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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 1, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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### Keywords

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

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.



VOL. I Price 2 cents. Saturday, March 1, 1919. No. 7

# A REVIEW

**A Talk with B. Schlesinger, President of the International. — Progress all along the Line. — The Strike of the Ladies' Waist Makers in Sound Condition, the Children's Dress Makers' Battle Nine-Tenths Won. — The Strike of the Kimona and Wrapper Makers Almost Over. — The Bosses Realize, that They Have no other Alternative but to Yield to the Demands of the Strikers. — Splendid Prospects for the Workers of the Bonanz Embroidery Industry and for the Workers in the Swiss Embroidery Industry. — The Whole International in the Fight, Fully-equipped for Battle. — Victory, a Great Victory Seems Certain.**

We: Well how are things?  
He: Everything's fine.  
We: Can't be better, can it?  
He: No.  
We: Well, tell us all about it.  
And he began talking . . .  
He, — B. Schlesinger, and we, — the editor.

As a rule the president's face is hard and stern and he looks as though he had just swallowed something unpleasant. It makes one think: He's a peculiar man, this president; if only he would smile a bit.

But this time Schlesinger was pleasant, almost tender. His face shone and his whole being radiated the light of victory.

And we did not so much listen to what he was saying; we gazed at him and were convinced that everything was going along splendidly.

With the exception of the cloakmakers, all the trades that make up the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are on strike or on the threshold of a strike and this, in itself, is enough to inspire and encourage one.

People who are despondent and discouraged do not go into battle so readily. Strong pressure must be brought to bear to arouse such people to battle. But brave-hearted, courageous men, with high ideals, will always run the risk of a fight. And the fact that the tens of thousands of members of the International go into battle so light-heartedly, shows clearly what splendid men they are. Then why should not the President of such an organization rejoice?

But this is not the only cause for rejoicing, though sufficient in itself. The really good events are about to come. For 6 weeks the members of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union have been out on strike. And can anyone point to any group of strikers who have deserted the ranks, have become traitors to their co-workers and to themselves, and have allowed themselves to be misled by the bosses?

No, not a single one has done this! All stand firm, in solid ranks, as on the first day of the

fight. Then how can anyone help feeling proud and happy if he happens to be the leader of such men?

And then just look into the camp of the enemy. Alas, what ruin! The whole world against them—not only the labor world but even their own world, their own flesh and blood, has turned from them, and regards them as outcasts, people who do not know the meaning of an honest, square fight. And because of this they have lost out and they are conscious of the fact.

They do not know, these unfortunates, that with each day that they prolong the fight, that they refuse to yield, and try by all tricks and manoeuvres to snare the workers into their traps—they make their positions all the more untenable, all the more ridiculous and so dig their own graves. Then why should not the commander of such an army feel encouraged when it is clear to all that the enemy is demoralized, confused, unsteady on his legs, and that it is only a question of minutes before he will keel over and sink in the mud?

Then look at the others, the new, the fresh armies. Take first the army of the children's dress makers. They have just joined the fight and already most of the shops in the trade are completely unionized, and there is no doubt whatsoever but that in a few days this army will win a complete victory.

And the kimona and wrapper makers? They, too, are almost all settled. One conference has already taken place between the union representatives and the representatives of the Bosses' Association; the demand for a 44 hour week has already been granted. The next conference will positively bring about a cessation to the other demands of the union and then victory is complete.

**The Fight of the White-Goods Workers.**

And here is another army that has joined the fight this week. It is the army of the White Goods Workers' Union. This un-

ion, just a few years ago, was dreamed of by a few impractical people. What practical person could have thought that a union could be built up among these girls of different nationalities, whose earnings, at best, amounted to about three or four dollars a week and who, nevertheless, regarded themselves as great ladies. But the miracle happened. The White Goods' girls were organized and for many years have "stuck" to their union. The helpless, silent, enslaved white goods workers now have a proud, well-organized union, which is a part of the International. And the International is proud of this member. This White Goods Workers' Union went out on strike this week for a 44 hour labor week and for an increase in wages and strange to say, no one doubts but that it will win all its demands.

Years and years ago when these girls were still weak and silent, Roosevelt had to intercede in their behalf so that their condition might be somewhat improved. But to day, they do not need the intercession of a Roosevelt or of any other influential protector. The White Goods Workers now rely upon their own strength. The definite consciousness of their power must lead them to victory. They know this and so do their bosses but the latter are making an attempt to beg off. They needs must realize, now, that nothing will be of any avail, that the White Goods Workers are no longer the helpless girls of former days. They will surely act more wisely than the Ladies' Waist Bosses and will not wait

until the rope is about their necks.

And is this all?  
No, there are still more armies. There is the Bonanz-embroidery industry where many girls are employed, all of whom are in the union. Could these stay calmly at work while their brothers and sisters were fighting for shorter hours and higher wages? No. And so they sent a letter to their employers with the usual request: this is what you must do, if you wish to avoid trouble. We are ready to settle amicably.

And Schlesinger's face beamed as he said: "They will settle; they will not be foolish enough to risk such a useless fight."  
And there is still another army: the Swiss embroiderers. This is a trade in which the New York workers are one hundred percent organized and there is no doubt but that the bosses will grant the demands put to them. Up till now the only weak spot in this trade has been New Jersey. In that state, the Union, until recently, was not very powerful. But now things have changed. The workers are joining the union in large numbers and very, very soon this weak spot in the Swiss Embroidery Union will disappear.

Such is the situation at present—that is when one wishes to describe it in ordinary, prosaic terms. But in order to fully realize just how matters stand, you should have seen the usually stern, hard, seldom-smiling face of Schlesinger. Then you would have been convinced that better conditions could not be hoped for by the dearest friends of the working class.

## THE STRIKE-FUND OF THE CLOAKMAKERS' UNION

It has never yet happened in the history of the great Cloakmakers' Union that it has undertaken anything which it has not carried through successfully. And this is also true of the special strike fund that the Union recently undertook to create.

As soon as the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union decided to create a huge strike fund and imposed a tax of five dollars on every member of all the local cloak unions that constitute the Joint Board, and as soon as these local unions ratified this decision, the union immediately began a very active campaign to carry out this decision and the work is going on, on a very large scale. The campaign is now in full swing. Beautiful souvenirs will be awarded to all the shop chairmen of the cloak shops who will

distinguish themselves in the work of collecting this tax and to each member who pays the tax is given a pretty button, a reward from the union in return for his loyalty to the organization. Every loyal member of the union should wear this button which shows that he is one of the great Cloakmaker Army which is now being mobilized for a great fight to win the demands of the union soon to be presented to the cloak manufacturers.

Next week we shall begin to print in "Justice", the "Roll of Honor"—the list of Cloak shops that have paid their tax into the strike fund. We are told that there is an actual race among the cloak shops, each trying to be first on this honor roll—each trying to be the first mentioned as a shop that is "100 percent union."

# THE IMPORTANT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

By Hillel Rogoff

For the first time since peace negotiations were begun this country has withdrawn its attention from Paris and turned to see what was happening in Washington. Even before Wilson's return, things began to happen in Washington. Before leaving Europe, the President had made public the constitution planned for the League of Nations. Expecting attacks in Congress he sent a note asking that the members be patient and wait until his return so that he might, in person, explain to them the full significance of the constitution. He went still further and invited the two committees on foreign affairs, in the Senate and the House of Representatives, to a dinner at the White House with the understanding that on this occasion he would talk things over with them and impart to them certain matters which would make clear some difficult points and answer certain questions.

And immediately after this, bombs began to explode in the capital. First came the sensational news that Senator Borah, one of the most prominent Republican members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, had refused the President's dinner invitation. Then the Republican Senators, one after the other, declared that they would not accede to the President's request but would immediately begin debating the constitution of the League of Nations on the floor of the Senate. And as though this were not enough, a few of the most prominent Democratic Senators joined the Republicans and gave notice that they, too, would take part in the debate, in opposition to the President, of course.

And immediately the attacks upon the President began. Senator Borah fired the first shot, and after him came Senator Reed, a Democrat. The speeches of both men aroused the whole country. The papers reported that Senator Reed's speech was accorded an unusual ovation by the Senators. They surrounded him and congratulated him warmly. Scarcely had such a demonstration been witnessed in the Senate. The chairman almost forgot that demonstrations of this kind are not permitted in the Senate.

The main point in all these attacks was the following: it is an old tradition in America never to interfere in the politics of Europe or of any other section of the world, and the President, by his League of Nations, has overthrown this tradition. He wishes to involve our country in dangerous quarrels and disputes which are constantly going on among the small and great powers of Europe, Asia and Africa.

While all these heated debates were going on in the chambers of the Senate during the time that President Wilson was home-bound, an unexpected but very important element began to take part in the matter, in the person of ex-President Taft. While the leaders of the Repub-

licans in the Senate were criticizing and attacking the President for his League of Nations, Taft was going about the country making enthusiastic speeches in favor of the League. He answered the speeches of the Republicans in the Senate in his speeches to the great masses in the West. This greatly enraged his party members in the Senate, and they began attacking him, also. They accused him of being paid by the Carnegie Institute for making these speeches. They reminded him that in 1912 he had been badly defeated at the polls. . . . that he had suffered a greater defeat than any other presidential candidate of the great parties in the history of the country. They also informed him that he was no longer of any account in the party. . . . that he was not to think that he had any following among the Republicans.

These attacks caused much excitement in political circles. It began to be said that such an occurrence may lead to a split in the party and careful politicians began to think seriously about all this.

Many think that it is possible that the question of the League of Nations will become the main political issue of the country in the next few years; that it will be the leading issue at the next presidential elections. Should this happen then it may be expected that the two great parties will be completely reorganized and that the Republican party will be joined by all the Democrats who are against the League of Nations whereas all the Republicans who are for the League will join the Democrats. That is, we may expect Taft to become a Democrat and the conservative Senators of the reactionary South to become Republicans.

But it remains to be seen how far things will go in this direction. At present the conflict between President Wilson and his opponents in the Senate is of the utmost importance to our country and, it may be, to the whole world. Upon the outcome of this fight depends very greatly the solution of the League problem and also much that pertains to the peace now being worked out in Paris.

During the Senate debates, Mexico was very frequently mentioned. The opponents of the League argued that according to the constitution of the League, foreign powers will be able to interfere in our dispute with Mexico. This is a very interesting point especially when one considers its connection with an important event which took place at about the same time that the debates were going on.

On Monday morning it was announced in the papers of New York, London and Paris that the biggest bankers of the United States, England and France had united and appointed a committee of 25, with Morgan as chairman, to protect the interests of all the capitalists who have invested money in Mexico, in the

various oil-wells, coal mines, railroads and other undertakings.

The Mexican question is a very sore one. Even in the very midst of the war, certain papers kept advising America to withdraw troops from Europe and settle affairs in Mexico. This is not the place to enter into a detailed explanation of the causes for this propaganda against Mexico. The present Mexican government under President Carranza has passed laws permitting it to impose heavy taxes on the natural resources belonging to foreign capitalists. In this way it hopes to force the capitalists to sell out their shares so that the country may once for all get rid of these gentlemen. Anyone who is somewhat acquainted with the history of unfortunate Mexico knows that these foreign millionaires who, through certain dishonest means, have gotten into their hands the greatest treasures of the country, were responsible for a large share of the bloodshed and the enslavement of the people from which the country has suffered for many years. By these new laws the Mexican government hopes to free itself of this menace.

The organized capitalists of the three countries do not tell us just what they intend to do in order to protect their possessions in Mexico. But there is no doubt but that they will try to influence their governments to intercede for them. We may, therefore, expect to read in our papers, in the near future, stories about the atrocities committed on the Mexican border, about the "tyrannical laws" of the Mexican government, about the terrible disturbances in Mexico, etc. These papers know well how to do their work of inciting the people against Mexico.

Several important events have occurred these days in the fight between the reactionary and the liberal forces of this country.

1. A bill was introduced in the Senate at Washington, which aims to suppress all revolutionary propaganda. The bill forbids the holding of meetings, the printing of papers, or of any other kind of literature, for the purpose of agitating for the overthrow of the government through force or through a strike. The bill forbids the carrying of or the displaying of flags symbolic of revolutionary propaganda. Punishment for infractions of this law shall be five years in prison and a fine of five thousand dollars.

2. Judge Landis of Chicago, after deliberating for a month, refused the appeal of the five socialist leaders for a new trial, and sentenced them all to a twenty year prison term. One of those sentenced is Victor Berger, congressman-elect from Wisconsin. Of course it is understood that now Congress will not permit him to take his seat there. The five convicted men were granted the right to appeal by a higher judge and were permitted to be freed under bail of \$25,000 each.

This sentence amazed both the liberals and the conservatives of the country. Twenty years is the greatest punishment for this offense. To Victor Berger who is now about sixty, this would mean life imprisonment. No one expected that now, with the war over, with Europe liber-

ating its political prisoners convicted in time of war, that now a judge would give such a severe sentence to men who claimed that they had done what they did, not because of hatred to their country, or because they were traitors, but because of their honest, idealistic convictions.

3. Just a day before the announcement of this severe sentence, quite a different event took place in New York. After deliberating for thirty hours, a jury freed the prominent socialist, Scott Nearing, who had been indicted for an offense similar to the one for which the Chicago socialists had been convicted. No one doubts that if Nearing had been tried a few months ago, while the war was still on, he would not have gotten off so easily. The jury evidently took into account the fact that the war is over and that now they could afford to be liberal with political offenders. It seems that judges differ very radically in their psychological make-up from ordinary jurymen.

For a few days our press was very much excited over a graft investigation in connection with the navy and it seemed that the thing would develop into a tremendous sensation. . . . but suddenly everything was hushed up.

It was told that in the New York District of the Navy Department great scandals took place during the years of the war. There was a tremendous amount of graft going on. Wealthy fathers bought places for their sons in the navy, places where they would be secure with their lives. Young business men of draft age bought their way into the navy, got posts somewhere in an office, and so found it possible to attend to their own affairs. It was said that one official in the navy had made about a half million dollars in this way.

The Secretary of the Navy has promised to investigate the matter thoroughly. Up till now a few men have been arrested.

The movement among organized workers to strike against prohibition is assuming serious proportions. The Central Federated Union of New York took the matter up at its last meeting. It was reported that seven unions with a membership of about 181,000, had by a referendum vote decided to go out on strike as soon as the law would go into force. Other unions of New York are now voting on this question and it is likely that many of them will adopt the same resolution. The Essex County Trade Council of New York adopted this resolution some time ago. Reports arrive from various parts of the country saying that the workers will make use of their strongest weapon, the strike, to fight prohibition.

The prohibition amendment goes into force on the first of January 1920. But the President has forbidden the use of beer after July. He did this as a war measure, in order to conserve grain. And since Congress has already passed the prohibition amendment the President will most likely not rescind this order, and we shall have prohibition beginning with July 1. If the unions stick to their resolution, then we may expect a strike in all sections of the country on the first of July.

## THE WORKING GIRL AND HER HOME

By JULIET STUART POYNTEZ

Among the most serious problems in the life of the working woman is that of finding a home. Although the conditions of living are certainly of no less importance to the woman worker than the conditions of working, almost no attention has been given in any systematic way either by the working woman or by those who profess to be interested in her welfare to that very serious question of where to live. The bosses, who are concerned over the efficiency of workers as machines, have organized the shops in which hundreds of thousands of working women spend their working hours, and the workers attempt through legal means or through their own board of inspection such as the Joint Board of Sanitary Control to insure sanitary and livable conditions in the shop. If the same amount of money and energy were spent upon the organization of homes for the workers as is spent on the organization of shops we would indeed be upon the threshold of a better world.

The working girl does not need to be reminded of the hardships and discomforts she suffers in the few hours when she is supposed to be tasting the joys of life. After the long day of labor in the shop, she would like to get home to a clean and quiet place all her own where she could rest and find congenial and pleasant surroundings. The room somewhat larger than a box, with fresh air and sunshine, a place to read, a place to do the household chores, a place in which to entertain friends and find pleasant companionship,—that seems very little to ask in return for an entire day dedicated to the great god of Profit. How different is the actual picture for hundreds of thousands of working girls! A fisticuff fight for a place on street-car or subway, a long nerve-racking journey without a seat in a car crowded to suffocation, the arrival at the cheerless little hole in the wall, with little air and light, and possibly shared at that with a fellow worker. The room is in a little flat where the "missus" lives with her husband and children, and for the sake of a little more income has had to let out part of the space in her already crowded house. The girl who rents the room is thus artificially injected into a family life which is not her own, and in which she must feel an unwilling intruder.

Peace and privacy under such conditions? Peace and quiet are rare. Washing and ironing have to be done in the family kitchen. A place to entertain friends is not even thought of. Sufficient place to sleep is considered a boon. All the functions of life are performed with difficulties and invasion of the privacy of others. Even under the best conditions where Jennie can afford to find a good clean room with sunshine and air, she yet has no sense of real independence, she has not yet found a home.

The distance of living quarters from work is a very serious question also to be considered. In New York and many other large industrial centers work-

ing girls have to choose between living in a congested and unsanitary neighborhood or else of spending a goodly fraction of their hard-earned wages and a large part of their still more valuable time in travelling back and forth to a livable neighborhood. This sacrifice of time and money is equivalent to a very considerable increase of hours of work and a lowering of wages, and is usually a great strain on the health. The choice is verily between the devil and the deep sea.

The present living conditions for working women can be tolerated no longer. In the new Charter of Labor the right to a home is written large.

The English government now, for the first time in its century of industrial experience, has awakened to the need of better homes for the working people, and is prepared to spend vast sums in building workmen's dwellings. In Paris, the center of the French clothing industry with its thousands of women employes, we learn that extensive plans are on foot for the better housing of working women. Here in our own city are still drifting along, hardly even thinking of these problems which affect so vitally our life and happiness. It is true, beginnings of an attack on the problem are being made through the organization of co-operative houses. Several of these have been conducted with greater or less success during the last few years by working girls.

Most of them have been established on an independent basis, but that of our own Local 25, organized and conducted with the moral and financial assistance of the union, has started a movement of wonderful promise. The big happy family of House conducted by trade union girls for themselves, there is the atmosphere not only of complete freedom and independence but also of mutual love and service in a revolutionary cause.

The movement for co-operative housing for working women should be widely extended in this period of new hopes for labor. A beginning may be made by a small group of friends in a small apartment, with very little outlay, but much more can be accomplished with the assistance of the workers' organizations. Every trade union in which there is an appreciable membership of women should set aside a revolving fund for loans to co-operative groups among the members to be paid

back as the undertaking gets upon its feet, and loaned out to a new group. A fund of a few thousand dollars can accomplish wonders in this way not merely for the comfort of the members but for a more intelligent understanding of the value of the union in every phase of the life of the worker.

In the finding of a home as in so many other departments of the worker's life the co-operative movement forms the natural supplement to the trade-union movement. The mere increase of wages in this field is a small boon in comparison to the great accomplishments possible when the workers have learned to pool

these increases in a co-operative fund for their mutual advantage.

When the success of industry is measured in terms of human welfare rather than profits, economics, which in its original Greek meant the science of home-making, will return again into its own, and above the organization of work we shall have the organization of life; above the art of producing, the art of distributing and consuming. In this time of approach to the new era, when we are standing on the threshold, the workers can broaden their vision beyond the present and set about the development of better living conditions here and now.

## THE INTERNATIONAL THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

By MAX D. DANISH

### THE CLOAKMAKERS OF CALIFORNIA.

Not many cloakmakers in the East and the Middle West know that there are cloak and suit shops on the sunny shores of the Pacific Coast; still less do they know that there are locals of cloakmakers in that section, and well organized locals at that!

Take, for instance, Los Angeles. During the last dozen or so a number of cloakmakers had drifted into Los Angeles. Some of them went there because they were tired of life in the East; others on the advice of physicians, after having spent a good part of their lives in the cloak sweat-shops of the past decade. They found employment in small local shops, which subsequently grew in number.

The cloakmakers of Los Angeles are a fine, many lot of workers. We seldom hear from them at conventions, as it is a long way from Los Angeles to the Eastern centers where our convention are usually held. Still, they have managed to build up in Los Angeles a 100 percent organization, and their working conditions, hours, earnings and shop arrangements are almost a copy of New York terms and wage scales. They have agreements with all their manufacturers and are an integral part of the local labor movement.

Their indefatigable secretary, Brother Samuel Tauber, who has been with them for many years has during the past few months informed us that the cloakmakers of Los Angeles have recently organized two additional locals of ladies' garment workers, one of waist and dressmakers and another of ladies' tailors. Both of these were chartered by the International office and an organizing campaign in these trades has already been set on foot. Knowing the temper of our Los Angeles workers we cannot doubt that within a reasonable time every waist and dressmaker and every tailor of that city will find his or her way into these new locals.

We have another lively group of cloakmakers, organized as Local No. 8 in San Francisco.

The cloakmakers' trade in San Francisco is not any too large and they admit members of other ladies' garment trades into their local. The local has had a fighting existence for a number of years and at

one time had become almost extinct. For the last two years it is an active, virile organization and it is doing all it possibly can for the local workers.

Lately they have begun a strong campaign among the local ladies' tailors, and from what Brother I. Greenberg informs us, they expect to corral every tailor in town into the local in a short while. Brother Greenberg is a faithful and an energetic worker and his promise may be relied upon.

The failure of President Schlesinger to visit the Pacific Coast locals, as he planned during last October, has caused a great deal of disappointment in that section. They were getting ready to give him a fine reception and to utilize his presence in that territory for mass meetings and other organizing work. The big events that have come to pass in the Eastern centers of our trades, however, have made the departure of President Schlesinger for the Pacific Coast an impossibility, and our California friends will have to wait some time until Brother Schlesinger's journey can be made.

### ST. LOUIS CLOAKMAKERS

Ben Gilbert, general organizer, writes:

"The weeks that preceded the season in St. Louis were weeks of considerable anxiety for the workers. The employers made a concerted move to lower prices on garments and spread the word throughout the shops that now, since the war is over, the workers will have to take whatever terms their bosses may choose to give them. It was a hard time, indeed, as there was not a garment being made in the shops and we felt the employers' yoke on our necks pretty heavily. However, we did not yield an inch of ground. The price committees in the shops were told to stand by their prices and not to allow themselves to be intimidated and very soon things changed for the better. We succeeded, in practically all cases, to get the prices that we insisted upon, and, after the settlements were completed, work began to come in. Today we are working quite steadily and judging by all signs the season will be a good one.

"Our greatest need now is a better organization. You can never have too much of that and that is the only way is (Continued on page 7.)

## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

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Office, 31 Union Square, New York, N. Y.R. SCHLESINGER, President  
A. BAROFF, Socy. Treas.R. YANOFFSKY, Editor  
E. LIEBERMAN, Business Mgr.

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## FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTE BOOK

THE BOSSES IN THE GUISE  
OF CO-WORKERS.

There will come a time, at least that is our hope... when the whole world will consist entirely of workers and when the greeting among men will be: Fellow-worker. But at present this time is yet far off. For the time being the world is still divided into those who work and those who live on the proceeds of the work of others. As things go the world is still divided into workers and employers and it is really a matter of suspicion when the employer meets his worker with the sudden greeting—fellow-worker.

Isn't that so?  
What makes us call attention to this? Just a trifling matter, but a very characteristic one, because on the one hand this "trifle" makes clear to everyone that the bosses of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Association are very much to be pitied, because no matter what else they may be, they are still human beings. And then again, it makes clear that the bosses have gone clean out of their minds, that they do not know where they are and, therefore, their schemes are so stupid that even a blind man can see through them.

The trifle to which we refer, is a handbill which came to our notice and which reads as follows:

## "Fellow Workers:

"We went out on strike for a forty-hour week and an increase in wages. We entrusted our affairs to the officials of the International, and as a result a break has occurred among the leaders and also among the strikers. (Here is something new: a split in the ranks of the workers! But read on)

"Those bosses who broke away from the Association signed up with the union, but they did not promise anything except that they would obey whatever decision would be reached between our union and the members of the manufacturing association. As a result of this, hundreds (no, more than hundreds) of our brother-workers are back at work, whereas thousands of us, less fortunate than these, have no other income than that which we receive from our brother-worker.

"According to the press our members are enthusiastic over the 'victory' they have won in having gotten a forty-four hour week and an increase in wages. The fact is, however, that all of us could attain the same victory if only the officials of the International were not so persistent about the so-

called "review of discharges." Why should we not be permitted to return to work under union conditions, leaving the question of compulsory arbitration to be settled after our return to work?

"If these are the sentiments of the members, why not bring the matter up at the meetings of the shops and local unions?"

## Cutters and Operators' Committee."

Well, what do you think of this handbill sent out by a committee of Cutters and Operators to their brother workers? Do you not recognize the real authors of this inspiring handbill? Of course, we cannot say anything against the bosses for their noble desire to cause discussion among the workers. "Cause discussion and seize power" is an old proverb known to autocrats and scoundrel tyrants. But what we have against them is that they act so foolishly. They insult the intelligence of the strikers if they think for a single moment that through such stupid tricks even the most naive among the strikers will be misled by them. Every lie in that handbill stares one in the face.

Although the handbill does not deserve it, yet we shall study it a little more closely here and so let the bosses know how poorly they can succeed in disguising themselves to attain their petty aims.

## Lie number one:

The greeting: "Brother-workers," is all very well in itself, but one reads it with suspicion when it is preceded with an extract from The World, with the caption: "There seems to be a break among the workers." If the bosses were a little wiser they would have hesitated before quoting, to begin with, this story from The World which is really their own fabrication. They would understand that in approaching their brother workers with this bald lie about a split in the ranks of the workers, they immediately betrayed themselves; they immediately dropped the mask of "brother worker" and appeared in all their ugliness as bosses.

## Lie number two:

"We went out on strike for a forty-four hour week and an increase in wages." A lie, you fake-committee of cutters and operators! The workers did not strike for this alone. They considered it important, but not most important. As proof of this you have the fact that they were willing to leave these demands to arbitration. The workers went out on strike for their basic right of protection against willful discharge by the bosses, a right

which the workers have enjoyed for many years and which the bosses in their blindness and impudence, had decided to take from them. For this, dear bosses making as a committee of cutters and operators, the workers went out on strike.

## Lie number three:

"We entrusted this matter to the officials of our International." Which matter did you entrust to the officials of the International? To get forty-four hours or an increase in wages? A real brother-worker would never have uttered such nonsense. The workers entrusted nothing to their officials, because, first of all, they had faith in themselves, in their union, in their power to fight and endure no matter how long the fight would be. And the officials of the International were dragged into the limelight by the poorly disguised bosses, who hoped that through this the workers could be made to believe that they are out on strike simply because the officials of the International wished it. What a bald, laughable lie this is!

## Lie number four:

"And as a result of the efforts of the officials a break has taken place in the ranks of the bosses and also in the ranks of the strikers."

Oh, you wolves in sheep skins! What fools you must be to have written such nonsense. In these words you gave yourselves away. A split among the bosses, —of course. A split is not the right word. It was a complete collapse. But where has there been the slightest break among the workers? Into whose eyes are you throwing dust? Whom do you expect to fool?

## Lie number five:

"Hundreds of our brothers are working and getting wages, whereas thousands of us, less fortunate, must live on the income which we get from our fellow-workers."

Foolish, unfortunate bosses. If you had the slightest understanding of the psychology of the striker, you would sooner chop off your own hand than write such stupid words which betray you completely. Understand that from the standpoint of the striker those brother-workers who are working and drawing wages, are not so very fortunate. It is not such a great thing for a worker to receive wages. No worker would ever exclaim: "I am not doing it. You press himself in this way. You do not know your parts, well, blunderers that you are. And those workers who are still striking do not feel one bit less fortunate than those who are back at work because they know that in order to succeed it is necessary that some of the workers should be back at work and should furnish the necessary ammunition so that the others may keep up the fight on the front. This is, therefore, simply a necessary division of labor, and you, dear bosses, have been caught in a trap while trying to cause dissension between those already at work and the others who will return to work, victors in the fight.

It may be that you do not grasp this point well so I shall try to be a little more explicit with you: There was a time when it was truly dangerous to permit some of the strikers to return to work while the others continued the fight. This was at the time when the workers were still very much undeveloped spir-

itually and the danger was lest the workers who had remained in the fight should begin to envy those who had returned, and in this way imperil the whole conflict. This state of affairs, fortunately, is long past. The workers with whom you are dealing are thinking men, conscious of their aims and now it is no longer any risk if for strategic purposes these workers are separated into two groups: those who are the fighters at the front and those who are the fighters in the shop. They know that all of them are doing necessary work in the achievement of one and the same purpose. For this reason your efforts to incite one group against the other are in vain.

## Lie number six:

"There are working at present not hundreds but thousands, but thousands; without exaggeration we may say that between fifteen and twenty thousand strikers have been completely victorious. Those who are not working are in the minority, and these are striking and will continue to strike as long as will be necessary until you will yield to every justified demand of the union."

## Lie number seven:

"All of us can share in the same victory if our leaders of the International will not insist on the so-called 'review of discharges'."

"So-called," indeed! Is that the way a union man would speak of a matter that concerns him most in the world? Oh you foolish comedians, how can you conduct big business with so little brains? How can you fail to see that this so-called "review of discharges" is not an invention on the part of the officials... either national or international... but that it is the most vitally important point for every worker, for every union man!

And so this handbill is over-run with lies and stupid falsifications. Every word is a bluff, an idiotic invention, a bit of analysis. And should we wish to analyze this handbill word for word, this paper would not afford us space enough in which to do so. It is sufficient. We took up this handbill merely to point out clearly that the bosses have lost their heads, if they ever had any, and also as the best proof that the bosses have truly been pushed to the wall and that soon, very soon, their downfall will come.

A WORKERS' COUNCIL IN  
THE DRESS AND WAIST  
INDUSTRY

But speaking of the bosses' handbill we cannot refrain from mentioning another similar document. We have in our possession a postal card through which a striker, a member of the union, invited to a meeting in the name of the "Workers' Council." The secretary does not sign his full name but only puts down his initials—F. B.

What is all this about? What is this workers' council? What does it seek to do? What is its aim? Perhaps the council intends to take over the entire "waist industry"? This is not such a bad plan, but why not come to the general strike committee with this brilliant idea? Why make such a secret of it?

And who is the workers' council? By whom was it elected? By the workers? Impossible, because no one has ever heard of

# A LEAGUE OF NATIONS

By A. ZELDIN

The project for a League of Nations proposed by President Wilson as chairman of the League of Nations Committee at the Peace Conference in Paris, was a great disappointment to the socialist and radical elements of Europe and also to the American and European reactionaries. If the American reactionaries have raised a louder outcry than the Europeans, it is simply because they feel more secure. This only goes to show that in American conservative circles they are much less inclined to make even the slightest changes than in similar circles in Europe. And perhaps this is due to the fact that because of America's strictly nationalist standpoint America can gain nothing through this League but will, on the contrary, make the greatest sacrifice to it.

But the socialists, on the other hand, have many reasons for dissatisfaction with the project for the League. They expected a true League of Nations and received nothing more than a league of governments, if not a league of great powers. And then this League which is being planned contains no guarantee against wars... a thing which should have been the prime duty of such a League.

The chief aim of the League of Nations, as it was expressed by President Wilson, should have been to create an instrument for preventing wars in the future. The League, as President Wilson planned it, should have been an alliance of all nations, great and small, strong and weak, and should have served as a check to restrain the stronger ones from attacking and suppressing the weaker ones. Wars in the past were caused, for most part, by the desire of the nations to expand, to win new markets and new colonies where they might be able to dispose of the surplus of their productions and from which they might be able to get raw material needed in their industries. This desire was particularly strong among the large commercial and industrial countries. Now if the League of Nations were truly an instrument to avoid wars in the future, it would, of course, have to serve as a protector of the weaker and smaller nations against the greater and stronger ones. But as proposed by the committee, it seems to have adopted just the opposite attitude.

Of the twenty-six points in the projected constitution of the

League, the most important are, of course, those which are to protect the world against future wars. For this purpose it is planned to create a body, or, as it is called in the language of the diplomats, an instrument, whose work it shall be to carry through this point of the project. But when this instrument is closely studied, one sees that its duty shall not be to avert wars but to forbid wars. The main duty of the League as it is planned, will be to forbid wars against the five big powers who are the founders of the League and against all the other members which these five shall take in with them.

Although the constitution of the League is broad enough to include all the nations of the world, it took care to provide that the five great powers—England, France, America, Italy and Japan—shall have the main say in it. This is guaranteed by the point in the constitution which says that the great powers are to constitute the executive committee of the League together with the representatives of four other countries to be included later.

The League will consist of a so-called body of delegates composed of the representatives of the other countries that will become members and of an executive committee composed of representatives of the five great powers. The constitution contains no point which determines a certain control over this executive committee and it may therefore be assumed that the executive committee will have unlimited power like that of the American Supreme Court.

The League will take in as members only such countries as will agree to the rules and regulations laid down by its founders. What these rules and regulations will be is not mentioned but they may be worked out in such a way that a socialist republic, for instance will find no place in this League.

But most important of all are the points pertaining to disarmament, to armies, and to the production of ammunition. In the projected constitution these points are worked out in such a way that they may have various interpretations. In principle the constitution states that the armies of the countries in the League must not be larger than is absolutely necessary for the internal security of each country. Every government will,

therefore, be able to maintain an army which, according to its views, is large enough for its own "internal security". This may mean an army to be used as a protection against great labor disturbances, against racial uprisings, against revolutions. But besides this, the constitution also mentions that the peculiar "geographic conditions" of each country will have to be taken into account. France, for example, thinks that her geographic conditions are peculiar because her boundaries touch those of Germany and, therefore, she should be permitted to maintain a large army. These same geographic conditions may also be claimed by Poland and others.

As to the production of armaments, the constitution merely expresses a wish that this shall be undertaken by the governments themselves and not by private companies.

But there is one point in the constitution which guarantees to all its members the entirety of their territorial and colonial possessions. This means that all the members of the League will have to make use of all the means prescribed by the constitution, including war, to help any member of the League when some other country tries to take from it some territory or colony... or in the suppression of uprisings and revolutions should some colony desire to free itself from that nation.

The League permits to remain in force all the treaties existing among the various governments. The only reform made is that these treaties can no longer remain secret but will have to be registered with the secretary of the League and every member of the League will be able to acquaint itself with them.

It is difficult to tell just how

this League will work out, because many things are still unsettled, as for example, the question as to which four other countries are to be in the executive. It is not yet known how the League intends to deal with Germany, Russia, the former Turkish and Austrian Empires. Will the League want to include these countries, or some of them, should these remain under control of socialist governments? This question has not yet been answered. But it is difficult to imagine that such a thing will be possible as long as the countries composing the League remain under the control of their present governments.

What can be seen plainly even now is that the League will serve as a guarantee to those countries that were victorious in the war so that their victory may be assured. Each one of these countries will be made certain of the assistance of all the others in case some other country shall ever try to take from it some province or colony, or in case a province or colony shall seek to free itself through an internal revolution.

In this respect the League is no improvement on the former alliances concluded among the various governments or groups of nations. The only difference is that the former alliances strove for a balance of power so that it should not be worth while for any group to begin war, whereas the League seeks to concentrate all power in the League so that no one shall be able or dare to declare war against a member of the League.

The effect which this League may have upon America is a question which requires much discussion and we shall take it up in another article.

## A LETTER FROM CLEVELAND

By M. PERLSTEIN

### ONCE MORE THE QUESTION OF BACK PAY.

The referees in the cloak industry have finally decided that piece workers, too, are entitled to back pay. During the last strike it was agreed between the union and the Secretary of War that if the referees appointed by him would grant the workers an increase in wages then this increase was to be paid them from the day of their return to work.

Well, the referees agreed upon an increase for every body, but our manufacturers claimed that piece workers are not entitled to back pay. The weak workers were given their back pay.

Our International appealed against this decision of the manufacturers and after months of waiting, the referees finally decided that piece workers should also receive back pay. It seems that this did not please the manufacturers and they ran to the referees to expostulate with them about the decision. But our workers have grown tired of waiting and a number of them have already told their bosses that unless they receive their back pay by Wednesday they will strike.

Now we must wait and see what will happen next.

### THE LABOR PARTY.

The workers of Cleveland, including our own cloak makers, are very much taken up with the discussion of the question as to whether they shall organize a Labor Party in our city. The Central Labor Union of Cleveland is taking a referendum vote on this question and if the majority of the members of the various unions will favor it, a convention will be called immediately to organize a party.

It is certain that the unions will favor the organization of a Labor Party but it is difficult to foretell just what this party will be like.

But when it comes to the leaders, one is forced involuntarily to exclaim: "Oh those leaders!" The leaders of most of the Gentile unions are old, stubborn Republican politicians and our radical and progressive ease side, or rather west side, our socialists, as soon as the question of a Labor Party came up, immediately began to oppose it, calling upon the socialists to have nothing to do with it.

Our only hope rests in a small group of people upon whom we can certainly rely. Max Hays is the leader of this group, the leader of the progressive wing in the Cleveland Central Labor Union. And this progressive wing

any such elections. Neither do the workers know anything about it... then what is this mysterious workers' council whose secretary is afraid to sign his full name?

Is this workers' council another tool of the bosses or is it the work of a few foolish boys and girls who should like to play at soviets?

Of course, no matter what it be, this workers' council does not in the least concern the further progress or the ultimate success of the conflict. But we consider it our duty to make public this foolish trick, believing that this, in itself, will put

an end to it. Such nonsense can not survive the light of publicity. There is not the slightest excuse, for such a workers' council. It has no work to do; it can not accomplish anything. The strike is being led by the most competent men of the union, of the entire labor movement. They were chosen by the union. The workers have the fullest confidence in them, and they will justify this confidence as they have always done in former cases. And for this reason, this so-called workers' council, if it is not an invention of the bosses, is merely child's play, and no intelligent worker should have anything to do with it.

is very actively working for the organization of such a party.

**MORRIS BLACK**

**OUR DELEGATE TO EUROPE**  
We well-known Morris Black has been chosen to be one of the thirty odd delegates which the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce is sending to Europe to establish more friendly relations between the businessmen of Cleveland and the businessmen of Europe. This delegation will visit England, France and Belgium.

Our cloakmakers are praying to God that Black shouldn't get lost over there so that he may return before our next strike.

**OHIO MUST HAVE ITS COSSACKS.**

The state officials in Columbus are now busy with their reconstruction plans and the first important matter which they have taken up is the organization of a State Constabulary, or in other words—State Cossacks.

The chief reason given by the legislature for the organization of this body is that the farmers must be protected. Alas, their chickens are being stolen, and for this we must have a State Constabulary.

But a great misfortune happened. It was found out that an expensive lobby was being maintained in Columbus and that thousands of dollars were being spent to bring about the passing of this bill. It was found that the money was being spent not by the farmers but by the manufacturers in the larger cities. It is said that the affair is costing our cloak manufacturers, too, a pretty sum. What have the manufacturers to do with the stealing of chickens? The unions are very much opposed to the bill and are flooding the legislature with resolutions.

But one thing is certain that should the bill not pass this legislature, it will surely be passed next year, unless . . .

**PRINCE BIDERMAN PROMISES A 44-HOUR WEEK.**

Our manufacturers are real good businessmen. As soon as the union sent out circulars and began talking to the workers about a 44-hour labor week, the above-mentioned firm called a meeting of all its workers and notified them that the very next season the firm would establish a 44-hour labor week in its factory.

The Prince Biderman Company is the biggest cloak firm in Cleveland, and employs more than a thousand workers, ninety percent of whom are women.

**OUR CLOAKMAKERS HAVE GOTTEN DOWN TO WORK.**

Just how much in earnest our cloakmakers are in their preparations for a fight to win for themselves a 44-hour week, an increase in wages and a union shop, can be seen from the faithfulness with which they are paying the tax imposed for this purpose.

On Monday, the tenth of February, a meeting was held at which conditions in the trade were discussed and it was decided to impose a tax of five dollars on every man and of three dollars on every woman in order to prepare a large fund before putting the demands before the manufacturers.

On that very day more than six hundred dollars of this tax were collected — something which is rather unusual in

Cleveland. For cloakmakers to decide upon a tax and actually pay it—this shows how much in earnest the members of the organization are in their determination to finally do away with the preferential shop which the manufacturers have established here and to get in its place a preferential union shop.

**THE SEASON HERE IS ABNORMAL.**

The season in the cloak trade is an abnormal one. In some of the shops there is enough work and the workers earn more or less satisfactory wages. Piece workers earn from \$35 to \$75-\$80 a week. Week workers have their own scale. Of course we refer here to union shops.

But in a number of smaller shops there is very little work and quite a number of workers are out of jobs this season.

There is very little work in the skirt and dress shops.

**OUR UNION SHOPS.**

Talking about our union shops we must not forget to mention the following which is certainly nothing new in other cities, but which is new in Cleveland and indicates the new spirit among our workers.

**REJOICING AMONG THE CHILDREN DRESSMAKERS**

The Children's Dress Makers' strike is almost ended. Only a small number of the workers in the smaller shops are still out on strike. The majority of the children's dress makers are back at work, having won all their demands—a 44 hour work week, an increase in wages, and a stronger and greater union!

During the week of the strike, the Children's Dress Makers' Union made more than 1500 members. Certain shops to which the union formerly had no access, have now been organized. Our readers know that President Schlesinger and the officials of the Children's Dress Makers' Union, Local 59, held a series of conferences with the Bosses' Association of this trade. These bosses appeared to be good businessmen and President Schlesinger succeeded in making clear to them that they could not subtract anything from the just demands put to them by the union: The majority of the bosses of the Association (the more important ones, too) understood the true state of affairs and yielded to the demands of

The workers of the Sonnenschein Cloak Company, one of the bitterest opponents of the union, had to be argued with for two whole years before they organized. Now this shop is almost entirely organized and things have gone so far that last week at one of their shop meetings, they presented their chairman with a gold chain.

This was also done by the workers of Kelter Cohen. These men presented their chairman with a fountain pen.

The organized workers of Black meet every two weeks. Last week one hundred and sixty dollars in dues was collected at their shop meeting.

M. Karmak, is a firm which still employs men in the manufacture of cloaks. This firm, wanted, this season, to employ a number of girls. When the workers protested against this, the firm laughed at them. But later when the workers ceased work for just ten minutes, the firm immediately gave up its intentions of employing girls.

The impudence of our cloakmakers! To remain in the shop without working!

New times, new seasons, new birds.

the union even before the strike was declared. But all the shops were called out in order the better to organize the entire industry.

And the results were splendid. Brother Ginsberg, the energetic manager of the Union, is in ecstasies! And so are all the members of the Executive Board of the Local.

The other officials of the Union, Brothers M. Sirota, Louis Econts and H. Greenfield are also very, very happy over the outcome of this short strike. They helped a great deal to bring about this victory. In fact, the entire Union is rejoicing.

According to Brother Ginsberg, this is the gist of the entire affair:

On Monday morning the workers of all the Association shops in the trade were back at work.

By Wednesday noon more than 60 percent of the independent shops had settled and the Union had 1500 new members.

Bravo, Children's Dress Makers!

**EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT IN OUR ORGANIZATION**

A distinguished visitor came to see us this week and were it not for the fact that he insisted on the importance of our work we would never have mentioned his visit. He was the assistant secretary of the Labor Board and he came from Washington, D. C. directly to us in order to find out what we are doing as an organization in the line of educating our members who are for the greater part known as foreign speaking people. He needed figures and facts to embody in a report on Trade Unions and Educational Activities which he is preparing by order of the War Labor Board and which will be printed very soon. After gathering all necessary information about our work and

after taking the trouble of investigating for himself he said that ours is the most complete, best conducted and systematized and steady educational activity he knows of among all labor organizations not excluding the oldest. He was amazed, and he said so, at the many classes in English and other subjects we are taking up. He said that in his report our organization will surely take the most important place.

But this is not the only case where outside people have found our work great and beneficial. If I were to quote all the letters we receive from visitors, investigators, teachers, directors of similar work in other organizations, etc., there would be no room left to speak about our work to our own members. A good outline of our work appeared in the Forward last Sunday and those who can obtain

that paper should do so. The old activities are going on as established and new ones are constantly being arranged. Plans are now being made to establish reading rooms and small libraries in the waiting rooms of the various locals willing to have them. Local 48 has already taken definite steps in this matter. (The Button Hole Makers Union contemplated such a thing long ago—Now it will become a fact.)

The extension Educational Service established lately is working wonders. Through it, locals of the International can have educational features arranged at their own headquarters, at their business meetings, etc. All they have to do is to have their local educational committee confer with us and a program will be arranged. Eight locals are already working in conjunction with our department to this effect and they can report good results. These activities help to stimulate an interest among the members in the union and increase the attendance at the meetings, too.

Until your local thinks of taking up such work for the members do not forget that we have regular classes every day in English and many other subjects; these are in various places within easy reach of our members and are free to them.

I cannot close without speaking about the central classes of our Workers University at Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street, where most interesting courses by well known educators are given. Monday evenings Everett Dean Martin talks on "Evolution and the Labor Movement." The next lecture is to be "Evolution of the Mind," Thursday, Dr. Neumann on "Social Interpretation of Literature," Friday, Dr. J. P. Warbase on "Cooperation," and the class on Public Speaking conducted by Gustav F. Shulz of the College of City of New York on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

No member of the International should miss this opportunity. Those who enjoy a knowledge of English should really be regular students of the Class in Public Speaking where they have a chance to prepare themselves for leadership. Registration for all classes can be made either in the school on days of activity, or through the secretary of locals, or in our office, 31 Union Square.

S. LIBERTY,  
Educational Organizer.

Stealing a Million. . . . Genius Stealing \$500,000 . . . Sagacity Stealing \$100,000 . . . Shrewdness Stealing \$ 50,000 . . . Misfortune Stealing \$ 25,000 . . . Irregularity Stealing \$ 10,000. Misappropriation Stealing \$ 5,000 . . . Speculation Stealing \$ 2,500 . . . Embezzlement Stealing \$ 1,000 . . . Swindling Stealing \$ 100 . . . Larceny Stealing \$ 10 . . . . . Theft Stealing a ham . . . War on Society —Labor, Montreal.



**THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.**

(Continued from page 3.)  
which we can control our trade. Our cloakmakers here are taking a keen interest in the great strike of the waist and dressmakers of New York and we all earnestly hope that this is the last attempt of New York employers to wage a bitter struggle against our International."

**BOSTON CLOAKMAKERS**

Brother Jacob White, the manager of the Boston Joint Board, writes us:

"The situation in our industry in Boston and vicinity is very satisfactory at present.

"The season is in full swing, and there is plenty of work in the shops. Every cloakmaker in the city, including the large number of those who were working on government work and who returned to our trade when war ended, is employed. Owing to this activity in our trade we were able to introduce a number of improvements which considerably bettered conditions here. Among these were a forty-eight hour week and an increase in wages for skirt cutters and piece workers.

"Our most important reform, however, is the introduction of the week-work system in about half of our shops. Judging from our experience we can safely say that it will not be difficult for us to establish the week-work system in our entire trade next season, and we are getting ready for it. By the way, let me tell you that we have a lot of admiration for our new paper, "Justice". All our members, who receive it regularly, inform us that they consider it the best paper that the International ever published. We feel that it will soon become a source of strength and the most powerful weapon for our warfare."

**MONTREAL CLOAKMAKERS**

Only two weeks ago we spoke in these columns of the advance which the Montreal organization was making and of its bright prospects for the future. The way things have been moving in the cloak situation in that city, the change from dark despair to lively and hopeful activity, makes it really worth while to listen again to what the local officers have to say about this situation.

Brother J. Lanch, the new organizer of Montreal, writes to us:

"You are aware that when I took charge of the work of organizing in this city, a short time ago, there was practically no Union. There was, of course, a Union office, but no members, and those that were there had only one fixed idea in mind which they openly discussed, and that was to give up the Union. The locals had no prestige and commanded no respect in any one. At the time I started on my duties in the Union, prices had already been settled in most of the shops. In some shops the employers refused to settle at all, and the workers did not know how much they earned until they received their pay envelopes. In short, the bosses had settled down to have a glorious time and to reap a harvest at the expense of the workers. It seemed, as if the fire of trade unionism had been forever extinguished in the local cloak industry. But they reckoned with-

out the International, that same International which has always spoiled their fond and "peaceful" dreams. We went at them with a will and succeeded in re-settling prices for the piece workers in most of the shops. Moreover, the week workers have received increases, ranging from \$2.00 to \$5.00 per week in all the shops and in some cases even more than that.

"So the Union has come to life again and has become a power to reckon with. Honestly, we feel proud of it. We knew that the local cloak situation was the only sore spot in the entire cloak map of our International in the United States and Canada. We have no doubt that the local workers have by this time learned the required lesson that it is impossible for them to make even a semblance of a livelihood without their union. We are not yet done with organization here. There is lots of room for improvement, but we have got the spirit now and we are going ahead."

"In the past few weeks there have occurred quite a number of stoppages in our shops for increases in wages. Also two stoppages in two of the largest shops in town where the foremen have become quite impossible to get along with, and in both cases we won our point. You can judge from this that no time is being lost by us in taking advantage of the opportunities at hand.

"Again, I want to inform you that our income for the past two weeks has improved. All are returning to the union and are becoming members of good standing. Why should they not? The workers have had their eyes opened to the fact that it is the best investment for themselves and their families."

**BIG EASTERN MOVEMENT FOR MOONEY STRIKE**

Unions Voting Now On Strike Issue.

The State Council of Carpenters of Massachusetts is one of the big organizations of Eastern Labor which recently endorsed the calling of a general strike to commence July 4th on behalf of Mooney and Warren K. Billings. This action was taken at the annual gathering of the representatives of the Carpenters' Union of the State, gathered in convention at Lowell, Massachusetts, on February 18th, 1919.

The Boston Central Labor Union has appointed an active committee of ten, and invited every local union in the city to elect representatives to a General Mooney Committee, which will meet regularly every Sunday morning; under the direction of this Committee the campaign for the General Strike for Mooney will be pushed with the utmost vigor. N. H. Talentire, representing the International Workers' Defense League of San Francisco, is in Boston assisting the local committees.

At Newark, N. J., a joint committee headed by Harry Brown, President of the Essex Trades Council, is actively engaged in placing the strike question before the Newark workers. A call has been issued to all local unions in that city for a Mooney Conference to be held in the near future.

Philadelphia has an active committee at work, under the direction of the central body.

In New York City, invitations have been forwarded to eight hundred local unions by the General Mooney Committee, inviting participation in a conference to be held on Sunday afternoon, March 2d, 1919, at Beethoven Hall. At this meeting definite plans will be announced for the holding of the greatest demonstration ever held by the organized workers in America's Metropolis. This affair is scheduled for the early part of May.

"Its now or never for Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings," states a letter sent to every union in New York City by the General Mooney Committee. This statement reflects the spirit of a million organized workers in the Atlantic States.

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Speaker - Evan Thomas.

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by Dr. Will Durant

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"The Constructive Work of the Soviets."

Sunday, March 9th, 5 p. m.

"William Morris."

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N. Y. State Director of U. S. Employment Service

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Sunday, March 2, 8 p. m.

Admission Free.

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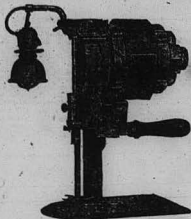
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