

STATE OF MISSOURI

SS

COUNTY OF JACKSON

(COPY)

ANNA KOVAL of lawful age, being duly sworn, upon her oath
says:

My name is Anna Koval; I am thirty two years of age, married and live at 1734 Missouri Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri. I have lived at my present address about two weeks and in Kansas City eight years. I am employed as an operator at Fashion-Bilt Coat Company, located at 908 Broadway, Kansas City, Missouri, and have been employed by that company for the past six years.

I am and have been a member of Local 114 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in Kansas City, Missouri, since 1933. In April, 1937, I was elected chairman of the Joint Board of Kansas City Local Unions Numbers 114, 115, 118, 270 and 274 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in Kansas City, Missouri. I have taken an active interest in union work and became affiliated with the union only after attending several meetings and giving the matter considerable thought. My investigation led me to the conclusion that the unionization of the garment industry in Kansas City would bring about higher wages, shorter hours and better working conditions. My experience and observation since becoming affiliated with the union and my knowledge of the improved conditions since the garment industry has been practically entirely unionized in Kansas City completely Justified my conclusions.

Before the organization of the locals of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in Kansas City, there were no fixed hours of work in any of the factories and the piece workers had nothing to say about piece work prices. I know of many instances prior to 1933 where operators in cotton garment factories worked from forty to fifty hours per week and received as low as \$6.00 and \$7.00 per week. In many factories they were required to work all day Saturday and Sunday. There was no division of work at that time during the dull season and many girls were frequently without any employment for many weeks during the year.

In the shops which have been unionized the conditions above related have been completely disappeared. In the cotton factories the hours have been reduced to forty hours per week; in the silk shops to thirty five hours per week and in the coat shops to thirty five hours per week. Operators are not required to work on Saturday, unless they consent and they are only requested to work occasionally during the very busy season. There is absolutely no Sunday work.

From a very small beginning in 1933 the International Ladies Garment Workers Union has rapidly expanded until now there are approximately two thousand members in Kansas City.

The Joint Board maintains a large office and provides a meeting place for the members of the various locale as well as for the shop meetings. The educational features have increased from year to year until now we have weekly classes in athletics, music, parliamentary law, public speaking, trade union activities and dancing.

I come in contact from week to week with many employees of the various garment factories in Kansas City and I know from their expressions to me that they have a feeling of security of employment which they did not have before the union entered Kansas City. There is close harmony and a splendid spirit of cooperation existing between employer and employee, as well as between the officers and executives of the various factories and the local officers and members of the union.

In every union establishment we have a price fixing committee which meets frequently with executives of the employer. The employers have manifested a splendid spirit of cooperation in their dealings with our price fixing committees which has resulted in increased prices for piece work and increased wages for the operators.

Further affiant saith not.

(Signed) Anna Koval.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of October, 1937.

My Commission expires April 28, 1941.

(Signed) Anna M. Feltenstein

Notary Public, Jackson County, Missouri.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DIVISION, WESTERN DISTRICT
OF MISSOURI

NO. 2924

DONNELLY GARMENT COMPANY, a corporation and DONNELLY GARMENT SALES
COMPANY, a corporation, Plaintiffs

v.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS' UNION, et al, Defendants

AFFIDAVIT OF ANNA KOVAL (COPY)

FRANK P. WALSH JEROME WALSH

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS