

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 2, NO. 2

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

HOLD MAY DAY CELEBRATION

PACKAGE MEN HOLD MEETING SUNDAY MORN

Package Delivery Drivers in
Splendid Meeting Vote
to Organize

Wages and Working Conditions
Revealed as Being
at Low Ebb

Sunday morning saw a splendid meeting of Package Delivery drivers gather in 574 hall. The meeting had been called by hand bills which had been distributed to the drivers Friday and Saturday of last week. When George Frosig, who acted as chairman, opened the meeting more than 100 Package Delivery men were on hand.

As the meeting progressed more and more drivers continued to drift into the meeting until the hall presented a well-filled appearance. Miles Dunne spoke first. He recounted the history of the union organization of the Package Delivery drivers in 1934 and showed that conditions and wages that had been won, for the package delivery men, during the strikes of 1934, had, in most instances, been lost because of the failure of these drivers to maintain a solid union organization. He pleaded with the men to all join the union and to set up an organization committee to assist in organizing the rest of the drivers.

Farrell Dobbs, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 574, spoke to the men and laid stress on the fact that without a union in the industry wages and working conditions would continue to become worse. In the discussion from the floor which followed, interesting facts were disclosed regarding wages and hours of labor in the package delivery companies. Starvation wages and hours almost unbelievably long were revealed as being the standard working conditions in most of the companies.

The sentiment expressed by most workers present was for immediate activity that would lead to unionization of all package delivery drivers, helpers and inside workers. An organizational committee of 30, consisting of representatives from each company present at the meeting, was set up and it was decided that they meet Tuesday night for the purpose of drafting a union agreement covering package men. After the meeting dozens of drivers joined the union.

Alec McKeown, vice-president of the Hosiery Workers International, will shortly be in the laughing water business in Minneapolis. He's going to merge with a Hennepin Avenue wine merchant.

Workers to March In Demonstration Friday Evening

Unions, Unemployed Join
Hands to Stage Cele-
bration

Friday evening at 5 o'clock various trade unions, unemployed groups and working class political parties will join hands in staging a May Day parade which will end up with a demonstration and speaking program on the knoll at the parade grounds.

The demonstration will assemble at the new post office block, First St. and Marquette Ave. The parade will start promptly at 5 o'clock. The line of march will be as follows: Nicollet Ave. to Eleventh St., Eleventh St. to Harmon, Harmon to the Parade Grounds. Four speakers will address the meeting at the Parade Grounds.

Walter Frank of the Lathers Union will act as chairman. William Brown, President of Local 574 will speak for the trade unions. Other speakers who will come from the Socialist, Communist and Farmer-Labor party have not yet been selected.

Among the organizations sponsoring the May Day parade and demonstration are the following: Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859; Building Laborers Union, Local 563; Northern States Power Employees Union, Local 160; General Drivers Union, Local 574; Central Labor Union; Machinists Union, Local 382; Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Local 166; Lathers Union, Local 190; Twin City Metal Workers, Local 1313; and Ladies Auxiliary, Local 190. Political parties are represented by Socialist Party, Communist Party and Farmer-Labor Party. Unemployed groups taking part in the demonstration are: Federal Workers Section, Local 574 and the United Relief Workers Assn.

Besides these organizations other working class fraternal organizations and groups will be in the line of march. Every wage worker and every unemployed man or woman is urged to turn out for the Friday celebration and make this May Day demonstration one that will be long remembered. Music for the occasion will be furnished by a uniform band from the Austin Union of All Workers, Austin, Minnesota, and Local 574 Band. Loud speaking equipment will be installed at the knoll which will insure that everyone will be able to hear the entire program.

YOUR LAUNDRY MAN

If a fink you would be,
And your head made of mutton;
When you send your laundry,
Don't ask for the button.
But if a union man you are,
When you accept a delivery;
Be sure he has the number
Of one eighty-three.

—Laundry Worker

Police Charge Pickets



Showing the peaceful picket line being broken up by police in the Guild strike in Milwaukee. Police charged into the crowd of peaceful demonstrators with flying fists and clubs. Many were injured.

Police Charge Picket Line in Milwaukee News Guild Strike

Friday night, April 17, the striking Milwaukee Guild workers and their friends and sympathizers were treated to a bit of typical American police terror, that has been so freely used against striking workers everywhere in the United States during the past few years. Relying upon what they considered their right to peacefully picket, striking news and editorial writers of the Hearst-owned Wisconsin News, along with friends and sympathizers of the Milwaukee organized labor movement gathered before the News building to protest against Hearst's unbending opposition to the rights of collective bargaining for his workers.

One moment saw a crowd of peaceful men and women, carrying banners, singing songs and shouting protests against fascist-minded Hearst; and the next moment saw the street turned into a blood shambles as police and detectives charged into the unsuspecting line swinging blackjacks, clubs, fists and feet.

No one was spared. It seemed that half of the Milwaukee force was on hand with a premeditated

and well-planned line of attack already decided, and there on that peaceful Milwaukee street, was reenacted a scene that has become commonplace in recent history of American labor struggles. Blackjacks and clubs were swung indiscriminately on men, women and children. Even bystanders, who were not involved were clubbed, kicked and beaten.

After many arrests were made the picket line was dispersed. The police brutality that was displayed on this occasion physically sickened even hardened news men who had witnessed such scenes before. The attack by the police on the picket line Friday night has not discouraged these Guild strikers in the least. They intend to continue to assert their rights to picket the Wisconsin News plant. A new call has been sent out for a mass picket line this week.

Cokato Meeting

The Cokato section of Local 574 will hold a district meeting in Waverly Friday, May 1. All workers from the surrounding territory are invited. 574 speakers will be on hand.

MAY MEETING FRIDAY NIGHT IN 574 HALLS

Workers to Gather in Union
Hall for May Day
Celebration

Program Will Include Good
Speakers, Music and
Entertainment

May Day, the only truly American working class holiday, will be fittingly celebrated in the General Drivers auditorium Friday night, May 1, at 8 p. m. Labor unions and working class political parties are collaborating in an effort to make 1936 May Day one that will be long remembered.

In late years reactionary elements in the labor movement have endeavored to pass over and belittle May Day. To these people it is evident that May Day is not quite respectable. Owing to the apathy of trade union leaders, May Day celebrations in the past few years have been stifled and suppressed. The May Day celebration is held to commemorate the Haymarket massacre, during the pullman strike in 1886, for which several union leaders went to a martyr's grave.

The evening celebration in 574 hall will be an interesting one. There will be music furnished by Local 574's own band. William Brown, President of General Drivers Union, will be chairman.

The principal speaker of the evening will be Walter A. Miller of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Mr. Miller is a member of Local 360, American Federation of Teachers. This local takes in all of the teachers on the staff of Workers Education in the state of Wisconsin. Mr. Miller is a long time member of the organized labor movement. He formerly was an organizer of automobile, furniture and brass workers. He is the secretary of the Kenosha Socialist Party.

Unions sponsoring the May Day mass meeting follow: General Drivers Union, Local 574; Federal Workers Section, Local 574; Electrical Workers, Local 160; Laundry Workers Union, 18005; Furniture Workers Union, 1859; Socialist Party; Young People's Socialist League; Workmen's Circle.

Dump Bodies Wanted

There has been considerable call for steel dump bodies that are suitable for placing on ton and one-half trucks. The union office is in touch with several members who wish to buy this type of equipment. Anyone having a steel dump body for sale could be put in touch with a prospective buyer if they will communicate with the union office.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

DENTAL CARE IS REFUSED BY RELIEF BOARD

Welfare Board Allows Many to Become a Prey to Disease

Hundreds of Relief Clients Suffer Because of Board Policy

One of the most shameful chapters in the history of local relief administration should be written about the dental care that is accorded those unfortunate victims of this social system who find themselves compelled to exist upon the dole furnished by the local Welfare Board. Times without number various organizations of relief clients have included in their program of reforms, demanded of the Welfare Board, that adequate dental care be accorded those who live on the relief lines.

The true story of the "dental care" that has been given relief clients has never been told. In spite of the fact, that doctors and dentists have indicated that it is impossible for a human being to remain in a healthy condition without means of masticating foods, the Welfare Board and the local relief administration do not share those views.

The usual procedure of a relief client who is suffering from dental trouble is about as follows. After the relief recipient has suffered untold agonies from tooth trouble and after many long and dreary waits in the relief offices the client is told that he may have his teeth pulled at the General Hospital.

Naturally those who are about to lose their teeth are anxious that these necessary means of preserving their health are replaced as soon as possible. The relief department always indicates that there will be no trouble about securing a new set of teeth. But after the teeth have been pulled the relief client finds that he or she is up against a stone wall that has been erected by the Welfare Board.

The relief department tells the unfortunate victim that they can secure plates if they are willing to pay the cost of the material. This proves to be an effective barrier, to securing teeth for 99% of all those who have had extractions made. In one relief district alone it has been established, beyond reasonable doubt, that over 300 people who have had their teeth extracted, over a five year period, are still not provided with means of chewing their food.

The action taken by the Welfare Board, in dental cases, has not come about by accident. It is a deliberate policy on the part of the reactionary poverty oppressors who are in control of the board. Medical testimony indicates that countless diseases result from a diet that must be used when chewing food is impossible. The consensus of medical opinion is that it is impossible for a human being to lead a healthy normal life under such conditions.

An old toothless dog or a horse, unable to chew food, is mercifully put out of existence by society. But that same society seems ready and willing to allow humans to starve and become prey to diseases from that same cause. It is high time a campaign was undertaken to expose the brutal and heartless policy of the Welfare Board in regard to dental attention for relief clients. But only the concerted, determined and united demand of all relief clients can accomplish that end.

Bill Brown Says—

According to the number of men that are joining the union and according to the reports that are coming in of the activity in the alleys and freight lineups, it won't be long until there won't be a man on the streets in our industry that doesn't belong to Local 574. All we have to do is to use the same push now that we did before the coal strike and during the three strikes. One driver that has gone through the struggles with our union is more effective in organizing workers than all the sluggers and police that 500 can muster.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Petroleum Union Takes Strike Vote

The Petroleum Workers Union, Local 19802, an organization of filling station attendants, oil warehouse men and drivers is facing a test of strength with the large oil companies, the outcome of which will probably determine the future of their union. As was pointed out in the columns of the Northwest Organizer at the time the oil agreement was signed that any contract between a union of filling station employees and the major oil companies which did not contain a clause prohibiting station leasing would prove to be an ineffective weapon for the organized oil workers.

The experience of the Filling Station Union, since that time, has amply borne out this prediction. The large oil companies in Minneapolis, St. Paul and the metropolitan area have now turned to wholesale station leasing in an effort to defeat and destroy the union. The Petroleum Workers Union, very properly, has taken recognition of the situation and is determined that a leasing clause must be inserted in their union contract if their organization is to survive.

The organization has served notice upon the oil companies that leasing of stations must stop. They have demanded an answer from the oil companies on this question by April 30. The union considers that this matter is so vital to their welfare that it must be settled without delay.

The Executive Board of Local 19802 has stated that they are prepared to strike the oil companies unless their demands are granted on the matter of station leasing. There can be no compromise by the Petroleum Workers Union. The issue is clear-cut. If the companies continue to exercise the right to lease stations, Petroleum Workers Union will be leased out of existence.

A union can only be built in the petroleum industry when the workers in that industry are salaried employees. Without a union the petroleum workers are helpless before the onslaughts of the employers. The determined stand now being taken by the Petroleum Workers Union is correct. The members of that union must be prepared to fight. Therein lies victory.

Open Meetings Are Held by Local 183

The first open general membership meeting for the month will be held on Wednesday, May 6, at 8 p. m. at 703 Third Ave. S. Important reports are to be given. Several Executive Committee recommendations will be discussed and a new Organization Committee to be formed. There is still an opportunity for delinquent members to reinstate themselves and all inside workers and drivers, whether members or not, are urged to come to this important meeting.

JOINT LOCAL, CLEANERS, DRIVERS AND LAUNDRY WORKERS UNION,
18005-183

May Day Speaker



Walter A. Miller, member of Local 360, American Federation of Teachers, Kenosha, Wisconsin, will substitute for Paul Porter as the principal speaker at the May Day celebration meeting in General Drivers Hall. Mr. Miller has had a long active record in the labor movement. He formerly was an organizer of automobile, furniture and brass workers. He is county chairman of the Progressive Farmer-Labor Federation and secretary of the Kenosha Socialist Party.

Yellow Notes

From the evidence exhibited in the form of a picture, it appears "Big Emil" has gone "kosher."

When the next issue is out, there will be a complete fleet of new Yellow cabs on the street.

Did you know there are several boys leaving now for summer vacations or what have you?

Bill Sanders is practicing on crutches now. It's pretty slow work for him. He is still in the Eitel hospital and wishes all the boys to come and see him.

Did you know the "Mayor" is back on the job again?

Kirkham looks very much refreshed since his return from his short "vacation."

Hagstrom's misplaced "goitre" is causing his wife a lot of mental anguish in trying to figure out how to expand the waistline of his trousers when the material is running shy. She is considering very seriously of inserting an elastic "V" in the back of them.

You know "the twins" they can't make up their minds what shift they are going to drive.

It is very apparent a few certain Yellow drivers do not see fit

Welfare Board Member Makes Charges Against Drivers Union

Kittenball Meeting Monday Evening

Monday night, May 4, at 8 p. m. there will be held in 574 halls for all members of the union who are interested in forming kittenball teams which will be entered in a union sports league.

The meeting will be addressed by William Fox, sports supervisor for the park board. Fox will explain how the league will operate, where the games will be played and will give other valuable information about the functioning of the league. The meeting will start promptly at 8 p. m.

574 Band Plans to Hold Sat. Dances

Members of the 574 band, who have been rehearsing faithfully since they organized, are planning on holding a regular series of Saturday night dances during the spring months. Wherever the band has played in public they have made an excellent impression and are developing into a musical organization which will be a credit to General Drivers Union. They will play at the mass meeting which will be held in General Drivers Hall on May Day evening.

Cement Workers to Meet Monday Night

Tuesday, May 5, there will be an organization meeting for all workers in the cement block industry in Minneapolis. The new union agreement, recently signed, by the cement block employers, bringing substantial wage raises and improved working conditions, covers every worker in the industry.

Those cement block workers, who joined the union and were instrumental in bringing about union conditions in the cement block plants feel that every worker employed there should now demonstrate their thanks to the union for improving their standard of living by becoming members of Local 574.

It will be an interesting meeting. Good speakers have been secured and those who attend will be rewarded by hearing some instructive and entertaining facts about the present day trade union movement. Members of the organizational staff of Local 574 will be on the program.

Agreement Signed By Eagle Cleaners

A strike was avoided at the Eagle Cleaners, 913 W. Lake St., Friday noon. At that time the employer signed an agreement with the union. The Laundry and Dry Cleaners Union had spent many months attempting to negotiate a settlement at this plant.

Only when the boss found out that the union was determined to fight it out with him did he change his mind and agree to concede to the union's demands. Union pickets were already on hand at the plant when the settlement was reached.

to wear their union buttons on their uniform caps. Why they don't is somewhat of a puzzle. A member of an organization that has made the advance for a better standard of living and better working conditions such as we have, surely has no cause to feel ashamed to wear the insignia of that organization. We are a 100 per cent union organization but these few create a different impression on the public. It is hoped that this will "strike home" with these certain few and that they will mend their ways.

It is high time that William Mc-Gaughen, member of the Welfare Board, is brought to task and made to prove some of the accusations that he is so freely hurling about.

At one time Mc-Gaughen was considered a representative and a spokesman for the labor movement. Appointed by William Anderson, Farmer-Labor Mayor, Mc-Gaughen's every action since that time indicates that he has completely deserted the cause of labor and gone over to the camp of the enemy.

Speaking before various "civic organizations" in the last few weeks, Mc-Gaughen has charged that Local 574 coerced and intimidated him at the time the relief contracts were let. He has charged also that the price paid the transfer companies for moving relief clients is too high and that this figure was set only on the insistence of General Drivers Union.

It is true that Local 574 was interested in both questions but not for the reasons given by Mc-Gaughen. On the coal question the union insisted that relief clients should have the right to buy fuel where they chose, quality and price being equal. While the Welfare Board did not take this action, Local 574's protest did succeed in breaking up a practical monopoly that has existed in the relief coal supply for years.

On the question of moving relief clients we demanded that this work be given to legitimate transfer firms where workers are employed earning decent wages under fair conditions of employment. The moving had been done hitherto by the Salvation Army, a pseudo charitable organization.

We served notice on Mc-Gaughen, here and now, that he will be shortly given an opportunity to prove the charges that he had made against our union, publicly. Perhaps he will not be so glib when forced to prove his wild statements with evidence.

Federals Will Hold Sport Benefit Dance

On Saturday, May 16, the Federal Workers Section, Local 574, will sponsor a dance whose purpose will be to raise funds with which to equip a kittenball team which will be entered in the Union's sport league and will play under the name of Federal Workers.

The Federal Workers, as well as several other sections of the union have decided to enter teams in the new union league that is being organized this spring. The league members will be teams coming from various trade union and working class political organizations. Music for the dance will be furnished by Local 574 band.

Local 160 Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, April 22—Stewards and open organization meeting
- Thursday, April 23—Executive Board
- Wednesday, May 6—Regular membership meeting
- Thursday, May 7—Executive Board meeting
- Wednesday, May 13—Stewards and open organization meeting
- Thursday, May 14—Executive Board meeting
- Wednesday, May 20—Regular membership meeting
- Thursday, May 21—Executive Board meeting
- Wednesday, May 27—Stewards and open organization meeting
- Thursday, May 28—Executive Board meeting

Cement Block Workers Sign Union Agreement With Bosses

Wednesday, April 22, saw the signing of a union agreement between the employers in the cement block industry and Local 574. This new union contract covers several hundred workers in Minneapolis who up until now have never been unionized. No A. F. of L. union has ever been willing to take these workers into its ranks.

Conditions of employment in cement block factories have been bad. The wages paid were low for the amount of skill that was required of the workers. The new agreement sets a minimum wage scale for skilled and unskilled, establishes the eight-hour day and brings about seniority and vastly improved working conditions. The text of the agreement follows.

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into between the General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers Union, Local 574, as representing its members employed by the Concrete Block Manufacturing Industry, which employees are designated as follows: Mixer Man; Concrete Block Machine Operators; Off-Bearers; Rackers; Lift Truck Operators and men employed to remove concrete blocks from the shop to the storage yards and employers of the industry whose signatures are attached to this agreement.

ARTICLE I.

This agreement shall be in force and effect from the 25th day of April, 1936, until the 15th day of February, 1937.

ARTICLE II.

The rate of pay for block men as described above shall be eighty cents (80c) per hour.

ARTICLE III.

There shall be no piece work. All work shall be done on an hourly basis.

ARTICLE IV.

In the event a block machine turns out in excess of four (4) blocks per minute, two (2) men shall be provided to take them away from the machine or from the curing rooms.

ARTICLE V.

When work is available at the plant the regular work week shall consist of forty-five (45) hours, except as hereinafter provided. It is understood that the hour days shall consist of either five (5) nine (9) hour days, or five (5) eight (8) hour days and one (1) five (5) hour day per week. It is further agreed that during any twelve (12) week period in one (1) year a fifty (50) hour week may be considered a work week and in the event the employer chooses to work on that basis it must be for one (1) full week. It is also understood that in the event the employer chooses to work said fifty (50) hour week that it shall in no sense be considered overtime. There shall be no Saturday afternoon work, except for emergency work occasioned by breakdown in production machinery, or for work requiring the protection of life or property.

ARTICLE VI.

Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half for any time worked in excess of the hours hereinbefore described. Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and

MEETING SCHEDULE

Furniture Workers No. 1859
Wednesday, April 1—Membership meeting.

Wednesday April 15—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.

Baseball Team Will Play Practice Game

The first practice session of Local 574 baseball team was held Sunday morning at the Parade Grounds. Over 25 players were on hand when practice got under way and it soon became apparent that some of the best baseball talent in the northwest are striving for a berth on the local team. Besides members of last years' team there were enough high class ball players at the Sunday practice to furnish another fast club.

Manager Fred Nelson is busy arranging a schedule of games. Over 50 letters have been sent out to managers of baseball teams in the northwest asking for dates on their schedule. There is little doubt but that Local 574 team will have no trouble arranging an attractive list of games.

The next practice will be held at 6 o'clock Thursday at the Parade Grounds. The team will play a practice game Sunday 10 a. m. This will also be at the Parade Grounds.

the following holidays: New Years Day; Decoration Day; July 4th; Thanksgiving Day; Labor Day and Christmas Day shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half. The foregoing provision with reference to time and one-half shall not apply in the event employees are engaged in emergency work occasioned by breakdown in production machinery; in work requiring the protection of life or property.

ARTICLE VII.

Any worker who shall work any time during any forty-five (45) hour week at a job requiring a higher paid classification than that of his regular job shall be paid at the higher pay rate for the time he works on the high pay classification job.

ARTICLE VIII.

All other things being equal seniority shall prevail. This provides that the oldest men on the seniority list shall be entitled to full time work when work is available on the basis hereinbefore set forth. When layoffs occur the last man hired shall be the first laid off; when returning to work the last laid off shall be the first returned to work.

ARTICLE IX.

There shall be no discrimination against any employee because of union affiliation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals the 22nd day of April, 1936.

CEMENT BLOCK EMPLOYERS
By.....

GENERAL DRIVERS, HELPERS AND INSIDE WORKERS LOCAL UNION No. 574

By William Brown, President ACME STONE COMPANY

By R. A. Peterson, President OSCAR W. BERG

By Oscar W. Berg CROWN SIDEWALK & BLOCK COMPANY

By Robert Anderson, Secretary GLACIER SAND & GRAVEL COMPANY

By G. E. Erickson, Manager HEDBERG-FREIDHEIM & COMPANY

By F. W. Hedberg MINNEAPOLIS CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO.

By Stanley A. Olson OSCAR ROBERTS

By Oscar Roberts CONRAD STEMLAND

By Conrad Stemland TAGE E. SWANSON

By Tage E. Swanson

Striker



This man, strike sympathizer, was clubbed by the police during the strike demonstration at the Wisconsin News in Milwaukee. The strike is now in its tenth week.

The Railroad Unions

The M. & St. L. Situation

It is high time that some definite organizational steps be taken to protect the workers' interest on the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad. And the place to take these steps is right here in Minneapolis at the seat of trouble and they ought to be taken by the leadership of the 21 railroad unions. Organized railroad labor cannot afford to leave this work to small business men locally and in the small towns along the M. & St. L. line. To protect the workers' jobs in this case is the primary duty of our Brotherhood leaders.

To eliminate and consolidate railroad trackage and terminals is not a new question. On the contrary it has been the most talked of question among railroad workers for several years. It was part of the "New Deal" proposals and even a co-ordinators' office was established to do the job. In the meantime what has our Brotherhood leadership done to meet this situation? What plan have they mapped out for the M. & St. L. workers who were struck first? Not even a single union meeting of railroad workers has been held by our Brotherhood leaders on the M. & St. L. situation. Why have our Brotherhood leadership failed to conduct union meetings throughout the entire country on this particular question for the last several years so that the workers and their leaders would know what to do in a case like this?

A senatorial investigation of the M. & St. L. will be just as meaningless as the recent investigation of the Du Ponts and the Munition Trust. And Congress cannot take the place of our labor unions to deal with our employers for us. A labor union must deal with the employer direct to be most effective. A labor union is no match for the employer when it comes to dealing with Congress, the Supreme Court, or other public officials. The real object in organizing the workers in any industry is to deal with the employer, not with Congress. If workers are going to do business with the Congress they will first have to organize for that purpose into a political party. Labor unions and political parties cannot take the place of one another. The real object of the labor union is to deal with the employer and not with the politicians. Therefore, and in order to get something defi-

Kittenball

The proposal to form an inter-union kittenball league is a sound one and is something that should merit the consideration of every section of the union. There is no branch of the union but could put a fast kittenball team in such a league. The spirit of friendly competition that would be developed and the advertising the union would receive would be well worth any effort that is made.

It would be well for each section to place the question of a kittenball team on the agenda of their next meeting. Teams should be formed at once in order that a schedule of games can be worked out.

Mankato Workers Are Denied Relief

In Mankato the persecution of 15 WPA workers by local relief administrators continues. These 15 men, all active members of Local 574 of Mankato, were discharged from a WPA project. No satisfactory explanation of their discharge has ever been given.

It is apparent that there is nothing against these men except that they were members of a labor union and as such were interested in securing reforms for their fellow workers. Denied the right to work on the local WPA project they have also been cut off from direct relief. It is clearly a case of attempting to starve these workers into submission.

The 15 have courageously determined that they will not be forced out of the union by local labor haters. They will be present at the Friday night meeting in Mankato.

nite started here locally, the following proposals are made, namely:

1. That a local committee be started by active members of the railroad unions on the M. & St. L. to get something done on this question.
2. As soon as organized, this committee should immediately get in touch with the Grand Lodge officials of the various crafts and urge them to come right here to the seat of trouble and deal directly with the situation.
3. That the local committee take steps to organize a series of union meetings with Grand Lodge Officers and General Chairmen in attendance and there to discuss what to do, what should be our minimum demands, etc., etc.
4. As all railroad workers are interested in the M. & St. L. case they should all be invited and urged to attend these union meetings in order that the greatest possible support may be mustered behind their minimum demands.

Don't let the Brotherhood leaders dodge the M. & St. L. issue any longer. Whatever plan they have, if any, should be discussed here through the process of a series of union meetings to determine if their plan suits the workers or not. At any rate it is the duty of the Brotherhood leadership to take up the M. & St. L. question with the railroad workers direct along the lines suggested above. It is a crime that this very thing has not been done a long time ago.

Get the local Brotherhood Committee set up; get the Grand Lodge Officers here; get union meetings going, not one but many; get the Grand Lodge Officials to stay right here till this thing is settled. The railroad workers are maintaining 21 presidents, we surely ought to get a few of them here in this crisis where 1,500 railroad jobs are at stake. At any rate hold the union meetings. Invite all the railroad workers to these meetings and let's see what we can do about the M. & St. L. situation.

Local 160 Must Fight to Survive

The Northern States Power Union faces a critical situation in its organization development. No one with the slightest experience in the history of the trade union movement can doubt that the power company is not resigned to having its labor policies dictated to by a union. They have never conceded that Local 160 has the right to adjust hours, fix working condition or set wage schedules.

What the company has done is to enter into an agreement with the union by which they agree to tolerate the organization but not to welcome it as a factor in dealing with their employees. The Northern States Company management has, no doubt, set as its goal the breaking up of the influence that the union has won over the workers. Every move of the company in dealing with the workers, is pointed towards breaking the hold of Local 160.

The union workers at the Northern States Power Company, must realize that their organization, which has gained a foothold at the Power Company, can only survive by a militant policy of making the union the real living expression of economic desires of the workers in the power industry.

The company will find excuses without number to undermine the union. They have prestige, money and influence with which to carry on a campaign destined to destroy the workers confidence in their union organization. "Safety meetings" are turned into gatherings of the workers where subtle anti-union propaganda is poured out by people who make union fighting their business. The company tries to turn aside the efforts of the union committee to settle grievances and poses the management as the workers benefactor. Individual favors are shown those who indicate that they are not strong union members.

Everything is done to implant in the minds of the workers that the union is not necessary for their welfare. Everywhere the union workers at the Northern States Power Company must cleave more closely to their union. Every anti-union move, on the part of the company must be met by the workers by advocating their organization more strongly and by selling it to every non-union worker there.

Hosiery Union Has Won New Members

A local Hosiery Union, at the Strutwear plant, is to be congratulated for the manner in which they are continuing to build their union after the settlement of the strike. Over 100 hosiery workers have joined the union since the strike was settled and the meetings of this organization indicate that they are determined to complete the unionization of the Strutwear plant.

The safety of the union consists of doing precisely that. A union agreement, without a strong militant labor organization to back it up and to insist on its provisions being lived up to, is just another piece of paper.

Shop Committee at Gamble-Robinson

The Gamble-Robinson drivers met in the union hall Monday. The meeting was for the purpose of drawing up a seniority list and electing a shop committee.

The following men were elected to serve on the committee: Jim Long, Cliff Soucie, Clarence Molstad and Dell Hagstrom. The Gamble men will meet again Monday, May 4, at 8 p. m.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Published every Wednesday under the auspices of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION
257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

Subscription Rates	
One year in advance	\$1.00
Six months in advance	.65
Bundle copies (10 copy minimum), each	.02 1/2

Entered as second class matter May 1st, 1935, at the Postoffice at Minneapolis, Minnesota, under act of March 3, 1879.

"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."

Railroad Readers

In last week's anniversary edition of the Northwest Organizer an editorial was carried on the back page giving a brief history of our paper and listing, among other things, the various organizations and classifications who go to make up the Organizer's subscription list.

Due to an oversight no mention was made of the hundreds of railroad workers who are subscribers to the Organizer. Our paper is the official organ of the Minneapolis Railroad Council. The Minneapolis Railroad Council is an organization composed of railroad workers whose main objective is the amalgamation of the various railroad unions and the revitalizing of union organization on the American railroads. Besides this organization we have hundreds of subscribers in railroad circles in a dozen different states. A weekly feature of the Organizer is a column devoted to problems of railroad employees. This column is open for the expression of opinion of anyone on the railroad question.

Union Gangsters

The Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council have the doubtful honor of introducing, into Minneapolis, typical Chicago gangster tactics in their attempt to organize a fake, dual drivers union here. We concede the Joint Council a perfect right to bring outside organizers into Minneapolis to assist them in their organizational activities.

But we give them that right with the understanding that such organizational activities will be conducted in such a manner as will bring the most good to the greatest number of workers involved. Building an unnecessary and unwanted drivers union in Minneapolis is not working in the best interests of the workers engaged in the driving industry here.

To satisfy the whim of some international bureaucrat, highly paid organizers of the International Union are now in Minneapolis attempting to engage in a campaign of intimidation and terrorism directed against whom? Unorganized drivers who have never joined a union? No, not at all, they are giving their attention to loyal members of 574 who in some cases were union men long before these imported scum knew the meaning of the word.

Strange to say, the police department instead of becoming alarmed at this display of Chicago gangsterism seem to be giving it their active support. We call upon Mayor Latimer and Chief Forestal to explain how the police department always happens to be on the scene shutting their eyes to the violence and the slugging that has taken place.

Local 574 needs no help and we are not asking for protection from anyone. We are fully competent to look after our own affairs and to protect the interests of our members. We cite these facts merely to show the depth of trade union degeneration that has been reached by these "union representatives." We serve notice here and now that a continuation of the tactics that have been employed by the Teamsters Joint Council will lead Local 574 to take whatever action they deem necessary to protect their interests.

The C. I. O.

From information that has reached the editorial office of the Organizer it is apparent that articles on the C. I. O., which have appeared in these columns from time to time, have created the impression, in some quarters, that the editorial policy of the Organizer is to pose the Committee for Industrial Organization as the savior of the American trade union movement. If such an impression has been created we hasten to correct it. Our position in regard to the Committee for Industrial Organization is that we will support it just so long as it advocates a correct program and policy that will aid in organizing the millions of unorganized American workers. When it ceases to function in behalf of the American working class we will substitute criticism for support.

As to the individuals going to make up the personnel of the committee, the Organizer holds no brief for any of them. There are some on the committee whose whole trade union record has been one of trade union bureaucratism. Others, in the past, have been active supporters of the most reactionary group in the A. F. of L. We, as trade unionists, are not interested in the individuals who go to make up the personnel of the C. I. O. But we are interested in the program put forward by that group. When the Committee for Industrial Organization ceases to put forward progressive trade union policies we will become its severest critic.

The union Executive Board now holds its meetings on Saturday mornings. A sub-committee, to hear grievances, meets Tuesday evening.

Over 100 members have joined the Hosiery Workers Union since the Strutwear strike was settled. Nice going.

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

The LaBelle drivers met in the union hall Tuesday night and voted 8 to 2 to put in a check-off system at the LaBelle Company.

Rodrick Bixler, age three, son of Chauncey Bixler, 907 Fourth Ave. N., died Friday evening, April 24. Brother Bixler is a long time member of Local 574. The union extends sympathy to the bereaved parents.

Meeting night for the Federal stewards has been changed from Thursday to Wednesday.

A state highway drive at the Hopkins shops made the mistake of joining Local 500. The driver doesn't work there any more.

Sash, Door and Mill Workers took 68 new members Wednesday night.

Frank Hall is working.

Happy Holstein, who has been ill for over three months, was a welcomed visitor at the union hall Friday.

Rumor has it that WPA projects are going to shut down tight. And very soon. Reason? No dough.

Watch the Package Delivery men go to town.

Local 500 organizers are passing out union buttons free. Nice way to get rid of buttons but a helluva way to build a union.

The Sash, Door and Mill Workers Union will move its headquarters to 257 Plymouth Avenue, after May 1.

No one has found Bill Lotz on the office picture yet. But advertising pays. V. Flanz, typewriter engineer, has had several Serious Propositions laid before her since the picture was published.

The Recording Secretary fished? with Alderman Scott at Woman Lake over Sunday.

The Market Workers met in the union hall Sunday morning. Ditto Madden Bros. Ditto Package Delivery drivers.

There is going to be a christening in the Mike Max family sometime in June.

Local 160, Northern States Power Employees Union, now boasts a desk and a part-time steno in 574's office.

All WPA and direct relief clients must register at 218-220 Second Ave. S. to be eligible for U. S. E. S. employment.

Honest John Williams, Northern States Power Union, is recovering from a recent illness.

The cement block workers were delighted with their new agreement.

The Wednesday night meeting of the N. S. P. organizational committee looked like a union mass meeting. So many there, we mean.

F. Lebo, Swanson driver, is still in St. Andrew's Hospital.

The single men's fight was distinctly well worthwhile. It was a real victory for the Federal Workers Section.

No union member should miss

the May Day meeting in the union hall Friday night.

Is it true that the grave diggers are organizing?

The Minneapolis Holmes drivers met Friday night at the union hall. It was a wet evening.

The ball team will open the season in Winona, Sunday, May 10.

Is Meyer back?

The union sports league, which is being organized this spring, is going over in a big way. It is the first time that such a movement has ever been attempted in this locality.

The anniversary edition of the Northwest Organizer made a real hit, according to the admiring comments that have been received.

M. and St. L. railroad workers should read the articles that have

LABOR... Looks at the Press

"Relief purged of partisanship, waste and incompetence was pledged by Gov. Landon of Kansas in a nationwide broadcast Saturday."—Christian Science Monitor.

Such relief would also be purged of any help to the unemployed, if we're any judge of the Republicans.

Great minds - at - work department—"I think the best way in the world to distribute wealth in this country is by providing good roads." — Senator Robert Reynolds of North Carolina.

Harper Sibley, President, U. S. Chamber of Commerce: "Through the initiative and enterprise of the owners and managers of private business, acting without compulsion, American wage earners have attained high wage levels and living standards."

Like Mrs. Struthers, I suppose — or any other boss.

From an editorial published in the Corriere dala Sera, Fascist newspaper of Milan: "It is clear that the Ethiopians have ignored those elementary rules of loyalty and humanity which should govern even the hardest of wars."

Herbert Blankenhorn, research expert for the National Labor Relations Board, testifying before a Senate Committee: "American industry is paying an annual sum of \$80,000,000 a year to 200 spy agencies in the country; these agencies furnish spies, strikers and munitions for use against strikers."—Christian Science Monitor.

And yet the two major political parties, both of which are controlled by American industry, have planks in their platforms reading: "We believe American workers have the right to organize into trade unions."

Washington news item: "It was revealed today that Stanley Morse, the man who organized the Farmers Independent Council to attack the AAA, was on the pay roll of the American Liberty League at a monthly salary of \$250. The list of contributors consisted of meat packers, gentlemen farmers, brokers and Republican politicians."

About the same type of rodents who organized the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association to snipe at Local 574.

NOTICE

Members of Local 160, Local 18005-183, and Local 1859. Your union has subscribed for the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER for the entire membership. You should receive the paper regularly once a week. If you do not receive the publication, please turn your name and address in to your local secretary. The same holds true when moving or changing addresses. Turn in both your old and new address to your union office. It is imperative that this procedure be followed promptly in order that you receive all issues of the paper.

been published in the Organizer on the break-up of that road.

The team representing Local 574 will be a honey.

The editor of YELLOW NOTES is Donald Bain.

Thirty-two drivers at the Consolidated Package Delivery put on union buttons Monday morning. Yes, 574 buttons.

Bill Brown was presented with a fox terrier pup Saturday.

Fred Nelson, steward at Bollanders and manager of 574 baseball team, is the proud father of a seven pound boy. Nice start, Fred.

Facts Must Be Told in Making All Complaints

Organizers of the Federal Workers Section and those in charge of adjusting and dealing with complaints urge all that fill out complaint records exercise the greatest care when putting their cases in writing. It is imperative that only the actual and true facts be given.

Irrespective of whether or not the information supplied seems unfavorable to the case, the situation must be explained as it actually exists. This is important for the reason that when the Federal organizer takes your case up with the relief department he is at a great disadvantage if the statements contained in the complaint record do not agree with the records of the relief department.

If you have received five grocery orders do not state that you have received only three. If you have had your rent paid for 10 months do not make the statement in the complaint record that it has been paid for only eight months. When the person attempting to adjust your complaint comes into the relief office with false and misleading information the task of securing an adjustment of your case is made doubly difficult.

With the discrimination and the abuses that are practiced by the local relief administration the bare facts are generally sufficient. Do not attempt to color your story by adding to it statements that cannot be substantiated by facts. Leave evasion and false statements to relief officials.

Fair Cleaners

Organized labor patronize the following 100 per cent union plants:

Crystal Co-operative Cleaners, 3110 Penn Ave. N.
Sunshine Laundry, 2905 Washington Ave. N.
National Cleaners & Dyers, 2823 Hennepin Ave.
Mayme Hoyer Cleaners & Dyers, 2817 Hennepin Ave.
LaSalle Cleaners & Dyers, 2611 Nicollet.

All these concerns employ only union help and deserve the support of all organized labor. JOINT LOCAL, CLEANERS, DRIVERS AND LAUNDRY WORKERS UNION, 18005-183