

CLOTHING WORKERS 'BROKE' FACE LEVY

Shiplacoff, Socialist and Amalgamated Leader, Makes Amazing Plea.

2 MILLION FUND GONE

200 Shop Chairmen Told to Collect All Dues and \$20 Assessment.

SAVE PICKETS FROM JAIL

Appeal Throws New Light on Union's Strike Activities—Revolt Talk Grows.

Alderman Abraham I. Shiplacoff, who represents the Fifty-ninth Aldermanic District in Brooklyn, and was elected on the Socialist ticket, is also manager of the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. His position in the union is practically that of head office of the New York local and he is in charge of all New York city matters affecting the various trades united under the Amalgamated.

In this capacity Alderman Shiplacoff made a speech last week at the Manhattan Lyceum, 66 East Fourth street, to about 200 shop chairmen of the Amalgamated. The shop chairmen are the foremen or direct representatives of the union in each shop, conveying to the workers the orders of the higher union officials, collecting dues and enforcing the union regulations in the shops.

Alderman Shiplacoff told his amazed hearers that the New York branch of the Amalgamated was "broke," that it owed large sums to Chicago and other clothing centers, and he implored them to get busy collecting dues from the workers, who have just returned to work after a six months strike. The union, the "organization," as he called it, was unable to borrow any more money and was on the verge of breaking down.

One of the striking necessities in the way of money, Alderman Shiplacoff declared, was for the defense and "saving from jail" of the many pickets of the union who were arrested during the strike and since the "settlement" of the strike for assaulting non-union workers in the open shops maintained by the manufacturers who tried to operate during the strike, and those who have refused to recognize the so-called settlement of the strike.

Many Witnesses Disappear.

Heretofore the higher union officials have refused to recognize publicly any union responsibility for the unlawful actions of these pickets, many of whom were strong arm men, thus used to handling blackjacks and similar weapons. They have beaten up half dozen of the workers, thrown acid over clothes and materials in the shops, attempted to burn up some of the shops, actually did blow up one plant in New Jersey, and generally made life miserable and work impossible for the non-Amalgamated manufacturer and tailor. Severe injuries have been inflicted in some instances on non-union workers, and death is alleged to have resulted in at least one instance from such injuries.

Generally no arrests have been made by the police owing to the circumstances of the assault, the perpetrators getting away before the police could be called. But some arrests were made, and in other cases the men who took part in the assaults are known and are being sought by the police and by detectives employed by the manufacturers. But when attempts have been made to bring cases to trial it has been found in the District Attorney's office, both here and in Brooklyn, that witnesses have mysteriously vanished, that the complainants were reluctant to appear and that it was a difficult if not impossible thing to convict an Amalgamated member.

The only explanation forthcoming has been the generous use of money in certain directions in Brooklyn, for instance, where District Attorney Lewis is anxious to get half dozen men indicted for felonious assault on non-union clothing workers, he has found it impossible to get the victims of the assaults. They have disappeared from their homes, the District Attorney has been informed, after displaying to neighbors large sums of money which had been suddenly presented to them by unknown persons. There have been some cases of short jail sentences imposed in the Magistrate's courts where policemen had seen the assaults.

Stenographic Report of Speech.

The Amalgamated, as an organization, has always loudly condemned any and all such violence and has disavowed publicly the perpetrators of assaults. But last Tuesday night, speaking, as he thought, only to a group of Jewish shop chairmen, much of the discussion was in Yiddish. Alderman Shiplacoff threw some light upon the interest which the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America takes in its members, who are accused or convicted of brutal assaults on non-Amalgamated tailors. A stenographic report of Alderman Shiplacoff's speech was made, unknown to him, and its contents have been the subject of certain official inquiry.

In the course of his speech the Alderman, who was almost exhausted from his day's work as manager of the Amalgamated joint board entailing many engagements in different parts of the city, referred to the need of money for the defence of these strong arm pickets as follows:

"Let me tell you in the meantime how many things are going on. Some of our brothers are having trials. Some of our pickets have had jail sentences. I want to tell you the fact that we have succeeded in getting so that the news does not spread very much. We have cases of people who are going to jail quietly—some people that may have to go to jail.

"There is no telling for how long they will have to go to jail and you would not want any of your brothers to go to jail for five or ten years, when you know that probably \$1,000 or \$1,500 for a good lawyer—and some other expenses that may be connected with it—will probably save a man from a five or ten year sentence.

"The District Attorney's office and the Police Department have taken some pretty drastic measure on some of the cases that we have, and I want you to know that we have quite a number of them hanging over. Surely you, if you would be a picket, would hate like anything to go to jail for a couple of years, if you felt that the members of the union would not contribute a dollar, or 50 cents, or \$5 to have you released.

"The financial department of our or-

ganization is in such a precarious condition and in such an unfortunate condition that the people who are directly responsible for the financial condition of the organization are compelled to do things that are not the very thing that they want to do. It is very unpleasant to talk on this subject. The New York joint board has already been given all the money on everything it could possibly get hold of to borrow money. We have borrowed over \$200,000. We should immediately get on the job of collecting dues.

\$2,000,000 Defence Fund Gone.

"A drive for: dues is going to be made, and what we have called you here for is to make that drive a perfect success, to see to it that the people clear up their dues and do it if it hurts. It is up to you to do it and see that the people do not clear out of their membership, even if it is hard. Make them understand that at this time every dollar that they give is going to redeem us, because we have \$200,000 worth of immediate pressing debts on our hands, without paying which we cannot move."

The Alderman finished up a great hurdy hurdy in the management reports, "bushed out of the hall." There had been some interruptions to his speech, but when he was through the 200 or more shop chairmen present started a howl and a din, which he was amazed with the news brought to them by Shiplacoff that when the chairman of the meeting tried to speak to them in Yiddish he could not make himself heard. Finally the meeting broke up in disorder, dozens of shop chairmen assembling in groups, denouncing the union, their leaders and every one whose name came up publicly.

"What was done with the \$2,000,000 defence fund?" screamed one vociferous individual. "Where is the money? What did they do with it all?" bawled another. "Gas and electricity," answered one ready to weep at the thought.

The union officials, President Hillman and Secretary-Treasurer Schlossberg, have reported that all of the \$2,000,000 raised to defend the strike was spent. It went largely in relief funds, but enormous sums were spent on lawyers and on publicity.

Another complaint heard among the Amalgamated workers is that on top of this financial situation and the drive for dues comes a special \$20 assessment on all the 18,000 Amalgamated workers throughout this country and in Canada to form the nucleus of a \$5,000,000 national defence fund for 1922, when the agreement between the manufacturers and the union will expire. The principal clothing trade centres. This \$20 assessment, which will raise a total of \$3,600,000, is to be collected from every worker during the balance of 1921.

Many of the men who have just returned to work after the six months strike are already in open rebellion against this new assessment. To have a drive for \$20 a week at this time has added new energy to their threatened revolt.

STRIKES AT JUDGES IN RENT DECISIONS

Stewart Browne Hints at Referring of Charges for 'Travesties of Justice.'

Publication of the "letter of advice" issued to landlords by the United Real Estate Owners Association, was followed yesterday by a broadside from Stewart Browne, president of the organization, in which he flung at "shyster landlords" and "shyster tenants," and referred to the decisions of certain justices as "a travesty of justice." A veiled threat of retaliation by preferring charges against the makers of such decisions was added.

Mr. Browne defended his organization as opposed to all rent profiteering and in favor of rent laws that prevent the eviction of tenants who are willing to pay "a square deal rent." This, he said, should return at least at 12 1/2 per cent. net income.

Hostilities between landlords and tenants date back to the signing of the armistice, according to Mr. Browne. Shyster landlords and shyster tenants have multiplied so rapidly since that time that it is difficult to prefer charges against certain justices. It is a parody on justice to permit a tenant to rent an apartment and sign a lease therefor at a specified rent and after possession is obtained uphold the tenant in his refusal to pay such rent—an act of which no honorable tenant would be guilty.

This is not justice, but the rankest injustice, and it is not justice to permit Appeals would uphold it. That is not preventing the eviction of tenants, which was the sole object of the rent laws."

Mr. Browne admitted that leases now made in process under the terms outlined in the letter of advice contain "one or two clauses that are ultra vires" with respect to special rent laws, but insists most of them are valid and will be so held.

"The United Real Estate Owners Association," he wrote in conclusion, "stands for no evictions and square deal rents, no matter who is hit thereby."

MERCHANTS TO LAUNCH 'CURRAN BOOM TO-DAY'

Henry H. Curran, Borough President of Manhattan, will be formally placed in the field as a candidate for the nomination for Mayor by the Greater New York Publicity League to-day. William M. Bennett and President La Guardia of the Board of Aldermen already have entered themselves as contestants in the primaries for the nomination. Mr. Curran, although one of the leaders in general discussion as to available men for the nomination, has refrained from announcing his ambitions. It is known that he will abide by the decision of the Republican organization, which will start conferences on candidates with independent groups at the Hotel Commodore to-night. If they determine that another man would make a stronger candidate for Mayor, he will not contest that decision in the primaries. He will support it.

The Merchants League, of which Nathan Lieberman of 51 Chambers street is secretary, is non-partisan. It opens headquarters to-day in the Marlborough Hotel, Broadway and Thirtieth street, with a membership of more than 150 firms in Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx.

In a letter urging the selection of Mr. Curran by the conference committee, the association declares he has "made good" as chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen, member of the Shipping Fund Commission, City Magistrate, Major in the Seventh Division, A. E. F.; President of the Borough of Manhattan and member of the Board of Estimate.

It is further stated that the coalition committee, of which Joseph M. Price is chairman, will suggest the names of Lawson Purdy and Clarence J. Shearn, Democrats, as possible Mayoralty candidates, and that of Cyrus L. Miller, Democrat, former Borough President of The Bronx, for Comptroller.

HOME RULE CHIEF ISSUE--LA GUARDIA

Mayorality Candidate States Platform on Which He Seeks Nomination.

DEMANDS NICKEL FARE

Consolidation of Many City Departments Seen as Vital Need.

Home rule is made the leading issue in the platform on which F. H. La Guardia, President of the Board of Aldermen, is to run in the primaries for the Republican Mayorality nomination. However, there is a marked moderation in tone in the document which was made public yesterday. There is no denunciation of Gov. Miller for his part in the passage of the traction bill, but it is said the expeditious way to "change such an unfair, vicious law is to bring about its immediate repeal."

La Guardia advocates the restoration of the primary system of nomination, declaring the repeal of a part of the primary law was brought about by the "boss controlled Legislature to restore the boss control convention."

"My study of conditions and facts," he said, "has convinced me of the possibility of asserting and guaranteeing a five cent fare on all rapid transit lines."

"If operating companies refuse to follow the course to that end their contracts should be terminated," he added, "and electricity should be supplied at reasonable rates. Unless such companies do so, the city should gradually establish power houses."

Mr. La Guardia outlined a long programme of reorganization of the city government. "No man can be a good Mayor merely by being a good fellow," he said. "The Mayor cannot be fully and completely 'regular' to the unreasonable demands of party and also give the city the best service. A Mayor cannot be economical and efficiently administer the city and be politically popular. It is time to face courageously the situation and to abolish every unnecessary department, bureau, office, board and commission, and to do it once for all."

List of Reforms.

Among steps advocated are: More jurisdiction for borough presidents in merely local matters; consolidation of Departments of Markets and Weights and Measures and part of functions of Licensing Department; licensing and supervision of chauffeurs, &c., to go to Police Department; paving and repaving of streets all under one department; supervision and inspection of all building construction to be done by Corporation counsel; all hospitals to be under one department; all street cleaning to be in one department; office of City Chamberlain and bureau for the collection of taxes, assessments and arrears, city revenue, water register and stocks and bonds to be consolidated; Sinking Fund Commission to be abolished; office of County Clerk, Register and Commissioner of Records to be consolidated.

Mr. La Guardia would have the heads of the Mayor's departments act as a cabinet, with whom he could confer and whose advice he would be willing to accept. He would have the secretary of the Board of Estimate act as a director of personnel of all city employees, with

MYSTIC SHRINES TO MEET.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., July 17.—Twenty thousand persons are expected to assemble here on the occasion of the Haystack Shrine of New York, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. The fair grounds have been obtained for the shrine. President Harding has been invited.

Submit All City Bills.

All bills affecting New York city should be submitted to the city government for approval, the platform says, and the use of the "clumsy, dishonest subterfuge" of using the phrase "all cities of one million or more population" (when New York is the only such city) is deplored. The city's water supply must not be placed in the hands of "upstate, politically appointed commissions."

Mr. La Guardia expressed the conviction that the best transportation experts in the country should be secured as advisers of the city in traction problems. "I believe," he declared, "the city should be served with the best of rapid transit facilities at the lowest price at which a reasonable profit can be earned upon the capital invested on a basis of sound business management, and I believe, under present average conditions, such fare to be five cents."

"To all of these principles and policies I pledge my most thoughtful and energetic efforts of realization by amendment of law and regulation and by administration," the platform ends.

Its publication has been contributed by a volunteer group of New York business men organized by J. R. Pratt of 435 East Twenty-fourth street.

End Contract System.

He would end the contract system of snow and garbage removal and substitute city agencies, would reduce taxes by putting economies into effect and to the reduction in rent lower taxes would bring about he would add relief for rent payers by stimulating the building of homes through a two year recess on the construction of public buildings.

This is the opening declaration of the La Guardia platform: "The protection of the rights and property of the city of New York and the promotion of the health and happiness of its citizens without consideration of class or of private interests should be accepted by the officer of its government as its sole duty."

"This is the home rule paragraph: 'The tendency on the part of provincial legislators and upstate bosses to attempt to usurp control of public utilities so placed, and to curtail autonomy of government, calls for unified action of defence upon the part of the officers of the city government and city representatives to the Legislature. New York city should be protected against itself. Further encroachments upon home rule should be prevented and rights arbitrarily taken away restored. The candidate for Mayor should be pledged with all legislative candidates, defensively and offensively, to the promotion of those principles, by forming a city conference. The conference should be composed of all members of the Assembly, no elected, and the members of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. Weekly meetings should be held during the time the State Legislature is in session, and all measures affecting New York city should be discussed and discussed with a view to obtaining unified action for the best interest of the city.'

Radical Judiciary Changes Are Urged

City Club Presents Brief Urging Amendments to Articles of Constitution.

ASKS FOR A JURY OF SIX

Unification of Courts and Appointment of Judges Among Things Sought.

Radical changes in the judiciary articles of the Constitution are advocated by the City Club in a brief presented to the Constitutional Convention on Judiciary, formed to recommend amendments to such articles. The most important changes suggested are the substitution of an appointed for an elective judiciary, reduction of the number of jurors from twelve to six, and permitting a verdict, even in capital cases, to be rendered by less than the whole number.

The leading suggestions may be summarized as follows: Abolition of election of judges and the substitution thereof of appointment either by the Governor alone, or with the consent of a council to be constituted for that purpose; or appointment by a Chief Justice of the State, who shall himself be elected by all the people of the State for a short term, say not more than five years, and who shall be vested with the power to appoint every important judicial officer of the State.

Unification of all the courts of the State into one great court, including abolition of justices of the peace, who are to be superseded by magistrates appointed and not elected, and who are to be paid a stated salary in lieu of the fees now received by justices of the peace; or

If complete unification be deemed impracticable, unification of all the courts in the State, except in the city of New York, where the Supreme Court should remain unchanged, but all the inferior courts should be unified and called, say, the Municipal Court of the City of New York, with the jurisdiction now possessed by the City Court of the City of New York, the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in the City of New York,

POWER TO TRANSFER ANY FROM ONE DEPARTMENT TO ANOTHER AS OCCASION MIGHT WARRANT.

The candidate's views are also outlined at length on port development, terminal markets, disposition of garbage and rubbish, rents, taxes and schools. "A seat for every child" has been a catchy slogan for politicians long enough, he declared. "This should be made an actuality."

DRIVER BEATEN BY FARES.

Blackjack and Bullet Answer His Demand to Be Paid.

Henry J. Frank, a taxicab chauffeur, employed by Frank Trunk of 1601 Avenue A, picked up three passengers in front of Luna Park, Coney Island, yesterday morning. He drove them at their direction to East New York and Utica avenues, Brooklyn, and then demanded his fare. His passengers requested him to drive them to Church avenue. Frank refused to go further unless he was paid. Then, he told the police of the Atlantic avenue station, one of the passengers struck him on the head with a blackjack, while another shot him in the breast and all three fled.

Frank was taken to St. John's Hospital, where he is in a serious condition. He is 21 years of age and lives at 302 East Eighty-third street.

INCREASED SAVINGS URGED.

Postmaster-General Asked to Call a Conference.

Savings bank officials and others interested in promoting public thrift have urged Will H. Hays, Postmaster-General, to call a conference of savings bank, national bank insurance and building loan officials, to devise means of increasing savings and investment.

Ingalls Kimball, writing to the Postmaster-General, suggests that the upward trend of wages will not cease, in the opinion of economists, even though there be temporary setbacks in their amount as measured in money, and that maintenance of prosperity demands that all wage earners put aside a constantly increasing percentage of their earnings.

LIVINGSTON ALMOST WELL.

Jacob A. Livingston, Republican leader of Kings county, who has been ill at his home, 448 Ridgewood avenue, Brooklyn, for several days, said yesterday that he was almost completely recovered and expects to be able to get down to his office to-day. Mr. Livingston told newspaper reporters that he suffered from a slight cold.

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Roadster	\$2350	Chassis	\$2225
Sedan	\$3650		

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Unification of all the courts of the State into one great court, including abolition of justices of the peace, who are to be superseded by magistrates appointed and not elected, and who are to be paid a stated salary in lieu of the fees now received by justices of the peace; or

If complete unification be deemed impracticable, unification of all the courts in the State, except in the city of New York, where the Supreme Court should remain unchanged, but all the inferior courts should be unified and called, say, the Municipal Court of the City of New York, with the jurisdiction now possessed by the City Court of the City of New York, the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in the City of New York,

the Municipal Court of the City of New York, the Courts of Special Sessions, the County Courts and the City Magistrates;

Whether unification entire or partial be or be made, there should be provision for administrative organization; Conferring upon the courts the rule making power to the exclusion of interference by the Legislature;

Mandatory provision for the gathering and publication of detailed judicial statistics, without which it is impossible to know how our courts are actually functioning or where the greatest weaknesses lie;

Reform of the jury system, including (a) permitting verdicts to be rendered in all cases, civil and criminal, including capital cases, by less than the whole number of the jury; (b) the reduction of the number of jurors from twelve to six; (c) laws to encourage waiver of jury trial, particularly in commercial cases; (d) reduction of the number required to constitute a Grand Jury; (e) possible abolition of the Grand Jury.

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