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Justice (Vol. 19, Iss. 2)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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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.
Blousemakers Ratify 3-Year Agreement
With Manufacturers

Union Wins Stabilization Board, Wage Rise—Kreindler Headed Parleys.

A meeting at Centre Hotel attended by more than 250 delegates of Local 25, Blouse and Waistmakers' Union, rallied on the afternoon of December 8th, to endorse a three-year agreement negotiated with the National Association of Blouse Manufacturers, Inc., by the union's committee headed by Vice-President Charles Kreindler. The negotiations lasted almost two months.

The blouse and waist industry was stopped by the order of Local 25 for the workers to enable workmen from the Bronx and Brooklyn to attend Traveller Parties, but

St. Louis Asks For Raise in New Pact
20% for Cutters, 15% For Other Crafts Requested

In a communication to the Associated Garment Industries, Inc., of St. Louis, the IILGWU Board of Directors asked that they request a conference for January 15 to discuss renewal of contract.

In the letter, the Board has served a demand on the employers for an increase of 20 per cent for cutters and 15 per cent for all other workers. "This has been an appreciable advance in the cost of necessities of life," the communication reads. "The rise in the cost of food, shelter and clothing has materially increased. We feel that the workers are entitled to an increase in wages to overcome the handling of the continually increasing cost of necessities."

The letter is signed by Jack Gilbert, manager, and Mayer Perlstein, regional IILGWU representative.

Montreal Delegates To Be Chosen During March G.E.B. Orders

Washington Meeting Takes Union Inventory—Drives To Be Strengthened in Knitwear and Cotton Garments

The Sixth Quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the ILGWU opened its session in Washington, D. C. on Tuesday, January 5, lasting five days, until Saturday, January 9.

The meeting was attended by representatives from all the branches of the union, including Montreal.

The meeting opened with a four-hour report by President Dubinsky regarding the progress and organization of the union. The meeting is expected to be very productive, with many new proposals and resolutions expected to be passed.

(Continued on Page 12)

21-Weeks' Old Strike in Wilkes-Barre Settled

One of Longest Single Shop Conflicts On Record Won

The ILGWU was last week the strike in the children's dress factory of Pioneer Silk Company in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The strike was precipitated in July, 1931, when the firm refused to deal with union representatives and to adopt standard work forms for the 150 employees in its factory.

The precipitant was finally settled after 21 months and resulted in the workers selecting the union as their sole bargaining agent.

All workmen in the plant were organized, and the right to be represented by the union was finally conceded by the company. A large number of strikes in the area were settled, and the union became stronger.

Local To Confer On Sick Benefits

Annual Meeting of Health Center On January 29

The Union Health Center of New York, opened and operated by the union for the benefit of its members, will hold its annual meeting on January 29, at the Auditorium of the International Building, 3 West 46th Street.

The meeting will be held to discuss the progress of the center and to consider any other matters that may be brought to its notice.
Local 91 Resumes Radio Broadcasts

Schedules Weekly Series Over Station WEVD

The Executive Board of Local 91 decided last week to resume a weekly series of Tuesday evening broadcast over Station WEVD. Improvements that were made to the station during the fall season, the board felt, will have a similar series beginning Tuesday, January 11, at 9:00 P.M., featuring Manager Greenberg.

The campaign against the "three strikes of minorities"-Operation Homework, and Child Labor-will be continued on the air. Problems of organization and proposals for legislative reform measures will be discussed and analyzed. The same colorful tactics which were used last year, and which made the campaign outstanding, will be retained.

Sub-Standard Clothes Menace to Health

At that time a storm of controversy was precipitated over the public acceptance of sub-standard goods by the public. Manager Greenberg, in a series of discussion topics, has revealed to the audience the results of a scientific investigation over the condition of goods produced by manufacturers and retailers. The evidence was analyzed and showed that clothing produced in a large proportion of stores was defective and not supervised by accredited inspectors. The goods were contaminated and impersonated the lives of innocent children who wore them.

Child Labor To Be Exposed

It was further demonstrated that these defective-finished garments were a dangerous menace in the health of the people as well as to the consumer, and that the responsibility for these conditions lay at the door of unscrupulous manufacturers who disregarded the welfare of the people in their lust for profit. Manager Greenberg will not be silenced.

Locals To Confer On Sick Benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

torium, on January 22, at 1 P.M. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the provisions of the national plan for the exchange of experience between the locals on the sick benefit plan. The discussion aimed at improving the methods of handling the most important phase of social insurance.

The locals will be represented by secretaries, managers, and officers of the locals. The meeting of the conference will be held at the office of the national plan.

Participating in the conference under the chairmanship of W. A. Stiebeling, will be: Charles Zinnerger, John G. Koran, Nathan Nite, George M. Price, Dr. Leo Price, and Pauline Revere.

JUSTICE

A Labor Magazine

Published bi-monthly by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union

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CHARLES J. HARDEN, President

M. M. DAVIES, Executive Secretary

JUSTICE

January 15, 1937

Exchange Smiles at "Legislative" Meet

GEB Pledges Aid To Auto Strike

Dubinsky Sends Message To President Martin

Acting upon unanimous decsion of the General Executive Board, the ILGWU was to be notified of the attention of the United Textile Workers Union, and the National Association of Manufacturers, of the necessity for legal action against the manufacturers to enforce the boycott of the manufacturers and to broaden their campaign to include factories which utilize child labor in their production.

Music, Guest Speakers On Program

In order to emphasize the weekly series of broadcast messages, the WEVD String Ensemble has been engaged to provide entertainment for the radio audience. An additional vocal soloist has also been retained, and in addition, prominent guest artists and speakers will be invited to participate in the program from time to time.

 Especially in this connection, the services of well-known trade union figures, will be utilized. It is contemplated that President David Dubinsky and other notable personalities of the labor movement will be present at various times on the Local 91 program.

The executive board is particularly anxious to utilize its radio facilities during the Summer and Fall period for renewed political activity. The progress of the American Labor Party movement will be reviewed, and ammunition for office workers in the West will be brought to the "91" microphone.

Labor's Progress Is Humanity's Gain

Meanwhile, impending legislation affecting the welfare of labor will be brought to the attention of the mass radio audience, and an attempt will be made to relate the more immediate concerns of the local to its broader problems. "Three can no longer be isolation," said Manager Greenberg, "for the isolation of one is the isolation of all. Every advantage obtained for one child laborer is an advantage for the child laborer everywhere." To this ideal we dedicate our program.

ILGWU Conferences With Employers On Legislation

Dubinsky Suggests Legal Campaign Draft Bill

In response to an invitation issued by President David Dubinsky of representative employers to the garment industry, the ILGWU, acting through the National Board of Trade, will present at the next conference on legislative reform, a draft bill which would immediately proceed to draft a legislative set-up for the coat, suit and dress industries, and would add that the less important branches of the garment trades would later be added to the scope of this general program of reform.

The employers' groups, notably the representatives of the coal, steel, and cement industries, have joined the further need for the study of the problem of the garment industry before proceeding with the immediate draft of a legislative bill. A committee which met from January 9 to January 11 to consider the problem of the garment industry in the meat of the bill was submitted to the next meeting of the conference. Joseph L. Domagala, executive director of the merchants'裂ladies Garment Association, was appointed secretary of the conference.

Representatives of the employers were the following: John V. Colantuono, Industrial Council of Coal, Brick, and Allied Trades; James McConnaughy, Ladies Garment Assoc.; Joseph Fish, Brugger & Co., and Allied Trades; and William C. McConnaughy, National Dress Mfrs. Assoc.; John J. O'Neill, Flanders, McConnaughy & Assoc., and United Ass'n. of Dress Manufacturers.

The ILGWU, in addition to President Dubinsky, was represented at the conferences by Charles H. Blue, Joseph L. Domagala, Louis Levy, and Attorneys Ellis Killian and Manfield Schoenstein.

TRAIN FOR TRADE UNION SERVICE

Join Your Classes.
Outlined Conditions To Be Scrapped — Out To Win a Real "New Deal" For Members — 7,000 in Line

Philadelphia Undergirls Ratify Union Gain

Samuel Otto, manager of Dress Joint Board, Explains Terms of Agreement Won After Brief Strike

ILGWU Members — Attention!

All members of the ILGWU age urged to file their Social Security numbers at their local offices immediately.

Preparations have been made to enter the Social Security numbers on the permanent ledger cards so that the numbers will always be available.

Since all Social Security Board records are kept by number, loss of the card will create considerable difficulty unless it is available.

By registering your number at your local office it will always be on hand should you need it.

Chicago Reports Important Firms Signing Contracts

The Iron & Steel Industry, second largest in the world, has signed a num-

Chicago Cotton Garmenters Crusading for Power

Active in Local 76, Chicago White Goods Workers — Left to Right: Upper Row: Sam Glassman, Local Manager; Esther Gauchner, Assistant Chairlady; Bertha Dyke, Thelma Van Dyne, Chairlady; A. B. Plockin, General Organizer. Lower Row: Ruth Corson, Hall Jumper, Elle Nelson, Peggy Paynor.
In the "Little International"

A Review of 1936
By Harry Vander, V.P.
Local 11, Machinist's and Fitters' Department, The Eastern Out-of-Town

Retail was busy in 1936, and there were fewer job strikes than in previous years, in accomplishing the object set for it at its inception.

First, to organize all of the shops in the city, and to take a survey of the New York market, in order to to organize the workers in this city, for an empty store competition of the city.

Second, to provide a fund, with an adequate amount of money to organize the workers in the city, for the improvement of the New York market, and to provide a fund, with an adequate amount of money to organize the workers in the city, for the improvement of the New York market.

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Union City ILGWU-was in Festive Mood

An Appointment With History of American Labor Past Is Now Available to Members of Local 135 — So said Foreman, Popular Singer, Shown at Extremo Top Right Leading Pioneers' History Class — Class Will Continue Throughout Winter at Local's Headquarters, 40 West 35th Street,
In a far-reaching decision that was hailed as a tremendously important victory in defense of labor law in the New York City area, Justice Philip J. McCooy upheld the dress agreements as binding contracts and ordered two affiliated runaway shops to move back from non-union workship territory. The decision orders the concern to reemploy their locked-out workers and to pay them damages.

The decision was handed December 30 after Justice McCooy had listened to the voluminous testimony recorded during a bitterly contested 9-day legal battle in which Emil Schlesinger and Abraham Schlesinger represented the Union.

Many of the 28 locked-out workers spent several days in the court room listening to the arguments and participated on which their jobs depended.

Apart from persons who were owners of record, the real defendants in the case were the International and the Joint Board of the Blue Dress and Garment Workers and the Blue Fox Dress Company, both on 6th Street.

In his opinion Justice McCooy declared:

"The language of the agreement is clear, a proper construction is presented, and as far as any precedent exists it favors the Union. The language is plain, the facts are undisputed, the conclusions are reasonable. The remittance, the logic of the situation calls for application of strong measures. With the end of the NRA comes a new need for enforcement of contractual obligations. Employers of labor at will be tempted to play one community against another by this decision. And then the decision goes on to signify that this competition cannot continue without action by the courts and that community and labor would wisely undertake disputes amongst collective agreements.

MacManus, President of the Dress Goods Employers' Association, issued a statement in which he declared, "The decision was a clear victory for the Federation and for the right of labor to the fruits of its own collective bargaining agreements."

EMIL SCHLESINGER

About the middle of October the Union had asked for a reduction in the wage scale in the Blue Dress and Garment industry. The demand was naturally resisted. On October 28 Justice McCooy had ordered the employees and two days later, under cover of a decision, modified their position, and other protest in Archbald, Pa. That had prepared for the rejection of the agreement by taking in a sawitr of the Union by the same union as their employer. Bill Guilden.

Justice McCooy found in favor of the Union on all the arguments except that of the law and the law of the Union..." There is no dissent from the conservative elements. Therefore the court was in a fair opinion. As Justice McCooy's words, we believe, were correct both in their time and the present time.

The decision also covered the question of the non-union areas which the particular policy cannot continue if it is to survive.

Zimmerman Pledges Local 22 Solidarity to The Automobile Workers

Greetings of solidarity and pledges of support to the striking workers in the General Motors plant were sent by the International and the Joint Board of Dress Goods Employers' Association to the strikers. "The Federation, head of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, HUNTE, has the fullest confidence that the 20,000 members of its organization will be successful." In a telegram to Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers, Union, Bro. Zimmermann referred to the strikers as the "vanguard of organized labor, fighting for its rights" and promised them aid in every way.

In the same message and in a statement to John P. Vory, the head of the metal trades department of the A. F. of L., Bro. Zimmerman urged a "demonstration of solidarity among labor" and asked for "every help to the immediate strike." The statement was signed in the name of the union and commented on his close and active interest in the shop struggle. The resolution committee of the union, under the leadership of Nussbaum, Dingfeld and Cohen.

"22" and "49" URGE UNION CARD CHANGE

Members of Locals 22 and 45 are urged to change immediately to the "22" and "49" Union card in January 1938, power blue cards. The old card is red and gold and is not immediately payable at the $1 an month being collected by the "22" and "49" Union card. The new card is red and gold and is not immediately payable at the $1 an month being collected by the new card.
Committee of 1000 Active Members Meets Saturday, January 16, To Enlist Entire Union In Preparations

Engaging two of the biggest "name bands" in the world of swing tunes and hot rhythms to hypnotize dance-hungry feet at Local 22 Masque Ball, the arrangements committee is preparing another group of surprises that music and dance officials make the affair a big, red-letter "must" on the trade union entertainment calendar.

Final arrangements to attract every member of the Union in preparation for the big night will be made when the meeting of a committee of 150 active members is held in the National Department's sale room, 22 West 39th street, Saturday, January 16, at 10:30 a.m. Admission to this meeting will be open to all who are interested in the business activities of the local, educational and sports activities of the local will be the order of the day.

Costume Awards

With this official announcement has been made it is understood that there will be a long list of awards given to those who have helped and others who have helped the local in the past and with the activities of the local Union and working class activity.

When it comes to engage dance bands writing the best of their hits and working the most popular in the country today, pick out the date at the latter time, and when the date is set the contract a few days ago. With continuous dancing on the program the committee is looking forward to giving some "name band," was fortunate enough to book Count Basie and his Apollo Theater Orchestra. Negro appra- cures noted for their "hot" rhythm and time put their executive committee. Both orchestra leaders are expected in person.

Gym Time is Beauty Show in Harlem

A rosy, enthusiastic throng adorned the auditorium of the Young Circle Club on Saturday afternoon, January 9, on the occasion of the installation of the Junior Promoters' Youth Club and the Intermediate "Twentieth-Third" Club. The evening was marked by its gayety and merri- ment, and every one of the 500 or more who crowded into the club at the opening Con- gress of the Junior Circle Club, the automobile workers' strike, and other news of interest to workers. President Davidus Daniels will be the English guest speaker at the Local 35 Hour, next Saturday evening, January 16, from 10 to 11. During the following weeks, the members of New York, Philadelphia, New Haven and Bridgeport clubs are scheduled to appear as guest speakers.

ON THE 22 YOUTH FRONT

By Murray Konig

They took time out from "Figuring" at the Price Settlement Headquarters to welcome in the New Year. Top Row (Left to Right) Shows Brother Julius Hochman, Joint District General Manager; Harry Rubenstein, Head of the Bureau; Harry Uzi, Division Imperial Chairman; and Brother Patzy Natanski, Union Adjuster.

Group of 1000 Active Members...
Mr. Lewis Drops In
By Louis A. Antonini

I listened, last week, at a meeting of our General Executive Board in Washington, to a half-hour talk by John L. Lewis. It was a "private" meeting, closed to the press and there was a feeling of solemnity attending it. The leader of the Miners' Union, accompanied by some of his trusted Lieutenants, Phillip Murray and Tom Kempton, just "dropped in" to pay a courtesy visit to the executives of a sister CIO organization. I do not know if Mr. Lewis felt that he was speaking to a group which, though friendly to the International Longshoremen's Union and the Committee for Industrial Organization, was inclined to disagree with some of the tactics and methods he, as leader of the big union, was advocating. At any rate, he showed not the least sign of it. His address was so easy, his bearing so confident, his manner so quietly commanding, that it had the effect of settling things and thoughts and questions of the audience. He was in perfect harmony with his confident mood, with his breadth of vision and breadth of understanding of the broader American economic and political scene.

Lewis is master of situations. It took only a few minutes of his talk to convince me, at least, that whatever strain or tension there may have been in that room when that talk began was gone. Mr. Lewis has that unique kind of practicality, in addition to adroitness in things he says and in the manner he puts them, that these things and thoughts and questions of the audience were shaped and molded to his confident mood, with his breadth of vision and understanding of the broader American economic and political scene.

Lewis, as a union leader, shows a flair for the industrial fabric. We, naturally, are easier to hear from him an appraisal of the opportunities for victory in the strike wave of today than of the prospects of the organizing of the Near East, of the organizing of the country which the crusaders in the steel industry, the crusaders fighting in the iron, tin and steel industries of Pennsylvania, of West Virginia and New England. We could not escape the recognition that, while other unions were helping to a degree in this monumental drive, it would have been an impossibility without that leadership and that direction of the head, that is, of those forces, whose identity was the treasury of the miners that is being placed with multiplied, greatly increased at the disposal of this great missionary drive in steel, auto, rubber, coal, and the other basic industries.

To all three disturbing, eager thoughts, Lewis, and after him, Murray and Kempton, brought clear-cut answers and insight into the basic philosophy of the Union. "Who can measure the profit that the worker is already making?" Lewis asked us in a voice that might have almost boomed, "Who can define the total good of work or of adequate accomplishment that will come in the future through the flow of the forces that have been set in motion? The elimination of the "no day" is back to the foundations of the empire of steel and motor industry. With the elimination of the "no day," young men have a basis for freedom in energy, idealism and approval. "The CIO," Lewis concluded, "has let loose greatest forces in this country, forces hitherto pent up in insuperable laws, in laws that are without an incentive and without a force in their ability to make a contribution to the cause that strives to give those who work for a living a square deal and better treatment, and greater consideration.

Lewis, in another great event when he is setting up an organization to be won, a socialist dramatist of possibilities, an organizer of human possibility, an organizer of that which will spell progress and is perfectly serene on this question. If this opportunity had been to Lewis, we would have had these three people. . . .

Lewis is an orator even when he is not an actor. He holds an audience to be won, a group of people to be won, a drama to be won, a story of possibilities, an organization of human possibilities, a drama of human possibility, an organization of that which will spell progress and is perfectly serene on this question. If this opportunity had been to Lewis, we would have had these three people. . . .

Pape | Antoni Dies
After Labor Career

Brother Giovanni Pape, for 33 years a longshoreman in the New York-organized AFL locals of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and very well known to members of the ILGWU, died Saturday, January 5, after a short illness. He was a member of the ILGWU and remained faithful to the teachings of socialist doctrines and the socialist movement for his entire life and respected the character of the man. Pape, by his work, is known in that movement, the degree of love and respect he commanded. Born twenty years ago in Reggio Calabria (Italy), Pape joined the socialist movement at the age of 16, and throughout his life he remained faithful to the teachings of socialist doctrines and the socialist movement for his entire life and respected the character of the man. Born twenty years ago in Reggio Calabria (Italy), Pape joined the socialist movement at the age of 16, and throughout his life he remained faithful to the teachings of socialist doctrines and the socialist movement for his entire life and respected the character of the man.

HEADLINERS FEATURE
BRANCH 122 AFFAIR

Featuring an unusual entertainment, the second annual dance of the Progressive Democratic Branch 122, WORKMEN'S Circ, will be held Saturday evening, January 15, at the Americana People's Center, 205 West 50th Street (Colonial Circle). Entries are invited in advance. Admission is 6c. Dance music will be provided by The Original Black and White Orchestra. The headliners on the entertainment program will be the sons of Gregory and Antoni Kaczynski in piano-accent and concertina duet, and Anthony Kor., pianist, moderator. WORKMEN'S CIRCLE CALLS CONFERENCE OF ILGWU LOCALS

A conference of all ILGWU locals has been called by the workmen's circle for Saturday, January 15, in A.M., in the Council Room at the Empire Board Room, 232 West 51st Street, Julius Hochman, General Manager of the Lyons Dry Goods Co., is among the speakers. The meeting is being called to further the membership drive of the Workmen's Circle. Plans will be made to eliminate membership blanks now associated with the locals and to start new branches wherever possible. HAPGOOD TALKS ON LABOR IN 1937

Hapgood, Hayden, member of the Industrial Organization Committee and a close student of trade union history and activity, will talk on "What Will Happen to the Labor Movement?" at the next Open Forum, Thursday evening, January 21. The Forum meets promptly at 6 P.M. in Room 602, Clubs, 205 West 42nd Street, under the auspices of Local 27 Education Department. Admission is free.

LOCAL 22
DISTRIBUTION MEETINGS

AFFILIATED DISTRICT .. MONDAY, JANUARY ..
POPULAR DISTRICT .. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY ..

The Three Above Meetings Will Be Held at Manhattan Opera House 6th Street and 8th Avenue Immediately After Work

The Following Five Meetings Will Be Held Thursday, January 28 Immediately After Work

BRONX DISTRICT--at Bronx Office 355 E. Tremont Ave., near Third Ave.

HARLEM DISTRICT--at Harlem Office, 724 Third Ave.

WILLIAMSBURG DISTRICT--at Amalgamated Temple 11 Arion P.L., Brooklyn

BROOKLYN DISTRICT --at Labor Lyceum 219 Backman St, Brooklyn

BROOKLYN BELLS AND COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT --at Labor Lyceum 1937 Forty-second St., Brooklyn

IMPORTANT: All members are urged to attend. Important matters in connection with the next season will be discussed. Manager Zimmerman will complete the report begun at the last general membership meeting.
Washington GEB Meeting Reviews "State of Union"

(Continued from Page 11)

Union to renew collective agreement

important markets without retaining

active. He pointed out, as an example, the renewal of the collective agreement in the New York district, which covers a strike early in 1936, and similar contract renewal

in both the New York and the Chicago district which were at issue.

The General Executive Board

united with special satisfaction the decision of the New York Supreme

Court, granting the union a

restraining order against two dress manufacturers, and New York Supreme

Court's decision approving a restraining order against two dress manu

facturers. The city of New York has been working out the details of

the court's decision, and it is expected that a settlement will be reached shortly.

Philip Kramer covered in his re

port about conditions in the

market and also about union activi

ty in Connecticut, California, and

New England. He pointed out that

there have been some improvements in the clothing industry in recent months, but he also warned that the situation is still precarious and that the unions must continue to work for a better future.

In the New York Union Health

Committee meeting, the committee discussed the progress of the union health program and the need for continued efforts to improve health care for workers.

The United Mine Workers

continued to work on the coal strike, which was still ongoing at the time of the meeting. The union reported that they had made some progress in negotiations, but the coal companies were still refusing to budge.

President Baldwin reported on the situation in the coal mining

industry, noting that the union had made some gains in negotiations but that the companies were still refusing to make any concessions.

The meeting ended with a discussion of the need for continued efforts to improve the working conditions for miners.

The next meeting of the GEB is scheduled for next month and will

feature discussions on the coal strike, the health committee, and the need for continued efforts to improve the working conditions for miners.
John E. McGraw, the colorful, aggressive, and controversial baseball commissioner, has been named to the board of directors of the General Motors Corporation. McGraw, who has been in politics and baseball for most of his life, was a key figure in the early days of baseball and played a major role in the formation of the American League. He is expected to bring a new perspective to the corporation, which is facing challenges in the auto industry.

McGraw has been a long-time leader in the baseball world, serving as the commissioner of Major League Baseball for 14 years. He was known for his aggressive and controversial leadership style, which helped to shape the sport as we know it today. He is expected to bring that same spirit to General Motors, where he will be responsible for overseeing the company's operations and making strategic decisions.

McGraw's appointment is part of a broader effort by General Motors to revitalize the company and address its financial challenges. The company has been facing intense competition from foreign automakers and is working to modernize its product line to meet changing consumer demands.

McGraw is expected to be a key player in this effort, bringing his extensive experience and leadership skills to the table. He will be a valuable asset to General Motors as it works to navigate the complex and rapidly changing landscape of the automotive industry.
Southwestern District Begins 1937

By Walter Bailey

Regional Director, I.L.G.W.U.

The employers of the Southwestern District are getting ready to make more demands on the clothesworkers. Many of the shops are making preparations to increase the working time and wages, and the employers are in no mood to give in on the issues which have come to arbitration in various parts of the country.

In St. Louis

The street cleaners have agreed to a definite increase in wages, and the employers are taking a very active part in this development. The increase in wages is expected to be effective as of January 1.

In San Antonio

The agreement in the store clothing section has been signed and is effective as of January 1. The employers in this section are willing to accept the new wages and are prepared to begin work.

In Dallas

The agreement in the store clothing section has been signed and is effective as of January 1. The employers are willing to accept the new wages and are prepared to begin work.

In Houston

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In Austin

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In San Francisco

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In Los Angeles

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In Seattle

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In Portland

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In Chicago

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In New York

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In Philadelphia

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In Boston

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A Hot Minute in the Game, December 21, When Local 40 Took Local 22 in Tow to the Tune of 22 to 22. The Dramatized Thought He Was Going to Have an Easy Shot at the Basket But He Forgot to Look Behind Him.

New Jersey Basketball News

A doughnut eating involving four girls was held in Elizabeth on December 17.

"In the first game Local 153 Plainfield scored its initial triumph when it defeated Local 160 Bayonne girls by a score of 20 to 6. Trudy Techel of the Plainfield quintet and the smallest player in the League, walked off with all the honors by shooting 14 points.

In the final game, the Cotton Wonderland defeated Local 22 in which their first game was lost to the Elizabeth local by a score of 20 to 15. The Newark team, now in its victory in the free defensive play of Agnes Carter, who harnessed up the Elizabeth star, Ann Crampton, and Marjorie Barba, specifically assisted for 18 of the 28 points scored by her team.

On New Year’s Day, the former was scored many times. However, the effect was distinctly a positive one.
Penn State Girls Study "Lines"

Shamokin, Pa., Local 185, Dramatic Group in Serious Stage Wound

Landy, Ginger
Win Prize

The story of the Pioneer Drive strike would be incomplete without mention of the devotion of Organize Landy who was in charge of the strike from its inception. For weeks organizer Landy was under nerve-breaking tension. Every day of the strike in fact was new as the picket line and her last to learn. Assisting her was Organizer Stanley Speckwick.

...available assistance was required in the Union by the members' organization through district president John Keene.

Field Union as Agent

David Ginger, supervisor for the eastern portion of the State of Pennsylvania, was not only in daily touch with the strike development but a considerable part of his time during the strike in Wilkes-Barre. In the negotiations before Judge McLean's committee, the Mayor and the National Labor Relations Board met the union employees on the part of the United Steel Workers of America, organized by Broderick Ginger.

The strike against the Great East Co., in Wilkes-Barre, which was called by the United Steel Workers of America, was the result of a series of meetings by the Executive Board of the United Steel Workers of America, organized by Broderick Ginger.

Contract

On Monday, December 29, the election was held under the supervision of the National Labor Relations Board and Judge McLean's committee. When the vote was counted it was found that the Union had won the election. One employer threatened that the last employer would admit the Union's victory, instead he refused to admit the validity of the election and stated his intention to have a hearing on the question and raised several objections which were heard by Judge McLean's committee and they were endorsed in favor of the Union.

Finally, then, the employer saw what had been an agreement and a few days ago the writer and the firm conferred on terms. Although the understanding under which the election was held provided elaborate machinery for settling the issues, the employer considered the terms of the contract, the employer time before requested and delivered to him a copy of the agreement which contains all the standard provisions of a normal agreement and makes the necessary provisions for the workers in the Wilkes-Barre shop. Thus 100 new members' the contract and endorsement of these agreements and the sleep of the union by the workers and the employers, the agreement was signed with the employer.

The Quaker Sportswear Union is the firm that sought time to arouse a State charter for a company union. When the Union arrived of these efforts there was not much to be said of the issuance of the charter. Meanwhile, organizer Michael Johnson, who is assigned to this town, was maintaining contacts with the workers and during the period when the matter of the issuance of the charter was being pursued in the courts, he succeeded in bringing most of the firm's workers into the ranks of the International.

As a result of the Union's work, the charter was finally blocked. The firm did something combined with a demand for a collective agreement from a union. A brief investigation convinced the firm that the overwork and overworking of the majority of the workers was in the ranks of the IUEU and an agreement was signed with us to outsource to the States.

Decatur, Ill., Coming Back

In a special item in 'Decatur,' General Organizer Midlands, Pudlisk, writes:

A group of thirteen months of striking, steel-gas bonding, handball hearings, and hundreds of miles, the spirit of the Decatur finance committee working members was not broken by the death of their president and toil and travail to reunite and to show the employers in Decatur, Illinois, that once the IUEU has its hands on a situation it will never let it go.

'Naturally, after the strike was called off in February, a year ago, all activities for a while were quelled. But as the employers at that time were not in the least bit 31st to their employees, the workers began to take advantage of the employers in the shops, the strike spirit came back. Several months have transpired, and the IUEU's hand on the IUEU as against the workers and the IUEU's hand on the labor movement as a whole, is not a great deal. The spirit of the workers is felt in Decatur, Illinois, as a result of the workers who cut through the unions and build a civilization of striking, steel-gas bonding, and the workers of West. They are cutting a place in the world and the workers of West. They are doing it in the same way that the pioneers did it in the West, and the same way that the pioneers did it in the West, and the same way that the pioneers did it in the West, and the same way that the pioneers did it in the West.
Forum Starts Well

Mark Stein, Director

Ideas for Advancing America

Division

ILGWU WEEKLY LECTURE SERIES

January-March 1937

Jan. 21, 8 P.M., The Theatre as a Social Force

Jan. 28, 8 P.M., Modern Economic Tendencies

ILGWU, WEKE

ILGWU Lecture Series

Music, Song, and Dance

Ruth Well, cornpilcr of the music for "The Eleventh Hour," spoke on Music in the Theatre to a capacity audience at the Cultural Forum arranged by the Cultural and Recreational Division on January 9 at Labor Stage Studio. Principal of the case of "The Eternal Road" and "Johnny Johnson," Miss Well illustrated Mr. Well's book with songs from their production in Italy. In now conducting a course in the " Techniques of the Theatre" at the Labor Stage Studio, every Friday at 2:30. The class is open to all members of ILGWU. Syntax Group. The ILGWU. Lecture Group appeared in an informative evening's entertainment on Saturday, December 13, at Labor Stage Studio, under the direction of Benno Schmidt. Anthony Fair, of Local 145 sang the new Yorker song, "New Yorker," and a solo of the Art Department presented several folk songs.

Visits

Trips to the following artists' houses have been arranged. (Group parties of eight to ten) in each case at 2 P.M.-

Jan. 14, Simeon Solomon, Hinton Society of America, Broadway and 155th Street.

Jan. 21, Van Cortlandt House, Broadway and 212th Street.


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FREE TO ILGWU MEMBERS; ADMISSION BY UNION CARD

Others 50¢ per lecture; 50¢ for complete course
ILGWU OFFICERS AND MEMBERS ACTIVE IN THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY

January 15, 1937

The Hectomast

At the writing of this article the fate of the six young men in the death house of Sing Sing is not yet decided, but it is more than likely that Governor Lehman will reprieve some of them and commute the sentence of another.

The Federal Court refused to grant a writ of habeas corpus and ordered that the prisoners be returned to the state. The public meetings and petitions, mothers kneeling down in the streets in prayer and parents waiting in agonized frenzy over the radio and in the newspapers for news of their sons, some measure of mercy at least is to be shown while at the same time the convicted men suffer.

What a beastly and obscene thing this sort of justice is! It is not at all an attempt to elucidate in connection with the present case beside showing the facts about the actual case, to let the more pitiable and the more demented of them suffer and send the rest back to the state. It is to the public, the state, the world and future generations that this sentence is a sort of justice.

To me the barbarity of capital punishment costs not so much and it is horrible enough—the moral anguish and the suffering it wreaks upon the victims as in the fear, the dread, the brutality. Punishment and the intolerable sense of shame it leaves upon all those who are chosen to carry it out. For some strange and obscure reason the death penalty is the only instrument of vengeance that is considered by any civilized man as a real affront to human dignity and legal autonomy that constitutes the very antithesis of the high principle we all freely and constantly abuse.

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Among the Cutters of New York

By Louis Stulberg

Among the cutters of New York, those who are engaged in the garment industry, there is a sense of orderliness and efficiency that sets them apart from many other labor groups. The cutters' Union, which has been active in the industry for many years, has a strong sense of camaraderie and mutual support among its members. The Union has been instrumental in securing better working conditions and wages for its members, and has also been involved in various social and political issues.

A Tense Moment in "Steel"


Thanks From Recine Local

Dear Brother Editor:

To all local officers who so earnestly sent donations, and to those who brought tickets from us, we wish to acknowledge our appreciation.

More than pleased with the response that you, our sister union, have given us. The purpose of our asking for contributions was to build up our own fund, and we are able to help those who become ill or incapacitated.

We are now entering the second year of our existence as a local of the ILGWU, and it is our hope that we may celebrate this event by giving a dance, and we wish to ask for the presence of all of you. I am sure we would meet like old friends.

By Order, E. J. Recine, Local 197, New York.
...EDITORIAL NOTES...

The McCook Decision

Rarely has a judicial decision in an industrial case been so important to labor and, on the whole, favorable a comment as has the verdict rendered in the New York Supreme Court two weeks ago by Justice Philip J. McCook.

The facts in the case are generally known and appear in full detail elsewhere in this issue—

include a breach of agreement by two New York dress manufacturing firms and the transplanting of their factories to a small town in Pennsylvania where they planned to operate on a low-wage, long-hours basis.

The Union’s agreement with the two firms, which is to be enforced under a general agreement with a dress employers’ association, forbade the removal of the factories beyond the 5-cent carrier limit in the New York metropolitan district.

The breadth of the decision by Judge McCook restrains these firms—the Blue Dale and the Blue Fox Dress Companies—from setting up such plants in the low-wage Pennsylvania territory; it commands them to reopen their factories in New York City and to reemploy the workers they had technically locked out, and orders compensatory damages in favor of the aggrieved members of the Union to be assessed by a referee.

There had been, in the chronicles of our Union and labor, few instances of such a direct and ruthless attack on our organizations, instances of interfERENCE by courts of equity in favor of workers injured by arbitrary or agreement-breaching acts of employers.

It is to the glory of Labor that this celebrated ILGWU case against the Protective Cloak and Suit Manufacturers’ Association of New York, which broke its collective agreement with the Union in the Winter of 1920-21 and locked out the cloakmakers from its shops, was decided in the Supreme Court.

That suit for an injunction against the association—the first on record as far as we have been able to trace—was a test case. It formed the basis for the recent restrained warrant against an employers’ group—resulted in a complete victory for the cloakmakers’ organization. It was tried, on behalf of the Union, by the late Senator Samuel Untermyer, before the late Justice—now United States Senator—Robert F. Wagner, who ordered the employers to reopen their factories and to reemploy their locked-out cloakworkers for the remaining six months of the collective agreement.

There are, however, in the McCook Decision in the Blue Dale case some features which set it apart from the 1921 and similar cases in which a breach of agreement was the major cause. Of greater value, perhaps, than the practical and factual bases underlying McCook’s decision is that its sociological motivation and its industry-mindedness.

“The logic of the situation,” Justice McCook says in his decision, “calls for application of strong measures.”

With the end of NRA the cloak industry is in a critical position and the factory of the Pioneers, Manufacturing Company, makers of children’s dresses, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., desires special mention.

In this connection, the settlement finally reached by the Union and the Blue Dale Company under the aegis of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 has brought about a deplorable situation in the industry and the factory of the Pioneers, Manufacturing Company, makers of children’s dresses, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., desires special mention.

The strike was one of the most stubbornly fought individual conflicts between an employer and the Union on our records. The very fact that it lasted for more than five months—marked by countless arrests, clashes between the pickets and police, court hearings of the Union’s organizers and the strikers—gives a vivid idea of the bitterness and obstructions displayed by this employer. The gold strikers, during all those trying weeks, on the other hand, have shown a glorious spirit of resistance and as fine an example of union loyalty as many of their older colleagues in the ILGWU might well copy.

The strike finally was settled after a vote by all the employees of the Pioneer firm registered that they had no desire to stand between the Union and their薪金, and the Court of Appeals upheld the decision. The outcome was hailed as a distinct victory for decent work conditions and collective employer-employee relations by all socially minded groups in Wilkes-Barre who aided in the settlement of this unsatisfactory dispute. It is only to be regretted that the employer in question had failed to see the light of the Union’s position and of the deplorable conditions in which the workers, who had been a less costly affair to all concerned. Let us hope that other employers, in and out of Wilkes-Barre, will profit by this experience.

...Guns in Place of Butter...

...Race Hated Labor Suppression...

Settlement By Ballot

In the ILGWU we rarely resort to balloting, in case of single shop strikes, for bringing a dispute to an end.

Not that, for some reason or another, we are opposed to the use of the vote in industrial conflicts to determine whether the workers in a non-union shop favor the Union as its sole agent of representation in dealing with employers. It has been rather open or concealed practice of the employers in cases of protracted shop strikes, especially “out-of-town,” which frequently stood in the way of a settlement by the vote method as provided by the Labor Relations Act.

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There is, nevertheless, one point in connection with this case and with the decision, of considerable importance to our own members, which we should like to make clear and emphatic.

The campaign of the Union is against the “runaway” employers—the localities to which they escape and in the courts as exemplified by the Blue Dale, Blue Fox litigation—it is motivated solely by the Union’s desire to prevent the encroachment by chiseling employers of workers in all the branches of our industry no matter where they live and work for a living.

Let there be no misunderstanding about this. The Union is not opposed to the opening of shops by legitimate employers in any city or town, whether big or small, whether in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois or Indiana. It has no preference, nor does it play favorites with regard to any group or class of workers who depend upon our industry for a livelihood and has spared no effort and has poured out a treasure of money and energy to organize the unorganized and unprotected workers in the dyeing, knitting, clock and miscellaneous garment trades to lift earnings and work standards in these trades. It is on the warrands against chiseling and labor-misusing employers wherever they are domiciled and wherever it is located.

The Blue Dale case is just one other instance where the Union’s efforts to uplift the plantation and break the striking of employers have proved successful. In the immediate—and long—run this verdict will prove of invaluable benefit to the garment workers of both New York and Pennsylvania.

...Sit-Down Strategy...

If we Travel in That Car, We Take That Road

The General Executive Board of the Union met last week in Washington in a "quarterly" session.

We have put "quarterly" in quotes in order to place emphasis on the fact that the meetings of our General Board have no regular quarterly intervals. This Washington meeting last week was the sixth in number since June, 1934, when our last convention was held in Chicago. Prior to that meeting, the General Board held a session nearly eight months ago on the Pacific Coast.

The truth is that the leadership of the Union has in the past few years been entirely too busy to devote as much time as one would like to the quarterly session required by our constitution. Time and again a call for a national get-together of the Union’s chief executives has had to be cancelled by President Dubinsky through pressures of organizational business and activity that brooked no postponement.

As anticipated, the meeting in Washington was in the nature largely, of a stock-taking conference. The machinery of the ILGWU, geared at high speed, has been "going places" on all organizational fronts during the past year. The Union has been proceeding at an unrelenting pace to spread its influence to the remaining unorganized sectors under the steady direction of the General Office, using the weapons of "war and peace" as the occasion demanded. It has been gaining in numbers and prestige, despite rather poor work seasons in many markets and some inherent organizational difficulties in certain areas. It has stabilized worker-employer relations through a series of contract renewals, most of them accomplished without recourse to the strike method.

All in all, there has been and are some week spots on the ILGWU map. There are several thousands of dreamworkers, unorganized and mercilessly exploited, in Montreal, that have to be brought under the aegis of the Union; the knitwear industry in the "out-of-town" New York zone, in the Cleveland and Philadelphia markets; the cotton garment factories in Michigan, in Illinois and Missouri; the smaller dress makers in some Southern localities—all these organizational tasks, though outlined and charted, still have to be tackled and completed.

The decisions adopted by the Washington meeting of the G.E.B. are intended to "cure" these weak spots and to accelerate activity in all of them. Other measures voted by the General Board are aimed at forcing some rough edges within the Union itself and the straightening out of some jurisdictional tangles within the Union. The wider interests of the ILGWU—in legislative activity, in labor political work, in relief to needy institutions and deserving labor causes—were dealt with in a large, all-inclusive way.

And last, but not least, the none too distant vision of the International Convention, which takes place but a few months hence in Montreal, left a color of expectancy, involving measures of preparation, to the G.E.B. meeting. The feeling was as if we were on the eve of opening of a parliament, the fast approaching gathering of the loyal class of our Union, it wouldn’t be long now.