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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 9, Iss. 8)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Comments

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

"My righteous-
ness I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."
—Job 27:6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers
of the world
unite! You
have nothing to
lose but your
chains."

Vol. IX, No. 8.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1927

PRICE 3 CENTS

Ladies' Tailors Defeat Communist Officials

Trade Union Candidates Win Election

The election of officers in Local 38, Ladies' Tailors, Alteration and Theatrical Costume Workers' Union, last Friday, February 18, resulted in a decisive defeat for the Communist group in the local which controlled it in the last two years.

Local 38 comprises workers engaged in the higher grade ladies' tailoring and custom shops, some of them catering to society women and the women of the stage. It was under Communist control, that Local 38 conducted a five-day strike in the trade last summer, which resulted in the workers returning to the shops with an empty victory.

Boris Drasin, with a vote of 379, defeated Don Wishevsky, Communist leader of the last strike, by a 190 vote for the managership of the local. The non-Communists also succeeded in electing Italian organizer R. Fasani, A. Dresinsky, as chairman of the local, A. Torchinsky as vice-chairman, and George Beregovoy as secretary. In addition, they made a clean sweep of the ladies' tailors executive board, the dressmakers' executive, the Italian branch executive, the board of trustees and the benefit committee.

N. Y. Central Labor Body Ousts 23 Communist Delegates

Communists Representing I. L. G. W. U. and Fur Locals Expelled—Action Taken on Initiative of President Green—Other Delegates Seated at Once

Twenty-three delegates representing local unions of fur workers and of cloak and dress makers, led by Communist officers, were read out of the Central Trades and Labor Council last Thursday night, February 17, at the request of President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, who informed the central body that the communistic activities of the delegates no longer entitled them to affiliation with the labor movement.

Two of the ousted delegates who sought to protest were silenced by President Joseph P. Ryan, who declared they were no longer recognized as delegates to the Central Labor body. The council went into executive session and the ousted delegates were compelled to leave.

Wall Charges Communists Forming Dual Unions

Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor and chairman of the special committee which investigated the furriers' strike, told the council that the Federation was determined to rid itself of members with Communist affiliations and said that the extreme radicals were making their last stand in New York. He said that the Communists had nearly ruined the local unions of cloakmakers and that the investigating committee had received many letters from fur workers begging the Federation "to free them from the reign of terror conducted by those in charge of the local affairs of the furriers."

Locals 2, 9, 22 and 35 Nominate Candidates; Election in Three Weeks

Hundreds Placed in Nomination for Executive Offices in Operators', Finishers', Pressers' and Dressmakers' Locals.—Special Committee Under I. L. G. W. U. Auspices Will Examine Candidates.

This Monday afternoon, February 21, three big meetings of Local 2, 9 and 35 respectively were held to nominate full sets of executive officers for the current year. The meetings were unusually well attended by members who came to declare their independence of former Communist dictatorship and their enthusiasm for an undivided and rejuvenated union.

The meeting to nominate candidates for office in Local 22, the dressmakers' organization is being held, as we go to press. Locals 2, 9 and 35 nominated nearly three hundred persons for the open offices, but, of course, not all of these are expected to run. Many of them will, in all probability, decline, while some will not appear on the ballot owing to objections that

might be presented to the committee on elections.

Information reaches us that the Communists decided to have a few candidates in these elections in order to be able to confuse some minds in the reorganized locals. A few of their adherents, we are informed, had registered with the rechartered locals for the purpose of getting their names on the ballots. But these fellows may expect rather unceremonious treatment from the I. L. G. W. U. election and objection committee which will be on guard to prevent the disrupters from playing their dirty game in this election.

The International Office also invited the American Federation of Labor and the New York Central Labor Council to take part in the supervision of the forthcoming election of the four locals. Everything will be done to assure a free, clean and untrammelled balloting.

New York "Bond" Peddler Strikes Poor Business in Toronto

Deposed Communist Official Attacks International at Toronto Meeting But Fails to Sell His "Bonds"

Joseph Boruchowitz, ousted Communist secretary of former Local 2 of New York, made a valiant attempt to sell some "cloak strike bonds" at a motley gathering of "trade union

members" in Toronto, on Monday, February 7, but failed. After listening with apparent delectation to a vitriolic attack by Boruchowitz on the I. L. G. W. U., the bolsterous crowd, accustomed to receiving money from labor rather than parting with it, left the hall without compensating the New York "bond" salesman for his efforts.

The meeting took place at the Alhambra Hall. Shur, a Communist member of the Toronto cloak organization, was chairman, and the hall was packed with all sorts of people, among them a number of scabs from the Fashion Cloak Co., some strikebreakers from the Superior Cloak Co., and from the Junior Maid Garment Co., all of

(Continued on Page 2)

White Goods Shop Chairladies Back Up Agreement Negotiations

Vest Confidence in Conference Committee—Condemn Discord Seekers

A special meeting was held of the shop chairladies in the underwear shops controlled by Local 62, White Goods Workers' Union, on Thursday, February 17, at Beethoven Hall. It was the best attended meeting of its sort held by Local 62 in the past few years.

The negotiations for the renewal of the agreement were discussed at the meeting. The conference committee of the local rendered a report, which was accepted by the shop chairladies. Notwithstanding a malicious circular distributed by a small group in the local in order to create dissension and distrust, the chairladies expressed their full confidence in the officers of the union and in the conference committee, and condemned the tactics of this group.

The negotiations with the manufacturers are now in the hands of special sub-committees elected by the con-

ference committees of the Association and the Union. The demands of Local 62 include a forty-hour five-day week, increases in pay for piece workers, raising of wage scales for week workers, and some other modifications.

Communists Sue Union Bank for Return of Unpaid Loan Collateral

Don't Pay Debts But Would Have Security Back—Justice Bijur Will Decide by End of Week

Arguing that deposed Communist leaders of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board and of three cloak and dress local unions are seeking the return of collateral, upon which they obtained loans of \$359,000 from the International Union Bank, without having made any effort to repay the loans, either in whole or in part, Morris

Hillquit, representing the bank, appeared before Supreme Court Justice Bijur last Friday, February 18, to show cause why the collateral should not be returned.

The action, initiated by Communists including Julius Portnoy, secretary of the defunct Joint Board, and Joseph

(Continued on Page 2)

Philadelphia Dress
Now Seems
ertain
dent—All Shops Ready
ediation Fails

strike of 5,000 Philadelphia dressmakers was imminent, at the time of going to press, as a result of the manufacturers' persistent refusal to deal with the workers on the basis of the union's demands following the expiration of existing agreements February 15.

The workers in the trade are thoroughly aroused. Director of Public Safety Elliot, whose intervention was sought by the union to bring the manufacturers to a conference table, seems to have failed in the attempt. Vice-president Elias Reiserberg, manager of Dressmakers' Local 50, yesterday reported that a group of dress contractors have formed an association, ostensibly to combat the workers, and have gone into conferences with the manufacturers' association, possibly for an alliance against the workers.

All sections of the workers are organized. The American girls have a separate branch and have been prominent in appealing to non-union girls. The colored girls also have a strong group. Special organizers at every busy solidifying the ranks of the workers and an encouraging demonstration is expected when they walk out.

New York Central Labor Body Ousts 23 Communist Delegates

(Continued from Page 1)
to the American Federation of Labor. He called on the delegates of the Central Trades and Labor Council to rally around the A. F. of L. and to make the last fight against Communists "short, swift and successful."

President Green, in his letter, said the distressing internal situation created by Communist leaders called for determined and decisive action. Recent developments, he said, showed that the delegates from locals 1, 5, 16 and 15 of the International Furriers Union and 2, 9, 22 and 35 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union had forfeited their right to continue as delegates at the Council's meetings and he ordered that they be dismissed.

Those who were ousted were furriers Ben Gold, L. Berger, Sam Leibowitz, Ben Weinstein, Ben Colonberg,

Sam Mencher, Mark Spirak, Ben Gari, Joseph Fleiss, Lena Greenberg, John Winogradsky, Fannie Warsafsky; cloakmakers, H. Kruger, J. Goldner, A. Furman, Saul Miller, Rose Kaplan, Mollie Perlman, Emma Yaninsky, C. S. Zimmerman, Celia Samorodin, Joseph Goretaky and Elias Kudrinsky.

Ben Gold is the Communist chairman of the Joint Board of Fur Workers and C. S. Zimmerman was the Communist vice-chairman of the cloakmakers' general strike committee.

Directly the ousted delegates left the hall the following ladies' garment workers' delegates were installed in their places: B. Moser, A. Wagnan, J. Hatperin, H. Willenberg, Julius Hochman, Mollie Friedman, L. Rieff, I. Freund, Harry Dorfman, B. Wilensky and F. Rein.

The new fur workers' delegates will be installed later.

N. Y. "Bond" Peddler Fails in Toronto

(Continued from Page 1)
Toronto: An amusing incident noticed at the meeting was that two cloakmakers, who went scabbing to Buffalo during the recent cloak strike in New York City and were deported from there by the U. S. immigration authorities on account of violating the immigration act, were seated, together with other "revolutionists", in the front, applauding heartily every stirring remark made by Boruchowitz and Shur with regard to the International. A few cloak employers running small scab shops were also present, one of them a member of the Communist Party until recently. Besides these "radicals", the hall held a number of non-union cloakmakers, and many non-union workers from other trades who came to do honor to the spokesman of Communism.

Among the fake statements made by Boruchowitz at the meeting was an assertion that "no matter who wins the fight, the 'rights' or the 'lefts', the bonds are safe as the International

is responsible for them." Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The International suspended the four Communist-controlled locals of New York, deposed their Communist officials, and reorganized and re-chartered them. It has expressly repudiated this "bond" issue as a fraud and a fake and has warned our members and the entire labor movement against buying them.

On the same evening, Local 14, the Cloak Operators' Local of Toronto, held a well-attended meeting, at which the fight against Communist interference in the affairs of the ladies' garment workers' organization was the principal subject of discussion. The members present voted to go on record to support the International in every form to drive the Communists out of places of responsibility in the union. A few days later, the Toronto Joint Board sent its first money contribution to the General Office with the promise to send more at the first opportunity.

Deposed Strike Leaders Sue Union Bank

(Continued from Page 1)
Boruchowitz, Abe Zirfin and Portnoy, as secretaries of defunct Local Unions 2, 9 and 22, grows out of a suit brought by the bank on three notes for \$104,000 as part of the money borrowed. The collateral consisted of International Union Bank stocks and stocks of real estate holding corporations. The contention of the Communists, who were represented before Bijur by Philip Wittenberg of 70 West 40th Street, was that the bank entered into a conspiracy with Fred Umhey, acting as trustee, to "deprive the plaintiffs of their property and deprive them of the means of paying their lawful debt,"

including the debt to the bank." To this Mr. Hillquit replied that the Communists had refused to pay any part of the indebtedness or the interest upon it or to seek extension notes. Under the State banking laws, he contended, the retention of the collateral is a matter of course. To the claim that Mr. Umhey voted on the bank stock, Mr. Hillquit replied that he was permitted to do so under the law.

Both sides were given a week in which to offer papers and affidavits, before Justice Bijur renders his decision. In the meantime, the collateral remains in Umhey's possession as trustee.

Communist Efforts To "Pull" Strikes Fail

Corilla Tactics to Drive Workers Out of Shops on Pretext of Discharge Flop—President Sigman in Public Statement Makes Clear No Strike Exists in Either Cloak or Dress Industry

While the Communists in some cloak and dress shops are still seeking, as hard as they can, to impede the work of the International and of the reorganized locals and their leaders to restore the cloak and dress industries to normal, on the whole, their attempts to precipitate shop strikes on a large scale have failed ignominiously.

President Morris Sigman has made this clear in a statement issued to the general press in which, among other things, he explained that the Communists were deliberately pulling a handful of their adherents out of settled union cloak and dress shops to create the pretext that the men are discharged from employment at the behest of the International. The statement goes on to say as follows:

"Some newspaper headlines give the impression that there is a strike at the present time in the cloak and dress industries of Greater New York. This impression has been created as a result of a campaign of misrepresentation and confusion being waged by a group of Communists who formerly held office in our unions but were eliminated from leadership because of their conduct of a 25 weeks' strike in the cloak industry which cost the union over \$3,500,000 and the workers \$20,000,000 in wages, which demoralized the union and subjected 25,000 strikers and their families to unprecedented suffering.

International in Full Control

"This costly strike came to an end in the middle of December, a few days after the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the parent organization of the New York Cloak and Dress Makers, took over the situation. Since the International assumed control, under constitutional provisions of the organization, successive steps were taken to restore the cloak industry to a peace basis and to avert an impending catastrophe in the dress trade similar to the one experienced in the cloak industry.

"Every association of employers in both the cloak and dress trades has settled with the International Union and the workers now enjoy contractual relations with them. The associations are the Industrial Council of Cloak and Suit Manufacturers; the American Association of Cloak and Suit Manufacturers; the Merchants' Ladies' Garment Association; the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association and the Association of Dress Manufacturers, Inc. In addition, the Independent Man-

ufacturers have settled with the union. The Spring season is now at its height and all the workers have returned to their shops, seeking busily to recoup in part their earnings squandered criminally by their Communist Party controlled former leaders.

"Realizing that the International Union, through its same American trade union principles and methods, has restored the workers to a decent and honorable livelihood and that the overwhelming mass of the workers, through registration with the International Union, have vigorously supported the union program, the ousted Communists are fomenting trouble at a time when the International is engaged in building up the union and the industry nearly wrecked by the Communists. The Communist methods are various. Failing to engage public support through their own pet creations, so-called 'impartial committees' denouncing the International within the union and so-called impartial committees 'for democracy' outside, all playing the Communist game, they have now called 'strikes' against a handful of union shops, terrorizing the workers by strong-arm methods of underworld characters.

Outlaw Strikes Based on Fraud

"These outlaw strikes are called, according to the Communists, because one or two Communist adherents among the workers in the effected places 'refused to register with the International' and they were discharged. The fact is, however, that in every instance, these Communist adherents were pulled out of the shops by their discredited leaders to give them the pretext that they had been discharged from employment at the behest of the International. The International has stated on a number of occasions that no man or woman will be deprived of the right to the job, regardless of his political affiliations. To the contrary, there have been a number of instances where Communist sympathizers, having grievances against employers, promptly received the aid and assistance of the International, though they did not apply to us for relief.

"We wish to impress the public that there is no strike in either the cloak or dress trade. The Communists, no doubt, would increase the disorder about a greater number of shops if they could muster more than a handful of adherents or be financially able; after their costly mismanaged strike, to employ more gunmen and terrorists."

UNION LABOR LIFE INSURANCE CO. TO BEGIN BUSINESS

The original mark or capital stock set at \$600,000 has been exceeded by \$150,000. Books closed finally on February 21. New subscriptions are pouring in daily, and the demand for insurance policies continues unabated. Actuaries and management are bending every effort to have the new offices opened at the earliest possible moment, and it is believed that about the first of March transfer of files and work can be made.

The recent directors meeting held in the Executive Council Room of the American Federation of Labor consumed three days. A large volume of business was handled, and the record of the meeting runs forty thousand words.

Policy forms in preparation are as simple in language as can be devised, and from an art standpoint reflect the best taste of the lithographer and photo-engraver combined with the skill of the printer.

Rate books are almost ready. The present offices are crowded due to the necessary augmented force of clerical assistants.

The best of modern equipment in office appliances will be installed, and the new quarters in their splendid location will be a source of pride to all interested in this great advance step for Labor.

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The Case of the Pullman Porter

By F. F. W.

DURING the last weeks of 1926, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, through their general organizer, laid the facts of their conditions in the Pullman service before the United States Railway Mediation Board, established under the Watson-Parker Bill. With this, they founded an important turn along the road they are traveling to better conditions and union recognition.

The importance of this step lies far deeper than appears on the surface. The case of the Pullman Porter may constitute in many ways a test-case for the mediation machinery that has supplanted the Railway Labor Board. For the continued refusal of the Pullman Company to confer with the chosen representatives of their employees in this case, or to take cognizance by any satisfactory action upon grievances that have been in existence for three decades, raises a clear-cut challenge to the Mediation Board. Its success in settling this case according to the standards on which it has been created must constitute a real test of its efficacy. When we recall that representatives of organized railroad employers and organized railroad labor combined to formulate in the Watson-Parker Bill, machinery for the amicable settlement of disputes on the roads, that the Pullman Company participated in its formation and thus endorsed its underlying philosophy, that the Pullman Company cooperated in this instance, as it has since 1913, with the independent union of its conductors—we must realize how real is the challenge presented to the Mediation Board by the Pullman Company's refusal ever to confer with chosen representatives of their porters and maids. The American public, so generally interested in the efficient operation of its railroads, will watch with close interest the progress of this strategic case now before the Mediation Board.

What Survey Shows

The justice of the case which the porters thus place in the hands of a government agency gives added edge to the manner of its settlement. Indeed, that any large group of American workmen should be compelled—or even able at this time to protest such inadequate wages and working conditions as those of the Pullman porters and maids is immediate indictment of the employer responsible for them. No rhetoric is necessary to indicate the full gravity of that indictment; the facts speak for themselves.

In January, 1926, the Labor Bureau, Inc., was charged by the Brotherhood with the assembling of all pertinent facts on the status of the Pullman porters and maids by a thoroughgoing, scientific survey. Questionnaires were distributed among the porters and maids to obtain information on their current conditions; porters were interviewed, documents and records were analyzed, the history of the employees' conditions, and of the financial

growth of the company was reviewed. The findings make a voluminous report of some 300 pages. Some of the most significant may be summarized as follows:

The work of the Pullman porter and maid is many-sided, responsible and complex. Time and again officials of the Pullman Company have testified to its importance to the comfort and safety of the traveling public and to the earnings of the company.

The Company, again, has testified before government commissions that it wants negroes as porters, yet offers them no chance for advancement outside the service itself. The range of wages for type and length of service as porter, then, holds for these essential workers their only chance for advancement.

Present wage scales in the Company (as effective February 15, 1926) range from a minimum of \$72.50 per month to a maximum of \$104.00 according to length and grade of service.

Actual earnings of the porters average about \$78.00 a month. Out of this they must defray certain definite occupational expenses arising in the regular course of their employment. For the first ten years in the service they pay for their own uniforms. They always buy their meals in the Pullman diner on the road, and in outlying terminals away from home. Some pay for sleeping quarters at outlying terminals. All buy their own polish and equipment with which, at the Company's command, they clean the shoes of travelers. On the average, their expenses take about \$34.00 out of their monthly earnings. Net compensation from the Pullman Company thus averages about \$44.00 per month.

Porters Ask Abolition of Tips
The traveling public pays about \$7,000,000 per year to the porters in tips—an average of \$58.00 per month to each porter. The porters ask the abolition of the tipping system as an imposition upon the public, an unfair and unnecessary subsidy to the Pullman Company, and an injustice and degradation to the porter. Only by the establishment of living wage scales, for which the Company as employer is clearly responsible, can all porters, regardless of the "goodness" or "badness" of their runs, be assured adequate earnings and tolerable working conditions. Today porters average, even with tips, only about \$100.00 per month.

Wage rates are based on mileage performance. Porters must cover 11,000 miles or an equivalent of 366.6 service hours per month, before they earn overtime.

Calculation of porters' working time makes the porter contribute regularly many hours of work for which he receives no pay. Before the train leaves the depot, the porters must prepare his car and receive passengers; when it arrives he must discharge passengers and clear the car. On the average, each porter contributes about fifty hours of such terminal and preparatory time for which he receives absolutely no pay.

Porters, on the average, work about

For A Constructive Chinese Policy

By NORMAN THOMAS

The United States still has time to take a decisive step in winning Chinese friendship. It is a step suggested by many of the best experts on Chinese affairs. It is this: Let the President formally announce his willingness to negotiate new treaties with a representative commission of Chinese on which both the principal factions will agree. One of the striking facts about the Chinese situation is that Canton and Peking, the Nationalist Party and their enemies, the old war lords, are and have to be a unit in demanding the revision of the treaties. Dr. Sze, Chinese Minister to Washington is in touch with both Canton and Peking. Almost certainly a representative Chinese commission could be created. If not, it would clearly be the fault of the Chinese, where as today the failure of any steps toward negotiation is primarily the failure of the United States and other Western Powers. At the same time it has been suggested that the President appoint a representative American commission to visit China and study all the relevant facts in a spirit of friendship so that we may be able to negotiate intelligently for new treaties.

In dealing with China it must be remembered that we have everything to win, even financially, by friendship. Our material interests in China are relatively small—some \$70,000,000 of commercial investments and \$80,000,000 of missionary property. Our trade interests are very much larger—\$224,475,000 in 1924. Even the English imperialist, Winston Churchill, has remarked that "almost the last thing you usually do to a potential customer is to shoot him." Certainly it is the last thing that missionaries should want done to potential converts. Nothing stands in the way of a constructive and peaceful Chinese policy except pompous notions of national prestige and the pig-headedness of cer-

tain American business men and officials in China. These are the factors responsible for our gunboat policy in which we are still persisting despite the fact that in the critical condition of China that policy is far more likely to precipitate some tragic incident than really to protect American interests.

Mr. Carmi Thompson, Commissioner to the Philippines, and erstwhile member of the "Ohio gang", has made a better job of his report to the President than we anticipated. He sees the psychological and practical reasons why the government of the islands by a general with a "Cavalry Cabinet" cannot bring satisfaction. He has not been taken into camp by the rubber interests and he comes out definitely against the division of the islands which they wanted and against modification of the Philippine land laws by our Congress. So far, so good. Less can be said for his reasons as to why Philippine independence should be indefinitely postponed. From that point of view the Philippines have a right to regard his report, as the New Republic suggests, as a process of "gilding the cage". They want not new gilt, but freedom.

GRATITUDE

The workers of Hendrix, 521-7th Avenue, one of the most important dress shops where mostly Italian workers are employed, and controlled by the Business Agent Landoli, wishing to show in a tangible way their gratitude and respect to their chairlady sister Rose Genet, who spared no time nor energy in keeping the shop in the best of union conditions, have presented her with a beautiful and expensive clock.

We extend sincere congratulations and praise to the chairlady and to the workers of the above-mentioned shop.

LOCAL No. 89.

243 hours each month. This is equivalent to an eleven and one-half hour day and a seven day week.

It is for such reasons that the Pullman porters today ask the abolition of the tipping system, a wage of \$150 per month, and a 240-hour basic month, including preparatory and terminal time. They ask definite provision for sleep on the road, and the recognized right to independent representation.

This last right is fundamental. The porters have been demanding the right to organize independently for years. In 1913 both the Pullman conductors and Pullman porters were presenting their grievances to the United States Industrial Commission. Today, Pullman conductors enjoy a living wage, a 240-hour basic month, pay for all labor performed, definite provision for sleep on the road, shorter runs, and a reorganized, independent union.

Company Union a Failure

Analysis shows that the independent Order of Sleeping Car Conductors, formed in 1918, has succeeded in win-

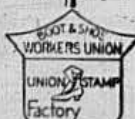
ning these demands for the conductors. The Company union, on the other hand, the so-called Plan of Employee Representation, formed in 1920, has failed in the case of the porters. Why does the Pullman Company recognize the independent, self-formed and self-managed union of its conductors, and refuse to recognize the independent union of its porters?

The financial records of the Pullman Company reveal a growth remarkable even in the annals of American industry. The original investment was \$36,000,000; the present capitalization is \$155,000,000. Net earnings in 1926 exceeded \$16,000,000; dividends paid exceeded \$10,000,000.

The Pullman Company has consistently ignored all attempts on the part of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters to confer. The Brotherhood has, however, enlisted the interest of the Railway Mediation Board, who delegated one of its members for a preliminary investigation. The porters' organization deserves the wide interest and sympathy of the American public.

Buy Union Stamped Shoes

We ask all members of organized labor to purchase shoes bearing our Union Stamp on the sole, inner-sole or lining of the shoe. We ask you not to buy any shoes unless you actually see this Union Stamp.



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Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
244 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.
COLLIS FOVRELY General President
CHARLES L. HAYNE General Secretary-Treasurer

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

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EDITORIALS

CLOAKMAKERS, KEEP UP YOUR WORK STANDARDS!

Here are a few timely words to the New York cloakmakers.

After long months of idleness, most of you are finally back at work. The last season had been ruined for thousands of you by the criminal strike policy of the Communists who controlled the old Joint Board and pulled the strings behind their dummies, the now deposed officials of that defunct body. That mismanaged strike had cost many of you the earnings that would have gone far toward covering the bills of the grocer and of the butcher, that would have bought shoes and clothing for your children, and would have paid the rent for your flat.

But that strike nightmare is now over. The spring season is on, and the cloak shops are once again, more or less, active. We know that you are eager to get back to work in full swing. We know that you are anxious to repair somewhat the damage caused by the damnable crew of Communist adventurers who gambled away your bread and butter last season. One can hardly blame you for this eagerness to recoup the losses you have suffered—you certainly need every cent you can possibly earn.

And because we fully understand this, we should like, at this moment, to give you a few words—more of advice than warning—that, we are confident, you will take in the right spirit and proceed to carry out like loyal union men and women.

* Cloakmakers, keep up the work standards in the shops!

This is the sum total of our appeal to you. Go back, in your mind, over the long and difficult road you traveled to win for yourselves tolerable work conditions in the shops—the bitterly fought strikes, the cold and hungry picket lines, the steady, unceasing vigil inside the factories, the daily battles against relentless opposition of the bosses. Compute, if you can, how much it has cost you in the past fifteen years to gain union standards in the cloak industry, and what a mountain of effort and energy you and your fellow workers had to spend, later, to safeguard these standards!

Remember, nothing, absolutely nothing has ever been given to you without a struggle. The Communist fakery and demagogues who used to tell you that they are opposed to certain gains and standards which come as a result of "class collaboration" only lied to you. No matter how you wrest anything from the manufacturers, whether through a strike or at the conference table, your gains are never acquired through such a thing as "class collaboration". And if you get anything from your bosses through negotiations, in any of its forms, it is because they know that you are ready and willing to back up your demands by the solid strength of your organization!

Cloakmakers, safeguard the five-day work-week! Don't allow yourselves, and don't permit your neighbor at the machine, to sneak into the shop on Saturday in violation of the express provision of our agreement with all the employers in trade. Make it unnecessary for the officers of your Union to patrol the cloak district on Saturday mornings to guard against violations of Saturday work! Your bosses will have little respect for you and for your Union, and for their agreements with it, if they come to believe that you cannot be relied upon to keep inviolate such an important shop condition as the five-day week.

Keep an eye that the wage increases granted under the new agreements are effective in all the shops without exception. Don't permit the bosses, and the underhand, tricky machinations of the Communists, inside and outside the shop, to kill the unemployment insurance fund, which, even in the last unfortunate strike, paid out three-quarter of a million dollars to the strikers. Don't let the manufacturers, with their Communist allies, sabotage the sanitary union label, which, under the circumstances of our industry, is one of the most effective controllers of union, safety and sanitation standards we have ever had.

And, above all, keep up the healthy, sound and robust atmosphere of trade unionism in the shop every hour of the day and every day of the week. Make your shop, each of you individually and as groups, the best union shop in the trade, and the dark shadows of the recent past, the gall and wormwood on which the Communist crew of traitors had fed you during their fortunately short regime in our Union, will soon disappear entirely.

Cloakmakers, your Union and its leaders always have looked upon you as the real defenders of the organization and of its work rules and conditions in the industry. At this day, more than at any other, it is important to keep up the standards in the shops. We know that you will do your duty!

THE COMING ELECTIONS IN THE CLOAK AND DRESS LOCALS

With the nomination of candidates for officers in Locals 2, 9, 22 and 35 an accomplished fact this week, and elections slated to follow within three weeks, the road for their return to complete local autonomy is now definitely clear.

Before March comes to an end, it may now reasonably be expected, normal life will have been restored in all our New York cloak and dress locals, under duly and properly elected executive boards, representing the will and the voice of their members and not the will of an outside political junta.

There are still a few weeks left before these elections take place. It seems to us, nevertheless, that it is not too early to impress our members with the importance of taking part in the coming balloting.

It is positively no exaggeration to say that this forthcoming election will be the most significant held in the history of the New York cloak and dress organization. For the first time in years, the cloakmakers and the dressmakers, members of Locals 2, 9, 22 and 35, will come to nominate and elect candidates for office as free and uninterfered with members of a trade union, having the right to criticize the candidates and to make their choice on the basis of the candidates' fitness for office solely and not on the basis of their affiliation with a political group. And what is even more important, this coming election will give the cloak and dressmakers their first chance to show to the world, by a mass participation, that they can practice true democracy in their unions—not the fake brand of which the Communists are such adepts—when they are left alone by "world saviors" and missionaries from outside.

These elections will also serve in a final way to show up the fraud of the so-called election perpetrated by the handful of Communist puppets about two weeks ago, presumably in Locals 2, 9, and 35, and about 10 weeks ago, in Local 22. The "elections" in these locals, especially in the so-called Locals 2, 9 and 35, though staged in regular Communist fashion, proved, even according to the write-ups in the Communist press, rather sorry shows. Despite ludicrous juggling with figures, they succeeded in confirming only the impression that, as a factor in the life of our Union, the Communists and their camp followers belong to an unsavory past.

In the coming elections for officers of the bona fide locals chartered and recognized by the International Union and by the organized labor movement, the members of the operators, finishers, pressers and dress makers organizations will, we are certain, demonstrate by the weight of many thousands of votes that they and not the group of impostors dressed up by the Communists as "locals 2, 9, 22 and 35", represent the overwhelming majority of cloak and dressmakers in New York.

It will be the last shovel of earth upon the grave of these pretenders who for a short day had the audacity to presume that they could steal the union from under the very noses of the New York cloak and dressmakers and "get away with it."

THE LAST STEP DOWN: SCAB "UNIONISM"

If anything was needed to prove that the back of the Communist "camel" in our Union is hopelessly broken, the news which leaked out in the press last week to the effect that the discredited and deposed job holders of former locals 2, 9, 22 and 35 are forming dual scab unions in opposition to the locals recognized by the International, has supplied that want.

Lower than that, to a more degrading depth than the formation of scab groups, it hardly is possible to descend in the world of labor. It tops fittingly the career of disruption upon which these knights of a "garment workers' social revolution" embarked a couple of years ago, a career dotted with wrecks of trade union bodies on which they, at one time or another, succeeded to lay their hands.

The special fact in point to which we refer is the appearance of union due books in some cloak and dress shops purporting to have been issued by Locals 89, the Italian dressmakers' organization, and Local 48, the Italian cloakmakers' union and counter-signed "Julius Portnoy, Secretary".

These books were sold to some unwary Italian cloakmakers and dressmakers by the deposed officials of the dismantled Joint Board, and inside their pages were pasted used International due stamps, obviously detached from old due book pages and gummed down in the fraudulent books of "Locals 89 and 48". This deceit, sanctioned apparently by best Communist theory and practice, is being perpetrated to separate some innocent Italian workers from their pennies, on the assumption clearly that other, better informed workers would not "fall" for such a palpable fake.

We are not for the moment concerned with the legal aspect of this fraud. It is quite likely that Locals 48 and 89, should they find it necessary, will discover ways and means for putting a stop to these marauding tactics of the hungry Communist ex-job holders. But it is the sordid spectacle of these erstwhile high-minded peddlers in "social revolution" stooping to the lowest forms of chicanery and deceit in order to extract a few pennies from workers who can ill spare it, that is truly depressing. To think only that these fellows could have been officers and leaders of an American labor organization!

"Julius Portnoy, Secretary" on a member book of Italian Local 89, padded out on the inside with old stamps to give it the appearance of marketable "goods", is quite symbolic at this late day of the road these camouflagers had traveled at such a swift pace in the last few years—down the hill from the apostolic heights of a "Leninistic revolution", to the abyssal depth of scab unionism and petty larceny.

With American Communists Underground

A Series of Articles by a Cloakmaker, For Years Active in Communist Party Work in the United States and Intimately Familiar With the Tactics and Technique of the "Workers' Party" Union Wrecking Crew—Quit Communist Outfit Disgusted and Disheartened With Its Policy of Wholesale Deception and Sinister Dictatorship.

By Way of Preface

Brother Joseph Levinson, the writer of this series of articles, is a worker, a cloakmaker, who received his revolutionary education and training in Russia, and later in this country. He is a clear-thinking, well-read person, with a thorough understanding of the Socialist movement. Levinson is an idealist of the finest type. He joined the ranks of American Communism back in 1919, right after the first split in the Socialist Party, when, as a member of the executive committee of the Russian Socialist Federation, he went over to the Communist dissentists together with the entire body of that Federation.

Brother Levinson never held a paid office in the Communist Party or in any of its offshoots, and enjoyed the unlimited respect of his co-workers. His revolutionary record in Tsarist Russia includes a sentence of himself and his wife to nine years of hard labor in Siberia, from which they were liberated unexpectedly by the general amnesty of 1905, after the first Russian revolution. He was arrested and thrown into jail several times, and spent altogether seven years in the prisons of Russia and Siberia. Twice he succeeded in escaping from a Siberian dungeon.

Levinson was a member of the Russian Social Democratic Party, which entrusted to him the dangerous mission of maintaining underground printing presses in Odessa, Minsk, Ekaterinoslav, Charkov and Kiev. In 1907 Brother Levinson was arrested in a revolutionary press room and sentenced by the Kiev Political Chamber to life imprisonment in a Siberian hard-labor jail, from which he fled in a year. In 1910 he came to America.

How the Communist Party Had Plunged the Cloakmakers Into the Last Strike

By JOSEPH LEVINSON

WHAT I am about to tell will be no news to any Communist who has ever been admitted to an inner party conference or meeting. What I am experiencing at this moment, as I write these lines, has probably been felt by all honest Communists, who, duped and misled for years, are now fast deserting the ranks of the Communist Party, while some of them are dropping out of the labor movement altogether.

My own bitter experience, however, fortunately for myself, has left me with my Socialist ideals still unshattered. The labor movement is still my home, and I know of no other aim in life than to work for its growth and development. I feel that because I have come to the realization that the Communist movement is a fraud, or rather that the Communist movement has fallen into the hands of fakery and adventurers, it has become my duty to return to my brothers and comrades who recognized this fake years before I did. I feel that it is my duty to speak up as loudly as I can: "Fellow workers, beware of the Communists! Beware of these destroyers of the labor movement!"

Occasionally, as I meet some of my former co-members of the Communist Party, I am being reproached by them for having "deserted to the 'rights'." Poor souls, who are they these critics of mine? Disappointed Communists, mental and spiritual derelicts, who now have withdrawn from active work in any group or party, men whose revolutionary days are a mere memory, who cannot return to active life, who cannot hope to make good the errors they had made and the damage they had done as puppets in the hands of their Communist chiefs! One of them, who recently spoke to me about it, had his rage awakening during the visit last year of Abramowich, the famous Bundist and Socialist lecturer, in America. The Communists broke up nearly every meeting which Abramowich addressed. It was a shameful and disgusting performance, and, at a meeting of his party branch, this man later had fling his red card into the chairman's face, shouting: "To hell with you, with your party and with your dirty politics," and left the hall without as much as giving his "comrades" a chance to stage a trial comedy and expel him from the party.

To these men the bankruptcy of Communism has become the bankruptcy of the Socialist ideal. They cannot see the horizon of the labor movement behind this wreck which the Communists are leaving in the wake of all their activity. And besides, these poor fellows appear to be stricken with a squeamishness about coming out in the open and denouncing the dupsters and adventurers for fear that they might be labeled "squealers". How silly! In a land where political activity is legalized for all parties, this boy-man of "squealing" is obvious nonsense and piffle. In the United States only thieves—and perhaps Communists—are trying to save their skins by yelling "squealer". In the United States it is the duty of every Socialist to shout to the workers from every corner: "Beware of the Communist charlatan and swindler!"

I, for one, should like to save as many workers as my voice might reach from falling into the clutches of this swindle. There is no squealing in my case at all, former comrades of mine! It is a cry from the depths of a wounded Socialist heart.

Those who stand at the helm of the Communist outfit in America are, indeed, terror-stricken at the thought of such "squealing". They tremble at the mere mention of the word. I should like to characterize their state of mind and morale in the words attributed to none other than H. Burkin, who for seventeen years was a member of the "Forward" staff and was forced to leave it on account of his Communist activity. In speaking to an intimate friend of his, Burkin, one of the theoreticians of Communism in this country, is said to have described it in the following old Russian proverb: "One thief on top of another chased by a third one."

Silent for Years—Why?

And now, a few words to some of my comrades from the Socialist movement, who seem to be at loss to understand how for years I had been able to suffer in silence this game of swindle and fraud of the Communists and lend in this manner tacit approval of their destructive activity.

Well, to this the only intelligent answer—an answer that is true not only in my case but in the case of every other conscientious Communist, such as had been silent, as are silent, and as

will probably continue to be silent—is the following:

In the first place, I did not keep quiet. I asked questions, I protested, I argued. They looked upon me as on a "naive creature"; they smiled at me cynically, slapped me on the back, and told me that I was not a politician.

Secondly, it takes time to come to a final break, to a final realization, before one gives up every hope. It is difficult to tear oneself away from loyalty to one's party and comrades, from a loyalty that is nearly nine years old. Then again, you acquire the habit of Communist phrase-mongery, of an inertia born of set visions and dreams, and this inability to shake off dreams continues even after they had become a nightmare. It is told by astronomers that we are able to see many stars shining in heaven long after they had died out, as it takes a long time before the extinction of their light would reach our eyes. That is exactly what takes place in the minds of the disappointed Communists, who begin to protest several years too late.

I have given my best years to the cause which was nearest my heart. I was nearly deported for my Communist activity. It is not difficult to imagine what deportation would have meant for my family and my four children. But I would have gladly made the sacrifice for my ideal. And when now I think of how the standard-bearers of my ideals had laughed at my loyalty and had called it "naivete", it almost breaks my heart. But I am happy to think that I am finally able to speak with the mask clear off my face. Such as are still masked, may cry "shame!" and may try to insult me. But that is now their profession, their means of making a living. They do not bother me. They know they tell the truth.

I hope to be pardoned for this long introduction. I simply had to ease my heart of the burden which has been oppressing it for eight long years. Now I will proceed to tell of the work of the Communists and their party in the United States, insofar and inasmuch as it was given to me to know of them. I will start with the cloak trade, since it is the trade I work at.

Why the Communist Party Decided to Have a Strike in the Cloak Industry

Some three years ago, the cloak industry, its problems and troubles, began to create a furore in Communist branches and in Trade Union Educational League groups.

Some time before that, the Communist Party (the Workers' Party) had issued an order to its members to capture the New York Cloakmakers' Union, but met with failure. But the time was approaching when the agreements between the workers and the employers would expire. It was toward the end of 1923, and the union was working out demands to be presented to the manufacturers as a basis for the renewal of the collective contracts.

Conditions in the trade were far from cheerful. The Communist Party, then, ordered a mobilization of all Communist members of the Cloakmakers' Union. A caucus was held in the headquarters of the Communist Party in New York, at that time located in Chrystie Street. P. Youditch, a member of the "Freiheit" (Jewish Communist daily in New York) came to that meeting to instruct the cloakmakers how to carry on the strategy of the party within the union.

I have often heard it mentioned that this Youditch at one time was quite a loyal Socialist. "An unassuming person but an honest man," I heard people talk about him. Could you but see this "honest Socialist" today, after

he had been for years immersed in Communist politics! This is what Youditch told us at that meeting:

"The cloakmakers' union is about to put forth certain demands to the employers. The market is in a very nervous state; the styles are an unstable as the weather. Every demand which the union is about to make is a Utopia (that is exactly the word he used), a dream which cannot be realized. The demand for a time guarantee is a Utopia, all the other demands are impossibilities. The manufacturers will not agree to any of these demands. It is, therefore, very probable that the Union will make an attempt to arbitrate matters with the manufacturers. We must not permit this to happen. Our comrades in the Cloakmakers' Union must force the issue of a strike."

Jockey the Union Into Rash Offensive

But how is the Union to be forced into a strike? Youditch issued the following instructions to the comrades:

Each of them was to attend the section meetings called by the union, and not only force the union to adopt the impossible demands which were being considered, but to shout that they were not sufficient. The demands which are to be submitted to the manufacturers must even be greater. The Communist members are to be the first to raise the cry for greater demands, and the masses would be sure to take it up. This cry would force the Union to submit these Utopian demands to the manufacturers, for if the demand for greater demands should be loud and insistent, the union would have no other way out but to make these demands in the name of the membership. It is as clear as daylight that the manufacturers would refuse to agree to these demands, and a general strike would be forced upon the industry. It is also clear that the strike would be lost. The industry will then be thrown into a tumult. The membership will become embittered; the "rights" will have no excuse to offer for their defeat, and we, the Communists, will then have very little difficulty in taking over the union and all of its locals into our own hands.

When I heard these devilish plans, which were to be carried out at the expense of scores of thousands of cloak makers and their families, my blood began to boil. I, and perhaps a few others, felt that this was shameful treachery. But no one dared say a word. Those were instructions, and they had to be carried out. I was still a loyal Communist, in spite of the anguish I often felt. This criminal treachery towards the cloakmakers was merely another stab at the heart. And a small voice within me argued: "The 'Forward' writes so much about the Communist traitors, why cannot we come out in the open and state publicly that everything the 'Forward' tells of us is true?" That is what I thought to myself, and in later years I heard the same words at secret meetings of Communists. Comrades would whisper into each other's ear, so as not to be heard by neighbors.

After this caucus meeting I attended the meeting of what was then Local No. 11 of the International in Brownsville, which met in the Brownsville Labor Lyceum. Israel Feinberg addressed the meeting on behalf of the union.

Feinberg presented the demands of the Union, and the Communists applauded. This was their treachery. They forced him, in accordance with Mr. Youditch's instructions, to stand firm in defense of the Utopian demands which were to be submitted to the manufacturers. This action on the part of the Communists had the desired effect. Feinberg took this outburst of enthusiasm to mean that the Communists were willing to lend a helping hand. Applause is sweet to the ears of every speaker, and he waxed more and more enthusiastic (Continued on page 7)



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Social Tendencies In Literature

By B. J. R. STOLPER

Course given in the Workers' University,
Room 530, Washington Irving High School.

"Sholom Asch: The Lyric Spirit of the Rude Flesh"

The Man Seven or eight years younger than Pinski. He came to New York after the War, one of the arrivals who moved the Yiddish literary center from Warsaw to New York. He is now in Paris.

The Artist Personally a cosmopolitan, rather than a socialist or a nationalist like Pinski, or a moralist like Peretz or Mendele. He has no propaganda, not even that of laughter like Sholom-Aleichem. He keeps his eye on his subject and its artistic effect, always strongly rooted in Yiddish themes and traditions.

Characteristics A charm, a sweetness of handling like Gorki or like Dostoevski, particularly striking where his scenes are laid among thieves, brothels, outcasts, rude farm-hands and earth and animals. A remarkable joy in nature and human beings. A power to show the poetry of the Jewish past and the Jewish holiday spirit. Humor that is pretty broad at times, even coarse, but that fits his theme and characters perfectly.

Shortcomings A tendency to write too fast and too much, and therefore to fail occasionally in planning carefully.

Literary Forms Asch has used almost all forms, being particularly strong in the short-story, the drama and the novel. In the last two he is master of a field left untouched by his own master Peretz.

Dramas Of these, "The God of Vengeance" is the most powerful. This was produced in Germany by Max Reinhardt; has been translated into many languages, and enjoyed the distinction of being ordered off the boards by the police when produced here in New York. It depicts, unforgettablely, the terrible retribution visited on the father who keeps a brothel: his own daughter becomes a prostitute, in spite of the pious gift which is to buy his child's purity from an angry God. Other fine plays are "Jephtha's Daughter", a symbolic play on the theme of sex, "The Sinner", "Our Faith", "With the Current", dealing with the struggle between the old and the new in religion and custom; "Sabbathal Zvel", a readable but dramatically unconvincing portrayal of the Turkish-Jewish Messiah.

His Early Success "Returné" and "The Town"—enchanting pictures of Jewish rural life, still considered his best by many.

Novels "Mottke Gonef (Motike the Vagabond)", an original, yet an odd reminder of "Crime and Punishment"; "The God of Vengeance" is a reminder of "The Lower Depths"; "Uncle Moses", tragic story of an "all-right-nik" in America, his rise and fall. "The Sacrifice for His Holy Name", a historical presentation of the Jews' side in the same bloody 17th century epoch in Russia given by Gogol in "Taras Bulba" from the Cossack viewpoint, and by Sienkiewicz in "With Fire and Sword" from the Polish viewpoint.

THE THEATRE GUILD EXTENDS REDUCED PRICE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Offer Good Until March 10

At the request of the Educational Department, the Theatre Guild management decided to extend their workers' subscription offer until March 10. This offer entitles our members to see five plays for \$5.00 and get \$2.20 balcony seats.

The plays offered are "The Silver Cord," "Pygmalion," "Ned McCobb's Daughter," "The Brothers Karamazov," and one other to be produced later. In addition, subscribers will receive greatly reduced rates for an engagement of the Rochester American

FINE MUSICAL PROGRAM ARRANGED FOR THE PATERSON STRIKERS

The Educational Department arranged a splendid musical program last Wednesday, February 16, for the white goods strikers in Paterson.

Ray Porter Miller, coloratura soprano; James E. Phillips, basso; and Marcus Popper, pianist, participated in the program. The audience enjoyed the program and expressed its appreciation in loud applause.

Sister Mary Goff of Local 62 and Fannia M. Cohn, secretary of the Educational Department, spoke to the strikers. They spoke on the significance of the strike, and pointed out, in addition, the importance of music in the lives of workers, and promised to arrange more entertainments for them from time to time.

can Opera Co., free tickets to lectures, a subscription for next season's tickets.

This inducement will be good until March 10, but we advise you to give it your immediate attention, so that you will be able to select the night on which you wish to go. If you have already seen one of the plays—a reduction of one dollar per play will be made.

This is an excellent opportunity to see the best dramatic productions at cost. We advise our members to become subscribers as this will inspire the management to continue these special arrangements next season.

Subscription blanks may be obtained at our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

THE SEX QUESTION IN LITERATURE

Discussion by Dr. H. Lieberman, Friday, February 25, 8 P. M., McKinley Square Garden, 1528 Boston Road, Bronx.

Dr. C. Lieberman will discuss "The Sex Question in Literature" in his course on Literature and Life, Friday, February 25, 8 p. m., in the McKinley Square Garden, 1528 Boston Road. This question is of interest to every man and woman. These discussions will be continued on Friday evenings throughout the season, at the same place and time.

Admission free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

Weekly Educational Calendar

Washington Irving High School,
16th Street and Irving Place, Room 530

Saturday, February 26

1:30 p. m. B. J. R. Stolper—Social Tendencies in Literature.
"Yiddish Literature a Lively Invalid"—Sholom Asch.

Sunday, February 27

11 a. m. Dr. H. J. Carman—Social Factors in American History.

EXTENSION DIVISION

McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

Friday, February 25

8:00 a. m. Dr. C. Lieberman—The Sex Question in Literature.

EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

P. S. 25, Room 410, 330 East 5th St.

To be announced.

HARLEM UNITY CENTER

P. S. 72, Room 406, Lexington Ave. at 105th St.

To be announced.

HARLEM SOCIALIST CENTER

62 East 106th Street

Thursday, March 3

8 p. m. A. Fichandler—How Can We Learn to Think Straight.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Friday, February 25

Local 50 Headquarters, 52 North 10th St.

7:30 p. m. English—Alex Chemy

8:20 p. m. Robert Morley—Labor Problems.

810 Locust Street

Wednesday, March 2

8 p. m. Robert Kerlin—English Literature.

Service To Our Members

The Educational Department is making an effort to serve our members in many capacities. Our members come to us for advice whenever they wish to satisfy their mental and spiritual needs. We are continually calling their attention to the best books appearing in the literary market and at the same time make them accessible to our members, so that they not only read them but also collect them at a much reduced cost.

They consult us as to the plays they should see, and we make an effort to obtain tickets for them at reduced prices, as in the case of the Theatre Guild which offers to workers 5 plays produced during the season for \$5.00, for which they get \$2.20 seats. We are glad to know that scores of members have availed themselves of this opportunity.

We also assist our local unions in arranging affairs, obtaining artists for musical programs, etc.

Recently a few of our members came to us and requested that we prepare literature acquainting their wives with the problems and functions of their local, their international and the labor movement in general. They were sure that if their wives had a better understanding of these things, that it

would be easier for them to work for the union, as their wives would then not object to their giving so much time to union activities. Our Educational Department is planning a series of discussions for the wives of our members to assist them in their personal development and to give them a better understanding of the world they live in. We hope it will be possible for us to arrange this.

The intellectual and spiritual needs of the workers are increasing, and this imposes a greater responsibility on the trade unions, as the organized worker more and more is turning to his trade union to satisfy his needs as a human being, a worker and citizen.

HOW CAN WE LEARN TO THINK STRAIGHT?

Course by Alexander Fichandler, on Thursday, March 3, 8 P. M., in Harlem Socialist Center, 62 East 106th Street.

Alexander Fichandler will start a course of three lessons on "How Can We Learn to Think Straight?" this Thursday, March 3, 8 P. M., in Harlem Socialist Center, 62 East 106th Street.

Last week Mr. Fichandler gave the introduction to his course. The mind of a person, if it is to function effectively, must be developed just like any other part of the human body. The lecturer will discuss in his course how this may be achieved.

The course is specially prepared for our members to make it useful to them. Simple language and terms will be applied.

Each lecture is a unit in itself, and we advise our members to spend one hour next Thursday, March 3, and convince themselves that this is what they need and want.

Admission is free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

CLASS IN WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

B. J. R. Stolper will discuss Sholom Asch and his best works, in his course "Social Tendencies in Literature" this Saturday, February 26, 1:30 P. M., in Washington Irving High School, Room 530.

On Sunday morning 11 o'clock in the same place, Dr. H. J. Carman will give a course on "Social Factors in American History".

Admission is free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

The Agreement With the Association of Dress Manufacturers, Incorporated

(Continued from last week)

"(b) No worker shall absent himself from the shop without sufficient reason. In case a worker has so absented himself without sufficient reason, and the employer requests that he return to the shop, the union agrees to return him to work within a reasonable time, not to exceed three days, provided the employer has furnished the name and address of such employee.

"On the failure to return within such time, the worker's employment in the shop may be terminated by the employer. It shall, however, not be necessary for workers to report for work every day and to remain in attendance in the shop at such time during the dull season, when there is no work for them. All workers, except cutters, required to come in during the dull season shall be provided with at least one-half day's pay.

"(c) At all times work shall be distributed among members of the union as equally as possible. When cutters are laid off for lack of work, they shall be laid off in such order that each shall receive a week's work in rotation as far as practicable. If however, five or more cutters are employed in the shop, the employer may employ one cutter steadily. The cutter so employed shall do the general oversewing, pattern-grading, pattern-making, special marking and special cutting. If, however, less than five cutters are employed, the employer may retain one cutter, who shall do general oversewing, pattern-grading, pattern-making and estimating only.

Must Take on Old Employes

"(d) If the employer suspends work during any part of the slow season, he shall, upon resumption of work, give employment to the workers who have been laid off at the end of the preceding season before engaging any new help.

"(e) During the summer, when the vacation season begins, the representatives of the union and the association shall meet for the purpose of

working out regulations covering the number of weeks as well as the time each worker may take a vacation.

"(f) No home work shall be permitted by the employer.

"(g) No contracting or sub-contracting work within the shop shall be permitted.

"(h) The employer shall not enter into any individual contract with any member of the union nor accept any security from any such member.

"(i) The employer may, upon notification to the union through the association at the beginning of the season, reorganize his business, where such reorganization is due to a permanent curtailment of his business. Such reorganization, however, shall not reduce the number of operators to less than 12. If by reason of such reorganization, pattern-makers or cutters are discharged, such pattern-makers or cutters shall receive compensation to be determined upon with reference to the amount of time they have been employed, but in no event shall such compensation be less than one week's salary, nor more than four weeks' salary.

Sanitation

"(j) The association agrees that its members shall comply with all standards of sanitation provided for by the laws of the State of New York and the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in the Ladies' Garment Industry.

"(k) The employer agrees to conduct fire drills in accordance with the requirements of the State law and standards in the Ladies' Garment Industry. Such fire drills are to be conducted by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control at the expense of the manufacturers. The amount of expense to be borne by the employer under the provisions of this section shall be determined by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control after a conference with the association, and shall be paid through the union.

"(l) The maintaining of sanitary conditions in the shop of the employer

and the compliance by said employer with the sanitary rules established by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control shall be considered an essential part of this contract.

"(m) A change of system of work may be effected only by the mutual consent of the workers and employer, with the sanction of the union and the association.

"(n) The association and the union are in accord that the interest of the industry will be best served by large factory units, and to that end fix as a minimum 12 working machines to a factory organization.

Sanitary Union Label

"13th: Members of the association shall attach, to all garments produced by them, the label adopted by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, to designate that the garments carrying the same have been manufactured under the proper sanitary surroundings. The Joint Board of Sanitary Control shall furnish such labels at cost to manufacturers conducting union shops.

"14th: Members of the association who use embroideries, hemstitching, pleating or tucking on garments obligate themselves to deal with union shops only and to use no such embroideries, hemstitching, pleating or tucking that do not bear the union and sanitary label where such label has been adopted in the respective industry.

"Association members also agree to purchase and use no buttons except such as bear the union label adopted in the industry and from manufacturers conducting union shops.

Unemployment Insurance
"15th: In view of seasonal character of our industry, both parties agree in principle upon the soundness and advisability of unemployment insurance when created under equitable and proper conditions and such unemployment insurance may be re-established during the period of this agreement by a written supplementary agreement to be signed and executed by both the Union and the association, upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon by both parties.

Discharges

"16th: (a) No member of the association shall discharge a worker, except for misbehavior, before a notice in writing is served on the Union of the reason for the intended discharge. In case of a discharge for alleged misbehavior, and it be determined that the worker be reinstated he is entitled to receive pay for all the time he stayed out. If the discharge is sustained, such worker shall receive pay for the time he stayed out after the first twenty working hours.

"The Union shall investigate the notice of the intended discharge within forty-eight hours of the receipt of same. If the Union does not consent to the proposed discharge, the question shall be referred to the Trial Board, whose decision shall be final. Pending such decision the employee shall continue working at full pay.

(End next issue)

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THE "MASTER BUILDER" AT THE CIVIC REPERTORY

Man must live and die by building a monument neither to God nor to mankind but to his own troubling and illuminated ego. This is something old man Ibsen learned rather late in life and he set about putting it into a somewhat exasperating, but easily his greatest, piece of theatre. "The Master Builder" is exasperating because, concurrent with the major and nobler theme that individual man is, if only for a snattering moment, the center of the universe, Ibsen pursues the conflict between the younger and elder generation and almost does it to death with consuming, infantile mania.

It is easily his greatest play because nowhere else, will one find the illusion of complete unreality as in the scenes between the master builder Solness and his demonic urge, the troll-like Hilda. These encounters truly occur in the empyrean and the audience shares with these two as high as Solness' tallest spire, and

higher. The air is rarefied, the protagonists are like Hilda's castles in the air and we exult with her even as Solness goes crashing down to his doom. Here Ibsen seems to have gained the purest kind of drama, distilled of all his agitating, single-track social ideas. He could not refrain from a biting attack on wives who misunderstand men of genius, but we can let that pass.

Which brings us to the players. Eva Le Gallienne whose witchery at this theatre will be ranked with the miracles in the New York dramatic firmament, catches from first to last the disembodied qualities of Ibsen's Hilda. Good to look at, even with earthy eyes, Miss Le Gallienne flashed on our vision the imperishable beauty that was, in her time, Helen, or Deirdre, or Marguerite, or was it she who was called Heloise? Egon Brecher is a very decent Solness and the support is good.

R. R.

With American Communists Underground

(Continued from Page 5)

about the impossible demands. But the Communists shouted for even more strenuous demands. Of course, there could not be any talk about modifying the original conditions of the Union.

A Sane Voice Drowned

When Feinberg was through talking and the Communists added their list of demands to the original demands, one Kaufman, a member of the local, asked to be allowed to speak. He pleaded with workers present not to be too rash and not to make demands which cannot be granted, so that the poor cloakmakers would not be thrown out of work. He pointed out that such action would jeopardize the livelihood of thousands of human beings; the conditions which we demanded, he said, could never be granted and could only lead to a protracted, unsuccessful strike. He begged us to think the matter over seriously before we finally commit the union to terms which would certainly drag us into a strike. It appeared to me as if Kaufman's appeal was the accusing voice of one who stood behind the door of our Chrystie St. gathering and who knew of our shameful plans to gain control of the union for the Communists.

But, of course, Kaufman knew nothing of the secret meeting of the "comrades" under the tutelage of Mr. Youditch, our instructor. Kaufman has been a member of the Cloakmakers'

Union for many, many years. The agonized conscience of a true union man spoke through him, but he was loosed and shouted down. Naturally, the Communists were overjoyed with their success. So were many old "reformed" scabs. The very same thing took place at practically all the section meetings, which our Communists attended, as per Mr. Youditch's orders.

Everybody knows that what I say is true. The Union was later forced into a losing battle, and the strike was ruined by Communist scabs.

In one point, however, the Communist plan did not work out as they wished. The calling of the strike was delayed a little longer than the Communists liked. The Communists had carried on their destructive propaganda very faithfully and the "rights" relinquished the leadership of the union to them much sooner than they themselves had wished.

The Communists expected that the "rights" would call the strike and that they would then be able "to dance on the ruins" after the strike had been lost. But they were bitterly disappointed. It fell to their lot to call the strike, and it was destined that the "rights" take over the ruins of the misled strike. Today the "rights", hiked at the helm, are confronted by the grave problem of rebuilding the cloakmakers' union.

More in my next article.
(To be continued)

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25th Anniversary Jubilee of Local 10

1901-1926

WILL BE CELEBRATED WITH THE FOLLOWING 3 FEATURES:

1. MARCH 26
SAT. AFT., 2 P. M.
AT MECCA TEMPLE

CONCERT and MASS MEETING



TOSCHA SEIDEL

ARTISTS:

ISA KREMER

World Famous Balladist

TOSCHA SEIDEL

Renowned Violinist

ISIDOR GORN

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SPEAKERS:

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ISIDOR GORN

Each good-standing Member of Local 10 Entitled to 2 Free Tickets

2. MARCH 27
SUNDAY EVE., 5:30 P. M.
AT MECCA TEMPLE



ISA KREMER

BANQUET

:: PROMINENT ORCHESTRA ::
ENTERTAINMENT :: DANCING
TICKETS \$5.00 PER PLATE

3. HISTORY of LOCAL 10

A BOOK OF OVER 200 PAGES WITH ILLUSTRATIONS
WRITTEN BY JAMES ONEAL. ONE COPY TO EVERY
MEMBER OF LOCAL 10.

Call for your tickets at the office of Local 10 immediately, as only few are left.

Cutters desiring to sit at the banquet together with their friends should make table reservations immediately.
(Each table accommodates 10 people.)

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Books to Be Stamped at Meetings

Following the decision of the meeting of February 14, beginning with this quarter of the present year, the due books of the members will be stamped for attendance. This means that the by-laws calling for the imposition of a fine of \$1.00 upon members who fail to attend at least one meeting in each quarter, will be strictly enforced.

Due to the fact that this page is practically given over in its entirety to announcements regarding the celebration of the jubilee, reports of the trade activities of the office are omitted. The next meeting, therefore, which takes place in Arlington Hall on Monday evening, February 28, becomes doubly important. Aside from the usual order of business and reports of the executive board, a report on the activities of the office will be rendered.

Jubilee Tickets Going

That the demand for tickets for the Concert and Mass Meeting on Saturday afternoon, March 26, the first of the three jubilee features, would be great was a foregone conclusion. But that a shortage for the concert tickets would be threatened in the first period of distribution was unexpected. Mem-

bers who are inclined to leave the matter of securing tickets for the concert for the last moment are strongly advised not to wait but to report to the office at once as the seating capacity of Mecca Temple is limited to 4000. Since each member is allowed two tickets, one for himself and one for a member of his family, it will be seen that only 2000 members can be accommodated.

Reservations are also already being made for the Banquet which will be held on Sunday evening, March 27, at Mecca Temple. Many requests have come in from members to the effect that they would like to be seated with their shops, or with a certain group of members. It is suggested, therefore,

that these members make their reservations for the shop through the chairman or, if their shops are not large, that they organize a group with whom they would prefer to be seated. Each table accommodates ten persons, which makes it possible for one to choose his fellow-diners.

Last Call for Volunteers for Chorus

The response of members to the suggestion of a chorus that would render in choir form the "Jubilee Song of Local 10", at the banquet and possibly at the concert as well, has thus far been fair. A number of rehearsals took place already, and from what has been heard and seen of the chorus, it promises to be another interesting feature of the jubilee celebration. However, there is room for more participants. Any member who can sing is requested to report immediately at the office.

MEMBERS REQUESTED TO RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE IMMEDIATELY

The manuscript for the history of the local being completed, it has been placed in the hands of the printer. The printing forms are expected to be closed soon. Members who have not yet turned in their questionnaires are urged to do so at once. The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine the composition of Local 10, which is to be used for statistical purposes.

It always has been contended by those who are familiar with the International that the membership of Local 10 is not only stable but constant, that is, the cutters maintain union affiliation in much greater proportion than the members of the other locals. No further information is desired than that contained in this questionnaire. And bear in mind—members need not sign their names. From this it can be seen how important it is to fill them out and mail them to the office immediately.

Members of Local 10!

Special and Regular Meeting

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28th
in ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE
The meeting will begin at 7:30 P. M. sharp

Books will be stamped for attendance. Members failing to attend at least one meeting in each quarter will be fined \$1.

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OF JUSTICE which appears weekly. This will keep you in touch with the activities of our Educational Department which are free to you and your family.