Justice (Vol. 16, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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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.
The Convention Bids:

"We Must Not Stand Still; The I. L. G. W. U. Must Reach Out To New Fields While Holding Fast To Its Gains."
11 Weeks of "Union Assembly" on the Air

by MORRIS S. NOVICT
Director of Programs, Station WEVD

"Noth by bread alone do we live" was the keynote of President Dubinsky's address at the inauguration of "The Union Assembly," previously announced by the Public Relations Department of our Union, on Saturday, April 7, 1934. President William Green, speaking on this same program in behalf of the American Federation of Labor, greeted the officers and membership and charitably mentioned that one of the most important steps taken by the International in the course of its existence.

The series had its guest speakers and honorary sponsors: Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Frances Perkins, Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, Fannie Hurst, Rose Schindeler, Governor Gifford Pinchot, Mayor Filibello H. LoZafirera, Norman Thomas and James Green.

Our Chief Objective

Our objective was to reach our Eastern membership and their families, and, particularly, the newcomers to the Union, so that we could acquaint them with the aims of the organization, its struggles and accomplishments. Because of the complex composition and divergent interests of a membership of 200,000, the job of organizing, known as the "Rallying Point," was difficult.

We, therefore, arranged to include in each program an address by one of our members in behalf of the union, and a brand of music by one of the ten foremost chamber music ensembles scheduled for the series was to be heard on each radio, as a type of music enjoyed by a member of the Joint Executive Board touching upon various union problems, and entertainment by a prominent Broadway radio and concert star. The chamber music ensembles included: Cominsky Trio, Roth String Quartet, Knoll String Quartet, Pacheco Quartet, Simuliasx String Quartet, Gordon String Quartet, Schindeler Hosiery Trio and Assilian String Quartet. The broadway and concert artists who appeared were: the Hall Johnson Choir, Blanche Yorka, Nasivinora, George Jessel, Morton Downey, Jr., Kremer, Molly Picon, Tamara, Colly Adler and Mary McCarthy. We introduced something novel in presenting Nasivinora and Blanche Yorka in draughtsmanship on child labor and the NRA.

Friendly Comment

The reaction of radio critics, generally, to this program is most interesting and significant. I am sure all of you are aware of the recent report the New York Times critic, in his review of the Daily News, his review of the Daily News, stated: "The union is sponsoring the program as an experiment in a new medium to keep a closer touch with its membership, of 12,000,000. The character of the entertainment is a departure from radio routine, too." "A Rallying Point" is interesting to note the comment of Forbes Magazine, a leading industrial magazine, in its issue of April 15th. It said: "The series is significant not so much because a union is sponsoring a radio program but because a union is using radio for the same reason that an employer does, as a business-like method of meeting its business problems. . . . It gives members a rallying point, keeps up the interest and builds up a definite picture of the union.

Extract from President Dubinsky's Speech Closing Radio Program

We had a great convention in Chicago that was attended by a number of people representing the biggest membership. International had ever had, the greatest enthusiasm in the speech and the delegate from the radio program, following the greatest advance ever made by our Union since we became an international organization.

The delegates at our convention were thrilled when they saw our picture, "Marching On," portraying the struggles and the program of our union. This is the first labor picture in the country and the convention viewed the first showing of our film.

Arrangements are being made for it to be shown everywhere throughout the country for our members and their friends.

The convention, by acclamation, approved the action of the General Office to arrange for future programs on an even more elaborate and extensive scale. Originally, this series consisted of 16 programs, but in order to make possible this opportunity of addressing our membership, the series was extended to include tonight's program. Our radio broadcasts will be resumed in the Fall, and the Interim will afford us the opportunity to make arrangements for future programs, speakers and stations, so that we may reach an even larger number of our members.

I want to take this means of expressing our appreciation to the guest speakers, artists, Station WEVD, and the other broadcasting stations for their cooperation, and to Morris Novick, who worked so hard to make these programs a success, as well as to our members and all other listeners.

It is my keen desire to get our members an expression of opinion regarding the value of these radio programs. All suggestions, criticism and comment, will be appreciated. They may be addressed to the General Office at 1 West 14 Street, New York, New York.

MOLLY PICON
Stages and Radio Star

"Variety," the most critical of theatrical and radio magazines, said in its issue of May 1st, "For carrying out the thoughts and purposes of their program, those half-hour sermons garner much credit for those concerned with this "Union Assembly.""

Of course, it is needless to report that the labor and radical press throughout the country announced and reviewed the programs very favorably. The series was appropriately originated from WEVD, (the Daggett Opera Memorial Station), but was relayed over an Eastern network which included WBC (Bridgeport and New Haven), WEVD and WHAL (Philadelphia), WCAC (Washington), and WOR (Washington). On April 9th, when General Johnson spoke for us, his speech was also carried by the N. B. C. national network of 90 stations. The publicity preceding and following his broadcast put the LIIU W.U. on the front page in every newspaper in the country.

The delegates at the recent Chicago convention of the L.I.I.G.W.U. indicated their interest in this series when they unanimously adopted the report on it made by the General Executive Board and also adopted a resolution approving the studies and the method of instructing the workers to continue these radio programs in the Fall.

New Method of Education

The growth of the International Union in the last year has brought in its wake new problems of education. No longer were there a few prominent unionists and workers to educate and inspire their fellow workers in their smaller cities. We, therefore, turned to a medium—radio. The "Union Assembly" series was started on the L.I.I.G.W.U. only because it is the rallying point for so much union activity. But from the first day our thought has been to expand it so that it may appear in every market in the country where the Union is active. There would be a similar series. It is our intention and hope that next year will find a "Union Assembly" series not only in the East but also in New England, on the coast, in the West, and in the South.

No report of the series would be complete without a word of thanks for the splendid cooperation of the many artists who participated, the whole-hearted support of President Dubinsky and the tireless interest of Max D. Daniel, editor of "Justice" and director of publicity.
Dress Locals Summoned to Act on Cotton Dress Issue

July, 1934

Upon his return from Washington, on June 26, after a week of hearings on the Union’s demand for the reopening of the Cotton Garment Code, President Dubinsky forwarded to all dress locals throughout the country a communication in which he stated in part: “We are attempting to bring the house dress, cotton dress and wash dress workers under the working provisions of the regular Dress Code.

The better-lot trade will do all they can to mobilize their forces, to call meetings of the cotton and wash dress workers in their respective localities and to create public opinion everywhere favorable to the improvement of the work conditions of the house dress workers. It is important that we continue to work in this direction.

To All Locals and Joint Boards of Dressmakers Affiliated with the I.L.G.W.U.

Brothers and Sisters:

The Cotton Garment Code, which provides for a 48-hour work-week and a $1.50 minimum, and to which the International objected strenuously from the very beginning, was finally reopened last week. All overalls, shirts, leather costs, etc., Our International Union, together with the Ambitious Clothing Workers of America and the United Garment Workers, presented a number of demands to the administration for revision of the present code. We demanded a 35-hour work-week, an increase in wages, decided lower costs, and the transfer of cotton and wash dressers to the Code which governs the Dress industry.

The Cotton Garment Code

Workers

The Cotton Garment Code represents millions of unionists, including besides cotton and wash dressers, tailor's assistants, overalls, shirts, leather costs, etc. Our unionists are organized in the Garment industry, and the dress manufacturers have no right to employ non-union labor. As long as the Dress Code and the Garment Code are in direct competition with the Dress industry, the Garment Code was one of the very few under which trade workers were deprived of an opportunity, under the NRA, to enjoy fair working conditions. Because the clock stopped on June 26, these workers were prevented from obtaining a 48-hour work-week and proper wages classifications. The cotton and wash dress industry was, in fact, closed and in good condition, but the workers were, therefore, free to dictate their own terms, which were not too good. During the past several months, the intensive organizing campaign has been gathering in the city of Bridgeton and vicinity.

The difficulties which we encountered were many, and I can proudly say at this writing that there is a local there now and that it has come to stay. One of our problems was to convince the employers in Bridgeton that we meant business and to show that we were there, and now they realize that we mean business. Several of the workers have already been in and I am confident that the others will follow suit very shortly.

The Fight in Bridgeton

Another of the difficulties that we encountered in Bridgeton was that the employers had imitated some of the workers the idea that the only reason they were in business in Bridgeton was to give them work. For that reason the workers were to work for them for next to nothing.

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Local 325, of Hackettstown and Millville, has been the first of the locals to make up their minds and join up with the union. The affair was addressed by Boss Fisher, the educational secretary of our international. It is interesting to note here that many people are threatened to run the union representatives out of town for talking to union men.

We have not had any celebration, seem to be rather practical to the extent that they have made the union their only religion in the factory, and above all, they have learned that “in unity there is strength,” and they are acting accordingly.

Third Season Starts

We are starting our third season under our agreement. The workers will be better paid with the union, and the men will be able to get work for the season. The workers will be able to work for the season.

Dealing With A Hand Firm

I have had the pleasure of having to deal with the firm of H. & J. Block in South Jersey, and it is no secret that it is not the firm that we have been dealing with. They are a fine firm and are the ones that are the best to work with. They have met the keen competition of ours. But, in some respects, it is a bit too much to keep the wolf away from the door.

We have faced many acid tests and the workers have faced them bravely with their solidarity by meeting their union obligations and they have seen to it that their dues books are paid up to date.

Executive Group, Local 76, Wash Goods and Cotton Dress Union, Chicago, Ill.
Conventions in the life of a labor movement, and within our Union, especially, are not merely jubilation gatherings. True, we have abundant cause for congratulating ourselves and the labor movement of which we are a part, upon the remarkable progress we have made. But surely none will deny the truth that this convention marks the 54th anniversary of our existence as an autonomous organization in the broad field of the American Federation of Labor. But our conventions have a far greater significance to our colleagues and our membership. We assemble every other year to take stock of our achievements or failures, to criticize our policies or to approve our tactics, to legislate for the future, to strengthen our position in our industry and to remove obstacles in the way of continued advancement. These purposes are the chief objectives of our conventions.

A Look Into The Past

Organization of the American Federation of Labor, a historic revolution that took place in the coal industry in 1893, when our Union was first established on a nationwide basis, and has brought about in many fields—collective bargaining, in educational and governmental work, in excluding the all of our construction members from the jurisdiction of courts—obstructive officials in the struggle for the elimination of sweatshops, in preemption of health for the workers, in taking part in community activities, in helping various charitable and educational, and in extending partial help to the churches, in assisting in the organization of unions and in assisting in their struggles for human rights. We have reduced working hours, we have improved wages and conditions of work. We have given the worker the right to his job so that he may have a better life. We have reviewed by a proper impartial tribunal.

Our Union enjoyed prestige and influence in the country; we were able to influence the legislation that was taking place in our state; we were able to influence the legislation that was taking place in our state. We were able to influence the legislation that was taking place in our state.

The Loyalty and the Hardship

At the beginning of 1933, we reached the same stage where we were unable to make the progress of our program; we were able to maintain our headquarters; some of our locals were practically wiped out of existence, while the morale of the members, in general, was at a very low ebb. Here and there attempts would be made to do organizing work, but these attempts did not yield any satisfactory results. It was more the nature of a desperate flight for existence and a show of resistance to the employers who continually were breaking down work standards; increasing work hours and actually cutting wages out of their employees and forcing them to rely in numerous cases on charity and relief for a subsistence livelihood.

Fortunately, we had in nearly all our organizations substantial numbers of loyal and devoted members, most of whom had been involved in many of our Union's glorious struggles in the past, and who remembered the great contributions the Union had made towards the welfare of the tens of thousands of workers in our industry. These loyal members stuck to the organization, ready to fight to the last and not to give up the ship, inspired by a never-dying hope that the Union would come back to its former strength and influence in the near future. The leaders of our locals and of our National Executive Board were attacked, slandered, and mistreated by the Communist, who were aiming to destroy our work in the next two years. These leaders worked for months and months without pay, ready to endure privation and to make all necessary sacrifices for the volunteer organization. The time had come just as soon as it became evident that the depression was not a temporary one but a permanent one, that it required a great measure of idealism and devotion to the cause of the workers and the trade union movement and that we were unskillfully as they did. I dare say that the revival of our Union is due in no small degree to the spirit displayed by the members and the officers during those crucial months and years in the life of the organization.

The Volunteers

And it was because of this that when President Roosevelt inaugurated the New Deal, and Congress enacted the NRA, our Union and our members were able to have an excellent crew of people who were ready to be placed immediately in the process of rebuilding the Union and who were as humanly possible, day and night, to take advantage of the great opportunity which had come to us to help the workers to re-build and strengthen our Union.

The moment the NRA went into effect, we were able to make some progress for the workers, and we met with an astounding response. Though unemployed for many months and badly in need of funds, our active men and women, nevertheless, plunged into the work assigned to them and made good in nearly every respect. The first two months of our activities during that period may be described as "the two months that shocked the Ladies' Garment Industry." The General Office immediately prepared hundreds of thousands of circulars for distribution in every section throughout the country. People with experience were assigned to important posts to start intensive organizing campaigns. The message was sent to our offices: "Prepare for immediate strikes." We aroused a sentiment for organizing campaigns in every part of the country. We were able to have our work being made, in places which were completely isolated from union influence, raids and seizures of our offices. The Congress into the General Office from dozens of places. People who had been away from the labor movement outside of our own organization. A concerted drive started simultaneously in practically every state of the country, and in fact throughout the country, in the establishment of the 25-hour week, minimum wages scales, and conditions similar to those gained by the strikers in New York.

As a direct result of these strikes, our Union grew extensively in numbers; from a membership of 49,000, we have been able to increase our membership to over 100,000. The situation in the country is today organized 25% per week, while the old situation only organized 15% per week. In New York, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, which used to be the main sweatshops, there are many districts where our Union could not make headway despite strenuous efforts in the past, but we have been able to organize the most solid labor movement that has ever been organized in the New York City, New Jersey, and Philadelphia districts. The credit we are giving to the organizers, who have worked hard and effectively in these districts. The credit we are giving to the organizers, who have worked hard and effectively in these districts.

To conclude, I would like to say that we are not only fighting for the rights of the workers but also for the rights of the community and for the rights of the people. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed. We are fighting for the rights of the people who have been exploited and oppressed.
compelled to bar our trade during the season and the system now flanked back into our shops. The greatly enlarged membership has assured a free market and has made it possible to continue work along vigorous lines everywhere. Our membership, which has been called for an enlargement of our staff, has been increased to over 2,800,000 members in 60 local unions and their markets, no less than 100 people are now employed in the various offices of our International Union throughout the country by salaried staff of not less than 250.

All our local unions today possess substantial membership strength. The CIO has found it possible to liquidate almost all our debts, to regain our good name, and to revive our prestige in community life by helping such institutions as formerly carried upon generous assistance from our International.

**Morale of the High Point**

The morale of our workers is today as high as it has ever been in the history of our Union. The best evidence of this is the big meetings and the imposing present of our new officers in Chicago, who have held recently in New York and in the numerous localities in New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and in other parts of the country.

Our organization has grown to such proportions that we have within our International membership strength of 2.8 million persons. Local 24, with a membership of 40,000, the largest single local union in the country, was voted into the International in that local, 17,500 members participated in the vote. Local 22 of New York, dressmakers, has a membership of nearly 10,000. The voting participation increased to 15,000 took part. The same may be said of the rest of our local unions. We have a membership, an amazing number, as one who is familiar with local union affairs should admit, took part in the recent elections, and this testifies to the deep interest which the members are taking in the affairs of their organization.

Our strike was involved in 11 Codes covering the following industries: Coat and Suit, Silk Dress, Cotton Dress, Ribs, Blouses, Lingerie, Caps, Hats, Neckwear, Bathrobes, Featherweight, and Smocking. Schiffs Embroidery, Corset and Braiders, Ladies' Neckwear, Robe and Allied Products. Co-ordinated Button, Handkerchief—and in practically all of them, we have Union representation at the negotiation table. The agreement we have with the employers, the general conditions, and representation on the Central Committee are unprecedented.

**Institutions Revived**

We are coming to this Convention in the city of Chicago with 141 chartered locals and 123 joint boards located in 72 cities in 16 states. Our locals will be represented by 249 delegates. In 1930, which registered the highest mark in the history of our Union, we had only 61 local unions, 12 joint boards and 27 delegates. In 1952, in Philadelphia, we had 156 locals, 62 joint boards and 144 delegates. In 1952, we had a membership of 115,000. This year our membership has risen to nearly 200,000, approximately 100 per cent women and 35 per cent men.

With this astounding revival and growth of our membership, this movement has resumed its activities in the field of education. We are now contemplating the establishment of an Educational Department on an elaborate scale.

**Justice and the Future**

I wish to touch upon the question frequently brought up in our midst and which has been heard loudly and frequently on the extraordnary revival of our organization and the possible effects of the avoion of the NRA.

In the course of this paper, I should like to mention that the NRA is one of the most significant events of our time. It has been referred to as the "mood" of the NRA. In the past, the NRA has included such laws as the Wagner Act, the Taft-Hartley Act, and the National Labor Relations Act. In most cases, consider simply a threat.

The Darrow Commission, in its general report, states: "If a man is a business man, commits an error when he tries too strenuously to maintain the existence of his business. When the small business man is under economic pressure. From the first day of the depression, it was clear that the small man could not survive only on the profits of his business. In many cases, the small business man continued a hazardous sort of existence by slashing wages, operating hour and hours, and in each instance in which a worker is protected, the working conditions of his employees.

**The Cry of Labor's Plan**

The small business man was responsible for the return of the sweatshop, a thing which we all had hoped belonged to the past. The sweatshop, which meant a pliable, dirty hide-away, removed from the contact of unions, or even of forces of the law. Apparently, however, the small business man must refuse to look the facts in the face, and is, therefore, entitled to his own priviledges. The little business man sought to reap the benefits of his labor without the corresponding responsibility of its workers. He refused to return to the sweatshop and permit the degradation of our workmen and the exploitation of our labor. He refused to pay the prices which make his business viable. He refused to pay the prices which make his business viable. He refused to pay the prices which make his business viable. He refused to pay the prices which make his business viable. He refused to pay the prices which make his business viable.

**Nullifying Section 7A**

No sooner, however, did the important industrial section become involved in Codes than they began to show resistance to substantial work hour reductions. In proper wage scales, and to Labor's participation on Codes Authorities. Therewith, the NRA authorities also began to assume a different attitude. Inappropriate conditions were incorporated which negatified the original intent of the code. Company unions were enclomitted in the enforcement of the National Labor Board by several outstanding non-union manufacturers in the industry, and automobile workers was met with a strong hand by the Administra. A number of NRA leaders, who at the outset, appeared to be liberal, have since been brought to heel. They have been deprived of power with favor upon exemptions and modifications of vital or important labor clauses in the Codes. Their efforts to save the employers in the smallest industries in the needle trades began to be opposed by strong representation on the Central Authorities.

In other words, the NRA today is not any more what it was in its early stages. The expectation that the NRA would give employment to all the idle workers has not materialized because work hours were not cut in most industries substantially. While wages were raised as compared with wage scale existing prior to the NRA, in some of the principal industries, the wage increases has materialized wholly or in part, so that the purchasing power of the workers today is hardly better than before the NRA.

**Unions Make Enforcement**

Only in such industries where substantial unionization did not exist, and in those industries in which, for whatever reason, the unions failed to organize workers' employers are a common experience. In the unionized industries, the NRA has not worked to the interest of the workers even though even there the enforcement dep. This lack of cooperation on the part of the employers, in many instances, shows that the NRA will not help the least degree, even if such appeals are made by General Motors, the parent company, and that the NRA is required in this situation to support our cause and purposeful, as only through action can public confidence, which is so essential to the success of our campaign, be raised. Twenty years ago social justice and the wakening of the nation were a dream. Today it is a dream no longer. Today the awakening is the fact that is now upon us. We must use it to build; educators and labor organizers are gradually getting acquainted with it, is here to stay, and has been discussed in the legislative halls throughout the various States.

**We Are Bound to Win**

Yes, delegation, it was the duty of injustice against miserable conditions that made the birth of this nation should begin thinking and talking and thinking and considering social legislation. And now, after the birth of organized labor that will make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth. It is on the hands of the National Labor Board to make it not only a subject of discussion, but that will make it a matter of law, a matter of practice, a matter of the commonwealth.
Important Resolutions Adopted at Chicago Convention

Against barring of or discrimination against colored workers in trade unions. For the purpose of unifying all labor unions with the National Labor Union in the United States, all organizations instructed to actively promote such resolution at said conventions.

For a concerted campaign to bring about legislation for the abolition of injunctions with or without threat of violence. All organizations instructed to actively promote such action at said conventions.

For a general strike in the clothing industry in the cities of Chicago, New York, and other centers.

To inaugurate campaign for organizing all needle trades workers of Puerto Rico, to lead to the formation of an organized drive in accordance with the principles of the International Union.

To sanction a general strike in the iron, steel, and coal-industry in New York for the purpose of establishing minimum wages on Tuesday, the shorter work-week and other standard workshops and conditions of work to which the iron, steel, and coal industry in the United States are subject, and all other matters affecting the welfare and advancement of all workers in the said industries.

To start a general campaign of organization in all markets of the house dress industry and to place it under such work standards as prevail in all other trades under the jurisdiction of the I.L.G.W.U.

To endorse a campaign in the San Francisco sweathouse for the purpose of organizing the Chinese ladies' garment workers with the Chinese Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

We sing the songs that we make, Naked, stark and true. Songs that are red with our blood, Stained with our tears right thru. We sing of the men who gather In factory, forge and mill, And warm their hands at the fire In the cold, gray morning chill

Warming their hands for a little hope. Strong hands at the Fire of Life; Living and working and hoping. 'Midst the din, the stress and the strife.

We sing of the cold and dark, The fog and the damp and the gloom; Of the road that the worker journeys That ends for him, ever in toom.

R. M. FOX.

A Song of Men
Convention Spurs Cause of Workers' Education

By FANNI M. COHN
Secretary, Educational Department
Intern Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Our destructive economic system was compelled to begin work at an early age, before they had a chance to develop their personality and character. It is the most important achievement that during the nine months since they joined the Intern, they have found happiness and success in their lives and these found expression in the songs which many of them composed. In them they have expressed their long-suppressed grievances. The central motif of these songs was the International delivered them from sweatshops and industrial slavery. They now have new hope and confidence in their abilities and possibilities to march on.

Symbolic Functions
The influence of our educational work was felt throughout the convention. The various pamphlets which the delegates carried each morning on their tables, the imposing mural, eleven by six feet, mirroring the social and educational activities of our International, the pictures representing the various activities of our Educational Department, the symbolic posters—all of these bore witness that the International is striving toward a new world, that it is working with a sense of purpose and dedication to bring about a better future for the workers. This was evident from the interest of the delegates in the development of our members intellectually and physically. Our new members were very much impressed when they realized that the International is working toward the achievement of our International as a pioneer in workers' education. At the same time it showed that the educational work holds in the hearts and in the imagination of our membership. One heard our new members repeatedly saying that they need the understanding of our International, the learning to learn more about the labor movement. It is a most encouraging and helpful attitude.

Women: A Great Factor
The composition of the convention reflected economic and social changes and sought to reflect on working women. Our previous conventions were visited by many wives of our delegates. At the convention this year there were many men, with the blue badges of guests. These were husbands, whose wives, bustling occupied in committee rooms, were the red badges of delegates. The opportunities to open the women's members in our Union eventually led to the development of local chapters between husband and wife and to the understanding between parents and children.

A Memorable Week-End
It was an interesting moment when two women delegates nominated two other women to the General Executive Board of the Union. These women were different parts of the country, with different backgrounds and environments, but they were all in harmony with the same emotions and convictions, they said. "When we speak about equality of races, let us extend the same equality to women."

Our men and women increasingly recognize the fact that not only do they contribute to the Industrial League's victories, but that they will have to work side by side in their organizations for the immediate achievement of economic improvement and to strive for our ultimate goal—a world free from poverty, misery and exploitation.

The Union's Constitution
As the delegates, new and old, were sitting side by side in the Convention Hall, assembled as a labor parliament, the continuity of our Union in the work as part of the labor movement was admirably evident. It was realized that it was not only through the efforts of our newly organized locals that they succeeded in getting improved conditions from the employers, but mainly because their locals were a part of our International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, with its old-established traditions of courage, idealism, persistency and achievements. During this period men, by trial and sacrifice, had made many sacrifices, had endured untold hardships in order to build up a union and to retain it in even in days of darkest adversity.

The delegates began to realize that within an organization such social gains are transmitted from generation to generation. Just as they are reaping the fruit of the founders and pioneers of our Union, so will they benefit spiritually and intellectually from the experiences and traditions which have been developed during the 17 years of our educational program.

A Word to Our New Members
We have now entered upon a new period in the life of our organization. We are writing a new and important chapter in its history. You have received a rich heritage and the further growth of our Union depends upon your devotion and understanding. Upon you falls the duty to carry on the work of the organization and to improve upon it. In this work our Educational Department is ready to assist you.

Remember: When we are about to construct something, we do not think of our immediate needs alone, but place for the future as well. What we are now building will be appreciated by the generations that are yet to come.

Unity House Opens 1934 Season

The Pine Grove
Open Air Theatre

2,000 VOLUMES IN Unity's Library

A group of union members, under the direction of Fanni M. Cohn, produced, for the first time, a program of music and drama in unity library. On Saturday night, after the regular concert opened, a comic play of trade union stories was given. On Friday night, the large hall in the studio was filled to overflowing by an audience of 600 people, who watched attentively a run-off of the L.I.G.W.U. film, "Marching On!"

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Pioneer Youth Camp
Rifton, N. Y.
Open This Saturday,
June 30, 1934.

For information apply to
69 Bank Street, New York, N. Y.
Tel. Watkins 94627
The 22nd Convention Passes in Review

By MAX D. DANISH

Thursday, opening day meeting, in Auditorium, Saturday morning meeting to the right.

An ideal morning for Chicago. A stiff breeze from "Old Man Lake" had swept the hot mist that enveloped the big city the night before, and the air felt cool and invigorating. It was a glorious morning for marching, the parade which the Chicago organization of the I.L.G.W.U. staged as a curtain raiser for the convention, indeed turned out to be the most colorful affair ever carried out by the women's garment workers of that city. About nine thousand drummers and clockmakers, divided into three sections, each preceded by a band of music, assembled at Canal and Van Buren Streets at nine in the morning, and marched up in picturesque formation, with hundreds of flags waving and a multitude of pennants flying in the breeze, to Carmen's Hall, where thousands lined the sidewalks and cheered the paraders.

Every man in the line wore a blue "overcoat" cap with the initials, "I.L.G.W.U." inscribed on it, while the women, dressed in white and marching four abreast, wore similar white caps. The convention delegates and the hundreds of visiting guests joined the marchers in a fleet of busses from the then convention headquarters—the Medinah Michigan Avenue Club—and both groups arrived at the Auditorium simultaneously. Within five minutes the big hall, which has a seating capacity of 4,000, was filled to overflowing, leaving several thousand people, crowding the sidewalks and filling the adjacent streets.

Speeches, orations, flowers.

Morris Bellows, whose speech, "fighting young leader of the Chicago forces of the I.L.G.W.U. mounts the platform as chairman of the Arrangements Committee, and welcomes. Under a roar of applause, the delegates and the guests of the convention, to Chicago. It is, he states, in a voice that quivers with emotion, the high point of his life, and he pleads the name of the Chicago organization, to "make the day of the delegates in our city as pleasant as possible." He reminds the audience of the last convention which the International held in Chicago occurred fourteen years ago, in 1910, at a time when the I.L.G.W.U. was at a high peak of prosperity. That period was followed by difficult years of struggle, with enemies on every front, external as well as internal, but the Union survived the dangerous times and has now again emerged on top. And Chicago is once more privileged to receive an international convention in its midst, a happy moment in the life of its own greatly increased membership and at a time of marvellous advance of the organization as a whole.

Illinois Labor's Welcome

Vice-President Bellows introduces Victor A. Glidden, secretary of the Illinois Federation of Labor, who greets the convention in the name of the organized workers of Illinois. Glidden is followed by Alderman Oscar F. Nelson, a vice-president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, who is deputized by Mayor Edward J. Kiley of Chicago to greet the delegates on behalf of the city administration. Both receive vociferous orations. Nelson, especially, is rewarded with loud applause as he recounts his own participation with the Chicago dressmakers on the picket lines during their recent strike and as he emphasizes that he knows of no better trade unionists than "those who compose the sight I.L.G.W.U. locals in the City of Chicago."

The temporary chairman then turns over the gavel, after a warm introduction to President David Dubinsky, who reminds the delegates that a little over two years ago, at the Philadelphia convention, they elected to the post of leadership of the I.L.G.W.U., a man who had been a dressmaker for 24 years, a man who had not made a death was taken away from my midst shortly after his gathering," and calls upon the audience to rise to silent tribute to the unforgetting memory of Benjamin Schimizu. The audience rises and stands still for a minute.

The Keynote Speech

In a keynote speech lasting forty-five minutes, President Dubinsky then proceeds to outline the history of the Union for the past few years, the perils period through which it passed on its way toward eventual recovery, the effect of the NRA on the Union's activity in the past year, the great strikes which followed it, and the immediate effects of the settlement of these strikes. Proudly, he refers to the fact that "the morale of our workers is today at a higher point than ever before in the history of our Union; the organization has grown to unprecedented proportions, and it has come to this twentieth-century convention with 142 charted locals and 15 joint boards, located in 72 cities and 36 states, and represented by 319 delegates."

President Dubinsky concludes his address under a storm of applause by saying: "Even at times when our efforts are not successful, even at times when we are defeated, let us not lose hope, let us not lose courage. Our cause is just and our purpose is noble. Our defeat is only temporary setbacks. We are bound to win. We are already beginning to enjoy the fruits of our labor. United as never before, shoulder to shoulder, let us go marching on to our future battles and greater victories."

With the festive opening ceremonies over, the convention began to settle down to business on Tuesday morning, May 28, in the main hall of the Medinah Club. Vice-President Idaeus Nagler, chairmen of the committee on rules, reported that his committee had found, upon examination, 360 regular delegates and 4 fraternal delegates who were not seated as delegates. Several contentions and objections were heard by his committee during their stay in New York and while in session in Chicago. These objections, however, were largely brushed aside.

A dramatic incident occurred at that moment. Vice-President Mills read a letter from Mrs. Stella Bigman, the widow of the former president of the International, who died in August, 1931, at St. Louis, Iowa, in which communications she asked President Dubinsky to accept, "as a token of that warm affection and high esteem which my late husband and I always had for you," the satchel which Morris Bigman had received from Pressures' Union, Local 10, of New York, in 1924 on the occasion of the twenty-fifth jubilee convention of the I.L.G.W.U.

Deeply touched, President Dubinsky responded to Mrs. Bigman's message by saying that he "will always cherish this token and use this token which was used by one of Labor's most outstanding and beloved leaders, who gave all that a human being could possess to sacrifice for our cause." He asked the delegates to rise in silent tribute to the memory of Mr. Bigman.

The Divisional Administrators Speaks

During the same morning session, the convention heard an interesting address by Mr. Sol A. Rosenblatt, NRA Divisional Administrator for the Apparel Industries, who had been invited to come to Chicago to speak to the I.L.G.W.U. delegates. Mr. Rosenblatt, in a witty and impromptu speech, spoke of his task as administrator of various codes and broadly complimented the I.L.G.W.U. for its realistic and wide-awake attitude in evading itself of all possibilities of the NRA. In referring to complaints that Labor has not gotten enough out of the NRA in many instances and that employers had benefited through organization, Mr. Rosenblatt pointed out that "Labor is itself to blame for not having done what the employers have done, for not having extended its field of activity in order to have an equal balance to the rest of the country.

Continuing, Mr. Rosenblatt declared that "if you will be constructive with us and realize the problems which we are
standing with the farmers. No victories you seek to win, no way to win them, you seem to establish, can be secure unless we are able to organize this country, and then the world, on the basis of the cooperation of a worker, which means that we own the means for which our experts plan for our use and for our enjoyment. When I am talking about the federation of cooperative combinations, I mean the same thing, and unless general the farmers on the highest road to this goal, we shall be swept into the abyss of Fascism and war.

This same afternoon heard an address by President Dubinski on the financial status of the I.L.G.W.U., which he illustrated by some striking paragraphs from the regular report submitted by him to the convention, the high point of which was that the union had liquidated, during the past two years, nearly half a million dollars of old debts and has reached the convention with more than a half million dollars in its treasury. The convention had rocked with applause as President Dubinski cited one figure after another, hearing testimony to the remarkable financial comeback of the organization and the growth of its material prestige and stability.

The remaining part of the session was occupied by a discussion, held under the chairmanship of General Manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, on the entire cloak and suit situation in the New York market. Vice-President Nagler’s report came to an end with a personal address to President Dubinski, which he characterized as an utterance of “the voice of the pioneer organization of the I.L.G.W.U., the New York Cloakers’ Joint Board.” He stated that he was delegated by the Joint Board to perform a delicate mission, a mission that he was ready to execute in a spirit of loyalty, respect and gratitude.

Nagler Reviews Cloud Field

They,” Vice-President Nagler said, “the New York cloakmakers, gave you to the International, to the countless thousands in our allied crafts, to whom we are indebted for the dignity and a larger measure of security than they have ever known. Despite your rise to great heights, through a leadership that commands the respect of the nation, you have remained one of our own. In every phase of your growth you have re-

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a lovely state to organization heights during the past.

Vice-President Hochman's address was
repeated with a tone of demonstration which showed
Dubinsky followed by a warm tribute to
the membership of the locals affiliated with the
Joint Board of the Dress Industry. This
busy, busy business of the dress industry recovery—a reality—was
in addition to General Manager Hochman, President Ashburn,
Johanna, and President, Miss Cohen and many others
"too numerous to mention."

In the afternoon of that day, the dele-
gates, their friends and hundreds of Chica-
ago members of the Joint Board, were
guests of the Chicago Joint Board on a
rightseeing trip, which ended up with a
dinner at Navy Pier on Lake Michigan.

IV.

The fourth day also began with ad-
dress, as some of the committee was
ready with reports.

Brother Morris Feltstein, secretary of
the United Retail Garment Workers of
New York, in a guest of the convention, delivered a
talk to the delegates. He dwelt largely on the
daily life of the job which the I.G.O.W.U. was
to its newly acquired membership and the
vast material of yet untrammled men in
the union who came into the organization
just before the great drive of '13 the second
half of 1919. "I feel," Bro. Feltstein said,
"that at this moment it is highly
important for the Interstate to absorb
all of its new membership into its old
tradition, for strength lies as much in
spiritual as in physical unity. In the
unknown situation which the future
holds for you, it will be impossible to
reach your goal unless you are
as a whole, and the individual.
There is one way being prepared against
everything for the organization. We
must get these men that they are here to give as
well as receive—that unionism is an ac-
tive, not a passive thing for the individual
—by giving to the Union, they give to themselves.

The Furriers Are
Grateful

Petitions was followed by Brother
Haverman, president of the
Furriers' International Union, who
expressed the gratitude of his organiza-
tion to the Joint Board of the
International and its New York locals
and joint boards in supporting the furriers
show in New York in their Cooperativa
for survival. "In spite of all hostility, in
spite of all the inhuman attacks of the
Communist gang upon our members, we are
nearing ahead. The fur workers, who
have made up their minds to belong to
the American Federation of Labor, are
nearer to meeting the demands. The biggest
shop in the industry is today under the
control of the International Fur
Workers' Union, and we are responsible for that
the I.G.O.W.U., with President Dubinsky and his
associates. Brother Hochman and the leaders of the various locals who
have consistently and regularly come
to the aid," Brother Haverman concluded.

Immediately thereafter, President Dubinsky
called upon Miss Schneideman, who, being
the leader of the National Women's Dress Union
League and the only woman member of the La-
bor Congress, delivered an address, one
of the most remarkable addresses, the gist of
which centered on the great historic contri-
bution made by the I.G.O.W.U. to the
organization of working women in America. She sketched briefly the early
struggles of the Union, in which she,

herself, had taken a leading part, and
drew at length on the recent enrollment
by the I.L.G.W.U. of nearly a hundred
thousand women workers in every branch
of the garment industry all over the
land. "My organization," Miss Schneidem-
man said, "is happy and rejoices with you in your new-born strength. It is
what I want to say to you, President Dubinsky,
that you can triple your membership if
you are determined upon it. There are
still hundreds of thousands of women
who do sewing and who rightfully belong in your ranks and who are not there, and
it seems to me that you owe them the
possibility of coming into the I.G.O.W.U.
because they have no other place to
which to turn. I believe the women in
your organization have proved to you
their loyalty and their devotion and that
at all times they, called upon,
have just as ably and as devotedly served
the Union as any of the male members
of your organization.

President Dubinsky warmly thanked
Miss Schneideman for her genuine and
consistent interest in the welfare of the women
members of the I.L.G.W.U. and expressed the
hope that for many more years she would be of continuous service to the
labor movement.

The Capmakers'
Salute

He then introduced, amidst the ap-
plause of the entire convention, Mr.
Zaritsky, the leader of the Cap and Mill-
inery Workers, an organization which
he characterized as "one of the very few
progressive labor organizations in this
country that can boast of obtaining mar-
velous results for their members.

In a stirring address, President Zaritsky
brought the greetings of the cap and
millinery workers, now united into
one international union with the haters,
to the I.G.O.W.U. "To me these meet-
ings of the two fronts of two very fine
organizations is more significant than
some people may think. We were here
together 14 years ago in this city and
at that time our General Secretaries Board
invaded your convention. And we were
very happy and we are happy right now
to have invaded your convention at this
time. We fought side by side. We con-
ducted our organization campaigns to-
going in the same places and at the
same time and the officers and mem-
bers worked hand in hand. Your lead-
ers and ours consulted together, framed
polities together. We have, physically,
two organizations, but, spiritually, we
are one. We speak the same language,
the language of labor.

"We frankly admit, and we are ready to
admit, that the NRA has opened up
many opportunities to carry the gospel
of labor to the millions of unorganized
workers. But the NRA is not an organ-
izer. It is in the struggles which your
organization and ours have conducted
that the key to our successes lies. And
so I say to you, let us not depend upon
things given to us, upon rights granted
to us; let us rely entirely and only upon
our own forces, upon the strength of
the organization of labor."

Brother Zaritsky received a tumultuous ovation when he ended his address.

Before the session ended, a large box
containing cases was brought to the plat-
form by a delegation of Local 25, con-
sisting of colored workers, Miss Edith
Riley, a delegate of Local 25, presented
this offering in the name of the 4,500
Negro dressmakers of the local, and
urged that the Union has brought to
them a measure of economic security,
that it has raised their wages to a living stan-
dard and has shortened their hours of
labor. More than that, Miss Riley said,
the Union has turned the noble phrase of
solidarity and fraternity of all labor
into a reality. It has championed com-
plete equality of workers, of all races in
the shops, and has fought against dis-
firmation and race prejudice in all
fields of social life.

The Fifth day of the convention opened
with an extensive report on the Eastern
Out-Of-Work visits, delivered by Harry
Wander. In a terse, concise address,
Delegate Wander spoke in the name of the
38,000 newly-organized workers in-
cited in the section covering a string of
small, industrial towns in New Jer-
sey, Connecticut, Long Island, West-
chester County and up-state New York.
He emphasized the point that less than
a year ago these masses of workers were
living, today the very industrial occu-
pants, many of them working from 60
to 60 hours a week without having anyth-
ing to say about wages, hours or the right to
their jobs. Today, these workers are
under the banner of the Union and real-
ize the value of organization.

Brother Wander stressed the point
that, while the NRA has been helpful
in some extent, in arousing public opin-
ion against sweatshop conditions in that
industry, credit for the achievements in
the Eastern Out-Of-Town Department
territory is due, largely, to the driving,
irrepressible energy of the organizing
forces of the Union and, in a great many
instances, to the leadership of the newly-
organized locals. He paid tribute to
President Dubinsky for his generalship
and inspiration in encouraging the men
and women in charge of the campaign
in the out-of-town districts.

Dr. Price, Schlesinger
Follow

Following Brother Wander, Dr. George M. Price,
the director of the Union Health Center, to
address the delegates, Dr. Price ex-
pressed happiness over the fact that the
General Executive Board has finally de-
ed to make the Union Health Center
secure by taking over its management
completely under its supervision. He
spoke of the value of the Center to the
membership of the International, of the
pioneering efforts of the International in
the field of social medicine, and communi-
cated with the hope that the Union Health
Center will remain a permanent monu-
ment to the vision and idealism of the
I.G.O.W.U. and of its unremitting service
to its membership in every field of human
welfare.

Emil Schlesinger, counsel for the New
York Central and Hudson, introduced the
next speaker called upon by Presi-
dent Dubinsky to address the convention.
Schlesinger referred to the leadership
of his father, the late Jonas Schles-
inger, who was president of the I.G.O.
W.U. for many years, as one who helped
to build the International and who held the foundation for its present greatness.

"And my father left behind a fearless, able, conscientious laborer, who, when the time came, took the reins of leadership and, in his own right, brought the great mass of needle trades workers into the Promised Land. I am happy to say that nothing gives me greater satisfaction, nor would have given my father greater satisfaction, than to know that it was David Dubinsky, who was the man destined to complete the job he began many years ago."

Emil Schlesinger was given a rising vote of thanks when he concluded his address.

That same morning, Vice-President Julius Hochman, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, delivered a partial report of the committee, after which President Dubinsky called upon Thomas Evans, a delegate from the Alliance local, No. 122, one of the recently organized units of the I.L.G.W.U. in the South, to tell the delegates of some of his experiences in bringing together the dress workers of his city into a trade union. 

Brother Evans' address was heard with keen interest by the delegates and he was generously applauded when he concluded by saying that "with proper effort on the part of the International, by the end of this year Aliaga will be, for the first time in the history of the labor movement, a closed union town as far as the garment industry is concerned." He also mentioned the fact that in the vicinity of Atlanta there are a number of dress plants which have run away from the Union to "beat" labor. He expressed the hope, however, that the I.L.G.W.U. will soon be able to reach even these runaway plants, some of them in Georgia, and others in the Carolinas and in Mississippi.

The afternoon session of the fifth day began with a statement by Vice-President Salvador Hinojosa, who, as treasurer of the fund for the relief of Austrian sufferers, reported the collection of $1,185.75. This report received the hearty approval of the convention.

Next came a talk by Sister Sadie Nathanson, a member of the executive board of the Women's Trade Union League and an active organizer in the recent out-of-town campaign of the I.L.G.W.U. Miss Nathanson has been a member of the New York dreamers' union for the past twenty years, retired some of her experiences as organizer in Connecticut, of the dismal beginnings which at times appeared hopeless, and of the glorious triumph in the end. She implored the women delegates to keep in mind, after coming back to their localities, that only by dint of hard labor and application to their duties may they hope to retain the gains achieved during the past year.

Miss Nathanson was given a vote of thanks by the convention for the fine work she did in Connecticut for the Out-of-Town Department, as well as for the loyal services rendered by her in Toronto in the dreamers' strike of 1911.

The Keigsegold Settlement

At that moment, President Dubinsky read to the delegates a chapter from the report of the General Executive Board on "the Knitted Garment Workers of New York, Local 328," discussing the jurisdictional conflict between the I.L.G.W.U. and the United Textile Workers in that industry, and expressing the hope that the American Federation of Labor would find a way of straightening out this wrangling between two international unions, thereby assuring the knitted garment workers human labor conditions in their shops.

After reading this section, President Dubinsky stated that he was as sorry for the controversy as anyone and that he was happy to announce that this matter was finally settled. He then, upon displaying to the delegates an agreement between and signed by the I.L.G.W.U. and the United Textile Workers only a few days before the convention opened. He stressed the point that both organizations have decided a mode of procedure for controlling the unionized shops and for further activity by organizing Joint Councils to apply to every market where knitted garments are being manufactured. Both internationals are to have supervision over work conditions, the United Textile Workers to control the workers making the materials from which the garments are manufactured, while the I.L.G.W.U. is to control the workers actually making the garments. At the garment workers constitute a majority of the workers in the industry, the greatest burden of control will naturally devolve upon the I.L.G.W.U.

To demonstrate the unity between the two international unions, President Dubinsky continued, he had invited President Thomas F. McMahon of the United Textile Workers to address the convention. He had accepted the invitation but unfortunately, was unable to reach Chicago owing to the threatened strike in the textile industry.

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor arrived at the hall at that moment and was escorted to the platform amidst a demonstration of applause and singing. Before the open, address for President Green had come out, Delegate Edward Molinari, on behalf of Local 48, the Italian dreamers' Union of New York, rose at the head of his delegation and announced that his local had dedicated a plaque to President Dubinsky and wished to present it to him. A hand of music came down the center aisle, followed by the delegation of Local 48 and singing labor hymns.

The Local 48 Plaque

The entire convention was thrown into fervent excitement when Vice-President Hinojosa came up on the platform, unfolded a beautifully bound parchment scroll, and began reading from it a dedication to President Dubinsky. Hinojosa gave to them stood, on an easel, a marvelous bronze plaque with the figure of the president of the I.L.G.W.U. in relief. The demonstration which broke out after Brother Hinojosa concluded his dedication lasted for more than fifteen minutes.

Overwhelmed by this display of genuine devotion and loyalty, President Dubinsky was barely able to respond to it. In a voice filled with emotion he told the committee of Local 48 that this showing of appreciation was worth more to him than the memory of the gift that comes to me from the members of the Executive Board.

Following that, Vice-President Desi presented a replica of the plaque to President Green, who responded with a few appreciative remarks. Printed copies of the replica were also distributed to all the various joint boards.

The emotion was conveyed by any address of the delegates who were present, which lasted nearly an hour. At the conclusion, the entire convention rose and applauded vociferously. The complete test of President Dubinsky's speech will be found in the next issue of "Justice."
who had passed away since the last convention in Philadelphia—Benj. Rich- langer and Morris Milchberg, and the great service they had rendered to the workmen and to the industry. He spoke in terms of high praise of President Dod- nally and General Manager Nagler of the Clockmakers’ Joint Board of New York, and proceeded to describe the industry as he viewed it: “In the year since the NRA came into existence,” Mr. Alper said, “the industry has not only regained its lost ground but by courage- and and ability has consolidated all its gains. It has won new power and respect from every legitimate factor in the industry. Common necessity has proved an effective schoolmaster not only in the industry but out of it.”

“From this moment, however, we stepped into that total, it ap- peared, was entirely in their interest to live up to their promises. We were able to en- sure that their failure to live up to promises as fast as housing our delegation and giving us proper service, were concerned, but there was one thing we could not swallow—discrimination against some of our delegates.”

President Dodnally then introduced Major Hyres H. Gicolth, chairman of the Erie Code Authority, who spoke of his experiences with labor for a long period of years, his experiences in settling indus-

tria l disputes during and after the War, and his strong allegiance to the principle of labor representation on all code auth-

orities. “I am glad,” he concluded his speech, “that there has been no place in the position where I now find myself, and as long as we can serve the industry by continuing in that position, I am glad to be able to do so.”

The beginning of the second week, Monday, June 4, found the L.I.G.W.U. convention meeting in the Medinah Michigan Avenue Club, in the Morris- son Hotel. Let President Dodnally’s re- marks at the start of the morning session on that day serve as an explanation for that change of place.

Said President Dodnally: “When the Medinah Club was rented by us for this convention some two months ago, we were promised all reason- nable accommodations. The manage- ment was anxious to have us meet in that place; they solicited our patronage. We advised them that we had representa- tives of all nationalities at our conven- tion and that we were a labor union and did not wish to be treated on an equal footing. They promised us that there would be no discrimination.

“From the first moment, however, it appeared that they were in their interest to live up to their promises. We were able to ensure that their failure to live up to promises as fast as housing our delegation and giving us proper service, were concerned, but there was one thing we could not swallow—discrimination against some of our delegates.”

We Move to the Morrison

Such discrimination was reported to us on several occasions during the con- vention. We took up the matter with the management and received assurances that they would be corrected. We gave them a chance to correct them, but finally we saw that even their final assurances were not being lived up to, and last Saturday, before adjourning the convention, I asked the General Execu- tive Board in meet with me on Sunday evening. We invited a representative of Local 22 (to be present, and the General Secretary Dodnally decided that, regardless of additional expense of our organization, which is committed to the spirit of equal- ity, of justice and of resistance to op- pression and injustice, we must resist that discrimination, and we de- cided to move our convention out of that hotel.”

“This should serve as an apology to those who suffer from race persecution every- where that it is the L.I.G.W.U. duty unceasingly, with words, but by supporting words with proper action.”

This statement was met with tumultuous approval.

Following this, Mr. Samuel Marks- well, attorney for the International, who made a speech. He said that all the smaller trades affiliated with the L.I.G.W.U. and for the necessity of greater cooperation among the trades. “Our industry has two great trades, costs and dresses. These are capable taken up of by our employers. It is necessary for the International to create such machinery so that the many thou- sand members of our order in the miscellaneous trades shall be given required assistance. I want to tell you delegates that I feel like a soldier under your command, and I shall obey.”

Commissioner of Labor Joseph M. Thomas of Connecticut, another guest, was then called upon, and in a short talk, congratulated the L.I.G.W.U. upon its splendid work in helping to exterminate the sweatshops of his own state, Con- necticut, adding the hope that “since your organization has reached the position that you are in now, you must not conduct your affairs so as to retain that position and not only retain but go for- ward.”

Nathan Channin, secretary of the Jew- ish Socialist Federation, was the next speaker, and his speech was most brilliant in its power of incitement. He had been a fierce battle for the overthrow of bourgeois society, he said: ‘There
were times not so long ago, when all those allied with the workers, whether for their immediate or their ultimate well-being, were seeking for its future and your International was among those who were affected worst in that movement and to take all your friends and admirers rejoice with you in your permanent and enduring nature.

Arturo Giovannitti, who President Dubinsky introduced as a "great post, crete, and character, and a man of far-reaching thoughts and feelings of the Italian workers," next spoke and set the entire convention to a high pitch of enthusiasm.

A representative of the Jewish labor organizations in Poland—the Bund, Bundist, and Independents, in the person of Mr. Lipetz, brought greetings of the trade unions of that country to the I.L.O.-W.U., and was given appropriate applause. His words were greeted with a standing ovation.

An old friend of our movement, Mr. George M. Jakab, a former leader of the Putnam County Federation, addressed the large audience, declaring that he was there to support the organization, and to give it his unswerving loyalty.

The afternoon session of the day, after a committee of six which Vice-President Breslaw was chairing, was opened by J. M. Geller, who expressed the hope that we would be able to follow the lead of the I.L.O. in the furtherance of the cause of labor.

Among the speakers during that session were Dr. L. S. Fuhrman, Mr. H. R. Hamburger, Mr. A. S. Mendelsohn, Mr. M. J. Goldstein, and Mr. N. S. Goldstein.

The night of the convention, the delegates attended a reception in the Grand Central Hotel, and the evening was made memorable by the addresses of the leaders of the workers, who were all present in force.

The tenth day began with a report of the Committee on Unemployment Insurance, Mr. Agee, President of the American Federation of Labor, and Mr. Lippitt, who was chairman of the committee, turned the platform over to the workers, and they took up the question of unemployment insurance.

The General Board of the A.F. of L., which was approved by the convention, was presented to the delegates.

In the afternoon, after a long session, the committee was addressed by Mr. J. H. Loewenstein, who spoke about the importance of the I.L.O. to the working class.

J. H. Loewenstein, who spoke on the importance of the I.L.O. to the working class, said:

"The I.L.O. is the only body that can save the working class from the oppression of the capitalist system."
Locate Sweatshop in Conn. Barn

BY BERNARD SHUB

Connecticut State Organizer I.L.G.W.U.

Barney Davis, 620-5th Avenue; Universal
Dress, 520-5th Avenue; Marie Franks,
14 West 5th Street, and Horrib
Agreement, 102-5th Avenue.

Children—12 and 14 Years Old—Employed

It was unbelievable to find that this "factory" was employing, in June, 1924, children between the ages of 12 and 14.

I personally interviewed one of the children, 13 years old, who is the daughter of a Monroe farmer and attends the Os
farm school.

Altogether, there were about 15 people employed in that shop, all women and children.

Some amazing facts that I discovered were that a girl of 12, a sister of Ethel Wagner, Helen, had worked as many as 74 hours in one week, including Saturday and Sunday, for which she received the grand sum of $4 and some change. It is needless to say that we were not interested in unmasking or organizing this "shop." My primary interest was to eliminate this sweating and, if possible, to collect some back pay due to the girls, which, in my estimation would about amount to $25.

I took this matter up with the State Department of Labor, as a result of which both proprietors were placed under arrest. They were tried for violation of the State labor laws for working women excessive hours and for employing minors.

I believe this is one of the last unsan
relics of the sweatshop in Connecticut, the kind that Scourby of the score here before the I.L.G.W.U. came into this State and organized the wom
n's garment workers. This story of a "sweatshop" created quite a storm in the local press and the Bridges
port Herald carried it in several days on the front page with photographs of the "factory" and of the shop, including Ethel Wagner, who worked three weeks for 75 cents.

W.U. in that city. He was introduced by the teacher and also as the lawyer of the works of that great city.

"W.U. is for a union man," Brother Bingham said, among other things.

"It is a lifetime work in behalf of the workers. Everything we do must have a desire to be helpful to his fellow men, a desire to cooperate—not merely for selfish reasons, but a desire to cooperate to make the country better, to enable his fellows, likewise, to achieve a better life. And we can only achieve that with the willingness to sacrifice something of yours for your fellow men. Our Union was born of the women and the workers with these ideals and, fortunately for us, it has been led most of the time by men who were inspired by ideals and who also had practical sense enough to realize the immediate possibilities and to see what could be achieved in the im
meditate future. We hope that you all will be inspired by these same ideals."

The eleventh day of the convention, Friday, June 8th, was given over entirely to business of the Local Union.

One committee after another reported, submitting recommendations for appro

The last committee, of which Abraham Bingham was chairman, and Samuel Perlmutter, secretary, pre
nounced an extensive review of the entire
work of the Local Union for the past two years, based on the report of the General Executive Board. Not a sing
le point was overlooked.

The minutes and the whole report of the Committee on Officers' Report, and, on the whole, the Committee recommended the full ap
portion of all the policies and the tactics of the General Executive Board pursued since the last convention.

On the evening of the day, Friday, June 8th, a short session was held, pri

ally for the purpose of listening to a radio broadcast from New York City, which came over from New York and was carried by a number of Eastern stations. The broadcast was carried over the NBC over a national hookup which carried a speech by General Hugh S. Johnson, Chairman of the Board of the American Woolen Woven Yarns, Inc., in the form of an address to the I.L.G.W.U. Convention.

Brother French moved at 3:56, and for half an hour Vice-President Hochman, chairman of the Committee on Resolu
tions, read from the resolutions, submitting them to discussion.

The appearance of Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago brought the delegates to their feet and they applauded him heartily when he thanked the convention for having
comes to Chicago, and asked for their support in the World's Fair. Mr. Morris Nord, director of Station WBNY, who came to Chicago to take part in the committee, then announced President Dubinsky, who del
givered a short address, which was

The final day of the convention began with the completion of the report of the Committee on Resolutions, which

At 10:30, the convention was ready for its last business, the nomination and election of a president, a general sec

tary-treasurer and of a complete General Executive Board and delegates to the American Federation of Labor con

First Vice-President Salvatore Nint
do, who forecast the results of the committee on nominations, said that he had no reason to open to nominations. Vice-President J.

ders Wagner, in a short and eloquent address, nominated and seconded by Luigi Tramonti, of Oakland, 10th, as

"RESOLVED, that the Convention, Meeting as representatives of these facts and being the supreme legis

and executive body of the National International Ladies' Garment Work

it up, and carried the question of the nomination of a general secretary-treas

The committee consisted of 19, requiring the election of a general secretary-treasurer, and that said general secretary-treasurer shall be voted on the aforementioned period in David Dubinsky, our present

"RESOLVED, that this special action by this Convention be tendered to our President, David Dubinsky,

"RESOLVED, that the nomination of Secretary-Treasurer Nint
do be seconded by President Dubinsky, President Dubinsky, as an expression of the highest esteem and affection felt towards him and his partisanship leadership by the entire membership of our Inter

in the name of the delegates, the con

be voted on.

focus. The motion was voted upon and carried, and the question of the nomination of a general secretary-treas

The next business was the nomination and election of a first vice-president, and the nominations of Brother

"RESOLVED, that the nomination of President Dubinsky and the first vice-president should

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In view of the fact that last month's issue of JUSTICE was chiefly an "Anniversary Number," containing greetings from all over the country, and that we were entitled to all the labor movement, and historical reviews and sketches of our organization since its local charter, we thought it would be fair for us to report in that number the routine work of our local, and instead of that we had a brief historical survey of Local 10 under the caption "Cutters' Union. Sixty-five Years Old." It is important, however, as a matter of record, that the members of Local 10 get the report of our election of delegates to the 22nd International Conv...
The greatest convention the I.L.G.W.U. has ever held is over.

As was to be expected, the greatest interest of the convention was the confirmation of its gains. The gains were enormous, by far the largest membership in the union's history. It had gained 150,000 new members and had lost no old ones. In addition, the union had increased its financial reserves, holding $100,000 in cash, and had made a surplus of $250,000. The union was now in a position to command influence in one of America's greatest consumer industries, which had been in a state of virtual bankruptcy.

The convention was jubilant, and there was a general feeling of confidence and hope. The union was no longer a weak and uncertain organization, but a strong and dynamic one, ready to take on any challenge and overcome any obstacle. The gains had been hard won, but they were a testament to the union's determination and resolve.

The convention was also a time of joy and celebration. There were speeches, parades, and dances, and the delegates had a good time. The union was a community, and the convention was a way for the members to come together and share their successes.

The convention was also a time of reflection. The union had had a long and difficult history, and the members had had to fight hard to achieve their goals. But now, it seemed, the union had achieved great things. The future looked bright, and the members were excited.

The convention was a turning point in the union's history. It was a time of triumph and victory, and the union was now ready to face whatever challenges lay ahead. The union was a force to be reckoned with, and it would continue to grow and thrive.

For a full week, the center of interest in the I.L.G.W.U. shifted to Washington, to the hearings of the Cotton Garment Code. These hearings were called by the American Federation of Labor, to President William Green and to Vice-President Mother Warwell, who presided over the legislation.

Peace in the garment industry, certainly, has come at the cost of workers. The atenção to the employers' groups on the eve of the renewal of agreements which expire on July 15. Already, several of these knitwear manufacturers have seen fit to rush into the press with statements that they would resist the efforts of the union to renew these agreements. It is feared that the improved working conditions and the rights of the workers, which the agreements have provided, may be in danger.

The Cotton Garment Code Hearsings were ordered by the NRA at the request of our Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the United Garment Workers. It is estimated that over 60,000 workers employed in the cotton and wash dress factories in every part of the country. These factories operate under the Cotton Garment Code on a 40-hour schedule and under a $15 weekly wage minimum. The Code has had a profound effect on cotton and wash dress factories, as it provides a definite wage scale for cutters, and the transfer of the industry to the regular code for the Dye Industry.

Our representatives pointed out at these hearings that the longer hours of the Cotton Garment Code hindered the re-employment of the idle in that industry and that their low conditions resulted in the purchasing power of these workers; that the so-called cotton shops were manufacturing rayon, silk and wool dresses in unfair competition to the regular dress shops and to the detriment of workers in all dress shops. The employers' association in the cotton garment industry stubbornly resisted the Union's demands by reaping sectional and racial issues, and by predicting disaster and dire consequences to the industry in the event the condition of their workers is improved. They also invoked the aid of a half a dozen members of Congress who came to these hearings to plead the cause of low wages and long work-hours at the behest of the cotton garment factory owners.

The Departure of the new administration at this moment, Conferences for a time will continue, with the virtual dispute decided upon by the NRA Administration. It is, nevertheless, quite evident that we are confronted in this situation with powerful opposition, and that our resources to win improved working conditions for these tens of thousands of workers and eventually curb exploitation of labor in the cotton and wash dress industry.

The Chicago Convention reflected the entire General Executive Board for another administrative term. It added six additional members to its personnel — four from New York and two from markets outside New York.

There was, of course, nothing unexpected in the re-election of the G.E.B. The leadership of the I.L.G.W.U. "came through" in 1933-1935 in the convention of our Knitter's Union, and rarely if ever rejected by any organization. The addition of six members to the Board, on the other hand, reflected the growth of the Union, the accretion of new markets and the interest of the workers who have been given a place on the highest executive body of the I.L.G.W.U.

A Bigger G. E. B. — President-Gay Dubinsky

The finest — and unique — tribute paid by the convention to a leader unquestionably, nevertheless, was his decision, without a dissenting voice, to vest in President Dubinsky for the next two years the powers of general secretary-treasurer in addition to his duties as president of the organization. In this decision, the convention was not at all prompted by any external pressure, but was the result of a spontaneous, unchallenged recognition of President Dubinsky's superb qualities as a leader, intelligence, and judgment. It is to be hoped that in his new capacity President Dubinsky will be able to utilize his full talents and experience to the benefit of the union.

The Adjustment of the Jurisdictional controversy between the I.L.G.W.U. and the United Textile Workers of America with regard to the Knitted Garment Workers has been settled by the agreement reached at the convention. This agreement is a victory for both sides and for the workers in the garment industry as a whole.

The settlement, which recognizes the rights of the workers in the garment industry, was reached after long and difficult negotiations. It provides for a fair wage scale, a just working schedule, and a secure future for the workers. It is a victory for the workers, and it is a victory for the union.