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Justice (Vol. 27, Iss. 9)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)
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International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments
Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of Justice were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of Justice shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of Justice.
**GEB Resolution Urges Higher Pay Minimums In U. S. Wage-Hr. Law**

Despite general increases in earnings, due chiefly to wartime factors, it is an incontestable fact that we still have in the national industrial set-up millions of wage-earners whose basic pay is limited to the rates fixed by the Fair Labor Standards Act and whose purchasing power is correspondingly low.

When the war is over, it may generally be expected that the "take home" pay of labor, even in the higher-wage brackets, will shrink as overtime and special incentive earnings disappear. The impact of the transition period on the low-paid workers, most of whom are not protected by trade union affiliation, is bound to be even more severe. This clearly presents a serious threat to the entire post-war economy as it is apparent that adequate mass purchasing power will be essential in the post-war period in order to maintain full employment and a sound economy.

That the present minimum of 40 cents an hour under the Wage and Hour Law does not afford such safeguards is quite evident. The action of the War Labor Board in raising the wage rates for these underpaid workers to 55 cents an hour is an admission of a urgent need, which the labor movement has repeatedly emphasized. It is our firm conviction, nevertheless, that this wage raise by the WLB, which is effective for the duration only, is insufficient to furnish the barest necessities of a livelihood for the masses of our people, or to sustain mass purchasing power in peacetime.

We therefore recommend that the Fair Labor Standards Act be amended to raise the minimum per hour rate to 70 cents at once, with a stipulated increase of the minimum to $1 per hour within a prescribed period. Industry committees functioning under the Act, moreover, should be given the right to advance the minimum during the period at their discretion, at intervals desirable within their judgment. We urge the American Federation of Labor to sponsor and to exert its full influence for the amendment of the Fair Labor Standards Act to that effect.

*W.Va. Reliance Goes ILGW By 2 to 1 After 10 Years*

The huge Sterling-Reliance plant in Huntington, W. Va., has finally been organized after a campaign lasting nearly a decade. Word of the winning victory sent by the Maryland-Virginia District in a National Labor Relations Board election was received as "Justice" went to press.

In a three-way contest held on April 27, the ILGWU rolled up 38 votes against 31 cast for the United Construction Workers' Union which had entered the contest a few weeks before the election. The challenged votes numbered 14, while 148 workers voted for neither union; no votes were void. The ILGWU then received one vote more than the other three tallies combined.

The Sterling-Reliance campaign was directed by Vice Pres. Charles Kreidler and was supervised by District Manager Angela Ryabchik. Indications of the possibility of victory first became apparent when ILGWU Organizer Irwin Zaff arrived in Huntington several weeks ago and, with the aid of AFL Organizer Joseph F. Lewis and a committee of 10 workers in the plant, began the final campaign which has now resulted in an outstanding ILGWU triumph despite powerful opposition.

The "Mighty 7th" War Loan Is On---Buy Bonds
"State of Union" Surveyed at GEB Meet

For the second time since the ILWU met in convention in Boston, Mass., in June, 1944, the union's General Executive Board was summoned by Presi-
dent Benjamin F. Martin to take "the state of the union," to take inventory of working conditions in the women's garment industry and to help shape the union's policy and tactics for the period following the fast-approaching V-E Day.

This time, however, was different. In the Monday morning, April 23, at the Alhambra Hotel in San Francisco, where the meeting was held, it was a women's al-
ready had been in the same.

In Roosevelt's Memory

At the outset, the meeting rose and stood in silence for one minute in memory of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States from 1933 to 1945, during the early days of the organization.

The meeting opened with standing pro-
dress at GEB meetings on the East Coast, was taken up with the re-

"Spotlight" Will Resume

The "Spotlight," our regular survey of national and interna-
tional labor and economic news from this and foreign sources, will resume reporting for the district or com-
center under his jurisdiction, and thus rounding out the extensive pro-

Mission to England

Among the numerous subjects in-

"Annie, an officer of the New York

Claw Joint Board for many years and a presi-
dent of the ILWU during the years 1940-1945, was present.

"They are in memory of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, Presi-
dent of the United States from 1933 to 1945, during the early days of the organization.

Impact of M-368

This order, issued by the two agencies in the "injunction for purpose of prohibiting the importation of goods from abroad which are in violation of the terms and conditions of the order issued by the Secretary of Commerce," has been in effect for the past two years.

The ILWU endorsed the "State of Union" Survey at a meeting held in San Francisco on April 23, 1948.
$1,000,000 ILGWU Relief Funds Allocated

Members’ Day Wage Donations Given to Major Causes; Red Cross $300,000—USO, Russia, Italy $75,000 Each

(Continued from preceding page)宁

On this day last year was chosen as

local a stronger bargaining posi-

tion. The local is now planning to

fight a long and determined battle

for war relief. The recently estab-

lished ILGWU war relief councils at

Chicago, Greensboro, declared, was

beginning its own strictly successful

For Local 360, Brooklyn Workers, Jerry Froehlich, president, was in-

vited to London, England, for a two

month membership, although one of

the outstanding features of the

fast acquiring a sound trade union

status, as evidenced by their

contributions to the ILGWU 1943

War Relief Fund and to the “March

of Dimes” drive. The local is plann-

ing to confer with the associated

seminaries in the near future, re-

porter said.

EOT and Cotton Garment

Harry Wunder, manager, of the

Eastern Out-Of-Town Department,

pointed out that the present wage

raise cases filed by the EOT with the

WLB and ILGWU have in each case

won while eight cases are still

pending. The problem raised by the

present shift of workers by the

War manpower Commission from

garment to other occupations has

thus far caused little trouble, he in-

sisted. All ILGWU area are covered by

the new Dress Industry plan, ex-

plained.

For the Clock Division of the

EOT, the minimum wage plan for the

spring working season, with pros-

pects of maintaining the same

wage level, is expected to produce

somewhat stronger, owing largely to

uncertainty over the effects of M-

388-B, he said. The EOT voted to

awards the ILGWU 1943 War Relief

Funds. Asked the ILGWU relief fund

said, was an impressive indication of

The Cotton Garments De-

partment’s report, presented by Direc-

tor David C. Henry, was reported

on more than a dozen matters of

other things, a membership increase

of 2,000, bringing the total to 60,000

from several knitted underwear mill

workers and the reorganization

of the National Textile Workers

AFL. Conflicts with the Textile

Cotton Garments Co., Harrington, Pa.,

and the Pittsburgh Patrioteers in

Johnstown, Pa., involving NLRI

disputes, still continue, O’Connell

reported.

In the Maryland-Virginia-Del-

aware area, O’Connell reported that

two new locals were recently

formed, one in Petersburg, Va., and

the other in Elizabeth City, N. C., and

Winston-Salem, N. C., and that organiza-

tion work is proceeding in Roanoke

and Salem, Va., and in Selma, Ala.

in Huntington, W. Va. Most of

these areas are suffering from

health and vacation benefits.

The Boston situation has pro-

gressed and the ILGWU is working

with Philip Kramer in his report. Week-

end work remains a bone of contention

in the two plants. The ILGWU piece-work

conference continues to meet, he

explained.

Philadelphia: "Jeb Security"

The security of employment clause in agreements with several

Philadelphia firms, notably the

Philadelphia department of

Philadelphia Footwear was

designated to grant certain stipu-

lations for workers over the annual period.

It is understood that the provision will

give the ILGWU a plan on the

ground that it was "not a part of

the wage agreement," reported

March 12, the Philadelphia Dress

Industry News. As a result of the

launching of a liberty ship, the

ILGWU negotiated in the

name of the Philadelphia

department for a work stoppage

purchasing the goods of those

firms of that city, he said.

The ILGWU scored an import-

ant gain when it won a 15-

cent weekly increase in wages for

workers in the cloak and dress

shops, including cutters. Abraham Lincoln was shopping for

erection of 4 cent per month by the industry

dress industry in the

area, he said. Relief and medical

benefit plan now occupies the central

attention of Cleveland, he said.

Midwest and Southwest

For the Chicago-Midwest-District

area, John McComb, said a report

reputed the fact that piece-workers

have received greater benefits from

wage increases than shop workers

shops.

Blair’s in the Columbus, Ohio area

but is not viewing M-388 with "une-

usual alarm," hoping that conditions

in the industry will be improved to

satisfaction of the garment indus-

try and the workers, he said.

In the Cleveland district, a

number of members to both the ILGWU 1943

War Relief Fund, to which they

contributed over $45,000, and to the

Red Cross Chapter, to which the

ILGWU contributed over $15,000.

Edward S. Meyer, president of the

Southwest District, described the employ-

ment situation in that area as

"not very encouraging." In the

sweltering heat and other disad-

vantages, the ILGWU has been

working on the question of wage

violations, and is carrying on

organizing drives in Dallas, Tex.,

and Winton, Minn.

Southwest and East Coast

In the Southeast, John H. Martin,

president of the ILGWU, said that

the industry in that area has been

hit by the depression as severely

as anywhere else in the country.

Board of Trade meeting planned

for last month, the ILGWU

reported that wage increases

obtained through the WLB were

generally satisfactory. Martin

said that there was no evidence of

charges being found against

the union.

Protest in the Pacific Coast, Louie

Levy reported heavy production

activity in all branches. A slackening of the tempo of work is not,

arrested, but the latest assurance

that workers and shop owners

are not being penalized for in-

cluding "essential" garments appears to have

been made by the government,”

he said. The recent agreement

with the government on the

sociation of Los Angeles, affecting

some 2,000 workers in 32 fac-

tories. This agreement covers the

vestment and health fund, and also

the establishment of a permanent

section of the local industry.

Levy said the agreement was

given by the ILGWU in Califor-

nia in the campaign to defeat a

vicious attack on the ILGWU by

Consolidated, known as Proposi-

tion 224.

In Canada, where Bernard Siouci,

Louis D. Langer and Ham Her-

stein were in the field, the ILGWU

made three main garment markets—Mon-

treal, Toronto and Winnipeg re-

spectively—the garment employment

situation was very favorable, it was

reported. The collective dress contract was re-

signed while in Winnipeg, a new cloak

agreement now provides for vac-

ation with pay to all union mem-

bers. The contract with the Janti-

Knitting Mills of Vancouver, B. C., was renewed recently.

ILGWU Finances

Before the ILGWU meeting came
to a close, President Kennedy said

that he had placed a public some advance information on the

ILGWU financial status as of

Jan. 1, 1945, and covering the year

1944. A few of these items follow:

Total income of the General Of-

fice of the ILGWU for the past

year was $213,822, as reported by

the corporate officers, approximately

the per capita income assumed to be

$213,822.

Income of over expenditures

in 1944 was $1,965,452.

This fund was used for the

amount for the year amounted to

$77,188.

Total cash assets of the General

Office of the ILGWU for the year

year amount to $1,965,452.

For the year ending Dec. 31, 1945,

does not include all assets not in

The ILGWU Death Benefit Fund, which

of the ILGWU, was $5,133. The cash assets consist mostly of govern-

ment bonds. It was pointed out.

War Loan Drive

The ILGWU, like other war work,

was a success. It was reported

that the ILGWU sold $753,000 of

War Bond, and that more than

30,000 of the bond were sold by

ILGWU members.

Let’s All Support “THE MIGHTY 7TH”

War Loan Drive

BUY BONDS — BIG!

through the National War Fund to:

United Service Organizations

China War Relief

British War Relief

Holland Relief

Other United Nations Relief

American Red Cross (1943-1945)

Jewish War Relief

Jewish Family Services

Pro Trade Union Fund

COT

TDA

Hil Curtin (Palestine Labor Federation)

Miscellaneous war relief agencies

Protestant, Catholic and other

TOTAL

$800,000

$50,000

$100,000

$100,000

$100,000

$200,000

$150,000

$100,000

$50,000

$50,000

$500,000

$800,000

$1,000,000

GEB Hails United Nations As Security Parity Opens

The General Executive Board of the ILGWU governs the United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco and extends to it heartfelt wishes for complete success.

"View this historic gathering as a momentous opportunity for the American people to play their role in the shaping of the future of the world," President Kennedy said.

The ILGWU has formally endorsed the United Nations and has contributed $800,000 to support the UN. This is a very important contribution to the success of the Conference and I am sure that it will be the last step in the fulfillment of the American people's mission in the world," Kennedy said.

If we are to achieve the peace and security that we all desire, we must have a strong world organization that is capable of ensuring peace and security for all nations. The United Nations is the world organization that can achieve this. We must support the United Nations in every way we can."

Universe House Space Gone Until August; Stage Stars Signed

Record-breaking registrations at the Specialty Business Week by Manager Al Atlas, who announced last week that there would be no reservations available for children under 12. Single reservations, both regular and deluxe, are available from Aug. 10 through Aug. 24. The event is expected to be a tremendous success.

Universe House entertainment highlights for the upcoming season include "Alka-Seltzer," "Laughing Room Only," "Beverley Sills in the Sound," "Benjamin of the Metropolitan Opera Company," and "Saxophone C."
German Workers Share
Guilt in Nazi Massacres

The second anniversary of the heroic uprising of the Jews of Warsaw against the Nazis was commemorated on April 19 with the opening of a pictorial exhibition at the Vanderbilt Gal-

The exhibition will remain until May 18. It is open to the public daily, except Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

by the Jewish Labor Com-

munity, who is the treasurer of the Jewish Labor Com-

munity, who was a speaker at the opening. His ad-

dress on the occasion was as fol-

5,000,000 Martyrs

The Nazi barbarians have de-

stroyed 5,000,000 Jews, 8,000,000 disarmed and defenseless people, and in all the young girls in their tens and hundreds who people who had lived peacefully for years in the cities and villages of Poland. These millions were for-
mowed down in the most savage and inhuman manner for no other reason than that the fact of their existence was an offense to Nazi Germany.

In America, we see the horror of this crime. We see the ghastly face of terrorism, the gigantic conspiracy against the life and liberty of the people. We see the Ukraine, where the Jews are being exterminated, where the Jews are being destroyed, where the Jews are being murdered, where the Jews are being driven out of their homes and their property. We see the horrible spectacle of the extermination of the Jews, where the Jews are being murdered, where the Jews are being driven out of their homes and their property.

Wounded Vets Enjoy Gifts of Local 155; VACATION PLANS DUE

When a committee from Local 155, Kindergarten Workers, recently returned from a trip to the United States, presented a gift to a wounded veteran, along with three others for all veterans, the committee was comprised of seven veterans, who were representatives of the veterans.

A letter received by Local 155 from the veterans, signed by all of them, read: "We want to thank you for the wonderful care you are giving to your own country and to your own city. We are proud to be members of your organization and to be associated with you in this great work."
Paving the Way to Peace—with Bonds

Hyman Geller, chairman of the David Ellen shop, shows business agent Fannie Jokel (left, bottom) $10,000 worth of Seventh War Loan bonds pledged by employees as letter box money.

Jr. Bd. Speeding Action for Vacation Payments in June

A special staff of 15 clerks has been set up to work for vacation checks for 60,000 New York dressmakers in time to begin distribution on June 21, announced by Nathan M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board. These clerks make out the checks on the basis of the agreements now coming in from the shops. According to the rules of the Board, union operating under the collective agreement now in force in the metropolitan dress industry, all dress workers except cutters, unless otherwise employed, are entitled to receive a sum of money covering one week's vacation every June. This sum varies according to years of service and ranges from $23 for pliers to $234 for pressers. In addition to their payments, the Board provides a medical aid plan for these women, including hospitalization. All of these benefits are covered by employees in proportion to their payrolls.

Vacation payments will be allotted for the ‘first time this June. In preparation for the distribution, the Membership Committee of the Joint Board last week made out and sent registration forms to all shops. The shop chairmen were to return to the office these forms to the names and addresses of all union workers, except cutters, their craft, their local and the membership number. Department clerks were then charged with the task of verifying the names and addresses to make sure that no correction had been made to the rolls since last June. The chairmen were notified that payment could be made only to those who have not been members of the union for at least one year and that the registration form used last year must be used again this year. Each shop will be paid on the basis of the number of workers in its employ, the number of whom are members of the union.

Census Care Urged

By Isidor Mandell, vice-president of the board, in charge of the census. The census committee of the board has been given the task of making sure that the census is taken, and that all employees are included.

Nina Workers Give Chairman War Bond

When Max Ratner, shop chairman of the Nina Dress Co., 452 East 26th Street, came to the office at 12 p.m. last Saturday, he was greeted by a large group of employees who had gathered to present him with a war bond. The bond was presented to him by Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ratner, who are members of the board of directors of the company. The bond was purchased by the employees of the company in order to show their support for the war effort.

Let's All Support

"The Mighty 7th" War Loan Drive

Buy Bonds—Big!

The Let's All Support "The Mighty 7th" War Loan Drive, which is being carried on throughout the country, has been successful in New York. The campaign has been supported by the New York Dress Joint Board, which has contributed $500,000 to the fund. The check was presented to Mr. George P. White, chairman of the Board of Governors of the United States Steel Corporation, at a special meeting of the board held at the United States Steel Corporation building in New York City. The check was accompanied by a letter from Mr. White, expressing his appreciation of the contributions of the New York dressmakers to the war effort.

58,000 N. Y. Dressmakers Avenge Faith in Fallen Leader by Intensified Action

In the presence of military heroes returning from the battlefronts, New York's 58,000 dressmakers, through their 2,000 shop chairmen assembled at Manhattan Center on April 17, pledged to carry forward the banner of freedom raised by President Franklin D. Roosevelt by giving unswerving support to all phases of war-time activity until victory.

The whole atmosphere of the meeting, one of the mostmemorable ever held by the Dress Board, was pervaded by a deep sense of sorrow over the passing of President Roosevelt and an overwhelming spirit of renewed dedication to the task of completing the work he left unfinished.

The meeting opened with a speech of the late President delivered by General Manager Julius Hochman. The moment of silence in memory of the President, whose efforts had identified him closely with the ideals and in the world war and men and women, was broken only by the quiet singing of "America" in the audience.

But then, when the order guard was marched in from the hall, the 2,000 chairmen turned their attention to the tasks that still remain to be done.

Relief Record

Calling President Dinklage to the front of the stage, Chairman Minkoff presented him with a check for $50,000 as part payment for the dress workers' contribution to the ILGWU 1945 War Relief Fund. To represent the dress workers, President Dinklage emphasized the fact that it was the largest donation of its kind ever raised.

"I hold in my hand a symbol of America's spirit—$50,000, which cannot be measured by money or other material standards."
THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89
The Most Popular ITALIAN RADIO HOUR
Symphony Orchestra and Opera Singers of International Fame

Luigi Antonini
First Vice President, ILGWU, and national chairman of the local 89.

"From the words spoken by Marshal Tito a few days ago in Moscow it is now clear why Italy has encountered so much difficulty in obtaining a seat at the San Francisco Conference on the status of the Communist parties. It is now plain that certain powers want to steal Trieste and Istria from Italy.

"We must continue our discussions last week with Secretary of State Beidler, the day's conference with the delegation of the Communist party in Washington, in which we definitely understood that we could count on support of any other group whatsoever. We were reinforced in this belief by the Communists themselves. The previous day they entered into discussions with the Commission to boost their political claims, thus damaging the real interests of Italy. Marshal Tito in Moscow prevents the insinuation of these domestic Communist leaders of ours when he renewed Yugoslavia's demand for the annexation of Dalmatia and Istria.

AFL Aid Italy

Secretary Beidler immediately understood our point and the discussion degenerated into a further confusion on that score. It de- serves to be emphasized that while every one of our delegates did his best, to help the cause of the men who most strengthened our position was George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFL. He played a part in both by his presence and by his silence.

"Nevertheless, despite all of our efforts in Washington, the Communist Italian-language weekly announcing that Luigi Antonini was commission chairman of the delegation. What is true, Antonini was absent at that moment from the Constitutional Convention of the American Federation of Labor when the Communists were an- nounced as the Communist leaders of the organized labor movement.

Communists, the other members of the Joint Committee, were present whenever and whenever they were needed to be present. We gave for aid and assistance on occasion and conclusively to further the Improvement of the American and Italian people.

Communist Nuisance

According to the Communist weekly, Italy may soon longer expect a continuation of the war and it is said that those of us who pro- pounded the peace are Communists and that those who are Communists are indolent. In short, the Communists are doing their best to convince the American people that the same time they remain deaf to our repeated challenges to prove their sincerity by exerting their pressure on the people of Italy in the United States.

Thus we have put them on notice that the day is not far off when the effects of the Communists will be shown, and that the time will come to go to Moscow and fight against the British-American delegation.

Urze Rights for Free Italy

Part of the delegation of the Joint Committee on Italian Affairs which recently called on Secretary Beidler to ask that the conference be given a full democratic role in the building of an international peace structure. Left to right: Bertrand De Camp, vice chairman, Luigi Antonini, chairman of the Joint Committee on Italian Affairs, George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, Frank Garber, independent son of Italy, Generoso Pans, curator of the national Committee: Dr. Charles F. Eber, Evanston, Ill., and Sam Di Falco, New York City.
Unionize New Shops

**EOT Organizers Sign Up 2 More**

Unification of two new shops whose workers have joined their respective locals is announced by the EOT.

One is the Kingsfield House Co., Coralnie, L.I., which will be supervised by Local 50, under the guidance of the P. J. Young shop stewards. The other has joined the Greater House Association.

The other two are the Phoenix shop, Manor Vernon, N. Y., which has joined the Local Food Workers Association, and the Union for the production of Local 152, Manager William J. Reilly announces.

**Pact Talks Net $4.9% in Welfare**

Health and vacation benefits have been won on a weekly contribution of 4.9% of payroll by the employees provided in the agreement signed with the Townsend Manufacturing Co., Stanford, Conn.

This shop was organized recently with a pact that will remain in force for two years. Current contracts include negotiations with the Yolanda Dress Co., New Brunswick, N. J., for its loss of work, with both Local 50, in Connecticut, and Local 152, in New Jersey, respectively.

Capt. Kennedy's letter to O'Neill.

**Orons Is Thanked For Helping Army**

Leit Oron, EOT organizer for Local 157, South Norwalk, Conn., received the thanks of the Phillipsburg, N. J., shop steward and the workers for his "fine cooperation and assistance" in solving a problem that recently confronted the Procurement Division in that area.

When informed by the reporting officer of the Quartermaster Division that production of wartime forms was being delayed in certain fields, the local notified the shop steward of a number of unions in the area (for lack of a few workers needed in key posts, Oron was instructed, to promissarily arrange for the transfer of several IFO cases to another union). The shop steward refused.

"Clothing is vital to the soldier's health, his fighting ability and his combat. Denial from exposure is an enemy, the shop steward pointed out, not only weakness or our combat, but vital need to fill this immediate need of the county, which is determined to do its part in the war effort." The shop steward added.

**MILITARY LAW IS CONNECTED WITH ALF TRIUMPH**

Eight years of intensive work by the EOT has paid off in courts in both New York and New Jersey, where the Labor Board and the Alf were concerned with women's rights in the apparel industry. The former, under the terms of the major complaint that was filed in the New Jersey Labor Relations Board, will be a valuable instrument in establishing the working relations in the difficult period of peace that lies ahead.

In its content, the government complaint resembles, on a state basis, the features of the National Labor Relations Act. If confirmed, it will be entered. As a result, the state Labor Board will have reason to believe that the passage of the law will be upheld in the court of that state. The new statute will be administered by the state of New Jersey.

**Newark Red Cross Gets $3,000**

Aneded Tafrico, manager of Local 159, Newark, shows hand-producing a check for $1,000 to Mrs. 0.0. Bentley, treasurer of the Newark chapter of the Red Cross, in the presence of Mayor Vincent Murphy. Others in the group includes Sadie Reck, Herman Strode, Antonino Cicchelli and Meyer Elf. The check contained funds from the ILGWU, 1945 War Relief Fund and local donations.
WASHINGTON

WILL ALLEN

Special to "Justice"

SAN FRANCISCO

The great conference here to establish a world security organization is a wonderful study in double-talk. The only ones here who are talking in completely honest terms are the nearly 1,800 American differences...
Justice

Death Deemed

(Hiller says neg. Nazi who commits suicide is a deserter—News (first)

BY MIRIAM YANE

The Rest from Yane. Selected from “Yank” E.F., Dalton & Co., 1945

Many different kinds of reviews can be written about this fascinating volume. Its contents have been gleaned from the pages of the Yank, which is published in 15 different editions and is read by millions of American servicemen all over the world. Surmounting all other problems, Yank (without unknowns) obstacles in publishing, “Yank’s” staff gets the paper into the hands of the G.I. every week—and everywhere.

...also exclusively for and by soldiers and sailors. And it is written about anything that may interest them, and then, the subject matter that fills its pages is in large part but exclusively concerned with the daily life of the men in uniform.

...But these limitations have made it possible for Yank to be as real as life itself. Any army or navy or civilian source of misinterpretation. “Yank” is the home organ of the American G.I. in Europe as well as in the Pacific. All of us can understand Yank’s simplicity, talk about things in a plain, common sense way—look at the men, their容易 close acquaintances with the civilian.

Nevertheless, with only a minimal effort, the civilian reader can piece together all that is in Yank. This may be achieved through the events and the explanations provided in the text. Men on the front lines, the men in the final analysis, our own brothers, some of whom have been away from home longer than four years.

...And those who survive the moment of death will some day be breading for home again.

...For that day when all America answers—this book is the finest preparation. When the time comes for us to return back into our civilian world the men who have been out of it for so long, an understanding of what the servicemen will be able to do. In “The Rest from Yank,” those who are on parade offer a guide, for both the civilian reader’s entertainment and education, and the latter is more important. The hearts and habits of the servicemen are laid bare. Many books have attempted to bridge the gap between civilians and servicemen. But none of these has succeeded as well as this one, which almost entirely foregoes the usual military artifice and sophistication in favor of straightforward, unabashed narrative.

While all of the book is a remarkable vindication of what the men rather than of bolstering morale on the home front, there is a strong feeling that the book has been written to give the servicemen a little peace in their lives. The problems and the difficulties are not placed in an easy manner, but rather are pointed out and then a solution is given which is not always easy to put into practice.

The situation at the mills remains largely unchanged. The number of active workers has not increased, and the work is still done by mere human beings.

...Military requirements remain a question of the day and publishing.

The Federal Food and Agriculture Act of 1946 has done nothing to relieve the situation. Neither the United States nor the other countries has made any effort to relieve the situation. The only real solution seems to be the increased production of food and the development of new and better methods of handling food. This is a problem that must be considered in the planning of the future. The economic situation of the country is such that the people cannot afford to be idle. The only solution seems to be the increased production of food and the development of new and better methods of handling food.

For Complete Victory—One-Two-Three

President’s wife. Her voice must not be heard in national affairs. Set against the background of this tradition, Eleanor Roosevelt is seen in her true stature. As First Lady for more than 12 years she has succeeded, without ever professedly violating this national custom, in weakening it enough to make herself an independent force in the nation’s politics. At least one who has been accused of having an influence on the President or of compromising him politically.

This is no small achievement. With all the speeches she made, the columns she wrote, the TV programs she did, and the press conferences she held, the slighted incumbent might mark could have involved the President in serious political difficulties. Her opportunities to commit error were enormous. Yet her fact been her husband. In full public gait, might have had to choose between loyalty to his wife and the political necessity of repudiating her. Only a woman with complete command of tongue and pen could have kept this tree from danger.

According to tradition, the First Lady of the land is supposed to remember that she is really nothing more than her husband’s wife. Whether she sparkle like Dorothy Madison or pinch her palsy like Mary Todd Lincoln, she must realize that her title is merely a courtesy, shouldn’t politics be beyond her understanding, much less control. Then, how the dictates of custom, virtue can be found in whatever she does. If she is extravagant, she offends the White House. If she scrubs, her economy, as an example for the nation to follow. But in any case, she must be content to remain thus without resorting to complete anarchy.

She said surprisingly little during her years in the White House. Yet the nation knew all at once when she spoke, when she touched in every matter of national importance. The nation was always impressed as greatest, the meetings she addressed, the power of her associations of organizations working to improve the lot of the ordinary American. Le sine by what she said than by the company which she spoke, Eleanor Roosevelt’s themes were not policy, but social and economic. She was at the under. But at no time has she ventured to speak for the United States. She visited the Washington region and understood the things that upon its condition, there was no standard of appreciation. She was not the lady in waiting of her place. She seemed at home in the country.
The executive board of Local 372, Mount Vernon, Ill., met with a committee from Local 248, Chicago, Ill., on April 21 to discuss problems confronting employees of the Sherman Wash Works, foothold shop, Ben Dubicki, Milwaukee Joint Local 248 board manager, and A. H. R. Fulkerson, manager of the St. Louis Local 248 board, attended the conference. The information gathered at the meeting will be presented to the International Joint Board, which will act on the problems brought to its attention.

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The following is a list of the members of the Sherman Wash Works, foothold shop, Ben Dubicki, Milwaukee Joint Local 248 board manager, and A. H. R. Fulkerson, manager of the St. Louis Local 248 board, attended the conference.

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Justice

Streamlined Production Methods Studied
By Wm. Carter, Workers on Firm's Time

Biberman Workers Win 5% Increase From WLB

Basic rates for employees of Biberman Bros., in those plants which are under the jurisdiction of the WLB's New York and Vermont District Superintendents, has been increased 5% on group wage agreements recently awarded by a recent WLB Labor Board decision.

1200 at U.S.
Ask WLB nod

WLB Labor Board approval has been requested for the terms of the agreement that was recently reached between the ILGWU and the Korder Sportswear and the Donella Kniting Mills, which employ more than 1,200 workers in Irving, N.Y., in connection with the New York and Vermont District. The terms of the agreement include a $1.00 minimum wage and a 5-cent hourly increase for workers earning more than the minimum wage.

Although these increases are in line with recent WLB directives, it is pointed out that approval is not certain. The recomputaion date for the award is April 21.

WLB, which supervises one of the fastest-falling industries in the nation, has been faced with labor difficulties in the New York area since the beginning of the year. The recomputaion date for the award is April 21.

Management in both plants have been instructed by WLB to cease all discussions with the union pending the outcome of the recomputaion date.

ILGWU Wins Pact in Egypt Shop

A standard union pact has been signed with the Egypt Co. of Allentown, Pa., for which the union, Local 69, in bringing the firm to terms.

The agreement provides for a $1 increase in the minimum wage and a 10-cent raise in the minimum scale for the other workers in the shop. It is likewise called for an additional two and one-half days of legal holidays for the workers.

Signed in August, the agreement also includes provisions for employers' contributions of $1.50 per person a month to the firm's health and vacation-fund for the workers. As an extra health measure, the firm will also pay an additional 10 per cent of the workers' wages to a health fund to be used for workers' deaths and for the workers covered through the United Health Center up to $5,000 a year.

Cotton Garment Report to GEB

3,500 Members Swell Dept. Strength Upstate

Close to 3,500 members have been added to the roster of the Cotton Garment Department in the last six months, it is revealed in the quarterly report presented to the General Executive Board of the ILGWU which was held at a meeting in New York City.

According to the report, this increase in membership was achieved throughout the organization and not only in the new plants. Of this number, 1,600 are employed in four knitwear plants. The remaining 1,700 are employed in eight home furnishing houses, dresswomen's, children's dresses, sportswear and government work.

A highlight of the report is the fact that contract renewals in the new plants were signed in almost all instances without difficulty, bringing improved terms to about 6,000 workers. Among the exceptions were the McKeltrick Williams Co., in Scranton, Pa., and the Bennington and Suffolk Knitting Mills where renewal were marked by short stoppages when workers grew impatient over the prolongation of negotiations by the various management.

$30,000 Back Pay

The report also notes that during this period retroactive provisions of Labor War Board awards were granted to workers in three plants, approximatley $30,000 in back pay.

ILGWU's new contract provides that "all our renewals now include provisions for employer contributions to a fund for the purpose of payment of out-of-pocket expenses of members, such as travel and lodging expenses for vacation payments." It cites the remarkable progress in health and welfare, including the health and welfare for the workers in the covered but.

The report concludes with a survey of the Cotton Garment Department's efforts for the ILGWU 1945-6 War Loan drive. When completion of shop collections has been delayed by industrial causes, Director Gingold indicates that the "final results will prove to be high.

Anti-Labor Strongholds

Current opinion campaigns are converging on a few areas where anti-labor plants operated by the Blinched Mfg. Co. in Utica and the Lovell Co., where more than 600 men are employed, at the present time, it is pointed out that employer strongholds are being developed.

Describing the case of the Goldstein and Levin plant at Johnstown, Pa., the report cites the strong status which this firm has practiced in the War Loan drive, with the winning of an NLRB election in November, the firm has met the situation that the firm has accepted the outcome with good grace, with the result that negotiations for a contract are moving along slowly.

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Union Party Draws Johnstown Workers

More than 500 garment workers of the ILGWU local 225 were turned out at a meeting of the U.S.

Members of the time study class conducted at the William Carter shop, Springfield, Mass. Instruments are used to get a closer look at the plant's work. Robert Carter, director of standards for the company, The Cathri shop, which manufactures underwear, employs 120 workers. They belong to Local 225, which is directed by Ralph Roberts.

Originally planned for six weeks, the class has accrued so much interest that demonstrations such as this one have been expanded to run for ten weeks. The course of the course is demonstrated by the fact that it is held on company time, with classes given every Wednesday afternoon in the office.

The progress of this training experiment at the Carter shop is being closely watched by the Cotton Garment Department with a view to initiating similar courses in other plants when the situation warrants.

ILGWU Asks Agencies To Aid in Settling Scranton Lock-Out

The Cotton Garment Department has called upon the U.S. Conciliation Service and other government agencies to aid in settling the dispute which caused more than 100 workers at the United Manufacturers' shop, Scranton, to de.

The shop was closed following a call to the Department's District Manager. Zimm.

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"Trade Restraint" Hearings

Consumer Tag Unforested, Recovery Board Declares

Allegation that the National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board utilized pressure, including work stoppages by the I. L. G. O. W. and the workers' insurance protection label were denied by F. Nathan Wolf, its executive secretary, last week at a hearing held by the Federal Trade Commission on the "price fixing and monopolistic practices." He said, "The Recovery Board, the I. L. G. O. W. and 14 industry groups in a collective effort to restrain trade.

Wolf insisted that no pressure had been put on him to withhold his support of the label, emphasizing that all mergers adopted in the industry were freely consented to by manufacturers and retailers as a means of furnishing a means for "advice" to the workers. "We asked the voluntary help of all the members," he said, "and saw that they purchased garments bearing the label. Never did we en- force such a request, because no manufacturer is a member of the Recovery Board.

Explanating the democratic attitude displayed by the Recovery Board to enforce regulation on the part of its members, Wolf showed that all complaints were first referred to the Recovery Board's Free Trade Committee for investigation. Wolf explained, "Following this, Wolf insisted, "We showed the members the chance to adjust the matter. If they continue to violate the rules, the committee will be forced to demand the payment of liquidated damages. The case is then referred to the board, the suspension of which the member is a member. It is the committee of this particular society decides that liquidated damages are to be assessed, the member follows the same procedure as the association itself.

Wolf described the special conditions which require the industry to develop a cooperative economy. Showing that the complexities of distribution and the undeveloped nature of the industry were conducive to a high business mortality, he insisted that all cooperatives in question were limited to financial charges in the trade and were therefore readily accepted by all factors involved.

"The main contention of the executive secretary was that any reinforcement of the cooperative economy would be to the advantage of both firms and manufacturers." The board would like to encourage the businessman to use the labels on a voluntary basis."

Help win the war and get extra Fred points. Have socks made and take them to your buckethead.

"JUSTICE" PUZZLE ANSWER

(Puzzle on page 10)

Decade of Service

Frank St. W. in New York City, was honored by the CLOAK Joint Board on April 30 in appreciation of his years of service as secretary of the Russian Polish branch.

Cloak Bd. Party Celebrates Strides in Brooklyn Shops

More than 500 cloakmakers filled the union hall at the Brooklyn office of the Cloak Joint Board on April 31, when the shop chairman and active members of shops in that borough were honored guests at a spring festival and convet.

General Manager Israel Fromberg, president, and the executive director of the CLOAK Joint Board, were honored by the members of this branch for their efforts in stimulating the cloakmaking industry in the Brooklyn shops. The history of the cloakmakers' union, he said, was a history of sacrifice, that sacrifice had been made on the front lines of the war and the work of the cloakmakers had been recognized by the government.

The membership of the New York City branch of the CLOAK Joint Board was honored for the special contribution they have made to the war effort. The chairman of the committee also announced that starting in June 4, vacation allotments will be paid out.

35th Jubilee

NEW YORK CLOAK JOINT BOARD
Sept. 4, 1945
Madison Square Garden

OPERATORS TIGHTEN RULES ON OVERTIME

Sharp restrictions on Saturday and overtime work, including the banning of all work in shops which have idle machines, were urged by the membership of Local 117, Cloak Operators, at a meeting held on April 18. As a result, it is announced that the local will not be open for overtime work and that all applications for permission to work overtime will be subject to careful examination.

Shaw, chairman of the Executive Board of the Cloak Joint Board, said that the ban on overtime will be lifted when the war is over. The current situation is due to the war and the necessity of cutting down on overtime work.

Cooling the war heat, the local will not be open for overtime work.

Local 35 Urges Support For Clothing Campaign

Local 35 urges support for the "Clothing Campaign" to be held May 11-15. The campaign is designed to raise funds for the relief of war victims.

A Union Grows in Brooklyn

General Manager Israel Fromberg is shown addressing the large audience that attended the Spring Festival and Convet of the Cloak Joint Board, Brooklyn office. (See story)

The new plan recommended by the executive director of Local 22, Skirtmakers, whereby workers will pay dues of 50 cents a week and finishers 50 cents, in conjunction with separate payment for work and work, organization work, local dues, assessments, and international union dues, was adopted by the members of the local at its regular meeting held on April 21.

The new plan is to be effective on June 1, 1945. All separate payments, with the exception of the $1.95 per year for death benefit, will then be merged. The result will be a considerable saving in the total annual amount paid by members.

The membership likewise approved an amendment to the Health Fund rules increasing the 32-day hospitalization benefit from 21 days to 32 days. A special committee, appointed in May, has been working on this amendment and committee has also been working on the problem of the benefits of the Health Fund.

Refinements were served. An outstanding musical feature, featuring a band under the direction of the famous orchestra and vocal quartet, was heartily applauded. Samuel Zelnick, assistant manager of the Brooklyn office, acted as master of ceremonies.

Production Line Meets Battle Line

Workers at the H. P. Shapiro shop sign "War Worker's Pledge" to stay on the job until final victory in the presence of three dozen members who are helping the town. The slogan, "The town that made the atom bomb," emphasizes the role played by materials on the battle front. For the past 30 years, the Shapiro workers have been producing field equipment for the armed forces.
New Brigade Leader Tells Plans

The event was recently elected chairman of the New Brigade, discusses plans with a group of members at April 9 meeting as Secretary Helen Levenson (at table) takes notes.

Panel Discussion On "Dambarton Oaks and the San Francisco Parley"

Today's meeting of the ILGWU Student Fellowship was held at the City College Educational Department 1710 Broadway - CO 5-7888

Soldiers Flock To 3rd Brigade Dance

Hundreds of men from all branches of the armed forces attended the third annual dance for war workers held at the Central Needle Trades Hotel. The dance was sponsored by the ILGWU Student Council.

Arrangements were supervised by Joyce Janis, newly elected chairman of the National Student Council.

A note of overtime and fancy dress was included in the program, which was quite a success.

The dancing school, which was included in the program, was quite a success.

War Workers Unmind

The additional sessions were made necessary by the National Student Council, which was conducted by the ILGWU Officers and the New Workers at the request of the National War Labor Board.

The war worker's dances at the New Workers under the leadership of the ILGWU have been a great success. The attendance has been overwhelming. Twenty-one thousand war workers have attended dances since the beginning of the war.

No growth

The figures on profits and employment tell a striking story. The profits per week in the war worker's departments have declined by 25 cents.

In dollar value, monthly production has dropped by 60 cents.

Despite all that has been said about the war worker's schedule, he gets his full share of hours.

There are no delays due to strikes since the taking of the factory last December.

Unlike the experience of the war worker, the strikes have been few and far between.

No Split Not Weakening

The common growth of union membership is testimony to dual record of the New Workers. The growth of union membership in the New Workers has been a great success.

In terms of the New Workers, the growth of union membership has been a great success.

The June annual report of the National Labor Relations Board shows that 'independent workers have long been a factor in the success of the New Workers, both in the local offices and in the national offices.'

Future is Cloudy

But as to what the future may offer, when the war is over and we settle down to peaceful living, it is not possible to predict. It is very possible that post-war disillusion will cease to be the principal source of union activity. It is not certain that we shall experience a depression after the war, a number of things to happen, such as a falling-off in union membership, a return to an open-shop or closed-shop system, and other factors, are likely to influence the collective bargaining relationship between employers and employees, organizations and unions. In such a case, the war worker would undoubtedly have the same difficulties.

However, it is not possible to predict the future and many things may happen.

ILGWU 11th Concert CLIMAX OF SEASON

Before a gasps audience of union members, officers and friends, the ILGWU Central District staged its 11th annual concert on April 7 with a program enlisting the efforts of artists and musicians from all over the United States. The program, arranged by Louis Schacter, director of the Cultural Center of the ILGWU, was presented in the Colosseum at 111 W. 23rd St.

The concert was conducted by the noted young Negro musician, Dean Dixon, in a program that included selections from the classics, folk songs and popular ballads.

Under the direction of his staff, Dean Dixon, in a program that included selections from the classics, folk songs and popular ballads.

"Labor in America" on the Air

Hailed by educators and labor leaders as the finest work of its kind, "Labor in America" is being used by many schools and union groups. The radio program is broadcast by the New Yorkers for Peace, 191 Avenue U, Brooklyn, N.Y.

May 5 at 2 P.M. Vanderbilt Gall., 225 W. 42nd St., sponsored by the New Yorkers for Peace, 191 Avenue U, Brooklyn, N.Y.

May 12 at 3 P.M. International Institute, 450 Riverside Drive, Manhattan, N.Y. (450 Riverside Drive, Manhattan)
CHANGING HUMAN NATURE

People used to explain away their shortcomings by blaming them on their "human nature." If a man is charged with selfishness, he will say, "It is only human nature to look out for your own interest; when changed with religiosity, we will think of the well-being of others." The implication is that such behavior is inherent in every individual and so something we can do about it. Some people attempt to explain why as: "It is human nature to fight. We have always had this instinct and will always have it. We can't change human nature," they say.

Biology and the Brain

What is human nature? Can it be changed? We must distinguish between what a person is born with and what he becomes through his environment and the way he lives. Scientifically, scientists distinguish between human biology and human social inheritance. Our biological inheritance determines the color of our skin, hair and eyes, the shape of our faces and features, the build of our body. That is all we are born with, plus some fundamental drives and an enormous capacity to learn.

What we learn to do, what we believe and how we feel about what we believe---these depend largely upon our environment. Whether we learn to speak English, Chinese or Russian, whether we learn to work in a shop or in a church. Buddhist temple or Mohammedan mosque. If we learn to new dances, make automobiles or raise corn, drive a car, fly a plane, build a donkey, bicycle or airplane---these are determined by our social inheritance through tradition and through our own experience. Changing our environment during our lifetime cannot be inherited by our children. No matter how well educated a father may be, his child will not be able to read, write or spell his language unless taught to do so. No matter how skilled a person may be, there is no person who has held hands with his child's hands will not know how to use a hammer unless he has been trained. Each generation must learn for itself. No individual is born with a ready-made pattern of behavior.

Shaped by Society

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Biology and the Brain

What is human nature? Can it be changed? We must distinguish between what a person is born with and what he becomes through his environment and the way he lives. Scientifically, scientists distinguish between human biology and human social inheritance. Our biological inheritance determines the color of our skin, hair and eyes, the shape of our faces and features, the build of our body. That is all we are born with, plus some fundamental drives and an enormous capacity to learn.

What we learn to do, what we believe and how we feel about what we believe---these depend largely upon our environment. Whether we learn to speak English, Chinese or Russian, whether we learn to work in a shop or in a church. Buddhist temple or Mohammedan mosque. If we learn to new dances, make automobiles or raise corn, drive a car, fly a plane, build a donkey, bicycle or airplane---these are determined by our social inheritance through tradition and through our own experience. Changing our environment during our lifetime cannot be inherited by our children. No matter how well educated a father may be, his child will not be able to read, write or spell his language unless taught to do so. No matter how skilled a person may be, there is no person who has held hands with his child's hands will not know how to use a hammer unless he has been trained. Each generation must learn for itself. No individual is born with a ready-made pattern of behavior.

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The new agreement recently concluded by the union and the employers in the cement and brickyard industry will greatly benefit the workers in that field. The cutters will be the beneficiaries of a vacation, health, and welfare fund to be financed by a 6 cent hourly deduction from the pay of the cutters. The fund will be administered by the two unions.

ATTENTION

Members Local 16

ISIDORE HAGLER, Manager

The new agreement includes provisions for the enlargement of the cement and brickyard industry in line with recent economic conditions that will hopefully bring about increased production.

Minimums Go Up

Another very substantial gain is the raising of the minimums for cutters and masons and the increase in the July weekly pay increase. The new minimums for cutters and masons will be $27.50 and $28.00 respectively, effective July 1st.

The new contract also provides that any vacancies created by the retirement or death of an employee will be filled by a new employee who meets the minimum requirements.

The agreement between the two unions and the employers will bring increased prosperity to the workers in the cement and brickyard industry.

M-388 Puts Waterproofer Out in Rain

Chicago's clockmakers and dressmakers assembled in the auditorium of the Masonic Temple after the work on April 19th to honor the memory of President Roosevelt. They came in record numbers from all of Chicago's garment shops, wearing their best clothes. Many attended from the suburbs.

Local 293's Custom Greets Newlyweds

Local 293, whose members are employed by the U. P. D. Dress Manufacturing Co. of Marquette and Negaunee, Michigan, regularly give dinner in honor of newlyweds who have recently been married or had bad birthdays. The last celebration held was in Clifton Hotel, Marquette, April 24th. 140 workers from the Concord factory in Ishpeming and the plant in Negaunee also attended.

For more information, contact the Concord office at 816-2250.
THE NEW SKIPPER

America has taken kindly to its new President. Practically without a dissenting voice, and cutting across party lines and allegiances, the press of the country is heartyly acclaiming President Truman's early steps to settle firmly in the driver's seat. Even casual reservations are made with good heart and intent as mere catcalls against all-out commitment.

We are still, of course, in the midst of the Truman "honeymoon." Like flowers that bloom in the spring, homewarm, pieces to give way to everyday chores and pressures. The anti-Roosevelt press and politicians of yesterday may turn anti-Truman as soon as the new President is forced to square off in defense of the liberal program to which he has committed himself. No one in his right senses, indeed, could be made to believe that the Southern Democratic bloc and their Congressional allies in the Republican ranks would undergo a permanent change of mentality and methods overnight.

That prospect, however, is not a contingency facing the country at this hour. Right now, in San Francisco, the United Nations are meeting in conference to forge a world organization for security and for a stable peace on the basis of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals and the Breton Woods agreements. The giant influence of Roosevelt will be badly missed at San Francisco, but it is by no means certain that we can see to it that President Truman has pledged unequivocal support to the American delegation at the conference toward the attainment of the maximum program sponsored by his predecessor. We have not the slightest doubt that President Truman is fully aware that the overwhelming majority of Americans are lined up behind him in this work for international cooperation.

In the friendly chorus which greeted Mr. Truman's assumption of the presidency, the voice of organized labor has struck an outstanding note of warmth and feeling.

Labor's sympathy toward President Truman is based less on sentimental or intangible considerations than on his record. As United States Senator he displayed a keen and sound interest in the problems of the American workers. He worked and voted for most of the key social and labor measures advanced by the Roosevelt Administrations. His sponsorship in the last session of Congress, together with Senator Kilgore, of a bill to protect human needs in the reconstruction period is an example of his humane approach to national economic problems, even though the measure was defeated. Perhaps Truman's strongest claim to labor's support is his manner of procedure. Never has he been made as chairman of the Senate War Investigating Committee. In that capacity his report, made public a year ago, warmly praised labor's contribution to the war effort and silenced labor critic's crits with facts.

The full picture of Harry S. Truman as chief executive of the world's greatest democracy obviously is still in the process of emergence. From what we know of him—his legislative record, his personal humanity, his directness of approach to pressing contemporary problems—there is enough to inspire us with courage and hope. An "average American" in the unvarnished and best sense of the term, a Midwestern political liberal who, in his own words, "looks to the future" for his guidance and wants his countrymen to look and march in the same direction, President Truman enters upon an historic career with the assurance of united support from all average Americans—which means the majority of the people.

A Chance Labor Muffed

The prison term of eight and one-half to fifteen years imposed on Joseph Fay, of the stationary engineers' union, and James Bove, of the hod carriers' union, by New York Supreme Court Justice Munson, after a jury had convicted them of the extortion of large sums of money from construction concerns on the $300,000,000 Delaware aqueduct project, will bring no tears to the eyes of hundreds of thousands of self-respecting and decent trade union men and women in the metropolis.

Their muffled protest, however, is the fact that it took a judge and jury to rid the labor movement of Fay and Bove, a step which should have been the primary duty of the labor movement itself. The argument of trade-union autonomy and lack of power by the central trade union authority to deal effectively with instances of racketeering sounds thin and hollow in the face of such predatory conduct as revealed in the Fay-Bove trial over a long period of years. Extortion and racketeering are acts which involve not only the unions and the individuals directly concerned with them. They bring shame and pillory to all of organized labor.