Justice (Vol. 16, Iss. 10)

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.
Boston Strikes Bring New Pacts In All Trades

Dress Strikers Make Gains Under New Agreement
Vice-President Philip Kramer, in charge of the Boston Joint Board, reported by wire as we go to press:

"The drive begun on April 8 in the skirt shops, to compel the employers to renew agreements on union terms, came to an end on May 8 after 14 firms had signed contracts with the Joint Board. It was a stubborn strike's fight involving several hundred workers. The strikers were paid regular benefits raised by a 2 per cent tax on earnings of all Boston members."

"In the coat and suit trade here the agreement expired on March 8. We succeeded in signing up all the employers - jobbers, contractors and 'inside' firms alike - 28 of them, through two associations."

"On February 15, our agreement with the dress employers came to an end. They refused to negotiate a new contract; we kept after them until forced on May 8 to call the 2,000 dressmakers in Boston on strike. Forty shops responded, and after a week out we won all along the line, winning back the five firms which resigned some time ago from the association in order to adhere to union conditions. 300 new workers joined the Union. Several work-terms were improved, in the new contracts including a readjustment of piece prices for finishers and operators."

Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Rally to the Great Mass-Meeting
In MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
Thursday Afternoon, 3 O'clock, May 23

FOR-
A GREATER AND STRONGER NRA;
THE WAGNER LABOR DISPUTES BILL;
THE 30-HOUR WORK-WEEK.

AGAINST-
Braven and Continued Attempts by the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Manufacturers' Association and Allied Industrial Interests to Dominate and Dictate to Congress and to Sabotage All Labor and Progressive Legislation.

SPEAKERS AT THE MEETING WILL BE:
WILLIAM GREEN, President American Federation of Labor;
FIORELLO H. LA GUARDIA, Mayor of the City of New York;
JOHN L. LEWIS, President United Mine Workers of America;
ROBERT F. WAGNER, United States Senator from New York;
SIDNEY HILLMAN, President Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America;
MAX ZABRITSKY, President Millinery Department, United Hatters of America;
DAVID DUBINSKY, President International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union;
Chairman: JOHN P. RYAN, President Central Trades and Labor Council of New York.

Parade from the Shops in Mass Formation to Madison Square Garden!
APPRISE THE WHOLE WORLD THAT THE ORGANIZED WORKERS ARE SOLIDLY UNITED BEHIND THEIR DEMANDS FOR A NEW LABOR DEAL IN AMERICA.

COME ON TIME! ADMISSION BY UNION BOOK OR BY TICKET, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED IN ALL UNION OFFICES, OR THROUGH YOUR BUSINESS AGENT.
In Defense of Contractor Limitation

A Survey of the Past and a Glance Into the Future—Union Will Re-Ad the Last, Return to Auction-Broad System

By Ildorado Nagler
General Manager, Joint Board
Clinkhammers' Union, New York

The recent move by various associations of farmers and other industries to abolish "limitation of contractors" calls for an earnest re-examination of the legal and judicial interpretation in the collective agreements. This, in our judgment, is the crucial point of an appreciation of its significance as a controlling and stabilizing factor with respect to the social and industrial welfare. We shall endeavor to make such analysis by first, giving a concise outline of the background of developments in our industry during the past ten years and second, a more detailed analysis of the problems that have been raised by the discussion and interpretation embodied in our code and in our collective agreements.

The jobbing-contracting system began in this industry ten years ago, and more so since 1912, when the work-system was in operation. It was the result of that system that the union set up a powerful controlling machinery for the enforcement of the rules and regulations. It was certain that the union would go on to establish the same kind of rules and regulations, but, even so, the Union succeeded in becoming an effective agency in the enforcing the discipline of the industry, some manufacturers, who were unwilling to assimilate the standards as determined in their factories, in order to block the Union, and, therefore, the Union standards, devised a new method for evading their obligations under the collective agreement. They simply abandoned their "inside" shops and began to establish a new kind of an organization in the industry. The change, however, was only apparent.

The manufacturer, who had established his "inside" shop, continued to work in the same manner as before, but he had to have his "inside" shop employees work in the contract shop. The change, however, was only apparent. The manufacturer who had established his "inside" shop continued to work in the same manner as before, but he had to have his "inside" shop employees work in the contract shop.

The jobber would then call in another group of subcontractors or manufacturers and put the last part of the same goods in the hands of an order of a different price. The new group, being anxious to get their initial orders from the jobber, would agree to work under the conditions of the collective agreement at a still lower rate, when the jobber would receive immediate supply of the finished product. The subcontractors would shift their supply to the jobber. The jobber would, in turn, begin to supply his customers with work at an even lower rate. Thus, the competition resulting from this auctioning of the system went on until the same kind of sub-manufacturers and subcontractors who started in one field of business, resulting in a loss of a job to thousands of workers. The sub-manufacturers and contractors who profited by this arrangement were a small group, who, because of their industrial position in that association, were able to get a greater supply of work.

The sub-manufacturers and contractors, who were forced out of business through this reckless competition, did not have the money to make a new investment or to purchase another plant. The jobber's profit was great to a particular enterprise, but great to all the other enterprises. The jobber would make a large profit on the amount of work that was sold to other enterprises or would find a place in the same industry in which the sub-manufacturer had been in business. Many workers, not being able to make a living in the "inside" shops, started their own business. These workers, however, would remain dependent on the jobber's work, and the competition in the market became so keen that the "inside" manufacturer could not survive in the market. He was forced to close down his business, and he was forced to close one of the two-relationships, either to get the jobber's work, or to produce his own goods, or to resort to some jobbing-contracting and evade his responsibilities for the work conditions which he assumed by the terms of the collective agreement.

The workers in the "inside" manufacturer would then become acquainted with the nature of the job as determined by the jobs of the "inside" manufacturer. The work and the wages paid were the same as those paid by the "inside" manufacturer. The work and the wages paid were the same as those paid by the "inside" manufacturer.

The union presented at the Commission many facts showing to what extent the industry had been decentralized and degraded under the vicious jobbing-contracting system, and what damage it caused the workers in the way of reducing the number of workmen and the number of employees. The Union also submitted to the Commission the jobbing-contracting system and the working conditions which resulted from the system. The workers then in the "inside" manufacturer would become acquainted with the nature of the job as determined by the jobs of the "inside" manufacturer and would be ready to fight against the jobbing-contracting system.

The End Note

Lindsay Rogers
Shares Dubinsky
Out of the Ether

Mr. David Dubinsky,
"Get the Girls!" Labor's Candid" Workers' Union,
2 W. 16th Street,
Dear Dubinsky.

I have been intending for some time to write you. In the course of a conversation the other day, I thought of something to say to you. I've been having some trouble with the machine, and I've thought of something to say to you.

The machine, I thought, is the thing that saves us from the machine, and I think of something to say to you.

Dubinsky.

Lindsay Rogers
"Get the Girls!" Labor's Candid" Workers' Union,
2 W. 16th Street,
I. L. G. W. U. News from West Coast Cities

All Along the Coast Front


In Los Angeles, the cloak and suit season is practically over. The season for Hollywood was short but was brief duration. Right now, we are on the eve of negotiations with the manufacturers for a new contract. In the meantime, we shall be prepared to meet the manufacturers at a point above retail on the backcloth. If our employers do not look for trouble, there should be no hard words in the negotiations. Should they, however, develop a fighting disposition, we shall be prepared to meet them on any terms that the national organization may determine. As always, we shall be united in our united effort to get a fair contract.

Los Angeles Dressmakers' Radio Squad — A Group of Spanish-Speaking Girls, Members of Local 96, in Charge of the Radio Programs Now Being Broadcasted Over the American-KPV Station Daily from 6:30 to 7 P.M.

Mexican Girls Run Radio Hour

By Rafael Trujillo

The Tuxtepec Mexican member of Local 96 of Los Angeles, Calif. have decided on a new device to boost their organization — the establishment of a daily radio program to be known as "Radio Tuxtepec." The idea is that of Eloy Urbina, a member of the union, who is the program director. The union members will be featured on the program, discussing their work, their problems, and their union activities. The program will be broadcast daily from 7 to 8 a.m., and will be heard by thousands of union members throughout the city.

The program will feature interviews with union members, discussions of union issues, and live reports from the workplace. The union members will also be able to have access to the program through their local union halls, where they can listen to the program and discuss it with their fellow union members.

Campaigns To Go On

The conference on the subject of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was held in San Francisco on the 23rd. A number of resolutions were adopted, including one calling for a boycott of all goods produced by employers who are not members of the union. The union members in the city of Los Angeles were urged to support the boycott and to organize new local unions in other cities.

The conference also discussed the issue of the union's role in the political arena. It was decided that the union should support candidates who are sympathetic to the union's goals, and that it should work to ensure that the union's views are heard in the political process.

Third Pacific Coast Conference in Session

Local Bureau.
Among the Underwear Workers, Local 62

By Samuel Shoro
Manager, Local 62

An Educational Season Comes to an End

With the approach of Summer, our educational season draws to a close. To be replaced again by the spread of the grizzled old professor, but the function of a union is primarily economic, and the routine business of the Union is with the welfare of its members in the shops. Yet, the entry of the Union into the field of education is not without connection with its routine business. Courses in Trade Unions by Mr. J. C. Cartwright, one of literature broadens the outlook of the members in their relations with the shop floor. The courses in English and Public Speaking give them an instrument that can be used to multiplicities of men, valuable to the members both as an individual and as a member of the Union, and consequently valuable to the Union.

Club Room, Radio, Games

During the present educational season, 1935, the above-mentioned courses have been conducted, together with the meetings of our local union, and in an effort to speak, of our educational program. All members of the Union should visit the headquarters, spacious and attractive rooms being assigned for the purpose. A radio, with a radio and a library of 496 books and a great number of magazines, which circulate these books and magazines free to members of the Union. Most of these books are devoted to the study of the shop floor and of literature, and they have been chosen for light reading and diversion. To this end, also the course in literature is one in the Social Interrelation of Literature. The magazines are of the highest quality, including the Nation, Harper's, and the Atlantic Monthly, to name a few. The shop floor is divided into several classes, serious work and understanding and learning is fundamental, and devoted to intensive study and the furtherance of the educational program.

Classes, Gym, Sports

The advertising of classes and registration of members are attended to at the beginning of the season, and continued with by our teachers, and by Sister Mary O'G. The schedule of classes and special courses is as follows: Monday—Current Events, 21 Trade Union Problems, 15 Trade Union Problems, 21 Tuesday—Public Speaking, 22 Mandolin Orchestra, 25 English 15, English 21, Advanced English, 24.

J U S T I C E

A Labor Magazine
Published twice monthly by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union

June 17 Montgomery St., Jersey City, N. J.
1 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y.

DAVID HUMENSKY, President
MAX D. DANNISH, Editor


Mandolin Orchestra Group, Local 62, N. Y. White Goods Workers' Union

The courts are located at Kingston and Lefferts avenue, Brooklyn, and at the suspended courts, on the Kingston Tennis Courts. Four courts are now available but in demand is big. There are now 28 courts on 20 weeks and 11 courts in the Bronx or upper Manhattan, will be accepted. Teams are for 20 weeks at a reduced rate by Bill Breyer of the Internationals is handling this matter. See him for all tickets.

Tennis

Would you be willing to spend $2 to play tennis for four hours on some very fine courts? Well, this is what the Athletic Department is offering you every Saturday for the next four weeks from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Outdoor Season

These social activities will be followed by a schedule of outdoor activities, such as hikes, groups for nature study, visits to the Botanical Gardens and the zoo, and picnics to the Palisades, Van Cortlandt Park, etc.

The two first outings are planned for Sunday, May 17 and May 18, with the cooperation of Mr. Jack Barkhash, assigned to us by the Educational Department of our International, and will be so arranged as to permit an interesting program of discussion, games, and entertainment.

We are planning to resume our classes next September, and I believe that at that time we will have an increased registration. We wish to express our thanks to all who cooperated in the help and cooperation rendered us by the Educational Department of our International, and to the untiring efforts of Bro. Mark Lass, Bro. James Fishman, M. Cohen, and Bro. Louis Schaffer.

The I. L. G. W. U. Sports Parade

Out of the twilight of the sweatshop
Where the black machines drove death into the brain —
From the places of pain and toil and hunger,
We have won to a cleaner life again.

Our blood has run in the streets of the cities,
We have known the dungeon, the club and the fire.
In the days when we fought on the picket line
And faced the red-handed henchmen of hire.
From the ruins and deaths of the 'Triangle' fire,
The blood and sweat of Nineteen-Ten.
We have built our union and cleared our ranks
And can hold up our heads like women and men.
Since the broken ranks of Twenty-Six,
The road has been hard and the years have been long,
But we have stood our ground and kept the faith —
And we stand Two Hundred and Four.

We have broken the doors of the sweatshops,
And our locals reach from sea to sea,
And if our hearts are strong and our hands are clean
Ours is the ultimate victory.

We will win by the faith of the martyrs
Who stood the test when our numbers were few,
And we match with the sun upon the banners
Of the I. L. G. W. U.

Max Penn
May 25, 1935

Page Five

JUSTICE

NEW YORK DRESS MAKERS SECTION

NEWS OF THE DRESS JOINT BOARD AND AFFILIATED LOCALS

Higher Rates Won for $3.75 Workers

MAY DAY
1935

Banners have been stored away....

Tight-souled little Eighth Avenue agitated about a few pennies in their tills when they filed parade protest signs and comforted one another.

Central Park Mall is once more "respectable".

But the endless battalions of dressmakers are still marching in full array on yet another May Day Demonstration New York has ever seen.

Shallow-minded reporters with Cony Island intellects saw only "shaggy" aspects of the parade.

They heard bands and saw floats, but the electric thrill of unity that flowed through the long line of march was inaudible to them.

The crush of revolutionaries and bores stirred the sense of rhythm, but not their souls.

In trying to count a hundred thousand bobbing heads, they missed the significance of what they marked the labor movement swinging along. Swinging along "to Seventy-Second Street, they said. Police charts would call them right; but History will say they were wrong.

That parade did not stop at any street...the spirit marched on.

"Across the unofficial destination...across man-made boundaries that divide worker from worker...it is marching today...it will march tomorrow and next year...it will continue marching until the world is one and won for the worker." - H. M. Ricken

Right Address Saves Union Funds

By H. M. Ricken

Thousands of dollars are wasted annually in postage and the work of the Union hampered because the members fail to make sure that the Union has their correct addresses.

"Take one look at the picture with this story. It shows just part of the letters returned to the Union from one general mailing to members. There is an immense amount of money involved in handling these returned letters. There is the money lost in postage. There is the loss due to the failure to make necessary changes in accounts.

We know that in a membership file containing tens of thousands of names, an error somewhere must be theretofore. But we would like to cut that percentage down to a minimum. We can do with the cooperation of the members."

If you have moved recently... make sure the Union has your new and correct address.

Union Scores Major Victory Without Workers Losing Day: $4.75 Lumpsum Showed Power

Unequal increases in the rates on the $4.75 regular and cheaper lines are now in effect following negotiations carried through to a success by Julius Hochman, Joint Board General Manager. Driving straight into the objective of increasing the earnings of the workers begun with the $4.75 line, demands were made on the employers and notice filed that Union action would be taken for "recertification of the

Tour Members Get Together

A small get-together, Teachers' party and general talk for the hundreds of people that are always the best of the visit to the Local 22 be held this afternoon, May 13, at noon in the Council Room, 214 West 46th Street. The dinner throughout the city is to be given in person to the 250 members of the American Indian Museum. It has been a successful one that William E. Heron, director of the educational department, planned to discuss union plans at this meeting.

"By coincidence, the number of tours in the season which began last November and closed last Saturday in early November, the identifying number of the local. It is in an open secret that the meeting will be turned into a farewell party for Brother Hull, who plans to spend the summer in Europe starting up for a series of lectures.

Five plays and a concert were attended. The plays covered from a very low to a very high level of the evening's performance. Plays from local clubs and national organizations were performed.


Barron Honored

Brother Hochman is in commission on the settlement.

We must take every opportunity to increase the number of our members. Following the conclusion of successful activity in the $4.75 line, we took the next step in the program. The splendid display of the $4.75 workers in the $4.75 line was an important factor in making the $4.75 settlement worthwhile. We were ready for the public and I am glad that the committee arranged for the storage in our headquarters your address is significant.

Barron, who is now in charge of the committee, can be reached at his office. This is your address.

Check out when you pay your money. If you fail to receive a copy of Bulletin, check the Union has your correct address.

Check out when you pay your money. If you fail to receive a copy of Bulletin, check the Union has your correct address.
Hochman Speaks Power
Julius Hochman, general man- 
ager of the Daily News who is 
installed the new offices, hopped 
home the fact that only the 
 Worme power of the greatest 
union center as expressed by the 
solidity of the workers, could win even the slightest of concessions. "We were not hypnotized by the 
NBA or the New Deal," he said. "For 
the power of organization of the 
low of the worker. This is an era 
where, we dreamers have always 
good strikers but poor union builders. 
This meeting tonight tells us that we have gone forward. No matter what we win on the 
plagitt line there is always the tomorrow 
when our respected employers start 
working. There is always the problem of 
unemployment—and in this industry we must always be ready to swing the 
big stick." Brother Hochman 
and two others put the final 
ratification of coming union activity 
as follows: The 20-hour week, the 
unemployment, the garbage strike, 
the establishment of prices on the employers' 
press by representatives of committees 
of workers, absolute prohibition of 
contractors, and increased jobber 
responsibility. He paid a graceful 
tribute to the spirit that goes out the 
unions of Local 22's educational 
program.

No Room For All
Chairman of the Daily News, reelected 
manager, expressed regret that many 
workers who had been excluded 
at the Daily News office had been forced 
to stay outside because of lack of 
room. "The Daily News is a daily activity 
of the group and that the managers 
who put the working class 
of the country on its taxes against 
the interests of the workers. The 
management is without precedent of 
any labor. "Hoping for benefits from 
Continued...

Antonini Warns Against Fascist Agents
The activities of the Social 
Lobby of the Daily News, on 
Thursday, April 19, according 
to the report of the Italian 
Labor Union, an agency of 
Continental Movements, will be investigated. 
The organization, which 
the management has turned over 
the rights of the workers. The 
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of the Executive Council 
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advice, and the management 
participating after a lengthy, 
independent investigation, recommend a strong 
extension, and suspension of all 
activities of these groups.

Final Warning To Those Dealing With "Italian Labor Institute"
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Hochman Talks To Students
The hard facts that make the 
union of the country—the only 
means through which contact with 
the working class can be obtained 
and the only way to mass meetings of 
workers, is to be found in the solid 
character of the work. Tuesday, May 3, by Julius Hochman, 
Editor, Board General Manager, 
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Lobby of the Daily News, on 
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All Union Cards 
To Be Inspected
A complete and intensive 
check-up of all Union books 
to determine the standing of mem-
bers is now under way. 
Shop stewards have been 
ordered to inspect all workmen 
and inspect them for the night. 
Business agents will check 
all Union books at the 
shops for the examination. 
Members who are not in good 
standing must take immediate 
steps to have their names 
removed from the books. 
Delinquent members are 
suspect and possible loss of 
their jobs. 
Cutters, presses, operators, 
finishers, dressers, examiners, 
will be included in the check-up.
57 Varieties
Of "Chiseler"s
In Union Not

Penetrating a screen of crook-
ed bookkeeping, false price lists, fake shipments, and a collection of tricks and artifices used by our employers to dip their fingers into the pay enve-
lopes of the millions of workers across the land is the work suc-
cessfully carried out in collecting $17,400 in April, bringing the total collection to $30,997.49. Most of this money, representing wage, hour, and insurance under-
payments on the minimum scales, goes back into the pocket-
es of the workers.

President Grover Cleveland, head of the Denver Joint Board, has more than one uses the evidence uncovered by the Union machinery, as represented by the record of collections, as showing that no agreement power can enforce the agreement.

The Union machinery for checking the chiseler, assembled shortly after the Union was organized, has been to its strike early last year and has killed a consistent record. Thousands of complaints must be investigated, and each investigation involves an enormous amount of detail work.

Administration, the huge amount of money collected, Brother Hochman considers the economical pressures brought to bear by the Union for the mainten-
ance of conditions of influence of prime importance in teaching the industry that the agreement means exactly what it says.

Marx and America

New Brown Topics

"-Marx and the Anti-Slavery Struggle" and "Marx and the American Labor Movement" are the sub-
jects of two new lectures to be delivered by Irving Brown, Wed-
nesday evening, May 23 and May 30, Room 116, 23 West desk Street. Brown, who has just con-
tinued a course in the Funda-
mentals of Marxism, as well as one of the sessions will be attended by the state of Local 24's educa-
tional department. His new lecture series is free to Union members.

Dr. Kurt Riegelhut's series of lectures on the problems of Un-
om in Europe attempted several
times, and quelled at one time. The first two classes in May. Plans are being made to have his return for another group of talks.

Knitgoods Workers

Vote for Sick Relief

Two thousand members of the Gomar locale comprising the Knit-
goods Joint Council voted, at a general meeting held May 5, on April 26, at the Amalgamated Tem-
ple in Brooklyn, three to one. In favor of continuing a system of sick relief in the organiza-
tion.

This had been approved by the Gomar Joint Council in February prior to the April 26 meeting. The selection calls for a tax of 25 cents monthly for each worker to raise such a sick relief fund. The full control of this matter was voted by a small group of union ag-

Three "Wise Guys"

At the corner of 39th Street, I paused and looked east along the side of the Metropolitan. Across the entire block, there was hardly any moving figure or a bright light; the sidewalk was dotted with men... only men... standing in groups of two or three, and who, according to their expression, seemed to be together. There were simply holding silent conversation with each other, as if de-

ciding on matters of vital importance, or perhaps just talking.

But then the picture was drawn when, I noticed a group of friends at the side taking the corner.

President Dunskyke's
"Voice of Local 89"

President Dunskyke's "Voice of Local 89" radio show, during the国民经济 union, which is broadcast every Saturday morning from 10 to 11 A.M. Day-

Selling Time, from Station WEDV (1990), will present next Saturday, May 18, President David Dunskyke, who will address the members of the organization on his recent European trip.

First Vice-President Luigi Antonini will deliver his reg-
ular weekly message in Ital-

ian. An imposing music pro-
gram will also be presented, as usual, by the orchestra and artists of the Chicago Opera Company, under the direc-
tion of Giuseppe Bamboschek.

"Garment - Town Corners"

By Horace Laser

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tion of Giuseppe Bamboschek.
**Connecticut Locals Active in All Fields**

By Bernard Schulz

**Connecticut State Organizer**

Just as in the other states which we had visited in the New England area, the Connecticut Locals have been active in all fields. In the last few months, we have seen a great increase in the number of meetings and activities being held.

The Hartford Local, in particular, has been very active. They have held several rallies, speakers’ meetings, and film showings. The leadership of the Locals is made up of experienced workers who have been involved in labor struggles for many years.

In addition to the Locals’ activities, there are also many other organizations and unions active in Connecticut. The Connecticut AFL-CIO, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers’ Union, and the CIO have all been very active in organizing new locals and upgrading existing ones.

The Locals have also been involved in political activities, supporting candidates for public office who are committed to workers’ rights. They have also been active in fighting for better wages and working conditions for workers in the state.

**Justice**

May Day Rallies in “Out-of-Town” Cities

By S. Romualdi

In many New Jersey localities, May Day was for the first time of officially observed by the Central Labor Council, on the occasion of a meeting of the representatives of the New Jersey AFL-CIO Locals. This is an indication of the influence which our Locals have in the state, and the growing enthusiasm for the cause of workers’ rights.

The Union has also sponsored a number of rallies and meetings throughout the state. These have been well attended, with local officials. The Union is working to increase its membership and influence, and to improve the working conditions and wages of its members.

**How Dress Pressers’ Union Handles Unemployment Task**

By Max Cohen

Manager, Local 60, I.L.G.W.U.

During the last few months, we have had a number of newspaper articles appearing in the New York papers, warning the workers to the dangers of unemployment. This has brought a great deal of attention to the Unemployment Task.

Our Locals have been active in organizing new locals and upgrading existing ones. They have also been active in political activities, supporting candidates for public office who are committed to workers’ rights.

The Union is working to increase its membership and influence, and to improve the working conditions and wages of its members.

**New Haven, together with the Workmen’s Circle and the Socialist Party, organized a street parade which was attended by a large crowd of workers. The Musicians’ Union and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers’ Union also played a part in the parade.**

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The Union is working to increase its membership and influence, and to improve the working conditions and wages of its members.
“Labor, Industry, Government”

By Matthew Wall, D. Appleton-Cen-
tral Co., New York, 1934. 8.00.

By M. D. U.

Matthew Wall has written a book on the labor movement at the current hour in its relations to industry and the Government. It is the most comprehensive book on the labor movement that has appeared, as Well as one that does not waste the reader with unimportant, banal statements concerning the situation prevailing at this time, because the author understands his subject.

Nor do his opinions radically clash with the general outlook of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor on these three correlated subjects. It is, nevertheless, a solid and an im-
portant volume of a book that anyone who would do well to read and absorb even if he may not subscribe to all of Well's conclusions.

The most interesting chapters in Well's book deal with the "ideology" of the A.F. of L. and with the Federal agencies. The author has reviewed the history of the A.F. of L. as a "state" organization by declaring that "It has shown itself ready to accommodate itself to the developments of the development of the development of production." The A.F. of L. has not accomplished its organization as 3 millions of wage earners as it might in the sight of so many of the critics. Wall asserts, mainly for the well-known reason that our great industrial corporations are far more powerful, far more aggressively active, and far more effective in the methods of fighting organized labor than are the employers in any other country. Wall admits that companies unless they come forward strongly in the past two years, but remarks "If commerce unions have failed to convince the workers that company unions are not self-governing and that the worth of their various benefits is small when compared to high wages, shorter hours and real power over their jobs and employment, and simply because a great many labors were forced to inter-
cept them in order to secure em-
ployment and often also to sign a contract that is not a real union."

On the question of labor's politi-

cal action, concerning which the A. F. of L. has been taken to task largely when it has shown a tendency to cooperate with the party of its own or with other political parties, Well does not take a position of strict neutrality. In the first place, he is against the idea that the Federal government is an instrumentality for the suppression of strikes. He is in favor of the idea that the Federal government is the means for the suppression of strikes. He is in favor of the idea that the Federal government is the means for the suppression of strikes. He is in favor of the idea that the Federal government is the means for the suppression of strikes. He is in favor of the idea that the Federal government is the means for the suppression of strikes.

Well's conclusion and credo touching on current labor problems may be stated in brief: Labor must be at every level in the country and in the nation, and to guard effectively. It must be free from the control of unskilled,经济损失 of workers. He is, nevertheless, in favor of revising the law to make it more effective.

In a separate chapter devoted to "vertical unions," what is other than turned plant unions or informal arrangements for the sake of either more or less. Wall in his "vertical unions" and an independent vertical union, the strength and power of one is not much greater than that of the other. Along with this, Well asserts that what is the result of the executive branch of the government. In conclusion, Well points out that the New Deal enthusiasm is the result of the acceptance of the general philosophy and the economic policies that have been endorsed by the A. F. of L. at almost the beginning of the depression.

In the new chapter, the recovery program, but labor is not unmis-

The conclusion that American labor has not been held to a point of no return by the New Deal enthusiasm in part the acceptance of the general philosophy and the economic policies that have been endorsed by the A. F. of L. at almost the beginning of the depression.

Mutuality of Interest Stressed

In a telegram addressed to four labor union organizations, Workmen's Circle, largest labor

internal organization in the United

States, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the organization, the telegram was dated May 3 at a recent meeting in Madison Square Garden, New York. The text reads: "Joining with others among other things, said as follows:

"Thirty-five years ago at Workmen's Circle history work closely inter-

woven with all dramatic events in our Labor Movement, to-day is a period. Today more than ever before we feel you are an insuper-
able part of the union and the idea upon which our common move-

ment rests. We join in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Chil-

dren's Labor Day and in the first few years of the growth of the Workmen's Circle among the newer elements which stand as the makings of the future movement and along this line we wish you greater success and unlimited success in the years to come.

DAVID DUBINSKY

May 15, 1935

Three Clown Parleys To Be Held This Week

Agreement Renewal Disputes To Be Resumed

By A. L. A. W.

Vice-President Isaac Nagler, presidential spokesman for the Workmen's Circle Joint Board, announced late last week that representations of the United States were opposed to the resolution adopted by President Dubinsky and himself, will meet in the course of the week with the manufacturers' associations to continue their talks on renewal of agree-
ments in the coal and steel industry. The parleys will take place in the hotel of the American Bar Association. On Monday evening, May 13, the United States government will meet at the Hotel Commodore with the Manufacturers' Association. The conference will be held at the Commodore Hotel and will be attended by representatives of the manufacturers' associations and by the Industrial Council, May 13, at the Hotel New Yorker.

Three clown parleys will be held this week, the first to be held on this week, the first time the United States government has been represented by the United States government in a conference on the coal and steel industry. The conference will be held on this week at the Commodore Hotel, and will be attended by representatives of the United States government and the manufacturers' associations.

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In the Clouds -- And Down to Earth Again

By Meyer Polistle
General Organizer, I.L.G.W.U.

One, especially one who expetienced his first thrill of an air-flight, becomes physicial when flying in a comfortable seat in an airplane above the clouds, at 6 in the evening when the sun is setting and the sky is a beautiful blue sky, below the clouds like a monster sea and on the side a beautiful sunbeam.

It takes about an hour to arrive at Kansas City actual time by train from New York to Kansas City, besides the delay of changing trains. The trip is made by plane, by seven and one-half hours. It was a hard trip without any of the passengers not seasick. The plane was never dangerous because the plane was too low to become dangerous.

Our fellow below, down on the clouds, couldn't have been seen at all and I was glad I wasn't one of them and I was down below. As far as the other passengers' men were doing down below. Ask them still on other passengers' seat. It was an exciting experience for a while to let them breathe in that clear air still possibly get away from the weather of the plane, the plane was a large plane, and I am going to the Boarding of the Labor Bagel, where I am going to visit my old friend, former Senator James Reed.

Donnelly

Hearn Garmel-Hearing

For several weeks, a hearing of the charges of discrimination against the Donnelly Garment Company has been held by the National Labor Board of Kansas City. Former Senator James Reed, Mrs. Mrs. commend the major of the plaintiffs. The Grand Jury selected the women who had charges of discrimination, the women's groups, the Femmennastic, reports, accounts which describe the conditions of the workers, and the women's groups, the National Women's Garment Company, the National Garment Company, and the garb part of the business and the women's groups, the National Garment Company, and the garb part of the business are being investigated.

I went up in the witness stand and the Senator thought I had done a good thing. He thought I had done a good thing for, on one not even born in this country, the Senator begins to fire questions at him as to what we believe the work and the wages and the conditions of the work. The workers do not get the conditions and wages they are entitled to. The Senator zone-shy, does not like his questions. He looks at me very closely and I am getting ready to tell him what I think. The Senator is questioning me, but there is one thing he still wants to know. Has he flown? The Donnelly Garment Company, Kansas City for the sole purpose of making clothes for the Donnelly Garment Company, Kansas City for the sale of its products. The Senator wants to know if you fly because you like it. I have flown because I am going to the union here. For the occasion of the installation of the new jet plane, I am going to have a good time. I am going to have a good time. I am going to have a good time.

The Board listens attentively to the questions and answers. The entire conversation is of interest, an old man, an ex-senator of the United States, who has millions of his own--he is spending Saturday all day at the heart of the city, in the center of the world, in the middle of his business. In the middle of his business, in the middle of the city.

To depict the right of these girls to join a union? A man, 75 years old, is giving his richest that he and his wife are not in the labor movement. He estimates that if he should live another 75 years, in laboring to defeat the aims of a few girls to join a labor union. A man, 75 years old, is giving his richest that he and his wife are not in the labor movement. He estimates that if he should live another 75 years, in laboring to defeat the aims of the union workers is being blocked by a combination of racketeers and capitalists. When our picket committee of 10 is sent to a shop--before these pickets are sent to a shop--before these pickets are sent to a shop, they drop.
The NRA Is Still the Law of the Land

By Charles H. Green
Director-Codes Observance Bureau

This is a period of uncertainty for all those whose interest is affected by the NRA.

The National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA), as enacted by Congress, is the law of the land. The Supreme Court has not yet ruled on the constitutionality of the act. The Schechter case has already been argued before the Court, and the Supreme Court justices are now deliberating on their decision.

Naturally, therefore, speculation as to what the future holds for NIRA is in the minds of all. Those who are in close touch with the labor movement realize that Congress will reconvene in January. Will Congress reenact the National Industrial Recovery Act, with possible amendments and with its enforcement powers deleted? Will the Schechter case be reversed? Will enforceable codes be written?

While none of these questions can be answered certainly, the answer to each has the potential to significantly affect the lives of those who support the principles of the NRA.

The Youth of Maxim

The Youth of Maxim is the labor movement. As social revolutionaries, the new NIRA, if it is found constitutional, will have little effect or meaning on the lives of workers. The NRA is the vehicle of the Social Democratic Party, a party which has been working for the past twenty years to achieve social justice. If the NRA is found unconstitutional, the Social Democratic Party will have to rely on other means to achieve its goals.

May 15, 1932

The Hook-up

By Jack Leit and Stephen Gross
Cort Theatre

The "Hook-up" puts out to do for radio what "Yankee Doodle Dandy" did for motion pictures. It is a musical film with a musical score. It令人惊讶的是,它以一种非常激进的方式表现出来。在剧中,主角们通过强烈的对抗和反抗,揭示了社会不公和不平等的现象。这使得观众们对社会的现状产生了更深刻的思考。

The Amalgamated Broadcasting Company is trying to become a big-time radio station. It has a large audience and is attracting some of the country's leading radio personalities. The Lillie Langtry Company is one of the largest radio stations in the country. It is known for its high-quality programming and attracts a wide range of listeners. The company is successful because it offers a variety of programs that appeal to different audiences. This success is a result of the company's ability to attract and retain listeners.

The program is tremendously successful, and Victor Vane refers to it as "The King of the Air." But Little Orphan Neil, the new radio star, is beginning to challenge his dominance. Neil has the ability to capture the hearts of listeners with his talent and appeal, and his show is rapidly gaining popularity. The competition between the two radio stars is intense, and the outcome of this rivalry will have significant implications for the future of radio.

At last, the decision is made. The Lillie Langtry Company will air Neil's show, and the Vane program will be canceled. This decision is met with mixed reactions. Some listeners are disappointed to lose their favorite program, while others are excited to see a new star emerge. The Vane show is known for its traditional and conservative programming, so the change is seen as a move towards modernization and innovation.

Neil's success reflects the changing times and the desire for fresh content. The radio industry is adapting to meet the needs of its audience, and this adaptation is evident in the program's decision to focus on Neil's show. The future of radio is promising, and it will be exciting to see how these changes continue to shape the medium.
Books By and For Workers

Join Our Hikes

"I have never known a man or woman, loving the outdoors, who did not have something distinctive." — Arthur Giezenon

We garment workers, of all ages, should seize the opportunity to be outdoors, where sunshine, exercise and an abundance of fresh air offer us a chance to restore the life energy burned up during the winter months in shops and to tenements.

We garment workers spend much of our days and nights within the confines of the shop. Outdoor life is indeed a vital need for our health and it enforces and inspires us to carry on—to fight for a better world.

In response to this need, the Educational Department re-opened the hike season on Sunday, May 15. At these hikes we link friendship and spend a few hours in a spirit of comradeship. We learn to love and value each other.

Hikes will be conducted by experienced leaders. The program will consist of recreational, as well as educational activities. We will also look for the special effect of time will be spared to make them as memorable, happy, and pleasant as possible.

Hikes will be conducted every Sunday. We request the shop chairmen to cooperate with us in making these hikes a success. They can change the schedule to suit the convenience of their members to them.

Directions: May 15, 1:15 P.M. Broadway 5th Avenue Subway to Dyckman Street Station at 8:00 A.M. Our hike leaders will meet you.

For more information, advice, or suggestions, contact the local union or with the Hike District Committee, John W. Huber, 4-11; 15th Street and Broadway, 23rd St. to 23rd Street.

Sound Track for Union Purposes

A sound track, to be used by the United Textile Workers as an organizing vehicle, was dedicated recently in the presence of Senator Frank Murtha of the A. F. of L. and several other distinguished citizens.

The track is equipped in sound with news, music and voices, and carries materials to vital points of contact in the state territory, making its first appearance in Burlington, N. Y.

We Shall Be Free

"Live" Warmly Praised

"Live!" achieved a new peak in its second or second season.

When we understand

The strength, the power,

That lies in our hands.

That hour will come

With our own.

The storm will cease

And our machines

Shall Enslave. Owe us.

We'll be free!

Questions and Answers

Question:

In several newspaper editorials that I have seen recently (for example, N. Y. Times, Nov. 13, 1933), it is claimed that a Thirtieth Four Hour Week, if not accompanied by a wage cut, would increase the hourly wages and thereby also increase prices. It is further argued that this would mean a cut in real wages for those already employed on the 30 hour basis. Is this argument true?

Answer:

The argument is entirely incorrect. An increase in the wages of those workers necessarily means an increase in prices. At the present moment millions of dollars' worth of machinery stands idle. The employer would be glad to run these machines and sell their products at the prevailing price level if he could only find buyers. The idle machinery is an enormous burden to the employer. He spent millions on it and now it stands Idle inertly in the face of an unused investment. The employer would even be willing to sell his goods at a lower price if he could sell a greater quantity, if he could set the quiet wheels of industry in motion.

There is only one thing that can start these wheels. That one thing is a greater demand for the products which these machines are ready and waiting to produce. A wages increase would not in any way, necessarily, call forth a price increase. It might even have just the opposite effect; i.e., by giving a new impetus to the idle machinery in motion it would LOWER the cost of producing each unit of the particular commodity and thereby REDUCE the per unit selling price.

A different answer to the same question can be found in an essay by Karl Marx entitled, "Value, Price, and Profit," available from the Rand School Book Store, 7 East 11th Street, New York City.

An elaboration and statistical proof of the answer set forth above as well as answers to other questions may be found in a pamphlet on "The Thirty-Hour Week." Written by Green, which for 1936 can be obtained from the Educational Department of the I.L.G.W.U. together with our study outline on the 30-hour week.

Any local districts copies of the little booklet on parliamentarily legal is for the vest pocket, with the edge of the pagers all numbered and indexed, can get them for 50 per dozen by sending to the author, Mr. G. H. Franklin, Fort Dodge, Iowa. The address was covered out in our previous mention.

"Congratulations on your pamphlet, "Live!" It has real pulling power and two things suggest themselves: Its insistently appeal to women and of hope and optimism... besides its attractive appearance.

- M. H. Jodges, Director of Research, Textile Workers Union of America, Washington, D. C.

"Congratulations on the publicity sheet, "Live!" It's the best union advertising I have seen.

- Dr. Goodwill, Teacher, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York.
Can The Garment Work-Seasons Be Made Longer?

By Edmund King

Since the women's garment industry became one of the country's major industries, there have been many attempts to "stabilize" this industry. Because of the nature of the trade, the work has always been highly seasonal. After the peak of each season, there remain the problems of large numbers of unemployed. In good seasons, an average worker may be employed from 26 to 30 weeks in a year, in bad seasons the number of work weeks has dwindled down to as low as 16 weeks. Thus, the comparatively high wage scale in the industry, the workers have suffered tremendously, particularly during the past depression, for the average yearly earnings have been very low. At the end of each season, thousands of men and women are thrown out of work, to remain idle until the next season opens.

White or Pastel Clothes

A Factor

For many years the question of "lengthening the work season" has been on the agenda of the unions in the industry. The trade, having the leadership by its facility and unchangeability. At the top of the talks is "the Full Season," "the Full Season," but with the introduction of woven between-seasons and made in the Department of Commerce, women's interest in heavy, expensive clothes began to wane, and the trade was forced to manufacture making of lighter weight clothes, and begin to concentrate on a season, the season on the market. This season has also lengthened since the introduction of white and pastel clothing for both town and resort wear. Despite this, there is little that can be done about the matter. Not only of the leaders in the industry, both among the unions and the manufacturers, do not understand the underlying causes for the lack of stability in the industry, and some of the unions, to overcome the condition, they have taken up the industry to work together with a unionized preference in an effort to establish a production which has created both manufacturers and workers united demand.

The Things That Might Be Done

But what is to be done? A 30-hour work week would give the situation, but would not sufficiently decrease productivity. The benefits are geared to a high rate of production, the people find clothes, but it is impossible to tell by the amount of work put in that a few things might be done. The seasonal nature of the garment industry, obviously, does not lie within the power of any one company, the cooperation of all groups concerned—


Can the Government Work-Seasons Be Made Longer? — By Edmund King

In gaudy rag, a scarecrow in the garden stood. Although made of straw, he was not to be moved. He scared away the birds so much. That never did they dare the garden to approach.

I know not how, but once
A jolly and a merry careless little dace,
A sparrow, found
Himself on that forbidden ground.
Drunk with sunshine and fresh air.
His little feet a-kicking, a-hopping, a-springing.
But he was young and crusade unsavory
Of all the evils and the codes... His heart was pure
And being sure
The blessings of the earth, the plenteous and food for the hungry's sake and good,
He relished there a hearty meal, spottie and gay.
And there he wentthereafter every day...
So quite distant.
It is reported by all the winged,
That scarecrows are not dangerous, indeed,
One only has to use his wit... And the result was monstrous new and striking.
Of one called himself the owner of the garden.
He, realizing something wrong was with his garden,
(For who could think that birds are cunning, even bold!)
Decided rightly the scarecrow to re-mold.
He trimmed it nicely here and there.
And changed its rag, its hat, and with great care
He put it on a strongly pointed stake.
He even put, a heavier stake into its hand...  

Yet, it is not enough, to my surprise,
For birds, they say, are very wise.
And may a by a modern scare-crow, they
No longer will be scared away.

The ScaRe-Crow

(A Fable)

By Nathan Wood

Toledo Cloak Makers Have A Double Holiday

By Morris J. Cohen

President Local 47

Recently a banquet and concert was given by the Toledo Cloakmachers' Union, Local 47, celebrating the 25th anniversary of their local and the centennial of their national headquarters.

Among the guests and speakers were Vice-President A. W. Katrowsky, of Cleveland, and the officers of the Cleveland Joint Board. The officers of the Toledo Central Labor Union and other friendly organizations also attended.

Miss Alice, well-known, containing the history of Local 47 by the writer, greetings from Vice-President Katrowsky and L. Friend from Cleveland, and greetings from members and friends of Local 47, was the first speaker of the evening. This book, he said, will in the years to come bring back memories of a pleasant experience.

The speakers and others officers by Brother Katrowsky was...

The 9th season in the cloak business here was very poor one, especially for those who worked in the Comit shops. The Cloak Company Co. claims now that they have to go out of business because the people in their shops refused to work for smaller wages.

The first of May was celebrated as a local with a concert and a lecture to suit the occasion.
Among the Cutters of New York

By Samuel Perlmuter, V.F.
Manager, Local 10

Fines Collected for Violation of Work-Stoppers

It appears that notwithstanding the precautions and measures of enforcement employed by the local against attempts of employees to violate the 25-hour week, there are still some who cannot resist the temptation of having the cutters work overtime. However, in almost every case we are successful in apprehending the violators and collecting fines for these violations.

The following Violators were fined:

- Robert Smith, 74th Street, was fined $25 on May 15, 1935.
- Henry Brown, 123 West 36th Street, was fined $20 on May 25, 1935.

The officers of the three cutters of this shop, Ralph Bier, Ben Ovsepian, and Hyman Hoffman, were working illegal hours. Hyman Hoffman was seen leaving the shop at 10 P.M. on April 21. When the committee attempted to talk to him, he claimed he was not a cutter but the shipping clerk in the shop. The three cutters were subsequently summoned to the executive board and all denied the charges of having worked illegal hours. Brother Hoffman stated the shipping clerk in the shop locks the door at 10 P.M. However, upon being questioned further it was discovered that while Brother Hoffman admitted he was over 10 years old, the shipping clerk is only 20 years of age, and could not be mistaken for him. The cutters, nevertheless, kept on doing work having worked illegal hours. The Executive Board then decided that they should be stopped from work until they admit the truth. After being caught for a week, the three men stated that they were trying work as a line and Saturday, Brother Hoffman admitted having worked one evening a week and Monday, he was working on Saturday. Upon being questioned further, however, he denied the truth that he worked on Saturday. He was fined $100, and the other two cutters, $50 each. They were permitted to return to work.

Sunday Workers

Two workers, named Kenney and Hines, were working illegal hours. They were summoned to the office of Local 10, and after being questioned, admitted working on Sunday. They were then asked to explain their presence in the shop on a Sunday. They stated that they were there to purchase goods for their own use, and that they had been working there for some time. They were permitted to return to work.

Back Pay Collections

In the case of C. V. Smith, a member of Local 10, who was fined $25 on May 10, 1935, he was permitted to return to work on May 15, 1935, after being fined $25 for working on Sunday.

The Cutters' Official of the Cutters' Hilltop Trophy Awarded to Local 10 Basketball Champion Team

The Cutters' Official of the Cutters' Hilltop Trophy was awarded to the Local 10 Basketball Champion Team.

ATTENTION! Members of Local 10
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Monday, May 27, 1935
ARLINGTON HALL
23 St., Mark's Place
New York City

All Cutters Are Urged to Attend Without Fail.

The meeting will start at 7:30 o'clock. All members of Local 10, in company with other official leaders, are invited to attend the meeting. The Cutters' Event will be held on the first floor for the start of the first half of the league season.

The winners of the first half will play the winners of the second half for the Metropolitan Cup. Local 10 hopes to brush off their chances and gain undefeated recognition. However, we are not finding ourselves knowing that there are always equal strong teams in some of the other locals.

In the second context of the matter, the cutters will look into the possibility of joining other locals. The Cutters' Hilltop Trophy will be played at 7:30 o'clock, and we will be glad to attend the event without fail.

Soccer Makes Headway

Our soccer team has made such good progress and acquired some new players. Our local, a member of the Division of soccer teams, has been formed.

The soccer team has met the opposition teams at least twice, and it seems that we have kept a clean slate, winning every game. Ernie Schwartz seems to be doing a splendid job, and we hope he continues to keep us in the game.

Football Practice

Under the leadership of Coach Zeckman and Rabbi. 1935, Brooklyn, it was found that Cutters' H. L. Silver, was recruited by Coach M. S. Silver. It was then decided that Cutters' H. L. Silver be recruited to coach the team. The player was selected for the position of fullback and was re-recruited from the team.

Upon an investigation of the rules of the game of football and baseball, it was discovered that some of the rules had been changed. There is no doubt that the team's contribution to the league will be greatly improved due to the tremendous skill of the candidates who came out for the tryouts. The teams have made a place for themselves on the team, replacing a few of last year's players.

Game Event on May 18

Local 10 will open its baseball season by crossing with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Local 20, on May 18, at Springfield Recreation Grounds.

Publicity

First Vice-President Luigi Antonioli presented the Victory Cup to Champion Women's Bowling Team of Local 143, Ladies' Watchmen Workers.
Cloak Situation Heading Toward Zero Hour

The jobbers in the New York coat and suit industry still loudly maintain that they will not renew the collective agreement with the I. L. G. W. U. and the Cloak Joint Board if the contract limitations and jobber-responsibility clauses are retained. In the same breath they blithely declare that they "stand ready to discuss with the Union wages and hours." This is the same old scene in the past one may have been inclined to credit the cloak jobbers with any measure of sincerity concerning their stand on contractor-limitation, this professed readiness on their part to discuss "hours and wages," while probably shying at the same time at limitation and responsibility, puts such suspicion of sincerity completely at rest.

Regardless of optimistic prospects prevailing in some cloak quarters to the effect that there might not be a strike in the industry and that the jobbers and their allies in opposition to the Union's contractual safeguards will eventually back down, the Cloak Joint Board has been making its limitations and agreements known. To win, one must prepare for victory, and the $350,000 already reported in the defense chest of the Cloak Joint Board is a clear message that the leadership of the industry in this matter is as strong as its feet. Nor would the Union be caught napping in the matter of Fall merchandise stocks. General Manager Nagle's order to all shop chairmen to permit no production of Fall garments in the cloak shops, while probably not interfering with legitimate sample making, definitely exposes the danger that many cloak manufacturers might rush through large volumes of Fall stock in anticipation of a strike. And until further notice this order stands.

"Breaks" in Cotton Dress Struggle

Two things have occurred in the past two weeks in the cotton dress fighting area which have cast a few bright rays upon the grizzly, solemn battlefield in which thousands of women workers for months have been engaged, in as grueling a fight as any elementary human rights as could be matched by any clash in recent American industrial history.

First, came the reversal by the Illinois Court of Appeals of the temporary injunction issued to the Central Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association by a Chicago judge, an injunction by the way, which for a time actually paralyzed picketing in front of the strike-bound Chicago cotton dress firm. Second, was the decision on May 6th by the Seattle Regional Labor Board, ordering the Olympic Garment Company and Dolly Meyers, Inc., two firms involved in a strike with the Seattle locals of the I. L. G. W. U., to allow the strikers to set up shop and grievance committees, to provide equal division of work in their shops, to take every striker back to work and to comply henceforth with Section 7A of the NRA.

In Seattle this decision is of particular significance in view of the fact that for the past month an anonymous "Committee of 50" has been carrying on a vicious Fascist fight against the Union mobilizing against our strikers all forces of reaction and blackguardism on the West Coast.

The fight in the other strike cities—St. Louis, in Decatur, in Dallas, still continues unabated, and will not terminate until settled on terms satisfactory to the strikers. By the same token, the organizing activity in Kansas City, Mo., will not be swept back by all the power, cunning or fury of the Jim Reeds and their henchmen.

Whatever the outcome of this struggle—and the outcome may not be alike in all places—the result will be deep-rooted cotton garment workers' organizations everywhere. This conflict, indeed, has brought to the surface a trade-union spirit of striking quality and matched militancy. The indomitable courage displayed by the Dallas, Decatur and St. Louis girls in this struggle is of a caliber that cannot be downed.

Labor Demands

Wagner Bill

The Wagner Bill is the organized labor movement of the United States.

Wagner-Country Labor Disputes Bill. It should be passed promptly, without amendments designed to weaken any of its principles.

Essentially, the Wagner Bill is a measure to supply tests, or enforcement power, to the National Recovery Act. It is conceded by friend and enemy alike that, original intentions notwithstanding, the NRA has not done nearly as well as was expected from it largely because it has been outgunned by interest groups. The Wagner Bill aims squarely at that direction. It makes collective bargaining a reality—not merely a phantom right to be accepted or rejected at will by employers. It creates a special Labor Relations Board as a disciplining arm of NRA enforcement, and it also affirms the majority rule in the election of representatives of collective bargaining. In reality, it outlawed company unions.

Along with the Wagner-Country Bill, organized labor stands unequivocally behind the demand that the NRA be extended for another two years. The scheme to extend it for ten months would create uncertainty and demoralization in the entire code machinery established after countless labor and cost. Laborgians demands the enactment of the 30-hour law as the only effective measure for reducing unemployment and bringing jobs to millions of idle workers.

Company Unions

The special research staff of the Twentieth Century Fund, whose trusty men cannot be charged with any particular pro-trade-union bias, has issued a report on company unions as part of a study of the role of government in labor relations. In view of the general public interest aroused in the so-called "company unions" by the Wagner-Country Bill, the report is both valuable and timely. A few of its conclusions are herewith given:

"Company unions," the reporters of the Twentieth Century Fund state, "are serious competitors for membership with the regular trade unions. About 2,500,000 workers are now organized under such plans, compared with a total trade union membership of about 4,000,000. An especially rapid growth in company unions has occurred since 1931, and largely to the influence of Section 7A of the NRA. Where trade unions were unsuccessful, the company union offered itself as the obvious substitute, especially in the mass-production industries.

On the basis of an intensive investigation of 80 specific plants, the report further maintains, it was revealed that "company unions are usually inadequate agencies for collective bargaining because direct or indirect employer influence can, in the nature of this type of organization, never be entirely absent." While many plans guarantee against discrimination, company union representatives, being on the employer's payroll, are handicapped by fear that they may be discharged, disciplined, or otherwise penalized by the employer if they are too aggressive. Company unions can rarely back up their demands by a strike threat. Bargaining equality cannot be maintained where one party has disproportionate economic power.

A more succinct indictment of this bastard offspring of the half-baked NRA was made by the Twentieth Century Fund investigators. Inevitably, only an organization that could be imagined.