Justice (Vol. 27, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)
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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*.

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An Editorial

"Merit Rating"

With the passage by the Legislature of the amended Falk-Gugino bill, New York becomes the 43rd state to introduce "merit rating" in unemployment insurance.

The New York law, however, differs basically from "merit rating" laws in other states in that it departs from the conventional pattern which assesses an employer's contribution to unemployment insurance on the record of his employees' collective withdrawals of benefits. Under such a system, employers are prone to use every trick or device to disqualify their former workers from benefits due them so that it may not go against their "firm's" record.

The New York law bases employer contributions on the maintenance of a firm's volume of employment through the year, placing special weight on the firm's age and on its aggregate annual payroll. In this way the law takes cognizance of several industries in New York, such as construction work and garment making, which are subject to irregularity of employment and seasonal fluctuations but are, on the whole, equal in their annual volume of pay to any of the so-called all-year-round industries.

Labor, on the other hand, receives under its terms the following advantages—reduction of the waiting period from two weeks to one for recipients of benefits; increase of maximum insurance allotments from $18 to $21 weekly; and extension of the duration of benefits from 20 weeks to 26.

Most of the credit for the passage of this difficult bill, which in one form or another had faced the Legislature for several years, is due to Irving M. Wise, majority leader of the Assembly, who has taken a keen and consistent interest in unemployment insurance. During the final stages of the bill, when its passage was threatened by some adverse influences, Governor Dewey stepped into the situation and aided it to a satisfactory conclusion.

Eric Johnston on
New Goals in Industry

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"Elias Reisberg" Puts Out to Sea

Bearing the name of the late ILGWU vice president, the Liberty ship "Elias Reisberg" took to the waves on March 17 amid the hum of variety intensity in the New England shipyard building yards at Portland, Me.

The vessel was christened by Mrs. Minnie Reisberg, widow of the union leader, who was the manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board and later director of the Cotton Garment Department. She was accompanied by her son, Horace. Delegations from both organizations attended the launching.

Reisberg's name was chosen for the ship by the Philadelphia Joint Board when the Treasury Department extended the honor as a reward for the purchase of $6,308 worth of bonds by the Philadelphia membership during the Fifth and Sixth War Loan drives.

Sending the Philadelphia delegation was Vice President Samuel Olen, who presented a suitable plaque to be attached to the hull of the ship. The Cotton Garment Department's committee was headed by its director, David Glashoff.
**Liberal Party Passes First Year Milestone**

At the first anniversary dinner of New York's Liberal Party, held March 21, Left to right: Samuel Silber, ILGWU vice president who acted as chairman; John J. Linehan, head of the party's Business Committee; and Henry Brandt, head of the party's Nominating Committee.

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**A complete tabulation and report on the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund drive, which, as reported in the last issue of "Justice", had already reached the figure of $1,500,000, is being prepared for the next quarterly meeting of the union's General Executive Board scheduled to begin in Atlantic City, N. J., on April 23, it is announced by President Dubinsky.**

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An Editorial

**Not for Sale**

THAT 13 to 1 vote by which the directors of New York's Freedon House refused to accept a check for $5,000 for the Willie Memorial Fund from the Cocks锄 Social Political Assocation was a thumpng slap on democracy, the echo of which will not die down for a long time in American liberal circles.

It was a forthright act by a group of staunch liberals who, at a time when people get so easily confused about our friendship with Soviet Russia and our esteem for the American liberal, are still able to stand up, stand tall, and give a knockdown verdict to any collections, stack to their guns, brazing possible hysterical outcries by the official Communist mud-slingers and their multiple hangmen.

In an explanatory note, the Freedom House leaders did not fail to make it clear that their rejection of Brodetsky's piece of silver had no connection whatever with liberal America's attitude towards Yalta, Dumbarton Oaks or Brenton Woods. Recognition of the attainments of the Soviet Union as an ally, they said in so many words, does not imply recognition of the American Communist as domestic ally.

Which, of course, is sound enough and true. Had our domestic Communists possessed a drop of self-respect, they would not have made this crude attempt to buy themselves into a spot that should have been reserved for the men of the die-hard reactionaries who for years had waged against the best interests of the nation and the people in the wayside. In their places rose men who had studied wide-ranging understanding of the problems of the common man into the various legislatures of the country, men and women who are not the tools of pressure groups nor of other sinister interests.

Among other speakers were Rep. Joseph O'Hagan of Douglas, Arizona; Mrs. Rose, chairman of the party's Legislative Committee, and Henry Brandt, head of the party's Business Committee.

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Leaders to Meet April 23 and Name Worthy Causes Sharing $1,500,000; Lagging Affiliates Urged to Act

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**Cloak Joint Board Planning Fete For Brooklyn Chairmen**

Appreciation of the faithful service rendered by the chairmen of the Brooklyn Cloak Joint Board was clearly marked on April 21 when the Cloak Joint Board will sponsor a spring festival and raffle on union headquarters. It is announced by Managing Editor Anthony Costello and Assistant Business Manager Earl E. Zuckman.

The affair is being specially arranged for these chairmen, who have shown exceptional loyalty and vigilance in an area that was once the backbone of notorious union practices.
WLB Cleveland Okay Helps All Market, Says Keycock

Climbing the drive by the Cleveland Joint Board to win improvements for its members in that city, a War Labor Board inspector, Mr. W. H. Keycock, said in a letter to Cleveland Keycock, a joint board official, last fall that he would arrange for an early meeting with the Board and the Cleveland Trades Union Congress to discuss the situation, including the question of war worker shortages.

Mr. Keycock said that the Joint Board had already made a study of the situation and that it was well prepared to present its case to the Board.

The letter was addressed to Mr. Keycock, who is now in New York City, and it was dated March 15, 1943.

The letter reads in part:

"I am pleased to inform you that the Joint Board has been in close contact with the Cleveland Trades Union Congress, and that a meeting has been arranged for next week.

"The Joint Board is firm in its belief that the war worker shortage is a serious problem, and that something must be done to alleviate it. We are confident that the Board will agree with us.

"I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting, and I am sure that we will be able to work out a satisfactory solution to the problem.

"Sincerely yours, W. H. Keycock, Joint Board Official."
Racial Parity Local 22 Aim

"Dynamic Democracy" is the title of a collection of speeches and radio talks by Luigi Antonini, just issued by the Italian Labor Information Bureau. Thoroughly "for the 50th anniversary of Local 22 ILOVU," which occurred last October, this compilation of commentary and interpretation is vital enough to last far beyond that nominal deadline, the final quarter of a century of Local 22's existence.

The volume consists of four large sections in Italian and one smaller section in English. Hardly an event of social or historical significancefrom 1914 to the end of 1944 is omitted from this survey by the transatlantic, valedictorian leader of the Italian dressmakers. Political, cultural, and international topics are covered with approval of support of the President over a period of ten years—all deeply understood by an implacable hatred of fascism and its offshoots.

The predominant theme in Antonini's book is the urgency of organization—economic, labor-political, and cultural. In a democracy, the veteran leader of the Italian dressmakers constantly reminds his audience, everywhere, everything lives and flourishes for the better, also for a few years, our own, Luigi Antonini.

Local 89 to Build 7th Loan Ship For Sgt. John Basilone

The executive board of Local 89, at its meeting on March 18, unanimously approved a recommendation made by General Secretary Luigi Antonini that a special drive be conducted during the coming seventh War Loan campaign with the purpose of financing the construction of a Liberty ship to be named after the late Marine Sgt. John Basilone, son of a tailor in New Jersey.

Killed in action last month during the battle of Iwo Jima, Sgt. Basilone was the first member of the Marine Corps to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest American military honor, for his heroism during the Iwo Jima campaign. The Marine, the grandson of the Italian-American Labor Leader, the 50th anniversary of the Machinists Day celebration on Oct. 12, 1943.

Dressmakers on the Way to the $500,000 Relief Fund Mark

Dressmakers gave a little more than $2,000 to the Red Cross. The check goes to the Red Cross, which has a long list of things it needs help with. This is a small amount, but it's a good start. The Red Cross needs more money to help people in need. Please give what you can.
As was to be expected, the "Daily Worker" has broken out in a rash over Ignazio Silone's bold statement that it is necessary for the Left to become more radical and critical in its attitude for the sake of a united front with the Stalinists.

A number of bitter hostility and vilification against Silone, these statements indicate a group who are now putting as their main aim the destruction and isolation of the Left. It is not uncommon to get a grip with which to choke the Neanderthal.

Now timely is that old saying, "God save me from my friends." I do not know if that is my friends. It seems to me that left-wing Catholics are frequently looking for a way out of the dilemma they set themselves in the face of the situation. The Socialist Party is very far from being in a critical condition. Instead, its organization has gained tempo in recent months. But there is more to do in order to make do so. Yet, the Left must do this, not by taking advantage of its own and by placing itself in determined position at the head of progressive currents in Italy as the great party of the working class. I think we have this opportunity today more than in any other way as a party of the past. Optimistic on Future

Each week's life of the world is surrounded with our situation. The Socialist Party is very far from being in a critical condition. Instead, its organization has gained tempo in recent months. But there is more to do in order to make do so. Yet, the Left must do this, not by taking advantage of its own and by placing itself in determined position at the head of progressive currents in Italy as the great party of the working class. I think we have this opportunity today more than in any other way as a party of the past.

FROM BRITAIN

"Labor in England" discussed by Maida Springer and other members of the American women's trade union Station WNEW 1310 on the dial TUES., APRIL 3 10:15 P.M.

The sum of $40,518 was paid in health benefits during the month of February to members of the New York Dress Joint Board under the new Health Fund program, according to a compilation last week. This figure is more than three times the amount paid before the national health trade by the locals before the incorporation of the Health Fund in January, 1945.

The Health Fund program, which is financed by employers contributions amounting to $3 per percent of payroll, provides for five kinds of insurance: (1) sickness benefits, (2) hospitalization, (3) medical services, (4) eye examination and care, and (5) tuberculosis aid. All members of the local funds receive $2.10 per month for medical services, $1.203 per month for hospitalization, and $55 for live examinations and care and tuberculosis aid. Of the three affiliated locals covered by the Health Fund, Local 23 led in payments to its members during February. The figures are about $3,600 for this local, $2,400 for Local 39 and $1,600 for Local 90. In no other month, and only in March, July and August, did the locals lead in payments to members.

Italian-American Labor Council
Sums Used in Italy Itemized in Report

Letter to the Preparedness Committee

The Italian-American Labor Council has made public in its April Preparedness Committee report, among other things, the operations in Italy of the American labor movement, the Italian-American Labor Council. The report was itemized in the following way:

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This breakdown, totaling $81,036, reflects the period of April 1-30. It is estimated that the contributions to the fund from the participating locals is about $3,600, of which $2,400 is from the Central Committee of the American Federation of Labor.
They Told the Meaning of Brotherhood

Harman Sinks (left), manager of Local 146 and 222, presents bond prizes to Irvington, N.J., students who wrote best essays on "Good Will as a Foundation for Democracy." In the contest sponsored by the local branch of the N. Y. Bldg. Rev., Daniel J. Collins (right) of St. Leo's Church, looks on. The winners are "left to right" Claudia Deutsch, Corrine Pamplona, William Steinle and Robert Andreas.

WMC Accepting ILG So. River Proposals

Anticipating calls by the regional War Manpower Commission on ILGWU members in the South River, N.J., region to transfer their employment to war plants, Manager Simon Baum- find has conferred with WMC officials in an effort to establish certain guarantees in behalf of shifted workers.

It is expected that the "call-ups" for Southern River will be directed at both female and male workers.

According to Baumfind, the Commission listed with favor upon the request presented in relation to members of Local 150 and 157. Chief among these was the request that the Commission make a study of regional employment practices and labor standards, thus minimizing the conclusion and injustices that have resulted in other regions where similar plants have been involved. Such a study is now being made.

Baumfind also asked for safeguards against labor hoarding. He urged the transfer of non-union employees as a means of shifting union members.

WLB Weighs $4 Increase At Two N. J. Closet Shops

The union and the employers have filed joint applications with the regional War Labor Board requesting an increase of $4 for 367 workers at the New Jersey Le- din Closet shop, Newark, and at the Littlmet Closet Shop, New- port, New Jersey. It is announced by Vice Pres. George Ruby, manager of the WLB Closet Division.

Three Newark Rates

The WLB award waiting for increases in workers in the N.J. closet trade have been approved by the WLB and are effective as of Jan. 29, 1945.

"Spirit of South River Workers"—Purchases the Crew

The B-24 Liberator that was made possible by the "over-the-top" bond sales among South River, N.J., industrial workers during the Sixth War Loan Drive is shown with its crew and a delegation of workers, including Manager Simon Baumfind and members of Locals 150 and 157, at dedication ceremonies held last month at Fort Dix. In the center is Mayor Matthew M. Malavisi.

The non-union shops within the jurisdiction of the ILGWU Closet Division continue to be one of our chief problems. We are determined, in accordance with long-established principle, eventually to bring each and every shop into the fold of the union so as to enable all the workers in the trade the maximum benefits of their labor. This is being done by a careful, patient way by which workers can gradually be drawn into the union, recognizing the rights and conditions of the non-union shops.

It is, furthermore, a major responsibility of the union to establish a reasonable degree of stability in the shop so that the workers can have some assurance of the future. We are fully conscious of the need of stability, the lack of which has already caused our industry some serious harm in the past.

It is for these reasons that we urge the importance of additional shops. Even though the members of our staff are actively engaged in their daily and systematic routine of assisting the welfare of union workers, we are constantly on the watch for non-union plants. This is true of all the areas we cover.

Thirteen recent weeks, we have signed up three more shops, employing a substantial number of workers. These shops are: Bridgeport, Conn., the Empire Clothing Factory, and the New Brunswick Child's Coats, New Brunswick, N.J. Two have joined their respective employer associations, and standard union conditions were immediately established for their workers.

Relief Drive Winds Up

In an organized effort to do what the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund has been unable to do, the Relief Drive has continued through the industry in a big way. There thus far report that our workers gave 160 per cent cooperation, with the result that a good percentage of the wages earned are going to the big emergency of the day.

There is an urgent need for help to the staff, to the active members of the organization, and it is up to each and every one of you to do your best to aid in the success of this drive.

The officers are as follows:

Chairman: Local 133, Newark, and Local 87, Camden, N.J.; John J. Hurlburt (Local 133), A.J. Murphy (Local 87), W. E. Sullivan (Local 87), and J. H. Murphy (Local 133).

Executive Committee: Local 133, Newark, and Local 87, Camden. N.J.; W. E. Sullivan, and J. H. Murphy, A. J. Murphy, and J. J. Hurlburt.

EOT Outlines Sick Benefits

Full details of the procedure to follow in meeting claims for sick benefits have been explained to local managers of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department at a conference which was held at the EOT office in New York City.

The Rev. Harry Wanter dis- cussed the subject at length and the managers and indicated how they are to be in kept complete.
WASHINGTON, D.C.—What happened here last week is likely to go down as a portentous event in American history. A new principle in American life was established, one which may fix us to plague our children and our children's children. It happened under Administration pressure of the strongest kind. President Roosevelt, by the narrow margin of seven votes, passed a number of important and unexpected Administration amendments to the Social Security Act. President James F. Byrnes is said to be a wartime taskmaster over American labor.

At this writing, the bill is in the House where backsliders, backed in fierce opposition, claim to have better chances of victory. President Coolidge made a fourth appeal to the Senate for a judicial review of the maximum backsliders bill, while Chairman McNary of the War Revenue Committee made a last appeal to the Senate for the power to wage a war against the maximum backsliders bill. He can tell any worker what he does or does not accept. He can make him lose his job or his present job and take his place with a new one. He is the only man who has selected the worker. He is the power that is the backbone of the country. He is the power that is the backbone of the government.

The power that is the backbone of the country. The nation's credit is in the hands of the worker. The power that is the backbone of the government.

The measure gives Assistant President Byrnes a power to control the nation's credit. It is a power that is the backbone of the government.

To hold back these powers, Byrnes is empowered to invoke a penalty against both workers and employers for any violation of the measure. He can call on the government's credit for that purpose.

But, to be sure, the measure subsidizes the Court to review an opportunity for a citizen to make a complaint to an administrative or Federal-departmental committee. But, this committee will be an administrative body under the control of the Bureau of Information and Social Security, to work out the regulations of the government. In addition, under serious threat of a strike, the measure would appear to be impossible of simultaneous publication in the Federal register. Therefore, American citizens who have felt that they have been deprived of the society rights under the Constitution could go to court and ask for a judicial review of the measure.

The measure makes Byrnes decisions completely independent. It is a measure that is the backbone of the government. It is a measure that is the backbone of the government.

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BOOK FRONT!

TAXI TACTICS

(A red-bearded taxi driver wearing a hat and suspender ring on his ear tried to get a taxi by lying down in the middle of the street—New York. Photo: Erich Lessing.)

By MIRIAM TANE

When in New York as a New Yorker does not mean to carry a yellow cab, then walk, baw! baw!

To take you on your way to work with a many-hair, need to roll cab, but that's outside in the sidewalk was a machine.)

From: "New York"

SUGAR WHITE

The history of the women's movement is a play in three acts—with the third act as yet, unwritten.

The first act takes place in the late eighteenth century when women of the working class, driven by lack of factory work, fortunes in our factories in the first.

The industrial revolution drove women to the streets, but these women forced the women of the powerlessness which they pretended in the organized strength of the mostly completely manufactured labor movement,produce important reforms and significant legislation—and for the first time in history posed the question of women's status in society in a constructive and politically conscious way. It involved women of other classes only to the extent that it extended the implications on humanitarian grounds. But, basically, it was a working women's movement devoted to working women's rights.

The second act was totally different in character, although the motivation sprung from the same of the industrial revolution. The working-class wife traditionally considered the source of her husband's breadwinner and found some resources in them for the members of her family. Now, forced to perform some tasks that the husband refused to do, and had to find some ways to make them work. In some cases, she took over many of the household tasks of the woman of the middle class, who, using fewer materials, for iron and glass, had to adapt the housework of the power workers, and, like them, engage in dress-making, laundry, cooking, and other accomplishments of good and useful arts.

You Got a Future, Kid!—Follow Me!

POST-WAR AMERICA

Henry Christman, who was born on a farm in upstate New York State, and is a color and recognition, the heroism and resourcefulness of men, years to give their lives for the battle against the powers of the commonwealth. With infinite love, respect and care, Christman has dug into the story's truths, reconstructed our courageous leaders, of a forgotten day and re-created the story of how the people of the United States could talk into the problems that continue to confront us today.

The tendency of revolts persists—and the syndicalists and communists remain together dead. The anti-revolutionists, like always, are united in all ages and the men who lead the good fight are prone to be detractors of other ages. The names of Voger, Retter and Lysaght and others are mentioned here. Smith A. "Big Thunder," Bishop, centenarians of the party, are mentioned. The story of the tyranny of the patriarch, the family, and the landlords is told with words that bring the story to life.

The thinking of liberation toward the women of the mainstream of American life, it must.

The political climate in which the women's movement is developing is a complex one, influenced by a variety of social, economic, and political factors. The women's movement is not a monolithic entity, but rather a collection of different groups and organizations with different goals and strategies. The movement for women's rights has a long history, and has evolved over time. The experiences of the past have shaped the present, and continue to influence the future. The women's movement is a dynamic and ever-changing force, and is constantly adapting to new circumstances and challenges. The movement is not without its challenges, and faces many obstacles in its efforts to achieve its goals. However, despite these challenges, the women's movement continues to grow and expand, and is a powerful force for change and progress. The women's movement is a reflection of the changing times, and is an important part of the larger struggle for justice and equality.
Dinners, Lectures Feature Social Activities of District

Dinners and discussions of a varied nature, commemorating a number of social and educational occasions, have taken place recently among the locals and affiliates of the Southwest District.

A dinner in honor of Wave Tobin, who is leaving on an ILGWU course in Hawaii, was held at the Kansas City Joint Board, of which Mr. Tobin is a member, on March 21, at the Midland Hotel. Among the members of the Joint Board, officers of the locals and a group of northeast members were present.

At a dinner honoring the educational committee of Local 288, Yarnland, Mo., on March 12, the committee outlined an elaborate program for the spring educational activities of the members.

Valera Kern will discuss labor and world events at the Monday night regular meeting of the executive board of Local 354, St. Louis.

On March 14 the membership of Local 286, Pontiac, Ill., held its annual St. Patrick's Day party at which all the girls were the greatest guests.

The educational committee of Local 286, Pontiac, Ill., has prepared for a dance to be held on April 4 at the "Tips" recitation center.

Michael Frankenstein, manager of the Pontiac Joint Board, has added "Racial and Cultural Awareness" to the curriculum of the school.

A dinner honoring the outgoing executive board of Local 354, Dal- las, was held on March 15. The annual band trip of the Dallas locals will be held on April 7.

K.C. CLASS STUDIES LABOR-MANAGEMENT

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A course in applied psychology and management, sponsored jointly by the Kansas City locals of the ILGWU, was inaugurated on March 8 with a gathering at the Phillips Hotel in that city.

The student body attending the course consists of production managers, shop chippers and production shop committees. At the inaugural meeting they heard talks by representatives of the union and management.

The trainers of the course have been designated by the University of Kansas. The classes will meet on Monday nights for 15 weeks.

Study 48-Hour Week

A labor-management conference of the Minneapolis clock and drum industries on March 7 discussed ways and means of operating the 48-hour workweek promulgated by the War Manpower Commission.

Enlarged Premises in Dallas Lead to Nightly Activities

The educational activities of the Dallas Joint Board are in full swing, reports Velma McGee, educational director. She adds that the small premises has become a moving ball which is used nightly for meetings.

Negro choir rehearsals and farmers' meetings are also scheduled in the coming weeks. The Negro choir is thrilling and will also sing at the next union meeting.

Miss McGee also reports that the Dallas lecture program is benefitting from.

St. Louis Halls Paid Vacations

S'WEST LOCALS HOLD INTERIM ELECTIONS

Recent interim elections in the Southwest have resulted in the designation of the following members for important local union posts:

Margaret Walker and Mary Lee Hill, executive board members.

Local 200, Henderson, Ky.

Mary Clinton, executive board member, Local 205, Loushina, Mo.

Marella Koch, secretary, and Anna Mae Jackson, executive board member, Local 376, Wells- ville, Ill.

Kate Crouch, educational director, Local 354, Troy, Mo.

Patsy Reddick, president, Mrs. Parkinson, sergeant-at-arms and Ruby Smullin, executive board member, Local 378, Harrisburg, Ill.

Irma McKenzie, secretary, Local 183, Painesville, Ohio.

Lois Howard, president, Dallas Joint Board.

Ruth Schmitt, secretary, Local 183, Painesville, Ohio.

Phoebe Hill, Local 410, Peoria, Ill.

To Get ILG Local Birth Certificate

Among the garment workers of Winona, Minn., who have applied to the General Office for a local charter are "left to right" Alice Negri, Helen Smith, Anna Dinkin, William Swenson, treasurer, and Bertha Shugar, recording secretary.

K.C. Members Enjoy Art, Dance Course; Mt. Vernon Active

From Kansas City, Mamie Tubbo- lson, educational director, returns to her mother's home in Mt. Vernon, Ill., to report that the local's educational program is nearing completion. The fact that she is going through a slack period, although no improvement in the situation is expected. The bowling team that just made a successful showing in a league tournament and combined lecture-entertainment programs are regularly held.

The local's barbeque will be held at the Mt. Vernon Community Center.

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**Fall River Members at General Office**

**Gingold in Fall River On Manpower Survey**

Director David Gingold visited the Fall River offices of the fall River Regional of the Fall River Regional Act on March 18 where he met with the union staff and discussed the immediate manpower and material problems among the workers in the Fall River Health Center.

**UNION CONFIRMED IN OESTREICHE PLANT**

The Albert Oestreich Co., Philadelphia, Pa., a machine, jobbing and die-making company, has been confirmed by the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board and has been granted a thirty-day period within which to negotiate a contract.

The union, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has been designated by the workers of the company as their bargaining agent.

**Gray Into Khaki**

The cost of living, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports, has increased 1.6 per cent in average food prices during the month ending January 13, 1945. The rate of increase is the highest since December, 1944. The figures show that fruits and vegetables have increased 4.5 per cent, eggs, 1.5 per cent, and milk, 1.6 per cent. The cost of living has increased 15.2 per cent since December, 1943, and 8.8 per cent since February, 1944.

**Barbara Gray of Lowell Mass., who only a short time ago was singing in the Local 250 chorus, now marches with the Ruby Slippers of Miami.**

**A. J. TOWER ORDERED TO DEAL WITH ILGWU**

The National Labor Relations Board on March 23 ordered the A. J. Tower Co., Boston, Mass., to cease and desist from refusing to remain collectively with the ILGWU. It is reported by Jack Nalier, New York labor, that the order was a matter of consequence.

**12 FIRMS MUST PAY OVERTIME AFTER 35, SAYS NATIONAL WLB**

Twelve firms in the cotton garment industry area which are in contractual relations with the New York Dress Joint Board have been ordered by the national War Labor Board to correct early today for failure to pay time and one-half overtime rates for all hours in excess of seven hours a day and 35 hours a week.

**Herbert I. ILGWU members about to board the bus that took them to the Rhoads home.**

Winn 50th ILGWU members at Local 345, Herkimer, N. Y., recently decided to do a good turn for the war effort by purchasing a Rhoads home in Herkimer.

**McKettrick Plants All Signing Paets**

All contracts covering the nine plants of the McKettrick-Williams-Walden-King Group, Inc., of the Cotton Garment Department of the United States, have been signed by the Labor Board. The pact includes a market price adjustment for predisposed wage adjustments for the present year and an extension of this year's labor contract.

The contracts provide for a bargaining agreement to be signed by the company and the ILGWU, which constitutes the agreement to be signed at each individual plant.
Local 17 Votes War Chest Tax

A call to convoke with the recent decision of the membership of Local 17, Closet Operaters, to levy a 40¢ tax on all members has been issued by Manager Benjamin Kaplan. The tax, voted as a safeguard to meet post-war emergencies, will be paid in two installments of 25¢ each, the second payment to be made next season. Chairmen, in charge of collecting the tax, will issue receipt stamps.

The executive board of Local 17 recently forwarded resolutions on pending legislation to Albany, N.Y., and they put its weight behind the move to stop the Youngstown Steel strike, which would have endangered the obligations of certain employers to the state's unemployment insurance fund. The second bill criticized by the Local 17 executive board was aimed at repealing provisions granting workers two hours off for voting purposes on Election Day. Both bills were defeated in the legislature.

Local 98 Signs Up 4 More Plants; 100 Get Rise, Vacation

The campaign of the Local 98, Roberted Noveltys, to bring new workers into the automobile industry under union control is making steady progress, according to Manager Daniel Neeley, who reports that four more plants have recently signed collective bargaining agreements with the union.

Agreements have been signed with the Elky Novelties, the Deben, the Tabletop, T.V., all in Manhattan, and the B. Shapir store in the Bronx.

About 160 workers are employed in the three plants. They have gained standard union conditions, which include provisions for an increase in wages and vacations with pay at the four stops.
New Goals in Industry

The following article by Eric A. Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, is a digest of the lecture "As Employees Look at Trade-Unions," which he delivered as a part of the recently concluded 1945 ILGWU Officers' Institute in New York City.

If people, after achieving a complete victory, have two passionate desires, it is to make more money and get more time to enjoy it.

By peace abroad, the American people mean a way to prevent their young men from carrying the burden of war anywhere except in the battle lines on whose shoulders they have put the burden of peace; they mean conditions that produce high levels of production, employment, and wages.

Our people realize that neither of these goals is attainable if there are demobilization, layoffs and fears abroad, or widespread strikes and industrial strife at home.8

Unity the Key

Yet the world is caught in a chain of interests and hatred. There are wars among nations; conflicts among groups within each nation; misunderstandings even among some of our friends all over the world. For this reason, the key to our time, whether at home or abroad, is unity. It is the word that symbolizes the one great hope for a decent, peaceful, prosperous experience for the future of the people, not only in America but everywhere in the world.

The great miracle in human relations has derived from the fact that we tend to emphasize the differences and overlook the common interests. Hall of the suffering and the horrors that flow from conflict could be annihilated if we made a deliberate and conscientious effort to create areas of agreement before attempting to cope with the difficulties beyond those areas.

For Economic Democracy

We all want to be free. We write economic democracy as well as political democracy. How can we have what we shall all want to attain? We must unite in the productive, creative forces of our nation. But what has this unity of purposes to do with producing high levels of employment, production and wages at home?

One step in the beginning. We must do more. Everyone, regardless of his economic position, must feel that he can sell the product of any enterprise he works in. In other words, it's the employees who are the highest wage-earners.

How are we going to stimulate this? Not by the same products at the same prices. Only by making better and better products at lower prices, so that the same dollars will buy more and better goods than before.

Teampower Tactics

How are we going to make better and better goods at lower and lower prices? Only by accepting the principle of sound costing; only by making that the underpinning of the三个 aims of a manufacturer to assure the greatest possible welfare for employees, the company, and the consumer.

Maryland Mermaids Make Merry

The ILGWU Swimming Class meets at the Baltimore YMCA pool every Thursday evening for instruction and games. Here are Jackie Kaufman of Baltimore, Baltimore educational director; Agnes Temnelevitz; Gertrude Robinson and instructor Edith Barin.
SPRING BRINGS HOPE

All through the ages the coming of spring has brought hope to mankind. The ancient Greeks celebrated spring as the return of Persephone, the Goddess of Flowers, to earth after her captivity in a dark and damp world. Spring is the reassertion of an ancient myth which appears in the folklore of many prehistoric peoples. Persephone is kidnapped by the god Hades and a yearly ritual is forced to spend four months of each year underground with her. When spring comes, the sun grows cold the plants die and the animals huddle together. The returning Persephone is liberated by her captor and returns to earth. Some wonder that early man should have hoped for spring food supply which consisted of wild berries, roots and seeds disappeared over the winter. His only shelter against hard winter was a cave with a single wind-hewn, made of branches of trees. It was not until man had learned how to use tools which would build adequate houses that he could withstand the prevailing effect of each season. He was not until man had learned how to farm, raise animals, and store his food supply that the threat of seasonal starvation was reduced.

Song of Spring

Spring is still a season of hope. To the farmer in the cornfields spring begins as he runs to his farm, seeds begin to rear into the ground. Meetings break through the earth, buds burst open into tiny leaves. Birds swoop and sing as they find their ancient haunts with which to build their nests. It is spring. Nature is alive. The air is fresh and still and the spring peeper keeps repeating his unmusical call to all the world. "Spring is here. Spring is here."

The first warmth warms the sun the bear claws out of its den. The slow smile slowly enjoying the luxury of its freedom. The chicken leaves the winter to do the things that he has learned how to do. And the earth begins to search for the state. Everywhere spring means life breaking forth against cold and conflict.

The coming of spring means hope, life, escape from the cold. It means escape for man, escape for animals and escape for plants. It means escape from the cold and the attainability that the earth of spring offers a new ray of hope, a second chance for life.

The coming of spring brings hope to the people of the world. Millions of springs have come and

Laurit, Co-ops Link to Bar Sapping Workers Dollars

Collaboration between the labor and cooperative movements is believed to have reached the most practical basis yet attained as a result of the Co-ops and Labor Conference on Organization held in Waukegan, Ill., last month. Both AFL and CIO leaders and labor spokesmen declared that development of these movements is a "most vital" problem in the solution of labor problems.

A further keynote of the conference was cooperation between urban and rural and urban America into closer relationship. The conference is to provide a summer conference to "help each other closer across the board to a better understanding of individual worker problems and protect them against exploitation. Both co-ops and labor spokesmen agreed that the standard of living of the "common people".

Apple Glut Spoils

As Average Family Sees Applesauce

Apple growers have become so abundant as to overwhelm large-scale loss through spoilage last year. The gluttony of some apple growers, some of the better types are scarce. According to the Apple Growers Association, one of the reasons for this shortage is due to the increased buying power of farmers, who are already selling a surplus of apples to stock at the beginning of the season. In the same year, the majority of workers are workers by necessity, but to accomplish this purpose and likewise to such extent as the black market, labor will have to reduce the wages of workers who are men and women in the household, that the government must take a vital step.

One is to strengthen and extend the Price Control Act, the other is to work out a plan of the procurement of enough food to feed the people, in the nation's interest to try to build up the nation's food production for the future. Government officials are responsible for the agricultural resources are scarce. Unless these things are honestly examined we must be in our nation's interest to try to build up the nation's food production for the future, government officials are responsible.
Negotiations for renewal of the collective agreements in the coast and brassiere industry, delayed because of preoccupation with WPB Order M-386, are now about to be concluded. An agreement has been reached in the union and the employers are expected to sign it this week.

As previously reported, the union demands include raises for workers, better health and welfare benefits, and an increase in hours. The employers are reluctant to grant these demands, fearing it will lead to higher wages and prices.

Exemplary Courage

The New York Legislature, which adjourned last week, chided up, on the whole, a fairly good legislative record. Of the many bills passed, the most notable are those relating to wages and hours, the New York City workers' compensation law, and the bill establishing a State Board of Education.

The New York State Medical Society has recently addressed a letter to Governor Dewey regarding the proposed state health insurance program. They express concern about the cost and feasibility of such a program.

Chicago Relief Fund

Detroit, Michigan, has dedicated its efforts to helping its citizens during the Great Depression. The city has started a Relief Fund to aid those in need. The fund has received generous donations from local businesses and citizens.

Indiana Progress

The IU Extension has been successful in its efforts to distribute farm produce to the local community. The program has been well-received, and many families have benefited from it.

Stan Nowak, Air Hero, Rising to Cutter in Milwaukee ILGWU 'Reconversion' Plan

Stan Nowak, a veteran of World War II, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his bravery in combat. He is now preparing to return to his job as a cutter in the Milwaukee ILGWU 'Reconversion' Plan, which aims to help veterans transition back into civilian life.

(More text and images follow)
ANNUAL WAGE PLANNING

President Roosevelt’s recent order, directed to the advisory board of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, for a comprehensive study of a guaranteed annual wage, coincides with a report issued this month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor on the same subject. Both appear to indicate that the guaranteed wage plan idea is definitely on the march forward.

The President’s order is in direct sequence to a recommendation for such a study made last November by the War Labor Board after it had refused to make any move on the issue. The war-time movement for wage stability, it will be remembered, was a part of the program for freedom of contract, which is perhaps the most vital economic and social objective of our times.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics study also finds that “to an increasing extent, unions are seeking job security for their members through the inclusion of wage or price guarantees in their contracts with employers. Limited as they are, the existing unemployment-provision guarantees represent a partial fulfillment of workers’ job security demands.”

Are annual wage guarantees feasible and practicable only when applied to an entire industry, or can they be carried out on a plant-wide or piece-meal basis? Before a single pattern of guaranteed wages applicable to all industry, or should varying patterns be sought for the different industries? Should the emphasis be laid on employment guarantees, specifying the number of weeks and hours to be provided, or on the amount of wages to be received annually? It is clear, even to the unmanned who are currently most interested in the guaranteed wage problem, that the volume of the country’s information on this subject is too slim to permit a definitive answer.

The President’s order for an all-sided study of annual wage plans falls squarely within this framework of augmented national interest in post-war employment planning. It is closely connected with the problems of reconversion and the transition from a war economy to a peace economy.” Our own union, at its last national convention in June, 1944, also directed the General Executive Board to “make a study of the question of a guaranteed annual wage in the various branches of the women’s garment industry and to prepare proposals for any action it may see fit to take in this matter.” The eight resolutions proposed at that convention on this subject indicate that our members are keenly concerned with guaranteed annual earnings as a decisive potential affecting their economic well-being.

THE RETAIL PRICE “FREEZE”

The Office of Price Administration set up on March 19 a new price order affecting retailers of clothing, furniture, textiles and other items. The new order—MPR-588—will freeze mark-ups on these commodities at their present level.

While it had been originally planned to issue the maximum average price Labor Board, speaking through its then chairman, William H. Davis, ties up this subject with the current national wage stabilization policy, or rather the wage-freeze policy, but it goes beyond that in saying: “A guaranteed annual wage is one of the main aspirations of the American worker; the art for continuation of employment, which is perhaps the most vital economic and social objective of our times.”

By M. D.

THERE’S NO WAY of telling where the $6 Million Jobs, as a national objective, will be kept up or cut back. When first brachced about a year ago, you will recall, the $6 Million Jobs idea was denounced as false as an issue, and as a measure of New Deal democracy or, at least, as an employment demand that never could come true.

But the pecky thought, obviously, caught on, especially after President Roosevelt adopted it as his own slogan for a job-creating policy in 1943. Last spring, the "illusion" of yesterday began stepping up to something that even "practical" people could reasonably see in the name of a program as a "reasonable" one, and frankly recorded their opinion that 86 Million Jobs would not run counter to economic needs and "unrest" of "free enterprise" — in fact, might help it. It is all so simple. Indeed, about $35 to $40 million workers would find jobs in the private industry, from 2 to 4 million would be drawn from new and old government jobs, while probably 25 million would be supplemented by the larger national armed forces — and there you have it.

As a climactic touch, some of the glitter for this long time issue even grew worse as the advantages of the 86 Million Jobs as a "pop-slog" visionary, they have now begun to twinkle under that is to say, where, they "job," "all get the 86 jobs, workers still think they jobs" — and is hawked off with a statistical speculator to the effect that America, with its 138,000,000 population, has a shorter housing period available.

If this time a climax should arise, that is supposed America will somehow be able to solve its employment problem. The average citizen’s reaction to this kind of stampede would probably amount to the following: "You fellows just get on the jobs. We’ll find the men to handle them."

The children are getting a beating in this war.

After three years of war, nearly 3,000,000 boys and girls of 14 through 17, almost a third of the total population of these ages, are engaged in full or part-time work. Widespread migration of boys, and to a lesser extent of girls, in the same age group, to work in war industry centers has caused a transient-youth problem that is the most serious problem that many of the women’s organizations encountered in the depression years of 1929 and 1932. Child labor is a very serious matter regulated by law or controlled by inspection, but it has assumed large proportions than ever.

But this melancholy aspect of child labor is not new. A United States War Children’s health organization, the program of four American women’s clubs, which are surveying industrial conditions, among whom there is our own Malta group, is well aware of the conditions which, he said, "It is the whole affair is being taken to the task of the children. Children of