the Organization; instead of doing practical work, he constantly kept the local in a state of restlessness by a deluge of new "issues." After thirteen weeks Biano was requested by the Executive Board to resign his position. After numerous requests from the local, Brother Seidman came back from Chicago to manage its Association Department.

Early in the fall of 1917, the union found it necessary to avail itself of the provision in the agreement for a revision of hours and earnings. The abnormal conditions which sent the cost of living up sky-high compelled the union to take that step. Requests for an increase of 25 per cent. in wages and a forty-eight hour week, together with a few other demands, were presented to the Association, and after a conference with the Association, arrangements were made to submit these demands for determination to the Board of Arbitration. On January 7, 1918, a few days before the meeting of the Board of Arbitration, a conference was arranged, through the efforts of Comrade Hillguit, between sub-committees of the union and the Manufacturers' Association, at which another effort was to be made to reach an agreement on the wage question. After several meetings, the sub-committees agreed on an increase of 8½ per cent. for piece workers and on an approximate raise of ten per cent. for all week workers, including the cutters. The cutters in the waist and dress trade are now receiving the same scales prevailing in the
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Cloak Industry. No agreement could be reached by the sub-committees on the question of the forty-eight hours work week, and it will in due course be taken up by the Board of Arbitration.

A week later, Local No. 25 ordered a strike in the non-union shops, which resulted in the addition of thousands of new members to the union. This strike was carried through with vigor, and resulted in introducing union conditions, wages and hours in a number of shops which had heretofore been unorganized. In addition to that, the strike had an invigorating effect on all the other branches of the organization.

Local No. 25 has during the past three years conducted very interesting educational work among its members, under the supervision of Miss Juliet S. Poyntz. Its Unity Center became a very attractive nucleus for the spread of education and sociability among a portion of the membership of this big local. It is, however, fair to state that the great majority of the members of Local No. 25 are not participating fully in the life of their organization and are, in fact, not taking advantage of the wonderful opportunities which their union offers them. The business of this very large organization is run by a comparatively small number of active workers, notwithstanding the fact that there are large numbers of intelligent and progressive men and women in the organization. These same members who rally so enthusiastically to the defense of their organization when it is threatened from without, become indifferent to its fate and activities in times of peace. This remarkable organization of the women workers of our International can least afford to tolerate this unhealthy state of affairs and it should apply all its efforts to the elimination of this internal disability.

PHILADELPHIA WAISTMAKERS UNION

If there are any skeptics among us who at times look askance at our women workers' locals, we would advise them to visit our Philadelphia waist and dressmakers Local No. 15 to study its methods and to watch its steady progress.

Local No. 15 is still a young organization, having come into its present position in 1915 as a result of a remarkable organizing drive engineered by the International and conducted by Brother Abraham Silver. Today, Local No. 15, with a membership of five thousand, has approximately ninety per cent. of all the waist and dressmakers in Philadelphia within its ranks. Of these four-fifths are women and only about one thousand are men. The Philadelphia waist-makers are overwhelmingly piece workers and practically all of them work in inside shops. During the last two years the Union has won a considerable number of improvements from the manufacturers by negotiations, and has increased the wages of its members fifteen per cent. in 1916 and fifteen per cent again in 1917. They conducted about seventy shop strikes during this period, and organized forty new shops. The last year was a very prosperous one in the trade in Philadelphia. Aside from the regular work, the manufacturers have also been doing army work; the workers were receiving the same prices and conditions on these orders as on their regular civilian work. The relations between the Union and the Manufacturers' Association have all during this time been cordial and friendly.

Aside from strictly trade matters and problems, the membership of Local No. 15 is deeply interested in social and educational matters and is doing a great deal for the workers in the trade along these lines. They have a large circulating library containing a few thousand books on political and economic subjects, located in their own office building, where a paid librarian devotes all his time to this work. The Union has also organized a cooperative store which supplies the membership with groceries at wholesale prices. The most important and interesting enterprise, however, which has been undertaken by this Union, is the Unity House,—a summer home for the workers purchased by the Union to afford its members vacations at nominal cost. When completed, this house and the farm will cost about $30,000. The funds for this enterprise are being raised by the sale of bonds to the members, at $2.00 each. The management of the House is modeled along the lines of the Unity House organized...
OFFICERS' REPORT

There is an educational committee arranging lectures and entertainments for the members of the organization, and this committee has been doing excellent work all through the last two winters.

The local also has a sick benefit fund, and every member paying five cents toward it is entitled to $5.00 weekly benefit for a period of six weeks. All these activities afford the members an opportunity to develop their abilities and enterprising spirit, and to learn how to manage their affairs and to be responsible for their success. This also strengthens character and imparts self-confidence and faith in the powers and abilities of the Union.

OUR BOSTON WAISTMAKERS.

The waist and dressmakers of Boston are organized into a compact and successful organization which exerts a steady and beneficent influence on the condition of the local workers. We reported at the Philadelphia Convention of the successful organizing campaign that brought about the strengthening of this organization in the winter of 1916. Since that time the local has made steady progress and has maintained amicable relations with the local manufacturers. Its relations with some of the cloakmakers' locals, however, have never been any too friendly. Friction constantly arose, particularly in regard to the jurisdiction over the dressmaking trade, which was disputed by Local No. 24, and in some cases the locals of the Joint Board called strikes of their members in waist and dress association shops without regard to the existing agreement between the association and Local No. 49. This controversy was discussed at our General Executive Board meeting at Boston, and definite rules were decided upon to regulate the relations between the various locals.

The character of the trade in Boston has materially changed, having become almost a dress manufacturing trade exclusively. This change necessitated a number of new adjustments, which were successfully effected by the organization. Quite recently, after a series of conferences with the Association, which were attended by President Schlesinger, the local succeeded, through arbitration, in materially raising the wages of the workers and in establishing the forty-eight hours work-week. The membership was thoroughly satisfied with the results, and it gave strength and confidence to the rank and file of the organization. Local No. 49, like the other waist and dress organizations of our International notwithstanding the fact that its membership is composed overwhelmingly of women, is conducting its business in a remarkably efficient and satisfactory manner. Their meetings are well attended, at which trade problems are discussed with intelligence and ability. The success of this local is due, to a great extent, to the unfailing devotion of their Chief Clerk, Brother Samuel Jacobson and the other officers of the local.

Last October Local No. 49 received a considerable addition to its membership in the form of a couple of hundred petticoat makers, who organized as a result of a strike in the local petticoat trade. The strike lasted about four weeks and it received the full support of the International. President Schlesinger went to Boston on the fourth week of the strike, and after conferences with three of the largest petticoat firms, succeeded in reaching an agreement with them on the basis of a forty-eight hours work week; a fifteen per cent flat increase for all workers; a union shop, and arbitration for the settlement of all disputes. The Waistmaker's Union of Boston not only put its treasury at the disposal of the petticoat strikes, but also appointed committees to help carry on the work and to picket the shops, and many of their members suffered arrest.

We have every reason to be proud of the Waistmaker's Union of Boston. In their activities they are guided not merely by narrow economic limitations, but like their sister locals in Philadelphia and New York, a strain of idealism runs through their every undertaking and effort. They are devoting a good deal of their attention to educational work and to the idea of a Unity Center, and take an active part in every progressive movement in their city.
NEW YORK WHITE GOODS WORKERS,
LOCAL NO. 62.

Shortly before the last Convention in Philadelphia, the white goods workers of New York presented to their employers a list of demands affecting working conditions in their shops, which were to go into effect at the expiration of their agreement in March, 1917. The Convention passed a resolution endorsing a general strike in the white goods trade in New York in the event the manufacturers in the industry would fail to grant the demands presented by the Union. The General Executive Board was also instructed to participate in the negotiations and to utilize all power to bring about an adjustment in the trade. A protracted series of conferences took place, during which it often seemed as if the thread of the negotiations would break and that a fight was imminent. The forces of the white goods workers were mobilized and ready for all emergencies, and this fact exercised sufficient influence to avert a strike. The provisions of the new agreement, which was finally adopted, fixed the hours for a working week to consist of forty-nine during the first year of the contract, and forty-eight during the second year and thereafter. It was also agreed that the cutters receive an increase of $2.00 per week; the girls, piece workers, to receive an increase of ten per cent on all prices, and that the girls working by week should receive a flat increase of $1.00 for the first year, and an increase of fifty cents per week in March, 1918. The manufacturers assumed strict responsibility for contractors, and obligated themselves to employ as far as possible, union members in good standing and to aid the Union in enforcing this clause to its fullest extent. A number of other beneficial provisions were granted, and the workers received the agreement with deep satisfaction.

Toward the fall of 1917, however, it became clear that the steadily rising cost of living demanded further increases and that the workers could not be satisfied with the rates which had been fixed and decided upon early in 1917. Considerable agitation and a lot of genuine dissatisfaction ensued among the workers, and as a result, we invited the Association to confer regarding this matter. Twice the Association refused to confer with us, relying primarily on the letter of the agreement entered into in March, 1917. Not the problems created by the unusual economic circumstances, demanded some change, and the unrest in the trade would not down. Brother Samuel Shore, the manager of this local, succeeded in getting the manufacturers to change their unreasonable attitude, and as a result, the Union succeeded in getting an increase from March 4, 1918, of five per cent for piece workers and a raise of $1.00 for all week workers in the trade, including the cutters, instead of fifty cents which were to be given to the women week workers only, in addition to the forty-eight hours week, which was agreed upon in 1917.

The organization felt the responsibility of a possible struggle in the industry, and Brother Shore exercised tact and moderation in obtaining these gains without involving the workers in great sacrifices.

THE NEW YORK CHILDREN'S DRESSMAKERS.

The Children's Dressmakers' Union of New York, our Local No. 50, has during the past year and a half made considerable progress and has been growing steadily.

In 1916, after a prolonged strike, Local No. 50 entered into an agreement with the Children's Dress Manufacturers' Association, which granted union conditions affecting wages and hours, the preferential union shop, and a number of other improvements. The agreement was to be in force for three years, and contained a proviso that in January, 1917 and 1918 successively, all women week workers should receive an increase of $1.00 a week. In January, 1917, the workers received the stipulated $1.00 increase. In the fall of 1917 we felt that the increase of $1.00 which was to go into effect in January, 1918, to the women week workers only, was, in view of the abnormal conditions and the mounting cost of living, entirely inadequate. The General Executive Board thereupon presented a request to the Manufacturers' Association for a twenty per cent increase of wages for workers in all branches of the trade. Conferences with the Association were held, and after
short negotiations they agreed that all piece workers employed in the trade be given an increase of ten per cent beginning January 1, 1918, and that all week workers, the cutters included, receive an increase of $2.00 per week. The membership of the local received the outcome of these conferences with enthusiasm, as it scored for them both a material gain, and, in a way, a triumph for the principle of peaceful negotiation in this trade. The result will surely spur on the workers to further efforts in strengthening their Union.

In speaking of Local No. 59, we wish to record with regret that internal dissensions have arisen in this local during the last few months which have their origin not in trade conditions but in personal antagonism among some officers and active members of the Union. These dissensions engaged the attention of President Schlesinger, Secretary Barnoff and of a sub-committee of the General Executive Board, which investigated and straightened them out, but only to a certain extent. Even tho efforts of Vice-President Lefkovits who was placed by the General Executive Board in charge of the local for several weeks, did not result in completely removing the effects of these dissensions within the organization.

NEW YORK HOUSE-DRESS AND KIMONO WORKERS.

The organization of the house-dress and kimono workers, Local No. 41 of New York, has made during the last year and a half made considerable progress. The Jewish and the Italian workers in the trade are organized and maintain a comparatively strong union; the Syrian and the Turkish workers are still outside of the organization, and efforts to organize them have so far proved quite futile. The local has, on its own behalf and at times with the assistance of the International Office, engaged the services of a Syrian organizer, but the results obtained from this expenditure of money proved very negligible. During the idle periods between the last several seasons, a number of house-dress shops were making tent covers, navy middles for sailors and even regular soldiers' coats for the army. The local has had little troubles with the employers,—the

scarcity of workers in the trade being to some extent responsible for this.

During 1917 the local obtained for the workers an increase of $1.00, and in some instances of $2.00 per week. Towards the end of 1917 the Union presented a list of new demands to the manufacturers, as their two-years agreement was to expire in February, 1918. They asked for a forty-eight hours work week and for a uniform scale of wages. After numerous conferences with the Manufacturers' Association, a conflict was avoided by reaching an agreement, which granted the workers a flat increase amounting to $2.00 a week on their wages to all workers in the trade, including the cutters. It was also agreed that the working week be reduced to forty-eight hours just as soon as the waist and dressmakers of New York would obtain a forty-eight hours work week from their employers. The negotiations on behalf of the Union were conducted by President Schlesinger. Brother Henry Zucker, the manager of Local No. 41, has helped ably in getting these gains for the house-dress makers and has guarded their interests with zeal and devotion.

The House-Dress Workers' Union has during this period done considerable educational work for its members and has opened a circulating library at its new headquarters. Local No. 41 has also been very active in the International Unity Centre which was opened in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, and which contributed a good deal to the social and educational side of the life of the workers in that district.

THE CHICAGO WAIST AND WHITE GOODS STRIKE.

During 1917 we endeavored to organize the waist, dress and white goods workers in Chicago, the petticoat workers of New York, the waist and white goods workers of Newark and the petticoat workers of New York through strikes; and we conducted a strong agitation for the organization of women workers in the waist, dress, skirt and white goods trades in many other cities.

Our difficulties were most serious in places where we had to deal with American
women, who we regret to state, are not as
organizable as women of foreign birth.

In the Chicago waist and white goods
trades, where the majority of workers are
Jewish, Polish and Bohemian women, our
work would have been crowned with ex-
cellent results, if it had not been for the
brutal interference on the part of the Chi-
cago courts and police. The Chicago strike
in the waist, dress, skirt and white goods
trades of the early spring of 1917 was an
event in the history of our International
Union. It could hardly be measured by the
ordinary standards of a strike,—it was far
more than that; it was as giving an illus-
tration of the class struggle as was ever
encountered in any fight for a better living
by workers in our women's garment trades.

The outstanding feature of the strike was
that we were not merely combating the
forces of the organized manufacturers, but
principally the judiciary and the police
power of the city of Chicago. These author-
ities, by means of injunctions issued upon
fabricated charges, took upon themselves
the functions of strike-breaking agencies
from the very first day of the strike, when
not even the usual hackneyed excuse of pre-
vention of disorders or destruction of prop-
erty could have been advanced or hinted
at. A series of cold-blooded violations of
elementary human rights were subsequently
carried out by a judge and a police force
with brutality, in open daylight and in ut-
ter disregard of public opinion. Suffice it
to say that in a strike which involved at
its highest point no more than two thou-
sand persons, we sustained over fourteen
hundred arrests and a great number of fines
and jail sentences, which alone serves as
a criterion of the terrific odds against
which we were waging our fight. All these
cases and sentences were appealed in reg-
ular course.

We asked for a forty-eight hours work-
week and for a minimum living wage of
approximately the same rates prevailing in
similar industries in New York City; san-
tary conditions in the factories and a pre-
ferential union shop.

When the strike was called on February
14, after the employers had refused to meet
us in conference, about seventy-five per-
cent, of the workers answered the call, and
within another day all the shops were prac-
tically cleared. The enthusiasm was re-
markable. The preparations for the strike
were made by Vice-President Goldman, and
everything was arranged so as to prevent
disorder and chaos. However, on the third
day of the strike the blow of the judiciary
fell upon the strikers. Judges Smith and
Baldwin issued injunctions against our wo-
men which were more sweeping in their
nature than any ever issued in Chicago.

Our strikers were not even permitted to
pass the streets adjacent to those on which
the factories were located; they were en-
joined from getting into communication
with any of the workers who had or were
about to take their places in the struck
shops, either by word of mouth or in writ-
ing,—not even by telephone. Anything and
everything that was done by our strikers
in the slightest deviation from these ar-
bitrary orders was construed by the judges
as "contempt of court." We have already
mentioned that over fourteen hundred ar-
rests were made during the time of the
strike, of which 263 were charged with
contempt of court, and about twenty-five
were given jail sentences ranging from ten
days to six months. For weeks the court
of Judge Baldwin was the scene of dally
mass-appearances of arrested strikers and
their leaders, where they were obliged to
listen to bench lectures and to endless ex-
aminations, which sorely tried our time, re-
sources and energies.

We had the undivided support of the
Chicago labor movement in this conflict,
given to us in a loyal and unstinted man-
ner. The Chicago Federation of Labor, the
Illinois State Federation of Labor, the Wo-
men's Trade Union League, and, above all,
the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Unions
of Chicago did all in their power to help
us. President Fitzpatrick, Secretary Nock-
tles and all the other leaders of the Chicago
labor movement worked hard and did their
best to insure the success of our strike.
With their assistance, subscription lists
circulated among the Chicago trade unions,
etted several thousands of dollars for the
financial assistance of the strikers. Our
indefatigable lawyers, Messrs. Darrow and
Sissman, worked with us loyally and un-
ceasingly during the strike, striving to
combat to the best of their abilities the influences that were working against us. Attorney W. A. Cunnea had charge of the defence of our strikers in the police courts and performed his duties in a faithful and satisfactory manner. Toward the end of the strike the Federal Labor Department sent a representative, Hon. Rowland H. Mahany, to attempt to settle the strike by mediation, but owing to the unreasonable attitude of the employers and the fact that the season was already at an end the effort of the Labor Department failed entirely.

On Saturday, April 21st, after ten weeks of striking, we called a meeting of the Chicago strikers, and in explaining the situation to them we advised them to call off the strike. That was a day which will remain in our memory for years to come. The wonderfully devoted girls and men who fought so valiantly for more bread, rest and freedom, and whose conduct during the strike has raised our admiration and love, wept like children. The strike was called off.

It is worth mentioning that in this strike the manufacturers were assisted by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, which has an unenviable reputation for fighting any progressive step by the working class. We have already mentioned the activities of Judges Smith and Baldwin, whose treatment of our strikers was sufficient to undermine anyone's trust and faith in justice and democracy. We wish, however, to state that during this conflict we also came in close association with men, outside of our own ranks, who displayed character and generosity that should not pass unrecorded. We refer to Judges Fisher and Horner of Chicago, who did all in their power during this strike to help us. They had tried very hard to prevent the strike from taking place before it was called and they used their influence to bring both parties together. A Liberal Church Association of Chicago had during the strike made an investigation of the conditions in some of the Chicago waist and white goods shops, and their findings, widely published and circulated, have fully borne out our contentions and the justice of our demands.

The Chicago strike was the International over $30,000.00, in addition to collections raised in the cloak, waist and other trades of our industries in New York City and contributions from Chicago unions. For many reasons the shop collections were not as generous as the cause at stake deserved.

With the end of the fight came the slack period and everything was at a standstill. A system of petty revenge and discriminations was at once inaugurated in all the shops (except in the sixty-two factories where the union had succeeded in signing agreements with the individual employers); and the workers suffered heavily. The effects of the struggle lasted for several months. Fortunately the organization of the Chicago women workers was based on such a healthy foundation that even the injunctions could not break it down. notwithstanding the unsuccessful end of the strike the local meetings were well attended, and the interest in the organization did not abate. Local No. 100 is now in better shape than it had been before the strike. The workers will be ready to respond to our call at the first opportune moment that the International may choose to advance its demands for uniform standard of working conditions in this industry in Chicago.

The employers who have passed through the dreadful lesson of 1917 know well that the International is not yet through with the Chicago situation. During the fall of 1917, Vice-President S. Seidman, who was in charge of the entire organizing work in Chicago, accepted at the urgent request of local No. 25 the position of Chief Clerk of that organization. His place in Chicago has since been filled by Bro. Schaffer.

We cannot too strongly express our appreciation of the faithful and excellent manner in which Vice-President S. Seidman, has conducted his work in Chicago.

This Convention will now have to decide upon the future course to be taken with regard to the organizing work in the waist and white goods trade in that city.

WAIST AND WHITE GOODS WORKERS STRIKE OF NEWARK, N. J.

General organizing work among the waist and white goods workers in Newark has been going on ever since March, 1915. The
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

International maintained organizers in that field all that time, and gradually a local union was built up. New Jersey has ever been regarded as a difficult field, and our organizers have had an uphill task in Newark. In recent years our International has made repeated attempts to venture into this non-union territory and has succeeded in making its influence felt. The cloak-makers have built up a stronghold of union shops and have gained fair labor conditions in several districts of New Jersey, and the wave of discontent was beginning to spread among the waist and white goods women of Newark. The Philadelphia Convention authorized the General Executive Board to call a general strike of these workers in Newark and vicinity. This strike was called on February 8, 1917, after all attempts to settle the grievances of the workers amicably with the employers had failed. We regret to state, however, that notwithstanding the agitation carried on in Newark for almost two years, the response of the workers was very poor. From the twenty-eight shops located in Newark, only five responded, three of which were small, and the total number of the strikers was five hundred. The main reason why the workers of the other shops did not answer the call of the union was because the employers had, in anticipation of the strike a few weeks before it was called, increased the wages of the workers several dollars a week and granted the hours the union had asked.

The delegates of the Essex Trades Council and its secretary, Brother Henry Hitters, who was instructed by President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, to help in this strike, worked loyally in conjunction with our committee. After three weeks of striking, it became evident to us that the strike was an abortive proposition, and it was given up.

It appears that the basis of the organization in Newark had been laid on rather shallow ground, and the first failure swept it off its feet in spite of the fact that the workers have been greatly benefited by this attempt at organization and received practically all that the Union had demanded for them. There is a lesson lurking in this situation which will be worth while taking cognizance of when the International will be ready to embark on a second and more substantial campaign in Newark.

THE STRIKE OF THE NEW YORK PETTICOAT WORKERS.

During 1916 a group of girls came to the International office and asked for assistance to organize a local in the petticoat trade. There are about 2000 workers, mostly women, employed in this trade in New York City. Their request was granted, and Local No. 46 was organized. A movement for a strong union was started, first under the supervision of Rose Schnelderman and then under Vice-President Fannia M. Cohn and Brother Jesse Greenberger. The agitation bore fruit, and within a few months Local No. 46 had grown into a comparatively strong local. The union spirit spread to most of the shops, and the demand for better conditions, to be achieved through a general strike, became very strong. In January, 1917, the International officers endeavored to confer with the petticoat manufacturers and to bring about a settlement without a strike; but the petticoat manufacturers, not having been harrassed by strikes in the past, could not overcome their old belief that somehow a strike would not affect them.

A mass meeting of the workers on February 1, which filled Beethoven Hall, voted to send demands to the employers and in case the employers would refuse to meet and confer with the representatives of the International Union, to call a strike. The demands were sent, and as the employers refused to negotiate with the Union, the New York members of the General Executive Board sanctioned a strike. President Schlesinger was during that time away from New York, being engaged in the Chicago, Toronto, Montreal and Cincinnati campaigns, and could not take personal charge of the negotiations with the petticoat manufacturers. Neither was he able, on this account, to take part in the strike of the Newark Waistmakers, above referred to.

The strike call was issued on February 15th, and during the first few days about seventy per cent of the workers in the trade went down, and of these about fifty per-
cent joined the Union. As this was the first strike in the history of the trade, the showing was very gratifying and it exceeded our expectations. During the first days of the strike the leading manufacturers were inclined to negotiate with the Union, and a conference was arranged between them and President Schlesinger who was to come to New York for that purpose. But later in the week, the employers' association which was formed for the purpose of fighting the Union, dominated by a few of the bigger manufacturers, interfered. The conference was called off, and a protracted strike ensued. In consequence, the strikers became discouraged and many of them sought positions in other trades, and we were soon convinced that this first experiment to improve the conditions of the petticoat workers would not result in a success.

After five weeks, the strike committee voted to give up the strike. During the strike, a few individual manufacturers signed up with the Union, and the workers in these shops, on the advice of the International Office, joined the House-Dress Workers' Union, Local No. 41, as a Petticoat Branch.

In most of the shops the workers, however, received raises in wages and a shorter work day through this agitation, and as the workers felt that they had obtained these concessions from the Union and the strike, it is to be safely assumed that when the next movement in the petticoat trade will be undertaken by the International, it will, after proper and thorough preparation, be carried to a successful finish.

Right after our last Convention, subject to an urgent resolution adopted, we opened an energetic campaign in Baltimore. Vice-President Pierce was appointed to take charge of the local situation. The general backward conditions in Baltimore had a bad effect upon our campaign at the very start. The number of Jewish girls in the waist and white goods shops is comparatively small, being about fifteen or twenty per cent of the total number, and these do not have a sufficiently large influence on the rest of the workers in the shops. As for the Gentile women, they proved just as difficult to organize as in most other cities. Another serious drawback that we encountered at the very beginning was the attitude of the police authorities who are under the influence of the manufacturers of that city. When our men distributed circulars, they were arrested and heavily fined, in spite of our protests and the protests of the local Central Labor Union. One of the contributing causes to this antagonistic attitude of the public toward our campaign for the improvement of conditions and the lifting of working standards of the women workers of Baltimore, was the fact that just previous to the starting of our campaign, a bitter fight had taken place in that city, between the men belonging to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the United Garment Workers of America, for the local control of the men's clothing shops. There were constant street fights, and these events had a great deal to do with moulding the public sentiment against organized labor, and the garment trades in particular. The National Office of the American Federation of Labor had placed at our disposal the services of women organizers, first Mrs. Lillian Haffely, who was in Baltimore for several months, and later Miss Anna Neary, who is still there with our organizing staff, and is being paid by the American Federation of Labor.

At first we succeeded in organizing a pretty strong local of cutters. The Women's Trade Union League of Baltimore rendered very valuable assistance in the way of furnishing committees around the factories whenever we called shop meetings, and in many other respects. We also succeeded in organizing a branch of col-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE L. L. G. W. U.

NEW YORK PRIVATE DRESSMAKERS.

The New York custom dressmakers' local, No. 90, has been in existence for the last two years, since they were separated from Local No. 25. When the amalgamation of the ladies' tailors locals took place, Local No. 90 took in a few members from Local No. 65 who were working in dressmaking shops. The International Office took considerable interest in the affairs of this organization and has supported the local financially, by paying part salary of their manager. During the last year this local has gained strength and now controls over a hundred shops. There are, however, several thousand private dressmakers in New York City who are not yet organized, and the Executive Board of Local No. 90 appealed to us, at our Toledo meeting, for aid in an organizing campaign on a large scale to enroll the entire trade into the organization.

The General Executive Board, acting upon their request, decided upon a big agitation movement in the trade and placed an additional organizer, a woman, in the field.

The season in this trade, which in former years had its beginning in August or September, has within the recent past shifted to May, and the present prospects are that if the Executive Board and active members of Local No. 90 will give their full and unqualified support and cooperation to our organization campaign, we may expect the trade soon to be ripe for the enforcement of the working conditions of which the majority of the workers are so badly in need.

THE WORCESTER LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS.

For the last several years we have had in Worcester a small local of cloakmakers who were employed in the few small cloak shops of that town. Lately, this small local suffered a decline, as the shops had either gone out of business or dwindled down to a very small proportion.

There are, however, in Worcester several waist and white goods shops of considerable size, and we have had there a local which went through a few stiff conflicts with the employers, and which at one time num-
OFFICERS' REPORT

bored over two hundred members. During last year this local suffered a considerable decline owing to the fact that some of its active members left the city and some shops became smaller. During 1917 the International arranged that the manager of the Boston Joint Board and the officers of the Boston Waistmakers' Union visit Worcester regularly and try to assist them in the run of their affairs. This helped the local considerably, but not to the extent we expected, and quite recently the International Office sent Brother S. Halman to Worcester to help the local waist and white goods workers obtain increases in wages and better working conditions. Brother Halman spent several weeks in Worcester with gratifying results. The local now has a membership of about 150 in good standing.

There is a very large corset factory in Worcester which employs about two thousand women. Some time ago an attempt was made to approach these women, and with the aid of the local Women's Trade Union League a nucleus of an organization was formed. Further organizing activity among these corset workers, in order to be effective at all, would have meant the undertaking of a campaign on a large scale, and in view of the unusual conditions prevailing throughout the country, this was found impractical and impossible. The organizing work among the Worcester corset workers was, therefore, left over until such a time when the International will be ready to start a general drive in all the corset centers of the East.

HARTFORD LOCAL, NO. 68.

During 1917 our mixed ladies' garment local in Hartford took a new lease on life and began to take in new members. There are several hundred workers in our trades in Hartford, among them waist and dress makers, cloakmakers and 'ladies' tailors, who work in department stores.

On several occasions we sent organizers who addressed the Hartford workers in Italian and Jewiah, and we had Vice-President Pierce visit them almost every week.

It is very unfortunate that in Hartford, as well as in a good many other small towns, the workers have little faith in their own ability to conduct an organization; they are always relying on the organizer sent from New York, which can only be done by the International occasionally. No sooner does the organizer leave the town than the workers again become indifferent and without any spark of ambition. The International is ready to encourage the small locals by having organizers visit them from time to time, but it cannot keep permanent organizers in their cities. These locals must for once make up their minds that the key to successful organization in their cities lies primarily in their own hands.

RAINCOAT LOCALS, NO. 7, NO. 20, NO. 54 AND NO. 102.

For years the raincoat makers locals of our International had been a source of concern and constant anxiety to the general officers. We have four locals, situated in New York, Chicago, Boston and Montreal, where a considerable Industry of waterproof garments exists. Repeated attempts had been made to organize the workers, and efforts which entailed many sacrifices and which cost the International a good deal of money and energy, yielded scanty results.

The locals existed and had at one time or another, after periodic general strikes, succeeded in exerting some control over the trade and in gaining some improvements in the shops, but that was all. In 1916 the conditions in the trade were far from desirable; the locals were in a deplorable condition, and the International was forever being called upon to assist them financially.

Soon after the last convention a noticeable change took place in the waterproof garment industry all over the country. A very great demand for waterproof garments for military purposes had at once lifted the standards of work in the trade. A great number of workers who had been idle, returned to work in the shops as a result of this condition, and, in consequence of this, the local unions of the waterproof garment workers have made remarkable progress during this time. A number of manufacturers have tried to take advantage of the fact that the work was of military nature, and under this pretext, they attempted to cut prices and to eliminate the union indu-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Once from the shops. As a result, we had a number of strikes in shops in New York City, Boston and Chicago, which were settled after a short while, favorably for the workers, partly by representatives of the United States Department of Labor and partly through the efforts of Judge Julian W. Mack of Chicago, with whom President Schlesinger established immediate connections in regard to the settlement of all troubles in such shops.

During last summer the International assisted the New York raincoat makers in obtaining a number of concessions from their employers. Later, in the fall of 1917, other increases were gained. These improvements in the trade have brought a corresponding change in the condition of the locals, and today it may safely be said that they are more prosperous than ever since their formation. The working conditions of the raincoat makers would have been more satisfactory if not for the numerous shops controlled by the rubber trust, operated under non-union conditions and manned by unskilled and low-paid labor. The trust shops make the bulk of the army slickers.

Recently, after a number of conferences with the manufacturers, President Schlesinger succeeded in securing reasonable prices for the new military slickers manufactured in the raincoat shops of Boston, Chicago and New York, the prices for which were settled by an arbitration board of the War Department, consisting of Judge Julian W. Mack of Chicago, Prof. Ripley of Boston, and Major E. M. Rosensohn of New York.

The condition of unrest that characterized the New York waterproof industry at the beginning of 1917, prevailed in the raincoat trade of Chicago and Boston as well. In July, 1917, a general strike was about to be called in the raincoat shops of Boston, but was prevented by Secretary Baroff, who, after conferring with the manufacturers succeeded in adjusting the entire situation peaceably and in securing for the workers decided gains and concessions. In Chicago a similar situation arose in the contracting shops of the large firm of Kling Bros. A number of sporadic strikes took place in these shops and it took considerable effort on our part to settle them satisfactorily for the Union, with the ever-available aid of Judge Mack.

Today the men employed in the raincoat industry, except those employed in the above referred to trust shops, are fully 100 per cent organized. The element which had at one time been in power in the Boston local and had demoralized that local has been gradually, through the efforts of the sub-committee of the General Executive Board which took charge of the Boston situation, weeded out, and today has no influence whatever on the rank and file of that organization.

In New York there was also considerable friction in the local organization, but owing to the constant vigilance and care exercised by the General Office over the affairs of Local No. 20, harmony now prevails in that organization. The treasury of Local No. 20 consists of $12,000.00, and the organization is prepared to meet all possible emergencies that may occur in the trade. Brother Philip Berman, who has managed Local No. 20 for the past year, contributed to the present prosperous condition of the organization.

Of course, it must not be lost sight of that the present prosperity in the waterproof garment trade all over the country is due, to a considerable extent, to the unusual demand for waterproof garments for the army; in other words, the prosperous state of affairs in this industry may be ascribed to the abnormal conditions prevailing in the country at large, and the return of normal peace conditions may bring the industry back again into its old ramifications, lessen the demand for production and very likely decrease the number of workers at present employed in the trade. The local unions are, therefore, advised to take these possible developments into consideration and to strengthen their ranks and their treasuries at present in order to be able to face the new conditions which are likely to come, with more confidence and better chances for survival.

OUR LADIES' TAILORS LOCALS.

The ladies' tailors have always presented peculiar problems to the International, from the point of view of organization. Their
organizations have had more ups and downs than any other within our International. The Philadelphia Convention decided to amalgamate the three ladies' tailors locals of New York City then in existence, No. 38, No. 65 and No. 30, into one local. This amalgamation was effected soon after the Convention, and they were chartered as Local No. 80. Vice-President Lefkovits has been in charge of this local since its formation and until recently. We are glad to record that the ladies' tailors have during the last year turned over a new leaf in their history.

The strike of 1915 in the ladies' tailoring industry of New York, which ended so regretfully brought about a chaotic condition in the trade. Wages and hours could no longer be regulated, resulting in abnormal competition between the workers in the trade. The organizing campaign which was started by the International in 1917, in accordance with the mandate of the Philadelphia Convention, found genuine response among the workers. The best elements rallied to the local, and the desperate conditions of the workers presented fertile ground for successful organizing work. It seemed clear, however, that the employers who had not experienced the direct contact and control of the Union for some years, would not yield to any demands of the workers for better conditions without a general strike. Our efforts, therefore, were concentrated in the direction of preparations for a strike, and early in August a list of demands was sent to all the employers in the trade. We asked for a union shop; a minimum scale of $3.00 for a week of forty-eight hours, and an increase of twenty per cent for piece workers.

The employers ignored our requests. A number of general meetings were subsequently held, and on September 20th a general strike was called in the industry. The strike was conducted in an excellent manner, and it was won without any arrests or disturbances. Practically all the demands of the Union were granted, and the local gained a large number of members and accumulated a considerable treasury. Later, however, an unfortunate occurrence in one of the biggest shops of the trade, Milgrim Brothers, provoked a strike at the end of the season, which entailed a stubborn fight and had a bad effect on the organization.

However, the present standing of the local is very encouraging. From an insignificant membership during last year, it now has over 1000 members in good standing and has obtained control over the majority of the shops in the trade. Moreover, a new spirit has been infused into the workers, and those who were for many years disappointed and discouraged and without any faith in themselves, have become loyal and faithful members of the organization. The dissensions, which had been prevalent among the more active members of the union, as a result of the condition of chaos and disorganization, have gradually vanished.

There are about three hundred ladies' tailors scattered in a number of small shops in Philadelphia. A small group of these was organized some time ago into local No. 76. At the Philadelphia Convention a resolution was passed instructing the incoming General Executive Board to organize all the Philadelphia ladies' tailors and to improve their trade conditions. As at least fifty per cent of these workers are Italian, we sent to Philadelphia our organizer Alfredo La Porta, who spent several weeks there, endeavoring to get the people together and to form a stronger local. The results obtained were negligible, and we came to the conclusion that the expenditure of a large sum of money, which would be necessary in the prosecution of an organizing campaign for the time being would be unwarranted by the results that could possibly be achieved.

Local No. 71, of Chicago, is quite active at present and is in better shape than for a number of years past. The International Office has lately been assisting them financially toward the maintenance of an organizer. A substantial number of new members have been enrolled into the local during the last few months.

For some years there has been in existence in Chicago an independent local un-
tion of ladies' tailors numbering about 150 members. The relations between our local and this organization have always been friendly, and at present they are negotiating to amalgamate into one local, to be affiliated with our International Union. This amalgamation, if effected, would hasten the organization of the entire industry, and would give our general officers the opportunity to introduce uniform union conditions in this trade in Chicago.

Local No. 101 of Baltimore consists of a few score ladies' tailors of various nationalities. The local is a new one, but it has among its members many old and tried Union men who have been for years members of the cloakmakers' local, No. 4.

During the past two seasons they have succeeded in raising their wages, but their earnings are still far from what they could and should be.

The Joint Board which was organized in Baltimore several months ago, and of which this local is a part, will present at the beginning of the coming spring season demands to the ladies' tailors employers for standard working hours and for a minimum scale of wages for their members.

During the last year we chartered in St. John, N. B., Canada, a local of ladies' tailors under No. 86.

Attempts to revive the ladies' tailors local in Boston proved a failure, and the local is no longer in existence.

It is to be regretted that the Boston ladies' tailors, who understood the importance of organization and who have had quite a strong local union some years ago, are at present disorganized and work under conditions inferior to those prevailing in other cities.

Your General Executive Board has during the last term made substantial progress in the difficult work of maintaining and reorganizing the ladies' tailors locals. The International will be on guard at every future opportunity to organize the trade in such cities where it has proved to be a difficult task in the past. The ladies' tailors, the best artisans in our industry, whose work requires years of apprenticeship and consummate skill, would, when united in compact organizations, be able to command the best working conditions of all the workers in our trades.

THE BONNAZ EMBROIDERERS UNION.

Local No. 66, the organization of the bonnaz embroiderers of New York City, is reputed to be one of the best organized locals that we have in New York. The history of the organization in this trade is quite remarkable.

From a local which was insignificant in 1916, it has grown to be a union which has revolutionized the conditions of the workers in the trade. The bonnaz embroidery trade is not only a seasonal trade, but is also subject to style changes, and for this reason it was very difficult to introduce week work in the trade. The system of piece work which prevailed in the trade, was the main cause of the backward condition of the workers ever since the trade came into being. It took all the energy of the active men to wrangle with the employers about prices and to fight with them during the slack period against reductions and changes of established schedules.

In the general strike of 1915 the union gained its first victory in the form of forty hours work-week and a minimum scale of wages of $25.00 for first-class and $20.00 for second-class operators. These scales were a remarkable improvement over the earnings of the operators prior to that strike, which had amounted to $12.00 and $14.00 for a fifty-four hour week. During that strike a number of other concessions were gained, such as payment for ten legal holidays and a closed union shop. But the most important gain was the substitution of week work for the chaotic condition of piece work which had prevailed thereto in the trade.

It took some time before the workers became accustomed to the idea of no longer being complete "masters" over their time in the shop, and some lamented the
passing of the old-time piece work system, when they could put in as many hours as they liked,—the good old reasons which are advanced by some workers in the cloak and suit trade who fear so much the introduction of week work. Upon the introduction of week work in the Bonnaz embroidery trade the sweating system together with task work disappeared. The troubles of the price committees and discriminations logically went the same way. The union determined the scales for the workers in the trade, and they bargained collectively with the employers for all the shops. The 1915 agreement was for one year only, and early in 1916 another strike took place in the industry, with the result that the scale of wages was raised to $30.00 and $40.00 a week, respectively, for the various grades of operators, and the hours of work reduced to forty-one per week. In 1917, the International, in conjunction with Local No. 66, conducted a series of conferences with the Bonnaz Embroiderers Association, as a result of which a number of concessions were gained, including a forty-eight hour week and a material increase in the scale of wages. Bro. Wollinsky, their manager, has demonstrated the effect of good management in the manner he has conducted the affairs of the local during the last three years.

As you will note, the organization has been making steady and continuous progress right along,—and the leaders of the local are convinced that they owe their splendid unity and harmony in the shops exclusively to the change of the piece work to the week work system.

Local No. 66 has just recently endeavored to organize a new branch of the embroidery trade,—the art embroidery workers, whose work consists in drawing, stamping and painting art embroidery models on children's dresses, gowns and all kinds of novelties. There are several hundred people employed at this trade in New York City, under very inferior conditions. The first attempt at organization has already resulted in a considerable gain to the membership of the union and has improved the condition of the workers in the art embroidery shops which came under the control of the organization.

THE SWISS EMBROIDERY WORKERS.

The situation in the Swiss embroidery trade has been stationary for a long time. The shops in New York and the Jersey coast towns were idle for months, as during the last couple of seasons there has been but small demand for embroidery on waists and dresses. The New Jersey local was for months after the last Convention sustained by the International Union, which kept a paid secretary there for a long time. Soon, however, the local became inactive, and today it is practically in a state of apathy.

The New York organization, however, which is composed of a mixed Jewish and Gentile membership, kept up a pretty good organization all the time and exercised considerable influence on the local trade. At the beginning of the last season indications began to show that there would be an increased demand for embroidery in the market. The workers, who had not received any wage increases since the signing of their last agreement in 1916, decided to demand from the Manufacturers' Association an increase of earnings, a reduction of working hours and a general improvement of conditions in the shops. President Schlesinger requested the association of embroidery manufacturers to confer with them concerning these demands. At first the association refused to make any concessions. But they soon reconsidered their decision. Other conferences followed, and finally an agreement was entered into, by which the workers received a substantial increase in wages and a reduction of working hours. This averted a strike in the trade, as the membership of the embroidery local was ready to back up their demands to the fullest extent, and the International would undoubtedly have supported this local in its just demands. Brother Manny Weiss, who has been the manager of the Embroidery Workers' Union for the last three years, contributed a great deal toward the stability of the organization.

In general, the embroidery trade is going through a transitory period just at present, and this uncertainty finds reflection within the organization of the embroidery workers. The prediction that the cessation of
embroidery imports from Europe would stimulate the manufacture of domestic embroidery has not yet materialized, and the future of the trade is still considerably in the balance. Like in many other industries, the workers in this trade will have to patiently watch and wait until the present abnormal times are tided over.

THE CORSET WORKERS.

In the course of the past year and a half our corset workers' locals have suffered a decline. The causes for this decline can be analyzed briefly as follows:

The entry of our country into the war has materially affected the corset workers' locals, particularly of Bridgeport and Springfield. The corset shops were working only part time, and the local trade suffered a considerable disintegration. In addition to that, hundreds of corset workers went to work in munition shops located in these cities, and at better wages than what they received in the corset factories. Only recently the trade came back to its normal condition, and the corset factories became busy again.

The strike in the Springfield corset factory, which was brought before the attention of the last Convention and for the support of which the Convention voted a considerable sum of money, was finally, after several weeks, crushed by a sweeping injunction granted to the employers. As a result, the Springfield Corset Workers' Union, which was composed solely of the workers of that single shop, was destroyed.

The International did all in its power to assist the strike, but we could not overcome the opposition of the Massachusetts courts. The Bay State Corset Company, the firm which had so bitterly contested the just demands of its girl workers, paid for its obstinacy by being compelled as a direct result of the strike, to go out of business shortly afterward.

The dues-paying membership in the locals of New Haven and Bridgeport has dwindled materially, yet the locals are quite active today and have considerable influence in some of the shops. The cutters local in Bridgeport, No. 34, includes all the corset cutters in the trade and is a live and active organization. Vice-President Pierce spent most of his time during the last year and a half on these locals, settling their disputes, guiding their activities and advising them on every occasion. The building up of very strong corset locals is a big and ambitious task; but it should be undertaken with the knowledge beforehand that it would involve a considerable expenditure of money and energy. Strong locals of corset workers in New England would, doubtless, pave the way for the thorough organization of the tens of thousands of corset workers in the factories of the Middle West.

THE NEW YORK EXAMINERS & BUSHELERS.

During the past term the General Executive Board granted a charter to the examiners and busheleers in the cloak shops of New York City, who had hitherto been outside of the organization. It is claimed that there are approximately 3,000 examiners in the trade in New York, a number doubtless sufficient to build up a strong union. On two occasions we appointed a sub-committee to assist them in organizing work. They already have over two hundred members in their organization and have succeeded in raising the wages of their members and in getting better working conditions in the organized shops. It is apparent that with closer cooperation of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York City, they would be in a position to enroll all the examiners into their local. The Joint Board is now considering their application for affiliation.

OUR FAR WESTERN LOCALS.

We have three locals on the Pacific coast,—Local No. 8 in San Francisco; Local No. 22 in Los Angeles, and Local No. 28 in Seattle.

The ladies' garment trades are only poorly developed in the far West, as this section of the country relies almost exclusively on the East to provide it with women's wear.

In San Francisco our local has as yet...
little influence on the local trade, which, by the way, is not very extensive. The membership is composed of ladies' tailors and cloakmakers, and these are looking forward to a more favorable time in the future when they will be in a position to regulate the working conditions in the local shops. They are all week workers, and have recently presented, by way of a strike, the attempt of some local manufacturers to introduce piece work in their shops.

The Los Angeles local, No. 52, is, comparatively speaking, a strong and compact local union. It exercises considerable control over the local trade; has agreements with most of the local manufacturers and a good standing membership. It is a fighting organization as well, and has managed to improve the conditions of the workers in the Los Angeles shops materially from year to year.

Our Seattle organization, which is composed of ladies' tailors, is a small local and maintains a rather precarious existence. Our little ladies' tailors local in Denver has gone out of existence during last year, as well as our little ladies' garment local in Stockton, Cal.

We have a local in the northwest of Canada, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that during the three years of its existence won several fights with the local employers and has gained, single-handed, a number of improvements in the working conditions of its members. There are about four hundred cloakmakers in Winnipeg, some of them working in small shops and about three hundred working in two large shops,—the Eaton Company and the Faultless Company. They won a strike for the recognition of the Union in the Faultless Company shop, but the firm schemed by a quiet lockout to destroy the local after the spring season of 1917. The local took up the fight and called out the workers on strike, which lasted all through the summer. The firm endeavored to import strikebreakers from the States and from other Canadian towns, but in this they failed, and the workers won a complete victory. Along with the recognition of the Union they gained a number of other improvements, including higher wages. During this lockout the Winnipeg local was financially assisted by some of the locals of our International Union, and this fraternal aid helped a great deal to preserve the existence of our Winnipeg local in the cold northwest of Canada.

We have on several occasions considered and on one occasion decided to send President Schlesinger to the Pacific coast to strengthen these locals, but President Schlesinger had to postpone this trip on account of pressing business in the East. We are making arrangements to have the President of the International visit our locals in the far west, in the very near future.

EXTINCT AND NEW LOCALS.

A number of new locals have been added to the list of our International Union during the past term. The policy to which we adhered during the first term of our administration,—not to encourage locals of much room growth,—was carried out during the last term as well. On the other hand, we saw to it that wherever more than one local of similar trades existed, to amalgamate them and thus to increase their usefulness for their membership.

We have transferred part of their membership to Local No. 90, thus laying the foundation for stronger ladies' tailors organizations in New York City. We have resisted attempts of finishers in some towns to form separate locals apart from the cloakmakers' organizations, knowing full well that this would only occasion a splitting of forces and would probably injure the interests of the local workers.

The following new locals were chartered:

Local No. 30, Cutters Union, Cincinnati, O.
Local No. 31, "Ladies Garment Workers, Louisville, Ky.
Local No. 38, Ladies Garment Workers, Cumberland, Md.
Local No. 59, Ladies Tailors, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Local No. 65, Ladies Garment Workers, St.
Louis, Mo.
Local No. 80, Ladies Tailors, New York City
Local No. 82, Bakers & Begraders, New
York City.
Local No. 84, Cutters Union, Toledo, O.
Local No. 86, Ladies Garment Workers, St.
John, N.B.
Local No. 90, Custom Dressmakers, New
York City.
Local No. 100, Waist, Dress & White Goods
Workers, Chicago, Ill.
The following locals have become extinct
during this period:
Local No. 22, Ladies Garment Workers,
New Haven, Conn.
Local No. 36, Ladles Tailors, Dorchester,
Mass.
Local No. 47, Ladles Tailors, Vineland, N. J.
Local No. 49, Boston.
Local No. 50, Ladles Garment Worker,
Stockton, Cal.

OUR ORGANIZING STAFF—MEN AND
WOMEN.

The number of men and women who were
assigned to different organizing tasks during
the last term, on the payroll of our Inter-
national Office, has been quite as large
as during the previous term. They have
rendered their best service, each according
to his or her ability, and have worked loy-
dally to maintain and strengthen our organi-
zation in a number of localities. We are
attaching below a list of these workers and
the particular organization to which they
have been attached at one time or another:

MEN ORGANIZERS
Max Amdur, Philadelphia, Montreal
John P. Pierce, Baltimore, Connec-
ticut.
John W. Swans, Local No. 15, Philadelphia.
Julius Proctor, Local No. 113, Newark, N. J.
B. Jacobson, Local No. 49, Boston.
M. Perlstein, Cleveland, Cincinnati.

WOMEN ORGANIZERS.
Helen Dunn, Local No. 115, Newark, N. J.
Rose Schnolde, New York.
Marie MacDonald, Local No. 4.
Catherine Riggs, Local No. 113.
Anna Crane, St. Louis.
Anna Macellati, Local No. 46.
Juliet M. Poyntz, Educational Committee.
Anna Neary, Baltimore.
Anna Epstein, Local No. 59.

Part Salary Paid.
No longer in service of General Office.

THE WORK OF OUR EDUCATIONAL
DEPARTMENT.
The Philadelphia Convention voted for
an extensive educational campaign among
our members. The first months after the
Convention we were engaged in numerous
strikes, which prevented the General Exe-
cutive Board from working out a program
for education. Later, however, the Educa-
tional Committee, appointed by President
OFFICERS' REPORT

Schlesinger, composed of Vice-Presidents Elmer Rosenberg, Saul Mets, Fannia M. Cohn and Louis Langer, Jacob Heller, Elias Lieberman, M. J. Ashpis and M. Kovinsky, was called into being, and work on an extensive scale was commenced. This Committee elected Brother Eliaa Lioborman of New York, chairman, Vlco-President Fannia M. Cohn secretary, and Miss Juliet S. Poyns director.

The Educational Committee has organized a systematic course of lectures on various subjects, utilizing the public schools of New York City for their classes. They have engaged among their teachers and lecturers some of the best known men and women in New York City, who have regularly given these courses during the entire winter and spring. Several Unity Centers were organized in the various parts of the city, and a number of concerts in connection with these Unity Centers were arranged, which attracted large crowds and added considerably to the popularity of the undertaking. The attendance in the classes was much lower than had been expected, and, while some of the courses were of splendid educational value, our membership failed to take advantage of them in spite of intense advertising and very wide publicity given to these lectures and courses by means of an unprecedented amount of literature. The expenses of the Educational Committee for the winter of 1917-18 amounted to $14,000.00.

We do not believe that our expectations were met with the results obtained. There are a number of reasons and drawbacks which are responsible for this. The educational work can not perforce be conducted at any other time but during winter, a time when the workers in our industry are busy in the shops, earning their livelihood and saving whatever they can for the dull months that are to follow. During these busy months, when overtime work is in full swing, they have very little time, patience or energy left for education, and during the slack months that follow, they are too distracted by worry of the pending idleness to interest themselves in education. Of course, we speak of the great masses. There are individuals who disregard these drawbacks and who will attend lectures at all times. But this naturally narrows and limits the scope of the work of our Educational Department to very small groups of men and women.

We have stated frankly these facts, never losing sight of the extrinsic value, which the work of our Educational Committee has for our International Union. We shall leave to this Convention to decide what to do in the future with regard to this educational work.

The active work of the Educational Committee was carried on by our Vice-President Miss Fannia M. Cohn, who gave her entire energy to this task, and made it a work of love and devotion.

THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF DAY FUND FOR THE WAR SUFFERERS IN EUROPE.

The heartrending cry for relief of the war sufferers of Russia and elsewhere, has touched a responsive chord in the heart of the population of the United States. For three and a half years our sisters and brothers on the other side of the ocean have been enduring indescribable sufferings, and most of our people who hail from these parts, realized fully the distressing situation and the sacred duty of helping them in their dire condition.

"We took the initiative at a conference held December 11, 1917, of the Executive Boards of all our New York local unions, to offer a day's wages of our workers, for the relief of the war sufferers. The speakers at that conference included Messrs. Jacob H. Schiff and Louis Marshall, who are intimately connected with the relief work. In order to make the donation as large as possible, it was unanimously decided that the day in question should be Washington's Birthday, February 22nd,—a recognized legal holiday in the cloak and suit and waist and dress trade. Washington's Birthday falls in the height of the spring season in these and kindred trades, and in past years manufacturers offered our people double pay for work on this day. Our people agreed to give up their entire earnings of that day and we expected that the manufacturers would cooperate with us to make the donation still larger, by paying our
workers at least time and a half. In this, we were later dismally disappointed.

Soon after the plan had been mapped out offices were opened and a campaign on a large scale was started to make this movement successful. President Schlesinger appointed a Relief Day Committee which consisted of the following members:

From the International Office—Benj. Schlesinger, Abraham Baroff, H. Wander, S. Mets, J. Halpern, Fannie M. Cohn and Max D. Danish; from the New York Joint Board of the Cloakmakers’ Union, Morris Sigman, Philip Kaplowitz and L. Laenger; from Local No. 1, William Bloom; from Local No. 3, E. Feister; from Local No. 6, M. Welas; from Local No. 9, N. M. Min- kow; from Local No. 10, Ildore Epstein; from Local No. 11, M. Brasc; from Local No. 17, J. Heller; from Local No. 20, P. Herman; from Local No. 21, Max Bruck; from Local No. 23, Meyer Weinsteins; from Local No. 25, S. Seidman; from Local No. 25, A. E. Kazan; from Local No. 41, H. Zucker; from Local No. 48, S. Ninio; from Local No. 50, H. Greenberg; from Local No. 58, M. Uraa; from Local No. 62, S. Shore; from Local No. 64, M. Lub- off; from Local No. 66, O. Wallinsky; from Local No. 80, S. Lefkovits; from Local No. 82, I. Graff; from Local No. 90, A. Ellner.

The Relief Day Committee elected an Executive Committee as follows: Benj. Schlesinger, chairman; Philip Kaplowitz, manager; Abraham Baroff, treasurer; Max D. Danish, secretary, and Morris Sigman, Harry Wander, Sol Seidman and O. Wallin- sky.

The work of the Committee was not without mishaps and disappointments. Right after the work had been started in full swing, the Monday closing order was announced by the Fuel Administration in Washington, which meant that for ten Mondays all the shops in the East and the Middle West would be closed, and which would make considerable inroads into the earnings of our workers during the height of the season. This event, quite naturally, produced a setback and created serious doubts in the minds of a number of the members of our Relief Day Committee as to the possibility or advisability of going ahead with the plan. The executive offi-

cers of the Committee, however, persisted in going ahead with their work, and owing to the indefatigable efforts of President Schlesinger assisted by President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, we succeeded in obtaining first the permission for the ladies’ garment trades throughout the country to work on Washington’s Birthday, in spite of the closing order, and afterward, in repealing the Monday closing order, insofar as the ladies’ garment trades were concerned, altogether. The exemptions were granted upon very strong appeals to the Fuel Administrator, Dr. Harry A. Garfield, in which he was advised of the distressful effect these Monday closings would have on the condition of our workers during the short working period. This accomplishment, which came toward the very end of the campaign, unfused new life and energy into the plans of the Committee and, as demonstrated by the remarkable results which were obtained, the response of our men and women to the cause of relief for the war sufferers of Europe, was gratifying, indeed. The sum of over $150,000 has already been obtained from this singular undertaking; and this sum, while it came largely from the contributions of the New York ladies’ garment workers, was also swelled by the donations of our members from every part of the country. We are reproducing herewith a list of these contributions as they came from the locals of our International Union.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local/Union</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York Joint Board Cloakmakers Union</td>
<td>$75,880.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 36, New York Waist &amp; Dress Makers</td>
<td>44,418.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 62, New York White Goods Workers</td>
<td>4,293.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 66, New York Raincoat Makers</td>
<td>2,955.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 66, New York Children’s Dreamakers</td>
<td>2,428.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 66, New York Baby Embroidery Workers</td>
<td>1,051.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 41, New York House Dress Makers</td>
<td>1,022.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 66, New York Custom Dreamakers</td>
<td>419.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 66, New York Ladies’ Tailors</td>
<td>276.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 6, New York Swiss Embroiderers</td>
<td>177.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OFFICERS' REPORT

Local No. 87, Toledo Cloak-makers.................................................. 214.75
Local No. 4, Baltimore Cloak-makers.................................................. 620.58
Local No. 7, Boston Raincoat Makers .................................................. 1,705.70
Local No. 46, Boston Waist-makers..................................................... 1,624.38
Local No. 78, St. Louis Cloak-makers ................................................ 242.16
Local No. 100, Chicago Waist & White Goods Workers....................... 172.60
Boston Joint Board Cloakmakers Union............................................. 1,829.75
Philadelphia Joint Board Cloakmakers Union.................................... 4,256.63
Cincinnati Joint Board Cloakmakers Union........................................ 1,336.97

$152,379.93

The money is deposited with the Harriman National Bank. It was understood that money collected from Italians and members of other nationalities should be given for the relief of their nationalities. We have accordingly forwarded a check for $112,000 to the Italian Relief Committee, and a check for $61,500 to the Russian-Polish Committee.

The General Executive Board feels that it has done a small part of its duty to help freedom's struggle everywhere and its duty to our country by the subscription of Liberty Bonds for $100,000.

THE IMPERATIVE NEED FOR WEEK WORK IN OUR INDUSTRY.

The General Executive Board, at its fourth quarterly meeting in Boston in August, 1917, acting upon resolutions Nos. 4, 13 and 51, adopted at our Philadelphia Convention, decided to start an agitation for week work in all branches of our trade. After considering this question in the most thorough manner, the General Executive...
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Board came to the conclusion that the substitution of week work for the prevailing system of piece work would do away with a great many of the serious evils in our trades and would bring us many advantages. Not only the leaders of our unions, but the more intelligent men and women within the ranks of our organizations, have been inclined to this point of view, and the history and development of the struggles within our union for the last number of years have pointed the way in this direction.

The change in the system of work would abolish, first of all, the haggling over work prices and all the troubles attending and resulting from the piece work method. Every worker in our trades knows well what hardship and inconvenience are caused by the continual wrangling with the employers over piece prices; how difficult it is to get proper price committees; how hard it is to avoid the underhand methods of tricky employers to deceive and get the bolter of the committees, and what ill-feeling is thereby created between the employers and the workers, resulting in discharges and even frequent strikes. The history of our unions for the last few years fairly bristle with such events and disturbances of the piece working system. All this would automatically disappear with the abolition of the piece system. Of course, it may be argued that some other difficulties would appear to take their place, but these possible drawbacks would be of a limited nature and would not involve the union in a constant and endless series of wrangling.

Week work would also, to a certain extent, eliminate the evil of sub-manufacturing. With the present system, when every shop adjusts its own prices, it is impossible to prevent some shops from doing the same work at different prices. In fact, in most cases the earnings depend largely on the composition of the price committee in the shops. Where the price committee is firm and courageous, it succeeds in gaining good earnings for the workers, and where the committee is weak and indifferent, it consent to lower prices. This absence of uniformity of action leads to competition among the workers, which inherently weakens the union and is injurious to the welfare of our membership. Under week work all this would naturally disappear. The union will then have the sole task of enforcing the minimum scale in all shops alike, small and large, sub-factories as well as inside factories, and it will, beyond a doubt, succeed in maintaining its control over all the shops.

The hurry and rush and the over-taxing of strength, which is so natural under the piece work system, will disappear together with the idea that in order to secure larger earnings they must drive their machines with all the energy left in them. The system of the week work must tend to prolong the seasons, because it will be impossible to get as much work done in short seasons as at present. We fully realize that an industry, the output of which is determined by the style factor, cannot furnish work all the year round, but it would be a great gain to us if we succeeded in extending the seasons by two months; that is, each season should start four weeks earlier. Two months additional work in the year would be of considerable benefit to our members. We believe that week work would give us the possibility to fortify our union and to apply our energies and efforts to purposes other than mere conduct of shop strikes and adjustment of price disputes which at present tax our time and resources all year round.

Our agitation for week work has assumed large and ever increasing proportions during the last six months in New York City and has found an echo in other centres of our trades. A series of articles and editorials by President Schlesinger which have been printed in the "Ladies' Garment Worker", "New Post", and "Gleichheit," full of lucid and persuasive arguments for the introduction of week work, gave a strong impetus to the discussion of this interesting problem. President Schlesinger also issued in pamphlet form two articles in the Jewish and Italian languages, on the advantages of week work, which were widely read by cloakmakers all over the country. The Cloakmakers' Union of New York, after having discussed the matter from every angle at various district and shop chairmen's meetings, decided to put the propo-
OFFICERS' REPORT

The referendum vote in which thousands of cloakmakers took part lasted six weeks and resulted in a vote in favor of week work, and against the retention of the old system.

This Convention is called upon to give this paramount question the full consideration which it merits, and after having weighed the matter carefully, vote its judgment for the best interests of our workers throughout the country.

ONE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY ORGAN

We believe that the time is ripe to carry out a fundamental reform in regard to our press, and to put it on a sound and useful basis.

There is not a single International Union in the country whose locals waste so much treasure on publishing papers and journals as the locals of our International Union.

The object of trade union publications is to broaden their members' views and to teach and educate them, but under the present system the separate local publication confines itself to narrow local craft interests and the reader fails to learn about the wider interests and more general labor questions affecting the members of the International as a whole.

This Convention must change this system in a decisive and radical manner. All the present publications must be merged into one general International weekly organ, with various departments for the various trades, and a general department for general trade union and International questions. A publication of this kind would be a true educational medium for our members.

By means of such an organ they would become conversant with the whole organization, its various trades and the activities in all the centres of our industry.

We must have one general, great union organ, edited by capable journalists and writers; an organ which will reach all our members and inform them of all that is happening in our extensive organization. It should also be the medium of educating our members in all general questions which have a close and vital bearing upon the worker's life and labor.

As long as there were inner disputes within the Union it was hard to carry out this reform. Previous conventions have discussed this important proposition, and partial solutions and half-meaures were decided upon. The effort to affect a thorough reform was always under a shadow of misrepresentation. The International officers might have been charged with making an attempt to "suppress" the opinions of a section of the members, to deny them the right of free speech, etc. Consequently, this matter was postponed and kept in abeyance.

Peace and harmony now prevail in all the local organizations, and it can not be insinuated that there is politics behind the plan. The delegates to this Convention will consider this question in a logical and unbiased manner, and we are confident that they will come to the conclusion that we are right in recommending this reform.

Should the Convention decide to adopt this recommendation it would also have to decide that the International per capita be raised to 6c weekly—the additional cent for the weekly publication which the locals are charging to their membership.

INTERNATIONAL SHOULD PAY DEATH BENEFIT

The General Executive Board wishes to bring to the attention of this Convention a new constructive proposition of the highest importance, and calls upon the delegates to discuss it and to pass upon it with the utmost diligence and care. The proposition consists in the creation of a Death Benefit Fund for all male members of our locals, directly supervised and controlled by our International Union.

Some years ago a poorly conceived and abortive attempt was made by the International to provide for the creation of such a Fund. It failed partly because the plan lacked system and method, and partly because our International Union at that time was not ready to embark on a big and far-reaching reform of this kind.

We have always believed that a union should enter thoroughly into all questions touching the workers' life. An active, vigorous union holds its members closely attached to itself, not only with the bonds
of improved wages and hours in the shop, but with all other bonds of importance to the life of the worker and his family. The union must regard it as a part of its task to help and protect the worker in all his needs and difficulties; it must consider itself the worker's mainstay in life, and make it possible for him to come to the union whenever he is in trouble and distress and leave in its hands the fortunes and destiny of his wife and children if fate should deprive them of his life. This should be the ideal of every great and powerful labor union. The worker's needs and economic problems by no means end with the shop or his wages. True, the shop and his wages are of primary importance, but they are not his only needs. The trade union which fails to take into account all other needs and material requirements of its members saps its own vital strength. Only that union is truly strong which takes an abiding interest in all that affects the worker and his family at all crucial moments of their material existence.

All the great unions of this country recognize this principle and all of them have benefit funds, based on the peculiar circumstances surrounding the trade and their members. In trades where the workers are subject to tuberculosis, the unions provide cures and sanatoriums. The International Typographical Union and the International Pressmen's Union have furnished the labor movement with shining examples of this type. Sick benefit funds are very general. The principle of insurance against sickness and disease is widely recognized, and every organization strives to give effect to it as far as possible. In our Union, as a whole, this vital principle has been almost neglected. Until recently, our local unions and the International have not looked at the affairs of the Union from this comprehensive point of view. We have regarded the Union from the narrow, confined limits of strikes and wages. For this our own special circumstances were mainly responsible. So long as an element of insecurity entered into the situation; so long as the Union rested on an unstable foundation, it was impossible to devote time and attention to matters outside wages and hours. We were in duty bound to concentrate on one thing—to assure the foundation of the Union.

Now, however, the situation is altogether different. Our locals are firmly established; we are regarded as one of the exemplary labor organizations of the land. Now it would be criminal to neglect these reforms; now it is our duty to provide for a systematic protection of our members against recurring slackness and hardship.

Indeed, some of our local unions have already begun this work. The Typographers' Union of New York City, which has been setting a precedent for our New York locals with regard to a number of local reforms, has established a Sick Benefit Fund on a well thought out basis, and was soon afterward followed by the Typographers' Union, Local No. 3, and the Skirtmakers' Union, Local No. 23. All these are signs that the active and intelligent elements within our International Union are waking up to the importance and necessity of these vital measures for the strengthening of our Union and the safeguarding of the life interests of our members.

This Convention must decide to make a general start in the introduction of benefits for our membership. It may not be necessary to effect an all-embracing reform at once; it may be better policy to proceed slowly and deliberately, but a beginning must be made without delay, and once it is made the movement is bound to grow and succeed. This Convention should decide that upon the death of a male member in good standing, if affiliated with the Union for a year, his family should be paid from the treasury of the International Union the sum of $500.00, and such payments shall be covered by a tax on the entire male membership at the end of every three months.

Thus, for instance, if in the course of any three months ten deaths should be recorded, the families of the deceased members, their widows or other legal heirs, should be immediately and without delay paid from the treasury of the International, $500.00 in each case, and the total sum of $5,000.00 should subsequently be covered by a tax on the entire male membership. At the end of the three months the International
Union should publish the names of the ten deceased members and the names and addresses of their heirs to whom the money has been paid. The 70,000 male members of the International Union should then be called upon to provide the disbursed sum of $5,000,000 by levying a tax of approximately seven cents on each male member. Of course, this is offered not as the best way of paying death benefits. It may be better to have a fixed system of dues for this purpose, regardless of sums disbursed for three months. But as a beginning, a system of distributing the assessment in proportion to the payment, would be more practicable. A special assessment at the end of every three months would bring home to the members the good and useful object achieved by this Fund. Those who will pay the assessment will feel that their pennies have gone to help widows and orphans of their fellow-workers, and will strengthen their faith in the importance of keeping up the Fund. Then, as the membership will grow accustomed to the Mortuary Fund, it will be possible to arrange it on the same basis as other regular payments to the Union, as the regular payment system is really the easiest and most practical way of running a Benefit Fund.

THE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA.

We should be guilty of a very grave omission if we were not to mention, at least briefly, a great event which has had a vital and far-reaching effect upon the fate of human civilization and the progress of the international labor movement,—the Revolution In Russia.

In the month of March, 1917, the world, and particularly the world of labor, was thrilled with the sudden news of a revolutionary uprising in Russia. The spirit of revolt against the reactionary, despotic and cruel rule of the Czar and of the ruling classes of Russia which had been silently but persistently working and growing in the vast empire for years, and had been temporarily repressed by the war, had gained a new and irresistible impetus in thirty months of slaughter and starvation, incompetence and corruption, and when the day of reckoning came, it was as radical and thorough as it was quiet and bloodless. The revolution in Russia began in the mild form of a palace revolt, a program of substituting one Romanoff for another Romanoff, but its scope and purpose widened and deepened with extraordinary rapidity. The revolution was brought about and supported by the broad masses of the common people of Russia, the workers and soldiers in civilian garb and in soldier's uniform, and probably for the first time in the history of the world the workers showed a determination not to allow themselves to be defrauded of the fruits of their victory by their master classes. Under the powerful impulse of the organized workers and peasants of Russia the rise of the people soon changed from a palace revolt to a political revolution and from thence to a radical social and economic revolution. The direction of the affairs of the vast country, which immediately after the dethronement of Nicholas Romanoff was assumed by representatives of the liberal middle classes of Russia, soon was shared by the latter with the parties of the Socialist and revolutionary working classes and finally passed entirely into the hands of the latter. Thus, Russia, heretofore a country of unmitigated political absolutism and economic oppression, the fort and stronghold of European reaction, suddenly blossomed out as the first truly democratic Socialist republic.

The new republic was born at a period of the greatest hardships and trial of the country's history. Weakened by the ravages of a most sanguinary war, crippled by the incompetence and mismanagement of the czarist regime, with acute suffering and wholesale starvation at home and a powerful and relentless enemy at its door, the young democracy had undertaken a gigantic, almost superhuman task of reconstruction. The tragedy of Brest-Litovsk and the fierce struggles of the Russian Socialist government to maintain the integrity of the new republic are too well known to the whole world to require further mention. The members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will follow the struggles of their brothers in Russia with intense interest and sympathy, not only because many are linked to them by ties of kinship.
and sentiment, but also because the fate of
the first great working class republic in the
world can not but be a matter of prime con-
cern to the organized and progressive
workers of all countries.

THE CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF LABOR.

The last two conventions of the
American Federation of Labor took
place in November 1916 and 1917, at Balti-
more, Md., and Buffalo, N. Y., respectively.
Our delegation consisted of Brothers Benj.
Schlesinger, Morris Deutsch, Jacob Heller,
Max Gorenstein, Abraham Rosenberg and
Miss Sarah Shapiro. Brother Abraham
Rosenberg was absent from the Buffalo con-
vention owing to the fact that he was pro-
occupied in the reorganizing of local No. 1.
Our voting strength amounted to 851
votes at the Baltimore convention and
823 votes at the Buffalo convention,
each vote representing one hundred
fully paid up members. We repre-
sented, acted and voted at these two con-
ventions in the true spirit of our great or-
ganization, having in mind not merely tho
trade interests of our International, but
also the greater problems and needs of
the working class and our people.

At the Baltimore convention our delega-
tion brought before that body a resolution
which urged the organized workers of the
United States to render moral and material
assistance to the full extent of their means
to their suffering fellow workers, the vic-
tims of the war and of political, religious
and radical persecution. The resolution
read as follows:

"WHEREAS, The European war is daily
growing in extent and horror, and the un-
fortunate nations involved in it seem to be
powerless to check the fury of mutual de-
struction and wholesale bloodshed; and
WHEREAS, Many nations in Europe,
held in political subjugation by the great
powers, are deprived of the right of self-gov-
ernment, hampered in their free national and
cultural development, oppressed, maltreated
and persecuted, and the existence of such op-
pressed 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 peo-
ple the political, national and civil rights en-
joyed by other citizens or subjects of those
countries, although the Jews are making un-
told sacrifices in goods and blood for the
countries of their birth or adoption; and

WHEREAS, The international movement of
organized labor has for its aim the abolition
of all forms of oppression and discrimination,
national and racial as well as political and
industrial; be it, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the convention of the
American Federation of Labor, assembled
in Baltimore in November, 1916, gives its hearty
endorsement to the joint house resolution in-
troduced by Congressman 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 ter-
minal the fratricidal war in Europe and
establishing a durable peace upon just terms
which shall include effective machinery for
the peaceful settlement of international dis-
putes in the future and ample provisions for
the political independence and self-govern-
ment of the oppressed nations and the re-
moval of all political, national and civil dis-
abilities of the Jewish people; and be it fur-
ther

RESOLVED, That the organized workers of
the United States are urged by the American
Federation of Labor to render moral and ma-
terial 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; and be it furth-

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution
be sent to the President of the United States,
to the Secretary of State, to the President of
the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
Representatives."

As a result of this resolution, the con-
vention voted a declaration in favor of mor-
al and material assistance to the full extent of
their means by the organized workers of
the United States to their suffering fel-
low-workers, the victims of the war and of
political, religious, radical and industrial
injustice.

At the Buffalo convention our delega-
tion introduced a resolution calling for the for-
mation of a garment trades department
within the American Federation of Labor,
along the lines of other trades departments
in the Federation. The resolution read as
follows:

"WHEREAS, The various trades in the
needle industry of this country are substan-
WHEREAS, All these trades are subject to seasons; periods of work and idleness which frequently force the workers of one trade to look for occupation, during the idle seasons, in the shops of other needle trades; and

WHEREAS, These temporary influxes are and have been a source of dissatisfaction and irritation to the workers in these trades, in the absence of any reciprocal understanding and regulations between the various national and local labor organizations in the needle industries; and

WHEREAS, The general interests of the hundreds of thousands of needle workers in the country would be better protected and their organizations strengthened and enlarged if there were an organized and defined system of mutual help and cooperation among them; be it, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor be instructed to take steps to organize and establish a Needle Trades Department within the American Federation of Labor along the lines and principles of the other trade departments at present in existence and operation in the Federation.

This resolution was supported by the Journeymen Tailors Union, United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of America, International Furriers Union, all except the United Garment Workers of America and provoked a lot of interest and discussion at the convention, which finally voted to refer same to the Executive Council for investigation and to report upon it at the next convention. John B. Lennon, who represented the tailoring industry on the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, failed of re-election, and his place was taken by Daniel J. Tobin, President of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, so that at present there is no representative of the needle industry on the Executive Council.

The last Convention of the American Federation of Labor has voted to change the month of the Federation's annual meeting from November to June, and this change has influenced your General Executive Board in shifting the meeting time of our own convention from June to May in order to give our delegations the opportunity to be present at the conventions of the Federation.

Our delegates at both these conventions, having in mind the advantage that would result to the workers in the garment industry if unity and harmony would prevail between the national garment organizations, have at all times urged close cooperation between the organizations of the men's clothing workers, and have raised their voice in defense of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America against unfair attacks aimed at it by its opponents at these conventions of the Federation.

At the last convention in Buffalo there was introduced, as a result of the feud existing between the men's garment workers unions, a resolution directing all international unions whose local unions are represented in the United Hebrew Trades, a central organization of Jewish trade unions in New York City and not affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, to order all such local unions to withdraw from that body, and in case such local unions refuse to withdraw to re-organize them. Your delegation persistently fought against the adoption of this resolution, considering it in excess of the powers of the Federation and as an undeserved blow to the organized Jewish workers of New York City. This resolution was referred to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, and has subsequently resulted in an order by the Executive Council, directing the internationals to withdraw their locals from the United Hebrew Trades. The General Executive Board delayed action upon this order, until after the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, in June, 1918, where this order will surely be a topic of discussion.

During the last year a powerful movement of spiritual rebirth and organized activity has practically revolutionized the ranks of organized labor in the Allied countries of Europe. The movement had its inception in England and found expression in the ever-growing recognition of the important part labor is playing in the great world drama of today, and in the determination to secure a share of the world government befitting such part. A series of conferences held by the organized workers and Socialists of Great Britain culminated finally in the Nottingham Conference which was held in December of last year, and which adopted the now historical labor
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 45

program of world peace and international and national economic reconstruction. The document has attracted universal attention for the lofty and enlightened viewpoint which characterizes the whole scheme and for the wisdom and statesmanship of all of its details. It has given new dignity, importance and influence to the British labor movement and has made it a power of prime political importance in the land. The English labor program has become the rallying point of the organized workers and Socialists of France, Belgium and Italy, and has been substantially adopted by an interallied Socialist and labor conference held in London last February.

From the point of view of organized labor the rise of the workers in Russia and in the Allied countries is the most significant development of the great war, holding out as it does the promise of a new world order based on human reason and fairness and upon the principle of social justice in the relations between nation and nation, and man and man.

It is to be regretted that the labor movement of the United States has not played its legitimate part in this great historic process of labor’s awakening.

It is a fatal mistake for organized labor in the United States to hold itself aloof from the progressive modern movements and efforts of European labor, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the American Federation of Labor will alter its policy in the direction of greater open-mindedness and progress.

THE UNION LABEL IN OUR INDUSTRIES.

During the past term we have taken several practical steps to ascertain the possibility of the introduction of the union label into our industry. The last Convention passed a resolution to the effect that the General Executive Board appropriate $10,000.00 to advance the union label on garments produced by members of our International. Of course, this was meant only as an initial step in the direction of a broad label campaign. We began to investigate the field, and the net result of our investigation is that it is practically impossible to interest the big manufacturers in the adoption of the label at present, and it is quite apparent that we can not give the label to sub-manufacturers. What could be done under the circumstances would be to create a demand for union label ladies’ garments among classes of consumers who would be responsive to such a campaign. We have figured out that a campaign of this kind, if productive of results at all, must be carried on, on a large scale and would require right at the beginning tens of thousands of dollars for publicity and advertisements. The big organizing campaigns and strike expenses of 1917 have made this venture an impossibility.

Recently, at one of the meetings of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control we took up the question of a joint white label. The Joint Board of Sanitary Control at that meeting appointed a sub-committee consisting of Dr. Wm. J. Sheffelin and Miss Lillian D. Wald to invite the Union and the Manufacturers’ associations to confer on this matter. It appears that the Manufacturers’ associations received this in a lukewarm and indifferent manner, and the matter rested there.

The introduction of a union label in our trade, therefore, presents a number of serious obstacles which may not appear on the face of things when this matter is presented for discussion to the Convention. It is open to doubt as to whether the expenditure of an enormous sum of money would be justified by the results that may be achieved for our organization.

We have obtained working standards in our industry during the past several years which compare favorably with the standards in most of the trades where the union label has been relied upon as one of the chief weapons of organization. We are saying this not in derogation of the union label, but in order to present the subject from every angle. As matters stand, it appears to us that we must leave this problem for a more appropriate time in the future, when conditions will be more favorable for this undertaking in our industry by our International Union.
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

In our report to the last Convention we recommended the creation of a department of statistics, for the purpose of obtaining facts and data to aid us in the solution of problems which arise periodically within our Union, both in regard to internal questions of jurisdiction and in dealing with employers in questions of prices and scales.

In that report we pointed out the value of such a department, and the experience of the last year and a half has strengthened our belief in the necessity of such a department.

During this term we were called upon to investigate a very important jurisdiction question between Local No. 1 and Local No. 17 in New York, and we had to employ temporary and quite expensive help in that connection. We have also had a number of jurisdictional controversies between Locals No. 23 and No. 25, regarding the control of cloth dress shops in New York City; questions of a similar nature between Locals No. 2 and No. 35 in Philadelphia; also between Locals No. 24, No. 73 and No. 49 in Boston.

The very important question of week work, which is looming up big on the horizon in the cloak trade in New York City and elsewhere, will necessitate a thorough sifting of prices, wages and working conditions in all the shops in New York and other cities, which will very likely have to be entrusted to some statistical experts and will involve considerable expense. If week work is substituted for piece work, the question of standardizing rates and scales will come up periodically, and unless based on exact and scientific data and research, our demands will not carry the necessary strength and conviction which they must have in order to insure attainment.

These and many other considerations which are evolved from the above stated facts, incline us to the necessity of calling the attention of the Convention to the need of a Department of Statistics for the International. It seems to us that the very existence of such a department would give us strength and confidence, and would add stability to every move and step we make where exact facts are a necessary and vital element.

THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The International Office moved in June, 1917, to 31. Union Square, New York City. It occupies at present a very attractive suite of six large rooms in a modern office building, for which a rental of $220.00 a month is paid. It is probably the most attractive union office in New York City.

The cordial relations established between the International and its locals during the years of 1915 and 1916 were continued during the past term. As before, the International Office is the real live center of the activities of the ladies' garment workers of New York City and elsewhere, and during all critical times that have transpired in the life of our organization the International Office was the place of final resort and advice for all who needed it, and to whom it was given in a cordial and unstinted manner.

Our auditor, Mr. B. M. Rabinovitch, who has been with us for almost four years, and has largely contributed to the efficient control of the International over the finances of our locals, enlisted in the Army and left the services of the International. This will require some changes in the Audit Department, which we are prepared to make in the near future. Bro. A. Rosbury, the managing editor of our Journal, "The Ladies' Garment Worker," is continuing at his work with undiminished faithfulness. Bro. Max. D. Danish, our office manager, is contributing the best of his energies to the service of our International Union, as before.

THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

The General Executive Board comes to this Convention intact—without any vacancies in its ranks and without any resignations on its records. We cannot refrain from saying that there is cause for self-congratulation in this fact, and it is a sign of the healthy cooperation between the members of the Board.

Vice Presidents Halpern, Wander, Metz, Nisfo, Schoolman and Rosenberg, notwithstanding the fact that they were fully preoccupied at their respective posts, have earnestly and loyally responded, whenever
the occasion required, to do their share of work for the International.

The General Executive Board has held seven quarterly meetings, in spite of the fact that the last Convention was called five months after the regular, prescribed time. The meetings were held respectively, in New York, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Boston, Montreal, Toledo and New Haven. A special meeting of the General Executive Board was held in New York during February, 1917, to deal with the question of the Cloak Operators of New York, Local No. 1. Aside from that, the New York members of the Board met as often as occasions required, to deal with current important questions.

OUR FINANCE AND AUDITING DEPARTMENT.

During the past year we effected a few interesting reforms in the Finance and Auditing Department of the International Union. The work of our Auditing Department has gradually become larger and its activities have been expanded, by natural growth, to a number of locals hitherto not been covered by it. The expenses of this Department have increased considerably, even though we practiced strict economy in all our disbursements. These services of auditing the books of our local unions and joint boards are given to our organizations gratis, which means a large saving to them. We have on many occasions considered the advisability of charging our locals with certain yearly payments for these services and extend the auditing work on an even a large-scale. This plan has, however, not been carried out, as our locals which have been receiving service for nothing did not show any appreciable enthusiasm for this proposition.

The higher per capita which went into effect on February 1, 1917, did not increase the revenue of the International Office. The net results of our total income show a decrease owing to the fact that we have done away during the last term, with the practice of levying assessments, and have avoided it even during the difficult period of the costly Chicago strikes in 1917. It must be borne in mind that the cost of maintenance of the International has increased during the past year as a result of the increased cost of things and commodities. A detailed account of our income and expenditures will be found in the financial statement attached to this report.

We have put through during this term a measure which the last Convention referred to the incoming General Executive Board. The International Initiation Fee Stamp has been adopted and put into operation in all our locals during the early spring of 1918, and it has now become part of the regular financial outfit of our local offices. These stamps are supplied to the locals at an insignificant rate, covering only the printing cost of the stamps.

The duties of the Auditing Department, which consist in the inspection of the accounts and the books of our locals and joint boards, have been carried on in a thorough manner and at times entailed difficulties and hardships, but were always carried on with the primary object of securing the best, most rigid and conscientious management and bookkeeping in our locals.

THE APPEAL COMMITTEE

The permanent Appeal Committee of the General Executive Board, composed of Vice-Presidents Salvatore Ninfo, Saul Metz, Elmer Rosenberg, Harry Wander and Samuel Lefkovitz, has had during the past period considerably less work than during the preceding term. This was caused, in our estimation, by a general decrease in the number of fines and convictions handed down against the members of the various local unions by their grievance and appeal boards, and in the second place, because the Appeal Committee began to use more discretion in receiving appeals from the membership, in the sense that it did not grant any more hearings to appeals of minor nature, in which the decisions of the local grievance boards should be regarded as final.

The special committee appointed by the last Convention to retry the case of B. Prager, an expelled member of the late Local No. 38, decided after a number of sessions that B. Prager be reinstated in the Union.
4S OFFICERS’ REPORT

with the understanding that he is not to attend meetings of the organization for one year after the date of his reinstatement, and that he is to pay up all his arrears. The committee in this case, consisted of Brothers Henry Zucker, John F. Ryan and Morris Ausbro.

OUR INSTITUTIONS FOR CONSERVATION OF LIFE AND HEALTH.

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the cloak and suit, waist and dress industries in New York City has during the past seven years of its existence done inestimable good work for the conservation of the health of our members and for the improvement of the sanitary conditions in the thousands of shops in which the ladies’ garment workers of these trades are working.

In addition to its functions of shop inspection, free medical treatment of our members and medical examination of new members who are being initiated into the local unions and the various benefit funds of our locals, the Joint Board of Sanitary Control has during the past year opened a dental clinic where the members of the International Union are being attended to by a staff of dentists at moderate prices.

In our report to the Philadelphia Convention we stated that a certain Miss Henschel, from Kingston, N. Y., who is herself a sufferer from consumption, had bequeathed a valuable piece of property and a few beautiful acres surrounding it for a sanitarium for the members of our International who are afflicted with tuberculosis. Our Convention accepted this gift with gratitude and passed a resolution to have the house remodeled without loss of time, and to establish a sanitarium. It developed later that Miss Henschel did not have the legal authority to assign this property, and no practical results could be achieved.

The idea of a sanitarium for consumptives was, nevertheless, not given up by our New York locals, and judging from the activity in that direction, we may safely say that this plan will be realized in no distant future. About a year ago committees from the executive boards of practically all the New York locals had a conference and organized “The Union Sanitarium Association”. Later this association was incorporated, and for the last several months they have been busy looking for an appropriate place in the Catskill mountains for this sanitarium. The funds for this undertaking will be readily forthcoming from the treasuries of the locals and from local assessments.

AIDING THE NATURALIZATION OF OUR MEMBERS.

In conformity with the wishes of the last Convention, the International and its locals have devoted considerable attention during last term to naturalization work among its members.

The Educational Committee of the International Union participated in all the active work of the Naturalization Aid League the organizing campaign undertaken by the league, and also urged our locals to help in this work. There can be no two opinions that the requiring of citizenship by the tens of thousands of men and women workers in New York City who are as yet aliens, would rebound materially to the strength of our organization and would benefit our workers. Within the next few years a big naturalization movement is bound to develop and grow in all centres of our trades, and the International should do everything in its power to assist and aid its membership in attaining equal political standing with the rest of the organized workers of the country.

OUR FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the decision of the last convention a Finance committee consisting of Vice-Presidents Amdor, Wander and Cohn, was appointed to make regular monthly revisions of the disbursements of the General Office. This committee has performed its duties regularly, and we are glad to report that it finds that the expenses of the International were at all times made in a highly satisfactory and legitimate manner.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

ASSISTANCE TO THE SUFFRAGE AND SOCIALIST MOVEMENTS

Our organizations in all cities, and particularly in New York, have aided in no small degree the working class political movement and the movement for Woman Suffrage.

New York has, during the past year and a half, scored two remarkable victories—one for Woman Suffrage, and the other in the election of seventeen Socialist representatives to the New York City Aldermanic Chamber and the New York State Legislature and a Socialist Judge in New York City, besides the re-election of Congressman Meyer London. The working class candidate for Mayor in New York City, our counsel, Mr. Morris Hillquit, received a tremendous vote in the Mayoralty contest of 1917. Among the elected Socialist Assemblymen was our first Vice-President, Brother Elmer Rosenberg.

Our organizations, the cloakmakers, the waistmakers, the bonnaz embroiderers, the white goods workers, and the custom dressmakers, have taken a very close interest in these movements. They opened special campaign offices to enlist the sympathy and the aid of their membership for this important work, and the victories achieved are in no small degree due to their loyal and unceasing support. They have also contributed financially to this movement, and we can safely say that our organizations have been at the forefront of the progressive activities of the labor movement during this term, as well as in previous years.

The International Office has likewise assisted the National Women's Political Party in its campaign for the Federal suffrage amendment, and has used its influence with the Senate and House Suffrage Committees to favor the passage of this amendment.

LEGISLATIVE APPEALS AT ALBANY AND ELSEWHERE

As in the past, the International has during the last term, endeavored, to the best of its ability, to exercise its influence on behalf of various bills introduced in the New York Legislature, which affected the well-being of the workers in the State.

During the last term, there was more occasion for the International to send delegations to Albany in the interest of Labor legislation, as the Socialist Assemblymen introduced a number of important bills, and we were called upon to appear and to voice our judgment on these measures. Our counsel, Comrade Morris Hillquit, Vice-President Fannia M. Cohn, and Miss Pauline Newman, went to Albany on several occasions to participate in hearings on the Eight Hour Bill, Health Insurance Legislation, the Berkman Anti-Extradition Proceedings, the Minimum Wage law for women workers, and various others. The Health Insurance Bill has attracted our particular attention, as it contains a number of very beneficial features for wage workers, and we heartily recommend it for passage, and called upon our local organizations to give it their cordial support. Vice-President Fannia M. Cohn who represented the International at the Convention of the Women's Trade Union League in Kansas City, Mo. in the summer of 1917, went from there to Washington in regard to plans for preservation of women's working standards during the period of the war.

The International and its locals have during the past term supported with all their power the defence of our brothers, the victims of the San Francisco anti-labor conspiracies, and have contributed considerable sums of money to defeat the now historic Mooney frame-up. We have participated in various mass meetings and Relief Committees and have done our share in exposing the dastardly plot of the Pacific Coast trust magnates to crush union labor.

Our Relations with the Employers' Associations.

As we survey the horizon of our activities and of our industry, we cannot refrain from stating with a sense of gratification that our present relations with the organised employers in our trades are everywhere friendly. We have succeeded during the past term to substitute in a number of instances conciliation and peaceful methods to those of conflict and strife, in dealing with the various manufacturers' associations on behalf of our workers, and we
have accomplished substantial gains on most every occasion. We cannot help regarding it as a victory for the principle of collective bargaining, and as a sign of the growing prestige and power of our International Union. We are at peace with the employers' associations in the cloak and suit, waist and dress, children's dress, house dress and kimono, Swiss embroidery, bonneta embroidery, waterproof garments, and other trades, in New York City. We are on similarly good terms with the employers' associations in the cloak and suit industry in Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto, and in the waist and dress trades in Philadelphia and Boston.

Our immediate work in the future will doubtless bring us again in touch with the employers' association in the petticoat industry in New York, the cloak and suit industry in Montreal and Cleveland, and the waist and white goods trades in Baltimore and Chicago. We have important work to finish in these cities, and we confidently expect to come to final terms with, and to win permanent improved conditions for our workers, from these employers' associations as well.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

During the past period of our administration we have in the various conflicts in which we were engaged; in negotiations with employers, in our constant endeavors to better the conditions of our members and to safeguard their interests, received the cordial aid and assistance of a great and ever-increasing number of friends, who have by word and action steadied our course and given encouragement to our work.

Our first and foremost thanks are as ever and primarily due to our tireless and brilliant counsel and comrade, Morris Hillquit, who has stood shoulder to shoulder with us in almost every crisis and fight that we have faced, and whose generous and wise aid has been of invaluable consequence to our International Union. It is difficult, indeed, to think of the activities and the achievements of our International Union separate from the unfalling guidance and leadership of Morris Hillquit.

Our thanks are due President Gompers and Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, for the assistance they have rendered us during our numerous visits to Washington, where we went to safeguard the interests of our workers, their labor standards, to help achieve exemption for the ladies' garment workers from the Monday closing order from the Fuel Administration and to incline the War Department to award some of its contracts for army clothing to shops of our industry, in order to relieve unemployment among our workers; to the Chicago Federation of Labor and to Brothers John J. Fitzpatrick and Edward Nockles, for their unselfish and indefatigable services during the waist strike in Chicago in 1917, for the manner in which they marshalled all the forces of the organized labor movement in Chicago to our assistance in that strike; to all organizers of the American Federation of Labor; to the National Women's Trade Union League and its branches, for their ever-ready assistance and aid in our work; to the Springfield Central Labor Union and to Brother George Wrenn in particular, for services rendered during the bitter strike of the corset workers in that city, which was crushed by the injunction of a Massachusetts court; to the Essex Trades Council and to Brother Henry Hilfor, its secretary, in particular, for the aid given by that body during the strike of the waist and corset makers in Newark in the winter of 1917; and to the central body of Montreal, Canada, which during the bitter strike of the cloakmakers of Montreal in 1917, helped to put our just case before the public of that city in its true light.

We extend our cordial thanks likewise to our comrades and kin in the labor movement, who have at all times, by their pen and word and mouth, aided our cause and defended our International against the malicious attacks of our enemies from without and within. Our thanks are equally due for the loyal assistance given to the International and to all our local organizations during the conflicts of the last year and a half,—to the "Jewish Daily Forward," the "New York Call" and to the "Freie Arbeiter Stimme." With insignificant exception, the entire press of the coun-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

The economic and industrial forces of our country have been concentrated on the gaining of one great objective, and all other purposes and consideration have perforce become of secondary importance. The great problem before the labor organizations of the country was the conservation of their standards, the retention of their gains of many years past, and among them we had to devote most of our attention to this work.

Early in this term of our administration we had embarked on a number of campaigns. Most of these have been successful, and even in the fields where we have not succeeded, a splendid foundation for a winning campaign at the first opportunity has been laid. We, who have had the experience in former conflicts, know that the problem of organizing the cloakmakers of Montreal and the waist and dressmakers in Chicago will be solved without unusual efforts in the near future, just because of the sacrifices and the fight that we invested there during the early part of last year. The most gratifying of all events of the past term lies in the fact that we have succeeded in solidifying our existing unions, in keeping pace with the rising cost of living, to a satisfactory degree, and the fact that we have proved to the deep and innermost satisfaction of ourselves, that our unions are built on solid and firm foundations and that they will endure in spite of all storms that are passing and that may yet come. This sense of gratification is even deeper because we have during the past term weathered a severe storm within our own ranks, and the International Union has come out a victor, without the least impairment to its integrity and its solidarity.

We have every reason to look with bright hopes into the future. The woman worker is fast attaining her majority and her rights. Our trades, the ladies' garment trades of this country, are at least 50 per cent, composed of women. During the past four years our main task has been to organize the women workers in our trades. We have succeeded splendidly in many cities and have built up marvelous organizations of women workers. Our task is far from complete as yet—there are still 100,000 women workers engaged in our trades who
OFFICERS' REPORT

do not yet share the benefits of organization and who have not yet answered the call of the union. The future activities of the International Union will have to be devoted to the great task of enrolling these thousands into its fold, and we are confident that the obstacles in the way of their organization, which have been based largely on racial and national feelings of division, will hereafter be swept away by the irresistible force of the events that are affecting the soul of every man and woman in our country today.

Today we stand again on the threshold of a new span in the life of our International Union. We are passing through times of great stress and storm in the history of the world and our country, and living through days that will probably remain the most memorable in our lives. Out of the pangs and toils of the past, will come a new world with greater and broader possibilities for the toiling masses who carry the brunt of the world's work and sacrifices. As a part of the great and conscious army of organized labor, let us, therefore, be forever mindful of our duties and future and be inspired in our acts and deliberations with our ultimate ideals and aims.

We greet you cordially and sincerely.

BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER,
President

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary-Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
September 15, 1915—April 30, 1918

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

GREETING:

My financial report would be incomplete if I were not to dwell, to a considerable extent, on the work and purposes of our Auditing Department.

Our Constitution has no provisions or rules regarding this department. Our conventions have heretofore never voted any definite sum of money for the purposes of auditing, and, consequently, the management, form and the size of the department were left to the judgment of the Secretary-Treasurer, and in the hands of the General Executive Board.

The Auditing Department was started in October, 1914, with Mr. I. M. Rabinovitch as the only one on the staff. A little later we engaged a junior accountant by the day, who helped him out at the end of each quarter. The first three months were spent in examining the bookkeeping system used in our locals. We also succeeded during the first half year in auditing fourteen locals. These were locals Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 17, 21, 22, 35, 38, 50, 53, 62 and 69; also the Joint Board of New York. In the process of this work we found that although some of these locals had had their books checked by Public Accountants, there had been no real audit ever made of any of them except one of the Joint Board of New York for one year (1913) by a firm of certified accountants.

Our first task was to have each local make out a balance sheet showing what it owned and what it owed. Our next step was to draft a set of books. This set was started with the facts as stated in the balance sheet and were checked by us as correct when started, and have been checked by us in our audits ever since in those locals which we audit.

The starting of the new set of books was made as of January 1, 1915, but very few locals were ready for such a step at that time. Only the large locals had clerks competent to do this work. As a result of this, we have practically been installing parts of our system in various locals.
ever since. In every quarterly round of audits it has been our endeavor to bring another local into the fold of our bookkeeping system. We are still installing cash ledgers in locals that were in existence in January, 1915.

The reasons for the slow progress of this work are many. First, the auditing staff has, up to three months ago, consisted of Mr. B. M. Rabinovitch and one junior accountant only. The locals usually were ready for their audit on the 10th after the end of a quarter, and we would then begin our rounds in the hope that we would finish this before our next round, and still have some time left during which to start our bookkeeping system in a few more locals. What usually happened, however, was that the next round would be due before the first one had been completed, and so not only did we lack the time to start our system in locals that did not yet have it, but we actually ran behind in our current auditing. At certain times we made frenzied attempts to get up to date by engaging additional help for a couple of weeks, but the work began piling up nevertheless. Secondly, the calibre of the clerks engaged by our locals is such that it takes time to teach them new things; as you well know, the idea of engaging a bookkeeper to keep books is quite a new one in most of our locals. Besides falling behind in the quantity of our audits, we also came to realize that our work should be improved in quality. For example, when we started our auditing work, we accepted the day book as the basis for income on the understanding that the Finance Committee of the locals would check everything into the day book. We also took it for granted that the day book was added correctly. We soon found that the work of the Finance Committees was not to be depended upon, and have tried to arrange our auditing so that we would start the work from the original receipts and would also add the day book sheets. But we were unable to accomplish this until the audits of the last quarter, Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st, 1917, when we engaged a second junior accountant to do such parts of the audits that we were unable to cover in our previous round.

The running behind in our audits, besides accumulating large quantities of work, which is in itself not a good practice, has also resulted in harm to various parts of our organization. It has been our experience that even good bookkeepers become more or less lax when not audited at regular intervals, and poor bookkeepers create such a mess that it is impossible to arrive at facts afterwards. Eventually a report must be made, and if the material is in poor shape, and a clear statement of facts cannot be arrived at, then harm results to the local.

To give a list of the total quarterly audits made since the establishment of our Auditing Department, would be ridiculous, since the size of the locals vary, and therefore the audits bear no comparison whatever to one quarter, but it is interesting to note that during the first six months of work of the Auditing Department, only fourteen locals were audited while at the date of this present convention, the following locals will have been audited up to the end of the last quarter, March 30, 1918, and will also have our bookkeeping system installed. Those are locals Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 33, 35, 41, 48, 49, 50, 53, 56, 58, 62, 64, 66, 69, 73, 80, 82, 90. Also the Joint Boards of New York, Boston and Philadelphia. But while these locals named will be audited up to date at the time of this present convention, it does not mean that we have been auditing them at regular intervals during the past three and a half years. The small size of our auditing staff in the past has forced us to let some locals go unaudited for periods of six months to one year, and in some cases even longer than this. The audits of the six locals and the Boston Joint Board books, for example, have just been made for a period of one year.

It has been our idea from the very first that we must make our quarterly audits regularly. It would also be advisable to check certain items, such as the bank balance and the stock, monthly, if we could afford it. We should also visit other cities where we have locals, besides Boston and Philadelphia. In all the years of the department's work, we have sent out an auditor only once to Cleveland and Chicago. It would take very little extra expenditure to include Baltimore in our quarterly audits, as we could do this town together with Philadelphia. It would also be advisable to visit Chicago, Cincinnati, Toronto and Montreal twice a year.

The cost of this auditing department, which would consist of three regular men, and their traveling expenses to the cities where we have organizations, would amount to about $6000.00 annually.

The delegates to this convention may well realize that we have made considerable headway in our auditing department during the past term. We have brought order into the bookkeeping system of a number of our locals, and have introduced uniformity in their financial affairs. Of course, we cannot claim perfection, but, as stated above, we were handicapped to a considerable extent by the fact that our funds for this work were limited from the very outset. Should the International decide on the introduction of a Death Benefit Fund, we shall have to introduce a ledger system of all the male members of the International, at our office, and we wish to inform the delegates of this convention that we have already planned out the entire method in advance, so that the technical installation of the system will present little difficulty.

Fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary-Treasurer
Statement of the Receipts and Disbursements

September 15, 1916, to April 30, 1918.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECEIPTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance—Sept. 15, 1916</td>
<td>$21,483.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
<td>$240,416.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution Books</td>
<td>9,228.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916 Assessment</td>
<td>18,182.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Defense Fund</td>
<td>1,038.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>1,172.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charted Fees</td>
<td>130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiation Fee Stamps</td>
<td>359.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Garment Worker&quot; Copies</td>
<td>1,156.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeping Sets</td>
<td>110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Per Capita</td>
<td>1,354.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Payable</td>
<td>6,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Payable</td>
<td>27,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable (returned)</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment by N. Y. Joint Board on Strike Loan</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Local No. 10—for Auditing</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Premiums (income)</td>
<td>636.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Y. Cloak Strike—1916—Income</td>
<td>5,889.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Strike—1917—Income</td>
<td>3,566.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds of Local No. 113</td>
<td>140.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds of Local No. 1 (old)</td>
<td>770.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International War Relief—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collected</td>
<td>153,022.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refunded</td>
<td>10.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Collection</td>
<td>153,012.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposited in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harriman Nat'l Bank</td>
<td>130,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Italian War Relief</td>
<td>12,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bond Collections:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Acct. of Installment Sales</td>
<td>1,744.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>330,439.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$351,872.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>$608.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Office</td>
<td>$3,780.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Sundries</td>
<td>$396.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries—President</td>
<td>$6,299.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Office</td>
<td>$8,780.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent—Sundries</td>
<td>$396.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries—President</td>
<td>$6,299.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>$4,110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Salaries</td>
<td>$6,978.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>$6,182.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and Office Supplies</td>
<td>$494.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>$171.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Ice</td>
<td>$76.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>$961.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$15.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams</td>
<td>$945.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>$509.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carfares, Newspapers, Express and Office Expense</td>
<td>$665.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing</td>
<td>$7,118.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$31.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals—Printing and Binding</td>
<td>$6,810.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
<td>$554.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$543.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor’s Salary</td>
<td>$3,165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries, (Cuts, Plates, etc.)</td>
<td>$94.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$2,065.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizers’ Salaries</td>
<td>$37,441.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$1,065.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizers’ Expenses and R. R. Fares</td>
<td>$17,143.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$1,050.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Executive Board Meetings</td>
<td>$7,637.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$1,499.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisement</td>
<td>$6,337.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations to Locals</td>
<td>$1,337.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$54,550.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bal of Loan to Local No. 38, made by Local No. 9</td>
<td>$366.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses Paid for Joint Board of New York in Connection with Cloak Strike</td>
<td>$7,176.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned by Joint Board</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reorganization of Local No. 1</td>
<td>$2,203.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Disbursements:** $38,785.24
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount (d)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expense—Local No. 48 Election</td>
<td>85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark Strike Expense</td>
<td>192.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petticoat Strike</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Local No. 46) Expense</td>
<td>5,514.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>38.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petticoat Strike Income</td>
<td>461.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 17 Investigation</td>
<td>692.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbitration—Phila. (Dr. N. I. Stone)</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prager Case Investigation</td>
<td>27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Fees and Expenses</td>
<td>11,099.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. F. of L.—Per Capita</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. F. of L.—Convention Expenses</td>
<td>1,823.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>75.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Trades Congress Per Capita</td>
<td>107.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat’l. Women’s Trade Union League</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable (given)</td>
<td>305.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Payable (returned)</td>
<td>23,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Payable (returned)</td>
<td>49,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving Fund (to J. F. Pierce)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. G. Checks</td>
<td>682.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>677.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable—N. Y. Joint Board</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange</td>
<td>7,925.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>7,925.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity House Shares (Local No. 15)</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rand School Bonds</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Lyceum Bonds</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount on Notes Payable</td>
<td>721.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>53.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to Local No. 1—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As Prop. Contributed to Philadelphia Expense, 1914</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Premium (Expense)</td>
<td>452.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seals</td>
<td>28.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Buttons</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translations</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing Committee Expenses</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Expense (Leader)</td>
<td>24.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers to Judge Panken</td>
<td>11.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tickets to Gompers Golden Anniversary</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Gifts</td>
<td>103.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cablegram to Russia</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief Contribution—General Office</td>
<td>50.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engraved Resolutions</td>
<td>64.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>16.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving Expenses</td>
<td>256.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Expenses—1916</td>
<td>6,488.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Expenses—1917 (Special Convention)</td>
<td>57.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Expenses—1918</td>
<td>521.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>23.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Committee Expense—</td>
<td>497.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Not including postage and office help)</td>
<td>497.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief Committee Expense—</td>
<td>3,653.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Full, Up to and Including Apr. 30th</td>
<td>2,502.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations to Misc. Organizations</td>
<td>2,451.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>53.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received</td>
<td>2,428.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving Funds—</td>
<td>307.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bonds—Paid</td>
<td>47,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bonds—Sales</td>
<td>45,670.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>298,836.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance—April 30, 1918</td>
<td>$53,536.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance Sheet.

April 30, 1918.

**ASSETS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$53,536.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving Funds—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Schlesinger</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Baroff</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Perlstein</td>
<td>480.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. F. Pierce</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable:—</td>
<td>1,190.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 6</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Y. Joint Board—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Advances</td>
<td>36,600.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Expenses</td>
<td>9,643.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid on Account</td>
<td>46,244.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45,744.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46,244.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments:—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity House, Local No. 15</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rand School Bonds</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownsville Labor Lyceum</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bonds (Due by members and Locals)</td>
<td>1,830.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies on Hand at Cost</td>
<td>1,248.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>1,440.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>105,889.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Surplus.</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loans Payable:—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 10</td>
<td>$700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 15</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 17</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 25</td>
<td>1,300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Board—Chicago</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cap Makers’ Union</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Board of Furriers</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable:—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Daily Forward</td>
<td>318.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Call</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warheit</td>
<td>88.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Day</td>
<td>46.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrow &amp; Sissman—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Legal Expense Chicago Strike, 1917)</td>
<td>755.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillquit &amp; Levene</td>
<td>454.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurel Stationery Co.</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathmore Press</td>
<td>322.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,995.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds:—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 113</td>
<td>140.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local No. 1</td>
<td>770.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>910.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International War Relief (Collected but not turned over)</td>
<td>11,011.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bonds (Collected on Installment Plan but not turned over)</td>
<td>1,744.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>78,228.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities and Surplus</td>
<td>$105,889.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

First Day—Monday Morning Session.
Boston, Mass., May 20th, 1918.

The Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was called to order at 11 A. M., Monday, May 20th, in Convention Hall, President Schlesinger in the chair.

At the beginning of and during the morning session the Convention was entertained with various selections by A. Broocks' Orchestra, Local No. 9, A. F. of L., Boston.

President Schlesinger: The Committee in charge of the Convention arrangements has worked out a program for this morning which includes addresses of welcome by some of the most prominent citizens of the City of Boston, whom I will have the honor of introducing to you in the proper order. Before presenting any one of them I desire you to share with me a very pleasant surprise that I have had this morning. This morning we have received from our Local No. 66, of New York, a present in the form of a banner for our International Union. (Applause).

I now take the great pleasure of introducing to you Hon. Andrew J. Peters, the Mayor of the City of Boston. (Applause).

Address of Mayor Peters.

Mr. President and members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, it is my pleasure to have the opportunity to welcome here in Boston the members of your Union to this meeting. I want to congratulate you on the fact that your Union has now reached the tremendous strength of 120,000 members. (Applause). It is a fact of which you may well be proud, and you may feel too that it indicates not only the vigor and strength of the industry but it indicates that the members of that industry have bound themselves together by ties which mean mutual help for themselves and by being bound together it means, too, that they will help all labor and help the country by their organization. (Applause). We have seen in the last century a great advancement in the conditions of labor. We have seen changes in industry, and to meet those changes and to see that the working people have the advantages which should accrue to them, the use of their power in numbers is an essential factor, and it has been in no small part due to the Union and the efforts of the Union that we see the better conditions of the working people today. But it means that we have but just commenced. We are facing new problems. We are facing new responsibilities, and it is a great responsibility which your Union has, as representing so many members to care for their interests and welfare and see that they are protected, and at the same time, too, to voice in effective expression the interest, the patriotism and the enthusiasm which I know you all have for our country's cause in the great emergency that we are now facing. (Applause). Wars are not today won by armies or by navies; they are won by a united people, and labor has on its shoulders the great responsibility for winning permanently the great war of democracy for the people of the whole world. (Applause). Had you been so fortunate as to have been here two weeks ago you would have heard from the lips of the head of the American Federation of Labor words...
which were resounding in their fervor and which brought all who heard them to their feet in their respect for the man who uttered them. And one of the big contributions made to this world were the words of Samuel Gompers spoken here in Boston three weeks ago.

This great war which we are fighting; this war of democracy, is going to mean that we are going to pass to newer feelings. This will weld our nation together as nothing could have welded it. It is removing feelings of distrust between people, feelings that are mostly based on lack of knowing people. The people of our country are coming to know each other better, and as they do so they are going to have more appreciation of the mutual points of view and be further welded together in the unifying principles of democracy for which our country stands. Whether a man was born here in this country or whether he first saw the light under some foreign skies, if he is now a citizen of this country, he now is living in America, he should be judged solely by his contribution to American citizenship and patriotism. (Applause).

As I said, I was glad to welcome you here, glad to see you meet in our historic city. Boston is rich in her traditions, she is rich in the many points of historic interest,—in points of interest at all times. But now when our nation is at war it is of particular interest to see the points where the great historic events in connection with her history have taken place. Bunker Hill, our old churches and meeting places here, Beacon Hill and its State House and the environs of Boston are rich in the traditions of our country's early history. I hope you will have time during your important work here to visit Lake Summerville. I assure you that that visit will repay you the effort of seeing it.

We are glad to have you here in Boston; we want to welcome you because Boston stands for those principles of equality of justice and progress which, I am sure, your Union stands for particularly. (Great applause).

This war must be won by the labor and sacrifice of the people of our country. We saw in the last Liberty Loan seventeen millions of people taking part and making their offering as a loan to the Government. We will need to make ourselves an effective nation. We need the sacrifices, the effort and the patriotism of all the people of this country, and no people are able to offer so great a help as the people that are giving their work to this country. We must have, as your great President, Mr. Gompers said, we must have the labor of the working people of this country to win this war—this war for the making secure of democracy—democracy which, in its turn, secures to the people of this country, working people and all alike, the blessed heritage of freedom and the opportunity to work out in the future those great principles of liberty and happiness which are so near and dear to all of us. (Applause).

I look into the future with confidence. I could not see you here without being inspired with the force and vigor of your personalities. I look into the future with confidence because I know that the people of our country are rising to this situation. We are glad to welcome you here a hundred and twenty thousand strong in your great Union. We are glad to welcome you because we know that the advancement of your Union, the advancement of the protection and the welfare of its members means the raising of the standards of labor, the helping of the standards of our country, and that is what we all want to see accomplished. (Applause).

I am sorry that my responsibilities prevent my being here with you and profiting by the discussion and interest of your meeting, but I am sure that it means progress and that I can confidently look forward to welcoming you again here some day into our City. We are glad to see you here. We want to hold out to you the hospitality of our City and we want to hold out to you the hand of fellowship. We will all stand together in this national struggle and advance towards better and more firm foundations for democracy and for the people of our united United States. (Great applause, everybody rising to the tune of "My Country 'Tis of Thee").
President Schlesinger: I thank you heartily in the name of the delegates, and in the name of the tens of thousands of our members they represent, for your kind greetings. We shall most certainly take advantage of your hospitality, and will visit all the famous places and spots which you have recommended to us, in order to get a personal touch of the great events, which have, deservedly, crowned Boston forever in the history of our country as the "cradle of liberty."

This is the third time that our organization meets in convention in the city of Boston. Each of these Boston meetings represents a distinct period in the life of our organization. We met here in 1904, when our organization, although four years old, only had the strength of a newly-born infant. Our membership at that time amounted to about one thousand, and the prospects for our growth were very slim, indeed.

I recall that the main discussion at that Convention centered on a resolution to disband the International. I really do not know whether the International has to thank the common sense of the thirty-one delegates who constituted that Convention for the fact it had remained alive, or that its thanks are due to the guiding spirit or the good old City of Boston. At any rate, it was that Boston Convention in 1904, which gave our International a "lease on life."

Six years have passed from that Convention, and our International came again to meet in Boston. That was in 1910. Our membership had at that time already totalled fifteen thousand, but our influence upon the industry was of no more consequence than in the years that preceded it, and the working conditions in our large and rich trades were just as bad, if not worse. Starvation wages, intolerably long hours, unsanitary shops and a horrible system of blacklist against Union men, were in full swing everywhere.

The employers were the absolute rulers in the shops, not merely in theory, but in actual practice, and they certainly tormented their workers in the true style of petty tyrants. From time to time, the more intelligent workmen in the trade would rebel against this slavery, and shop strikes would occur. These strikes, however, as a rule would result in defeats, as poverty and oppression on one hand, and injunctions, the police, and the gangsters which the firms would employ against them on the other hand, would drive the workers back to the shops, under even worse conditions than before.

When we assembled at Boston in the year of 1910 at our Tenth Convention, we were all deeply stirred with the sentiment and conviction that we must make an end to the conditions which keep in abject slavery the one-quarter of a million of men and women in our industry.

The past had convinced us that these conditions will not be abolished unless the International succeeds in kindling the flames of rebellion in the hearts of the exploited workers; unless the International would call a general strike in the cloak and suit industry of New York, because the conditions of the sixty thousand workers in that industry in particular, were worse than the conditions of any other of our trades, and in New York more so than in any other city.

That convention did decide to call out these sixty thousand cloak, suit and skirt-makers of New York into a general strike, and to stay out, no matter what suffering and starvation there be in store for us, until the manufacturers would be compelled to recognize our human and civil rights. The result of that strike, I doubt not, is pretty well known to you,—first, because that strike and its settlement were fully described and printed in the publications of the United States Department of Labor, and secondly, because of the settlement of that strike was brought about through the kind efforts of your distinguished citizen, now Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Louis D. Brandeis. That strike lasted ten weeks and it ended with the full recognition of the Union in the entire cloak industry of New York and with the granting of the most important items of our just "bill of grievances" by the employers.
So you see, Boston has played quite a role in the life of and development of our International. In 1804 Boston wouldn't let us die; and in 1910 Boston inspired us onto the big wide path of life; and because Boston was so good to us during the most critical hours of our existence, we couldn't think of another place where to celebrate the progress of our organization, than in the city of Boston.

Yes, our organization has every reason to be proud of its progress. Instead of one thousand members in 1910, we have at present a membership of over one hundred and twenty-five thousand. We are today the fourth biggest International Union in the American Federation of Labor. Our International is one of the biggest Labor Unions in the world over, and we do not let any opportunity pass to use its power for the interests of our country. Every one of us considers himself a part of the big labor movement and a part of the great republic of the United States.

In the great struggle pending now against Junkerdom, our International has given, not only thousands of men for the Army, but has full-heartedly responded to all the appeals President Wilson addressed to the American people in connection with this war. True, our conceptions regarding the rights of the workers are quite different from the conceptions which prevail among many of our co-citizens. We are decidedly opposed to the interpretation and application of a number of existing laws, as regarding working men and women. We emphatically oppose the idea that in a free country like ours injunctions prohibiting workers to strike and peacefully picket should be allowed to have sway as the case was only a year and a half ago right here in Massachusetts, in the city of Springfield, where three hundred poor and underpaid girls were in strike against the Bay State Corset Company for a slight increase in wages and shorter working hours, had their aspirations crushed by an injunction; or as the case was in Chicago a year ago, where two thousand girls in the waist and white goods industry were on strike against intolerable working conditions, and where the striking girls were treated by the judges and the courts as if these were agencies of the manufacturers.

But even though we strongly resent actions such as these, which are enough to undermine anyone's confidence in democracy and justice, we are nevertheless faithful and loyal citizens of this Republic, and as I said already, we have done and we will do as individuals and as an organization, everything to help our Government in its mighty struggle against despotism and militarism.

Yes, Boston is a city full of interesting and inspiring memories to our International Union, and in having kindly accepted our invitation to appear and address our delegates, you have but once more confirmed our opinion of Boston's big-heartedness and hospitality, and laid the foundation for an ever-recurring desire on the part of our membership to come back to Boston again and again. Accept our cordial and sincere thanks. (Tremendous applause).

President Schlesinger: I received a telegram this morning from President Gompers, which I desire to read to you.

Mr. Benj. Schlesinger,
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention,
Convention Hall, Boston.
Invitation received. Executive Council has been in session all last week and today and for several days yet to come. You will therefore observe that it is utterly impossible for me to be in attendance at your Convention tomorrow the 20th and I deeply regret that I cannot carry out my earnest wish to meet with you the officers and delegates to your Convention. Kindly accept and convey to all my fraternal greetings and best wishes for the success of the Convention.

SAMUEL GOMPERS."

(Applause).

President Schlesinger: We have here the New England organizer of the American Federation of Labor. I expect that President Gompers will be able to be here during the two weeks that the Convention will last. In the meantime, I take great pleasure in introducing to you the organizer of the American Federation of Labor, Brother Frank M. McCarthy. (Applause).
Mr. McCarthy: Mr. President and members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, I wish to extend to you, in behalf of President Gompers and the organized labor movement of New England and America, a most hearty greeting from the New England stated to you in assembly within their territory.

We want you to understand and to know that all organized labor hereabouts is watching the opening of your Convention with much more than ordinary interest, as they have watched the wonderful progress you have made in the industry since the institution of your organization. We want you to know that every organized workman and workwoman not only takes special delight in the progress that you already have established in your industry, but they are as interested and desirous of a continuance of that progress as any man or woman employed in the industry. We want you to understand that we know the tremendous difficulties, the obstacles and the opposition that you have had to contend with since your inception. And we feel we have a right to believe, from the splendid manner in which you have overcome what appeared at times to be insurmountable obstacles, that the future of your industry is written in blazing letters and the time is not far distant when its affairs, directed in the future as directed in the past, the conditions of industry for all your men and women will be nearly what you wish and desire to have them. No union made up of the calibre and the energy, determination and intelligence that you men and women have displayed in applying yourselves to your business in hand, no organization so officered and membered can continue without complete success. We take equal pride with you, yourselves, in your past progress, and equal delight in the future progress that we know is in store for you.

There is one other thing in talking to workmen and women assembling in this nation at this particular time, that no matter how pleasing our own industrial conditions may be, the condition in which the nation finds itself is pressed upon our attention and requires our consideration. We are today engaged in a world war, the issues of which, if they are not decided upon the side of which we are a part, will mean that such organizations as are meeting here today will be impossibilities. We are in a situation where, in order to assure to ourselves the right of determination of the conditions under which we will work and the right of exercising voice and opinion in our industrial conditions, we are compelled to line up behind the American Government without condition, to support it in every manner, shape and form, with our blood and our money and every atom of energy, in order that the peoples of the world will have the right to determine for themselves not only the forms of government under which they may live, but the right to determine for themselves the conditions of industry that they will work under, under those governments. (Applause).

The American Federation of Labor feels with absolute confidence that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, one of its largest and most loyal affiliated organizations, assumes the same position in the matter of this world war that is occupying today the minds of all other affiliated organizations of that great American labor institution.

In the name of the American Federation of Labor I will simply extend to you hearty welcome. I will again state that we are all sure that your deliberations during this Convention will simply be the marker-up for splendid progressive strides between now and your next Convention, as each convention you have held has proved, and that you are going to continue to make progress, progress and progress until the time arrives when the ladles' garment workers will, through the influence and activities of the organization of labor brought into existence by them, give to their membership the full return for labor performed.

I wish you a hearty welcome. (Reusing applause. The band at this point played the MarsaHaise, everybody rising and applauding).

While the orchestra was playing, the entire membership of Local 73 of Boston marched through the hall up to the platform and presented the Chairman with a bouquet.
Pres. Schlesinger: The leader of this little parade that we have just witnessed is the president of our Cutters' Union Local 73 of Boston, Brother White, who will now address a few words to you.

Brother White: Our accomplishment here in Boston has been worthy not only of a small organization, but of the largest local in the International Union.

I am here this afternoon to honor the men who I believe have done more to put Boston on the map for the last two years than any other members of the International Union. It was they who two years ago came around to visit us, on our request, of course, and decided to install a new set of officers, because we found that the conditions that we worked under, both under the manufacturers and the officers we had, were not to the liking of the majority of the members of our Union, and we requested the International to get us rid of them and install new officers.

Now at the present time we are here to do honor to those two men who we believe have done all to create a brotherly feeling among the cloakmakers in Boston.

We are here to present a bouquet of flowers to Brother Benjamin Schlesinger, our International President, and one to Brother Baroff, as an appreciation of their good work in our behalf. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I am sure that the committee of the Cutters' Union which presented us with flowers does not expect us to make speeches at this time. During the course of the Convention we will have plenty of opportunities to talk to all of the delegates as well as you. In the meantime we can only say that we appreciate and thank you very much for the very nice way in which you have received us, as well as our delegates to this Convention. (Applause).

I take great pleasure in presenting to you the Business Agent of the Boston Central Labor Union, Brother P. Harry Jenlings:

Brother Jenlings: Mr. President and members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, I desire, in behalf of the Boston Central Labor Union, to extend to you a welcome to our city.

We sincerely trust that all your deliberations will be of a successful nature and that you will have a harmonious and successful convention. On behalf of President Stevens, who was to address you this morning, I desire to state that he has been detained at the State House at a conference which will keep him busy all day, but if he can possibly get here he will try to come and address your organization. I thank you for your attention. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I now take the pleasure of introducing to you one who represents the United Hebrew Trades of the city of Boston, Brother Max Hamlin.

Brother Hamlin: I believe it is needless for me to come and tell you that the Boston working people are glad to welcome you delegates of the International. They all look upon the International as the organization which inspired them to go on with the work of winning the Jewish workers and organizing them.

Nineteen months ago, when the delegation of the Boston locals went to the International Convention, they felt very miserable. Now, we are proud to state that the International has accomplished wonders by bringing the cloakmakers locals here in Boston to a stage where they are an ornament to the entire labor movement and particularly to the Jewish labor movement. (Applauso).

Pres. Schlesinger: I desire to present to you the representative of this city of the Jewish Daily Forward. I suppose you all know the Forward; even those of you who do not read Yiddish know the Forward. The Forward has its separate management and its separate editions for Boston.

I take great pleasure in introducing to you Brother J. Sayvetz. (Applause).

Bro. Sayvetz: Conventions are in most cases demonstrations of the power, the vigor and of the accomplishments and influence of the or-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

organization. And knowing as I do the achievements of your organization during the past eighteen months, I feel that this 14th convention is the greatest demonstration of your power and of your success in the entire history of your organization.

There was a time, my friends, when it was maintained that the Jewish and foreign workingmen were not capable of organization—that the Jewish workingmen didn't possess this element of organization life and organization activity. You have come forward with your locals all over the country, with your discipline, with your system and with your consistency and you have shown that that is not so. It was maintained times ago that the Jewish and foreign workingmen were concerned with hours and wages only; that they were merely materialistic in their makeup. You have come over with your educational institutions, with your magazines, with your newspapers, with your lectures, and you have shown that that is not so. And I feel safe to say, my friends, that in all these years the Jewish Daily Forward was always ready in assisting and helping you.

At this moment I do not pretend to represent this great moral and educational institution. I feel that there will be other men who will be more privileged to speak in its behalf than I am. But I do speak for the Boston management of the Jewish Daily Forward that has been largely instrumental in assisting your locals in Boston here.

And so I bring to you my good will for success, and I hope you will keep up your splendid work until the final emancipation of the working class from the capitalist system. I thank you. (Applause).

Miss Weinstock: We were all very glad to learn that the International Ladies' Garment Workers were going to hold their Convention in this city. I know you are going to have a great many important things to discuss at this convention, and one of the things that I want to bring before your mind is the matter of the ballot. I believe that every member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, if what I know of Boston people is as true of the others, is as good on Suffrage as I am myself, because they are progressive enough to realize the benefits to be derived from equal rights.

All I am going to ask you, as a working girl, is that some time during your convention you would reaffirm your former stand in favor of woman suffrage and to urge your locals in the various states to do all they can to urge the passage of the Federal Amendment, which is now before the Senate at Washington, and to do all they can for the ratification of the amendment when it comes to their own state. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I now take great pleasure in introducing to you one whom you will surely be very glad to hear—a man who is not only a trade Unionist, but also one who has served for a number of years as a Socialist member in the State Legislature of this State of Massachusetts. I take great pleasure and consider it a great honor to present to you our Comrade James F. Carey. (Applause).

Mr. Carey: I bring you the greetings of the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, which, by the way, is not entirely rolled up in myself. (Laughter) I just happen to have taken the job as State Secretary last month, because Bro. O'Neill, who has gone to New York, left a vacancy when he went, and I was with him in Maine, fishing and farming, earning my living fighting the sea and fighting the potato-bugs on the farm, and they needed somebody down here to take the job to fight the parasites here. And my experience as a farmer had given me added value, and so they asked me to take...
the same job that I used to do to the potato-bugs and the gypsy moths down in Maine.

And I bring you their greetings—not merely official greetings, but my own and the heartfelt greetings of every member of the Socialist Party of this State. For whatever may be said or done, and whatever may be the unhappy difference that arises between us at times, this thing is true, that the men and women of the working class constitute the sole hope of the human race today, and that hope is conditioned first upon their intelligence, and second upon their discipline. An uneducated working class without discipline can destroy human progress as much as can the powers that be that are opposed to it. And every organization of the working class of whatever name—of whatever limitations which it may for passing reasons place upon itself—is a college of the working class, which the labor organizations constitute the greater part today, are coming the men and women that are going to rule the destinies of the human race.

And so, your success is our success. If the workers are not intelligent enough or brave enough or disciplined enough to organize and to gather strength and courage by their organization, the Social Revolution will never come here until a fire starts up at the North Pole in the ice. (Laughter). And so, because I recognize the value of the labor movement in that part of which is confined with the immediate subject of industrial action, I greet you and I am quite certain that I can appreciate the tremendous advance that you have made. This thing I want to say to you as a little passing advice, and I say it as in a way, a sort of patriotic way: I joined the labor movement, the Knights of Labor in 1884, in the shoe trade. It was a powerful organization and it died. Why it died of indigestion, (Laughter). It swallowed more than it could digest and it died. And then we groped in the dark and we built up here and there, little outposts, and we were wiped off the map, and we fought again, and we are still fighting.

Now the modern labor movement, and the other organizations in the industrial field are not dying of indigestion, because the workers have developed. They have advanced. They know more. They are more capable of moving together. And because they are so capable, they are advancing in the face of every possible opposition. They are advancing in the face of every kind of intellectual prostitution. For the simple reason that down at the bottom of the labor movement is this self-evident fact, the fact that perhaps can be expressed by a query—the question that I used to always like to ask up in the Legislature when I was up there—the best job I ever worked at in my life—got a full day's pay for 15 minutes (laughter)—and such work! it was a scab shop all right, but it was not my fault. (Laughter and applause). I tried to unionize it, but the working people of this state would not stand for it. (Laughter). And I used to try to sum it up in order to get something through their craniums by asking them occasionally whether it was true or not that the wealth of the world was the product of the labor world, and if it were not true that labor, the energy of the hand and the brain of the useful class—if it were not true that they produced all the wealth of the world, who did produce it? If they could point out any article, outside of the naked earth that was not the work of our class, I asked them to produce the set of men that did produce it. They never did produce anybody, so I took it for granted that we produced the wealth of the world and that we produced the wealth of the world—every atom of it, outside of the naked earth, and they certainly never produced that. There is a story to the effect that God made it and that he said, "The land is mine and shall not be sold forever." And yet they have a sign on it all over the earth, "This land for sale." (Laughter).

And because that is true, and because it is further true that you never saw a rich workingman. You never saw a rich man that worked. Those that have everything do nothing, and those that do everything, have nothing. That is so self-evident that you could not even get a man out of the institution of the feeble minded to argue against it—that is, when there was a So-
clalist around. Your work and my work is to end that, to have a day on this earth when the wealth that we produce shall be ours, (applause) when there shall not stand between us and our product the long grasping hands of parasites and idlers that steal our energies and our products and leave us to starve, while they riot in idle luxury.

And with an ever increasing voice through your organization, through the multitude of organizations that are gathering strength as you have gathered, you are going to the masters of the earth and you are saying that "we want more, we want better conditions, we want more and more and more!" And they are yielding, not because they are moved by any high, humanitarian principles. For this thing is true: What you get is what you force them to give you. The eternal pressure upon our wages is downward, and it is for you to create an increasing pressure upward. And your voice rises with your increasing numbers and your strength grows, asking for more and more, until the time is coming when we shall ask for no more, because the heritage of ours will be the earth and the right to all that we produce. I thank you and wish for you a successful convention. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I am sure you all have heard of the Workmen's Circle. I am sure many of you belong to it. Unfortunately for reasons I don't know, there are two Workmen's Circles in this city, or rather in this state; that is, the Workmen's Circle that we all know of, and there is also the Independent Workmen's Circle. The Workmen's Circle that we all know of is called here the Labor League, and the Workmen's Circle that many of you undoubtedly do know of, but not all of you perhaps, is called the Independent Workmen's Circle. I have here representatives of both of these organizations to greet you, to deliver addresses of welcome to you. Friend David Eisenberg is to address you in behalf of the Labor League, and Samuel Albert is to address you in behalf of the Independent Workmen's Circle. I am told that friend Eisenberg did not arrive in the hall yet, Committee of Weissman and Victor Shop, introducing to you as the first speaker our friend S. Albert. (Applause).

Mr. Albert greeted the convention in Yiddish, and wished the International success in all its undertakings.

Pres. Schlesinger: When the report of the General Executive Board is read to you, you will find that in almost all the campaigns of organization that our International has carried on in this last year and a half, as well as in former years, the Women's Trade Union League has taken a very great and active part to help us in our work. And it is no more than proper at a Convention like this that there should be a representative of the Women's Trade Union League to greet you and to welcome you. I therefore take great pleasure in introducing to you Miss Mabel Gillespie, the representative of the Women's Trade Union League of the city of Boston. (Applause).

Miss Gillespie: It gives me very great pleasure to be here today and to extend greetings to you in behalf of the Boston Branch of the Women's Trade Union League. I feel a particular interest in your organization, not because you are strong today and are doing such splendid work for the people of your branch of the sewing trades here in the city of Boston and all over the country, but because it has been my fortune to be connected with the movement long enough to remember the Boston situation even before your last Convention which was held here eight years ago.

I can very well see in my mind's eye that hall eight years ago, with the comparatively small group of delegates that were here to conduct the business of your organization. Since then you have grown tremendously and everybody shares the greatest joy in the growth of your organization.

Only about two weeks ago I was at a meeting of Local No. 49 when they were celebrating the forty-eight-hour week,
which they had achieved here in Boston during the time of our organization. That victory was a tremendous one for your trade and it gave those of us who were connected with the League great joy to be there. Now a message that I want to bring to you this morning is this, that continually the argument that we have met for three years is that one state cannot hope to go along alone very much in advance of the other states of the Union.

At the last Convention of the American Federation of Labor, it went on record in favor of a Federal forty-eight-hour week for women along the lines of the Federal Child Labor Law. Now this year we are going to press for that, and we expect the active backing of the American Labor Movement.

Now you people represent a big industry—an industry in which thousands and thousands of women are employed, and you realize how workers are injured and their strength drained by the long working day. Your locals in the various states must help out in this movement that is coming on with tremendous strength, for a Federal law limiting the hours of labor for women and minors to forty-eight a week. And we hope very much that we will have the active support of this national organization in the fight and that all the local unions in the various cities will take an active part in securing that sort of legislation.

Now your people here in Massachusetts are very much ahead—they are six hours ahead of our state law, and in all states I imagine that you are considerably ahead of the maximum limit that the Constitution places on the hours of labor. That places you in a position to give tremendous strength into the move for shorter hours, and you believe, with all the rest of us, in the trade union, that hours of labor should be shorter. We know that with shorter hours comes more energy and intelligence and time to do the work and carry the burden that is placed on the workers, and therefore in bringing you the greetings of the Boston organization, I want to urge you to consider the movement that is coming for a Federal forty-eight-hour week for women, and tell you that we are hoping and expecting that the strength of our tremendous organization will be behind that movement. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: You have all heard of the Poalei Zion. I will now introduce to you a representative of that organization to welcome you in behalf of the Poalei Zion, friend B. Potash.

Mr. Potash greeted the convention in the name of his organization in Boston and expressed hopes that the near future will bring the opportunity of freedom and self-determination for small nations on the basis of true equality.

He closed by wishing the delegates success in their future activities.

Pres. Schlesinger: We have with us the chairlady of Local 49, our Boston Waist Makers' Union. I take great pleasure in introducing to you Miss Maud Foley. (Applause).

Miss Foley: Brother President and Delegates to the International Ladies' Garment Workers, I consider it a great honor to be here this morning, as it is my first convention. I wish to welcome all the delegates to Boston, and I wish to thank the International for the wonderful support that they gave the waist and dress makers of Boston two years and a half ago at our general strike, and I wish all the members here the greatest success for us all at this great time of our convention. I thank you. (Applause).

After Bro. Isadorc Epstein, of Local No. 10, Chairman of the Credentials Committee had made a few remarks, President Schlesinger announced that owing to the fact that the Credentials Committee would not be able to report before the following morning, he would suggest that the meeting adjourn until 9 A. M. Tuesday, May 21.

This suggestion was put in the form of a motion by one of the delegates, and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2.00 P. M.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 9.15 A. M., Tuesday, May 21, 1918, President Benjamin Schlesinger in the chair.

Telegrams

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

New York, May 20, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers' Convention, Boston, Mass.: On behalf of the members of Local No. 50 we wish to congratulate the fourteenth biennial convention on the achievements of our International in the past. May wise counsel and good judgment in your present deliberations lead our gigantic organization to bigger success and splendor for the interest of the toiling class.

Children's Dressmakers Union, Local 50,
JULIUS KAZAN, Secy.

Montreal, Que., May 19, 1918.
Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Heartiest congratulations to the 14th convention. May your deliberations help to strengthen our organization and increase our membership in all its branches in the near future.

Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union, Local 13,
M. AMOS, President.
J. SCHUBERT, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 20, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations from the American Branch Local No. 15, Philadelphia, to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention.

Boston, Mass., May 20, 1918.
Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.: Your great struggles and wonderful achievements have marked you the pride of the labor movement, but still more so your love and defense of justice. Onward on your designated path until you reach the goal of your destination.

Boston Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.
tion will occupy a prominent part in the history of trade unionism and will make you the proudest and strongest organization in the world.

M. RENNE, Editor, Lotta Di Classe.

New York, May 20, 1918.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention and send our hearty congratulations to the officers and delegates. Let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We sincerely wish you success for all future undertakings.

M. GRANOFSKY,
Chairman Workers of Nathan Schuss & Co.

Chicago, Ill., May 20, 1918.

Convention Hall, B. St., Boston, Mass.: To the officers and delegates of the Fourteenth Convention, congratulations and best wishes from the Daily World of Chicago. May your deliberations be ever so successful.

MORRIS SESKIND.
Employee of Reliable Skirt Co.

Montreal, Que., May 19, 1918.

Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: May the convention succeed in utilizing the strength of our locals for the welfare and benefit of all members of the International, Local 19. We send our best wishes for future success.

S. TAYLOR, President.
M. KAISER, Secretary.

Montreal, Que., May 19, 1918.

Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We greet the Fourteenth Convention of our International. May your decisions keep us united, strengthen our ranks, and may all our campaigns in the near future be crowned with success.

CLOAK AND SUIT CUTTERS', Montreal.
J. PERLSTADT, Secretary.

New York, May 20, 1918.

Convention Hall, B. St., Boston, Mass.: We greet the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. We the members of Local No. 18, Chicago, Cloak and Suit Pressers Union, congratulate and wish you success in every respect of your future plans, with brotherly regards.

JULIUS WOLF, HARRY KLEINMAN.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention, let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention and send our hearty congratulations to the officers and delegates. Let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

Chicago, Ill., May 20, 1918.

Convention Hall, B. St., Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention, let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention and send our hearty congratulations to the officers and delegates. Let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention and send our hearty congratulations to the officers and delegates. Let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We send our best wishes for future success to the Fourteenth Convention and send our hearty congratulations to the officers and delegates. Let the spirit of unity, harmony and solidarity guide you in all your deliberations on behalf of your constituency. Sorry I am not with you.

CHARLES JACOBSON.
Ex Vice-President International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.
New York, May 20, 1918.
Fourteenth Biennial Convention of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
Greetings, our heartiest and deepest congratulations to your Fourteenth Biennial Convention. Let the spirit of true brotherhood and class conscious solidarity prevail. Let your convention of the greatest progressive labor organization in the world be the most epoch-making in its history; let its achievements of economic, political and educational work be the most striking in the history of the labor movement and may its fate be cast among those who will stand in the front of the social reconstruction of the world from class warfare and national hatred to universal brotherhood and comradeship and the national self-determination of all oppressed nationalities of the world.

Executive Board of Local No. 1,
P. KOTTLE, Manager.

International Biennial Convention International Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
We wish to extend to you during your stay in Boston the heartiest and most cordial welcome that one can express.
Workers from United Dress Co.

Employers of the Super Skirt Co., Convention Hall, Boston.

Congratulations on the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
SIROTTA, Chairman.

New York, May 20, 1918.

A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston.
Heartiest congratulations to delegates of Fourteenth Convention. Am not with you through no fault of mine. Hurrah for Democracy!
BENJ. WITASHAKIN, Ex-Vice-Pres.

New York, May 20, 1918.
Convention Hall, St. Botolph and Garrison Sts., Boston, Mass.:
Greetings, my best wishes for success in your important work.
JOSEPH H. AMBROMSKY.

New York, May 20, 1918.
Fourteenth Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers, Boston, Mass.:
Greetings, the Italian Branch of Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union Local 125, wishes the delegates of the 14th convention the greatest success in their enterprise.
The Italian Branch.
Per FRANZ DIDONI.

New York, May 20, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston:
Rand School of Social Science sends hearty congratulations on good work accomplished and wishes you all success.
ALGERNON LEE, Educational Director.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 20, 1918.
Convention Hall, Boston:
The Philadelphia Uniform Department is extending its heartiest congratulations to your Fourteenth Annual Convention. We hope that this convention will help in establishing one big international in the needle industry in the country and help to establish industrial democracy throughout the world.

B. KARP,
L. HOLLANDER.

New York, May 20, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Convention:
Our heartiest greetings, comrades and brothers, may genuine brotherly spirit and true solidarity prevail in your ranks. May your splendid work on the economic and educational field be continued in the future until the establishment of a new social order.
National Executive Committee Workmen's Circle.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 20, 1918.
Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.:
Greetings: we extend our heartiest congratulations to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. May your deliberations help to bring about improvement of conditions of those whom you represent.

St. Louis, Mo., May 20, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall:
Officers and delegates of the cloak and skirt makers' union of St. Louis congratulate you, wishing you best success for the future.

H. CORNBLECT,
S. ABRAMSON.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Cincinnati, O., May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston:

May the 14th Biennial Convention be the greatest and best in the history of our organization. Wishing you success, greetings from Cloakmakers' union, Local No. 63.

CHARLES WEINSTEIN, Chairman.

JOS. GUTTERMAN, Sec'y.

Chicago, May 20, 1918.

A. BAROFF, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

To the fourteenth convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union: We the members of the Chicago cloakmakers' union, congratulate and wish you success in every respect. With brotherly regards.

HYMAN, SIEGEL, BERNHARDIN.

Press Committee.

Toronto, Ont., May 20, 1918.


We congratulate you with the Fourteenth Convention and wish you success in your good work.

Local Fourteen, I. L. G. W. U.

M. Y. ANPolsky, Secretary.

Chicago, May 20, 1918.

Convention Hall, St. Botolph and Garrison Streets, Boston.

To the fourteenth convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union accept my heartfelt congratulations and wishes for splendid work.

M. BERNSTEIN.

Member of Local No. 18, Chicago, Ills.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 20, 1918.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

My heartfelt congratulations to the officers and delegates of the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. May your deliberations be crowned with success. I also congratulate the Boston locals upon their honor to have this splendid gathering in Boston.

ABRAHAM SnyDER.

Chicago, Ills., May 20, 1918.

A. BAROFF.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

To the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, best wishes and success for your future work. We always stand with our International Union.


M. RAYMOND.

J. COKLISS, Committee.

South Brooklyn, N. Y., May 20, 1918.

A. BAROFF,

Convention Hall, St. Botolph and Garrison Streets, Boston, Mass.

The workers of the L. C. Waist Co., Brooklyn, New York, members Local 26, extend their greetings to the 14th Biennial Convention.

MAY ROSEN, Chairlady.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 20, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations, may this convention lead the cloakmakers to a higher and better standard of life.

Local 26,

S. RIDER, Chairman.

Chicago, Bl., May 20, 1918.

A. BAROFF.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

We, members of the Chicago Cloakmakers' Union, working for New York Cloak and Suit Co., congratulate the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and wish you success in the undertakings for the best of all the workers.

M. NOVAK.

B. GRONBERG.

H. BLUMENFIELD.

Press Committee.

New York, May 20, 1918.


May your deliberations be of such a nature as to promote the interests of each and every member of our International and bring the emancipation to the working class in general. Fraternally yours,

The Downtown Staff of Business Agents of the Joint Board of New York.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Chicago, May 20, 1918.
A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
To the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union, congratulations and greatest hopes for success for the future work of the International.

Workers of Caplan and Co.

Chicago, Ills., May 20, 1918.
A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
To the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union, greetings and success to the convention of the International, brotherly regards.

Members of Local Forty-four,
L. GOLD, Secretary.

Chicago, Ills., May 20, 1918.
A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
To the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union, we wish you the greatest success in your future work for the welfare of the workers.

J. ARNSTEIN,
M. BAUER,
M. KOMAN,
A. WEINTROUB,
so I will therefore take the pleasure of

Ladies Garment Workers, Union, Boston, Mass.:
A pressor from Weinstein Bros, Local 35, sends greetings. We wish you all great success to the delegates.

M. H. MOSKOWITZ.

120 Broadway, New York.
May 18, 1918.

My dear Mr. Schlesinger:

It is most regretfully that I find that my engagements will make it impossible for me to attend the Convention of your Union and address the delegates. It would have been a source of pleasure to me to have told them in person how greatly I have appreciated their contribution of $153,000 to the Jewish War Relief Fund, the proceeds of their labor on Washington’s Birthday, which, with great generosity, they dedicated to the cause of suffering humanity.

I have fully recognized the reason why the amount of the collection was less than had been anticipated during the War Relief campaign in December last. At that time it could not have been known that the members of the Union would be so seriously affected in their earning capacity as they shortly thereafter were in consequence of the Monday closing order. In fact I have regarded the contribution that has been made under the circumstances as a fine exhibition of brotherhood and of human sympathy, and, as you will recollect, I was prepared to absolve the members of your Union altogether from the performance of their pledge. Their act was therefore the more noble when they insisted nevertheless upon doing whatever it was possible for them to do under the circumstances.

The necessity for continuing the collection of funds for the relief of our brethren in Eastern Europe is as great today as it has ever been. In fact the suffering is even more intense than it has been at any time and the cry for help is as imperative as ever. We must be prepared to make every possible sacrifice to render assistance to these unfortunate sufferers. We must be prepared to assist in the work of reconstruction as soon as the war is over and it is possible to render the extensive aid which must be afforded to enable those who have been stripped of all their belongings to be enabled again to earn a respectable livelihood. To carry out such a program will necessitate the raising of a fund of huge proportions, running into many millions of dollars. In the creation of this fund all must help, rich and poor alike must give with a liberal hand and be prepared to make the utmost sacrifice. Knowing what your Union has done in the past, appreciating what it has desired to do and recognizing its sympathy with those who have reached the very depths of despair and have almost passed beyond the limits of human endurance, I am confident that from now on it will constitute part of the program of the Union and of all affiliated bodies, to make active and practical preparation toward enabling those who have been so sorely bitten once more to become endowed with the ability and capacity of providing for themselves and their families and of once again becoming the active, energetic, industrious and self-respecting people that they were before the horrors of war crushed them beneath the weight of misery, the realization of which defies even the powers of imagination.

Wishing you all success in your endeavors, I am

Very cordially yours,

LOUIS MARSHALL.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Pres. Schlesinger: I regret to inform you that the Credentials Committee is not ready with its report yet. The Committee has had four or five days' time to complete its report, but for some reason or other the report is not completed yet. It will take about an hour or an hour and a half before they will be able to report. What is the pleasure of the convention?

It was moved and seconded that the session adjourn until one o'clock sharp in the afternoon.

This was unanimously carried.

The session adjourned at 10.07 A. M.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY AFTERNOON

SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P. M. President Schlesinger in the chair.

Secretary Baroff read the following communications:

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.
Convention International Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Heartiest greetings of the waist, dress and petticoat workers of Boston. May the fourteenth convention of our great International pave the way of labor to industrial emancipation.

Ladies Waist Makers' Union, Local 49.
JUDITH FRIEDMAN, Secy-Treasurer.

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.
Fourteenth Biennial Convention, I. L. G. W. Union, May 21: Our best wishes to officers and delegates; may unity and harmony guide you in all your deliberations.

EMPLOYEES OF SHAPIRO BROS. CO.

Baltimore, Md., May 21, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: 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 your approval.

CLOAKMAKERS' UNION, NO. 4.
Baltimore, Md., A. Roitkowitz, Business Mgr.

New York, May 21, 1917.
Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.: Heartiest greetings to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention; hoping your present assemblage will result in solving the problems for the betterment of the conditions in our industry; hoping that the resolution of amalgamating Locals 3 and 30 will find its way among you.

HARRY HILFMAN, Secretary, Ladies' Tailors Alteration and Special Order Union, Local 86.

New York, May 21.
A. Baroff, General Secretary, International Ladies' Garment Workers:
Accept our heartiest greetings to the 14th Biennial Convention of our International Union. May your future work be crowned with victories as great in their results as in their aims.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL 23,
M. LONDON, Secy.

Brooklyn, May 21, 1918.
A. Baroff, Secretary, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Local Eleven, at its Executive Board Meeting, sends greetings to the Fourteenth Convention of the International; may your deliberations be crowned with success and bring peace and harmony in the International for the benefit of the thousands you represent.

CLOAK AND SKIRT MAKERS' UNION.
H. Brodsky, Secretary.

New York, May 21, 1918.
Conventional Hall, Boston, Mass.: Greetings delegates, in these times of hardships, the laboring class stands firm for the betterment of its conditions. May this convention further illustrate to the workers great progress.

M. RUBINBAUM.

Toronto, Ont., May 21, 1918.
Benj. Schlesinger, President, International Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall:
To the officers and delegates of the Fourteenth Biennial Convention:
Greetings, accept our heartiest congratu-
lations; the success of our organization depends upon you; we hope that you will bring unity and harmony into our union.

CLOAK AND SKIRT PRESSERS’ UNION, LOCAL 32, Ben. Wolhendler, Secretary.

After the above telegrams had been read, delegate Epstein delivered the following report for the Credentials Committee:

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

Greetings:

The Credential 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 No. 6, New York Swiss Embroiderers, 1 delegate: Philip Soldner.

Local No. 7, Boston Raincoat Makers, 3 delegates: David M. Perlmutter, Carl Cohen and Fred Monasson.

Local No. 9, New York Cloak Tailors, 9 delegates: Jacob Halpern, J. Keaton, S. Pasetzky, H. Schuster, L. Mass, Ida Bkxt, D. Miner, M. Kushner and A. Babitz.

Local No. 10, New York Amalgamated Cutters, 10 delegates: Charles Stein, Max Margules, Joseph Fish, Harry Berlin, Max Gorenstein, Isadore Epstein, Louis Zerkover, Max E. Gollin, Harris Hacken and Sidney Rothenberg.

Local No. 11, Brooklyn Cloakmakers, 5 delegates: Morris Bruss, Nathan Sachstein, William Barcan, Max Finkelstein and Jacob Press.

Local No. 14, Toronto Cloakmakers, 3 delegates: Harry Kruger, Max Shur, Joe Kazatchkoff.


Local No. 18, Chicago Cloak and Suit Pressers, 2 delegates: J. Menoff, David Axelrod.


Local No. 21, Newark, N. J. Cloakmakers, one delegate: Max Bruck.

Local No. 23, New York Skirt Makers, 8 delegates: Meyer Weinsteim, Morris Josephson, Jacob Kaplan, Harry Miller, Ph. Feat, Harry Wander, Louis Pinkofsky, Max Brodfield.

Local No. 24, Boston Skirtmakers, 2 delegates: Max Ososky, Isaac Posen, Jacob Cohen.


Local No. 26, Cleveland Cloakmakers, 2 delegates: John Penu, David Solomon.

Local No. 31, Cincinnati Cutters, one delegate: Abraham J. Miller.

Local No. 33, Bridgewater Corset Workers, 2 delegates: Mary G. Peppor, Mary Ratchford.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Local No. 34, Bridgeport Corset Cutters, 2 delegates: John F. Pierce, Irving S. Taylor.


Local No. 39, New Haven Corset Cutters, one delegate: John S. Fitzpatrick.

Local No. 40, New Haven Corset Workers, one delegate: Anna Cavanaugh.

Local No. 43, Worcester White Goods Workers, 2 delegates: Elsie Lossin, Jennie Ziff.


Local No. 49, Boston Waistmakers, 4 delegates: Samuel Jacobson, Sarah Hurwitz, Maud Foley, Joe Brandner.

Local No. 53, Philadelphia Cloak Cutters, 2 delegates: Max Garr, Samuel Otto.

Local No. 56, Boston Cloakmakers, 4 delegates: Alexander Pinkelstein, Hyman Borkovitz, Louis Greenberg, Nathan Sprinsky.

Local No. 61, Cincinnati Cloakmakers, 2 delegates: Charles Green, Jda Renzner.

Local No. 64, New York Cloak Buttonhole Makers, 2 delegates: Jacob Houbshman, Harry Dessel.

Local No. 66, New York Bonnaz Embroiderers, 4 delegates: Helen Spindler, D. Latkin, Benj. Greenblatt, Nathan Riesel.

Local No. 68, Harford, one delegate: Joseph Lalsnisky.

Local No. 67, Toledo Cloakmakers, 2 delegates: W. Flaum, L. Friend.

Local No. 70, Toronto Skirtmakers, one delegate: Max Samuel.

Local No. 72, Baltimore White Goods Workers, 2 delegates: Celia Samarodin, Fannie M. Cohen.

Local No. 73, Boston Cutters, 2 delegates: Benj. Kurland, Abraham Pinkelstein.

Local No. 80, New York Ladies' Tailors, 4 delegates: Frank Magnavita, Bernard Chasenow, Hyman Wiener, Sam Cohen.

Local No. 82, New York Bushelers and Begraders, 2 delegates: Morris Griefer, Samuel S. Scheinberg.

Local No. 83, Toronto Cutters, one delegate: Chas. Edward.


Local No. 88, Cincinnati, one delegate: Frank Nemerofsky.

Local No. 100, Chicago Waist and White Goods Workers, 2 delegates: Rose Wolsa, Mollie Yanowitz.

Local No. 101, Baltimore Tailors, one delegate: Joseph Tichy.

Local No. 110, Baltimore Cutters, one delegate: Clement T. Brennan.

Joint Board, New York, one delegate: Louis Langer.

Joint Board of Boston, one delegate, Hyman Hurwitz.

Joint Board of Chicago, one delegate, Hyman Schoolman.

Joint Board of Philadelphia, one delegate, Louis Porter.

Joint Board of Toronto, one delegate, S. Koldofsky.

Joint Board of Baltimore, one delegate, David Cohen.

Joint Board of Cincinnati, one delegate, M. Perlstein.

Joint Board of Cleveland, one delegate, Chas. Kreindler.
Joint Board of Montreal, one delegate, S. Labensohn.

We have also received credentials from Brother Ab. Rosenberg, member of Local No. 1, as honorary delegate. The Committee recommends that he be seated without a vote.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

We have received a credential from the National Women's Trade Union League for Roso Schneiderman as fraternal delegate. The Committee recommends that she be seated without a vote.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

We find upon examination of the financial records that certain locals have not paid the assessments which have been levied by the I. L. G. W. U. in full. In some instances committees representing the respective locals appeared before us and in others we received information from the General Secretary as to the financial condition of these unions. The Committee finds as follows:

Local No. 4, Baltimore Cloakmakers' Union, owes a balance of $434.00 for Legal Defense Fund and $109.20 for the 1916 General Assessment. The Committee recommends that the delegate of this Local be seated on condition that the local pays up this indebtedness when the condition of its finances allows. One delegate, Max Lipsch.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Local No. 12, Boston Pressers' Union, owes a balance of $45.00 for Legal Defense Fund Assessment and $108.20 for the 1916 General Assessment. The Committee recommends that the delegate of this Local be seated on condition that the local pays up this indebtedness when the condition of its finances allows. Three delegates: Hyman Berloe, S. Flaschner, Myer Frank.

Delegate Wiener made a motion that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted.

Delegate Flaschner secured the permission of the chairman to address the Convention. He appealed to the delegates that the debt they owe to the international be cancelled, inasmuch as they had not received the stamps for this amount.

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Local No. 41, New York Wrapper and Kimono Makers' Union. This local owes a balance, as shown by the books, of $665.00 for Legal Defense Fund Assessment. The committee that appeared claimed that this local practically consisted of only a handful of members at the time that this assessment was levied. An investigation of the books shows that Local No. 41 had an average of 377 members during the period January 1 to July 31, 1914, in which period the basis upon the number of members to be assessed was determined. The committee therefore recommends that Local No. 41 is charged with $377.00 for Legal Defense Fund Assessment instead of $565.00, as charged upon the books. The committee also recommends that the delegates of this local be seated on condition that $100.00 of this sum is paid immediately and payments of $50.00 monthly are made hereafter. Three delegates: Henry Zucker, Julius Gofstein and Sarah Spanier.

Delegate Zucker appealed to the Convention and asked that this debt of $377.00 be stricken off the books of the International, as their local did not have more than fifty to seventy members during the period in which the assessment was levied. At the conclusion of his address he made a motion that this debt be cancelled.

Pres. Schlesinger: I desire to state that the Credentials Committee has some kind of a recommendation for all these locals that owe back assessments, and whatever motion you may wish to make you may submit after the Committee has read its report.

Local No. 50, New York Children's Dressmakers' Union. The books show that this local owes a balance of $157.50 for Legal Defense Fund Assessment and $1315.00 for 1916 General Strike Assessment. The Committee that appeared before us claimed that the average membership for the period during which this assessment was levied was
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 78

436 members. This statement was borne out by investigation of the per capita paid for the corresponding period, and the Committee recommends that the amount on the books for the 1916 General Assessment be reduced to $436.00, making a total due on both assessments of $593.50. The Committee recommends that the delegates of this local be seated on condition that the Union makes an immediate payment of $300.00 and that $50.00 monthly is paid hereafter on the balance. Five delegates: Beckie Levy, Dora Friedman, Morris Sirota, Harry Greenberg, Sarah Yankolevitz.

Brother Harry Greenberg stated that the case of his local was practically the same as that of Local No. 41, and he also asked that their debt be cancelled.

Delegate Hacken of Local No. 10: Point of Information—Has Local 50 any money in its treasury today?

Delegate Greenberg: It is true that the local has today about $4,000.00 in its treasury.

Upon motion the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Local No. 54, Chicago Raincoat Makers' Union. The books show that this local owes a balance of $100.00 for the 1916 General Assessment. This local claims that it was practically non-existent at the time this assessment was levied. The Committee recommends that the delegates of this local be seated on condition that it pays up this indebtedness when the condition of its finances allows. One delegate: Louis Greenspan.

Delegate Greenspan appealed to the Convention that this debt be stricken off the books of the International, as their local was practically non-existent at the time the assessment was levied, and also that their treasury is very low at this time. He further stated that the General Executive board had decided to donate $100.00 to the strike of the Raincoat Makers of Chicago, and inasmuch as they have never received that donation, this sum should be applied to cancel the debt that they owe to the International.

Delegate Berman appealed to the Convention that they cancel not only the debt of this local, but of all small locals, in order to remove the obstacles to their growth.

Upon motion it was decided to cancel the debt of Local No. 54.

Local No. 58, New York Waist Buttonhole Makers' Union. The books show that this local owes a balance of $115.00 for the 1916 General Assessment and $15.00 for the Legal Defense Fund Assessment. The Committee recommends that the delegates be seated on condition that the local pays up this indebtedness when the condition of its finances allows. Two delegates: William Padnus, Jacob Uran.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Local No. 62, New York White Goods Workers' Union. This local owes a balance of $526.00 for Legal Defense Fund Assessment. The General Secretary reports that this local has been paying off $100.00 monthly on this assessment, of which this sum is still due. The Committee recommends that Local No. 52 pays $100.00 monthly on balance due and that its delegates be seated. Six delegates: Rose Gater, Mary Goff, Sam Graklin, Sadie Felnberg, Lena Plan, Morris Zelts.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Local No. 71, Chicago Ladies' Tailors Union, owes a balance of $69.00 for the Legal Defense Fund Assessment. This local claims that it had only about twenty members at the time the assessment was levied. The recommendation of the Committee is that the local pays the full amount due when the condition of its finances allows and that its delegate be seated. One delegate: Jacob H. Plotkin.

Delegate Plotkin appealed to the Convention to cancel the debt of his local, since the local was very weak at the time of the levying of the assessment and inasmuch as it is still weak and needs every possible help.
The recommendation of the Committee was carried.

Local No. 78, St. Louis Glzacmakers' Union, owes a balance of $72.00 for the 1916 General Assessment and $138.00 for the Legal Defense Fund Assessment. This local claims that it had only thirty members at the time the Legal Defense Fund assessment was levied and sixty members at the time the 1916 Assessment was levied. The Committee recommends that the delegates of this local be seated on condition that it pays the full amount due when the condition of its finances allows. Two delegates: Louis Hoffman, Benjamin Gilbert.

Delegate Gilbert stated that the local had paid the sum of $68.00 about four weeks ago and that at that time President Schlesinger and Secretary Baroff had informed him that that sum would cover the entire amount of their indebtedness. He also stated that at the time the assessment was levied the local had practically no members.

Delegate Hacken spoke in favor of the recommendations of the Committee, urging the delegates not to show clemency to any of the locals which were behind in their assessments, as this would put the burden upon the locals in good standing; that it was the duty of every local to support the International, inasmuch as the Committee was very liberal in its recommendations, i.e., that the locals which were behind in their assessments be given time until they will be financially able to make payments. He also said that he believes that no local should ask the Convention to cancel any debts on assessments of the past, as they would thus be acting as parasites.

Brother Gilbert, in answering the arguments of Brother Hacken, stated that they were not asking for charity but for justice, as they had practically no members at the time the assessment was levied. He also stated that he appreciated everything that the International had done for his local, but he demanded justice.

Upon motion the debt was cancelled.

Local No. 92, Toronto Pressers, owes a balance of $96.00 for the 1916 General Assessment and $117.00 for the Legal Defense Fund Assessment. This local claims that it had only fifty or sixty members when these assessments were levied. The Committee recommends that the delegate of this local be seated on condition that it pays the full amount due when the condition of its finances allows. Two delegates: Abraham Kirzner, A. Friedman.

Delegate Kirzner appealed to the members that the debt be cancelled, inasmuch as the Local had only about fifty or sixty members at the time this assessment was levied, and as they have only about $70.00 or $80.00 in their treasury at this time.

Delegate Halpern stated that as the International office has always been ready to assist all locals financially and otherwise, that he was surprised at delegates coming to the Convention and asking for leniency, as the Committee gave them ample time in which to pay up their debts. He appealed to the delegates to uphold the recommendation of the Committee.

Upon motion the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Local No. 98, Cincinnati Skirtmakers, owes a balance of $96.00 for the 1916 General Assessment and $92.00 for the 1916 General Assessment. This local claims that it was practically non-existent at the time these assessments were levied. The Committee recommends that the delegate of this local be seated on condition that it pays the full amount due when the condition of its finances allows. One delegate: Frank Nemerofsky.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Epstein: I want to explain here that the Credentials Committee was absolutely without power to grant the requests of any of the locals that appealed to it, through representatives or communications, to wipe out any of their debts, or to reduce the amount of same. We had only to go by the books of the General Office and we were practically duty bound to
carry out the provisions of the Constitution in every respect, which specifically stated that no Union shall be entitled to representatives at a Convention unless its per capita and assessments have been paid up to the first of the month before the Convention. Now, the Committee could only take into consideration the condition of the organization and make recommendation accordingly.

The Committee was practically, therefore, compelled to make recommendations in order that those Unions should not be deprived of representation at the Convention, but only upon the recommendation and the action of the Convention can delegates be seated, and that is by extending the time.

The Committee believes that a great many of the claims presented by these locals have considerable merit, and the Committee has taken cognizance of those claims, but all that we were able to do is to report upon the facts as we found them, and we make the following recommendation. I believe that if the Committee had placed this recommendation first, before we took up the various locals, individually, we could have avoided a good deal of argument. However, that does not matter because we can still straighten it out.

The Credential Committee finds that several of the smaller locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have been burdened with assessments which have been carried on the books for a number of years, and that the basis for determining the number of members to be assessed was not equitable, in view of the fact that at the time the assessments were levied these locals consisted of fewer members than the books of the International had shown.

In view of these facts, the Committee recommends that this Convention takes cognizance of the claims of these locals with the object of relieving the locals of these burdens, when proper claims can be established.

President Schlesinger: This recommendation will be referred to the proper committee, which will have to act upon all propositions that may come up before the Convention. The committee will act upon it and report to you afterwards, at which time you delegates will have to decide.

Delegate Epstein continued delivering the report as follows:

PROTESTS.

We have received a protest against the seating of Louis Schwartz and Joseph M. Sachs as delegates of Local No. 20 on the ground that these two members were affiliated with a group in the Union organized for the purpose of injuring its progress; that they had argued against the acceptance of a decision of the Board of Arbitration with reference to prices for cementing. The member of the Union who presented the charges failed to appear. A committee representing the Executive Board of Local No. 20 appeared before the Credential Committee and stated that the Executive Board of the Union had no charges against Brothers Sachs and Schwartz; that the real cause of the delay in the acceptance of the Arbitration Board's decision was a general dissatisfaction on the part of a great many cementers in the industry. There being no evidence produced against these two brothers to substantiate the charge, the Committee recommends that they be seated as delegates.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

We received a protest against the seating of Colraco Nizza as a delegate of Local No. 48 on the grounds that this brother worked on Saturday afternoon in the month of March, 1914, while a member of Local No. 35. The Committee finds that this protest is too trivial to warrant rejection, and recommends that Brother Nizza be seated as a delegate.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.
We received a protest against the seating of Giovanni Blondo as a delegate of Local No. 48 on the ground that this brother took some work from the factory where he was employed to finish some at home. The members of the Union who made the protest had no evidence to present admitting that whatever information they had in this case was mere hearsay. The Committee therefore recommends that the protest be dismissed, and that Brother Biondo be seated as a delegate.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

We received a protest against the seating of Annie Thomas as a delegate of Local No. 49, on the ground that she was not employed in the ladies’ garment industry within the six months previous to the Convention. No evidence having been produced before the Committee to this effect, and the Committee having evidence to the contrary, recommends that Sister Thomas be seated as a delegate.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Credential Committee was informed by communication that Local No. 69, of Philadelphia, had held two elections for delegates to this Convention; that after certain statements bearing upon the honesty of the election had been made, the Joint Board had ordered a new election to be held. The facts, as they were brought out before our Committee, are briefly as follows:

The meetings for nomination and election having been properly advertised, a committee was selected to take charge of the election, which committee included the secretary of the Joint Board. After the ballots had been counted and the results announced, one of the members present arose and stated that he had heard complaints on the part of several members to the effect that the ballots had not been counted properly. In addition to this, another member produced a ballot which she had presented to the committee after the voting had ceased, which was counted. The election was for three delegates, two of whom had received a large majority and the third, a plurality of one over the nearest candidate. During the discussion as to whether the votes had been counted properly or not, it was discovered that all the ballots, after they had been counted, had been destroyed. But no responsibility could be fixed, and at the time the meeting closed, there had been no other action taken except to receive the report of the election committee. A few days after the meeting several members appeared before the Joint Board and requested that a new election be called. In the meantime, the matter had been brought to the attention of the General Executive Board, at a meeting held recently in New Haven, and they decided that the election held by Local No. 69 had been legally conducted; that if any fraud or irregularities had been practiced, it was the duty or privilege of any member to present evidence to that effect to the Credential Committee. The chairman and the secretary of the Joint Board both appeared before the Credential Committee and testified as to their knowledge of the election and the reason for the action of the Joint Board in ordering a new election to be held. The secretary of the Joint Board stated that, acting as a member of the election committee of the local, he could testify that same was conducted in a legal and proper manner; that when the ballots had been counted, it was found that there was a difference of only one vote between two of the candidates; that they had re-counted the ballots four times, each time with the same result.

Sarah Greenberg and Beckie Stein, members of Local No. 69, appeared before the Committee and claimed that they had been legally elected as delegates to this Convention; that the first election by the local was a legal one, and that they had both refused to become candidates for the second election that was held. The chairman of the Joint Board stated that the reasons that the Joint Board ordered a new election were that the ballots had been destroyed before the accuracy of the count had been established, and that the additional ballot had been counted after the voting had ceased.

After summing up this case, the Credentials Committee has come to the conclusion
that there has been no evidence adduced before the Committee tending to show that the election had not been conducted legally and honestly, and the ballots not properly counted. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the candidates who were elected at the first election held by Local No. 69 be seated as delegates to this Convention.

The Committee has since received the credentials of Sisters Beckie Stein and Sarah Greenberg.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Committee also received a protest against the seating of Julius Menke as a delegate of Local No. 81, of Chicago, on the ground that he was not regularly elected and that he is personally unfit to serve as a delegate to this Convention. A letter was received from the Executive Board of the local, signed by all its members, which certified to the legal and proper election of this brother. There being no evidence produced to convince the Committee that this brother had acted in a detrimental manner towards the Union, the Committee recommends that he be seated as a delegate.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Epstein:

That closes the report of the Credentials Committee. I move that the report of the Credentials Committee, as amended, be accepted as a whole.

Fraternally submitted,

ISADORE EPSTEIN,
Chairman.

MOLLIE FRIEDMAN,
Secretary.

MAX LIPSCH,
ISAAC POSEN,
H. WAGNER,
O. H. N U D E L M A N ,
Credential Committee.

President Schlesinger: The Credential Committee is through with its work and it is time for the Convention to organize. I hereby declare this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union duly open and ready for whatever business may come up before it.

Upon motion a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Credential Committee for its good work.

President Schlesinger: In accordance with the Constitution of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the President has appointed the committees that are necessary for the purpose of transacting the business of this Convention. The President has also taken the liberty of appointing two or three more committees than the Constitution provides for. I shall first read the names of the members that compose the committees and then you can make a motion to the effect that these additional committees be accepted.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

John F. Pierce, Chairman; Harris Hacken, Local No. 16; Anna Litvakoff, Local No. 15; R. Flaster, Local No. 17; S. Friedman, Local No. 20; Salvatore Omica, Local No. 25; A. J. Miller, Local No. 31; H. Pachter, Local No. 33; John S. Fitzpatrick, Local No. 35; I. Chlarchiara, Local No. 48; Samuel Otto, Local No. 56; Wm. Padinus, Local No. 58; S. S. Schelnberg, Local No. 82.

OFFICERS' REPORT.

Morris Sigman, Chairman; I. Feinberg, Local No. 1; Max Gorenstein, Local No. 15; M. Finkelstein, Local No. 11; Abraham Silver, Local No. 16; Mayer Weinstein, Local No. 23; M. Gussman, Local No. 25; H. Zucker, Local No. 41; Samuel Jacobson, Local No. 49; Beckie Stein, Local No. 55; Chas. Green, Local No. 63.

RESOLUTIONS.

Max Amdur, Chairman; Ph. Kaplowitz, Local No. 1; H. Welner, Local No. 3; Chas.
Stein, Local No. 10; J. Heller, Local No. 17; A. Pilchowsky, Local No. 23; I. Schoenholtz, Local No. 35; H. Slutsky, Local No. 55; Morris Selts, Local No. 62; Ben. Gilbert, Local No. 78; David Cohen, Baltimore Joint Board.

ORGANIZATION.

Samuel Lofkovitz, Chairman; S. J. Ringger, Local No. 1; Jos. Kestin, Local No. 9; A. Goldin, Local No. 17; I. Hourvitch, Local No. 25; Anna Cavanaugh, Local No. 40; Max Samuels, Local No. 70; H. Wiener, Local No. 80; Roso Weiss, Local No. 100; John Tichy, Local No. 101; S. Labensohn, Montreal Joint Board.

LAW.

S. Metz, Chairman; M. J. Aebpia, Local No. 1; M. Levin, Local No. 2; M. Kushner, Local No. 9; Louis Zerkovitz, Local No. 10; Ph. Pest, Local No. 23; C. Yandoj, Local No. 25; D. Solomon, Local No. 26; J. Kimbarofsky, Local No. 55; Maud Foley, Local No. 49; Chas. Edwards, Local No. 63.

APPEALS AND ADJUSTMENTS.

Sol. Seidman, Chairman; Louis Langer, New York Joint Board; M. Wolberg, Local No. 1; Ida Baxt, Local No. 9; H. Berlin, Local No. 10; Wm. Barcun, Local No. 21; Max Schur, Local No. 14; D. Nisenovitz, Local No. 17; M. Brodfield, Local No. 22; Louis Friedh, Local No. 67; N. Riesol, Local No. 66.

EDUCATION.

H. Wander, Chairman; A. Student, Local No. 1; H. Schuster, Local No. 9; Jos. Fish, Local No. 19; H. Bernstein, Local No. 15; Sarah Shapiro, Local No. 25; H. Lubinsky, Local No. 35; Sarah Horwitz, Local No. 49; B. Greenblatt, Local No. 66; Sarah Greenberg, Local No. 69; Bella Metz, Local No. 90.

PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS.

M. Ferlstein, Chairman; Wm. Bloom, Local No. 1; G. Rubin, Local No. 2; A. Babitz, Local No. 9; Max Margules, Local No. 10; H. Silverman, Local No. 25; J. Goldstein, Local No. 41; Alfred LaPorta, Local No. 48; H. Greenberg, Local No. 50; A. Greenberg, Local No. 55; Julius Menke, Local No. 81.

WEEK WORK.

J. Halpern, Chairman; N. Hines, Local No. 1; S. Pitchersky, Local No. 3; S. Fisheffer, Local No. 12; H. Kazatchoff, Local No. 14; M. Jacobinsky, Local No. 17; J. Menoff, Local No. 18; J. Kaplan, Local No. 23; Louis Porter, Joint Board Philadelphia; H. Hurwitz, Joint Board Boston; Chas. Kreindler, Joint Board Cleveland; H. Dressel, Local No. 64; H. Berkowitz, Local No. 66.

BENEFITS AND SANATORIUM.

H. Schoolman, Chairman; M. Saplin, Local No. 1; I. Neibancer, Local No. 2; S. Rothscheiberg, Local No. 20; H. Kruger, Local No. 14; M. Stauffer, Local No. 29; M. Josephson, Local No. 23; I. Hendelman, Local No. 35; A. Gold, Local No. 44; Max Garr, Local No. 53; Frank Magnavita, Local No. 80.

NATURALIZATION.

S. Ninfo, Chairman; Ph. Soodner, Local No. 6; S. Pasetsky, Local No. 9; Lilian Levent, Local No. 15; Max Ossofsky, Local No. 24; N. Schachter, Local No. 25; Elise Lessin, Local No. 53; Jos. Brenner, Local No. 49; M. Sirotta, Local No. 59; Rose Aster, Local No. 62; Sam Cohen, Local No. 80; A. Eliner, Local No. 59; Clement T. Brennan, Local No. 110.

WAR SUFFERERS.

S. Koldowsky, Chairman; M. Wertholmer, Local No. 3; Carl Cohn, Local No. 7; L. Mos, Local No. 9; M. Braza, Local No. 11; Luigi Astonini, Local No. 25; Sarah Spanier, Local No. 41; A. Flinkelstein, Local No. 66; Mary Goff, Local No. 62; N. Chazanoff, Local No. 80; F. Neminozsky, Local No. 98.

LABEL.

Paule M. Cohn, Chairman; M. Kurtz, Local No. 3; F. Mennason, Local No. 7; B. Collin, Local No. 10; A. Weinstein, Local No. 15; Louis Schwartz, Local No. 20; H. Miller, Local No. 23; I. Friend, Local No. 35; Beackle Levy, Local No. 50; Louis Greenspan, Local No. 54; Lena Plan, Local No. 62; Helen Spindler, Local No. 66; Ida Reiner, Local No. 88.
SERGEANTS AT-ARMS.

A. Bielson, Local No. 17; Ph. Berman, Local No. 20; B. Kurland, Local No. 73.

Upon motion all these appointments were unanimously accepted by the Convention.

President Schlesinger: In order that we may be able to go on with our business and not spend any unnecessary time, I believe we ought to at least get through today with the report of the General Executive Board. I do not think we will be able to meet all day tomorrow or Thursday. In order that we waste no time it is absolutely essential that we meet today until the report of the General Executive Board is read through, so that the committees will have something to work on from tonight.

Before proceeding with the report, I wish to say that in accordance with the Constitution resolutions can be presented only during the first three days of the Convention. Resolutions which are presented afterwards, on the fourth day or later, must have the consent of two-thirds of the delegates. I therefore want to call upon each and every delegate to present whatever resolutions he may have today.

I will now call on the members of the General Executive Board to kindly step on the platform.

After the members of the General Executive Board were seated, President Schlesinger proceeded with the report of the General Executive Board.

When President Schlesinger had read that part of the report concerning the reorganization of Local 1, the entire delegation of that Local, headed by Delegate William Bloom, marched up onto the platform and presented to the Convention a wreath of unusual size and beauty, which was received with hearty cheers and applause by the delegates.

After the applause had subsided, Delegate Bloom delivered the following address:

Brother Chairman and Fellow Delegates:

I don't intend to take up much of your valuable time, but we all feel that what has taken place in our Union is something which makes a record not only for the Jewish Labor organizations, but for the entire Trade Union movement throughout this country.

There has been much talk about the history that our International has made. But it seems to me that one of its striking features has been the late event which has taken place in our organization. A number of people, who have been aptly described just now by our worthy President, have by trickery and insidious methods taken hold of the biggest Local, and sought to disintegrate the very foundation of our organization, which has cost so much sacrifice and privation and years of suffering on the part of its members to build up.

There came a time when we, the members who feel at heart the welfare of our organization, had to decide whether members of such calibre should have the organization in their grip. On the 15th of September, a number of our members gathered together, with the solemn determination to decide on the proposition: "To be or not to be." And there, in a little room, isolated, fully aware of the responsibility, we decided that we were going "to be!" (Great applause). And we gave fair warning to that element that they could not at any time threaten the organization, and within a short time we made them absolutely harmless.

I now submit that much credit must be given to the firm stand taken by our President and the General Executive Board (applause). The flowers which you see here, my fellow delegates, are an indication of the rebirth of Local 1. These flowers represent the blossoming of that Local and its color,—the life of that local. Let it be a symbol, not only of our Local 1, but also of our entire organization. Let it be, I may...
state again, fair warning to all these ele-
ments that henceforth they will not be able
by any treacherous means to take power of
any kind and assume control of an organi-
zation through selfish and insidious motives.

In behalf of the reborn, invigorated local,
I wish to extend to you congratulations,
and convey to you the sentiments of the
members who have made possible this
reorganization and have made it possible
to the extent that I feel that no local in
the International can boast of much more.

We now have over 9,000 members in our
local, out of which 99 per cent, are not in
arrears more than eight or ten weeks.

This, my brothers, is the result of this
reorganization.

Whereas heretofore we were concerned
with conflicts and antagonisms, we are
now primarily concerned with the solid-
ifying and organizing the ranks of the
workers, with the purpose of uplifting
their economic and spiritual wellbeing in
order to achieve our final goal—the emana-
tion from wage slavery and social oppression.

President Schlesinger continued to read
the report of the General Executive Board
during the remainder of the afternoon ses-
sion, until 5:30 P. M., when the Conven-
tion adjourned until 9:30 Wednesday, May 22nd, 1918.

THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY MORNING
SESSION.

The convention was called to order at
9:30 A. M. Wednesday, May 22, 1918, Presi-
dent Benjamin Schlesinger in the chair.

Telegrams

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Washington, D. C., May 21, 1918.

BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER,
Convention International Ladies Gar-
ments Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.: 

The Executive Council of the American
Federation of Labor adjourned because of
the near approach of the A. F. of L. Con-
vention and other work requiring immedi-
ate personal attention. It will be impossible
for me to accept your kind invitation to be
present at your convention this year. Per-
mit me to express the hope that you will
have a harmonious and satisfactory con-
vention and in addition inform the dele-
gates through you that the membership of
the American Federation of Labor has in-
creased 382,000 during the past seven
months and that part of that increase was
furnished by the increase in the member-
ship of your International organization.

FRANK MORRISON.

New York, May 21, 1918.

MR. BENJ. SCHLESINGER, President,
MIL AB. BAROFF, Secretary Treasurer
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:

Dearest Friends and Brothers, accept my
message of greetings to you and also con-
gratulations to the delegates assembled at
the Fourteenth Convention of our beloved
International Union. I envy every one of
you for having the honor to represent our
great labor movement. I am not with you
but am one of you. My soul and spirit
are with you in these trying days when
civilization is being destroyed. It is a joy
to look forward to you who came together
for the purpose of helping in rebuilding a
new civilization. May your deliberations cre-
ate a new epoch in the history of the work-
ing class for the improvement of condi-
tions of the toilers. Continue the good
work which has been entrusted to you.

Keep up the banner of our International
Union.

S. POLAKOFF.

Ex-Vice-President International Ladies'
Garment Workers' Union.

New York, May 21, 1918.

Convention International Ladies Gar-
ment Workers' Union:

My heartiest wishes upon your work of
consolidation. Glorious times coming for
all workers, if united. I trust your labors
will result in perfect unity in all matters
including official publication.

A. ROSEBURY.

New York, May 21, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers'
Union.

On behalf of the members of Local 41, we
hereby send our congratulations to your
convention and hope that your deliberations
will meet with success.

I. M. CHATCUFF, Sec'y Local 41.

Pittsburgh, Penn.

International Ladies Garment Workers'
Union.

Our heartiest congratulations to the
Convention of the International Ladies Gar-
ment Workers' Union. Being sure of your
successful work, we wish to state that our
city and vicinity may offer a good field for
your noble work.

Jewish Socialist Branch of Pittsburgh.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 21, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston:
Congratulations in your work. Hoping you will put Cleveland on same basis as all organized cities.
The workers of the Kelly Cloak Co.

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.
MR. A. BAROFF,
Best and kind greetings to your historic convention. We wish you success in all your deliberations.
Pressler Local 12,
S. FLASCHNER, Chairman.
N. GREENWOOD, Secy.

New York, May 21, 1918.
Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.:
MR. BEN. SCHLESINGER, President:
I should deem it a great honor and a pleasure, if you were to add my humble salutation and sincere good wishes to those that come to you from hosts of friends in the labor movement; it was my privilege to stand at the cradle of the International and watch it growing through its embryonic process and now that it reached its vigour and becomes a potent factor in the gallant struggle that labor is making to come into its own, I pray that I be permitted to share in its and your joy. It is delightful to know that the slogan of the International is "If I into a soul dark and dreary can shed some light," "If I some corner dark and dreary can make bright," "If to the enslaved I can show the sunny side," "Even though no reward I earn I am satisfied."
Sincerely and fraternally yours,
JOSEPH BARONDES.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 21, 1918.
Convention Hall, International Ladies Garment Workers' Union:
Greetings to Vice-President Miss Cohn. Your example successful. We want more women vice-presidents.
ANNA GEVIRTZMAN.
PAULINE BERNSTEIN.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 21, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
Greetings, accept our hearty congratulations to the 14th Biennial Convention. May you delegates mark a new epoch for the improvement of conditions for the working class.
Joint Board Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union

Chicago, Ill., May 21, 1918.
A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
To the Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. We hope that all you do will be for the good of the trade. We are with you, Workers of Bergman Cloak House.
L. GOLD, Shop Chairman.

New York, N. Y., May 21, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:
Greetings. The sixty thousand tailors through the New York Joint Board extend their brotherly greetings to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers of America and wish you success in your deliberation and activities. We hope that the day is nearing when both internationals will clap their hands and work for the betterment of those that are employed in the needle industries.
T. MONAT, Secretary-Treasurer
New York Joint Board, A. C. W. of A.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Philadelphia, Penn., May 21, 1918.

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


---

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.

MR. A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston:
Accept my heartiest wishes for success in all your deliberations. May your efforts be of benefit to the Industry at large.

MAX FLASCHNER,
Business Agent, Boston Joint Board.

---

Newark, N. J., May 21, 1918.

MR. SCHLESINGER,
Convention Hall, Boston:
Mr. President and delegates of the Fourteenth Biennial Convention I. L. G. W. U. May the spirit of unity and peace prevail among the locals of our great International which is so much loved and esteemed by its constituents. We have full confidence that the splendid work of our Local 17 which has brought much happiness among thousands of workers will continue for very long in the future.

The Employers of Weinstein Bros.,
L. LIPSKY, Chairman,
M. CAPTAIN, Chairman.
Shop Executives.

---

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.

Mr. BAROFF,
Convention Hall:
Accept best wishes for success. May you continue the same path of development and growth until the final emancipation of the working class.

Cloak Makers' Union, Local 56,
A. FINKELESTEIN, Chairman,
L. GRINBERG, Secretary.

---

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.

A. BAROFF, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Accept our deepest appreciation for the wonderful assistance given in reconstructing our locals. May your convention be crowned with success and may it serve as an inspiration to those who together with you fought for sunshine and better days in our Industry. The members of the Joint Board are happy to have you here and convey to you the most warmest and kindest greetings. Their message to you is this: "Keep the light of progress burning always and forever forward."

Joint Board Cloak Makers' Union of Boston,
HYMAN HURWITZ, Mgr.

---

Boston, Mass., May 21, 1918.

MR. A. BAROFF, Convention Hall,
Cutters of Boston greet you heartily, delegates and friends; we are with you, heart and soul, in all your undertakings.

Local 73,
J. WHITE Chairman,
S. FINKELESTEIN, Sec'y.

---

THE RAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

7 East 15th Street, New York
May 20, 1918.

General Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Comrades and Friends:—On behalf of the Rand School of Social Science, and by instruction from its Board of Directors, I send you warmest congratulations on your past achievements and hearty good wishes for the future.

It would be hard to overstate the service which your organization has rendered, not only to the men and women employed in the ladies' garment industry, but to the whole working class movement of the United States.

The Rand School is particularly glad to acknowledge the generous aid that has been given by your Union and by a large number of its individual members in the gigantic task of establishing the People's House in New York, thus providing a suitable home for the Rand School and creating a center for many other working-class activities, industrial, political, educational and social. We are happy to know that among the 4,000 persons who, during the last seven months have attended courses in the Rand School, there are many hundreds of members of the I. L. G. W. U.

Your Union is one of those which realizes that the self-education of the working people is an absolutely essential condition to the success of the proletariat in solving the grave problems with which it has to deal—that only a working class equipped with knowledge and understanding of social questions will be able to emancipate itself. Let me assure you that if the Rand School of Social Science can be of service in the work of popular education which your Union is conducting among its members, we shall be most happy to have you...
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

call on us and show us how we can best help.

Permit me also to invite your attention to the program of intensive instruction and specialized training which the Rand School is carrying out side by side with its more general courses. We would welcome an opportunity to confer with your representatives, both for the helpful advice that they might be able to give us, and for the possibility of concerted action which might prove beneficial on both sides.

Again congratulating you and wishing you all success, I am

Fraternally yours,

ALGERNON LEE,
Educational Director.

President Schlesinger resumed the reading of his report, which he had commenced at the last session.

At the conclusion of his report, President Schlesinger was given an ovation, everybody rising and applauding heartily.

President Schlesinger: This report will go to the various committees—the Committee on Officers’ Report and the other committees who will take out the particular items, deliberate upon them, and present reports to the convention.

Delegate Weinstein: I move that the convention express its approval and thanks to the President and Secretary, and the whole General Executive Board for the work that they have done in the past two years for the International.

Pres. Schlesinger: You ought to leave that to the Committee on Officers’ report. (Laughter.)

The committee on Rules and Regulations will now make its report.

(Brother Lefkovits read the following report seriatum, the delegates voting on each rule separately. Vice-president Lefkovits was designated by President Schlesinger to be the chairman of the Rules and Regulations Committee, in place of Vice-president John F. Pierce, the original appointee, who did not arrive at Boston yet.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Mr. President and Delegates:

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 2:00 P. M. and remain in session until 5:30 P. M. except on Saturdays and on Decoration Day, May 30, on which days the session shall be from 9:30 A. M. to 12:30.

Rule No. 2. If a delegate, while speaking, be called to order, he shall at the request of the chair, take a seat until the question of order is decided.

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.

Rule No. 4. No delegate shall interrupt another in his remarks, except if it be to call him to a point of order.

Rule No. 5. A delegate shall not speak more than once on the same question without permission from the convention.

Rule No. 6. Speeches shall be limited to ten minutes, but the time of speaking may be extended by vote of the convention.

Rule No. 7. A motion shall not be open for discussion until it has been seconded and stated from the chair.

Rule No. 8. 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.

Rule No. 9. Motions to lay on the table shall not be debatable, except as limited by Roberts rules of order.
Rule No. 10. A motion to reconsider shall not be entertained unless made by three delegates who voted in the majority and shall receive a majority vote.

Rule No. 11. That the report of committees shall be subject to amendments and substitutes from the floor of the convention, the same as the other motions and resolutions.

Rule No. 12. It shall require at least twelve members to move the previous question.

Rule No. 13. All resolutions shall bear the signature of the introducer and the title of the organization he or she represents, and shall be in duplicate.

Rule No. 14. 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.

Rule No. 15. 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.

Rule No. 16. No resolution shall be received after Thursday's session, May 23, without consent of two-thirds of the convention.

Rule No. 17. When a roll call vote has been taken, and all delegates of the delegations present had the opportunity to record their vote, the ballot shall be declared closed.

Rule No. 18. When a roll call ballot has been ordered, no adjournment shall take place until the result has been announced.

Rule No. 19. Roberts rules of order shall be the guide on all matters not herein provided.

Rule No. 20. 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.

Rule No. 21. Registration cards shall be furnished by the convention of each session. Any delegate not registered within fifteen minutes after the convention is called to order shall be marked absent, and a list of absentees shall be printed in the daily proceedings.

Rule No. 22. Roll call may be called upon any question at the request of not less than ten delegates from three different locals.

Rule No. 23. The main body of the hall shall be reserved for delegates only.

Respectfully submitted,

S. LEFKOVITS,
Acting Chairman,
S. FRIEDMAN,
Secretary,
HARRIS HACKEN,
ANNA LITVAKOFF,
R. PLAISTER,
S. L. SCHOENBERG,
SALVATORE OMICA,
JOHN S. FITZPATRICK,
I. CHIARCHIARA,
SAMUEL OTTO,
W. M. PADNUS,
ABR. J. MILLER,
MAY RATCHFORD,
Committee.

Each and every rule recommended by the committee were unanimously carried by the delegates, there being comparatively little discussion.

Delegate Ringer: I move that we accept the recommendations of the Rules and Regulations Committee as a whole, and to extend the thanks of the convention to them.

This was seconded and unanimously carried.

Pres. Schlesinger: On the opening day of the convention, I was going to introduce to you a representative of the Labor League of the Massachusetts State Workmen's Circle, but he was not in the hall at the time when I called upon him.

I am now told that the representative of the Labor League is here, and I take great
pleasure in introducing to you friend Eisen-
berg. (Applause).

ADDRESS OF MR. EISENBERG.

I regret, indeed, that I cannot hand you
over the keys of this City as freely as was
done yesterday by the Mayor of Boston.
We are not yet the controlling power here,
and therefore not able to do so.

It seems to me, however, that the time
is drawing near when we shall be in pos-
session not only of the key of this City, but
the entire land will be under the rule of
the working class.

We are passing now through historio
times, and the importance of strong labor
organizations for the workers is even
greater today than it ever was. The
economic interests of the workers must be
defended at all costs. We must be organ-
ized to defend ourselves and to destroy
both Kaiserdom and Capitalism.

As a representative of the Workmen's
Circle, I, congratulate you in the name of
all our members. We are always with you,
and I wish that your deliberations will re-
sult to the welfare of your great member-
ship.

We wish you success in all your under-
takings, and we hope that you will make
your organization within stronger than it
ever was before. Truly your International
is the incorporation of the best hopes that
we have for better times.

At the conclusion of his address, Mr. Eis-
enberg was greeted with hearty applause.

At this point the arrival of Delegate Abra-
ham Rosenberg, former President of the
International, was greeted with applause.

President Schlesinger hereupon read a
communication from the Socialist Party
1918 Campaign and Organization fund,
which contained an introduction to comrade
Backall, the representative of the Socialist
Party Campaign Committee, who delivered
an address, in substance, as follows:

“We know that the International is with
us. 1918 will be a year of great achieve-
ments for our party. A new era is coming.
We want to send this year to Congress a
few dozen of Socialist Congressmen, who
shall take part in the legislative work.

“But to accomplish this we need money.
We must start the campaign everywhere
six months before the elections take place.
We need money. We must get one million
dollars for Socialist propaganda.

“I therefore appeal to you to pass a res-
olution that your International make a lib-
eral donation.”

Mr. Backall's remarks were received with
vigorous applause.

Delegate Silverman: I rise to request that
Brother Rosenberg be invited to the plat-
form to make an address.

Pres. Schlesinger: I don't believe a mo-
tion is necessary. The Chair will be very
pleased to do so, without going through
the formality of any motion. We would
have done so sooner, but as you know, our
time was occupied with several speakers
and we did not want to disturb the conven-
tion while the speakers were on the floor.

Now Brother Rosenberg, you have been
the President of the International for many
years. I am sorry you came two or three
days late. You should have been here dur-
ing the first two or three days in order to
have the opportunity to participate in the
joy of our delegates here with the great
progress that this organization has made.

I am sure that each and every delegate
would like to hear you Brother Rosen-
berg, and I therefore call upon you to step
on the platform and say a few words to our
delegates. (Applause).

ADDRESS OF DELEGATE ROSENBERG.

Mr. President and Fellow Delegatés:

I am very sorry the delegate made the
motion to invite me to the platform, as he
has done me a great wrong. When I came
to this convention, I did not come with the
intention of making myself popular. I came here to this convention to help along the members, or the delegation of my local of which I am a member, to carry through measures in the interests of the cloak trade in the City of New York, as well as in any other section and certain propositions which may benefit the country locals. (Applause).

I have been called by your worthy President, Brother Schlesinger, to step on the platform and to address you, but all I have to say to you for the present is that I am certainly very pleased to see this convention so largely attended—possibly a larger attendance than ever before,—and with a larger membership than this organization has ever had.

During the last three or four years, your officials had their hands full, and I am glad to say, being a member of Local 1, that while at the last convention at Philadelphia where all the delegates looked upon the delegation of Local 1, like step-brothers, or rather as traitors to the labor movement—at this convention the delegation of Local No. 1 is regarded with a different spirit altogether. During the last two years—we had enough work in rebuilding this organization, Local 1, and I was gratified that your President appointed me for several months to be instrumental in building up this present local No. 1 of New York. (Applause). It is the intent of Local No. 1, as heretofore, to be the first local of this International Union, and to stay with this International Union until the time will come when Unions will not be a necessity in this world any more. (Applause).

I may have a chance during this convention, and I intend to stay here, if possible, until the finish, to be helpful not alone to my own local, but also to the other local unions connected with this organization. There is one thing which has been proven in the last few years, and that is, that with all the inner troubles we have had, we remain as strong as ever before, if not stronger, and this is practically due to the united efforts of your officials, as well as the officers of a number of the local unions composing this International Union.

I thank you for the invitation and also for the honor you have given me. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I have here a credential from the Liberty Defense Union of New York City which introduces Miss Elizabeth Freeman. I am sure Miss Freeman would like to address the convention and say a few words to you delegates. (Applause).

ADDRESS OF MISS ELIZABETH FREEMAN.

I am going to make my remarks to you very short this morning, because I know you have most important business to attend to.

As an introduction to my remarks, to set myself right with you, and to make you understand that I, as an individual, understand your problems. I wish to say that when the White Goods Workers were on strike in New York City a few years ago, I was one of a large number of pickets who were arrested, and the only one who insisted that I would not pay a fine into any court where women as well as men did not have something to say, and where the workers were not given justice. (Applause). And I served my five days on Blackwells Island.

The Liberty Defense Union has been organized. Its Chairman is Charles S. Ervin, the Editor of the New York Call. We have a very magnificent group of men and women on the Executive Committee, among them Morris Hillquit, who is to speak to you tomorrow and who is beloved by all. (Applause).

This organization has been formed for the purpose of defending people who are arrested for exercising the rights of freedom of press, assembly and speech. You all know, as well as I do, that that is the first amendment to the constitution of the United States, and ought to be protected and guarded safely, particularly by and for the workers of this country during war times, as well as during peace times.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

I want to tell you that just recently I was in Pennsylvania and organized workers, the machinists, were meeting in their own hall, and the Mayor sent armed policemen—not only armed with their usual clubs, but with revolvers, to clean that hall out. Yes, organized labor was not allowed to meet in the City of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, because we are at war with Germany.

Now, if that is going to happen and get by in one city, it is likely to happen in any city in this country. And because of the different individual opinions and economic views of people and their activities in the labor movement, we find all over the United States today that under the camouflage of patriotism, many of our workers, who are organizers for trade unions, who have been agitating for the rights of the workers, are being arrested and railroaded to jail, not for one year, or two years, but many of them for 15, 20 and 30 years. And it is because these unknown men and women all over the country are being persecuted that a small group of people gathered together and organized a Liberty Defense Union to give them aid and financial support in order that fair trial may be granted to them.

I am not here this morning to solicit funds from you. I have prepared a resolution that I shall leave with your Secretary and hope that it will get to the right committee, and that this convention will have the privilege of acting upon it.

I not only urge you to act upon it, but when you go home to your various cities and you gather together in your local organizations, I hope you will bring up the question of the defense of the defenseless, and see to it that we workers in America begin to act in solidarity as is being demonstrated in Great Britain. I thank you. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: I would like to ask the Chairman of the different committees if they have any announcements to make.

The various Chairmen thereupon announced to their committees when and where to meet.

Pres. Schlesinger: I expected here today, as I have told you, Judge Mack. We invited him to this convention and I received a letter from him about two weeks ago, stating that he would be here today on the 22nd, Wednesday.

He stated in his letter that he would be very glad to address our convention, but it is about 12 o'clock already, and I have not heard from him as yet. Perhaps some important business has kept him from coming here altogether, or perhaps he is in town and still intends to come here. I suggested that we remain in session for another while to await his arrival.

In the meantime, I will take the pleasure to introduce to you one who has been with our International in all our legal transactions with the employers' associations in the City of Boston, as well as with individual employers. He took an active part in our local affairs, particularly a year and a half ago, immediately after the convention in Philadelphia, when we came to reorganize the Boston locals, and to rid them of the element which was very, very undesirable. I don't want to name these people now—they are a thing of the past. But those who attended the convention of our International in the City of Philadelphia, will remember what the Boston delegates had to say about their former officers.

I am going to introduce to you now the man that has helped us, not only morally but more so legally in getting rid of that group. I take great pleasure in introducing to you our Boston legal adviser, a member of the General Committee of the Socialist Party, our Comrade George E. Roewer, Jr.

ADDRESS OF GEORGE E. ROEWER.

Mr. President and Delegates to the Convention; friends and guests of the Convention:

I stepped up here, on my way to Lawrence, just to step in and see how you are getting along, and to appear at your
CONVENTION. I did not come to make a speech, but the eagle eye of your President caught me sneaking in on the other side of the hall, and I could not get away after I got in. I am quite sure if I knew I was going to be asked to say a few words, I perhaps would have hesitated, because there is a man in jail up in New Hampshire that is very anxious to get out and I have got to go to Lawrence to get some witnesses and some affidavits, so I ought to be on my way there instead of here.

But now that the opportunity has been given to me at this time, I do want to say in behalf of at least the radicals and liberals in Massachusetts that we are glad to have the convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers in this city.

You had a word of greeting from our State Secretary on Monday, Comrade Carey, so it is unnecessary for me to say a word in that capacity. When, a year ago last September, I was for the first time retained by the organization in the City of Boston, your President saw me at my office, and said: "We have a situation here;" "I want you to consider the situation in Boston as though it was your own private personal business!" "I want you to attend to it as though it were your own affair, your own house that you had to set in order." He said: "The furniture in the house up here in Boston is very much disturbed. It is scattered all over the place, and we have got to have order and cleanliness in this house."

Well that was like a personal matter. It was not a business proposition at all. And when that situation was presented, I must say it was extremely difficult and most extraordinary. It is unnecessary for me to repeat what that situation was, because many of you know exactly from the reports that were made at your last convention, what we had to face here in this city. But this situation in Boston could never have been adjusted properly and straightened out, without the assistance of the National Organization. And they had the very good judgment and sense to send the right kind of a man to Boston to help straighten that situation out in the person of Abraham Snyder of Philadelphia. (Applause). He proved to be just the right kind of a man to do the job, and he did it well. And then after he was here awhile, he had to go away, and we were fortunate in finding right here at home—had not discovered it before—some of the most loyal and most active, and efficient, wide-awake members who had kept away from the organization, who had kept out of its activities—were not attending all of the meetings, for very good reasons. But then we discovered when Brother Snyder went that we had to get somebody right here in Boston to handle the situation, and it was not easy for me to believe that any of you from any of the cities in the United States had a situation at any time in the history of your local organization confronting you comparing at all for a moment with what we had here.

But it so happened that in looking for a man to handle the situation in Boston to represent the organization in Boston, we found a man right here in the person of Brother Hyman Hourwitz (applause). He was able to stand up. Now you know if one thing to be a manager of an organization or to represent men and fight the boss, it is very often an easy matter to fight the boss and the employers. But it is not always an easy matter to carry on a fight within your own organization and to make everybody satisfied with the way the affairs are being handled in the organization.

Well, Brother Hourwitz had the capacity and ability to handle the organization in such a way that he treated the employers satisfactorily and to an adequate way, and also the members of his organization, until today we have in Boston a reign of peace and order and a certain extent prosperity and efficiency and a well formed organization.

After we straightened out this situation in Boston, I remained interested in the work of the International Ladies' Garment Workers. I have been watching and sympathizing and supporting the various struggles that this organization has carried on in New York City, and, at the first opportunity I had, I investigated your Joint Board of Sanitary Control of New York City, and it seems to me that the distinguishing feature of your organization above other organizations in the Federation is perhaps in the fact that you not only look out for the welfare of your members in the shops, but you look out for the education and physical welfare of your members, as well. In other words, that you have taken your slogan not only "a fair day's pay for a fair day's work," but "the entire product of your toil for a day's work." (Applause). That while you recognize that you have certain immediate problems to solve—now in the way of increased wages and shorter hours and better sanitary conditions—you also realize that there is a new day coming to labor, that you have got to build a new society out of the old, and that most of you have not only joined the Union of your craft, the economic organization, but most of you, possibly with the exception of the women, have taken part in political campaigns and have put workers in office to represent you in the legislatures in the States of New York, Illinois and elsewhere.

In other words, there is a strong bond of union between my conception of what the working class has got to do in America and all over the world, and the ideals of your organization, because you realize the necessity of political action as well as economic action, and you have within your organization the efficient machinery to carry on the everyday fight. Also you have the idealism and the forces within your organization to work for that form of society in the future where we will abolish poverty and abolish slums and make general happiness and prosperity possible for all peoples everywhere. I thank you. (Great applause).

After President Schlesinger had made an announcement for the Committee on Labor, he stated that there would be no afternoon session, in order to give an opportunity to the various committees to have meetings and to organize for the work allotted to each of them. The session adjourned at 32 noon, to reconvene the following morning, Thursday, May 23rd, at 9:30.

The following resolutions were introduced during this session and were referred to the various committees for action:

**Resolution No. 1.**

Introduced by delegates S. H. Schonenberg and Morris Greifer, Local No. 82.

Whereas, We the Examiners, Beograders and Bushelers of the Cloak, Skirt and Reel Industry were granted a charter by the I. L. G. W. U., on the 15th of May, 1917, and

Whereas, For a year's time we have organized more than three hundred (300) examiners and bushelers without the aid of either the International or the Joint Board, and

Whereas, If the said bodies would interest themselves in giving us the support which is necessary to organize the four thousand (4000) of the above mentioned workers during the past year, we are positively sure that a greater number of the four thousand (4000) examiners, beograders and bushelers of the City of New York would now be members of our Local No. 82, and

Whereas, in the shops controlled by our Local the members are working under absolute Union conditions as in all the respective locals of the International, and

Whereas, An increase of wages on the average of $8.00 for an examiner and $6.00 for a busheler was obtained during the past year in the organized shops, be it therefore

Resolved, That we the examiners, beograders and busheler's Union Local No. 82 are asking the support of the International to send an organizer to help our officers organize the entire trade which will surely form a big local.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

**Resolution No. 2.**

Introduced by delegates S. H. Schonenberg and Morris Greifer, Local No. 82.

Whereas, There exists in New York a local of the International called the Examiners, Beograders and Bushelers' Union, Lo-
cal No. 82, that is affiliated with the International since May 15, 1917, the day that a charter was granted to the above mentioned organization, and

Whereas, The purpose of the Examiners, Begraders and Bushelers' Union, Local No. 82 is to organize all the above mentioned crafts employed in the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Industry of New York, and

Whereas, Since organized we have applied several times for affiliation with the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, and

Whereas, The Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, refused our request, which is a strict violation of the article 12, section 3 and 4 of the constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. which strictly provides for all locals of the same industry in the same city to form and be affiliated in a Joint Board, be it therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, order the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, to accept the application for affiliation to that body, of the Examiners, Begraders and Bushelers' Union, Local No. 82, within thirty days (30) days after the Convention.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 3.


Whereas, The raincoat industry of this country went through all kinds of troubles and struggles with its manufacturers, and

Whereas, After so many years of struggling the organized workers of the raincoat industry under the banner of the I. L. G. W. U. had succeeded to a great extent to improve the conditions in the organized centers, and

Whereas, There are many open shops yet existing which are trying their utmost to break up the said strong unions of the industry, and

Whereas, There are many thousands of workers in the Raincoat Industry working under the worst sweat-shop systems in different unorganized centers all over the country, that are controlled by trusts, and

Whereas, That in order to face the opposition of the raincoat manufacturers, to organize the said number of workers and to establish the same conditions which are prevailing in the organized centers, and in order to uphold the strength and the union conditions which we have now, after hard work, shall not be destroyed, therefore be it

Resolved, That a general organizer be appointed by this 14th biennial convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, to commence upon the immediate task of organizing throughout the country where waterproof garments are made.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 4.

Introduced by M. Zietz, Mary Goff, Lena Plow, Sadie Feinberg, Samuel Grakin, and Rose Ostet, delegates of Local 62.

Whereas, It is desirable to bring together the locals in closer touch outside of the ordinary trade Union problems and activities, and

Whereas, The International office is located in New York City, which is the just center of the Ladies' Garment Industry, be it therefore

Resolved, By the 14th Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union that a centrally located home for all the locals be established where the main office of the International should be housed and which should become the educational
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

center for all our locals. The incoming General Executive Board shall be authorized to form a special committee for this purpose, to investigate and to report on this matter to the next convention for the purpose of fully accomplishing this plan.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 5.

Introduced by New York Joint Board, Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union, Louis Langer, delegate.

Whereas, The workers employed in our industry are working under two systems, namely, week work and piece work, which is causing antagonism and disunion among the workers engaged under these two systems of work, and

Whereas, the piece work system divides its workers into shop Unions with diverse and conflicting interests, thereby making impossible for them to advance in their economic conditions as a Unit which undermines the very principle of trade Union solidarity, and

Whereas, The settling of prices between shops and workers makes it impossible for our Union to standardize the wages and earnings of our members in our industry, and

Whereas, The piece work system has created the sub-manufacturers which has broken apart shops of our industry into small fractions, thereby disintegrating our industry, and

Whereas, The settling of prices by the workers in their various shops tends to degrade and demoralize the character of our union as a consequence of their constant conflicts with their employers in the bartering and haggling for prices, and lose as a result their independence for fear that if they demand a price for their labor, their jobs may thus be endangered, and

Whereas, The piece work system makes the workers slaves of bundles, styles and difference in prices, thereby causing antagonism and disharmony among the ranks of the workers, and

Whereas, the prime object and purpose of a trade Union is to shorten the hours of labor and increase the wages of the workers, and

Whereas, the piece work system tends to create a working class psychology which works contrary to the very fundamental principles of trade unionism, and is, therefore, not concerned about hours and standards of wages, and

Whereas, The piece work system drives the workers to self-intensified slavery and exploitation and makes for jealousy caused by the lots, styles and big bundles for which they often reduce prices, and

Whereas, In many shops wherein the workers have failed to agree on the settling of prices, they have made week work agreements with their employers, thus proving week work as a practical solution of these problems, and

Whereas, The only solution which has thus far been reached as a remedy for the evils arising from the piece work system is the establishment of week work in our entire industry, and

Whereas, The members of New York who are working under the piece work system have by a referendum vote favored the establishment of week work in our industry, and

Whereas, The Joint Board of New York has as a result of that vote decided to call upon the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to approve the establishment of week work in our entire industry, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention goes on record in adopting the week work system in our entire industry which will make possible to remedy and minimize the evils resulting from piece work, to do away with the competition and friction among the shops and workers, employers and employees, standardize the hours and wages of our members in our industry, thus strengthening our International and its affiliated locals which will tend towards the uplifting of the economic, moral and spiritual standing of our members, thereby unify and sol-
Reflected the ranks of our members and forever wipe out groups and local interests and antagonism among piece and week workers in our entire Union.

Referred to Committee on Week Work.

Resolution No. 5.

Introduced by Miss C. Samarodin and Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The numerous trades controlled by our International Union are complicated by the very character of the ladies' garment industry, being seasonal and having many varieties of styles, and

Whereas, Because of these facts it is very often necessary to submit demands for increases in earnings and decrease of working hours to impartial arbitrators, and

Whereas, Such arbitrators are to be guided in their decisions by statistical data, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to establish a statistical department within the International Union.

Referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

Resolution No. 7.

Introduced by Miss Celia Samarodin and Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72.

Whereas, A Federal Amendment for woman suffrage was passed the House of Representatives, and

Whereas, The same amendment is pending before the U. S. Senate for passage, before it can be submitted to the legislatures of the states for ratification, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to communicate with the Vice-President of the United States and urge the passage of the amendment through him.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 8.

Introduced by Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72, Celia Samarodin, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The great national crisis in which this country is at present involved is affecting to a very serious degree the organizing work of the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods workers of Baltimore, and

Whereas, It is absolutely essential to organize the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods workers of Baltimore, for improvement of their conditions and for the benefit of those who have to compete with them, particularly New York and Philadelphia, and

Whereas, In Baltimore the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods work is done more cheaply than in the organized cities, — the workers in Baltimore often receiving one-third the wage, and

Whereas, The active members of Local No. 72 are convinced that if the organizing work which the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in connection with the Joint Board of Baltimore is carrying on among the workers of the trade will be continued in the future, a strong union of waist, dress and white goods workers will be organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled in Boston, in May, 1918, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to continue the organizing work in Baltimore with the assistance of the Joint Board of Baltimore.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 9.

Introduced by Sam Tauber, S. Rosenberg, I. Newman, Local No. 62, Los Angeles, Cal.

Whereas, We have in Los Angeles about 600 ladies' waistmakers and about 200 dressmakers and an unknown number of corset makers and ladies' shirtwaist makers, and

Whereas, We have tried to the best of our ability to organize them and did not succeed only because we did not have the financial means to do so, and
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, We would like to see all the workers organized, we therefore

Resolved, At a special meeting of our Union, to appeal for financial assistance in order to be able to organize the aforementioned trades, and we also appeal to the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to donate a substantial sum of money for that purpose, so we are sure to organize these trades in a short time.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 10.

Introduced by Dr. George M. Price, Secretary of the Union Sanitarium.

Whereas, Many of the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who fall prey to the proletarian disease, pulmonary consumption, are often unable to get proper medical and other care and are compelled to resort to private or public charity and become a burden to the community, and

Whereas, Locals No. 35, No. 9 and No. 23 of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union have for several years successfully established benefits for their tuberculous members, and have given certain benefits and care to these members, and

Whereas, A uniform care taking of the tuberculous workers in the shops is desirable, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, does hereby establish a special tuberculosis fund, with the purpose of owning and maintaining its own sanitarium and of taking care of tuberculous members of the Union, and be it further

Resolved, That each and every member of each and every local of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union be taxed $1.00 per annum for the creation of a run to establish and maintain the tuberculosis benefit and the Union Sanitarium of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Referred to Committee on Benefits and Sanitarium.

Resolution No. 11.

Introduced by request of Tobacco Workers' International Union.

Resolved, That we, the delegates to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, declare that we will use every effort through our International Union to cooperate and assist the Tobacco Workers' International Union in creating a greater demand for Union Label tobacco, snuff and cigarettes.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 12.


Whereas, The 12th and 13th Biennial Conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. have discussed the question of establishing a permanent branch of the I. L. G. W. U. in the middle West, and

Whereas, The establishing of such an office is absolutely necessary for the life of the organizations in existence and also a necessity for the cities where the trade is not yet organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board is hereby instructed to begin the organization of an office of this nature at once, and also to appropriate the necessary funds therefor.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 13.

Introduced by David Cohen, Baltimore Joint Board; Max Lipsch, Local No. 4; C. T. Brennan, Local No. 110; Joseph Tichy, Local No. 101; Celia Samorodin, Local No. 72.
Whereas, The Joint Board of the I. L. G. W. U. of Baltimore is now engaged in perfecting the organization of the four local unions in the City of Baltimore, and

Whereas, The said Joint Board has encountered numerous difficulties in the work in which it is engaged, particularly in the fact that there has recently become apparent a marked decrease in the membership of Local No. 4, Cloak Makers' Union, due to the manufacture of skirts in unorganized white goods shops at prices about half of what they would be if these shops were organized, and due also to the fact that a number of the shops are moving out of the city into small villages where the work is done by country girls at wages far below the Union standard, and

Whereas, Local No. 72, Waist, White Goods, Wrappers, Kimono and Dress Makers' Union is doing fairly well in its organization work; if not in gaining members, at least in forcing the manufacturers to raise wages in order to keep their employees out of the Union, so that the problem which this local now has to look out for is to educate the workers to the proposition that it must be to their interest to organize if the employers are willing to raise wages to prevent organization, and

Whereas, Local No. 101, Ladies' Tailors, although it has been in existence for the past three months and has succeeded in obtaining a raise of ten per cent in all shops, still finds it difficult to support itself during the slack season and faces particular difficulty in organizing the small shops in the downtown section of the City of Baltimore, where shops employ only one or two ladies' tailors, so that it is absolutely imperative that this local should have the assistance of the Joint Board and its organizers in working out its problems, and

Whereas, Local No. 110, Cutters' Union, is still in the early stages of its organization, having been compelled to spend four months agitating and explaining the benefits of organization and the value thereof to the workers and would even now be helpless without the aid of the Joint Board in perfecting its organization although it is doing excellent organization work, considering the fact that it is still a young local, and

Whereas, Since January 1st, 1918, when arrangements were made with the President of the I. L. G. W. U. for the support of a Joint Board of the locals of the City of Baltimore, the said Joint Board revived the interest of the members in their locals by the constant and unremitting efforts of the members of the said Joint Board, and it is evident that without the help of the Joint Board the locals in Baltimore must go out of existence and further that it is still impossible for these locals themselves to support the said Joint Board financially, sufficiently to enable it to continue its existence; be it therefore

Resolved, By the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. that the General Executive Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to continue the financial aid to the Joint Board of Baltimore, as agreed upon by Benj. Schlesinger, President of this body, with the said Joint Board; and further, that this financial aid shall continue until, in the opinion of the General Executive Board, the locals of the City of Baltimore are able to support themselves in their organizing work.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 14.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del. Local No. 22.

Whereas, The initiation fee charges for applicants for membership to locals of our International Union vary in the different locals, and

Whereas, This state of affairs tends to create rivalry, and, in some cases, ill feeling, which hampers the progress of our organizations; be it therefore

Resolved, That all locals of the I. L. G. W. U., of a given city or town, establish a uniform initiation fee charge.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 15.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Morris Josephson, Louis Pinkofsky, Philip Fest, Harry Miller, delegates of Local No. 22.
Whereas, The skirt trade all over the country— is not thoroughly organized and 
skirts are being made under very poor conditions, and

Whereas, This condition creates competition with the organized workers of the 
various cities, especially of New York, and

Whereas, The skirt trade is next in importance to the cloak trade, which is thor-
ously organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled
in Boston, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to take the first step in 
organizing the skirt industry all over the 
country.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 16.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del. Local 
No. 23.

Whereas, The Constitution of the I. L.
G. W. U. prohibits any of its locals from 
incorporating, and

Whereas, The experience taught us that 
the serious trouble in Local No. 1 was main-
ly due to its incorporation, making it im-
possible for the International to take the 
steps necessary under the conditions that 
prevailed, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct 
Local No. 11, which is incorporated, to an-
null its incorporation, and be it further

Resolved, That if any local union afili-
ated with the I. L. G. W. U. incorporates, it 
shall be subject to immediate expulsion.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 17.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del. Local 
No. 23.

Whereas, The Socialist Party is the only 
party that represents the workers in the political field, and

Whereas, The Socialist Party depends 
upon the people of the working class for 
its success, and

Whereas, It has been realized that if 
solidarity prevails among the workers they 
can achieve their goal, as has been proven 
at the last election in the City of New 
York, and

Whereas, The coming election is very im-
portant, being a Congressional election, and

Whereas, Congress is the body that can 
make good legislation, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial 
Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. endorses 
the Socialist Party and exercises all possible 
means of urging and encouraging its mem-
bers to devote their energy to this cause, 
for the purpose of bringing about success-
ful results in the coming elections.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 18.

Introduced by: Phillip Kaplowitz, Local 
No. 1; Max Brodfield, Local No. 23; M. 
Finkelstein, Local No. 11.

Whereas, Our country is now engaged in 
a war, the purpose of which is to make the 
world safe for democracy; and

Whereas, Our brothers, friends and 
countrymen are fighting on the battlefields 
in France; and

Whereas, Many of us assembled here may 
be there in the near future; and

Whereas, The American Red Cross or-
ganization has taken upon itself the task of 
raising a fund of One Hundred Million Dol-
ars for the relief of the suffering and 
wounded of this war; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention, assem-
bled in Boston, go on record to recommend 
to its members and to the local unions af-
iliated with our International, to partici-
pate in this drive to the utmost of their 
ability; be it further

Resolved, That this Convention donate 
the sum of Five Hundred Dollars for this 
noble cause.

Referred to Committee on War Sufferers.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Resolution No. 19.

Introduced by: H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; S. Greenspan, Local No. 54; A. Plotkin, Local No. 71.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has been holding conventions every two years; and

Whereas, A great expense is involved by holding these conventions both to the International and to the locals, and as a result, many of the smaller locals cannot be represented; and

Whereas, According to the Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U., the General Executive Board has the power to call a special convention whenever they deem it necessary; be it, therefore

Resolved, That a regular convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union be held every three years instead of every two years.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 20.

Introduced by: H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; A. Plotkin, Local No. 71; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; S. Greenspan, Local No. 54.

Whereas, Almost every International Union of this country has its own building; and

Whereas, It would give the International great prestige among its members and the people in general to have its own building; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union decides that every member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union should work one day and donate that day's earnings for this purpose; be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be empowered to name the day.

Referred to the Committee on Resolution.

Resolution No. 21.

Introduced by Rose Weiss, Local No. 100; H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; A. Gold, Local No. 44; M. Janovits, J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; J. H. Plotkin, Local No. 71; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18.

Whereas, Our trade in Chicago is still unorganized, despite the heroic efforts made in the winter of 1917, and

Whereas, The conditions prevailing in the waist, dress, skirt and white goods industry are still such as to undermine conditions in organized cities, and

Whereas, It is our conviction that the sentiment among the workers in our industry is ripe for new action, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. empower the General Executive Board to start a general campaign for organization, and call a general strike if necessary.

Referred to Committee on Report of Officers.

Resolution No. 22.

Whereas, During the last two years attempts have been made by our local organization to organize the ladies' garment workers of Hartford, in which we were assisted by the International Union from time to time; and

Whereas, We have always asked the International Office to grant us the services of an organizer for a few months in our city, a request which has not been granted to us; and

Whereas, We are confident that with the assistance of the International Union we could in a short time manage to enroll 600 workers within our local in the city of Hartford; be it, therefore
Resolved, That we request the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to grant our request and to assist us in organizing every man and woman in the city of Hartford. 

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 23.

Introduced by delegates of Local No. 3:

Whereas, in order to insure its own existence every union must safeguard the interests of its members on the economic field; and

Whereas, in order to do this, every union must, among other things, try to improve the means of finding employment for its members, something which has not been done heretofore; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in Convention assembled, adopts the principle of establishing employment bureaus wherever its locals are located, and instructs the incoming General Executive Board to put this resolution into effect in the near future.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 24.

Introduced by: M. Wiener, Local No. 3; S. Pitchesky, Local No. 3; Max Kurtz, Local No. 3; M. Wertheimer, Local 3; S. Lefkovits; Frank Magnavitn, Local No. 80; S. Cohen, Local No. 80; B. Chazanow, Local No. 80.

Whereas, After due consideration the Executive Boards of Locals No. 3 and No. 80 have become convinced that the trades controlled by these organizations are practically identical, not only because members of one local work in shops of the other, but also because the work itself is very much the same; and

Whereas, The existence of two locals causes friction between the members on account of the issue of transfers, also dissatisfaction because members of one local work in shops of the other, as well as it lessens the effectiveness of each through division of efforts and waste of money and energy; and

Whereas, After a long period of agitation conducted by these two locals, the members, have finally decided by a referendum vote to amalgamate these two locals and have already, upon President Schlesinger's advice, temporarily formed a joint council; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention endorses the amalgamation of these two locals into one, and empower the General Executive Board to issue one charter immediately after the Convention.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 25.

Introduced by: Henry Zucker, Sarah Spanier, J. Goldstein, Local No. 41.

Whereas, The House-Dress, Kimono and Bathrobe Makers' Union, Local No. 41 of New York, consisting of about twelve hundred dues paying members, with shops spread in different localities of Greater New York and New Jersey, making the expense to be about the same as their income; and

Whereas, There are in the city of New York about two thousand Syrians and about seven hundred Spanish workers who are working in unorganized shops under lower standards than the workers in the organized shops, which causes competition among the manufacturers in the trade and threatens the existence of the Union; and

Whereas, At the Philadelphia Convention it was resolved to instruct the General Executive Board to appoint a Syrian and Spanish organizer, and with all the possible help of Local No. 41 to try and organize the entire house-dress, kimono and negligee trade; and

Whereas, The International Union, having been involved in a number of stubborn, prolonged and expensive strikes since the last convention, making it impossible to
Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to carry out the decision of Resolution No. 92 of the Philadelphia Convention, without fail.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 26.

Introduced by: H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18.

Whereas, Through experience, we have learned that there is no absolute necessity for the General Executive Board to meet every three months; and

Whereas, A General Executive Board meeting usually costs a considerable amount of money; and

Whereas, The New York Board meets every month regularly; and

Whereas, The President has it within his power to call a special Executive Board meeting whenever he thinks necessary; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the meetings of the General Executive Board be held every six months.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 27.

Introduced by: H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; J. H. Piotkin, Local No. 71; Rose Weiss, Local No. 100; M. Yanovits, Local No. 100; S. Greenspun, Local No. 54.

Whereas, The Daily World has always proved loyal to the interest of the workers in general and to the trade unions in particular; be it, therefore

Resolved, By the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to support financially and morally, and to call upon all affiliated organizations to assist the Daily World in every way possible in order that it shall be of the greatest assistance and usefulness to the organized labor movement of Chicago.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 28.

Introduced by: S. Koldofsky, Joint Board of Toronto; Max Schur, J. Kazatchkof, H. Kruger, Local No. 14; H. Kirsner, E. Friedman, Local No. 52; M. Samuels, Local No. 70; Chas. Edwards, Local No. 83; and S. Labensohn, Joint Board of Montreal.

Whereas, There has recently been organized a Greater Independent Labor Party in the Dominion of Canada, along the lines of the Independent Labor Party of England; and

Whereas, This Party has already, during the short period of its existence, gained a great following and has aroused a deep interest among the workers of Canada; and

Whereas, President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, has taken upon himself the mission to come to Canada and to make speeches from the platform of the Dominion Parliament and the Canadian Club against the Independent Labor Party of Canada, urging upon the workers not to support it and not to act independently in the politics of the country; be it, therefore

Resolved, That we repudiate this action on the part of President Gompers as meddlesome and unwise, and recommend to our Canadian locals to study the platform of the Independent Labor Party and to give it all assistance and support, if deserved.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 29.

Introduced by: M. Zeitz, Lena Plow, Samuel Grakin, Rose Oster, Sadie Feinberg and Mary Goff, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, Numerous committees from shops where handkerchiefs are manufactured have come to the New York White Goods Workers' Union, Local No. 62, with the request to help them organize their trade; and

Whereas, Local No. 62 has already undertaken a campaign in these shops and has succeeded in organizing a few of them through strikes and introduced better working conditions among them; and

Whereas, This trade, which employs largely women, is one of the worst in New York City, as regards wages, working hours and treatment by the employers; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to give Local No. 62 all possible assistance to organize this trade and to bring the handkerchief workers into the organized family of our International Union.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 30.

Introduced by: M. Zietz, S. Grakin, S. Grakin, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Lena Plow and Sadie Feinberg, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, The white goods industry is at present scattered all over the cities and towns of the United States; and

Whereas, It is generally admitted that the main center of this trade, New York City, can not be completely organized unless the shops in the various other cities are brought under the control of the Union; and

Whereas, The International has in the past realized this fully and has gained material achievements in this organizing work; be it, therefore

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the New York White Goods Workers Union, Local No. 62, extend our thanks to the International for the many attempts it has made to organize the white goods workers all over the country; and be it further

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instructs the incoming Executive Board to place a special organizer in the field to conduct the organization work among the white goods workers all over the country.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 31.

Introduced by: M. Zietz, S. Grakin, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Lena Plow and Sadie Feinberg, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, The forty-eight hour work week has already become a fact in our trade; and

Whereas, There are already other trades in the ladies' Garment industry where the forty-eight hour work week is prevalent; and

Whereas, These facts point to the right direction of the progress of our International Union as regards the shortening of the work day of the men and women engaged in our industries; and

Whereas, Our International has reached a sufficiently influential stage of growth and power to enforce a demand for a still shorter work day; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to begin a campaign all over the country for a forty-four hour work week, divided as follows: nine hours during the first four days of the week and eight hours on the fifth day,—the work week to consist only of five days.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, Two members of Local No. 2, Joseph Beaver and Chas. Schwartz, were sentenced three years ago for a term of coming General Executive Board to consider and report on:

Resolution No. 32.

Whereas, The majority of the locals of the International Ladles' Garment Workers' Union have a definite purpose to form corporations which they should do.

Resolution No. 33.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 34.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 35.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 36.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 37.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 38.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.

Resolution No. 39.

Whereas, Sick benefit does not only protect the member in case of sickness, but also keeps the organization strong to the utmost advantage.
creates favorable sentiment toward organization and brings new life amongst the workers of the Ladies’ Garment Industry in the cities where the Conventions are held; and

Whereas, The general membership does not show the proper interest when voting upon the question of where the Convention shall be held; this resulting many times that the Convention is not held in a city urgently in need of same; and

Whereas, The delegates taking part in the proceedings of one Convention are most competent to judge where the next Convention shall be held; therefore be it

Resolved, That Section 1, Article III, of the Constitution of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union be amended to read as follows:

The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union shall meet biennially, in General Convention on the third Monday in May at 9.00 A. M. The place of holding such a Convention shall be decided upon at the last Convention. At least three (3) cities shall be proposed by the Delegates and submitted to them to a vote.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 39.

Introduced by: A. J. Miller, delegate of Local No. 31.

Whereas, Local No. 31 of Louisville, Ky., has during the few months of its existence succeeded in organizing a considerable portion of the local cloakmakers; and

Whereas, It is highly desirable that the cloak trade in Louisville, which consists of over three hundred men and women, should be organized, both for the sake of the local trade and the cloak trade in general; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to organize the cloakmakers of Louisville who are eager to become a part of our great International Union and to enjoy the improved standards and blessings which come to workers when they are united.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 40.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 10. Add after the fifth word of the seventh line of Article 17, Section IV of the Constitution, the following words:

“providing he shall pass the necessary local examinations.”

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 41.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 10. Change Section X, Article 3, to read as follows:

“No member shall be eligible as delegate to the Convention unless he or she has been employed in the ladies’ garment industry for a period of at least six months within the year immediately preceding the Convention.”

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 42.

Introduced by: Morris Weiner, delegate of Local No. 3.

Change the first part of Section 13, Article XII, to read as follows:

“No local union shall have the right to make any payments out of its regular revenue, such as dues, initiation fees, fines or assessments, for any other purpose except regular expenditure of the union, for any strike benefits, donations or other labor organizations, and organizations of the Socialist movement.”

Resolution No. 43.

Introduced by: Bp. Gilbert, delegate of Local No. 33.
Whereas, There are a great number of unorganized women in the skirt, waist and dress industries in the city of St. Louis, Mo., be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to appoint a woman organizer for the city of St. Louis to carry on effective organizing agitation among them.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 44

Introduced by the delegation of Local No. 10.

Whereas, Our International Union is one of the biggest labor organizations in the country; and

Whereas, Our organization is known all over the country as a progressive international union; and

Whereas, We have failed in the past to exert our full measure of influence upon the shaping of policies of the American Labor movement; and

Whereas, The central and state labor bodies of the several cities and states are the official spokesmen of organized labor for their respective territories; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board instructs all our affiliated locals to join such central and state labor bodies in their respective localities, to the end that the International Union, through its locals, may exert its full share of influence toward the adoption of progressive labor policies.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 45.

Introduced by the delegation of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The workers are the creative force of wealth in the nation and contribute toward its industrial growth and development; and

Whereas, The workers contribute their all without receiving an adequate share of the fruits of their labor for themselves and their families in case of physical inability to continue their work; and

Whereas, In the absence of proper provision for caring for the physically incapacitated workers, these become public charges; and

Whereas, It has been generally recognized that the most effective method to uplift and maintain the morale of the nation as a whole as well as its individual citizens, is to care for such of its workers who may become physically unable to earn a livelihood; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the delegates of our International Union to the American Federation of Labor are instructed to introduce a resolution at its conventions urging an adoption by the Government, of a national system of social insurance.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 46.

Introduced by the delegations of the Baltimore locals.

Whereas, Local No. 38, Cloakmakers' Union of Cumberland, Md., is in its progress of organization and is composed of women workers only; and

Whereas, The employers, for the purpose of intimidating the girls and in order to keep them out of the Union, have closed down the shop without giving any reason; and

Whereas, The majority of the members of Local No. 38 are women who are entirely dependent upon their weekly earnings for their support; and

Whereas, The earnings of these members average not more than $7.00 per week; be it, therefore,
Resolved, That this Convention appropriates a sum of money and directs the General Secretary to send Miss Anna Neary, our organizer, to Cumberland for the purpose of assisting financially those of the members of Local No. 38 who are in need.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 47.

Introduced by the delegations of Locals No. 73, No. 24, No. 56 and No. 12.

Whereas, The Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. grants its local unions full jurisdiction over the particular branch of their trade in each city; and

Whereas, Local No. 49, Waistmakers' Union of Boston, has among its membership workers other than waistmakers, such as cutters, skirt makers and pressers; and

Whereas, The interests of the Cutters' Local Union, Local No. 73; Skirtmakers' Union, No. 24, and Pressers' Union, No. 12, of the city of Boston, require that all workers of their crafts be members of their respective locals under their own jurisdiction; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That Local No. 49 be instructed to immediately transfer all such cutters, skirt makers and pressers now on their books; and be it further

Resolved, That all shop grievances filed by members belonging to locals affiliated with the Joint Board of Boston working in shops of Local No. 49, shall be attended to through the office of the Joint Board.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 48.

Introduced by the delegations of Montreal and Toronto, and Brothers S. Lefkovits, J. Halpert and Max Amdur.

Whereas, The general strike of the cloakmakers of Montreal, which was called by the order of the General Executive Board in January, 1917, ended after a very severe struggle lasting fourteen weeks, unfavorably for the workers of Montreal; and

Whereas, Before that strike the cloakmakers of Montreal could boast of an organization that had in its ranks ninety-five per cent of the workers of the entire trade, and owing to the unfavorable ending of the strike this membership has fallen away to a great extent, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, having taken the Montreal situation into consideration, decided to start a campaign to reorganize the cloakmakers of that city, and

Whereas, The G. E. B. started a campaign in Montreal in April, 1918, by sending Vice-President Lefkovits to manage the agitation in said city, which is already bringing good results, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention takes these facts into consideration and instructs the incoming G. E. B. to continue the organizing campaign already on the way in Montreal, until it meets with full success.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

Resolution No. 49.

Introduced by the Delegations of the Toronto and Montreal locals.

Whereas, The Canadian Jewish Labor Gazette is the only newspaper of its kind financed by voluntary contributions from Jewish labor organizations of Canada and particularly of Toronto; and

Whereas, This Jewish Labor Gazette is the product of the imminent necessity for such a publication in Canada, caused through the ban on the Jewish Daily Forward and other weekly newspapers from the United States; be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention extends its financial and moral support to the publication of the Canadian Jewish Labor Gazette.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Resolution No. 50.

Introduced by: M. Perlstein, Local No. 63; D. Solomon, Local No. 26; J. Porus, Local No. 26; G. Kreindler, Joint Board of Cleveland; H. Schoolman, Joint Board of Chicago; B. Gilbert, Local No. 78; C. Green, Local No. 63; F. Nemerovsky and Ida Renner, Local No. 63; L. Friend and W. Flaum, Local No. 67; L. Langer, New York Joint Board; Meyer Weinsten, Local No. 22; A. Gold, Local No. 44; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; J. Plotkin, Local No. 71; J. Menoff, Local No. 18; A. Axelrod, Local No. 18; J. Menke, Local No. 81; H. Kurland, Local No. 73; Morris Levine, Local No. 100; William Bloom, Local No. 1; B. Kaplowitz, Local No. 1; M. Kaufman, Manager; M. Kaplan, Local No. 2; M. Silver, Local No. 16; M. Weiner, Local No. 3; M. Kuschner, Local No. 9; and H. Schuster, Local No. 9.

Whereas, The cloakmakers of Cleveland are still working longer hours and are receiving lower wages than the cloakmakers in other cities, and

Whereas, An agitation has been conducted in Cleveland for the last four years to organize the cloakmakers, and

Whereas, After many difficulties and expenses, the workers of the different shops at different times did organize and elect committees in order to reach some understanding with their employers, and have met, not only with the refusal of the employers to deal with them, but in many instances these committees were discharged and blacklisted and forced to leave the city on this account, and

Whereas, All those who have worked to organize the cloakmakers and the workers themselves, came to the conclusion that the only way to improve conditions and to establish a permanent organization in that city is through a general struggle in the cloak and skirt trades in the city of Cleveland and vicinity, and

Whereas, It has also been proven that through peaceful methods and individual shop strikes these aims could not be accomplished, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention endorses a general strike in the cloak and skirt trades in Cleveland and instructs the incoming G. E. D. to begin preparations for same at once, and be it further

Resolved, That in order to be able to carry through financially the above mentioned general strike, that all the members of the I. L. G. W. U. be assessed with $1.00 for this purpose.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Report.

FOURTH DAY—THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 9.30 A. M., Thursday, May 23rd, 1918—President Benj. Schlesinger in Chair.

TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Boston, Mass., May 22, 1918
A. Baroff, Boston, Mass., Convention Hall.
General Executive Members and Delegates—Greetings. Accept our most heartyest congratulations to the fourteenth biennial convention of the I. L. G. W. U. Wish you all a pleasant sojourn and hope our resolutions will meet with your approval.

Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, Local Seven, I. L. G. W. U.
D. Kaplan, Manager.

New York, May 21, 1918
The Fur Workers of New York send their greetings and blessings to your organization and delegates assembled in Convention. May your deliberations and great work for the furtherance and advancements of the interests of your members be fruitful and successful.

Joint Board Furriers' Unions
M. Kaufman, Manager.
New York, May 22, 1918

Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,

Accept our congratulations to the fourteenth convention. Progress of your work in the past has proven to us what we may expect in the future.

Isadore Saremsky,
Sec'y Embroidery Workers' Union,
Local Six.

Hartford, Ct., May 22, 1918

Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers,
Boston, Mass.

Hearty greetings, success and final emancipation from wage slavery.

Jewish Branch Socialist Party.

New York, May 22, 1918

Fourteenth Biennial Convention Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

The great work accomplished by your organization is an important step in the elevation of all the clothing industries and a great contribution to the progress of the American labor movement. May your convention crown the successful work of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and pave the way for the further unhampered betterment of the conditions of the ladies' garment workers and the progress of organized labor.

M. Zuckerman. General Sec.
United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers

New York, May 22, 1918

A. Baroff, Sec'y 14th Biennial Convention
I. L. G. W. U.

Comrades—We are with you with our hearts and souls. We are confident that the work and legislation of this convention will bring still more solidarity and harmony within our ranks, and will also put our big international union on a still more famous pedestal than it was ever before. Three cheers for organized labor! Long live our great, beloved International Union!

L. Finkelstein.
For the Editorial Staff and Management of the New Post.

New York, May 22, 1918

Abraham Baroff, Sec'y Convention International Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

May your deliberations result in strengthening the labor movement as a whole and the International in particular.

Elies Lieberman.

Hartford, Conn., May 23, 1918

International Ladies' Garment Workers,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations, best wishes to your fourteenth biennial convention. Wish you successful administration.

Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Local 68, of Hartford,
Samuel Sockut, President.

New York, May 22, 1918

Mr. Schlesinger, Convention Hall,
Mr. President and Delegates, 14th Biennial Convention, I. L. G. W. U.—The Executive Board of Local 17 expresses acknowledgment and admiration for the unparalleled achievements our International has attained for its members, with full hopes of confident promises for a better future in the needle industries. We send to you our best wishes and congratulations and now when the fate of thousands of workers is determined, we ask from the Convention justice for our Local. The integrity of our Local means happiness to thousands of families.

Jos. Stankewich,
Chairman Executive Board

New York, May 22, 1918

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

Greetings and good wishes from New York office of the Los Angeles Sanatorium to all delegates at convention.

N. Kaplan, Manager.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918

Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
Boston, Mass.

Heartiest congratulations to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention.

Front Cutters of Reichman's Shop.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Chicago, Ill., May 22, 1918.

Convention of Intl. Ladies' Garments' Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston.

After years of hard endeavor to organize again our ladies' tailoring trade in Chicago, we at last succeeded for next season to start a general movement to unionize the entire trade. We must, therefore, get your financial and moral help. Please hear the resolution of our delegate and act accordingly.

Ladies' Tailors Union, Local 71,
A. Jocobovitz, Sec'y.

Phila., Pa., May 22, 1918.

A. BAROFF, Sec'y.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

May we have great success in our movement in the future as we have had in the past. From the employees of SCHLIENS SHOP,
Phila., Pa.

BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER,
President Ladies Garment Workers' Union.

Straw Panama Hat Workers' Local No. 3, United Hatters of North America, sends its fraternal greetings and requests the members of your International to look for the union label of the United Hatters of North America when purchasing straw or Panama Hats.

J. T. MENENDEZ, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

PRES. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations to the organization that has helped make history of the working class. May all its deliberations be crowned with success in the future as it has been in the past.

ADA ROSENFELT,
Complaint Clerk, Local 15.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union:
Congratulations and success to our international.

I. LITVAKOFF,
Chairman of Cutters' Executive Board,
Local 15, Philadelphia, Pa.

New York, May 23, 1918.

MR. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
President of I. L. I. W. Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Accept our heartiest greetings to the 14th Biennial Convention of our glorious International. We sincerely wish you, Mr. President, and delegates successful and fruitful work at the present convention with the hope that the charter of Local 17 will remain untouched.

The Workers of the Juvenile Cloak Co.

New York, May 22, 1918.

B. SCHLESINGER, President:
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Mr. President and delegates of the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. With the great flood of best wishes and hearty congratulations that have come to you from organized labor throughout the country, we beg to send our best wishes and express our great admiration for the great work you have performed. The work of the International is the work of its locals. Long live the International, long live the local 17!

Employees Spindel & Rosenthal,
JOSEPH STANKEVICH,
Chairman Operators Dept.
HARRY LOEB COHEN,
Chairman Cutters Dept.
P. H. RABINOWITZ,
Pressers Dept.
E. SCHYER,
Finishers Dept.
MAXIM RUBIN,
Examiners Dept.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 22-23, 1918.

A. B. BAROFF,
Secretary, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations and best wishes for successful work done and yet to be done in our trade throughout the United States and Canada including even Los Angeles and San Francisco.

SAM'l. TAUBER, Sec'y of Local 52.
Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

PRES. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
I. L. G. W. Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: My heartiest congratulations on the 14th Convention. I wish the convention the best success in all their deliberations.

HYMAN KAPLAR,
Financial Sec'y, Local No. 15.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

PRES. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
I. L. G. W. U., Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Long live our International! It has lightened the burden of many. May it continue with its victory.

Workers of Isadore Schmidt,

Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

PRES. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
I. L. G. W. U., Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention. May you have the success in the future as in the past.

Workers of Livitts Shop,
Members Local 15.

Cleveland, O., May 22, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention. May you have the success in the future as in the past.

Workers of Prince Wolf Co.

Chicago, Ill., May 22, 1918.

ABR. BAROFF, Secretary:
Convention of International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Boston, Mass.
The National Women's Trade Union League sends greetings to the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in convention assembled and hopes that the legislation enacted by your convention will not only be of benefit to the great number of workers in the needle trades but to our movement as a whole.

EMMA STEGHAGEN, Secretary.

New York, May 22, 1918.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: The Board of Directors of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America appreciating your valuable aid sends you greetings on the occasion of your 14th Biennial Convention. We hope your deliberations will be harmonious and beneficial to your organization whose accomplishments have been far-reaching, and prove also of benefit to humanity at large.

JOHN L. BERNSTEIN, President.

New York, May 22, 1918.

A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Congratulations, May our International continue to be as it has been in the past a torch of enlightenment of the American Labor Movement on its way to progress and complete labor emancipation.

S. SHORE, Manager.
M. LIFSHITZ, Secretary.

New York, May 22, 1918.

The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations, May your deliberations be harmonious and beneficial to your organization whose accomplishments have been far-reaching, and prove also of benefit to humanity at large.

M. SAMSON,
Chairman of Local 80, Examiners.

Toledo, Ohio, May 22, 1918.

A. BAROFF,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

We greet the delegations of the Fourteenth Biennial Convention. We wish you to carry out the planned work of the convention successfully for the welfare of all the members of our organization and for the great principle it is standing for.

M. SHAPIRO, Chairman.
S. KAPLAN, Secretary.
Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1918.

PRES. BENJ. SCHLESINGER,
I. L. G. W. U., Convention Hall, Boston.

Our International has been the pride of the working class. May it continue its wonderful work and all its undertakings be crowned with the success it so justly deserves.

Waist, Silk Suit and Children's Dressmakers Union, Local 15.

New York, May 22, 1918.

A. BAROFF, Convention Hall, Boston.

Accept our congratulations upon the steady progress of our International. May your deliberations help bring a better day for the many thousands of our members and with them—the entire working class.

The Cloak Finishers' Union, Local No. 9,
N. M. MINKOW, Sec'y.

New York, May 22, 1918.

International Convention, Boston, Mass.: Greetings and best wishes to the delegates of the Fourteenth Biennial Convention. May your thoughtful and careful deliberations result in the uplifting and betterment of the members of our organization. We hope that all serious disputes and misunderstandings will be overshadowed by your sincere and deep interests in the common cause which is the welfare of our members.

J. RUBIN.
J. WARSHAWSKY.

New York, May 22, 1918.

Executive Board Local 64.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 22, 1918.

Heartiest congratulations. May your deliberations in the future be crowned with best results. With sincere regards to all delegates.

S. ZLOTCHIN, Ex-Vice-President.

Toronto, Ont., May 22, 1918.

Ladies' Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Heartiest congratulations upon your successful work in the past, and our best wishes for all your future plans to better the conditions of labor in your industry.

The Toronto Jewish Labor Gazette.
tion of your splendid organization. The progressive labor movement has followed with great interest your battles and victories, sharing your joys and sorrows. We send you our most heartfelt wishes for continued success and ever greater achievements for your great membership and also for a united American labor movement.

JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG,
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

New York, May 22, 1918.

The President International Ladies Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.:

Please convey my hearty congratulations and best wishes to your great and splendid convention. I have been promising myself to greet it in person in the name of the Jewish Daily Forward, but physical indisposition compels me to forego the pleasure. Your body is one of the most wonderful organizations of labor in the world. It is the pride of advanced and thinking working men. In the name of your marvelous achievement, brave struggles and glorious victories, I have the honor of voicing the fraternal feelings, ardent affections of our multitude of readers.

ABRAHAM CAHAN.

The following resolutions were introduced during this session and referred to the various committees for action:

RESOLUTION NO. 51.

Introduced by C. Yandoli, L. Antonini, A. Grivello and S. Amico, Delegates of Local No. 25.

Whereas, Difficulties prevail among the Italian members of Local 25 due to many hardships experienced in transacting business with their Jewish sisters and brothers; and

Whereas, A great number of Italian workers in the waist and dress shops are disorganized and refuse to respond to union calls, with the excuse that they are not going to belong to a union guided by people of different race and creed; and

Whereas, The active Italian union workers attribute their failure to organize the Italian non-union workers for they cannot be understood either in character or in language by the brothers and sisters of other nationality and especially by the Executive Board of Local 25; and

Whereas, A great number of Italian waist and dressmakers are sensitive to self-government, as were the Italian Cloak Makers before having a local of their own (Local 48) which has surprised the Jewish sisters and brothers with their great success and the large enrollment of members and the activity in the movement; and

Whereas, Local 48 has been recognized by the leaders of the New York Joint Board and of the International as a big factor in the movement, be it therefore

Resolved: That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. grants to the Italian element in the Waist and Dress industry in the City of New York a local union with the same power and privilege as all other locals under the I. L. G. W. U.; and be it further

Resolved: That the said local be instituted not later than September 1st, 1918, on which date the G. E. B. will have compiled the proportionate funds belonging to them, minus the proportion used in running expenses of Local 25 up to the time of their withdrawal.

It is the opinion of the members of the Italian Advisory Board of Local 25, who have instructed the movers of this resolution, that under no other circumstances the Italian element of the Waist and Dress industry can be organized otherwise.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 52.

Introduced by Local No. 1 delegation: Wm. Bloom, Ph. Kaplowitz, Israel Feinberg.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.,

Harry Wagner, M. J. Ashplst, S. J. Ringer, M. Wolberg, S. Sapin, N. Heins, A. Student,

Whereas, The shops controlled by Local No. 17 which have originated as reefer and
inginfants' wear shops, have branched out in
the production of regular cloaks, garments, and that the tendency of the cloak industry
of New York with regards to Local No. 17
shops is drifting towards a condition in
which the manufacturers controlled by Local
No. 17 are ever embracing a larger part
in the production of regular cloaks and
garments, thus eradicating the distinction
of work made in Local No. 17 shops and
those of the Joint Board; and

Whereas, The shops controlled by Local
No. 17 have, as a result of their develop-
ment in the manufacturing of regular
cloaks garments, been in need of an ever
larger number of Local No. 1 operators to
enable them to produce these cloaks gar-
ments; and

Whereas, Local No. 17, desiring to main-
tain the exclusive and separate control of
these shops, has found against its local in-
terests to permit members of other locals
to obtain employment in their shops, and
has applied on many occasions illegal
means and methods in forcing transfers
from those members of Local No. 1 who
were called upon by the manufacturers to
produce these cloaks garments, and have
also in many instances taken in members
of Local No. 1 before and after the reor-
ganization with the formality of a transfer,
thus violating Article XVII, section 1; and

Whereas, Local No. 17 assuming the con-
trol and jurisdiction over these shops, is
taking upon itself the authority of dictat-
ing terms and arrangements on its own ac-
cord, which are conflicting with those
shops controlled by the Joint Board, disre-
garding the effect it may have upon the
industry as a whole; and

Whereas, The fundamental principle up
on which a labor union is based is working
class solidarity: while the existence of two
local unions whose members are engaged
in the operating of the same kind of work
tends to divide its members into two hos-
tile and antagonistic camps, thereby mak-
ing impossible for our Union to function
as a unit; and

Whereas, It is incumbent upon the In-
ternational to solidify its affiliated locals
in order that it may be able to function as
a unit; and

Whereas, The disputes of local jurisdic-
tions have taken up the floor of all preced-
ing conventions of the International since
the inception of our Union and have thus
far affiliated to definitely settle them; and

Whereas, the Joint Board of the cloak
and skirt makers' Union of New York has
introduced a resolution calling upon the
convention of the International to take up
the controversies and jurisdictional dis-
putes between Local No. 1 and No. 17 as
a result of the frictions and dimensions of
these two contending locals which makes
impossible for the Joint Board and its af-
fliliated locals to carry on its work with-
out obstructions, therefore be it

Resolved, That the International should
as a permanent solution of this problem
merge Local No. 1 and No. 17 Into one
local, thereby consolidating the two locals
which will serve to strengthen and solidify
the ranks of these two locals and forever
eradicate the prevalent feeling of antagonist
ism among those members which obstruct
the work and activities of our entire Union,

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

CHARGES OF VIOLATIONS AND INSUB-
ORDINATIONS OF LOCAL NO. 17.

Within the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York City, Brought by Lo-
cal No. 1.

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers of
New York City wishes to submit the fol-
lowing list of charges with regards to the
Local No. 17 controversy, dating after the
reorganization of Local No. 1, September
15th, 1917, by your General Executive
Board:

(1) After the General Executive Board of
the I. L. G. W. U. has decided at its last
meeting on November 10, 1917, that all members of all the locals affiliated with the Joint Board should have the same right and privileges to work in the shops controlled by the Joint Board without the formality of transfers, Local No. 17 willfully violated that decision and persistently forced Local No. 1 members to transfer to its local. Even after our weekly dues were raised to 25¢, for you will recall that one of the reasons they offered in prohibiting Local No. 1 members to work in their shops was the difference in dues payments.

(2) Local No. 17 has for a considerable time, before and after the reorganization of Local No. 1, taken Local No. 1 members into Local No. 17, realizing the constitutional formality of transfers, and we wish to call your attention to a number of cases which occurred shortly after Local No. 1 was re-organized.

(3) On October 12, 1917, the attention of the Joint Board was called to the fact that in the shops of H. Seidenberg and Simon Friedman, members of Local No. 17, Local No. 17 members were taken in for a few dollars, as members of Local No. 17, without transfers and that arrears in dues due to Local No. 1 were made good by the same local.

These members, it was explained at that meeting, first went to Bismow, the leader of the expelled group of people from Local No. 1, to consult as to what they should do, for they had two alternatives, either to register their Union books with the International Local No. 1 or become members of Local No. 17. Bismow advised them not to register their books with the International local for they would thus give recognition to that local, and that should not become members of Local No. 17.

Local No. 17 did not even attempt to defend its position, but on the contrary, they defended their actions, and Brother Mox, Manager of Local No. 17, one of the International Vice-Presidents, who voted for the expulsion and reorganization of Local No. 1, defended their actions on the ground that the expelled Local No. 1 has the membership and the International charter.

Local No. 17, realizing the dangerous position in which it was placed by Local No. 17's actions, especially in that critical moment, just after its reorganization has sent on October 16th, 1917, a communication to the International, protesting against Local No. 17 for violating both the constitution of the International and the decision rendered on August 24, 1917, in which it distinctly said: Members of both locals respectively should be permitted to work without transfer. Local No. 1 has at all times lived up to that decision.

(4) On October 16, 1917, the General Executive Board decided that Local No. 17 must be under the same control and on the same basis, as all other locals affiliated with the Joint Board and that all its shop relevances must be directly adjusted by the Joint Board instead of the office of Local No. 17.

(5) On November 12, 1917, a special meeting of the Joint Board was called for the purpose of acting upon the decision of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., with reference to the controversy of Local No. 17. The report was read and approved. Whereupon, a motion was then made a committee be appointed take over the management of Local No. 17 and bring it under the jurisdiction of the Joint Board. Local No. 17 requested that the Joint Board should give them time until Saturday, November 17, 1917, because their Executive Board and their membership at large did not act upon the decision of the International. The request was granted.

(6) At the Joint Board meeting of November 17, 1917, at which Local No. 17 was supposed to give its answer, it kept silent. The Joint Board not desiring to prolong the controversy out of the General Executive Board decision, appointed a committee of the Brothers, Schwartz, Kaplan, Sachtelin, Moss, Toscana, Morris Sigman, General Manager and Louis Langer, Secretary of the Joint Board, for the purpose of carrying through that decision.

(7) On December 8th, 1917, the committee of the Joint Board on the Local No. 17 question reported that they had had a meeting with reference to carrying through the decision of the International, but nothing has been achieved. The committee stated that in order that the decision of the International should become effective, they proposed that the Complaint Department of Local No. 17 should be located at the Joint Board office, 40 E. 23rd Street, and that they have proposed for this purpose, the first floor of the Joint Board building, because it is located in the center of all the cloakmakers, hence it will be very convenient for them to make their complaints, but Local No. 17 refused.

Brother Schwartz, the chairman of the committee, stated that he came to the conclusion that there is no possibility of reaching a decision with Local No. 17 and therefore recommended in the name of the committee that the Joint Board should urge upon the International to carry through the decision.

After a lengthy discussion in which a number of delegates participated, it was pointed out that the arguments of Local No. 17 have no foundation, and it was decided by a roll call vote of a majority of 26 against 3 to concur with the recommendation of the committee and send a complaint to the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., with reference to the decision of the General Executive Board which reads as follows:

Par. No. 3. "Every member in good standing of any local affiliated with the Joint Board, shall have the right to work in any shop controlled by the Joint Board without the formality of a transfer."

We hope and trust that the Joint Board will consider this matter and see that the decision is lived up to its letter.

(Signed) WM. BLOOM, Secretary.

Brother Sigman, General Manager of the Joint Board, pointed out to them in the course of the discussion with reference to their communication that this complication that the Joint Board has been forced to act upon the decision of Local No. 17, into a question of preference to that local, and that should in result be Local No. 17's, wherein regular cloak garments are being made. Ono of our members, Brother N. Leventhal, an old and loyal member of our Local No. 17 did not even attempt to defend its position, but on the contrary, they defended their actions, and Brother Mox, Manager of Local No. 17, one of the International Vice-Presidents, who voted for the expulsion and reorganization of Local No. 1, defended their actions on the ground that the expelled Local No. 1 has the membership and the International charter.

Local No. 17, realizing the dangerous position in which it was placed by Local No. 17's actions, especially in that critical moment, just after its reorganization has sent on October 16th, 1917, a communication to the International, protesting against Local No. 17, for violating both the constitution of the International and the decision rendered on August 24, 1917, in which it distinctly said: Members of both locals respectively should be permitted to work without transfer. Local No. 1 has at all times lived up to that decision.

(4) On October 16, 1917, the General Executive Board decided that Local No. 17 must be under the same control and on the same basis, as all other locals affiliated with the Joint Board and that all its shop relevances must be directly adjusted by the Joint Board instead of the office of Local No. 17.

(5) On November 12, 1917, a special meeting of the Joint Board was called for the purpose of acting upon the decision of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., with reference to the controversy of Local No. 17. The report was read and approved. Whereupon, a motion was then made a committee be appointed take over the management of Local No. 17 and bring it under the jurisdiction of the Joint Board. Local No. 17 requested that the Joint Board should give them time until Saturday, November 17, 1917, because their Executive Board and their membership at large did not act upon the decision of the International. The request was granted.

(6) At the Joint Board meeting of November 17, 1917, at which Local No. 17 was supposed to give its answer, it kept silent. The Joint Board not desiring to prolong the controversy out of the General Executive Board decision, appointed a committee of the Brothers, Schwartz, Kaplan, Sachtelin, Moss, Toscana, Morris Sigman, General Manager and Louis Langer, Secretary of the Joint Board, for the purpose of carrying through that decision.

(7) On December 8th, 1917, the committee of the Joint Board on the Local No. 17 question reported that they had had a meeting with reference to carrying through the decision of the International, but nothing has been achieved. The committee stated that in order that the decision of the International should become effective, they proposed that the Complaint Department of Local No. 17 should be located at the Joint Board office, 40 E. 23rd Street, and that they have proposed for this purpose, the first floor of the Joint Board office because it is located in the center of all the cloakmakers, hence it will be very convenient for them to make their complaints, but Local No. 17 refused.

Brother Schwartz, the chairman of the committee, stated that he came to the conclusion that there is no possibility of reaching a decision with Local No. 17 and therefore recommended in the name of the committee that the Joint Board should urge upon the International to carry through the decision.

After a lengthy discussion in which a number of delegates participated, it was pointed out that the arguments of Local No. 17 have no foundation, and it was decided by a roll call vote of a majority of 26 against 3 to concur with the recommendation of the committee and send a complaint to the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., with reference to the decision of the General Executive Board which reads as follows:

Par. No. 3. "Every member in good standing of any local affiliated with the Joint Board, shall have the right to work in any shop controlled by the Joint Board without the formality of a transfer."

We hope and trust that the Joint Board will consider this matter and see that the decision is lived up to its letter.

(Signed) WM. BLOOM, Secretary.

Brother Sigman, General Manager of the Joint Board, pointed out to them in the course of the discussion with reference to their communication that this complication that the Joint Board has been forced to act upon the decision of Local No. 17, into a question of preference to that local, and that should in result be Local No. 17's, wherein regular cloak garments are being made. Ono of our members, Brother N. Leventhal, an old and loyal member of our
control of Local No. 17. This was done by Local No. 17 on the ground that the Joint Board gave them such rights. These actions on the part of Local No. 17 were brought to the attention of the Joint Board with a request from Local No. 1 to the Joint Board to give a definite answer as to whether the interpretation of Local No. 17 with regards to the preference question is in accord with this decision. Local No. 17 received an explanation at that meeting that what they are doing is in contradiction with its decision; that they are misconstruing the decision of the Joint Board and that their actions are a usurpation of rights.

(10) On January 12th, 1918, the International has sent in its decision with regards to the appeal of Local No. 17 against the decision of the Joint Board, namely: that the complaint department of Local No. 17 should be located at the office of the Joint Board, 40 E. 23rd Street. The president of the International informed us that according to the arguments heard from both sides, he decided that Local No. 17 should move its office of the Joint Board, not later than February 1st, 1918. Local No. 17 was then informed by the Joint Board that their manager and Business Agents should report on Friday to 40 E. 23rd Street, and also to notify their members that from Friday, February 1st, 1918, they will have to apply with their complaints at the Joint Board office.

(11) On Friday, February 2nd, 1918, the Joint Board decided that since Local No. 17 refused to comply with the decisions of the Joint Board, approved by the International, Local No. 17 should be expelled from the Joint Board, and to inform the Executive Board of Local No. 17 that if it will not issue instructions to its officers that they are to report on Wednesday, February 6th, 1918, to the office of the Joint Board, it will stand expelled. The Secretary was also instructed to inform the President to that effect.

(12) On February 9th, 1918, Local No. 17 informed the Joint Board through Brother Goldin, a member of Local No. 17 and a Joint Board delegate that their members have voted down the recommendation of their Executive Board: that their Complaint Department should move into the Joint Board office, 40 E. 23rd St., and that their members have decided to have a referendum vote on that question. In the meantime, Local No. 17, requested the Joint Board not to take any drastic actions because they will again appear before the General Executive Board on this question. The Joint Board withheld immediate action, while the General Executive Board sustained the ruling of the President.

The reason why the membership of Local No. 17 voted down the decision of the Joint Board and the International, was due to the propaganda and methods pursued by Local No. 17. We, therefore, contend that the reason why Local No. 17 members have voted against the decision of the International, was because they were provoked by their officials to do so.

(13) On January 25th, 1918, Brother Heller, the Secretary of Local No. 17, wrote in the New Post, in his weekly report, that the International has sustained the decision of the Joint Board and that the "souls of their three thousand members are thus used as an experiment in order to satisfy the capricious and wilful motives of some of their opposing individuals."

"The President," said he in that report, stated that "harmony is higher than everything." "What shall we answer to that?" inquired Brother Heller. "Our Executive Board cannot take upon itself the responsibility of such a question, not even a regular meeting can do such a thing."

"Every member must come and give his vote on this question and for this purpose, a General Member Meeting was called in Cooper Union for Thursday, February 7th, 1918."

In the same number of the New Post an "ad" was placed by the same local in which the General meeting was advertised in the following manner:

"Reefer Makers, you are urged to attend a General Meeting on Thursday, February
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 115

7th, 1918, at 7 o’clock in Cooper Union. The purpose of that meeting is to act upon the decision of the Joint Board and the International President, namely: that our office should move into the office of the Joint Board as the result of the exasperation (provocation) from the old administration of Local No. 1. Every member must vote as to what we shall do with that order. Plans will have to be made how to save our Local from going down.”

“Members are strictly forbidden to work overtime.”

“Shop chairmen are requested to come up to our office for information.”

We charged Local No. 17 with deliberately having instructed their members to vote down and trample upon the decision of the Joint Board and the International instead of appealing to the members that they must comply with that decision; for that decision distinctly said that it was final and that whatever disputes with regards to that decision should be appealed to the International President, and that his ruling is final until appealed to the International Convention. Local No. 17 has done its utmost not to comply with those decisions and did only then when all its appeals failed.

(14) While the Joint Board carried on an extensive campaign for week work which was approved by the General Executive Board, and then by a roll call vote by the Joint Board on January 17th, 1918, at which the majority of the Joint Board delegates, among who a Local No. 17 delegate voted for it, Local No. 17 did not have the affrontery to openly oppose the principal of week work, but after it was given over to the membership for a referendum vote, Local No. 17, through large advertisements in the daily papers, and its Secretary in the New Post, advocated against the week work system and appealed to the members to vote against it.

We charged Local No. 17 for those actions not on the ground that it had no such rights, but because it did that with the deliberate object to discredit our International and the Joint Board.

(15) Before the commencement of the season, the Joint Board has taken up the question of the settling of prices and in view of the enormous rise in the cost of living, it came to the conclusion that prices will have to be raised to such an extent in order to meet the high cost of living. Local No. 17 took the responsibility upon itself to send letters to its manufacturers, who are supposed to be, according to the late decision of the General Executive Board, directly under the control of the Joint Board, informing the manufacturers that 5c will have to be raised on the body garment, without either consulting the Joint Board or considering the effects it will have on the entire industry. Whereupon, Local No. 1 has sent in the following communication to the Joint Board:

Joint Board of the Cloakmakers’ Union,
40 E 23 Street, New York City.

Dear Sirs:

Although it is not our intention to cause friction among the different departments of the Joint Board, nevertheless, we must call your attention to a fact which occurred recently which affects the very foundation of our industry as well as the entire Union.

It is the very principle of our Union that no Local should assume the sole authority to either present demands or enter into negotiations with manufacturers without first consulting the Joint Board.

Local No. 17 has taken upon itself the responsibility of sending out letters to manufacturers and shop chairmen, informing the manufacturers in the first place that 5 cents will have to be raised on the body garment, and that the shop chairman should demand an increase of 5 cents. This action on the part of Local No. 17 was committed without either informing the Joint Board or consulting it to that effect, and disregarding the effects it will have on the other shops wherein the same line of work is being made and are not under the control.
We are firmly of the opinion that the question of the settling of prices is not a local affair, but rather an industrial affair; for it concerns the entire industry and our Union.

We, therefore, request from the Joint Board to give a definite answer as to whether the actions of Local No. 17 are in accordance with the policy of the Joint Board, and we trust that you will give this your earnest and serious attention."

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) P. KOTTLER, Manager.

RESOLUTION NO. 53.
Introduced by Morris Sigman, Local 35, and Philip Kaplowitz, delegate of Local No. 1.

Whereas, the affiliated locals of the I.L.G.W.U. have different payments of dues which causes a condition, in cases of financial stress and general strikes, where some members are maintained at the expense of those locals who have a higher dues fee; and

Whereas, on previous occasions locals were compelled to surrender their treasuries in order to help those locals whose dues were smaller and had no opportunity to accumulate funds to conduct their various strikes; therefore be it

Resolved, that this 14th biennial convention assembled in Boston, on May 20th, 1918, goes on record to instruct its incoming General Executive Board to immediately install a ledger card system for each member of the affiliated locals of the I.L.G.W.U., and that such cards shall be accurately checked and posted from the members' payments of the duplicate sheets submitted by the locals to the general office.

Referred to Committee on Law.

RESOLUTION NO. 54.
Introduced by Phillip Kaplowitz, delegate Local No. 1, and Morris Sigman, delegate Local No. 35.

Whereas, the records of the standing of the members, payments of dues, assessments, etc., are at present kept by the locals only; and

Whereas, it is essential that the General office should be in possession of such records in order that it may be in a position at all times to ascertain the exact standing of membership of the different locals affiliated with the I.L.G.W.U. without applying to those locals for such information, and in order that the International may be in a position to check these payments, be it therefore

Resolved, that this 14th biennial convention assembled in Boston on May 20th, 1918, goes on record to instruct its incoming General Executive Board to immediately install a ledger card system for each member of the affiliated locals of the I.L.G.W.U. and that such cards shall be accurately checked and posted from the members' payments of the duplicate sheets submitted by the locals to the general office.

Resolution No. 55.
Introduced by Benj. Schlesinger, President; Abraham Baroff, Secretary-Treasurer; Elmer Rosenberg, Jacob Halpern, H. Schoolman, John F. Pierce, Fannie M. Cohn, Saul Metz, Sol. Seidman, M. Perlstein, S. Koldofsky, H. Wander, Salvatore Ninfo, Max Amdur, Vice-Presidents of the I.L.G.W.U.

Whereas, Brother William Bloom, the secretary-treasurer of the Ladies' and Misses' Cloak and Suit Operators' Union, Local No. 1, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been duly elected as delegate to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of this International Union, which convened on the 20th of May, 1918, at Convention Hall, Boston, Mass., and which will last for two consecutive weeks; and
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, Brother William Bloom, who is registered in the Local Board No. 96, City of New York, State of New York, classified in A, Order 2059, Serial No. 641, has been called for military service for May 27th, 1918; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, assembled here in Convention Hall, Boston, Mass., send a unanimous appeal to the chairman and members of Local Board No. 96 for a stay of thirty days for Brother William Bloom, in order to enable him to report to this Convention upon the affairs of his local union and to make all necessary arrangements with his organization so that he may be able to depart from said organization without either obstructing its work or casting reflection upon his own character; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this appeal be sent to Provost Marshal General Crowder, Secretary of War, Baker and the Adjutant General of the State of New York.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 56.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Solomon, No. 26; Julius Menke, No. 81; Max Bruckman, No. 75; S. Flaschner, No. 12; Chas. Kreindler, Joint Board, Cleveland; Rose Weiss, No. 100, and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100.

Be it Resolved, That Section 5 or Article 12, paragraph 2, shall read:

"That the Joint Board shall have the power to select a Joint Grievance Committee of locals affiliated, to whom all grievances or charges arising between member and member or between member and local and vice versa, shall be referred, and that this decision be binding on said local but subject to appeal to the Joint Board or to the General Executive Board."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 57.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Solomon, No. 26; J. Porus, No. 26; J. Menke, No. 81; Fannia M. Cohn, No. 72; Chas. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; S. Flaschner, No. 12; O. H. Nudelman, No. 44; M. Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. B. Chicago; S. Kolodsky, J. B. Toronto.

Be it Resolved, That we delegates of the Convention of the I. L. G. W., being in sympathy with the principles of international Socialism, and understanding the necessity of the campaign that the Socialist Party of America is conducting, to elect Socialist representatives to the Congress of the United States in the election of 1918, we agree that it is the sense of this Convention to contribute $250 (two hundred and fifty dollars) towards the million dollar campaign fund of the national office of the Socialist Party of America.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 58.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; Chas. Green, No. 63; A. Gold, No. 44; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; D. Solomon, No. 26; Phillip Berman, No. 20; J. Menke, No. 81; D. Axelrod, No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, No. 44; C. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; E. Leasin, No. 43; Rose Weiss, No. 100; C. Cohen, No. 7; M. Yanowitz, No. 100; Saul Metz, No. 17.

Whereas, The continuation of this world war has caused terrible suffering among the nations involved, and

Whereas, the I. L. G. W. U. has gone on record in the last year by contributing a day's wages of its entire membership, to relieve this suffering, therefore

Be it resolved, That this 16th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. should establish such a day in the year for the duration of the war.

The day to be set by the G. E. B.

Referred to Committee on War Sufferers.

Resolution No. 59.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Halpern, No. 9; J. Porus, No. 26; J. Menke, No. 81; Fannia M. Cohn, No. 72;
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

L. Greenspun, No. 54; Chas. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; S. S. Sheinberg, No. 82; Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. B. Chicago; Saul Metz, No. 17; S. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto.

Be it Resolved. That paragraph 3 in the preamble of our Constitution, reading "by representatives of our own party," be changed to read as follows: "To a political party whose aim is the abolition of the capitalist system."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 60.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Poras, No. 26; D. Solomon, No. 26; Chas. Green, No. 63; J. Heubschman, No. 64; F. Nemerofsky, No. 63; A. Litvakoff, No. 15; A. Rentovitch, No. 35; D. Axelrod, No. 18; A. Gold, No. 44; Rose Weiss and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, No. 44; S. Metz, No. 17; S. Ninno, No. 48; S. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto.

Be it Resolved, That article 4, section 3, shall be changed to read as follows: "Nomination of all International officers be made on the floor. Election of same be held three days later on a printed ballot.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 61.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Poras, No. 26; Chas. Green, No. 63; Chas. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; Rose Weiss and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. B. Chicago.

Be it Resolved, that Section 3, Article 17, be changed to read as follows: "Any member not depositing his clearance card within 14 days of his arrival in any town or city, shall forfeit the clearance card, etc."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 62.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; Chas. Green, No. 63; A. Gold, No. 44; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; D. Solomon, No. 26; A. J. Miller, No. 31; J. Menke, No. 81; D. Axelrod, No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, No. 44; Rose Weiss and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100.

Be it resolved, that all assessments levied by the International Convention for purposes not directly connected with organization work of the I. L. G. W. U., should go to a referendum vote of the entire membership before levied.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 63.

Introducted by: Hyman Hurwitz, Joint Board of Boston; A. Finkelstein, No. 73; D. Kurland, No. 73; S. Fischner, No. 12; M. Frank, No. 12; Hyman Berloe, No. 12; Isaac Poseen, No. 24; Jacob Cohen, No. 24; Max Osofsky, No. 24; Nathan Sprinsky, No. 56; Hyman Berkowitz, No. 56; Louis Greenberg, No. 56; Alex Finkelstein, No. 56.

WHEREAS, there are dress and cloak pressers in Boston all belonging to the pressers Local No. 12, and

WHEREAS, the complaints of the dress pressers have been heretofore attended by the office of the Waistmakers' Union to the dissatisfaction of the pressers and the local as a whole, be it therefore

Resolved, that all complaints and grievances of the dress pressers shall in the future be taken care of by the Joint Board office of Boston of which they are a part.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 64.

Introducted by the Delegations of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

WHEREAS, a movement has been initiated to install a week work system in the Cloak and Skirt Industry, and

WHEREAS, such system is deemed advisable and beneficial to the industry, and

WHEREAS, Locals 12, 24, 56 and 73 e
the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry of the City of Boston have gone on record as favoring the week work system, be it therefore

Resolved, that this Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. instructs the incoming General Executive Board to enforce the adoption of week work in the City of Boston, at the appropriate time.

Resolution No. 67.

Introduced by the Delegations of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

WHEREAS, a large number of shops have moved to various towns in the New England States, thus making it impossible for the Union to control them, and

WHEREAS, such a situation is a menace to the trade in Boston and elsewhere, be it therefore

Resolved, that the incoming General Executive Board assign an organizer for the purpose of unionizing the shops in the New England States.

Resolved, that the 14th biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. protests against such action and pledges its utmost support towards securing a just termination in the Mooney case.

Resolved, that the skirt and dressmakers now belonging to Local 49 should be immediately transferred to Local 24.

Resolved, that the incoming General Executive Board assign an organizer for the purpose of unionizing the shops in the New England States.

Resolved, that the skirt and dressmakers now belonging to Local 49 should be immediately transferred to Local 24.
Resolution No. 69.

Introduced by the Delegation of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, the constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. grants to its Local Unions full jurisdiction for their particular branch of the trade, and

Whereas, Local 49 Waistmakers of Boston has in its membership workers of the trade, other than waistmakers, such as cutters, skirt makers and pressers, and

Whereas, the interest of the cutters union Local 73, skirt and dressmakers union Local 24, Pressers Union, Local 12, in the City of Boston, require that all workers of these crafts be members of their respective organizations having jurisdiction over them, therefore be it

Resolved, that Local 49 be instructed to immediately transfer all such cutters, skirt makers and pressers, that it now has on its membership books to their respective locals.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 70.

Introduced by the Delegation of Local No. 9; Becky Stein and Sarah Greenberg, Local No. 69; Vito Catania, A. Monforte and P. Nichita, Local No. 46; and Ida Henner, Local No. 63.

Whereas, the Cloak Finishers Union Local No. 9 is the officially recognized local of finishers in the Cloak and Suit Industry in New York and

Whereas, the Reefer Makers Union Local No. 17 which was originally chartered as a local of reefer and infant wear makers, is now to a large extent also engaged at regular size cloaks and

Whereas the Reefer Makers Union by working on such cloaks and by retaining the finishers in its local does so in direct violation of Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of our International which reads that "No more than one charter shall be granted to any branch of the trade in any city or locality without the consent of the existing local Union" and

Whereas, a competition has thus developed in the Cloak and Suit Industry on account of the several hundred finisher members of local No. 17 who establish standards of their own without regard to the settlement of prices in the shops under the jurisdiction of the Joint Board where members of local No. 9 are working, therefore be it

Resolved, that the 14th Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. assembled in Boston orders Local No. 17 to transfer all the finisher members of its Local to Local No. 9.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 71.

Introduced by Full Delegation of Local No. 9.

Whereas, there exists between the members of local No. 3 and No. 9 certain disputes due to the employment by the piece tailors, members of Local No. 3, of several hundred liniers, members of Local No. 9, and

Whereas, it is against the principles and ethics of Trade Unionism to have one member exploited by another and

Whereas, the several attempts made by Local No. 9 to arrive at an amicable adjustment with Local No. 3 directly and through the Joint Board have proven a failure, therefore be it

Resolved, that it is the sense of the 14th Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. assembled at Boston that such tactics are out of harmony with the fundamental principles of Labor Unionism and be it further

Resolved, that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take this matter up and adjust same at its earliest convenience.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Resolution No. 72.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 9.

Whereas, The system of piece work has proven to be absolutely injurious to the cause of the Union and its vast membership, creating a most unheard of competition and a spirit of hatred between one member and another and deteriorating the health of the workers.

Whereas, The members of the various local Unions, affiliated with the New York Joint Board, including Local No. 9, have through a referendum, cast a majority of votes in favor of establishing week work in the cloak industry in New York and vicinity, and

Whereas, The several thousand members of Local No. 9, who have in the past three seasons been working on the "week work" basis have found it to be advantageous and entirely satisfactory to their case; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the 14th Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. assembled in Boston, that the week work system is preferable to the present system of piece work and that the Convention endorses it as such, and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board stand, and is herewith instructed to fully cooperate with the several Joint Boards, District Councils and Local Unions to inaugurate and extend the week work system in all manufacturing establishments where members of the I. L. G. W. U. are employed.

Referred to Committee on Week Work.

Resolution No. 73.

Introduced by Carl Cohen, Local No. 7.

Whereas, The world catastrophe has brought devastation and poverty to the majority of the Jewish people in the belligerent countries, and

Whereas, The Jews of those countries are wholly dependent upon the aid and assistance of their more fortunate brethren in the United States, be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, at its fourteenth biennial convention, designates February 22nd, otherwise a legal holiday, as "International Relief Day," for the duration of the war; that on that day the members of the International be allowed to work and devote the income of the day towards the War Relief Fund; and be it further

Resolved, That the International endorses the campaign of the Jewish People's Relief of America for a half million members and urges its own members to help the Jewish People's Relief to achieve success by becoming annual members of that organization.

Referred to Committee on War Sufferers.

Resolution No. 74.

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

The General Members of the I. L. G. W. U., called the General Executive Board, shall consist of the General President, General Secretary-Treasurer and fifteen (15) Vice-Presidents, eight (8) of whom shall be residents of the City of New York. The New York members of the Board shall meet once a month. 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.

Referred to Committee on Law.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Resolution No. 75.

Introduced by Max Lipshach and David Cohen, Local No. 4; C. L. Brennan, Local No. 110; J. Tichy, No. 101, and John F. Pierce, No. 34.

Amend these sections to read as follows:

Article 16, Section 2—Any member withdrawing as per section 1 of this article shall be granted an honorary withdrawal card provided he or she has been a member of the I. L. G. W. U. not less than two years, and shall be known as honorary members.

Section 3—An honorary member desiring to return to the trade within one year of the issuing of the honorary card shall be obliged to pay all arrearages to the Local Union; if after one year he or she desires to return to the trade the Local Union will restore them to all rights and privileges of an old member upon the payment of one dollar, and such other fee as the Local Union may have to cover sick and death benefit funds.

Section 4—Any honorary member doing anything detrimental to the interest of a member of the I. L. G. W. U. or the trade union movement shall forfeit all rights and privileges granted by the issuance of this card:

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 76.

Introduced by N. Reissel, Benj. Greenblatt and Helen Spindler, Local No. 66.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union at its 12th Biennial Convention held in Philadelphia, had resolved that the International is to use all means at its disposal, that union contractors be given the embroidery work that is to be done in the cloak, suit, skirt, waist and dress houses, be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board shall officially notify the Manufacturers' Association and independent manufacturers of the above named decision, and that they do all in their power to assist the embroidery workers in their struggle to maintain union standards in the shops of the embroidery contractors.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 77.

Introduced by Samuel Jacobson, Maud Foley, Sarah Horwitz, J. Brenner, Local No. 49; E. Lessin, Local No. 43; A. Thomas, No. 49; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25; H. Bernstein, No. 15; B. Greenblatt, No. 66; A. Litschko, No. 15; and Molly Mollof, No. 90.

WHEREAS, the charter granted to Local No. 49 in 1910 contains the name "Ladies Waistmakers' Union," a name which at that time reflected the membership of the local because most of its members then worked in factories making waists, and,

WHEREAS, the waist industry in Boston has so changed that nearly all the factories which then made waists are now making dresses, so that about eighty per cent of our membership at the present time are dressmakers, and,

WHEREAS, within the last year about two hundred petticoat workers have joined as members of Local No. 49, and are now under the jurisdiction of Local No. 49, and,

WHEREAS, the name "Ladies Waistmakers' Union" is not anymore descriptive of the membership of which Local No. 49 is composed, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the name of the charter of Local No. 49 be changed from "Ladies Waistmakers' Union" to the "Waist, Dress and Petticoat Workers' Union."

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 78.

Introduced by W. Weiner, Local No. 3; Isadore Epstein, No. 10; Morris Simon, No. 35; Abraham Baroff, No. 25; J. Helpern, No. 9; Isadore Schoenborts, No. 25; and H. Wander, No. 23.

WHEREAS, many of the members of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union who fall prey to the proletarian disease, pulmonary consumption, are often unable to get proper medical and other care and are compelled to resort to private or public charity and become a burden to the community, and
WHEREAS, Locals 35, 9, and 23 of the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union have for several years successfully established a benefit for their tuberculous members, and have given certain benefits and care to these members, and

WHEREAS, there are members of the different locals belonging to the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union who are working in the same shops with the members who have such a tuberculosis fund, and are also affected with this disease, and

WHEREAS, such affected members are liable to spread this dread disease to other members in the shops unless properly cared for, and

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, and

WHEREAS, a certain number of locals belonging to the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union have organized the Union Sanitarium for Union members, be it

RESOLVED, that the International Ladies Garment Workers’ Union in convention assembled, does hereby establish a special tuberculosis fund, with the purpose of owning and maintaining its own sanitarium and of taking care of tuberculous members of the Union.

Referred to Committee on Benefits and Sanitarium.

Resolution No. 79.

Introducéd by: S. Flaschner, H. Berlon and M. Frank, Local No. 72; A. Kinkelstein, B. Kurland, No. 73; Louis Greenberg, Hyman Berkowitz, Nathan Sprinky, Alex. Finkelstein, No. 56; Carl Cohen, David Perlmutter, Local No. 7; Louis Schwartz, Morris Stamper, Sam Friedman, Joseph M. Sachs, No. 20; Harry Berlin, Sidney Rothenberg, Louis Zorkover, Harris Haskin and Albert Lazarus, No. 10; Nathan Hines, No. 1; Max Kutz, No. 3; Harry Schuster, A. Babitz, Ida Bax, Louis Mass, M. Wiener, No. 9; H. Kruger, Joseph Kazatchkoff, No. 14; A. Litvakoff, B. Schwartz, No. 15; R. Flaster, No. 17; H. Mendel, S. Pinkofsky and H. Miller, No. 23; D. Solomon, No. 28; Israel Handelman, H. Moskowitz, H. Brookman and H. Slutsky, No. 35; H. Zucker, No. 41; Ig. Chlarhia, N. Salpletro, Salvatore Nino, No. 48; L. Greenpup, No. 54; Nathan Riesel and B. Greenblatt, No. 56; Fannie M. Cohn, No. 72; Abraham Rosenberg, No. 1; S. Koifofsky, No. 14; Chas. Kreindler, No. 26; Chas. Edwars, No. 33; Clement D. Brennan, No. 110.

WHEREAS, the inter-allied labor conference held in England and the Convention of the American Federation of Labor held recently in the United States have expressed their readiness to assist the Jewish nation in obtaining equal civil, political and national rights in those countries where other minor nationalities have such rights, and also in the establishment of a national homeland in Palestine, and

WHEREAS, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union is a part of the labor movement of the world, and recognizes the justice of the claim of minor nationalities to self-determination, be it

Resolved that we, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union pledge our support to the just claims of the Jewish people to full, civil, political and national rights as well as to their re-establishment as a nation in a homeland in Palestine.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 80.

Introduced by Mollie Friedman and I. Horowitz, Local No. 25; M. Sirota and Harry Greenberg, No. 50; Fannie M. Cohn, No. 72; and Mollie Molloy, No. 90.

WHEREAS, many workers are being ar-
rested and imprisoned under the Espionage Act for exercising their constitutional right of free speech, free press and free assemblage, and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Defense Union has been organized by radicals and liberals for the purpose of giving aid and financial support to insure a fair trial for these cases, and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Defense Union is non-partisan, non-political, non-sectarian; it takes no stand on militarism, pacifism and undertakes to defend only cases involving rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and

WHEREAS, many of the cases now in the hands of the Liberty Defense Union have been instituted because of the economic views of the accused and their participation in the activities of the Labor Movement, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union in convention assembled at Boston hereby pledges its moral and financial support to the Liberty Defense Union and urges its local organizations to do likewise, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of $300.00 be appropriated by this Convention for the use of the Liberty Defense Union in order that proper defense may be given to all the defendants and that the constitutional right of free speech, free press and free assemblage may be upheld and maintained during war time as well as in times of peace.

Resolved, That the delegates for the Fourteenth Convention assembled in Boston indorse the idea to start a cam-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

...campaign for the creation of the cooperative shop owned and controlled by the union, where the discriminated brothers will find place of employment in order to support their families; and it further

Resolved, That a special committee of the incoming General Executive Board be given the power to find means of acting on the project.

Resolved to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 84.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, after the war, owing to the demobilization of the huge armies and the shutting down of the great war industries vast numbers of workmen now otherwise engaged will be thrown back into the pre-war industries, clogging thereby the labor market and aggravating the competition between worker and worker; and

Whereas, it is to be expected that multitudes of immigrants will flock to this country from war-stricken Europe and a large percentage of them will be women, which will further complicate the situation we shall have to meet during the period of re-organization of our national life from a war to a peace plan; and

Whereas, it is necessary now to be prepared to meet this situation with clear understanding and forethought to the end that our organization might be able to withstand the first great shock of this sudden change and maintain throughout it the standards and conditions it has secured through long years of fighting and sacrifice; be it

Resolved:—That this convention instruct the G. E. B. to study and devise all ways and means to face a probable recrudescence of immigration, by getting in closer touch with the European labor movement and establishing a regular bureau for the specific purpose of rapidly enrolling in our union and other affiliated and related organizations as many of the newcomers as it is possible and feasible.

Resolved to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 85.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The Italian Cloak, Suit & Skirt Makers' Union, Local No. 48, with their system, (Union books accompanied by a photograph of the holder) the old practice of lending books by members to non-union laborers has been done away with.

Whereas, The new system has placed the Business Agent in a position to assure himself of the member's identity; and

Whereas, This system will oblige the majority of members to respect and fear our organization; be it

Resolved: That any local that has secured the employer's recognition, or has established union conditions shall adopt the system of two photographs from each member; one to go in the book; and one to be kept on file in the office of the local.

Resolved to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 86.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The continued activities of the various Locals of our organization in the City of New York have compelled the manufacturers to grant Union conditions; and

Whereas, To evade our activities, the manufacturers have encouraged former shop contractors and speculators to open shops in the following localities: Marmonneck, New Rochelle, Port Chester, being in the vicinity of the City of New York; Harrison, Hackensack, Passaic, Garfield, Lodi, Long Branch, in the State of New Jersey, and other small towns; and
Whereas, it has been impossible for the locals in all our trades to keep up an active campaign to organize these workers, for it requires an enormous sum of money, and

Whereas, The majority of these shops employ Italian workers; and

Whereas, In the corset industry there is also a large number of Italian workers unorganized; be it

Resolved: That the incoming General Executive Board instruct the Italian General Organizer, to start a campaign to organize these shops preventing the manufacturers from avoiding union conditions, and place them in a position to grant union conditions to their employees.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 87.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has started several large organizing campaigns, and

Whereas, These efforts and energy have not enabled them to attain the desired results, because the general office has found itself with no financial resources, and

Whereas, In all the general strikes, appeals had to be made to affiliated locals and other labor organizations to finance strikes, be it

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention decide to raise the per capita tax from 4 to 7 cents a week. The surplus 3 cents shall constitute separate funds divided into two parts; 2 cents to be used only to finance central or city industrial strikes; one cent to be considered as a strike reserve fund to be used only when sufficient funds can be had in order to place the International in a position to call a general industrial strike throughout the United States and Canada, with all the probability of a certain victory.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 88.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, at several of its conventions, has adopted resolutions to endorse the eight-hour working day in the ladies' garment industry, and

Whereas, In our judgment very little has been accomplished. At this time of scarcity of help our organization finds itself in the best opportunity, be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board, at expiration of agreements with manufacturers, shall establish the forty-four hours per week. Eight hours for the first five days (Monday to Friday) and four hours on Saturday or Sunday.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 89.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The twelfth convention of the I. L. G. W. U. has adopted resolution No. 66, and the thirteenth Convention of the same organization has adopted resolution No. 8, favoring the amalgamation of the following needle-trade Unions: The United Garment Workers of America, The Journeymen Tailors' Union, and the Fur Workers' Union, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board has been instructed to meet representatives of all the above mentioned organizations willing to amalgamate, and

Whereas, The split of the United Garment Workers has caused the birth of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, an independent and powerful organization, and

Whereas, The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America is considered by the American Federation of Labor, a dual organization, be it
Resolved, That the delegates of the I. L. G. W. U. to the convention of the A. F. of L. will introduce the above mentioned plan of amalgamation, and in the event of the refusal to recognize the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America as a part of the amalgamation to proceed with the rest of the needle-trade organizations, for it will be much easier after the amalgamation to assemble and fraternize the two opposing clothing unions, and be it further

Resolved, That the suggestions proposed by the representatives of the various unions be submitted for approval by the referendum vote of the memberships.

The movers of the resolution hope that the General Executive Board take this resolution to heart, and that it give to same its keen attention and careful consideration.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 90.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omlca, L. Antonini, C. Yandoll and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is an organization embracing over 125,000 members throughout the United States and Canada, banded together for the purpose of improving the conditions of its membership, and of 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 being gradually lowered by competition among the working people employed in the industry, as well as among the employers, and

Whereas, Through experience we have ascertained that all attempts to remedy these evils by organizing local general strikes have proved fruitless, it being impossible to compel the manufacturers of a single centre or city to really grant decent living conditions to their workers, and not paper agreements, which was proved in Cleveland, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Boston and New York; and also because in the said large organized cities it is impossible for the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. 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 and Thirteenth Conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. and referred to the General Executive Board to discuss and secure advice on the plan, to be submitted to the membership in general, in order to express their opinion in the matter, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, on account of being continually engaged it was impossible to allot any time to the consideration of the contents of the resolution.

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. 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, throughout the United States and Canada should be called and that the incoming General Executive Board will be instructed to submit their findings and the advisabilities of this resolution to the consideration and vote of the membership, not later than December, 1918.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 91.

Introduced by Max Brodfield and Harry Miller, Local No. 23.

Whereas, The peoples of the whole world are involved in a terrible conflict which brings untold suffering to humanity, and

Whereas, This calamity is due to the autocracy of the German Government and the German Junkerdom, and

Whereas, This calamity is due to the autocracy of the German Government and the German Junkerdom, and

Whereas, It is our interest to overthrow this autocracy and replace democracy so as to bring about an honorable peace for the peoples of the whole world.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the International
Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, urges the American Federation of Labor to call an International conference of all labor organizations throughout the world, for the purpose of finding a way whereby this terrible conflict we are now engaged in will come to a close and an honorable and everlasting peace will be established for all mankind.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 92.

Introduced by Max -Brodhead and Harry Miller, Local No. 23.

Whereas: The cost of living went up to such a degree that it is impossible for the workers to subsist, and

Whereas: This condition is due to the speculation and profiteering which does not enable the workers to get products for the prices that they would be in a position to obtain should this speculation not exist, and

Whereas: There is one local union affiliated with the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in the city of New York, that has established a co-operative store, from where a worker is able to obtain food at a reasonable price as possible, and

Whereas: This experiment has proven successful.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the 14th Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union take such steps whereby such co-operative stores are established in every city or town where members of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union are working, in order that all members may derive this benefit.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 93.

Introduced by L. Langer, New York Joint Board. At a regular meeting of the Joint Board, held on May 12th, 1918, it was decided to submit the following resolution to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International, which will be held in Boston on May 20th, 1918:

Whereas, there are three existing locals in New York, namely, Locals No. 1, 9, and 17, which are engaged in the operating and finishing of the same line of work; and

Whereas, These three contending locals are constantly engaged in disputes with regard to jurisdictional rights, rules and regulations of the International and the Joint Board pertaining to these three locals, and the interpretation thereof, and

Whereas, The Joint Board which is the central body of the Cloak Industry of the City of New York is virtually placed in a position where instead of confining itself to trade problems and various other disputes which arise in our industry, it is as a result of the frictions of these three contending locals, invariably driven to spend much of its time with regards to the frictions and dissensions of these locals, which as a consequence, makes it impossible for the Joint Board to carry on its work in a proper manner, and

Whereas, The Joint Board has at many of its meetings been called upon to interpret and give its versions with regards to various decisions rendered on several occasions by the International and its Executive Board, thus placing the Joint Board in a position to take definite steps of which the Joint Board is in many cases unable, in view of the various conflicting interpretations by these contending locals, and

Whereas, The various locals affiliated with the Joint Board are as a consequence hampered from transacting the various union problems at the Joint Board, and

Whereas, It is incumbent upon our Union to solidify its coordinated and affiliated locals in such a way which will make it possible to function in unity, be it therefore

Resolved, That we, the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers of New York City, urge upon the convention of the International to take up this matter of jurisdictional disputes and settle it in such a way which will henceforth make such frictions and occurrences impossible not only in our Joint Board but in our entire Union.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 94.

Introduced by Saul Metz, D. Nisnevitz, M. Jacobinsky, Raphael Flasher, A. Goldin, Jacob Heller, A. Bilson, Local No. 17.

Whereas, The old Local No. 1, in order to cover its intentions in its controversy with the Joint Board, in reference to the arm of business agents, in April 1917, created an agitation against Local No. 17, and

Whereas, This agitation deceived many of the Cloak Operators of New York to believe in the false accusation against Local No. 17, and compelled the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. to appoint a committee to investigate the affairs of Local No. 17, and

Whereas, This committee of the International, after making a thorough investigation found the claim against Local No. 17 to be unfounded, and

Whereas, In order to pacify the deceived Cloak Operators of New York, and establish harmony in Local No. 1, the General Executive Board was compelled to separate the complaint department from the local office of the Referee Makers' Union, and establish the above department in 40 East 16th Street, the building that the Joint Board of New York is occupying, and

Whereas, For reasons quite unknown to the harmony between the local 1, 9 and the Joint Board was not achieved through the new arrangements and on the contrary created more causes for discord, and unfounded accusations against Local No. 17. It therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. U. restore all rights enjoyed by Local No. 17 prior to the decision of the General Executive Board, of November 1917, and be it further

Resolved, That in order to avoid all future discords and issues against Local No. 17, that the 14th Biennial Convention decrees, that the supervision over Local No. 17 be taken away from the Joint Board, and that Local No. 17 be placed strictly under the supervision of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Referred to Committee on Officers' Reports.

Resolution No. 95.

Introduced by Bella Metz, Mollie Mollof and A. Bilner, Local No. 99.

Whereas, The Costume Dressmaking Industry is employing from 8,000 to 10,000 people in about 2,000 shops throughout Greater New York, of which the Local is controlling 700 members in 100 shops, and

Whereas, Most of the Industry lies on the West Side of the City of New York which the Union has not, up till this season, tried to organize, not having the sufficient means for such work, and

Whereas, The organizing campaign carried on with the assistance of our International for about six weeks during this season has convinced us that in order to build up a strong Local Union in this Industry we must have a general strike, and we feel that such strike, if called, will be effective, otherwise the existence of our Local is threatened, so be it.

It resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union should endorse a general strike to be called out at the earliest convenient time and bring successful results.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 96.

Introduced by Henry Zucker, Sarah Spanier and J. Goldstein, Local No. 41.

Whereas, At the Philadelphia Convention it was adopted that the G. B. B. shall institute an investigation in the trade conditions of the Locals 25, 41, 50, 58, 626 and
the miscellaneous department of Local 10, to find if it is necessary to establish a Joint Board to be known as the Joint Board of the Dress, Waist and Negligee Unions, and

Whereas, The G. E. B. have had no time to make such investigations during the period of the last year and a half, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention instruct the incoming G. E. B. immediately after this convention to investigate conditions in the above mentioned trades and if after the investigation it will be found that a Joint Board is necessary, it shall be established.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 97.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 50; H. Zucker, No. 41; M. Zietz, No. 62; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; H. Silverman, No. 26.

Whereas, In Harlem, New York City, there are at present employed about 10,000 workers in the making of children's dresses, waists, dresses, cloaks, suits and other women's garments, and

Whereas, About 90 per cent of them are working for contractors under non-union conditions and so undermine the established working conditions of our organized trades, and

Whereas, The number of those contractors shops is increasing to a very large extent.

Be it Therefore Resolved, That this convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to start an organization campaign in Harlem to unionize the workers employed there and have their conditions brought up to the standard of our organized workers.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 98.

Introduced by M. Weiner, Local No. 3.

Whereas, The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union at its 13th Biennial Convention went on record as favoring industrial unionism and adopted resolution No. 26 which reads as follows:

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,

Whereas, Our International had a number of problems to be solved and could not direct any agitation amongst our members to the effect, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention instruct Its incoming General Executive Board to carry on the agitation so that Resolution 26 may go into effect.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 99.

Introduced by M. Weiner, Local No. 3; S. Nino, No. 48; Isaac Posen, No. 24; Ant. Thomas, No. 49; H. Lubinsky, No. 36; I. Chazanow, No. 80, and Hyman Hurwitz Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, The working class realizes that the economic and political struggle is the only way of bettering their condition and

Whereas, There exists two Socialist parties in the United States of America which is a menace to the movement, and
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, The workers at large are eager for unity between the two parties for a great number of them are out of the movement for these reasons, and

Whereas, One of the obstacles upon which the two parties could not unite was the question of the form of the trade union movement, and

Whereas, We went on record favoring Industrial Unionism, and

Whereas, A great number of our members are also members of the two parties, and still a greater number are out of the two parties for these reasons, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention goes on record to request both parties that they see to it that they unite in one great body which will help the cause of the labor movement in general.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 100.

Amend Section 5, Article VIII, to read as follows:

"The accused shall have the right, in person or by attorney (said attorney to be a good standing member of the I. L. G. W. U.) to question all witnesses, and to present such evidence bearing on the charges as to him seems advisable. Such good standing members should not include members of the General Executive Board."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 101.

Introduced by O. H. Nudelman, Local 100; A. Silver, No. 15; H. Schoolman, Joint Board, Chicago; D. Axelrod, A. Gold, No. 44; J. Menoff, No. 18; J. H. Plotkin, No. 71.

Whereas, There are about two thousand (2000) ladies' tailors, finishers and skirt makers employed in the ladies tailoring trade in the City of Chicago, and

Whereas, There has been in existence in Chicago our Ladies Tailors Union Local 71, I. L. G. W. U., and this Union years ago has controlled the largest part of the trade in the city, and

Whereas, Local 71 after many strikes and lock-outs has lost its influence in the trade, but has always tried to revive its activity, and

Whereas, After years of endeavor Local 71 has again undertaken organizing work and has succeeded in organizing a large number of ladies tailors and has unionized many shops, and

Whereas, The greatest number of ladies tailors, finishers and dressmakers are not yet organized and wait for this occasion, and Local 71 is too weak to undertake the work on such large scale.

Be It Resolved, That the convention of I. L. G. W. U. instruct the General Executive Board to undertake immediately the movement to organize the ladies tailoring trade in the City of Chicago.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 102.

Introduced by 80 delegates, from the following Locals, Nos. 48, 81, 658, 49, 63, 54, 1, 33, 9, 72, 10, 25, 90, 4, 69, 49, 66, 3, 18, 50, 35, 64, 25, 15, 60 and 41.

Whereas, Organized wealth has conspired to enslave labor and in forcing its will has been instrumental in persecuting labor organizations in America, and

Whereas, There is being held in jails as a consequence of this persecution several hundred men in various parts of the country on trivial and serious charges ranging from vagrancy to seditious conspiracy, and

Whereas, The only crime and misdemeanor of these men has been their activities in organizing laboring men and women throughout the country so that they may have better sanitary conditions, shorter hours, and a little more pay, and

Whereas, Their efforts have displeased
the potentates of the Copper and Lumber Trusts, who, in order to successfully resist the efforts of these working men, have maliciously taken advantage of present conditions and are seeking through false and malicious charges to crush them, and

Whereas, If the attempt of organised Capital to crush organised Labor at this time is successful, it will encourage them to attempt to destroy all Labor Organizations, thereby destroying the most valuable means of organised Labor's defense against wage slavery—THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AND STRIKE—therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the I. L. G. W. U., in convention assembled, realize the gravity of their cause and wishing to give these, our fellow workers in distress, moral and financial help, do hereby pledge our support by donating to their Defense Fund the sum of One Thousand Dollars ($1000), and be it further

Resolved, That we call upon all the locals of our International to assist them in their efforts for justice.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 103.

Introduced by Fannie M. Cohn, Local No. 72; David Cohen, No. 4; Morris Sizman, No. 35; H. Bernstein, No. 15; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25.

Whereas, The cooperative idea is spreading among the locals of our International Union, and

Whereas, This idea took a practical form, as expressed in the establishment of Unity Centers and in the opening of cooperative stores by the Philadelphia Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 15, and by the New York Cloak Pressers' Union, Local No. 25, and

Whereas, The power of the trade union movement could be utilized for the benefit of the workers as consumers as well as wage earners in the fight with their employers, and

Whereas, The cooperative movement tends to strengthen the power of the labor movement and to weld together the members of the union, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to work out a plan whereby to encourage and assist the cooperative movement among our locals.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 104.

Introduced by Max Margolis, Local No. 10; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25; H. Bernstein, and A. Silver, No. 15.

Whereas, The Inter-Allied Labor Conference has adopted at Nottingham, England, a constructive program of social and economic regeneration, based upon the vital demands and aspirations of the working class, after the present world war will have come to an end, and

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union finds itself fully in accord and deeply in sympathy with the ideals and plans laid down by the above mentioned Conference, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, convention assembled at Boston, Mass., in May, 1918, endorse the program of the Inter-Allied Labor Conference, and be it further

Resolved, That the delegates of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor be instructed to work for the endorsement of the program of this Conference and for the participation by that body in the Inter-Allied Labor Conference.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 105.

Introduced by thirty-five delegates from Locals, Nos. 15, 40, 43, 41, 60, 62, 25, 24, 10 and 35.

Whereas, Thousands of workers in the city of Baltimore are engaged in the pro
production of ladies' waists, dresses, white goods, kimonos and skirts, and

Whereas, The earnings of the workers in these trades are unbelievably low, the majority of them earning between $3.00 and $5.00 weekly, and

Whereas, The manufacture of ladies' garments is expanding in that city and Baltimore is becoming an important center of this industry, and

Whereas, Such competition is preventing the workers engaged in the same trades in other cities from improving their conditions, and is even endangering the hard-won improvements which they now have, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to carry on an intensive organizing campaign in the City of Baltimore, and to do everything in their power to completely organize the workers of these trades.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 106.

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to carry on an intensive organizing campaign in the City of Baltimore, and to do everything in their power to completely organize the workers of these trades.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 107.

Introduced by D. Cohen, Local No. 4; Joseph Tichy, No. 101; C. L. Brennan, No 110; C. Samorodin, No. 72; Max Lipsch, No. 40; Fanny M. Cohen, No. 72; Anna M. Cavanaugh, No. 40; May Ratchford, No. 33, and John B. Fitzpatrick, No. 39.

Whereas, Our International Union has made great strides in organizing the male workers in our industry; and

Whereas, in a few cities we have also been successful in organizing the women workers, especially those of the Jewish race; and

Whereas, There are thousands of women workers employed in the making of ladies' garments throughout the country, such as the corset making trade, which gives occupation to about forty-thousand women, are still unorganized; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming G. E. B. be instructed to start an aggressive and energetic campaign to organize the women workers in the corset and miscellaneous trades.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 108.


Whereas, The constant rise of the cost of living has nullified the previous gains in wages, with the result that it is almost impossible for our members to meet the present cost of subsistence; and

Whereas, The week working locals of New York have decided to demand a thirty per cent. increase to meet the rising cost of living; and

Whereas, Their demands have been endorsed by the New York Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be and is hereby instructed to proceed immediately after the adjournment of this Convention to obtain the desired demands.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

Delegate Epstein, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, announced that he received a credential from the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, to the effect that Brother Albert Lazarus was duly authorized to take the place of Delegate Max D. Gollin, who is ill and cannot attend the Convention.

The Committee recommends that the alternate delegate be seated.

Upon motion the recommendation was adopted.

At this point President Schlesinger introduced Brother Herman Grossman, former president of the International, who delivered an address to the delegates in which he expressed his pride on the growth of the International and also expressed himself in favor of the week work system.

Delegate Posen, Chairman of the Convention Arrangements Committee, announced that arrangements had been made for a banquet tonight, and that a sightseeing trip had been arranged for this Saturday afternoon.

At this point the arrival of Comrade S. Yanofsky was greeted by tremendous applause.

President Schlesinger: The Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions will now report on one resolution, No. 55.

Resolution No. 55.

Introduced by: Benj. Schlesinger, President; Abraham Baroff, Secretary-Treasurer; Elmer Rosenberg, Jacob Halpern, H. Schoolman, John F. Pierce, Fanny M. Cohn, Saul Metz, Sol. Seldman, M. Perlstein, S. Koldofsky, H. Wander, Salvatore Ninfo, Max Amdur, Vice-Presidents of the I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, Brother William Bloom, the secretary-treasurer of the Ladies' and Misses' Coat and Suit Operators' Union, Local No. 1, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been duly elected as delegate to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of this International Union, which convened on the 30th day of May, 1918, at Convention Hall, Boston, Mass., and which will last for two consecutive weeks; and

Whereas, Brother William Bloom, who is registered in the Local Board No. 96, city of New York, State of New York, classified in LA, Order 2059, Serial No. 641, has been called for military service for May 27th, 1918; be it, therefore,

Resolved. That this Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled here in Convention Hall, Boston, Mass., send a unanimous appeal to the chairman and members of Local Board No. 96 for a stay of thirty days for Brother William Bloom, in order to enable him to report to this Convention upon the affairs of his local union and to report back to his local union and to make all necessary arrangements with his organization, so that he may be able to depart from said organization without either obstructing its work or casting reflection upon his own character; and be it further

Resolved. That copies of this appeal be sent to Provost Marshal General Crowder, Secretary of War Baker and the Adjutant General of the State of New York.

The Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution, and upon a vote it was unanimously adopted.

President Schlesinger: The labor movement of this country has not always been what it is today—has not always been as big and as powerful as it is today. Only about twenty-five years ago the American Federation of Labor, which now has a membership of over three million, had only about fifty thousand members in its organization. It was, of course, the capitalistic way of production that compelled...
the workers to organize into labor organizations. It was the modern way of producing articles that compelled the workers to realize the importance of being members of labor organizations, to combine, to become united.

But we must have in mind that the success of the labor movement is also due to the host of idealists who have been speaking to the workers; who have been writing for the workers, constantly urging upon them and showing them the importance of organization, when they themselves did not yet realize it. It is due, I say, to the few idealists, the so-called dreamers that we had years ago, who, with their pen and with their power of speech, urged the workers to join labor organizations.

We have at this session one of those idealists with us, and I certainly take great pleasure in introducing to you our friend and brother, S. Yanofsky. (Great applause).

Address of Comrade Yanofsky.

Friends, when people want to be polite and they want to say a man is crazy, and yet don't want to use the word "crazy," they say sometimes that he is a dreamer, an idealist. I am sure that President Schlesinger did not use it in that light, but at the same time, even in its best sense, I would not say that the word applies to me, because I have always been a practical man. I foresaw all that which is taking place now, and I foresaw still greater things.

And not because I am an idealist, but because I considered it inevitable, practically impossible to avoid it; that is why I joined you—that is why I put my heart into it. If I would really consider it an ideal that would never be realized, that would never come, I don't think I would put my shoulder to it. So I would rather be considered a practical man.

As a matter of fact, time has proved effective many, many things that I said—as I wrote—that I prophesied. That shows that I am not simply a dreamer, even though some people might consider it a great thing to be a dreamer. Of course, it is a good thing sometimes, but with dreams you cannot do anything. You must always reckon with facts, with realities, and I stand here today for realities. I stopped dreaming because I found that many, many dreams, nice dreams, are rather too far away, and it is no use asking for them, running after them. We will never get there probably, if we will not always have in mind certain realities.

There has certainly come a change over all of us, and we need not be ashamed to acknowledge it. What is the use of deceiving ourselves? Probably ten years ago if I would have come to your convention, I would have said, "Oh yes, it is a great thing that you are all assembled together and you will have a banquet tonight and all that." But that is nothing. There are greater things we need and let us turn our eyes to that great future.

You know all those phrases. I would not say it today. I believe the "present" is the most important thing, and it is no use postponing for the future, when you can do a thing in the present; I believe that our movement suffered too much because we were always too much thinking of the future and meanwhile we did all the bad things and all the foolish things in the present. We shall not be in the distant future, and we shall not have a chance to act them. We are in the present and we are responsible for the present. And if the present is an ugly one, it is because we are ugly. And if the present will be a better one and a brighter one and a cleverer one, it will be because of our wisdom, of our cleverness, of our cleanliness, etc., etc.

Therefore I will say a word today only for the present, for practical, real things. Dreams—what is the use? It may be that some time all the nice dreams will be realized, but sometimes the nice dreams become ugly realities, and it is therefore always better to keep on the work we see with our eyes.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, only a few years ago, has been a very, very weak thing—you may say a non-existent thing. If it did exist on paper, why, what did it amount to? What power
did it have? What influence did it have? What did it do for its members, and what did it do for labor at large? Nothing.

And in a few years it became a power. Of course, it is more or less owing to the fact that we have been speaking and writing and all that; but it is mainly owing to the fact that many, many of you became conscious that you were powerful enough, that you are strong enough to do things, and you started doing them. And there was another thing I believe that made the Cloakmakers' Union a power, and the other Unions a power, and that is the thing I want to emphasize. You found out that you don't have to go outside in order to look for strong personalities to do things. You found out that you had in your midst cloakmakers, finishers and all other workers who are able really to do this thing, to make your Union a great one and a powerful one.

And that is one of the most important things. As long as you looked for outside help, your Union was not worth much, because an outside man can do very, very little for you, no matter what a good friend he is. But the moment you started breathing, creating, the moment you began to bring out those men who were really able to take care of your own affairs, that moment you became a power.

There was a time when you were cursing the bosses, but always in your own Union, at your own meetings. You never came face to face with them, and when you did, you were trembling, you really lost yourselves, because they were rather a little more educated, little as they were; because you really could not measure up with them in mental strength. And as long as that lasted you were really very little. But the moment you came face to face with your bosses and you proved yourselves their mental superiors, that moment they lost their courage and it was one of the notable things in your latest fights with the bosses that you were in every respect superior to them. They really looked beside you like fools and idiots, and when people heard and read about the discussions that you had with your bosses, they thought:

"The bosses are presumed to be wiser ones and they have the money; is it not wonderful that the workmen are superior. It should have been the reverse!"

I say that from that moment that you started to act with realities, and stopped dreaming, from that moment you became a power. And I believe there is yet plenty, plenty of room for action. As a matter of fact, I know that there are many, many in your trade who have not yet been organized, and who ought to be organized. There are many, many who don't know yet really the real strength and the real necessity for a Union, though it is so very late in the situation, though we have been talking so long about it. And they can all be brought to your Union, and they can all become Union men! It is only necessary to go ahead with your good practical work.

Therefore I say, although I believe that I did something in my way for the creation of the Union, I say that if it were left only to me and to other outsiders, nothing would be done. It would still be a necessity. It would be still not in existence. It is because your own people took up the matter and they understood it much better than we, for what could outsiders know about cloaks after all?

Therefore I will say it is not I, it is not this one; it is not that one; it is you, yourselves, that made your Union a great power, and it is in your power to make it still greater and greater. The moment you will leave it to somebody else than those out of your midst, the moment you do that, you will make the greatest mistake. You look out that your own men should be your Presidents, should be your Secretaries, should be your active men and women, and then you will never, never go back.

I want to say that Schlesinger in this respect is one of the great hundred. Only a few years ago he was a cloakmaker, just as everyone of us. Today Schlesinger is a national figure, indeed, because he represents the big International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. (Great applause).

I am sure that Schlesinger never dreamed that one of our great statesmen, who are so near to our President, will have a chat with him—a talk, a friendly talk. Today, why it has become one of the very
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. C., 137

ordinary things. Mr. Schlesinger goes to Garfield. Garfield invites him to consult with him and to ask him for his advice. Think of it! Garfield, a Cabinet man, is talking to the cloakmaker Schlesinger! It is not because Garfield is ready to invite every cloakmaker and every workman. It is because the Cloakmakers' Union is a real power in the land, and Schlesinger represents this power. That is why he invites him; that is why he talks with him; that is why he accedes sometimes to the requests of Schlesinger—who is the voice of the labor movement at large.

This is something really to rejoice upon: this is something really to be proud of, and I believe that we have not achieved yet everything. Probably the time is approaching when our Schlesinger will be in the place of Garfield; he may be a minister of labor. (great applause) I believe, friends, really that it is not a dream. It is becoming a reality already. We have already a labor man in the great national council, though he is not exactly what we would like him to be; but still he is a labor man.

I am sure I spoke too much already about Schlesinger and I hope he will not get a swelled head on account of it (laughter). But I said really nothing but the truth. But if it would be the only Schlesinger, it would be a bad thing, because Schlesinger might die tomorrow; Schlesinger might leave us tomorrow; he might get a better position, a better paying position, and he is looking out for it all the time I understand (laughter). The great thing about it is, I personally believe, I am convinced when Schlesinger is gone, I don't know where to—there will be somebody else who will be just as fit, and as good, to take his place, and the Union will not suffer on account of it. That is why I consider the Cloakmakers' Union a good Union. (Applause). If it would not be for that, it would not be really a radical Union—it would not deserve all the praise that it gets and that it thinks it deserves. Only a body that has the strength within itself and does not depend upon any single personality, is sure of permanent existence. Though I believe in the great things that a person may do, but if it would be depend-
that happened in former times when you were weak when it was excusable, will not happen again. I am sure that everybody understands now the strength of being united, the necessity of it. You will understand that you represent one great, powerful Union. The Cloakmakers' Union is more than responsible to itself; it has the whole labor movement, the Jewish labor movement and the gentle labor movement looking to it, and looking after it, and should the Cloakmakers in New York break down or make a big mistake, it might injure not only that Union, but probably the labor movement at large.

Therefore, I am sure everyone of you delegates and members, no matter who they are, whether cloakmakers or waist makers, will feel that great responsibility and will take care of every action and every word they are saying, because of that great responsibility.

Now I don't want to tire you out with my speech, and it is no use repeating the same thing again and again, and besides you didn't come here to be tired out. I understand the convention has also some holiday features about it. (Laughter). Some say that the only thing that you do, perhaps, is that you choose your officers, but you have decided already upon your officers before you came to your convention. (Laughter).

I thank you for the patience that you have shown in hearing my speech. (Great applause).

Resident Schlesinger:

Yesterday when I read to you the report of the General Executive Board, I came to a certain part where I was interrupted for about five minutes by your cheering and applause. I have reference to the last paragraph of the first column on Page 50 of the officers' report under the caption of "A Word of Appreciation" and we were speaking there of a man about whom we said:

"During the past period of our administration we have in the various conflicts in which we were engaged; in negotiations with employers, in our constant endeavors to better the conditions of our members and to safeguard their interests, received the cordial aid and assistance of a great and ever-increasing number of friends, who have by word and action steadied our course and given encouragement to our work.

"Our first and foremost thanks are ever and primarily due to our tireless and brilliant counsel and comrade, Morris Hillquit, who has stood shoulder to shoulder with us in almost every crisis and fight that we have faced, and whose generous and wise aid has been of invaluable consequence to our International Union. It is difficult, indeed, to think of the activities and the achievements of our International Union separate from the unflagging guidance and leadership of Morris Hillquit."

Now this is what I read to you yesterday, and you have all cheered, you have all applauded. I read it to you again, and I am going to do something else: introduce to you this man, Comrade Morris Hillquit.

(Mr. Hillquit received an ovation, everybody rising and applauding for several minutes.)

ADDRESS OF COMRADE MORRIS HILLQUIT.

Brother Schlesinger, Brother Baroff, Delegates to the Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union:

When I look at you assembled here, listening to speech after speech, I am somehow inclined to doubt my friend Yanofsky's statement that this is a holiday for you—that you have been working hard the year long or two years long and then you have been given two weeks of amusement, recreation. It seems to me on the contrary that this convention is a sort of punishment to you. For two years you have had your fun with your bosses, and now your officers and your organization, in substance say to you, "We'll get you together behind closed doors, and then will inflict speech after speech upon you and punish you for all the good times you have had in the past." (Laughter).

When I had the pleasure of speaking to you at the last convention, the country was at peace. But we had a record of fight and struggle. We had just gone through one of the severest legal battles in the annals of the American Labor Movement fought out in a criminal court of New York. We had
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Just gone through a series of strikes in various industries, which probably were among the most severe in the history of your Union.

Now, when we assemble again and our country and the world are at war, we have practically a record of peace, at least comparative industrial peace; a record of growth and a record of achievement.

Within the last two years, the principal work of the International has been the work of organization, of internal reconstruction, with the result that the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union today stands on a more solid basis, on a more firm foundation than ever before. And you are assembled here for the purpose of solidifying your gains, of planning future campaigns for the improvement of the lot of the one hundred thousand workers, men and women whom you represent, and to whom you are responsible.

And one of the thoughts that occurred to me, first of all, and probably occurs to all of you, is that it would be a great mistake to lull ourselves into a false sense of security, to say that we have accomplished all we could have been expected to accomplish, that the future is bright and serene, that we have finished our struggle or the greater part of our struggles; that we can settle down to a period of comparative quietness.

Any labor union, and particularly one of the type of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, can only grow, can only survive if it remains a fighting organization, mindful at every hour of the day and every day of the year of the great task of the great problems of that organization. The fact that we have had perhaps a good season here or there, or in most of our industries—the fact that we have succeeded in raising the wages of the majority of the men and women engaged in our industry is in itself by no means a sufficient accomplishment. We must bear in mind that we have yet very much more to accomplish than what we have accomplished. In the first place, there are exceedingly uncertain, exceedingly troublous times for the whole world, but for the workers especially, and particularly. We must not forget that the first duty to ourselves, to the labor population of the country, to the generations of workers to come, is to maintain and to improve the living standards of the workers in times of war, as well as in times of peace. And in times of war it becomes a particularly live, important problem, for this reason: that there is not one among our employers, as among the employing class generally, who is not ready to take advantage of the world-calamity to coin the misery of the war, the misery of his fellowmen into dollars and fortunes for himself, to accumulate vast wealth in times of war and in account of war, and at the same time try to hold down the workers to the lowest possible level, on the plea of patriotic duty; to discourage and decry any effort on the part of the workers to barely maintain the pre-war standards, on the ground that such an action would introduce disturbance in the industry during war, while they themselves never hesitate to introduce any disturbance, any upheaval for the sake of their sacred profits.

And this applies particularly to our own industries, as we have had every reason to learn.

Now, I want you to bear in mind that while it is true that we have accomplished something, and something more or less substantial in the matter of increasing our wages, that the cost of necessaries has practically doubled since the beginning of the European War, that it has increased about 25 per cent with the last year alone, and that unless the wages of the workers keep pace with this growing cost of necessaries of life, your wages, actually, will have decreased, and not increased. So we have before us quite a serious struggle to bring up the standard of life of our workers, to bring up their wages to a point where they will yield them the same living conditions as they enjoyed before the war.

And this will by no means be the end, for we must not forget that the object of the labor movement is not merely to maintain the standards of the workers, which, as a rule, are altogether too low; but to increase them, to increase them constantly, to increase them steadily, to increase them until such time as the workers will be enabled to actually and fully enjoy their rightful share of the good things of the
world, until such time as they will take their legitimate place in life. So long as there remains any exploitation of the workers, so long as a particle of your work is taken by others, taken by a class of parasites who thrive upon your labor, so long does your struggle remain before you, so long must you continue striving steadfastly, tirelessly, day after day, until you have come into your own, into your full inheritance in life, until such time as the working class is fully emancipated from all economic exploitation.

And this is only one great object that you must have before you. There are other things. In these conventions of ours we don't transact just pure, dry, routine business, and it is well that we should not. It is just as useful, it is probably more useful, more important, to pass a few days in general deliberations on subjects of greater, larger vision than your immediate shop tasks. For after all, we do not live by bread alone. And after all, the labor movement is not purely, exclusively, a bread and butter movement. It is a spiritual movement as well. The labor movement is and ought to be a live, moving force, making for a better life. For after all, this is the great importance, the great significance of the labor movement. For each and every individual of you, of course, his immediate conditions, his immediate improvements, his immediate raise of wages is a matter of tremendous importance. For your fellow-men at large, for the world at large, the greater importance of the labor movement lies in this, that it is the greatest factor in the world today moving towards social progress and holding out a promise of world redemption. And this feature of the labor movement, the spiritual side of it, is particularly important at this time in the world's history, when every other factor making for progress and every other institution is breaking down, or has broken down, and when the labor movement of the world has remained the one great force towards which all men and women of idealism can turn their eyes with expectation, with hope, with promise of a better future.

One of the peculiar paradoxes of the war has been just this, that it has advanced the labor movement all over the world. To-day, the organized labor movement of the working class all over the world stands out as the power, as the only power in the world. There have been a great many factors which have contributed to it. They are important—all of them.

In the first place, whatever we may think about the immediate causes of the war, wherever we may place the responsibility for its immediate outbreak, one thing is absolutely clear, and it becomes clearer from day to day, and that is that this war, the greatest calamity that has ever befallen mankind since the early days, the earliest days of its history, this war which has turned the entire civilised world into a horde of savages and barbarians, this war was brought about and is being continued through the Governments or the ruling classes of the world. If, five years ago, we did not have an autocratic, militaristic, capitalist regime in Germany and Austria, if five years ago there had been no dynasty of Hohenzollerns or Hapsburgs, if five years ago England and France and Belgium and all other countries were not under the rule of the governing classes, the classes who were rivaling with each other for international markets all the time, if five years ago Europe were under the domination, under the actual government of the workers, the people of the various countries, just as Russia is today, we may be sure this tremendous calamity which has befallen mankind would have been averted.

All the millions and millions of human lives that have been destroyed, that have been wrecked, all the tears of the millions of workers, all the misery of the nations of the world would have been spared if the people, the working class had ruled the world, instead of their employers, instead of the governing classes, as was actually the case.

And this fact, incontestable as it is, makes an ever stronger appeal to mankind at large, to the working class in particular. Hence, although we find that even while the workers, just as well as any other class of the population, and perhaps more so, are today busily engaged in the unremitting task of murdering and killing each other, nevertheless the workers themselves feel that in them—in their
unity, in their control, lies the hope and the salvation of the world.

And then also there has been another great feature in this war, which has advanced the labor movement and the Socialist movement to the first place, and that is the natural, the instinctive democracy which the war has brought about. I don't mean that democracy which we find in the treaties or in programs; I don't even mean that democracy which is granted by laws. I mean the impulsive, human democracy, which in the face of a great crisis sees the man and the woman behind the person, behind the person of every class, behind the person of every rank, behind the person of every condition. I mean the kind of democracy which comes from a community of struggle, from a community of suffering, and also from the community of that great leveler of all unequal conditions, the inexorable, cold death, which is no respector of persons, which mows down the rich and the poor, the distinguished and the obscure, with the same impartial, cruel sweep of its bony hand. I mean the democracy which in the face of a world struggle and world crisis instinctively discards the artificial distinctions which have been erected in the course of centuries between men and men, and men and women.

And then there is also another great tendency in modern times, brought about by war, which furthers and strengthens the progressive labor movement all over the world. I refer to the institutions of collective ownership, management and control of industries, which have been brought into all civilized countries as a war measure or war necessity. We all know our so-called war-Socialism is not the Socialism we are striving after, or the labor movement is striving after, consciously or unconsciously. It is not a democratic collectivism. It is not a working class collectivism. It is a collectivism imposed from above. It is a collectivism meant not primarily for the benefit of the working class, but meant primarily as a war measure.

But with all that, the world cannot remain blind to this sublime fact: that in the face of national and international danger, all slogans about the sanctity of private property, about the rights of the owning classes, all disappear as if they had never existed. The collectivity of the people—the nation as such proclaims, it not by word, then by deed, that all that we have and own, all that we are, we own and have and are in trust for the community, and not by virtue of any alleged sacred right of the private individual; that it is the collectivity of men and women, who in the last analysis are entitled to the world and the fullness thereof; that it is the living men and living women, who constitute the human race, for whose benefit the world was created, for whose benefit the whole wealth of the world is there; that it is the aim, the object and the purpose of the world—of all governments of the world, to sustain the life of every nation, to sustain the life of the whole world, and to sustain the life of every man and woman, and that the humblest born worker comes into the world with the same claim to existence, with the same right to live, as the most exalted in birth or station.

It is this tendency towards collectivism, this great recognition of the rights of the human race as such over individual rights, which has revolutionized and is revolutionizing public attitude, and is advancing more and more the cause of the radical labor movement and of Socialism.

And there is another feature, and that is that for the first time probably in the history of the United States have the people, the large masses of the American people begun to be trained to the appreciation of the spirit of Internationalism. Up to the war, anyone who called himself an Internationalist was considered a sort of outcast. Why it was not even quite safe to call your Union or similar Unions, International Unions. An Internationalist, in the eyes of the average unthinking American, was a man without a country. An Internationalist meant a man who had no patriotism. Patriotism stood for the narrow love of one's own country, coupled with an implied opposition to all other countries. Today, we are fighting—so it is said—to make the world safe for democracy; not the United States alone; not our own country; no! the world! Today we are enunciating—announcing rather, peace programs, programs of reconstruction, which embrace the entire world. The authorized spokesman of the United States, the Presi-
ident—says—and you must assume he speaks for the people—that this war has for its aim a state of affairs in which every nation, large or small, will be equally free, equally safe; that no peace will be made which will benefit only one country at the expense of the other.

The sense of international adherence, whether the various protestations are sincere or not sincere, does not matter, but the principle of international adherence, the recognition that the world does not end with the United States, the realization that the nations of the world are as closely linked together within our own country, the recognition that no single nation, no single section of the human race can work out its own salvation, that no nation can be free so long as one single nation anywhere in the world is enslaved, this recognition has grown immensely. (tremendous applause).

And I don't know to what extent you appreciate the symbolic value of even such simple, prosaic things as our war-bread. For instance. When you get up in the morning and when you get a roll for your breakfast that you cannot determine the composition of, and you don't know whether it is made of rye, corn, barley, salt, pepper, or whatever it may be, and when you know that all over the United States similar bread is eaten—well, it may not be very-tasty, not as tasty as pure wheat, but when you think that that means that each and everyone of us and every man, woman and child in the United States is giving away part of his food, of his wheat to people, men and women, in different European countries, who have no bread at all; that they are giving it away voluntarily, because they recognize that the people of other countries are human beings as well as we are, and are entitled to live as well as we. When we have come to the point of sacrificing our personal efforts for the benefit of foreign races whom we don't know personally, then I say to you the practical application of the principle of international solidarity has made more progress in this country within the last year than it had made in a century before.

All these are not things desired or designed by anybody. I don't want to say that the war in Russia produced these indirect effects, has justified itself. I don't want to say that war thereby has become an instrument of social progress. War remains a barbarous, inhuman, uncivilized institution with all that. But nevertheless, the indirect results of that war have been and are growing steadily in the direction of strengthening all the principles of the progressive and radical labor movement and Socialist movement all over the world, with the result that everywhere we find the labor movement growing spiritually never before.

With all the cry of our bought press, of our narrow-minded statesmen against the present regime in Russia, we know nevertheless, that there is a great, tremendous country, with a large population, a country that has heretofore been the darkest resort of the darkest reaction, standing today in the vanguard of democracy, in the vanguard of social progress, in the hands, all through, from top to bottom, of the people themselves, of the working class, the peasants. (great applause).

And I believe I am safe in saying, that for the historian of the future, the revolution in Russia will be of greater importance than the entire war. The war will pass some day; it cannot last forever. Conditions in the world will be readjusted. But the fact that one of the greatest countries in the world has broken away from the old capitalistic moorings, has once and for all turned a new page in history, a page of the domination, of the control, of the rule of the people, instead of rulers, the fact that this country has broken all past traditions, all past prejudices, the fact that it has created a living idea for the workers of all countries to follow—that cannot pass without the most vital effect upon the whole world.

The present regime in Russia may change. It need not necessarily be Lenin and Trotsky forever. They are undoubtedly great leaders. But if Lenin had remained in Switzerland and Trotsky in the Bronx in New York, the Russian revolution would have gone on just as well, and if there should be any change in the administration, one thing is absolutely certain, autocracy, capitalism, oppression are dead in Russia. (Cheers and tremendous applause).
Russia is bound to recover. A great country like Russia cannot be dismembered forever. The people of Russia who have known how to overthrow their Czar after a subjugation of hundreds of years, will know how to get rid of their Teutonic despots, or any other kind of attempted despotism. (Applause). Russia will remain the land of liberty, shedding its inspiration to all other countries of the world.

And then, Russia was not the only country that had such a marvelous transformation. There was another revolution, less spectacular, less picturesque, less appreciated generally, but probably almost as significant. And that is, the revolution, the spiritual, moral revolution and the political revolution which has taken place in England, particularly among the working classes of England. There we had a large body of men, numerically stronger than any other class in the country, for years and generations leading an existence and carrying on a struggle for mediocre liberalism, if you want. We have had a working class in England, an organized working class movement, very much similar in type and spirit to that of the average organized Union in the United States. It was not a very high nor very inspiring type.

And within the last three years, particularly within the last year or less than that, the British Labor movement, under the lessons of the great war and the world catastrophe, has been regenerated, has changed, has grown to gigantic stature, has become a power in the land, a power in the world. It was the British Labor movement which has given the world the first definite charter. It has turned to a bewildered mankind, in this general chaos wrought by the havoc of war, and has said: "Fellowmen and women all over the world, look what you have got yourselves into by this inhuman organization of society today. Civilization will never survive, if this form of world organization continues. We must begin remodelling the world. We must begin rebuilding it anew. We propose to build it on the foundation of true democracy, true liberty, true brotherhood, equality among nations, full rights, full independence for every nation; equality within each nation; equality not merely in name, not merely as a political right, but equality in life, equality of opportunity. We must have a series of commonwealths based on social justice, and a free federation of all such commonwealths encircling the globe. We must build a new world which will put an end to all strife, to all struggles within each nation, to all wars among nations. We must rebuild it radically from the foundation up—a world of co-operation, a world of labor, a world of freedom and a world of enjoyment!" (Great applause).

And this new charter given to us by our fellow-workers in England, is a charter given to the working class of the whole world. It is not a general program for the diplomats in the various countries. It is not even a request upon the Governments of the ruling classes of the different countries. It is a resolve, a determination that the working class movement in the world will make over the world as a working class movement (Tremendous applause).

And that is why the most progressive workers of all countries, of France and of Italy and of most of the neutral countries, have rallied to that great, redeeming program. And that is why it becomes our duty in this country to make that program a living reality here!

Friends, there is a serious word I want to say to you in conclusion. And that is, while we are celebrating our own successes, and while we are extolling our own victories, our own progress, let us not overlook the fact that the working class movement in the United States on the whole, has remained at this time the most backward in the world. Let us not forget the fact that of all the great labor bodies in the world, the great organized labor body of the United States is the only one that has practically forgotten nothing and learned nothing from this great world catastrophe. (Applause). The great new vision which the workers all over the world have exhibited has so far had little appeal in this country. The average organized worker is repeating the old slogans in the old way,
as if nothing at all had happened in the last three years, and particularly in the last year.

And I say, if we are to retain our place in the great fraternity of International Labor, if we are to do our share in the world reconstruction that is to fall to the task of organized labor, some detachment of American labor must take up this task. And there is no more glorious task before you. There is no greater, no better task before you, than to place yourselves, your International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, one of the most progressive organizations in this country, at the vanguard of the American Labor Movement. Give it new growth, new inspiration, new ideals! Call it to fight for the cause of Internationalism! (Loud and prolonged applause).

Comrades, let us not rest on the laurels of our achievements. We have been victorious, but don’t forget we have only made the first step along the long, long distance of our struggles. Let us leave this Convention with an organization and with a spirit behind us, which will mean determination to fight this great fight until the end, to continue our struggles in every way for the achievement of the ideal of the labor movement, for the great social ideal that animates us all! Carry on our struggle with increased vigor, materially and morally, economically and politically, nationally and internationally!

(At the conclusion of his address, Comrade Hillquit was given an ovation, everybody rising and applauding for several minutes).

Delegate Silverman: I want to make a motion that the entire speech of Comrade Hillquist be printed in the minutes of the proceedings.

President Schlesinger: There is no need for a motion; it will be in the minutes.

Delegate Gerstein: I move you that this Convention give a rising vote of thanks to Mr. Hillquit.

This was unanimously carried, everybody rising and applauding vigorously.

Comrade Hillquist: I thank you, Comrades.

After Secretary Baroff had read a few more communications that had come in the interim, President Schlesinger introduced Brother Rosenberg, as follows:

President Schlesinger: Our First Vice-President of the International desires to make a speech. (Laughter and applause).

It was reported to you in the report of the General Executive Board that among the 17 Socialists elected to the Aldermanic Chamber and the State Legislature of the City and State of New York, one of the representatives of the State Legislature is our First Vice-President, Brother Elmer Rosenberg. (Applause). Brother Rosenberg, I am sure, would like to tell you now what he has accomplished in the State Legislature, and being that he is so anxious to speak I take pleasure in presenting him to you (laughter) for the purpose of delivering an address. (Great applause).

ADDRESS OF BROTHER ELMER ROSENBERG.

Brother President and Fellow Workers: I not only think, but I know this is a frame-up (laughter). I was sitting here, when Brother Schlesinger said, “Now what shall we do next?” I said, “The worst thing that you could do to anybody now is to put him up to speak after Hillquit made that speech.” And sure enough, he gets up and says that I want to speak. (Laughter).

However, since I am here, and since I was elected to the honor of representing the Sixth Assembly District of New York on the Socialist Party ticket, mainly through the aid of the Cloakmakers' Union and of the other organizations in New York, I consider myself a tailor-made assemblyman and so it is only fitting that I should report my activities to a tailor organization. (Applause).

You know we, of the needle trades, have the distinction of having been the first, or having had the first representative sent to the House of Representatives through the aid and effort of the New York cloakmakers; that was Comrade Meyer London. (Applause).

We then sent another tailor, Comrade Shiplakof, to the Assembly. (Applause). And now I am the second of the tailoring group, and I assure you, Shiplakof and I, expert tailors as we are, give them plenty
of pins and needles in the Assembly. (Ap-
plause).
You remember in this convention, year
after year, we have come here and were asked
for contributions to the campaign, as per-
petual candidates, who ran year after year.
Personally, I ran about 7 or 8 times. I got
so used to running that I would be disap-
pointed if I could not run. I sometimes
felt like running in between the year be-
fore election time (laughter) and I believe
that the reason that they elected us was to
get rid of us. They said "There is no use;
we cannot stop them; they are coming
back year after year; they don't lose any pa-
tience; so we might as well elect them."
(Laughter).
When this war was declared it was sup-
posed to have broken down International-
ism, it was supposed to have broken down
the organization of the " Reds" throughout
the world; Instead of that, it seems as
though the Reds were going to break up
the present system in the world. (Ap-
plause).
In the City of New York, with Comrade
Hillquit as the standard bearer, running for
Mayor, it was pretty early predicted that
the East Side was going Socialistic. Every-
body admitted beforehand that it was go-
ing Socialistic. And the politicians could
not make out just why and how, and they
shouted "that is because the people living
there are a lot of Jewish and Russian for-
eigners." They were all right when they
voted the Republican and Democratic tick-
efts in that vicinity, but the minute they be-
gan to vote for Socialism, the politicians
changed their minds.
And then when they heard that Harlem
was going to elect a Socialist, they said:
"It is because the Israelites live there."
And when they heard of the Bronx electing
a Socialist Assemblyman, they said "It is
because the people from Palestine live
there." And then they heard that Brownsville
was going Socialistic, and they dis-
covered that every Irishman and even the
Negroes had Jewish blood in their veins,
because they voted for Socialism.
And so we elected ten men to Albany, and
when I went to Albany the gentlemen were
surprised and they said, "Look at the So-
cialists," and they had our seats covered
with red flowers. We know that the other
seats that were still occupied by the other
gentlemen, belonged to us, and I am sure
that before we are going to be very much
older, the Socialists will be in the majority
in the House. (Applause).
Let me tell you, I used to say that the
Assembly was pretty bad—that the men
that are sent there don't represent the in-
terests of the working class. I want to
apologize for that statement. I want to
apologize for that statement. The Assem-
bly in the State of New York is not bad.
It is rotten, and it has to be changed from
the bottom up. (Applause).
Even the so-called "friends of labor"—yes,
labor representatives, who got there with
good intentions, are so ignorant, so blind,
that with the best of will they cannot do
or be of service for the working class, un-
less they are armed with the knowledge,
with the requisites of the working class
problems of the day, and that is Socialism.
We have introduced bills,—and only
when you compare them with the bills that
were introduced by the other gentleman—
that you can judge the difference between
the two sets of men: The Republican and
Democrats have introduced these serious
times of stress, when the whole world is
seething with revolt, when you may ex-
pect changes of great magnitude,—they in-
troduced bills of a nature like this: one
bill provided that Swiss cheese shall here-
after have 38 per cent moisture instead of
35. Another bill provided that a cat shall
have a bell on its neck, so that it may
make a noise and warn any bird it was go-
ing after. Another bill, that birds should be
shot at arms length.
The Socialist delegation introduced 76
bills among which were such that
asked that the cities take over the street
car lines, the electric lines, the gas plants
and the ice plants. They introduced bills
for the purpose of taking over, or rather
erecting modern dwelling houses for the
working class, improvements in the form
of sick and death funds, improvements upon
Insurance, Old Age Pensions, etc. They
introduced bill after bill, for the protection
of the civic rights of the working class in
the State of New York. On the whole,
it had to be admitted by friend and foe alike
that the ten men that worked there, while there bills were not passed, have laid the ground-work and have shown to the people of the State of New York what working class legislators would do if they had the majority.

If those bills are not going to become law, if you are not going to have modern dwelling houses, if you are not going to have a 44-hour week, (a bill that was introduced by the Socialists) if you are going to have no old age pensions, it will not be the fault of the Socialist delegation.

And so whoever came to the capitol, whoever read of the work of the Socialists, came to the conclusion that if they want progress, if they want welfare, if they want more for the working class, they must send more Socialists to that place.

And incidentally, I want to say, and I have said in a speech last night before the Fabian Club in this city that it shall be the business of our delegation to the next American Federation of Labor, whether they be successful or not, to take the stand first that we want political action on the part of the Labor Unions of America (applause); second, that we want organized labor to take part in the Inter-Allied Conference, and no one Gompers or a dozen of them can prevent us from that! (Great applause).

After a few announcements by the Chairmen of the Committees to their various committees, and the presentation of a beautiful wreath to the Convention by the Petticoat Makers' Branch of Local No. 49, the convention adjourned at 12:00 o'clock noon, to reconvene the following morning at 9:30 A. M.

FIFTH DAY—FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 9:30 A. M., President Schlesinger in the chair.

TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

New York, May 24, 1918.
Mr. Schlesinger, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We, the employees of Weinstein and Klopstein, send with profound delight our best wishes and congratulations to this assembly whose object and great gospel is the elevation and liberation of its members. That this great work of the I. L. G. W. U. may continue unity must prevail among its locals. We ask, therefore, that Local 17 whose brilliant work is known to all, shall get justice, to Local 17, justice to the right, long live the international, long live Local 17!

Shop Executives, 8, GOLDBERG, Chairman

Philadelphia, Pa., May 23, 1918.
A. BAROFF, Secretary, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Our heartiest congratulations are extended to the Ladies Garment Makers for the wonderful work they have done.

The Employees of Clair & Co.

New York, May 24, 1918.
Fourteenth Biennial Convention, International Ladies' Garment Workers, Boston, Mass.: Best wishes to your Fourteenth Biennial Convention. We hope in the near future to have a department of all the needle trades which will be of great benefit to both you and our members.

JOSEPH GOLD, Mgr.
ISRAEL GALLAY, Sec.
Joint Executive Board United Brotherhood of Tailors, Amalgamated Clothings of America.

New York, May 23, 1918.
A. BAROFF, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations. May the success of this convention be so great that it shall reflect upon the entire labor movement.

WM. DAVIS, Local 62.

New York, May 24, 1918.
Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union of America, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Brothers and Fellow Workers, we send
you best wishes in the name of the Russian-Polish Branch of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York for a successful convention with good results in your work for the good of the membership and for the whole organization. We are aiming to settle happily two fundamental matters which touch us here in New York, firstly, the general introduction of work by the week, and second, the removal of jurisdictional misunderstandings among the various locals once and for all time.

E. SLOWIK, Secretary.

New York, May 24, 1918.

Convention of International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Boston, Mass.: Fellow Workers, in behalf of 2500 cigar-makers of New York City who are engaged in a deathly struggle with the United Cigar Manufacturers whose aim is to wipe out all the recent victories achieved by the cigar-makers through weeks of struggle, we appeal to you, delegates of the biggest labor organization, for brotherly help. This glorious tradition of your organization as part of organized labor gives us assurance that you will not forsake the cigar-makers, who at last awake to their needs and who are fighting desperately and doggedly for the last ten weeks.

LOUIS TEUSTER, Strike Committee.

New York, May 23, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Greetings: I wish the International which has always been in the front rank in all significant labor and other questions a lease of long life and continued success.

D. HUBIN,
Secretary Local 3, I. L. G. W. U.

New York, May 23, 1918.

International Ladies Garment Workers: Our congratulations to you and our wishes for a most successful convention.

Jewish Socialists Federation,
MAX LULOW, Secretary.

Philadelphia, May 23, 1918.

International Convention, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations and success to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention.

Workers of Bernstein and Smellow.

MR. BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Mazeltof wishes for further activities and prosperity for the I. L. G. W. U.


New York, May 23, 1918.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Weinsstein and Kipsteiin's examiners bouchers send heartiest congratulations and wish success to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention.

NATHAN ZIMBALIST, Chairman of Shop.

Philadelphia, May 23, 1918.


Workers of Blumfeld's Shop.

New York, May 23, 1918

International Ladies' Garment Workers,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Brothers—The Executive Board now at regular meeting send greetings to all the delegates. May your work in behalf of the members in our industry be successful with help to organize all the men and women in the ladies' garment industry. We promise to do our part by realizing in life all your legislations, hold high the banner of our International. We are with you in war and peace. May this convention adopt measures to have the week work system the solid foundation for a stronger International Union. Long live our organization!

For the Executive Board,
Alfred Rifci, Sec'y Local 48

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 24, 1918

Fourteenth Biennial Convention,
Boston, Mass.

Greetings. Accept the hearty congratulations and best wishes of the Coat Pressers' Branch of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Local Union No. 3, of New York, to your 14th Biennial Convention, and may all your aspirations on behalf of the working class meet with success.

Morris Silverstein, Sec'y
Local No. 3, A. C. W. of A.
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Examiners' Union sends heartiest congratulations to the banquet of the I. L. G. W. U. Tho far away, please keep in mind your youngest child you left behind.

Local No. 82
President Nathan Zimbalist

New York, May 23, 1918
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
We, the Executive Board of the Examiners, Begräders and Bushelers' Union, Local 82, I. L. G. W. U. take pleasure in congratulating the 14th Biennial Convention. We wish you success in your future work.

Isadore Graff, Sec'y.

New York, May 23, 1918
Convention of the Ladles' Garment Workers, Boston, Mass.
Wishing you success in your project to get garment workers just compensation for their toll.

Employes of Miller Bros.
28 West 27th St., New York

Philadelphia, Pa., May 23, 1918
R. Schlesinger, Pres., I. L. G. W. U.
Convention Hall, Boston,
Best wishes for the International. May the deliberations of the delegates bring prosperity and success to its workers.

Sarah Consar
Executive Member Local 15.

Boston, Mass., May 23, 1918
The International Ladles' Garment Workers, Boston, Mass.
We extend fraternal greetings and good wishes to all in attendance at your convention here in Boston. We wish to commend you on your achievements this past year and the coming year will hold greater things for the uplift and progress than any previous year. You have our heartiest congratulations and co-operation for every possible success. Sincerely yours,

Emily J. Granville, Sec'y of Joint Council of the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of Boston.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 23, 1918
Mr. R. Schlesinger, Pres., I. L. G. W. U. Union,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Accept our sincere congratulations for the past and best wishes for the future.

Workers of Miller & Neufeld

Philadelphia, Pa., May 23, 1918
International Ladles' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Accept my heartiest congratulations to the Fourteenth Convention. May your present decisions lead us to success in all your undertakings.

Mrs. Litvakoff, Ex-Sec'y
Local No. 15, Phila.

New York, May 23, 1918
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Examiners and Bushelers of Reisman, Rothman & Blobler's Shop send congratulations to the 14th Biennial Convention.
Chairman of Shop, L. Stein

New York, May 23, 1918
Fourteenth Biennial Convention Ladles' Garment Workers.
Our Operators, Local 156, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, extend its best wishes to you for successful convention. May your labors be crowned with success.

Martin Weiner, Sec'y,
Operators' Local 156, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of A.

New York, May 23, 1918
Fourteenth Convention, I. L. G. W. U., Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Delegates—We extend to you our heartiest congratulations and our best wishes. May all your future undertakings meet with even greater success than those of the past. With trades union regards for the cause.

Independent Division of the Cloak Makers Union, 40 East 23rd St.

Baltimore, Md., May 23, 1918.
International Ladles' Garment Workers,
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
The Joint Board of Baltimore in session send hearty congratulations to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladles' Garment Workers. We wish you success in your effort to liberate the workers in our industry.

Ida Fatigall, Sec'y.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Boston, Mass., May 23, 1918.

Convention International Ladies Garment
Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Greetings to the Fourteenth Convention.
Your wonderful achievements have made
you the pride of the entire American Labor
movement. Your defense of justice and
your readiness to help the class conscious
workers endears you in the hearts of every
worker. Onward on the road of achieve-
ments for the emancipation of the working
class!

Hebrew Bakers' Union, Local 45, Boston.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 23, 1918.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: The members of the Koller-Cohn Co.

wish to express their heartiest congratula-
tions to the Fourteenth Biennial Conven-
tion of the I. L. G. W. U. May your delib-
erations bring about speedy and successful
results for the Cleveland Cloak Makers
Union.

New York, May 23, 1918.

International Ladies' Garment Workers'
Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: The press is a medium of education for
the workers. The Jewish Daily Forward
and the New York Call have aided you in
your struggles in New York. The New
England Leader has aided and will aid your
struggles in New England. It is a news-
paper of the workers and stands ready to
help the workers.

We are in a condition where we must
ask the workers to aid us financially. We
hope that in your deliberation you will de-
cide to give us financial assistance.

Again congratulating you and wishing
you success, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

J. RODMAN, Mgr.

President Schlesinger announced that he
had received a credential from the People's
Relief Committee, introducing Mr. Meyer
Gillis as their representative, who will
speak in their behalf. (Applause)

ADDRESS OF MEYER GILLIS.

Mr. President and Brothers:
I have been sent here to represent a mil-
ion of war sufferers in the desolated coun-
tries of Europe. As a practical man, I will
make it as brief as possible in order to
give you the opportunity to go on with your
work.

I cannot afford to miss this chance to
emphasize upon the great work that you
have done in connection with the relief
work for our European sufferers. The
splendid plan which was engineered by
your officers—to make Washington's Birth-
day, February 22nd, 1918, a day of relief in
the ladies' garment trades for the war suf-
ferers, was one of the finest examples of
assistance rendered by the Jewish workers
of America to their brothers and sisters
across the seas.

The People's Relief Committee is a
branch of the great relief movement which
is collecting funds for Europe. The Peo-
ple's Relief Committee represents that
particular class of which you are a part,—
the labor class. The other branches repre-
sent the wealthier and more prosperous
classes. All the branches, nevertheless,
work together, hand in hand, although they
call their money separately. They, however, distribute their money jointly through one central distribution committee. The money is being sent to Russia, to Rumania and to other sections where the need is the greatest.

I did not come here to thank you for your labors on behalf of the relief work. I know you did it because you knew it was your duty, your sacred duty, to help those who are in indescribable misery in the war-stricken fields of the old world. I am here to congratulate you and to greet you for the work you have done, because your work has set an example to other workers all over the country. The $160,000 you have collected has inspired others to contribute, and I have come here to ask you not to forget that the example which was set by you during the past winter should be doubled and trebled by you during the seasons to come, if the occasion will still remain.

I beg of you, since we the People's Relief Committee are going to have a convention in Cleveland,—the convention of all the relief forces in the country, on May 30, and since you are entitled to send two delegates to that convention, we expect you to participate in that conference. We want our convention to be composed of representative organizations,—we want you to be the controllers of the movement of relief in America. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is fully entitled to recommend and to take part in the election of the next officers of the People's Relief Committee of America, and we hope that you will not fail to respond to our call, and that you will do your best to help the relief work on a still greater scale when you come back to your towns and cities where you come from, full of this message of inspiration. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger:—I have here a card from a gentleman, by the name of Charles H. Govan, and on the other side of the card is written:

"To the President:

I am here by direction of Secretary Wilson of the Department of Labor at Washington and President Gompers of the A. F. of L. and ask the privilege of the floor to deliver my message.

Fraternaly yours,

Chas. H. Govan.

Speakers' Bureau, Labor Dept.,
Washington, D. C."

Pres. Schlesinger:—I take great pleasure in introducing to you Mr. Govan.

Mr. Govan delivered a long and eloquent appeal to the delegates, exhorting them to remain steadfast in their unflagging support of the Government and to prosecute relentlessly the aims of democracy, fighting for the preservation of the principles of liberalism the world over. He was frequently interrupted by hearty applause from the delegates.

Pres. Schlesinger:—I would like to get the unanimous consent of this Convention to forward the following telegram:

Boston, Mass., May 24, 1918

Hon. Harry A. Garfield,
Fuel Administrator,
Washington, D. C.

The undersigned was directed by the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, representing 125,000 workers in the women's wear industry, now in session in Boston, Mass., to convey to you the expression of deep appreciation on the part of our members for the prompt, broadminded and generous manner in which you acted on our just request for the exemption of the Union shops in our industry from your heatless Monday order.

I take great pleasure in complying with the directions of the Convention, and beg leave to add the expression of my personal appreciation and gratitude.

Benj. Schlesinger, President
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, St. Botolph & Garrison Streets, Boston, Mass.

This was unanimously carried.

Pres. Schlesinger:—Brothers and Sisters, Cloakmakers and Waistmakers. Generally, when speakers address our Convention they address you as cloakmakers. Either they are not familiar
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

with the general make-up of our organization, or, perhaps, it is a matter of habit with them. They always speak of cloakmakers and do not even mention the waistmakers, children's dressmakers, corset workers and all the other trades of which our International Union is composed.

Now I want to address you all,—the waistmakers as well as the corset workers and the cloakmakers. (Applause) We have here two brothers in this hall who have for many years served this International in the capacity of vice-presidents. You all know their names and you all know the work they have done and are still doing for our organization. The minutes of this Convention would be incomplete, if these two brothers would not have a chance to address you.

I have reference to Brother Polakoff and Brother Witashkin. I take great pleasure in introducing to you first, our former vice-president, Brother Sol. Polakoff.

ADDRESS OF BROTHER POLAKOFF.

Brother Schlesinger, Brother Baroff, members of the General Executive Board and delegates assembled here today: Accept my greetings to you.

In short, I would say that I expressed my feelings to you in my telegram the day before yesterday,—in other words, I am one of you. I was at the cradle of this international; I worked for this international since the first day that I came to this country, and I enjoyed my work whether in the capacity of a plain soldier or as one of those who governed this international body. And let me tell you this is the happiest minute of my life—to be with you and to talk to you. This international has proven that the days when the organization of the Jewish workers of this country seemed an impossibility are gone never to return. We have proven that there is no such thing as impossibility.

When the proper spirit among cloakmakers and the waistmakers and all of the other workers of our international was created, they came to their senses and they organized themselves. I wish to say right here that, in my opinion, the real foundation of this international was laid by one of our girls' locals. This was in the year 1909, when a strike was called by Local 25, the New York Waistmakers' Union. (Applause) This was practically the key to the organization of the ladies' garment workers of this country.

I do not want to take too much of your time this morning. Enough has been said at this Convention and I am sure that you will have more speakers.

I appreciate very much the kindness of Brother Schlesinger in calling upon me to say a few words to you. I greet you again, and may the future grant that we will be strong enough to pass successfully through the hard times that are before us. Let us see to it that organized labor will do its share in bringing a true and permanent peace to the world. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: — Ex-Vice-President Benjamin Witashkin tells me that he is too greatly moved by the reception you have given him, and that he has never studied the art of speechmaking. He therefore requests me to extend his greetings to this Convention, which I do with very great pleasure. (Applause). I now desire to introduce to you one who is not a member of our international, but is, nevertheless, one of the most active workers for the International Union. He has been connected with our organization for a number of years,—first in Canada and now in the United States. In Canada, with the cloakmakers and in New York with another branch of our industry, the embroidery, he has done excellent work. I have reference to Brother Ossip Walinsky, whom I take great pleasure in presenting to you. (Applause).

Address of Brother Ossip Walinsky.

Sisters and Brothers: I want to say to you today that Local 66 in presenting this beautiful banner, has proved that the ties that are uniting the locals with the present administration of the International are close and strong. The locals and the International are one. There was a time when friction, dissention, had caused disharmony in the ranks of our locals. But those days disappeared forever. The locals, small and large, are today the beautiful branches of one beautiful tree and the International is
composed of all the branches of the ladies' garment industry, which actually present and represent all the people in all our trades.

I want to say to you today, my brothers and sisters, that when Local 66 has introduced week work, our people had been working 53 hours a week for a low and miserable salary of $12 and $14 a week. Three years after, since we have come to life, our local is working the shortest hours, being paid for ten legal holidays, with a minimum wage of $40.00 a week (applause). I don't mean to imply that week work should be introduced throughout all our trades at once, at the present time. The cloak operators and all of you know better whether week work shall be introduced at this present moment, or not.

All I say to you is this much, that the time is near when week-work, short hours and a good minimum scale of wages will be established and under a system of week-work and humane conditions in the shops, we shall grow to greater dimensions, become greater national factor and I believe, Mr. President and Delegates to this Convention, that although there are great problems ahead of us, I am almost confident that we shall solve them to the great satisfaction of all, and the next Convention will find even a greater, stronger International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. (Applause).
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Resolution No. 111.
 Introduced by Delegation Local No. 1.

Whereas, owing to the scarcity of piece goods for the manufacture of clothing, the practice has sprung up among certain dealers of such goods and also among large numbers of manufacturers who have stored up large quantities of piece goods, to hoard the same up in the expectation of enormous price increases, and the available supply of piece goods is diverted from the legitimate object of manufacture to unproductive speculation and profiteering, and

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union respectfully requests the Secretary of War and the Quartermaster General that they employ in each and every branch of the Department at least one competent and qualified person from the ranks of organized labor in connection with awarding contracts and fixing the terms and conditions of such contracts.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 112.

Introduced by L. Langer, representing Joint Board of New York City.

Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that close and organic co-operation of all unions within the same general industry is most conducive to the success of labor's cause and most effective against the attacks of the employing interests organized on a broad industrial scale, and

Whereas, there are definite indications of a movement on the part of the manufacturers' associations in all branches of the

thorities and urge upon them the necessity of including the stipulated scale of wages in every contract as a measure of protection to the workers and of preservation of living standards of wages throughout the industry.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 110.

Introduced by delegate L. Langer, New York Joint Board.

Whereas, The various branches of the departments of the Quartermaster General in charge of Government contracts for the manufacture of clothing are managed by persons mostly taken from the ranks of employers, among them avowed opponents of organized labor, and

Whereas, Labor is a factor in the successful operation of war industries, of an importance at least equal to that of the employers, and

Whereas, The labor unions of America have through more than a generation of intermittent struggle and sacrifice succeeded in establishing decent working conditions in the shops and have a vital and legitimate interest in preserving such standards, an interest which, in our opinion, is entitled to full recognition by the Government, and

Whereas, The standards of labor are, in our opinion, seriously jeopardized under the one-sided management of employers and particularly employers of non-union labor, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union instruct its President to direct the attention of the proper Federal authorities to this crying abuse to the end that measures be immediately taken for the discontinuance of the evil practiced by process of commandeering all such goods if need be.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.
garment industry to consolidate into one compact body, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, reiterating its consistent stand on this subject, urgently requests the American Federation to take immediate steps for the formation of an effective Garment Trades Department, within the American Federation of Labor.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 113.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 1.

Whereas, The international socialist and labor movements have repeatedly declared themselves in favor of the right of self determination for all nations and peoples, large and small, and expressly and explicitly in favor of the rehabilitation of Palestine as a physical center of Jewish life and culture, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union heartily endorses and concurs in the said principle and expresses its sympathy with the movement for such rehabilitation of Palestine.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 114.

Introduced by Delegates of Locals No. 2, 16, 69, 63 and 31.

Whereas, Large quantities of army shirts and other articles of apparel are being made in the homes of the workers in different clothing centers of the country, particularly in Philadelphia and Louisville, and

Whereas, A careful investigation made by the National Consumer's League reveals the fact that in Louisville alone about 20,000 women from a wide radius of towns, take such work from the factory to their homes where the same is performed under unsanitary conditions and at iniquitably low wages, be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union goes on record as protesting against this system of work, which is a menace to the health of the men in the army and is bound to result in a serious impairment of wages and labor standards, be it further

Resolved, That the President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, call these conditions to the earnest attention of the proper Federal authorities to the end that the evil be speedily and effectively remedied.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 115.

Introduced by Delegates of Locals No. 7, 20 and 54.

Whereas, Government contracts for the manufacture of garments include as a rule provisions restricting the work-week to 48 hours, and

Whereas, Large quantities of rubberized coats commonly known as "slickers," are being produced for the Government in the plants of the United States Rubber Co., and other concerns without any provisions limiting the hours of labor, and

Whereas, In many instances the workers in such establishments are compelled to work up to 54 hours per week, thereby deteriorating the work-time standards established in the garment industries through the untiring efforts of the labor unions.

Therefore be it resolved, that this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instructs its President to bring this condition to the attention of the War Department and other proper authorities, to the end that the abuse be speedily remedied by the application of the principle of the 48 hours work-week to the manufacture of slickers in the same way as in the manufacture of other articles of clothing for the Government.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.  

Resolution No. 116.

Introduced by Mollie Friedman, Local No. 25; Rose Wolfs, No. 100; Sarah Shapiro, No. 26; A. Litvakoff, No. 16; A. Cireolo, No. 25; Frank Magnavita, No. 80; Hyman Harwitz, J. B. Boston; E. Kurland, No. 78; Max Margules, No. 10; Albert Lazarov, No. 19; Joe Fish, No. 10; Sidney Rothenberg, No. 20; Maud Foley, No. 40; A. Thomas, No. 49.

Whereas, The sinister forces of Big Business have subverted popular Government in the state of California; and

Whereas, Through this subversion the Courts of California have sentenced Warren K. Billings to life imprisonment and Tom Mooney to be hanged by the neck; and

Whereas, Ed. Nolan, Israel, Weinberg and Rena Mooney are still awaiting sentences; and

Whereas, The Chief Executive of the United States, President Woodrow Wilson, has through a commission by him appointed, investigated this labor case and found that Tom Mooney and his co-defendants were persecuted and prosecuted for no other reason than that through their activities in the labor movement in California they had incurred the hatred of the Capitalistic Corporations of that State; and

Whereas, After the interfering by the President, the Governor of California still refuses to give Tom Mooney a new trial; and

Whereas, The evidence produced at the trials and by the prosecution has been proven to the satisfaction of the I. L. G. W. U. perjured and false;

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of the I. L. G. W. U., in convention assembled, do hereby protest and go on record as being opposed to the manner in which Tom Mooney’s trial has been conducted and therefore demand for the defendants in this, as well as in other labor cases where men have been framed up for their work in behalf of the working class, A NEW TRIAL; and

Be it resolved, That a copy of this our Protest and Resolution be forwarded to President Wilson and another to Governor Stephens of California; and

Be it further resolved, That our International should instruct all locals affiliated to engage in more active agitation for the liberation of Tom Mooney and co-defendants so that they may return to our ranks and help us realize our great ideal, the EMANCIPATION OF THE WORKING CLASS.

Referred to Committee on resolutions.

Resolution No. 117.

Introduced by Max Lipsch, Local No. 4; D. Cohen, No. 4; J. Tichy, No. 101; C. L. Brennan, No. 110; John F. Pierce, No. 34.

Amend Section 5, Article IV, to read as follows:

"The General President shall be a delegate to the A. F. of L. Conventions by virtue of his office."

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution No. 118.

Introduced by L. Greenspun, Local No. 54.

Whereas, The Chicago Raincoat Company has always antagonized Union labor by means of injunctions; and

Whereas, This firm is now running a sweat-shop and is exploiting poor, ignorant negro girls and is blacklisting all Union men; be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention makes these facts familiar to the workers of this country in general, and to our membership in particular; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take legal steps to fight the injunction issued in July, 1917, against the Raincoat Makers’ Union of Chicago, and which is still pending.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 119.

Introduced by Fannia M. Cohn and Cellia Samorodin, Local No. 12; Saul Metz and M. Jacobinsky, Local No. 17; Joseph Fish, Albert Lazarus, Louis F. Zerkover and Max Margules, Local No. 10; Henry Zucker, No. 41; S. Koldofsky, No. 14; S. Labenohen, No. 13; Sol. Seidman and Mollie Friedman, No. 25; and M. Perlstein, No. 63.

Whereas, The problems of our industry are growing more and more complicated; and

Whereas, The trade union is at present a gigantic enterprise, and there is a growing need of leaders, teachers, managers, as well as journalists, who are necessary for the good of our movement, and

Whereas, We are confronted with a dearth of organizers and business agents, properly equipped for the task, and

Whereas, The growth of our membership and our organization demands for its management officers trained in the best methods of business administration, and

Whereas, The activities of our Union will never expand and our movement will never progress unless it develops leadership within its own ranks, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to assist those of our members who are qualified for leadership, to acquire the necessary training and preparation for the task to which they are determined to devote their lives.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 120.

Introduced by Philip Soldner, Local No. 6.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Union, Local No. 6, has during the last two years successfully organized the embroidery workers in New York City, gaining considerable concessions for them, and is now the controlling factor in the trade, and

Whereas, The bulk of the Swiss embroidery trade is located in New Jersey, where the workers, notwithstanding the efforts of the International, now and then, to organize them, have still remained unorganized, due to various local conditions, working long hours and under lamentable working conditions, and

Whereas, This state of affairs in New Jersey is being felt more and more keenly in the trade in New York, hampering and retarding the progress of Local No. 6, and may in the near future endanger the very existence of the local, and

Whereas, If a renewed organizing campaign is started, the workers in New Jersey, who realize the gains achieved by the New York workers through their organization, will surely respond to the call of the Union in order to be able to improve their conditions, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board and the officers of the International Union again take up the organizing campaign in New Jersey at the earliest possible opportunity.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 121.

Introduced by the Delegations of Locals No. 24 and No. 56.

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades of Boston have always helped and are now helping to organize the workers, and

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades have greatly helped the ladies' garment workers' locals of Boston, and

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades have now undertaken the task of naturalizing the workers of this city,—a task in which the International Union is vitally interested, be it

Resolved, That this Convention contributes $150.00 to the United Hebrew Trades of Boston in order to help them to carry on this important and beneficial work.

Referred to Committee on Naturalization.
Resolution No. 122.

Introduced by the Delegations of Locals No. 70 and No. 83.

Whereas, Local No. 70, the Skirt and Dress Makers' Union, and Local No. 83, the Cutters Union of Toronto, are straining their efforts to organize all branches of the dress and white goods industries of Toronto, which employ about six thousand women and men, and

Whereas, Ninety-five per cent of those engaged in the above named industries are Gentiles, and

Whereas, The progress of the cloakmakers in Toronto has created a strong sentiment for organization among the workers in the waist and white wear industry, and

Whereas, The Gentile section of Local No. 70 would enthusiastically take up an organization campaign, but it is handicapped by the lack of an efficient Gentile organizer, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention recommends to the incoming General Executive Board the employment of such an organizer for Locals No. 70 and No. 83, in order to organize the six thousand workers in the above referred to trades in Toronto.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 123.

Introduced by 18 delegates from Locals Nos. 54, 81, 44, 26, 18, 48, 50, 100, 71, and 20.

Whereas, The union label on garments signifies that they were made in union shops under union conditions, and

Whereas, The enforcement of the placing of the union label on the necessary commodities of living would compel the manufacturers to deal with unions only, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union establishes a special union label department in its offices, and creates a fund of $10,000 to agitate and spread the union label propaganda among all its local unions and the public, and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention instructs every local union to immediately start a movement for the union label on all ladies' garments, and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention permits its locals to fine all members who may not prefer union made articles after the label committee of the local will have informed them where such articles can be obtained.

Referred to Committee on Label.

Resolution No. 124.

Introduced by J. M. Sachs and M. Stamper, Delegates of Local No. 20.

Whereas, The smaller locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union experience at times considerable difficulties in obtaining the services of an efficient financial secretary; and

Whereas, This condition is often a source of disorder and hardship to the organization; be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention strictly enforces Section 4, Article VI, of the Constitution, which states that quarterly financial reports shall be furnished by the organizations, and that the violation of this rule shall be punished without leniency.

Referred to Committee on Law.

RESOLUTION NO. 125.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 3.

Whereas, there exists no uniform rate of dues among the respective locals of the I. L. G. W. U., and

Whereas, This is not proper that the unions of one trade should have different rates of dues; and

Whereas, The result of this difference in dues fixes that local patriotism is created which causes difficulties in the transferring
of members from one local to another; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, adopts a uniform rate of dues for all locals that are affiliated with it.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Resolution no. 126.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 64.

Whereas, In many waist and dress shops controlled by Local No. 25 there are a number of buttonhole makers employed on round hole machines; and

Whereas, These workers can not be admitted into local No. 58; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention instructs Local No. 25 to see to it that only members of Local No. 64 be employed in such shops where round buttonholes are required.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 127.

Introduced by Delegations of Locals Nos. 64 and 58.

Whereas, In a number of shops controlled by the International Union where military garments are made, the buttonhole makers employed in these shops are not members of the Union; and

Whereas, These buttonhole makers are compelled to work for sub-contractors for miserable wages; be it

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to see to it that in all such shops only buttonhole makers belonging to Locals No. 64 and No. 58 be employed; sub-contractors be abolished and the buttonhole machinery be supplied by the manufacturers.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 128.

Introduced by M. Perstein, Local No. 63; J. Forus and Chas. Kreindler, Local No. 26.

Whereas, There are two thousand ladies' waistmakers in the city of Cleveland, working under even worse conditions than the cloakmakers in that city; and

Whereas, The manufacturers in this trade, influenced by the cloak manufacturers, are taking the same obstinate stand in regard to the Union and to coming to an understanding with them regarding standard conditions of labor; be it, therefore,

Resolved That the agitation for a general strike which will begin in the cloak trade in the city of Cleveland should also include the ladies' waist industry of that city.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 129.

Introduced by twenty-seven delegates, representing Locals Nos. 64, 18, 48, 44, 81, 26, 20, 60, 160, 20, 73, 12 and 24.

Whereas, Organized labor has met in a number of states in the United States with a very great obstacle in the way of organizing working men and women—i. e., injunctions and court orders in times of strikes, and

Whereas, These injunctions are generally of a nature that prevent organized workers from peaceful picketing when they are on strike for the betterment of their conditions, and

Whereas, Peaceful picketing is the only tool in the hands of striking workers to convince the unorganized of the advantages of organization and of fighting together for a living wage and human rights, be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention give full power to the incoming General Executive Board to present a solid front against the use of the injunction by the courts against organized labor wherever the occasion may require, and particularly in the State of Illinois.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Refereed to the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 130.

Introduced by Isidore Schoenholtz and H. Silberman, Local No. 25.

Whereas, Local No. 25, the Waist and Dress Makers Union of New York, has made several attempts at organizing the waist and dress shops of Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers, N.Y., and

Whereas, Conditions prevailing there are such that they have become a menace to conditions in the shops in New York City, and

Whereas, This state of affairs has encouraged a number of unscrupulous manufacturers to open shops in these cities and to operate them under inferior conditions, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to appoint an organizer for the above mentioned cities, to help Local No. 25 to organize that territory.

Referred to Committee on Organization.

Resolution No. 131.

Introduced by Max Margulies and Max Gorenstein, Local No. 10.

Whereas, Comrade Morris Hillquit has honored this Convention with a most inspiring and instructive address, which will long be remembered by the delegates present, and

Whereas, The members of our International would benefit greatly if a copy of this memorable address be furnished to them, be it therefore

Resolved, That the General Board stands instructed to print this address in pamphlet form as soon as possible and distribute same to the members of the International Union.

Referred to Committee on Education.

Resolution No. 132.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The Cleveland Convention in 1914 appointed a committee to investigate a long standing claim of Local No. 10 on the International Union for $17,000.00, and

Whereas, That committee has not as yet reported on same, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board stand instructed to investigate this past due claim at its earliest opportunity.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 133.

Introduced by Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The movement for educational, social and cooperative activities is spreading within the locals of our International, and

Whereas, These activities, more than anything else, demonstrate the necessity of having our own buildings for the above stated purposes in the various cities where we have organizations and which may become social and educational centers for our members, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to work out plans as soon as possible to unite our membership for a movement for such an enterprise.

Referred to Committee on Education.

SIXTH DAY, SATURDAY, MAY 25th, 1918.

The Convention was called to order at 9:30—President Schlosinger in the chair.

Telegrams.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

New York, May 24, 1918.

International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Our heartfelt greetings to the great Inter-
national! May your splendid work in behalf of labor continue to elicit the admiration of friend and the respect of foe, and may your future efforts continue to be guided by the revolutionary spirit of racial freedom and national liberty for all the oppressed classes and peoples.

Central Committee Poale-Zida of America.

Philadelphia, Penn., May 24, 1918.

A. BAROFF, Secretary, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Greetings. We place our hope and trust that in the near future we will be led to the path of real brotherhood and joy.

Workers of M. A. Cohn, Philadelphia, Pa.

BENJ. SCHLESINGER, Boston, Mass.; International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union.—Greetings; long live the International; may your present assembling develop a fundamental basis for unionism success and righteousness to all. Workers of Karpf, Uhr and Co. Local 16, Phila., Pa.

New York, May 25, 1918.

ABRAHAM BAROFF, International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Whereas, this Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union will be called upon to decide the future of the educational activities of our International organized this season under the name “Workers’ University,” and whereas, we the undersigned are regularly elected officers of the students’ council of said Workers’ University and duly authorized representatives of several hundred members of our International who have been students thereof, and whereas, we believe that the moral benefits derived by us through this educational work were of the greatest value, and whereas, we believe that an extension of the above educational work would be welcomed with great appreciation by our membership, therefore, be it resolved that we as representatives of this student body do hereby urge the delegates of this Convention to give their special attention and interest to Department of Education in our International and devote their utmost energy to perpetuating and extending the educational activities so auspiciously begun to the end that our labor movement may be strengthened both materially and spiritually.

F. S. SHENKER, Chairman.

RESOLUTION NO. 134

Baltimore, Md., May 24, 1918.

Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Brother Delegates:—Receive our heartiest congratulations to the Fourteenth Convention of our organization. May your efforts be crowned with success and your ideals be realized. We hope that our resolutions will be met with due consideration and passed unanimously.

Custom Ladies’ Tailor Local, No. 101

I. HUNGAR, President.

New York, May 24, 1918.

International Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Congratulations and heartiest wishes for the success of your Convention.

Women’s Trade Union League of N. Y.

B. SCHLESINGER, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Mr. President:—Best wishes to you and delegates of this Convention. The I. L. G. W. U. has accomplished wonders since its existence. The workers of our shop are proud to be members of the International. We are sure that your deliberation will bring many improvements in the industry. We hope that all locals, including Local 17, will continue their work in bringing more light, more happiness and a better standard of living to the workers of this industry.

Employees Knit-on and Hand.

G. BERNESTEIN, Chairman.

New York, May 24, 1918.

B. SCHLESINGER, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: Mr. President:—Best wishes to you and delegates of this Convention. The I. L. G. W. U. has accomplished wonders since its existence. The workers of our shop are proud to be members of the International. We are sure that your deliberation will bring many improvements in the industry. We hope that all locals, including Local 17, will continue their work in bringing more light, more happiness and a better standard of living to the workers of this industry.

Employees Knit-on and Hand.

G. BERNESTEIN, Chairman.

New York, May 24, 1918.

BEN. SCHLESINGER, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: We, the employees of D. Brumberg Co., 38 East 30th Street Shop, congratulate you on the good work accomplished in past. We hope the Convention will endorse decision of New York members for establishment of week work in the entire cloak industry.

L. COHEN, Shop Chairman.

Brooklyn, May 24, 1918.


Hebrew-American Typographical Union.

The resolutions printed below remained over from the previous sessions, and were referred at this session to the various committees for action.

HttpContext is null.
stamps per week (this includes 24 new members initiated in the local during that period), and

Whereas, It is well known to all the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. that from January, 1915, to October, 1915, Local No. 41 was practically out of existence, having only about thirty-five members paying dues, and that during that period, at the meeting of the G. E. B. in January, 1915 another assessment of 50 cents for the Legal Defense Fund was levied, and which again made Local No. 41 liable for $207.50, on the basis of the standing of the Local in November, 1913, and

Whereas, Local No. 41 did its utmost and paid $50.00 on this assessment, which already amounts to more than its membership at that time, and

Whereas, Local No. 41, having now a membership of nine hundred, with shops spread in different localities of Greater New York is forced to maintain three offices and five paid officials, which makes it very hard for this organization to meet its expense with its normal income, and

Whereas, There are still from sixty to seventy per cent of this trade unorganized in New York City, a condition which puts the local always in a position of defense and constant guard, be it therefore

Resolved, That the unpaid balance of the 1914 Legal Defense Fund against Local No. 41, be stricken off the books of the International Union.

Referred to Committee on Appeals and Adjustments.

Resolution No. 136.

Introduced by the Delegation of Local No. 35.

Whereas, Local No. 35 was chartered as a component part of the International Union, to control the pressers of the cloak, skirt, suit and dress trades of New York City, and

Whereas, The development of the dress industry has brought about a condition that manufacturers, under the control of Local No. 25 are extensively producing dresses of all kinds, and

Whereas, Members of Local No. 35 are not permitted to work in Local No. 25 shops, which fact causes constant friction between the two organizations, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming G. E. B. stand instructed to evolve a workable plan between these locals, and be it further

Resolved, That the understanding and solution of this problem should be so formulated that there should not remain any cause for further dissension and animosity between the members of Locals No. 25 and No. 35.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

Resolution No. 137.

Introduced by Max Amdur, Chairman, for the Committee on Resolutions.

Whereas, The Bonnaz Embroidery Workers' Union, Local No. 66, I. L. G. W. U., has very aptly expressed its appreciation to our International Union by presenting to it a beautifully embroidered banner at the Fourteenth Biennial Convention held in Boston, Mass., a banner which was made by their own members for this particular occasion; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention expresses its sincere appreciation to said local by a vote of thanks.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 138.

Introduced by Max Amdur, Chairman, for the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., send a telegram to the Governor of the State of California, urging him to extend executive clemency to Brother Thomas Mooney, to the end that a just termination of this case be effected.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.
Resolution No. 139.

Introduced by Jacob Halpern, Max Am
dor, Samuel Lebkovits, Salvatore Ninfo,
John F. Pierce, Sol. Selzman, Fannia M.
Cohn, Meyer Perlstein, S. Koldofsky, Saul
Mets, H. Schoolman and Harry Wander.

Whereas, Brother Max D. Danish has
during the past two years, as well as in
previous years, faithfully and zealously
performed his duties to the best satisfac-
tion of the organization and to the dele-
gatesof this Convention; and

Whereas, The above signed members of
the General Executive Board recognize and
appreciate the value of his services; be it,
therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention extends
to Brother Max D. Danish a token of rec-
ognition and appreciation in the form of
a gift.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 140.

Introduced by request of Mrs. Carrie
Chapman Catt, National Woman's Suffrage
Association.

Resolved, That we call upon the United
States Senate to pass the Federal Suffrage
Amendment and the Legislatures of the
several states to ratify it speedily. We urge
this action now, in order that this Repub-
lic, which boasts that it is a "Government
of the people, by the people and for the
people," may give the nations of the world
no reason to doubt its sincerity in a war
for democracy.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Rev. Schlesinger: I do not doubt that
many of you are interested in the coopera-
tive movement. I know that our organiza-
tion has been interested in the movement
for many years. I remember years ago
when our locals in the city of New York
were still very small, they were strongly
imbued with the idea of cooperation; fif-
teen years ago I remember several of our
locals appointed committees which met and
formed a cooperative association. The re-
sult of that cooperative association was
the establishment of a store of ladies' gar-
ments in New York, on Grand Street.
That store was a failure because our Union
was at that time not large enough to
bring the undertaking to a success.

But notwithstanding the fact that the prac-
tical efforts of the cooperators in our
industry was not a success, the movement
was long before that a success in European
countries. I do not know exactly how the
cooperative institutions are situated at this
time, with the war going on, but I know
that before the war began the cooperative
establishments managed by the trade un-
ions in Belgium, England and in other
countries of Europe, met with great suc-
ness.

We have here this morning a comrade
whom many of you know. He was an or-
ganizer and officer for many years of the
Western Federation of Miners. Just at
this time he is interested in this coopera-
tive movement. I take great pleasure in
introducing to you Comrade Joseph D.
Cannon. (Applause).

Mr. Cannon delivered a powerful address
on behalf of the Consumers' Co-Operative
Department Stores,—a movement which is
just being launched.

He stated, in substance, that labor has
three great movements by which it can
advance its interests and better its con-
ditions,—its union movement, by which it
lessens the hours of toil and increases its
wages; its political movement, devised to
protect it against the parliamentary at-
tacks of the common enemy and to ad-
vance its interests in affairs governmental;
and its cooperative movement, through
which it can reap the benefit of the wage
advance it compels through the power of
its union, and eventually to put an end to
the robbery and profiteering of which it is
the victim in the present era of commer-
cial rapacity.

He appealed for the Cooperative Stores
movement, which is soon to be incor-
porated on a share basis, on the Rochdale
System.
Comrade Cannon concluded by appealing to the delegates not only to assist the movement by subscribing individually, but also that the organization officially endorse the movement and take a leading part in its development, by extending to it both moral and financial aid.

Comrade Cannon was frequently interrupted by hearty applause.

Pres. Schlesinger: Secretary Baroff informs me that a resolution in favor of the cooperative movement has been introduced in this Convention. This resolution will be acted upon by the proper committee and then presented here to the delegates for final action.

Vice-President Amidor, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, then reported upon Resolution No. 138, as follows:

Resolution No. 138.

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., send a telegram to the Governor of the State of California urging him to extend clemency to Brother Thomas Mooney, to the end that a just termination of his case be effected.

The committee recommended the adoption of this resolution. Upon motion the recommendation of the committee was unanimously carried.

Supplementary Report of the Credentials Committee.

Brother Epstein: We have received a credential from Local No. 40, New Haven Garment Workers' Union, informing us that in place of Brother John E. Fitzgerald of local No. 39 of New Haven, Conn., who has been called for military service, Sister Minnie White has been sent. The Committee recommends that she be seated as a delegate. Unanimously carried.

Pres. Schlesinger: Yesterday, during our morning session I had the pleasure of introducing to you several gentlemen, who, although not members of our organization, have been working for it and trying to promote the interests of our workers who belong to our organization in the City of New York and elsewhere. Now I desire to present to you another one of these men, who is now in the hall. I have reference to Brother Samuel Shore, manager of the White Goods Workers' Union of New York.

Address of Brother Samuel Shore.

It is reported that Voltaire, the great French philosopher, had once said that if there were no God the people would have invented one for social purposes. I am inclined to paraphrase this statement by saying that if labor unions had not been conventions, it would be worth while to invent conventions for a number of very sufficient reasons.

Conventions are necessary to encourage and inspire the component parts of an international union. Each local brings to these periodic gatherings a wreath of flowers of its own achievements and achievements, and altogether they make up a wonderful garden, which is a result of the efforts and work of the men and women that compose these organizations.

This International Union has a particular history: a particular record and particular achievements to be proud of. We have imbued the working Jews, men and women, of this country with a feeling of national conscience than the phrase-mongers who are always ready to mortgage their Jewish so-called nationalism, who are dealing and trading in stock options of nationalism, and who have made this very nationalism a source of livelihood for themselves and of scorn to the rest of the world.

I am very optimistic of the near future. We have been recently things happening with such rapidity that we may expect that the most unbelievable may happen. Indeed, twenty-three nations on the face of this globe can unite in one common cause,—to crush German autocracy,—why not regard it as perfectly possible and within the grasp of the near future that the great masses of workers within these nations, united together in a bond of brotherhood, will fight against the economic autocracy, for true industrial and political democracy.

The near future will also bring relief to the downtrodden and oppressed German people who have been driven under the yoke of their military chiefs for the last hundred years, and instead, they will work out their own salvation, in accordance with the message of Bebel, Liebknecht, Kautsky and the other true leaders of the German workers.

The near future for the workers of the world, therefore, in my opinion, is not overtaxed with gloom and desperation, as some are inclined to believe. The sons of the workers, who have gone to the battlefields of Europe in their millions, and who have witnessed the breaking down of the barriers of narrow nationalism will come back inspired by a new message, and this message can be nothing else but the final deliverance of our class from the age-long oppression. (Great Applause.)

Pres. Schlesinger: In our struggles for better wages, shorter hours and more humane working conditions for our people, we have been very fortunate in enlisting the aid of men who though not members of our class, have acted in sympathy and cooperation with us. I have reference to the different members of the Boards of Arbitrations who have any acted on demands presented by us to manufacturers, in New York and other cities as well.

You understand, of course, that when the employers and the representatives of a union agree on an arbitrator, that that arbitrator is generally neither a labor man nor an out-spoken capitalist. He must be one with an unbiased mind,—a man who can see things to the satisfaction of both sides.

As I said during the last few years we have been very fortunate in enlisting such men, and they have done quite a good deal for the improvement of the conditions of our workers. We have one of these gentlemen with us this morning, one who is a good and honest man responsible for the fair conditions now existing in the City of Boston, particularly among the wale and white goods workers.

I take great pleasure in presenting to you the secretary to the Secretary of War, Mr. Stanley King, who will address this convention. (Tremendous applause.)

ADDRESS OF MR. STANLEY KING.

President Schlesinger and Friends in the Garment Workers: I can only wish that you will be as cordial when I get through as you are when I begin. I have a good deal of hesitation in speaking before you, ladies and gentlemen in the garment industry. I have a good deal of hesitation for several reasons, but primarily because my acquaintance with Mr. Schlesinger, my acquaintance with Mr. Jacobson in Boston, has taught me that they (and I judge all of you by your representations that I know) are eloquent speakers. And knowing my own lack of qualifications in that respect, I come before you with a good deal of hesitation.

It is a very great pleasure for me to come up from Washington to meet you people. I have a peculiar feeling for the garment industry. I feel as if I had taken my first course in industry and in the relations between the different parties in industry through you. Two years ago, I was asked to be Chairman of the Board of Control in the garment industry in Boston. I did not want to accept the position because I did not feel I could do the job. I did not feel I knew enough to do the job. But Mr. Jacobson, the union representative on the Board, and the manufacturers' representative on the Board, both urged me to take it and I took it. It was really my first experience. After I had been on the Board a little while, Mr. Jacobson invited me to speak before a union meeting. It was the first union meeting I had ever spoken before. I went down to the Union Hall, expecting to see forty to fifty people, whom I could talk to in a conversational way. And when I went upstairs I found a room almost as large as this, packed with people, all members of your Union.

And so for the past few years I have been going through a course of education, which has been a very interesting course and I have had, I conceive, two of the best teachers in Mr. Schlesinger and Mr. Jacobson.

For the last year I have been putting my education to use in fields outside of your industry. Your thoughts, just as my thoughts...
going to be when the war is over, but the
Government is about to establish an agency
to work out in advance the ideals for re-
construction after the war, for reconstruc-
tion of industry on a basis more in keeping
with the ideals of our country, and
when that agency begins its work it will
have the help of men like you who have
been living in this atmosphere for years.
Your industry has set the lead in the
country in working out plans and principles
of joint organisation and joint management
of industry, which would be followed as
rapidly as possible by other industries, and
which is now being followed in plans
worked out by the Government.

I am very greatful for the opportunity of meeting so many of you, where before
I have had the opportunity of knowing only
a few of your leaders; and I thank you very
much. (Great applause).

ADDRESS OF MRS. CARRIE C. CATT.

Mr. Chairman and Delegates:

It is with a very unusual pleasure that I
come here today, because I have met you
before. It was years ago—I don't remem-
ber the exact date when your body met
in the City of New York. I presume you
have met many times since then, but I re-
member that time very well. I wrote to
your Secretary and asked if I might come and
speak to your Convention, and I was
given that privilege. I found it a body
which needed no conversation. That con-
vention passed a resolution in favor of
equal suffrage.

Now many years have passed and a
great deal of water had passed under the
Suffrage Bridge. I am myself a voter,
Thanks, I am sure, are due to your Presi-
dent and to other delegates from New
York and elsewhere. (Applause).

I am not here, therefore, to ask you to
aid in giving me a vote. I am here to ask
you to use your votes, as I propose to use
my vote, to help make this a better world,
and to begin by giving the vote to the wo-
men of the entire country. (Great ap-
plause). I well remember that conven-
tion—and of course none of you were there
at that time, because you were not old enough
when this was proposed by your grandfathers (laughter)—but if they were
Suffragists, I am sure you are, and your ap-
plause indicates it.

When we entered the war, almost the
first thing that happened in New York was
that a little group of reactionary men in
the Legislature at once introduced a bill
to take away the regulations of hours for
women and children for the time of the
war, in order, especially, that children
might be used in taking the places of men.

And the Legislature of New York, despite
all the efforts that were made, passed that
law, which was vetoed by the Governor.
And then the women got the vote, and
again this same little group of men intro-
duced the same bill to give to the children
of New York the right to work in the place
of men.

Now you believe, I am sure, every man
and woman of you, that the wages of grown
up people must be big enough to take care
of the children while they are growing up.
(Great applause). This spring the woman
went to the Legislature, as they had gone
in 1917, but armed with votes on this oc-
casion and the bill never came out of the
Committee. That is what women can do
with their votes.

Now we are in the war, and by and by
we shall come to the end of it, as all wars
And when that time comes, the greatest question before the belligerent nations will be the readjustment of industry. We all realize that without discussion. Thousands and thousands of women are going to be found in places where they never worked before. And perhaps, the men who are dearer than life to them, may never come back.

And the great question will be whether those women are to have the right to work for such wages as can honorably and suitably take care of themselves and families, or whether they shall be put out and shall be made to seek whatever employment they can find.

Now I am sure you agree that the women at that time, the women and men must have an equal voice to settle their common problem. Lloyd George never said a grander thing than when he said, “When the war comes to an end and there is the remaking of our institutions, the biggest problem is the position of women in industry; and it would be an outrage beyond any that history has ever seen, if the women at that time should not have their voice in it.”

At present the same pressing need has not appeared in our country. Perhaps it may be before we come to an end. And we hope the women— all women—but especially those who may need to have a voice in the readjustment of their own place in the working world, shall have a voice with which to defend their rights at that time.

That our Government is saying that the greatest thing that could possibly happen would be a democratic uprising in Germany and Austria, and in all the Central Powers. Americans don’t like kings and kaisers. We are born to distrust them, and we would be glad if the last of them had been seen in this world.

Now Great Britain not long ago gave the vote to two millions of men who had never had the vote before, and it gave the vote to six millions of women. A queer thing happened, and that was that the censors of Germany did not let the news get through. The papers did not print it. The masses of the people were not allowed to know it. Why? Because they were afraid that those people would be inspired to try for the same thing at home. So a little later when the bill came up in the Prussian Parliament to give the men the vote, one man one vote, it was voted down.

Now, in our country, the best thing that could be done to stimulate that growth of democracy in Germany is to send them some more news, which the censors will not prints, but which will slip through from the neutral nations from the outside, and that is the news that the United States believes in a vote of the people, even its women. (Great applause).

I am going to ask you the privilege of presenting this resolution to this Convention.

Resolved. That we call upon the United States Senate to pass the Federal Suffrage Amendment and the Legislature of the several states, to ratify it speedily. We urge this action now, in order that this Republic, which boasts that it is a “Government of the people, by the people and for the people,” may give the nations of the world no reason to doubt its sincerity in a war for democracy. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: The resolution was read to you, and if there is no objection, this resolution will be referred to the Committee on Resolutions, which will report to you later. Now, we are not through yet with speeches for this morning. We have here one more speaker, as far as we see. If more come we will be very glad to welcome them.

The speaker I have reference to is one who is very well known. I don’t believe that “very well” fully illustrates his fame, but not being able to find another expression I must use this one. He is very well known to every worker not only in our industry. He is the oldest man in the labor movement—in the Jewish labor movement. He started out his activities in Russia years and years ago. He is in this country about 22 or 23 years now, and during these years he has devoted every minute to the labor movement with his pen as well as mouth, by speaking to the
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE L. L. G. W. U.

workers and by explaining to them the necessity of organization. He is with us this morning. He is the Secretary of Local 25 of New York. Comrade Winchevsky came here this morning, and I consider it a privilege to present him to you.

(Comrade Winchevsky received an ovation, everybody rising and applauding vigorously).

ADDRESS OF COMRADE WINCHEVSKY.

I came here to help you finish the first week of the convention, by contributing a little to the time-killing that is so customary for the first week of International Conventions. The only thing that I won't do, however, is that I will not make a very long speech, because I have a heart. (Laughter and applause).

There are only two or three things I would like to tell you. As I came along here through Boston Common, where I attended many a meeting 24 years ago, and I passed by the Garden, I was pleasantly surprised to discover a statue of Wendell Phillips. Wendell Phillips was not only one of the great advocates of the abolition movement, the movement to free the negro, but he was also one of the first people in America to join the fight for women's rights, and he also was the man who made probably the most eloquent speech on record in American history for women's rights. I advise everybody in this hall who can get a little time to go into the library either in New York or Boston and read that remarkable speech which Wendell Phillips made about 60 years ago in championship of the cause of women's rights.

My friend, Brother Schleinger, mentioned the fact that I was imprisoned, or that I should have been 24 years ago, and the only place where they kicked me out from was Germany. But that is of no consequence. (Laughter). What I mean to say is that 24 years ago, when I came to Boston, we went to the cemetery on Decoration Day to do honor to Wendell Phillips, and the next morning, either the New York Herald or the New York Times said that since Wendell Phillips died, only two sets of people, belonging to two races had come to do honor to the great champion of the negroes, and these were either Negroes or Jewish working people. (Applause).

Now you will have something to do here of greater importance than hearing even good speeches as you have heard them until now. I have not the least doubt that you will have under consideration one question in which I am even personally interested, and that is the consolidation of our papers. I know I won't get much applause on that proposition at least from one part of the New York delegates, but it seems to me that the question should be thoroughly discussed and should receive the attention of the delegates; there should be no selfishness shown in discussing that proposition. It seems to me that there is a necessity for having a weekly paper, particularly for those parts of the country which have not organizations strong enough to have papers of their own. In New York I don't see for the life of me, why, for instance, Local 25 should have to spend $8,000 a year over and above what the members pay for the paper, in order to maintain a paper of their own. I believe a consolidation is possible, and I believe, that if you nominate here a committee of sensible people to come together after the convention and to discuss various plans, a way can be found, to make this thing a reality, which would not only save some locals a tremendous, unnecessary expense, but would also serve to do the work of the International, which means organizing the people just in those places where our organizations are weak.

Now, I have one more word and I am through. Our worthy Chairman has said that I had been a good long while in the movement. Well, I have been even a little longer than he thought. I complete in July my 45th year in the service of the Jewish working people, and I have written for 45 years. I have perpetrated a number of articles, most of which I would not brag about; some of which may not have been bad. I have a little reputation on account of that and I am so wonderfully modest that I don't believe that it is worth nothing. It is surely not worth as much as many of my friends who introduce me to
a meeting would say, but it may be worth something. But I tell you, and I want you to believe it, that during the last eight years that I have been the financial Secretary-Treasurer to Local 25, I have, owing to the fact that ours is a women's Union, and that our membership is continually shifting, that we lose 8,000 every year and we get 8,000 or more in, I have had probably to issue about 80 or 84 thousand constitution books to incoming members, and I assure you, children, I am old enough to say it—I assure you that much as I may take a little stock in the hundreds of articles under my name, I am much prouder of the 84,000 signatures which were affixed to the 84,000 books issued to the members of Local 25. I thank you. (Vigorous applause).

President Schlesinger next introduced Miss Pauline H. Turkel, representing the League for Amnesty of Political Prisoners, who delivered an appeal to the delegates to support individually and in their organizations the movement which she represents, and which briefly consists in the following:

1. To educate the public to the fundamental distinction between political offenses and common crime.

2. To work for the recognition in the United States of the status of political offenders.

3. To obtain the release of all political offenders through a general amnesty as soon as peace is declared.

Delegate Longer: I move that this Convention send a telegram of greetings in the name of the entire Convention, to the Centennial celebration to be held tomorrow in Carnegie Hall.

Motion was approved unanimously.

Upon the suggestion of President Schlesinger, the chairman of several committees announced that their committees would meet on Sunday in order to expedite the work of the Convention.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 A. M., to reconvene at 9:30 Monday morning.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

—success and prosperity for the coming year.

R. Skolnik, Sec'y Local 7 of Cap Makers, Boston, Mass.

New York City, May 25, 1918

Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, 14th Convention, Boston, Mass.

Dear Comrades:

The New York Call, in the nine and a half years of struggle, reached financial success October and November of last year, showing for those two months a monthly profit of $3,000, only to be thrown down again by conditions caused by the war and its enemies working through the powerful news companies which control the distribution of morning papers.

We believe that your great organization wishes The Call to live and extend its circulation in order that it may render greater service to the Socialist and radical labor movement in the great industrial struggle that is coming after the war.

We appeal to you to help maintain The Call, through the crisis which we face during the coming summer months, feeling confident that if we weather the summer months we will be able, in the Fall, to get along without further assistance. We ask your great organization to subscribe to $15,000 worth of bonds of The New York Call, in this way loaning The Call that amount of money which we pledge ourselves to repay.

Remember, comrades, that The Call made good financially and that its present need is caused by conditions beyond its control. Help to save and build up the paper that we all need in our struggle for freedom.

Fraternally yours,
Raymond Wilcox,
Business Manager

Report of Committee On Organization.

Vice-President Lefkovits, Chairman of the Committee:

Resolution No. 3.


Whereas, The Raincoat industry of this country went through all kinds of troubles and struggles with its manufacturers, and

Whereas, After so many years of struggling the organized workers of the Raincoat industry under the banner of the I. L. G. W. U. had succeeded to a great extent to improve the conditions in the organized center, and

Whereas, There are many open shops yet existing who are trying their utmost to break up the strong unions of the said industry, and

Whereas, There are many thousands of workers in the raincoat industry working under the worst sweat-shop systems in different unorganized centers all over the country, that are controlled by trusts, and

Whereas, That in order to face the opposition of the raincoat manufacturers, to organize the said number of workers and to establish the same conditions which are prevailing in the organized centers, and in order to uphold that, the strength and the Union conditions which we have now, after hard work, shall not be destroyed, therefore

Be it Resolved, That a general organizer be appointed by this 14th biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, to commence upon the immediate task of organizing throughout the country where waterproof garments are made.

Your committee after consulting the minutes of our last convention at Philadelphia, found that there was a Resolution, No. 141, dealing with the same subject and that it was acted upon favorably. We, therefore, report favorably on this resolution.

Upon motion the report of the committee was adopted.

Your committee had before it three resolutions dealing with organization work in Baltimore. The resolutions are as follows:
Resolution No. 8—Introduced by Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72, Celia Samorodin, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The great national crisis in which this country is at present involved is affecting to a very serious degree the organizing work of the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods workers of Baltimore, and

Whereas, It is absolutely essential to organize the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods workers of Baltimore, for improvement of their conditions and for the benefit of those who have to compete with them, particularly New York and Philadelphia, who are in such close competition with Baltimore, and

Whereas, In Baltimore the waist, dress, house-dress and white goods work is done more cheaply than in the organized cities, the workers in Baltimore often receiving one-third the wages, and

Whereas, The active members of Local No. 72 are convinced that if the organizing work which the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in connection with the Joint Board of Baltimore is carrying on among the workers of the trade will be continued in the future, a strong union of waist, dress and white goods workers will be organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled in Boston, in May, 1918, instruct the incoming General Executive Board to continue the organizing work in Baltimore with the assistance of the Joint Board of Baltimore.

Resolution No. 13—Introduced by David Cohen, Baltimore Joint Board; Max Lipsch, Local No. 4; C. T. Brennan, Local No. 110; Joseph Tichy, Local No. 101; Celia Samorodin, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The Joint Board of the I. L. G. W. U. of Baltimore is now engaged in perfecting the organization of the four local unions in the City of Baltimore, and

Whereas, The said Joint Board has encountered numerous difficulties in the work in which it is engaged, particularly in the fact that there has recently become apparent a marked decrease in the membership of Local No. 4, Cloak Makers' Union, due to the manufacture of skirts in unorganized white goods shops at prices about half of what they would be if these shops were organized, and due also to the fact that a number of the shops are moving out of the city into small villages where the work is done by country girls at wages far below the Union standard, and

Whereas, Local No. 72, Waist, White Goods, Wrappers, Kimono and Dress Makers' Union is doing fairly well in its organizing work; if not in gaining members, at least in forcing the manufacturers to raise wages in order to keep their employees out of the Union, so that the problem which this local now has to look out for is to educate the workers to the proposition that it must be to their interest to organize if the employers are willing to raise wages to prevent organization, and

Whereas, Local No. 101, Ladies' Tailors, although it has been in existence for the past three months and has succeeded in obtaining a raise of ten per cent in all shops, still finds it difficult to support itself during the slack season and faces particular difficulty in organizing the small shops in the down-town section of the City of Baltimore, where shops employ only one or two ladies' tailors, so that it is absolutely imperative that this local should have the assistance of the Joint Board and its organizers in working out its problems, and

Whereas, Local No. 110, Cutters' Union, is still in the early stages of its organization, having been compelled to spend four months agitating and explaining the benefits of organization and the value thereof to the workers and would even now be helpless without the aid of the Joint Board in perfecting its organization although it is doing excellent organization work, considering the fact that it is still a young local, and

Whereas, Since January 1st, 1918, when arrangements were made with the President of the I. L. G. W. U. for the support of a Joint Board of the locals of the City
of Baltimore, the said Joint Board revived the interest of the members in their locals by the constant and uniting efforts of the members of the said Joint Board and it is evident that without the help of the Joint Board the locals in Baltimore must go out of existence and further that it is still impossible for these locals themselves to support the said Joint Board financially sufficiently to enable it to continue its existence, be it therefore

Resolved, By the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. that the General Executive Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to continue the financial aid to the Joint Board of Baltimore, as agreed upon by Benj. Schlesinger, President of this body, with the said Joint Board; and further, that this financial aid shall continue until, in the opinion of the General Executive Board, the locals of the City of Baltimore are able to support themselves in their organizing work.

Resolution No. 105—Introduced by thirty-five delegates from Locals Nos. 15, 49, 43, 41, 58, 25, 24, 10 and 35.

Whereas, Thousands of workers in the City of Baltimore are engaged in the production of ladies' waists, dresses, white goods, kimonos and skirts, and

Whereas, The earnings of the workers in these trades are unbelievably low, the majority of them earning between $3.00 and $5.00 weekly, and

Whereas, The manufacture of ladies' garments is expanding in that city and Baltimore is becoming an important center of this industry, and

Whereas, Such competition is preventing the workers engaged in the same trades in other cities from improving their conditions, and is even endangering the hard-won improvements which they now have, be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention instruct the incoming G. E. B. to carry on an intensive organizing campaign in the City of Baltimore, and to do everything in their power to completely organize the workers of these trades.

Your Committee, after careful consideration and after listening to the different committees which appeared before it with reference to these resolutions, recommends the adoption of the three resolutions.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Delegate Margulies, Local No. 10:

I have heard the three resolutions read, and while in essence they aim at the same thing, there is one resolution, the adoption of which will simply mean that the International obligates itself to aid financially and give regular financial aid to the Baltimore Joint Board, irrespective of the expense they may incur. I would understand that if we are to adopt anything of the kind, we are to adopt one resolution, and surely not all three. Or, if we want to adopt one of the resolutions, to give financial aid to the Baltimore locals, I would insert a provision that the General Executive Board have full authority in the incurring of expenses by the Baltimore locals.

Chairman Lefkovits: It is practically one and the same thing. They ask that we organize the workers in their industry. They ask that President Schlesinger make arrangements to give them financial aid. It is understood that the General Executive Board has full control over the organizing work in the City of Baltimore. We, therefore, consider the three resolutions as one.

Delegate Hacken, Local No. 10: Has the Joint Board of Baltimore any money?

Pres. Schlesinger: As far as I know it has not. (Laughter).

RESOLUTION NO. 9.

Introduced by Sam Tauber, S. Rosenberg, I. Newman, Local No. 52, Los Angeles, Cal.

Whereas, We have in Los Angeles about 600 ladies' waisemakers and about 200 dressmakers and an unknown number of corset makers and ladies' shirtdress makers, and

Whereas, We have tried to the best of
our ability to organize them and did not succeed only because we did not have the financial means to do so, and

Whereas, We would like to see all the workers organized, we therefore

Resolved, At a special meeting of our Union, to appeal for financial assistance in order to be able to organize the aforementioned trades, and we also appeal to the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to donate a substantial sum of money for that purpose, so we are sure to organize these trades in a short time.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

Upon motion the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 15.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del. Local No. 23, Morris Josephson, Louis Pinkofsky, Philip Pest, Harry Miller.

Whereas, The skirt trade all over the country is not thoroughly organized and skirts are being made under very poor conditions, and

Whereas, This condition creates competition with the organized workers of the various cities, especially of New York, and

Whereas, The skirt trade is next in importance to the cloak trade, which is thoroughly organized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to take the first step in organizing the skirt industry all over the country.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

Delegate Ashpl8: I do not like the words "take the first steps." I move that these four words be stricken out.

The report of the committee as amended by delegate Ashpl8 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 22.

Whereas, During the last two years attempts have been made by our local organization to organize the ladies' garment workers of Hartford, in which we were assisted by the International Union from time to time; and

Whereas, We have always asked the International Office to grant us the services of an organizer for a few months in our city, a request which has not been granted to us; and

Whereas, We are confident that with the assistance of the International Union we could in a short time manage to enroll 600 workers within our local in the city of Hartford; be it, therefore

Resolved, That we request the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to grant our request and to assist us in organizing every man and woman in the city of Hartford into our organization.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 26.

Introduced by: Henry Zucker, Sarah Spanler, J. Goldstein, Local No. 41.

Whereas, The House-Dress, Kimono and Batrobe Makers’ Union, Local No. 41 of New York, consisting of about twelve hundred dues paying members, with shops spread in different localities of Greater New York and New Jersey, making the expense to be about the same as their income; and

Whereas, There are in the city of New York about two thousand Syrians and about seven hundred Spanish workers who
are working in unorganized shops under lower standards than the workers in the organized shops, which causes competition among the manufacturers in the trade and threatens the existence of the Union; and

Whereas, At the Philadelphia Convention it was resolved to instruct the General Executive Board to appoint a Syrian and Spanish organizer, and with all the possible help of Local No. 41 to try and organize the entire house-dress, kimono and negligee trade; and

Whereas, The International Union, having been involved in a number of stubborn, prolonged and expensive strikes since the last convention, found it impossible to carry out the decision as above stated; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to carry out the decision of Resolution No. 92 of the Philadelphia Convention, without fail.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

Pres. Schleisenger: The General Executive Board did engage at one time—I think it was two years ago—a Syrian organizer, and spent considerable money in organizing the Syrian and Turkish workers in that industry. If I remember correctly, we employed that organizer for about ten weeks, with absolutely no results. It does not necessarily follow that because it was once tried to organize these workers, that no other attempt is to be made. But I believe it ought to be made clear to the convention that we have already undertaken the work of organizing the Syrians.

Delegate Zucker: Since the general strike of 1916 there has not been a Syrian organizer in our trade. The conditions in the Syrian shops have changed during this time. There are 2000 Syrian workers in our trade now, and many of these have been in this country for quite some time. Local No. 41 engaged a Syrian organizer, but it happened that that man did very little good. I believe that now the time is ripe for organizing the Syrian workers, with the help of Local No. 41 and with the help of the International. I believe that if this is given a trial it will prove successful.

The report of the Committee was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 29.

Introduced by: M. Zelts, Lena Plow, Samuel Grakin, Rose Oster, Sadie Feinberg and Mary Goff, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, Numerous committees from shops where handkerchiefs are manufactured have come to the New York White Goods Workers' Union, Local No. 62, with the request to help them organize their trade; and

Whereas, Local No. 62 has already undertaken a campaign in these shops and has succeeded in organizing a few of them through strikes and introduced better working conditions among them; and

Whereas, This trade, which employs largely women, is one of the worst in New York City, as regards wages, working hours and treatment by the employers; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to give Local No. 62 all possible assistance to organize this trade and to bring the handkerchief workers into the organized family of our International Union.

Your committee was not quite clear as to whether our International has jurisdiction over the handkerchief industry. We, therefore, called upon the delegation of Local No. 62, also on Brother Shore, their manager, and they explained that the white goods trade embraces the manufacture of handkerchiefs as well. So, as they already have some shops organized and no question of jurisdiction was advanced by anyone in New York, we decided to recommend that Local No. 62 should be aided in organizing the handkerchief workers, if the
American Federation of Labor will not dispute our jurisdictional rights.

Secretary Baroff opposed the report of the committee and moved as an amendment that the entire subject matter be referred to the incoming G. E. B.

The amendment was adopted.

Resolution No. 30.

Introduced by: M. Zietz, S. Graklin, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Lena Flow and Sadie Feinberg, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, The white goods industry is at present scattered all over the cities and towns of the United States; and

Whereas, It is generally admitted that the main center of this trade, New York city, can not be completely organized unless the shops in the various other cities are brought under the control of the Union; and

Whereas, The International has in the past realized this fully and has gained material achievements in this organizing work; be it, therefore

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the New York White Goods Workers' Union, Local No. 62, extend our thanks to the International for the many attempts it has made to organize the white goods workers all over the country; and be it further

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to conduct an energetic organization campaign in New York and restore Local No. 118 to life.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 34.

Introduced by Max Bruck, delegate of Local No. 21, Newark, N. J.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has conducted an energetic organization campaign in the year 1916 among the 8,000 waist, dress and white goods workers of Newark, N. J., which did not bring the desired result at that time; and

Whereas, The manufacturers are again reducing the wages which they were compelled to increase in time of the Union's activity; and

Whereas, The conditions of those trades are not only detrimental to the workers of Newark, but are also undermining the Union conditions in New York and other cities; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to conduct again an organization campaign in Newark and restore Local No. 118 to life.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 37.

Introduced by: Max Bruck, delegate of Local No. 21.

Whereas, There are about 400 ladies' tailors and alteration tailors employed in the various stores in Newark, N. J.; and
Whereas, The workers are underpaid and work under deplorable conditions since their last strike of 1911; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instruct the incoming General Executive Board to send an organizer to Newark to organize the ladies' tailors and alteration tailors.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 39.
Introduced by: A. J. Miller, delegate of Local No. 31.

Whereas, Local No. 31 of Louisville, Ky., has during the few months of its existence succeeded in organizing a considerable portion of the local cloakmakers; and

Whereas, it is highly desirable that the cloak trade in Louisville, which consists of over three hundred men and women, should be organized, both for the sake of the local trade and the cloak trade in general; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to organize the cloakmakers of Louisville who are eager to become a part of our great International Union and to enjoy the improved standards and blessing which come to workers when they are united.

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 67.
Introduced by Delegations of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, a large number of shops have moved to various towns in the New England States thus making it impossible for the Union to control them, and

Whereas, such a situation is a menace to the trade in Boston and elsewhere, be it therefore

Resolved, that the incoming General Executive Board assign an organizer for the purpose of unionizing the shops in the New England States.

Chairman Lefkovits:

The Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the recommendation of the Committee be accepted. Unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 81.
Introduced by Nathan Riesel, Benj. Greenblatt and Helen Spindler, Local No. 66.

Whereas, over 3000 people in the Singer and Hand Embroidery trades, mostly Italians, are still unorganized, and whereas, the Bonnaz Embroiderers Union, Local 66, is willing to do all in its power to organize those trades, be it therefore

Resolved that the International shall employ an Italian organizer to assist local 66 in its work to organize the Singer and Hand Embroiderers in the City of New York.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 82.
Introduced by Nathan Riesel, Benj. Greenblatt and Helen Spindler, Local No. 66.

Whereas, 60 percent of the work in the Hand Embroidery trade is still done by homeworkers, mostly women and children,
in tenement houses, kitchens and bedrooms, which is rendering the task of organizing the hand workers almost impossible, be it therefore

Resolved, that the International is to use all means at its disposal to abolish homework in the Hand Embroidery trade in the City of New York by legislation in the Assembly in Albany or otherwise.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 86.

Introduced by full Delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivolo, Local No. 26.

Whereas, The continued activities of the various Locals of our organization in the City of New York have compelled the manufacturers to grant Union conditions; and
Whereas, To evade our activities, the manufacturers eager to make money have encouraged former shop contractors and speculators to open shops in the following localities: McMurrough, New Rochelle, Port Chester, being in the vicinity of the City of New York, Harrison, Hackensack, Passaic, Garfield, Lodf, Long Branch, in the State of New Jersey, and other small towns; and
Whereas, It has been impossible for the Locals, Cloak & Suit, Waist & Dresses, Raincoats, Embroideries, White Goods, Children's Dresses, to keep up an active campaign to organize these workers, for it requires an enormous sum of money and
Whereas, The majority of these shops employ Italian workers; and
Whereas, In the corset industry there is also a large number of Italian workers disorganized; be it

Resolved: That the incoming General Executive Board instruct the Italian General Organizer, to start a campaign to organize these shops preventing the manufacturers from avoiding union activities, and compel them to grant union conditions to their employees.

Chairman Lechovitz:

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 95.

Introduced by Bella Mos, Mollie Mollof and A. Selmer, Local No. 90.

Whereas, The Costume Dressmaking Industry is employing from 8,000 to 10,000 people in about 2,000 shops throughout Greater New York, of which the Local is controlling 700 members in 100 shops, and
Whereas, Most of the industry lies on the West Side of the City of New York which the Union has not, up till this season, tried to organize, not having the sufficient means for such work, and
Whereas, The organization campaign carried on with the assistance of our International for about six weeks during this season has convinced us that in order to build up a strong local union in this industry we must have a general strike, and we feel that such strike, if called, will be effective, otherwise the existence of our Local is threatened, so be it

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union should endorse a general strike to be called out at the earliest convenient time and bring successful results.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

Delegate Hacken: I move as an amendment that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. (Seconded).

Delegate Selmer: I doubt whether this
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Convention would accept such an amendment to this resolution. I suppose that most of the delegates will understand that the Committee on Organisation has carefully considered the facts connected with the resolution. They not only invited our delegation, but they had the opinion of the members of the General Executive Board on the matter. I want to tell you that it is not necessary to refer this matter to the General Executive Board, because the General Executive Board has done the best it could for us, as the resolution states, and their action has brought considerable results. (Applause).

I doubt whether it is proper that this Convention should go on record as having referred this matter to the General Executive Board, because this question involves, not three or four hundred workers, but ten thousand workers. And, besides, such a decision would have a bad effect on the employers of this industry.

Naturally, the General Executive Board would have to take a hand in this matter, not only because it is the supreme body of our International, but also because, as you know, we have only seven hundred members in our local, and the facilities of this local will not enable us to do any work without the General Executive Board.

Delegate Wiener: The Committee, or rather its chairman, has reported favorably on this resolution and I want to tell you that if ever there was an opportune time for organizing the dressmakers of New York, it is the present time. I do not believe it is necessary to appeal to you on behalf of this local. As you see, the delegates of Local No. 90 agree that a strike shall be called only when the General Executive Board will deem it advisable to call same.

Delegate Silberman, Local No. 25: I understand that Local 90 as well as all the other delegates have full confidence in the incoming G. E. B. But this resolution needs the endorsement of the Convention in order to get publicity. I remember the time when we came to the Convention for the endorsement of a general strike in the waist industry of New York. It is the endorsement by a Convention which is reported in the newspapers, that makes the workers in the shops think of their position. It prepares their minds to go down when they are called upon by the Union.

I believe, therefore, that the Convention should endorse a general strike for the custom dressmakers right here, and that it should be left to the G. E. B. to decide upon the time when the strike should be called.

The amendment to refer to the G. E. B. was lost.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Pres. Schloalger: Of all the eleven men who compose the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. I don't know of one, with the possible exception of President Gompers, who is so well known to and so much respected by the organized workers, as that Scotchman, James Duncan, the first vice-president of the A. F. of L. As far as I have observed, Brother Duncan is not only a great organizer, as is proven by the powerful organization of granite workers that he built up and of which he is the International President, but also a great statesman. A year ago, when President Wilson sent his Commission Extraordinary to Russia, he chose Mr. Duncan as one of the commissioners. I only regret that Mr. Duncan was not selected as the head of that Commission, instead of Mr. Root.

We have Brother Duncan with us at this session. I am sure that he is glad to make your acquaintance. I am also sure that you are glad to make his acquaintance, and I therefore take great pleasure in presenting to you Brother James Duncan. (Hearty applause).

ADDRESS OF JAMES DUNCAN.

Mr. President, delegates to the Convention, fellow workers: It is pleasure indeed to have the opportunity to meet you this morning. I have some knowledge of the history and development of your organization and it is an honor to your organiza-
tion, as well to to the development of the great labor movement to see so many delegates present, many of them of foreign birth, born under conditions and language different from the majority of this country, and representing such a large and growing organization.

It is true as your President said that I was born abroad. I came to this country however, when of very young age. All my activities and general knowledge therefore apply to these United States, or to America generally.

You meet under times of perhaps the greatest stress our country has ever known, with the possible exception of its revolution and the unpleasantness of the sixties, which more directly affected our country than the world as a whole. At the present time the civilized countries of the world have their eyes turned towards America, and principally towards the United States of America to help in working out the great European problem. I dare say that 10 or 15 years ago, or perhaps less than that, if any of you, like the rest of us here, had been told by someone that Germany with its ally Austria would have performed the frightful things which have been done by those countries in the last few years, you would have readily acclaimed the man or woman who said so as not being level-headed. I had the honor in 1911 to attend the International meeting in Budapest, Hungary, as the representative of the labor movement of America. Because of the distance and that we had not been long represented, I was the only delegate. The other countries were represented by two delegates. As late, therefore as 1911, the subject matter of war, internal or between countries, was a live subject, and upon my motion, what was then known as the Budapest Secretariat, voted practically unanimously—I have no remembrance at the present time of there being a dissenting vote, to the effect that the workers of the world in whatever country they might be living and working, would refuse to take up arms and shoot the working man of other countries, because of squabbles between monarchs or capitalists of any kind. (Great applause).

I personally knew the delegates from Germany in that convention, and got well acquainted with the delegates from Austria and from Hungary. I am not to say a word about the Austrian and Hungarian delegates at the present time because I doubt, if whatever may have been pressed upon them to do, that they have been back of the monarchy, that they are in favor of the European war. As regards the German delegates, however, Carl Legien, a member of the Reichstag from Kiel and Tassenbeck, a man who can speak the language of the majority of the people of this country as well as any of us can, and several other languages—I am told that both men have been from head to foot supporting the Kaiser's activities. I knew that as a trade Unionist, Legien head of the Federation of the Trade Unions of Germany, could not do a great deal in that capacity because in Germany the Federation of Trade Unions is not allowed under any circumstances to discuss or participate in political affairs. No sooner they do so, than the Kaiser's edict declares them illegal and they must disband. They have their expression, however, in their political party, and that political party can express itself in the same way in Germany as the other political parties do,—and it was a great surprise to me, having mingled with those men in Germany and Austria and in Hungary, to find that the political end of the labor movement in Germany has practically been unanimous in favor of the Kaiser's action. It is proof that whatever may have been ruminating in the minds of the German delegates and the Secretariat in 1911 in Budapest, they did not represent the views of the masses they represented when it came to a question of international war.

In one way or another our country has been dragged into it, and I am only to refer to this in passing, because I am not here this morning to discuss war. Our labor movement stands for peace and for justice between man and man wherever they were born. (Great applause). In one way or another, our country is at war. Much against the general will of the people of this country, it has been dragged into war. But when it came to a question of permanency or ascendency as between autocracy and democracy, it was no wonder that this old-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

The existing great Republic of the world should take a hand in it, to see that the democracies of the future shall be safe. The great labor movement of our country has declared itself upon this subject, and the great President of our country acknowledges the loyalty of the labor movement of our country to the great cause of democracy, which he in part is leading, and at the present time comes pretty nearly to be the real leader. There is no question in the minds of those holding governmental positions as to the loyalty of organized labor of North America, to the purpose for which the Government entered the war. For while we have had our differences with Presidents and with Governments, that was something that was vouchsafed to us by our democratic system, whereby we should have the right of public and free expression; we may have differences at the present time and there will be differences in the future. We will attend to those as best we may as they come and at the most opportune time.

But just now the individual who considers his position above that of the welfare of this Government and of this great conflict is not a safe and sane citizen. The organization which would hold aloof from support of our government in the time of stress, is not a safe and sane institution. And the capitalist or corporation which considers his thousands or his millions or its interests of more importance than of the interest of our great Government, is a man or an institution that is not safe and sane under our democracy.

The capitalist and the corporation having money and profiteering at great rate at the present time, who fails to respond to the public call to support democracy as opposed to aristocracy is a traitor to his country and to the great cause of democracy, as much as language can be made to express that thought. (Applause).

My friends, a few years ago, a third of this hall would not have been crowded with your delegates at a convention, and now to see you in a large hall with chairs and tables all occupied is the best possible evidence of the great development which is taking place in your industry. You have had your troubles. You are mostly located in the large cities, and it has been difficult work for you to accomplish what you have done, and therefore the more credit to you for having accomplished it. My own trade today which your interesting and intellectual President has just referred to, began organizing a little over 100 years ago. We had organized granite cutters in the United States when Waterloo was fought and we have been simmering along since then, taking advantage of this, advantage of that, until for some years past we practically have 97 per cent of the men of our trade in North America in our organization. (Applause). We have been an international since 1877. Perhaps we might have done better than we have done, but there have been trade obstacles which it would tire you this morning to detail. We have, however, been in the front of the fight, whenever it was possible to advance.

When the Trade and Labor Unions of America was organized in America in 1886, the men of my trade had their representatives there. I was then too young of course to know anything about it. That movement developed and the men back of it had great aspirations, but like many other movements of the kind, it fell down in a few years because instead of waiting to organize the workers of the country into unions so that they could act unanimously, in two or three years, after they organized, they declared for a political party, and that political party pretty soon was of the opinion that this, that and the other way was the course to go, and no two of the subdivisions could agree with each other, and in 1872 the whole movement went down.

In 1880 the first organization which developed into the American Federation of Labor met in Pittsburgh. The organization of which I am proud to be a member had its representative there. We were one of the few international unions there and then represented.

However, in the early stages of the American Federation of Labor it was organized more by the militant men in the central bodies, taken by the officers of the struggling national unions.

By and bye the American Federation of Labor was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1886 and I had the honor of representing my
international union in that convention. For a number of years past, Vice President Gompers of the Cigar Makers and President of the American Federation of Labor and myself have been the only two delegates attending the conventions of the A. F. of L., who were present at its birth in its present form in Columbus, Ohio in 1886. It has grown from an organization of a few thousands until when the convention meets in a few days in St. Paul, Minnesota, the report of the General Executive Council to the convention will show that there are now two million, seven hundred thousand paid up members in the American Federation of Labor. (Vigorous applause). Sometimes it has been condemned for not growing fast enough; at other times the conservatives said it was growing too fast. It has had its ups and downs, its troubles and all that sort of thing, but still it is making progress. (Applause). The Finance Minister. The value of the ruble was ordered, those messages going across the wires had the right of line representation or the imperialists, and a number of years past, Vice President Gompers of the Cigar Makers and President of the American Federation of Labor. (Vigorous applause). As for myself, I desire to say to you that the working people in Siberia as well as in Russia received me with open arms. They would come rushing to the train yelling at the pitch of their voices: "Duncan! Americans! Duncan! Americans!" They wanted to hear from the representative of the working class of America, and I responded, whether it was during the day or during the night.

It would be foolish on my part to tell any of you—many no doubt of you were there—the history of your own country. My friends the value of organization came out in that great conflict perhaps more keenly than in any other single event that I can remember of, in connection with the organization of labor. Those representatives of the workmen in the big industrial centers had with them the telegraphers. The telegraphers were advised that when the time came to declare the revolution, not to accept a message to go across the lines from the loyalists or the imperialists, until it first had the O. K. of the Provisional Government. So, when the revolution was ordered, those messages going across the wires had the right of line representing the Revolutionists. That, to a great extent, had to do with how they moved so promptly and with such little bloodshed. But in this period of readjusting disputes with our employers, there is one whom I really lack words to introducing. He is not only a
charming personality at conferences when he tries to get both sides to come to a reasonable understanding, but he is a man who provokes the admiration and affection of all who come in contact with him. He is a professor of Harvard University; the Government has secured his services during the past few months for the adjustment of labor disputes in the War Department. We have him with us this morning and I take great pleasure in presenting to you Professor William Z. Ripley.

(Professor Ripley received an ovation, the applause lasting for several minutes).

ADDRESS OF PROF. RIPLEY.

Ladies and gentlemen, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and Mr. President:

I see what it means in the way of a reception to have your President express his personal feelings for me—the cordiality of the greeting which comes from the relationship that it has been my privilege to establish with your officers.

My training in this kind of work began right here in this organization and it began in Local No. 49, something like three years ago, when the local was not as big as it is today. Now I am told that under the able leadership of Brother Jacobson they have fifteen hundred members in that local. That is a record for us, all to be proud of and I am glad to have known it and to have watched it grow. I know it will keep on growing, if its affairs are handled as they have been during these last few years.

But this time it is my privilege to come to you, not in relation to Local No. 49, but in relation to National 50—that is, I represent, in a small way, a Union of fifty great and sovereign states—a Union which is engaged in a colossal strike at this time at one of the most monstrous and unjust powers that ever prevailed upon the face of the globe, and it is my privilege to say just a word as to what may be done as a representative of National Fifty, namely: The United States of America (great applause) in its relation to the industrial situation.

But I must ask you, when you come in contact, as I do, from day to day with your officers and others, to be lenient with me. I know you will be. You will be patient if you will bear in mind what it has meant to be taken out of the quiet life of a university and put through what it has been my experience to go through in the last two years—and then excuse me if I occasionally go wrong in dealing with you.

There was first a period of working with the railroad brotherhoods—for a number of months going over the country in the cabs of locomotives, in the cabooses of freight trains, trying to understand the great eight-hour movement which brought such a victory to the brotherhoods a little while ago. Then came the shipping industry. That meant going to shipyards and seeing how the riveters, the passer-boys and the heater-boys worked. And then came this experience which has brought me in touch with the garment industry.

And now, tomorrow, or the next day, there will be problems concerning the great cotton industry, which is very important in this section. Where would you be if you were in my position? Would you not wake in the night, once in a while, trying to figure out some of the problems connected with this work?

Just try and remember what it has meant to try to do the right thing—to be hurried along from one industry to another, trying to learn in five minutes the things it takes years to learn. If you can not excuse mistakes, ascribe them to that experience.

One of the first of those that comes home to me is the need of the adoption of something like a standard wage for industry throughout the United States. I have been brought in contact in every one of these industries, except railroad work, with the conflict and the unrest, and the injustice, the migration of men and women from place to place, due to a failure to fix somehow by agreement, what shall be a good standard wage, and then to see that everybody gets it, so that there shall be no one left out in the cold. I hope to see the day yet when such a good wage shall be written into every contract which the Government lets in the garment industry. (Applause).

I did not mean to say that the figure written in shall be a minimum wage, because as necessary as it is to have a minimum wage defined, we do not want to get the minimum
and then have them adopt or raise as a maximum. What I mean is that we should find out what is a good going wage, under all the circumstances, figure it out upon the increased cost of living and the necessity for your work, and then determine upon a fair wage, and, as I said, make sure that everybody shall pay it. That would eliminate unrest all along the line. I believe still that one of the great problems which confronts organized labor is to secure the adoption by the Government of a minimum wage.

The new program of the British Labor Party contains a statement that no human being should be allowed in a civilized community to receive a wage which is less than ample for health and a reasonable degree of comfort. I hope to see some such policy carried out, so that exploitation as it exists and to the degree that it does exist, shall be brought to an end. (Great applause). And then, when we get the question of hours standardized, of wages standardized, subject to revision, as it must be from time to time, throughout the country, I hope that we shall secure the universal adoption of the eight-hour day. (Great applause). That day is no longer a dream of the future. It is not the thing that man fought for in the days of the millennium, as they did ten years ago, but it has come—it is here—and every one of you has the same right today as every other one. There are difficulties in the matter of law which those of us who have had to do with the raincoat industry will appreciate. Is there any reason why a man working on army slickers should work a longer day than one who works on civilian garments? Certainly not.

And now on that question of standard wages and of hours, let me present to you the conditions in an industry where they do not have those wages and hours. I do not know yet whether the question of a resolution to straighten out the affairs of the manufacture of shirts has come before you, but if it has, perhaps I need not say much. But I wish to impress upon you the need of straightening out that business. I have been over this morning a report made by an organization in Philadelphia as to conditions which prevail in the neighborhood of the Schuylkill Arsenal, which gives out work in bundles, to work at homes to 5000 women in the neighboring cities. Just to describe those conditions, here are two or three details that came to me the other day. Here is a home in Philadelphia where a man died of tuberculosis, while his wife was working on shirts. The woman who represented the organization making the investigation, was told that the Board of Health had been asked to fumigate the house several weeks before, and had apparently forgotten to do it. Shirts went on being made, day by day in those unfumigated premises.

The next case is of manufacturing in the colored tenements. Now under the practices of the arsenal, carried out in good faith—I am not criticizing the officers of that institution; they followed the lines laid down for them by an old law dating from 1860—but under those rules it is required that the inspection of premises take place periodically. The colored woman in this case certified that she wished to do the work and applied for inspection. She got her inspection. Why? Not because anybody came to her tenement, but because the Board of Health of the City of Philadelphia was pleased to report that some years before, they had inspected another tenement in that block and found it alright. (Laughter). And in that house there were both measles and whooping-cough, and those shirts were going out to the boys on the other side.

Is not there every kind of danger that we will have what we had during the Spanish War—an outbreak or diseases, traceable directly to these conditions? But it is not only health. It is because you cannot standardize those conditions, because those people who had to do that work are competing against you who are the heads of families; they are competing against the factories, which have invested large sums of money in order to carry on this industry—and as I told you in the case of the standard wage and of the eight-hour day, I hope to see a regulation of this practice, so that it shall be brought to something in the way of better standards than those that prevail at this time. (Great applause). And now I want to speak about something
which comes as near criticizing the labor movement as anybody who feels as warmly in sympathy with it as I do may. That is to speak of the question of efficiency. Problems are brought up to me every little while which concern the relation of organized labor to the introduction of systems of manufacture, which are undoubtedly, if you disregard human rights, in the direction of efficiency. But it is possible, I believe to modify some of those methods which are applied in the model factories in one or two places in the West—model factories, except for the one very essential detail, that they don't deal with organized labor. I should like to see the time come when those factories will be organized and when the efficiency methods that are applied will be analyzed by the employer and by the representatives of the workers and the good will be separated from the bad and you will keep the good, because if you don't keep your efficiency so far as it does not conflict with human rights, you cannot keep your competitive place in the world.

And to me, in all my contact thus far with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union it has been a source of great pleasure to find the full recognition of this principle of efficiency, and the necessity of coordinating it with the rights of the workers.

And then there is something which has come to me through many years which I hope, I know, this organization will keep in the forefront of its activities; that is to say, the work that you can do in helping to make this great American nation a nation in which all the people within its doors shall be full-fledged Americans and citizens. There is no other country in the world like ours so far as the mixture of all peoples, in the face of the globe, is concerned. They have come here from every part of the earth. Do you realize that there are more Italians in the city of New York today than there are in any other city in the world—more than there are in Rome, which is the biggest city in Italy? Do you realize that there are more people of Russian birth in New York than there are in any other one place—that there are more Bohemians—I believe it is in Chicago—than there are in the capital of Bohemia? The center of gravity of many of these countries on the globe has shifted to the United States. But insofar as those people have come to us by the millions and have retained their old citizenship, they fail to become part of what should become the greatest nation on the face of the globe, and all that you can do to bring those people into full citizenship, beginning with an intention to learn to master the English language, those things will all contribute to the force and the power of the great Government to which we all owe allegiance.

It has been coming home to us for many years that one of the great forces that could make for this Americanization would be the organizations like your own.

And now I am getting near the end: We come to what lies pretty near at the core of the whole thing: that is to say, the right, the necessity of organization. I have always believed that the natural way in which the solution of our industrial evils should be brought about was through the growth of great and powerful organizations of the workers. This right to organize has not been fully recognized, but now that the war has come and the place of the workers is fully recognized, you have got a charter in that direction such as you have never enjoyed before. You have it in the avowed policy of the Government and I would like to read you two or three paragraphs from that, so that you may see what the position of this Government is toward the workers. The first four clauses are these:

"1. There should be no strikes or lockouts during the war."

"2. The right of workers to organize in trade unions and to bargain collectively..."
through chosen representatives is recognized and affirmed. This right shall not be denied, abridged, or interfered with by the workers in any manner whatsoever."

If a lockout occurs because of membership or activity in a Union, there is this clause to quote at once, which affirms the right of the workers to go back to their places while we secure the adjustment of whatever views or dispute there may be.

"3. Employers should not discharge workers for membership in trade-unions, nor for legitimate trade-union activities.

"4. In establishments where—the union shop exists the same shall continue, and the union standards as to wages, hours of labor, and other conditions of employment shall be maintained."

And so it goes on. You have there it seems to me an opportunity, which if wisely used, will hold for you those privileges, and it is in your hands to see that those privileges are held after the war is over and we return to a peace basis.

There is a straight parallel between the struggle that is going on in the war of Europe and the struggle that has been going on for so many years in this country, and that parallel has never been put more clearly than in the great speech of the President of the United States in the proclamation of the war, and with your permission I would like to read that and close:

"The right is more precious than peace. We shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy—for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments."

That means not only the right of those who submit to authority politically to have a right in their own governments, but it means that every man and woman who works in a great industrial establishment has that same right.

"And that the administration of industry shall no longer be carried on upon the basis of autocracy, even if it is benevolent, but that the principle of a limited monarchy at least and of representative institutions, shall prevail in our mills and our factories, as it shall prevail also in the great cities and the Government."

I thank you for your attention. (Prolonged applause).

Delegate Greenspun of Local 54: I move that a vote of thanks be given to Professor Ripley for his good and impartial work for this International, especially for the raincoat and slicker industry.

This was unanimously adopted. (Great applause).

The Committee on Organization heretofore continued its report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Resolution No. 96.

Introduced by Henry Zucker, Sarah Spanier and J. Goldstein, Local No. 41.

Whereas, At the Philadelphia Convention it was adopted that the G. E. B. shall institute an investigation in the trade conditions of the Locals 25, 41, 60, 58, 83 and the miscellaneous department of Local 10, to find if it is necessary to establish a Joint Board to be known as the Joint Board of the Dress, Waist and Negligee Unions, and

Whereas, The G. E. B. have had no time to make such investigations during the period of the last year and a half, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming G. E. B. to immediately after this Convention investigate conditions in the above mentioned trades and if after the investigation it will be found that a Joint Board is necessary, it shall be established.

Your committee recommends favorably on this resolution, and moves its adoption.

Unanimously carried.
Resolution No. 97.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 50; H. Zucker, No. 41; M. Zlotz, No. 62; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; H. Silverman, No. 25.

Whereas, In Harlem, New York City, there are at present employed about 10,000 workers in the making of children's dresses, waists, dresses, cloaks, suits and other women's garments, and

Whereas, About 90 per cent of them are working for contractors under non-union conditions and so undermine the established working conditions of our organized trades, and

Whereas, The number of those contractors shops is increasing to a very large extent,

Be It Therefore Resolved, That this Convention instruct the incoming General Executive Board to start an organization campaign in Harlem to unionize the workers employed there and have their conditions brought up to the standard of our organized workers.

Your committee recommends that the incoming General Executive Board calls a joint meeting of representatives of the joint boards of Locals, 25, 62 and 50 of the City of New York, to devise ways and means how to bring about a complete and successful organization of all shops working on women's wear situated in Harlem.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 101.

Introduced by O. H. Nudelman, Local 100; A. Silver, No. 15; H. Schoolman, Joint Board, Chicago; D. Axelrod, A. Gold, No. 44; J. Mencoff, No. 18; J. E. Plotkin, No. 71.

Whereas, There are about two thousand (2000) ladies' tailors, finishers and skirt makers employed in the ladies tailoring trade in the City of Chicago, and

Whereas, There has been in existence in Chicago our Ladies' Tailors Union, Local 71, I. L. G. W. U., and this Union years ago has controlled the largest part of the trade in the city, and

Whereas, The Local 71 after many strikes and lock-outs has lost its influence in the trade, but has always tried to revitalize its activity, and

Whereas, After years of endeavor the Local 71 has again undertaken organizing work and has succeeded in organizing a large number of ladies tailors and has unionized many shops, and

Whereas, The greatest number of Ladies' tailors, finishers and dressmakers are not yet organized and wait for this occasion and Local 71 is too weak to undertake the work on such a large scale, be it

Resolved, That the convention of I. L. G. W. U. instruct the General Executive Board to undertake immediately the movement to organize the ladies tailoring trade in the City of Chicago.

Your committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

Pres. Schlesinger: I want to state for the benefit of the delegates that we have undertaken that movement some months ago. The very same delegate that presented that resolution has been getting part of his salary from our International Union. I merely state it so that the delegates are properly informed of the circumstances.

An amendment was made that the International should continue its activities in Chicago, which was seconded.

Delegate Plotkin spoke in favor of the resolution, strongly upholding it.

The amendment was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 107.

Introduced by D. Cohen, Local No. 4; Joseph Tichy, No. 101; C. L. Brennan, No. 110; C. Samorodin, No. 72; Max Lipach, No. 40; Fannla M. Cohn, No. 72; Anna M. Cavanagh, No. 40; May Ratchford, No. 33, and John E. Fitzpatrick, No. 39.
Whereas, Our International Union has made great strides in organizing the male workers in our industry, and

Whereas, In a few cities we have also been successful in organizing the women workers, especially those of the Jewish race, and

Whereas, There are thousands of women workers employed in the making of ladies' garments throughout the country, such as the corset making trade, which gives occupation to about forty-thousand women, and which are still unorganized, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming O. E. B. be instructed to start an aggressive and energetic campaign to organize the women workers in the corset and miscellaneous trades.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Secretary Baroff read the following communication from the Women's Trade Union League:

May 24, 1918.

To the Women Delegates, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Greetings:

The Women's Trade Union League wishes to extend to the women delegates attending the convention of the I. L. G. W. U. and to Mrs. Schlesinger an invitation to visit Wellesley College with us in the afternoon of May 28, next Tuesday. We will leave Convention Hall at 4 o'clock. We will have supper in Wellesley and return at about 8 o'clock.

We urge you most cordially to join us and we assure you we are looking forward to a happy outing together.

Fraternally yours,

Mabel Gillespie.

After several announcements by the Chairman of the various committees as to when and where their committees would meet, the session adjourned at 12:30 P. M. to reconvene in the afternoon at 2 o'clock.

SEVENTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 2 o'clock, Monday, May 27th, 1918—President Schlesinger in the chair.

Vice-President Lefkowitz, Chairman of the Organization Committee, continued his report.

Resolution No. 120.

Introduced by Philip Soldner, Local No. 6.

Whereas, The Embroidery Workers' Union, Local No. 6, has during the last two years successfully organized the embroidery workers in New York City, gaining considerable concessions for them, and is now the controlling factor in the trade, and

Whereas, The bulk of the Swiss embroidery trade is located in New Jersey, where the workers, notwithstanding the efforts of the International, now and then, to organize them, have still remained unorganized, due to various local conditions, working long hours and under lamentable working conditions, and

Whereas, This state of affairs in New Jersey is being felt more and more keenly in the trade in New York, hampering and retarding the progress of Local No. 6, and may in the near future endanger the very existence of the local, and

Whereas, If a renewed organizing campaign is started, the workers in New Jersey, who realize the gains achieved by the New York workers through their organization, will surely respond to the call of the Union in order to be able to improve their conditions, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board and the officers of the International Union again take up the organizing campaign in New Jersey at the earliest possible opportunity.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.
Resolution No. 122.

Introduced by the Delegations of Locals No. 70 and No. 83.

Whereas, Local No. 70, the Skirt and Dress Makers' Union, and Local No. 83, the Cutters' Union of Toronto, are straining their efforts to organize all branches of the dress and white goods industries of Toronto, which employ about six thousand women and men, and

Whereas, Ninety-five per cent. of those engaged in the above named industries are Gentiles, and

Whereas, The progress of the cloakmakers in Toronto has created a strong sentiment for organization among the workers in the waist and white wear industry, and

Whereas, The Gentile section of Local No. 70 would enthusiastically take up an organization campaign, but it is handicapped by the lack of an efficient Gentile organizer, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention recommends to the incoming General Executive Board the employment of such an organizer for Locals No. 70 and No. 83, in order to organize the six thousand workers in the above referred to trades in Toronto.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

President Schlesinger again pointed out to the delegates, for their information, that action had once before been taken in this matter; that Toronto had an English-speaking organizer, Brother Thomas J. Black, who was employed there for almost a year and a half.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously accepted.

Resolution No. 128.

Introduced by M. Perlstein, Local No. 63; J. Poras and Chas. Kreindler, Local No. 28.

Whereas, There are two thousand ladies' waistmakers in the city of Cleveland, working under even worse conditions than the cloakmakers in that city; and

Whereas, The manufacturers in this trade, influenced by the cloak manufacturers, are taking the same obstinate stand in regard to the Union and to coming to an understanding with them regarding standard conditions of labor; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the agitation for a general strike which will begin in the cloak trade in the city of Cleveland should also include the ladies' waist industry of that city.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 130.

Introduced by Isadore Schoenholtz and H. Silberman, Local No. 25.

Whereas, Local No. 25, the Waist and Dress Makers' Union of New York, has made several attempts at organizing the waist and dress shops of Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers, N. Y., and

Whereas, Conditions prevailing there are such that they have become a menace to conditions in the shops in New York City, and

Whereas, This state of affairs has encouraged a number of unscrupulous manufacturers to open shops in these cities and to operate them under inferior conditions, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to appoint an organizer for the above mentioned cities, to help Local No. 25 to organize that territory.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming G. E. B., to be taken up as soon as the opportunity presents itself.

The report of the committee was adopted.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Vice-President Amdur, Chairman of the Committee, made the following report:

To the Officers and Delegates of the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.,

Greetings:

Your committee had before it resolutions No. 4 and No. 20, dealing with the same subject matter. The resolutions are as follows:

Resolution No. 4.

Introduced by M. Zietz, Mary Goff, Lena Plow, Sadie Feinberg, Samuel Grock, and Rose Oster; delegates of Local 62.

Whereas, The growth of our International Union and the strength and organizing activity of its locals has become powerful in its social work of its component organization, and

Whereas, It is desirable to bring together the locals in closer touch outside of the ordinary trade union problems and activities, and

Whereas, The International office is located in New York City, which is the center of the Ladies' Garment Industry, be it therefore

Resolved, By the 14th Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union that a centrally located home for all the locals be established where the main office of the International should be housed and which shall become the educational center for all our locals. The incoming General Executive Board shall be authorized to form a special committee for this purpose to investigate and to report on this matter to the next convention for the purpose of fully accomplishing this plan.

Resolution No. 20.

Introduced by H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board, J. Mench, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; A. Plotkin, Local No. 71; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; S. Greenspan, Local No. 54.

Whereas, Almost every International Union of this country has its own building; and

Whereas, It would give the International great prestige among its members and the people in general to have its own building be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union decides that every member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union should work one day and donate that day's earnings for this purpose; be it further

Resolved, That the General Executive Board be empowered to name the day.

Your committee recommends concurrence with resolution No. 4. This recommendation also to cover the committee's action upon No. 20.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 7.

Introduced by Miss Celia Samarodin and Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72.

Whereas, A Federal Amendment for woman suffrage passed the House of Representatives, and

Whereas, The same amendment is pending before the U. S. Senate for passage, before it can be submitted to the legislatures of the states for ratification, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, requests the Vice-President of the United States to urge the passage of the amendment through by the Senate.

Your committee, recommends the adoption of the following substitute:

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., send a telegram to the
United States Senate urging the passage of said amendment.

The substitute submitted by the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 11.

Introduced by request of Tobacco Workers' International Union.

Resolved, That we, the delegates to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, declare that we will use every effort through our International Union to cooperate and assist the Tobacco Workers' International Union in creating a greater demand for Union Label tobacco, snuff, and cigarettes.

Your committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 17.

Introduced by Max Brodfeld, Del. Local No. 23.

Whereas, The Socialist Party is the only party that represents the workers in the political field, and

Whereas, The Socialist Party depends upon the people of the working class for its success, and

Whereas, It has been realized that if solidarity prevails among the workers they can achieve their goal, as has been proven at the last election in the City of New York, and

Whereas, The coming election is very important, being a Congressional election, and

Whereas, Congress is the body that can make good legislation, be is therefore

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. endorses the Socialist Party and exercises all possible means of urging and encouraging its members to devote their energy to this cause, for the purpose of bringing about successful results in the coming elections.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the following substitute:

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., exercises all possible means of urging and encouraging its members to devote their energy to the end that in the coming election, Socialist candidates be elected to the respective offices for which they are candidates.

Delegate Lefkovits: I wish to amend this resolution by having the first whereas taken out, as there are other labor parties which should not be ignored. (Seconded).

Delegate Langer spoke against the amendment made by Brother Lefkovits.

Delegate Ashpis spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee, after it will have been amended by striking out the word "only" from the first line of the first "whereas."

Delegate Chazonoff spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee; Delegate Welner, of Local No. 3, spoke in favor of the amendment made by Brother Lefkovits.

Chairman Amdur: As chairman of this Committee, I desire to say that this resolution, as amended by Delegate Ashpis, will meet with the approval of the Committee, that is, to strike out the word "only."

The substitute submitted by the committee, including the striking out of the word "only" of the first line of the first "whereas" was adopted.

Resolution No. 23.

Introduced by J. Messer, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; J. H. Plotkin, Local No. 71; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18.

Whereas, Our trade in Chicago is still unorganized, despite the heroic efforts made in the winter of 1917, and

Whereas, The conditions prevailing in the waist, dress, skirt and white goods indust-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE L. L. G. W. U.

try are still such as to undermine conditions in organized cities, and

Whereas, It is our conviction that the sentiment among the workers in our industry is ripe for new action, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Convention of the L. L. G. W. U. empower the General Executive Board to start a general campaign for organizations, and call a general strike if necessary.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 31.

Introduced by: M. Zietz, S. Grakin, Rose Oster, Mary Goff, Lena Plow and Sadie Feldberg, delegates of Local No. 62.

Whereas, The forty-eight hour work week has already become a fact in our trade, and Whereas, There are already other trades in the ladies' garment industry where the forty-eight-hour work week is prevalent, and

Whereas, These facts point to the right direction of the progress of our International Union as regards the shortening of the work day of the men and women engaged in our industries, and

Whereas, Our International has reached a sufficiently influential stage of growth and power to enforce a demand for a still shorter work day, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to begin a campaign all over the country for a forty-four hour work week, divided as follows: nine hours during the first four days of the week and eight hours on the fifth day,—the work week to consist only of five days.

Resolution No. 32.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No.

48; Salvador Omica, L. Antonini, C. Vandall and A. Civel in, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, at several of its conventions, has adopted resolutions to endorse the eight-hour working day in the ladies' garment industry, and

Whereas, in our judgment very little has been accomplished At this time of scarcity of help our organization finds itself in the best opportunity, be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board, at expiration of agreements with manufacturers, shall establish the forty-four hours per week. Eight hours for the first five days (Monday to Friday) and four hours on Saturday or Sunday.

The above two resolutions deal with the same subject matter. Your committee recommends the adoption of the following substitute to cover both resolutions:

Resolved that this fourteenth biennial convention of the L. L. G. W. U. instructs its incoming G. E. B. to begin a campaign all over the country for the establishment of a forty-four hour working week in all trades of our industry.

The substitute submitted by the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 88.

Introduced by Vice-President Amdur, G. Rubin, Louis Bulkin, M. Levine and J. Newbauer, delegates of local No. 2; Samuel Otto and Max Garr, of Local 53, Beekie Stein and Sara Greenberg of Local No. 69 and S. Porter of the Philadelphia Joint Board.

Whereas, The eyes of the entire world are looking forward to the day when the war will end and when freedom will emerge victorious over tyranny; when society will come back to its normal condition and from all these war devastated countries there will be directed to this country a mass of immigration of people, and

Whereas, Most of these immigrants will seek to make a living through manual work
and will invade our trades and industries, and

Whereas, Our experience in the past has shown us that these newly arrived immigrants are, as a rule, being exploited mercilessly by big and small employers alike, and are, to a degree, used as a club against organized labor, and

Whereas, This state of affairs could not be blamed upon the immigrants, as there are no responsible labor institutions in existence at present whose aim and mission would be to lead the newly arrived workers in the proper direction, into the camp of organized labor, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention authorizes the incoming General Executive Board that in case the war will terminate before our next convention, to call a conference of the organized Jewish workers and to create a league for the protection and direction of these immigrant workers, which would be of mutual aid to all elements concerned and to the entire country.

Resolution No. 84.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatoro Omica, Luigi Antonini, A. Crivelo and C. Yandoli, Local No. 26.

Whereas, After the war, owing to the demobilization of the huge armies and the shutting down of the great war industries vast numbers of workingmen now otherwise engaged will be thrown back into the pre-war industries, clogging thereby the labor market and aggravating the competition between worker and worker, and

Whereas, It is to be expected that multitudes of immigrants will flock to this country from war-stricken Europe and a large percentage of them will be women, which will further complicate the situation we shall have to meet during the period of re-organization of our national life from a war to a peace plan, and

Whereas, It is necessary now to be prepared to meet this situation with clear understanding and forethought to the end that our organization might be able to withstand the first great shock of this sudden change and maintain throughout it the standards and conditions it has secured through long years of fighting and sacrifice, be it

Resolved, That this convention instruct the G. E. B. to study and devise all ways and means to face a probable recrudescence of immigration, by getting in closer touch with the European labor movement and establishing a regular bureau for the specific purpose of rapidly enrolling in our union and other affiliated and related organizations as many of the newcomers as it is possible and feasible.

Your committee considered the subject matter of resolutions Nos. 32 and 84 and recommends the following substitute: Resolved that this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the L. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., instruct the incoming G. E. B. that in case this war terminates before our next convention, to call a conference of all organized workers whose trades may become affected by the immigration that will follow the cessation of hostilities and to create a league for the protection and education of these immigrant workers, which would be of mutual aid to all elements concerned and also to the entire country.

Delegate Ninio suggested that this resolution be given to the delegates to the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, to present same to that body.

Delegate Silver: I would like to ask the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee whether the resolution, as amended, excludes the calling of a conference of Jewish workers?

The chairman of the committee replied in the affirmative.

Upon motion the substitute submitted by the committee, was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 44.

Introduced by the delegation of Local No. 10.
Whereas, Our International Union is one of the biggest labor organizations in the country; and

Whereas, Our organization is known all over the country as a progressive International union; and

Whereas, We have failed in the past to exert our full measure of influence upon the shaping of policies of the American Labor movement; and

Whereas, The central and state labor bodies of the several cities and states are the official spokesmen of organized labor for their respective territories; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board instructs all our affiliated locals to join such central and state labor bodies in their respective localities, to the end that the International Union, through its locals, may exert its full share of influence toward the adoption of progressive labor policies.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in.

On motion, the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 45.

Introduced by the delegation of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The workers are the creative force of wealth of the nation and contribute toward its industrial growth and development; and

Whereas, The workers contribute their all without receiving an adequate share of the fruits of their labor for themselves and their families in case of physical inability to continue their work; and

Whereas, In the absence of proper provision for caring for the physically incapacitated workers, these become public charges; and

Whereas, It has been generally recognized that the most effective method to uplift and maintain the morale of the nation as a whole as well as its individual citizens, is to care for such of its workers who may become physically unable to earn a livelihood; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the delegates of our International Union to the American Federation of Labor are instructed to introduce a resolution at its conventions urging an adoption by the Government, of a national system of social insurance.

Your committee recommends the concurrence of this resolution.

Upon motion, the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 46.

Introduced by the delegations of the Baltimore locals.

Whereas, Local No. 38, Cloakmakers' Union of Cumberland, Md., is in its progress of organization and is composed of women workers only; and

Whereas, The employers, for the purpose of intimidating the girls and in order to keep them out of the Union, have closed down the shop without giving any reason, and

Whereas, The majority of the members of Local No. 38 are women who are entirely dependent upon their weekly earnings for their support; and

Whereas, The earnings of these members average not more than $7.00 per week; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention appropriates a sum of money and directs the General Secretary to send Miss Anna Neary, our organizer, to Cumberland for the purpose of assisting financially those of the members of Local No. 38 who are in need.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming O.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

President Schlesinger: I wish to inform the delegates that the G. E. B. has already acted upon the Cumberland situation. At one of our sessions,—I believe it was last Friday,—we went into the question of the Cumberland strike and financial assistance was given that strike.

The report of the committee as well as the action of the G. E. B. was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 83.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, A. Krivelo and C. Yandoll, Local No. 25

Whereas, The daily experience has proved to us that the union activity of our members has placed them in a precarious position, thus causing their discharge by the manufacturer and making it impossible for them to earn a livelihood, and

Whereas, In these shops, where the workers are united in the demand for union conditions the workers are getting prices in price lists and the work is done in the contractor's shops or in those of sub-manufacturers; be It

Resolved, That the delegates for the Fourteenth Biennial Convention assembled in Boston indorse the idea to start a campaign for the establishment of the co-operative shop, owned and controlled by the union, where the discriminated brothers will find place of employment in order to support their families; and be it further

Resolved, That a special committee or the incoming General Executive Board be given the power to find means of acting on the project.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be rejected.

Brother Ninfo delivered an address in support of the resolution, stating that it was the aim of the introducers of this resolution to bring the idea of cooperative

shops, designed to protect the members who are being victimized by the employers and in which they could find employment for themselves.

A number of delegates spoke in favor of the rejection of this resolution, on the ground that such shops had been injurious to the Union whenever they had been started.

President Schlesinger pointed out that Brother Ninfo had misunderstood the resolution, as it calls for the establishment of cooperative shops where workers who have been discriminated against should be able to find employment, and not for the mere presentation of this idea for some distant future.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was accepted.

Resolution No. 85.

 Introduced by full Delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoll, and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25

Whereas, After the Italian Cloak, Suit and Skirt Makers' Union, Local No. 48, has adopted their new system, (Union books accompanied by a photograph of the holder) the old practice of lending books by members to non-union laborers has been done away with.

Whereas, The new system has placed the Business Agent, nationality whatever, in a position to assure himself of the member's identity, and

Whereas, This system will oblige the majority of members to respect and fear our organization, be it

Resolved, That any local that has secured the employer’s recognition, or has established union conditions adopt the system, namely two photographs from each member; one to go in the book, and one to be kept on file in the office of the local. Your committee recommends concurrence in this resolution. (Applause).
Delegate Ninfa delivered a strong appeal in support of the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 90.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48; Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivolo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is an organization embracing over 125,000 members throughout the United States and Canada, banded together for the purpose of improving the conditions of its membership, and of 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 being gradually lowered by competition among the working people employed in the industry, as well as among the employers and

Whereas, Through experience we have ascertained that all attempts to remedy these evils by organizing local city general strikes have proved fruitless, it being impossible to compel the manufacturers of a single center or city to really grant decent living conditions to their workers, and not paper agreements, which was proved in Cleveland, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Boston and New York, and also because in the said large organized cities it is impossible for the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. 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 and Thirteenth Conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. referred to the General Executive Board to discuss and secure advice on the plan, to be submitted to the membership in general, in order to express their opinion in the matter, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, on account of being continually engaged it was impossible to allot any time to the consideration of the contents of the resolution.

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. 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, throughout the United States and Canada should be called and that the incoming General Executive Board will be instructed to submit their findings and the advisabilities of this resolution to the consideration and vote of the membership, not later than December, 1918.

Your Committee recommends rejection of the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 91.

Introduced by Max Brodfield and Harry Miller, Local No. 23.

Whereas, The peoples of the whole world are involved in a terrible conflict which brings untold suffering to humanity, and

Whereas, This turmoil is due to the autocracy of the German Government and the German Junkerdom, and

Whereas, It is our interest to overthrow this autocracy and replace democracy so as to bring about an honorable peace for the peoples of the whole world, therefore be it

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, urges the American Federation of Labor to call an International conference of all labor organizations throughout the world, for the purpose of finding a way whereby this terrible conflict we are now engaged in will come to a close and an honorable and everlasting peace will be established for all mankind of the world.
Resolution No. 104.

Introduced by Max Margolls, Local No. 10; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25; H. Bernstein and A. Silver, No. 15.

Whereas, The Inter-Allied Labor Conference has adopted at Nottingham, England, a constructive program of social and economic regeneration, based upon the vital demands and aspirations of the working class, after the present world war will have come to an end, and

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union finds itself fully in accord and deeply in sympathy with the ideals and plans laid down by the above mentioned Conference, be it therefore

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled at Boston, Mass., in May, 1918, endorse the program of the Inter-Allied Labor Conference, and be it further

Resolved, That the delegates of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, be instructed to work for the endorsement of the program of this Conference—and for the participation by that body in the Inter-Allied Labor Conference.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Delegate Sarah Shapiro asked that her name be removed from the list of the introducers of this resolution, as she had understood that it read “International” instead of “inter-allied.”

Vice-President Lefkovits desired that action be deferred on this resolution until all the delegates would receive copies of the Nottingham Conference, so that they may acquaint themselves with it and guide themselves accordingly.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously concurred in.

Resolution No. 103.

Introduced by Fannia M. Cohn, Local No. 72; David Cohn, No. 4; Morris Sigman, No. 35; H. Bernstein, No. 15; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25.

Whereas, The cooperative idea is spreading among the locals of our International Union, and

Whereas, This idea took a practical form, as expressed in the establishment of Unity Centers and in the opening of cooperative stores by the Philadelphia Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 15, and by the New York Clock Pressers' Union, Local No. 35, and

Whereas, The power of the trade union movement could be utilized for the benefit of the workers as consumers as well as wage earners in the fight with their employers, and

Whereas, The cooperative movement tends to strengthen the power of the labor movement and to weld together the members of the union, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to work out a plan whereby to encourage and assist the cooperative movement among our locals.

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 108.

Introduced by Max Margolls, Isadore Epstein, Sidney Rothenber, Max Gorenstein,
Whereas, The constant rise in the cost of living has nullified the previous gains in wages, with the result that it is almost impossible for our members to meet the present cost of subsistence; and

Whereas, The week working locals of New York have decided to demand a thirty per cent. increase to meet the rising cost of living; and

Whereas, Their demands have been endorsed by the New York Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be and is hereby instructed to proceed immediately after the adjournment of this Convention to obtain the desired demands.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 99.

Introduced by M. Weiner, Local No. 3; S. Ninio, No. 48; Isaac Posen, No. 24; Anna Thomas, No. 49; H. Lubinisky, No. 35; B. Chazanow, No. 80, and Hyman Hurwitz, Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, The working class realized that the economic and political struggle is the only way of bettering their conditions, and

Whereas, There exists two Socialist parties in the United States of America which is a menace to the movement, and

Whereas, The workers at large are eager for unity between the two parties for a great number of them are out of the movement for these reasons, and

Whereas, One of the obstacles upon which the two parties could not unite was the question of the form of the trade union movement, and

Whereas, We went on record favoring Industrial Unionism, and

Whereas, A great number of our members are also members of the two parties, and still a greater number are out of the two parties for these reasons, be it therefore

Resolved: That this 14th Biennial Convention goes on record to request both parties that they see to it that they unite in one great body which will help the cause of the labor movement in general.

Your Committee recommends rejection of this resolution. (Applause).

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 109.

Introduced by the delegates of Locals Nos. 7, 20 and 54.

Whereas, Under the present practice, workers employed in the manufacture of slickers under Government contracts in certain establishments are paid varying and irregular scales of wages, with the result that many of them are underpaid and the union standards of wages in the industry are undermined.

Therefore be it resolved, that the President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union call these conditions to the earnest attention of the proper Federal authorities and urge upon them the necessity of including the stipulated scale of wages in every contract as a measure of protection to the workers and of preservation of living standards of wages throughout the industry.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.
Resolution No. 110.

Introduced by Delegate H. Langer, New York Joint Board.

Whereas, The various branches of the departments of the Quartermaster General in charge of Government contracts for the manufacture of clothing are managed by persons mostly taken from the ranks of employers, among them avowed opponents of organized labor, and

Whereas, Labor is a factor in the successful operation of war industries, of an importance at least equal to that of the employers, and

Whereas, The labor unions of America have through more than a generation of intermittent struggle and sacrifice succeeded in establishing decent working conditions in the shops and have a vital and legitimate interest in preserving such standards, an interest which, in our opinion, is entitled to full recognition by the Government, and

Whereas, The standards of labor are, in our opinion, seriously jeopardized under the one-sided management of employers and particularly employers of non-union labor, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union respectfully requests the Secretary of War and the Quartermaster General that they employ in each and every branch of the Department at least one competent and qualified person from the ranks of organized labor in connection with awarding contracts and fixing the terms and conditions of such contracts.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 111.

Introduced by Delegation Local No. 1.

Whereas, Owing to the scarcity of piece goods for the manufacture of clothing, the practice has sprung up among certain dealers of such goods and also among large numbers of manufacturers who have stored up large quantities of piece goods, to hoard the same up in the expectation of enormous price increases, and the available supply of piece goods is diverted from the legitimate object of manufacture to unproductive speculation and profiteering, and

Whereas, As a result of such practice, production in the clothing industry is artificially limited, the employment and earnings of workers curtailed and the price of clothing increased beyond reason, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union instruct its President to direct the attention of the proper Federal authorities to this crying abuse to the end that measures be immediately taken for the discontinuance of the evil practised by process of commandeering all such goods if need be.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 112.

Introduced by L. Langer, representing Joint Board of New York City.

Whereas, The existence of several autonomous organizations of Garment Workers is a serious hindrance to the progress and success of organized labor in that industry, and

Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that close and organic co-operation of all unions within the same general industry is most conducive to the success of labor's cause and most effective against the attacks of the employing interests organized on a broad industrial scale, and

Whereas, There are definite indications of a movement on the part of the manufacturers' association in all branches of the garment industry to consolidate into one compact body, therefore be it
Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union reiterating its consistent stand on this subject, urgently requests the American Federation to take immediate steps for the formation of an effective Garment Trades Department, within the American Federation of Labor.

Your Committee recommended concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 79.

Introduced by: S. Flaschner, H. Berlove and M. Frank, Local No. 12; A. Kinkelstein, B. Kurland, No. 73; Louis Groenberg, Hyman Berkowitz, Nathan Sprinsky, Alex. Finkelstein, No. 65; Carl Cohen, David Permutter, Local No. 1; Louis Schwartz, Morris Stamper, Sam Friedman, Joseph M. Sacha, No. 20; Harry Berlin, Sidney Rothenberg, Louis Zerkover, Harris Haskin and Albert Lazarus, No. 10; Nathan Hines, No. 1; Max Kurtz, No. 3; Harry Schuster, A. Babitz, Ida Baxt, Louis Mass, M. Wiener, No. 9; H. Kruger, Joseph Kazatchkoff, No. 14; A. Litvakoff, B. Schwartz, No. 15; H. Fliaster, No. 17; H. Mendel, S. Pinkofsky and H. Miller, No. 23; D. Solomon, No. 25; Israel Handelmen, H. Moskowitz, H. Brookman and H. Slutsky, No. 35; H. Zucker, No. 41; Ig. Chiarchiara, N. Salpetro, Salvatore Ninfo, No. 48; L. Greenspun, No. 54; Nathan Riesel and B. Greenblatt, No. 56; Fannia M. Cohn, No. 72; Abraham Rosenberg, No. 1; S. Koldofsky, No. 14; Chas. Kreindler, No. 26; Chas. Edwards, No. 83; Clemmons D. Brennan, No. 110.

Whereas, The inter-allied labor conference held in England and the Convention of the American Federation of Labor held recently in the United States have expressed their readiness to assist the Jewish nation in obtaining equal civil, political and national rights in those countries where other minor nationalities have such rights, and also in the establishment of a national homeland in Palestine;

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is a part of the labor movement of the world, and recognizes the justice of the claim of minor nationalities to self-determination, be it

Resolved, That we, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union pledge our support to the just claims of the Jewish people to full, civil, political and national rights as well as to their re-establishment as a nation in a homeland in Palestine.

Resolution No. 113.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 2. Whereas, The international socialist and labor movements have repeatedly declared themselves in favor of the right of self-determination for all nations and peoples, large and small, and expressly and explicitly in favor of the rehabilitation of Palestine as a physical center of Jewish life and culture, therefore be it

Resolved, That this fourteenth biennial convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union heartily endorses and concurs in the said principle and expresses its sympathy with the movement for such rehabilitation of Palestine.

Your Committee has considered resolutions No. 79 and 113, as they both deal with the same subject and recommends the adoption of resolution No. 113.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 114.

Introduced by Delegates of Locals No. 2, 15, 69, 63 and 31.

Whereas, Large quantities of army shirts and other articles of apparel are being made in the homes of the workers in different clothing centers of the country, particularly in Philadelphia and Louisville, and

Whereas, A careful investigation made by the National Consumer's League reveals the fact that in Louisville alone about 30-
200 women from a wide radius of towns, take such work from the factory to their homes where the same is performed under unsanitary conditions and at iniquously low wages, be it

Resolved That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union goes on record as protesting against this system of work, which is a menace to the health of the men in the army and is bound to result in a serious impairment of wages and labor standards, be it further

Resolved, That the President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union call these conditions to the earnest attention of the proper Federal authorities to the end that the evil be speedily and effectively remedied.

Your Committee recommended concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 115.

Introduced by delegates of Locals No. 7, 20 and 64.

Whereas, Government contracts for the manufacture of garments include as a rule provisions restricting the work-week to 48 hours, and

Whereas, Large quantities of rubberized coats, commonly known as "slickers," are being produced for the Government in the plants of the United States Rubber Co., and other concerns without any provisions limiting the hours of labor, and

Whereas, In many instances the workers in such establishments are compelled to work up to 54 hours per week, thereby deteriorating the work-time standards established in the garment industries through the untiring efforts of the labor unions,

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union instructs its President to bring this condition to the attention of the War Department and other proper authorities, to the end that the abuse be speedily remedied by the application of the principle of the 48 hours work-week to the manufacture of slickers in the same way as in the manufacture of other articles of clothing for the Government.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 118.

Introduced by L. Greenspun, Local No. 64.

Whereas, The Chicago Raincoat Company has always antagonized Union labor by means of injunctions; and

Whereas, This firm is now running a sweat-shop and is exploiting poor, ignorant Negro girls and is blacklisting all Union men; be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention makes these facts familiar to the workers of this country in general, and to our membership in particular; and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take legal steps to fight the injunction issued in July, 1917, against the Raincoat Makers' Union of Chicago, and which is still pending.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Delegate Greenspun, of Local No. 54, strongly supported this resolution. He illustrated the necessity of adopting it by citing the conditions in Chicago, particularly mentioning the conditions existing in the Chicago Raincoat Company, where negro girls are employed at starvation wages, and where they absolutely refuse to employ white help.

The report of the committee was adopted.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 203

Resolution No. 129.

Introduced by twenty-seven delegates, representing Locals No. 54, 18, 48, 44, 81, 26, 50, 100, 20, 73, 12 and 24.

Whereas, Organized labor has met in a number of states in the United States with a very great obstacle in the way of organizing working men and women—i.e., injunctions and court orders in times of strikes, and

Whereas, Peaceful picketing is the only tool in the hands of striking workers to convince the unorganized of the advantages of organization and of fighting together for a living wage and human rights, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention give full power to the incoming General Executive Board to present a solid front against the use of the injunction by the courts against organized labor wherever the occasion may require, and particularly in the State of Illinois.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Chairman Amdur: This concludes, so far, the report of the Committee on Resolutions. The Committee will conclude its report as soon as it acts upon the remaining resolutions which have been referred to it.

Pres. Schlesinger:—We have here at this afternoon's session, a man whom I am sure you all know personally. He is particularly known to the delegates of the Philadelphia locals as he has served in the capacity of an organizer for our International for some time in that city. He is a journalist by profession and he is now editor of the New York Call. I know you are anxious to listen to him and I therefore take pleasure in introducing to you Comrade Charles W. Ervin, editor of the New York Call. (Hearty applause).

ADDRESS OF COMRADE CHARLES W. ERVIN.

Comrades, I can always say comrades at any convention of the needle trades. While I am glad to be editor of the New York Call even in these stormy times, I think I am much prouder of having been an organizer of this organization. (Applause). For ten years in the city of Philadelphia I saw little groups come and go in your organization. Time and again we thought we had the trade organized, but it was not until your Board sent Comrade Silver and other comrades to Philadelphia and made the historic fight in your trade that we saw our dream of ten years realized there, and from all I hear of Philadelphia in the last year and a half, I think Local 15 has got you all pretty well going. (Applause).

Now I have not come here to tell you what you have done. You all know that. But I have a message—a real message that I feel, and that message is this: There are only two theories dominating labor unions in this country. One theory is that labor unions are an end in themselves, to get a little less poverty by a little more wages—to get a little better conditions by little shorter hours—to get a little better surroundings by a little better shop conditions. And the other theory, and that is the theory you have, is that labor unions are only means to an end, and that the only end worthy of the struggle of the working class is the full value of all that they produce. (Great applause).

And it has remained for the needle trades in this country to blaze the way to this real labor union end, which, after all, is merely putting the Declaration of Independence into practice. (Applause).

The basis of life is industry. Now the needle trades and your own trade particularly, have blazed, as I say, the trail along which all labor must go. That to develop the highest part of one's life is your mission—to organize in such a way as to get these things which make for real richness of life, not only good clothes, not only good houses, not only good food; that is only the beginning; but the best of everything
in art, in music, the best of everything that nourishes a real civilization.

Now I don't want you to think that I am sentimentalizing. I don't want you to understand that I don't know the hard grinding work of an organizer. For nearly four months I have addressed, I think, on the average of seven shop meetings a night. I know what your organizers go through. I know how sordid it all is in the struggle. But I know the struggle is worth while for you, because you understand the goal toward which you are traveling.

Now in conclusion, I just want to call your attention to the fact that things are not as dark as they look to most of us. I myself am trying to maintain as far as I can a free press under probably the most limited suffrage of free press that exists in the world. And if I allowed only that to govern me I would feel indeed that conditions were very trying and the future very dreary. But out of this great world war, out of this struggle, yes, out of this seeming chaos one thing comes to my mind every day, and that is the increasing solidarity of the working class in this country and in other countries. (Great applause).

And so I give you this message that the working class will never get anything except what they take through organized power (great applause); that if you get anything handed down to you, you would still remain slaves and deserve to be slaves. Out of every strike, out of every success, yes, out of every seeming defeat that you have, comes a new power, because only in the struggle comes the sense of organized power and without that you never have anything. And in the end you are fighting not only for this generation, but for the coming generation. And a day will come, aye, I believe I will live to see it, when the only people on this earth that will have everything that makes life worth living will be those who produce all of the wealth of the world. (Tremendous applause).

REPORT OF THE NATURALIZATION COMMITTEE.

Vice-President Ninno, Chairman of the Committee submitted the following report:

Upon the request of the President to inquire into the matter of naturalization, insofar as it concerns the members of the International, the Committee has ascertained the following:

Up to a few years ago, the great masses of aliens did not deem it necessary to become citizens; to become naturalized was a matter of luxury which few cared about. But with the advent of the labor movement as a live force, both economically and politically, a general agitation for the naturalization of aliens among the working people was started. The agitation crystallized in many forms, notably the establishment of leagues for giving assistance and stimulating naturalization. The largest of these leagues has been founded in New York and during the six years of its existence it aided tens of thousands to become citizens. During the year 1916 more than 5,500 aliens have been naturalized through the assistance of that league. Brothers Schlesinger and Baroff are on its Advisory Council and Brother Danish and Miss Cohn are on its Executive Committee. The election of true labor representatives to the State Assembly and the Aldermanic Chamber there is greatly due to the naturalization of the laboring people in those localities.

The members of the International have been very quick to answer the call and thousands of them have become citizens. Thus we find that in 1916, out of the 8,500 of those aided by the league, no less than 2,500 are members of various locals of the International. The various locals are awakening to the importance and many of them have done quite some work in the direction of getting their members to become naturalized; but the work that is still to be accomplished overshadows all that has been done so far.

The Committee finds that among the women, who have just been enfranchised in New York and other states and who are certain to be given the right of suffrage all over the country by the passage of the Fed-
eral amendment, very few are citizens. From reports of the Naturalization Aid League, the various Naturalization Courts and the Naturalization Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, it appears that the alien women have done absolutely nothing in the direction of becoming citizens. It is safe to say that out of the forty-five thousand women members of the International in New York, no more than five per cent have applied for citizenship.

The Committee, having studied the entire matter and having considered the facts of the case, herewith submits the following recommendations and expects your favorable action on same:

Whereas, It is in the interests of the working class, both in its economic and political struggles, that its members be citizens, and

Whereas, At many occasions, the value of the labor vote has conclusively been proven to be an invaluable asset in the hands of the working class, and

Whereas, The membership of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers Union consists mostly of men and women who have not been born in this country; and who, in order to become citizens and acquire the rights thereof, must pass through a procedure of naturalization, and

Whereas, The matter of naturalizing its members should receive the earnest attention of the International, be it therefore

Resolved. 1. That the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union hereby enters upon a campaign for the naturalization of its members all over the United States.

2. That we establish a Naturalization Committee, whose duties it shall be to urge and assist the members of our Locals to become citizens.

3. That this committee appoint a Director over the work of Naturalization who should work in cooperation with the Naturalization Aid League.

4. That this Director organize Naturalization Committees in every Local of the International.

5. That each Local be requested to index all its members who are not citizens and refer them to the Naturalization Committee. That in accepting new members, they be asked whether they are citizens and if not, their names be sent to the Naturalization Committee.

6. That a special effort be made among the members of the Italians, Slovaks, and other nationalities who cannot be reached easily through the ordinary channels.

7. That special classes be organized where applicants for citizenship be instructed to qualify for their duties.

8. That we indorse the plans for night courts and we urge the various Naturalization Courts to establish same, so that applicants for citizenship should not have to give up several days’ work in order to become citizens.

9. In conclusion we wish to recommend that the question dealing with finances be left to the G. E. B., being the Committee has not obtained exact statistics as to the financial requirements.

Upon recommendation the report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Your Committee considered Resolution No. 121, which reads as follows:

Resolution No. 121.

Introduced by the Delegations of Locals No. 24 and No. 56,

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades of Boston have always helped and are now helping to organize the workers, and

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades have greatly helped the Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Locals of Boston, and

Whereas, The United Hebrew Trades have now undertaken the task of naturalizing the workers of this city—a task in which the International Union is vitally interested, be it
Resolved, That this Convention contributes $150.00 to the United Hebrew Trades of Boston in order to help them to carry on this important and beneficial work.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming O. E. B.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

This completes the report of the Committee on Naturalization.

Fraternally submitted,

SALVATORE NINFO, Chairman.
ABRAHAM BILKEY, Secretary.
NATHAN SCHACHTER,
MORRIS SIROTA,
LILLIAN LEVYANT,
ROSE OSTER,
ELSE LESSIN,
PHILLIP SOLTNER,
MAX OROFSKY,
CLEMENT BRENNAN,
SAMUEL COHEN,
SAMUEL PICHERSKY.

Just before the close of the convention, Brother M. D. Danish announced that he had received a letter from Delegate Bloom, who had just been called into military service. With the request that it be read to the delegates as his farewell address. Brother Danish thereupon read the following communication:

May 25, 1918.

Brother President, Secretary, General Executive Board of the International Union and Delegates to this Fourteenth Biennial Convention:

On Tuesday morning last, I was informed in two letters that I am called for military service on the 27th of this month. I knew that the report of the International to this Convention would be read that morning and that the chapter pertaining to Local No. 1 would be an important feature in it. Our delegation, therefore, decided that in order to commemorate that event and extend appreciation to those who made possible the emerging of Local No. 1 from the influence of the sinister forces who had planned the destruction of our organization, to present this Convention with a wreath of flowers. When President Schlesinger concluded the chapter in which the re-birth of Local No. 1 was described, we came up on the stage with a wreath of flowers. My friends had chosen me to extend congratulations to you, in a short address, on behalf of Local No. 1 and its delegation to this Convention.

The following day I again received a telegram from Brother Kottar, in which he suggested that I appeal to the Board for a stay, on behalf of the Convention. I went to Brother Schlesinger and asked him as to the advisability of drafting a resolution to that effect, to which he answered that the Convention would gladly do so. A resolution was adopted, and approved by a unanimous vote. That resolution was sent to the chairman of Local Board 96, the Adjutant General of the State of New York, Provost Marshal General Crowder, and Secretary of War Baker, at Washington. I waited for an answer, and seeing that none was received, Brother Danish was kind enough to call the chairman of the Board on the telephone, and asked whether that resolution had been received and what their disposition on it was. We were informed that the case was no longer in their hands. I am still waiting for an answer, but as it seems the Provost Marshall did not deem it important enough to give an answer to this Convention. I must, therefore, part from you, but before doing so, I wish to ask your patience for a few words.

This is the first time in my life that I had occasion to participate in a trade union convention. In my childhood I did not experience want or privation, yet, it was early in my life that the existence of injustice and social iniquities dawned upon my mind. I feel certain that the reason I am so deeply interested in the labor movement is because my restless soul in seeking comfort, finds in the labor movement a resting place. And it is the labor movement which is historically called upon to perform the greatest mission and service to humanity, that I feel confident will, in the near future, whatever my fate may be, and whatever the fate of millions of people who have fallen victims in this great strug-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

FORTY-FOURTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Tueswe, May 28th, 1918.

The Convention was called to order at 9:30—President Schlesinger In the chair.


TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Philadelphia, Pa., May 27, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Our heartiest congratulations to the organization faithfully and successfully representing the interests of the working class.
The Workers of Jacob Ash Local No. 15.

New York, May 27, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Best congratulations to your convention. We stand firm on our strike and hope we will win.
Striking Committee, N. Zimmerman, Chairman.

Strikers of R. Sadowsky's Shop,

Boston, Mass., May 27, 1918.
A. Baroff, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
My heartiest wishes for success in all your deliberations. May your efforts be of benefit to our industry.
Max Weiner, Ex-Chairman, Local No. 12.

Boston, Mass., May 27, 1918.
A. Baroff, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Accept our heartiest wishes for a successful and glorious convention. Don't forget Boston.

Employees Shapin and Allans.
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Boston, Mass., May 28, 1918.
Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: 
Jewish West End Branch Socialist Party congratulates you in the Biennial Convention of I. L. G. W. U. We wish you success in all works.

A. Hurwitz, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 27, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers, Boston, Mass.: 
Success to your convention. May your deliberations bring the day nearer when there shall be only one great and powerful union in the needle industry.

A. Hurwitz, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 27, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: 
After one of our successful meetings in a body of a membership of 400 we are sending you our congratulations, best wishes and great success in your movement.

National Alliance Cloaks and Designers, New York City.

Long Island, N. Y., May 27, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.: 
Fraternal Greetings. May your deliberations mark an effort in the advancement of all workers in the needle trades and signify an outpost in the struggle for industrial freedom.

International Fur Workers' Union, Andrew Wennek, Genl. Secy-Treas.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LABEL.

Vice president John F. Pierce submitted the following report:

Brother Chairman and Delegates:
It will be remembered that at the last Convention of our International, held in Philadelphia, a resolution was passed that $10,000.00 be set aside to establish a Label Department in the International Union.

In the Officers' Report, reference is made to that resolution, which was passed at the last Convention, stating that owing to the strikes in 1917 they were unable to set aside that amount of money, and they did not believe it would be sufficient to carry on the work of establishing the label in our industry.

Your Committee on Label took into consideration all these matters, and have made the following report:

Your Committee believes that a label in the cloak and suit industry is one that presents a difficult situation in spite of the fact that the cloak and suit industry is practically organized in every city, because women primarily consider the style and fit of a garment when buying cloaks and suits rather than the price or the maker. But the other trades which come under the jurisdiction of our International Union, such as waists, dresses, underwear, corsets, wrappers, kimonos, raincoats, etc., your Committee believes that a great opportunity is afforded our International to place the union label on the garments manufactured in those trades.

Women's organizations are becoming stronger every day, as can be noted by the growth of the Women's Trade Union League, the Woman Suffrage Party and others, and we feel that with the proper agitation carried on, we can get the cooperation of every woman's organization.

At our last convention a resolution was passed to set aside $10,000 for the purpose of establishing a Label Department, and at this Convention a similar resolution has been introduced.

You will note that in the Officers' Report reference is made to the creation of a Label Department, and it explains that owing to lack of finances it was impossible to carry out the wishes of the last Convention and your Committee finds that $10,000 would not be sufficient to materially aid in promoting a label, owing to the expense involved, which will call for considerable advertising, and a staff of men and women to visit different localities unions and societies. Your Committee feels that if we are to organize and control the many thousands of workers in these miscellaneous trades, we must start an agitation for label goods.
Your Committee therefore recommends that an assessment of 10 cents per member be placed on each and every member every three months for the purpose of creating a fund to carry on the work of promoting the label of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Delegate Gorstein: I move you that we adopt the report as submitted by the Committee. (Seconded).

Delegate Miss Shapiro opposed the recommendation of the Committee on the ground that the International could not spare any men to engage in this work, who could be of more service to the International by concentrating on the securing of higher wages and union conditions. She stated that it was not desirable to give the label to many manufacturers, who might use it often under false pretenses. Delegate Epstein of Local 10 spoke in favor of the report, as he claimed the label helped to organize the workers in many other trades and maintain union shops.

Delegate Seidman approved the recommendation of the Committee, but he amended the motion for adoption to read that the matter of financing this label propaganda be left to the incoming General Executive Board.

Chairman Pierce of the Label Committee accepted this amendment as part of the committee's recommendation. Delegate Miss Friedman opposed the recommendation of the Committee as she claimed the label did not accomplish any good results anywhere.

Delegate Hasken opposed the recommendation of the Committee on the ground that the delegates had no moral right to adopt it, owing to the fact that 90 per cent. of them were not buying union label articles themselves. He opposed the recommendation until the members practiced what they preached.

Delegate Silver replied that it was probably owing to the fact that the International did not have a label that its members did not respect the Union Label of the other trades. He cited the example of the bakers' label, which forced union conditions upon one of the biggest concerns, the Ward Baking Company, through their label.

Delegate Greenstein spoke in favor of the report of the Committee, citing conditions in the West among the miners, who will not buy any goods unless they have a union label.

Delegate Menke opposed the report of the Committee, asking the delegates to practice what they preached, denouncing them to show union labels on their wearing apparel. He also cited several instances where the label has been abused by the manufacturers.

Chairman Pierce of the Committee wound up the discussion by a spirited answer to the opponents to the recommendation of the Committee. He mentioned several instances where our men had been unsuccessful in organizing shops, after thousands of dollars had been spent and claimed that if the International had a label, it would be an easy undertaking to unionize these shops. He cited particularly the case of the Princess Garment Co. in Cleveland, which employed hundreds of workers; thousands of dollars had already been spent trying to organize this shop, but they had failed in their attempt. He claimed that by creating a demand for the union label, the International would force this firm to unionize their shop. He maintained that by adopting the label, the International would not only secure union conditions in the various shops, but at the same time the members would be impressed with the significance of the label and themselves purchase only union made goods.

He concluded as follows:

"A terrible problem confronts us at this time on account of the great economic changes that are bound to come after this war, and every International Union that has been in convention in the last two years has made provisions to protect itself when the great change comes immediately after this war.

"And we too should do something and I believe that this is the best means and the best method to promote the interests and the welfare of the workers belonging to..."
this International Union, by adopting this recommendation as amended by Brother Feldman." (Great applause).

The report of the Committee as amended, namely, that the matter of financing the label undertaking be left to the incoming General Executive Board was carried.

This concludes the report of the Committee on Label.

Fraternally submitted,
JOHN F. PIERCE, Chairman,
M. KURTZ,
IDA RENNER,
F. MONNOSON,
A. WEINSTEIN,
LOUIS SCHWARTZ,
H. MILLER,
I. FRIEND,
BECKIE LEVY,
L. GREENSPUN,
LENA PLOW,
HELEN SPINDLER.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Vice-President Lefkovits, Chairman of the Committee on Organization, resumed the report of the Committee:

Resolution No. 134,

Introduced by Elsie Loesin and Jennie Ziff, Local No. 43; Annie Thomas, No. 49; Anna Litvakoff, No. 15.

Whereas, There are thousands of workers in New England towns who are employed in the waists, white goods and dresses, who are unorganized and are obliged to work under miserable conditions, and

Whereas, In the city of Worcester, Mass., there are yet many such unorganized workers, and,

Whereas, The Worcester Local 42 is not in a position to employ such organizer on account of financial conditions; be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board of Worcester and the immediate vicinity.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming G. E. B. for consideration and action.

Upon motion the report of the committee was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS.

Vice-President Perlstein, Chairman of the Committee on Press and Publications, made the following report for his Committee.

Mr. President and Delegates: The Press and Publication Committee had to consider, first, the resolution adopted at the last Convention and also the resolution of the G. E. B., in reference to the publication issued by the International Union. At the last Convention a resolution was adopted whereby the Convention expressed its opinion that all the publications be combined into one, which shall be issued by the International Union. The G. E. B. was instructed to carry out this resolution, but it seems to us that the G. E. B. was not able to do so because some of the locals—or rather one local of the Joint Board of New York—was very much opposed to this plan. To find the reason for this, the Committee on Press arranged for a hearing of all the locals which have publications of their own.

After that hearing the Committee came to the conclusion that it is absolutely advisable for this Convention to carry out the resolution and have but one publication issued by the International. The delegates of the Joint Board, or the representatives of the Joint Board, are absolutely against this. After a thorough discussion, the Committee decided that the question of uniting the publications should be dropped, and the question of a publication for the International should be taken up.

The International has at present a publication known as "The Ladies' Garment Worker," and the majority of the Committee are of the opinion that the present publication is not sufficient; that instead
of publishing a monthly magazine, the International should publish a weekly paper, which shall be sent to the homes of the members of our International. A minority of the Committee are of the opinion that the publication of the International should remain in its present form. So, you see, the opinion of the Committee is divided on the proposition. The majority are for a weekly publication, and a minority are for a monthly publication. The Committee is, however, unanimously in favor of raising the per capita tax from four cents to five cents, to cover the publication expense and also the expense of mailing the paper to the homes of the delegates.

We therefore have two reports.

My motion is to adopt the report of the majority of the Committee.

(Motion seconded).

President Schlesinger: In order that this matter may be clear, let me explain it to you as I understand it. The majority of the Committee believe that the International ought to have one publication for all its locals; that there should be no separate publications by individual locals; that that publication should be issued weekly, in all languages, of course; and in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week. The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.

The minority, on the other hand, believes that we ought to continue the publications as heretofore. That means that each and every local may have its own publication; that the "Ladies' Garment Workers" be published monthly; but in order to cover the expense of that publication the per capita be raised to five cents per week.
Board of New York, they are in favor of having one big International organ.

Delegate Weinstein spoke in favor of the amalgamation of the press.

Delegate Menke of Local No. 81, stated that although he favored a centralized organ, at the same time he did not believe that we ought to take away the various organs from the locals. He believed that if a local had the ambition to publish an organ of its own, it should be encouraged rather than discouraged.

Vice-President Metz spoke in favor of the majority report. He stated that we are big enough now to realize that the interests of all the members are one, and therefore we ought to have one organ to represent them.

Delegate Miller also spoke in favor of the majority report stating that the membership of the International is entitled to know what was happening in the labor movement all over the country.

Delegate Kaplowitz stated that while he was in favor of having one big, central organ, at the same time he did not believe it would be just to force the locals which have organs of their own, to abandon them. He stated further that the "New Post" was an institution which had grown up with the membership and that it was dearly loved by them.

Delegate Stein stated that this resolution was by no means a new one, as it had been introduced at former conventions. He argued against the majority report on the ground that it was impractical to pass resolutions which could not be carried out.

Delegate Ellner spoke in favor of the majority report.

Pres. Schlesinger: Let me say just a word or two to you on this entire proposition. Perhaps it will help to bring about an end to this debate. You know that the President of the International and the General Executive Board are responsible for this debate. Had we not discussed the question of uniting the publications of the International in our report, you would not have been discussing this matter at this time. I admit it was our fault. I want to say to you, however, that it was not the intention of the General Executive Board to raise a new issue. For myself, I can say that if there would have been the least doubt in my mind about the necessity or importance of amalgamating the press, I would never have presented it to the Convention. I felt—I see now that I was mistaken—I felt that there would not be a dissenting vote against that proposition.

We have today ten publications, and everybody who understands something about efficiency and economy must admit that tens of thousands of dollars are wasted, where it could be saved; that the purpose could be covered by one publication. If for instance, we had a weekly organ of 24 pages, you could have everything that the "New Post" contains printed in six pages, as that is about all that the "New Post" takes up, barring, of course, short stories and the like, which are not of vital interest to the workers, and which they can find in the daily press. The organ of the Waist Maker's Union, the "Gleichheit," takes up four pages and it could very conveniently be placed in that weekly; we will take up six more pages with reports from locals outside the New York waist makers and the New York cloakmakers and we will give up some more pages for editorials and general matters or short stories or anything else which may be of interest to the members.

I assure you that if I knew that there would be so much discussion about this resolution I would never have presented this matter, because I am not interested in raising new issues. I certainly expected that this would be accepted unanimously, but I see that there is discussion and a division of opinion and I am very much afraid that if there is a division of opinion on this question that we cannot force this issue. As long as leaders of our organization, men upon whom we rely, men whose cooperation we must have in order to make a success of anything at all, are opposed to it, we cannot expect to make a success of it. So why spend the time of this Convention on this question?
Delegate Hacken made an amendment to refer the entire matter again to the Committee and to request it to bring in a more definite proposition, on which the Convention might act.

Upon being put to a vote the amendment by Delegate Hacken was lost—85 for and 110 against.

Pres. Schlesinger: Before we proceed further with this debate, I want to say that we have with us at this session the pioneer builder and constructor of the Jewish labor movement—the Jewish Trade Union and Socialist movement in this country. He has been with us the whole morning and I know that you will all be very glad to have him address the Convention.

Last week when a telegram from him was read all of you applauded and cheered it; nevertheless I could see by the expression on your faces that you would not be satisfied unless he himself would come personally to address the Convention.

Now you all know whom I mean. You all know I am referring to Abraham Cahan, the editor of the Jewish Daily Forward.

ADDRESS OF EDITOR ABRAHAM CAHAN.

Comrades, Mr. Chairman, President of your glorious institution and organization: It really is a source of gratification and satisfaction to see your remarkable organization in its present shape. I have come from New York this morning to be with you and to convey my greetings in behalf of the Jewish Daily Forward and everybody connected with the Forward Association, and I think I may add, of every trade union man in the ranks of the Socialist movement in the city of New York and elsewhere.

If you will permit me to spend a minute and a half, I shall explain why I have failed to turn up sooner. I actually was sick when the Convention of the Amalgamated took place in Baltimore. I had been looking forward with pleasure to attending the two conventions, greeting the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in Baltimore, and then proceeding to this city to greet you, but I was taken ill and I was encumbered by a tremendous mass of work which made it absolutely impossible for me to get away from New York. That is why I was delayed from going to Baltimore and I had not expected it would be possible for me to be with you here.

But when I began to receive all sorts of telephone calls in New York, from our own people and from this city and from other cities, that the Forward must be represented here in flesh through its editor to tell you how dear you are to our hearts and how we cherish an affection for you and more particularly how we cherish the wonderful growth that you represent here at this gathering.

I intended to be present at the opening of the Convention in Baltimore, because the Amalgamated is another great organization that we are very proud of. (Applause). And let me tell you that it is a profound source of satisfaction to us when we heard that you sent greetings to that organization, officially, in the name of your body. Let me also add the hope that in the very near future your influence will be exercised in such a way—it has been exercised already—to pave the way for the reception of the Amalgamated, as a member, into the great body of trade unions in this country, the American Federation of Labor (great applause).

Really, comrades, it is heartbreaking to think—the very thought of it is a source of grief to every progressive mind—that such a great industry as the men's clothing workers, is entirely left unorganized so far as the American Federation of Labor is concerned, all on account of some antediluvian policies or politics. Now your International stands for everything that is progressive in the American Federation of
Labor. You are all exercising your influence in the right direction. You have been doing that excellent work all along. Let us hope that your will will prevail and that at the next Convention of the American Federation of Labor, directly through your efforts and participation, the Amalgamated will be received with open arms by the other Unions in this country. (Great applause).

There are so many things to congratulate you upon. One of the things that I have vividly before my mind just now is the way you are conducting your meetings in English, and Comrade Ervin of the Call bent over to me—he happens to be a Yankee—never learned to speak Yiddish or Italian—and he said, "Is it not beautiful to see these people speak English so well?" And I told him that most of you learned English in this country. Now let me be very frank with you. Of course very few of you delegates have gone to college, or perhaps some of you never saw the inside of a school. At home, in the old country, you used to think that a tailor or anybody who does any work on clothing, is what we call in Yiddish an "am horots," or a boob. Now the Jewish organization of the Bund has reorganized the mental status of the tailor. Some of the best brains of the labor movement in Russia have sprung from those tailors. You have illustrated here today by the way you have conducted your debate on a subject which is rather dear to my heart—it happens to be along the line of my trade—and all of you, with the exception of two or three, spoke in excellent English which is another tribute to your brain-work and your ability and capacity. Is not this something for every man that is interested in the labor movement to glory in as an exhibition of your intellectuality? And is not this a good excuse for me to congratulate you again upon your wonderful work that you are doing and the wonderful lot of boys you are—and girls too? (Laughter and applause).

I sat there thinking of the way you are considering your affairs and that old philosophical phrase drifted into my brain. There was an old Latin phrase, the meaning of which is, "I think, therefore I live." The philosopher came to the conclusion that if he can think, he lives, because dead men don't think. And I said to myself, "While these deliberations are going on, the International Union, the International organization—that great Union of needle workers in the ladies' line is still alive."

This was the great inspiration with us years ago. In those days when our movement gave birth to a child, somehow or other, the child did not live. No sooner was it born than it died and then a new child would have to be born and the same thing would occur. But now the situation has entirely changed. The children are beginning to thrive. You don't have to go to work and organize a new Cloakmakers' Union every year. The same organization is growing and thriving and developing in the right direction. And the proof is in the fact that they are deliberating—they are thinking. Therefore they live. You are happy and I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart upon it.

As I sat here, I went through your report of yesterday and I became particularly interested in Mr. Duncan's address. I want to say a word or two especially about the war and what is going to happen after the war and the part your organization is going to play. First of all, it would be utterly unsuitable for any man tackling the question of war not to say that there are no two opinions about it. There can be no two opinions about it. About four years ago when the war broke out, many of us were intensely interested in seeing the Russian despotic regime smashed. But the Czar has been eliminated. There is no such thing now as the throne in Moscow. That is a thing of the past, thanks to the great, glorious revolution that took place in Russia. (Great applause). And, friends, now we have a regime in Russia that is a Socialist regime from top to bottom. (Great applause). The next to go are the Kaiser! Is there an honest man on the face of the globe who can think and at the same time would not desire the downfall of that infamous bunch? (Tremendous applause). That bunch of highway robbers that are
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

trying to wreck the Russian revolution for their own use," to their gain? Now that the majority party in the Reichstag, including the Social Democrats and even the Catholic Party, have been obliterated and robbed of every influence entirely, there is nothing left but the military cliques—the Hindenburgs and the Ludendorffs—that rule Germany and there seems to be no hope for free speech, democracy or suffrage in Germany. In the face of all that, can there be any two opinions as to who should win now?

After the war is over, there will be a new era in the life of labor in this country as well as in Europe. This war has taught us a great deal. England today is the great country of organized labor, so powerful, so strong, that the powers that be in Britain have to reckon with it; today the English labor movement is about 75 per cent cut Socialistic; (applause), and in Russia the red flag is waving as the flag of the nation. They celebrated the first of May in Moscow—they combined that holiday with another great festival, the birth of Karl Marx. and this holiday was celebrated not only by trade unions, not by organizations in their private capacity, but as a national holiday. Lenin and Trotsky, every member of the organization of the Government, marched alongside of the trade unions with the great flag of Socialism as their banner. (Tremendous applause).

We can trust both the Bolsheviks and the English Comrades and the American Comrades to defeat the designs of the capitalist class. And let me tell you frankly, with perfect sincerity, from the bottom of my heart, that so far President Wilson has taken the right attitude toward the Bolsheviks! (Tremendous applause). He is standing by them, nobly and valiantly, because I know he has many odds to contend with.

Comrades, a new world is coming. We are on the eve of a great new historical epoch. This country will be different from what it is now, and what it has been so far. Everything will be absolutely different. We are now going through the most remarkable change in the history of humanity—not only in the political history of humanity, but in its history from every aspect and view. Nothing like it has ever happened before. Get yourselves ready. Prepare yourselves for the great change that is coming after the war. This war is teaching a remarkable lesson to the workers the world over. The membership of the Socialist Party will be probably ten times as large as it is today, about a year after the war is over. There is no question about it.

And this is the final word. You are one of the progressive organizations of the American Federation of Labor. You are one of the few that amount to something. Everybody is proud of you. And without fear or favor, you must do your duty. Get ready to do your share to keep alive in the American Federation of Labor that progressive spirit—that spirit of Socialism. The American Federation of Labor will amount to a great deal, but only because it is getting to be a progressive body, and you who are already progressive are to be congratulated as being one of the great factors in bringing about a glorious change in the American Federation of Labor. I thank you. (Tremendous applause).

After the address of Comrade Caban, the question of the publications and the press was resumed for discussion.

Delegate Gorenstein supported the majority report, stating that he believed if the question were now put to a vote, even those who had spoken in favor of the minority report would vote for the resolution.

Delegate Feinberg made an amendment, that the entire matter of amalgamation be referred to the incoming G. E. B. for action whenever it feels that the opportune moment has arrived for such action.

Delegate Mollie Friedman delivered a strong appeal in behalf of the majority report. She stated that her Local No. 25, although it had a publication of its own, was in favor of withdrawing it so as to establish a central organ.

Delegate Silberman spoke in opposition to the amendment, and urged that the delegates adopt the majority report.

Delegate Margules upon the President's suggestion summed up for the minority,
stating that he thought the various locals should be allowed to publish their own organs, in which they could discuss local affairs, and that the International should have one organ for everybody, in which only matters of a general nature, of interest to the workers, should be published.

Chairman Perlstein summed up for the majority. He stated that every delegate should unite in adopting the report of the majority. He claimed that the delegates who favor the minority report have only constant fear in their minds that their membership would object to their supporting the majority report, and that is the reason which kept them from upholding the majority report. He asked them, therefore, to act as leaders and to try to educate their members to the necessity of this action.

Delegate Langer secured permission from the chair to make a statement. He said that he wanted the delegates to be clear on one point—that the delegates of the New York Joint Board would be guided by any action of the Convention and they would always stand by the International. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: Delegates, I believe that the entire proposition ought to be so clear to you as though you were really publishers and editors. Nevertheless, in order to get an intelligent vote upon the proposition, I want to place the motion before you. There is a motion to adopt the majority report which provides that the press be amalgamated into one weekly organ, published by the International, and that the per capita tax be raised one cent a week, so as to cover the expenses of that publication.

There is another motion that is that the press be not amalgamated and the locals go on with their publication as heretofore, that the International continue its publication the “Ladies’ Garment Worker,” but inasmuch as the “Ladies’ Garment Worker” has been a financial burden, that the per capita tax be raised so as to enable the International to publish its organ without financial loss.

The amendment offered by Delegate Fein is to the effect that we adopt in principle the idea of having an amalgamated press, but that the entire subject matter of carrying out that principle, of putting it into operation, be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action, and with power to act on this matter.

Now we will take a vote upon the amendment. If the amendment is carried, then all other propositions fall away.

Upon the amendment being put to vote, it was lost—64 for and 114 against. (Applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: We will now take a vote upon the recommendations of the Committee, both the majority and the minority report.

The majority report was carried by a vote of 113 for and 30 against. (Applause).

After the President had announced that the delegates should proceed to the steps of the Boston Public Library, where a photograph would be taken of all the delegates, the Convention adjourned at 12:45 P. M., to reconvene at 2:30 that afternoon.

EIGHTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.
Tuesday, May 28th, 1918.

The Convention was called to order at 2:30—President Schlesinger in the chair.

Chairman: I have here a credential from the Los Angeles Sanatorium Relief Association, introducing Mr. Philip Flanzer.

Mr. Flanzer made an appeal to the delegates in behalf of the Los Angeles Sanatorium Relief Association.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Vice President Amdur continued the report of the Committee on Resolutions:

Resolution No. 51.

Introduced by C. Yandoli, L. Antonini, A. Crivello and S. Amico, Delegates of Local No. 25.

Whereas, Difficulties prevail among the Italian members of Local 25 due to many
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U. 217

hardships experienced in transacting business with their Jewish sisters and brothers; and

Whereas, A great number of Italian workers in the waist and dress shops are disorganized and refuse to respond to union calls, with the excuse that they are not going to belong to a union guided by people of different race and creed, and

Whereas, The active Italian union workers attribute their failure to organize the Italian non-union workers for they cannot be understood either in character or in language by the brothers and sisters of other nationality and especially by the Executive Board of Local No. 25, and

Whereas, A great number of Italian waist and dressmakers are sensitive to self-government, as were the Italian Cloak Makers before having a local of their own (Local 48) which has surprised the Jewish sisters and brothers of their great success due to the large enrollment of members and the activity in the movement, and

Whereas, Local 48 has been recognized by the leaders of the New York Joint Board and of the International as a big factor in the movement; be it therefore

Resolved: That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., grants to the Italian element in the Waist and Dress Industry in the City of New York a local union with the same power and privilege as of all other locals under the I. L. G. W. U., and be it further

Resolved, That the said local be instituted not later than September 1st, 1918, on which date the G. E. B. will have compiled the proportionate funds belonging to them, minus the proportion used in running expenses of Local 25 up to the time of their withdrawal.

It is the opinion of the members of the Italian Advisory Board of Local 25, who have instructed the movers of this resolution, that under no circumstances, the Italian element of the Waist and Dress Industry can be organized otherwise.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for investigation and action.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously accepted.

Resolution No. 77.

Introduced by Samuel Jacobson, Maud Foley, Sarah Horwitz, J. Brenner, Local No. 49; E. Lessin, Local No. 43; A. Thomas, No. 49; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25; H. Bernstein, No. 15; B. Greenblatt, No. 66; A. Litvakoff, No. 15; and Molly Moloff, No. 90.

Whereas, the charter granted to Local No. 49 in 1910 contains the name “Ladies’ Waistmakers’ Union,” a name which at that time reflected the membership of the local because most of its members then worked in factories making waists, and

Whereas, The waist industry in Boston has so changed that nearly all the factories which then made waists are now making dresses, so that about eighty per cent of our membership at the present time are dressmakers, and,

Whereas, Within the last year about two hundred petticoat workers have joined as members of Local No. 49, and are now under the jurisdiction of Local No. 49, and

Whereas, The name “Ladies’ Waistmakers’ Union” is not any more descriptive of the membership of which Local No. 49 is composed, be it therefore

Resolved, That the name of the charter of Local No. 49 be changed from “Ladies’ Waistmakers’ Union” to the “Waist, Dress and Petticoat Workers’ Union.”

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming G. E. B. for investigation and action.

Before taking the report of the committee to a vote the president requested that in the future, when delegates had a resolution to submit concerning their own particular local, they should sign it themselves and not try to elicit the assistance of delegates from other locals who are not familiar with the facts.
The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 76.

Introduced by N. Risel, Benj. Greenblatt and Helen Spindler, Local No. 66.

Whereas, The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union at its 13th Biennial Convention held in Philadelphia, had 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, skirt, waist and dress houses, be it

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board shall officially notify the Manufacturers’ Association and independent manufacturers of the above named decision and that they do all in their power to assist the embroidery workers in their struggle to maintain union standards in the shops of the embroidery contractors.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 27.

Introduced by H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; J. H. Plotkin, Local No. 71; Rose Weiss, Local No. 100; M. Yanovitz, Local No. 54.

Whereas, The Daily World is the only Jewish Socialist daily in Chicago and it is owned and controlled by the trade unions and Socialist organizations of Chicago; and

Whereas, The Daily World has always proved loyal to the interest of the workers in general and to the trade unions in particular; be it, therefore

Resolved, By the Fourteenth Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. to support financially and morally and to call upon all affiliated organizations to assist the Daily World in every way possible in order that it shall be of the greatest assistance and usefulness to the organized labor movement of Chicago.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution, and that the sum of $100.00 be donated to the Chicago Daily World.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 49.

Introduced by the Delegations of the Toronto and Montreal locals.

Whereas, The Canadian Jewish Labor Gazette is the only newspaper of its kind and is financed by voluntary contributions from Jewish labor organizations of Canada and particularly of Toronto; and

Whereas, This Jewish Labor Gazette is the product of the imminent necessity for such a publication in Canada, caused through the ban on the Jewish Daily Forward and other weekly newspapers from the United States; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention extends its financial and moral support to the publication of the Canadian Jewish Labor Gazette.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution, and that the sum of $150.00 be donated to the Canadian Jewish Gazette.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 57.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Solomon, No. 26; J. Frosur, No. 26; J. Menke, No. 81; Fannia M. Cohn, No. 72; Chas. Kiefeld, J. B. Cleveland; S. Flaschner No. 12; O. H. Nudelman, No. 44; M. Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. H. Chicago; S. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Be it resolved, That we delegates of the Convention of the I. L. G. W., being in sympathy with the principles of International Socialism, and understanding the necessity of the campaign that the Socialist Party of America is conducting, to elect Socialist representatives to the Congress of the United States in the election of 1918, we agree that it is the sense of this Convention to contribute $250 (two hundred and fifty dollars) towards the million dollar campaign fund of the national office of the Socialist Party of America.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution but that the sum of fifty dollars be donated.

Delegate Ellner spoke against the recommendation of the Committee, as he believed that the Committee should have raised the sum from $250.00 to $500.00 rather than reduce it, and that it would be a disgrace for the International Union to recommend a donation of only $50.00.

Delegate Menke spoke in favor of donating $250.00.

Delegate Kuschner amended the motion, in that $100.00 be donated to the National Campaign Fund. (Seconded).

Delegate Silver suggested that this resolution be referred back to the Resolutions Committee.

Vice-President Rosenberg stated that it would be unfair for the International to give only $50.00 for this cause, as this was a national matter. He therefore suggested that the resolution, as originally framed, should be adopted.

President Schlesinger suggested that the sum of $100.00 would be sufficient in this case, from his knowledge of the financial condition of the organization, and furthermore, that the Socialist Party wanted at this time the endorsement of the Convention rather than financial aid. President Schlesinger further stated that this $100.00 would not be all that the International would contribute to this cause, as the Socialist Party intended to appeal to the individual locals of the International for donations.

The amendment by Delegate Kuschner was adopted.

Resolution No. 89.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48: Salvatore Omica, L. Antonini, C. Yandoli and A. Crivelo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The twelfth convention of the I. L. G. W. U. has adopted resolution No. 60, and the thirteenth Convention of the same organization has adopted resolution No. 8, favoring the amalgamation of the following needle-trade Unions: The United Garment Workers of America, The Journeymen Tailors’ Union, and the Fur Workers’ Union, and

Whereas, The General Executive Board has been instructed to meet representatives of all the above mentioned organizations willing to amalgamate, and

Whereas, The split of the United Garment Workers has caused the birth of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, an independent and powerful organization, and

Whereas, The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America is considered by the American Federation of Labor, a dual organization, be it

Resolved, That the delegates of the I. L. G. W. U. to the convention of the A. F. of L. will introduce the above mentioned plan of amalgamation, and in the event of the refusal to recognize the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America as a part of the amalgamation to proceed with the rest of the needle-trade organizations, for it will be much easier after the amalgamation to assemble and fraternize the two opposing clothing unions, and be it further

Resolved, That the suggestions proposed by the representatives of the various unions be rectified for approvals by the referendum vote of the memberships.

The movers of the resolution hope that the General Executive Board take this resolution at heart, and that it give to same its keen attention and careful consideration.
Your Committee recommends the adoption of the following substitute:

Resolved, That the delegates of the I. L. G. W. U. to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor are hereby instructed to introduce a resolution urging the A. F. L. to effect a peaceable solution of the trouble existing between the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and the United Garment Workers of America, to the end that the amalgamation of all needle industries be effected.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 98.

Introduced by M. Weiner, Local No. 3.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union at Its 13th Biennial Convention went on record in favoring industrial unionism and adopted resolution No. 26 which reads as follows:

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.

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.

Whereas, Our International had a number of problems to be solved and could not direct any agitation amongst our members to the effect, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention instruct its incoming General Executive Board to carry on the agitation so that Resolution 26 may go into effect.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

President Schlesinger: It appears to me that the delegates did not listen to the report of the General Executive Board when it was read here, in which we informed you that at the last Convention of American Federation of Labor we introduced a resolution which called for the establishment of a Garment Trades Department. We did not go as far as urging the American Federation of Labor to make an industrial union. We urged the establishment of a Garment Trades Department as it exists in other industries, as, for instance, in the railroad industry, in the building trade industry, etc. And even that building trade industry, etc. And even that not only by delegates who did not know anything at all about our industry, but even by delegates who were practically part of our industry.

To come to the American Federation of Labor with a resolution which calls for the industrializing of the American Federation of Labor means nothing else for our delegates but to be ridiculed.

Chairman Amdur, of the Committee on Resolutions, stated that the Committee has based its opinion on Resolution No. 26 adopted at the last Convention, which is of the very same nature and character as this resolution.

Delegate Stein: The President must be under the impression that this resolution calls for the introduction of a resolution to the A. F. of L. to the effect that industrial unionism be effected. This resolution merely calls for the concurrence of a resolution which was adopted a year and a half ago, at our last Convention.

President Schlesinger: I understand exactly what this resolution means, and I also understand the report of the Committee.
Resolution No. 102.

Introduced by 56 delegates, from the following Locals, Nos. 48, 81, 666, 49, 63, 54, 1, 33, 9, 2, 72, 10, 25, 90, 4, 69, 49, 66, 3, 18, 50, 25, 64, 23, 15, 100 and 41.

Whereas, Organized wealth has conspired to enslave Labor, and in forcing its will, has been instrumental in persecuting Labor Organizations in America, and

Whereas, There is being held In jail as a consequence of this persecution several hundred men in various parts of the country on trivial and serious charges ranging from vagrancy to sedulous conspiracy, and

Whereas, The only crime and misdemeanor of these men has been their activities in organizing laboring men and women throughout the country so that they may have better sanitary conditions, shorter hours, and a little more pay, and

Whereas, Their efforts have displeased the potentates of the Copper and Lumber Trusts, who, in order to successfully resist the efforts of these working men, have maliciously taken advantage of present conditions and are seeking through false and malicious charges to crush them, and

Whereas, If the attempts of organized Capital to crush organized Labor at this time is successful, it will encourage them to attempt to destroy all Labor Organizations, thereby destroying the most valuable means of organized Labor's defense against wage slavery—THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AND STRIKE—therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the I. L. G. W. U., in Convention assembled, realize the gravity of their cause and wishing to give these, our fellow workers in distress, moral and financial help, do hereby pledge our support by donating to their Defense Fund the sum of One Thousand Dollars ($1000), and be it further

Resolved, That we call upon all the locals of our International to assist them in their efforts for JUSTICE.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in, with the following substitute for the original resolve: “Resolved, That this Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., realizing the gravity of their case and wishing to give these, our fellow workers in distress, moral and financial assistance so as to enable them to secure a fair and impartial trial, donate the sum of $300.00 for that cause.”

Vice-President Pierce spoke against the recommendation of the Committee.

Vice-President Lefkovits spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegates Margulles and Menke also spoke in favor of the resolution.

The Chairman of the Committee summed up by stating that whether or not we believed in their innocence, every man is entitled to a fair trial, and that we, as a trade union, ought to support this principle, particularly in case of labor men.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 137.

Introduced by Max Amdor, Chairman, for the Committee on Resolutions.

Whereas, The Bonnaz Embroidery Workers' Union, Local No. 66, I. L. G. W. U., has very aptly expressed its appreciation to our International Union by presenting to it a beautifully embroidered banner at the Fourteenth Biennial Convention held in Boston, Mass., a banner, which was made by their own members for this particular occasion; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention expresses its sincere appreciation to said local by a vote of thanks.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

The Chairman conveyed the thanks of the Convention to Local No. 66.
Resolution No. 139.

Introduced by Jacob Halpern, Max Am-
dur, Samuel Lefkovits, Salvatore Nino,
John F. Pierce, Sol. Seldman, Fanolia M.
Cohn, Meyer Perlstein, S. Koldofsky, Saul
Netz, M. Schooldman and Harry Wander.

Whereas, Brother Max D. Danish has
during the past two years, as well as in
previous years, faithfully and zealously
performed his duties to the best satisfac-
tion of the organization and to the dele-
gates of this Convention, and

Whereas, The above signed members of
the General Executive Board recognize and
appreciate the value of his services, be it
therefore

Resolved, That this Convention extends
to Brother Max D. Danish a token of rec-
ognition and appreciation in the form of
a gift.

Your Committee recommends concur-
rence in this resolution, and that a sum not
exceeding $100.00 be appropriated for this
purpose.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the
Committee was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 140.

Introduced by request of Mrs. Carrie
Chapman Catt, National Woman's Suffrage
Association.

Resolved, That we call upon the United
States Senate to pass the Federal Suffrage
Amendment and the Legislatures of the
several states to ratify it speedily. We urge
this action now, in order that this Repub-
lic, which boasts that it is a "Government
of the people, by the people and for the
people," may give the nations of the world
no reason to doubt its sincerity in a war
for democracy.

Your Committee recommends concur-
rence in this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the
Committee was unanimously accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAR
SUFFERERS.

Vice-President S. Koldofsky, Chairman of
the Committee, submitted the following re-
port for the Committee:

We have received only three resolutions
on this matter. These resolutions, how-
ever, do not deal with the situation from
every point of view, and we therefore have
found it necessary to bring to your attention,
outside of these resolutions, a few other recommendations.

We have not sufficient words of admira-
tions and praise for the International Offi-
cers and the officers of all the Local Unions
in New York City and other cities, who have
started the movement last winter for a
War Sufferers' day which was crowned with
such a remarkable success. It gave us
courage and faith in our mission as trade
unionists and workers to have watched the
remarkable response with which our great
membership answered the appeal to help
our poor and oppressed brothers on the
other side of the world. We appreciate the
great difficulties which were in our way
and which have prevented us from making
this day of sacrifice and pity an even great-
er success. The heatless Mondays, the
rather poor seasons of the Fall and Spring
of 1917, and the general hardships for our
members to sacrifice a day's wages, were
factors that had to be overcome.

We are also aware of the fact that the
sum of $153,000 which was collected would
have been surpassed a great deal if the
employers would have responded to this no-
bile call in a proportionate manner, at least
as our workers have done. It has been def-
initely proved before our committee that
in many instances employers have even
profited from this Day of Pity, especially
in the week-work shops where the workers
were not paid for that day in accordance
with the Union scales.

We regret strongly that some of our Lo-
cal Unions have not fully responded to the
appeal of our International for the War
Sufferers in some cities. We cannot also
help regretting the fact that in some cities
the Local Committees did not forward their
collections to the International Office where
they rightly belonged, but gave them directly to the Local War Relief Committees.

Your Committee is in full accord with the wish of Mr. Louis Marshall, as expressed in his letter to this convention, that this relief work for the war sufferers should be continued by our International as long as the war will last, and also to help the reconstruction work in the war stricken countries after the war is over.

Your Committee has these two resolutions:

Resolution No. 58.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; Chas. Green, No. 63; A. Gold, No. 44; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; D. Solomon, No. 26; Philip Berman, No. 20; J. Menke, No. 81; D. Axelrod, No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, No. 44; C. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; E. Lessin, No. 43; Rose Weiss, No. 100; C. Cohen, No. 7; M. Yanowitz, No. 100; Saul Metz, No. 17.

Whereas, The continuation of this world war has caused terrible suffering among the nations involved, and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U. has gone on record in the last year by contributing a day's wages of its entire membership, to relieve this suffering, therefore be it

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. should establish such a day in the year for the duration of the war.

The day to be set by the G. E. B.

Resolution No. 73.

Introduced by Carl Cohen, Local No. 7.

Whereas, The world catastrophe has brought devastation and poverty to the majority of the Jewish people in the belligerent countries, and

Whereas, The Jews of those countries are wholly dependent upon the aid and assistance of their more fortunate brethren in the United States, be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, at their fourteenth biennial convention, designates February 22nd, otherwise a legal holiday, as "International Relief Day," for the duration of the war; that on that day the members of the International be allowed to work and devote the income of the day towards the War Relief Fund, and be it further

Resolved, That the International endorses the campaign of the Jewish People's Relief of America for a half million members and urges its own members to help the Jewish People's Relief to achieve success by becoming annual members of that organization.

Your Committee recommends that the first resolved of Resolution No. 73 be stricken out, and that the resolved of Resolution No. 58 be amended to read "That this Convention instructs the incoming G. E. B. to continue the work of relief and to set a suitable day whenever it will find it advisable and necessary."

Vice-President Amdur offered an amendment, that the word "Jewish" be stricken out, as this included all war sufferers.

On motion, the report of the Committee, as amended, was unanimously adopted.

The Committee further recommends that:

(1) The International shall be represented at the People's Relief Committee with a full representation.

On motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

(2) The International shall be represented on the Executive Committee of the Joint Distribution Committee.

On motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

(3) The President shall appoint two delegates from this Convention to the Convention of the People's Relief Committee which will begin on the 30th of this month in the City of Cleveland, Ohio, to represent it.

President Schlesinger suggested that the committee be elected by the delegates. The Chairman of the Committee, however, explained that they desired President Schlesinger to make the appointments in order
to save time and not to interrupt the proceedings of the convention.

On motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Committee further recommends that the moneys which may be collected from members of our organization of different nationalities than the Jewish shall in the future, as in the past, be distributed through the proper channels, to the war sufferers of their respective nationalities.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 18.

Introduced by: Phillip Kaplowitz, Local No. 1; Max Brodfield, Local No. 23; M. Finkelstein, Local No. 11.

Whereas, Our country is now engaged in a war, the purpose of which is to make the world safe for democracy, and

Whereas, our brothers, friends and countrymen are fighting on the battlefields in France, and

Whereas, Many of us assembled here may be there in the near future, and

Whereas, The American Red Cross organization has taken upon itself the task of raising a fund of One Hundred Million Dollars for the relief of the suffering and wounded of this war, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention, assembled in Boston, go on record to recommend to its members and to the local unions affiliated with our International, to participate in this drive to the utmost of their ability, be it further

Resolved, That this Convention donate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars for this noble cause.

Your Committee recommends concurrence with this resolution.

Delegate Chazanoff moved as an amendment that the question of donating the money be referred to the incoming G. E. B. The amendment was seconded.

President Schlesinger: I cannot refrain from saying just one word on this resolution. If I should happen to be a member of this General Executive Board I would certainly vote on the resolution as it stands. (Applause). This amendment is, therefore, unwarranted.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Koldofsky: This completes the report of the Committee on War Sufferers.

Fraternally submitted,

S. KOLDOFSKY, Chairman,
MARY GOFF, Secretary,
CARL COHEN,
L. MASS,
M. BRASS,
M. WERTHEIMER,
LUIGI ANTONINI,
SARAH SPANIER,
A. FINKELSTEIN,
B. CHAZANOFF.

Delegate Halpern: I move you, Mr. President, that a vote of thanks be given to the Committee.

Unanimously carried. (Great applause).

Delegate Schwartz of Local 15 announced that there was a delegation downstairs of the expelled members of Local 1 and he moved that they be given the privilege of appearing before the Convention to state their case in their own light as they see it.

Seconded by Delegate Otto of Local 53.

Previous question was called for and the motion was put to a rising vote.

The motion was overwhelmingly lost, only nine voting for it. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: Our constitution provides that if any member of our organization has a grievance against any decision of his local, whether it is the expulsion from his local or any other grievance, that he has the right to appeal to the Joint Board of that city; if he feels aggrieved against the decision of the Joint Board, he has the right to appeal to the
General Executive Board. If the member still feels aggrieved he can appeal to the Convention.

Sister Maud Foley at this time announced that automobiles were waiting downstairs for the lady delegates to conduct them through Wellesley College on a tour of inspection, under the auspices of the Women's Trade Union League of Boston, and as there were no other committees ready to report, the session adjourned at 4:15 P.M., to reconvene at 9:00 A.M. the following morning.

NINTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Wednesday, May 29th, 1918.
The Convention was called to order at 9:30—President Schlesinger in the chair.

Absent—L. Pinkofsky, A. Rentowitz, A. Handelman, Sarah Horowitz, Maud Foley, and H. Weiner.

TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

New York, May 28, 1918.
Endorsement for general strike received with great enthusiasm. We feel confident of victory. Wish you success in all future undertakings.

Executive Board Costume Dressmakers' Union, Local 90.

Cincinnati, O., May 28, 1918.
Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Textile shops' congratulations for successful progressive results.

GEMBREG, Chairman.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President:

Greetings! We feel that better late than never; we wish to express our faith in our International and we hope that its officers will remain at the helm for another term.

Workers of Acme Waist Co., Local 16.

New York, May 28, 1918.
Convention International Ladies' Garment Workers.
On behalf of the workers of Lazarus Raincoat Co., members of Local 20, we wish to congratulate the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. Union. We wish you success in all your deliberations. May your decisions inspire the members of our International and leaders to victory in all our future struggles.

Shop Committee, Third Floor.

Chicago, Ill., May 28, 1918.
International Convention Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
We congratulate the officers and delegates to the Fourteenth Convention for the past and may your future work be crowned with success.

Chicago Cloak and Suit Cutters' Union, Local 81.

New York, May 27, 1918.
Fourteenth Biennial Convention, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Congratulations! Let your Fourteenth Biennial Convention do away with internal hatred and disharmony among its locals.

Employes of Levinson Bros.

New York, May 28, 1918.
BEN. SCHLESINGER, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.
Please accept our sincere congratulations upon progress achieved. We are slowly but steadily marching onward to assure further success. We urge you decide favorably week-work decision of New York members.

Employees of Garfinkle and Rosenblatt, SAM SILVERMAN, Shop Chairman.

Vice-President Schoolman, Chairman of the Committee on Benefits and Sanitarium, read the following report:
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BENEFITS AND SANITARIUM.

Mr. President and Delegates: The Committee which you appointed on Benefits and Sanitarium is, according to our sincere opinion, called upon to devise plans for the introduction of such benefits for the members of our International which would bind it stronger together and which would give the opportunity to our organization to fulfill, even more completely, its mission and aim as the protector and guardian of the interests of our members, at all times and upon every occasion. We cannot too strongly emphasize our wish that death benefit and consumption relief, and even unemployment benefit, shall be introduced in our International Union. These funds, in order to be successfully conducted, would have to be placed under the administration of the International Office.

It appears to us that every one of the Delegates to this Convention fully realizes the sad condition in which the families of these members of our International who die are left, without any means of assistance, and the fact that the General Executive Board has considered this proposition, indicates fully that they are cognizant and mindful of this pressing need of our membership. But as the General Executive Board in its report did not submit full details as to the cost of the maintenance of such a fund and other information about the creation of such Funds, we therefore recommend that the incoming General Executive Board makes a thorough study of same and submits its findings to the next Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

We have received a resolution, No. 78, and have invited Brother Kazan, Secretary of Local No. 35, to give his views on this matter, and we have also had the benefit of the information given to us by Dr. George M. Price, who was present at one of our meetings. We were also informed by one of the introducers of this resolution that the Union Sanitarium Association have bought two hundred and fifty acres of land for the purpose of building a sanitarium and we have received the assurance of Dr. Price, based upon detailed statistical information, that $1.00 per year per member would be sufficient to cover all the expenses connected with the maintenance of such a sanitarium for the membership of our International Union.

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the incoming General Executive Board shall immediately get all the necessary data relating to the maintenance of an International Sanitarium and shall also be empowered to levy an assessment of one dollar per annum upon all its members to keep up this institution. We recommend also that the present Executive Committee of the Sanitarium be placed under the full supervision of the General Executive Board and that this Committee, together with the Board, work out a complete and detailed plan for the running and management of this noble and highly useful institution.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Our Committee has received the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution No. 78.

Introduced by M. Weiner, Local No. 3; Isadora Epstein, No. 10; Morris Sigman, No. 35; Abraham Baroff, No. 25; J. Hapern, No. 9; Isidore Schoenholtz, No. 25; and H. Wanger, No. 22.

Whereas, Many of the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who fall to the proletarian disease, pulmonary consumption, are often unable to get proper medical and other care and are compelled to resort to private or public charity and to become a burden to the community, and

Whereas, Locals 35, 9, and 23 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union have for several years successfully established a benefit for their tuberculosis members, and have given certain benefits and care to these members, and

Whereas, There are members of the different locals belonging to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who are working in the same shops, with the members who have such a tuberculosis fund, and are also affected with this disease, and
Whereas, Such affected members are liable to spread this dread disease to other members in the shops unless properly cared for, and

Whereas, Some local unions have established sick benefit 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, and

Whereas, A certain number of locals belonging to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union have organized the Union Sanitarium for Union members, be it

Resolved, That the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, does hereby establish a special tuberculosis fund, with the purpose of owning and maintaining its own sanitarium and of taking care of tuberculosis members of the Union.

Your Committee recommends concurrence in this resolution.

This concludes the report of your Committee on Benefits and Sanitarium.

Fraternally submitted,

H. SCHOOLMAN, Chairman.
A. GOLD, Secretary.
M. SAPIN.
L. NEIBAUER.
S. ROTHENBERG.
M. KRUGER.
M. STAMPER.
M. JOSEPHSON.
M. HANDELMAN.
M. CARR.
FRANK MAGNAVITA.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Upon motion by Delegate Wiener a vote of thanks was extended to the committee.

Vice-President Halpern, Chairman of the Committee on Week Work, made the following report:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WEEK WORK.

Your Committee has received three resolutions which it has considered in connection with its work and embodied in its recommendation. They are Resolutions Nos. 5, 64 and 72, which read as follows:

Resolution No. 72.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 9.

Whereas, The system of piece work has proven to be absolutely injurious to the cause of the Union and its vast membership, creating unheard of competition and a spirit of hatred between one member and another and deteriorating the health of the workers, and

Whereas, The members of the various local Unions, affiliated with the New York Joint Board, including Local No. 9, have through a referendum, cast a majority of votes in favor of establishing week work in the Cloak Industry in New York and vicinity, and

Whereas, The several thousand members of Local No. 9, who have in the past three seasons been working on the "week work" basis have found it to be advantageous and entirely satisfactory to their case and therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the 14th Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. assembled in Boston that the week work system is preferable to the present system of piece work and that the Convention endorses it as such, and be it further

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board stand, and is herewith instructed to fully cooperate with the several Joint Boards, District Councils and Local Unions to inaugurate and extend the week work system in all manufacturing establishments where members of the I. L G. W. U. are employed.

Resolution No. 5.

Introduced by New York Joint Board.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

Resolutions No. 64.

Introduced by the Delegations of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, A movement has been initiated to install a week work system in the Cloak and Skirt industry, and

Whereas, Such system is deemed advisable and beneficial to the industry, and

Whereas, Locals 12, 24, 56 and 73 of the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry of the City of Boston have gone on record as favoring the week work system, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. instructs the incoming General Executive Board to enforce the adoption of week work in the City of Boston, at the appropriate time.

Your committee has considered the above three resolutions together, as they all deal with the subject of week work. It was impossible for the committee to reach a unanimous decision, and so, instead of one report we submit for your recommendation three reports: A majority report, a minority report and an individual report by Delegate Hines.

The majority report is as follows:

Your Committee on Week Work has carefully considered the important proposition which was referred to it for consideration, and has, after weighing the matter from every point of view, concluded to embody its recommendation to the Convention in a concise and clear statement representing the opinion of the members of the Committee.

Recognizing that the piece work system in our industry is a serious evil resulting in intense labor, overwork and unregulated earnings, and furnishes a constant source of friction within the unions and of strife among the members of our industry, our committee recommends that this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the I. L. O. W. U. go on record as favoring the substitution in its stead of the system of week work, based upon a fixed minimum scale of wages.

Your Committee further recommends that the incoming G. E. B. take active steps to introduce such change in each industry as soon as the bulk of the workers in such industry will express their preference for such change by a majority, on a referendum vote, and as soon as the conditions in the industry will otherwise favor such a change.

Your Committee realizes that in a number of cities, particularly in New York, Boston and Cincinnati, the sentiment and agitation for week work has assumed large proportions and that the cloakmakers of these cities have, after an intense discussion of this problem, shown their readiness to adopt the week work system in substitution of the present system of piece work. The Committee is aware of the fact that this change in the above referred to cities can not be made at once, but it, nevertheless, recommends to this Convention to instruct the incoming G. E. B. to cooperate and lend its full support to the Joint Boards of these cities to introduce the week work system as soon as arrangements and plans in that direction of the local organization are matured.

Your committee, desire to make clear to this Convention that it is our sincere conviction that the substitution of week work for piece work is a legitimate and gradual development which will inevitably find its way in life, regardless of temporary or local retarding influences. It is in accordance with this spirit that we have presented our statement, knowing full well that the application of forcible methods for the introduction of this system is quite unnecessary and that the near future will see week work paramount in the entire ladies' garment industry.

The minority report is as follows:

Your committee, though it favors the establishment of week work, recommends that no local should be compelled to adopt the week work system against its will; but that it should be left to the discretion of each local to choose the system for its members to work.

The individual report of delegate Hines is as follows:

I favor the establishment of week work in our industry, but I recommend that the incoming G. E. B. be instructed not to attempt to establish this new system of work before it will have submitted the
question to another referendum vote of the general membership.

Moved and seconded to adopt the majority report.

Moved and seconded to adopt the minority report.

Moved and seconded to adopt delegate Hines' report.

Delegate Student spoke against the week work system.

Delegate Posetaky spoke in favor of the week work system, stating that although he himself was as rapid a worker as any of the delegates, he approved of the week work system, as he claimed it would tend to strengthen and unify our International still more.

Delegate Yandoli spoke in favor of the piece work system, claiming that the week work system would not abolish the subcontracting evil, and that by establishing the week work system, the earnings of many of the workers would be considerably reduced.

Vice-President Ninfo spoke in favor of the week work system, citing Local No. 10 as an example of the benefits of this system.

Delegate Jacobinsky spoke in favor of the minority report, as he claimed that if we were to pass the majority report, we would simply have something on paper, but it could not be put into practice.

Delegate Langer spoke in favor of the majority report. He claimed that the New York Joint Board had thoroughly thrashed out this question and had come to the decision that the week work system must be inaugurated for the benefit and solidarity of our International. He cited Local No. 35 as an example of the benefits of the week work system.

Delegate Lipsch spoke in favor of the majority report. He stated that the week work system would bring about a condition of complete harmony in the ranks of our International.

Delegate Levine spoke in favor of the week work system.

Delegate Greenberg of Boston spoke in favor of the week work system. He claimed that the piece work system was very injurious to the health of the workers.

Delegate Solomon spoke in favor of the week work system. He claimed that it was the only system that could keep together an organization and work for the welfare of its membership.

Delegate Heller spoke against the week work system, maintaining that the week work system would not give more work to the workers, owing to the seasonal character of our industries, and also because our industry is such that it depends on the change of styles. He claimed, therefore, that the workers should be entitled to make as much as they could during the season, so as to enable them to maintain their living standards during the dull periods.

President Schlesinger interrupted the debate at this point to introduce Dr. George M. Price, the director of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the cloak and waist trades of New York, to the Convention.

Dr. Price delivered an address on behalf of the establishment of an International Tuberculosis Sanitarium. Upon being informed by the President that action had already been taken by the Convention approving of this, he expressed his great delight. He stated that this marked an epoch in the labor movement.

Dr. Price spoke further in reference to the effect of piece work upon the health of the workers. He stated that in those shops where the week work system had replaced the piece work system and among week workers in general, such as the pressers, there had been a marked decrease in the number of consumptives, and that, while he had no absolute proof that it was due to the change from the piece work to the week work system, there was every indication to show that that was the cause. He also mentioned the startling fact that three out of every hundred persons examined by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control had been found to be affected with tuberculosis, and that according to these figures, the International has at present about three thou-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

At the conclusion of Dr. Price's address, discussion on the week work question was resumed.

Delegate Silver spoke in favor of the majority report, claiming that the piece work system had been a failure in our industry and that it had tended to bring dissension into our ranks.

Delegate Feinberg spoke in favor of the majority report, expressing his surprise at the fact that the International had so long succeeded in maintaining its existence, in spite of the fact that the piece work system was prevalent in all its industries. He claimed that the piece work system created jealousy and dissension among the members. He cited conditions in Cleveland as an example of the piece work system. He claimed that no progress was possible unless the week work system was adopted, and that although the workers under the week work system were continually having their earnings increased, the piece workers were falling behind, as even when they had received an increase it was never carried out.

President Schlesinger suggested that inasmuch as the three reports agree on the principle of week work, the Convention should vote on that part of the reports first. His suggestion was met with unanimous approval.

A vote was taken and the recommendation of the full committee that week work be substituted for piece work, was adopted.

The delegates then proceeded to discuss that part of the report of the committee on week work, on which the three different recommendations were submitted.

Brother Sigman delivered a strong appeal in behalf of the majority report, stating that in the referendum vote held in New York, although Local No. 17 had carried on a strong campaign for the piece work system, and the Joint Board had not attempted to influence the minds of the members in any way, the majority had voted for the introduction of the week work system.

Delegate Nisnevitz spoke in favor of the report of Brother Hines. He referred to Local No. 1 which had rejected the system of week work, as had also the City of Philadelphia as a whole.

Delegates Fest and Friend also spoke in favor of the Hines report.

Delegate Schuster stated that in every general strike we had, we have never secured a majority of more than five thousand, still we had been successful and had built up a strong union. He believed that we were prepared at present to come out strong for the introduction of the week work system.

Delegate Finkelstein spoke in favor of the week work system, and stated that should the minority report be carried, it would encourage the manufacturers to resist the adoption of week work. He informed the Convention that in the present settlement of prices in the New York shops, the workers have, in view of the strong agitation carried on by the International and the Joint Board, and which had apparently made its influence felt on the manufacturers,—succeeded in obtaining unusually good prices. This only goes to show how the employers are afraid of week work. The adoption of the minority report would not only delay the introduction of the week work system, but it would also give the employers at present a free hand to deal with the workers as they pleased.

Special privilege was granted to Vice-President Halpern to sum up for the majority report. Bro. Halpern claimed that just as the interest of one worker in a shop is the interest of every worker, so, the interest of one local is the interest of all the locals, and that the piece work system brought about dissension between the workers in the locals and that the piece work system brought about dissension between the workers in the locals, which the week work system would do away with. He concluded by a spirited appeal to the members to resolve to abolish the piece work system, once for all, without dillydallying and qualifications, and to vote unanimously for the majority report.
Delegate Jacobinsky was also granted the privilege of addressing the Convention. He stated that it is not only a question of Local No. 17 being for the minority report, but that there were other locals and delegates from other cities who were on the same committee. At the same time, he stated that he was, in principle, for week work, but that he wanted to leave the matter to the discretion of the G. E. B.

Delegate Hines was also granted the privilege of summing up in favor of his report, and spoke as follows:

There are three reports here from the Committee. Every report speaks in favor of week work. That proves to us that every one recognizes the fact that the week work system is going to be introduced into the trade. The question is how soon could we do it, and how well we could do it.

The majority report says that we instruct the G. E. B. to introduce week work. I say that we cannot very well do it just now.

The workers of New York are not as yet ready to accept week work instead of piece work and to me it proves that when our members are not ready for the change in the system, we cannot very well force the manufacturers to accept what we ourselves are not ready to accept.

Therefore, my individual report says that in view of the fact that in New York only a very small majority voted for the week work, we should advise the G. E. B. to carry on the agitation among our members and that when the time will come when our members will be ready to accept week work, that we will either by conferences or by a strike introduce week work; but at present no one of you will tell me that we are ready for a strike on the question of week work. As for myself, I should like that this change of our system should be obtained not merely by asking the manufacturers for it, but by demanding it and by making our demands as good and as practical for our workers that we should never regret the day when they made that change.

Therefore, Brother President and delegates, I say that you accept that report.

Pres. Schlesinger: There are three reports. There is a majority report which calls for the immediate establishing week work in the industries in New York, Boston and Cincinnati, where the majority had voted in favor of week work.

The minority of the committee recommends, though it favors the week work system in principle, that nevertheless, no local should be compelled to adopt the week work system against its will, and that it should be left to the autonomy of every local to choose the system under which it desires to work.

Delegate Hines recommends that the matter be referred to the G. E. B. for action, but before taking action, the G. E. B. should submit the question to a referendum vote, so as to have a much stronger expression of opinion on this proposition as in the former referendum vote.

I believe that the first proposition to vote on should be the report of Brother Hines. If that is carried, then, naturally, that carries everything. If it is lost, then we shall take a vote on the majority and the minority reports. If there is no objection, we will go about it in that way. As there was no objection, a vote was taken on Brother Hines' report.

The motion to adopt the report of delegate Hines was lost, and upon further division being called for, the report of Brother Hines was again lost by a vote of 49 for and 99 against.

Pres. Schlesinger: We will now take a vote on the majority report. Those who vote "No" on the majority report will be regarded as favoring the minority report and those who vote "Yes" will be regarded in favor of the majority report.

Upon being put to a vote, the majority report was carried overwhelmingly.

After an announcement by the chairman of the Arrangements Committee that a mass meeting of all the ladies' garment workers in Boston will take place tonight in Convention Hall, and several other announcements by the chairmen of the various committees, President Schlesinger adjourned the session, to reconvene at 2:30 P. M.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

NINTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION,
MAY 2d, 1918.

The convention was called to order at 2:30 P. M.—President Schlesinger in the chair.

The Chairman of the Committee on Week Work announced that he had concluded his report in the forenoon session, and a vote of thanks was extended to him by the President in behalf of the delegates.

Delegate Metz: A telegram has just been received from San Francisco that Tom Mooney is again sentenced by the same Judge to die not before 60 days and not later than 90 days. I move Mr. Chairman, that this Convention sends a protest to the Governor of California (great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: Our telegram that we sent the other day was not addressed to the Judge, because everyone felt that the Judge would give out just that sentence which he has given. We expected at that time just what we expect today that the Governor of California will act on the request of the President of the United States to give clemency to Brother Mooney, and that is why we send that telegram to the Governor. Sending another telegram to the Governor would simply mean a repetition, because he has already our telegram asking for clemency.

Delegate Amdur: Resolution No. 116 deals with the Mooney case. Perhaps the Committee on Resolutions will be able to make a recommendation along the lines of Vice-president Metz.

Delegate Pierce: Will you entertain a motion to appoint a Committee from this Convention to cooperate and assist any live committee from any other organization of the American Federation of Labor, to aid, and assist and do all that they possibly can for the release of Tom Mooney in California.

Pres. Schlesinger: I will be very glad to.

The motion by Vice-president Pierce was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Pres. Schlesinger: We have with us since this morning Hon. Judge Jacob Panken, whom I now take great pleasure to present to you.

Justice Panken received an ovation, everybody rising and applauding vigorously for several minutes.

ADDRESS OF JUDGE JACOB PANKEN.

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Convention:

I suppose I have to divide my prefatory remark by saying "Fellow Citizens and Ladies of the Convention, "because there are some of the ladies to this Convention whom I can already address as ‘fellow citizens,’ and some whom I cannot as yet address as ‘fellow citizens’ at this Convention. But I see from your daily report your convention has already gone on record in favor of the Federal Amendment to the United States Constitution to enfranchise the women throughout the country, and I believe that it is just about time that the women of the United States shall be enfranchised, shall be made citizens of the United States of America, for the burden of the world’s work is rapidly settling itself upon the shoulders of the women of the world. Women today are taking their place side by side with the men folk in the world. It does seem to me, my friends, that the women in the United States will have to carry the burden of this country, just as the women are carrying burdens which are being multiplied daily in England and in France and in other countries throughout this world of ours. And if women are required to carry the burden of the world’s work, women should be given the rights that the world has to confer upon its citizenship. So I am happy and I am pleased to add my word of congratulations to the convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union on their re-adoption of the resolution, asking for the passage of the Federal Amendment to the United States constitution, to give women suffrage side by side with the men. (Applause).

I want to extend my gratitude to the General Executive Board and also to the
delegates of the Convention for the privilege accorded me to address this convention, for I deem it an exceedingly great honor and an extraordinary privilege to be invited to address a gathering of men and women who have come from all of the corners of the Union to meet in order to prepare the ground, so that the world may be made a decent place to live in for all of the people,—a decent place to live in for every man—a decent place to live in for every woman—a decent place to live in not only for the workman and work-women, but a decent place even for our enemies to live in with us. (Applause). And it seems to me, my friends, that not until that day come, when the ideas and the aspirations and the dreams of the labor movement come through, not until that time will the world be a decent place to live in, even for the master class, even for the capitalist.

As I look upon the faces of the delegates of this convention, I see the man with the black shock of hair that comes from sunny Italy; I see the fair-haired Yankee; I see people who come from Bohemia, and people who come from Russia, and people who come from Austria, and people who come from Rumania, people who have gathered to these shores from all corners of the world, and I see in this the International spirit of the world. (Vigorous applause).

In my opinion there should be no American Labor Movement, there should be no French Labor movement, there should be no English Labor movement, but there should be but one labor movement, a world labor movement! (Hearty applause)

The Inter-Allied conference has interested me beyond measure. There are some things in it with which I may not agree, but on the whole it is a magnificent pronunciamento on the part of labor. The trouble was that that was confined merely to British Labor, French, Italian and Belgian labor, and did not have an universal appeal. Let me read to you, my friends, something that came across the wires within a day or two. "A wireless dispatch from Berno says that the German Socialists have appointed a committee to draw up a revised party program, which will be submitted at the next Socialist Congress. It will make the following suggestions: Universal and equal suffrage to both sexes; parliamentary Government; the revision of the constitution, depriving the emperors of the right to declare war; conclude peace; negotiate treaties, and confer these rights on the Reichstag; the abolition of secret diplomacy; an International Tribunal with a view to disarmament; permanent Government control of the distribution of raw materials; and the nationalization of merchant marine, traffic and rivers, canals and locks." (Applause).

This, my friends, comes out as a full acceptance by the German radicals of the program and platform, adopted at the Nottingham Conference in England.

Permit me to say this to you, my comrades. I say that we ought to help the German Socialists with might and main to undermine the German Junkers; just as we must help the American Government, just as we help ourselves at this moment to prosecute the war upon the battlefields, we should help the German Social Democracy to create a new battlefield upon which shall be fought the militarist, the Kaiser and the Junkers of Germany. (Applause).

Arthur Ransom, a correspondent of the New York Times, states that the only power today in Russia that stands out against German aggression, is the Russian working class—the Russian Soviets,—the Bolsheviki. (Great applause).

Out of this war, my friends, there is going to come a wonderful new world for the human race. A great many of us have believed, and a great many of us still believe that this war has destroyed the international spirit of the workers. But my friends there is nothing more false. Nottingham, and the adoption of the Nottingham program by the German Socialists, is conclusive proof that the world, in spite of the great calamity that has befallen it, is coming through the universal awakening of Labor closer and nearer to a solution of International problems.

While we believe that every nation ought to be given an opportunity to express itself, to develop itself culturally, while we believe that every nation ought to develop to its full stature, we still bear in mind that in 1787 when we adopted the Constitution of the United States we were 13 provinces.
We were 13 Governments, each government sovereign and supreme by itself. But after awhile these 13 Governments were consolidated into the United States of America, and we remember now that in 1865 we in the United States fought the five-year war not to divide and separate, but to maintain the Union which has been built up, and we are now beginning to see that the idea of a league of nations of the world is taking shape, is taking form. (Great applause).

And when that period comes, when we have a United States of the World, then there will be an end to war; there will be no end to strife; there will be peace, peace upon earth, peace upon all the human beings of the human family. (Vigorous applause).

Your President has paid me some compliments. He said that I was a good fellow, that I am a Judge. But I want to say to you, my comrades, that the moment the labor movement needs me, the City of New York can have my Judgeship. (Applause).

The other day they wanted to put a gown on me. (Laughter). I told them that if they want a gown, I am going to accept a gown, but it has got to be a red gown. (Applause). So they did not put a uniform on me, and I am still without a gown (laughter) and the Judges in my court are still without gowns.

I don't know just how long I am going to be judge. I hope that before ten years are up, the people of the United States will need no judges (great applause). I hope that before my ten years are up we are going to have Socialism, and we won't need any judge then. (Great applause). And we are mighty close to it at this time, much closer than you really can realize. The other day, Director General McAdoo with one stroke of the pen discharged every President of every railroad company in the United States. The other day the President of the United States appointed Mr. Schwab, the President of the Bethlehem Steel Co. to direct the ship-building of the United States. They are now talking about taking over the coal mines of the United States. The aeroplanes are being built by the United States.

There was a time when we of the radical labor movement advocated that all these captains of industry shall be made captains for the Government, captains for the people, and we were laughed and sneered at. Today, the Government of the United States accepts the advice of the Socialists and they appoint these captains to work for the people of the United States, my friends. (Applause). We have got the ships, we have got the coal mines, and the people will never return them to the private owners, (Great applause).

My friends, we are living in the most wonderful period in the history of the human race. Wonderful changes are taking place from day to day and from moment to moment. We never know what tomorrow is going to bring in progress of human activities. We never know, my friends, what tomorrow is going to bring to the forward-looking men and women of the world. History is being made before us. And I say to you men and women from the shops, I say to you men and women from the factories, that you are making history—you are making history which is laying the foundation for a greater and better world for posterity to live in.

You have discussed this morning, Mr. President the question of week work and piece work. But it was not a question of getting a dollar more; it was not a question of getting a dollar less. It was a question, as it shaped itself to my eyes, of giving the people a uniform advantage under which to work, of giving the people the means to prevent the speeding up in the shops and the curtailing of the life period of the work people. We of the labor movement don't concern ourselves with the pennies, dimes and dollars. We don't concern ourselves with seconds, months, hours or days. We of the labor movement have forged—a ye—aye, we have forged our point of view and our vision into the future, way, way into the future—and we ask of the future to give us, of the labor movement, the things that belong to the working class. In other words, we of the labor movement are building—we are laying the foundation-stone and we cement the stones together with our life's blood—aye, with our bodies, so that upon this foundation may be reared the temple of justice, of freedom, of liberty, of fraternity, of solidarity!
At the conclusion of his address, Comrade Judge Panken received an ovation, everybody rising and applauding for several minutes.

A rising vote of thanks was given him for his splendid address.

Comrade Panken: It occurs to me, Comrades, when I was a boy, I was raised on a farm. Very often we had to get up early in the morning, so that we could do the day's chores, and we did get up long before the day broke.

I was a youngster—that is about 30 years ago—I was only about 10 at that time (laughter) and just before the break of day, as you know, it gets very, very dark, and I used to be very much afraid. I used to tremble and shiver. But out on the eastern horizon after awhile, the rays of the sun would break through the darkness. Your Convention, my friends, is the rays of the sun that breaks through the darkness that has settled upon the earth. (Great applause).

Delegate Wiener moved that a vote of thanks be also extended to Dr. Price for the courageous and good work he has done for the international.

This was unanimously carried.

The President next introduced Miss Rose Schneiderman of the Women's Trade Union League, a fraternal delegate to the Convention, who delivered the following address:

ADDRESS OF MISS ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN.

Mr. President and Sisters and Brothers: I am very glad to be here. It is a great occasion. It is a great privilege and honor. I represent the National Women's Trade Union League. The National Women's Trade Union League, as well as all the local leagues, believe, had been in every intimate relations to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union since its inception. In the last big struggle in Chicago, we were glad to have been of help. In New York City two years ago we did our little bit. In the last Cloakmaker's strike, the League of New York City had a very minor thing to do, and that was, it tried to feed the babies of the cloakmakers. We distributed $13,000 worth of milk if you please—the best kind of milk that there was—Grade A milk.

There is just one thing that I want to impress on your minds and that is this inter-Allied conference that we have heard so much about—the Nottingham program, which British Labor has drawn up. I think there is a great duty upon us, and that is to make known these things to every man and woman that works. We must prepare for the time when the war will stop. It will stop some day, and we must see to it that when our men return, that they return to a decent place to live in. We must bring into this world not only political democracy, but industrial democracy as well.

And in closing, Mr. Chairman and Fellow Delegates, I have been handed a little bit of a delicate job. I hate to do it, but the National League asked whether I would not ask the delegates of this convention to contribute to the work of the league. The league is so situated that it has no direct revenues from the people that it brings its message of organization to. So I have been asked, and I do ask you if it is possible that you make your contribution to the League just to show that you endorse their work, just to show that you believe in the work that they are doing. We may not do very much, but we do claim that we have helped to stimulate the desire for organization among women, and we have made it easier for organizers nowadays to go out and organize women—much easier than it was 10, 12 and 15 years ago. Thank you. (Great applause).

Delegate H. Wander delivered the following report for the Committee on Education:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education wishes to report as follows:

In going over the report of the Educational Committee appointed after the last con-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Convention in Philadelphia, and from information obtained from various sources, as well as our own knowledge, we find that the committee has done their utmost to interest our members in education.

In spite of the fact that it was confronted with difficulties which could not be foreseen, as the closing of public schools for lack of coal which hampered the works of that committee to a great extent, still it went on with its activities. In judging the work of our educational committee we must take into consideration that it was the first time for our international to undertake educational work on such a large scale, and the committee therefore had to feel their way, not knowing exactly what would most likely interest the great majority of our members; and everything done by that committee was done in the way of an experiment, as they could not foretell how the members were going to respond.

Having all this in mind, we can only say that full credit is due to the educational committee and we appreciate their work and devotion, for the success we have attained. We wish to express our heartiest appreciation to the chairman of that committee, Brother Elias Lieberman who devoted his time and has exerted his energies to the work of that committee. We also wish to express our appreciation for the work done by the director of that committee, Miss Juliet Stuart Poyntz and secretary of that committee Fannia M. Cohn, and to all others who helped in that work, to awake our members to the idea of education. We also appreciate and are thankful to the boards of education of the various boroughs of New York for their cordial assistance in permitting us to use the public schools, which is the proper place for such work and which saved us much expense. We hope that they will be as courteous to us in the future as they were in the past so that our next Educational Committee may use these opportunities to good advantage.

The attendance of the different classes and lectures, although, not as numerous as could be expected from such a large membership as ours, was big enough to encourage further activities in educational work. With the improvement of that educational work, by meeting the requirements of the majority of our members, we hope that they will be more interested so that the attendance will become greater.

Your committee therefore recommends:

1st—That the educational work be continued.

2nd—That this convention appropriate the sum of $10,000 yearly to conduct this work.

3rd—The $10,000 to be covered by an assessment of ten cents levied upon each and every member yearly.

The educational department to be conducted by a committee of five appointed by the president of the International. This committee is to be under the supervision and control of the G. E. B.

The educational work shall consist of:

1st—Popular education through lectures which shall be both instructive and interesting to our members. Special attention to be given to lectures on trade unionism.

2nd—Group education shall consist of the study of the English language, public speaking, and all subjects pertaining to trade unionism and the labor movement.

The committee further recommends that the incoming Educational committee shall spread such literature which in their discretion, will serve the purpose of education for our members free of charge or at nominal cost as the committee will deem it advisable under the circumstances.

We also recommend to the incoming Educational Committee to organize local educational committees, especially outside of New York with whom they will communicate and with whom they will arrange educational activities in the different localities and cities.

As the Chairman came to the various points in his report they were voted on separately.

The entire report was adopted by the convention.

At the conclusion of his report, Chairman Wander announced that they had been
given the following resolution for consideration, which they had embodied in their report.

Resolution No. 119.

Introduced by Fannla M. Cohn and Cella Samorodin, Local No. 72; Saul Mets and M. Jacobinsky, Local No. 17; Joseph Fish, Albert Lazarus, Louis F. Zerkover and Max Margulies, Local No. 10; Henry Zucker, No. 41; S. Koldofsky, No. 14; S. Labensohn, No. 13; Sol. Selman and Mollie Friedman, No. 25; and M. Perlstein, No. 63.

Whereas, The problems of our Industry are growing more and more complicated, and

Whereas, The trade union is at present a gigantic enterprise, and there is a growing need of leaders, teachers, managers, as well as journalists, who are necessary for the good of our movement, and

Whereas, We are confronted with a dearth of organizers and business agents, properly equipped for the task, and

Whereas, The growth of our membership and our organization demands for its management officers trained in the best methods of business administration, and

Whereas, The activities of our Union will never expand and our movement will never progress unless it develops leadership within its own ranks, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to assist those of our members who are qualified for leadership, to acquire the necessary training and preparation for the task to which they are determined to devote their lives.

Your committee recommends the adoption of this resolution, with the following amendment, to strike out the second "whereas."

Miss Cohn spoke in favor of the resolution and argued that the whereas should remain in the resolution.

Delegate Amdor supported the recommendation of the committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Chairman Wander: This concludes the report of the Committee on Education.

Fraternally submitted,

H. WANDER, Chairman.

JOS. FISH, Secretary.

J. H. BERNSTEIN.

SARAH SHAPIRO.

H. LUBINSKY.

SARAH HURWITZ.

B. GREENBLAT.

BELLAR GREENBERG.

BELLA METZ.

A. STUDENT.

H. SCHUSTER.

Upon motion, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Committee for their good work.

After several announcements had been made by the Chairmen of the various committees to their committeemen, the convention adjourned at 4:30 P.M., in order to give the management the opportunity to arrange the hall for the mass meeting tonight, the convention to reconvene at 9:00 A.M. the following morning.

At the close of the session, President Scolunger received the following resolutions and by unanimous consent referred them to the Committee on Resolutions:

Resolution No. 141.

Introduced by delegates of Local No. 15.

Whereas, The New York Call, the valiant and fearless champion of the interests of the working class, founded and supported by the workers, has during the ten years of its existence defended and fought our battles and faithfully, and

Whereas, In its daily struggle to exist and live in order to fight for us the Call was always opposed bitterly by the enemies of organized labor and by the master class who feared the powerful rays of light and truth spread by the Call among the toiling masses of this country, and

Whereas, The Call has with the hearty support of the class-conscious workers of
the East, succeeded in gaining a large reading public and in establishing itself on a tolerably paying financial basis, until the recent abnormal conditions of the country were utilized by the enemies of trade unionism and Socialism to strike at it a hard blow which materially affected it financially, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call, in its present time of stress and hardship, and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention authorizes the incoming G. E. B. to subscribe a sum of $1,000 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association, to help it to tide over the present unusually difficult situation.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 142.

Introduced by Chas. Stein, Delegate of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The Inter-Allied Labor Conference held at Nottingham, England, in 1918 adopted a program of peace and social reconstruction after the termination of this war, which vitally affects the interests of the peoples in general, and of the working class throughout the world, in particular and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U., being part and parcel of the progressive labor movement of the world, is desirous that its membership be conversant with the contents of said document, be it therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., instruct the incoming G. E. B. to issue the Nottingham program in pamphlet form, in the several languages accessible to our membership, for distribution among them.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 143.

Introduced by Isadore Epstein, Local No. 10, and Salvatore Ninfo, Local No. 48.

Whereas, The sergeants at arms of this Convention are discharging their duties loyally, energetically and successfully, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention present each of them with a gold fob made in the style of the badges of the delegates to this convention.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 144.

Introduced by John F. Pierce, No. 34; Isadore Epstein, No. 10; Anna Cavanagh, No. 40; Minnie White, No. 40; May Ratcliff, No. 33; S. Mets, No. 17; Max Margulies, No. 10; Joe Fish, No. 10; A. Lazarus, No. 10; Charles Stein, No. 10; Samuel Otto, No. 53; Max Gar, No. 53; George Rubin, No. 2.

Whereas, The courts of California have seen fit to re-sentence Tom Mooney to be hanged, after a denial by the Supreme Court of California for a new trial, and

Whereas, We, as members of the I. L. G. W. U., are convinced that Tom Mooney did not receive a fair trial, and

Whereas, We, as Union men and women, feel that the hanging of Tom Mooney will be a blow to organized labor, instigated by the corporations and traction magnates of San Francisco, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention appoint a committee to cooperate and assist any committee appointed by any organization whose purpose shall be the freedom of Tom Mooney.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

TENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Thursday, May 30th, 1918.

The Convention was called to order at 9 sharp—President Schlesinger in the chair. Absent—J. Ringer, S. Sapin, M. Korts, S. Pasetzky, D. Minor, May Frank, Ph. Pest, Sarah Shapiro, David Solomon, A. Rantelwick, S. Hoffman, A. La Porta, Alex. Finkelstein, D. Latkin, H. Weisen, Bella Mets, Ab. Kirzner, Louis Porter.
given the following resolution for consideration, which they had embodied in their report.

Resolution No. 119.

Introduced by Fannie M. Cohn and Celia Samorodin, Local No. 72; Saul M. Metz and M. Jacobinsky, Local No. 17; Joseph Fish, Albert Lazarus, Louis F. Zerkover and Max Margules, Local No. 10; Henry Zucker, No. 41; S. Koldofsky, No. 14; S. Labensohn, No. 13; Sol Seldman and Mollie Friedman, No. 25; and M. Perlstein, No. 63.

Whereas, The problems of our industry are growing more and more complicated, and

Whereas, The trade union is at present a gigantic enterprise, and there is a growing need of leaders, teachers, managers, as well as journalists, who are necessary for the good of our movement, and

Whereas, We are confronted with a dearth of organizers and business agents, properly equipped for the task, and

Whereas, The growth of our membership and our organization demands for its management officers trained in the best methods of business administration, and

Whereas, The activities of our Union will never expand and our movement will never progress unless it develops leadership within its own ranks, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to assist those of our members who are qualified for leadership, to acquire the necessary training and preparation for the task to which they are determined to devote their lives.

Your committee recommends the adoption of this resolution, with the following amendment, to strike out the second "whereas."

Miss Cohn spoke in favor of the resolution and argued that the whereas should remain in the resolution.

Delegate Amdur supported the recommendation of the committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Chairman Wander: This concludes the report of the Committee on Education.

Fraternally submitted,

H. WANDER, Chairman.
JOS. FISH, Secretary.
J. H. BERNSTEIN.
SARAH HURWITZ.
H. LUBINSKY.
SARAH GREENBERG.
BELLA METZ.
A. STUDENT.
H. SCHUSTER.

Upon motion, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Committee for their good work.

After several announcements had been made by the Chairmen of the various committees to their committeemen, the convention adjourned at 4:30 P.M., in order to give the management the opportunity to arrange the hall for the mass meeting tonight, the convention to reconvene at 8:00 A.M. the following morning.

At the close of the session, President Schlesinger received the following resolutions and by unanimous consent referred them to the Committee on Resolutions:

Resolution No. 141.

Introduced by delegates of Local No. 15.

Whereas, The New York Call, the valiant and fearless champion of the interests of the working class, founded and supported by the workers, has during the ten years of its existence defended and fought our battles loyally and faithfully, and

Whereas, In its daily struggle to exist and live in order to fight for us the Call was always opposed bitterly by the enemies of organized labor and by the master class who feared the powerful rays of light and truth spread by the Call among the toiling masses of this country, and

Whereas, The Call has with the hearty support of the class-conscious workers of...
the East, succeeded in gaining a large reading public and in establishing itself on a tolerably paying financial basis, until the recent abnormal conditions of the country were utilized by the enemies of trade unionism and Socialism to strike at it a hard blow which materially affected it financially, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call in its present time of stress and hardship, and be it therefore

Resolved, That the Convention authorizes the incoming G. E. B. to subscribe a sum of $1,000 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association, to help it to tide over the present unusually difficult situation.

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call, in Its present time of stress and hardship, and be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call, in Its present time of stress and hardship, and be it therefore

Resolved, That the Convention authorizes the incoming G. E. B. to subscribe a sum of $1,000 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association, to help it to tide over the present unusually difficult situation.

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call, in Its present time of stress and hardship, and be it therefore

Resolved, That the Convention authorizes the incoming G. E. B. to subscribe a sum of $1,000 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association, to help it to tide over the present unusually difficult situation.

Resolution No. 142.

Introduced by Chas. Stein, Delegate of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The Inter-Allied Labor Conference held at Nottingham, England, in 1918 adopted a program of peace and social reconstruction after the termination of this war, which vitally affects the interests of the peoples in general, and of the working class throughout the world, in particular and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U., being part and parcel of the progressive labor movement of the world, is determined that its membership be conversant with the contents of said document, be it therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., instruct the incoming G. E. B. to issue the Nottingham program in pamphlet form, in the several languages accessible to our membership, for distribution among them.

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., instruct the incoming G. E. B. to issue the Nottingham program in pamphlet form, in the several languages accessible to our membership, for distribution among them.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 143.

Introduced by Isadore Epstein, Local No. 10, and Salvatore Ninno, Local No. 48.

Whereas, The sergeants at arms of this Convention are discharging their duties loyally, energetically and successfully, be it therefore

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 144.

Introduced by John F. Pierce, No. 34; Isadore Epstein, No. 10; Anna Cavanagh, No. 40; Minnie White, No. 40; May Batchford, No. 33; S. Metz, No. 17; Max Margulis, No. 10; Joe Fish, No. 10; A. Lazarus, No. 10; Charles Stein, No. 10; Samuel Otto, No. 63; Max Gar, No. 63; George Rubin, No. 2.

Whereas, The courts of California have seen fit to resentence Tom Mooney to be hanged, after a denial by the Supreme Court of California for a new trial, and

Whereas, We, as members of the I. L. G. W. U., are convinced that Tom Mooney did not receive a fair trial, and

Whereas, We, as Union men and women, feel that the hanging of Tom Mooney will be a blow to organized labor, instigated by the corporations and traction magnates of San Francisco, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention appoint a committee to cooperate and assist any committee appointed by any organization whose purpose shall be the freedom of Tom Mooney.

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

TENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Thursday May 30th, 1918.

The Convention was called to order at 9 sharp—President Schlesinger in the chair.

TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegrams:

Philadelphia, Pa., May 29, 1918.
International Ladies' Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

To the Delegates of the Fourteenth Biennial Convention in watching the proceedings of the Convention, we see that you are doing very good work, but we however think that one of the best things would be if you see to it that our officers who have served so good and true remain for another term.

Workers Figgins' Shop, Members Local 15.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 29, 1918.
International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Mr. A. Baroff, Secretary, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

The good work of our International makes us believe that to the 15th Convention there will be 600 Delegates.

Workers of Empire Shop.


Mr. Schlesinger: Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

The girls of the Belle Waist Co., express their congratulations to the Delegates of the Convention.

Katz and Rutman.

International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

The workers of Haney Kutner and Raab wish to express their good wishes for the good work the Delegates have been doing at this Convention. But we feel that the good work will not be complete if the Delegates do not see that the officers who have guided our International so wisely for the last four years shall remain for the next term.

CLARA WEISS, Chairlady.

New York, May 30, 1918

B. Schlesinger, President International Ladies' Garment Workers, Convention Hall, Boston, Mass.

Tom Mooney has been resentenced to hang within ninety days. We expect the International will let its voice be heard in this matter and will immediately communicate with Governor Stephens of California and President Wilson and the defendant Tom Mooney. Send your messages at once. Thanking you in advance.

New York Council of San Francisco Labor Defence.

Vice-President Saul Metz, Chairman of the Committee on Law submitted the following report:

Before the secretary of our committee will proceed with the reading of the resolutions and amendments to our Constitution, I want to state that at the last meeting of the General Executive Board, in Toledo, we decided that our Constitution should be revised by our counselor, Morris Hillquit, and the General Executive Board appointed a committee consisting of three members of the Board, to work in conjunction with Comrade Hillquit. After going over the entire Constitution, Comrade Hillquit advised us that he would merely improve the English of it.

Our Constitution had been drawn up by us—by members of Local No. 1, Local No. 2, Local No. 35, by operators, pressers and tailors, so you can imagine that it was not written in the best English. Now, after comrade Hillquit improved the English, we may say that our Constitution is an English Constitution, composed in the United States for a union that exists in the United States.

It would take too long to read the entire constitution to you here. Therefore, Mr. President, before reading the resolutions presented to this Convention, amending the Constitution, I would move that, inasmuch as the substance of the Constitution was not changed, it be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for approval.

Chairman:

President Schlesinger: As you know, our Constitution is the result of fourteen conventions. We first came together fourteen years ago and tried to work out a constitution. Then another convention was held and certain amendments
were adopted, and so on. Amendments were adopted at every convention, so that now, when we read our Constitutions as you have it in your membership books, we find that some subjects are referred to in two or three different sections in two or three different places. You will also find that the language is not the best because, as the chairman of the Committee has explained, it was written by workers, and they were interested in the law than in the language in which the laws were framed. Therefore, the G. E. B. decided, once for all, to have Comrade Hillquit go over the entire constitution, put every provision in its proper place, to see that one provision does not contradict another, and to improve the language.

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the draft of the Constitution, as revised by Comrade Hillquit, so much as substance was not changed, be referred to the incoming G. E. B. for approval.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

Secretary of the Committee, Brother Zerkover, read the following report:

Resolution No. 14.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del, Local No. 23.

Whereas, The initiation fee charges for applicants for membership to locals of our International Union vary in the different locals, and

Whereas, This state of affairs tends to create rivalry, and, in some cases, ill feeling, which hampers the progress of our organizations, be it therefore

Resolved, That all locals of the I. L. G. W. U. of a given city or town, establish a uniform initiation fee charge.

Your Committee recommends the acceptance of this amendment to be inserted in Article XIV, Section 8.

Delegate Miller: Does that mean that each city should establish its own uniform fee?

The secretary of the committee replied in the affirmative.

Delegate Zucker spoke against the recommendation of the Committee and stated that the girls working on white goods and dresses could not afford to pay as high a fee as men working in the cloak shops. He favored the application of this resolution to cloak locals only.

Delegate Plotkin spoke against this recommendation, on substantially the same grounds, citing his experience in the Chicago ladies' tailoring industry.

Delegate Mary O'Goff amended the last resolve to read: "The established uniform initiation fee should apply to the cloak industry only."

The amendment was not seconded.

Delegate LaPorta opposed the resolution on the ground that it would place obstacles in the way of organizing new trades.

Delegate Weis and Litvakoff also spoke against the resolution.

A delegate suggested that the clause read that the initiation fee should be no more than $15.00.

(At this moment the arrival of Brother Fisher, a private in the United States Army, was greeted with applause.)

President Schlesinger informed the convention that Brother Fisher was the chairman of the Executive Board of Local No. 9 and was to be a delegate to this Convention, but he was sent to camp. Yesterday we sent a telegram to the Adjutant General requesting him to give Brother Fisher a leave of 24 hours so that he would be able to be with us. He was granted that privilege and we now have him with us. (Great applause.)

The discussion on the report of the committee was now resumed.

Delegate Brass amended the recommendation, insofar that the incoming General Executive Board shall establish a uniform
initiation fee within the limitations of this Constitution for every branch of the trade. The amendment was seconded.

Delegate Pinkofsky spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee, stating that a high initiation fee kept the members in the locals, whereas, if the initiation fee is low, they do not hesitate to leave and then rejoin any time they desire.

Delegate Epstein said that he was opposed to a uniform initiation fee for all the branches of the International. He stated that in his particular local it was necessary to have a high initiation fee, as otherwise there would not be enough work for all the members, and as a result of that there would be cut-throat competition among the workers. He further stated that Local No. 10 was charging even a higher fee than the Constitution called for.

Delegate Friend spoke against the recommendation of the Committee. He said that each local should have the power to fix its own initiation fee. He did not believe this clause should be amended at all, as it had worked out very well until this time as provided by the Constitution.

Delegate Menke and Kushner spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Gussman spoke in favor of the amendment.

Delegate Gorenstein spoke against the recommendation of the Committee and for the amendment.

Delegate Greenblatt spoke against the recommendation of the Committee. He said that the matter of initiation fee should be left to the locals, otherwise further organization work would be impossible in some trades.

President Schlesinger: The motion is that the report of the Committee be adopted. The amendment is that the entire matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board. The chairman of the committee will now have the last say.

Chairman Metz: I think that the meaning of this resolution or this amendment to the constitution was misinterpreted. Delegate Epstein and some other delegates admitted that the provision of our Constitution in this matter has not been observed. The section states that $15.00 should be the maximum initiation fee. Now I would like to know how many locals observed this section of our Constitution. Many of our locals charge $15.00 for initiation fee; $10.00 for examination; $5.00 assessment for sick benefit; $10.00 assessment for the relief fund, and when a new member came into the organization his initiation fee was $25.00 and $30.00, and in some instances as high as $35.00. That means that the provisions of this Constitution were not observed. Now, some locals want the autonomy to charge as much as they deem necessary for initiation fee. Your Committee is therefore of the opinion that this anarchy of initiation fees be abolished. We wish to establish one initiation fee in every city. I agree that every branch of the trade should have its own initiation fee charge, as we could not charge the same fee in Local No. 50 or No. 62 as the cutters or pressers or skirt makers could. We therefore agree to accept in our recommendation the amendment of Brother Brass, that the incoming G. E. B. shall establish a uniform initiation fee for every branch of the trade.

The report of the Committee, as amended, was lost by a vote of 73 for and 76 against. Further division was called for, but the motion was again lost, this time by a vote of 56 for and 73 against.

Chairman Metz continued the report of his Committee:

Resolution No. 16.

Introduced by Max Brodfield, Del. Local No. 23.
Whereas, The Constitution of the I. L. G. W. U. prohibits any of its locals from
incorporating,

Whereas, The experience taught us that
the serious trouble in Local No. 1 was mainly
due to its incorporation, making it im-
possible for the International to take the
steps necessary under the conditions that
prevailed, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention, instruct
Local No. 11, which is incorporated, to an-
null its incorporation, and be it further

Resolved, That if any local union affiliat-
ed with the I. L. G. W. U. incorporates, it
shall be subject to immediate expulsion.

Your Committee recommends that the
first resolve of this resolution be referred
to the incoming G. E. B. for the purpose of
enforcing Section 5, Article IX of our Con-
stitution. The second resolve is covered
in Section 5, Article IX.

Vice-President Pierce made the following
correction in the language. The Constitu-
tion reads that the G. E. B. "may" take
away the charter; he suggested that it
should read that the G. E. B. "shall" take
away the charter.

The Committee accepted that amendment
and substituted the word "shall" instead of
"may".

The recommendation of the Committee,
as amended, was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 19.

Introduced by: H. Schoolman, Chicago
Joint Board; J. Menzoff, Local No. 18; D.
Axelrod, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman,
Local No. 44; A. Gold, Local No. 44; S.
Greenspun, Local No. 54; A. Plotkin, Local
No. 71.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Gar-
ment Workers' Union has been holding con-
ventions every two years; and

Whereas, A great expense is involved by
holding these conventions both to the inter-
national and to the locals, and as a result,
many of the smaller locals cannot be repre-
sented; and

Whereas, According to the Constitution
of the I. L. G. W. U., the General Executive
Board has the power to call a special con-
vention whenever they deem it necessary;
be it, therefore

Resolved, That a regular convention of
the International Ladies' Garment Workers' 
Union be held every three years instead of
every two years.

Your Committee recommends rejection
of this resolution as impracticable.

Upon motion, the recommendation of
the Committee was adopted.

---

Resolution No. 28.

The introducers of resolution No. 28
appeared before your committee and re-
quested that they be permitted to with-
draw the resolution. Your committee rec-
ommends that the request of the Introduc-
ers to withdraw the resolution be granted.

Upon motion the recommendation of the
committee was adopted.

---

Resolution No. 36.

Introduced by: Max Bruck, delegate of
Local No. 21.

Whereas, There exists an evil of the
corporation shops (or so called Social
Shops) in our trades; and

Whereas, Those forming corporations are
working themselves at the machine, or at
the pressing or cutting tables, and as a
result compete with those who are em-
ployers of Union Labor; and

Whereas, Such corporations are a detri-
tment to the organizations and a menace
to the industry, be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention shall en-
xact a provision to be known as Section 8,
Article XIV, of the Constitution of the In-
ternational Ladies' Garment Workers' Un-
ion to read as follows:
No members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union shall be allowed to form corporations of which they should be the employer and employee at the same time. Such members shall be expelled from the International.

"Your Committee recommends that this resolution, should read as follows: "No member of the I. L. G. W. U. shall serve as a special or deputy sheriff or other officer, or accept employment as foreman, forelady, superintendent or in any other capacity in which he would have authority to hire and discharge employees, or accept nomination for public office from any except a Socialist or labor party, or take any position which might require him to perform any duties inconsistent with his membership in the I. L. G. W. U. or detrimental to any strike that may be conducted by any local union or joint board of the I. L. G. W. U. Any member entering upon such service, position or employment, or accepting such candidacy, shall be forthwith suspended from membership in the I. L. G. W. U. and all affiliated or subordinate bodies to which he may belong and removed from any office that he may hold in such body."

Delegate Bruck discussed the report of the committee at some length.

Upon motion, the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 40.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 10.

Add after the fifth word of the seventh line, of Article 17, Section IV of the Constitution the following words: "providing he shall pass the necessary local examinations."

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

Pres. Schlesinger: If the report of the committee on this resolution is adopted, any member who would come to another city with a withdrawal card would first have to pass an examination to show whether he is a competent worker or not before the withdrawal card would be recognized by the local of the city he came to.

Secretary Zerkover: I fully understand the meaning of this amendment, as I am one of the introducers of that resolution. We want to keep out incompetents from our locals who join the union in cities where no examination is required and then come to us on withdrawal cards and we have to admit them whether they know the business or not.

Miss Spindler spoke against the amendment on the ground that no worker should be kept from the locals by unnecessary barriers.

Delegate Miller spoke against the amendment.

Delegate Silver amended the recommendation of the Committee, to the effect that it should exempt members of more than one year's standing.

Delegate Epstein spoke in favor of the resolution, on the ground that it would eliminate the undesirables, and that it also applied only to such locals where trade examinations existed already.

Vice-President Rosenberg spoke against the resolution.

Delegate Hines spoke against the recommendation of the committee and in favor of the amendment of Brother Silver.

Delegate Menke and Schwartz spoke against the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegates Hacken and Weiner spoke in favor of the resolution.

Upon a question of information, it was explained that Delegate Silver's amendment was meant to exempt from such examination people who were over one year in the trade.

Upon vote, the amendment of Delegate Silver was carried—66 for and 61 against.
Resolution No. 41.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 10.

Change Section X, Article 3, to read as follows:

“No member shall be eligible as delegate to the Convention unless he or she has been employed in the ladies’ garment industry for a period of at least six months within the year immediately preceding the Convention.”

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The chairman explained that if this amendment is accepted, a member would not have to be working in the trade the last six months of the year preceding the convention, but he or she might also be eligible if they worked in the trade during the first six months within that year.

After a short discussion, the recommendation of the Committee was carried.

Resolution No. 42.

Introduced by: Morris Weiner, delegate of Local No. 3.

Change the first part of Section 13, Article XII, to read as follows:

“No local union shall have the right to make any payments out of its regular revenue, such as dues, initiation fees, fines or assessments, for any other purpose except regular expenditure of the union, for any strike benefits, donations to other labor organizations, and organizations of the Socialist Movement.”

Your Committee recommends that the words in this resolution “and organizations of the Socialist movement”, be inserted in Section 13, Article XII, after the words “Labor organizations” on the sixth line.

Delegate Weiner spoke in favor of the amendment and said that he wanted to include the organizations of the Socialist movement among those who may be financially supported by our local unions.

Delegate Flaschner spoke against the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Celia Samorodin amended the recommendation to include the entire labor movement, not limited by the Socialist movement.

Delegate Mary Goff made a spirited speech in favor of the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Epstein amended the recommendation to include all other organizations serving working class interests.

Delegate Silver amended the resolution to read: “and organizations of the radical movement.”

Vice-President Amdur amended the recommendation to include sick or death or any other benefits.

Upon motion the resolution was recommitted to the committee for further consideration.

Resolution No. 125.

Introduced by delegation of Local No. 3.

Whereas, there exists no uniform rate of dues among the respective locals of the I. L. G. W. U.; and

Whereas, It is not proper that the unions of one trade should have different rates of dues; and

Whereas, The result of this difference in dues is that local patriotism is created which causes difficulties in the transferring of members from one local to another;

be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union adopts a uniform rate of dues for all locals that are affiliated with it.
Resolution No. 53.

Introduced by Morris Sigman, Local 35, and Phillip Kaplowitz, delegate of Local No. 1.

Whereas, the affiliated locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have different payments of dues which causes an unjust condition, in cases of financial stress and general strikes, where some members are maintained at the expense of those locals who have a higher dues fee; and

Whereas, on previous occasions locals were compelled to surrender their treasuries in order to help those locals whose dues were smaller and had no opportunity to accumulate funds to conduct their various strikes; therefore be it

Resolved, that this 14th biennial convention assembled in Boston on May 20th, 1918, goes on record to instruct its incoming General Executive Board to inaugurate a uniform payment of dues for all of its affiliated locals, and that the amount or such payments shall be at least as those of locals No. 1, 17, and 35; and be it further

Resolved, that each local shall pay to the I. L. G. W. U. a per capita of five cents for a general and individual strike fund and that these payments for that fund shall be left in the hands of the incoming General Executive Board, who should devise as to the amount of a fund for the single and general strikes.

The Committee recommends the adoption of the first “Resolved” of Resolution No. 53 as a substitute for resolutions No. 125 and 53.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 54.

Introduced by Phillip Kaplowitz, delegate Local No. 1, and Morris Sigman, delegate Local No. 35.

Whereas, the records of the standing of the members payments of dues, assessments, etc., are at present kept by the locals only; and

Whereas, it is essential that the General office should be in possession of such records in order that it may be in a position at all times to ascertain the exact standing of membership of the different locals affiliated with the I. L. G. W. U. without applying to these locals for such information, and in order that the International may be in a position to check these payments, be it therefore

Resolved, that this 14th biennial convention assembled in Boston on May 20th, 1918, goes on record to instruct its incoming General Executive Board to immediately install a ledger card system for each member of the affiliated locals of the I. L. G. W. U. and that such cards shall be accurately checked and posted from the members’ payments of the duplicate sheet submitted by the locals to the general office.

Your Committee recommends favorably on this resolution and refers it to the General Executive Board for installation as soon as they find it advisable.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 55.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Solomon, No. 26; Chas. Green, No. 63; Julius Menke, No. 81; Max Bruckman, No. 35; S. Flaschner, No. 12; Chas. Kreindler Joint Board, Cleveland; Rose Weiss, No. 109, and Mollie Yazowits, No. 100.

Be It Resolved, That Section 5 of Article 12, paragraph 2, shall read:

“That the Joint Board shall have the power to select a Joint Grievance Committee of locals affiliated, to whom all grievances or charges, arising between member and member or between member and locals and vice versa, shall be referred, and that this decision be binding on said locals by subject to appeal to the Joint Board or to the General Executive Board.”

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution as a substitute for Resolution No. 53.
tion of this resolution, to be inserted in Section 5, Article XII, to take the place of the second paragraph.

Delegate LaPorta asked whether the adoption of this resolution would abolish the grievance committees of the locals, to which the Chair replied that it would not. If a member feels aggrieved of the decision of the grievance committee of his local, he would then appeal to the grievance committee of the Joint Board, subject to an appeal to the G. E. B.

Delegate Menkoff spoke in favor of the resolution.

The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

At this point Delegate Rosenberg moved that the convention rise in honor of Comrade Frank MacDonald, former editor of the New York Call, who died yesterday.

This was seconded and unanimously carried, everybody rising in reverence to the memory of Comrade MacDonald.

The Chairman next introduced Mr. Phillip Davis, a former organizer and Vice-President of the International.

Mr. Davis delivered a most inspiring address, in which he recited to the delegates conditions as they existed in the days when the International had its inception. He stated he had the honor to be at the first convention of the International, and at that time the number of members in the International did not exceed the present number of delegates to the convention. He expressed his delight at the remarkable progress of the International, and expressed his admiration of the efficient work done by the convention during the sessions in which he was present.

He concluded by urging the delegates to follow the lead taken by the English labor movement, and expressed the opinion that the International was the one body upon whom the future of the radical labor movement depended.

His address was enthusiastically greeted by the delegates, who frequently interrupted him by applause.

The session adjourned at 12:30 P. M., to reconvene at 2:30 P. M. in the afternoon.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

May 30, 1918.

The convention was called to order at 2:30 P. M., President Schlesinger in the chair.

The Chairman announced that a regrettable omission of several paragraphs from the speech of Judge Panken occurs in the report of the session of the afternoon of May 29. This address will appear in full in the official report of the convention. One error is exceedingly regrettable, since the printer omitted several lines in one paragraph, making the sense of the sentence very awkward.

Delegates Levine and Jacobinsky stated that the minutes of yesterday's proceedings should be corrected, as they spoke against week work, while in the minutes is printed that they spoke for week work.

Inasmuch as the Committee on Officers' Report were not as yet ready, the Chairman called upon the Committee on Resolutions to continue its report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution No. 28.

Introduced by: S. Koldofsky, Joint Board of Toronto; Max Schur, J. Kazatchkov, H. Kruger, Local N. 14; H. Kirman, E. Friedman, Local No. 22; M. Samuels, Local No. 10; Chas. Edwards, Local No. 22; and S. Labensohn, Joint Board of Montreal.

Whereas, There has recently been organ-
Ad a Greater Independent Labor Party in the Dominion of Canada, along the lines of the Independent Labor Party of England; and

Whereas, This Party has already, during the short period of its existence, gained a great following and has aroused a deep interest among the workers of Canada; and

Whereas, President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, has taken upon himself the mission to come to Canada and to make speeches from the platform of the Dominion Parliament and the Canadian Club against the Independent Labor Party of Canada, urging upon the workers not to support it and not to act independently in the politics of the country; be it therefore

Resolved, That we repudiate this action on the part of President Gompers as meddlesome and unwise, and recommend to our Canadian locals to study the platform of this Independent Labor Party and to give it all assistance and support, if deserved.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be rejected.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 133.

Introduced by Fannia M. Cohen, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The movement for educational, social and cooperative activities is spreading within the locals of our International, and

Whereas, These activities, more than anything else, demonstrate the necessity of having our own buildings for the above stated purposes in the various cities where we have organizations and which may become social and educational centers for our members, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to work out plans as soon as possible to unite our membership for a movement for such an enterprise.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be adopted.

Unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 127.

Introduced by Delegations of Locals No. 64 and No. 58.

Whereas, In a number of shops controlled by the International Union where military garments are made, the buttonhole makers employed in these shops are not members of the Union; and

Whereas, These buttonhole makers are compelled to work for sub-contractors for miserable wages; be it

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to see to it that in all such shops only buttonhole makers belonging to Locals No. 64 and No. 58 be employed; sub-contractors be abolished and the buttonhole machinery be supplied by the manufacturers.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in.

Unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 116.

Introduced by Mollie Friedman, Local No. 25; Rose Weiss, No. 106; Sarah Shapiro, No. 25; A. Litvakoff, No. 25; A. Crivolo, No. 25; Frank Magnavita, No. 80; Hyman Hurwitz; J. H. Beatson; B. Kurland, No. 73; Max Margulies, No. 10; Albert Lazarus, No. 10; Joe Fish, No. 10; Sidney Rothenberg, No. 10; Maud Foley, No. 49; A. Thomas, No. 49.

Whereas, The sinister forces of Big Business have subverted popular Government in the state of California; and

Whereas, Through this subversion the Courts of California have sentenced Warren K. Billings to life imprisonment and Tom Mooney to be hanged by the neck; and
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Whereas, Ed. Nolan, Israel Weinberg and Rena Mooney are still awaiting sentences; and

Whereas, the Chief Executive of the United States, President Woodrow Wilson, has through a Commission by him appointed, investigated this Labor Case and found that Tom Mooney and his co-defendants were persecuted and prosecuted for no other reason than that through their activities in the Labor Movement in California they had incurred the hatred of the Capitalistic Corporations of that state; and

Whereas, After the interceding by the President, the Governor of California still refuses to give Tom Mooney a new trial; and

Whereas, The evidence produced at the trials and by the prosecution has been proven to the satisfaction of the I. L. G. W. U. perjured and false;

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of the I. L. G. W. U. perjured and false;

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of the I. L. G. W. U., in convention assembled, do hereby protest and go on record as being opposed to the manner in which Tom Mooney's trial has been conducted and therefore demand for the defendants in this as well as in other Labor Cases where men have been framed up for their work, in behalf of the Working Class, a new trial; and

Be it resolved, That a copy of this our protest and resolution be forwarded to President Wilson, and another to Governor Stephens of California; and

Be it further resolved, That our International should instruct all locals affiliated to engage in more active agitation for the liberation of Tom Mooney and co-defendants so that they may return to our ranks and help us realize our great Ideal, the EMANCIPATION OF THE WORKING CLASS.

This resolution deals with the same subject matter as Resolution No. 66 which was already concurred in by this assembly. Your committee, therefore, recommends that the named of the co-defendants of Tom Mooney be included in that resolution, and we further recommend that in view of the fact that Brother Mooney has been re-sentenced to die, that this Convention send a telegram to President Woodrow Wilson, urging him to exert his influence on the Governor of the State of California to the end that Brother Mooney receive executive clemency.

The recommendation of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 144.

Introduced by John F. Pierce, No. 34; Issodore Epstein, No. 10; Anna Cavanagh, No. 40; Minnie White, No. 40; May Hatchford, No. 23; S. Metz, No. 17; Max Margulies, No. 10; Joe Fist, No. 10; A. Lazarus, No. 10; Charles Stein, No. 10; Samuel Otto, No. 10; Max Gar, No. 53; George Rubin, No. 2.

Whereas, The courts of California have seen fit to re-sentence Tom Mooney to be hanged, after a denial by the Supreme Court of California for a new trial, and

Whereas, We as members of the I. L. G. W. U. are convinced that Tom Mooney did not receive a fair trial, and

Whereas, We as Union men and women feel that the hanging of Tom Mooney will be a blow to organized labor, instigated by the corporations and traction magnates of San Francisco, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention appoint a committee to cooperate and assist any committee appointed by any organization whose purpose shall be the freedom of Tom Mooney.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board for action.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 141.

Introduced by delegates of Local No. 15.
Whereas, The New York Call, the valiant and fearless champion of the interests of the working class, founded and supported by the workers, has during the ten years of its existence defended and fought our battles loyally and faithfully, and

Whereas, In its daily struggle to exist and live in order to fight for us, the Call was always opposed bitterly by the enemies of organized labor and by the master class who feared the powerful rays of light and truth spread by the Call among the toiling masses of this country, and

Whereas, The Call, has with the hearty support of the class-conscious workers of the East, succeeded in gaining a large reading public and in establishing itself on a tolerably paying financial basis, until the recent abnormal conditions of the country were utilized by the enemies of trade unionism and Socialism to strike at it a hard blow which materially affected it financially, be it therefore

Resolved, That this 14th Biennial Convention of the L L. O. W. U. places itself on record, as in past years, as a staunch supporter of the New York Call, in its present time of stress and hardship, and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention authorizes the incoming G. E. B. to subscribe a sum of $1000 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association, to help it to tide over the present unusually difficult situation.

Your committee recommends that this Convention subscribes $500 to the loan bond issue of the Call Association.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 142.

Introduced by Chas. Stein, Delegate of Local No. 13.

Whereas, The Inter-Allied Labor Conference held at Nottingham, England in 1918 adopted a program of peace and social reconstruction after the termination of this war, which vitally affects the interests of the peoples in general, and of the working class in particular; and

Whereas, The I. L. G. W. U., being part and parcel of the progressive labor movement of the world, is deems that its membership be conversant with the contents of said document, be it therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, Mass., instruct the incoming G. E. B. to issue the Nottingham program in pamphlet form, in the several languages accessible to our membership, for distribution among them.

Your committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 143.

Introduced by Isadore Epstein, Local No. 10 and Salvatore Nino, Local No. 48.

Whereas, The sergeants at arms of this convention are discharging their duties loyally, energetically and successfully, be it therefore

Resolved, That this convention present each of them with a gold fob made in the style of the badges of the delegates to this convention.

Your committee recommends the concurrence of this resolution with the following amendment: That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to carry out this decision.

The report of the committee with its amendment was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 80.

Introduced by Mollie Friedman and I. Horowitz, Local No. 25; M. Sirota and Harry Greenberg, No. 50; Fannie M. Cohn, No. 72; and Mollie Moliot, No. 90.

WHEREAS, many workers are being ar-
rested and imprisoned under the Espionage Act for exercising their constitutional right of free speech, free press and free assembly, and,

WHEREAS, the Liberty Defense Union has been organized by radicals and liberals for the purpose of giving aid and financial support to insure a fair trial for these cases, and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Defense Union is non-partisan, non-political, non-sectarian; it takes no stand on militarism, pacifism and undertakes to define only cases involving rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and,

WHEREAS, many of the cases now in the hands of the Liberty Defense Union have been instituted because of the economic views of the accused and their participation assembled at Boston hereby in the activities of Labor Movement, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union in convention assembled at Boston hereby pledges its moral and financial support to the Liberty Defense Union and urges its Local Organization to do likewise, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of $100.00 be appropriated by this Convention for the use of the Liberty Defense Union in order that a proper defense may be given to all the defendants and that the Constitutional rights of free speech, free press and free assembly may be upheld and maintained during war time as well as in times of peace.

Your committee recommends to substitute the word “People” for “workers” in the first WHEREAS, and the concurrence in the resolution as amended.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Pres. Schlesinger: We will now take up the special order of business for this afternoon, but before doing it, inasmuch as it is the report of the activities of the General Executive Board, I would like to see the entire Board on the platform.

The entire General Executive Board thereupon marched up to the platform and seated themselves in a half circle around its Chairman.

Delegate Sigman of Local 35, delivered the following report for the Committee on Officers Report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union in convention assembled at Boston hereby in the activities of Labor Movement, therefore,

The report of the committee was adopted.
operation of the heatless Monday order for the ladies' garment shops through the entire East—an exemption which enabled the members of our organizations to work full weeks, in preference to all other industries, during the height of our season. This exemption demonstrated to us and to the rest of the world the power of our organization and the ability of its leadership.

Another fact which deserves mention is the successful effort of our International to induce the War Department to award contracts on military garments among the ladies' garment shops of New York City and elsewhere, particularly during the slack period of the year, when thousands of our members are undergoing privation on account of unemployment.

In line with these achievements, we also wish to praise the commendable efforts of our President in having enlisted the able and brilliant services of that distinguished jurist, Judge Julian W. Mack of Chicago, and other well known public men, such as Prof. W. Z. Ripley of Harvard, Mr. Stanley King, etc., who have acted as arbitrators in a number of disputes with our employers in the cities of Chicago, Boston and New York, and whose decisions were most fair and just to the interests of our members.

We must also mention the splendid results our International has accomplished in its appeal for relief for the European sufferers. The $150,000.00 which was raised for that purpose is an additional illustration of the remarkable state of loyalty and responsiveness on the part of our members, despite the fact that every cent counts big with our workers under the present abnormal high cost of living. We also want to comment favorably on the fact that our International Union purchased $100,000.00 worth of bonds of the Third Liberty Loan.

The increases obtained in the New York cloak, suit, waist and dress, and other industries of our International Union, in response to the demand on the part of the weak workers as well as the piece workers engaged in these industries, was a commendable achievement, particularly when taken into consideration that this victory was achieved without any sacrifice on the part of our members, who were peacefully working in the shops during our conferences with the employers. These gains must frankly be attributed to the able leadership of our President, and the brilliant counsel of our friend and comrade, Morris Hillquit.

THE LOCAL NO. 1 SITUATION

The manner and method in which the General Executive Board met the serious attempt on the part of some unscrupulous elements within our Union to destroy one of the largest and strongest local unions of our International—Local No. 1—must receive our heartfelt commendation and praise. We believe that the unflinching stand of the General Executive Board will once for all discourage similar attempts on the part of any selfish mischief makers in our ranks in the future.

THE LOCAL NO. 17 QUESTION.

This Committee, after a good deal of deliberation, came to the conclusion that we approve of the action of the General Executive Board, as far as its temporary arrangement with regard to Local No. 17, is concerned. As this question now is in the hands of the Committee on Appeals and Adjustments, we trust that this Convention will work out an equitable solution of this problem.

THE SITUATION IN OUR BOSTON Locals.

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation and approval of the splendid manner in which the acute situation in the Boston cloak and skirt locals was handled by the General Executive Board, in the early part of 1917.

According to the Officers' Report, there still seems to be a good deal of dissension between the Boston cloak locals and the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 48, which puts this latter local at considerable disadvantage upon many occasions.

The Committee hopes that the Boston locals will, for the good of all concerned, put an end to this discord and will establish harmony and cooperation among our members in that city.
THE LOCAL NO. 25 SITUATION.

The Committee has decided to commend the action of President Schlesinger and General Secretary Haroff for their efforts in bringing about good feeling among the various elements in that organization, and we heartily recommend to the incoming General Executive Board to continue to exert its influence in that direction. We wish at this juncture to commend the action taken by Local No. 25 in dispensing with the services of their ex-chief clerk, Mr. Bisno, which has probably spared this organization from considerable unpleasant consequences.

The last two years have recorded considerable gains for the membership of Local No. 25. In the early part of 1917 a new agreement with the employers was signed for a period of two years, with a substantial increase, and another increase was obtained in 1918 through means of negotiations conducted by the officers of the International Union, in conjunction with the officers of Local No. 25.

LOCALS NOS. 62 AND 41, NEW YORK.

The Committee commends the activities of the General Executive Board for having succeeded in improving the conditions of the members of these organizations and gaining substantial raises in their earnings, in cooperation with their officials.

THE WATERPROOF GARMENT LOCALS.

The Committee decided to commend the good work done by these organizations in conjunction with the General Executive Board. We wish particularly to mention the splendid activities of President Schlesinger, under whose guidance all friction which had been existing in some of these organizations for some time, was eliminated, and solid and compact organizations established.

The remarkable results achieved in the arbitration work on the army slicker manufactured in this trade, through the efforts of President Schlesinger, are of exceptional worth and quality, and deserve particular commendation.

LOCAL NO. 66, BONNAZ EMBROIDERERS

The Committee wishes to express its praise for the splendid gains and good working conditions established by this local and its officers, with the assistance of the General Executive Board.

WEEK WORK.

Our Committee has also gone into the matter of introducing week work in the entire ladies' garment industry. We wish to express our gratitude to the General Executive Board for recommending the adoption of week work for the solution of a great number of evils existing in our trades.

We also wish to commend to this Convention the work done by President Schlesinger in this respect, who has written a number of articles and pamphlets in favor of week work, which, in our opinion, have contributed a great deal toward the change of mind of our members with regard to this question and in favor of the establishment of week work in our industry.

As to the relations existing between our International and the various manufacturers' associations, we wish to state that it appears from the report of the General Executive Board that our employers have learned that it is a costly proposition to oppose our organization, and have apparently adapted themselves to conciliatory policies in their relations with our International Union, in a majority of cases.

It is worthy of mention that our General Executive Board has supported quite actively working class political campaigns. The election of working class representatives to legislatures means a striking gain for the interests of our members and of the working class as a whole.

We wish to mention the fact that our General Executive Board was always on guard whenever any question of labor legislation affecting the interests of the workers, was pending, and that they never failed to have a representative of the International Union at the proper time, to participate in
hearings, for or against such legislation, as the occasion required.

THE PHILADELPHIA SITUATION.

The Committee notes with pleasure the fact that the efforts of our President and of our General Executive Board have been considerably instrumental in retaining and improving the working standards of our members in the Philadelphia cloak and dress industries.

The splendid achievements accomplished by the Philadelphia Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 15, are particularly praiseworthy. The organization and educational work of this local are remarkably well conducted under the able management of Brother Abraham Silver, and are worthy of emulation.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONVENTION.

THE SITUATION IN CANADA.

Your Committee, after thorough deliberation, has decided to approve of the activities of the General Executive Board in Montreal and Toronto. We have also decided to recommend to the incoming General Executive Board to continue with the organizing work in Montreal, as outlined in the Officers' Report. At this juncture we wish to suggest that it is not advisable, as proven by the results of the Montreal strike, to change leadership of a strike while it is in progress, although it may in some cases be inevitable, as in that situation.

Upon motion the report of the committee was adopted.

THE SITUATION IN CLEVELAND.

This Committee, after carefully going through the report of the General Executive Board, has decided to commend the tactful method in which the difficult Cleveland situation has been handled by the General Executive Board.

Realizing that Cleveland, as an unorganized center, is a great and serious menace to the workers in the cloak, suit and skirt industries of other cities, we recommend:

1. That the General Executive Board inaugurates, immediately after the adjournment of this Convention, an energetic campaign to organize the workers in the cloak, suit and skirt industry of that city.

2. That the President of the I. L. G. W. U. should make every endeavor, by peaceful negotiations with the employers of that city, to establish in their shops and factories collective bargaining and reasonable conditions of employment and labor.

3. Should the Cleveland manufacturers refuse to redress the just grievances of their workers, either through peaceful negotiation or arbitration, the General Executive Board shall call a general strike in the cloak, suit and skirt industry of that city, after the workers will have shown their readiness for such a strike through a vote.

4. That a tax of $1.00 be levied upon the members of the I. L. G. W. U. for the successful conduct of the strike, in case such a strike is decided upon.

In speaking of Cleveland we cannot refrain from mentioning with praise the steady activities of Vice-President Perlstein, who has been there for a number of years and who has done his utmost, under the immediate supervision of President Schlesinger, to keep the local organization alive.

Upon motion the report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

LOCAL NO. 100, CHICAGO.

The Committee has considered this situation and gave a hearing to the delegates of that local.

We decided to recommend to this Convention that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to inaugurate an organizing campaign, and, if necessary, to again call a strike in that industry at the first opportune time. While at this juncture, we also wish to recommend that sim-
iliar campaigns be conducted in all the cities where waists and dresses are manufactured and where organization work is required, as in Newark, N. J., St. Louis, and elsewhere.

Delegate Miss Yanowitz: Since this question came up I would like to state to the delegates—I won't go into detail, because the report of the officers has very ably done so—but I wish to say that we had a strike in Chicago last year. We conducted it in a very nice way—in a way which very much surprised the Chicago manufacturers. As you all know, we had an injunction issued against us, but with the help of the International organization we were able to conduct a strike in spite of that fact. Before we came to this convention we had a meeting of our members, and our members all voted in the different shops that now is the opportune time to ask the bosses to grant us better conditions, and I am sure that the bosses after having ten weeks' strike and after having so much expense, will grant us the conditions we ask without even the necessity of a strike. But if a strike is necessary, the workers are determined to strike to get the conditions that we are entitled to. (Tremendous applause.)

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

THE BALTIMORE LOCALS.

The Committee, after a lengthy discussion, came to the conclusion that the ladies' garment shops in that city are tending to become a competitive factor with other cities where we have strongly organized local unions.

We recommend, therefore, that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to continue to conduct a vigorous organizing campaign among the workers of the City of Baltimore, as outlined in the Officers' Report, primarily for the purpose of improving their conditions, and secondarily, in order to prevent the demoralizing influence which their unorganized state may have upon our organization in general.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

LOCAL NO. 90, NEW YORK.

The Committee decided to approve of the action of the General Executive Board and recommends that the good organization work in that trade be continued by the incoming General Executive Board.

Upon motion the report of the committee was adopted.

WORCESTER AND HARTFORD LOCALS.

The Committee went over this matter thoroughly, and decided that the General Executive Board be instructed to conduct an organizing campaign in these localities if, in its judgment, a lively response on the part of the workers in these cities will warrant this activity. We also commend the General Executive Board for the work already done in these cities.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

THE LADIES' TAILORS LOCALS.

The Committee feels greatly gratified with the situation in the ladies' tailors trade in the City of New York, which had for some time been one of the troublesome and hopeless parts of the International. It was due to the activities of the General Executive Board, and particularly to the efforts of Vice-President Lefkovits, that a new page has been turned over in the history of the ladies' tailors of New York City.

At present there are arrangements pending for the amalgamation of Local No. 2, the sample tailors, with Local No. 80. We hope that this unification of forces will take place as soon as possible.

We also wish to recommend to this Convention to instruct the incoming General Executive Board to use all efforts to organize the ladies' tailors of Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia, and to commend their past efforts in that behalf.

The report of the committee was adopted.

At this point Delegate Finkelstein relieved Delegate Sigman and continued reading the report.

THE ST. LOUIS SITUATION.

This situation was thoroughly discussed.
by the Committee, and it was decided that
we approve of the work done by the General
Executive Board.

We recommend to this Convention that
the incoming General Executive Board be
authorized to engage such organizing forces
for that locality which may be required, in
its discretion, in order to unionize the
women workers in that city and to carry
out the recommendations made by the Gen-
eral Executive Board in its report to this
Convention. The work and attention given
by the General Executive Board to our west-
ern locals is regarded by this Committee as
being satisfactory and should be continued
in the future.

The recommendation of the committee
was adopted.

THE CORSET WORKS INDUSTRY.

The Committee considered this situation
at length, and decided to approve the work
done in that direction, under the present
conditions, and to instruct the incoming Gen-
eral Executive Board to continue organizing
work in that industry in the East as well
as in the middle West, where large shops of
this trade are situated, to the best of its
ability.

The recommendation of the committee
was adopted.

THE SITUATION IN LOCAL NO. 60,
NEW YORK.

The Committee has considered the situa-
tion prevailing in that local, and after a
hearing given to the delegation of Local No.
50, came to the conclusion to recommend to
this Convention that the incoming General
Executive Board re-investigate in full the
controversy within that organization imme-
diately after the adjournment of this Con-
vention. We have examined the records of
the investigation and the decision rendered
by the committee appointed by the General
Executive Board a short time ago, and we
came to the conclusion that this investiga-
tion was of a superficial nature and did not
eradicate the cause of disturbance within
that local.

We recommend, therefore, that radical
steps be taken to eliminate all causes re-
sponsible for that situation, as it seems to
the Committee that the origin of that trou-
ble is of a petty and trivial nature, which
unnecessarily occupies the minds of some
of the responsible officials in that organiza-
tion.

The report of the committee was
adopted.

LOCAL NO. 11, BROWNSVILLE.

The Committee has considered the case
of this local, and has decided to recommend
to this Convention that this local imme-
diately surrender its charter of incorpora-
tion, and that the General Executive Board
is instructed not to tolerate the incorporation
of any local of the I. L. G. W. U. hereafter,
and that the violation of this provision
should be punished with expulsion from the
International Union.

Delegate Stein: At the morning ses-
sion we adopted a law which makes
it obligatory on the part of the Gen-
eral Executive Board to automatically
expel a local in such a case unless they sur-
rendered their charter. In the recommen-
dation of the committee they insert the
phrase "if necessary," thus leaving it to the
discretion of the General Executive Board.
I therefore amend it to drop out the phrase
"if necessary."

The report of the committee as amended
was unanimously adopted.

THE TOLEDO CLOAK LOCALS.

The activities of the General Executive
Board in strengthening our local unions in
such localities as Toledo and Louisville, are
very commendable. It is evident that the
localities in order to make the industry less
cloak firms of this country are now spread-
ing out and establishing factories in smaller
localities in order to make the industry less
concentrated, and, probably, to divide our
forces. Our steady organizing activity will
result in a check on such disintegrating
work on the part of the manufacturers. We
recommend to this Convention that such
organizing work be continued by the incom-
ing General Executive Board.
THE FAR WESTERN LOCALS.

After considering this matter carefully, the Committee decided to recommend to this Convention that the Incoming General Executive Board be instructed to renew organizing activities, in those localities, to rehabilitate the locals in those sections.

Unanimously adopted.

Your Committee has, in going over the Officers' Report, discussed the question of relief for the war sufferers, which we have already mentioned at the outset, and we wish to ask this Convention to express its thanks and appreciation to Messrs. Jacob Schiff and Louis Marshall, of New York, also the People's Relief Committee, for the co-operation they rendered our officers in order to make that campaign a success.

Unanimously carried.

Your Committee has considered the proposal recommended by the Officers' Report, for the introduction of death benefit for the male members of the I. L. O. W. U. We are hampered in stating our opinion on this matter by lack of research and facts on this very important and complicated matter, but we welcome the introduction of this idea, which, if practicable and if adopted, will surely tend to strengthen the ties which are connecting our members with our International Union.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

We have taken up the proposal of establishing a Statistical Department in the General Office of our International Union, and we decided to recommend to this Convention that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to provide immediately after the adjournment of this Convention for the introduction of this reform. A statistical bureau in our International Union will, in our opinion, be of great permanent value to our membership.

The report of the committee was adopted.

The educational work conducted by the General Executive Board is worthy of commendation by this Convention. The Committee, however, is of the opinion that although the results obtained may not be as large as expected, that this work be continued in a systematic and vigorous manner, under the full supervision and direction of the General Executive Board. Education is the only weapon that we can rely upon for the strengthening of our organization and for the betterment of the conditions of our members.

Unanimously carried.

Your Committee has considered the proposal recommended by the Officers' Report, for the introduction of death benefit for the male members of the I. L. O. W. U. We are hampered in stating our opinion on this matter by lack of research and facts on this very important and complicated matter, but we welcome the introduction of this idea, which, if practicable and if adopted, will surely tend to strengthen the ties which are connecting our members with our International Union.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

This committee also wishes to express its appreciation for the work done by the Office Manager of the International Union, Brother Max D. Danish, who has largely contributed to the satisfactory work of the office; to our ex-auditor Mr. Ben. M. Rabinovitch, who recently enlisted in the United States Army, and to the managing editor of the "Ladies' Garment Worker", Mr. A. Rosenthal, who has contributed his best toward the education and enlightenment of our members.

We recommend that this Convention extend to them a vote of thanks for their good and faithful services.

Pres. Schlesinger: The only one present at this convention is Brother Danish. Mr. Rabinovitch has enlisted, as you heard from the report of the Committee, and the editor is in New York. He was invited...
to come to this convention, but his duties prevented his coming.

In order to express our appreciation I think it would be no more than proper that we vote upon this by a rising vote.

Everybody rose and unanimously adopted the report of the committee, heartily applauding.

Your committee expresses its appreciation with the activities of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt and Waist and Dress trades of the City of New York, particularly for the establishment of the dental clinic where our members are being treated at moderate cost.

The report of the committee was adopted.

We also wish to mention the fact that our members have been persecuted during strikes in various cities, particularly in Chicago and Philadelphia, where judges have issued injunctions prohibiting our members from peaceful picketing and from communicating with strikers.

We recommend, therefore, that this Convention instructs our delegates to the next convention of the A. F. of L. that a firm stand be taken against such abuses of the rights and privileges of our members as citizens of this country.

At this juncture, we also wish to recommend that our delegates to the American Federation of Labor again introduce a resolution for a garment trades department in the A. F. of L., as we believe that it is essential and important for the welfare of our membership.

While speaking of the conventions of the A. F. of L., we wish to express our hearty appreciation for the stand taken by our delegation at its conventions, as exemplified by the resolutions introduced by them.

Unanimously adopted.

At this point Delegate Silver continued the report.

Del. Sigman: We forgot to comment on one item in the report of the General Executive Board: the Cincinnati Cloak and Skirt makers. The Cincinnati delegates here are well aware of the conditions prevailing in that city. Cincinnati has always had a fair organization in the cloak and suit line, but we never could get that city completely organized, particularly in the cutting branch.

The cutters in the biggest shop in that city could never be induced to join the organization. But since the Philadelphia convention a strike had been called there, and the result was a 100 per cent union. The strike was conducted by Brother Lefkowitz, with the assistance of the General Executive Board and the General Officers. I make this statement just to have this on record. It is quite an accomplishment, and we should be proud of it.

Delegate Silver stated that they had several resolutions, but as these resolutions had all been covered in the report of officers and already been acted upon, they would not have to be again acted upon. He then proceeded to read the following resolutions:

Resolution No. 2

Introduced by delegates S. H. Schoenberg and Morris Greifer, Local No. 82.

Whereas, There exists in New York a local of the International called the Examiners, Begraders and Bushelers Union, Local No. 82, that is affiliated with the International since May 15, 1917, the day that a charter was granted to the above mentioned organization, and

Whereas, The purpose of the Examiners, Begraders and Bushelers Union, Local No. 82 is to organize all the above mentioned crafts employed in the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' industry of New York, and

Whereas, Since organized we have applied several times for affiliation with the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, and

Whereas, The Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, refused our request, which is a strict violation of article 12, section 3 and 4 of the constitution of the I. L. G. W. U., which strictly provides for all locals of the same industry in the same city to form and be affiliated in a Joint Board. Be it therefore,

Resolved, that the 14th Biennial Conven-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

tion of the I. L. G. W. U., order the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union of New York, to accept the application for affiliation to that body, of the Examiners, Begrades and Bushelers' Union, Local No. 82, within thirty (30) days after the Convention.

Your committee did not think it advisable to act upon this resolution, as it saw no reason for it, after the Officers Report has stated that the New York Joint Board is considering at present the application of Local 82 for affiliation.

Delegate Schoenberg strongly opposed this report, stating that in the first place his delegation had been denied the opportunity to appear before the committee on Officers' Report, and in the second place that his local was entitled to either an organizer, or affiliation with the Joint Board. Otherwise his local would be broken up.

Delegate Sigman stated that this matter was under consideration by the General Executive Board, and that no doubt in a short time a place would be given in the Joint Board to this local.

Del. Metz asked the delegate of Local 82 the date of the application made to the Joint Board to which delegate Schoenberg replied:

July 22, 1917, the first time. Again January 6, this year, and since January 6th to about 4 or 5 times.

Delegate Nisnevitz spoke in favor of Local 82 becoming part of the Joint Board.

Delegate Finkelstein stated that this was a question in which we ought not interfere, and offered an amendment that the incoming General Executive Board should instruct the incoming General Executive Board to see that the New York Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union takes that local into their midst, as provided by the constitution.

Delegate Haskin stated that it was impossible for the convention to make an investigation into the circumstances of the case, and argued that the Joint Board is the only authority to judge after making an investigation.

Delegate Miss Friedman offered the following substitute: The Joint Board should take in Local 83 within 30 days, and should they fail to do so, the General Executive Board should immediately act upon it.

The substitute was seconded and adopted.

Resolution No. 6.

Introduced by Miss C. Samarodin and Fannie M. Cohn, Local No. 72.

Whereas, The numerous trades controlled by our International Union are complicated by the very character of the ladies' garment industry, being seasonal and having many varieties of styles, and

Whereas, Because of these facts it is very often necessary to submit demands for increases in earnings and decrease of working hours to impartial arbitrators, and

Whereas, Such arbitrators are to be guided in their decisions by statistical data, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the L. L. G. W. U., assembled in Boston, instructs the incoming General Executive Board to establish a statistical department within the International Union.

This resolution has been acted upon earlier in this report, and a recommendation made upon it.

This report was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 12.

This resolution was later withdrawn by the introducer, and therefore was not acted upon.

The report of the committee was adopted.
Resolution No. 21.

Introduced by Rose Weiss, Local No. 100; H. Schoolman, Chicago Joint Board; A. Gold, Local No. 44; M. Tannovitz, J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; J. H. Plotkin, Local No. 71; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18.

Whereas, Our trade in Chicago is still unorganized, despite the heroic efforts made in the winter of 1917; and

Whereas, The conditions prevailing in the waist, dress, skirt and white goods industry are still such as to undermine conditions in organized cities; and

Whereas, It is our conviction that the sentiment among the workers in our industry is ripe for new action; be it, therefore

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Convention of the L. L. G. W. U. empower the General Executive Board to start a general campaign for organization, and call a general strike if necessary.

This resolution has been acted upon earlier in this report, and a recommendation made upon it.

The report was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 33.

Introduced by: Vice-President Max Amdur, delegate of Local No. 2.

Whereas, Two members of Local No. 2, Joseph Beaver and Chas. Schwartz, were sentenced three years ago for a term of three years in jail for participating in the general strike of the cloakmakers in Philadelphia in 1913, which term is about to end within the next few weeks; and

Whereas, During the last three years the Philadelphia Joint Board has assumed the financial burden of supporting these men and their families; and

Whereas, It is quite apparent that upon gaining their freedom these men will not be able to go to work at once to support themselves and their families; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention assist these two members of our Union with a certain sum of money, to enable them to maintain an existence until they are able to become self-supporting.

Your Committee recommends to refer the subject matter of this resolution to the incoming General Executive Board for consideration.

The report was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 48.

Introduced by the delegations of Montreal and Toronto, and Brothers S. Lefkovits, J. Halpern and Max Amdur.

Whereas, The general strike of the cloakmakers of Montreal, which was called by the order of the General Executive Board in January, 1917, ended after a very severe struggle lasting for, ten weeks, unfavorably for the workers of Montreal; and

Whereas, Before that strike the cloakmakers of Montreal could boast of an organization that had in its ranks ninety-five per cent. of the workers of the entire trade, and owing to the unfavorable ending of the strike this membership has fallen away to a great extent; and

Whereas, The General Executive Board, having taken the Montreal situation into consideration, decided to start a campaign to reorganize the cloakmakers of that city; and

Whereas, The O. E. B. started a campaign in Montreal in April, 1918, by sending Vice-President Lefkovits to manage the agitation in said city, which is already bringing good results; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention takes these facts into consideration and instructs the incoming G. E. B. to continue the or-
organizing campaign already on the way in Montreal, until it meets with full success.

Your Committee recommends that the words, "which was called by the order of the General Executive Board", be stricken out.

The subject matter of the resolution was acted upon earlier in this report, and a recommendation made upon it.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 43.

Introduced by: Ben. Gilbert, delegate of Local No. 78.

Whereas, There are a great number of unorganized women in the skirt, waist and dress industries in the city of St. Louis, Mo.; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention instructs the incoming General Executive Board to appoint a woman organizer for the city of St. Louis to carry on effective organizing agitation among them.

This resolution was acted upon earlier in this report, and a recommendation made upon it.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 50.

Introduced by: M. Perlstein, Local No. 63; D. Solomon, Local No. 26; J. Farris, Local No. 26; C. Kreindler, Joint Board of Cleveland; H. Schoolman, Joint Board of Chicago; B. Gilbert, Local No. 78; C. Green, Local No. 63; F. Nemerofsky and Ida Renner, Local No. 63; L. Friend and W. Fjaum, Local No. 67; L. Langer, New York Joint Board; Meyer Weinstain, Local No. 23; A. Gold, Local No. 44; O. H. Nudelman, Local No. 44; J. H. Plotkin, Local No. 71; J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; D. Axelrod, Local No. 18; J. Menke, Local No. 81; A. J. Miller, Local No. 81; Mollie Yanowitz, Local No. 100; William Bloom, Local No. 1; D. Kurland, Local No. 78; Morris Levine, Local No. 2; Ph. Kaplanowit, Local No. 1; A. Silver, Local No. 18; M. Weiner, Local No. 2; M. Kuschnier, Local No. 9; and H. Schuster, Local No. 9.

Whereas, The cloakmakers of Cleveland are still working longer hours and are receiving lower wages than the cloakmakers in other cities; and

Whereas, An agitation has been conducted in Cleveland for the last four years to organize the cloakmakers; and

Whereas, After many difficulties and expenses, the workers of the different shops at different times did organize and elect committees in order to reach some understanding with their employers, and have met, not only with the refusal of the employers to meet them, but in many instances these committees were discharged and blacklisted and forced to leave the city on this account; and

Whereas, All those who have worked to organize the cloakmakers and the workers themselves, came to the conclusion that the only way to improve conditions and to establish a permanent organization in that city is through a general struggle in the cloak and skirt trades in the city of Cleveland and vicinity; and

Whereas, It has also been proven that through peaceful methods and individual shop strikes these aims could not be accomplished; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention endorses a general strike in the cloak and skirt trades in Cleveland and instructs the incoming G. E. B. to begin preparations for one at once; and be it further

Resolved, That in order to be able to carry through financially the above mentioned general strike, that all the members of the I. L. G. W. U. be assessed with $1.00 for this purpose.

This resolution was acted upon earlier in this report, and a recommendation made upon it.
The report of the committee was adopted.

In conclusion, your Committee wishes to express its unanimous and unqualified appreciation of the splendid work accomplished by the General Executive Board in every branch of our industry—the organization, agitation and the education of our workers, which has been constantly before the eyes of our general officers in all their activities. The thanks of this Convention are particularly due for the spread of the ideas of education among our members, as exemplified by the establishment of unity centers and unity houses in a number of our locals.

This Committee recommends that this Convention appropriates a sum of money, and authorizes this committee to obtain and present President Benjamin Schlesinger, General Secretary Baroff and the members of the General Executive Board with tokens of appreciation for the excellent achievements of the last administration for the good and welfare of our members.

Unanimously carried. (Tremendous applause, everybody rising.)

This concludes the report of the Committee on Officers' Report.

Fraternally submitted,

MORRIS SIGMAN, Chairman
MAX FINKELSTEIN, Sec'y
I. FEINBERG
MAX GORENSTEIN
ABRAHAM SILVER
MEYER WEINSTEIN
M. GUSSMAN
HENRY ZUCKER
SAMUEL JACOBSON
BECKIE STEIN
CHARLES GREEN

Upon motion, the report of the Committee as amended was adopted as a whole.

Delegate Heller called attention to a slight correction on Page 37 of the G. E. B. Report, stating that in the various items given under the caption Income, the name "New York Joint Board, Cloakmakers' Union" appears. He claimed this should read: "New York Joint Board, Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers."

Pres. Schlesinger: The Chair desires to state that in the final printing of the minutes this caption will read as Delegate Heller requests.

Vice President Amdur: In behalf of the General Executive Board, I desire to express our thanks and appreciation for the good and energetic work that has been done and accomplished by our worthy President, Brother Benjamin Schlesinger (deafening applause), and also by our worthy General Secretary-Treasurer, Brother Abraham Baroff (great applause.)

I want to say it is the first time in our history, as far as I can remember, that the General Executive Board should come to the convention as a whole in the very same number, with the very same persons as they were elected at the previous conventions. I say it is the first time. I claim it is due first of all because the work of this General Executive Board, together with our General Officers, has been too good—it has been too great, that anyone of us should want to go away. (Applause.) Secondly, it is also due to the congenial friendship that has existed among us—among the members of the General Executive Board, and also between our officers.

I will therefore take the great pleasure in presenting our worthy Brother President in the name of the General Executive Board with a locket and diamond inserted in it, as a token of appreciation for our working together, and I will also express the wish that we all work together for the next coming term.

(Vice President Amdur received an ovation, everybody rising and vigorously applauding for several minutes.)

Delegate Amdur (continued):

I also take great pleasure in presenting our worthy Secretary, Brother Abraham Baroff, with this excellent handbag, with a toilet set in it, and I hope and express the wish that he will stay with us in the future.
and work with us as he worked in the past.

(Secretary Baroff received an ovation, everybody rising and applauding.)

Del. Kaplowits: In view of the adoption of a motion of the Committee on Officers' Report that a token of thanks be presented to the General Officers and the General Executive Board, I wish to move that $500.00 be awarded for this expression of thanks.

Pres. Schlesinger: The motion will not be entertained.

Del. Langer moved that a committee be appointed and that the amount to be spent be left to the discretion of the committee.

The motion was seconded.

Delegate Miss Friedman moved as a substitute that the Officers' Committee shall be requested to purchase whatever they see fit for the General Executive Board.

Del. Silver called the attention of the delegates to the fact that the recommendation of the committee was that the committee be instructed by this convention to so act, and it was unanimously adopted.

Pres. Schlesinger: The motion is therefore unnecessary.

The session adjourned at 5:30 P. M. to reconvene at 9:30 A. M. the following morning.

---

ELEVENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Friday, May 31, 1918.

The convention was called to order at 9:30 A. M.—President Schlesinger in the chair.


Telegram.

Secretary Baroff read the following telegram:


Two thousand members of our local, assembled at a general meeting in the Labor Temple, Thursday, May 30, have unanimously decided to ask the convention to instruct the incoming General Executive Board to take up immediately upon the adjourning of the convention, the proposed increase of wages and to extend to the New York Joint Board its fullest support to obtain that increase as soon as possible.

Cloak, Skirt and Dress Pressers' Union, Local 35, I. L. G. W. U

J. Breslaver, Mgr.

Delegate Lefkovitz continued the report of the Organization Committee as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

Resolution No. 1

Introduced by delegates S. H. Schoenberg and Morris Greifer, Local No. 32.

Whereas, We the Examiners, Bagraders and Bushelers of the Cloak, Skirt and Refiner Industry were granted a charter by the I. L. G. W. U., on the 15th of May, 1917 and

Whereas, For a year's time we have organized more than three hundred (300) examiners and bushelers without the aid of either the International or the Joint Board, and

Whereas, If the said bodies would interest themselves in giving us the support which is necessary to organize the four thousand (4000) of the above mentioned workers during the past year, we are positively sure that a greater number of the four thousand (4000) examiners, bagraders' and bushelers of the City of New York would now be members of our Local No. 32, and

Whereas, In the shops controlled by our
Local, the members are working under absolute Union conditions, as in all the respective locals of the International, and

Whereas, An increase of wages on the average of $3.00 for an Examiner and $5.00 for a Busheler was obtained during the past years in the organized shops, be it therefore

Resolved, That we, the Examiners, Begraders and Busheler's Union Local No. 83 are asking the support of the International to send an organizer to help our officers organize the entire trade which will surely form a big local.

After waiting for the Committee on Officers' Report, we came to the conclusion to recommend against the adoption of this resolution for the following reasons: Being it was decided by this convention that the Examiners, Bushelers and Begraders be taken into the Joint Board within 30 days after this convention, and as the Joint Board controls every shop in the City of New York where examiners and begraders are working, we are of the opinion that the Joint Board will be more able to do the job better than any outside organization.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Delegate Lefkovits: This concludes the report of the committee.

Fraternally submitted,

Samuel Lefkovits, Chairman
S. J. Ringer
A. Goldin
Jas. Kestin
I. Horowitz
Anna Cavanaugh
Max Samuels
Rose Weiss
Joseph Tichy
S. Lebensohn.

Upon motion the report of the committee as a whole and as amended was adopted.

A vote of thanks was extended to the committee for its good work by President Schlesinger in behalf of the delegates.

Fred Schlesinger: The Committee on Law will now continue its report.

Report of Committee on Law—Continued.

Yesterday in our report we mentioned Resolution No. 53, 4th day's proceedings, in which there were two Resolves. We acted on the first one, and the second Resolve we laid over, for today on account of another resolution which is similar to Resolution No. 87.

Resolution No. 87.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 48: Salvatore Omlca, L. Antonini, C. Yandoth, and A. Cripeo, Local No. 25.

Whereas, The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has started several large organizing campaigns, and

Whereas, The efforts and energy have not enabled them to attain the desired results, because the general office has found itself with no financial resources, and

Whereas, In all the general strikes, appeals had to be made to affiliated locals and other labor organizations to finance strikes, be it

Resolved, That this Fourteenth Biennial Convention decide to raise the per capita tax from 4 to 7 cents a week. The surplus 3 cents shall constitute separate funds divided into two parts; 2 cents to be used only to finance central or city industrial strikes; one cent to be considered as a strike reserve fund to be used only when sufficient funds can be had in order to place the International in a position to call a general industrial strike throughout the United States and Canada, with all the probability of a certain victory.

The second resolve of Resolution No. 53, 4th day's proceedings, reads as follows:

Resolved, That each local shall pay to the I. L. G. W. U. a per capita tax of five cents for a general and individual strike fund and that these payments for that fund shall be left in the hands of the incoming General Executive Board who should de-
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

vise as to the amount of a fund for the single and general strikes.

Both resolutions deal with the same subject. Your Committee recommends as a substitute that the second resolve of Resolution 53 be referred to the incoming G. E. B. with instructions to submit same to a referendum vote of all the members of the I. L. G. W. U.

Delegate Miss Litwakof informed the delegates that the amount would be six cents, as one cent had already been raised.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 99.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Halpern, No. 8; J. Porus, No. 26; J. Menke, No. 81; Fannie M. Cohn, No. 72; L. Greenspun, No. 64; Chas. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; S. S. Selnberg, No. 82; Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. B. Chicago; Saul Meiz, No. 17; B. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto.

Be It Resolved, That paragraph 3 in the preamble of our Constitution, reading “by representatives of our own party,” be changed to read as follows: “To a political party whose aim is the abolition of the capitalist system.”

Your committee recommends this resolution favorably with the insertion of the words “To a political party whose aim is the abolition of the capitalist system,” instead of the words, “By representatives of our own party.”

Unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 60.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Porus, No. 26; D. Solomon, No. 26; Chas. Green, No. 63; J. Kienbachman, No. 64; F. Nemerofsky, No. 63; A. Litvakoff, No. 18; A. Rentovitch, No. 25; D. Axelrod, No. 18; A. Gold, No. 44; Rose Weiss and M. Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, No. 44; S. Metz, No. 17; S. Nino, No. 45; B. Koldofsky, J. B. Toronto.

Be it Resolved, That article 6, section 3, shall be changed to read as follows:

“Nomination of all International officers be made on the floor. Election of same be held three days later on a printed ballot.

Referred to Committee on Law.

Your committee recommends the rejection of this resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted — 73 for and 27 against.

Resolution No. 61.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; J. Porus, No. 26; Chas. Green, No. 63; Chas. Kreindler, J. B. Cleveland; Rose Weiss and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100; H. Schoolman, J. B. Chicago.

Be it Resolved, that Section 8, Article 17, be changed to read as follows:—“Any member not depositing his clearance card within 14 days of his arrival in any town or city, shall forfeit the clearance card, etc.”

Your Committee recommends the changing of the word “fourteen” in the fourth line of the Resolved to “seven,” and recommends the adoption of this resolution.

Delegate Berlin spoke against the amendment of the Committee, stating that in his opinion 24 hours is sufficient time for a man to get in touch with the officials of the local in which he intends to work when coming to seek employment in another town. He favored the retention of the clause as it now appears in our Constitution.

Delegate Greenspun spoke in favor of the amendment of the Committee, claiming that 24 hours was not enough time for a man to look for employment, and sometimes it may take a man a few days to decide whether he will remain in the town or not.
Delegate Ehren spoke for the amendment.

Chairman Metz summed up in favor of the amendment of the Committee, stating that 24 hours was not enough and fourteen days was too much, as they had decided on the happy medium—7 days.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 62.

Introduced by J. Mencoff, Local No. 18; Chas. Green, No. 63; A. Gold, No. 44; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; D. Solomon, No. 26; A. J. Miller, No. 31; J. Menke, No. 81; D. Axelrod, No. 23; G. H. Nadesman, No. 44; Moses Wachs and Mollie Yanowitz, No. 100.

Be it resolved, that all assessments levied by the International Convention for purposes not directly connected with organization work of the I. L. G. W. U. should go to a referendum vote of the entire membership before levied.

Your Committee recommends the rejection of this resolution.

Upon motion duly seconded, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 74.

Introduced by Hyman Harwitz, Joint Board of Boston; L. Friend, Local No. 67; W. Fissus, No. 67; B. Kurkland, No. 72; A. Finkelshtein, No. 73; M. Jacobinsky, No. 73; A. Goldin, No. 17; P. Golden, No. 6; Max Lipshitz, No. 4; May Hatcher, No. 23; Wm. Bosson, No. 21; H. Berlin, No. 18; H. Berlowitz, No. 54; S. Fleischner, No. 12; H. Berlowitz and M. Frank, No. 22; Isaac Fisz, Jacob Cohen and M. Orensky, No. 34; S. Jacobson and E. Breslow, No. 49; E. Lewin and J. Ziff, No. 43; D. Solomon and J. Persin, No. 26; and Max Margolis, No. 10.

Amend these sections to read as follows:

Article 18, Section 2—Any member withdrawing as per section 1 of this article shall be granted an honorary withdrawal card provided he or she has been a member of the I. L. G. W. U. not less than two years, and shall be known as Honorary members.

Section 3—An Honorary member desiring to return to the trade within one year of the issuance of the honorary card shall be obliged to pay all arrearages to the Local Union, if after one year he or she desires
to return to the trade the Local Union will restore them to all rights and privileges of an old member upon the payment of One Dollar, and such other fee as the Local Union may have to cover sick and death benefit funds.

Section 4—Any Honorary member doing anything detrimental to the interest of a member of the I. L. G. W. U. or the trade union movement shall forfeit all rights and privileges granted by the issuance of this card.

Your Committee recommends the following substitute: "Any member who has withdrawn or was suspended from a local and wishes to return to his former trade, may be re-admitted to membership under the following conditions:

"Within one year after the withdrawal, the member shall be required to pay an initiation fee equal to the per capita tax and general assessments levied during the period of his withdrawal. This initiation fee shall be turned over by the L. U. to the I. L. G. W. U.

"After the lapse of one year or more after the withdrawal of the member, he can only be re-admitted as a new member and he shall pay an initiation fee not exceeding the one that prevailed at the time of his withdrawal.

"A member who has been suspended for failure to withdraw, can only be re-admitted as a new member and shall pay an initiation fee not exceeding the one that prevailed at the time of his suspension. He shall also pay up all dues, assessments, fines and other charges which he owed at the time of his suspension.

"The executive board of the L. U. shall, however, have the power in exceptional cases to remit to the re-admitted member any arrearages of dues or initiation fees."

Motion was made that the amendment be adopted.

Delegate Stein:
I should like to know why this should be left to the discretion of the executive board. I believe that if we were to leave this in the hands of the locals, the evil that this is intended to eradicate would remain. It is just these exceptional cases that are being abused. I would therefore suggest that when an exception case comes up it should be taken up by the organization as a whole.

Delegate Zerkover stated for the committee that the reason the Committee recommends that this be left in the hands of the executive board is because of numerous cases which we have experienced. In some cases a man is dropped from membership because of a little negligence on his part to keep paid up, and in other cases a man may be ill and therefore unable to attend to this matter. I do not therefore think it proper to charge a new initiation fee if the member is only three or four, or even five weeks over a year in arrears. In such cases the executive board should have the right to take the matter into consideration and decide accordingly.

Vice President Amdur opposed the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Stein spoke against the recommendation of the committee, stating that the executive board is liable to abuse such a responsibility, due sometimes to a feeling of favoritism.

Delegate Sarah Greenberg spoke against the last paragraph of the Committee's recommendation.

Delegate Berlin spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Fish spoke against the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Greenberg spoke in favor of the recommendation of the Committee.

Delegate Heller offered an amendment to the last paragraph—that the executive board shall have the right to use its discretion to reinstate suspended members in case of sickness only.

The last paragraph of the motion, as amended by Delegate Heller, should read as
follows: "The executive board of the L. U. shall, however, have the power, in cases of sickness only, to remit to the readmitted member any arrearages of dues or initiation fees.

Delegate Bella Metz spoke against the amendment.

On motion, the amendment by delegate Heller was carried—44 for and 28 against.

Resolution No. 100.

Amend Section 5, Article VIII, to read as follows:

"The accused shall have the right, in person or by attorney (said attorney to be a good standing member of the I. L. G. W. U.1 to question all witnesses, and to present such evidence bearing on the charges as to him seems advisable. Such good standing members should not include members of the General Executive Board."

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

Delegate Stein offered an amendment that the words "provided he works in the ladies' garment industry" be added, stating that there may be attorneys who may be in good standing in some locals, and still not be working in the trade.

Delegate Miss Cohn: If one is not eligible for membership, expel him. If you take dues from a member that man or woman is eligible to defend another member. You can not make two sets of members in our organization. I am absolutely against this amendment.

Upon motion the amendment by delegate Stein was lost and the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

Resolution No. 109.

Introduced by H. Wagner, Local No. 1; L. Langer, New York Joint Board; Philip

Berman, No. 20; I. Charchlara, No. 48; D. Cohen, No. 4; M. Jacobinsky, No. 17; Max Finkelstein, No. 11; M. Sirota, No. 50.

Amend Section 12, Article V, to read as follows:

"After the words "not to exceed" $40.00 per week and traveling allowance."

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be adopted.

Upon motion the recommendation of the Committee was carried.

Resolution No. 117.

Introduced by Max Lipsch, Local No. 4; D. Cohen, No. 4; J. Tichy, No. 101; C. L. Brennan, No. 110; John F. Pierce, No. 34.

Amend Section 5, Article IV, to read as follows:

"The General President shall be a delegate to the A. F. of L. Conventions by virtue of his office."

Delegate Margulis asked whether when electing delegates to the A. F. of L. convention we should elect only five and leave the sixth place to be filled in ex-officio by the president.

Chairman: Yes, that is the meaning of the resolution.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 124.

Introduced by J. M. Sachs and M. Stamper, Delegates of Local No. 20.

Whereas, The smaller locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union experience at times considerable difficulties in obtaining the services of an efficient financial secretary; and

Whereas, This condition is often a source of disorder and hardship to the organization; be it therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention strik
enforces Section 4, Article VI, of the Constitution, which states that quarterly financial reports shall be furnished by the organizations, and that the violation of this rule shall be punished without leniency.

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 38.

Introduced by Max Bruck, delegate of Local No. 21.

Whereas, The Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union creates favorable sentiment toward organizations and brings new life amongst the workers of the Ladies' Garment Industry in the cities where the Conventions are held, and

Whereas, The general membership does not show the proper interest when voting upon the question of where the Convention shall be held, and this resulting many times that the Convention is not held in a city urgently in need of same, and

Whereas, The delegates taking part in the proceedings of one Convention are most competent to judge where the next Convention shall be held, therefore be it

Resolved, That Section 4, Article III, of the Constitution of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union be amended to read as follows:

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union shall meet biennially, in General Convention on the third Monday in May at 9:00 A. M. The place of holding such a Convention shall be decided upon at the last Convention. At least three (3) Cities shall be proposed by the Delegates and submitted to them to a vote; a majority deciding.

The Chairman explained that the recommendation of the Committee to have the Convention on the first instead of the third Monday in May, biennially, was intended to give our delegates to the American Federation of Labor the opportunity to participate in the conventions of the Federation, which are taking place now early in June. As regards the place of holding conventions, the Committee wants to retain the referendum, as it seems to be of the opinion that it is the democratic way of going about this matter.

Delegate Bruck proposed to leave the matter of the Convention city in the hands of the G. E. B. (seconded).

Recommendation of the Committee unanimously adopted.

Chairman Metz: Yesterday the Convention recommitted to us resolution No. 42. We beg to report now that your committee recommends that this resolution be adopted in the form amended by delegate Silver.

Delegate Silberman moved to insert that locals may make donations to individual members.

Chairman:
There is no use of making that change.

Recommendation of the Committee, as amended by Delegate Silver, was adopted.

Motion made to adopt all the amendments and recommendations of the Committee; also the motion made at the beginning of the report that the Constitution, as revised by Comrade Hillquit insofar as the English is concerned, be adopted.

This motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Vice-President Metz: This concludes the report of your Committee on Law.

Respectfully submitted,

SAUL METZ, Chairman.
L. ZERKOVER, Secretary.
M. J. ASHPIS.
M. LEVINE.
PH. FEST.
C. YANDOLI.
D. SOLOMON.
J. KIMBAROFSKY.
MAUD FOLEY.
CHAS. EDWARDS.
Delegate Finkelstein, Secretary of the Committee on Officers’ Report stated that through an oversight they had failed to report on one resolution.

Resolution No. 24.

Introduced by: M. Wiener, Local No. 3; S. Pitchersky, Local No. 3; Max Kurtz, Local No. 5; M. Werheimer, Local 3; S. Litskivitsa; Frank Magnavita, Local No. 80; S. Cohen, Local No. 80; B. Chasanow, Local No. 80.

Whereas, After due consideration the Executive Boards of Locals No. 3 and No. 80 have become convinced that the trades controlled by these organizations are practically identical, not only because members of one local work in shops of the other, but also because the work itself is very much the same; and

Whereas, The existence of two locals causes friction between the members on account of the issue of transfers, also dissatisfaction because members of one local work in shops of the other, as well as it lessens the effectiveness of each through division of efforts and waste of money and energy; and

Whereas, After a long period of agitation conducted by these two locals, the members have finally decided by a referendum vote to amalgamate these two locals and have already, upon President Schlesinger’s advice, temporarily formed a Trade Council; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention endorse the amalgamation of these two locals into one, and empower the General Executive Board to issue one charter immediately after the Convention.

Your committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Pres. Schlesinger: Delegates we have here this morning the editor of our monthly, the “Ladies’ Garment Worker,” published by the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union. He was invited to come here during the first few days of the convention and to be here during the entire time of the convention, but it was impossible for him to come here until today.

I take great pleasure in presenting to you, Brother A. Rosebury. (Applause.)

ADDRESS OF BROTHER ROSEBURY.

Mr. President, Sisters and Brothers: I am afraid that my speech will not be quite as interesting as some of the articles, which some people say I have written, as this is really the first time that I am called upon to address the members of the International, and particularly in convention.

It was in this very city of Boston that I started working with the International Ladies’ Garment Workers at first. In 1910, the Boston locals had a trial in court, and the General Secretary at that time, sent me over here for about a month to attend to the matter and I helped them out as far as possible. At that time the International was only about 2500 strong. Ever since then, I have done my very best. I am not a great speaker, as you can see, but I have tried to give you the best I could in articles for the Ladies’ Garment Worker.

I don’t want to detain this convention, because I know how busy you are, but I want to say one thing before concluding and that is this: I understand from the reports that you have not had any issues yet in this convention and that the real issue is coming up today. Now I hope, Sisters and Brothers, that you will do justice to both sides of this important issue that is coming before you.

Now another thing I want to say is in reference to the resolution you adopted in relation to the official magazine of the International Union. I want to congratulate you, Sisters and Brothers on that resolution. I want to say that I was one of the first who advocated a united official publication of the International, even prior to the Cleveland Convention.

I congratulate you on the splendid progress you have made under the present administration which has been in office for four years. I hope that you will elect a
the convention at its morning session yesterday, decided to send a telegram to the Independent Workmen's Circle, which is now holding its convention in Springfield, Mass. I desire to state that the following telegram was sent to that convention:

"Independent Workmen's Circle Convention, Springfield, Mass.

"The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in convention assembled, sends best wishes to your assemblage. May your deliberations tend in the direction of bringing about a united fraternal organization of the Jewish workers of this country.

BENJ. SCHLESINGER, Pres."

Delegate Gornstein: I move you, Mr. President, that we set the hour of ten o'clock Saturday morning for the election of officers, and delegates to the American Federation of Labor.

Unanimously carried.

Vice-President Seldman submitted the following report for the Committee on Adjustments:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ADJUSTMENTS.

We have received a number of resolutions which we have duly considered and are ready to present our recommendations regarding each and every one of them in the following order:

Resolution No. 70.

Introduced by the Delegation of Local No. 9; Blob Stein and Sarah Greenberg, Local No. 69; Vito Catania, A. Monforte and P. Nichita, Local No. 48; and Ida Ranner, Local No. 65.

Whereas, The Cloak Finishers Union Local No. 9 is the officially recognized local of finishers in the Cloak and Suit Industry in New York, and

Whereas, The Reefer Makers Union Local No. 17, which was originally chartered
as a local of Reefer and Infants Wear makers, is now to a large extent also engaged at regular size cloaks, and

Whereas, The Reefer Makers' Union by working on such cloaks and by retaining the finishers in its local does so in direct violation of Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of our International which reads that "No more than one charter shall be granted to any branch of the trade in any city or locality without the consent of the existing local Unions," and

Whereas, A competition has thus developed in the Cloak and Suit industry on account of the several hundred finisher members of local No. 17 who establish standards of their own without regard to the settlement of prices in the shops under the jurisdiction of the Joint Board where members of local No. 9 are working, therefore be it

Resolved, That the 14th Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. assembled in Boston orders Local No. 17 to transfer all the finisher members of its Local to Local No. 9.

After giving this matter a thorough investigation the committee has two reports to make on this resolution; the majority of your committee is of the opinion that all the finishers at present belonging to local No. 17, should be transferred to Local No. 9, as properly belonging to that local. There is a minority report of delegate Nisnevitz which we submit to you and which reads as follows: "I am of the opinion that the transfer of finishers from local No. 17 to local No. 9, as asked by this resolution, is an act that requires much consideration and deliberation, for that would mean the dismemberment of Local No. 17. I therefore believe that such action shall only be taken after all other means of amicable adjustments have been tried, especially in this case where it is evident that the finishers of Local No. 17 are not anxious to be transferred. I therefore recommend that the incoming G. E. B. be instructed to hold a conference between these two locals as soon as possible and to try and bring about a satisfactory adjustment without any costly operation on Local No. 17.

Moved and seconded to adopt the majority report.

Delegate Heller delivered a strong appeal in favor of the minority report. He stated that if this resolution were passed, it would mean the beginning of the destruction of Local 17. He stated that the jurisdictional question was not the deciding factor in this case, but the deciding factor was the effect it would have on Local 17. He maintained that the finishers in Local 17 did not desire to make a change, nor had they in any manner suggested that they desired to be transferred to Local No. 9, and that they were absolutely satisfied with the conditions they had gained while members of Local No. 17; and that it would be a crime to force them against their will to divorce themselves from Local No. 17 and join Local No. 9. He maintained that Local No. 17, after 13 years of experience and hard work, had brought about a high standard for the finishers in his Local, and that should these finishers be transferred to Local No. 9, they would lose all the advantages they had gained and work at a lower standard, and that it would take another 13 years before they could regain their present status. He asked why his particular local should be singled out, when the same conditions applied in Local 23, and Local 11. He stated that if action were taken on Local 17, then the same action should be taken in the case of Locals 23 and 11. He claimed that the adoption of this resolution would not only be destructive to Local 17, but to the International as a whole; that 13 years ago Local 17 had been granted a charter, which included the finishers, and now, after years of hard work, when they had finally organized the finishers in their local, along comes Local 9 and desires to obtain the fruits of their labor. He asked where was Local 9 in the time of strikes and trouble of Local 17—why did they not then claim jurisdiction, instead of now when all is well. He begged the delegates not to vote to destroy his local little by little, by taking away their jurisdiction, but if Local 17 is to be punished in any way, if they were criminals, to destroy the Local at once instead of this slow, grinding process.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

He maintained that Local 17 being a smaller organization than Local 9, was, consequently, more efficient, and that if Local 9 had its membership increased still further, they would not be able to give proper care to the finishers. He stated that the only result so far as Local 9 was concerned, would be to put a little more money in their treasury, but it would be a death blow to Local 17.

Delegate Halpern of Local 9 spoke in favor of the majority report. He stated in reference to Brother Heller's remark that Local 17 had been in existence for 13 years, that all organizations are entitled to justice, whether they are one year or twenty years old, and appealed to the delegates to listen to facts and not be swayed by emotion and eloquent speeches. He then proceeded to read a long report, in which he tried to prove:

1. That by keeping the finishers in its Local, the Reeder Makers' Union has caused a competition between the finishers of its own Local and those of Local 9, which is reducing the standard of earnings throughout the entire cloak and suit industry.

2. That the finisher members of Local 17, some three hundred in number, are neglected by their Local, never taken in confidence on any question relating to earnings and working conditions.

3. That contrary to all assertions, the earnings of the bulk of the finishers' members of Local 17 do not exceed the earnings of the members of Local 9 employed at similar lines of work.

4. That the contention of Local 17 that the transferring of their finishers' members to Local 9 would endanger their existence, is without foundation.

5. That the existence of Local 17 and their claim of jurisdiction of the finishers, is in violation of the Constitution of our International, and

6. That by demanding the transfer of the finishers of Local 17 to Local 9, they were animated by no selfish desire.

Pres. Schlesinger: The Chair has given the floor to the first two delegates and permitted them to speak an unlimited time. But the Chair will confine the next speakers to the limit of ten minutes unless ordered to the contrary by the convention.

Delegate Jacobinsky spoke for the minority report, in which he argued against the contentions brought out by Delegate Halpern.

Delegate Halpern spoke in favor of the majority report.

Delegate Metz spoke in favor of the minority report.

Delegate Schuster spoke in favor of the majority report.

The Chairman of the Committee Feldman summed up for the majority report as follows:

"We went into the investigation of this question as thoroughly as it was possible for any human being to investigate, and considered this question. We also consulted the committee appointed by the General Executive Board who made an impartial investigation, and the committee reported that they found that the finishers working in the shops of Local 17 were neglected. Their conditions are not as good as the conditions of the other workers in the same shops, and also from the information that they have received they found out that the conditions of the finishers were much worse in the shops controlled by Local 17 than in the shops controlled by the Joint Board."

In the rest of his address he stated that they came to the conclusion that the interest of the finishers could be best looked after by a local whose sole function it was to look after the finishers, rather than by a local whose main purpose was to look after the operators.

He concluded by exhorting the delegates for the benefit of the 200 finishers working in the shops of Local 17, to vote for the majority report after the impartial investigation, because he himself was not concerned with either side, but from the facts and the arguments he came to the conclusion that the finishers ought to be transferred and controlled by Local No. 9.

Delegate Nisanovitz summed up for the
minority report, stating that, at the time Local 9 was granted a charter, they refused to take these finishers in, but now when everything was smooth sailing, they demanded the jurisdiction. He stated it would be unfair to discriminate against Local 17, and leave the finishers in Local 22 and 9 untouched.

The majority report of the committee was adopted.

Upon demand of several of the delegates, a roll call was had with the following result:


Your committee has acted upon resolutions No. 52 and 93 together, as they both deal with the same subject matter:

Resolution No. 52.


Whereas, The shops controlled by Local No. 17 which have originated as reefer and infants' wear have branched out in the production of regular cloaks, garments, and that the tendency of the cloak industry of New York with regards to Local No. 17 shops is drifting towards a condition where, by the manufacturers controlled by Local
WHEREAS, The shops controlled by Local No. 17 have, as a result of their development in the manufacturing or regular cloak garments, been in need of an ever larger number of Local No. 1 operators to enable them to produce these cloak garments, and

WHEREAS, Local No. 17, desiring to maintain the exclusive and separate control of these shops, has found against its local interests to permit members of other locals to obtain employment in their shops, and has applied on many occasions illegal means and methods in forcing transfers from those members of Local No. 1 who were called upon by the manufacturers to produce these cloak garments, and have also in many instances taken in members of Local No. 1 before and after the reorganization with the formality of a transfer, thus violating Article XVII, section 1,

WHEREAS, Local No. 17 assuming the control and jurisdiction over these shops, is taking upon itself the authority of dictating terms and arrangements on its own accord, which are conflicting with those shops controlled by the Joint Board, disregarding the effect it may have upon the industry as a whole, and

WHEREAS, The fundamental principle upon which a labor union is based is working class solidarity; while the existence of two local unions whose members are engaged in the operating of the same kind of work tends to divide its members into two hostile and antagonistic camps, thereby making impossible for our Union to function as a unit, and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the International to solidify its affiliated locals in order that it may be able to function as a unit, and

WHEREAS, The disputes of local jurisdictions have taken up the floor of all preceding conventions of the International since the inception of our Union and have thus far affiliated to definitely settle them, and

WHEREAS, The Joint Board of the cloak and skirt makers' Union of New York has introduced a resolution calling upon the convention of the International to take up the controversies and jurisdictional disputes between Local No. 1 and No. 17 as a result of the frictions and dissensions of these two contending locals which makes impossible for the Joint Board and its affiliated locals to carry on its work without obstructions, therefore be it

Resolved, That the International should as a permanent solution of this problem merge Local No. 1 and No. 17 into one local, thereby consolidating the two locals which will serve to strengthen and solidify the ranks of these two locals and forever eradicate the prevalent feeling of antagonism among those members which obstruct the work and activities of our entire Union.

Resolution No. 93.

Introduced by L. Langer, New York Joint Board.

At a meeting of the Joint Board held on May 11th, 1918, it was decided to submit the following resolution to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the International, which will be held in Boston on May 20th, 1918:

WHEREAS, there are three existing locals in New York, namely, Locals No. 1, 9, and 17, who are engaged in the operating and finishing of the same line of work; and

WHEREAS, These three contending locals are constantly engaged in disputes with regards to jurisdictional rights; rules and decisions of the International and the Joint Board pertaining to these three locals, and the interpretation thereof, and

WHEREAS, The Joint Board which is the central body of the Cloak Industry of the City of New York is virtually placed in a position where instead of confining itself to trade problems and various other disputes which arise in our Industry, is, as a result of the frictions of these three contending locals, invariably driven to spend
SERVE THAT NO LOCAL SHALL AGGREGATE TO ITSELF
ANY SPECIAL RIGHT OR PRIVILEGE FOR ITS MEMBERS
REGARDS THE OBTAINING OF EMPLOYMENT,
FIXING STANDARDS OF LABOR OR PRICES
WHICH CONCERN THE BRANCH OF THE TRADE IN
WHICH THIS LOCAL IS ENGAGED. SHOP
CHARGE; MEMBERS OF LOCAL UNIONS, SHALL
BE STRICely DISCIPLINED FOR VIOLATING THE
ABOVE MENTIONED STIPULATIONS.

(5) IN THE EVENT THAT ANY LOCAL UNION
CONCERNED SHOULD FEEL AGGRADED WITH ANY
ACTION OF THE JOINT BOARD, THIS LOCAL UNION
MAY FILE AN APPEAL AGAINST SUCH ACTION WITH
THE G. E. B., PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS
LOCAL UNION MUST FIRST COMPLY WITH THE
JOINT BOARD DECISION AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 12,
ARTICLE VIII OF OUR CONSTITUTION.

THE MINORITY REPORT.

The minority of your Committee disagrees with the report of the majority and wishes to submit the following report:

(1) All the shops controlled now by Local No. 17 are hereafter to be under the absolute control, jurisdiction and management of the Joint Board, just as all the other local affiliated with the Joint Board.

(2) The Joint Board shall select the officials who are to control shops of each and every district in the manner the Joint Board may deem advisable for the best conduct of its affairs.

(3) The decision of the G. E. B., in reference to the transfer question between Locals No. 1 and No. 17, shall be enforced and every operator, member of a local affiliated with the Joint Board, shall be permitted to work in any of those shops controlled by the Joint Board, upon the presentation of a working card issued to him by the secretary of the local of which he is a member.

(4) The sole right and authority to determine standards and conditions for the trade shall be vested entirely in the hands of the Joint Board.

(5) The Joint Board shall strictly ob-
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

A member of Local 1, shows that I also know the trade of the cloak operators.

After all, we ought to get used to settling our differences, not by fighting, but by amicable adjustment.

With these preliminary remarks, I want you to listen to all of the three reports: the report of the majority, the report of the minority and the proposition that I want to offer as a substitute.

President Schlesinger thereupon read the first four indicies of the majority report, the minority report and also his report and showed that in the first four articles, all three reports agreed.

SUBSTITUTE PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER.

I desire to offer the following substitute and sincerely hope that it will be unanimously accepted:

(1) All the shops now controlled by Local No. 17 shall hereafter be under the absolute control, jurisdiction and management of the Joint Board, just the same as all the other locals affiliated with the Joint Board.

(2) The Joint Board shall select the officials who are to control shops of each and every district, in the manner the Joint Board may deem it advisable for the best conduct of its affairs.

(3) The decision of the G. E. R. with reference to the transfer question between Local No. 1 and Local No. 17 shall be enforced, and every operator of any local affiliated with the Joint Board, shall be permitted to work in any of the shops controlled by the Joint Board. The question of working cards is to be left to the general manager of the Joint Board, to arrange how to issue working cards, to the satisfaction of the locals concerned.

(4) The sole right and authority to determine standards and conditions for the trade, to be vested entirely in the hands of the Joint Board.

(5) The Joint Board shall strictly observe that no local shall arrogate to itself any special right or privilege for its members who are competent to work in all classes of work, as regards the obtaining of employment, fixing standards of labor or prices which concern the branch of the trade in which the local is engaged.

(6) In the event any local union concerned should feel aggrieved with any action of the Joint Board, the local union may appeal against such action to the G. E. R., the local union, however, must first comply with the decision of the Joint Board, as prescribed in Section 12, Article VIII of our Constitution.

Pres. Schlesinger: I would like to hear a motion from Local 1, seconded by Local 17, to adjourn the session now, so that all parties to the controversy will have time to consider my substitute, and to reconvene tomorrow morning when the entire matter will be further discussed if it shall become necessary.

President Schlesinger's suggestion was adopted and the meeting was about to adjourn when President Schlesinger asked the delegates to remain seated for a few moments, as he had something to tell them. He then spoke as follows:

President Schlesinger: I want to make an announcement which concerns my own person, and I would kindly request the delegates to be as orderly as they know how, and I think that they do know how—so that you may all be able to hear me.

I want to say first of all that I was very pleased with the way you delegates have conducted yourselves at this convention, It was a great pleasure to me to preside over your meetings and to listen to all the arguments given for or against measures and propositions. Sometimes I felt kind of exhausted, but as you have noticed, I hardly wasted a minute—I have always been sitting in the Chair. I was so intensely interested in the proceedings that I could not step away for a minute. That is number one.

Number two: I want to thank you for the way you have treated me during the four years that I have been connected with
the I. L. O. W. U. as its President. I surely have no fault to find with the way I was treated, not only by our locals and not only by their officers, but even by the rank and file of our organizations. I must say that very often I was surprised why it was that they should receive me in the way they used to receive me whenever I would come to their meetings in New York or outside of New York. It was really the greatest pleasure to be connected with the organization for the last four years, and I want you to believe me when I tell you that these last four years were the most pleasant years in my life.

I don't know how you feel about it, but I am certainly sorry, I regret very much that I have to inform you that I am not in a position any more to accept the office as President of our International, or any other office—not because I would not like to work for you. From what I have told you, you understand that I found a good deal of pleasure in working for you, and I am very much interested in the work too. But there is a certain condition which makes it impossible for me to continue further in your services as an officer of the organization.

I have talked this thing over with some of our delegates. I have explained to them all about it, and they seemed to realize that this is so. You understand, I am telling you all this, not because I want you to appeal to me to remain your President or to make ovations for me. I assure you that this is not my intention. If I had been looking for it, I would not have halted the convention in order to make this little talk. This is not my object. I don't want you to make any ovations, to approach me or in any way appeal to me to remain your President. I cannot remain not because I have done anything wrong, or because there are any influences that don't want me to be with the organization.

But some months ago, it was about five or six months ago a Committee came to me and asked me to again accept the managership of the Forward. They wanted me to accept the position right then, but I told them that I would not resign my position.

Well, they asked me if I would accept the position of Manager if I would not have been tied up to the International, I told them that after my term as president of the International would expire, I would accept. And the Forward elected me on the strength of that promise that I would come there after this convention adjourns.

Now, I don't know how many good qualities I have about me; but I have one quality and that is, I don't break my word. I promised the Forward that I would come in there when my term as president of the International would expire and I am going there.

I took advantage of these few minutes to tell it to you, because I know that all of you delegates are now discussing politics. I waited with this announcement until this time because I didn't want to disturb your minds. Between now and tomorrow morning you delegates will have plenty of time to agree on a candidate for the office of President.

Again, I want to thank you for the great honor you have given me in being your President for four years. I shall never forget these years. (Stormy applause).

Delegate Haskin: I want to ask you a question. Would you relinquish your promise to the Forward Association, if we could break it for you.

President Schlesinger: I don't see how I can let you break promises that I have made.

Delegate Haskin: I tell you today that we have not a man who could take your place, and it is your own fault and you will be blamed by the 125,000 members (applause).

Delegate Mets stated that on one side was the promise and on the other side were the 125,000 human beings. He said that it would be impossible to get another man to replace President Schlesinger, that we have
a lot of strikes to conduct and he is the only man who can succeed in prosecuting them successfully. He suggested that the Convention send a telegram to the Forward in the name of the entire delegation, asking the Forward to release President Schlesinger from his promise. His remarks were greeted with great applause.

Delegate Berman: I want to remind you of the statement you made Thursday night at the mass meeting, in which you said that as soon as this Convention is over—

President Schlesinger (interrupting): I remember very distinctly the remark that I made. What I said was that the General Executive Board would—

Delegate Berman (interrupting): I believe that the Forward at the present moment can get along without your services, but we cannot get along without you. I want to appeal to you on behalf of all the delegates and on behalf of all the raincoat makers that your place at the present moment is with the International. (Great applause).

President Schlesinger: I did not reconvene this session. The session is practically adjourned. I merely asked to have your indulgence for a few minutes, so that I could make a statement, but this statement was not for the purpose of having any debates or of making any motions. The motion is to adjourn this meeting. All in favor say aye.

The motion was unanimously voted down.

Delegate Stein: I amend the motion to read that a committee of this convention be sent to the New York Forward to try and get the Forward Association to agree to release President Schlesinger from the word which he has given to the Forward Association, and express in behalf of the delegates of this convention that it is the earnest hope and desire of the Convention that President Schlesinger should be released of his word.

President Schlesinger: They have their meetings at certain fixed times, nor do I want you to send any committees to release me.

Delegate Stein: The Forward Association is like all other institutions and if it is possible for the Executive Board of a Union whose members work in the trade to get its members out of the shops to convene in committee, in special session, why is it not possible for the Forward to convene its members, or at least the majority, in order to take up this question.

Pres. Schlesinger: You could not do anything now anyway, nor do I believe your motion would in any way settle the matter. I made this announcement to you. You ought to take it. You ought not to make motions just at this time when you feel a little heated up. You better think over the matter, and I am sure you will reach other conclusions, until tomorrow morning.

Upon request of one of the delegates that President Schlesinger withdraw his statement to the effect that he could not accept the nomination for President, he replied:

I am not going to withdraw any statement, nor am I going to withdraw one word from what I said. This convention stands now adjourned.

He thereupon walked off the platform.
The delegates, however, refused to adjourn the convention, and several of the delegates demanded that the First Vice-President take the Chair. Finally President Schlesinger stepped on the platform and said:

Brothers and Sisters! all I can say to you at this time is that nothing can be done by you at this moment to make me change my position. Let us all do thinking until tomorrow. The convention stands adjourned."

The convention thereupon adjourned at 5:56 P. M. to reconvene at 3:00 A. M. the following morning.

**TWELFTH DAY—LAST SESSION.**

**Saturday, June 1, 1918.**

The Convention was called to order at
Chairman Seldman, Chairman of the Committee on Adjustments, continued his report as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ADJUSTMENTS—Continued.

Chairman Seldman continued the report. Yesterday we left this Convention in the middle of the discussion of the two resolutions of Local No. 1 and the Joint Board in Local No. 17. You have all heard the explanation of the President and also the amendments that the President worked out to substitute the two recommendations that were presented by the majority and the minority of the Committee. After that, when we left this session, a meeting was held where both sides were present—the delegates of Local No. 1, delegates of Local No. 17, and also the manager of the Joint Board, and at this conference a unanimous decision was adopted. The President will read the decision that was adopted unanimously by all sides concerned in this controversy. (Applause).

President Schlesinger thereupon read the following:

Section 1. All shops now controlled by Local No. 17 are hereafter to be under the absolute control, jurisdiction and management of the Joint Board, in the same way and manner as all the other locals affiliated with the Joint Board.

Section 2. The Joint Board shall select the officials who are to control the shops of each and every district in the manner they may deem advisable to the best conduct of its affairs.

Section 3. The decision of the General Executive Board with reference to the transfer question between Local No. 1 and Local No. 17 shall be enforced, and every operator of any local affiliated with the Joint Board shall be permitted to work in any of the shops controlled by the Joint Board. The question of working cards is to be left to the Joint Board to arrange
Section 4. The sole right and authority to determine standards and conditions for the trade, to be vested entirely in the hands of the Joint Board.

Section 5. The Joint Board shall strictly observe that neither Local No. 1 or Local No. 17 shall arrogate to itself any special right or privilege to their members as regards the obtaining of employment. The Joint Board, however, shall safeguard the interests of all workers who are unable to work on all lines of work, that they shall get preference in employment in their particular classes of work and in the shops in which they were formerly employed.

Section 6. In the event any local union concerned should feel aggrieved with any action of the Joint Board, the local union may appeal against such action to the General Executive Board. The local union, however, must first comply with the decision of the Joint Board as prescribed in Section 12, Article 8, of the Constitution of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

This, as the Chairman of the Committee on Adjustments has explained to you, is the result of a conference held yesterday between the delegations of Local No. 1 and Local No. 17, the delegates of the Joint Board, and also, of course, the Adjustment Committee.

Delegate Ashpa: I move, if it will be seconded by Local No. 17, that the Convention adopts this substitute report.

Local No. 17 seconded this motion.

Pres. Schlesinger: Moved by Local 1, seconded by Local 17, that this substitute report be adopted. (Tremendous applause).

The substitute motion was unanimously carried.

The Committee continued its report, as follows:

Resolution No. 84.


Whereas, The old Local No. 1, in order to cover its intentions in its controversy with the Joint Board, in reference to the form of business agents, in April, 1917, created an agitation against Local No. 17, and

Whereas, This agitation that deceived many of the Cloak Operators of New York, to believe in the false accusation against Local No. 17, compelled the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U., to appoint a committee to investigate the affairs of Local No. 17, and

Whereas, This Committee of the International, after making a thorough investigation found the claim against Local No. 17 to be unfounded, and

Whereas, In order to pacify the deceived cloak operators of New York and establish harmony in Local No. 1, the General Executive Board was compelled to separate the complaint department from the local office of the Reefer Makers' Union, and establish the above department in 40 East 23rd Street, the building that the Joint Board of New York is occupying, and

Whereas, For reasons quite unknown to us the harmony between the locals, 1, 9 and the Joint Board was not achieved through the new arrangements, and on the contrary, it created more cause for discord, and unfounded accusations against Local No. 17, be it therefore

Resolved, That the 14th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. restore all rights enjoyed by Local No. 17 prior to the decision of the General Executive Board, of November, 1917, and be it further

Resolved, That in order to avoid all future discord and issues against Local No. 17, that the 14th Biennial Convention decrees that the supervision over Local No. 17 be taken away from the Joint Board, and that Local No. 17 be placed strictly under the supervision of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Your Committee recommends the rejection of this resolution, as it is of the opinion that the General Executive Board.
in having effected the arrangement referred to in this resolution, has had sufficient reason and ground for it.

An amendment was made by Delegate Heller that this resolution No. 94 should also be covered by the report that was just made on the former two resolutions.

The Committee was willing to make it as its own motion.

The report of the Committee as amended was unanimously adopted.

The Committee continued with its report, as follows:

Resolution No. 68.
Introduced by the delegations of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, Local 24, of Boston, is chartered by the International as Skirt and Dressmakers' Union, Local 24, and

Whereas, A great number of skirt and dressmakers are members of Local No. 49 chartered by the International as the "Walstmakers' Union Local 49" and they belong there improperly and unconstitutionally, and

Whereas, It is essential for the growth and development of Local 24, that all skirtmakers belong to it, be it

Resolved, That the skirt and dressmakers now belonging to Local 49 should be immediately transferred to Local 24.

Resolution No. 69.
Introduced by the delegation of the Locals of the Boston Joint Board.

Whereas, The constitution of the L.L.G.W.U. grants its local unions full jurisdiction over the particular branch of their trade, and

Whereas, Local 49, Walstmakers of Boston, has in its membership workers of the trade other than walstmakers, such as cutters, skirtmakers and pressers; and

Whereas, The interest of the cutters union Local 73, skirt and dress makers' union Local 24, pressers' union Local 12, in the City of Boston, require that all workers of these crafts be members of their respective organizations having jurisdiction over them, therefore be it

Resolved, That Local 49 be instructed to immediately transfer all such cutters, skirt makers and pressers, that it now has on its membership books to their respective locals.

Resolution No. 47.
Introduced by the delegations of Locals No. 73, No. 24, No. 56 and No. 12.

Whereas, The Constitution of the L.L.G.W.U. grants its local unions full jurisdiction over the particular branch of their trade in each city; and

Whereas, Local No. 49, Walstmakers' Union of Boston, has among its membership workers other than walstmakers, such as cutters, skirtmakers and pressers; and

Whereas, The interests of the Cutters' Union, Local 73, Skirtmakers' Union, No. 24 and Pressers' Union No. 12, of the
City of Boston, require that all workers of their crafts be members of their respective locals under their own jurisdiction; be it therefore

Resolved, That Local No. 49 be instructed to immediately transfer all such cutters, skirt makers and pressers now on their books; and be it further

Resolved, That all shop grievances filed by members belonging to locals affiliated with the Joint Board of Boston working in shops of Local No. 49, shall be attended to through the office of the Joint Board.

Resolution No. 63.

Introduced by: Hyman Hurwitz, Joint Board of Boston; A. Fliekelstein, No. 72; B. Kurland, No. 72; B. Plachner, No. 13; M. Frank, No. 13; Hyman Berloe, No. 12; Isaac Pesce, No. 24; Jacob Cohen, No. 24; Max Emmick, No. 24; Nathan Sprinkel, No. 56; Hyman Berkowitz, No. 56; Louis Greensberg, No. 56; Alex Fliekelstein, No. 56.

Whereas, There are dress and cloak pressers in Boston all belonging to the pressers Local No. 12, and

Whereas, the complaints of the dress pressers have been heretofore attended by the office of the Waistmakers' Union to the dissatisfaction of the dress pressers and the local as a whole, be it therefore

Resolved, That all complaints and grievances of the dress pressers shall in the future be taken care of by the Joint Board office of Boston of which they are a part.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments.

These resolutions deal with the friction among the Boston locals.

We have reached a unanimous decision on the subject matter of these resolutions, as follows:

1. All the workers employed in the shops controlled by Local No. 49 are to be under the full control and supervision of this local.

2. No transfers are to be required by Local No. 49 from any workers, members of other locals employed in their shops.

Resolved, That the request of the Boston Joint Board and its locals that the cutters, skirt and dressmakers who are members of Local No. 49 be transferred to Local 24 and to other locals of the Joint Board, is to be rejected, as at present there do not exist sufficient grounds for such a drastic transfer. Should, however, the necessity of this action become apparent in the future, the General Executive Board shall have the right to effect such a transfer and to issue an order to that effect.

Upon motion, the recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 71.

Introduced by full delegation of Local No. 9.

Whereas, There exists between the members of Local No. 2 and No. 9 certain disputes due to the employment by the piece tailors, members of Local No. 3, of several hundred linens, members of Local No. 9, and

Whereas, it is against the principles and ethics of Trade Unionism to have one member exploited by another and

Whereas, the several attempts made by Local No. 9 to arrive at an amicable adjustment with Local No. 2 directly and through the Joint Board have proven a failure, therefore be it

Resolved, that it is the sense of the 14th Convention of the L. L. G. W. U. assembled at Boston that such tactics are out of harmony with the fundamental principles of Labor Unionism and be it further

Resolved, that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take this matter up and adjust same at its earliest convenience.

Your Committee is of the opinion that the charge and grievance of Local No. 9 to the effect that the tailors belonging to Local No. 2 settle prices for the linens who are employed by them directly is a just one and that it is a veiled system of sub-contracting and it condemns this system as injurious to the interests of our Union.
We, therefore, recommend that the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take up this matter without delay and to eradicate this method of price setting in the shops.

Delegate Heller: Why was the Joint Board of New York unable to adjust the difficulty?

Pres. Schlesinger: The motion before the house now is whether to adopt or not to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

Delegate Kusner spoke in favor of the recommendation of the committee.

The Chairman of the Committee stated that this question was discussed by the committee, when both sides were present, and that it was the understanding of both sides that this question is to be settled and adopted as a resolution at this convention. The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 136.

Introduced by the Delegation of Local No. 25.

Whereas, Local No. 25 was chartered as a component part of the International Union, to control the pressers of the cloak, skirt, suit and dress trades of New York City, and

Whereas, The development of the dress industry has brought about a condition that manufacturers, under the control of Local No. 25 are extensively producing dresses of all kinds, and

Whereas, Members of Local No. 25 are not permitted to work in Local No. 25 shops, which fact causes constant friction between the two organizations, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming G. E. B. stand instructed to evolve a workable plan between these locals, and be it further

Resolved, That the understanding and solution of this problem should be so formulated that there should not remain any cause for further dissension and animosity between the members of Locals No. 25 and No. 35.

Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Resolution No. 132.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 10.

Whereas, The Cleveland Convention in 1914 appointed a committee to investigate a long standing claim of Local No. 10 on the International Union for $1,700.00, and

Whereas, That committee has not as yet reported on same, be it therefore

Resolved, That the incoming General Executive Board stand instructed to investigate this past due claim at its earliest opportunity.

Referred to Committee on Adjustments. Your Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 126.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 64.

Whereas, In many waist and dress shops controlled by Local No. 25 there are a number of buttonhole makers employed on round hole machines; and

Whereas, These workers can not be admitted into Local No. 58; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention instructs Local No. 25 to see to it that only members of Local No. 64 be employed in such shops where round buttonholes are required.

Your Committee recommends that this matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

Moved, seconded and unanimously carried to adopt the report of the Committee.

Resolution No. 135.

Introduced by Delegation of Local No. 41.
Whereas, On the books of the I. L. G. W. U. it appears that the Wrapper & Kimono Workers' Union, Local No. 41, of New York, has paid per capita on 615 members for the six months beginning November 1, 1913 to May 1, 1914, and

Whereas, At the Cleveland Convention in June, 1914, an assessment of 50 cents, known as the Legal Defense Fund was levied on each member of the International Union, making Local No. 41 liable for $307.50, and

Whereas, It has been proven by the books of the International Office that from January, 1914, until June, 1914, the average payment of dues or per capita to the I. L. G. W. U. was received from 377 members, and

Whereas, The books of Local No. 41 and of the International Office show that from October 1 until December 31, 1914, a period of thirteen weeks, only 259 due stamps were sold, which make an average of 70 due stamps per week (this includes 24 new members initiated in the local during that period), and

Whereas, It is well known to all the officers of the I. L. G. W. U. that from January, 1915, to October, 1915, Local No. 41 was practically out of existence, having only about thirty-five members paying dues, and that during that period, at the meeting of the G. E. B. in January, 1915; another assessment of 50 cents for the Legal Defense Fund was levied, and which again made Local No. 41 liable for $307.50, on the books of the standing of the Local in November, 1914, and

Whereas, Local No. 41 did its utmost and paid $50.00 on this assessment, which already amounts to more than its membership at that time, and

Whereas, Local No. 41, having now a membership of nine hundred, with shops spread in different localities of Greater New York is forced to maintain three offices and five paid officials, which make it very hard for this organization to meet its expense with its normal income, and

Whereas, There are still from sixty to seventy per cent of this trade unorganized in New York City, a condition which puts the local always in a position of defense and constant guard, be it therefore

Resolved, That the unpaid balance of the 1914 Legal Defense Fund against Local No. 41, be stricken off the books of the International Union.

Your Committee recommends that this matter be referred to the incoming General Executive Board.

Unanimously carried.

The Convention has referred to us an appeal by the New York Ladies' Tailors' Union, Local No. 80, with regard to the case of Benj. Prager which was decided by a committee appointed by the last Convention in Philadelphia:

President Schlesinger: You remember two years ago, at our last convention, the Committee on Appeals and Grievances has acted upon an appeal presented to that convention by a member of the Union, Benjamin Prager. The Convention appointed a committee to act on that appeal, and that committee has acted and rendered a decision. Now there is an appeal against that committee, but the committee on adjustments recommends that the appeal be rejected.

Upon motion the report of the adjustment committee was unanimously carried.

This Convention has referred to us a letter signed for a group of expelled members of so-called Local No. 1, Inc., containing an appeal against the expulsion order of the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of September 15, 1917.

Your Committee rejected this communication, as it does not and can not recognize any person who pretends to act or speak on behalf of any group which is not organized and sanctioned as a part of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

There has been referred to us an appeal of a member of Local No. 25.
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

APPEAL OF BARNET NELSON, MEMBER OF LOCAL NO. 35.

1574 Madison Ave., New York City.
May 17, 1918.

To the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention, Boston, Mass.

Greetings:—

I, Barnet Nelson, after being a union presser for nine (9) years in Weinstein Bros. shop at 114 E. 23rd Street, New York City, was thrown off my job and disgraced by Local No. 35, and I am absolutely innocent.

Therefore I would like to ask you to appoint a committee to investigate my case as I am not looking for a selfish desire but only for justice, as my case is a frame-up, and you will convince yourselves as soon as you will try to investigate same.

Hoping to get justice at your convention, I am

Respectfully yours,
BARNET NELSON.

Your Committee has found that in view of the fact that this member has refused to appear before the Appeal Committee of the Joint Board of New York, his appeal be rejected.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

APPEAL OF N. LEVINE, MEMBER OF LOCAL NO. 35.

1774 Lexington Ave., New York.
May 17, 1918.

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

Greetings:—

In the interest of justice I take the liberty to appeal to you, as the highest body of our organization, from a decree brought against me by Local No. 35, which I consider unjust and highly personal.

Being an active member in good standing of our organization for many years and chairman of the shop where I am working, I could not endure my own brother to work in an open shop in the same trade. Where there was a vacancy in my shop I told him to come to work there, and I enrolled him as a member in the union on the following day. But certain men who had personal grudges against me complained to the Union, and I was fined $25.00. My appeal against the decision was rejected, because the same men who had convicted me were on the Board of Appeals.

Not feeling myself guilty of any crime, and considering it unjust that personal enemies should be allowed to pass judgment upon a defendant. I bring my appeal before you and I hope that in the interest of truth, you will reverse the aforementioned decision.

Fraternally and respectfully yours,
N. LEVIN.

Your Committee has rejected this appeal on the ground that this member was fined for sufficient and just cause.

The recommendation of the Committee was unanimously carried.

This concludes the report of the Committee on Adjustments.

Fraternally submitted,
S. Selman, Chairman
S. Langer, Secretary.
M. Brodfield
William Barcan
Daniel Nisanovitz
Ida Baxt
M. Wolberg
M. Shur
L. Friend
H. Berlin
N. Riesel.

Upon motion the report of the committee as a whole was unanimously carried, and a vote of thanks given to the committee.

President Schlesinger: Delegates, I know that we have a special order of business for this hour, but feeling that it will not take up more than just a few minutes, I will try to dispense with that motion of yesterday. The convention is honored today by having two invited guests that you would all like to see and hear. I will introduce them in the proper order. One of the guests is one of the ablest Jewish writers in the world. He has been...
ADDRESS OF COMRADE ABRAHAM LESSIN:

I am neither a lecturer nor a speaker, and came here only to express from the depth of my heart my respect and admiration for the great organization of the International Union. I want to tell you that what I say to you is no phrase, because I am not a speaker, but that it is really the truth. We used to have in the Jewish labor movement organizations which had souls, but no bodies. On the other hand, there were organizations in America which had bodies, but had no souls. Your own organization is one that has a body and a soul—and you demonstrate it from year to year more and more. Again I express my deepest respect and admiration to you and wishes for a greater future. (Tremendous applause).

President Schlesinger: Now, delegates, I am about to introduce to you our second guest and I can really not find the appropriate words. That he was always connected with our organization, you all know very well. To say that there was not a meeting of cloakmakers or waistmakers, or of any other kind of makers which we have tried to organize during the last twenty or twenty-five years, in the City of New York and other cities that he has not addressed would also not be new to you. To say that he is a man who has been actively engaged in all the practical work of our organization, as its spokesman, at conferences with employers and before boards of arbitrations, is also something that everybody knows. Being unable to find the appropriate terms, I will therefore present him to you as the only Socialist in the United States Congress—our dear friend, our beloved comrade—Congressman Meyer London.

Congressman London received an ovation—everybody rising and applauding vigorously for several minutes.

ADDRESS OF CONGRESSMAN MEYER LONDON.

Mr. Chairman: In the noise of your demonstration I forgot my speech. (Hearty laughter). You know it is one of the things that I have not yet learned, in spite of nearly four years of service in one of the most important Parliaments of the world—and, of course, from the American standpoint, the most important, I have not learned to write out or to prepare a speech. And in these critical days it is essential that a public man, or one whose words are supposed to amount to something, should learn not only to think what he is going to say, but to actually dress his thoughts in proper form.

I have not learned this, and it is quite a disadvantage. Even in Congress I have to rely that at the proper time I will say the proper word. Sometimes I succeed.

And the principal reason why I don't prepare a speech, and why I don't write it out is that I trust myself—not that I trust my wisdom—not that I believe that I am omniscient, but I trust that whatever I will say, whether it be on the floor of Congress, in the Assembly of Comrades in the district or before a convention, I shall speak not with the idea of getting the applause of the moment, but I shall speak what is in the deepest corners of my heart all the time! (Great applause.)

I entrust myself to the movement—not because we are the best—not because we are the noblest—not because there are no greater movements somewhere else. No! But we are the best that we can be under the circumstances that have surrounded us in the United States of America!
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

plauso). We have done well. Many of us were cast into the ghetto, where only the dark side of America was seen—the gloomy side. In New York, in Chicago, in other large cities, we only saw the unclean part of American life; the petty, the small, the scurril, the uninteresting, the repulsive, were the things that surrounded us. And the men who presumed to be the leaders of our life were the commercial men—the men who pointed our eye to the successful employer and said: “This is your ideal.” We had to take the soul and the psychology of the Socialist—of the idealist—and apply it to the conditions as they confronted us. We had to try to modify conditions and not to lose ourselves—not to lose our soul—not to lose the man within us, under the oppressive conditions which we met.

And we have stood the test well. Here and there, now and then, we have repelled a good man. Here and there, now and then, we have lost a man. But in the main we have gone forward.

I have at every convention of Labor expressed the thought that the only power that can rebuild the world is the organized labor movement. I was elected primarily through the fact that in my fights in the ranks of the Cloakmakers there were thousands of comrades with whom my soul was tied up, with whom my heart was tied up and who knew me and knew my work; and it is they primarily that have elected me to Congress! (tremendous applause).

Don’t you make any mistake about it. And I want to give notice to ambitious men in the Socialist movement, that the only way to be able to render service in the parliamentary field, is for a man to come into the trenches and work with and for the men and women who toil in the factories. (Vigorous applause).

If we only had that kind of men and women in Russia—if we had a few less who know all about books and how to rebuild society and how to change it in 24 hours from the most abominable form of autocracy into a cooperative commonwealth! Of course it is nobody’s fault there, because they had no labor movement worth while. It was small, insignificant, and the industrial progress amounted to nothing.

Why have I such confidence in labor movement? Why did I put so much trust in it? I will tell you why. Let us reason it out coolly. What is the psychology of the business world? What virtues are necessary to succeed in commerce? What is necessary to succeed in the labor movement? Who succeeds in the business world? The man who gives a care to sorrowful others, or the man who is out for himself all the time? In the business world the man separates mankind into two parts: himself and the rest of the world. He is always ready to say, “no matter what happens to the rest of mankind, so long as I grow, I succeed.” These are the ethics of the commercial world. These are the ethics of business.

And they find it out today, in war times, that these are the ethics of their commercial system. They find today in the City of Washington, right where the original reservoir of patriotism is supposed to furnish inspiration to the rest of the people, that there under the shadow of the capitol and within a few steps of the White House, our landlords are putting out a flag twice the size that they ever had before, but are raising the rent six times the size it was before. (Laughter and applause). Such is the commercial soul. The world is on fire. The country is at war. All its man-power is to be called upon. For the first time in the history of this Republic men are going abroad to fight in the supreme crisis in the history of mankind. But the commercial man—the business man knows only himself. And even if his own boy is at the front, he says, “Well, my boy is at the front anyway, and if I can make a little extra cash, why shouldn’t I?” (Laughter). That is his philosophy. That is his theory.

Hundreds years ago, they passed in England a law known as the Statute of Frauds. That was supposed to be a law to protect men from frauds. But frauds have continued. For years they have been changing it, modifying it, improving it, so as to prevent leakages. And every State of the Union has been changing that law to pre-
vent frauds. And the Congress of the United States has been recently legislating on matters dealing with false weights and false measures, the very same things against which the Hebrew prophets spoke: Thou shalt not use false weights and false measures.

Why can't they stop fraud? Because this very foundation of their lives is wrong. Because selfishness at the expense of the rest is the ideal of their lives. How can a world based upon that principle live! Sooner or later it was bound to collapse, and the clash of the hatreds, the conflict of enmities and jealousies, was bound to bring them to destruction.

How different with us and with our movement! How can a worker live and thrive, unless his life and his dreams are tied together with the lives and the dreams of others. Where world commercialism says, "Fight for yourselves"—Labor says, "Fight for all!" Where commercialism says, "Disregard the world!"—Labor says, "Stand for the world!" Where commercialism says, "Stand alone against mankind!"—Labor says, "May I perish, that mankind may live in a better world!" (Tremendous applause).

Disunion there, union here; competition there; cooperation here. Hostility between man and man there; solidarity between man here.

A group of business men are bound to have secrets from one another. They will form an association, but there are certain things that they cannot afford that their leaders should know. There are certain things that one has got to keep secret from the other because he has his eye on some customers of his. He has his eye on a market of his. Perhaps the other fellow intends to take away from him a skilled employee. There is always something to hide.

What is there to hide in the labor movement? What is there that an honest laboring man cannot tell to the rest of the world? What is there that he has to conceal? Everything is in the open. Everything can be proclaimed from the house-tops! And that is why there is no greater inspiration to a man than to be a part of the labor movement, and if there is any delegate here, or any man here who still dreams of becoming an employer, I want to tell him that his soul will find no satisfaction there, because the schooling that he goes through in the labor movement will never give him rest in the business world.

Some men who went away from us, or thought they were pushed away could find no rest anywhere else. The truth is that a man worth while will never go away. If you can not get a chance to work on top, work somewhere else but work! There is no such thing as an ignominious place in our movement, because we are all working for one common purpose.

Comrades, you have heard so many speeches at this convention that I really feel that it is an imposition to talk to you; except for a few plain things that I want you to remember. Don't you get yourself to believe, ladies and gentlemen, that everything is going to be smooth, and that the war will bring Socialism by itself, and that Governments are adopting Socialism. This is an idea proclaimed so often from the Socialist platform, that people will soon begin to believe it. Nothing of the kind! Nothing of the kind! The labor movement has to be on the lookout just for this very thing. The war has created a lot of new slogans, and one of the things that we are told by some people is that it is going to bring Socialism. When Schwab of the steel trades said: "Socialism is coming."

A reporter asked me "What do you think of it?" I told him, "When the financial princes begin to talk about the coming of Socialism, I begin to look around to see if anything lies loose that they have not grabbed yet!" (laughter).

Be careful when they talk about the coming of Socialism because so far as they are concerned, they will be doing everything in the world to prevent it. Just now they are trying to kill freedom of discussion!—getting people used to being hypocrites, not to talk—not to express an opinion which is unpopular. And the first method of destroying liberty is to prevent freedom of discussion. That is the first method. It
is an elementary thing, and because it is so simple, people don't realize the importance of it.

The suppression of freedom of thought and freedom of speech and freedom of press, which is today advocated as a temporary measure because of the necessities of the war, will be continued by the ruling interests to keep down everybody and everything, in order that labor may know its place, and that it, may not ask too much.

There was a proposition in Congress to spend fifty million dollars for the building of homes for the working people in war industries. The Secretary of Labor was to take charge of it. As a Socialist member I tried at every opportunity to offer amendments wherever possible these homes should be permanent. What was the thing that Congress did? This very contrary. They were so afraid that this idea of building homes for the working people might be undertaken as a permanent duty, that they specially provided that these buildings shall be temporary in character; and furthermore they provided that at the conclusion of the war, that the only power of the Secretary of Labor shall be to sell them and dispose of them. What does that show? A trend toward Socialism, or a trend to keep away from it?

The railroads were taken over by the Government as a Government necessity in war times. I offered an amendment that the railroads should not be returned to the private companies in less than 99 years. There were four votes for the proposition including mine. Does that show a desire to keep the railroads, with its billions of dollars capital, by the government, or does it sow a desire to give it back to them?

In other words, you must not fall asleep on your rights. Don't imagine it is coming—coming of itself. Carlyle said: "Reforms are made in time; but they are not made by time." They are made by men, by strong men. And there never was a time when we needed so much strength and so much courage, as we need now. Let every man who is useful be at his post. We are not going to do or attempt to do the impossible. But we shall utilize every opportunity to strengthen our position as a part of the labor movement of the world.

We are at war, and we realize the significance of it. No profiteer shall come to us and teach us patriotism. No profiteer who picks the pocket of the poor and who puts up a big flag in order to conceal his rascality shall be our teacher. We have learned to love the fundamental principles of democracy and republicanism in a school—in the school of suffering, in the school of martyrdom, in the school of the labor movement. We know our duty to the Republic, and we know our duty towards the labor movement of the world.

Comrades, do not permit yourselves to be carried away by any false hopes that improvements and changes in the world are going to come of themselves. And don't forget another thing. All the dark forces, all the reactionary elements, everybody who has a message of despair for the masses, will be at the front. They will try to drown our voices. They will try to crush us. They will try to destroy us in the name of the very noblest ideals. Let us offer resistance!

Not only shall our ideal be to prevent anybody from taking away things from us, but our ideals and our slogans will be, onward all the time! (great applause.)

Comrades, your convention is coming to a close. You have heard enough speakers. You will see me and hear me again and again. My only wonder is how these men and women are not tired of hearing my speeches—I have delivered so many of them. But tell me, when did a man or a woman get tired of hearing words of love? You don't get tired of that. (Laughter and applause).

I don't come to you with any new philosophies, with new books and new schemes written out, and new great ideas stolen from big books. I just come as I am, with all my faults, and with all my shortcomings, and I take you as you are, with all your faults, and with all your shortcomings.

Brothers in arms, with the light of love on our faces, the inspiration of an ideal in
our hearts—a part of an army of emancipation, leading the world onward, united in our enthusiasm and courage.—We defy! we defy all the powers of darkness!

(At the conclusion of his address, Congressman London was given an ovation, everybody rising and applauding vigorously for several minutes.)

Pres. Schlesinger: Delegates, we are now under the heading of Nominations and Elections. I will call upon Delegate Feinberg of Local No. 1, who is the President of the Joint Board of the New York Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union, to preside.

DELEGATE FEINBERG of Local No. 1, Chairman of the Joint Board of New York thereupon took the chair.

CHAIRMAN FEINBERG: This convention stands now open for the elections of officers for the next two years. First comes the election of delegates to the American Federation of Labor.

DELEGATE KAPLOWITZ: I wish to nominate one of our men of New York, who is at present, an organizer of the International—and who was the first secretary of the Italian Cloakmakers, Local No. 48, and was also Secretary of the Italian Advisory Board—Brother A. Leporato. (applause)

Delegate Leporato accepted the nomination.

DELEGATE MARGOLIS: Brother Chairman, I consider the office of delegate to the A. F. of L. more important at this time than any other office in the International, with the exception of President. I wish to nominate one who will be able to present the point of view of this international in the proper light and in the proper language. I wish to nominate one whom you all know, and that is Brother Charles Stein of Local No. 10.

Delegate Stein accepted.

Delegate Miss Litvakov nominated Miss Mollis Friedman. Miss Friedman accepted the nomination.

Delegate Metz: It was adopted at this convention that the President is a delegate to the convention. Is it understood so?

Chairman: Yes, Sir.

Delegate Metz: That means we have to make nominations for five delegates only I wish to nominate as delegate to the A. F. of L. convention—a former delegate. He is known to everyone at this convention, and he represented us at the last convention of the A. F. of L. This is Brother Jacob Heller. (applause)

Brother Heller accepted the nomination.

Delegate Berlin of Local 10 nominated Brother Max Gornstein.
Mr. Gornstein accepted.
Delegate Broidfield nominated Delegate Silver.

Delegate Silver declined.
Delegate Stamper nominated Philip Berlin, who accepted.
Delegate Ashpia nominated Feinberg, who accepted.
Delegate Weinstein nominated Harry Silberman of Local No. 25, who accepted.
Delegate Kushner nominated Delegate Max Finkelstein (declines.)
Delegate Hacken nominated Delegate E. Rosenberg (declines).
Delegate Salutsky nominated Delegate Lubinsky (accepted).
Delegate Greene nominated Delegate Zucked (accepted).
Delegate Wiener nominated Delegate Elner of Local No. 90 (declines).
Delegate Chasanoft nominated Delegate Lefkovits (declines).

It was moved and seconded that nominations stand closed. There were no objections. unanimously carried.

The Chairman appointed the following five tellers: Meyer London, A. Lessan, Elmer Rosenberg, Morris Sigman and Ph. Kaplowitz.

After the vote had been taken and counted, Chairman Elmer Rosenberg, of the
Teller's Committee announced the result as follows:

Alfred Laporta 125 votes
Max Gorenstein 122 votes
Harry Silverman 82 votes
Jacob Heller 124 votes
Mollie Friedman 100 votes
Israel Fineberg 128 votes
H. Zucker 89 votes
H. Lublin 41 votes
Ph. Berman 41 votes
Chas. Steh 41 votes

Schlesinger shall be elected by acclamation.

Several voices: Second the motion.

(There was tremendous applause upon this—everybody rising and cheering for several minutes).

Chairman: Are there any further nominations?

Delegate Metz: Chairman, I made a motion. The motion was seconded. Put it up to a vote.

Delegate Ninio: Mr. Chairman, as there is no other name to present, therefore, I move to close the nominations. (Seconded) (Great applause).

The Chairman, however, refused to close the nominations.

Chairman: Anybody else desires the floor?

Delegate Berman: I move that we instruct the General Secretary and Treasurer to cast one ballot, unanimously, for our worthy President, Brother Schlesinger. (applause).

My feelings concerning the person that I am going to nominate can be expressed in these words—he is the man who has made our International big and great. He came to our union at a time when our International was in a very precarious condition, and he has brought it up to a degree where the whole world looks with admiration upon it. I am expressing the wishes of the entire convention when I say that we are thankful to the man whom I am going to nominate. I have the pleasure and the honor to nominate for the next term of President of our International, President Schlesinger (President Schlesinger received an ovation—everybody rising and applauding vigorously for several minutes).

Chairman: Brother Schlesinger has been nominated as President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union for the next two years.

Delegate Langer: I second the nomination.

Delegate Metz: I move that Brother Schlesinger shall be elected by acclamation.

Several voices: Second the motion.

(There was tremendous applause upon this—everybody rising and cheering for several minutes).

Chairman: Are there any further nominations?

Delegate Metz: Chairman, I made a motion. The motion was seconded. Put it up to a vote.

Delegate Ninio: Mr. Chairman, as there is no other name to present, therefore, I move to close the nominations. (Seconded) (Great applause).

The Chairman, however, refused to close the nominations.

Chairman: Anybody else desires the floor?

Delegate Berman: I move that we instruct the General Secretary and Treasurer to cast one ballot, unanimously, for our worthy President, Brother Schlesinger. (applause).

My feelings concerning the person that I am going to nominate can be expressed in these words—he is the man who has made our International big and great. He came to our union at a time when our International was in a very precarious condition, and he has brought it up to a degree where the whole world looks with admiration upon it. I am expressing the wishes of the entire convention when I say that we are thankful to the man whom I am going to nominate. I have the pleasure and the honor to nominate for the next term of President of our International, President Schlesinger (President Schlesinger received an ovation—everybody rising and applauding vigorously for several minutes).

Chairman: Brother Schlesinger has been nominated as President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union for the next two years.

Delegate Langer: I second the nomination.

Delegate Metz: I move that Brother Schlesinger shall be elected by acclamation.

Several voices: Second the motion.

(There was tremendous applause upon this—everybody rising and cheering for several minutes).

Chairman: Are there any further nominations?

Delegate Metz: Chairman, I made a motion. The motion was seconded. Put it up to a vote.

Delegate Ninio: Mr. Chairman, as there is no other name to present, therefore, I move to close the nominations. (Seconded) (Great applause).

The Chairman, however, refused to close the nominations.

Chairman: Anybody else desires the floor?

Delegate Berman: I move that we instruct the General Secretary and Treasurer to cast one ballot, unanimously, for our worthy President, Brother Schlesinger. (applause).
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

Nobody opposed. (Laughter and applause).

Chairman: I have the pleasure of declaring Brother and Comrade Schlesinger as the President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for the next two years.

Brother Schlesinger was given an ovation—everybody rising and applauding and cheering for several minutes.

President Schlesinger thereupon resumed the chair.

President Schlesinger: Delegates, you have done something today, which, in my opinion, is a little irregular. I cannot see how you can go about the election of officers in the way you have done today. You should at least ask the candidate who is nominated whether he accepted the nomination (laughter), though I can see the reason why you have not asked me; because I made the statement to you yesterday that I did not intend to accept it.

I have no words, really, to express my feeling towards this matter, and towards you delegates, at this present time. The truth of the matter is that I have not slept for a couple of nights and it will take me some time before I will be able to know exactly where I am in this matter. I told you yesterday that I have no fault to find with any delegate or any member of the organization. I did consider it a work of love, and during the four years that I have worked for you, I tried to the best of my ability to serve you, and have done it with the keenest pleasure. But I explained to you yesterday that I have no fault to find with any delegate or any member of the organization. I did consider it a work of love, and during the four years that I have worked for you, I tried to the best of my ability to serve you, and have done it with the keenest pleasure. But I explained to you yesterday that I have no fault to find with any delegate or any member of the organization. I did consider it a work of love, and during the four years that I have worked for you, I tried to the best of my ability to serve you, and have done it with the keenest pleasure. But I explained to you yesterday that I have no fault to find with any delegate or any member of the organization. I did consider it a work of love, and during the four years that I have worked for you, I tried to the best of my ability to serve you, and have done it with the keenest pleasure.

I want to tell you that if not for the splendid unity and cooperation of each and every member of the General Executive Board, and the various officers of our local organizations and Joint Boards, it would not have been possible to accomplish what we have accomplished. There can be no two opinions about it. But we are now discussing the office of president and I will therefore say this: I believe that I have established some kind of a reputation for myself among the employers as well as among our working people. The reputation is that when I say something, I stick to it. I am just thinking of what the manufacturers or other people that we have to come in contact with would think when they will get to know that I have broken my promise to the Forward Association to become its manager. Recently I got a telegram from Samuel Gompers, the President of the American Federation of Labor, urging me to do just what you are asking me to do, to remain with the organization. But Samuel Gompers is the President of the Federation, and knows the ins-and-outs of labor organizations; particularly, as regards the composition of officers. But the outside world including the employers, do not know much about it. I can just imagine what effect it will have on them. Why, here is a man who some time ago promised an organization to accept a position with them; and a few months later when he came to a convention, he was given several ovations and
FOURTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE I. L. O. W. U.

presents, was cheered and applauded, and as a result he broke his promise and remained with the organization that he was heretofore connected with.

This is the danger that I see in this matter. However, you elected me without even asking me, without taking a chance. I naturally will have to take the same chance—simply go on and see what we can do. You simply imposed upon me something which I believe at this present time would be wrong on my part to refuse or decline, and I naturally will have to stand by the decision of the convention. (Great applause).

I do want to say, delegates,—although I think I have covered that point,—another few words in order that you might have the right idea about the International, about its success, and about our present standing, and about, what I believe, is the future of our organization. In my opinion, it will be some day, not only the fourth largest organization of the A. F. of L., but I have reason to believe that if we all work together—and when I say WE I mean all the officers and the leaders of our organization, and work as devotedly as in the past four years, and everyone of them has shown a whole lot of ability—that our organization will before very long be not the fourth largest organization of the American Federation of Labor, but the third, and let me tell you what the third means. We cannot expect to be the first largest, for the reason that the first largest organization is the Miner's Union. There must be in this country very close to three-quarters of a million miners. We have reason to believe that all of them will organize. So naturally, that organization will have to be at all times the largest organization of the American Federation of Labor. The next largest industry which is organized industrially is the Carpenters' Union. The third largest union is the Machinists' Union. I have reasons to believe that before long our organization will, instead of being the fourth, be the third largest union in the American Federation of Labor. But in order to accomplish this, which, I am sure, is your aim, as well as my aim, you must see to it that every delegate to this convention, when they leave this city for their respective homes, when they will start out again to work in their local unions as officers, or as ordinary men in the ranks, that not only will they do themselves their duty, but they will see to it that every member should realize that it is his duty to do what he can, so that we may be able in a very short time to be the third largest union of the American Federation of Labor, and thus satisfy our great ambition.

I want to say, in conclusion, that I am very thankful to each and every member of the General Executive Board who has served with us. The relations between us were the most congenial. We have not only acted as officials together, but our relations were those of brothers and friends. Each and every one who was a member of the General Executive Board deserves as much of your love and admiration as you have shown me. I thank you very much. (Tremendous applause).

Chairman: Nominations are now open for General Secretary-Treasurer, for the International, for the next term.

Delegate Silver: The person whom I am going to nominate has served faithfully as we all expected him to. He has also, in my opinion, and the opinion of many delegates, that I have spoken to, added a great deal to the splendor of our International union. I am here, Mr. Chairman and Delegates, to nominate Brother Abraham Baroff as the General Secretary of our International.

(Secretary Baroff was given an ovation, everybody rising and applauding for several minutes.)

Delegate Silverman: I make a motion that the President shall cast one vote for Brother Baroff as our unanimous choice for the next two years.

Several delegates seconded the motion. (Great applause).

Chairman: It has been regularly moved and seconded that the President casts the unanimous vote of this convention for the election of Brother Abraham Baroff as the General Secretary-Treasurer of this Inter-
REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS

national for the next term. Are you ready for the question?

Everybody: Question!

Chairman: Are you ready for the adoption of this motion? All in favor say Aye.

Everybody: Aye! (Tremendous applause).

Delegate Abraham Baroff was declared unanimously elected as General Secretary.

ADDRESS OF BROTHER ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Brother President and Delegates: It is very hard, it is practically impossible on an occasion of this kind, to say something long and elaborate. There is no question about it, that I am happy and glad to find that you have confidence in me, and that you have again re-elected me to the office. I feel that I have done in this office as much as it was possible for me. Your humble servant may say that it was a pleasure for me to work, together with our beloved Brother Schlesinger, and I feel that to all the great achievements that he has accomplished, I have also added a little—not much—but I have made pleasant the work in the office for him. (Great applause).

I am happy with the reelection, because it proves that you have confidence in me. I hope that I will do my duty towards the members of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers Union, and that I am still happier to find President Schlesinger remains with us. (Great applause).

Because, let me tell you, sisters and brothers, though I know that we have in our midst some able men but at this present time, with the conditions in the country, with the greatness and largeness of our International, with the great decisions which you have adopted at this convention, I may tell you the truth that none would dare to undertake to lead this work and I have not slept for the last few nights, thinking that as Brother Schlesinger has said not once, but many times that he cannot break his promise, I thought that probably the pressure of the delegates would not be strong enough to impress upon him the great importance he remain again with the International. I certainly have worried about the future of the International Union and I rejoice with you delegates that President Schlesinger remains with us.

I have reason to believe that with the administration which is going to be elected, with the new General Executive Board— we will work again in the same spirit of unity and harmony as we have been working until now.

And let me tell you, brothers and sisters, delegates to this convention, that it was really a pleasure to be at every session of our Board for the last 19 months. All our discussions were conducted in such a spirit that I will never forget them in all my life. I have met a set of men, and one woman, that have worked in harmony and have had at all times only one aim before them—national stronger and how to give the member which the International represents, more benefit out of the organization.

I am pledging you here, delegates, that I will do all I can, that my entire soul will be devoted to the work of our International, and together with our beloved President and the new General Executive Board I will do all I can to work and to help the emancipation of the working class. (Great applause).

Pres. Schlesinger: Yesterday, the Committee on Law reported on a new amendment to the constitution, which provides that the President of the International be a delegate to the American Federation of Labor by virtue of his office. There is a provision in our constitution that decisions that are made by our conventions go into effect 30 days after the convention. I will therefore entertain a motion, that the President of the International—well, you have to mention my name in it—is elected as a delegate.

Delegate Aarps: There is no necessity for making such a motion, because when the chairman stated that there are only five to be elected as the sixth one is already chosen, it was not contested by any of the delegates.

Delegate Heller: Mr. President, I move that this convention elect unanimously our
newly elected President, Brother Schlesinger, to represent the International Ladies' Garment Workers at the next two conventions of the American Federation of Labor. Seconded.

This was unanimously carried.

Delegate Amur: With your permission, if you will allow me to read off a resolution, which according to the Rules and Regulations of this convention should have been given over to the Resolutions Committee by a two-thirds majority of the convention— I will read off this resolution.

Resolution No. 146.

Introduced by delegation of Joint Board of Philadelphia.

Resolved that the salary of the President of this International Union be $6,000 per year.

Resolved, that the salary of the General Secretary be $3,500.00 per year.

The committee did not act upon it, because we want to have the consent of a two-thirds majority of this convention.

Delegate Metz: I move to this effect. This was unanimously carried.

Chairman: This resolution will go to the Resolutions Committee.

Then there is another proposition here, which we have in the form of a letter, and we have also heard this matter in the form of a personal appeal. One of our ex- Presidents of our International, Brother Herman Grossman was here, and among other things he made an appeal for assistance on his own behalf.

If there is no objection, this letter will also go to the Committee on Resolutions. There was no objection in either of the above cases.

President Schlesinger: We are now under the heading of nominations for first Vice-President of the International.

Delegate Zerkover: Mr. Chairman and delegates: The man I will nominate for Vice-President is a man whom you all know, and much more, a man whose ability is not questioned by anyone within the hearing of my voice, a man who has devoted his time, energy and services for the upbuilding of Local 10; and not only did he devote his time to the upbuilding of Local 10, but he is also known in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union as a man, who is known in other labor organisations, where his name is mentioned with highest regard.

And in view of this fact, the delegation of Local 10, by a majority of 8 against 2, decided that Brother Isadora Epstein shall be nominated for the First Vice-President.

Delegate Margolis: Mr. Chairman and Fellow Delegates: Considering the importance of the office of First Vice-President of the International at this time, I want to beg the indulgence of the delegates, as well as the President, for just about a few minutes, to preface my nomination. I want to say, Mr. Chairman and Delegates, that for the last few years, at least since my memory serves me, Local 10 has been honored with having the first Vice-President on the staff of the International officers. I want to say that the membership of Local 10 was always aware of the honor, and it has at all times appreciated the courtesy extended to Local No. 10. I want to say that at all times, whenever Local No. 10 was honored with a Vice-President, that Vice-President was a reflection of the membership—yes, of the active membership, for that is the only way we judge.

However, I want the delegates in this room to bear in mind, and it is a fact that is known to everyone, at this particular time, a fact that has been ably reported in the report of officers, that the membership of Local No. 10 has made a complete change in its administration. I want to say that the people that have replaced the old administration are not people of good looks, nor did they put the other people out because those people were not as attractive looking. I want to say, Brother Chairman and Delegates, it was purely and simply a question of views and policy, at the present
time—and this delegation is a live example that the membership of Local No. 16 has not only acted differently, but it has elected even different delegates to this convention. I want to say, Mr. Chairman and Brothers, that aside from everything else, Local No. 16 desires to have a First Vice-President, and it furthermore desires to have one who should not be one whom the delegation—the majority as it is represented—wants to get rid of from the local, but they want to have one who should reflect the present attitude of the majority—yes, the vast majority.

I therefore think, Mr. Chairman, that it is absolutely important for this convention to elect such officials whose views are in consonance with the very legislation that we adopt here. I think it is important that this convention elect such people as its head, who do voice the sentiments of the delegates as expressed by the resolutions adopted.

I therefore, Mr. Chairman, will not take any more of your time, but I am going to proceed immediately to the nomination of Brother and Comrade Elmer Rosenberg, the Socialist Assemblyman. (Tremendous applause).

Chairman: Are there any further nominations?

Delegate Leffkovitz: I move that you close the nominations.

Chairman: I would not like to close it by myself. Are there any further nominations? There being none, the nominations stand closed. There are two candidates in the field, and the delegates will have to decide their choice by a ballot, as they have done formerly. Does Isadora Epstein accept?

Delegate Epstein: I do, with honor.

Chairman: Does Delegate Elmer Rosenberg accept?

Delegate Rosenberg: I accept.

Chairman: After the ballots had been counted, the results proved to be 121 votes for Rosenberg and 75 votes for Epstein, thus electing Brother Rosenberg to the office of First Vice-President.

Chairman: A few weeks ago, President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor informed me that at the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, the President of the International Union is either to act himself, or to appoint some one of the delegates, elected to the American Federation of Labor convention, as a member of the Credentials and Auditing Committee of the American Federation of Labor. That is the first time, by the way, that our organization has received such kind of recognition by the Federation of Labor.

I notified President Gompers today that Delegate Gorman was appointed. Delegate Gorman will therefore have to proceed to Washington tonight, because the Committee on Credentials and Auditing starts to meet tomorrow at ten o'clock at the office of the American Federation of Labor in Washington. (Applause).

We will now proceed to the election of the General Executive Board. Let me make this suggestion. Let us first make nominations for members who reside in New York, then the ballots will be distributed and the membership will vote. But instead of waiting until the vote will have been counted, which takes up generally about an hour, we will proceed with the nomination and election of Vice-Presidents who are to represent the country. (Vigorous applause).

Delegate Wiener of Local 31 nominated Delegate Samuel Leffkovitz.

Delegate Heller nominated Delegate S. Metz.

Delegate Miss Friedman nominated Delegate Sol Selzman.

Delegate Weinsteim nominated Delegate Morris Sigman.

Delegate Silverman nominated Delegate Harry Wander.

Delegate Flakelstein of Local 11, nominated Delegate Jacob Halpern. Delegate Kaposwitz nominated Delegate S. Nata.
Chairman: There being no further nominations, the nominations for the New York members of the General Executive Board, stand closed. The Secretary will distribute ballots and collect the ballots, and then we will make new nominations for the out-of-town members.

After the ballots had been collected the Chairman sold.

We will now proceed with the nominations of members of the General Executive Board for the country.

Delegate Gold nominated Brother Schoolman. (Applause).

Delegate Porter nominated Max Amdur. (Applause).

Delegate Krolcider of the Joint Board of Cleveland nominated Delegate Solomon.

Delegate Karner of Toronto nominated S. Koldofsky from Canada. (Vigorous applause).

Delegate Memmon of Local 1 nominated Delegate H. Harwit of Boston.

Delegate Charles Greene of Cincinnati nominated Delegate Perlstein.

Delegate Max Lipsch of Baltimore nominated Delegate J. F. Pierce.

Delegate S. J. Rager of Local 1 nominated Delegate Silver of Philadelphia.

Delegate Effner of Local 90 nominated Delegate Fazia Cohn.

Delegate Goff seconded the nomination of delegate Miss Cohn.

Chairman: Any further nominations? (There were none). The nominations stand closed.

I want to ask those who were nominated, whether they accept. (They all accepted the nominations).

Chairman: I want to announce to the delegates before we will distribute the ballots, that we will not announce the vote on the New York Vice-Presidents before all the votes on the country members are counted. (Applause).

After the votes had been counted, the Chairman announced the following results:

For the New York members of the General Executive Board:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H. Night</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Wander</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Solomos</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Halpera</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Sigman</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Lefkovits</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Weitz</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairman: I therefore declare the five six, Nina, Wunder, Solomos, Halpera, Sigman and Lefkovits elected as the New York members of the General Executive Board. (Great applause).

The delegates for out of New York have received the following role:

H. Schoolman 145
Max Amdur 144
M. Perlstein 121
S. Koldofsky 119
Fazia Cohn 89
A. Silver 74
H. Harwit 65
John F. Pierce 64
D. Solomon 22

We need only six, and out of this number the following six are elected:

H. Schoolman, Max Amdur, M. Perlstein, S. Koldofsky, Fazia Cohn and A. Silver. (Great applause).

President Schlesinger: The Committee on Resolutions will report.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution No. 146.

Introduced by delegation of Joint Board of Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the salary of the President of this International Union be $5,000.00 per year.

Resolved, That the salary of the General Secretary be $3,500.00 per year.

The Committee on Resolutions recommends that this should be concurred in, Unanimously carried.
There are two more resolutions, one in the form of a letter from H. Grossman requesting financial assistance from the Convention.

The committee recommends that this letter be referred to the Incoming General Executive Board. (Unanimously carried).

The Committee next read this resolution:

Resolution No. 145.

Introduced by M. J. Ashpa, Local No. 1.

Whereas, The Los Angeles Sanatorium is an institution supported by voluntary contributions, and

Whereas, This Sanatorium has been established for the purpose of helping workers affected by tuberculosis who have no other means of cure, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention expresses its support to this noble institution by a donation of $150.00.

The Committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in. (Unanimously carried).

Delegate Gornstein: I want to announce for the Committee on Officers' Report that we were a sub-committee to express the desire of this convention by buying appropriate tokens for our worthy President, Secretary and the entire Board. We have not yet had the opportunity, and I wish to have the consent of this convention, that as soon as we get to New York at the proper time we get together and present our General Executive Board with whatever the sub-committee will find advisable. (There was no objection).

Chairman Schlesinger: We are under the heading of installation of officers, and I will call upon Congressman London to install the officers. When the Congressman himself is re-elected, I expect, as the President of the International, to have the honor to install him. (Laughter and applause).

Congressman London: It is indeed a task that I am rarely called upon to perform,—probably one that I don't know how to do justice to.

The new administration of the International is entering upon its duties at one of the most momentous periods of the human race,—a period that will leave its indelible mark on every phase of human activity. Literally, the world is being remade. Nations may disappear,—governments long in existence may disappear on account of this war. In this period of transformation of the world,—in the transfiguration of nations, which we all hope will be for the better; in these days when it is impossible to tell what will happen tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, it is necessary that the men elected here to be representatives of the important industries of the world,—important for a number of reasons, and particularly because it employs a large number of women. We do not know to what extent men, as workers, will be replaced by women in industry. In any event, women will have to bear the brunt of the fight, so it is for them to determine that all the standards of labor acquired through so much sacrifice shall be retained. An industry which serves so many women, an industry in which so many workers are forever struggling, is a great responsibility for our new officers. But don't think of deserting your job, or your work when it will become uncomfortable. It is never a comfortable thing. It is the business of every man to stay until he is through.

There is comfort and pleasure in serving in the labor movement—there is glory. There is comfort in thinking that when a father comes home and brings an extra dollar or an extra pair of shoes for his child,—you may think that you have done something very great for the world when you have brought happiness into the heart of a child and delight into the heart of the father. We do not work for the dollar,—we work for an occasional ray of light, and for this it is worth giving up your life. It is glory,—glorious to serve the labor movement.

With real joy I declare you now the elected officers for the next term of the International administration. (Prolonged and enthusiastic applause).

At 5:20 the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was adjourned sine die.
There are two more resolutions, one in the form of a letter from H. Grossman requesting financial assistance from the Convention.

The committee recommends that this letter be referred to the Incoming General Executive Board. (Unanimously carried).

The Committee next read this resolution:

Resolution No. 145.

Introduced by M. J. Ashpole, Local No. 1.

Whereas, The Los Angeles Sanatorium is an institution supported by voluntary contributions, and

Whereas, This Sanatorium has been established for the purpose of helping workers affected by tuberculosis who have no other means of cure, be it therefore

Resolved, That this Convention expresses its support to this noble institution by a donation of $150.00.

The Committee recommends that this resolution be concurred in. (Unanimously carried).

Delegate Gornstein: I want to announce for the Committee on Officers' Report that we were a sub-committee to express the desire of this convention by buying appropriate tokens for our worthy President, Secretary and the entire Board. We have not yet had the opportunity, and I wish to have the consent of this convention, that as soon as we get to New York at the proper time we get together and present our General Executive Board with whatever the sub-committee will find advisable. (There was no objection).

Chairman Schlesinger: We are under the heading of installation of officers, and I will call upon Congressman London to install the officers. When the Congressman himself is re-elected, I expect, as the President of the International, to have the honor to install him. (Laughter and applause).

Congressman London: It is indeed a task that I am rarely called upon to perform,—probably one that I don't know how to do justice to.

The new administration of the International Union is entering upon its duties at one of the most momentous periods of the human race,—a period that will leave its indelible mark on every phase of human activity. Literally, the word is being remade. Nations may disappear,—governments long in existence may disappear on account of this war. In this period of transformation of the world,—in the transfiguration of nations, which we all hope will be for the better; in these days when it is impossible to tell what will happen tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, it is necessary that the men elected here to be representatives of the important industries of the world,—important for a number of reasons, and particularly because it employs a large number of women. We do not know to what extent men, as workers, will be replaced by women in industry. In any event, women will have to bear the brunt of the fight, so it is for them to determine that all the standards of labor acquired through so much sacrifice shall be retained. An industry which serves so many women, an industry in which so many workers are forever struggling, is a great responsibility for our new officers. But don't think of deserting your job, or your work when it will become uncomfortable. It is never a comfortable thing. It is the business of every man to stay until he is through.

There is comfort and pleasure in serving in the labor movement—there is glory. There is comfort in thinking that when a father comes home and brings an extra dollar or an extra pair of shoes for his child,—you may think that you have done something very great for the world when you have brought happiness into the heart of a child and delight into the heart of the father. We do not work for the dollar,—we work for an occasional ray of light, and for this it is worth giving up your life. It is glory,—glorious to serve the labor movement.

With real joy I declare you now the elected officers for the next term of the International administration. (Prolonged and enthusiastic applause).

At 5:29 the Fourteenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was adjourned sine die.