

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.
GENERAL OFFICE: 286 E. 6TH ST.
St. Paul, Minn.

As from this hour
You use your power,
The world must fol-
low you.

Stand all as one
Till right is done!
Believe and dare
and do!

VOLUME 1, No. 48

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1930

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UNION WILL STAGE A HUGE RALLY ON FRIDAY EVENING

BROWN SPEAKS AT MILWAUKEE GUILD STRIKE

Cites Weakness of Craft Division in News Plants

Newspaper Guild Carries Fight to Rotten Hearst Sheet

The strike of the Newspaper Guild against the Hearst owned Wisconsin News took a new turn Saturday when a mass picket line, numbering well over a thousand, gathered early in the morning in front of the newspaper office.

Marching steadily to and fro until 1:30 p. m. when, led by a band, furnished by the Wisconsin State Federation of Musicians, the strikers and sympathizers marched to Miller Hall where a mass meeting was held.

Occupying a prominent place on the speaking program was William S. Brown, President of General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers, Local No. 574 of Minneapolis. Brown, in a stirring address, urged the unified support of the whole Northwest Labor Movement for the striking newspaper workers.

Calling attention to the fact that the workers were badly divided, he exhibited a printed statement issued by the Wisconsin News against the strikers which was signed by twelve employees of the Wisconsin News, all members of the Printing Craft.

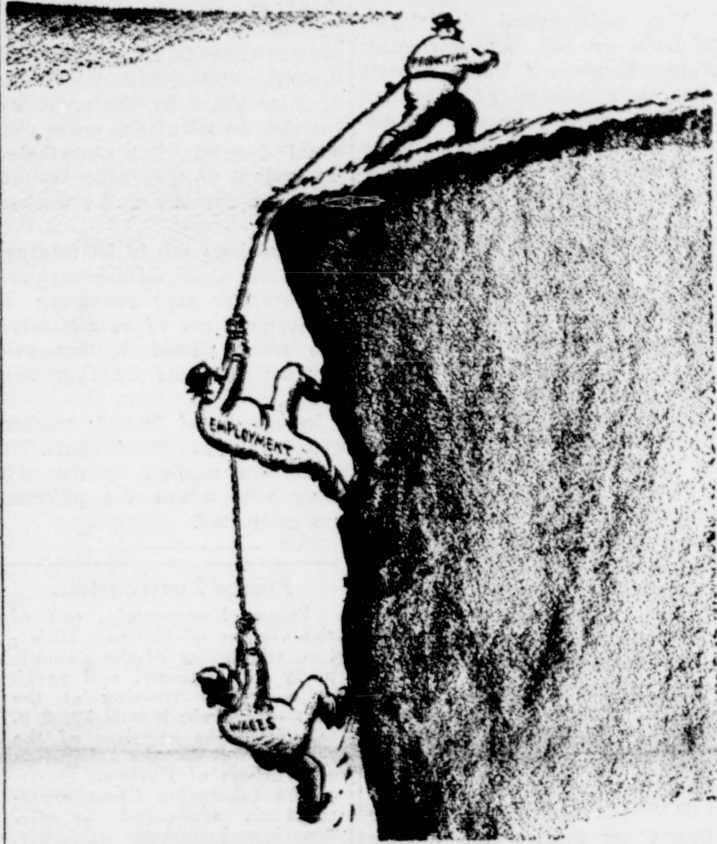
Commenting on the craft division that prevents united action, he showed that the strike-breaking statement was signed by union men who had placed their name along side of scab editorial writers now employed by the paper.

Other speakers on the program were representatives from the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor, Mrs. Victor Berger, wife of former socialist congressman of Milwaukee, and William Davy, national organizer of the Newspaper Guild. At the conclusion of the meeting the participants marched back to the picket line.

Brown, on his return from the strike scene Monday morning, reported that the spirit of the striking news writers was high and that their chance for victory was excellent.

Lost—One silver plated bumper off '29 Ford truck. Lost on Belt line job. Inquire of Myron Anderson, 1119 25th Ave. N., or at union office. Reward?

Labor Always Last Up



N. Y. Building Strike Settlement Includes Vicious 'Violence' Clause

Bosses' Weapon Used to Intimidate Militant Workers

It is difficult to determine from the meager news in the AP dispatches just what is the exact settlement of the New York building service strike. The reports received, however, even in the light of their obvious bias in favor of the employers, indicate that the strike settlement is a victory for labor.

This is especially true when we consider the magnitude of the strike.

A mass movement of almost 100,000 workers, concentrating their fight in the heart of the leading industrial center of the world, meeting the opposition of a governmental strike breaking force of over 40,000, not to mention the large numbers furnished by the scab-herding detective agencies, and secured at random by the building bosses, paralyzing the very nerve center of American finance capitol, the real ruler of the land, and with this large force of workers, most of whom were engaging in a strike-struggle for the first time, fighting determinedly for days on end for the right to organize to secure an improvement in their standard of living.

This splendid demonstration

will serve as a real inspiration to all American workers, especially to the striking rubber workers in Akron, and the editorial workers who are fighting against Hearst's Wisconsin News at Milwaukee.

There is just one off-key note evident in the reports we have received. Although the settlement provides for the reinstatement of all striking union members, it conditions this with the provision that employers may refuse reinstatement of union members on charges of "sabotage or violence." These cases to be decided by special arbitration.

This is an old boss trick, calculated to terrorize the workers from future strike action. The terms "sabotage" and "violence" are all inclusive, especially when interpreted by the employer. The charges presented, and there will

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SPECIAL OPEN MASS MEETING

Local 574 is under attack from many sides—Daniel Tobin, Meyer Lewis, the Latimer administration, the Citizens Alliance, all have joined in an effort to undermine and destroy our splendid union. The best defense is a good offense. Local 574 will answer by a large scale drive for members, especially in new fields in the driving industry. Be at the mass meeting on Friday, March 20, 8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth Avenue N. Music by the 574 Band.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 574

Friends and Sympathizers Are Invited to Attend And Take Part in Meet

New Cartoons
The Northwest Organizer is proud to announce that, starting next week, a new series of labor cartoons will be run. We have secured the service of a local labor cartoonist of great ability. The new series of labor drawings will deal principally with local and northwest labor-happenings. Watch for the new series to start.

Local 160 Urges St. Paul Meeting

The St. Paul section of the Northern States Power Employees' Union is lagging far behind the workers in the Minneapolis district. In Minneapolis Local 160, by the aggressiveness of its leadership and the intelligence by which they have conducted their organizational campaign, have brought about real union conditions in the Minneapolis plants.

They have demonstrated, by the reforms they have secured in wages and working conditions, that a union, if intelligently led, can become a real weapon in the behalf of the workers involved. In St. Paul, where a company union flourishes, the same condition does not prevail. St. Paul employees should wake up to the fact that their place is in Local No. 160 beside their fellow workers from Minneapolis.

Plans are on foot to hold a meeting for St. Paul employees of the Northern States Power in the near future. Let's hear from you St. Paul workers.

Ah There! Fritz

Fritz Snyder was quietly eating dinner in the kitchen of his mother's home the other day when a fink Hatch driver walked in and attempted to deliver some meat from Wits. Do you know what happened? Oh h--! Use your imagination.

Good Speaking Program, Music to Greet Our Friends

Friday night, March 20, 8 p. m. General Drivers' hall, 257 Plymouth Avenue North, will be the scene of a huge union rally for all members, friends and sympathizers of Local No. 574. This meeting, which has been called by the membership of No. 574, is for the purpose of discussing the position of our union in its relation to the rest of the Minneapolis trade union movement.

Certain sections of the local labor movement are carrying on a determined and bitter fight against us which is aimed to exterminate 574 as a factor in the organized labor movement. Certain sections of the A. F. of L. Driving Crafts are carrying on a campaign of slander, gossip, and false rumors concerning our organization. They are daily approaching members of our union endeavoring to persuade them to drop their membership in Local No. 574 and become members of the dual driving organization they are attempting to erect.

This subversive activity is being carried on despite the fact that, some months ago, an agreement was reached between the Central Labor Union and Local No. 574 which put a ban on all such activities.

Along with this, Meyer Lewis, stooge representative of William Green, is busily engaging himself in attempting to discredit our organization with the rest of the Minneapolis trade union movement. When his efforts to get Minneapolis employers to break their contracts with our Union failed, he turned his attention to the Minneapolis labor movement. There, all his activities are directed in an attempt to split the rest of the labor movement away from our local union.

There is no disguising the fact that this campaign is having some effect upon certain trade unionists who were formerly friendly to our organization. His slanderous and vicious attacks on Local No. 574 are causing some of the weaker trade unionists to forget the immense debt they owe the General Drivers union.

Members of our union have heard the accusations and slanders that our enemies are spreading.

They have asked that we hold a public meeting in order that

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Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Friends and Sympathizers Are Invited to Attend And Take Part in Meet

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we may publicly answer these defamers. The Friday night mass meeting is being held precisely for that purpose.

The meeting will be open to members, their families and friends, and all sympathizers of our organization. There will be an excellent speaking program.

We will have music by the newly organized Local No. 574 band. A loud-speaking system will enable everyone to hear the program. Plenty of seats have been provided.

It is free.

Be on hand Friday night and demonstrate your continued loyalty to Local No. 574.

574 Union Halls in Demand by Workers

Wednesday, March 11, was one of the busiest evenings that our meeting halls ever saw. No less than six meetings were taking place at the same time.

The market workers and the sand and gravel drivers met in opposite sides of the large hall on the third floor. The conference room held a meeting of auto haulers. In the small hall on the second floor cement block workers were getting together. Workers from the Bach Transfer Company gathered in the club room. The Executive Board of Local 160 held their meeting in the union office.

Coal Workers Hold Meeting Monday

The Monday night meeting of the Coal Workers' Section of Local 574 attracted the largest number of these workers that have attended a meeting this winter.

Fully 400 were on hand when the meeting opened. C. Skogland presided, and Scott of Great Lakes acted as secretary. Spirited discussion took place around the terms of the new coal agreement.

Great interest was shown in the contract by the fact that every provision in it was amended or changed a dozen times. The meeting lasted until after 11 p. m. The terms of the new agreement will be published in the organizer next week.

Carnegie Steward Suffers Broken Leg

Sherman Oakes, steward at Carnegie Coal Co., and long time member of Local No. 574, suffered a severe accident on Wednesday of last week. While stepping from his truck Brother Oakes landed on an icy spot. He fell and broke a bone in his ankle.

It is expected that this injury will keep Sherman from active duty for some time.

MEETING SCHEDULE Local No. 160, N. S. P. Co. Employees

Wednesday, March 4—Membership meeting.
Thursday, March 5—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 11—Organization Committee.
Thursday, March 12—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 18—Membership meeting.
Thursday, March 19—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 25—Organization Committee.
Thursday, March 26—Executive Board.
Department meetings will be held subject to call.
All meetings at 257 Plymouth Ave. N., second floor.
Members may present grievances at any of the above meetings.

574 Baseball Team Holds First Meet

Local 574 baseball team held its first meeting of the season Monday, March 16. Fred Nelson, last year's baseball manager, was responsible for calling this pre-season meeting.

Last week, Nelson pointed out to the Executive Board the necessity of getting an early start. Practically all of the members of last year's team were present at the meeting.

Forced Labor for WPA Men Near

A new move, on the part of WPA officials, to discriminate against union workers on WPA projects, developed Thursday, March 12. Contending that the great number of transients on local projects prevented Minneapolis residents from being employed, a weeding out process was started Thursday morning.

It developed, however, that the drive was not directly solely at eliminating non-residents. Long-time residents, home owners, and tax-payers were given transfer work orders sending them to a dam project at Cannon Falls at a wage of \$15 per month.

It is a significant fact that those resident workers selected to be sent down "the river" were, almost without exception, union workers who had been in the forefront in protesting against conditions on the job. Some of the union men, so selected, have owned property and resided in this city for 20 years. It seems that their crime has been too much activity in the behalf of their fellow workers.

It now appears that projects, where labor is supplied by the Homeless Men's Bureau, are to become prison camps for workers who raise their voice against the abuses that exist on many projects. All WPA workers must protest this action of the state WPA officials. It smacks of German Fascist forced labor camps.

Non-Union Concern Becomes Organized

In the midway district one of the large hauling concerns, which has always been non-union, will join the ranks of places of employment that are covered by union agreement.

The drivers of this firm faced by wage cuts and with steadily worsening conditions of employment, came to the realization that union organization was their only way out.

It is too early yet to disclose the name of this firm but it is not too early to say that great credit must be given one or two union men employed there who have, by their hard work, at last brought about union organization of their place of employment.

Adjustment Secured On Sumner Project

The controversy that a rose on the Sumner Field project was settled Monday morning when E. Palmquist requested an interview with the project superintendent.

After hearing the union's side of the story the superintendent agreed to reinstate workers who had been discharged without sufficient reason and promised to adjust other minor grievances that had been made.

Bill Brown Says—

The newspapers Monday carried a statement by Thomas Latimer that taking Local 574 into the Farmer-Labor Party meant opening the door for communism. A year ago he asked us to hold some meetings for him, and he spoke at several of our union gatherings. Local 574 had the same leaders then, the same kind of members, and the same policy. What about Al Hansen, Dewey Johnson, and the many other Farmer-Laborites of long standing, are they Reds? It looks like you are on your way, Tom!



BILL BROWN
President of 574

N.S.P. Underground Dept. Reports Overtime Differences Settled

Overtime Pay Provided at Time and One-half for All

The underground department of Local No. 160, Northern States Power Employees' Union, reports that their grievance committee had real success in settling differences in regard to overtime that have existed in that department for considerable time.

Heretofore overtime has been paid in the underground department at the rate of straight time only. The newly adjusted overtime schedule secured by the union calls for time and one-half for all time worked in excess of eight hours in one day. The payment of double time for Sundays and holidays has been agreed to by the management.

Meals will be provided by the company when it is necessary that workers in this department put in overtime extending through a meal period.

The overhead department, whose grievance was filed by the union about 10 days ago, have not yet received a definite answer from the management of this department. According to the latest advice received by the union the grievance is still in the office of L. D. Smith. The union committee expects to receive an answer sometime this week.

N. Y. Building Strike Settlement Includes Vicious 'Violence' Clause

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doubtlessly be plenty of them, will be more fancied than real, but the damage done to the union will be very material. There is no mention made of taking action against the employers and their governmental agents for acts of violence against the strikers. It is all a very one-sided business in which the workers have been dealt a foul blow. For the union to permit this condition in the settlement was a mistake.

The trucking employers of Minneapolis, in the 1934 strike, sent Haas and Dunnigan, the Federal mediators, before the strike committee of the union in an effort to force this same outrage upon the striking truck drivers. The proposal was categorically rejected and the strike continued. When the actual settlement came a few days later, the employers had completely abandoned their efforts to obtain this weapon of

John Holm Wants to Contact Musicians

John Holm, who has been placed in charge of assembling a string orchestra, reports that he has had considerable success in getting members together who are in sympathy with the idea. The first meeting of this group was held Friday night. They will meet again Tuesday, March 17, 8 p. m. John reports that they still lack a piano player and a base viol performer. All interested parties are asked to be on hand Tuesday evening.

Building Strike Is Ended March 15th

Sunday, March 15, the greatest strike of Building Service employees in the history of this country came to an end. The settlement effected with the Realty advisory board by the union did not contain all of the union's original demands, but nevertheless the ending of the strike brought a victory for the union workers involved.

All strikers are to be returned to work, wage differences and controversies over conditions of employment are to be arbitrated. The union signed a three-year contract with the building owners.

In excess of 33,000 workers were involved in the struggle. The strike was marked by the militancy with which the picketing was conducted.

Prince Loewenstein

Prince Loewenstein, one of the victims of German Hitlerism, and leader of the Catholic party in Germany, will speak at a special meeting at the Wesley church, March 19, 8 p. m. under the auspices of the Labor Chest for the Liberation of Workers of Europe.

The Liberation Chest movement is sponsored by the American Federation of Labor. The public is invited.

WPA Worker Sees Cannon Falls Camp

The case of Helmer Gustafson, WPA worker, illustrates completely the inhuman policy that has been recently adopted by local WPA officials.

On Thursday, March 12th, Gustafson, despite the fact that he was a long time resident of the City of Minneapolis, and a World War veteran, was arbitrarily ordered to report Friday to the forced labor camp at Cannon Falls. Gustafson lodged a vigorous protest against his banishment but to no avail.

He arrived in Cannon Falls Friday noon; his work slip called for him to commence work Saturday morning but despite this fact the camp supervisor immediately ordered him to the wood pile. Upon Gustafson's refusal he was summarily dismissed from the camp. The fare both ways Gustafson was forced to pay.

At the present writing his relief status is uncertain. This man's case will be fought by the Federal Workers this week.

On WPA Projects

PROJECT NO. 1760

A dynamite charge louder than Curley Green, sent a large rock sailing over the heads of a hundred men and crashed through the roof of one of the shacks two hundred yards from the scene of the blasting.

If blasting, during working hours, is necessary, why not send us down to the WPA offices in the Metropolitan Bank Building. If a rock can get in there it's doing better than a WPA worker.

Jerry (Shanty Irish) Dwyer, shackman extraordinary, did not get as excited when the rock came crashing through the roof as was expected. The reason was he thought it was merely some of the boys from shack No. 1 throwing paper again.

Over one hundred copies of the last issue of the Organizer disappeared in fifty-four seconds flat.

When the WPA was annexed from the alphabet not over fifty per cent of the money appropriated was to be used for material. But someone left the PER off of percent and the result. Fifty cents for us—fifty dollars for manufacturer.

WPA stew they call it—one cow, one chicken.

One of the boys says, "If the boss don't stop picking on me, I am going to join 574 and get some protection for myself. Why the if?"

Texas Power Co. Struck by Workers

Labor organizations, liberals, women and local businessmen are all backing the strike of workers at the El Paso Electric Co., subsidiary of the half-billion-dollar Stone & Webster Holding Corporation. While the strikers continue their battle to gain the right of collective bargaining provided by Sympathizers march with them on the Wagner labor disputes act, the picket lines and provide food for the strikers.

Members of union's women auxiliaries are collecting hundreds of signatures on petitions demanding public ownership of the utilities.

The Railroad Unions

The only result accomplished by the splendid letter sent to Edward Keating, editor of Labor, was the short, cool answer reproduced below.

It would seem that the columns of Labor cannot be opened to discussion of railroad problems, by rail workers, because it would take up too much space in their official organ.

LABOR February 25, 1936

Mr. I. Nelson,
2822 Taylor St. N. E.
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Mr. Nelson:

Impossible to run your letter. It would take almost two columns in LABOR. If we gave you two columns we would have to give other members two columns, and what would become of LABOR under those circumstances?

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

EDWARD KEATING,

Manager.

P. S.: I am returning the manuscript.

Taking Out Withdrawal Cards By Unemployed Members Urged

Although it may sound like too much repetition of one subject, the question of the necessity of securing withdrawal cards is too important to be neglected.

The season is at hand when literally hundreds of coal workers will find themselves at the end of their season and consequently will be unable to continue paying their union dues. For those workers the Constitution and By-Laws of Local 574 presents an easy way out. All that is necessary for the worker to do, who finds himself without employment, is to apply at once for an honorable withdrawal card.

The securing of a withdrawal card in no sense implies that the worker is severing his connection with the union. Such is not the case. Rather, it is a means of keeping oneself in good standing without paying dues.

The only conditions that are necessary for the securing of withdrawal cards are that, first, the member be in good standing in the month which he applies for the withdrawal card, and second, that the member be unable to secure employment at such work as is covered by the jurisdiction of this union.

Do not leave the union, without securing proper credentials. Apply to your job steward or to the union office.

Independents Get Splendid Results

The outcome of the payroll reforms that were demanded by the Independent Truck Owners has been very satisfying. Although the returns from the questionnaire that was sent out by the City Engineer's office are just beginning to come in, it is evident that before the shakeup in the payroll list is over, hundreds of names will be eliminated from the records of the Engineer's Department.

That there was ample justification for the charges made by Independent Owners has been thoroughly demonstrated. The shakeup will not affect bona fide truck owners, but it will remove those trucking contractors who have made a practice of registering their trucks under the name of Individual Drivers and thereby depriving the ones that are entitled to the work from being employed.

MEETING SCHEDULE Local No. 574

- Monday, March 2—Coal Workers.
- Tuesday, March 3—Executive Board.
- Thursday, March 5—Independent Truck Owners, Federal Stewards.
- Friday, March 6—Federal Workers, all No. 574 Stewards.
- Monday, March 9—Full membership meeting.
- Tuesday, March 10—Executive Board.
- Thursday, March 12—Federal Stewards.
- Friday, March 13—Coal Stewards, Federal Workers.
- Monday, March 16—Coal Workers.
- Tuesday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day.
- Thursday, March 19—Independent Truck Owners, Federal Stewards.
- Friday, March 20—All Stewards, Federal Workers.
- Monday, March 23—Full membership meeting.
- Tuesday, March 24—Executive Board; Taxi Drivers, Night Drivers, 1 p. m.; Day Drivers, 7 p. m.
- Thursday, March 26—Federal Stewards.
- Friday, March 27—Federal Workers, Coal Stewards.
- Tuesday, March 31—Executive Board.

Bainbridge-Belor

The daily papers in their obituaries of former mayor A. G. Bainbridge laud him for, among other things, taking a "definite stand for law and order in the furniture and coal strikes. . ." We wonder how Bainbridge will answer Henry Ness and Jack Belor, who died before the guns of his police, when he meets them on the other side of the river Styx—but then Bainbridge probably won't meet Ness and Belor.

Federal Workers Hit Forced Labor

March 13th meeting of the Federal Workers' Section was devoted principally to two important questions that necessitated definite action on the part of the unemployed section of 574.

The first matter given consideration was the outrageous policy that has been adopted by local WPA officials in regard to their banishing union members, on WPA projects to the labor camp at Cannon Falls. On this question it was decided that a special meeting for all single men, affected by this order, be called for Tuesday, March 17th, in the Drivers' Hall, at 8 p. m. Hand bills were distributed on all projects calling attention of the single men to the danger that confronts them.

The second question that occupied a considerable time was the making of plans for the joint union rally and mass meeting which will be held on Friday, March 20th. Although this is the regular meeting night of the Federal Workers' Section, the Federal Workers, that night, will join hands with all sections of the Local Union in staging the union rally.

It was pointed out in the meeting that all members of the Federal Workers should urge their friends and families to attend the Friday meeting.

St. Louis Sellout of Union Is Most Brutal in Labor History

Another unparalleled example of the cold-blooded, deliberate sell-out on the part of international officers is one that is being perpetrated upon the Grocery, Fruit, Vegetable, Provision and Warehouse employees, Local Union No. 667 of St. Louis, Missouri.

This labor organization is affiliated with the A. F. of L. through the Retail Clerks International Protective Association. The union has been on strike against the Kroger Grocery and Baking Co. for over four months. A few days ago an international officer, C. C. Coulter, was sent to St. Louis to "settle" the strike. His actions in St. Louis would almost defy belief if it were not a matter of record.

Failing to get the local union to agree to a sell-out proposition, he went to the Kroger Company and negotiated a vicious agreement behind the backs of the union. Their demands were a closed shop, 40-hour week, seniority rights, elimination of speed-up system, and a wage increase of 7½ cents an hour. Coulter "settlement" brought them an open shop, no seniority rights, scabs to stay on job, 9-hour day, retention of the speed-up system, and a small wage increase affecting only a few workers.

When the union refused to accept this strike-breaking agreement Coulter threatened them with the loss of their charter. He has ordered the members back to work, prohibited the union from

**ATTENTION ALL
BOYD DRIVERS**
Friday night at 8 p. m. there will be a special meeting of all Boyd drivers, helpers and inside workers. It is extremely important that every employee of the Boyd Transfer Company, who is a member of the Union that they be on hand for this meeting.
Matters that will effect every workers there will be decided on Friday night. Do not fail to be at this meeting.
—EXECUTIVE BOARD
LOCAL 574

FLP State Body Moves Against 574

The Saturday meeting of the State Central Committee of the Farmer-Labor association disclosed the fact that the seating of delegates from Local No. 574, in the State Convention, is to be a major issue.

Delegates from the St. Paul Trade and Labor Assembly joined hands with the delegation from Federated Trades Assembly from Duluth in demanding of the State Central Committee that represents from the Minneapolis General Drivers Union not be seated in the convention.

"Communism" was the issue raised by St. Paul and Duluth delegates on the State Committee. Robert A. Olson of Duluth and William Wright of St. Paul took the lead in the fight to unseat the General Drivers' delegates, Edwin I. Hudson of Minneapolis defended the right of Local No. 574 to have delegates seated in the Farmer-Labor State Convention.

After a stormy session on this question, it was voted 7 to 6 to refer the matter of seating the Drivers' delegates to the Hennepin County Central Committee.

Minneapolis members of the Hennepin County Central Committee stated that delegates from Local No. 574 would "probably" be seated with the suggestion that this union send "rank and file" delegates. The action of the State Central Committee clearly poses the question of whether or not the Farmer-Labor Association

soliciting funds or support from other unions, and is doing everything in his power to throttle the organization. The striking union is issuing a strike bulletin and are preparing to continue their action against the Kroger Company.

Coal Stewards on Friday the 13th

Friday night, March 13th, the best attended Coal Stewards meeting of the season was held. Fully forty stewards were on hand when the meeting opened.

The only order of business was the discussion of the new 1936-37 coal agreement. Long and intelligent discussion took place around the various wage proposals that will be incorporated into the new contract.

A rough draft of the agreement was made which will be presented to the regular Coal Workers' Section meeting Monday, March 16.

Gas Greets WPA Strikers in S. D.

Monday, March 16, striking WPA workers at Sioux Falls were treated to a barrage of tear gas, laid down by police and sheriff's deputies.

The strike was on a road project and involved 150 WPA workers. The project was shut down after the gassing.

Local 574 Issues Statement To State Central Committee

wishes to enlist the support of all trade union organizations or whether they wish to confine union representatives to the convention to only A. F. of L. unions.

In a statement issued Monday morning by Local No. 574 over the signature of William Brown, President of the union, the following observation was made: "Local No. 574 is among the largest, if not the largest, labor union in this state. Its membership doubtless exceeds the paid-up membership of the Hennepin County Farmer-Labor group.

To attempt to deny it the right of representation in the State Convention is to make a mockery of democracy. Veiled insinuations about 'communism' do not excuse these actions."

Rubber Strikers Hold All Gains

With E. C. Pace, striking worker at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., in a local hospital suffering from head injuries inflicted by a blackjack, wielding assailant, tension throughout Akron has grown almost to the breaking point.

"The city of Akron is sitting on a powder magazine," Wilmer Tate, newly-elected president of the Summit County Central Labor Union and chairman of a general strike committee of 25, warned local industrialists in a radio speech. "I hear rumblings of a general strike—a complete tieup of every plant and shop in Akron. How much longer our people can be held in check, I don't know. The threat of a general strike spread through the city like wildfire when well founded reports reached our headquarters that armed forces were to be used to deny the strikers the right to picket."

Organization of other rubber workers in the city is proceeding at a rapid pace under the stimulus of the Goodyear strike. At a recent meeting nearly 900 joined the U. R. W. local at the Goodrich plant, while 500 joined the Firestone local in a single day.

Highlights of the Strutwear Strike

The weak-chinned lad who, under coaching by the Strutwear attorney, said that he had gone to work in the knitting mill in May, 1935, and had received two pay raises up to the time he was "forced" out on strike in the fall. Deeper probing by the union lawyer disclosed the fact that this non-union worker had received \$11 per week when he started to work in May and that the two raises had amounted to \$2 bringing his weekly wage in the fall to the startling sum of \$13. The fat, however, said that he was satisfied.

The copper who, apparently just by chance, had the very rock in his pocket that, thrown by a striker, struck a scab in the head at the first Strutwear demonstration. It was admitted in evidence as exhibit D.

The police officer that identified the wrong Dunne.

The constant reference by the Strutwear attorney to the 1934 drivers' strike. It has not been forgotten, by the employers, at least.

It did not take a fortune teller to distinguish, even before they testified, which witnesses were union and which were rat.

Following is the statement issued to the public press Monday morning by General Drivers' Union Local No. 574. The occasion for the statement was the news item appearing in Sunday's papers in regard to the action taken by the State Central Committee of the Farmer-Labor Association on the question of seating General Drivers delegates in the State Convention.

"The statements to the press by the State Committee and the Hennepin County Central Committee of the Farmer-Labor Party indicate very plainly that there is a strong tendency among the leaders of that organization to align themselves on the side of the reactionary craft union block in the A. F. of L. The fact that Local 574 and the Petroleum Workers' Union have been singled out for attack is significant since these unions have been constantly under fire because of their progressive stand on the question of industrial unionism.

The question can be posed in only one light: Is the Farmer-Labor Party to be the exclusive instrument of a handful of craft union office holders, or is it to be a democratic workers and farmers organization which grants the right of political expression to all.

Local 574 is among the largest, if not the largest, labor union in the state. Its membership doubtless exceeds the paid up membership of the Hennepin County Farmer-Labor group. To attempt to deny it the right of representation in the state convention is to make a mockery of democracy. Veiled insinuations about "communism" do not excuse these actions.

The perennial compromisers of the Hennepin County Central Committee suggest that "rank and file" delegates may be sent. This is an insult to the intelligence of our membership. Local 574 will send the delegates which have been selected by the union and will fight for them to be seated. If they are not seated, no other delegates will be sent. The union will then be convinced that the Farmer-Labor Party does not need its help."

GENERAL DRIVERS'
UNION NO. 574,
By WM. BROWN,
President.

Theater Union Will Present Benefit Act

The Theater Union will present a special performance of "Till the Day I Die" as a benefit for the Scottsboro defense at Phyllis Wheatley House, 809 Aldrich Ave. N., on Friday evening, March 20. The group has won considerable acclaim for its fine presentation of this play dealing with present day Germany. It is to be hoped that Minneapolis people will not miss the opportunity to see this outstanding work, and at the same time help the Scottsboro defense.

The delegated meeting at the Central Labor Union Tuesday night attracted 42 unions. It was called to support the Strutwear strikers.

**MEETING SCHEDULE
Furniture Workers No. 1859**
Wednesday, March 4—Membership meeting.
Wednesday, March 18—Membership meeting.
The Executive Board of Local No. 1859 meets on call of the chairman.
All special meetings and all department meetings will be called either by special mail notices or will be published in the Northwest Organizer.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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"When I ply my needle, trowel or pick,
I'm a decent Sheeney, Wop or Mick,
But when I strike, I'm a Bolshevik
I'm labor."

Our Faces to the Front

Now that the spring season is at hand, during which time the transfer industry employs the greatest number of people, General Drivers Union is determined that this season shall not pass without launching a new, determined and militant organization campaign, the object of which shall be to bring into our union all unorganized drivers, helpers and inside workers.

Even during the slackest season of the year when employment in the transfer industry is at its lowest ebb, Local 574 added new members to its ranks at the rate of considerably over one hundred per month. The possibilities that exist for an intelligently conducted organization drive are great. The reward in added strength to our union is necessary for us. We cannot stand still and we will not go back.

Every member of the union should determinedly turn his face to the front and resolve that Minneapolis should have no such individual as an unorganized truck driver. When every member of the union resolves to become an organizer there can be no doubt that our union will experience the greatest growth in its history.

The Milwaukee Guild

The strike of the Milwaukee Guild on the Hearst published Wisconsin News, is a living and moving demonstration of the weakness and the fallacy of craft union form of organization. This is not written in any sense as a criticism of the splendid, militant and courageous fight that is being waged by the organized news and editorial writers on the Wisconsin News. Rather, we have unbounded admiration for the spirit they have displayed and for the challenge they have thrown in the teeth of William Randolph Hearst.

But it is a criticism of the antiquated and outmoded form of union organization that exists in modern newspaper plants. The Newspaper Guild in Milwaukee is fighting a battle, the outcome of which holds great significance for all union workers in newspaper plants. There is little question but that all union members of the various Typographical Unions employed on the Wisconsin News, realize that the outcome of the Guild struggle may determine whether or not Hearst will launch an attack against the Printing Trades. But despite their recognition of the danger that may confront them they are tied hand and foot with craft union red tape and are powerless to give assistance to their striking fellow-workers.

The answer to the ridiculous and dangerous condition that exists in news plants is an industrial form of organization which will take within its ranks all workers in the newspaper industry. Organization of the Newspaper Guild was a forward and progressive step but complete victory will not be theirs until some way is found whereby they can join hands with the rest of the workers in the industry.

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

V. Flanz, the demon office girl, was snowbound in the wilds of Brookside Thursday.

"Honest John" is on a sick leave from the N. S. P.

The Hosiery Workers' Union has been offered the free use of our auditorium for a mass meeting in their behalf.

The visit of Dobbs and Dunne with the Committee for Industrial Organization was not without results. Hear their report at the Friday mass meeting.

We don't like to brag but truth

compels us to record the fact that circulation of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER is expanding beyond our fondest dreams.

F. Dobbs little daughter is very ill.

Ace Brewer and Al Shean were visitors at the union hall Thursday evening.

Found—One 6 ft. coal chute and one carry basket. See John Rogers, Colonial warehouse or at 341 2nd St. N. E.

The Thursday storm brought a revival in the coal business.

The Colonial crew will vote Saturday.

G. Dunne and Wm. Brown spent the week in District Court.

JUST FOR CURIOSITY

How many seniority lists is "Red" Cole's name on?

The Bach boys met with Frosig in the union hall Wednesday night.

Building material drivers, helpers, and inside workers met last week and laid plans for a larger meeting Wednesday.

Hearst Boycott Is Urged by Newsmen

With only William Randolph Hearst standing in the way of settlement, striking Newspaper Guild members of The Wisconsin News staff are leading boycott moves which are making serious inroads on circulation and advertising. The guild won a major court victory by a decision upholding its right to picket advertisers' places of business.

Union Orchestra Is Holding Rehearsals

The new union orchestra, under the leadership of Dick Atherton, is holding regular rehearsal sessions twice a week in our halls. They have assembled an eight-piece orchestra that promises to be a real musical organization.

Their first public appearance will be Friday, March 20, when they will play a number of selections during the union rally and mass meeting.

nesday, March 18th, at 8 p. m.

The Friday night mass meeting promises to be a wow.

The Boyd crew met in the union hall Friday night to settle the seniority question. M. Dunne presided. All differences were ironed out.

Employees of the Werner Poultry Co. met Monday night. G. Frosig was the chairman.

Somebody tried to slip a third strike past the Armstrong drivers last week. It was on the PWA driving scale. No dice.

THE SERIOUS NOTE

The conductor of this column wishes, at this time, to earnestly urged every member of Local No. 574 to attend the mass meeting and union rally Friday night. Bring your wives, mothers and sweethearts. The outcome of the struggle being waged against us by certain sections of the trade union movement vitally concerns the welfare of those who are dependent upon you for a living. Come to the meeting yourself and urge all your fellow members and friends to be there. This will be time profitably spent.

The Federal Workers have called a special meeting for Tuesday night. It's on the Cannon Falls Labor Camp deal.

The wife of Joe Ross, member of the Federal Workers' Section, died Sunday night. She was buried Tuesday. Joe has the sympathy of the entire union.

Tony hasn't done it yet.

The results of the referendum vote in the transfer industry will be announced in next week's ORGANIZER.

The first robbin and the first pussy willow brings the usual large flock of rumors about affairs of the heart. Although confirmation is lacking, it is indicated that the wedding bells will be ringing almost continuously, for members of the union, as soon as the sun is shining on both sides of the street.

John Shields is still very ill in the Hopewell Hospital.

The mass meeting for support of the Strutwear strike is still somewhere in the very indefinite future.

Let's have some action.

Labor Looks at the Press

Jay Franklin writes: "In England, the Tories squeezed back into power only by stealing the Labor party's platform on League of Nations sanctions."

You can bet your life the Tories of every nation know what war policy to follow. Just because a Labor party hollers for sanctions doesn't mean that sanctions don't play directly into the hands of the imperialist bandits.

Local news item: "Farming in the northwest is looking up. . . Rural youths who migrated to the cities are coming home again."

It ain't that farming is so darned good, it's that business in the cities is so lousy.

Dr. John Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institute, sheds a little light: "One of the greatest advances of all time was that expressed ages ago in the view that there is one God instead of many warring deities."

That must have been an advance, all right—because look at us today.

Alberta, Canada, news item: "Alberta's first social credit legislature, elected to support Premier Aberhart's plan to provide \$25 a month for every adult, today was facing protesting delegations of citizens who have been waiting six months for their first credits and do not see them in sight yet. So far, Aberhart has been able to do nothing and has asked the people to stop 'your confounded grumbling.'"

The social creditors in Alberta got about what the Farmer-Laborites got in Minneapolis.

The awful truth, as revealed by David Lawrence: "As a matter of fact, anybody who heard Mr. Browder's (head of the Communist Party) speech could have observed that, had the same utterance with just one or two minor changes here and there been given by Secretary Ickes or Dr. Tugwell, it would have been exactly in line with the speeches that have been made on the radio by other prominent new dealers."

Stick around, Lawrence. Their line will change again.

If Capitalism is so fine and tolerant, why did it murder Sacco and Vanzetti? Why does it keep the innocent Mooney in jail? Why does it jail Socialists for speaking on street corners? Why does it break up workers' meetings? Why does it keep Norman Mini and other union organizers in jail? Why does it murder union organizers in Tampa? Why? Why? WHY?

And the week's prize for the slickest hypocrisy goes to the Minneapolis Tribune: "What could inspire a greater respect for (capitalism) than the tolerance which it shows Communism?"

West Virginia news item: "Teresa Hawkins' laughing spell subsided into giggles after 148 hours."

She probably read about Thomas Tear-gas Latimer being brought into court for interference with the operation of the Strutwear plant.

New York item: "Strike-breakers from the Flynn Detective Agency struck at 395 Riverside Drive and began picketing against a \$3.00 a day kickback."

Published without comment: "The Rev. John Lindberg of Holmquist, South Dakota, has ap-

plied for a position on the Minneapolis police force."

Victor F. Ridder, WPA administrator in New York: "Nine out of ten relief protestants are outside agitators."

Thumb-nail sketch of the Townsend Plan: "It would starve Junior to gorge Grandpa."

U. S. Dept. of Labor report: "In industrial establishments employing over 5,000 workers, 48 per cent belong to company unions, only 8 per cent belong to trade unions."

Which is just one more condemnation of the stupidity of craft unionism in the mass industries today.

Washington news item: "Senator Nye, chairman of the Senate Munitions Committee, followed up his attack on war profits today by recommending taxes as high as 98 per cent on war profits as a means of keeping the peace."

If the NRA proved so conclusively that the bosses won't give up one iota of their profits in peace time, why the hell should we think they'll accept such a tax in war time, when profits really begin to amount to something?

Owen D. Young, great industrial statesman, says: "The privilege of free speech is best guarded by moderation."

He says we can have freedom of speech just so long as we don't say anything.

The National Industrial Conference Board reports a decline of 29 per cent in agricultural employment of labor in the last 60 years.

Though this decrease took place, production of agricultural commodities did not decrease, but increased. This is what the bosses call "technological displacement," and what you and I call "unemployment."

The Alexander Hamilton Institute reports: "The per capita income of the people of the United States rose to \$396 in 1934 (just think of it) from \$357 in 1933. . . The cost of living rose 5 per cent in the same period."

The New York Association for Improvement of the Condition of the Poor has just revealed that the average business woman can dress herself on an annual budget of \$77.75. — Christian Science Monitor.

This is not only an invaluable piece of information, but an open invitation to spread the cult of nudism throughout America.

Chicago news item: "Strong threads of friendship between nations are being woven across the oceans with letters written by members of Zonta International, a kind of feminine Rotary organization composed of 3,200 business and professional women."

Christmaighty, if anything'll start the new world war, this will,

Columbia news item: "The Parliament today charged that Lieut. Strong, a United States naval officer, accepted \$1,200 monthly from the Columbia government for his services during the hostilities with Peru."

Thus does American imperialism function in Latin America,

SPECIAL MEETING
All employees of the Morris Fruit Co. are requested to attend the special meeting Thursday evening, March 19, 8 p. m. This meeting is called for the purpose of ironing out difficulties that have arisen over the application of seniority at this company. The meeting will be held in union hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. N.