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International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

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.
President Sigman Speaks to the Members of Our International

Sisters and Brothers:

When I took over, three years ago, the office of President of the I. L. G. W. U. I knew that I had undertaken a big job.

I knew that I would be confronted, first of all, with a fight against the Communist pestilence in our midst. I did not underestimate its power for evil. Knowing how easily our people are influenced by flowery talk and high-sounding phrases and being aware that behind the local Communist band there stands the Russian Soviet Government with all its unlimited resources, I could not fail to realize the size of the task ahead of me. I knew that every Communist in the land will be trained to heap abuse on me. I knew that in the fight against me, the Moscow agents would employ every contemptible method under the sun. But I was determined that the Union must be rid of this horrible pest, and for our Union I was ready to give up my all, my life.

This, however, was not the only difficulty confronting me. I knew that not all was well in our Union, that every union action is being committed under its authority, that many a wound would be healed by it, and that its conduct has not always been exemplary and praiseworthy. And I determined to pay my closest attention to this part of the Union's life as well.

Moreover, I saw directly that, in order to rid our Union of the Communist pest, it would necessary to clean it from other undesirable elements which make for this spread of Communist infection and stimulate it. Thus, my task was twofold, and by next December, at our coming convention, I shall in full detail state to you to what extent I have grappled with these problems and succeeded or failed. At this moment I can only say that my work has not been in vain. True, the results could have been greater were it not for the freedom of the program which we adopted in every step of our work. Nevertheless, I have done what I possibly could to eliminate evils which have accumulated in our Union for a number of years past and to free the Union from many individuals who have considered the Union as their "business" and only as such. A number of positive achievements have also been made during this time which our members will probably learn to appreciate better only after the present haze that is enveloping their minds gives way to clear feeling and clear thinking.

As regards the Communist affllication, I believe that it is definitely and definitely is present. We have exposed before the whole world the utter baseness of their motives. They still are writhing in the throes of final agony, but these are convulsions of decay. It is quite apparent that their program has not succeeded in getting any power in the Union. Even their strongest supporters are afraid to come out in the open as Communists, and if it is necessary to add that the overwhelming majority of our members are not their disciples.

To make our Union doubly immune against this alienment, and primarily to insure the welfare of the organization itself, the General Executive Board at present has now adopted a program which, I believe, should be received with enthusiasm by our entire membership.

The basic motive of this program is more democracy and more freedom for the workers in the Union.

Our Union has been reared in a sphere of democracy, but a great many of our workers have unfortunately poorly understood these democratic principles and have disregarded them. They forget that the value of vigilance is the price of liberty. I believe that you have not succeeded in getting any power in the Union. Even their strongest supporters are afraid to come out in the open as Communists, and it is hardly necessary to add that the overwhelming majority of our members are not their disciples.

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With the aid of the General Executive Board I have succeeded in achieving material success in this program, and here is still a great deal which remains to be done. I believe, nay, I am firmly convinced, that our present program fulfills the task which I had sworn to achieve when I undertook the difficult job of chief executive officer of our International Union. I believe that with the consummation of this program, complete democracy will be restored in our Union.

I believe that the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Unions will henceforth express the full will of its members as never before. In its past, I believe that the thin cash which has divided the rank and file of the Union from the leadership will be bridged, and the misfright, the lack of mutual confidence will vanish forever.

I am convinced that our expectations will be fulfilled, as I honestly believe that, with only a small exception, you are all true and devoted union men and women, and I firmly believe that you will know how valuable it is for all of you to retain your freedom and independence, and that you will henceforth exercise the greatest vigilance and not allow either internal or external enemies to harm you or deprive you of your fighting strength, your means of defense and security.

The Union, through the means of this adopted program is now entirely in your own hands. You can do with it whatever you please.

I am convinced, nevertheless, that you will devote all your energies now to the task of making your Union stronger. I, together with many fellow officers of the I. L. G. W. U. believe in the principles of democracy, and we base upon this hope our anticipation that you will justify our great confidence in your sane and sound judgment which is imbued in every paragraph, in every letter of this program.

I am also confident that the wild antics of our enemies will not produce the least diversion from you. I am confident, this program is the key to all you aspire by way of influence in the organization, and if there is anything in it that you, as members of the Union, would like to improve upon, you can easily accomplish it. This program is your charter and your law, and you must never lose it to your own harm and to the harm of your Union.

MORRIS SIGMAN,
President I. L. G. W. U.

Labor Day Is A Legal Holiday For Cloak and Dressmakers

Next Monday, September 7, is Labor Day, a legal holiday in the cloak and industry; and cloak and dressmakers are not to work on that day.

The Union, as always in the past, will pair the women's garment district to observe strict enforcement of this rule. Members found at work, or on or off work, will be called to account before the grievance committees of their locale.

All cloak and dressmakers are called upon to stay away from the shop district and avoid getting into trouble. All work workers are to receive full pay for the day.

Temporary Office of Local 22 Located on Ground Floor of Joint Board Bldg.

As We Go to Press This Evening, Wednesday, September 2nd, A Great Meeting of Cloak and Dress Shop Chairmen is being held at Cooper Union, at which the Program for Internal Organizational Reforms is being submitted by Pres. Morris Sigman and a committee of the General Executive Board
Plan for Internal Reforms Adopted by the General Executive Board to Restore Peace and Harmony in Our Organization

PREAMBLE
The General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union and the Joint Board of the General Executive Board have met after an exhaustive discussion, adopted unanimously a plan for peace in our labor movement. While our organization will mark the beginning of a new era of constructive, harmonious, and progressive labor struggles, we believe that a broad, democratic basis and legitimate trade union methods.

THE PROGRAM
The plan for reconstructing our Union on the basis of greater democracy and more efficient administration is as follows:

1. That we immediately proceed with the election of executive boards of all lodges, affiliated with the Joint Board. These elections shall be conducted under the supervision of a committee of the General Executive Board in conjunction with a committee of outstanding representatives of the labor movement.

It is proposed and agreed that neither the members of the newly elected boards, nor the Joint Board, shall be selected until after the local lodges, affiliated with the Joint Board, shall have been elected.

2. Simultaneously with the elections of the joint Board, there shall be held an election for a General Manager of the Joint Board by a general vote.

The choice of a manager by a vote of the general membership instead of by the Joint Board would set an example to each local and will obviate the grievance of some of the locals which have not been represented on this committee.

3. The suspended executive boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22 shall be given the privilege of electing special committees of the General Executive Board against the decision of the special trial committee of the Joint Board.

The Joint Board has decided that the same committees of representatives of the labor movement would be elected by the Joint Board.

4. The Joint Board shall continue to be represented on the central executive committee of the Joint Board.

5. The finance committee of the Joint Board shall consist of one representative of each local and the local, the local, the Joint Board, and the present business agents who may desire to remain on the staff.

All these applicants shall appear before an examination committee consisting of the General Manager of the Joint Board, its chairman, one Joint Board delegate of each local, and a representative of the Joint Board and the special committee of representatives of the local.

6. The final decision of the Joint Board shall be taken only after the majority of the Joint Board has been in favor of the action taken.

7. The Joint Board shall be bound by the decisions of the Joint Board in matters of special concern to its own organization.

CONCLUSION
It is our sincere conviction that the program outlined above will meet with the approval of the great majority of the members of our organization.

Labors Moving Pictures
An labor's moving picture is being developed more and more it grips the heartstrings of those that have seen the few sols taken and realize that the life of the worker is a hard one.

One of the features that shows the progress made since white men and women were sold on the auction block is a startling dramatization of the conditions before the Christian era began.

To emphasize more clearly the terrible conditions under which women and men worked before the American Labor Movement was created, the hope that the working men and non-men are not far. Out of the hardships of the toilers in sweatshops develops a love story that will appeal to everybody.

A number of suggestions were made by these persons to increase the effectiveness of the picture. A brief synopsis of each of the outstanding incidents in the history of the American Labor Movement will be shown in the captions.

Those who have not kept in close touch with the progress brought about by the American Labor Movement will be astonished at the victories which were won after another in the struggle for justice.

Each set as made will be passed upon by officers of the American Federation of Labor and the Department of Labor.

An exhibit of Labor's Moving Pictures will be the most wonderful history of the progress of humanity.
With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH, Secretary-Treasurer

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Locals 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 22, 33, 46, 48, 64, 82 and 83 was held on Friday, August 28, 1925, at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 43rd Street.

The minutes of the Joint Board of August 11st and the report of the Board of Directors of August 12th were adopted as read.

Communications:

Local No. 19 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of August 7th.

Local No. 22 notifies the Board that the following members have been duly elected to represent them at the Joint Board: Simon Farber, Rose M. Hirschky, Harry Levine, Meyer Fine and Isaac Cannel.

The delegates are seated.

Local No. 56 advises the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of August 11st and the report of the Board of Directors of August 12th.

The following delegates are to represent Local No. 22 at the following committees:

- Board of Directors, Simon Farber; Grievance Committee, Isaac Cannel; Appeals Committee, Meyer Fine.

Brother Antonius then informs the Board that in today's issue of the "Freihet", there was a statement made to the effect that the Board, No. 83, had decided against the action of the International. Brother Antonius emphatically contradicts this statement and advises the members of the Joint Board that the Executive Board of his local decided to do everything possible to bring about peace in the present controversy.

President Sigman is then granted the floor. In a brief address he explained the action of the General Executive Board and the favorable action of the members of the Joint Board. He then expressed to the Board the hope that the matter of the 83rd local would be met by the Executive Board of his local decided to do everything possible to bring about peace in the present controversy.

Local 50, Philadelphia, Nominate Officers

Secretary Abraham Bloomfield of the Philadelphia Weavers and Dress Makers' Union, Local 50, writes us as follows:

With the return of the cooler weather, the members of the Dressmakers' Branches of Local No. 50 are beginning to do ample business again in the affairs of the Union.

During the past week we held very successful branch meetings where nominations of Joint Board members, recording secretary and business agent took place. The nominations were coming in from the various branches, it looked as if we are going to have an enthusiastic and competitive election which is welcomed most heartily.

The almost complete disappearance of the whole industry caused a causing of the members of our locals to look elsewhere for their livelihood. Our Union, whose chief interest is the well-being of its members, has ordered shop chairmen in the various branches where the question of the unemployed waiters has been the principal topic.

It is most gratifying to note the willingness of the chairmen and their committees in dealing with this problem. The result is that many former waiters are being taken into the dress industry, without the thought of returning to their former occupation should the trade trade over.

The organization campaign conducted last spring has placed our Union in a much stronger position. This fall we feel that there is a greater field and a better chance for organization of the dress shops that have sprung up recently.

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IN AN AUTOMOBILE
at WADING RIVER, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th
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ADDRESS
CITY

Labor Day Week-End A Big Holiday at Unity House

Labor Day week-end, the last days of the current week, will be celebrated at Unity House, Fort Lee, Pa., by a throng of holiday makers.

An excellent classic program will be rendered on Sunday evening at a concert arranged with especial care and taste by the entertainment director of the House. Among the artists are Matuszcz, well known concert master; George Szilvay, noted conductor, and several stage celebrities.

There are still a few vacancies left at the House. It will be of advantage to all who are planning a trip to Unity House to reserve their seats as soon as possible.

Dr. George M. Price Returns from Europe

New Home of Dental Clinic nearing Completion

Dr. Price, director of the Union Health Center, has just returned from Europe, and is already busy supervising the alterations in the dental center, which is being extended now that the dental clinic is going to have a home of its own.

The new home of the dental clinic of the Union Health Center, located at 224 Fourth Avenue, is nearing completion. Carpenters, electricians, painters and mechanics are at work. The new home of the clinic will be much better than before. The immense floor has windows through which the sun pours coming in. Every dentist's chair—there are twenty of them—faces a window. There are rooms for surgical work, rooms for a laboratory, dressing rooms for the staff, dressing rooms for the office force. In short, it is the kind of place that will adequately care for the thousands of members who could not be accommodated comfortably in the old quarters of the Union Health Center.

The need for such a place has been written about so often that it is obvious to all our members. Clean and healthy teeth are the foundation on which a person can build his daily life. To go to a really good dentist is almost prohibitive for the majority of our advantage. The new clinic of the I. L. G. W. U. Health Center, however, provides the members with expert treatment at reasonable charges and no matter how long a member shall have to work and material only. The attendance next year in the new home is expected to increase by at least three times as much as last year.

The clinic will be ready within a few weeks, and it is to the office certain that the members will be pleased with the results of the constructive effort put forth by those in charge.

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MORRIS RIGNAGAN, President.

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Aims and Ideals of Miners' International

By FRANK HODGES, Secretary, Great Britain

Thirty-five years ago this month the Miners' International Federation was born. Its first secretary was Thomas Burt, and its president was the late Right Honorable Thomas Burt, whose memory will ever be cherished, not only among miners of Great Britain but by miners throughout the world. Mr. Burt delivered his opening address in a Congress representing only 263,000 members, of whom 200,000 were the miners of Great Britain, the representatives of the other countries mentioned above.

At the end of this conference the Congress established several international committees. It will not be amiss to mention their names:

Great Britain — Thomas Burt, Pickard, Enoch Edwards, and William Abraham ("Mahan")
Germany — Ludwig Schroeder and Herman Zegen
France — Basley and Lameledin
Belgium — Desmet, Cuvrot and Benin
Austria — Elinger and Ebert

Most of these 35 miners have passed into the great miner's heaven, and it behooves their successors to continue to serve as great beacon lights to the present-day trade union leaders who are trying to guide the international industrial ship into the harbor of peace and understanding.

In the year 1848 the first Miners of America became affiliated to the International, the Dutch miners following in 1868. By the year 1924, twenty-seven national International Congresses had been held, the last one having taken place in Prague in August of the same year. These twenty seven congresses were represented by 123 delegates, the total strength of the countries being 1,272,150.

During these last thirty years the federation which originally comprised 18 nations has grown to 39 nations and includes the greatest mining countries of the world, a fact of immense significance from the standpoint of the internal as well as the external relations of the International since its inception.

But this has not been all. It has been a time of growth and development in international education in the effort to secure international peace. It is true that the war has placed many difficulties in the path of the Miners' International unable to stand against the tidal wave of aggravations which have surrounded and enveloped Europe and inundated the world into chaos. The struggle of Robert Smillie (secretary-treasurer and as secretary of the Land and Cheshire Miners' Association)

The first International Miners' Congress was held in Jolietum, Belgium, in 1872. At that time there were 106, represented but five countries, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Ireland and Germany. The president of the Congress was the late Right Honorable Thomas Burt, whose memory will ever be cherished, not only among miners of Great Britain but by miners throughout the world. Mr. Burt delivered his opening address in a Congress representing only 263,000 members, of whom 200,000 were the miners of Great Britain, the representatives of the other countries mentioned above.

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Prison Labor for Private Profit

BY KATE RICHARDS O'HAIRE

The very fabric of our democratic form of government is being run ragged and worn to shreds by the prison labor. The imprisonment trial of Governor John Walton of Oklahoma, held in the Oklahoma Supreme Court, is just another little ulcer of graft and corruption, and it is typical of the whole country. Thousands of dollars are made in every state at any state where prison labor is used to make private profits the state would be equally bad.

Judging from the testimony produced at the trial, Eli Brown, attorney for the Reliance Mfg. Co., is right fully in alleging the whole thing. The newspaper reporters have given him the "King of the Fibs." And the King calculated a conservative sum when every other "Fibber," less efficient perhaps and not quite so famous, but capable of making such stories as these in sanction and utterance. In any state, at any time, no matter what political party is in power, wherever prison labor contracts are to be let, the contractors expect to pay the price. And the "Fibbers" are required to act as go-betweens and Steelworkers, and the contractors in making contracts which will be satisfactory to all concerned. So the newspapers produce the profits, the taxpayers who foot the bills, and the decent mistakes that would still cling to ideals of clean politics.

What happened in Oklahoma is commonplace and typical of what is happening in every state in the Union. The Labor Resolutions No. 10 declared that Eli Brown came to Oklahoma and scattered $1000000. He is after the big money. And both hands. It also states that he fraudulently donated $100000 to the primary campaign as a matter of course, and $100000 to the Republican party. So when the wilful and corrupt purpose of unjustly influencing the officers of the state of Oklahoma in favor of the Reliance Mfg. Co. in the management of its business in the state penitentiary. And the testimony of the witnesses in the Walcot trial much more bribery an graft. The newspapers charged that it could possibly reached $1000000. And Mr. Ruder, Secretary-Treasurer of the Re liance Mfg. Co., stated on the witness stand that he did not know how much was spent to secure the contract, but that Eli Brown might have spent $1000000. Without knowledge.

The English language cannot be more explicit than Sec. 7496 of the Statutes of Oklahoma which provides that persons in charge of any penitentiary, or reformatory, or jail, or other prisons in the state of Wyoming, when state convicts are confined, shall not, nor shall any other authority whatever make any contract in behalf of any state convicted at a fixed price per item, or to whom is known as the "price price list," at any outside price per item. It would seem that no law could be more clear and definite than this, yet the "Fibbers" found some way to evade it, and the Rel iance Mfg. Co. runs a prison sweat shop in the state penitentiary, and the law is of no force. If the majority of the citizens of the state is violated.

In West Virginia the state officials told me that the politicians "picked like hell" about Eli Brown coming down there and "sopping up all the gravy" that could be had. Eli Brown would do the "sopping" himself and keep the money in the family. And seeming to

GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY: The Office of the International 3 West 16th street, is open every Mon day and Thursday 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase "The Women's Garment Worker" at half price—$2.00.

AUSTRALIAN LABOR: "Just for a change I'll begin collecting at the top and work down."

"Can any good come out of Nazareth?" was asked of old. "Can any good come out of Dixie?" they ask today.

This is an age-long question we ask of all new experiments, and because most of them do come out of Nazarene, and this we do because so few of us really believe that dreams can and do come true. Yet, in their secret hearts men and women are always dreaming, are always Tattling tings that are not but should be, and this we must do or perish. It is human nature.

Being true to the nature of their kind, the founders of Commonwealth College also dreamed, and, dreaming, conceived the idea of establishing a school wherein farmer-worker youth could acquire that which is (today) practically denied to them in higher education, and maintain themselves while doing so.

This was a novel idea in higher education and, of course, the pedagogy all cried out, saying: "What's a school for higher education based on a self-maintenance is a step in the right direction?" It means only this: That each student at Commonwealth is required to perform, outside of his or her academic work, a maximum of four hours labor daily, on the farms, in the workshops, or at communal services, in turn for which he receives free room, board, food, shelter and laundry. The plan was designed to cut expenditures to a minimum, to make the group a democ ratic unit, and to bind all to the realities of life, thus serving an economic, a social and educational purpose. The only fee charged students is a fee of $56 per semester, payable at the beginning of each semester. On this basis the school has operated for two years now, depending on outside donations only for its capital equipment, so that it will enter its third year with what is essentially a dream, a dream of the future, of this coming September more hopeful and more certain of success than ever.

There were trials, of course, when the methods were new and a bit rough, and there still are. There were days and weeks, and still are, when the teaching staff and students have battered bread and drank sugary pop. There have been days when there was too much of meat, but they carried on, for great in the driving force of a dream taking on form and substance.

But this was not all of the dream. They dreamed of a school that would, not only be self-sustaining, but grateful and men and women capable of thinking and acting independently, so that the right and wholesome service to their fellow workers when they left, had taken to their places in the Great American Breadbasket.

The entire curriculum of Commonwealth College is therefore shaped to the one purpose of the democracy in develop ing the personality and power of its students. In its educational programs it makes the student know himself, in order that he may control his physical and psychic functioning, he can, therefore, in order to give him a general knowledge of the physical universe in which he finds himself, in order to make him think clearly and strictly on the material problems that will confront him throughout life, to impart to him a knowledge of the economic order, in order that he may understand group behavior and thus be able to function harmoniously as a member of the complex civilization to which he is destined to live and labor; to impart upon him the fact that the sole purpose of all true education is to sublimate the soul with culture, the mind with science, the body with health, the mind with knowledge, the character with righteousness, the life with the love of the good, the True, and the Beautiful in all things.

That is what Commonwealth is trying to give to worker youth,—a true and scientific education,—the most sophisticated and the simplest, in short, the free thinking it is fast passing out of this experimental stage here also.

After a long and bitter struggle, the College is now located on its own Farm about ten miles from Men, Arkansas, which town is its post office and railway station, over which line of the Kansas City Southern railroad. The present site is one of the most beautiful in Dixie, resuming as it does in a valley surrounded by on all sides by the wonderful Ozark mountains. Nearly is the heart, with the heart, with the heart, with a delightful but the climate is capable the year around, while a healthful country cannot be found anywhere else on the continent. The site, however, was chosen with an eye to utility as well as its location. There was a plentiful supply of pure water for use purposes, including hydroelectric pow er, while the farm itself furnished an abundance of fruits, melons, vegetables and herbes of the finest quality and flavor.

That is why the soil is No. 1, because of the pioneer conditions, as all must expect to live who come here before the College. On the other hand, a ready equipped, a founding group of teacher-workers who have the experience into an institution which has evolved the problem of higher education for workers and show the way for other schools to follow.
As far as we know and believe, for instance, the elections in our Union have always been managed honestly. Nevertheless, as a number of local officials have demonstrated, our Union is secure against such demagogues and mob makers is democracy — and it was this basic idea which inspired our General Executive Board to propose a new trial before a member of the local board, to which we are quite sure the membership of the whole L. L. G. W. U. will give its hearty sanction and approval.

Recent events in the life of our organization have offered our leaders a new and grave experience of administration for genuine dissatisfaction that is likely to result in real harm. And having reached such a conclusion, the leadership of the Union decided to do all that is consonant with the spirit of a progressive labor union to eliminate all the causes of discontent in our ranks and adopted this program for a thoroughgoing overhaul of the Union.

They have found out that the source of the whole evil lies in lack of democratic management, which has undermined the faith of the membership in the Union's ability to carry on its work, to such an extent that they were ready to turn it over to any group of glib-tongued adventurers. And they resolved upon a thorough change, upon the introduction of the widest form of democratic management in the organization so as to bring back these protagonists to a better appreciation of the principles of trade-union democracy.

Moreover, the G. E. B. decided, in connection with these elections, to continue the work of the committee for the elimination of all the undesirable elements in our Union. It namely proposed that a committee of representatives of the labor movement, of persons of irreproachable integrity and standing, be chosen to supervise the forthcoming elections, including the voting of the elections, as well as the election of a general manager, the appointment or election of all business agents, and the election of full-time delegates. They further decided that the elections be modelled in all further elections for officers in our organization in the future.

Moreover, the G. E. B. decided, in connection with these elections, to continue the work of the committee for the elimination of all the undesirable elements in our Union. It namely proposed that a committee of representatives of the labor movement, of persons of irreproachable integrity and standing, be chosen to supervise the forthcoming elections, including the voting of the elections, as well as the election of a general manager, the appointment or election of all business agents, and the election of full-time delegates. They further decided that the elections be modelled in all further elections for officers in our organization in the future.

Our Union, we stated, always has been a forward-looking, democratic organization. There is, however, something in democracy that we must press forward, and that is the fundamental democratic majority is not always right. The majority is not always sure of what it wants. The working masses still fall frequently ready prey to the ridicule of their leaders. In the eyes of many, has not yet passed its final test, its crucial examination as a system of government. Some go still further and proclaim that democracy has failed totally and dammably. These beliefs in dictatorship, in the rule of a few over the many.

The leaders of our Union, however, are not among these doubters. They believe that democracy—admitting all its shortcomings—is still the only desirable form of social and industrial government. They believe that the evils of democracy can be done away with not through the curing of democracy but through its enlargement and extension. If every demagogue succeeds in misleading the mass, it is not the fault of democracy but is due to the fact that in this particular instance the practical application of democratically elected officials has been a failure, against such demagogues and mob makers is democracy — and it was this basic idea which inspired our General Executive Board to propose a new trial before a member of the local board, to which we are quite sure the membership of the whole L. L. G. W. U. will give its hearty sanction and approval.

The decision that the office of the general manager of the Joint Board be henceforward filled by a referendum vote of the members as a whole, is designed to eradicate this impression from the mind of the masses. It, namely, adopted a decision that a general election for all officers of the Board, whether full-time delegates or not, shall be held, so that all boards shall be swept clean of incumbents, and that the workers be given a new and unrestricted opportunity to elect executives in all those local unions upon whom the slightest shadow of suspicion might rest.

The second decision, which accentuates still further the earnest spirit in which this program was adopted, is the point concerning the suspended members whom a trial board recently found guilty of having been guilty of a breach of the constitution and rules of the Union. The Board decided that the suspension from office for a limited period is an honest verdict. There is, however, an opinion within the Union, and it is very strong, that the decision to suspend an individual generates such feelings of dissatisfaction that the possibility of the leaders of the Union, with so-called "machine" candidates.

In a word, the leaders are determined to eliminate entirely in this election the dividing line of "rights" and "lefts," an issue which has brought so much harm to our Union. That explains the decision that in the coming election of full-time delegates, neither the suspended officials nor their recently elected successors be eligible to appear on the ballot. New men and women, whose only badge and qualification to their Union, will come to the front in the coming elections.

The proposal proves clearly that our leadership is firmly determined that none of our workers lose any of their rights of mem- ber of the local board, to which we are quite sure the membership of the whole L. L. G. W. U. will give its hearty sanction and approval.

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Labor Day—1925

By WILLIAM GREEN, President, American Federation of Labor.

Labor Day!

Last week, we forget, it is well to recall that this is the forty-fourth anniversary of the observance of Labor Day. It is a small band of loyal earnest trade unionists, in their enthusiasm for the cause to which they gave their allegiance, who met in the city of New York on the first Monday of September, 1882, the originator of Labor Day.

The American Federation of Labor was organized in 1886 by the convention of the American Federation of Labor called upon all wage earners irrespective of sex, until then scattered and disunited. Labor Day until "it should become as common for a man to work on Labor Day as on Sunday." There is no need to tell how successful that appeal has been. None will deny that it is here.

When you return to work after celebrating Labor Day it will be with a satisfaction that can only come from the realization that the trade union movement has brought a better and broader life for both you and the dependents upon you.

The idea of Labor Day spread throughout the nation. Although a few of the states have not made it a legal holiday it is observed in them just as loyally as in the states where Labor Day law has been enacted.

As we look back over the past Labor Days, as along the pathway of Labor’s progress like beaded lights, no matter how difficult the struggles or perilous the sacrifices of each, there was always the satisfaction of the gains made and recounted on Labor Day. And the gains were always greater than the losses.

From a small handful of men who met in Pottsville in 1856 and formed what is now the American Federation of Labor it has grown to enormous proportions, and its influence has revolutionized industry for the benefit of both the wage earners and employers.

What once was a one-day victory for the eight-hour day was simply a daily, for in those times ten hours was universal. It is now kept at their tasks twelve, fourteen, sixteen and more hours a day.

The opposition to the eight-hour day is tremendous. In 1884 the American Federation of Labor took the preliminary steps for a universal demand for eight hours and in less than two years 200,000 workers in industry gained a shorter working day. By 1886 the eight-hour day had spread throughout the nation. At the present time those who work more than eight hours are the minority.

The appeal which the American Federation of Labor issued in 1889 has been an everlastingly unanswerable appeal.

"To all who love liberty and are loyal to the principles of free trial demands before the Governor’s Commission. Others contend that the G. E. B. had erred in combining the three operators’ locals into one and in merging the two New York joint boards. Still others maintain that the decision was not a fair one. Whatever the outcome, the Legal Committee respected the decision of the Boston convention with regard to the Constitution.

To meet all these contentions and to find out the Union’s true strength and weaknesses, a special meeting of the Federation was held in May, December of 1925, when the President of the International and the members of the G. E. B. will be able to render to the wide membership of the G. E. B. the full extent of its growth and development through all its acts and its entire record for the past year and a half.

In the election of delegates to this convention, which will take place next week, all members will have the opportunity of controlling the supervision of the same composite committee that will supervise the elections in the locals in the near future. In other words, the elections will be conducted under the supervision of the same committee that will supervise the elections in the locals in the near future. In other words, the elections will be conducted under the supervision of the same committee that will supervise the elections in the locals in the near future. In other words, the elections will be conducted under the supervision of the same committee that will supervise the elections in the locals in the near future.

It is our confident hope that the program advanced by the G. E. B. will meet with a deep response among the masses of our membership. Unfortunately, a small band of disapprovers from the Communist camp ought to convince every one of our workers who have fought to advance those causes which refused to recognize defeat. May all union men recognize the sacrifices made in their interest by the labor press.

One reason for the success of the legislation urged by the American Federation of Labor is that it benefits all the people, not a few. Labor asks for nothing that is not good for the people generally. This is to stand by the farmer, in his efforts for economic advancement, it always has supported any practical legislation that will help the farmers. It has aided every movement that has for its purpose the advancement of humanity.

While these are only a few of the outstanding gains made by Labor in the last forty-four years they are sufficient to show that on this Labor Day we have much for which to be thankful. On this day we should re-pour our pledge of continued and vigorous agitation for more progress and still more victories.

We should make it our endeavor to accomplish greater and greater results so that in our next Labor Day we can say as we have said on every other Labor Day that "the gains for labor are greater than the gains of last year."
IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

Science and Tomorrow

BY SYLVIA KOPALD


If some such debate had grown about many a creation of the Galen, it is pretty certain that that monster would not have destroyed its creators. No more absolute assurance of the race's final conquest of science, its glory and its menace, could be had than this searching inquiry and counter-inquiry into its place in the tomorrow of man. It is more than an optimist and a pessimist who answer each other here; it is man's thought that takes stock of the thing the race has bullied blindly to ask what reality lies in it for the welfare of that race. The answers given are suggested, not so important; that the questions are raised, however, is of the utmost significance.

The growth of knowledge among men contains, perhaps, the most striking of racial experiences. The slow piling up of a skilled technique of control over things, the sudden spurt of that skill in the middle ages, the discoveries and inventions that made possible the rapid creation of the wonder world we live in, in those things lie the real proofs of human-kind. But as we have learned too well today, the patience of society with truth seldom stop to inquire about the ultimate consequences of finding what they seek. Former generations had turned up secrets; what more natural than that present generations should proceed with the extension of the torch already lit into new dark spots. And so step by step, often little recking what they did, the scientists and thinkers, molded among erring, erected the amazing edifice that is contemporary knowledge.

The rub comes in—steadily and unexpectedly. Other men, seldom the seekers themselves, discover uses for the new findings which make them utter in much menace as promise to the race. We have learned how to use the industrial technique of modern quantity production in the mass destruction of modern war; army headquarters are discussing the possibility of turning our knowledge of disease germs, won in the quest of their elimination, toward the still more effective war of the future. Psychologists have only in a bezug a few years been thrown into the workings of the human mind, when propagandists seek to utilize it in the manufacture of conformity. Explosives can be used as well to bore through mountains so that railways may join the corners of a continent, as in mining.

And so on through the lines. Yet the patient, restless men of science, almost inevitably proceeding to add consequences to the sum of things we already know. They are of the select few who seek truth without inquiring into its uses.

And it is for this reason that such a debate as this between Mr. Haldane and Mr. Russell is so important. For it makes articulate the goss and cons that agitate the minds of every one of us who contemplates impersonally the goblin, Science, that minkind is constantly creating; for it makes us able to make the thing serve human ends, or will it merely become an instrument of the blinding recklessness and self-gulf?

Mr. Haldane assumes that mankind will find a way to use science defensively. And the possibilities he plans for its service certainly make it well worth our while to learn the method of assuring this service.

Specialization on the realm science is still continuing. It is always a fascinating business. We have at least acquired sufficient perspective to see that nothing is impossible. That men of a generation ago pooled-pooled the likelihood of men flying through the air, or of TV in the wall, is hardly the other. Yet these things stand among the familiar accepted of today. For another century, a century and a half ago, they regarded prophecies of the possible wonder world to be so covered by the progress of science as the rankest heresy worthy of the Inquisition or at least of social ostracism.

Today, on the other hand, both science and society are holding up a mirror to the face of science, to the scientific carefulness for itself. They have gone on the strength of its artistic youth in building science for the scientists. On the whole, however, the artists have rushed in where the scientists feared to tread perhaps. It is what makes the comment of Mr. Haldane so engaging. We have in it, as it were, a first confession of a scientific hopscotch of society. And what is stimulating is to note how closely Mr. Haldane's hopes parallel those of the artist. Largely that Mr. Haldane looks forward to the race's progress as a back to Meohannah.

It is a comedy race that emerges from his pondering. Disease has been conquered in that far-off time and a race of strong and beautiful human beings make the coming world. The sexes work and live together in happy and friendly cooperative labor together in an environment fit for even these refined people to live in. Air and sea and land have been conquered and bound together in a wide service to man. There is no longer either dying or decay in this finer life but merely a peaceful and full-capacitated sinking into one sleep of which, unless others, there will be no awakening. The life has finally become separated into its original reproduction. All children are reproduced from specially chosen and matured eggs. Life is lengthened, the normal appetite is retained with both understanding and beauty, and the mental and emotional experience of all men drawn into the sum of any action and continuing growth.

A splendid life indeed, for distant posterity. But the present society is not ready to read Mr. Haldane's book that it is a life made possible largely by advances in the progress of chemical and biological sciences. These sciences, naturally, have won to greatest achievement the more it is to be feared that on can read the most promising farader advance for the future. But naturally enough, any attempt to build the better existence of the future solely out of and by means of these sciences leaves a wide hole through which such a pessimist as Mr. Russell may enter. And even if we can, as we shall, go on to Anatole France than to Bshaw or Wells.

Mr. Russell's first reply to the gallop of Mr. Haldane's picture, is, to point out that such a menace as growing high in the further advances of the natural sciences unless the social sciences are sufficiently developing in the full and proper way with our own findings. Look at the past, urges Mr. Russell before you be the silly fool to suppose that we have a stock of our tremendous strides in the physical and inorganic sciences. What have the scientists done against the diabolical war, more gruesome poorer, bleaker lives for, the masses of men, easier techniques of conformity? For it is in their use, or rather in the uses to which they are put that inventions and discoveries become promise or menace.

Consequently, as long as the world stands before us, perhaps the danger of stronger or weaker, as long as it is further stratified into nations we may not be able to get together from the further advances of the organic sciences and the biological sciences, the social sciences remain in the most helpless infancy; they have not yet been able to con- contribute little to our ability to control our Galam. Why may not further discovery of discover, therefore; can be used, the powers that be to greater health care, health and usefulness upon the mass? Consequently, perhaps, we must give more place on the influence of glandular scenes upon the personality. If we learn that in some of a social order, the the salubrity, may not governments after careful preparatory propaganda, inject better classes. May they not turn "backward peoples" into healthy armies as they can to the race's progress as a back to Meohannah. When they not bloom myriads of germs upon the earth in the near war, and then may it not be the addition of humanity. At any rate, Mr. Russell sees little hope until the social sciences be the first creation of any form of world organization has been formed. Shall they? Dadaism seeks what it cannot do, which is to save the earth with clipped wings? The answer lies squarely with the people— the workers and thinkers of the earth.

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FRANCE

Teachers Affiliates With Trade Union Congress

The National Union of French Teachers, which has a membership of about 90,000, recently held its annual congress in Paris. At this congress it was decided, by 150 votes to 6, to affiliate the French Trade Union Federations. The vote was made by Hassel, the General Secretary, at the opening session, that shows this resolution is no mere formality, but that the idea of solidarity with the other workers has made great headway among the 100,000 French teachers, most of whom have not until now been organised in trade unions.

The rates of salary of the teachers stand on the same level as those of the postal employees, and they therefore claim to be treated at least as well as any other members of the civil service. In this they are the subject of the protests of the postal employees (postal, telegram and telephone employees) raised by 2,000 francs, while their own remain unchanged.

Responded the following three proposals: namely, that, in the event of the Inter-Ministerial Commission coming to a decision unfavorable to the teachers, (1) Reussil would resign his membership of this body, (2) the Department-Bonacels would likewise hand in their resignation as a body, (3) a 24-hour protest strike will be organised.

Want Wage Protected Saves as Bond Interest

French workers demand that the government give them the same guarantee against loss through depreciation of the franc as is accorded investors.

The government has made a gold coupon loan that protects interest on bonds, and the workers now insist that their wages are entitled to the same protection as is money invested in these bonds and held by persons who do not depend on a daily wage.

POLAND

From Pillar to Post

Because the German and Polish governments are unable to come to an agreement regarding to future commercial relations, 31,000 Germans had to be turned out of Poland and sent over the border, and 8,000 Poles out of Germany. For most of the deported that means hunger and misery. Whether it is wage earners, or, as the press says, mostly artisans and small manufacturers, that are involved, is of no consequence. In any case it is sheer barbarism that cannot be protested against too strongly.

ENGLAND

British Textile Labor Resists Wage Cut

More than 35,000 textile workers have been locked out because they refuse to accept a 10 per cent wage cut.

The employers piled up immense reserves during the war; and these were concealed by the issuance of stock dividends and cash bonuses. The present demand for textiles cannot pay dividends on inflated values and the bosses are attempting to make workers meet the difference.

VENEZUELA

Venezuela Sets Free Political Prisoners

Information from Venezuela to the Pan-American Federation of Labor sustains a resolution passed by the Portland convention of the A. F. of L., in 1923, that political prisoners are held in that country, and that many of them are ill treated.

When the resolution was passed Venezuelan authorities, together with the Venezuelan minister in Washington, protested against the charge. They denied that there was such a number of political prisoners in that country. The minister was especially very trenchant in his charge. He indicted that political freedom existed, as well as guarantees for the workers to recognize trade unions.

An information now in possession of Santiago Igieisz, Spanish secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, shows that on July 23 last President Gomez of Venezuela issued a decree which sets free hundreds of these prisoners whose existence has been so thoroughly denied. The presidential order applied to all political prisoners and military prisoners.

A two-day "labor" celebration in honor of the president was held at the same time. Mass meetings of workers were addressed by government officials. There were many references to "our beautiful country, its mountains and rivers," but none to the aspirations of labor.

The interior minister of the government, Pedro M. Areaya, urged these men not to follow the policy of workers in other countries, who are "organized to destroy civilization."

"The newspaper accounts of this event," said Secretary Igieisz, "would indicate that the company 'united idea of American capitalists has extended into Latin America.'"
Brookwood Railroad Institute

By FANNIA M. COHN

The men who founded Labor Day forty-four years ago expected that we would devote part of the day to reflection on the sins and problems of the labor movement. It is to be hoped that we would think of the past achievements of the labor movement and its present status, and on the basis of that comparison visualize the future and work for its realization.

It is appropriate that on Labor Day, the millons of organized workers in the state labor movement, may unit as a body to celebrate the day. In an industrial society, this will lead them to reflect on the vexing problems with which the trade unions are confronted at present. It is the day (on which millions of workers should dedicate their thoughts to the Labor Movement, and intelligent workers, ponder over the realities which confronts it. To do this they cease work. But merely to labor a holiday (when thousands observe Labor Day. It depends entirely on how we spend it, whether its existence (is justified, by devoting a part of it to reflecting on the sins and prospects of the Labor Movement, we feel confident recommended that a speaker be invited to the Labor Day celebration to devote a part of it to the discussion of the workers' education. Labor Day is a festive occasion but we should recognize the soil for which it was intended and use it as an interest in their trade unions.

On Labor Day more than ever the writers about education have pointed out the present system of industry, there is no chance for personal development or politics by the part of the workers.

The principle of human liberty, the spirit of independence, are so intermingled with the Fourth of July that this great national holiday always serves to strengthen the love of freedom. The glorious Fourth of July is such a day that it brings into play the whole system of our country's liberties. The principles, its policies, and its people.

The Workers' Education Bureau is playing its part in making Labor Day of still greater importance to the workers. The knowledge which is acquired by those who have profited by the opportunities presented through the bureau enables them to make Labor Day more effective, for it is adding education to organization. This knowledge would be helpless; without education labor could not make organization effective or constructive. The two go hand in hand. The Workers' Education Bureau is the torch of education. The light which it sheds must make Labor Day a more effective holiday as each year rolls

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The Week In Local 10

BY SAM B. SHENKER

At the regular meeting of the or-

ganization which took place last Mon-
day in the office of the John Hall, the

members who filled to ac-
cracy the large assembly room of the

American Federation of Labor, Debit-

sky report and explain to them the plan

on the present situation proposed by

the Executive Board and adopted by the

Joint Board at its meeting on August 23rd.

Cutters Always Maintain Unity

Producing its usual good attendance to

deal of the evening that the meeting

adjourned before that part of the Ex-

ecutive Board's report was read which

deals with its peace plan. However,

it was just as well that action on

this phase was not taken at last Mon-

day night's meeting.

In reporting the plan to the mem-

bers Manager Debinsky not only read

the dry report but explained clearly each

point and the reasons which prompted

the General Executive Board and

the Joint Board in making the plan.

The proposition as a whole was

largely prompted by the conditions

existing today in most of the plants of

the locals affiliated with it. In the

local as Local 10 is concerned, Debit-

sky said, the general dissatisfaction of

the members against the cutters' organi-

zation and the administration in no

manner meets the need for radical

changes.

An interest in points toward

progress and greater order was recog-

nized in the members was the manner

in which members of Local 10 reacted

toward the report. What is more of

some members for certain violations

and the manner in which expulsions

and terminations were regarded as

being the order of the day for members

of other locals, particularly of the

locals whose officers are at present

protesting.

When about a year and a half ago

the Executive Board recommended

the suspension of some five members

on the suspicion of some five members

for violating an order of the General

Executive Board, Local 10 accepted the decision as a matter

of course. For their decision in the

first place was based on the

attitude of the members at the meeting,

At the meeting at which the suspen-

sions of these members were decided

upon, only 38 members voted

in the negative from a membership of

about 400.

The loyalty of the cutters toward

their parent body and their affiliated

organizations is evident from the fact

of the amount of support that the

leadership of the local is willing to

devote to it by dictatorial methods.

The预制is continues in part that in

face of the fact that Communists

attempts continue in there is no shop

of any importance in which the attempt

for control by the Communists, even

though it is the "hood", the "Joint Action Committee",

has succeeded.

It is in the face of the stoppage of

August 23rd, a number of workers

were discharged for quitting their em-

ployment and the recommendation

of the members. These workers hurried

back to office to the deferred

officers for the purpose of having the

complaint taken up.

Finally when these workers could

not get the attention of the local

officers of the suspended officers they

reported the office of the Joint Board

were practically no difficulty was en-

countered in reinstating them in some

of the plants.

Only Member Must Determine Union's Welfare

However, the General Executive Board

was, when con-

sidering a plan for solidifying the or-

ganization, did not close their eyes in

the case of the Joint Board, which

among largest sections of our workers in

New York.

The main point is that these grievances

are not directed against individual

leaders of the organization, but rep-

resent fundamentally discontent with

the system and method of administra-

tion of the Joint Board, the represent-

tion system of the locals in the Joint

Board, the administration of local and

Joint Board finances. Some of these grievances are subjects with

which only a convention may deal,

but the majority of them may be re-

tied at ease to make room for inter-

nal reforms that would be made the

living practice and law of our or-

ganization and the local units.

In explaining some of the things

Debinsky made it clear to the mem-

bers that the organization is interested

in warring against individual

members of the Communist Party or any other politi-

cal organization.

The organization in which it directed its fight was against

Communist tactics and a desire on

the part of the members of these

organizations for domination of the

organization by outside groups.

Debinsky made it clear that the

organization would bend all its efforts

as do a majority of the members

of the Joint Board to clean up the

trut and domination of the Union by

members only.

Plan Is Unanimous in Democracy

In his preliminary remarks, Debis-

sky made it clear from the vantage

point of the members of the local that

it is an opportunity for the Union to

rank the organization what it was once.

However, the manager made it very

clear that he said that it does not

favor the members of the local that

tended to satisfy them in their desire

for communistic control of the Union.

It was the opinion of the General

Executive Board's work for a plan

of union "consolidation and eff-

iciency" calculated to meet the major

grievances which have created deep-

seated dissatisfaction in the ranks of

our workers.

The plan in brief is:

(1) That election of executive

board members and the local

unions affiliated with the Joint

Board to be proceeded with imme-

diately.

(2) The plan proposes that the

elections are to be conducted under

the supervision of a committee of

the General Executive Board in con-

junction with a committee of out-

standing labor representatives of the

labor movement. It is proposed that

neither the members of the new-

ly elected executive boards of Locals 2,

9 and 22, nor any of the members

suspended executive boards shall be

eligible to be candidates for office in

this election.

(3) Contrary to the previous

method of election of executive

board members of the Joint Board, the

vast membership, under this plan, will be called upon to

elect a general manager of the Pre-

vious to this officer was elected by

the delegates of the Joint Board.

The plan provides for the suspen-

sion of the executive boards and the officers

of the three locals, they are given a

special grant to appeal to the Gen-

eral Executive Board against the de-

cision of the special trial committees.

The plan provides furth-

mer that the represen-

tatives of the labor movement super-

vised the election and that the appeal in conjunction with the Gen-

eral Executive Board. Should the special committees report that

there was bias or unfairness to the appeal

the right is given to the commit-

tee members of labor representatives to act

with full power as a final appeal

committee.

Next Meeting to Discuss and Vote on Plan

The foregoing is only a part of the

whole story. In addition to the seven points it con-

tains other details are interjected. It is

documented worthy of careful con-

sideration and is printed elsewhere in

this issue. Members are not only

called on to vote on the plan but to

take part in full full but are urged to do so.

The fact that the pay plan was not only approved by the

manager and not acted upon by the members but is

first be a step in that would be acted upon

at the next regular meeting affords an opportunity to digest it and

for the formation of the new.

Hence, when the members will gath-

er at the next meeting and when the Executive Board

appeals, the members, will be in a position to exercise their own

judgment and act.

The plan may be taken by the

members of Local 10 Monday night's meet-

ning for discussion and voting, there

is doubt but that some of them will have had a chance to

in the impassioned speech of one or two Communists.

The Communists doubt would doubt

that they could blame the members to the democratic aspect of the program be-

cause in its present arrangement which is giving the Union over to

Communists.

Members Warned Against Participation in New Outside "League"

At the outset of his report Debis-

sky took occasion to warn the mem-

bers that any discussion of forming a

"league". He recalled to them the de-

cision of the General Executive Board on this subject and

warned the members that should any group be formed the members

of Local 10 will not be formed and

for membership in these organizations.

The manager said that he received a

complete report of the formation and attendance by a few members

of Local 10 of this group, and led by Communists. This atten-

tendance and the formation of this outside organization took place on

Saturday, August 29th.

According to the information which

the manager had, a few members of the

local were invited to this "meeting at this meeting had decided to

attempt to call a meeting of the regular

meeting of the Union. An attempt at

the meeting was made to carry a de-

cision of that "league" into effect.

However, it was by public demonstration by the

the chairman, interfered with the

cutters in their work.

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Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.

All Cutters are required to secure new working cards beginning with July and to return the old cards.