Dubinsky Puts ILGWU Label on Goldstein

L AST month's issue of Justice, official organ of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, carries a resolution adopted by the New York members of the General Executive Board on Sept. 5, endorsing the Republican-Liberal slate in the New York municipal elections. That this resolution was acted upon by the GEB members instead of the New York locals directly concerned, is characteristic of Dubinsky's bureaucratic rule.

At a time when the most authoritative progressive leaders from all walks of life are actively campaigning for O'Dwyer, the leadership of the ILGWU is throwing its resources into the opposite camp.

The GEB resolution shamefacedly attempts to justiff the alliance with the Dewey reactionary camp under the pretense that the whole issue in the campaign is to keep Tammany out of City Hall. Speaking of the progressive coalition supporting O'Dwyer the resolution says, they "are frantically trying to camouflage the issues of the city election by introducing extraneous and wholly irrelevant state and national politics and subterfuge," that Tammany "has dragged into the ring every power hungry element in our community, from the Communist controlled ALP to the special under-cover and vested mercenary interests."

This calumny against the labor-progressive camp is written with full knowledge that

by Rose Wortis

Jonah Goldstein, the "great crusader" against Tammany, has been for years associated with Tammany Hall, and even made a financial contribution in 1945. They know that the most dangerous, reactionary forces within the Democratic Party fought tooth and nail against the nomination of O'Dwyer, are today sabotaging their own party ticket secretly and are openly campaigning for the Dewey-Dubinsky candidate, Goldstein.

It already is becoming evident that many of Dubinsky's followers are alarmed at this unholy alliance with the reactionary Republican Party. It is becoming evident that Dubinsky and his colleagues, who are enmeshed in a network of political intrigues, have out-smarted themselves this time. Not only members of the union but important liberal circles that had been singing praise for Dubinsky's progressivism are beginning to see through the unprincipled character of his political alignments.

Since Dubinsky insists that good government and democracy are his main concern, it may be well to see how these great principles are put into practice in his own union. This may reveal the real motive behind his alliance with the Republicans.

It is a well known fact, and Dubinsky boasts of it, that the very idea of organizing the Liberal Party was inspired by him and that he is also its main financial backer. It

is a known fact that ILGWU funds keep it going in stream-lined fashion.

What authorization has Dubinsky received from the membership to spend thousands of dollars to finance the Liberal Party?

Justice prints the resolution endorsing Goldstein as the unanimous decision of the New York GEB members. The Board members, smarting under Dubinsky's dictatorial rule, dared not vote against the resolution. But it is common knowledge in the garment center that a number of them never approved the organization of the Liberal Party and are today opposed to the alliance with Dewey.

In the past few weeks the most important locals of the ILGWU, which are paying per capita to the Liberal Party, held membership meetings: Local 22 (with an attendance of about 4,000 members); Local 117 (the largest local in the cloak industry), as well as Locals 35, 89, etc. These are probably the last meetings before the November elections.

At not a single one of these meetings did the lendership dare to propose the endersement of Goldstein, because some of them are opposed to Goldstein and because they knew that the membership will reject these unprincipled political maneuvers of Dubinsky.

An indication of the attitude of the ILGWU membership towards the Dewey - Dubinsky candidate were the thousands of empty chairs at the much advertised Madison Square Garden meeting of the Liberal Party.