The CINCINNATI JOINT BOARD
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
A Record of Struggle and Achievement
MAY, 1928
The Cincinnati Joint Board, A. C. W. of A.
A Record of Struggle and Achievement

Presented by the Cincinnati Joint Board
to the Officers and Delegates
of the Eighth Biennial Convention,
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
Cincinnati, May 14-19, 1928
"... It is the eternal struggle between these two principles, right and wrong, throughout the world. They are the two principles that have stood face to face from the beginning of time. The one is the common right of humanity, the other the divine right of kings. It is the same principle in whatever shape it develops itself. It is the same spirit that says 'you toil and work and earn bread and I'll eat it.'"—Abraham Lincoln.
The Amalgamated in Cincinnati
A Record of Struggle and Achievement

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In Memoriam

Jacob Reichert
A Soldier In Labor's Struggle

At the Convention held in Montreal in 1926 the following resolution was recommended by the Cincinnati delegates and unanimously adopted. The entire delegation rose and stood in silent tribute to Brother Reichardt.

WHEREAS, the Cincinnati Organization has suffered a loss since the last Convention, in the death of Brother Jacob Reichert, a loyal and fearless member as well as Business Representative of the Cincinnati Joint Board, and

WHEREAS, Brother Reichert was the victim of a frame-up, suffering arrest and imprisonment at the hands of the servants of the capitalist class and dying two weeks after he was pardoned by the Governor, a martyr to his cause, and

WHEREAS, Brother Reichert made the supreme sacrifice for his loyalty to our union and Labor's cause, be it therefore

Resolved, that this Seventh Biennial Convention honor the memory of Brother Jacob Reichert, by rising and standing in silent meditation for a period of sixty seconds.

Jack Kroll speaking before the delegates at this Convention said of the worker whose loss we mourn:

"You have paid homage today to a man who well deserves the honor. He was a friend and a comrade of mine. He was a tailor, a collar maker; he was not a highly polished gentleman. He did not have much of an education; he came from Europe a foreigner. But Jack Reichert, after all, was a type upon whose shoulders our organization is built. Without the type of Jack Reichert who worked, not for himself, but for the organization, we could never have succeeded. The bosses knew that as long as Jack Reichert was at the head of our Cincinnati organization they could not make much progress against the union.

The result was that during the strike—and it was a small strike—the boss went out of business and we lost the strike. But they thought it was a good opportunity, and they went after Brother Reichert. They framed a case against him; the decision was reversed by the upper court but was affirmed by the still higher court. When they took him from the Cincinnati station to Columbus, Jack said to me, "If you will organize Cincinnati, I am satisfied to go away." That is the kind of man he was. Jack Reichert went to jail and the papers still hounded him. He was still persecuted, not prosecuted, and the day that the Governor pardoned him a story came out in the papers that Reichardt was not sick. Two weeks later he died and on his death bed what did he say? Did he say "I have given my all”, "I am sick and I am dying and in Columbus my end was hastened”? Did Jack say that we ought to do something for him? No! While it is true the organization did everything it possibly could, Jack did not ask for anything for
himself. His last thought was for our organization and I want to tell you that we have taken Jack as our shining star; that Jack's idealism, Jack's unselfishness in not calling for anything for himself will always be a guiding star to our Cincinnati organization. With that sort of inspiration you can all rest assured that you are going to be proud of our new comrades and old-timers in the Cincinnati organization."

General Executive Board member, Frank Rosenblum, also spoke of the Cincinnati organization and the effect that such workers as Jack Reichert have on an organization. He said:

"The struggle of the Cincinnati clothing workers to build an organization, as far as our organization is concerned, dates back to the year 1919, when a general strike by the organization was most bitterly contested. All the forces of reaction of the employers as well as of the so-called legitimate labor movement were thrown in against our sisters and brothers in that strike. The press was most vicious. The courts went the limit. I need not explain what the police attitude was, with the press and the courts so hostile.

Other strikes with the same result—all the forces lined up against us—and again we fought most bitterly. In one of these strikes Brother Reichert was falsely charged with hiring sluggers to beat up a strike breaker. In spite of the fact that legal authorities claimed that the worst that Brother Reichert could be charged with was assault and battery with a maximum sentence of six months, the presiding Judge, who was prejudiced and hostile, sentenced him on a charge of manslaughter, or attempt to kill. The sentence was not less than fifteen years' imprisonment. Two years later, the man who was supposed to have been attacked by Reichert had fully recovered, but our brother lay in his grave a victim of a conspiracy by the enemies of labor.

The achievements of our organization in Cincinnati were made possible because of martyrs like Brother Reichert who made the supreme sacrifice."
Clear the Way

Men of thought be up and stirring
   Night and day;
Sow the seed, withdraw the curtain,
   Clear the way!

Men of action, aid and cheer them,
   As ye may!
There's a font about to stream,
There's a light about to beam,
There's a warmth about to glow,
There's a flower about to blow;
There's a midnight blackness changing
   Into grey!
Men of thought and men of action,
   Clear the way!

Once the welcome light has broken,
   Who shall say
What the unimagined glories
   Of the day
What the evil that shall perish
   In its ray?

Aid the dawning, tongue and pen;
Aid it, hopes of honest men;
Aid it, paper, aid it, type,
Aid it, for the hour is ripe;
And our earnest must not slacken
   Into play.
Men of thought and men of action,
   Clear the way.

Lo! a cloud's about to vanish
   From the day;
And a brazen wrong to crumble
   Into clay.
Lo! the Right's about to conquer,
   Clear the way!

With the Right shall many more
Enter smiling at the door;
With the giant Wrong shall fall
Many others great and small,
That for ages long have held us
   For their prey.
Men of thought and men of action,
   Clear the way! —Charles Mackay
Welcome, Delegates and Officers

ON BEHALF of the membership of our organization in Cincinnati we extend our heartiest welcome to you, delegates and officers of the A. C. W. of A. We hope you find your stay in our city both enjoyable and useful. You are the legislative body of the Amalgamated and upon your wisdom in making the right decisions will depend the course of our union in the years to come. Together with the members of the Amalgamated all over the country we shall watch your actions with keen interest. We shall be glad to do all within our power to make your stay in our city easy and pleasant while you are discharging your duty as delegates and officers.

Our organization in Cincinnati is in no position to show achievements which may match those of New York or Chicago. We are happy to say, however, that after many years of hard and continuous struggling we have succeeded in establishing an organization of which we are justly proud, and that in its own way the organization had done a good deal for our membership and the industry. Elsewhere in this booklet we relate the details of the growth of our organization. We tell of the obstacles which we have had to overcome and we account for our accomplishments. We wish to say at this point that we have never forgotten for a moment how much the very life of our organization has always depended upon the rest of the Amalgamated, the national organization and the single centers. We know how much we owe to the organized clothing workers. Had it not been for the national organization, Cincinnati would still be a free playground for open-shoppers. We have overcome obstinate resistance to organization from employers and unenlightened workers as well as most of our other difficulties only because of the generous aid given us by the Amalgamated organizations in the other cities.

In extending our welcome to you, delegates and officers of the Amalgamated, as well as to all visiting friends, we pledge our loyalty to the ideals which animate our international organization. We pledge ourselves to the cause of social justice and industrial democracy for which our movement stands.

CINCINNATI JOINT BOARD, A. C. W. A.
Our International Organization
Let Figures, Facts and Institutions Tell the Tale

The Eighteenth Biennial Convention of the A.C.W. of A., which is holding its opening session at the Emory Auditorium and all other sessions at Odd Fellows' Hall in Cincinnati, is no unknown entity in the American labor movement. Relatively a young organization, it was organized in 1914; it has succeeded in establishing itself as an important factor in the men's clothing industry of the United States and Canada, and it has occupied a place of distinction and honor in the American labor movement. Students of labor and industrial problems have paid much attention to the activities and developments in and around the Amalgamated and for good reason. The organization has been instrumental in devising new ways and methods of labor organization, and it has evolved an effective method of industrial relationship upon foundations and from premises hitherto unknown in American economic life. A happy combination of industrial realism with progressive laborism has marked all the ventures of the Amalgamated. It is because of this that the story of the Union can so well be told in concrete accomplishments of which a number are related and illustrated in the following pages.

The Cincinnati Convention of the Amalgamated, it is hoped, will mark a new milestone in the development of the Union. While receiving reports on work done in the two years since the last convention at Montreal it is hoped that the legislative gathering of the organization will again, as it did in the past, initiate new activities, lay down new principles which will lead the movement to further progress, and to a greater accumulation of power in the interests of the clothing workers and of the labor movement generally.

The General Executive Board and the General Office

The General Executive Board is the government of the Amalgamated. Its members are elected at the biennial conventions of the Amalgamated. The Board is composed of fifteen members, including the two general officers, the General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer. This group constitutes the General Office of the A.C.W. of A., and it is they who conduct the national affairs of the organization and its industrial relations. It is they who make agreements and who, in the final count, take the responsibility for any work undertaken by active members and the regularly constituted units of our organization.

The General Office is operated through various departments.

The Organization Department is essentially out for the organiza-
tion of all the clothing workers in the country and for the maintenance of union standards. Their staff of organizers and representatives are in charge of the managerial end of the union, and in that capacity must meet the employers and settle the problems that arise.

The Finance Department is purely administrative in character, and has charge of the stocks, bookkeeping, etc. Closely allied with it is the Auditing Department which audits the books of the local organizations as well as those of the General Office and bonds the officers handling union funds.

The Publishing Department issues and edits the various publications of the Amalgamated. The Advance is the English weekly paper of the Union and its central organ. The Fortschrift appears weekly in the Yiddish language. Il Lavoro, Prace, Przemysłowa Demokracja, and Darbas are respectively the Italian, Bohemian, Polish and Lithuanian language papers of the Union. They appear bi-weekly.

The Record and Mailing Department is in charge of membership records and of the mailing of our publications.

The papers of the Amalgamated carry the news of the organization as well as that of the whole labor and social movement of our time to the members of the union. They do more than that, however. They have been discharging a great educational function by continually analyzing the prob-
lems of the organization and its policy. Their aim has been to develop an intelligent public opinion in regard to the internal problems of the union, whether in its relation to the employers, to the labor movement, or the world at large. Open discussion has at all times been encouraged in the press of the union.

The columns of the press are devoted to developments in industry such as strikes, negotiations and new undertakings like the cooperative apartments, the labor banks, etc. The detailed description of situations and the careful weighing of alternative programs of action have taken the place of the discussion of abstract formulae and doctrine, and our organization has profited by the change.

The Research Department, established in 1920, supplies the national and local officers with the information and facts which have made it possible for us to evolve our industrial policies on the basis of facts, as well as principles and set attitudes.

The value of the research department is particularly great in our dealings with employers. The Amalgamated is in a position to appear equipped with correct statements of conditions in the industry and estimates of their probable trend. Because of this the discussion of the various problems confronting the organization are at once placed on a basis of the realities of each given situation. It is also through this department that we keep track of our various enterprises and how they are progressing.

**The Amalgamated Bank of New York**

The AMALGAMATED BANK of New York is now five years old and has over $11,000,000 in resources. Its growth has been steady and constant. With only 6,000 depositors on its books at the end of 1923, it now has 16,500 depositors.
At the beginning of this year the bank, in line with its policy of dividing its profits with depositors, increased the interest on its savings' accounts from 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}\%$. Immediately the savings department was flooded with work. About two million dollars were soon added to the bank's savings resources because of this step. The first labor bank in the city, it is actually proving the truth of its theoretical assertions.

It started as a small institution on the second floor of a loft building on Union Square in crowded quarters and untidy offices, but with an alive and active personnel. It grew until its old quarters were fairly swamped. In 1926 it moved to new quarters, to the well-known old Tiffany building on Union Square. Today its physical aspect, its tall marble columns, high ceiling and spaciousness vie for first place with the efficiency and orderliness with which the bank is run. It is like all other banks in the number of its services, the speed in which orders are carried out, the accuracy with which each detail is handled. It is unlike all other banks, though, in the attention it pays to the small depositor, in the courtesy and advice it gives to the laboring man. It is really a labor bank.

The Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago, the only labor bank in Chicago, was organized in July, 1922. Its total resources are $3,500,000, and it counts among its depositors a great many trade unions in addition to the thousands of trade unionists.
THE GROUND WAS broken on March 15 and on May 1, 1927, the cornerstone was laid for the Amalgamated Centre in Chicago. A year later the building was formally opened and dedicated to the cause of labor and now it stands the symbol of the achievement of the Chicago clothing workers.

It took many years of planning and careful saving to accumulate the million dollars needed. It also took careful thought to spend the money so that the workers would have a building that was beautiful, that would serve them in all their needs, and would stimulate them to work on further.

Today the building stands an expression and a hope of the organized clothing workers of Chicago. There are sunny, airy, clean offices where work can be done. There is a fine library, a gymnasium, a bowling
alley, an auditorium, banquet and social hall. There is a physician in the gymnasium. The dental clinic, the unemployment insurance office and the unemployment exchange are all housed in the building. The possibility for various activities are there. It is now up to the workers to utilize it, and thereby strengthen their organization.

It is true that the Amalgamated Centre in Chicago deserves special attention because it is so new. We like to hear of the largest building that the Amalgamated members in one city may own. Yet the other members do not camp out on the streets. The New York Joint Board has recently purchased a six story building on 15th Street near Sixth Avenue. The building will house all the New York offices of the Union. In Brooklyn the members have their Amalgamated Temple at 21 Arion Place. Our units in a number of other cities as well have their homes. Twelve thousand members of the Rochester organization use their own labor lyceum building for the transaction of the union’s business, and its large halls for their social and educational affairs. The Indianapolis building is small, yet 500 members there own union headquarters worth twenty dollars for every member. In New York City the national headquarters of the A. C. W. of A. is situated in the large five-story Tiffany building which the union occupies under a long-term lease.

**The Amalgamated Cooperative Apartments in New York**

At the beginning of 1928 the last tenant moved into the new co-operative apartments in New York City. The rooms cost $500 each, and rent for $11 a month. In the same neighborhood similar rooms
rent for $25 a month. Situated on the edge of Van Cortland Park facing Jerome Park Reservoir in the Bronx, the houses are remote from the turmoil and high above the noise and dirt of the city.

The six light tan stone buildings are designed in mediaeval style with turrets and broken roof lines. They are grouped about an inner garden court which occupies more than half of the land purchased. The rounded doorways finished with contrasting stone reveal the care which was given to each detail, and permit no more than three families to use one staircase. The apartments themselves are finished throughout with hardwood floors, painted walls, tiled baths and showers. The rooms are flooded with air and light.

Every modern convenience has been provided for the convenience of the housewife. There are new model gas ranges in the kitchen, incinerators for the garbage on each floor, heat supplied by an oil-burning system and hot water at any hour of the day or night. The houses boast a meeting room which seats 300 people, a music room, a tea room, and a library. Commissaries selling vegetables, groceries and eggs are already a functioning part of the organization. A cooperative bus takes the children to and from school. In short the Amalgamated
Cooperative Apartments will provide opportunity not only for more comfortable but for more rich and colorful living. They will be not mere places which the tenants will inhabit, but homes in which they will live actively and with creative interest.

**THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND**

**FIVE YEARS AGO,** on May 1st, the Unemployment Insurance Fund was instituted in Chicago. Under the agreement made at that time the manufacturers were to pay $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ of their weekly payroll into the Fund. The workers were to hand in $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ of their weekly wages. Today, under the new agreement recently ratified, the employers added $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ to what they had been paying.

Benefits are paid for short-time employment as well as for total lay-off. That is, if workers are laid off for days or half days, this time is added up and the workers paid on that basis.

The Fund is administered by Boards of Trustees representing the employers, the workers and the impartial chairman. The large clothing houses such as Hart, Schaffner and Marx have individual house funds and a separate Board of Trustees, while those of the contractors are under a General Board and the money pooled in one fund. Altogether there are five Boards of Trustees. Dr. Leo Wolman has been instrumental in evolving the principles and the practices of our system of Unemployment Insurance.
It is not difficult to recite: the working week has been reduced from 54 and 60 hours to 44. But there is a long story behind these simple-looking figures. A dramatic story of hard-fought battles, of defeat and victory, and struggle again. The story began before the present Amalgamated was yet in sight. It began in the old union with the fight by a milii-

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tant rank and file against a standpat, conservative union bureaucracy which feared action and despised spirit.

The rank and file won out. A. C. W. of A. was launched. Still an uphill road of fighting and building was ahead of the new union. It was obliged to fight hard for every inch of headway. It had to build the union within, to fight on the outside against employers who acted by rule of thumb and thought in terms of sweat shop. Sacrifices untold, and truly inspiring loyalty, marked the upbuilding of the Amalgamated, the cementing of its organization and the consolidation of its policy. It has been a thorny road but with many a good grasp at victory. The top has not yet been reached, but much headway has been made.

Now a new goal has been set by the union: the forty hour week. In the recent negotiations with the employers in the most significant clothing markets the union bargained hard for the reform. It was not attained but the employers were obliged to concede the principle, and it will not be long before the clothing workers will once again yield several hours to the workers' time for leisure and cultured living. The commitment of the employers in Chicago and Rochester to the principle of the shorter work week was incorporated in the recent agreement. It reads:

"It is agreed that the demand of the Union for the forty-hour week which the manufacturers find themselves unable to accept at the present time shall be referred to the representatives of the parties to this agreement with instructions to consider the feasibility of instituting the forty-hour week in the industry."

Of course, the union will have to fight for the reform finally to win it.

THE DAWN.  By ANTON MAJER
A VIEW OF THE BUSINESS CENTER OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, TWO BLOCKS AWAY FROM THE CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS.
The Amalgamated in Cincinnati
How It Came To Be and What It is

By JACK KROLL
Manager, Cincinnati Joint Board, A.C.W. of A.

OUT OF THE DARK

THE STORY of the clothing workers in Cincinnati before the Amalgamated arrived ran true to form. The United Garment Workers held the field and their type of organization only helped to foster chaos and demoralization. If the cutters had a local union in a city, the city was considered organized. When spontaneous outbreaks occurred, and they were not infrequent happenings, bribes were given to the organized cutters in the form of raises to keep them from joining the striking tailors. One craft scabbed on the other. The tailors would not support the cutters and the cutters would have nothing to do with the tailors. Yet Cincinnati was an important clothing-producing centre. Thousands of workers worked in the factories from which the South was supplied with men's clothing. As far back as the '80's of the last century there was a branch of the Knights of Labor in existence there. Later the U.G.W. came. Every now and then the word would come, in a roundabout way, not through organization channels, that shorter hours and better earnings had been secured elsewhere and the workers in Cincinnati would be stirred. In the midst of a busy season demands would be made and the bosses would grant them in part, only to take them back in the subsequent slack months.

In 1913 the tailors all over the country struck and the Cincinnati clothing workers joined the movement. They refused to handle the scab-work that the Cincinnati bosses had imported from the strike-tied markets. But here they reckoned with the "Bible House", the New York seat of the "United". Word was sent from the general office that the strike was illegal and declared off. The people were ordered back to the shops. Forsaken by their general office, cheated by their local officers, the workers went back to the shops, discouraged and disheartened. The dishonest and incompetent leadership was interested in collecting the per capita tax, in selling labels, and avoiding trouble. The workers paid the price of such leadership in long hours, low wages, and intolerable conditions.

Nevertheless, the Cincinnati workers were alive to what was going on about them. At the National Convention of the U.G.W., held in Nashville in 1914, the Cincinnati delegates protested against the action taken by the International officers in refusing to seat the tailor delegates and took sides with the future Amalgamated. But the leader of the group betrayed his fellow workers and again the attempt to organize a union truly representative of all the clothing workers in Cincinnati was
brought to naught. A group of intelligent workers aware of what was happening, sent a delegate to the Convention held in Webster Hall in New York City in December 1914, but they were not successful in maintaining their local. So again the struggle of the Cincinnati clothing workers for organization was stifled at birth.

Many strikes occurred in Cincinnati in the early days, but there was no leadership to create a permanent, effective organization. In 1915, after the formation of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America representatives were sent to Cincinnati to see what could be done to solidify the tailors and form a strong union, and though they were soon called to other markets where their services were more sorely needed, yet a seed was planted and took root. As a result of these efforts Tailors' Local 113 was chartered on August 27, 1915. A small loyal body of workers maintained this local throughout all the struggles in the market. It never, however, grew to be a really strong organization.

In 1916, Cincinnati sent a number of delegates to the Rochester Convention of the Amalgamated to ask for the support of the general organization. This brought General President Sidney Hillman to the city. A man was appointed to take charge of the local organization and a general
organizer was sent into the market. Shortly afterward a strike was declared at the Seinsheimer Tailoring Company, and at Schwartz & Dreyfus. Both of these houses conceded the right of the strikers to have a shop committee and a shop chairman. The organization which was formed at that time was maintained for a short period but the seeds of disloyalty, implanted by the old organization, were still present. The treachery of the shop chairman destroyed the organization.

Throughout this period no sustained leadership arose from the ranks. The tailors struggled and struck, received small concessions and went back to work without an organization capable of protecting their interests. Every effort at organization was undermined or betrayed. These were the first battles, the first scrimmages, the training that was to culminate in the long, hard-fought strike of 1919 which definitely established Cincinnati in the ranks of the Amalgamated.

UNDER THE AMALGAMATED BANNER

IN NEW YORK CITY, in the latter part of 1918, the Amalgamated fought for the 44-hour week. The Cincinnati workers again were moved to act. Hoping to stem the tide of organization, the Cincinnati employers first announced a 46-hour week to go into effect some time later; they ended by offering a 44-hour week to go into effect immediately. They even conceded the right of organization to the workers providing they repudiated the A.C.W. of A. and joined the United Garment Workers.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, THE LARGEST MUNICIPALLY OWNED AND SUPPORTED UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY.
But this did not work. The news that the Amalgamated had won the 44-hour week in Chicago and New York electrified the workers in Cincinnati and filled them all with new hope and spirit. The following telegram was sent to the general office:

“Our heartiest congratulations to all members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America upon your splendid victory. Brothers, your victory is complete. Help us organize the Cincinnati clothing workers.

The Future Local of the A. C. W. of A.

Louis Fisher, President.
Louis Okin, Secretary.”

A group of organizers was directed by the Amalgamated to Cincinnati to answer the call. They were Alex Cohen, Marcowitz, Madanick, DeLuca and Dora Lohse. Large mass meetings were held. At one, where General Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Schlossberg was speaking, the packed hall was suddenly plunged into darkness. The wires had been cut. Candles were hurriedly procured and the meeting proceeded by candle light.

Pressers' Union 188 of the United Garment Workers voted unanimously to affiliate with the Amalgamated, and on March 18 the members of that local were locked out of their shops. Demands were immediately sent to the manufacturers. March 24 was set for a strike. So started the memorable strike of 1919.

The workers left their shops. Picket lines were established. Halls were secured after great difficulty and the workers organized themselves for the struggle.

Immediately the cry of un-Americanism, sedition, and Bolshevism was raised. The official labor body of the city, the Municipal Courts and the newspapers all joined to break the strike. Strikers were kidnapped, taken in cars across the Ohio River and badly beaten. They were threatened with death if they did not go back to work. About 200 arrests were made, false charges pressed, and heavy fines assessed by the courts in the effort to drain the treasury of the organization. Despite all efforts of the Union, four men were sent to the penitentiary for 18 months, one woman for six months and another for seven years. However, the last was pardoned by the Governor.

Before long the first victory was won by the strikers. On April 12 the Globe Tailoring Company, one of the largest houses in the city, agreed to a 10% raise for men and 15% for women with time and a half for overtime. The 44-hour week was established, and the firm agreed to recognize a shop committee and to divide work equally in the slack seasons. On June 1, a similar settlement was made with the Milton Ochs Co. About the middle of June, after fourteen weeks of bitter struggle, the general strike in Cincinnati came to an end. Most of the firms involved agreed to establish a minimum wage, to give an increase of 10% for the men, 15% for women, and not to discriminate against
members of the organization. The strikers returned to work with shop chairmen and shop committees.

The fight had been forced upon the Cincinnati organization before it had had a chance to establish itself, and therefore the strike had to be almost entirely financed by the general organization. The strike benefits, court fines, lawyers' fees, rents and all other expenses were paid out of the general office treasury. A small part of the expenses, however, was met by the workers who had returned to work under the earlier settlements.

While the tailors had responded nobly to the strike call, the cutters had remained outside. There were but five cutters in all Cincinnati who answered the call. The rest took up the cry of sedition, Bolshevism, un-Americanism. Some of them so completely lost their sense of decency as to act as guards for the scabs working in the shops. This was the fruit of twenty years' education in trade unionism under the United Garment Workers.

Three organizations in Cincinnati demonstrated their friendliness for the Amalgamated in this trying period: The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, The Cloth Hat and Cap Workers' Union and the International Machinists' Union. The Machinists gave us their hall when the strikers found all other places closed to them.
Toward Maturity

After the strike of 1919, the Union centered its efforts upon maintaining the organization and, of course, it also sought to extend its power further. General Executive Board member, Brother Frank Rosenblum, was given charge of the city and general organizers, Jack Kroll and Emilio Grandinetti, were placed there permanently. The season was good and the organization took advantage of it to maintain and increase the membership. Soon the cutters, too, were undeceived. On August 27, 1919, a charter was granted to the Cincinnati Cutters, Local 189.

On September 19 the Globe Tailoring Company signed the first regular Amalgamated agreement in Cincinnati which has worked until today without any interruptions. This was followed by collective bargaining agreements with Milton Ochs, Maderite Tailoring Company, P. H. Davis Tailoring Company, Abe Block & Company, the American Art Tailoring Company, Siebler Tailoring, Greiberg and Kahn, Mazur Brothers and Nobby Clothing Company.

The Amalgamated finally took root in Cincinnati. A Joint Board was formed with three local unions, Locals 113, 188, and 189. The tyranny of the straw bosses and foremen was over in the Union shops, but the Union did not remain at peace very long. On the 15th of May of 1920, Milton Ochs Company discharged a presser for alleged restriction of output. All the pressers stopped work until the man was reinstated. Then the shop chairman was fired. The answer was a strike on May 29th. Here came the acid test. The boss tried to cut the cutters off from the tailors. He tried all the old methods so successful in the past but he reckoned without the "Amalgamated training". The cutters walked out to the last man.

The Cincinnati membership assessed themselves 10% of their earnings for the period of the strike. The place was picketed for one year. The
firm paid unusually high wages to strike breakers, hired sluggers, asked for and received an injunction. The strike at the Ochs plant was one of the series of strikes and lock-outs brought into Cincinnati by the open shop wave which was then sweeping the country. This was the celebrated “back to normalcy” period when the open shoppers were doing their best to crush organized labor. While we were carrying on the fight against the Ochs Company, the P. H. Davis Clothing Company, the Siebler Tailoring and the Maderite Tailoring Company took advantage of the situation and locked out their workers. The Ochs firm never recovered from their efforts to crush the organization. They have been growing smaller with every year. However, these struggles left the organization in a weakened condition. While it still effectively protected the interests and standards of the workers, it was forced for a while simply to mark time.

This record would not be complete without the story of the Seinsheimer’s cutters. During the lock-out in New York City in 1920-21 word was received that some cases of scab goods had been sent to a Cincinnati manufacturer. The cutters did not belong to our organization at that time but when they heard that scab work was coming into their cutting room they immediately informed the boss that they would not cut the work. The cases were sent back to New York unopened.

In 1921, the organization initiated an active campaign against the Nash Clothing Company, and succeeded in focusing from the outside a great deal of unfavorable attention upon the Nash plan of industrial relations. A conference took place between President Hillman and Arthur Nash, but it proved to be fruitless.

During this organization campaign the L. R. Marks strike took place
and it brought about the martyrdom of Brother Jacob Reichert. The cutters in that shop were organized. An attempt to organize the tailors, as well, brought about the discharge of four men on March 11, 1922. An aggressive strike followed, resulting in the arrest of business agent Jacob Reichert, who was charged with being an accessory to an assault and battery case. He was found guilty in the lower courts. The Court of Appeals reversed the decision only to have the lower courts upheld by the State Supreme Court. In May, 1925, Brother Reichert was taken to the penitentiary to serve fifteen years. Here he was taken seriously ill, and was pardoned by the governor against the protests of the local newspapers and authorities. He died shortly afterwards, another victim of the struggle of the clothing workers to emancipate themselves.

The L. R. Marks & Company secured an injunction which declared the strike illegal, but that did them little good. They were obliged to quit business a year after they had received their court order.

In April of 1922 agreements were renewed with the Globe Tailoring Company, A. Block Clothing Company, American Art Tailors and the Freiberg Clothing Company. During this period the cutters joined Local 189.

A year later the membership again girded itself for a determined drive on non-union shops. The result was bitter strikes at Levine Brothers and P. H. Davis Tailoring Company. At the call of Levine Brothers the U. G. W. rushed to their assistance and the strikes were lost. The cutters, too, of the Storr-Schaefer Tailoring Company, who had joined our union in 1923, refused to sign individual contracts with the firm and so were locked out. After a six months' active strike against the firm they were finally compelled to give in.

The Union's various attempts to organize the market made distressingly little headway. All forces combined to keep the market non-union. The newspapers were bitter in their attacks on us. The official labor movement was hostile. Yet the persistent onslaughts of the organization had not been without effect. A number of non-union firms went out of business; others steadily declined, showing decreasing profits. The fear of unionization forced others to maintain wages and working conditions not far below the levels in the Union shop. The watchfulness and activity of the Union protected the non-union clothing workers from the return of the sweat-shop.

ENTER THE NASH WORKERS

BY FAR THE most important clothing manufacturing establishment in Cincinnati was the firm of A. Nash & Company. Seven years after its organization, in 1925, its volume of business exceeded $12,000,000. Mr. Nash, its president, proposed to conduct his business according to the Golden Rule. His employees were to be partners in his business. They could buy stock, and they were to have a voice in the discussion of policies.
Regarding unionization, Mr. Nash maintained a discreet silence. He, no less than the other manufacturers, appeared to be hostile to our organizers who approached his factory, and he effectively resisted all efforts at unionization.

On February of 1925, General Executive Board member, Brother Frank Rosenblum, together with General Organizers Jack Kroll, Emilio Grandinetti and Celestine Goddard, decided to try a new method of approaching the Nash workers. Miss Goddard was assigned to the work. A great deal of publicity was directed to the firm and the working conditions prevailing in its shops. In July of that year, at a conference of churchmen at Olivet, Michigan, the claims of the Amalgamated were thoroughly discussed by General President Hillman and Dr. Leo Wolman, the Union’s economic adviser. Here the first effective contacts between our organization and Mr. Nash were established. The following November, Mr. Nash and President Hillman met in Washington, and there they reached the agreement that a week later was to result in the enrollment of three thousand new members in the ranks of the labor movement.

The drama then moved to Cincinnati and the next scene was enacted in the Schubert Theatre. The following quotation, taken from the pages of The Advance, tells the story.

“Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1925. Arthur Nash, head of the A. Nash ‘Golden Rule’ Clothing Company of Cincinnati, urged his employees to approve of his decision to enter into a union relationship with the Amalgamated. The vote stood: 2,108 for the unionization of the employees of the Company and only 8 votes against. Sidney Hillman, President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, was invited to come Thursday and address the employees of the A. Nash Clothing Company.

“Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1925. Shop meetings were held in the factories of the A. Nash Clothing Company, and in numerous instances the foremen and straw bosses saw through resolutions, opposing the unionization of the workers. Great stir and even greater uncertainty prevailed all through.

“Thursday, Dec. 10, 1925. All employees and executive heads of the firm assembled at the Schubert Theatre to hear Sidney Hillman state the case for the Amalgamated. There was approval of Mr. Hillman’s words, and yet when one of the heads of the firm came out against the Amalgamated there was a good deal of animosity exhibited in the direction of the idea of unionization. There was a majority for the union, so it was announced, but the general outlook was anything but bright.

“Friday, Dec. 11, 1925. Matters were so completely in hand that detailed arrangements for the unionization work were undertaken at once. From open-shop employers in the city suggestions came that they thought they would perhaps confer with the union and see what was what. The rapid changes in the situation were remarkable.

“Tuesday, the union seemed to have been certain to come, though in a rather tame sort of way. Wednesday, the fate of the affair hung in the balance. Thursday, passion was let loose, and it looked as if Mr. Hillman might be ‘invited’ out by the workers. And then, Friday, the seas subsided, calm again reigned supreme, and the union was established.”
Then the work of building up our organization in the Nash shops began actively. Meetings were immediately called, workers assigned to their local unions, officers elected. Then shop meetings were called, shop chairmen elected, and the people were instructed regarding their union obligations and duties.

The Amalgamated agreement between the A. Nash Company and the Union was ratified at the Emory Auditorium on January 7, 1926. The agreement provided for an increase in the pay of the underpaid sections, for time and a half for overtime, for the setting up of regular union machinery in the shop, for the establishment of arbitration machinery and for the creation of an insurance fund. The Nash workers were initiated. The Union got to work.

On March 14 the committee which had been appointed to investigate the underpaid sections reported. The result was that all week workers received a $3.00 to $5.00 raise. Other sections received increases as high as 15%. A $12.00 minimum wage scale was established and rules of seniority were drawn up.
Trade Unionists Tried and True

Our New members soon proved that they were really a part of the union. They threw themselves wholeheartedly into the strenuous organization campaign then going on in the market. Indeed, thirty people were arrested in one hour for standing in front of open shops and soliciting people to join our union. Four cutters who were discharged by the Schwartz Tailoring Company for joining the Union were taken by the Nash cutters into their cutting room.

At our Montreal Convention the Cincinnati delegates presented a resolution from which we quote the following:

“Our Union has directly and indirectly increased our wages, given us a voice in the conduct of the shop and brought about a general improvement in working conditions.

“We shall try to make the union problems our own and contribute to the solution with understanding, to broaden the sphere of our interests and become participants in the Great Democratic Movement as members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America of which we have the privilege to have become a part.”

Our new members have made a splendid record. They have turned out, at almost every election, a complete vote. Their spirit is shown in the following incident. The Nash off-pressers had added too many men to the force. The season was slow so that if the men had been laid off they would have seen no opportunity of securing jobs. The pressers voted unanimously to hold the men over and share time with them until the opening of the following season. The Nash cutters, in a similar case, acted in the same manner.

The keen competition brought about as more firms entered the direct-to-the-consumer game made it difficult for Nash to go on. The firm was threatened with a considerable slump in business unless it changed its manufacturing processes. The Union took a leading part in the readjustment. It sent in its technicians and saw that the changes made were in line with the most approved modern methods and such that the earnings of the workers were protected and the Union’s position strengthened. The Union was assuming in practice, as well as in theory, a large share in the actual management and responsibility of the industry.

From the very inception of the Cincinnati Joint Board, our membership took an active interest in all problems of organized labor generally as well as in the problems of our own organization. They contributed to the Steel strikers’ fund in 1920, to the Newport Steel Mill workers’ strike, to the Passaic strikers, and when the anthracite miners started their struggle in 1926 the members voted to work one hour for the strikers. Mr. Nash offered to add an equal sum to that raised by the workers. The Mississippi River flood victims met a response from our members as well as the miners in the soft coal regions. Wherever the need, our membership never stood back when called upon.
THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF THE CINCINNATI JOINT BOARD

JACK KROLL,
Manager Joint Board.

MARCO MECCIA,
Business Agent of Coat Makers.

JOSEPH C. HAERING,
Business Agent of Cutters and Trimmers.

MORRIS SCHAPS,
Business Agent of Pants and Vest Makers.
In October, 1926, Cincinnati voted practically unanimously for the Reserve Fund as recommended by the Montreal Convention and collections were started there before the other centres had begun. An editorial in The Advance, November 1926, well described the organization. It said: “There is life in the Cincinnati organization. There is spirit in it. The organization, while it is young, aspires to occupy a position of distinction among the older units in the Amalgamated.”

With the increase in membership, the Cincinnati Joint Board immediately elaborated its program of educational, social and recreational activity. Educational programs were arranged, prominent speakers invited, concerts given. And the membership always showed its interest by attending in large numbers. Our children’s parties are eagerly looked forward to. Twice each year, on May 1st and at Christmas time, our members are invited to bring their children to a big celebration, and they do not fail to come.

There are sports for the adults. Just now “The Amalgamated Bowling Leagues” of sixteen men’s clubs and eight women’s teams are concluding a successful season. There are baseball games and bowling matches with the various local unions in the surrounding cities. As we fight we play. The different cities always have a large delegation from our Cincinnati membership to join them in their picnics, dances, and celebrations.

About a year and a half ago we decided that a department for health service was an essential part of trade union activities. And so we created such a department which, we believe, is unique in the trade union world. We are, bringing medical aid to the men and women in the shops instead of making them go for it. This service merits more detailed description and readers will find it on another page.

As an adjunct to this, a dental clinic is being started in order to supply the workers with good and reasonable dental service. From these small beginnings we hope to grow into a real medical department which can be offered to all our members.

Eighteen Months ago we lost an active co-worker when our member, Sister Bertha Lazin, committed suicide. The members met to honor the memory of a faithful and devoted worker. Two employers who came to appreciate the union and worked with it rather than fight it, passed away during this same period. Wm. A. Rosenthal, President of the Globe Tailoring Company, which had been the first house to sign an Amalgamated agreement, died early in 1927. Arthur Nash, president and founder of the A. Nash Company, died on October 30, 1927.
Health—A Union Problem

The Health Conservation Service of the Cincinnati Union

By JACK KROLL

Manager, Cincinnati Joint Board, A.C.W. of A.

A MANUFACTURER, who is not overfriendly to labor recently remarked to me:

"So long as labor unions expend all their organization energies in getting higher wages, shorter hours and other purely trade advantages, I remain quite undisturbed. Such matters are really beyond the manufacturer's control and they are bound to change as industrial developments occur. When, however, I see unions buying banks, developing housing areas, and promoting hospitals, all for their membership, then I begin to get uneasy, for they are dealing with those fundamentals out of which a far-reaching and permanent solidarity may be built."

Whatever one may think of the gentleman's estimate of the significance of the union's economic activities, his remark upon the union's institutional activities is not uninteresting. In fact, if this be the view of all manufacturers, they really should be doing some worrying, for none of these fundamentals has been neglected by the union. Our banks, our credit unions, our housing activities bear ample testimony to that. In Cincinnati the union has recognized the necessity for adequate medical attention, and has established a health service for its members. Though the services and facilities now at our disposal are far from adequate, none the less our initial endeavor may justly be claimed a success, and an incentive for further expansion.

Before the advent of the trade union (although this is not the sole difference) the economic status of the clothing worker did not permit great expenditure for conservation of health. Only in cases of severe sickness was a physician called upon. Today the trade unionist can af-
ford to conserve his health and the health of the members of his family. But even so when he sees on all sides such statements as "Health is purchasable", "Twenty years added to life span in past forty years", "Get a health examination on your birthday", he may have trouble following the advice so freely thrown at him. Perhaps he knows about some public clinic and goes there. After being pushed about for an hour with divers diseased persons, he is told that he is not a charity case and is asked not too politely to go to a pay clinic.

Somewhat shaken, he decides that maybe what he needs is an X-Ray examination. He reports to some laboratory, and is advised that patients for X-Ray examination are not accepted directly, but must be referred to them by a physician to whom the report will be sent later. More confused, the worker who usually knows of no physician and almost certainly none whom he can regard as his family physician, decides to call on some general specialist recommended to him. Upon consultation, he is as likely as not to be told that he has to undergo a complete physical
examination which will call for a fee of $35.00. Disillusioned, he goes back to his room less interested in health.

Later, he may hunt up a nearby physician. His experiment may be quite successful, for there are competent and honest neighborhood physicians. But the chances are equally good that he will fall into the hands of another type of physician or cultist. There are many physicians who are honest but incompetent; others who are competent, but given to cupidity; still others combine both defects, without either virtue. An idea of the worth of medical services in certain types of offices may be gained from the following bits of comment by union members who have had experiences with various physicians.

**Some Doctors' Shop Talk**

Case No. 1—"When I asked for a physical examination the doctor told me that I looked all right now, but to come back if I ever got sick and then he would examine me."

Case No. 2—"The doctor, he says to me, 'Yes, you have cancer all right, but I never believed in operations. I can cure you with drugs that you can take by mouth.'"

Case No. 3—"Gonorrhea is not worse than a bad cold."

Case No. 4—"He advertised that he could cure rupture 'without the use of the knife.' I found out from a friend who went there that indeed he don't use a knife. He uses scissors."

Case No. 5—"The doctor said my boy only had growing pains in his legs. Later, when he got worse, I found at the hospital that it was rheumatism and a bad heart, both caused by abscessed tonsils."

Case No. 6—"The other doctor scared me very badly. He told me I would be totally deaf in two months, but that he could keep this from becoming permanent if I would pay him three hundred dollars at once. Later the union doctor removed some packed-in ear-wax and now I hear as well as I ever did."

**Back to the Union Office**

It is no wonder that trade unionists have come to the union headquarters with problems of health for themselves, their children and wives. Trade unions center about leadership, and must embrace body conservation as well as economic conservation. Let us assume that some new union member comes to the head of his local with the story that he has spent a large sum of money for services that have not helped him, and that he is having trouble securing medical aid. The union leader will answer in somewhat the following way:

You know we have our own medical advisers and maintain our health department right here on the premises. Suppose you report to the nurse and ask her to arrange for you to see the doctor on his regular visiting day. He may be able to care for you personally if you have no family physician, or, if it is a complicated case he will take
HEALTH, A UNION PROBLEM

you to the proper specialists who will charge a fee in proportion to your ability to pay. If you have not been working for some time, some arrangement may be made under which you may distribute the cost of the services of the specialist over a period of time. Our union pays the cost of its own medical department out of its general funds to which you contribute in the form of dues.

THE TRADE UNIONISTS AND HEALTH EDUCATION

For many years methods have been well established that permit the complete and permanent protection of children and adults against diphtheria. Notwithstanding this, there is ground for believing, on the basis of our experience, that not even ten per cent of the children in families of Amalgamated members have received the benefit of this lifesaving measure. Probably less than one per cent of the adults of the Amalgamated have availed themselves of this protection. Yet it is sure, simple, fairly inexpensive and painless.

It would be unjust to claim that the medical and public health professions are not concerned with or have made no efforts to disseminate knowledge about all such matters. Nevertheless it is a fact that the public is not effectively educated on health matters. The trade unionist, like everyone else, has two ears. For every word that is poured into one ear by those physicians, officials, and nurses, who seek a constructive betterment in the health of all, there are just as many words poured into the other ear by the unscrupulous, the cultist, the quack, and the licensed physician who function on the borderline of professional acceptability. This explains why no great progress is made.

Again, the trade unionist needs leadership for himself and his family. His greatest faith is in his union. If the union can point the way to sane, helpful medical advice in periods of stress or emergency, or in answer to the desire for preventive and precautionary methods, then the union will have justified the faith of the member.

THE UNION AND FACTORY SANITATION

The day of the abhorrent sweat shop is largely gone, thanks to the efforts of the unions, but the day of the acceptable sanitary work place is not yet here. Few persons, either employers or employees, are properly versed in the requirements of good factory sanitation. In the midst of unending conflicts of opinions on this subject the net result is usually little action. In many an Amalgamated shop both natural light and artificial light are below the minimum requirements; seating is found to be bad in practically every factory in one or more departments; ventilation offers an endless series of difficulties; the problem of the member afflicted with some communicable disease that may be transmitted to others constitutes a delicate situation from time to time. The answer is to be found in the Amalgamated’s own group of sympathetic physicians and nurses, available to the group as a whole for problems of general con-
cern, and in privacy to individual members for those problems that concern the individual.

2,300 Treatments Given Cincinnati Membership by Union Health Service

Since the Cincinnati Organization made arrangements for health service for our members in that city in October 1926, no less than 2,300 treatments were given through the service to Amalgamated members. These figures which cover the period ending April 1, 1928, do not include a large number of physical examinations of members who were referred to their family physicians.

Some of the ailments treated, and the number of patients suffering from each sickness were:

- Gastro-Intestinal .................................................. 110
- Colds, Pleurisy .................................................. 253
- Postural Condition (back, neck, feet, legs) .................. 99
- Skin ............................................................... 66
- Heart ............................................................. 28
- Mouth and Nose ................................................. 24
- Eyes ............................................................... 21
- Injuries ........................................................... 130
CINCINNATI together with the suburbs which are included in the metropolitan district has a population of over a half million people, of which number approximately 100,000 are wage workers.

There are about 30,000 trade unionists in Cincinnati today, and the Amalgamated’s addition to that number of more than 3,000 clothing workers employed by A. Nash Company and its subsidiary is, therefore, of no small importance to Organized Labor.

There is a Central Labor Council in the city, which is representative of the organized workers who are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. For years the members of the Brewery Workers’ Union, whose International Headquarters, by the way, is still in Cincinnati, exerted a wholesome influence on the labor movement in that city. With the coming of the prohibition era the ranks of that Organization naturally dwindled, and the result was that the Organization has lost much of its influence.

The building trades workers are one hundred per cent organized in Cincinnati. They have, however, comparatively little to do with the Central Labor Council, as they have formed a Building Trades’ Council which acts as the central body for the organized workers in their industry.

It is significant that Cincinnati is the home of several International Unions. They include the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, Pattern Makers’ League of North America, the Horseshoers’ International Union, Iron Molders’ International Union, the Metal Polishers’ International Union, and the Brewery Workers’ International Union.

In 1926 the Cincinnati workers succeeded for the first time in the history of that city, in electing a labor candidate on the City Council. Brother Luchwinger, who has attained that honor, had the support of the best labor elements in the city.

Cincinnati passed a sort of revolution in its municipal system of government in 1926. The Commission form of government was in the election of 1925 adopted by a majority vote of the citizens of that city, the change going into effect on January
1, 1926. The experiment is understood to have the full hearted support of the best elements in the city.

**OWNS MUNICIPAL UNIVERSITY**

Cincinnati is one of the few cities in the United States having a municipally owned University. In this respect the City is far ahead of the great New York City, which "boasts" loudly of its free educational system. Whereas the best done by New York, the richest city in the world, is to provide a free college of arts, the College of the City of New York, for boys and Hunter College for girls, Cincinnati's University includes a college of liberal arts, a college of engineering, a college of law, a college of medicine, a graduate school, and a technical school.

With the exception of small fees, tuition in the University is free to all residents of the city. This is in contrast with conditions in New York, where large numbers of poor students desiring to study medicine or law are prevented from doing so until they succeed in raising college fees which amount to several hundred dollars a year.

A considerable number of the members of the faculty of the University of Cincinnati have cooperated on several occasions with workers' educational experiments undertaken by various progressive labor organizations. Pressure is known, however, to have been exerted on members of the Board of Trustees of the University, by influential persons in the city, to discourage members of the University faculty from aiding the labor education movement. For this reason and also because the workers themselves have failed to respond in large numbers to the labor education experiments in Cincinnati, this branch of union activity has not been greatly developed there.

**OWNS AN INTERSTATE RAILWAY**

Cincinnati has the distinction of being the only municipality in the United States which owns an interstate railway system. The Cincinnati Southern Railway, one of the richest in the United States, was constructed by the City of Cincinnati as early as 1880, in order to put an end to the practice of diverting shipping from that city.

Before Cincinnati built its own railway system, most of the shipping between the southern and the northern centers was diverted by the railroads to Louisville. In order to meet this situation the Legislature of Ohio in 1869 passed the so-called Ferguson Act, empowering the constructing of the Cincinnati Southern Railway. The work was carried on under the direction of a Board of Five appointed by the Superior Court of Cincinnati, and the railroad was completed by 1880. It is operated under a lease by the Southern Railroad Company, the City of Cincinnati realizing a large annual income on its investment.

**CLOTHING LARGEST INDUSTRY**

It will not be uninteresting for our readers to note the fact that a recent industrial census disclosed that the clothing industry leads all others in Cincinnati in the cost of manufactured goods there. Other important industries in the city deal
with slaughtering and meat packing products; foundry and machine shop products; boots and shoes; carriages and wagons; and tobacco and malt products.

Until the year 1863 Cincinnati was the principal center in the United States for slaughtering hogs and packing pork. The industry began as early as 1820 and rapidly increased in importance but after 1863 Chicago took the lead.

**LARGE GERMAN POPULATION**

Cincinnati has a large German population, due to the influx of Germans which began in 1845 and lasted in a large degree up to 1860. They first limited themselves to the district known as "Over the Rhine" (the "Rhine" being the Miami and Erie Canal). Gradually they spread throughout the city, although the "Over the Rhine" is still most typically German.

The large German population makes the city of Cincinnati noted for its music. The first Sangerfest was held in Cincinnati in 1849. Under the leadership of Theodore Thomas the Cincinnati Musical Festival was incorporated. The large Springer Music Hall, built in 1878, is erected on ground given by the city of Cincinnati, and perpetually exempt from taxation. There are two schools of music, the Conservatory of Music and the College of Music, which count among their students a large proportion of children of working people.

The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra is considered among the best in the United States.

**THE PRESS**

The city of Cincinnati has large publishing interests and a number of daily newspapers, chief and most influential of which is the Cincinnati Enquirer, established in 1842 and edited for many years by Washington McLean. The newspapers of Cincinnati can not be said to have gone out of their way to present the case of labor to their readers, and this of course is a handicap which the Labor Movement feels keenly.
Ye Sons of Freedom, Wake to Glory

Air: The Marseillaise

By Thomas T. Swinburne

Ye sons of freedom, wake to glory!
The day of triumph is at hand!
Crowned in song and throned in story
The people rise in every land!
The people rise in every land!

Their ancient birth-right the product of their labor,
Shall be restored to them again,
And man no more shall toil in vain,
A slave exploited by his neighbor.

Democracy, arise!
Your standard is unfurled!
Unite! Unite!
One law for all!
Let Justice rule the world!

The blood of heroes, bravely falling
To give their children liberty,
From the ground to you is calling;
A sovereign people must be free!
A sovereign people must be free!

Can you live clothed in feudal degradation,
Eat husks and sleep upon a stone,
While class greed robs you of your own?
No! men demand emancipation.

Democracy, arise!, etc.

42
Arthur Nash
Born June 26, 1870; died October 30, 1927

The life and activity of the late Mr. Nash had a great influence on the fortunes of the clothing workers’ organization in Cincinnati. His reluctance to deal with the Union, up to the very end of 1925, made unionization rather difficult. On the other hand, once he was won over to the viewpoint of union recognition he went the full length of the road. His passing away from the scene marked the removal of an extremely interesting and vital personality.

The part Mr. Nash played at the time when the Nash factories were unionized moved the editor of The Advance, the official publication of the A. C. W. of A., to write the following paragraphs as part of a story, entitled “The Four Days That Shook Cincinnati”:

MR. NASH OF CINCINNATI

“I don’t think that I am overstepping the boundaries of propriety if I discuss Mr. Nash as a personality. By his action and the manner in which he behaved in the entire situation he has become a public concern. I wish to say, without reserve, that Mr. Nash is a most remarkable personality, possibly alone in the United States. It is but natural that people ask why Mr. Nash did what he has done. Well, the question cannot be answered in one sentence. No one single motive can be held accountable for the man’s action.

“What is strange about Mr. Nash?

“Not necessarily the stand he has taken for union organization after he operated for so many years under what amounted to an open shop, no matter what name the plan bore. In fact, Mr. Nash maintains that he long wanted to see his shops unionized.

“Nor is it so very unusual that Mr. Nash, a large employer of labor, and really a captain of industry, has come to realize that no true and honest mode of living is possible unless the workers of the world unite in righting the wrongs of the world. Surely Mr. Nash knows that one cannot rely upon the people of the master class to right those wrongs.

“What makes the man a case of uncommon interest is the combination of conflicting elements in him. Here is a blending of a religious outlook upon life with a keen business perception, a will power of quality coupled with a good deal of concern with democracy. The man seems to be aware of the mainsprings which work our industrial society, and yet he is a utopian of the purest mark.

“Is Mr. Nash sincere, is the question asked most frequently. I don’t suppose that this question is of any significance. In this world actions count a good deal more than intentions. The manner in which Mr. Nash has acted speaks in his favor, and as to whether or not the results of his action will favor the workingmen in his factories—that must be left to the Amalgamated. No one man can achieve what is the task of labor intelligently and well organized.
“Mr. Nash is a dreamer, no doubt. He has vision. He sees himself in the center of the scene and yet he advocates cooperation. His future actions on the road upon which he has now embarked will prove what he can and will do. ....

“Such men as Mr. Nash are not very unusual in young races, where rapid expansion, and easy money-making permit of a good deal of day-dreaming, where a crude, unstable public opinion prevents a stable crystallized code of social ethics from intervening in social experimentation, however utopian, and where there is still room for the individual to run contrary to his class. Mr. Nash is a very American utopian.

“Mr. Nash stated that he was not prompted by business consideration to resort to operation under a union agreement. There is no doubt, though, that the understanding with the union will be made most of in the sales campaigns. And this is perfectly all right. Mr. Nash is a good business man and it is safe to assume that once he entered into a contract with the union he would be inclined to stand by that contract. He stated that he was prepared to make sacrifices for the affiliation he sought.”

The two years by which Arthur Nash survived the consummation of this agreement with the Union proved the man to be true to his word and ready to live up to his obligations.

The People’s Anthem

When wilt thou save the people?

O God of mercy! when?

Not kings and lords, but nations!

Not thrones and crowns, but men!

Flowers of thy heart, O God, are they!

Let them not pass, like weeds, away!

Their heritage a sunless day!

God save the people!

Shall crime bring crime for ever,

Strength aiding still the strong?

Is it thy will, O Father!

That man shall toil for wrong?

“No!” say thy mountains; “No!” thy skies;

“Man’s clouded sun shall brightly rise,
And songs be heard instead of sighs.”

God save the people!

When wilt thou save the people?

O God of mercy! when?

The people, Lord! the people!

Not thrones and crowns, but men!

God save the people! thine they are;

Thy children, as thy angels fair:

Save them from bondage and despair!

God save the people!

EBENEZER ELLIOTT.
United We Stand
Divided We Fall