Justice (Vol. 8, Iss. 21)

Keywords
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.
Cutters Strike in Warner Brothers Corset Factory
Women Operatives May Join

The cutters of the Bridgeport corset factory of the American Cutters Strike, which is the biggest in the country, went out on strike last week in protest against the firm's laying off of a large number of them at their cutting staff during the slow period.

The cutters of the Warner shop, who number 25 men, insisted on equal distribution of work for all the men in the shop. The firm refused and offered to employ five men instead during the idle. The women workers in the other departments joined the cutters.

The cutters are all members of Local 24 of Bridgeport. If the firm will persist in its intransigence and will not reinstate the laid-off cutters, the Eastern Department of the I. L. G. W. U., which has no branch in the state, plans to call the Connecticut locals, will make an effort to raise out all the workers of the shop.

Governor's Mediators Issue Final Recommendations


At press time, we received a copy of the long awaited final recommendations issued by the Governor's Advisory Commission in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry of New York. This report bears the date mark of May 20, 1926, and is signed by George Gordon Battle, chairman, Lindsay Rogers, secretary, and Bernard L. Iribarne, Herbert H. Laski and Arthur D. Wacht.

Joint Board Appoints Pre-Strike Committee

Takes Advance Action to Mobilize Preliminary Machinery—Meet ing of Active Workers of Local 2 Held Last Monday.

With only a few days left before the final recommendations are reached by the Special Commission in the New York Cloak industry with regard to the demands of the Union and the conditions of the industry, advance action is taken to meet the situation, the atmosphere in cloak circles in the New York market is tense with agitation and anxiety.

Designers Have Big Meeting This Saturday

Mrs. Adolph Schleif, manager of Local 45, the designer's union of New York, announces another big meeting of the National Designers for this Saturday, May 22nd, at the Pennsylvania Hotel, Room 3, at 2:35 p.m.

The meeting is planned to prepare a detailed plan for the strike. At the meeting next Saturday, this special committee, acting jointly with the executive board of the local, will report on the strike plans. Several of the leading officers of the New York Jobbers Union, including local boards, will be present at the meeting and will discuss the designers' demands and their prospective strike.

Cloak Jobbers Reported Rushing Winter Stocks

International Office Receives Information Many Jobbers Are Speeding Manufacture of Advance Winter Stocks in Sub-Shops—President Sigman, After Conference With Vice-President Hyman, Announces Steps Will Be Taken at Once to Check Scheme.

The office of the International has obtained authentic information to the effect that several of the large jobber cloak firms in New York City, in an attempt to defeat any move the Union might make to enforce its demands before the beginning of the coming season, have started to make up winter orders in a number of sub-manufacturers shops controlled by them. These operations are being kept secret. It was further reported, well liked and interested, in order not to create suspicion on the part of the workers organization.

After having heard about it, President Sigman at once conferred with Brother Louis Hyman, the general manager of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, and as a result the business agents of the Joint Board were instructed to visit all sub-manufacturing shops to obtain full reports of employees working so as to afford the Unemployment Insurance Office an opportunity to begin making insurance payments on or about June 15.

Simultaneously, the business agents will be instructed to investigate such shops where winter stocks are already being manufactured so that steps might be taken to put an end to their existence and to stop all payment of union dues.

Union members are also called upon to shun all non-union shops where they might be offered some "special" jobs during the slack period. Such action will be treated as dishonorable and will cause the member to lose all union rights.

Sanitary Joint Board and Prosans Label Formally Launched in Boston

Mr. A. A. Fuller, Wife of Governor of Massachusetts, Initiated As Honorary Member of Union; Sews Prosans Label on Garments, in Three Leading Boston Clean and Dress Shops, Vice-President Hochman in Charge of Impressive Ceremony—Mayor of Boston and Large Group of Leading Citizens Attend.

An impressive ceremony that will long linger in the minds of those who witnessed it attended last Friday evening, May 27th, the formal introduction of a joint board of sanitary control and of the "Prosans" label in the South End, carried out under the auspices of a joint committee of representatives of the public, the Boston I. L. G. W. U. locals, and of the manufacturers' associations.

The climax of the ceremony occurred, when Mrs. A. A. Fuller, the wife of the Governor of Massachusetts, took part in the formal introduction of the new sanitary membership card in the union and with shop cards permitting her to work in the union shops, named on the union health "Prosans" label to a dress in the presence of a distinguished group of union members, including the shop of Paul F. Matthews, 1565 Kneeland Street, the shop of the California Hat Company to the coat shop of Carnell & Collins, where she seated herself between two rows of civilian coats and sewed a label onto a coat. From 15 Kneeland Street, Mr. Fuller went with the representatives of the union, the manufacturers, and the Joint Board of Sanitary Control to the J. Balch Dress and Co. at 604 Washington Street, where she inspected conditions of sanitation and safety.
Sanitary Joint Board and Prosanis Label Formally Launched in Boston

(Continued from Page 1)

Local 2, the cloak operators, discussed preparation work for the coming strike and started an enrollment of all wide-angle elements in the union for strike duties.

Joint Board Appoints Pre-Strike Committee

At its last meeting, on Friday, May 14, in presence of these tactics of the Joint Board, acting upon the recommendation of its Board of Directors, appointed a special committee consisting of all local managers and five Joint Board delegates, in addition to the officers of the Joint Board, charging it with the preparation of a machinery for the coming strike.

The committee, consisting of Sister Perlman and Brothers Hyman, Fish, Steinman, Cooper, Pankin, Kudritsky and Molinari.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND STARTS

Suit Against Two Coat-Jobbing Firms

Suit Commenced to Collect Money Due to Out-of-Work Fund.

—Actions to Be Started Against Several Other Firms

Arthur D. Wolf, chairman of the board of trustees of the Unemployment Insurance Fund of the cloak industry, announced last Wednesday that in accordance with the authority given at the last meeting by the board of trustees, he had instituted court proceedings against two firms in order to collect the amounts which, by said, are owing to the fund.

Summons and complaints have been served, upon Bevier Bowses 511 7th Avenue and Karl Light, 143 West 36th Street.

Meanwhile, in the past month a drive to collect back payments was carried on by the executive of the fund, and many firms that had up to then been delinquent, made good the amounts due.

The filing of the suits precedes the period when insurance payments begin to fail due.

With the New York Cloth and Dress Joint Board

BY JOSEPH FISH, Secretary-Treasurer.

A meeting of the Joint Board was held on Friday, May 14, 1926 at the Auditorium of the 3rd W.

Communications:

Local No. 2 informs the Board that their Executive Board decided, after due consideration of the matter brought up by Brother Stein

The recommendation of the Board of Directors that a committee of five and the Local Managers begin prepara

The Russian-Polish Branch requests that a committee be appointed to act as an Objection Committee in their coming elections.

Brother Colow and Kudritsky are appointed in the committee.

The Secretary-Treasurer Fish reports that the following telegram and cable were sent to the Amalgamated Council of Action at Montreal and the English strikers:

"May 13, 1926

"Seventh Biennial Convention, of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America,

"Mr. Royal Hotel,

"Montreal, Que. Canada.

"Accept fraternal greetings. May the spirit of solidarity and brotherhood guide you in all your endeavors. We hope that your convention will favor amelioration of needle trade unions.

JOINT BOARD, CLOAK & DRESS MAKERS UNION No. 26 222 East 37th Street, New York.

JOSEPH FISH, Sec-Treasurer.

Harry Hyman reports that the Governor's Commission will render its decision next week.

He recommends that the money be paid to the workers preceding the calling of the strike.

The recommendation is approved.

The Joint Board also decides that the Managers of the Dressmakers' Locals Devise ways and means of dispensing the money in the Fund.

BUY WHITE LILY TEA COLUMBIA TEA ZWEOTCHNI CHAI

"BECOME INDEPENDENT" LEARN DESIGNING AND GRADING MEN'S GARMENTS, CAPS, HATS, STOLES, COATS, SHOES, FURS, WAIST COATINGS, FUTURES. FASHION-DESIGNING AND PATTERN-MAKING. Telephone Williams 6406.

CROONBORG DESIGNING SCHOOL 100 FIFTH AVENUE, 3rd Floor. NEW YORK CITY

"EXCLUSIVELY"
Governor's Commission Makes Report

(Continued from Page 1)

1st: the inside manufacturer had dis- banded his department, for the reason that the U.P's had presented a series of demands which the jobbers and man- ufacturers would not come to terms, which is to intervene, and to appoint a Commission to assist the parties in reach- ing an understanding, and to remove the differences between them.

The Commission was appointed in June, and, after hearing tes- timony, made certain preliminary rec- ommendations and promised an in- quiry into the subject. There were more complicated questions in dis- pute. Contracts were then negotiated with the Commission's approval, and were signed by the International La- dies' Garment Workers' Union and the manufacturers. The Mer- chant's Ladies' Garment Association (representing the jobbers or stock houses); the Industrial Council of the Clark, Selt and Elkner Manufacturers' Protective Association (representing the manufacturers); the Council of the Clark and Suit Manufacturers' Associa- tion (representing the subcontractors); and the Commission with their enforcement guaranteed by the Association, promised a measure of cooperation. This agreement was set up to settle disputes which might arise between the organiza- tions.

The investigation which the Commission promised was carried out, and the report was made in the spring of 1925. Neither the adequacy nor the accuracy of this Report was challenged by anyone, as it seems to have been held upon the findings of the Report with respect to the complicated rela- tionship between those interested in both ques- tions by the parties in interest for medi- ational recommendations by the Com- mission. This report is an impartial document which carefully and ably set forth the views and contentions of the respon- sible parties and their point of view on the organization of the Industry and the various matters in contro- versy.

After careful deliberation, the Commis- sion decided in June, 1925, to con- vey with the fewest restrictions the recommen- dations, in spite of the elaborate nature of the Report of the Special Investigation, on the graph- ical record of the hearings, and the briefs of counsel, the Commission will take any action which it determines makes the best policy for the good of the Industry—particularly those problems connected with the outside system of production. The Commis- sion, therefore, recommended the re- newal of the contracts for one year with the same modifications in respect to the payment of unemployment in- surance and several changes in the dealing with the jobbers and manufac- turers—the Institute of Employment and the abolution of the District Tax. The communica- tion of the U.S. Bureau of Labor and various reports published under its auspices has had the effect of modifying the conditions in the industry.

The collective agreements are now available for the jobbers to sign and be negotiated. After a study of the in- dustry which has covered two years, the whole situation is found to be in a position to speak with some author- ity on certain of the existing evils as they appear to the body of manufacturers, and to

recommend suitable reforms. In what the Commission is about to say, no attempt is made to substitute recommendations that will be complete in its details or to draft clauses that meet the conflicting interests, but to give a general picture of the trade, and will make recommendations showing the manner in which the Commission thinks that the situation may be improved.

Past Achievements

The Clsk and Suit Industry is one of the most concentrated in the country, the value of the product in the Metropo- litan district is more than that of a billion dollars, and vesting in the national out- put. In this metropolitan area more than 35,000 workers and 9,000 manufac- turers and corporations are engaged in the process of production.

The fundamental problems in the in- dustry are extremely difficult and com- plicated. Undoubtedly, however, hope for a more substantial achievements of the past.

A generation ago this was a sweat- shop industry with characteristics of home labor of women and children, by unregulated hours, and by absence of collective bargaining, with a total lack of organization, and with high wages too numerous to be described. The conditions of clothing and institutions was mostly sorely needed, and to a real measure it has been fulfilled.

At the present time about ninety per cent of the workers are organized in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

The Industrial Council (the inside manufacturer) has 194 members, representing more than 60 per cent of the industry.

The American Clark and Suit Manufac- turers' Association has 167 mem- bers, representing more than 90 per cent of the business of subcontractors.

These organizations have been operating under collective agreements providing for the amicable adjustment of disputes. They have brought this the purpose an effective machinery, which the past two years has been used with great success by the man with full authority for the set.

Element of disputes arising under the collective agreements. One indication that this machinery has been work- ing well is the fact that of thousands of complaints arising in various shops in the course of a year, more than ninety-five per cent have been adjusted by the courts and mediation. This process is effective, but has certain drawbacks. In the spring of 1925, the Joint Board of Garment and various reports published under its auspices has had the effect of modifying the conditions in the industry.

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Final Recommendations by Governor's Special Commission

(Continued from page 3) are distributed in various ways. Hundreds of these subcontracting firms each year lose the small capital with which they are started, and leave their creditors, including workers, in the lurch. The jobbers themselves are at the mercy of the very same trends that have made the small manufacturer the loser—more through the cancellation of retail orders and the return of merchandise than through any failure to complete orders. Discontent is skimping in materials, and disregard of sizes and other specifications. The jobbers themselves are insecure, and when work falls upon the workers, through shortened seasons, and through subcontracting, the effects are all the more felt. This is known to show be shown later, on conditions have grown up in this "outside system" of production that are growing dissatisfaction of the workers.

The conditions in the two systems of production, the inside and the outside systems—are entirely different, and it is therefore necessary to distinguish between them, and to make recommendations suitable to each. Unfortunately, the less precarious economic position of the all-wholesome outside system at present accounts for about three-fourths of the total market.

Here, as has been said, the output is controlled by the jobbers who place the orders for the work in the hands of small plants, usually in the form of materials, is involved in the manufacturing process. The act of placing orders, in other words, in the manufacturing shops, mostly small and of slender resources, is the result of a hundred and abundant testimony from all the parties, showing the conditions prevailing in the outside industry. In the present market in the securing of orders thrown upon them a cruel pressure out of all proportion to their power of resistance.

Were this pressure felt only by the subcontractors, the situation would not be so serious, and it might work its own cure through discouraging the perpetual opening up of new shops. But the fact is that a large proportion of the jobbers are not so situated in the ground to their workers. When work is scarce, as it usually is except for a few months in the year, the jobbers are told in order to meet the exigencies of price competition and to compete with the small plants, have to contract with the jobbers, and must enter into secret arrangements contrary to the minimum labor standards, and which are practically enforced in the larger shops of the industry are for the small plants for the same reason.

These concessions work in the same way as the jobbers, the conditions, the situation, and the substitution of piece work for the hourly. All this is done without the knowledge of the workers, and the practice is frequently concealed in the books of the firm. Incidentally, it will be pointed out that in the present market for fair competition as against the legitimate manufacturing into jobbing, the price competition in the outside and the elimination of the most exclusive and expensive trade is not so difficult. The tendency has been for the size of these subcontracting shops steadily to decrease and the volume of their work to increase. The number grows from season to season, in spite of the fact that a large proportion of the industry is out of business every year and leave their workers without employment. More than this, the inside shops, the work crowded into short and feverish seasons, with the fluctuations in the extent of employment from month to month proportionally acute.

The investigations of the Bureau to Research have shown this condition to be even more pronounced in 1923 than in 1922. From the records of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, the Bureau of Research has made analysis of-wage records and of the number of workers in the principal subcontracting shops during 1925. It appears that the workers in the principal subcontracting shops are working less than three months during the year on an average the equivalent of 25-3 full weeks of employment. In some cases the employment that falls upon the shops of 75 to 155 falls upon the workers, through shortened seasons, and through subcontracting, the effects are all the more felt. This is known to show be shown later, on conditions have grown up in this "outside system" of production that are growing dissatisfaction of the workers.

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Final Recommendations by Governor's Special Commission

(Continued from Page 4)

opinion of the Commission, a great achievement. In a seasonal industry with inevitable periods of unemployment, every means to ensure that unem-
ployed workers are highly desirable. It, indeed, not absolutely necessary.
Two years ago, the special recom-

mendation of the Commission, the parties to the collective agreements established an
arrangement which would provide, that for each 10 per cent of their wages and workers two
per cent of the earnings of the employers.
The Commission wishes to think that the Fund may increase its resources, and that as a result of its recommenda-
tions be made to unemployable workers.
Last summer, after a year's experi-

ence dealing with the disproportionate
admits that the change is collection of the Fund by workers in the
worker in the outside system of pro-
duction, it was decided to increase the contributions of employers in that branch of the industry to an approxi-
mate equivalent of three per cent of their wages and workers.
At the same time it was arranged that employers could make those payments directly into the Fund, instead of hav-

ing the payments made in the first instance by submanufacturers to be reimbursed them on the bills of workers for whom they had done work.
While there seemed to be logic in asking the employers to discharge directly the Fund, the Fund is the place of collection of the change is the collection of the Fund by workers in the worker in the outside system of production, it was decided to increase the contributions of employers in that branch of the industry to an approxi-
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ing the payments made in the first instance by submanufacturers to be reimbursed them on the bills of workers for whom they had done work.
Labor Employment Bureau
De recommend the establishment of an employment bureau and the cre-

ation of the Trustees of the Unemployment Insurance Fund. Placements and replacements could be made through this employment office.
In an industry with distressing per-

iods of unemployment it is particu-
larly desirable that adequate machin-
ery should be set up to equalize the op-
portunities of workers and act as a clearing house for placements and replacements. Such an office, in the opinion of the Commission, would be a benefit to employers and workers alike, and could do much to reduce the many costly efforts of the present periods of idleness.
(3) Increase in Minimum Wage

Scale

An increase in the minimum wage scale was requested by the Union, the time of the appointment of the Commission in 1921. The Commissi-

on, in its Interim, had recommended that of its proposals that at that time seemed to indicate that if the average wages in the industry, the average wages of workers in independent shops in the industry, and in submanufacturing shops, and the average rates of wages in the industry. The Bureau of Research has presented to the Commission the information with respect to which all parties had agreed that they will engage only in Union transactions. The enforcement of this clause has been continued, and the number of workers employed as non-Union manufacturing has been greatly increased and this has had serious effects. It is said: the Commission has been informed that non-Union manufacturing has been reduced and, if possible, entirely eliminated.
The problem has raised an important ques-
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Chicago strike against the International and Taylor Clothing companies, and its constructive campaign of rehabilitation in the New York garment industry which reduced the demand for arbitration machinery destroyed by the lockout of 1920-21.

In its report to the convention, the general executive board of the Amalgamated stresses the signal success arbitration has had in the clothing industry as a means of not only averting occasions of strife but also in the solution of the labor question, trade and for the extension of the union's influence and control.

The report further recites the success of the unemployment fund in the Chicago League and the splendid success of the organized clothing markets; the successful operation of the employment exchanges in Chicago and Rochester which makes it possible for the unemployed to keep in regular touch with the existing labor organizations and in accordance with the legitimate demands of the industry; the splendid growth of the Amalgamated banks in New York and Chicago, and the information of a corporation by the Amalgamated to deal with the problem of housing for its members in New York City.

It is a record of constructive gains of which the members of the Amalgamated may well feel proud. It proves again beyond a peradventure that the great organization of American clothing workers is built on solid rock, that its leadership is interested in building up for the men's tailors a sound, rational trade union here in America and that its future is bright and full of still greater promise.

The Amalgamated emerges from its last convention a more united, a more solidified organization, spiritually and organically than it ever has been in the twelve years of its existence. The whole labor movement of America, and the organized workers in the women's garment industry especially, sincerely rejoice with the Amalgamated for the great results of the last convention which is making despite the obstacles created for them by enemies on all sides. And our own International Union, besides, adds the word of hope, that the future is bright for our brother unionists the message forwarded by him to the Amalgamated convention in Montreal that "the day is not distant when the clothing work- er can go on strike with the assurance that the organized labor of America will form an important link in the big chain of organizations that safeguard the living interests of the wage earners of our country.

LABOR LIFE INSURANCE

The General Executive Board, with the sanction of nearly all the Amalgamated locals in New York City, has given its approval to the union labor life insurance plan which has been prepared and sustained under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. E. W. J. gave concrete expression to this sanction by de- ciding to purchase a block of life insurance through the Amalgamated Life Insurance Company which is beginning operations under the presidency of Matthew Woll, with the participation of every large trade union in the country. It is, perhaps, in place here briefly to state the purpose of this company aims to accomplish and its potential benefits to the labor movement as a whole.

The Labor Union Life Insurance, which was launched upon the initiative of the last convention of the American Federation of Labor, has been confirmed in stockholders, and it has been agreed that the entire coal industry prior to any further wage arrangements in the mines.

The result of the general strike, besides proving that it could have been averted if not for bitter hostility to organized labor on the part of some members of the Baldwin cabinet, has gained for the labor movement, in a degree, of its own accord, national notoriety. In brief, the settlement terms concede the establishment of a national wage board, the reorganization of the coal industry on the lines prescribed by the coal Commission and endorsed by the miners' union, the continuation of the governmental subsidy, and the stipulation that no revision of wages, if such a revision is ever found possible, should affect the wages of the lower paid men.

But aside from these concrete economic achievements, the British general strike is likely to have other far-reaching effects on the organized workers' movement in Britain and the world over. It is true this strike had only an economic purpose to gain and it was limited to a short period of time, it was kept, as far as possible, within the bounds of an economic movement. But before ever in history of England or of any other country, there has been such a splendid demonstration of solidarity of organized workers and never before has Labor organized a general strike in the form of a mass power of the strike weapon as during those historic twelve days. And the psychological and moral gain accruing from this strike will be lasting and worldwide, for it has given to the miners, more valuable and more important in their effect than, perhaps, the terms of the settlement itself.

THE AMALGAMATED CONVENTION

The convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers last week in Montreal marks another milestone on the road of its unbroken progress and truly wonderful achievement in the past twelve years.

In the last two years, in particular, the Amalgamated has scored some remarkable gains, extending its control over the clothing industry to markets hitherto considered as "enemy" territory and consolidating its already powerful influence in the principal clothing-making centers. The most outstanding accomplishments in this field are, no doubt, its victory last year in the New York-
Organized Labor and Prohibition

By DR. HERMAN FRANK

The fight, for and against prohibition, which is fast becoming one more important issue in American politics, is directly related to the interests of the workers. Alcoholic, or the addiction to drinking hard liquors, is obviously a serious problem for the workers. The problem of Prohibition and its consequences, are of primary concern in the modern industrial civilization.

Thousands of years ago, human beings were subject to the temptation and usage of intoxicating beverages that yield a pleasant, though temporary physical and mental stimulation. The abnormal habit of liquor drinking is therefore staged, and in the present day, as in the increase in crime, the exploitation of the poorest strata of the population, by unscrupulous bootleggers, spreading of vice, and similar abominations.

Spread of Industry and Drunkenness

The hasty advance of the modern industrial economy, with the concentration of production in big factories, nevertheless, contributed a great deal toward the solution of this problem and its harmful effects. The strain of mechanical labor, especially for older dock workers, among whom the desire for the port of workers for refreshing and often strong drink, developed as an outgrowth of the insecurity that are difficult of correction in later years. The direct and indirect harm resulting from alcohol addition to abstinence is almost insuperable. It breeds, to begin with, indolence in the home, which encourages such vices as saloon keepers, whiskey distillers, beer brewers, liquor dealers, etc.; and, in the end, it frequently incapacitates the wage earners from the factory and their families as they might when sober. "Blue Monday" is a familiar disease in working class circles, and is, perhaps, the most vivid expression of the social menace of alcoholism. Factories, hotel and factory accidents have proved that Monday is the most unfortunate day in the week, which results from the influence of excessive drinking. The nature of the case is such that other vices are not out of the question; the absence of drink with the permanent danger of mishap in factory work.

The harmful effect of alcohol addition shows itself indirectly. It not only affects the mental state of the worker, but on his physical make-up as well. Alcohol lowers human vitality and its power of resistance to infectious diseases that, as a consequence, undermines the system, shortens life, and leaves its mark upon the efficiency of the one addicted to it. It goes self-respect, and renders its addicts practically irresponsible by making them insensible for collective action, and easy prey for all antisocial schemes and purposes. Eventually, they fall a hopeless prey to the prosecutors, but enormously to the expense of maintaining hospitals and houses of correction, and infrequently, the cost of some drunkenness as union chiefs. The aftermath of the war, however, brought a remarkable change of feeling upon the subject of drink among the English masses, though the great majority is still firmly opposed to prohibition after the American fashion. Many of the leaders and rank and file are beginning to demand only control of the sale of liquors and the privilege of local option for communities or districts. In the last few years, the number of total abstainers and members of temperance societies among the British workers increased enormously and the trade unions are likewise conducting a strong propaganda against drinking.

Movement Against Alcoholic

In other European countries the movement against alcoholic is making similar strides. In such countries, there exist organized trade union movements, such as Germany, France and Belgium, embracing nearly three million workers. The movement against drink is directly the result of colonial and religious prophecies, a fact which helps to strike suspension and mistrust against interest among the members of the free or "neutral" trade unions, i.e., the socialist organizations. Labor, however, the interest in this movement against drunkenness began to spread in all workers, giving rise to an organized effort to fight this social cancer in a vain. The workers, nevertheless, split into two different groups in the pursuit of this aim, into fanatical followers of strict prohibition—too few to do anything to the month of the free or "neutral" unions, and a moderate group which was opposed to hard liquors and was content to allow the sale of light wines and beer under local option laws.

ENGLISH STRIKE TUG OF WAR

In the European countries, with the exception of Finland, the workers are, as a whole, not inclined to support the protagonists of strict prohibition. In Finland, Russia, and the Central European countries, the violation of anti-drinking laws has been an open and shameless act from the union. But even there, the opposition to the absolute prohibition is strong, and the question of how to regulate the prohibition problem is not yet settled even in Finland.

The question of liquor addition in working class circles is based on the following three main reasons: 1) A mixture of weak and strong liquors and beer is not harmful; 2) Alcohol takes place of another, the effect of alcohol on the body is not less harmful than other; 2) Prohibition places the problem of safeguarding people from all the effects of alcohol and its substitute, or taking the place of the desire for a substitute for other, or seeking that there is nothing in the world that could stop any addiction to the use of alcohol, and no self-discipline in one's own premises and distributing "boilers" from sugar, or tobacco.

Moreover, a number of alcoholic beverages shall deal with the results obtained in the fight against drunkenness in some of the countries in Europe.

Electrical Workers Will Hold Giant Power Institute at Brookwood in July

The summer institute to be conducted by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of the National Labor and Prohibition Institute at Brookwood Labor College is arousing considerable interest among the workers.

The local union in Boston, Mass., is conducting a membership campaign among the 8,000 men who belong in the most members are to be sent as representatives to the institute and have their expenses paid. The Massachusetts State Association of Electrical Workers, comprising representatives of all the unions in the state, has publicly and officially endorsed the institute and is urging that each local union forward the names of its members.

New York Local No. 2 voted recently to pay the expenses of four of their men, and at least 20 others are planning to come for one or both weeks, according to Clinton S. Golden, president of the local. The group included a number of electrical workers who addressed the group. The locals in Baltimore and Elizabeth, N. J., are also enthusiastic about the meetings. From Seattle, clear on the Pacific Coast, came a similar representation and a request for a full account of it in the Electrical Workers' Journal.

The institute will be in session during the two weeks from July 15 to 21, and may trade unions, who are interested in the most problems of electrical power development in relation to the welfare of the workers. The Massachusetts State Association of Electrical Workers, comprising representatives of all the states in the state, has publicly and officially endorsed the institute and is urging that each local union forward the names of its members.

The central theme of the electrical workers' summer will be "Giant Power," and the institute is supplying electric power cheaply to individual homes in town and country, and its influence is growing. An electric power system of central stations and substations. It is necessary to generate electricity economically, as there is a supply of cheap fuel for power, and therefore the problem of giant power is not one of production but of the source of the coal or water or water and transmitting energy in the form of electricity. It is the responsibility of the individual to supply the fuel hundreds of miles to be burned in individual plants.
Basic Industries in America

XII. Steel

The iron and steel industry is one of the basic industries of the country, supplying a great many of the raw materials for the production of automobiles, textile factories, building materials, and many other products. The steel industry is also one of the largest industries in the world, and the conditions in one part of the industry are closely related with the conditions in other parts of the country.

The steel industry is characterized by the large amount of capital invested in it by the big companies. The big companies have been able to invest in large amounts of capital because of the high returns they can get on their investments. The high returns are due to the high demand for steel products and the ability of the big companies to control the market.

The steel industry is also characterized by the large amount of labor that is required to produce steel. The labor force in the steel industry is made up of skilled and semi-skilled workers who are paid relatively high wages. The labor force in the steel industry is also unionized, and the steel companies are in a strong position to negotiate with the unions.

The steel industry is one of the industries that have been most affected by the current economic downturn. The decrease in the demand for steel products has led to a decrease in production and employment in the steel industry.

Labor The World Over

Hungarian Labor Federation Meets

On March 28th and 29th the Congress of the Hungarian Federation of Trade Unions held its first conference in Budapest with 105 delegates and 24 organizations represented. The congress was attended by most of the important trade union organizations of Hungary.

The congress was held in the Trade Union Centre's Conference Hall. The opening ceremony took place at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 28th. The congress was attended by the representatives of the following organizations: The Trade Union Centre; the Trade Union Federation of the Hungarian Working Class; the Communist Party of Hungary; the Social Democratic Party of Hungary; the Christian Democratic Party of Hungary; the Hungarian Peasant Party; the Hungarian Liberal Party; the Hungarian National Socialist Party; the Hungarian Communist Party; and the Hungarian Fascist Party.

The congress was addressed by M. T. R. Szabo, the President of the Trade Union Centre, who delivered an address on the unity of the trade unions and their role in the struggle for democracy.

Labor The World Over

A "Free Trade" Union Centre in Argentina

A tremendous development has taken place in the union movement in Argentina. On February 27th and 28th, attended by representatives of the independent unions of Argentina, the congress of the Argentine Federación Andina del Trabajo was held in Buenos Aires. The congress was attended by 125 branches and 15,473 members.

The congress was addressed by M. T. R. Szabo, the President of the Trade Union Centre, who delivered an address on the unity of the trade unions and their role in the struggle for democracy.

Fifth Congress of the Latin American Union

On the 17th and 18th of April the Fifth Congress of the Latin American Union held at Lima its fifth congress at which were present 53 delegates from 15 countries. The congress was attended by 125 branches and 15,473 members.

The congress was addressed by M. T. R. Szabo, the President of the Trade Union Centre, who delivered an address on the unity of the trade unions and their role in the struggle for democracy.

During the year covered by the report, 26 local associations in various countries have withdrawn from the Federation, thus reducing its membership to 80,000 members, whereas the syndicalist international of the same name has 253,000 members and the American Federation of Labor and Employers' Congress has 1,200,000 members.

The congress was addressed by M. T. R. Szabo, the President of the Trade Union Centre, who delivered an address on the unity of the trade unions and their role in the struggle for democracy.

The Latin American Union's strong spirit of internationalism in a region where the labor movement is in the difficult times through which it is passing, and devoted itself to the making of the international Federation of Trade Unions has opened the door to the labor movement in the Latin American countries.
In the Cooperative World

Ohio Miners Who Know How to Cooperate

Dillingham, Ohio,-Small town so far as census figures are concerned is a big town in the cooperative vernacular.

In 1928 six sturdy men owned and operated a store in this town with a contribution of $10 apiece. Today their capital and reserves amount to more than $200,000. They have four grocery stores and meat markets, a restaurant and confectionery, a drugstore, a store, a meeting hall and club room.

The biggest block in Dillingham is the property of the Cooperative Company, which rents space to the First National Bank of the town, and to the Railroad Company for its waiting room and ticket office.

This company has regularly returned from 6 to 9 per cent each year to its members in proportion of their purchases and 2 per cent to non-members.

Canada Under C. W. S. Wing

The huge British cooperative wholesale society, now serving a third of all Britain's retail trade, may soon become a major factor on another continent. Already 'C. W. S.' goods are sold in Saskatchewan, Canada, and more than 1,000 of the largest stores in the Province of Ontario are negotiating with the great Manchester and Glasgow concerns.

The directors of the Farmers' Cooperative have submitted the proposition to their retail members, may soon feel that a favorable reply will be made.

Not only will great economies in food, clothing, and other provisions be made on the part of Ontario farmers be fulfilled by dealing with the British cooperatives, but both the overvose and the Ontario movements will be added bonuses.

Within another year the Co-operative Wholesale Society will have the largest English department stores, but will have included Canada, if present plans continue. Important business operations have already been made between the South African and Australian cooperative movements and the other bodies in Britain.

Doctor Operates As Farmers

Nearby exist favorable conditions for the cooperation between townsmen and operation. Not so many see that townsmen and cooperators have all the same in such a way as to cut down materially on doctor and hospital fees.

Until recently the doctors of the farmers of Ashak, a little community in Minnesota, have the cooperative habit of selling their wheat and buying medicines. The latter practice was also handed into a "decentralization" co-op. A surgeon was born here, and carried on his trade in the community, with disinterested townsmen brought to him, and by creating 26 little co-ops never served from the disease-breeder.

The Referendum

By D. Wishnevsky
Secretary, Local 38

This coming Saturday, May 1st, will be an important day in the history of our union. On this day, members of No. 38 will be called upon to elect a new executive board. The-Bryant Hall, 4th Avenue near 21st Street, from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M., where local union officials will be on hand with the Joint Board of the Cloth and Dress Makers' Union. Upon this day the welfare and life of the members of No. 38 will be determined.

You are fully aware of the significance of this question. You know how bitterly our local fought against the old machinist of the Joint Board, who explained the reason for the change in the body, precisely three years ago. At that time all our members stood united on this question. Why? Because they understood, as you understand now, that our local is an organic part of the cloth and dress makers' movement to the work we make. As such we must be united in one central body with all the other local unions.

Who Created the Issue Against Joining the Joint Board at Present?

So the question is here, will you submit, who do not realize the importance for workers to be organized into central bodies and there are many members do not want to contribute to the cloakmakers' strike fund. But are you going to be bound by such petty considerations on such a vital question? Surely not! We are at present on the eve of a hard struggle with our employers. The Protective Association is waiting for the moment when our agreements expire. They desire to take away the shops of J. Klugman, P. Harring and Hattie Carnegie, and many other such like, on the strength of the shops of B. Weinstein and the Frensh Model Co. You can readily imagine what will be the result when these shops are given to us. How much less power will we have when we have to divide ourselves among the different groups in the industry and their counsel, and from the managers of the various concerns.

THE GOVERNORS ADVISORY COMMISSION IN THE CLOAK, SUIT AND SHIRT INDUSTRY

George Gordon Button, Chairman
Herbert H. Lehman
Bernard L. Shinar
Arthur D. Wolf

Vote After This Issue

Conclusion

If you are troubled with an important question, always have a vote after this issue. If you are not troubled, this vote will cause you to be troubled with no more responsibility than that of going to the nearest post office. We ask you, therefore, to make up your mind to vote on this question and to have a vote after this issue.
Report Submitted to Educational Committee of the G. E. B. (Continued from last week)

The Ways of the Supreme Court

BY ARTHUR W. CALHOUN
Instructor in Economics, Brockwood

Hucci Poems

One of the "Hucci Poems" in the arsenal of the supreme court is "due process of law." The constitution says that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. The Fifth Amendment states this principle. The Fourteenth Amendment says it to the states. You're protected all around.

But there's where the joke comes in.

What does "due process of law" mean? Whoso does it help? Well, in the only application of the Fourteenth Amendment, it was assumed that the bench of words meant that the state must give a formal and or de- ferential judicial hearing of each case. Common sense could not make the words mean more than that, and that is the meaning still accepted by the supreme court in cases affecting the life of an individual. The court has con- demned for murder and lose your ap- peal to your state supreme court, it's all up with you as far as the courts are concerned. Unless you can show that the state courts did not go through the motions of a regular trial. The United States supreme court will not go into your case at all, it says that the state courts did have a "due process of law" the case is ended.

You may hang or stake for all grandfathers.

But suppose your offense is the re- fund to sell electricity at the rate prescribed by a state commission and that you lose your case all the way through the state courts. If you are, as many you will be, not satisfied with the supreme court at Washington. The at- torney for the state can argue that you have had a fair hearing and that all the proper steps have been fol- lowed, and any honest-minded person would say that the supreme court would have to wash his hands of you just as it does in a murder case. But no honest-minded man could ever get to the supreme bench except by ac- cident. The judges take exactly the opposite position from this. They say, when a human life was at state. They say, "Wait a bit. Maybe the terms of law have been observed, let us see justice done!" And they will under- take to determine whether the sale of electricity at the rate prescribed cut into your "fair profits." Of course no one ever found a sensible way to determine what is "fair profit"-but what does that matter to grandfa- thers?

The deal looks raw enough on the face of it, but there is another fact that makes it worse. When Congress made the Fourteenth Amendment deliberately refrained from forbidding the states to take private property for public use without due process of law. The Fifteenth Amendment for- bade Congress to practice confiscation, but when the states go beyond the other restrictions and applying them to the states it left that one out, what does that mean for you? And you care? It deliberately reads into the Fourteenth Amendment the words that the makers of the amendment de- liberately refrained from putting in; and so it is able to extend the provi- sion of the Corporation to corpora- tions, while in a perfectly iden- tical case withholding that protection from human life.

So Tom Mooney languishes in a California jail and the state will have all the legal remedies in the case; so there is nothing that the supreme court can do to help him. The state justice was done. But if the case were one of corporate profits, the court would carry it through to the limit and decide whether the state had done justice. That shows what sort of cops we keep in the body that has usurped to itself the supreme power in the federal government.

A Nigger in the Woodpile

The Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution was passed, it was said, for the protection of the emancipated slaves. It forbade the states to de- privy any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. A very commendable effort, surely, to defend the helpless Negroes against their former masters!

But who will bring forward the case of the human being's life, liberty, and property by this amendment? The list will not bother to write it out. We have the "woodpile." The fact of the matter is that there were interests in Congress who were afraid enough to be con- vinced of the full force of the case for the protection of the Negroes could be per- vaded into the protection of large property owners.

Their faiths was justified. The court acted true to form. It ruled that a cor- poration is a person, and so entitled to the protection of this amendment; and under the shelter of this gror- dian interests are given a free license to plunder the people without any ef- fectual protection.

Now we never hire the supreme judges to write a dictionary for us. No we hire the supreme judges to throw in a few vandall stunts for extra by way of earning their keep.

As Aaron Burr said, "The labor of the overs is ever is horribly asserted and plausibly maintained," and a firm conviction that things would never be the same. Congress will carry one far toward success as an authority on law and justice.

What to do? Let Congress pass a law declaring that corporations are not persons within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment, and forbid- ding the supreme court to construe the amendment so as to treat them as persons? Then the corporations would be subject to real state regulation. But has congress such power? To be sure it has. The Constitution says that the appellate jurisdiction of the supreme court is "with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Congress shall make." It will continue to allow ourselves to be made fools of by the old and grandmothers on the supreme bench, we have only ourselves to blame. Let's clear away this whole system at once.

GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY

The Office of the International, 3 West 16th Street, is open every Mon- day from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. Of which is in- enable members of the Union to pur- chase

The Women's Garment Workers" at half price.-$2.50.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND COMMENTS

Length of Seasonal Education

Most of our courses were given over a period of five months from November 1 to April 15.

Present Activities

At present we are carrying on the following courses: (1) Class in "Eco- nomics of the Ladies Garment Industry," F. R. 6; (2) Class in Physical Training and "Health and the Economic Basis of Modern Civilization," L. L. G. W. U. Building; (4) Several Lectures on History, Museum of Natural History; (5) Lectures for Wives of L. L. G. W. U. members, Hicks, Columbus Center; (6) Hikes, beginning May 5th.

Activities for Wives of L. L. G. W. U. Members

I wish to call special attention to the activities arranged for wives of L. L. G. W. U. members. They have proved most successful. The program consists of lectures and discussions as follows: (1) "A Treasury of Great Women Need?" "How Can We Help Our Children?" "Why the Orga- nized Labor Movement—What is It?"

Many of our members also came to the conclusion that such activities appeal to them they all deeply appreciate the fact that "at last our international has de- cided to serve its members and the mem- bers in their development." Through these lectures we are making an effort to keep our members up with the latest problems and policies of the L. L. G. W. U. The beginning is encouraging and we hope to make this work as most helpful to our organization.

Attendance

We are glad to report that the at- tendance this season has been very regular and that our students are tak- ing their work seriously.

Out-of-Town Activities

In accordance with previous years we have arranged with the So- toon Trade Union College to pay them a yearly sum for the instruction of one of our classes. Last year we made similar arrangements with the Philadelphia Labor College, but this year to the organization campaign in that city and to the unsettled state of mind, we did not renew this ar- rangement this year. But our mem- bers in various cities are requesting that we arranged educational activi- ties there for the coming school years. Plans for Season 1926-1927

Our Educational work must be planned in advance. Arrangements for teachers have to be made in May. We begin to prepare the literature in May for distribution during the sum- mer and fall. In this way we make our activities known to our members.

I would suggest that the volume for next season should consist of similar subjects with some slight changes.

I have also worked out a list of classes and subjects for the first quarter that you will find listed in the curriculum for 1927.

The Sunday morning lectures and discussions in Yiddish shall be extended to every part of the city where clubs or groups want them to meet.

An attempt should be made to gain the cooperation of the editors and members of our Italian Local, and similar activities should be ar- ranged for them at a time and place convenient to them.
The Strike in Great Britain

By NORMAN THOMAS

Who won the British strike depends largely upon your point of view. If you believe that the strike was or ought to have been a revolutionary action, then the British trade union movement won. But if you believe that the mass of British workers and their leaders were traitors to the working class, that they added to the strike only an economic weapon, then the workers won. That is the crux of the matter. The British strike was a revolutionary strike, and the conditions under which the general strike was called off, is a somewhat ominous sign of the weakness of the movement which led the strike toward development or the Cabinet fails to keep the legitimate rights of the workers. The whole question of principles on which the general strike was called off, is of considerable interest and that some employees are taking advantage of the situation not to reiterate their work.

In spite of this, the gentleman's agreement covering terms to be offered to miners includes about all the old time class order and orderliness of the general strike. If the miners at their formal meeting accept these terms it can be seen they are back to normal. But the immediate beginning of the reorganization of the coal industry and a return to the old time cut and worn-out wage-cut's were presented an an ultimatum to the coal miners and while the cut and worn-out wage-cut's will be reduced in similar cuts in other industries. This is a very substantial victory. So far as the immediate interests of the miners and other workers are concerned, they have won more than they could have won in the old time system of revolution and choice. Britain is in a far worse condition to survive such an experience.

A genuine revolution in Britain must be there. That means the establishment of a class system under which the natural resources and manpower of England shall be ordered for the common good, production shall be for use, and no man shall live by his own efforts. However, the old British capitalist imperialism is doomed. But the British industrial situation is comparable to that of the American situation. It has been described as a stalemate with a mental disease. If the workers can achieve a peaceful revolution by the use of their own power, they can achieve it.

It will be a boon of unimaginable worth not only to the workers of England but to their comrades all over the world.

This strike, although it was not a clear-cut victory of the workers in the common understanding of the word, did make a contribution to that end. Labor learned the power it has through solidarity. It learned its importance in carrying out a general strike and the advantages of carrying with it the whole body of the people. It learned something about the class interests of the working class. However, a chance to develop the power of the working class was lost.

Now that the British strike is settled, we can give some attention to American affairs. Most of the evils in the coal industry are not peculiar to England. The British general strike are present to a greater or less degree in our own country. The cut and worn-out wage-cut's and the cut and worn-out wage-cut's are not organized one hundred per cent or anything like it. But as in England and as in the coal strike field is in the United States. Must we wait for a general strike in a new city before we take action?

The Textile Strike

The textile strike still draws on with the morale of the workers unimpaired. Important victories for civil and political liberty have been won. The strikers—most of them gossamers with badges on—out of Garfield. Halls of fame. The strike have brought the vagrancy of rawage. The temporary injunction get by the Peracan-Smith-Hoffman Mills has been modified by a new injunction by small groups of pickets and discussion of the strike with the workers and their leaders. The strike of the London workers is in good order. But there must still be a genuine support of the strike itself, and the strike workers should be given all possible help.

The Factory

By Florence Wilkinson Evans

Lanibet, Mariana, Flanmfa, Teresina.

The women, the winding rooms of power, one by one, one by one—

Little children who have never held a spinning wheel.

Teresaa softly crying that her fin

groove today.

The darkness in the twilight of a gray.

High above the clustering street,

Ambulance still steaming, hot,

She sit, curling ermissible petals,

One by one, one by one.

Lanibet, Mariana, Flanmfa, outdoor.

They have never seen a rough and nor a drop in the sun.

They have never seen a sun or the vegetation.

Of a Black Hand and a War behind the window.

They will dream of cotton petals,

endless, crimson, efflusion.

Never to see the next cotton field or the singing of a cricket; but the ambulance will belive through the crowded doors and their treas tires will float with the street’s hysteric streamy.

Lanibet, Mariana, Flanmfa, outdoor.

They are winding stems of force, one by one, one by one.

Let them have a long, long play time.

Lord of Toll, when toll is done.

Fill all baby hands, with roses justify the sun.

Wheeler said the other day that his judgment was not that the British general strike was an emergency in any discussion. It was just ignored. Even the New York Nation devoted an editorial page to portraying Congressmen Mr. Cleveland’s support of the strike. But even this is the majority a cause to be feared, which is scarcely more than a political act, and ignored the Wheeler left. The strike was a communist strike which we have previously called attention, does not mean the destiny of the labor movement field and does not provide immediate nationalization in the anti-racism field. The possibility of the British strike getting in might, however, be applied to a brillinute canvas, and even discussions of it would have an economic educational value. But most of us, until the next strike comes, can’t bear to strain our minds by thinking of anything which involves more much concentration than reading the tabloids or listening to the Happiness Boys on the radio.

The Cotton Factories

By Florence Wilkinson Evans

Lanibet, Mariana, Flanmfa, Teresina.

The women, the winding rooms of power, one by one, one by one—

Little children who have never held a spinning wheel.

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SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 24TH
Purpose: Report on Governor's Special Mediation Commission

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place
Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.