

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wis.

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

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:  
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

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

VOL. 2, NO. 38

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JAN. 7, 1937

PRICE 5 CENTS

## TEAMING CRAFTS TO CONFER ON TRUCKING ORGANIZATION

### NEWS DRIVERS NOW COVERED BY AGREEMENT

Contract Covers Workers  
Employed by Twin City  
News Co.

Tribune and Journal Will Be  
Delivered by Union  
Workers

The Twin City News Company, a concern that specializes in the distribution of newspapers in Minneapolis and St. Paul, has signed a union agreement with General Drivers Union which covers wages and working conditions of all drivers and helpers employed by this company.

The contract calls for a closed shop, establishes seniority, provides for an hourly wage scale of 75c per hour and sets the overtime rate at time and one-half. The new high wage scale in this industry sets a splendid example for workers in all sections of the driving industry.

All newspapers in the Twin Cities are now delivered by union drivers. The text of the agreement follows:

#### ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT COVERING THE HAULING AND DELIVERY OF NEWSPAPERS

The party of the first part known as Twin Cities Newspaper Service and the party of the second part known as the General Drivers Union, Local 544 affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen & Helpers of America and the A. F. of L.

#### ARTICLE I.

The employer agrees to hire only members of the Union carrying the regular working card or those who will become members within fifteen (15) days, providing, however, that such employee will make immediate application for membership in this Local.

(Continued on page 2)

### Casket Strike Is Near Settlement

Tuesday there were indications that there was a possibility that a settlement might be effected in several of the struck casket plants. There only remained the matter of arriving at an agreement on the question of wages.

Several meetings between union officials and representatives have been held.

### Notice to All Local 544 Men

**JOB GRIEVANCES**  
Effective immediately job grievances from members will be received by the Union during the following hours only:  
7 a. m. to 9 a. m. except Sunday.  
7 p. m. to 8:30 p. m. except Saturday and Sunday.  
2 p. m. to 4 p. m. Saturday only.

Grievances will not be accepted at any other time except by special appointment. All grievances must be submitted in writing on the standard Union report form. Grievances will not be accepted over the telephone.

**SPECIAL MEETINGS**  
Any group of members in a company or section desiring a special meeting may obtain a meeting hall and the assistance of a Union official by contacting the Secretary of the Union.

Meeting facilities cannot be guaranteed unless arrangements are made through the Secretary.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD  
LOCAL 544**

### WALL OUSTER DEMANDED BY LOCAL LABOR

Proved to Have Furnished  
Armed Guards Many  
Times

Tuesday, January 6, the Board of Minneapolis Business Agents went on record as demanding that Governor Benson remove Sheriff John Wall from his present office.

At the Tuesday meeting representatives of various unions submitted proof that Wall has, on many occasions, furnished armed deputies to protect thugs and strikebreakers. This has been done in strikes where no violence was displayed and where no trouble had occurred.

Joe Pease, Business Agent of Machinists Union No. 382, said that only last week armed guards from the sheriff's office had furnished protection to scab workers who removed snow plow equipment from the struck plant of the Imperial Machine Co.

A committee was selected to make the demand on the Governor.

### Mass Meeting Will Open Drive of Warehousemen

Noted Labor Figures Will  
Be on the Speaking  
Program

The citywide mass meeting being sponsored by the Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316, for January 13th, at the General Drivers Hall, promises to be something worth while attending for every employee doing this kind of work, irrespective of the company he is working for. Conditions in this particular line of work are notably bad, especially in the case of wages being received and the number of hours that the men have to work.

In order to put an end to these conditions in the city of Minneapolis, Local 20316 is pledged to carry on an unrelenting fight in behalf of this category of workers. In the next few days, hundreds of copies of its program will be distributed to all those interested, in order to acquaint them with the aims that this union has as its objective. It is intended that not one company in the city

of Minneapolis shall escape the plans of the Union to organize these workers one hundred per cent.

To insure the success of the mass meeting on January 13th, thousands of leaflets will be printed and distributed throughout the city. Speakers who will be invited are included in the following: Governor Benson, Joseph Poirier, William S. Brown, Bob Cramer, Roy Weir, Miles Dunne, Farrell Dobbs, etc.

### Inside Workers Get N. W. Organizer

At the last regular membership meeting of the Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316, it was voted unanimously to subscribe to the Northwest Organizer as the official organ of this local. Starting with this issue, every member of this local will receive a copy regularly each week.

### Minnesota State Council Will Hold Conference in Drivers Hall January 10

All Northwest Driving Unions Will Send  
Delegates to the Sunday Meeting

Conference Will Make a Study of Problems  
of Long Haul Drivers

A meeting of the Minnesota State Council of Drivers will be held in Minneapolis Sunday, Jan. 10. The conference will be held in the headquarters of the Teamsters Joint Council, 257 Plymouth Ave. Represented at the Sunday meeting will be Driving Unions from Duluth, Superior, Hibbing, Mankato, St. Cloud, Fargo, Minneapolis, St. Paul and other Northwest points. The following call was sent out to all driving unions in this part of the country:

### Keller Company Gets Agreement

Local 1859, Furniture Workers Union, last week presented a union contract to the Keller Mfg. Company. This firm produces a similar line of goods as are made by the J. R. Clark Company.

The agreement calls for a minimum wage of 50c per hour and will establish seniority in the plant.

### Spanish Help Is Planned by Party

The Socialist Party of the United States is initiating a movement to form an organization known as the Spanish Solidarity Fund. Funds will be collected to purchase arms and supplies for the anti-fascist fighters in the Spanish civil war. The Minneapolis chapter of the Spanish Solidarity Fund has its headquarters at 631 Third Ave. S. Any workers who wish to donate to this good cause may contact the organization at that address. All funds will be relayed to New York where arrangements are being completed to furnish the workers of Spain with their much needed sinews of war.

### Local 421 Thanks The Joint Council

Dec. 28, 1936  
Patrick J. Corcoran,  
Secretary,  
Teamsters Joint Council  
24 N. 8th St.  
Dear Sir and Brother:  
Just a line to let you know that the strike of the A. Y. McDonalds Manufacturing Co. is settled and thank you very kindly for letter and co-operation.

Fraternally yours  
AL ROGAN  
Secretary 421.

#### GREETINGS:

As provided by the last meeting of the Minnesota Council of Drivers held at the Cloquet Convention a general conference is to be held on Sunday, January 10, 1937, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the Teamsters Joint Council headquarters at 257 Plymouth Ave. N.

The conference will begin at 10 a. m. Each Local Union is urged to send its entire Executive Board to this conference. If this is not possible, send the largest possible fraction of the Executive Board.

The conference will discuss the mutual problems of the various Local Unions with a view toward giving general assistance to all participating unions. One of the main topics of discussion will be the question of the organization of over-the-road drivers in which work it is absolutely essential that all unions in the territory cooperate. The organization of these drivers will lay the foundation for a thorough campaign of unionism among the truck drivers in every locality.

Be sure to have delegates present in Minneapolis on Sunday, January 10, 1937.

Fraternally yours,  
MINNESOTA STATE  
COUNCIL OF DRIVERS  
By Farrell Dobbs, Secretary

### Ray Sawyer Takes Post in Local 471

Monday, January 4, Ray Sawyer, newly elected Secretary-Treasurer of Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union took over the office which he will hold for the coming year.

Sawyer has formerly served as president of the same local. Pat Corcoran, retiring officer, will begin his duties as organizer of the Teamsters Joint Council. Corcoran will move the council office to its new location at 257 Plymouth Ave. North.

## Make Minneapolis a Union Town



# NEWS DRIVERS NOW COVERED BY AGREEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

## ARTICLE II.

Proof of drunkenness, dishonesty, or repeated negligence in the performance of duty shall be considered grounds for discharge.

## ARTICLE III.

In case of lockouts or strikes of any Union within the above industry it shall not be considered a violation of this agreement for members to refuse to work while such controversy is on.

## ARTICLE IV.

It is agreed by the employer that no employee will be asked to make any written or verbal agreement which may conflict with this agreement.

## ARTICLE V.

No members of the Union shall suffer any reduction in wages in consequence of this agreement.

## ARTICLE VI.

No employee shall be discharged or discriminated against on account of serving on committees of the Union or as a delegate to Labor conventions.

## ARTICLE VII.

It is further agreed that where a route is taken off or an employee is to be laid off, the last man employed shall be the first laid off. Seniority shall prevail at all times.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### Wage Scale

Drivers shall receive seventy-five cents per hour. Seniority list to be posted showing regular hours now employed. All time in excess of these regular hours to be classified as overtime.

## ARTICLE IX.

Overtime to be paid at the rate of time and one-half. Any employee that is called back to work on his regular day off shall be paid at the rate of double time.

## ARTICLE X.

All regular men called back for special runs shall be paid for a minimum of two hours at overtime rate.

## ARTICLE XI.

All extra men shall receive a minimum of two (2) hours.

## ARTICLE XII.

All time to start when driver arrives at garage and stopped when he pulls into garage.

## ARTICLE XIII.

It is further agreed and understood by both parties to this agreement that should any controversy arise not provided for in this agreement, it shall, if necessary, be submitted to a committee of five (5) for arbitration; two (2) to be chosen by the Union and two (2) by the employer and the fifth to be selected by the first four (4) and the decision of this board shall be binding on both parties; during this time there shall be no lockout or strike.

## ARTICLE XIV.

This agreement shall go into effect January 1, 1937, and continue until August 15, 1937, and each year hereafter unless thirty (30) days notice is given by either party prior to expiration date in any year.

## Local 1859 Meeting Schedule

January, 1937

- Sat., Jan. 2—Executive Board.
- Wed., Jan. 6—General Membership.
- Sat., Jan. 9—Executive Board.
- Sat., Jan. 16—Executive Board.
- Tues., Jan. 19—Box Section.
- Wed., Jan. 20—J. R. Clark Section.
- Fri., Jan. 22—Puffer Hubbard Section.
- Sat., Jan. 23—Executive Board.
- Sat., Jan. 30—Executive Board.
- Wed., Feb. 3—General Membership.

## Yellow Notes

Bill Rankin takes first place on the column this week. He is the proud father of the first baby born on Xmas day. Some Xmas present. Eh! What! P. S. Don't you short shift drivers come around for cigars. The 9:30 shift haven't got theirs yet.

Who said Ed Harlan couldn't dance.

An excellent New Years resolution for all Yellow drivers to adopt would be that we are going to have the best, most courteous drivers whose first thought is rendering a super service to the public with a minimum amount of accidents.

Joe Williams had quite an experience. He answered a call and took a passenger to the hospital. On his arrival there he was unable to rouse his passenger so he got an interne to examine the man. Examination disclosed that the man was dead.

A few drivers are going to feel the wrath of the Executive Board for violating the rules recently adopted.

The night drivers made a night club out of the club cafe New Years morning. A superfluous amount of New Years cheer was in circulation.

Several inquiries have been made of late as to when the next cab drivers ball is going to be held. How about it, boys. Should we have another one?

Here's something for the day drivers to think over. Several passenger have remarked as to why the night drivers always present a neater appearance than the day drivers do. Are you going to let this criticism continue?

## Bowling Notes

There were no league games rolled over the holidays so will give you some interesting notes (I hope). The Union Drivers Bowling league can be proud of its first year. We have had only one team drop out, but still have a compact league of eight teams. Some day we expect to have a 16 team league, possibly next year.

Itnes is bowling with two 544 teams, the other in the New England league. Captain L. Kenzie of the Meats is developing a new delivery to increase his average, but if he took J. Stone's advice he would desist. Bill Brown hasn't been down to the alleys since he bet a dollar he would bowl 150. Probably his salary wouldn't stand such rash statements. Some of the high games rolled so far this year are Anacher, 232; L. Hanson, 231; Ebert, 222; Williams, 220; Harves, 212; F. Dobbs, 206; J. H. Johnson, 202; Flatz, 201. We would like to see more of the fellows bowl on Sundays at 2.30. You can get in a jack pot if you wish. A call for moral support would be in order for next Friday night. The last place Joint Council team are rolling against the leading National Teas. Amen.

JAMES H. JOHNSON

Wednesday morning drivers and helpers employed by the Murphy Motor Freight Lines met in the union office. The meeting was in regard to the setting up of a single seniority list at the Midway transfer concern.

## Bill Brown Says—

The Minneapolis labor movement has taken the right stand when it insists that the Governor of the state take steps to remove John Wall as sheriff of Hennepin County. Wall has acted in the most high-handed and unprincipled manner in the way he has disregarded the legal and lawful rights of striking workers. Workers have a right to strike and to picket. It is not for Sheriff Wall to deny workers these rights by armed force. We call upon the Governor to act.



BILL BROWN President of 544

## John L. Lewis Tells of Auto Industry Arming for Strife

### Editor's Note

Following is an excerpt from a radio address given by John L. Lewis over a national hookup on December 31:

Mr. Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of General Motors Corporation, in his published year-end summary, refers to the possibilities of industrial strife in industry. Is it possible that Mr. Sloan is predicting continued hostility on the part of his corporation towards the demands of its employees for fair consideration? The giant General Motors Corporation is at present pursuing the dangerous course of refusing to answer the request of the United Automobile Workers for a national conference, for collective bargaining purposes. The Union has repeatedly requested such a conference, but was told by a vice-president that any grievances should be taken up with plant managers or general managers in the various localities. It is absurd for such a corporation to pretend that its policies are settled locally. Everyone knows that decisions as to wages, hours, and other conditions of employment are made at a central point for all the plants controlled by General Motors. General Motors is, indeed, a DuPont controlled organization, and it is the DuPonts, and not the plant managers, who lay out the broad lines of labor policies. The United Automobile Workers' representatives have already been told by various plant managers that their reasonable demands must be referred to higher company officials before an answer can be given. The Union will continue its demand for a conference with persons who have the power to negotiate. Any other arrangement would be a perversion of collective bargaining and is an evasion of definite industry obligations.

The steel corporations are likewise trying to avoid collective bargaining with their employees. They have tried, by fostering and subsidizing company unions, to get around the law. Instead, they have transgressed the law. The steel companies, themselves, are organized, and they appreciate and exploit the value of organization in the conduct of their business enterprises. The United States Steel Corporation is trying to enforce upon its two hundred and twenty thousand employees the outmoded labor policy adopted by its Board of Directors in 1901, a policy which denies the right of self-organization to any employee of that corporation, or its subsidiaries. At the same time the United States Steel Corporation associates itself with an organization, known as the American Iron and Steel Institute, which on July 1st, 1936, in an advertisement published in three hundred and seventy-five newspapers, presumed to speak for the iron and steel industry and denied the right of the steel workers to similar organization in their own interests. The steel companies talk about outsiders who wish to interfere in

their industry. But who are the outsiders? The chosen representatives of the men who have devoted their lives to making steel and who have contributed labor and endured the risk of their occupation? Or men from the money marts who have no knowledge of the process of steel making, but who want the power to juggle the lives of human beings in the same manner that they juggle the intricate and involved affairs of the corporations controlled by their holding companies?

Huge corporations, such as United States Steel and General Motors, have a moral and public responsibility. They have neither the moral nor the legal right to rule as autocrats over the hundreds of thousands of employees. They have no right to transgress the law, which gives to the worker the right of self-organization and collective bargaining. They have no right in a political democracy to withhold the rights of a free people.

The workers in the steel industry are organizing; the workers in the automotive industry are organizing; the workers in other industries are organizing; any sane concept of industrial relations would indicate that the labor problems of these industries should be settled across the council table.

The unlicensed and unrestrained arming of corporations against the workers has no place in any political or industrial democracy. Recent revelations before the LaFollette Sub-Committee of the Senate have revealed in part the plans of industry to club, gas and cripple workers with the lethal weapons of warfare. Huge stocks of such weapons have been purchased at enormous expense, and over five hundred thousand dollars worth of tear and mustard gas has been delivered to industrial plants, and the expenditure necessary for the purchase of these war supplies is charged to the cost of production. Who is to eat and swallow this enormous quantity of gas? You workers! This gas, these clubs, and these machine guns are intended to make you contented with your present conditions of employment. They are intended further to compel you to accept a company-operated and company-managed union, as the agency through which you can voice your grievances. How do you like it, workers? What do you propose to do about it?

You men in the steel towns and other unorganized mass production areas have recently come to an understanding of what the employers think is good for you. You face organized espionage; you work in plants stocked with vomit gas and machine guns—these to be used by professional strike breakers, often badged as officers of the law. You have detective agencies and employer associations, manufacturing company unions; you have skilled provocateurs to rig the stage for injunctions. You have all this cloaked by high-powered corporation lawyers—who also sit on the board of directors of the tear gas compa-

## George Guider Is President of 386

At the last meeting of Local 346 the Beverage and Soft Drink Dispensers Union, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year.

President, George Guider, 3715 Dupont Ave. N.; vice president, William Doorn, 2126 Upton Ave. N.; financial secretary, Alice L. Meagher, 2203 Queen Ave. N.; inspector, Herbert Eggert, 2623 Oliver Ave. N.; chaplain, Verne Leitte, 2008-25th Ave. N.; Trustees, Goldie Cooper, 624 E. 17th St., Beatrice Goulston, 718 E. 18th St., William Brody, 1123 Adrich Ave. N.; delegate, C. L. U. W. F. Rathbone, Marie Howard, Beatrice Goulston; delegates, Joint Board, W. F. Rathbone, Marie Howard, Beatrice Goulston.

It was decided to hold regular meetings for the 3.2 Beer section on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 8:30 p. m., and at 2 a. m., in the morning. The Soda Fountain workers in drug stores, department stores and other stores where food and beverages are dispensed will meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month, 11 a. m. The Off Sale Liquor Store section will meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 8:30 p. m.

and of the spy corporations. The next day they sit on eminent committees of the Liberty League, solemnly finding labor laws unconstitutional. They also stand before the Supreme Court successfully arguing those laws void.

This real alternative to industrial democracy has been slightly exposed by the LaFollette Committee. This alternative is what industrialists want left undisturbed under this sudden "era of good feeling." They do not want the Senate and you workers to discover how the anti-labor policies of great industrialists have filled the land with a fat business of spying and armed strike-breaking, and civic corruption. They have stored mills and plants with the paraphernalia of war and its mercenaries—they suborn police and judiciary—and they want the Senate and you to blind your eyes to their warfare and their plan in the name of "good feeling."

May I respectfully suggest to the LaFollette Committee, which has hauled before it a few of industry's criminal agents, that it summon industry's brass hats, however eminent, to answer why they hire and feed this anti-labor army, and why they maintain warehouses overflowing with industrial war munitions and paraphernalia. May I humbly warn the Senate that Labor wants this investigation pressed home, and wants industry disarmed, lest labor men on their march to industrial democracy should have to take by storm the barbed-wire barricades and machine gun emplacements, builded and maintained by the rapacious moguls of corporate industry. The agents of the Federal Government should enter these plants and gut them of their deadly weapons, so that Americans in the industrial communities may walk erect and enjoy, with the pride of free men, their inherent and rightful privileges.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

#### LOCAL 544

- Monday, Jan. 4 — Department Store and Package Delivery; Coal Workers.
  - Thursday, Jan. 7—All Job Stewards; Independent Truck Owners.
  - Monday, Jan. 11 — Full Membership.
  - Grievance Committee — Meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m.
  - Executive Board — Meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m.
- NOTE—The balance of the meeting schedule will be subject to approval by the membership on Jan. 11.



## Hauling Firms Who Have Signed the 1937 Transfer Agreement

Following is a partial list of Minneapolis transfer companies who have signed the new transfer agreement through the Minneapolis Transfer Men's Association.

All of the firms listed below are now parties to the contract and are operating under its provisions. Back pay due employes of these firms will be paid as soon as a payroll check can be made.

Acme Transfer and Storage Co., 300 Tenth Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Auditorium Motor Express Co., 1610 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Bach Transfer Company, 223 Third Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Barrett Transfer and Fuel Co., 507 West Broadway, Minneapolis.  
Basa Transfer and Storage Co., 1210 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis.  
Bay and Bay Transfer Co., 715 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Brugger Bros. Transfer Co., 1822 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Cameron Transfer and Storage Co., 756 N. Fourth St., Minneapolis.

Casey-Hoban Transfer Co., 419 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis.  
Chicago Ave. Transfer Co., 2922 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis.  
Colonial Warehouses, Inc., 218 Third Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Commercial Cartage Co., 313 Second Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Ferrin Transfer Co., 211 Tenth Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Hanson Bros. Transfer Co., 2641 Stevens Ave., Minneapolis.  
Hempel Transfer Company, 409 Sixth Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Kedney Warehouse Company, 617 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis.

LaBelle Storage and Moving Co., 708 Central Ave., Minneapolis.  
Lambert Transfer Co., 215 Second St. S. E., Minneapolis.  
Henry Lambert Trucking Co., 316 First Ave. N. E., Minneapolis.  
McReavy Bros. Transfer Co., 115 North Fifth St., Minneapolis.  
Minneapolis Terminal Warehouse Co., 618 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis.

Holmes Minneapolis Transfer and Warehouse Co., 106 First Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
E. L. Murphy Trucking Co., 1350 University Ave., St. Paul.  
Nordlof Transfer Co., 2220 Sixteenth Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Northwestern Terminal Co., 600 Stinson Blvd., Minneapolis.  
O. S. Parker Transfer Co., 146 Holden St., Minneapolis.  
Pederson Fuel and Transfer Co., 1419 E. 38th St., Minneapolis.  
Pratt's Express Company, 702 N. First St., Minneapolis.  
Quinn Transfer and Storage Co., 2429 Fifth Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Ray's Transfer Company, 128 Fourth Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Reliable Transfer and Storage Co., 921 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis.

### MEETING SCHEDULE LOCAL 160

Jan. 5—Stewards and Executive Board.  
Jan. 6—General Membership.  
Jan. 12—Executive Board  
Jan. 19—General Membership.  
Jan. 26—Executive Board.

### MEETINGS FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION

FWS membership meetings, first and third Friday of each month, 8 p. m.  
FWS Leadership class No. 1, each Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.  
Direct relief grievance hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 to 12 a. m.  
Federal Workers Stewards Meetings—Each Wednesday at 8 p. m.

## Independent Truck Chatter

### Be Nonchalant

A few hundred unemployed WPA truckers are hugging the stove wondering what next. Their only hope is in the fact that Congress is almost certain to pass appropriations for continuance of the work. That is, provided pressure is brought to bear on our Congressmen. The committee expects to do some of the pushing but every member can help by writing a letter to Washington. No fancy or perfumed stationery is necessary, take wrapping paper and used envelopes if you have nothing else handy.

### NOMINATIONS

The Independent Truck Owners Section will have nomination of officers at next regular meeting. Due to a change in meeting schedules, the exact date cannot be given. The next column will carry full details.

### Enlightenment

Steward: Do you belong to Local 544?  
Driver: Why sure! For a long time.  
Steward: Where is your button?  
Driver: Oh! I guess I left it at home.  
Steward: All right, let's see your due book.  
Driver: You bet, I've got it right here.  
Steward: You haven't paid any dues since September, when you joined. How come.  
Driver: Well, I've been pretty busy and never get up to the union hall.  
Whereupon the steward kindly escorted the driver to headquarters and showed him all the recent improvements and prospective enlargements. The driver became so enthusiastic he immediately paid fifteen dollars for reinstatement and expressed sorrow that there was no meeting that evening. Ahem!

### Loopholes

Automobile companies bidding to furnish trucks for the government don't have any trouble dodging enactments of Congress to guarantee decent working conditions for labor. Under the Walsh-Healy act all contracts to supply materials and equipment to Uncle Sam that are in excess of \$10,000 must meet certain minimum requirements as far as labor is concerned. By the simple expedient of splitting their bids they are released from any clause of this bill that might have been an aid to labor.

Schirmer Strasburg Transportation Co., 356 Lincoln St. N. E., Minneapolis.

Skellet Company, 251 Sixth Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
W. E. Stanchfield Transfer Co., 214 Fifth Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Sterling Cartage Company, 506 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Oscar Svenddal Transfer Co., 3929 40th Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Swiller Transfer Company, 309 Third Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Triangle Transfer and Storage Co., 1225 Dartmouth S. E., Minneapolis.

Widholm Transfer and Storage Co., 115 N. First Street, Minneapolis.

Wiide Transfer Company, 1610 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
Wolk Transfer Co., 2905 Sixth Ave. N., Minneapolis.  
Woodland Transfer Co., 2905 26th Ave. S., Minneapolis.  
H. F. Zierman Company, 232 Third Ave. N. E., Minneapolis.  
Armstrong Transfer.

## Independents



extend the season's greeting to their friends. The picture has been slightly blurred to conform to our established policy of accepting no liquor advertisements.

## On WPA Projects

The old army game is still running at Fort Snelling. One foreman quit under pressure of the superintendent to drive the men harder. FWS steward reports his crew worked in five inches of water and mud for days, chipping stone without proper tools or goggles. These were requested but were denied by the WPA corporals. The workers demand removal of project officials whom they charge with slave-driving, jeopardizing health and safety by refusing to furnish proper tools and boots, and because the military atmosphere has gone to the officials' heads. The FWS Grievance Committee is pressing the questions on WPA higher-ups.

A. E. S. writes in the Star: "How come that St. Paul WPA workers get paid for bad weather lay-offs and Minneapolis men don't?" In reply we say, Dear A. E. S.: You are misinformed. You should come to the Union with such questions. St. Paul, Minneapolis, Chicago, New York and Podunk WPA workers cannot draw pay except for time actually worked. Those who spread the rumor contained in your question have ulterior motives of setting the Minneapolis against the St. Paul project workers. Our advice to you, A. E. S., if you are concerned about your own or the workers' situation, is to join the Union and together we will strive to correct this and many worse conditions.

The injunction stopping delivery of relief coal to WPA workers, is a typical under-cover Citizens Alliance attack upon the underclad, underfed, underhoused and unwarmed wives and children of underpaid WPA workers. The technical complaint is the lack of "proper investigation" of the clients. My God, here we are in the eighth year of an economic crisis, millions still unemployed, relief rolls bigger than ever, after virtually hundreds of investigations of each case, here comes Little Association of Fat Tax Dodgers and demands "investigation" of whether a family can live on \$60.50. What's really eatin' the Fat Boys is that their profits and dividends have grown so big they think they should have it all. Of course the workers have learned to expect nothing different from the courts, but if the Welfare Board officials had any guts they'd brush the injunction aside and stand with the workers.

Every FWS member and supporter is expected to be present

## Roy E. Burt Will Address Meeting In Minneapolis Friday, January 8

### With the Laundry Workers Union

The recent appearance in the daily press of a series of articles by Rabbi Albert Gordon has been the cause of considerable comment during the past few days, not only in our Union but the entire labor movement in Minneapolis. Rabbi Gordon, for the past two and one-half years has been the impartial chairman on the Arbitration Board of Local 183. The idea outlined in his articles which he submits as a panacea and cure-all, a plan to settle many differences of capital and labor without resorting to strike, and whereby peace will, as a consequence, reign in the industrial centers of Minneapolis, has given rise to many conflicting opinions.

At our last meeting it was decided to invite Rabbi Gordon and Ray Runne to speak and discuss the subject as our educational feature before the membership at an open meeting. After listening to these able speakers we are certain that we all will have a better understanding of the subject of arbitration.

Dance books for the unemployment fund dance to be held at the East Side Eagle Hall on January 16 are moving slowly.

In order to make this dance a success members are urged to dispose of as many books as possible. All members will receive books by mail in a few days and they are urged to sell tickets to their friends. This is for a good cause and everybody should get busy and help make this affair a success.

Margerie Kashman of Kronick's and Inga Pudlick of the Custom are still confined to the General hospital.

It will be admitted by all that it is a fortunate thing elections are held but once a year. Never in the history of the Union has there been such interest taken in the outcome of the election. However, the members should remember that the Union itself is greater than any member or group of members. Therefore no matter

at the mass meeting to protest the injunction Friday evening at the Drivers' hall and we'll see whether the needy get their coal.

FWS leadership classes are going again after the holidays. Bill Curran, class instructor, says the subjects are getting warmer, and that those who come in now will still get the full benefit. All FWS stewards have been told to attend and to bring their best members. They meet at 7:30 p. m. each Tuesday at 257 Plymouth.

Roy E. Burt, successor to Clarence Senior as National Executive Secretary of the Socialist Party, will speak at two meetings in Minneapolis under the sponsorship of the local party. Mr. Burt is well known in Minneapolis, having spoken here several times in the performance of his former duties as national organizer for the party. He is a former member of the Miners and Retail Clerks Union, and at the present time is a member of the American Federation of Teachers.

Arrangements are being planned to have Burt here to open the January Friday lecture series of the local party with an address, "Problems Before American Workers." If Mr. Burt is unable to appear, Miles Dunne, editor of the Northwest Organizer, organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, will speak on the same subject.

On Saturday, January 9, Burt will be the main speaker at a social affair honoring him and Alfred Russel, member of the Minneapolis Socialist Party and former organizer of the Young People's Socialist League, who will return to jail January 11 to finish his sentence of six months for alleged illegal activities as a picket in the Struwear strike of last year. This meeting, as that of Friday, will be held at 8 p. m. at the headquarters of the Minneapolis local of the Socialist Party, 631 Third Ave. S. A full program of entertainment has been arranged, and refreshments will be served. The general public is welcome to attend either or both of these meetings.

## Thanks

Minneapolis, Minn.  
December 29, 1936  
General Drivers:  
We wish to thank you for the Christmas basket and wish all the members a very Happy New Year.  
MRS. HENRY NESS  
and Family.

### Bigger and Better

Hope some of our high pressure gravel haulers don't get a line on these 25 yard hydraulic dump trucks that are put out by Mack. Can never be sure what some of them might try to do.

what the outcome may be the Union must still stand as the bulwark of the workers.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Election of officers, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1937.  
Unemployed Benefit Dance, Saturday, Jan. 16, 1937.  
Laundry Workers Union, Local 183.

## CO-OP COAL ASSOCIATION

To the Patrons  
the Profits



739 Johnson Street N. E.  
Phone: Granville 4394

### THE CO-OPERATIVE

Nature Organized people.  
Purpose To serve its members at cost.  
Methods  
1. Each member has one vote and only one vote. Democracy—the people rule.  
2. Capital is paid a minimum rate of interest. Money is the servant of the people.  
3. Surplus savings are distributed to the members in proportion to their patronage. The people receive the benefits.

Results Wealth is equitably distributed among the many.

### THE CORPORATION

Nature Organized capital.  
Purpose To serve the public for profit.  
Methods  
1. Each share of stock has one vote. Plutocracy—money, in control of the few, rules.  
2. Capital receives all the profits. Money is the master.  
3. Profits are distributed among the stockholders in proportion to their holdings. Money receives the benefits.

Results Wealth is centered in the possession of the few.



**THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER**

Published every Wednesday under the auspices of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

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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."

**Auto Workers Move**

Their road to organization cleared of craft obstacles, the automobile workers are pouring into the unions at a rate that leaves their bosses bewildered.

Since the May, 1936, convention of the United Automobile Workers, 90 per cent of the men working in the independent automobile companies have been organized.

The real influx into the union began when the U.A.W. won a decisive victory from the Dodge management. In September 3,000 to 5,000 Dodge workers, many of them with well-defined seniority rights, were informed by letters that they would not be rehired for the 1937 production period.

The union immediately swung into action, the Dodge Local threatened a strike and the company gave in, agreeing to take back every worker whose seniority rights had been violated. Scores of non-union men were benefitted and the Dodge and Chrysler locals increased their membership.

Then in October and November a sit-down strike in the Fisher Body Company initiated a wave of unionism in Flint. The workers sat down and refused to do a tap of work until the three of their fellows who had been discriminated against were called back on the job. In their zeal to get the line moving, the company even had a police car scouting the streets of Flint for the three men, who were finally located and induced to return to work.

This demonstrated to the workers the power of organization, and since then they have been coming into the union at the rate of 1,000 to 2,500 a day in Flint. In that small town, heretofore bottled and corked by General Motors, the two Fisher Body plants are now well organized and the workers from Buick and Chrysler are steadily joining up.

The workers in the Bendix Brake Factory in South Bend, Indiana, took the lead, staging the first stay-in-strike and winning a general wage increase. Midland workers followed with a 7-day stay-in, which netted them the right to collective bargaining, an increase of ten cents an hour on the base rate, and time-and-a-half for all over eight hours a day.

In the fabricating plant of the Detroit Aluminum Co. the workers sat down spontaneously, and within three days 1,800 joined the union. The next spectacular strike occurred in the Kelsey Hayes Wheel Company where the issue of hours and wages soon became secondary and the right of the workers to collective bargaining primary. The union won.

On December 17 another spontaneous strike took place in the National Automotive Fibers, Inc., a Detroit Chrysler unit. In a body the workers joined the union, which took up their fight, and within a few hours won an increase of five cents an hour, the promise that no workers would be discriminated against and an agreement that further negotiations would continue.

Despite his elaborate spy system, Edsel Ford cannot prevent his men from joining the union. Some of them come to the union headquarters to join and others to the West Side Locals.

On December 19 John Lewis threw down the gauntlet to General Motors, informing them that the fight will not stop until collective bargaining becomes established in the auto industry.

One of the most encouraging things about the young U.A.W. is the complete democracy which prevails in the locals. The affairs of the union locals are run by the members who are taking an increasingly active interest in their union. Is this democratic spirit merely a phase of the union during its formative period, and eventually will control rest in the hands of a bureaucratic leadership?

The sole safeguard against this possibility is an alert and intelligent membership. It is encouraging to know that nearly all the locals have an educational committee, which arranges for classes and the securing of instructors.

**Keeping Step With 544**

By Mickey Dunne

**STREET SCENE**

Bill Ambrose balling out a Belt Line Driver for not having a button only to have the same driver point out that Bill's union button was also missing.

Since printing the transfer agreement several changes have been made in it. Corrections will be made in the next issue.

Almost all of the staff have returned from their holiday vacation.

Ask G. Dunne and Brown about the transfer committee.

One of the larger downtown food stores, seeking to avoid paying union wages to its drivers, laid off its truck drivers and hired boys of high school age to deliver packages in the loop on foot. The plot failed, however, as the "walkers" were quickly brought into Local 544.

Charles Walker's book, American City, which deals at length with General Drivers union, will soon be in the local book shops.

**ATTENTION!**

General Leach has tossed his hat into the ring.

Syl Bosky, member of the Milk Drivers Union for 14 years, has filed for alderman in the First ward.

Robert Peterson is doing the hammering on the first floor.

**WELL, WHAT OF IT?**

Skogland is back on his feet. . . Smith's baby is bald. Hereditary? . . . Casket employers are stubborn. . . Brown has three dogs. And a dog house. . . Furniture Workers Union was enjoined Monday. . . Steno's Union is presenting agreements right and left. . . Sam Davis was elected Board Member of 563. . . Froggie feeds his dog chicken. . . Rabbi Gordon has written a series of articles on the Minneapolis labor situation. . . Employers don't like Local 544.

The 1937 Labor Review will appear in a new size. Very nice, too.

The office of the Joint Council will soon be opened at 257 Plymouth Ave.

Lay-offs are coming thick and fast for the Independent Truckers.

Pete Harris is looking for new worlds to conquer.

A committee of Independents will leave for Washington soon.

Organizing meat cutters is hard on the eyes.

Harold Hedengren, steward at the Fuel Distributors, has ledger page number 544.

Hollywood candy workers marched back into the factory last week.

Trouble in the noodle shops again.

That transfer thing is finally settled.

Try to name an industry in Minneapolis that is not organized or in the process of being organized.

The CIO has the auto industry 90 per cent organized. And in a year.

A club has been formed by union members at the National Tea Warehouse.

Members of the office staff wish to thank the Independents and the Executive Board of Local 544 for their Xmas gifts.

Union books are up to date.

Pittsburgh cab drivers want to know how to become organized.

Sanitary Drivers are making fine progress.

Building Labors Union held elections Saturday.

The new Warehouse Union will hold its first big rally Wednesday, January 13. Governor Benson has been invited to speak.

Harlan, grey haired committee-man at Yellow Cab, danced Sunday night.

**NEW YEARS WISH**

One hundred per cent union organization in Minneapolis during 1937.

**LABOR... Looks at the Press**

From a Saturday Evening Post editorial: The phrase "poverty in the midst of plenty" is an intellectual menace. . . It makes people think that there is something inherently sinister in the economic system.

What do YOU think about a system that condemns tens of millions of men, women and children to starvation and war? "Sinister" is much too kind a word for it.

Marine strikers in Philadelphia sing the following ditty:

"The reds have captured the water front,"

Boake Carter howls.

And there ain't a damn thing moving

Except Mayor Wilson's bowels.

Mayor Wilson, in case you don't know, is one of those "friends of labor" who declares picketing illegal, plays ball with the right-wing labor fakers, and sends cops to club down strikers.

Workers in Minneapolis know the type well.

Anti-climax Dept.: What chance of a good career (or even a job) after 40? Better than ever before. Better than a generation ago. Better than a century ago. Better than most people past 40 believe. —Walter (Around the Corner) Pitkin.

Berlin news item: Theatrical and literary criticism were abolished in Germany today by a decree of Goebbels, minister of propaganda. The creative artist, he said, henceforth will have only one critic to worry about—the state.

And WHAT a critic—when it can back up its prejudices with blackjacks, and castor oil and concentration camps.

Fun Among the Bosses: That the moving pictures of the Atlantic City Rotary Convention continue popular is evidenced by the following reports: The Rotary Club of Muscatine, Iowa, showed the picture one week, and the next week dramatized significant convention scenes, using its own members to impersonate convention notables.—The Rotarian.

Convention what?

**Warehouse Union To Open Office At 257 Plymouth**

The Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316, is planning on opening an office at 257 Plymouth Ave. N., the new home of the Teamsters Joint Council. The increasing number of calls for information regarding Local 20316, make the establishment of such an office of the utmost importance to the success of the union. The local will move in as soon as remodeling and alterations are completed.

**Corrections on Transfer Pact**

Articles 11 and 12 Changed from Those Printed Last Week

11. Starting June 1st, 1937, all the above hourly classifications to be increased 2 1/2 c per hour. It is understood and agreed between the contracting parties that the wage agreement as set forth in this contract may at the request of either party be opened for further consideration on May 1, 1937. The clause in the agreement calling for a 2 1/2 c increase to be in effect as of November 1, 1936. Any back wages are to be paid as rapidly as proper pay roll checks can be made. This agreement to terminate June 1, 1938.

12. All time worked on New Years Day, Declaration Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Sundays shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-third, Long Distance Household Goods Moving excepted.

Flasher, N. D., news item: A 42 year old WPA worker and father was in a critical condition today after attempting to end his life by slashing his throat. Physicians said the man ascribed his act to financial worries.

What? Financial worries on WPA.?

The Rev. What's-his-name ought to call in his Suicide Prevention Society and see what he could do about THAT.

Cannes, France, news item: Wallis Simpson, in her Christmas shopping expedition, yesterday bought a necktie, presumably for the Duke. It was navy blue with red and white dots.

The Colonel's lady and Mrs. O'Grady, you know—no man can beat the Xmas tie racket.

But let's get back to business.

Famous Last Words: The Mayor proposed that Dr. Prosser act as a neutral member of the board to represent the public.

The last word from Dr. Harold G. Moulton, president of the Brookings Institution: Living standards can be best improved by longer hours and no large increase in wages.

Whose living standards, Doctor? That Brookings Institution is certainly a subversive group—spreading ideas like that among the masses—of bosses.

C. W. Young, president of Young Management Corporation on the other hand: The reduction of technological unemployment through shorter hours of work and higher wage scales must be accomplished if we are to realistically protect our economic structure.

You pays your money and you takes your choice.