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Justice (Vol. 1, Iss. 50)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)
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Comments
Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of Justice were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of Justice shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of Justice.
Cloak Industry Cannot Afford Living Wage, Bosses Claim

In reply to the letter of the Joint Board, published in the last issue of Justice, the Manufacturers' Protective Association reiterates the legend that the wages the cloakmakers are now receiving are sufficient to meet the rising cost of living. The manufacturers further state in their letter that after consideration of the Union demands, they could reach no conclusion other than to file a petition to abide by the existing agreement. They also repudiate the charge of profiteering. They are willing to submit the question for investigation so that the public could learn the whole truth.

In the letter that follows the Joint Board clearly and unmistakably states the tactics of the manufacturers.

Dec. 23, 1919
Cloak, Suit & Skirt Manufacturers
W. R. Silverman, President
220 Fifth Avenue
New York.

Gentlemen:
Your reply to our letter of December 17th, in which we requested a discussion of the demands of our workers for an increase in wages in mutual conference, in accordance with the time-honored custom prevailing between our Union and your Association, contains a flat refusal to confer on this matter. If this contains a feasible attempt to justify your refusal to confer before the public which, as you know only too well, is keenly resentful at any hand-operated method or stand that may be assumed by either party in a wage controversy of this type.

The situation, in brief, amounts to the following:
Our Union has entered into an agreement with your Association during May last. A minimum scale of wages was fixed for the workers in the industry which was considered, at that time, as a reasonable basis for movement. As you will recall, the minimum adopted at the time of the signing of this agreement was based upon an expectation that prices of necessaries will come down, and that an agreement shared in this opinion. You will also recall that you have, at that time, stated that you were explicitly and unqualifiedly that should the opposition take place and should the cost of living rise, that it will be our duty to meet that rise in such a way that we shall, as always, do in such cases, take up the wage question in conference and adjust it. Reason and past experience have pointed to both sides the necessity of adjustments and changes which are bound to affect a wage scale during the life of a three year agreement. To meet such situations, we were always wont, during the run of our former agreements, to meet in conference to judge the factors involved in them and to agree upon solutions. Your refusal to confer upon the present emergency situation in the wage question is, therefore, an abrupt departure from this unwritten law of our relations and a violation of the trust, into the letter of our agreement.

We are not dodging facts, nor do we care to beg the question. Some of our workers in some shops, during the past season, have demanded and received additional increases in their wages, above the minimum scale. It is not true that the Union has encouraged these demands during the season, nor is the assertion made by you that wage increases have been threatened at the last conference to be taken recourse to "any other means," correct. But such is the logical result. Men and women must live and in the race between their earnings and the cost of living and it is quite possible that you would be left too far behind. It is precisely because we look facts in the face and act upon them that we did not fail to avoid a repetition of such practice that we have asked for an increase in the minimum scales of our workers on their behalf. Common sense and business acumen could dictate no other policy to any group of men.

Your flippant remark "as the alleged increases in the cost of living," contains in itself a touch of cruelty which will be very keenly understood and felt by the public before whom you are attempting to justify your position. The public that is compelled to pay from month to month higher prices for everything pertaining to a living,—for shelter, food, clothing, amusements and health,—knows too well the terrific increases which the rise in prices of commodities has been making into their earnings and incomes. This public will not begrudge the cloakmakers their request for a reasonable increase in their earnings.

We are prepared to prove without equivocation, by governmental and public statistics, open and accessible to all, that the increases in the cost of living between May, 1919, and the present date, or the period which you are using to represent the demand for an increase which we have made and which you have ignored, does not justify the demand for the rate of wages which you are presenting to the public, or which the manufacturers and the public alike, have so greatly contributed toward the amicable settlement of the controversy.

The situation in Toronto, Canada was critical last week. The manufacturers at first failed to meet the union representatives in conference. But later a conference between representatives of the employers and workers were held at King Edward Hotel which assured friendly cooperation in the future.

Our union was represented at the Toronto Conference by Vice President S. Koldovsky, Manager of the Cloakmakers' Union, and the following members: J. Perelman, H. Kruger, A. Friedman, J. Sparr, A. Cooper and William Hines.

The Philadelphia situation is still uncertain. Several conferences between union representatives and the manufacturers have already been held. General Secretary J. Perelman and President Ambar were the chief spokesmen at these conferences.

Agreement has already been reached in Philadelphia in regard to the wage scale. The chief difficulty, however, is the question of the wage scale.

Brothers Baroff, Ambar, and H. Weinberg addressed a memorial to the manufacturers of Cloakmakers. Confidence was expressed in the committee negotiating with the manufacturers.

Cleveland Cloakmakers Score Great Victory

Details are not yet available of the great victory of the Cleveland Cloakmakers, but according to a letter received from M. Perelman, Vice President of the International, and manager and organizer of the Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland, the victory is complete. As it had already been reported last week by Justice, the situation in the cloak industry in Cleveland, during the last several days, has been very disconcerting. It appeared, for a time, that a struggle was imminent.

Fortunately, the controversy has been amicably adjusted to the satisfaction of the workers.

This victory was made possible by the solidarity and determination of the Cleveland cloakmakers. A large measure of credit is doubtless due to the groups of manufacturers headed by the well-known Mr. Black, who were in full accord with the Union demands. M. Perelman's telegram is as follows:
Cleveland, Dec. 23, 1919.

"I was invited yesterday by Mr. Black to address the workers in his shop. Shortly after this address, Mr. Black went to the meeting of the manufacturers and told them that he is signing the agreement with the Union. Over thirty manufacturers followed his example. Others will sign today.

"The question of the wage scale will be taken up at a conference of the employers to be held within the next few days in New York or Cleveland.

"As you may readily see the victory is complete. The newspapers hailed this agreement as a new day in the industrial relations. An interview with me appeared yesterday morning on the front page of the most prominent newspaper in the city."

M. Perelman."
**Topics of the Week**

**United States Banishes Free Speech**

The most pivotal event in our history has taken place when 240 men and women, having offended the state, society, religion, economic relations from those of the nation, have been executed without a trial. The execution took place in the prison of the local jail, and in the prison at Ellis Island. The state is now prepared to move forward without a charge or a hearing, even on written notice, to the state authorities. The state has the power to imprison people through ridicule, scorn, and other bullying and harassment by the use of concentrated power. The state has no mercy for political heretics who have been banished from democratic America.

**Victor Berger Rejected**

Berger was rejected by Congress by a majority of 4,000 over his Fusion ticket. His vote, however, was supported by the Republicans. Berger was convicted by Congress as disloyal, unpatriotic, and a man of ideas that circulate in the brain of a good Congressman. Yet he was a Republican, an American party, the Democratic and the Republican, have joined to support the insertion of Berger. Berger was rejected.

But, Congressmen are not to be dictated to, as if any body who dictated Berger did not know any better.

Congressman Albert Johnson made a characteristic comment on Berger’s rejection. He said: "In my judgment, I have thought of the election of Mr. Berger in Milwaukee, and I say to the people of Wisconsin. It is a matter for which American laboring men should be denominated.

**Commins Bill Passes Senate**

Commins Bill passed the Senate on Dec. 16, a delegation representing the American Federation of Labor, the four railroad conferences, and the several farm organizations called at the White House and presented a communication. They requested that the President sign the bill. It was requested that action on the house of the roads be deferred until the Senate should consider the measure. The appeal was made after Samuel Gompers and other labor representatives appealed upon Commins’ bill to urge them to withdraw his bill. Mr. Commins pleaded with the Senator that the country was opposed to the measure, that its anti-smoke provision could not be endorsed, and that it was not law-breaking of patriotic citizens, and that labor control over the roads is not understood, so the American people could determine whether they wanted such a law. The Bill of Rights issued by the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. has reaffirmed the plea. The Railroad Brotherhoods have conducted a vigorous campaign in its support.

**Allies Finally Decide to Crush Russia**

About a week ago, Lloyd George stated in the House of Commons that he was convinced to send a mission to Russian delegates to explain the question of non-intervention in Russia. Nicholas, the Romanov brother, has reaffirmed this plan. The Russian government has conducted a vigorous campaign in support.

The United States Senate made its reply to the House and presented a resolution on December 10. It has passed the Commins bill providing for private ownership of the roads and rail ties, and the right to strikes, particularly making strikes a criminal offense.

Coal Commission Appointed

The coal strike is still being settled. Judge Anderson is still exercising his prerogative to set aside a coal strike. The President, Hiram Howart, President of the Kansas district of the United Mine Workers, has called up by the Judge’s order, vola-

"I will tell you," said Commins, "the two principal decisions we have taken are that the coal strike will not make peace, but we will not compromise with the Government of the Sovirel government. It is not a new program but it is nevertheless signifi-

"But the President, oddly enough, lived up to his promise. He has appointed a coal commission to investigate the conditions through the county and recommend changes in wages, if necessary, to the national economic situation. There are three members: John P. White, former President of a labor union; and two workers, representatives of the coal miners and employers. Henry M. Robinson, former member of the Shipbuilding Board, will be the third member. The terrible Anarchists and Bolsheviks are no more. The American president stands alone as the law-giver, and peace reigns on earth.

"The dead have a tendency to rise and when they do, they are often stronger than the force that they are living. Their ghosts go marching through the land, proclaiming that ‘peace’ shall never prevail until the Piroszes and money changers have been lashed out of the political order, and the human spirit restored to the people.

"We, the first American political parties and the government of the United States, truly brave and truly free, and we will be recalled by the people, the government with people in their triumphant achievement."

The Washington government has plunged into the mad whirl of reckless and oppression. All things are in the hands of the people. Exile of political prisoners is an ancient art. It became a great art after the war. What is novel about American methods of oppression and exile is that they are applied to people, not to cities. Exile consists in taking such men as they are, breaking them, breaking their spirit, breaking their thought in thoroughness. But it is none the less significant to observe that the American government shows a slightly inferior intelligence than even the government of the United States.

The theory underlying the deportation of political prisoners is that you can’t take ideas, as you are doing with your manufactured products, and ship them out of the country. The ruling class has forgotten the truth known to school children, that ideas thrive under oppression and persecution. The entire history of progress demonstrates that truth. The ruling class will not destroy free thought. It is a sure process of self-destruction.

We quote from a statement signed by Eugene Goldman and Alexander Berkman. It is, we believe, secreted in this country, and we believe that the United States government has secretly obtained from them during the last visit by their friends. We quote from a statement signed by yourself. Democratic America, once the first to offer asylum to all political refugees, America, the friend and generous hostess, giving aid and comfort to the Russian exiles in being deprived of rights granted to them by the government. The revolutionary movement is now introduced exiles and banishment for opinion’s sake.

"Today we are engaged in a war of extermination of the best and most idealistic human beings and women, though of foreign birth, who have tilled and alloted for others, and, though of foreign birth, are being torn from their friends and communities, separated from their family, and in their struggles to maintain their liberty, subjected to the most brutal and inhuman acts."

"The world that the Allies maintain a barbed-wire fence against the nations of Europe, the Poles, and the peoples, and the frontiers against the frontiers of the world that the Allies and their workers, the Frontiers of the United States, are to be maintained by a barbed-wire fence against the Frontiers of the Polish, the Allies, and the United States are to be maintained by a barbed-wire fence against the German frontiers."

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The usual classes in English, will be held at all the Unity Centers this week until December 30th, when all classes will adjourn until Jan. 5th, 1930. The regular classes convene on Dec. 14th and the high school classes on Dec. 3rd, but at the request of the director of the local G.W.U., the Evening School Department of the Unity Center has extended the period in the Unity Centers until Dec. 24th.

Next week the Bulletin will carry the full curriculum for every Unity Center for the year 1930, which will be of great value to our members.

For the next term, special efforts will be made to increase the staff of teachers at the Unity Centers wherever necessary, and systematic plans for the printing of these given. Gymnastics practice will be given in the East Side Unity Center as well as in all other Unity Centers.

Monday, Jan. 5th, 1930. Rush Hour, Local 9, New York, Local 9, Lecture on "Workers' Compensiation" by Mr. H. Sherr.

Monday, Jan. 12th, 1930. Grocalkmakers' Union, Local 21, Newark, Lecture on "Injunctions and Lawsuits" by Mr. H. Sherr.


The Harlem Unity Center will be held in the Turing Room of Public School 101, Lexington Avenue and 111th Street. All those planning to register in Harlem or Chi- cago this week are requested to register at their Local Unions, or write for addresses to the Educational Department. A very interesting educational program has been arranged for this Center. The Opening Celebration of the Harlem Unity Center will be held on January 3rd, 1930. A very artistic musical program will be given and prominent educators will speak.

An additional Unity Center will be held in the Catholic Church, Cathedral Parkway, where a great number of our members reside.

During this vacation, we expect our Educational Committees of the various locals and the Officers to carry on an active registration campaign among their members to carry the various Unity classes, and send in registration cards and Educational Department.

THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

The Workers' University of our International was opened last week. The first assembly of the Business Agents was held Friday, Dec. 11th and the second session on Saturday, Dec. 20th. The first assembly of the Business Agents was held on Saturday, Dec. 20th, 2 P.M. at the Washington Irving High School, where the members of the committee on the course in the Economics of the Industrial System were given by Mr. D. H. B. W. To the committee on Literature by Mr. W. I. B. S. N. The second assembly for the classes for Active Members was held Sunday, Dec. 10th, A. M. Dr. Samuel A. Tannenbaum, President of the Workers' University, and Dr. Gustav F. Schulte.

As members of the Executive Boards of the different Unions are usually very busy serving on committees and in other ways, and give most of their time to the Union, and since many of them (rankly refuse to serve, on condition of the International deciding on special classes in English for them, either on Sun- days or evenings. We therefore ask mem- bers of the Executive Boards to do their best for these classes at once and send in their names and ad- dresses to the Educational Department.

BULLETIN FOR WORKERS' UNIVERSITY, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

Classes for Active Members Saturday, Dec. 24th, Washington Irving High School, 9 P.M. to 5 P.M. Course on Literature by Mr. B. J. Stolper, W.U. Labor and Management and Labor Organization, Leo Wolman, W.U.

Classes in Economics of the Industrial System, Leon Airdorso, P.M., and Mr. Gustav F. Schulte, 11 A.M.

All students will receive a copy of the final curriculum for the Workers' University in which the courses will be described in detail.

All members of the I. L. G. W. U. who wish to attend the classes at the Workers' University should register either through their local unions or through the Education Department, 31 Union Square, Room 1002.

Members of the International and their friends are invited to attend the Brabham Playhouse and for the Jewish Art Theatre, at the office of the Workers' University at 31 Union Square, the Unity Centers. The season ticket for the Brabham Playhouse costs $10 and it includes two seats in any part of the theatre at 50 cents each, for most of the plays. The ticket for the Jewish Art Theatre costs $15 and entitles the holder to get two seats in the theatre at half price on Tuesday evenings and Saturday after- noons.

On Friday, Dec. 11th, a very successful program was given by Local 9, the Brewster Labor Lyceum where an audience of 2500 people, members of Local 9 and their families, enthusiastically received the artists, Miss Warner, soprano; Mr. Jacob, violinist, and the speaker, Mr. Max Levin, who spoke on "Problems of the Labor Movement".

On Saturday, Dec. 20th, Local 9 held a lecture and entertain- ment program in the same hall, the artists being Helen Holmes, violinist, and Mr. Harnick, organist. Mr. Max Levin spoke on Reconstruction of the Labor Movement. The program was warmly received by the audience.

LETTER FROM A STUDENT

To: Editor, The Justice.

From: all the important things our International has done toward bettering the working com- munity, it has succeeded in achiev- ing greater things.

I am referring to the establishment of the first International doing the greatest service for the members of the International in its efforts at bettering the future and broad-ening their vision.

Excellent teachers are lecturing on the subjects which every man and woman should be familiar with. The Unity Centers are not only giving our members information, but joy as well.

After attending these classes for some time one discovers the real value of this undertaking of our International.

CELLA OSTROFF.

THE WEEKS' NEWS IN 'CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Amended Constitution Read

As previously announced here, the general membership meeting held last Monday, Dec. 2nd, decided upon the first reading of the pur- posed amendments to the constitution. While this may seem like a right to propose any amendments to those proposed by the committee, nevertheless, it must be said that this is for the next meet- ing to state that it would be an un- necessary move.

At the meeting, Mr. Max Levin spoke on "Problems of the Labor Movement", which was warmly received by the audience.

Installation of Officers

The time this paper reaches the membership, the election of the Officers of the following terms of one year will have con- cluded. Hence the membership is asked to the installation of the following afternoon, January 3rd, at 1 P.M. the installation of those of the officers who have re- ceived the highest number of votes will take place.

Ball Committee's Plans

As of the last meeting, the BAll Committee is preparing to distribute the tickets among the officers of the Union for sale to the membership after the union's election. Members are asked to buy tickets for their families, themselves and their friends at once, thus assuring an unprecedented attendance. Judg- ing by the strides forward the union has lately been making there is every reason for prophesying the a fruitful meeting and a unique one from every point of view.

The Ball takes place Saturday evening, March 1st, in the Hotel Palace, Southern Boulevard and 135th Street. Professors Sclie- ber's Band will furnish the neces- sary music. International and kindred organizations are expected to make contributions. Enquiries of this sort for the date mentioned.

Holiday Pay

The attention of the members is called to the fact that all cutters in all branches of Local 10 are entitled to receive a holiday pay of $1.50. We have been so fortunate as to be working the week preceding Christmas, should have had to work and should have received a full week's pay! Any failing to receive a full week's pay and having begun on Monday of this week should immediately notify the union and the differ- ence made up.

Cutters, on the other hand, who secured jobs during any part of the week, must receive a proportionate share of the holiday week, or at the 36-hour rate. The Union has a Social Security, so that every member has a job on Monday afternoon or any time after Mon- day night, should they be laid off at the 36-hour rate. Members who failed to receive pay for this week are asked to file a complaint to that effect.

Dress and Waist Band

Immediately following the installation of the Officers of the union, the manager of the branch will distribute the necessary control of the trade. Members are asked to prepare for this. They must have their own bills with them and must be ready to show them to th ordinary enforcement agents controlling the branch.

They must also be in good standing, so as to avoid any trouble. You must come before the Executive Board.

The new working card, pink in color this year, is to be in the post in the first week of January. Members securing jobs on or after January 1st will get this new working card. Those members who are at present working should on that day bring in their old cards and old cards changed for the new ones. Failure to obtain a card at once is an automatic failure to return a working card up on one's being laid off, constitutes a violation of the union's rules. All such delinquents will be called before the Board.

Cloak and Suit Branch

From reports in three columns of the newspaper, it is said that the 20 percent in the wages of cloakmakers the members of this branch can receive.

(Continued on Page 3)
EDITORIALS

1919

The year of 1919 is leaving behind it a feeling of resentment and despair. Whether the number of people, sufficient to found for such an attitude for it was a year of the bitter disillusionment of many fond hopes and expectations. Many must feel that peace is still very remote. Others again are keenly disappointed because they feel that the Workers of the world have not received just and well-deserved reward. Our conservators and union leaders for years were promoting the idea of the deep root system of peace and security. The year 1919 did not bring final emancipation. It was not brought in the measure that had been a year ago.

We will not speak here of the tragic errors of which we have already spoken, the errors that have occurred in all other countries of Europe which are unprecedented in their gravity and depth.

If there is logic in the events they are bound to usher in greater and more far-reaching events which will bring a new form and content to our life. But it is not the immediate purpose of the European situation. It is this stormy period over the heads of people who feel dependent about better prospects in this storm.

We are prepared to challenge this attitude. We are prepared to countenance the opinion that things in this country are ordinary, equal, and respectable.

Let us recall the events of the most violent events during the past year.

Would you consider the general strike in this country as most important? Was the Longshoremen's strike ordinary? How would you classify the Bloomfield strike, the demands of the shopmen? Where would you pigeonhole the Pullman Strike and the Brotherhoods? And, finally, are not the strikes of the miners and steel workers proving evidence that remarkable changes have taken place in our labor movement?

There should be no reason for forward-looking people to feel, in any way, disappointed with the wage question, for they could not have expected such a turn of events. The reign of terror was brought to a successful issue. The strike committee was re-elected and more and more conscious. The employers were rocked to sleep in the face of the demand of the workers for better rights which the workers had surrendered during the war would never again be resurrected. This they considered to be the greatest gain.

But reality took its own course. The near future, it may confidently be expected, will demonstrate how grievously the ruling class must suffer in their calculations.

1919 AND OUR INTERNATIONAL

No matter what one might think regarding the achievements of the past year, the members of our great international, the C.I.O., representing workers, the railroad makers, the embroidery workers, and the workers of all other trades of the ladies' garment industry have no reason to complain about 1919.

It will be a hard year, with many battles, fought by our Union, which are distinguished for the courage and solidarity shown by the workers.

The year 1919 will be inscribed in the history of our organizations, with golden letters. We will only mention a few of the achievements to the demonstration of the deep rooted system of piece work has been done away with by the C.I.O. work has been deviously reduced. A minimum wage scale, a 44-hour working week, a minimum of overtime have been brought about.

These are, of course, many evils that we have not yet overcome. There are many problems which have not yet been solved. But the problems are not so much as the wage scales will exist. Those conditions which are, in any way, amenable to improvement, will certainly be dealt with in the future.

It is true that about the year 1919, it is a situation which has been brought about which makes effective changes in the industry possible. In the past, there was constant breaking up meeting the left, which same conditions are the same.

We built on treacherous soil which made factories giants. This year 1919 a firm foundation has been laid, ready for the greatly and beautiful structure which labor is now to build.

THE LABOR PARTY

Twelve Hundred delegates were present at the first convention of the Iowa Labor Party, which met in Chicago on November 22. Thirty-seven states were represented, and fraternal delegates came from the Non-Partisan League, the Socialist League, the Alliance of Washington and the Committee of Forty. The work of organization has been going on for a year and a half. A large number of cities in Illinois, Labor Party, mayors have been elected, and in the last mayoralty election in Chicago, the Labor Party candidate polled some 50,000 votes.

The first national convention formulated a platform which, while frankly admitting its kinship to the British Labor Party, nevertheless spoke in tones which showed how native a development it is this new political party. It is the authentic heir of the numerous attempts of American working men to party for the development of the Republic.

Elements of the platform have been successful by the fact that every group of organized workers has devoted their attention to the principles which are the demand for economic equality for women, a principle first enunciated in this country by the Labor Party platform it is try organized labor. In sum as the party.

A FOOTNOTE

It would be impossible for us to mention all the many activities of the International during the past year. This is necessarily for we have few, if any, newspapers in the lands of our members.

We will only mention of many achievements. We are referring to our publications, "Justice," "Gerechtigkeit," and "Avanti," the English, Yiddish and Italian organs which were born early in 1919. We can say that the weekly organs have brought a new soul into the International, and that the International has carried on all the activities of organization. They have formed an indissolubly bond between the different workers of the International. The term "broshe" has ceased to be a mere sound. It is becoming a synonym of solidarity of our ranks. Our organs reflect the experiences, struggles and hopes of all the members of the International. They unite the workers of Los Angeles with those of New York, Philadelphia, etc.

Our organs not only reflect the life and struggles of our International, but also try to guide toward its achievements. They have attempted to clarify and explain the role of our International organization. They have always been our own and are most mine as the experience of the movement. Day by day, our organs are always ready to perform their duty.

The year 1919 is inescapable, it seems to us, the decision of the former convention of the International to the doctrine that should serve, not any particular union, but the entire organization. It is not that we are far from being perfect. But, they seem to be rapidly progressing in what they are trying to do. Justice congratulates the International on its splendid 1919 and on the brilliant prosperity the future holds in store.

1. The repeal of the espionage law and the complete restoration of civil liberties.
2. Free press and free assemblies.
3. The ratification of the woman suffrage amendment.
4. The acceptance of the principle of equal pay for men and women doing the same work.
5. The nationalization of public utilities and natural resources.
6. The nationalization and regulation of railroads, mines, forests, water power, gas, oil and utilities, telegraph, telephone, radio, and all other public utilities, including the utilities, cold storage and terminal warehouses, packing plants, flour and meat mills, steel works which require large scale production.
7. The exclusive control of the banking business by the federal government.
8. The Plumb Plan for the nation's recovery, to provide a union, free press and free assemblies.
10. The right of the worker to organize and to be protected in their organizations.
11. Federal and state aid for home and farm owners.
12. The extension of unemployment.
American Labor and Revolution

By NATHAN SHAVIRO

The demands underlying every strike that is sweeping this country today are for recognition of the trade union demands. They are concerned with wages and hours. Yet the representatives of the government, high and low, are fearing, while many ardent souls are shouting that these demands screen sufficient ammunition, spiritual ammunition, at least, for the overthrow of the birthing establishment of the Soviet. Even our most stolid public men are being moved to protest these demands, an eventuality by asking: Is there a revolution? Is it revolution possible?

What is at the basis of so much uneasiness, stripped of all hysteria, is the rising consciousness of labor. It is the raising of pertinent questions, in any labor dispute, are not what demands the miners, the labor workers, the workers have submitted to their employers, but that what is in the background of the attention is directed to those rumbles, convulsions, cross-currents of emotion, that either are concealed or, while the anxiety looking them in the face, unity and direction is nonexistent.

That there are unmistakable signs of the new mind of labor is, however, evident. And if revolution is a thing of the past, there is in any way traceable to these signs, we should be able to find some road to the solution of the evils that the Labor Party will disappear.

In these hysteric days we are apt to forget that it is precisely the carrying out of the fight for the most elementary rights which we imagined was going on fifty centuries ago. The fight for free speech was a moral, it was remote from the positive and constructive forces that were undermining the entire society. But in those clear-sighted and impatient people to deal with the reorganization movements which are going on within the trade unions? The labor movement has divided, have burst into industrial forms of organization. The fight of the miners passing into revolutionary unionism. Skilled and unskilled workers are both being or unionize with each other. Take the Steel Strike, for example. The coming together of twenty-five national and international trade union in a common struggle against one enemy is unprecedented in American trade unionism. Similarly the four railroad brotherhoods have been made into one industrial concordant wages agreements, where the wages and working conditions of the workers are conciliated at the same time, instead of presenting industrial demands separately and at different dates. Not only is there a reorganization within different trade unions, but there is a struggle between the economic relations between the organizations of different industries. This struggle is being conducted by miners and railway men.

A resolution was passed at the Cleveland convention of the Mine Workers, inviting the Railroad Brotherhoods to join with the miners in an alliance, this resolution to be later extended into an economic alliance with labor organizations in other basic industries.

What is new and significant about these prospective alliances is that they are to be formed not for the purpose of striking, but for the purpose of building a common front. The chief aim is positive, constructive. The purpose of the miners' resolution was to form a national organization looking toward nationalization or socialization of industry.

This demand has one core, which is constructive, effective impact against the existing order. It involves the maintenance which is under construction in our own country, independent labor policies had the slightest effect on labor in this country, were born when the ruling class was especially violent in breaking up the working labor movement. But after the edge of disappointment had been worn off, the men, organized, and the labor leaders again hurried contentedly in the lap of their employers. But now the time has come when the labor movement will rest upon the negative, repressive measures of the government. The spirit of the day, the spirit of our times, is a spirit of action, of the right, of the wrong, of the good, of the evil, of the strong against the weak. It is a spirit of the people against the power.

There are signs that the time has come for the labor movement to be united in action to save the labor movement. There is no way to overstock the tremendous push given to the labor movement by the class-consciousness of our Democratic administration since its plunge it.

Thanks to the "Government in union," the National Labor Party was born at the Chicago meeting of workers in industry and commerce. The assurance of fair prices to farmers. The eight-hour working day and equal pay for equal work. The right to vote for all, profit to all on the basis of the war risk experience.

1. Minimum wage basis on the cost of living.
2. Performance of government work directly by the government.
4. The reduction of hours during periods of depression to provide for wage maintenance.
5. Workers' control during such periods by national house building, road maintenance, and the like.
6. The return of American soldiers from Russia.
7. Self-determination for all nations.
8. The impeachment of Judge Alschuler.
9. The abolition of the Senate.
12. Condemnation of the peace treaties.
13. Creation of the national department of health.
15. Condemnation of mob violence.
16. Opposition to a declaration of war against Mexico.

Clinic Notice

Kindly take note that there will be a reorganization of the Medical Clinic from the 1st of January, as follows:

1. APPLICANTS: Applicants will be accepted only from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M., on Wednesday from 5 to 7 P.M., and on Saturday from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. The time will apply to men and women, be allowed for examination.

2. GENERAL CLINICS for men and women will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and on Sunday, 1 to 3 P.M.; and by Dr. Schwartz on Monday and Thursday from 5 to 7 P.M.

These General Clinics are for members of the Locals who are not eligible for the regular examination and treatment.

3. SPECIAL CLINIC FOR CHILDREN will be held on Tuesday from 5 to 7 P.M. by Dr. Sophia Ratlinoff.

Applications will be accepted during this period.

4. A SPECIAL CLINIC ON THIRTEEN DISEASES will be held on Wednesday at two o'clock. The Clinic will be limited to six patients and applications will be made for each examination and treatment.

5. A SPECIAL CLINIC ON NOSE AND THROAT will be held on Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 P.M. The time will be charged for examination and treatment.

6. A special notice will be put up for the medical clinic at the corner.

7. Specialist on Nervous 15.

Note: This clinic will not be open during the summer months.

8. The common currency will be the dollar.
9. Applications will be accepted during this period.
WHAT LABOR THINKS

Events are occurring daily which are of revolutionary significance to the labor movement. It is clearly the situation! What is in the mind of labor? The Survey, a liberal publication, recently asked every member of its editorial board the opinions of representatives of different groups of people. Here are the questions asked labor leaders with regard to present problems:

WILLIAM Z. BUCKER, Secretary of the American Federation of Labor, on Organizing Iron and Steel Workers:

Striped of its externals, the labor struggle is but the man¬
right vs. property rights. The proposition involved is whether human service, or the mere ownership of property, shall be the deciding factor in the distribution of the social necessities and luxuries that make life worth living. Unless we conceive the labor problem as such we will all our attempts to solve it must fail.

The labor problem is caused by the interplay of property rights over human rights in industry. The capitalists put their money into industry and then determine the property factor. The workers put their very life in; their physical and spiritual health; but in the operation of the industry and in the division of its fruits, they are merely users, with little or no stake in it. The rights of property are absolute; the rights of the majority of capitalists are the recognized masters and get the masters' share, and their agents get barely enough to live upon.

Consider the situation in the steel industry: There property rights are supreme and human rights negligible. Capitalist representation of property have complete control. They divide the rich pro¬ducts of the industry among themselves and at the benevolence and working conditions of their employees. Despite America's ad¬vances in scientific management, coal, labor and mechanical efficiency, they común to shady bookkeeping; turnover of workers to toll twelve hours per day, while those of Great Britain take only about eight, and Italy enjoy the eight-hour day. With an iron hand they put down any attempt from having a voice in the indus¬try, even though the latter's most vital interest is their own.

Against this system of industrial selfishness, more or less pro¬verbial in all industry, where work is used in a degrading contest. They will never recognize the principle that labor is a living human function than simply owning an industry should socially control that industry and enjoy all of its fruits. The working class, throughout the world, live and die in demand for these simple things, whole lives and energies in social problems and its political machines. They insist upon the recognition of their rights as human beings and producers. They demand recognition of the rights of organized labor to unite and form a union, and the right to organize freely and to select such representatives as they themselves desire. The work¬ers will be constant industrial war¬riors.

The President's industrial con¬ference failed to admit the work¬ers' right to organize. Consequently, the labor movement must look for other conferences in their pur¬pose if they do not grant the workers the right to organize. The President would say that the conception of this right is the only possible way for the country to step to the solution of the labor problems.

WILLIAM H. HUTCHINSON, President, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners:

No doubt a good deal of good could be accomplished in the way of settling differences between the workers and their employers by forming a board created similar in personal¬nels to the War Labor Board. But, however, it should be borne in mind that the organized workers could be in a much stronger position than such a board only by having direct representatives of organized labor on it. Therefore, until by this that a board of that character would be ineffective in the way of settling differences, the workers who are actively engaged in the engagement of the affairs of all organized labor were members of it.

The strike of the bituminous miners is not only a present economic situation but one feature of the labor situation which should be solved as quickly and as well as the same could be Justly and rightfully adjudicated if the government would grant to the miners the 50 per cent in¬crease in wage and instruct the operators to proceed according to that basis. If an operator refuses to operate his mine, let the government assume control of it and do as it does in the coal, steel and automobile industries to toll twelve hours per day, while those of Great Britain take only about eight, and Italy enjoy the eight-hour day. With an iron hand they put down any attempt from having a voice in the indus¬try, even though the latter's most vital interest is their own.

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CONSERVATIVE OR RADICAL

LENIN
THE MAN AND HIS WORK
By ALBERT RHYS WILLIAMS and others
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By Arthur Brisbane

“No matter what else he may be, Lenin is a leader of the greatest, strongest, and at this moment most consecutively successful revolution that the world has ever known. He represents a definite policy, is head of the revolution of consequence that started with workmen.

“To learn about Lenin read a book by his friends, Lenin, the Man and His Work,” by Albert Rhys Williams, containing also conversations and impressions brought from Lenin by Raymond Robins, and an excellent short treatise by Arthur Ramsey.”

Extract from a review in the NY. Tribune

“no one can deny Mr. Williams’ ability to tell a good story. His biography is an excellent first-hand sketch of a powerful and fascinating personality.

Scott & Seltzer, 5 West 50th St., New York
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

SPECIAL GENERAL (All Branches):
Constitution Committee to Report
Monday, December 29th.

CLOAK AND SUIT:
Monday, January 5th.

DRESS AND WAIST:
Monday, January 12th.

MISCELLANEOUS:
Monday, January 19th.

GENERAL (All Branches):
Monday, January 26th.

Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M.
AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

Ladies' Tailors and Alteration Workers' Union
Local 80

A GENERAL MEMBER MEETING
will take place
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30th, at 7:30 P.M.
AT MOUNT MORRIS HALL, 1302 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y.

Very important question will be discussed and decided.
Every member is requested to attend this important meeting.

Executive Board, Local 80,
HARRY HILFMAN, Sec'y.

BRONX SCHOOL
OF DESIGNING AND PATTERN MAKING
of Cloaks, Suits, Waists, Dresses, Skirts, Underwear, Etc.

The most perfect and easily learned system taught by
PROF. S. SHORR.

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561 Southern Boulevard,
Sponsor Theatre Building, Near 163rd Street, Bronx, N. Y.

Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!
The following shops have been declared in strike and
members are warned against giving employment thereto:

James Wolf & Co.
105 Madison Ave.

Sam & Abe
105 Madison Ave.

Salam & Meyer
30 East 33rd St.

Clairmont Waist Co.
19 West 36th St.

M. Stein
30 East 33rd St.

Max Cohen
105 Madison Ave.

Julian Waist Co.
11 East 32nd St.

Drewell Dress Co.
14 East 32nd St.

Regina Roher
302 Fourth Ave.

Deits & Ottenberg
3-16 West 33rd St.

J. & M. Cohen
6-10 R. 32nd Street.

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SIMPLEX
CLOTH CUTTER
BUILT TO WEAR WITHOUT REPAIR
SIMPLEX
CLOTH CUTTING MACHINE CO.
105 W. 21st STNEW YORK
Tel. Ferragamo 2839-6625

NOTICE OF CUTTERS' ELECTION

The Election of Officers for the Cutters' Union,
Local 10, will take place
THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1919
in
ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PL.
Polla open 12 O'clock Noon
Close 5 P.M.

Only those who are members for six (6) months
or over, and owe not more than twelve (12)
weeks dues are entitled to vote.

Members must present their dues book
to be entitled to a ballot.

LIST OF CANDIDATES

President
Sidney Rothenberg
David Dobinsky
Jacob Lukin

Secretary
Sam Mansover
Emler Rosenberg

1st Financial Secretary
Jules Samuel
Samuel Perlmutter

Harry Berlin

CLOAK AND SUIT BRANCH
Manager
Max Gorenstein
Mayer Teplitski

4. Business Agents
Benj. Sachs
Morris Steinberg
Julius Bender
Harry Zolotofsky
Louis Lipshitz
Harry Brodsky
Max Silberstein
R. Rubin

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Benj. Gilman
Samuel Kryer

WAIST AND DRESS BRANCH
Manager
Sam. M. Schneller

4. Business Agents
Sam Kahn
Max Stolier
Samuel Sadak

Adolph Rosen

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Chas. Stein No. 2.
Louis Grunz

MISCELLANEOUS BRANCH
Manager
Samuel Perlmutter

Business Agent
Jacob Felder

INSTALLATION TAKES PLACE
JANUARY 3rd, 1920.

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INSTALLATION TAKES PLACE
JANUARY 3rd, 1920.

CUTTERS OF LOCAL 10, ATTENTION!

A SPECIAL MEETING OF ALL BRANCHES OF LOCAL NO. 10
will be held
MONDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 7.30 P.M.
AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PLACE
Purpose:
FINAL READING AND ADOPTION OF
CONSTITUTION
Installation of Officers

THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS
will take place
Saturday Afternoon, 1 o'Clock, January 3rd, 1920.
At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

ATTENTION OF CLOAK AND DRESS
BRANCHES

Dress and Waist, Cloak, Suit, Skirt, Reefer and Raincoat cutters should secure the new working cards for this coming season, beginning with January 5th, 1920.