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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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8-8-1930

## Justice (Vol. 12, Iss. 16)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 12, Iss. 16)

### 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*.

"My righteous-  
ness I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."  
—Job 27.8

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. XII. No. 16

JERSEY CITY, N. J., FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1930

PRICE 3 CENTS

## Baltimore Cloakmakers Settle With Association Shops

Settlement Provides for Full Recognition of Union and Creation of Impartial Machinery.—President Schlesinger Rejects Bosses' Demand for Reorganization Right.—Dubinsky, McGrady, Halpern, and Snyder Represent Union in Negotiations Leading to Settlement.—Strike Against a Few Independent Shops Continues.

To the unparalleled series of victories won by the International during the past thirteen months, there has now been added another. The strike of the Baltimore cloakmakers, which began on July 23, and which we barely had time to announce in our last issue, has in the great majority of shops been satisfactorily settled and the cloakmakers have returned victoriously to work. As for the few shops which are still holding out against the Union's just demands, it is but a question of time before these, too, will be forced to come to terms with the Union.

The shops which have settled with the Union belong to the Manufacturers' Association, and it is but a few independent firms that are still holding out.

By their victorious strike the Baltimore cloakmakers have won full recognition of their Union and the

creation of impartial machinery for the enforcement of the agreement and the adjustment of disputes; they have, in addition, laid the foundation for a 5-day, 40-hour week, which is already being inaugurated in some shops, and which will be universally adopted two years hence. On the other hand, the bosses' demand for the right to reorganization has been rejected, thanks to the determined stand of President Schlesinger, and no worker can be arbitrarily discharged.

The speedy victory of the Baltimore cloakmakers is due in no small measure to the fact that public opinion was on their side, which gives us reason to hope that a complete victory will soon be won in the case of the few recalcitrant shops, too. Typical of this sympathetic attitude of the public at large is the following editorial which appeared in the Baltimore Post of August 2:

"The strike in the ladies' garment industry, which took about 3,000 workers away from their shops last week, is almost over. Of the 24 factories in which the strike was called, the men are back in all but five, following ratification of a compromise agreement between the factory owners and union officials.

"The Post is proud to say it had some part in bringing the contesting parties into agreement and is grateful for its opportunity to help put several thousand people back at work.

"There is no reason, however, why the job should not be finished. The five factories in which the strike is not settled are capable of employing, at this time of the year, some 500 persons. Some of these jobs are now filled, either because the workers did not go out on strike or because people have been employed to replace the strikers. Other jobs are unfilled. In either case, conditions can be improved.

"Controversy between employers and workers benefits neither side. And it is, in almost every case, so unnecessary. The fact that 19 of the 24 plant owners who differed with the union have been able to adjust

these differences is certainly a strong indication that the issues between the two sides are far from insoluble. It is safe to say that the controversy still existing with the five plants can be quickly settled if the factory owners and the union leaders would meet in a spirit of fairness and mutual cooperation. Or if, for some reason which is hard for laymen to fathom, this is impossible, a well-qualified, impartial outsider could undoubtedly devise a proposition which both sides could accept with mutual benefit.

"It is a pity that grown men—business men and labor leaders—should get so tangled up over a business proposition that they should put several hundred people out of jobs and contribute to a condition of industrial unrest. They should come out of it."

This editorial called forth the following telegram, dated August 4, from President Schlesinger to Vice President Jacob Halpern, who is in charge of the Baltimore strike:

"I am in full accord with the editorial in the Baltimore Post of last Saturday that the strike against the five cloak and suit firms of Baltimore can be satisfactorily settled. Our  
(Continued on page 2)

## Brooklyn Contractors Granted Injunction

"No Injunction Can Compel a Decent Manufacturer or Jobber to Give Work to Substandard or Racketeering Shops," Is President Schlesinger's Comment—Governor Roosevelt's Cloak Commission to Appeal Case.

The group of Brooklyn contractors known as the "Ladies' Garment Manufacturers' Association, Inc.," whom Governor Roosevelt's Commission for the Cloak and Suit Industry recently declared to be non-union, which meant that no union manufacturer or jobber might give them work, scored a victory in the Kings County Supreme Court on July 28, when Judge B. Selah issued a temporary injunction restraining the commission and the other organized factors in the cloak industry from interfering in any way with the business of the aforesaid contractors.

Morris Hillquit was counsel for the Governor's commission at the injunction hearing, while the attorney for the Brooklyn contractors was John H. McCooey, Jr., son of the Brooklyn Democratic boss.

The granting of the injunction, while admittedly a blow to the efforts of the Union, the responsible employers' associations, the Governor's commission, and the better elements of the community in general, to stabilize the cloak industry by eliminating the sweatshop from it, did not in any way dampen the spirits of the International's fighting president, Benjamin Schlesinger. "No injunction," he declared, "can compel a decent manufacturer or a decent jobber to give work to substandard shops or to racketeering shops. As for manufacturers and jobbers who are not decent and would like to see a return to the sweatshop system, the Union has always fought them and will continue to fight them."

On Thursday, July 31, there was a meeting of Governor Roosevelt's Cloak and Suit Commission in the office of impartial Chairman Raymond V. Ingersoll. The meeting was also attended by representatives of all the factors in the industry, the Union be-

ing represented by President Schlesinger and General Manager Isidore Nagler. After listening to a detailed report on the situation by Attorney Hillquit, the meeting commission authorized him to take an appeal from the decision of Judge Strong. The appeal is not expected to come up before October.

## Interesting Week-End At Unity House

The Famous Compinsky Trio and Celia Adler to Entertain Guests.

In these hot days the members of our International are retiring to Unity House. It is there where the breezy mile and a half lake lures

them with its boats, canoes and swimming pool. The coolness of the nights are refreshing to our vacationists. They all return to the city feeling rested and refreshed.

Unity House is famous for the excellence of its entertainments. This week-end our guests will be thrilled by the tune of the Famous Compinsky Trio, and by the distinguished artist, Celia Adler. A feature of the program will be the presentation of Shelom Asch's "Street" in the English language. This will be performed by fine artists. The Yiddish Sunday morning program will be as interesting and entertaining as ever. In that program will participate a well-known lecturer and fine artists.

There will also be an excellent program next week, August 16th. In this program will participate the well known pianist, David Holland and Madam Saublavina, the gifted soprano and Joseph Osborn, the talented young violinist.

On August 24th there will be an excellent program in which Hall Johnson and his Negro Choir of thirty singers will participate.

All of these will be assisted by our fine Unity House social and dramatic department.

Unity House is already busily occupied in arranging the Labor Day Week-End Program which will be a usual extraordinary.

Our members and friends who wish to make reservations should do so immediately. They can do so through our Education Department, 3 West 15th Street, telephone Chelsea 2148. There, they will get all the necessary information.

### Attention, Cloak Shop Chairmen!

Dear Shop Chairman:

Now that the Fall season begins it is essential that we call your attention to the following matters, which are of vital importance to the welfare of our organization.

Upon you, as the Shop Chairman, rests a great responsibility. It is your duty to see to it that all union conditions, as stipulated in our agreement, are strictly observed in your shop, particularly the forty-hour-five-day week, proper pay for overtime and legal holidays.

You shall not permit any craft in your shop to work overtime as long as there is room for more workers of such craft. You must also see to it that no more overtime is worked in your shop than the agreement provides for.

You will be notified shortly by letter of the months during which the workers may work Saturdays, as additional overtime, under conditions prescribed in our agreement with the employers. Until you receive such notification, no Saturday work will be permitted under any circumstances.

You are also ordered to see to it that every worker in your shop is in good standing with the Union and that no new workers are employed except those who will present working cards, issued by their respective locals, indicating that they are in good standing with the Union.

The Union is determined to enforce the terms of our agreement and will take most drastic action against both, workers and employers, who will violate any of its provisions. The punishment for workers who will be found guilty of such violations may be to the extent of removing them from their jobs.

We are sending you this notice so as to leave no excuse for anybody for committing any violation. We, therefore, depend on you, as the Chairman of your shop, to see to it that the instructions contained in this letter are strictly observed.

Fraternally yours,

ISIDORE NAGLER,  
General Manager, Cloak Joint Board.

## With The PHILADELPHIA WAIST & DRESSMAKERS

By Vice President ELIAS REISBERG

The month of July, which is almost at an end, was very eventful for the Philadelphia Dressmakers' Union. The wave of reductions which enveloped the open shops made an inroad into the union shops also and the Union had to make a terrific effort to withstand this onslaught of wage slashing.

The contention of the union manufacturers that they must face the same market and sell their products for the same prices as the open shop manufacturers do and consequently they must get the same concessions from the workers, was met by the Union with tact and patience. Although superficially this contention on the part of the employers looks somewhat justifiable, yet, when one stops to analyze the reasons for these reductions, one must come to definite conclusions against such reductions, and Local 50, as a branch of our International, has made a definite and unwavering decision that it will adhere to its policy of "no reductions." And now when this period of "summer specials" is over, the Union can record with pride that we met this trying month like a worthy member of the I. L. G. W. U family.

Notwithstanding the fact that we had to reckon with a large number of open shops, which are in the majority in the Philadelphia dress market, we were successful in all cases where the manufacturers demanded reductions in wages. With this definite courageous stand that the Union has taken, we showed the difference between union and non-union shops. And so this action was for itself a tremendous piece of propaganda for unionizing the non-union dressmakers in Philadelphia.

We are preparing for the fall season. As a beginning we called a members' meeting last Thursday, July 17, and though most of the members are not in the shops, the meeting was well attended. On the order of business there was the problem of "What will we do next?" After the members discussed the present conditions under which the dressmakers live and toil in Philadelphia, it was decided first of all to strengthen all the branches of the Union. The pressers' and the cutters' branches are to be called to meetings and then a mass meeting of all the members of the Union, to which meeting the general officers of our International are to be invited.

Upon the recommendations of the Executive Board it was also decided to invite President Schlesinger and Secretary-Treasurer Dubinsky of our International to meet with our Execu-

tive Board so that jointly with them we may work out plans for an intensive organizational drive, a drive that shall embrace the entire dress trade of Philadelphia, the cotton dress houses as well as the silk dress houses.

The office of the Local was also instructed to call together the Organization Committee of the Union and have it in readiness when the fall season will begin.

The will, the enthusiasm, the desire of the active members to bring the Union to the same position as it held only a few years ago is as strong as ever and the members are ever ready to do everything in their power to accomplish this aim even to making sacrifices if it will be necessary. We hope that the time of depression, will soon be over and that the cir-

### BALTIMORE CLOAK- MAKERS SETTLE WITH ASSOCIATION SHOPS

(Continued from page 1)

Union has not demanded from these five manufacturers working conditions superior to those already in existence in the majority of shops in the City of Baltimore. Our Union therefore cannot be held responsible for the existence of the strike against these five firms; it is rather the unwillingness on the part of the five employers to accord their workers fair treatment and a fair living.

"The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is using the strike only as a last resort. In every center of our industry the differences between our workers and their employers have been successfully adjusted at conferences, and I have every reason to believe that the same method would be just as successful in Baltimore.

"Our Union will have no objection to meeting the five Baltimore employers in a spirit of fairness and mutual cooperation, and, should it become necessary, it will leave the matters in dispute to a well-qualified impartial outsider for adjudication."

At the negotiations leading to the settlement the chief Union spokesman was Secretary-Treasurer David Dubinsky, who represented President Schlesinger. Other Union representatives were Edward F. McGrady, organizer of the American Federation of Labor; Vice-President Halpern, and Jack Snyder.

Judge EH Frank, of the Baltimore City Court, has been chosen Impartial Chairman of the Baltimore cloak industry for the next three years.

## Ingersoll Holds Piece-Work Demand Illegal

For the last few weeks Samuel Klein, Executive Director of the Industrial Council, has been flooding the papers with complaints against the Union. Though the Union might have ignored these publicity-seeking fulminations of Mr. Klein, who by the terms of the agreement, should have addressed them first to the Union, the International agreed to have the Impartial Chairman pass on these charges.

The first hearing was held on Tuesday, August 5, and the second hearing was to take place on Wednesday. But Wednesday morning the new York Times and the World carried stories from Mr. Klein, wherein he sought to give the impression that the question before the Impartial

Chairman, is the introduction of piece work. At President Schlesinger's request, Mr. Ingersoll issued the following statement, dated August 6:

At yesterday's hearing on the complaint of the Industrial Council against the Union, the Manager of the Industrial Council read for the record the first half of a long prepared statement in amplification of the points made in the complaint. It was expected that at today's session the remainder of this prepared statement would be heard. Before the session this morning, however, the chairman learned that the full prepared statement of the Industrial Council, or at least a summary of it, had been given publicity. He announced, therefore, that instead of

circumstances will be more favorable for good, intensive work.

It is worth while to record another decision that was made by the members at their last meeting. This decision will once more convince the great membership of our International that while Philadelphia may be called the "sleepy city," yet, as far as our dressmakers are concerned, they are pretty much awake and they are always ready to react to events, not only when these events concern our Union, but also the entire labor movement.

Upon receiving the communi-

cation from the International Office to lend support to the campaign of the Workmen's Circle in its membership drive, the Executive Board of our Local recommended that a Dressmakers' Union Branch of the Workmen's Circle shall be formed in Philadelphia. The discussion was very interesting and lively and when the question was taken to a vote, with a very negligible part against, the recommendation of the Executive Board was accepted with enthusiasm, and the writer of this letter was directed to proceed immediately to carry through this decision to form a Dressmakers' Union Branch of the Workmen's Circle.

### Doings Among Philadelphia The Philadelphia Cloak and Skirt Makers

By SIMON DAVIDSON, Secretary Philadelphia Joint Board

#### Agreement With Manufacturers Continues

At the last General Meeting many important events developed. Among other things the body adopted the Joint Board recommendation with the agreement with our manufacturers be continued for one year more with the following modifications:

"Overtime, whenever necessary, shall be restricted to the first four days at two hours a day, a total of eight hours a week. This overtime period may be started by August 15 and continue till November 15, while in the spring season overtime may be worked from January 1 to May 1.

Also, that employers shall not give out work to contractors or sub-manufacturers who are not registered with the Union or without the permission of the Union. All employers must deposit a cash security for the faithful performance of the agreement."

Letters to that effect have already been sent out to all cloak manufacturers, which state that if we do not hear from them by July 31, 1930, it will be understood that they agree to the modifications, and therefore, the agreement continues for one year more till July 31, 1931.

#### Anti-Injunction Demonstration, Sept. 7, 1930

On the request of the Central Labor Union that we participate in an anti-injunction demonstration on Sunday, Sept. 7, our organization went on record favoring such demonstration and a committee was appointed for that purpose. The object of the protest meeting is to bring to the attention of the U. S. Congress as well as State Legislatures the importance of making laws restricting the free issuing of injunctions in labor disputes.

#### Cloak Makers to Form Arbeiter Ring Branch

Complying with the manifesto of

going on with today's hearing, the Union will be given a copy of the statement and be allowed time and opportunity to present a further reply in answer to it.

When the parties met this morning Mr. Schlesinger on behalf of the Union asked for an official announcement as to whether the Impartial Chairman has before him for action a report to modify the collective agreement.

The Chairman stated that the matter before him is a complaint by the Industrial Council claiming that in certain respects the Union had not fully carried out the terms of the agreement. He said he does not understand that he is expected or being asked to modify the agreements so as to legalize piece work or to make any other such modification. He further stated that he does not consider that he would have jurisdiction to do so.

RAYMOND V. INGERSOLL.

our International President, that we affiliate with the Working Men's Circle. We had the pleasure of listening to a representative from the Arbeiter Ring, who illustrated the benefits organized labor could derive if it would be part and parcel of Arbeiter Ring. The meeting went on record that we form a branch of the Arbeiter Ring, the Joint Board to select a special committee of ten to prepare for the installation of our new branch.

#### Sister Local No. 69 Gives Picnic

With the warm weather in full swing, our Sister Local No. 69, the finishers, are preparing a picnic near Willow Grove (Weinberg's Farm). Tickets are already obtainable at the office, and you may make reservations with a bus which will leave direct from our office. The picnic will be held August 12. There will be all kinds of sports. A special feature will be races among the fair sex.

#### Warning to Members

Max Nefsky, a presser, was fined with \$25 for not complying with his Executive Board advice. He was warned several times that he must not make any loans of the firm for whom he works. This he disregarded and his Executive Board fined him with \$25 which was approved by the Joint Board as well as at the General Meeting. The Joint Board further rules that all workers of this particular shop Edelson & Sons will be subject the same ruling for similar violation.

#### Quarterly Financial Report Approved

Complying with the manifesto of the Committee of Fifteen, concurred in by the General Member Meeting of March 22, 1930, our bookkeeper has submitted a quarterly financial report, which was approved.

#### LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS ORGANIZING LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, Calif.—"Long hours, small, pitiful wages, unbearable working conditions, discrimination and the speed-up system to the point where it is dangerous to the health of those who are employed and spells unemployment for many others is still the rule rather than the exception in Los Angeles," declares Joseph Breslaw, vice president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who is here to organize this branch of the garment industry.

Mr. Breslaw explained that his union does not hold the individual manufacturer responsible for low wages in the garment industry. "We believe," he says, "that the manufacturers as well as our people are caught in a huge competitive wheel in which both are ground down together. The trade union today understands that in order to establish sound working conditions we have to place the industry on a sound footing. In that we have been successful in all of the major garment centers of the United States"

# Morris Hillquit Replies To Industrial Council Charges

In a letter to Impartial Chairman Raymond V. Ingersoll which is a model of lucidity and forcefulness, Morris Hillquit, Counsel for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, not only refutes each and every one of the charges recently made against the Union by the inside manufacturers, but makes sharp counter-charges against the latter.

The letter, dated July 29, 1930, read as follows:

Mr. Raymond V. Ingersoll,  
Impartial Chairman of the  
Cloak and Suit Industry,  
130 West 31st Street,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Ingersoll:

Under date of June 13, 1930, the Industrial Council of Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers, Inc. wrote to you in substance complaining of certain alleged violations of the collective agreement between the Council and the Union, on the part of the latter.

The Union has handed me a copy of the Council's letter and has asked me to reply to the same on its behalf.

The reply was delayed by an unusually heavy pressure of other work, including the defense in the case of the Brooklyn Ladies Garment Manufacturers Association, and will, I hope, be excused.

After a careful study of the letter of the Industrial Council, I must confess I am somewhat at a loss to understand the occasion for the complaints contained in it or the nature of the relief requested.

The charges of the Council are summarized on pages 16 and 17 of its letter in the following language:

"(1) Extensive non-union production and competition;

"(2) Optional piece work and thus lower labor costs in the dress industry which produces garments in competition with our manufacturers;

"(3) Competition from skeleton factories which employ union sample-tailors and cutters under non-union conditions;

"(4) Reorganization rights which are limited while other factors in the industry enjoy unlimited rights;

"(5) Competition from inside manufacturers who are not under the trade regulations which are adhered to by members of the Industrial Council."

In behalf of the Union I shall try to answer the charges in the order of the above enumeration:

1. THAT THE UNION HAS MADE NO ADEQUATE EFFORT TO ORGANIZE ALL EMPLOYERS AND SHOPS IN THE INDUSTRY.

The agreement between the Council and the Union on this point reads as follows:

"SEVENTEENTH: The parties hereto recognize the necessity of unionizing the entire industry in the Metropolitan District. In order to bring about such unionization, the Union will make every effort to organize all employees and shops in the industry and the Council will cooperate with it in such efforts.

"When negotiating new agreements in the out-of-town markets in the cloak industry, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will endeavor in good faith and to the utmost of its ability to introduce the same standards in such out-of-town markets as are contained in this agreement with respect to hours of work, provisions for overtime, and methods of production."

The complete unionization of the workers in the industry is, of course, always primarily the task of the Union. It is the task which every

## In Powerful Letter to Impartial Chairman Ingersoll, Union Counsel Refutes Charges of Inside Manufacturers and Makes Sharp Counter-Charges.

labor union undertakes in its own interests and for its own self-preservation. The object of the clause above quoted was not primarily to encourage the Union to organize the workers in the cloak and suit industry, for such encouragement it did not need. The true object of the clause was to assure to the Union the cooperation of the members of the Council in the efforts to organize the workers.

By way of counter-charge the Union now submits that the Industrial Council has failed in the performance of its contractual obligation to cooperate with the Union in its efforts to unionize the industry.

The report of the Executive Director to the Commission of the Cloak and Suit Industry under date of May 21, 1930 shows that in forty-one shops of Industrial Council members investigated in two consecutive seasons, the so-called outright purchases from non-union shops amounted to no less than 46 per cent of the total.

This is a distinct and gross violation of our agreement, which the Industrial Council tolerates without making bona fide efforts to eradicate the evil. In the face of such substantial encouragement of non-union production, the task of the Union to organize the industry is made exceedingly difficult.

With respect to the duties of the Union under clause "Seventeenth" of the agreement, the Union has not undertaken and could not undertake the definite obligation to organize all the workers in the industry within a specified period of time. Its duties are limited to steady, energetic and bona fide efforts to increase its members.

The Council's complaint "that the Union is indifferent to the existence of these non-Union firms" can hardly be considered seriously, as the greater part of the organized activities of

the Union are directed towards the increase in unionization of the industry and most of its revenue is expended for such purpose.

During the period of sixteen months, from January, 1929, to May, 1930, the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress-makers' Unions has expended about \$350,000 on organization campaigns in the Cloak and Dress Industries. At times no less than 150 organizers were employed for the work.

It is, of course, no secret to the Industrial Council or to the Impartial Chairman that prior to January 30, 1929, the industry reached the lowest point of its organization. It was largely these campaigns that made possible the calling of the general strike in July, 1929, which brought about the unionization of 90 per cent of the workers in the industry and the doubling of the number of Union shops.

Four weeks after the general strike, i. e., on August 13, 1929, the number of organized shops was 1,386 as against 669 before the strike. The membership of the employers' associations increased as follows:

	Before	August
	the Strike	13, 1929
Industrial Council	157	277
Merchants Association	53	85
American Association	406	863
Brooklyn Association	53	156

During the same period of time the number of independent manufacturers in contractual relations with the Union fell from 163 to 27, and the number of independent Union jobbers fell from 18 to 4.

On November 22, 1929 further increases in the organized units in the industry were reported to the Commission as follows:

Industrial Council	23
Merchants Association	28
American Association	85
Brooklyn Association	39

The report submitted to the Commission on May 21, 1930, showed a general though not substantial decrease in the membership of the employers' associations.

The Industrial Council lost 16 members during the period of six months from November 22, 1929 to May 21, 1930; the Merchants Association lost 5 members during the same period, while the American Association lost 113 members.

The cause of this recession can by no means be attributed to diminished zeal or vigilance on the part of the Union; rather must it be accounted for by the effects of the general industrial depression. Commenting on this fact, the Executive Director states in his report to the Commission that "it can also be said that at the same time a considerable number of non-Union shops have given up business."

The decrease in the number of Union employers thus does not necessarily mean a diminution of Union production. On the contrary, it is quite possible that there has been a relative increase of Union shops during that period.

To substantiate its charge that the Union has made no adequate effort to organize the employees and shops in the industry, the Industrial Council attaches to its complaint a list of alleged non-Union cloak and suit manufacturers and jobbers operating in the garment section of New York under sub-standard conditions.

The list contains 343 names of such alleged non-Union cloak and suit manufacturers and jobbers.

By letter dated June 20, 1930 the Industrial Council amended the list by eliminating therefrom 24 firms on the ground that such firms either appeared to be engaged in different industries or had gone out of business. One of such firms had become a member of the Industrial Council. Eight additional firms mentioned in the original list were found to be outright jobbers of cloaks and suits who neither purchased materials nor supplied them to their contractors.

The Union has carefully checked up the list submitted by the Industrial Council and finds that 84 additional firms should be eliminated from the list.

Of these 18 appear to be Union cloak shops; 11 are firms operating under contractors with Local No. 91; 4 are Union dress shops and 12 are non-Union dress shops; 34 concerns on the Council's list have gone out of business through bankruptcy, or otherwise, and 5 represent duplications of firms.

Thus there remain 259 non-Union concerns out of the list of 343 submitted by the Council.

These non-Union concerns have divided as follows:

Jobber and job lot buyers: 96  
(Cloaks, 81, Infants' and children's wear 15).

Cut up jobbers: 69 (Cloaks 56, Infants' and children's wear 13).

Non-Union manufacturers: 94 (Cloaks 54, Infants' and children's wear 40).

An itemized list of the 84 concerns to be eliminated from the list and of the remaining 259 non-Union concerns with the respective classifications, as above set forth, is attached to this letter.

Thus it would appear that there are 259 known non-Union units as against 1,420 organized shops mentioned in the report to the Commission under date of May 21, 1930, i. e., about 15.5 per cent of the total.

The Union is by no means pleased  
(Continued on page 7)

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# JUSTICE

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## EDITORIALS

### The Spread of the Machine in the Cloak Industry

The machine, which is replacing ever more workers in the shop, has lately begun to make itself keenly felt in the cloak industry.

The pressing machine, which made its appearance in the women's wear industry a great deal later than in the men's clothing industry, is apparently trying to make up for lost time and has of late started to penetrate the cloak trade with particular rapidity. As a result, there is growing unemployment among the pressers.

But the cloak pressers are not the only ones who have begun to suffer acutely from the competition of the machine. The cloak finishers have likewise been blessed with a felling machine which is depriving them of work.

In the case of the cloak pressers the machine is still a comparatively new malady. In general, the pressing machine is still a recent invention, while among the cloak pressers it made its appearance only a few years ago. In the case of the finishers, however, the machine is an old sore. The moment the machine appeared in the garment industry, the finishers, or more properly, the manual tailors were its first victims. Already a hundred years ago, when the first sewing-machine began to be used in a tailor shop, the tailors started a war against it. They saw in it their most dangerous competitor which would throw them out of work. Accordingly they swooped down upon the shop where the first sewing machines had been installed and wrecked the machinery. This, however, did not help them any. Presently there was produced a new machine, which was better than the one they had destroyed.

That first war of the manual tailors against the machine has long since passed into oblivion. But there were other wars against the sewing machine, and that not so long ago. The fight against the basting machine is still fresh in the mind of every tailor who wields a needle. It is, we believe, only twelve years since it made its appearance in the shop, while in the cloak shops it arrived only recently. And, speaking of the basting machine, mention should also be made of the felling machine which had even before then deprived the manual tailors of a large part of their work.

And how long is it since the cloak finishers were still fighting against "sewed-up" work? This was not a fight against a newly invented machine, but against a new operation of the old sewing machine. Strictly speaking, the complaint was not against the machine, but against the operator who by means of the machine was depriving the manual tailors of the work of sewing on the lining. But as matter of fact, it was not the operator who was to blame, but the machine. For, if the machine had not been adapted for sewing on linings, the operator would not have been able to do it.

But has the fight been wholly in vain? No.

Granted the fight has not stemmed the advance of the machine, yet the fight against it is quite natural. The worker, who is robbed of his livelihood by the machine, seeks to defend himself against it, and if he does not always choose the right way to defend himself, the fault lies not in him, but in the desperation born of hunger which drives him to it.

And because the fight is a natural one, we must reckon with it. We cannot say that, since the machine cannot be opposed, the workers must submit to being thrown out of work without making any protest or offering any resistance. To be sure, the onward march of the machine cannot be stopped, but it can be regulated, and the upheavals it produces in the industry can be carried out without the brutality that renders countless workers jobless at one stroke and does not even give them a chance to adapt themselves to some other occupation.

Of course the machine is a product of human progress; but what good is human progress if it serves to rob the workers of their daily bread? And so the workers have a right to demand that we regulate the changes which the development of machinery works in industry, so that they may be shorn somewhat of their present brutality and cruelty.

For the progress of machinery has not reached the stage where it is possible to get along altogether without workers in the shop. Workers are also needed for the machines, and so the workers ought to have some say in the matter of how the machines are to be employed. The workers have a right not to permit the manufacturer to reap the entire benefit of the machine at their expense.

In the case of the pressing machine in the cloak industry,

the whole issue is precisely this, that the workers wish to have some control over the machine and to keep it from becoming too brutal and from aggravating the exploitation of the workers in the shop.

The manufacturer does not install new machines in his shop because he is interested in the promotion of technical progress, or because new technical inventions and new machines betoken human progress. For if it were a question of human progress, then surely the six-hour day and higher wages are in accord with human progress. But what the manufacturer has in mind is not human progress, but his profits. He installs new machinery in his shop in order to reap more profit from his workers. Hence the workers are justified in demanding that the benefits derived from machinery shall not be wholly at their expense.

The demand of the workers is so just that every fair-minded person must be on their side. The workers are not fighting against the machine as such, neither are they seeking to hinder its progress; they are fighting merely against the brutal use of the machine against the workers. They are demanding that the machine shall be employed more humanely and that it shall not be turned into a terrible curse to the workers.

### The Victory of the Baltimore Cloakmakers

The cloakmakers of Baltimore now have a golden opportunity to avail themselves of a large and powerful Union and, by doing so, reap in due season the full fruits of their recent victory.

A few months ago there was hardly a vestige of a union among the cloakmakers of Baltimore, while there was not even a trace of it in the cloak shops of that city. And now the Baltimore Cloakmakers' Union has just entered into a collective agreement with the local manufacturers' association whereby the Union is given full recognition and all shops are to be under its control. For so short a time, this is a remarkable advance.

Naturally we are sorry that the establishment of the 5-day, 40-hour week has been postponed for two years; but this is rather the fault of the Baltimore cloakmakers, who had so long neglected to organize and permitted the sweatshop to become so firmly rooted in the Baltimore cloak industry. If the cloakmakers of Baltimore had organized two years ago and conducted a campaign for a union shop, as they have just done, they would already be enjoying the 5-day, 40-hour week.

One cannot gain everything at a stroke. One cannot at a single bound pass from a sweating system to a model union system. One cannot take an industry where the hours of work were unlimited, the workers putting in as many hours as the boss told them to, and all at once introduce into it the 40-hour week.

The Baltimore cloakmakers have a Union now and their first organizing campaign was a success. They have achieved the recognition of their Union as well as the union shop. This alone is a very important gain. And now they have the best opportunity to strengthen their Union and to gain complete control over the cloak industry of Baltimore. The restriction of the manufacturer's right to discharge workers, where formerly he was at liberty to discharge whomever and whenever he pleased, is a very great gain for the Union. This will help to make the Union stronger. The workers will not have to fear any more that they will be discharged for union activity.

We are confident that the Baltimore cloakmakers will know how to appreciate their victory and that they will do everything possible to make their Union bigger and stronger. For everything depends on what the Union will be like. If it will be strong and ever on the watch, the gains of the Baltimore cloakmakers will be far greater and more numerous than those written down on paper. If, on the other hand, the Baltimore cloakmakers will trust to luck, as they used to do, they will enjoy no more than they did before. An agreement is a mere scrap of paper if there is no organized force behind it to see that its terms are abided by.

The International, which has thus far done most to organize the Baltimore cloakmakers and to direct their campaign, will surely not keep aloof in the future, but will do everything in its power to strengthen and fortify the organization of the Baltimore cloakmakers, so that they may be able to reap the utmost benefit from their recent victory. But the Baltimore cloakmakers must realize that they must depend primarily upon their own resources; that it is they themselves who must fight for a better life; that it is they who must strive to make their Union ever bigger and stronger, and that it is likewise they who must watch and see that the victory they have won is not frittered away, but, on the contrary, assumes ever larger proportions as time goes on.

### The Results of the Last Reorganization

The report of Brother Sorkin, manager of the Industrial Council Department of the Cloak and Skirt Joint Board, should greatly enhance the confidence of the cloakmakers in their Union and in the results it achieves for them.

It seemed at first that the victims of reorganization would be very numerous this summer, and that quite a considerable number of active union members would suffer. A number of manufacturers applied themselves with particular avidity to the reorganization. For the most part it was the new members of the Industrial Council who seem to have had a strong desire to taste the privilege of discharging a worker. And having relished the taste of it, some of them greatly overindulged. But the Union was on the lookout and resisted energetically every attempt of the manufacturers to exceed the rights accorded

# From Time To Time

By Dr. B. Hoffman (Zivyon)

Senator Royal S. Copeland assures us that in 1932 smoke will again be rising from every chimney stack in the United States, wage earners will again have plenty of work, farmers will reap plentiful harvests from their fields and large profits from their crops, and there will again be prosperity in the land.

I am not going to ask the senior Senator, from New York how he knows it, but rather to express the wish that his prediction may come true.

But if Senator Copeland is so kind as to promise us great prosperity in 1932, couldn't he perhaps give us a little prosperity right now? At the moment we are not so greatly worried about what is going to be in 1932. What we mainly care about just now is the year 1930 and how we may attain at least a little bit of prosperity in it.

It seems to me that Prof. John Dewey of Columbia University shares the same point of view. He is far less concerned with prosperity in 1932 than with the widespread unemployment today.

To be explicit, Prof. Dewey, the famous American philosopher, has addressed a letter to President Hoover wherein he requests him to call a special session of Congress to deal with the problem of unemployment and to appropriate funds for the inauguration of unemployment insurance. Prof. Dewey calls Hoover's attention to the great economic inequality which exists in the country and adds that all signs indicate that we are going to pass through a very critical time in the next few months.

Dewey's letter to Hoover is couched in clear and unphilosophical language. He speaks to him in plain words about the distress of the working people and about the duty of the Government to come to their aid. What, I wonder, will be President Hoover's answer? Prof. Dewey is too important a personage in the United States for Hoover to ignore his letter.

Well, it must be admitted that Prof. Dewey's letter has put Hoover in an embarrassing position. Hoover would rather have people forget about the unemployment in the country. He looks upon the present unemployment and the economic depression in the country as a personal affront, as though some enemy of his had played a mean trick on him in order to discredit him. For, did he not, during the presidential campaign, promise the American people the largest measure of prosperity? And this promise was based on two grounds: First, the Republican Party, which has an old claim to the sole possession of the secret of prosperity; second, Hoover himself, who is reputed to be so clever and so wise, such a marvelous economist, executive, and administrator, and in general a man of matchless ability. Who, then, could have entertained any doubts as to the certainty of our prosperity when Hoover

became President? And behold, what a disappointment! No sooner was Hoover elected than our prosperity was stricken with palsy.

To be sure, our prosperity had already become greatly impaired in the last year of the Coolidge administration. And malicious persons say that the now famous declaration of Coolidge, "I do not choose to run," was really made because Coolidge already knew that our prosperity was out of joint, and that it would not pay him to remain President for another term and thereby spoil his reputation. He figured that it is better to be an ex-President of prosperity than a President of unemployment and business depression; that it is better to be known as a lucky ex-President than as an unlucky President. And the best proof of this is that a lucky ex-President may even become a newspaper columnist and get paid twice as much as a President does. And it must be admitted that however incompetent Hoover may be as President, he is nevertheless a better President than Coolidge is a writer.

But whether or not Coolidge knew, when still President, that our prosperity was out of order, the fact remains that the big blister burst open when Hoover entered upon his office. The blister, to be sure, had formed in Coolidge's time, but it burst open when Hoover took over the reins of government.

Hoover, it is true, can say that it is not his fault that the blister burst open when he settled in the White House. He can prove that the blister began to form in Coolidge's time yet. He can prove with figures that unemployment was already widespread under Coolidge's administration. Did not the Democratic candidates, during the campaign, dwell day in, day out on the growing unemployment in the country and about the great economic crisis threatening us? And it is but natural for a blister, once it begins to swell, to burst in the end. Such a defense, however, would be good for Hoover if he were an independent man. But he is a party man; he is the standard bearer of the Republican Party and the head of the Republican Administration. There must be no economic depression under a Republican administration because the Republican Party is the only one, is it not, that knows the secret of prosperity. Accordingly, Hoover has found it best to minimize the present unemployment, to manipulate statistical figures in such a manner as to make it appear that the number of the unemployed in the country is slight, that business is improving and there is no cause for worry. Hence one can easily imagine how unpleasant it must have been for Hoover to read Prof. Dewey's letter.

But whatever Hoover's reply to Prof. Dewey is going to be, one thing is certain: his request will not be granted. Hoover will not call an extra session of Congress to deal with

the problem of unemployment, because there is no one to compel him to do so. There are no representatives of labor in Congress. At best there are a handful of men in Congress who feel sympathetic toward the needs of wage earners and occasionally put in a good word for them. But the American workers have no representatives of their own in Congress who make it their business to fight for their interests.

There has been a great deal of talk in Congress about unemployment, but so far nothing has been done about it. Those who spoke did so not in order to help the employed, but in order to hurt the Republican Administration. If we had a Democratic administration, the chief speakers on unemployment would be Republicans; but as the present Administration is Republican, the main speakers on unemployment are Democrats.

Mr. Samuel Greenberg, acting president of the Industrial Council of the Cloak, Suit, and Skirt Manufacturers, declared at the recent general conference of the American garment industry that there were signs of improvement in the cloak industry.

This is really good news for the cloakmakers. For what the cloakmakers need now most of all is a good season.

In general, the tone of the conference was rather optimistic. Hope was expressed by various representatives at the conference that the business and industrial situation would improve considerably in the next few months. Dr. Louis Henny, director of the Bureau of Business Research of New York University, gave assurance that the business and industrial situation would return to normal in September or in October.

Well, this is risking rather too much. It may happen that the economic situation will take a notion not to listen to Dr. Henny and not to become normal until November, if not later. But I won't argue with Dr. Henny about the exact date on which the economic situation will become normal again. What I don't like in particular is his remark that if the economic situation is to turn normal once more, it will be necessary to curtail production and to reduce wages.

I fail to understand how Dr. Henny can speak of a stabilized economic situation if production is to be curtailed and wages reduced. It would seem quite obvious that if production is curtailed, the number of the unemployed must needs grow larger. And if wages are reduced, the purchasing power of the workers will be diminished. And if the workers will not have the wherewithal to purchase goods, production will have to be curtailed still further and the number of those out of work is bound to grow still larger. How, then, is it possible for the economic condition of the country to become stabilized? On the contrary, it is bound to grow steadily worse.

People have persuaded themselves that there is at present a surplus of all commodities in the United States. We are told that there are too much food and too many houses, too much clothing and too many shoes, too many automobiles and too many radios. But this is not true. If there

were too much food in the country, so many people could not be starving. If there were too many houses, so many people would not be living in such crowded quarters. If there were too many garments and shoes, so many people would not be wearing such tattered clothes and torn shoes. And if there were too many automobiles and radios, every family in the country would have at least one automobile and one radio. Yet I know many cloakmakers and dressmakers who ride to work by the subway or the "L," and not in their own cars. And I also know quite a few cloakmakers and dressmakers who still have no radios in their homes.

The truth of the matter is that we still have no surplus of anything in America. And could the workers afford to buy everything they need, there would be a shortage of every commodity in the country. There would not be enough garments and shoes, nor enough homes and automobiles. But there is a surplus of everything when the workers have not the means to satisfy their needs.

If, then, we want the economic situation to become stabilized, our first concern should be to see that there are no unemployed, and that those who work for a living earn more and more money so that they may be able to buy more and more goods.

And as a beginning toward the achievement of this end, two steps are necessary before everything else: First, the time of work must be considerably reduced, so that there may be gainful employment for as many workers as possible; second, an unemployment insurance fund must be created at once. And when the number of the jobless is small, and even these receive doles, there will be more people in the United States who have the wherewithal to purchase goods, and instead of curtailing production, it will soon have to be increased.

And when the workers enjoy a short working day and more of leisure, they will, provided their income permits it, be able more often to visit places of amusement, to read more books and magazines, to make more use of radios, etc. This, in turn, will help to extend certain industries and enterprises and still further improve the economic condition of the country.

But the contrary will be the case if production is curtailed and wages reduced.

I would advise Dr. Henny to start studying all over again and work for a new doctor's degree, for he seems to have learned very little from the studies that won him his old degree.

## CALIFORNIA CARPENTERS FIGHT WAGE DECREASE

Bakersfield, Cal. — The Bellar Construction Company of Los Angeles recently secured a contract from the Fox West Coast Theatre Corporation to build a theatre in Bakersfield. The construction company took advantage of the unemployment situation and engaged carpenters for from \$5 to \$8, the local scale being \$9 for eight hours, and established other anti-Union working conditions. The carpenters' local union and the Kern County Labor Council have placed both concerns on the unfair list.

them in the agreement, and thus the number of discharged workers was quite considerably reduced.

The June reorganization was also a practical test of the effectiveness of the restrictions put upon this right in the agreement of July, 1929. The object of these restrictions is to make sure that those who have been active in the Union, and who have also displayed their union spirit in the shop, are not singled out for discharge in the reorganization. The test showed that the redrafting of the reorganization clause in the new agreement has been very helpful to the Union in its fight against such reorganizations as were aimed against active union members.

In this connection it is worth noting that of the 275 firms which belong to the Industrial Council, and which employ about eight thousand workers, only 66 concerns availed themselves of their reorganization rights. In other words, three-fourths of the manufacturers did not find it necessary to make use of their rights. It certainly behooves the minority of manufacturers to take an example from the majority. This, however, is merely a wish. The Union does not deny the right accorded the manufacturers in the agreement. All it wants is to keep them from exceeding the limits of their rights, and this the Union has done very successfully.

## WITH THE Cloak & Skirt JOINT BOARD NEW YORK

(By MORRIS J. ASHBES)  
Secretary-Treasurer

A regular meeting of the Joint Board Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union, Locals No. 1, 3, 9, 10, 17, 21, 23, 35, 48, 64 and 82, L. G. W. U., was held Wednesday, July 30, 1930, 7:30 P. M., at the International Auditorium, 3 West 16th Street. First Vice-Chairman, Phillip Ansel, presided. . . .

### General Manager's Report

Brother Nagler reports that the injunction against the Commission and all parties to the collective agreement in the case of the Brooklyn Contractors' Association, was granted. The court order has not been signed and the details are not yet known. The Commission nevertheless has instructed its attorney, Mr. Hillquit, to immediately prepare the case for appeal. He states also that notwithstanding the fact that the injunction was granted, the Union will not be handicapped in its activities in the Brooklyn territory and will proceed with the enforcement of Union standards as heretofore.

He further reports that sometime ago, the Industrial Council filed charges against the Union with the Impartial Chairman. Now the Union filed its answer to these charges together with counter-charges. The hearings on this matter will be held shortly.

Brother Nagler then reviews the reorganization cases and states that the results accomplished by us in the 114 cases, filed against 52 firms, are most gratifying and very encouraging.

The modification in the reorganization clause enabled us for the first time to secure many reinstatements on the ground of discrimination for Union activity—a thing which was impossible under the old agreement. The credit for this remarkable achievement, as far as the results are concerned, is due primarily to the entire staff of the Industrial Council Department, whose tireless efforts and made this possible.

Regarding the settlement with Shapiro & Sons, Brother Nagler states that he appreciates the position of Local No. 35, but the situation in this strike was such that the settlement had to be made. In making this settlement, the officers of the Joint Board and the International had in mind the best interests of the organization. If there had been any possibility of prolonging this strike, these terms would not have been accepted by us, but under the circumstances, we could not do otherwise. He admits that an error was committed by not consulting with the Managers of Locals No. 9 and No. 35, but this was not done intentionally.

The question about the rapid spread of the use of the pressing machines, which was raised by representatives of Local No. 35, is a very important one and the Joint Board will have to give it its most careful consideration, in the way of finding a solution to this problem. This, however, has no bearing on the case of Shapiro & Sons. This firm used two

pressing machines before the strike, when they employed five pressers. Since the firm retained only three pressers, the office will not permit it to use more than one pressing machine. The office is also endeavoring to induce the firm to put on a fourth presser and there are prospects of accomplishing it. Brother Nagler feels therefore that the settlement with Shapiro & Sons is, the best we could expect under the circumstances and he recommends its approval.

A lengthy discussion ensues in connection with Brother Nagler's report regarding the settlement with Shapiro & Sons.

Delegate Langer states that Local No. 35 is opposed to this settlement, not because of the reduction in the number of pressers but in the fact that the firm was allowed to use two pressing machines while only three pressers were retained. They feel that at this time when the large number of unemployed pressers and their vigorous attempt to curtail the use of the pressing machines, Shapiro Sons should not have been permitted to use two machines, especially since they reduced the number of pressers. They feel also that had their Local Manager been consulted about the terms of the settlement, the results would have been different.

Brother Nagler again calls Brother Langer's attention to the fact that the office will not permit Shapiro Sons to use more than one machine.

Brother Kirtzman states that while he agrees that the strike against Shapiro & Sons had to be settled, there was no justification for making this settlement, without consulting the Local Managers, who were involved in it. He believes that if he was consulted about this matter,

he would have been able to secure a more favorable adjustment for the finishers. Even if he had been forced to agree to the same terms, he would then gladly assume responsibility for it and be able to explain his position in the matter.

Brother Heller states that the terms of the settlement were subject to the approval of the Joint Board and the report of the settlement was submitted to the Board of Directors before the workers were permitted to return to work. The Joint Board is therefore free to act as it sees fit in this matter.

He also states that the statement of presser Jacob Cooper, at the last Joint Board meeting, that he was assured by the strike leaders that his job would be protected, is not correct. No such assurance was given to any striker by any of the strike leaders. He states further that Brother Cooper's claim of martyrdom is very much exaggerated. While it is true that Brother Cooper took an active part in the strike, he was not the only one and among those who dropped out, there were a few who took a most active part in the strike; therefore he is in no worse position than they are.

Brother Heller states further that he personally would have been satisfied to continue the strike and lose it, rather than accept the proposed settlement, if the Union, had been able to exert every effort to win it. But to his personal knowledge, it could not be done, due to certain existing circumstances. He therefore had no other alternative, but to agree to this settlement.

The hour being late, it is decided to leave the matter to the next meeting of the Joint Board for final disposition.

## Financial Report of the Joint Board of the Toronto Cloakmakers' Union

### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

June 1, 1929 to April 30, 1930

RECEIPTS					
	Local 14	Local 33	Local 63	Local 92	Totals
Dues	5,865.25	628.90	1,572.15	1,533.25	9,659.55
Initiation Fees	2,079.35	371.00	827.25	355.40	3,633.00
Strike Fund	2,357.00	442.50	939.50	573.90	4,312.90
Sick and Consumptive Fund	281.85	10.10	6.45	150.05	448.45
Doctor Charges	23.00	2.00	.55	10.50	36.05
N.Y. Strike Fund	173.20	3.25	2.00	62.90	241.35
Books	122.85	16.20	45.10	24.05	208.20
Plates	52.81	8.00	22.72	10.03	93.56
Palestine E. F.	59.05			4.00	63.05
Special Tax	8.00			5.00	13.00
	11,022.36	1,481.95	3,415.72	2,788.19	18,708.21
General Office for Organization					1,500.00
General Office Contribution					400.00
Loans					495.00
Strike Conference					150.00
Dues Stamps to Dressmakers					90.00
Banquet Refund					97.50
Returned Cheques					70.00
Dressmakers' Charter					25.00
Returns on Loans					29.90
Fine					15.00
Temporary Receipts					10.00
Exchanges					17.10
Sundaries					15.51
					\$21,622.32

  

DISBURSEMENTS	
Dues Stamps	4,375.99
Expenses	
Officials' Salaries	2,670.00
Office Salaries	1,323.70
Rent	1,530.00
Legal Fees	400.00
Local Secretaries' Salaries	100.00
Printing	325.00
Telephone	139.02
Office Supplies and Expenses	195.80
Advertising	81.00
Travelling Expenses	55.00
Postage and Excise	50.88
Insurance	20.40
Car Fare	18.25
Telegrams	12.47
Towels	8.05
Duty	4.29
	6,036.36

Strike Expenses			
Organization Salaries	268.00		
Organization Expenses	602.50		
Publicity	450.00		
Legal Fees	475.00		
Travelling Expenses	418.12		
Shop Expenses	175.00		
Rent for Headquarters	160.58		
Rent for Theatre	100.00		
Banquet	195.00		
Entertainment	76.90		
Strike Relief	64.15		
Unemployment Committee	141.55		
Extra Help	48.95		
General Expenses	351.10		
		3,406.77	
Sundry Disbursements			
Convention Tax	1,500.00		
N. Y. Strike Conference	150.00		
Sick and Consumptive Fund	491.40		
Loans Repaid	910.00		
Cleveland Convention	225.00		
Lost Time and Grievances	162.05		
Return on Old Bill	50.00		
Trade and Labor Council	55.00		
Donations	61.00		
Palestine Emergency Fund	63.05		
Donations to Members	37.40		
Grievance Board	50.00		
Returned Cheques	70.00		
Dressmakers' Charter	25.00		
Exchange	17.10		
Fine	15.00		
Temporary Receipts	12.00		
Initiation Fee Returned	5.00		
Relief	3.00		
General Expenses	351.10	3,406.75	14,918.61
Receipts not accounted for	118.48		
			4,020.48
			\$18,939.09
Summary			
BANK BALANCE—June 1, 1929			32.12
RECEIPTS			32.12
			21,655.11
DISBURSEMENTS			18,939.09
BANK BALANCE—April 30, 1930			\$2,715.11



## Morris Hillquit Replies

(Continued from page 3)

with this showing or inclined to abate its efforts to bring about an ever larger unionization of the industry. It merely points out that it has at all times since the date of the present collective agreement made bona fide and energetic efforts "to organize all employees and shops in the industry," and that its efforts have not been without substantial success.

Compared with conditions prior to the strike, very substantial progress has been made in the organization of the Cloak and Suit Industry, and the Union may well claim a considerable amount of credit for such progress. To charge that the Union "is indifferent to the existence of these non-Union firms," in the face of the facts above recited, is preposterous.

2. That the Union has made preferential agreements with other factors in the industry and has given them benefits not accorded to the members of the industrial council.

This charge is based upon the terms of the agreement between the Union and the Dress Manufacturers, which agreement gives the employers the option or right of piece work.

The Council claims that such agreement is a violation of the "Sixteenth" clause of its agreement with the Union, which reads as follows:

"The Union obligates itself to enter into no contract, oral or in writing, expressed or implied, directly or indirectly, by reason whereof any person, firm or corporation engaged in the cloak, suit or skirt industry in the Metropolitan District, shall receive any benefit or aid not accorded the members of this Council, pursuant to the terms of this agreement."

The bold part of the clause clearly indicates the intention of the provision.

The relations between the Industrial Council and the Union are confined to the Cloak and Suit Industry. The collective agreement between the parties provides for certain standards to be observed by members of the Council and the object of clause "Sixteenth" was to safeguard members of the Council against more favorable standards to be accorded to cloak and suit manufacturers who are not members of the Council. The clause clearly was not intended to extend to manufacturers in the dress industry or any other industry.

The Industrial Council now complains that certain articles of wear, such as coats, evening wraps and ensembles are being produced by dress manufacturers who may have their work done on the "piece work system," while the members of the Council are confined to the "week work system" only. Waiving at this time the question whether the "piece work system" necessarily means cheaper production, it must be noticed that the Union is not responsible for the overlapping of the two industries in certain points or for the disadvantage under which the Cloak Industry may suffer on account of such overlapping.

The dress industry has always had a cheaper labor market than the Cloak and Suit Industry. It deals with a class of skilled or less permanent workers, very largely consisting of women, and, as a rule, the works in the dress industry have always been more weakly organized than the workers in the Cloak Industry.

At the time the last collective agreement was made between the Industrial Council and the Union the Dress Industry was practically entirely unorganized, and the dress manufacturers were in a position to compete with cloak manufacturers on similar articles on the basis of their unregulated and practically uncontrolled labor

standards. The Union, quite independently from the obligations under its contract with the Industrial Council, immediately undertook an extensive and costly campaign to organize the Dress Industry and ordered a general strike for that purpose, with the result that a large measure of effective organization has been introduced in the industry and the standards of labor in the same have been substantially improved. The Union has done all that was possible to do towards equalization of labor standards in both industries. Of course, no reasonable person thought that the possibility of a complete equalization of such standards could be attained, and it is extremely doubtful whether such complete equalization can ever be attained. The task of the Union was to improve the labor situation in the Dress Industry to the extent possible at the time, and that task it has fully performed. The competition of dress manufacturers is not nearly as dangerous to cloak manufacturers today as it was on June 1, 1929.

3. That the Union has permitted the employment of sample tailors and cutters by firms which do not operate complete inside factories.

The Union denies this charge. It has not entered into an agreement with any individual, concern or association employing cutters and sample makers unless such employer operates a complete inside factory, and is not aware of any concern in contractual relations with it which employs cutters and sample makers without operating an inside factory. If the Council knows of any specific instance of such alleged infractions of the agreement, it should submit specific complaints for such infractions to be dealt with in the manner provided for by the collective agreement between the parties.

4. That the Union permits the jobbers larger reorganization rights than those allowed to members of the industrial council.

This is not a charge of a violation of the agreement on the part of the Union but rather an argument against the jobbing system. The Council complains that while its members by the terms of its agreement are limited to a displacement of not more than 10 per cent of their workers in any year, the "jobber," who operates through a number of contractors exclusively employed by him, may indirectly effect a complete reorganization at any time

by ceasing to give work to such contractor and thus indirectly effecting a discharge of all the workers in the contractor shop. The analogy is not very apt. A contractor, so long as he continues in business, is bound by even stricter limitations in his reorganization rights than a member of the Industrial Council. If a contractor goes out of business his workers naturally find themselves out of jobs. The same applies to the employees of a member of the Industrial Council if he goes out of business. It is true that a contractor sometimes depends for all of his work on one particular jobber, and if such work is withdrawn he would not be able to secure work from other jobbers, but that is one of the unfortunate features of the jobbing-sub-manufacturing system against which the Union has long and vainly fought. It is an inherent defect in the industry and is not of the making of the Union.

The agreement between the Union and the Merchants Ladies Garment Association was made simultaneously with the agreement between the Council and the Union. The Council was well aware of the provisions of the agreement between the Union and the Merchants Association, and it is too late at this time for it to raise the point that the jobbers have certain advantages over inside manufacturers in dealing with labor.

The present complaint of the industrial Council against the Union is based on alleged violations of the agreement by the Union since June 1, 1929, and not violation of this pact can be charged against the Union by any stretch of imagination.

5. That the Union has violated its agreement by permitting its members to work for inside manufacturers who are members of the American Association.

Under this head the Council refers to the "Fourth" clause of its agreement with the Union, which recites that the members of the American Association are recognized "to be the efficient and standard shops capable of assisting and stabilizing the industry," and provides that members of the Industrial Council confine the manufacture of merchandise made for them in sub-manufacturing shops to members of the American Association exclusively.

The Council argues that this clause confines membership in the American Association to sub-manufacturers only; that the American Association has no right to admit inside manufacturers to membership, and that the Union members have no right to work for inside manufacturers who

are members of the American Association.

There is nothing in the "Fourth" Clause of the agreement which in express terms limits the American Association to sub-manufacturers and contractors. The only positive provision of the clause is to the effect that members of the Industrial Council who have work done as sub-manufacturers or contractors shall have it done by such sub-manufacturers and contractors as are members of the American Association.

If there is an appreciable number of inside manufacturers who are members of the American Association instead of the Industrial Council, it may well be that the situation is unhealthy and not in the best interests of the industry, but the situation has not been created and is not being maintained by the Union. The Union cannot arrogate to itself the right and it does not have the power to remedy the situation, if a remedy be called for. The question is purely one between the Industrial Council and the American Association, and is possibly a proper subject to be dealt with by the Commission in the industry. It certainly cannot be held to constitute a violation of the agreement on the part of the Union.

Should the impartial Chairman require proof of additional argument in connection with the complaint of the Industrial Council, the Union will, of course, be ready to appear before you at any hearing which you may order on the subject.

The Union, moreover, desires to make another counter-charge against the Industrial Council in connection with its complaint.

Immediately upon filing the said complaint, Mr. Samuel Klein, Executive Director of the Industrial Council, saw fit to issue a statement to the press so virulent in tone and so condemnatory of the Union under the following alarming headlines:

### "SAYS CLOAK UNION FACES COLLAPSE

Industrial Council Head Charges It Is Nullifying Reconstructive Efforts of Roosevelt.

### SEES CRISIS IN THE TRADE

Klein Declares Labor Organization Has Hailed Utterly in Pledge to Organize the Industry."

Mr. Klein himself was quoted as saying that "the supposedly powerful structure of unionism in the Cloak and Suit Industry is merely a house of card in imminent danger of complete collapse."

This statement thus publicly made, while the charges of the Council were pending before the impartial Chairman, and before the Union had had an opportunity to meet the same, and before the impartial Chairman had passed upon their merits, in the opinion of the Union, constitutes a grave breach of good faith on the part of the Council and of its undertakings to cooperate with the Union in the efforts to organize the industry of the Union and its power to enlist

It tended to diminish the prestige the unorganized workers in its ranks and to shake the public confidence in the operation of the collective arrangement in the industry and to alarm the Cloak and Suit industry.

The Union respectfully requests that the impartial Chairman make a ruling a to the propriety and right of a party to the collective agreement to issue public statements of the nature made by Mr. Klein relating to controversies pending before him, in order to prevent a recurrence of this inexcusable incident.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS HILLQUIT,  
Attorney for the Union.

## Dress Union Confers With Employers' Associations

President Schlesinger and General-Manager Hochman Insist on Strict Observance of Union Standards in All Shops.

In the last two weeks the New York Dressmakers' Union has held a series of conferences with the various employers' groups with a view to insuring the strict observance of union standards in all shops. Conferences have already been held with the jobbers and the contractors, and as we go to press there is in progress a conference with the inside manufacturers.

The first conference was with the jobbers and took place in Clinton Hall on July 22. At this conference the representatives of the Union took the jobbers to task for certain breaches of the agreement and made it clear the Union would not stand for them. President Schlesinger declared emphatically that the Union was determined under all circumstances to

see that the agreement was observed and that the jobbers employed union contractors.

The chief topics discussed at the conference with the contractors, which took place in the same hall the following day, were the minimum wage scale for pressers and operators, and the strict observance of union conditions in the shops.

The Union representatives insisted that the minimum wage scale for pressers be not less than \$1.50 an hour, while in the case of operators, prices be such as to insure a minimum wage of \$1.10 an hour.

In addition, President Schlesinger and General-Manager Julius Hochman demanded that union standards be strictly observed in the shops. The representatives of the contractors readily promised.

## TWO WEEKS IN LOCAL 10

By SAMUEL PERLMUTTER

### Membership at Special Meeting Taxed Themselves One Day's Wages

On Monday, July 28, 1930, at a special meeting attended by a capacity crowd, and the largest held in many years, it was unanimously decided that every member of Local 10, be taxed with one day's wages.

This decision was made unanimously when the Chairman submitted a resolution presented to the body by Brother Louis Levine, Chairman of the Emmett Joyce, after a thorough discussion in which many members participated. Among them were Brothers Arthur Weinstein, Victor Newfield, Charles Stein, No. 1, Irving Horowitz, Dolly Levine, Philip Ansel, and many others.

This special meeting was called chiefly for the purpose of considering the racketeering situation which has grown to a most unbearable degree in the ladies' garment center. These racketeers, most of whom are products of the underworld, have in the past year, following the settlements of the two general strikes, invaded the cloak and dress markets and are working hand in hand with the employers, especially in the dress trade, offering them protection against the union. Many employers in this trade would rather pay out incredible amounts in tribute to these racketeers than operate their shops under union conditions.

Brother David Fruhling, serving in the capacity of Chairman of the Picket Committees in the past two strikes, was made a mark by these gangsters because of his zeal in enforcing union conditions in these shops.

Manager Samuel Perlmutter gave a lengthy report at the meeting, in which he described the details as well as the apparent causes that led up to the attack of Brother Fruhling.

It was after the report submitted by Brother Perlmutter that the following resolution was presented to the membership:

"WHEREAS, the Cloak and Dressmaker's Union have gone through two general strikes in the past year which resulted in the rehabilitation of the International Union, within the city of New York, as well as in effecting agreements within the two trades, resulting in the establishment of union standards, and

"WHEREAS, conditions at the present time are such that it requires extraordinary efforts to maintain the conditions obtained during the last year, and

"WHEREAS, the Cutter's Union, Local 10, on its own initiative has been conducting organization campaigns for the purpose of strengthening the organization as exemplified by the activities of the Cutter's Union, during the past year, and

"WHEREAS, during the past general strikes the members of Local 10, not only participated actively in the general strikes but headed the most important committees necessary to bring the strikes to successful conclusions, and

"WHEREAS, we have learned that Brother David Fruhling, who acted as Chairman of the Pocket Committee in the last two general strikes, has been assaulted by thugs with intent of murder, as testified by physicians who have examined him, and is now recuperating from inflicted fatal stab wounds, and

"WHEREAS, this attack upon the life of Brother David Fruhling is a blow aimed at the efforts of Local 10 to check racketeering in the ladies'

garment industry, operated by men who offer protection against the Union, thus endangering the interests of the workers in general and the cutters in particular, and

"WHEREAS, in order to maintain conditions in the industry and further strengthen the forces of Local 10, organization activities and campaigns are most essential, therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that the members of Local 10, assembled at a special meeting held on Monday, July 28, 1930, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place, called for this purpose, go on record in favor of taxing themselves with one day's wages, the money of which shall be laid aside as a special emergency defense and organization fund, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that the payment of this day's wages goes into effect immediately and that the officers are authorized to proceed to collect this fund within the next four weeks, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that this fund shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified herein.

Almost every member speaking on this resolution expressed the strongest protest against the unscrupulous employers who have made it a practice to hire these thugs, and voiced the hope that the authorities would expediate the process of apprehending those responsible for the attempt made upon Brother Fruhling's life, and that they would also put their forces at work to check racketeering in the ladies' garment industry.

The enthusiasm manifested by the huge attendance was indicated by the thunderous applause following the concluding remarks of Manager Samuel Perlmutter, in which he stated that he regarded it as a sacred duty to call to attention of the cutters to these underworld elements who were helping the employers to undermine conditions in the industry by means of intimidating union officers, as exemplified in Brother Fruhling's case.

Brother Perlmutter further stated that Local 10 was always the leading factor in our International in thwarting any attempt by the enemies of labor to hinder the progress of our Union.

Local 10 has always conducted organization campaigns and met with considerable success and will not stop these campaigns in the face of any intimidation of the manufacturers and their hired gangsters.

Manager Perlmutter declared that Local 10 was always ready to back up its organization and officers morally and financially, and felt certain that at this time, when the Local was confronted with this emergency, the membership would respond cheerfully to the call for financial aid.

It was upon the conclusion of these remarks that the resolution was submitted to the membership for a vote and unanimously adopted.

In connection with the above, the Executive Board at its last meeting held on Thursday, July 21, 1930, decided to complete all arrangements to make feasible and expediate the collection of the day's wages.

When we take into consideration the fact that conditions throughout the industry at present are far from being brisk, our members certainly deserve credit for their loyalty to the organization and the manner in which they are responding to the call of the Local.

Already, chairmen representing

many shops have called at the office and remitted the day's wages. Among these are the Crown Cloak Co., 265 West 37th St., which has remitted \$129.00, and Hattie Carnegie, 711 5th Ave., which has remitted \$235.80.

Lack of space at this time makes it impossible to list all those that have paid. All will, however, be recorded in the future in the order in which payments are received.

### Brother David Fruhling Now Recuperating in the Mountains

Brother David Fruhling, whose face was rendered paralytic as a result of the wounds he received, has been examined by Dr. Davidoff, a surgeon, who advised that before any operation could be definitely decided upon, Brother Fruhling would have to go to the country for recuperation. Accordingly Brother Fruhling has left for the mountains where he will stay two weeks, and then return to New York for further treatment. In the meantime the office is doing everything to bring Brother Fruhling back to his former state of health, but it should be borne in mind that in addition to the paralytic stroke from which Brother Fruhling is suffering, he also lost a great deal of blood and is still in a very weak condition.

### Conferences Being Held in the Dress Trade

During the past two weeks several conferences were held with the various factors in the dress trade, one with the Dress Contractors' Association, and two with the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association.

The conference with the Dress Contractors' Association was called because of the many difficulties which have arisen when adjustments are to be made, especially as far as the cutters are concerned.

In one of the previous issues of the Justice, it was reported that the Contractors' Association is very slow in forcing employers to pay fines when violations are discovered relative to firms doing their own cutting.

The Association on a number of occasions has also shown an attitude of indifference in forcing their members to employ cutters.

At these conferences headed by President Schlesinger of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the Association was made to understand that if they intended to maintain friendly relations with the Union, these provisions would have to be strictly observed.

The conference with the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association involved questions of great importance. The question of the jobbers confining their production to union shops was the chief subject discussed. Another question affecting the cutters was raised at this conference by the jobbers, and that was a request that they be permitted to operate cutting departments.

The conference with the Contractors' Association is already beginning to bear fruit: the Contractors' Association have agreed to assign a special clerk to go out with a representative of the Union for the purpose of investigating shops that do not employ cutters and force them to pay fines and immediately put cutters to work. Insofar as the jobbers are concerned, the question of non-union production has been definitely disposed of, the jobbers having showed by records that 85 per cent of their production is being made in union shops and promised that in the future they would discipline any member that failed to live up to this part of the agreement 100 per cent.

With regard to their request for permission to operate cutting departments, this the Union rejected unless such inducement to the workers could be offered by the employers as would warrant the arrangement of the cutting-up system.

### Office Conducting Organization Campaigns in the Miscellaneous Trades

Pursuant to arrangements made between the International represented by Secretary David Dubinsky, Brother Harry Greenberg, Manager of Local 91, and Samuel Perlmutter, Manager of Local 10, an organization campaign has been started in the children's dress trade under the supervision of Brother Philip Oretsky, who is to be in charge of this campaign, until the declaration of the general strike in the children's dress industry as decided upon at the last convention of the International in Cleveland.

Up to the latter part of July there was very little activity in that trade. Most of the factories were idle. In the last few days, however, they have begun to show signs of life, and the Local 10 staff, in connection with the officers of Local 91, has started organization work in quite a few shops that already are in process of being unionized. The names of these shops will be announced in the next issue of the Justice.

### Executive Board Decided Against Overtime and the Hiring of Temporary Men

Owing to the present precarious situation in the industry, the Executive Board, after a thorough discussion, has decided:

1. That cutters are not to be permitted to work overtime unless on investigation it is proven that there is no room for any additional cutters.
2. That no temporary men are to be engaged, and that any cutter who has worked in a shop more than two weeks is, in accordance with the agreement, to be considered permanent and entitled to the same privileges as the rest of the men in the given cutting departments.

Any one responsible for violating any one of these two decisions will be summoned before the Executive Board and punished severely.

## ATTENTION, CUTTERS OF LOCAL 10

### A Special and General Meeting

Will be held

MONDAY, AUGUST 11th, 1930

at ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PL.

at 7:30 P. M. Sharp

Cutters are urged to attend this meeting without fail. Reports of all minutes of the Executive Board, postponed at the last meeting, will be read. Also a report in connection with the one day's wages will be issued.

Books will be stamped, signifying attendance and the \$1.00, fine for non-attendance of meeting will be STRICTLY ENFORCED.