

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER ^(Suspended)

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

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FIVE CENTS

St. Paul Drivers Dump Tobin Men

A Statement To Our Readers

By Local 544-CIO Executive Board

Barring unforeseen developments, the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER will suspend publication with this issue. In keeping with our policy of always presenting the situation to the membership and the union movement, we frankly proclaim that the suspension is brought about by lack of funds.

The necessity of defending the union and its leaders and active members against the numerous legal maneuvers hatched by Tobin with the aid of the bosses, the FBI, and boss politicians in Washington and Minnesota has placed such a heavy burden upon our union that a choice must be made. At least temporarily we must fight without the aid of our ORGANIZER.

It is our estimate and hope that future developments permit Local 544-CIO to resume publication of the ORGANIZER, the union newspaper which for seven years has blazed the way for union journalism in the United States.

Suspension of the ORGANIZER, while it will make the fight of Local 544-CIO on behalf of the drivers of Minneapolis against Dictator Tobin and his supporters and his Quislings, will not stop our struggle.

Our fight for union democracy, for militant unionism, and for the rights of workers. Our determination to smash the foul dictatorship of Tobin is unflagging.

Local 544-CIO's headquarters at 827 Twelfth Avenue will of course remain open, and all business of the union will continue as before.

We are seeking arrangements with another union newspaper whereby union subscribers to the ORGANIZER have their unexpired subscriptions filled by a sister paper. We hope to arrange to have regular news from Local 544-CIO appear in the columns of that paper.

We shall find means of keeping in regular touch with any drivers of Minneapolis who remain loyal to the union and the principles we hold in common.

The upset of the Tobin bootlickers in the recent election in St. Paul Local 120, where Art Hudson and his clique were ousted by the union members, is a sign of the times. The combined pressure of the end of Tobin's machine upon the drivers will impel them to action, marching with us, to build the nationwide union based upon democratic militant industrial unionism which alone can meet the needs of the American worker. Our belief in this development is unshakeable.

The Tobin-FBI frame-up of the leaders of 544-CIO "sedition" trial has failed of its initial purpose. The officers of 544-CIO were freed in that trial. The defendants have won the support of labor and opinion throughout the nation for their appeal to the higher courts. From coast to coast Tobin has exposed himself as a collaborator of the most reactionary elements in society, and as a frame-up artist, and an enemy of union democracy.

Through political aid from the bosses and boss politicians, Tobin has thus far been able to postpone the day of reckoning with Local 544-CIO and the drivers of Minneapolis and the nation. He will not be able to avoid

the first opportunity we shall again address our members and friends through the columns of the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER.

The Tobin Record on "Raiding"

Last June after the membership of Local 544 voted overwhelmingly to leave Tobin's set-up and join the CIO, Dictator Tobin sent a whining telegram to Roosevelt, seeking the president's intervention to stop what Tobin called a CIO "raid" on his union.

How Roosevelt, the FBI and the Department of Justice intervened on behalf of Tobin against Local 544-CIO and the Minneapolis drivers is now history.

Tobin, who cried on Roosevelt's shoulder about the Minneapolis drivers repudiating him, is the same fellow who has ordered his Quislings here and elsewhere to make a real inter-union raid upon the Brewery Workers Union.

When Tobin's membership asserts its democratic right to vote CIO, Dictator Dan whines about "union raids." But when Tobin sees a chance really to raid another union, he jumps in with both feet.

That's Tobin's hypocritical record.

Art Hudson, Other Tobinites, Defeated 3-1 in 120 Election

Tobin International Officials Booted From Meeting—Vote Shows Drivers Will Reject Tobin in Any Vote

In the first important election in Tobin's set-up in the Twin Cities since last June, the membership of the St. Paul General Drivers Union Local 120, by a 3-1 majority, swept from office the Tobin supporters, including President Art Hudson.

Hudson, head of Local 120 for many years, has been regarded as a symbol in Minnesota of Dictator Tobin's policies and his hatred of militant unionism. Long before the membership of Local 544 voted to join the CIO last June, Hudson was widely known as a bitter opponent of the militant leaders who built the drivers' movement in the Northwest.

Hudson was defeated for Local 120's presidency by Gordon Conklin, by a three-to-one vote.

Edward Coffee, Local 120 vice-president and a Tobin bootlicker, was defeated by Frank Winkel.

Tobin-follower Norman Johnson, secretary-treasurer, was dumped by the membership in favor of Joe O'Koneski.

Recording secretary Arnold Schoenecker was unopposed for

re-election, as was Robert Fleming, trustee. Clifton Schanno was put into office as the other trustee.

What Vote Means

At Local 120's nominations meeting, the St. Paul drivers booted Tobin's international representatives off the platform when they sought to intervene on behalf of Art Hudson. International representative Red O'Loughlin, international vice-president John Geary, and Sid Brennan, Raw Deal Neal's secretary-treasurer of "544"-AFL, were roughly hustled out of the hall when they tried to plead with the men to back the Tobin supporters in office.

The sweeping defeat for Tobin's local gauleiters in the Local 120 election means but one thing: That the drivers in the Twin Cities, given the slightest chance to register their democratic convictions, will reject Tobin and his discredited followers.

Active in promoting the anti-Hudson, anti-Tobin slate in Local 120 were many former drivers of Minneapolis Local 544.

It is predicted in local union circles that Dictator Tobin may step into the Twin Cities, clamp one of his infamous receiverships on Local 120, and nullify the democratic will of the membership. The drivers are watching with interest to see if Tobin will "take care" of his stooge, Art Hudson.

No Vote in "544"-AFL

After his thumping defeat in St. Paul, it is more certain than ever that Tobin will never permit the Minneapolis drivers an election so long as they remain in Tobin's International. The Local 120 election is a danger signal to Tobin.

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Forum to Hear of Price Rise

Max Goldman, one of the 18 defendants convicted in the recent "seditious conspiracy" trial, will speak on "The Rising Cost of Living" at the regular Sunday Forum on December 21, 3:30 p. m., at 919 Marquette Ave.

During the last six years, Mr. Goldman has done considerable research on income, prices and living expenses for working class families. As a former organizer for the Federal Workers Section, unemployed and WPA workers' organization, Mr. Goldman helped to establish a budget by which relief clients received increased allowances for food, clothing, rent and other necessities.

There will be an opportunity for discussion following the lecture. Refreshments will be served.

Court Decision on Blair Ruling Near

Judge Will Decide Next Week Whether To Review Blair's Crooked Decision; Review Would Be Held Next Month

The District Court's decision, whether to review former State Labor Conciliator Blair's "settlement" of the struggle between the Minneapolis drivers and Tobin, will be forthcoming the end of next week.

Last Saturday and Tuesday mornings attorneys for Local 544-CIO and for Tobin argued the Tobin motion to quash the 544-CIO writ of certiorari, before Judge Carlton F. McNally of Ramsey County District Court.

Should the court decide to review Blair's decision, the review would be held sometime in January.

Tobin's attorneys, Goldberg and Farnand, argued for the Tobin position that the drivers of Minneapolis should not have the democratic right to vote for their own bargaining agent.

Attorneys Gilbert Carlson and D. J. Shama represented Local 544-CIO.

Stassen's new labor conciliator, Kelley, substituted for Blair, the latter having "graduated" to the post of labor relations expert for the union-hating Gambie-Robinson corporation. Blair was in court Saturday morning as an observer, where he appeared on friendly terms with the Tobin Quislings—though he is currently fighting the demands of the Gambie-Rob workers throughout the area for wage increases.

In opposing a review of Blair's

crooked decision, Tobin's attorneys argued that the Stassen Slave Labor Law does not provide for a review of the labor conciliator's findings. "We must assume that the labor conciliator will do his duty," they argued.

Blair Blocked Ballot

"It is the men in the plants, not the labor conciliator, who selects the bargaining agent," Tobin attorney Farnand told the court, disregarding the fact that Blair had prevented the men in the plants from voting for the union of their choice.

One of the arguments made on Tobin's behalf was that it was impossible for a court to review Blair's decision because his decision was made partly on the basis of "confidential knowledge acquired by Blair from his personal investigation."

This is doubtless a reference to the FBI advice to Blair that the executive board of Local 544-CIO would all be found guilty in the "sedition" trial. Blair had incurred

(Continued on page 2)

NATION Protests Trial As Violation of Rights

"The Issues at Minneapolis" is the title of the following editorial appearing in the December 13, 1941, issue of the NATION, liberal weekly. The NATION joins the other liberal and labor papers of the country who have condemned the results of the "sedition" trial, and who call for support to the defendants in appealing the case:

"December 15 is the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights. We can think of no better way to celebrate it than by calling attention to the Minneapolis sedition trial. The prosecution of twenty-three Trotskyists for sedition and the conviction of eighteen of them on charges of conspiracy to create insubordination in the armed forces are challenges to every believer in civil liberties. They are an example of the very thing the Bill of Rights sought to make impossible—the imprisonment of men not for what they did but for what they thought and said.

"Two aspects of the prosecution are of the greatest importance. The first is that the government contended that it did not need to wait for an 'overt act' but could penalize the expression of opinions that might some day lead to overt acts. The second is that Assistant Attorney General Henry Schweinhaut, who is supposed to be a great champion of civil liberties, expressly disclaimed any intention on the part of the government to be bound by the Holmes-Brandeis theory of 'clear and present danger.' This concept, developed in a series of dissents by the two great liberal jurists, holds that the expression of opinion may be prosecuted if there is a 'clear and present danger' that it will lead to an overt act.

"Though Holmes and Brandeis are often invoked by the Department of Justice and Attorney General Francis Biddle, their guiding principles, as often happens with the celebrated dead, are overlooked and evaded. Schweinhaut declared that the government was proceeding on the basis of conservative minority opinions of the Supreme Court which permit prosecution of opinion. Obviously the tiny Socialist Workers Party is no threat either to established government or to the loyalty of the army. Any attempt to proceed against it on the basis of what it is doing today must fall flat. Schweinhaut argued that the Bolshevik Party in Russia was also a tiny minority before the revolution. His argument reduced itself to the propo-

sition that the Socialist Workers Party, though tiny too, might also make a revolution.

Why Revolutions Occur

"The assumption implicit in this view should hardly need to be driven home again at this late date. The idea that revolutions are brought about by dangerous men and dangerous thoughts is a familiar one in Japan. We ought to be careful that it is not naturalized here. There was revolution in czarist Russia, not because of the tiny Bolshevik Party, but because long-standing oppression and the corruption and military defeat of czarism disgusted and alienated the great mass of the people. It is in the correction of abuses and not in the suppression of revolutionary opinions that the safety of any social order lies. Were it otherwise, czarism, with its Siberian prisons for revolutionaries, would still be a going concern. We are ashamed to have to repeat these truisms now.

"We believe that the precedents established by this conviction are dangerous to freedom of thought and expression in America. We believe that they open the door to the possible prosecution of other trade-union leaders on the ground that they belong to a 'revolutionary' party. We believe this case all the more dangerous because the Department of Justice has picked a tiny unpopular minority as its legal-laboratory specimen in the experiment of grafting foreign ideas on American law. We believe that all progressives of whatever political orientation must join in the defense of the Minneapolis defendants or permit the establishment of a precedent that may some day be used against any of them.

Now Is Time to Act

"These fears may seem exaggerated. They are much less exaggerated than the fears which led the common people of one state after another at the time of the ratification of the Constitution to demand its amendment by a Bill of Rights. Learned and legally conclusive arguments were brought forward to prove that these fears were unfounded, but experience has shown the wisdom in that clamor. Liberty is most easily preserved when the threat to it is small. Then is the time to act, and that time is now."

Leading Farmers' Union Paper Speaks for Defendants

"If the government begins curbing free speech of one group which it does not like, what group that disagrees with the government is safe?" asks the December 15th North Dakota UNION FARMER, leading Farmers Union paper, in commenting on the "sedition" trial in Minneapolis.

"The group were declared innocent of violating the Sedition Act of 1861 (which hasn't been used since the Civil War) making it a felony to overthrow the government, but were found guilty of an amendment to that act, passed in 1940, making it a felony to advocate overthrow of the government by force. In other words, it wasn't what the group did but what they said that made them liable to ten years in jail.

"Many constitutional lawyers say that such a law is a violation of the constitutional guarantee of free speech. The American Civil Liberties Union, which defends the civil liberties of all men, no matter how unpopular their beliefs may be, is appealing the case and plans to take it to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary . . .

"In peace time violation of civil liberties seldom stand in higher courts, but in war hysteria—who knows!

"Another indication of how war hysteria threatens our rights as American citizens comes from a member of the President's cabinet, Secretary of War. Frank Knox

writes to the Workers Defense League that he is in 'thorough-going' accord with a speech by Admiral Blandy in which he urges that leaders in defense strikes 'be ridden out of town on a rail,' branding all of them 'disloyal citizens.'

"Regardless of the merits of a particular strike, what do you think of a Cabinet officer advocating mob violence? There is more than just words to the North Dakota Farmers Union program when it says that we oppose 'Hitlerism Here and Abroad.'

"Maybe some farmers think what happens to organized labor is none of their concern. But the right to freely organize and the right to advocate any political, economic or religious creed, no matter how foolish, are two rights that distinguish America from Nazified Europe."

The writer of the above editorial is Harold V. Knight, managing editor of the North Dakota UNION FARMER.

Decision on Blair Ruling Is Awaited

(Continued from page 1)

porated this FBI charge into his findings. Unfortunately for Blair and the FBI, the executive board of Local 544-CIO, save for Emil Hansen, trustee, was proclaimed innocent of the "sedition" charges.

Another argument used by Tobin's lawyers was that "peace, calm and repose has settled over our community since Blair certified '544'-AFL." This is a crude lie when one considers the constant jurisdictional disputes Tobin's Quislings have stirred up here with the Cement Finishers Union, the Brewery Workers Union and other unions, and the "negotiating squads" of Tobin's goons which for months prowled the streets of the city.

State Backs Tobin

Mr. Sjoeselius, representing the state attorney general's office, told the court that the state opposed any review of any decision by a state labor conciliator. "In the public interest, the state believes Blair's order should be in repose," he said.

What 544-CIO Seeks

Attorney Shama for 544-CIO told the court: "We don't ask you to certify either the AFL or the CIO. We ask this court to decide whether Blair acted illegally in denying the drivers an election, and in certifying the AFL when the AFL was shown to be guilty of unfair labor practices under the state labor relations act."

After recessing Saturday noon, the arguments were continued Tuesday morning.

Is Precedent for Writ

Shama pointed out to the court that in the only other appeal for a writ of certiorari against a decision of the state labor conciliator, the court had granted the writ.

He referred to the Berland shoe store decision of Stassen's first conciliator, Lloyd Haney. The employer had appealed from that decision, and the court had granted the writ of certiorari. At that time the state attorney general's office did not oppose the appeal, the employer having sought the writ of certiorari.

"Blair's decision denied the

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Minneapolis drivers the right choose their own bargaining agent," 544-CIO attorney Gilb Carlson told the court.

"The drivers, acting through 544-CIO, are presenting this case for an appeal from Blair's decision. The men are acting through their union to gain the right choose their own union."

Blair made his decision, said Carlson, on the basis of a report by a firm of accountants that Tobin had so many names of drivers copied on the books of "544"-AFL. "We don't question the report of the accountants. We DO question in the manner which the dues were collected, the ball bats wielded by the Tobin goon squads, the unfair labor practices of which Tobin's local leaders were guilty. The AFL is not entitled to certification, to any other benefits of the labor law.

Blair's Decision Illegal

"Blair's decision is a violation of the law. He set up the Minneapolis area as a bargaining unit contrary to the evidence and contrary to the practice of bargaining by industry between the drivers and the employers.

"He certified the AFL after AFL had been proven guilty of unfair labor practices.

"His decision against 544-CIO was contrary to the evidence.

"If no appeal from the state labor conciliator's decision is permitted," argued Carlson, "the labor conciliator is indeed 'Little Czar,' with absolute powers, free to make unfair decisions against labor."

Decision Next Week

The hearing closed Tuesday noon. Judge McNally asked CIO to hand in a brief of its arguments by Saturday, and told AFL to reply within three days.

The court probably will decide late next week whether to review Blair's decision. Should the court agree to review the decision, a review would be held in January.

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1917 Espionage Act Now in Force

Was Used in War to Attack Labor

It Authorizes Government to Suppress Free Speech, Free Press, To Make Raids, To Intern Aliens, To Censor Publications and Radio Stations

The declaration of war on Japan by Congress automatically brought into operation throughout the United States and her colonies and possessions the Espionage Act of 1917. This is a special statute affecting freedom of speech and press. During the First World War some 1,500 speech cases were brought under this law.

Though the Espionage Act is contrary to the Bill of Rights of the Constitution, the Supreme Court upheld the Act on the ground of the "clear and present danger" test—that is, that the exercise of free speech endangered the government of the United States.

Section 3 of Title 1 of the Espionage Act deals with such subjects as espionage, enemy agents, and with the transmission of military secrets.

Section 3 reads as follows:

- (1) Whoever, when the United States is at war, shall knowingly or recklessly make or convey false reports or false statements with intent to interfere with the operation of success of military or naval forces of the United States or to promote the success of its enemies,
- (2) and whoever, when the United States is at war, shall wilfully cause or attempt to cause insubordination, disloyalty, mutiny, or refusal of duty, in the military or naval forces of the United States,
- (3) or shall wilfully ob-

struct the recruiting or enlistment service of the United States, to the injury of the service or of the United States, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than twenty years, or both."

Was Used Against Labor

It was under this Section, during the First World War, that most of the anti-war and anti-labor cases were prosecuted and convicted, including the cases of Eugene V. Debs and Big Bill Haywood and the I. W. W.'s.

This Section came to be interpreted so broadly by the courts that in practice it became impossible for anyone to say or write anything against the war without being prosecuted.

Another section of the Espionage Act which was used against anti-war groups is Title XII, which makes non-mailable any matter violating the act. The Post Office Department has broad powers to exclude from the mails all anti-war material. The Department may revoke second-class mailing privileges and return as undeliverable all mail addressed to a particular addressee. Numerous labor and socialist newspapers and

magazines were thus restrained during the World War.

Title XI of the Espionage Act permitted the government to make raids on the offices of anti-war organizations. This section authorizes the issue of search warrants for the seizure of property used as the means of committing a felony, that is, of violating the Act. **2,541 Interned Immediately**

The government may also intern any or all aliens of an enemy country. In the First World War concentration camps were established in the United States for the internment of German, Austrian and Turkish aliens, and for captured enemy seamen.

During the first four days following the formal declaration of war against Japan, 2,541 German, Italian and Japanese citizens were arrested by the Department of Justice, plus 43 American citizens in Hawaii.

Last week President Roosevelt laid down the primary rules of censorship of war news, reserving to himself and to high-ranking officials the right of decision over material released.

Though the president has the war-time power to suspend or amend all rules applicable to radio stations, or to close any or all radio stations, James L. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, said last week that "no immediate censorship of broadcasting was expected."

Mail Censorship Studied

"OTHER OFFICIALS INDICATED STUDIES WERE BEING MADE OF CENSORSHIP OF DOMESTIC MAILS AND TELEGRAMS," according to the N. Y. TIMES of December 9th.

According to the TIMES, "The President's mention and support of the British system (of censorship) aroused some apprehension here among reporters who have worked in London during the war. . . . There also, the final decision was left to military and naval officials, and the chief criticism of the American reporters in London was that the military mind often tended to rule that almost any news that was bad for the British gave aid and comfort to Germany and Italy," and therefore could not be published.

Both the Army and Navy have announced they will enforce the Espionage Act. The War Department has extended its ban on military information to include information relating to the routes, schedules and destinations of troop movements within or without the continental United States.

News Is Tightened

The Federal Loan Agency has discontinued releasing information on all defense subjects, including contracts for new defense plants in this country. The Maritime Commission has asked that nothing be published or disseminated "concerning the movement, position, cargo or destination of any merchant vessel in any waters."

All outgoing cables are under censorship, Rear Admiral Hepburn announced a few days ago, and cables from Hawaii and the Philippines are being censored at the source.

Mum on Casualties

Henceforth, neither the Army

Tobin Thugs Plead Guilty to Assault

O'Brien and Soderberg, "544"-AFL Pair, To Be Sentenced February 2nd

AITKIN, MINN.—In the middle of their trial, Tobin's two organizers, Axel Soderberg and George O'Brien, pleaded guilty to the charge of assault with intent to kill Walter Dorree, Hill City farmer. The Tobin gunmen will be sentenced February 2nd.

The farmer was shot by the AFL-"544" leaders July 20th, when Soderberg, O'Brien, Frank Bochniak and Robert Brennan—all members or supporters of Tobin's "Committee of 99"—drove to Dorree's farm and quarreled with him over a truck said to be owned by Brennan's father.

The Tobin payrollers, who for weeks had been threatening the drivers of Minneapolis, drew guns and attacked Dorree, seriously wounding him. Robert Brennan was killed in the affray.

The AFL men fled to Minneapolis, where they were picked up by police and returned to Aitkin authorities.

George O'Brien was one of the Tobin witnesses who testified against the 28 defendants in the recent "sedition" trial.

The guilty plea of Soderberg and O'Brien came midway in their trial here, when the court rejected a defense motion to dismiss the case.

nor Navy will release casualty lists. Instead, these departments will advise the nearest of kin, with newspapers and radio stations being permitted to publish local information obtained from relatives thereafter.

How Espionage Act Worked

Some examples of what happened here under the Espionage Act during the First World War are presented by Zecharia Chafee, Jr., in his recent book, "Free Speech in the United States":

"It became criminal to advocate heavier taxation instead of bond issues, to state that conscription was unconstitutional though the Supreme Court had not yet held it valid, to say that the sinking of merchant vessels was legal, to urge that a referendum should have preceded our declaration of war, to say that war was contrary to the teachings of Christ. Men have been punished for criticizing the Red Cross and the YMCA, while under the Minnesota Espionage Act it has been held a crime to discourage women from knitting by the remark, 'No soldier ever sees these socks! . . .'"

"Judge Van Valkenburgh, in U. S. vs. Rose Pastor Stokes (a socialist—Ed.) even made it criminal to argue to women against a war, by the words, 'I am for the people and the government is for the profiteers,' because, said the judge, what is said to mothers, sisters and sweethearts may lessen their enthusiasm for the war, and 'our armies in the field and our navies upon the seas can operate and succeed only so far as they are supported and maintained by the folks at home.'"

Drivers Dump Art Hudson In St. Paul

(Continued from page 1) that he can maintain his dictatorship over the drivers only by finally crushing all democracy in the ranks.

A sample of Tobin's methods was shown in the recent nomination for office in the Minneapolis Laundry Drivers Local 131, Clair Johnson, secretary-treasurer of Local 131 and of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, was up for re-election. Rather than risk having Johnson repudiated by the membership, Tobin's receiver, Raw Deal Neal, simply decreed that Johnson would remain in office and that no election would be permitted for his post.

Hudson Was Strike-Breaker

For years Hudson has fought the union men who made Minneapolis a Union Town, who organized the drivers in the Twin Cities and throughout the area. For years he has sold the St. Paul drivers down the river to the bosses.

Just last fall he tried to break a strike of his own men, the Ready Mixed Concrete drivers of St. Paul, by ordering other drivers to go through the picketline.

In addition to being president of Local 120, Hudson was also a Tobin appointee to the Tobin Committee which recently sold out the 250,000 over-read drivers of the eleven-state area.

Tobin Paper Silent

Though the Local 120 election results are of obvious import to the local drivers' situation, Tobin's MINNESOTA TEAMSTER doesn't have a word say about the election. The Tobin rag, which covers the Minneapolis Tobin movement like a scab on a running sore, is gloomily silent.

War Babies Offer Good Investments

Workers interested in investing their surplus wages profitably can find many possibilities among the leading corporations of the nation, the bulk of which are finding the war program good for business.


Profits of Swift & Company, meat packers, after all taxes, are \$17,808,725, compared with \$11,183,484 for the previous year.

Other firms to report profits in Monday's N. Y. TIMES:

The Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies steamship lines reported a net income of \$2,393,651 for the first ten months of this year, in contrast to a net loss of \$72,652 in the same period last year.

Willys-Overland show a yearly net profit of \$809,258, compared with a net loss of \$873,115 for the last fiscal year.

We'll have a heavy load Christmas, too!



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Christmas, calls to many increase 12 times—many calls will be delayed.

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The Truth is On the March

James T. Farrell, noted author and Chairman of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, made the following remarks to the mass meeting recently held in New York City on the Minneapolis labor trial. The meeting was held on the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights:

On the 150th anniversary of the Bill of Rights, the defense and preservation of civil liberties has become a paramount issue. Now more than ever, the priceless political rights guaranteed in the First Amendment of the American Constitution must remain operative. In peace or in war, when the right of free speech is destroyed, public life becomes rigid. Thinking turns into sheer routine. Artistic creation is driven into feeble channels of escapism. The rich spiritual, intellectual, and artistic resources of the human spirit are dried up at their very source. These are truisms: but they are truisms that cannot now be repeated too often.

The names of Holmes and Brandeis are among the most honored in American legal history; but their words are not as respected as are their names. For it is clear that they had in mind a period such as the present case when they enunciated their theory of "a clear and present danger." In the Minneapolis case, this theory was abandoned; for it, the prosecution substituted one of indirect causation.

Such a theory is a parallel to the Japanese notion of "dangerous thoughts." Once this is established as the law of the land, all thinking will become dangerous. In place of thinking, we will only be allowed to quote; and even quotation will be dangerous. The convictions obtained at Minneapolis are, to my mind, a clear and present danger to the Bill of Rights. On this issue, the liberal magazine, THE NATION, has already sounded an alarm. In an editorial, appearing after the outbreak of war between this country and Japan, it declared: "We believe that all progressives of whatever political orientation must join in the defense of the Minneapolis defendants or permit the establishment of a precedent that may some day be used against them."

The Minneapolis convictions were based on the Smith Act. It is a law in open contradiction to the Bill of Rights which proclaims that "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging freedom of speech. . . ." In consequence, the Minneapolis case has today become the crucial one in the struggle which we must make for the preservation of civil liberties.

To destroy freedom of speech is to admit implicitly that one has lost faith in the great masses of the people. Instead of confidence in the masses of the common people whose ancestors were responsible for the Bill of Rights one substitutes an élite. On them is placed all responsibility for continuing the succession of ideas which alone can give us the intellectual resources for the creation of a civilization, a culture, that is truly human. On December 15, 1941, I am not prepared to sacrifice this faith. That is why I assert that the question of civil liberties is of such paramount importance now.

Many years ago, the courageous French novelist, Emile Zola, boldly and confidently proclaimed that the truth is on the march. Since then, oppression has spread over nation after nation. But in the face of every oppression, it is our duty to do what Zola tried to do—to keep the truth on the march. That, we cannot do unless men are allowed publicly, honestly, seriously to think to express their ideas, to defend their convictions. When Socrates stood on trial for his life, he told his judges that "the unexamined life is not worth living." These words

Civil Liberties Union to Oppose War Persecutions

Roger Baldwin Says Persecutions By Government Will Be Fought

The problem of defending the freedom of speech and of the press during this period of war, with its inevitable tendencies to restrict democracy, is stressed by Roger Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union. Mr. Baldwin issued the following statement following the formal entry of the United States into the Second World War:

"The only special statute affecting freedom of speech and press which comes into effect automatically upon a declaration of war is the Espionage Act of 1917. Two sections of that Act were frequently invoked during the First World War.

"One of them penalizes utterances or publications construed to constitute 'false statements with intent to interfere with the success of the military forces of the United States or permit the success of its enemies,' or 'attempts to cause disloyalty or refusal of duty in the military forces' or 'obstruction of recruiting or enlistment.'

"This was the section under which some 1,500 free speech cases were brought. The Supreme Court upheld the Act, despite the First Amendment to the Constitution, on the ground of the 'clear and present danger' test.

"The other section of the Act gives the Post Office Department broad powers to exclude from the mails all such material. The Department may revoke second-class mailing privileges and return as undeliverable all mail addressed to a particular addressee. Numerous publications were thus restrained during the World War.

Alien Round-up Seen

"The government may under emergency laws, applicable only in war-time, intern any or all aliens of an enemy country. In the First World War, special camps were created for the internment of German, Austrian and Turkish aliens. In the last year or so the government has intern-

ed a considerable number of seamen taken from ships of belligerent countries seized in our ports. Their special internment camps are already available for the present crisis. While the government has the right to intern all aliens of countries with which the United States is at war, yet if the precedent of the last war is followed, only those aliens will be kept interned who are suspected of activities in behalf of the enemy. It is quite likely that the government will round up very large numbers in order to sift out those who, in the judgment of officials, should be detained during hostilities.

"Under the Federal Communications Act, the President has power, both in a state of war or national emergency, to suspend or amend all rules applicable to radio stations, may close any or all radio stations, or take them over for operation by the government.

Will Oppose Persecutions

"The American Civil Liberties Union would of course contest any prosecution for utterances or publications which might be brought under the Espionage Act. It would also contest any action by the Post Office Department to bar publications from the mails solely on the ground of opinions. We have every confidence that the Administration would not invoke these laws in the spirit and circumstances which marked the World War prosecutions. Every effort will be made by the American Civil Liberties

Union to assist in expediting the process of releasing enemy aliens who are not properly suspect, in order to avoid the hardships which have marked internment in other belligerent countries. "The Union will also oppose government operation of radio stations—a course which the government appears very unlikely to take, judging by pronouncements of the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission."

Priorities Hit 3,038 In State

The new economic disease, P (priorities unemployment), has already claimed 3,038 employees in Minnesota, with additional 1,639 facing loss of their jobs in the very near future, a state-wide survey completed by the Employment-Security Division reveals.

That the above figures only reveal a fraction of the unemployment brought about by the effect of priorities on Minnesota's industries, is indicated by the fact that only 2,144 firms of the 6,174 questionnaires replied.

All but 443 of the 3,038 have lost their jobs live in Twin Cities or Duluth.

Most seriously affected workers in the furniture industry and the metal trades.

Compared with the heavy-industry states, Minnesota has been lightly touched by P-U.

CIO Asks \$60 Base Pay For Army

An increase in base pay for men in the army to \$60 a month is one of the several demands aimed at bettering the lives of draftees adopted by the CIO convention in Detroit.

The CIO also approved the following measures: 1. More furloughs and free transportation for men on furlough; 2. postal service for soldiers; 3. abolition of discrimination because of race, creed or color in the camps; 4. Improved recreation and amusement program. Union participation in the national and educational centers of the training camps.

The convention called Roosevelt to stop immediate training of draftees for breaking service.

War Profits in Britain High

The Bristol Aero-plane Co. of England has announced for 1940 at 766,384 pounds paying the excess profits according to the NEW LE weekly organ of the Independent Labour Party of England.

These profits are 80,000 pounds greater than in 1938 and 100,000 pounds greater than those of 1937. It is not possible to compare year's profits with those of 1938 because they were announced before deducting the dividend is 10%.

NOW AS THEN I would hang everyone's head on a spike for his voice against America during the world war.—New York Times, 1917.

He isn't himself today, but he is a great improvement.—C. S. Lewis.

Gamble-Rob Drivers Forced To Strike by Tobin's Pal Blair

More than three hundred drivers and helpers of the Gamble-Robinson corporation in four states were forced out on strike Sunday when their demands for wage increases were rejected by Alfred P. Blair, "labor relations expert" for Gamble-Rob and Stassen's former state labor conciliator.

Blair received his post with the labor-hating Gamble-Rob corporation in October—as part payment for having betrayed the Minneapolis drivers to Dictator Tobin.

The cut-rate leadership of "544"-AFL accepted a settlement of the Gamble-Rob strike Thursday, on the basis of the company's demand for a two-year contract and the usual Tobin 5c wage increase, an increase that doesn't begin to protect the workers from skyrocketing prices and taxes on workers.

by refusing to grant Local 544-CIO's demand for democratic elections. His post was arranged for him by Tobin and Stassen, when the two attended the annual AFL convention in Seattle.

At the time Blair stepped into his new job, it was freely predicted that he would use his post to obtain concessions from Tobin's union.

Besides rejecting the drivers'

demand for wage increases, Blair is also insisting that the men be tied up in a two-year contract running to December, 1943.

The Tobin leadership is trying to put over a slimy compromise for an eighteen-months' contract, but Blair is adamant. No doubt he reminds that Tobin bootlicker that if it wasn't for his dishonest decision against Local 544-CIO, there wouldn't be a Tobin union in this area today.

The Tobin leadership is having a most embarrassing time trying to "explain" to the Gamble-Rob drivers how it is that a man like Blair—whom Tobin has told them is a fine fellow—is denying their demands.

Gamble-Robinson branches in the following cities are affected by the strike: Mankato, Rochester, Winona, Albert Lea, St. Cloud, Austin, Bemidji, Willmar, Brainerd, Alexandria, Fergus Falls, Thief River Falls, and nine branches in North and South Dakota and Iowa.

of Socrates are as profoundly significant today as they were when he uttered them. Allow me to repeat: "... the unexamined life is not worth living. . . ."