

FWS Member and Three More Minneapolis Children are Bitten by RATS!

While the welfare board dabbles with the problem of improving living quarters for relief clients, four more Minneapolis residents were bitten by rats during the past few days!

Three of them were children of Mr. and Mrs. Harris J. Stevens, member of Local 544's Federal Workers Section. The fourth was Mr. Stevens himself.

This dreadful situation, whereby the wealthy real estate interests are feeding the children of the poor to rats, must be ended immediately!

Two weeks ago, the Northwest Organizer told of the two Jacques babies who were attacked by great rats.

Last week two daughters in the Stevens family—Mildred, 16, and Muriel, 14—were attacked by rats in the middle of the night. Both girls were bitten on the forehead. Muriel, in addition, was gnawed at the arm.

Tuesday night the rat attacked Mr. Stevens.

And last Sunday night, Arthur, a son, had his thumb severely chewed by rats.

The Stevens, with their seven children, live out near the edge of town, at 5805 Twentieth Avenue South. Their little home rents for \$15 a month. The Stevens moved out there because they couldn't find any place in the city at the low rental they were allowed.

No one will ever know how many hundreds of Minneapolis families have babies and children who have been bitten, molested and contaminated by rats, and who have remained silent about such conditions. Most people feel a false shame about telling of such horrors.

Harris Stevens has been

working on WPA for the last two years. A blacksmith by trade, he was unemployed for a saw his scan- away until WPA.

home out on Twenty- five is located near a sma. dump. There is a larger dump a few blocks away. The Stevens attribute the influx of rats to the presence of these dumps.

A committee from Local 544's Federal Workers Section visited the Stevens last Friday and offered to aid them. Mrs. Stevens, a neat, friendly woman, calmly discussed the tragic situation. Mildred, a nice-looking red-haired girl, admitted she dreaded the night. She feels safer now by moving in to sleep on the davenport in the living-room. Neither Mrs. Stevens nor her husband feel any grievance against the landlord, whom they say is as

3-Year-Old Boy Latest Victim!

On Monday morning another Minneapolis child—little David Swanson, 3, son of Harold Swanson, member of the Federal Workers Section—was bitten by a huge rat. The Swansons live in the Summer housing project, an island in the center of the worst slum district in the city.

Three-year-old David was playing in the yard and fell in a shadow casement window well. His cries attracted the janitor who pulled him out. "A rabbit bit me," sobbed David, pointing to his thumb which was streaming with blood from a deep bite. The janitor investigated the well and found a huge rat the size of a house cat. David was rushed to the hospital. The rat was killed and sent to the Health Commissioner for examination.

The rat had apparently crossed to the Summer project from the infested slum area bounded by Dupont Avenue, 7th Street and 11th Avenue.

good as any landlord in the city.

What lies at the bottom of the tragedy is the truly frightful housing condition in this city, which is inevitably creating situations whereby more and more little children will be served up as food for rats.

AND WHAT HAVE THE CITY AUTHORITIES DONE ABOUT IT? The welfare board has recommended that a check be made by the health commissioner of 50 of the worst houses occupied by relief clients!

Fifty houses investigated! What is wrong with thousands of Minneapolis homes is that they are not fit for human habitation. What is wrong with the welfare board is that, under the pressure of wealthy real estate interests, they are refusing to tackle the problem boldly.

A recent local housing sur-

vey has disclosed the fact that ELEVEN THOUSAND IN MINNEAPOLIS ARE NOW LIVING IN HOMES UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY!

There are hundreds of Home Loan houses in good shape in Minneapolis that are now vacant because the banks that own the houses refuse to rent them. The banks are holding them for sale, hoping, no doubt, that the new owners will lose them eventually, just like the former owners did.

As a start towards better housing, the welfare board should force these Minneapolis outposts of Wall Street to rent the Home Loan houses.

The Stassen administration can never justify its shameful refusal to establish a state housing authority which could have made some twenty mil-

lions of federal housing funds available to build decent homes for those now living in habitations unfit for human occupancy.

HOW MANY MORE KIDS MUST BE BITTEN BY RATS BEFORE OUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS WILL ACT IN THIS MATTER?

If the wealthy owners of slum property don't like the idea of using federal funds to build decent homes—well, it is just too bad for those wealthy landlords.

On Friday, the Stevens family told the FWS committee they wanted to try and stick it out until autumn in the little house at the edge of the city. They dreaded the thought of having to move into some dirty crowded hut nearer town.

But after Arthur was bitten last Sunday, Mrs. Stevens

changed her mind. On Monday she talked over the phone with an organizer from Local 544's Federal Workers Section and said she guessed they'd have to move. On Wednesday the FWS sent out a car to take Mr. and Mrs. Stevens around until a new place can be found for the family.

It is all very well to talk about the "American Standard of Living" and to ballyhoo for the "American Way" and buy signboards showing happy families in front of neat little dream cottages, like the National Association of Manufacturers does.

But until decent homes are available for the millions of American families now living in squalid, unhealthy, rat-infested quarters, any boasting about "The American Way" sounds mighty thin and hollow.

As from this hour You use your power, The World must follow you

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

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

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1939

PRICE 5 CENTS

On Stassen Anti-Labor Bill—

Local Unions Meet Sunday to Plan Defense

Stassen Bills Spur Labor's Campaign

Opposition to Reactionary State Administration Unites Minneapolis Unions Behind Labor-Liberal State Campaign Receiving Enthusiastic Support of Unions—Stassen Legislature Strikes Blow at Unemployed

As the full significance of the Stassen administration's reactionary blows began to sink into the minds of Minneapolis workers this week, a deep political ferment spread from union to union and developed into a wave of fervid support for T. A. Eide and all the candidates of the labor-liberal ticket.

The moves of the state administration against the unions and the unemployed have given Minneapolis workers just a taste of what Stassen has in store for them. The conviction has grown among tens of thousands of Minneapolis progressives that a labor administration must be ushered into the city hall to ask as a bulwark against the boss-controlled state capitol.

The campaign for the union candidates blossomed out early in the week with Eide, candidate for mayor, speaking nightly to union meetings and receiving enthusiastic welcomes. Veteran laborites are unanimous in estimating that the ranks of organized labor are more united and determined to win a labor victory this spring in Minneapolis than they have been in any previous political struggle of the past eight years.

City headquarters for the union ticket have been opened at 250 Fourth Street South where, under the direction of Harold Seavey, campaign manager, the work for labor's candidates is assuming impressive proportions.

Smarter under the blows of the reactionary state administration, labor and its liberal allies are convinced that only a local labor administration can shield unionists and the unemployed from the new attacks that are sure to be launched by the Stassen gang.

Many workers, too late, are now beginning to realize exactly what the Stassen anti-labor bill and the cut in state relief funds will mean to them.

"The Stassen bill says we have to wait ten days before we can strike," said a building trades worker. "Why in ten days, a chiseling boss could have completed a house, and where would we be?"

"To get a three million dollar slash in state relief funds on top of the cut in WPA sure spells a hard year ahead for the unemployed," said a jobless truck driver.

Despite the fact that Minneapolis (Continued on page 4)

Land O'Lakes Gets Proposal From 471

After receiving the endorsement of the Land o' Lakes workers, the proposed new working agreement drafted by the Milk Drivers Union Local 471 Negotiating Committee has been forwarded to the company.

A meeting between the company and the union committee is expected to take place prior to Local 471's next membership meeting.

N. D. Farmers Demand War Referendum

The North Dakota Farmers Union, the leading state unit of the national Farmers Union, is now putting on a campaign calling for a national referendum before Roosevelt or congress can declare war.

In an editorial in the N. D. Union Farmer for April 17th, this organization states its position: "The Farmers Union, at least the majority of its membership, believe that the people who must fight wars, die in wars, and pay for wars, should have the right to vote on wars."

Main Enemy at Home

"The greatest enemies to democracy are within our doors and you cannot fight them with guns, airplanes and battleships. Hunger, nakedness, no jobs, sickness, lack of the right kind of education, fear and prejudices can do more to shatter the belief of the citizens of a country than the 'glittering generalities' of a flock of Nazis. Conditions like these lay the foundation for such propaganda . . .

"If democracies are intelligent enough to elect Congressmen who make laws for them to live under, democracies ought also to be intelligent enough to make certain life and death decisions for themselves . . . We're all human and make mistakes—but so are, and so DO Congressmen, Senators . . . and diplomats."

544 Union Defense Guard To Hold Dance Saturday

The Minneapolis Union Defense Guard of Local 544 invites all its friends to attend the Spring Bazaar and Dance to be presented by the Guard this Saturday evening, April 29th, in the ballroom at 257 Plymouth Avenue North. Tickets are only 25c a couple. The entertainment committee promises lots of laughs, and good music for dancing. Doors will open at 8 p. m. Proceeds of the affair will go to pay expenses of the defense guard, an organization composed of union men banded together to defend the union movement against vigilantes and fascist gangsters.

Teamios Win 9-Day Strike vs. Elscholtz

The 9-day strike against the Elscholtz Tri-City Lines, called Wednesday, April 12th, was settled last Thursday, April 20th, with a smashing union victory which calls for the payment of over \$1,000 in back pay due three drivers, the satisfactory settlement of other minor grievances that had accumulated, and the signing of the standard area over-the-road pact covering all Elscholtz operations in North Dakota and Minnesota. In addition, city agreements were signed in Fargo, Grand Forks, Bismarck, Minot and Bemidji.

A union committee, headed by Jack Wirth, business agent of the Fargo Drivers Union Local 116, effected the settlement.

The strike grew out of a long series of grievances against the company combined with the company's refusal to sign the standard over-road pact. The tie-up was effective in St. Paul, Grand Forks,

Warren Shade Signs Pact For New Year

On Friday the Warren Shade company renewed its working agreement for another year with the Furniture Workers Union Local 1859. There were no changes over the 1938 contract. About twenty men are involved.

Wirth Heads Committee

Active on the union committee headed by Jack Wirth were John Geary, vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters; Floyd Coverston of the Grand Forks Drivers Union Local 581; Harvey Grammasin of the Du-

Fargo, Minot, Bemidji, Devils Lake, Jamestown and Valley City. The settlement calls for the payment of \$895 in back wages to H. Arnew; \$156 to Henry Bredell; \$45 to W. Gilge. All three may re-enter the company's employ-

Sailors Union Wins Smashing Victory Over Government, Beats Fink Halls

One of the most significant trade union victories in recent years has just been won by the Sailors Union of the Pacific against the biggest boss in America—the federal government. The long fight of the militant West Coast sailors against attempts of the U. S. Maritime Commission to establish fink hiring halls on the coast ended with the signing of a written pledge by Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins to discontinue the government fink halls.

The pledge from Hopkins came in the midst of a coast-wide strike vote being taken by the AFL's Sailors Union. When the Maritime Commission moved to open a gov-

ernment-controlled hiring hall in Seattle similar to the government fink halls on the East Coast, the West Coast sailors answered by polling their members for a coast-wide strike.

WON UNION HALLS IN '37 The Sailors Union of the Pacific had won the right to union hiring halls in the 99-day maritime strike in 1936-1937. The fight against the government fink halls on both coasts has been led almost entirely by the Sailors Union. The National Maritime Union on the East Coast, dominated by the Communist Party, is following a pro-war policy which has prevented the seamen in the East from taking effective action against the

fink halls. While the strike vote was being taken in the West, Harry Lundeberg, secretary of the Sailors Union, carried the fight to Washington. "Madame Perkins has dealt with the S.U.P. before and she knows our action on the Copeland Fink Book," he reported to his union. "She knows the S.U.P. is one organization that is not bluffing when they say they are striking the coast."

Soon afterward, Harry Hopkins gave his pledge to Lundeberg, writing: "I can state that the shipping commissioner's office will not be used as a hiring hall for anyone. If shipping commission-

ers are at the present time maintaining hiring halls, it is the intention of the Department of Commerce to discontinue this practice."

Will Keep Powder Dry Despite the written assurance from Hopkins, the Sailors Union will complete its strike vote, to be prepared against any renegeing by the government.

This signal union victory is a blow to the plans of the government to make the sailors an auxiliary to the Navy in preparation for the coming war, and is also a serious blow to Harry Bridges, CIO director on the West Coast, who was preparing to welcome the fink halls.

Minneapolis Central Labor Union Sends Out Conference Call—All Affiliated Locals Instructed to Send Executive Boards to Defense Meeting Sunday, 2 p. m.—Stassen Begins to Bare Teeth at Unions—Local Bosses Are Preparing for Attack on Organized Labor

With the Stassen labor relations bill now a harsh reality, the union movement began this week to lay plans immediately for a unified defense against the coming onslaught on the wages, working conditions and organizations of the workers in this section.

At the initiative of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, a call has gone out to all local unions affiliated to the central labor body for a special conference to be held this Sunday afternoon, April 30th, at 2 p. m. in the big hall.

Each affiliated local is urgently requested to send its executive board to the Sunday meeting.

A local labor attorney will present a thorough legal analysis of the Stassen bill.

To Protect Movement

"The officers of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union believe that a serious situation has now developed in our state with the passage of this very vicious Labor Relations Act, just passed and signed by the Governor," reads the conference call.

"That our local movement may know what it is up against and how best to proceed in our method of meetings this legislation with a unified effort instead of some one or more unions being wrecked by it, or many of our officers being jailed because of not knowing what to do, we are calling a special meeting of the officers (not to exceed seven from any one union) of all of our affiliated local unions for next Sunday afternoon, April 30, 1939, two o'clock, in the big hall at these headquarters. We ask you as secretary of your local immediately to contact your officers, if you do not meet in the meantime, and have them present at this very important conference next Sunday.

"We believe you will agree with us that this present State Administration has gone a long way to cripple and wreck our splendid movement here in Minneapolis, and now they want to try and capture our City Administration to make it still tougher on us."

The conference call is signed by Roy Wier, financial secretary and organizer of the CLU.

Stassen Shows Teeth No sooner had the bosses obtained their first objective, that of getting their labor bill through the legislature, than Governor Stassen began to discard his hypocritically amiable tone towards the unions. After the legislature had adjourned last Wednesday, Stassen went on the air. In discussing his anti-labor bill, he now took a bolder tone: "If labor, or some of labor," he warned, "employers, or some employers, set out upon a program

(Continued on page 4)

Tune In On WDRG

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week from 7 to 7:15 p. m. to hear the broadcasts sponsored by the Labor-Liberal Campaign Committee.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

FWS Youth To Have Ball Team

Fresh from its championship exploits on the basketball floor, the Youth Section of Local 544 started whipping together a diamondball team this week that will be entered in the Park Board senior division. Many fine prospects came out Tuesday afternoon for the first practice session.

A practice game was played with a northeast team and, with Lyle Flaherty, 544's playing manager, doing the pitching, the union youth won 4 to 3 in a 15-inning session.

All boys interested in trying out for the team are urged to get in touch with the office at 257 Plymouth Avenue, second floor.

LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By R. F. Gilmore

The J. R. Clark fraction meeting was held April 19th. The turnout was below expectations, due no doubt to the fact that several fraction meetings have been recently passed up.

However, the pressing business that has taken up so much of the committee's time is gradually clearing up, and more time will be spent on these fraction meetings. Fraction meetings are important and don't forget it. Eternal vigilance is the price we must pay for everything we get above a mere subsistence level. So don't lower your guard.

California, Here I Come

Melvin Lankula has decided the grass looks greener in the other pasture. Melvin left for California Saturday.

Andrew Hoffman is in the Swedish hospital. He has lost 46 pounds. Our best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery.

All the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't get John Wicks down to the dentist's Saturday morning. In fact they couldn't even wake him up.

These modern times—All this here goldarned machinery whizzing around gets a guy. Why just last week one of those blamed newfangled gadgets just up and whizzed the cap right off Russell Johnson's head slicker'n a whistle and sucked it up into the sawdust room. Lucky Russ got his head out in time.

Look down, look down that lone-some road before you walk home alone, sighed Walter Janstrom as he trudged bravely homeward after work.

Mrs. Gertrude Engelbreton and Lucille have written the union expressing their sincere thanks and appreciation "for your kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy."

The officers and the membership of the Veneer Workers Union Local 2582 of Wausau, Wisconsin, express their deepest sympathy at the death of the beloved brother, William Engelbreton. President Pete Kostroski wrote us from Wausau.

John Thompson of New Richmond, Wisconsin, sent a long letter, too long to quote, extending sympathy and sorrow at the loss of Brother Engelbreton.

From Herman Opland, secretary treasurer of the Twin City Carpenters District Council, came the following: "Your letter informing us of the untimely death of Brother William Engelbreton, your financial secretary, was received with deep sorrow. Therefore be it resolved that the Twin City Carpenters District Council at its regular meeting, April 10th, 1939, herewith extends to all the members of Local 1859 and family of the deceased Brother our sympathy in your loss of a dear member and co-worker."

Ingvald Haugen addressed the membership at the last fraction meeting. We look forward to more from Brother Haugen.

The Warren Shade pact has been signed for the coming year.

The Air-loc Seating contract is in the state of negotiation. A fine group of men, the Air-loc workers. We had the pleasure of meeting them last Friday night.

On March 4th, 1939, the Fed-

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Demand that Paper Sales Be Discontinued



In an attempt to justify the dirty and unhealthy practice of "paper sales," some Minneapolis school principals argue that the kids only have to handle paper from their own houses.

On a recent Wednesday morning the Organizer photographer snapped this picture in the yard of the Clinton school. A school teacher is ordering the kids to clean up the grounds around the stacks of paper. These children are grubbing around, being exposed to filth and disease.

On Monday afternoon the Minneapolis board of

education voted down a proposal backed by Arthur LeSueur and Owen Cunningham, board members, that paper sales be discontinued. Lynn Thompson led the attack on the proposal. Candidates for the board of education will be voted on at the primaries May 8th.

LeSueur revealed Monday that at least one principal told a pupil if she didn't bring some paper for the paper sale she couldn't see a show which the paper sale proceeds were to make possible.

ANOTHER LOAD From City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664

By Wally Raze

Well, spring has come and April showers have put a mortgage on a couple Saturdays for most of us on the Park payroll, who lost time on account of rain. Fishing season being still closed, alleviates the situation to a great extent. All the boys are back on the job and good natured grins are seen in large quantities, everywhere.

It seems there is a busy season ahead for the boulevard paving crews this summer. Bros. Anderson, Tenquist and Berry have been tussling with the road-hogs and tar-tank trucks for a goodly spell and so far have won every round. The equipment is in good shape, too.

Bro. P. Larson goes back on "Old Betsy," the wobbling "White" Whale, Monday. The old wreck will make a real he-man out of anybody who can stick with it ten days. The second ten days will wreck any he-man. Keep your chin up and the emergency pulled halfway back at all times, Bro. Larson.

It behooves every working man and woman in Minneapolis to support 100 per cent the candidates endorsed by the C. L. U. for the offices of Mayor, Alderman and Park Commissioner. If we should be saddled with a city council and mayor of the same stripe as those who comprise the present state government it will be a sad day for organized labor. Don't forget to vote "NO" on the proposed city manager charter amendment.

Bro. Fisher's coin-collecting activities suffered a sudden slump last week. Two coppers was the best he could do. Cheer up, Stan, there are several miles of gutters still unswep and you might hit a jackpot this week.

I wonder where Bro. Shaughnessy went for that pack of cigars? I understand he's a ninety minute man, which will probably explain everything.

At last I've discovered a man whose name has a definite bearing on his occupation. I see by the paper the commander of the British Mediterranean fleet is a guy named Backhouse. I infer from that, he is a rear admiral. At least he should be.

"One-Two-Three" says I'm getting him in the doghouse, sure as shootin'—"Boom."

Bro. Axel "The Moose" doesn't hold with coffee and sinkers at 8 a. m. It makes him nervous, just to think about it.

Bro. Butch gave us the laugh a eral Trade Commission cracked down on the Associated Training Institute of Minneapolis and forced a cease and desist order restraining the school from deluding the public as to the benefits to be gained from a Diesel engineering course. Some of these courses cost as much as \$450.

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More Firms Negotiating With 20316

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 20316 is in the midst of negotiations with many firms. Negotiations have started with the McLaughlin, Gormley, King company for the 1939 agreement. The present agreement expires May 1st. The company has agreed to some concessions.

Negotiations have also been started with the Janney, Semple Hill firm. Some progress has been made and other meetings are planned this week.

The general membership meeting of Local 20316, held Tuesday night, filled the third-floor auditorium at 257 Plymouth. With enthusiasm the members voiced their determination to achieve their goal of winning decent wages, hours and working conditions in the industry despite the Stassen anti-labor bill.

With the Dairy Workers Local 471

By George Bergquist

Last week the Clover Leaf bowlers held their annual banquet at the Nicollet Hotel. Henry Christianson was a fine M. C. and Father Duffy was the principal speaker. Nothing was said about "spring practice" but it is understood the best bowlers from all the creameries are keeping an eye on MacCarlson's new system.

Here is an opportunity for you "golfin' milkmen." Some of the brothers are organizing a golf league among the different companies this year. Already, Ohleen's Clover Leaf and Northland have entered teams. It is hoped we can make it a six or eight team league. If you are interested and haven't been contacted as yet, call either Clate Lewcock at Ohleen's or Einar Nelson at the Park Board Office. They will gladly give you additional information and cooperate with you in every way.

Besides being a very efficient and thorough recording secretary, Jiggs Donaghue performs another mighty big job; he sets a noble example for the rest of the board, plus the business agents.

Ernest Steigen got twenty days in the "works" for stealing bottles of milk in the vicinity of Girard and Thirty-third St. S. This district was a "shortage spot" for many drivers during the winter months. When caught, Ernest had

week ago when he left our crew. Said he was going to be a carpenter. Durn funny looking hammer he's been using all week though; looked like a post-maul from where I sat.

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one Ohleen, one Northland and one Franklin quart of milk. Here is our chance to find the best quart of milk in Minneapolis. We can contact Ernest after his "twenty days" he used them all and should know. Brother Elcessar is convinced Steiger's butter choice was quite well established.

We have been trying to find out why Vic Olsen was strutting along with the Crown Prince of Denmark at the Hotel Nicollet. Either Vic does not know his Prince or else he was trying to line up a "new account." Flashing cameras and secret service men must be an every day occurrence to some people.

Bowling is out and kittenball is here with a bang. Most of the teams are already well organized and doing lots of practice work. Last year's championship team, the Clover Leaf, will be managed again by Hanson. He claims most of the old talent is still there. The two highest teams in the league will furnish us with a hot game at the union picnic.

Gus Swanson at South Franklin had been taking some "pills" for a backache. Joe Morris had to try some because he was down a bit. To Joe, these pills meant complete rejuvenation. Maybe, Joe, you really have something there.

Last Friday the negotiating committee held a meeting with the L.O.L. group, brother and sister members together. The meeting was very well attended and a program was set up for their negotiations. After the fluid milk contracts are out of the way the others will be taken one at a time. The negotiating committee will be busy this week again with the milk dealers.

We have reports that some members of Local 471 are buying milk every other day. Are they trying to cut their own throats? Isn't their family dear enough so they can be furnished with fresh milk once a day? Perhaps the By-Law Committee should get busy at once and take care of this abuse.

North Carolina Drivers Form State Council

A Teamsters Joint Council has just been formed in North Carolina, which holds regular meetings on the fourth Sunday of each month. All drivers unions in the state are sending delegates to the Council, which held its second meeting April 23rd. The Council is supporting the strike of over-road drivers at Wilmington which has been on since October 30th against the Southern Oil Transportation company.

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I'm against shorter hours for workers. They'd just have more time to waste and get into trouble.

Friend Describes Unionism In Southern Section of U. S.

The following letter, interesting for its description of the state of the union movement in the deep South, was received recently by the Northwest Organizer from one of its friends. We pass it on to our readers.

From R. M.

The unions in the Miami, Florida, area are not typically Southern for the reason that the bulk of the population is made up of Northern people, who are more accustomed to unionism than the native Southerner who has spent all his days in a mill town or at agricultural pursuits.

A surprisingly large number of skilled workers from the North migrate South for the winter and work in the trades at ridiculously low wages, to the demoralization of the regular resident workers. A great many of these Northerners have union affiliations in the North but choose to bury their cards and work at cut rates. The bricklayers scale of \$1.50 has been known to fade away to an anemic 60c per hour by some erstwhile unionist who has his tail around a palm tree, a trowel in one hand and a coconut in the other, plus a conscience that has been nipped in the bud by previous Northern winters. These workers from the North obtain steeper work by cutting the scale in half; besides, they can go back North in the spring, dig up their union cards and go to work at good union wages.

A closer check-up by Northern unions of these half men-half finks would help remedy this condition. It would be a good idea for Southern locals to have a few men out canvassing construction jobs getting all information possible and contacting the Northern unions so the strays can be disciplined. There is no doubt that a warning and a threat of disciplinary action against these abuses would have definite results if distributed to the whole membership of Northern locals towards the fall of the year.

Jacklegs

One of the greatest problems facing organized labor in the big cities in the Southeastern section is the large supply of men having a slight amount of experience in building construction work, gained from hammering together a shed or laying a foundation for a neighbor's barn on a share-work basis. A job at 40c hourly at building trades work seems a good wage to these people because of their pauperized and non-union background. Southern Florida swarms with workers of this type coming in from Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas.

Keep Big Firms in Line
Speaking of Miami in particular, the unions are able to keep the major construction companies fairly well organized. Free-lance workers and chiseling shoestring contractors are almost impossible to cope with. The FHA has further complicated matters because most of this construction is done by fink labor, unless otherwise specified by the home builder when letting the bid to the contractor. This is very rarely done so that the small home building, which is moving quite briskly, is done by finks.

Southeastern Council Suggested
It has been suggested that a union council of Southeastern

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states be established to promote organization of the Central South states and tie down the skittish jacklegs. No doubt something in the nature of our own North Central District Drivers Council would go a long way to solving some of these problems.

All the trades in the Florida area are organized and have wage scales that compare with the North. Very creditable results have been brought about through the hard work of the union business agents, but still in most crafts there are more non-union than union men working, and kick-backs and private agreements between bosses and cardsmen are all too frequent.

Employers' Alliances

The employers of this area seem to give less trouble to unions than occasional news stories would seem to indicate. Labor-hating business men's associations, such as our Associated Industries and Citizens Alliances, don't seem to exist. No doubt when the unions become more of a driving force, the labor-baiters will show their heads.

Although much is heard in the North about vigilante committees, the flogging of union men, etc., the Florida unions seem to have things well in hand, and there is no more fear of physical violence from the bosses than in the average Northern union.

The boss press sometimes likes to give the impression that business agents are so busy dodging alligators and night-riders in the everglades that they have no time for organizational work. But a trip to any of the labor temples will show a beehive of activity. The members take their meetings very seriously and horseplay is absent from the meetings. Many locals use the complete ritual with password and secret knocks.

New Clerks Union

The chain-store clerks throughout the South are on the way to one hundred per cent organization. A drastic chain-store tax evolved by some of the Southern states, which would have driven the stores out of existence, was fought by the AFL, and as a result the employers place no obstacle in the way of unionizing the employees. The Clerks Union will no doubt develop into one of the most powerful in the South.

Drivers Union

The far-reaching influence of our North Central District Drivers Council isn't always realized. One result of the over-the-road agreement sponsored by the NCDDC is the setting up of a nucleus of a union in every part of the country. In Miami the driving craft has had difficulty in organization, and finds that only two companies are completely union. These are union because they operate over the road and non-union drivers wouldn't get to first base in Northern territory.

Concluded next week

DRINK KATO BEER
DRINK MODERATELY
MINNESOTA WINE AND SPIRITS INSTITUTE, Inc.
(Comprised of Minnesota Wholesale Wine and Liquor Dealers)

100% UNION BAR
"Where Old Friends Meet"
401 Plymouth Avenue North HY. 9741
One Block from General Drivers UNION HEADQUARTERS

No janitor work
USE GAS HEAT
IN YOUR HOME

The 289 Blab

By A. M. Ogren
Next meeting: Retail Drivers, Thursday, May 4th, 8 p. m. sharp.

Glimpses at the dance Saturday night: Loren Johnson busy as a cat on a tin roof... Cliff Lindblom sitting down resting his dogs... Alice Shoop pounding the ivories on the piano on the second floor while an assorted crowd including myself "sang"... Warren Larson doing the Russian Rhumba or something... Mrs. Ash not looking for Sam... The Three Yodelers getting a big hand... Mrs. Bud Larson getting a third helping of roastbeef sandwiches... the absence of Georgie Brown... Howie Pehm still the ladies' man although slipping a little... Gene Pillon telling Joe this was his night to howl, and boy, was he howling... Jimmie Hanna and Frank LaGrave doing a swell job of taking tickets and stamping the hands.

That's about all I could see, but boy, oh boy, what a dance. Everything worked swell and Bobby Phillips' orchestra really gave out. Special thanks are extended the Refreshment Committee, Leonard and Mrs. Hagen, Mrs. Loren Johnson, Merle Johnson, Mrs. Joe O'Hare and all the rest.

Wally Myers of Regans returned to work Monday morning after his two weeks vacation "all tanned up and stuff," after putting in a week shoveling snow trying to get down and take a look at his lawn.

Here's some more dope on Carl All, who is running for alderman in the Third ward. He is 37 years old, has been a resident in the ward 22 years, and a home owner for 12 years. Is a charter member of our local, which should prove he is a good union man. Carl has served the merchants of the Third ward for 14 years, and during that time has naturally picked up sufficient knowledge and understanding of their needs and problems to make a real representative for them. We need men like Carl in the city council, young, honest and aggressive. So get out and plug for Carl All for alderman of the Third ward, and I mean plug. Come on, you members and wives, let's see you put Carl on the ticket with the biggest vote of all.

The bunch at Regans are taking their fishing trip in style, as I hear they have chartered a bus from Northland.

I wonder what the big attraction is out on 38th and Grand? From what I hear you can't get through the intersection for bakery trucks. Why don't you mugs let a guy in on it?

More on the Dance: Over 500 people attended... Mickey and Mrs. Dunne coming in to say hello... Harry and Evelyn DeBoer sitting over in the corner drinking pop with Jack Herman and his wife... Every bakery represented with a big crowd from Excelsior Bakery, also Godey pickles, Blue Moon cheese, popcorn men, candy men and of course their wives.

Calling All 20316 Soft Ball Players
All men and women who are members of the Warehouse Union and wish to try out for the two diamondball teams the union will sponsor this summer, are asked to report at Parade Grounds 1 at 10 a. m. Sunday, April 30th.

BUY UNION LABEL GOODS DEMAND UNION CLERKS

Fidelity State Bank
Place your Federal Housing Loans and Auto Finance with us. The only bank controlled by Labor and business men.
INDEPENDENT

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Wisconsin To Form FCL Council

The Wisconsin State Federation of Labor and the various cooperative and farm organizations are supporting the idea of setting up a state-wide Farmer-Cooperative-Labor Council patterned after the Minnesota Council, it was announced last week by William T. D. Campaigne, manager of the Cooperative Consumers of Kenosha.

An initial pledge of \$500 yearly toward the support of such a council has already been obtained. The Wisconsin State Federation of Labor at its last convention endorsed the idea of joint cooperative and labor action. Conferences to further the Wisconsin Council will be held at various places throughout the state in coming weeks.

131 Players to Practice Sunday

The first outdoor practice for the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131 diamondball team will be held this Sunday, 10:30 a. m. at No. 1 diamond on Stewart Field, 26th Street and 10th Avenue South. All candidates for the team are instructed to report for practice to Wyman Webb, team manager.

Banquet Ends Bowling Season

Players in the Teamsters Joint Council bowling league ended the 1939 season Monday night with a banquet at Fransen's restaurant attended by all the players. A happy evening was spent, and prize money was distributed to the various winners. The winning teams were the Soft Drinks and the Gold Bubble, which tied for first place with 46 games won and 38 lost.

Ruberoid Signs With Local 20316

A new agreement has been signed between the Ruberoid company and the Warehouse Workers Union Local 20316. The pact provides for wage adjustments, a more specific seniority clause and gains in working conditions.

Wisconsin Teamios To Meet April 27th

Drivers unions in Wisconsin will hold a statewide conference Thursday and Friday, April 27th and 28th, in Stevens Point. General problems of the trucking industry will be taken up at the two-day conference. Every three months such statewide meetings are held.

Nature gave all things in common for the use of all; usurpation created private rights. Property hath no rights.—SAINT AMBROSE.

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INDEPENDENT

Horrors of Relief Bared in Omaha

Omaha, Neb.—The unemployed are starving to death in Omaha, Nebraska, today. That is what prominent social welfare executives testified to at a public four-hour session in the local YWCA a few weeks ago.

"Only last week two relief clients who were waiting in the office to get certified, fainted dead away. When they were revived, it was found they were suffering from hunger."

This is part of the testimony of Mrs. Valpey Fore of the relief certification bureau in Omaha, Nebraska, presented March 13th to a public jury selected by the Omaha League of Women Voters. The jury was presided over by Mrs. C. K. Ross, with Dean Edgar A. Holt of the Omaha university examining the parade of witnesses.

Shadow of Hunger
Edith Dumont Smith, Family Welfare association executive, testified that her office was called upon in January to alleviate 42 cases of extreme hunger of people getting direct relief from the county.

After hearing all sorts of witnesses—from relief clients to Community Chest big-shots—the grand jury unanimously agreed that: "We find the relief situation in our community seriously inadequate. We feel that county assistance is not meeting the need which exists. We feel that those who receive county relief receive it inadequately, and many who are deserving are not receiving it. . . . We feel this serious situation demands further study and action."

How Unemployed Are Gyped
Among the startling facts about the handling of relief under the direction of the labor-hater E. F. Magaret, county assistance director, was the disclosure that about \$40,000 was spent in 1938 for administrative expenses for \$190,000 expended. In short, for every \$10 that went to the unemployed, over \$2 went to administration. This disproportion speaks worlds about the inefficiency of Magaret, and perhaps helps to explain why that detestable individual didn't dare appear before the public jury. No explanations were offered of his absence.

Jobless Overcharged
It was further discovered that groceries which cost the county \$56,000 in 1938 were "sold" to relief clients for \$74,920, at prices substantially higher than the going retail price in Omaha grocery stores. The discrepancy of \$19,000 was not accounted for.

Many clients testified to the heart-breaking difficulties encountered in trying to get coal, milk and medicine, and the time wasted in being shuttled from one relief office to another.

All in all, the appalling facts brought to light by the public jury make up the most damning indictment of Magaret and those responsible for relief conditions in Omaha. They constitute an even more damning indictment of the rotten profit system that condemns

thousands of families to live worse than dogs, literally starving to death.

FWS Preparing Fight
The Federal Workers Section of the Omaha General Drivers Union Local 554 is staging a membership drive to organize all WPA and relief clients into a militant body, the sort that will be able to strike smashing blows at the monstrous and inhuman relief conditions in Douglas County. It is all very well for the clubwomen to hold a public hearing turning the spotlight on the festering sores of Omaha. But only union organization can CHANGE these terrible conditions.

We regret to announce that Jack Schmidt from Garbers Laundry, who recently had an operation, is very low at this writing and is given little hope of recovery.

Last week we erred in stating that Frank Nelson had been employed by Royal Laundry. He is at Adolph Anderson's.

We have quite a large list of customers of the Dy-dee Wash who will be advised by letter that their diapers are being delivered by deputy sheriffs accompanied by armed guards, instead of by union drivers. This, despite the fact the firm has a closed shop agreement with Local 131.

The court dissolved the restraining order against Local 183 so they are back with a picket line again.

We have a few drivers who are at present somewhat delinquent in dues. It's a shame too, because some of them are skating on thin ice with their bosses and may need the union to help protect their jobs. Others are ineligible for sick benefits.

All out for diamondball practice this Sunday morning at the Steward Field.

The fair trade practice act for the D. C. got lost in the shuffle but the merchants 10% mark-up bill came through and we think the industry will be able to work under that.

We have been advised by our attorney that the Artistic Cleaner did not take advantage of the 90-day stay granted them by the state supreme court to prepare an appeal to the U. S. supreme court. Judgment is now to be entered in our favor. That makes our batting average to date in law suits with this finicky outfit exactly 1,000%.

Keep \$10 handy at all times if you are out on the streets after hours. That's the penalty for violations, and the alibis are going to have to be awfully good. Also, better get the names of some of these "black marias" that are cruising the streets.

Newly initiated attendants this week are: R. Buchanan, Skelly, 2901 26th Ave. S.; M. Whaten, Cities Service, 1352 LaSalle Ave.; L. Hardstad and R. Jalonach, Skelly, 300 10th St. S.; and C. Clayton, Pence Parking, 245 Hennepin Ave.

Lessees who signed with the Independent Lessee Section of Local 977 this week are: Hub Nelson, Skelly, 1200 W. Lake St.; J. Seashore, Cities Service, 4100 Cedar Ave.; H. Butler, Barnsdall, 2452 Lyndale Ave. S.; W. Potter, Cities Service, 3246 Nicollet Ave.; R. Steward, Shell, 2752 Cedar Ave.; L. Steward, Philip, 306 Monroe Ave. N. E.; J. Otto, Standard, 2700 Johnson St. N. E.; G. Nolan, Mobile, 1701 Como Ave.; H. Holtes, Conoco, 1100 Lowry Ave. N.; F. Kesling, Phillips, 2927 Wayzata Blvd.; A. Moran, Shell, 2458 Hennepin Ave.; R. Schultz, Phillips, 2202 Lowry Ave. N.; W. F. Anderson, Shell, 1801 Chicago Ave.; F. Gilmer, Cities Service, 1352 LaSalle Ave.; W. Haight, Shell, 1600 3rd Ave. S.; D. Kessel, Shell, 1934 Nicollet Ave.; V. Almen, Kunz, 4204 Central Ave.; F. Torrey, Shell, 3251 Central Ave.; D. Edwards, Husky, 600 W. Lake St.

Don't forget to tell all your friends to vote for Jerry Cremers for the Park Board, you all know Jerry deserves your vote.

There were so many important topics discussed at the last meeting that many of the boys had to do a lot of explaining when they arrived home.

There was only one prize won at the last meeting so attend all

Contract Dept. states contracts are now being read by the funeral directors, and we will call on them in the near future.

Don't forget the free beverage at the next meeting May 2, 1939.

The entertainment committee needs more salesmen. Get your tickets from Ernie J., or at the office of Local 912.

Reports are the warm weather has brought out the green grass, buds and hat chauffeurs.

We personally want to thank Curly and Lunde for purchasing so many tickets for our dance, and hope they will see that their many friends will buy many more.

Word has been received that Skoglund and G. Dunne are not the only ones sporting new Buicks. How about it, so and so?

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Local 131 "Gas and Suds"

Wm. Nelson and Donald Eckerman wish to express their appreciation for the assistance received from the union during their recent illness.

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Ohio Jobless Fight Anti Union Laws

That reactionary forces throughout the United States are driving to put through the "Oregon" type of union-smashing legislation is further shown this week, as it is learned from the Sawyerwood Local of the Unemployed and Project Workers Union of Ellet, Ohio, that a proposal has been made in the Ohio legislature to incorporate all union organizations.

The Sawyerwood Unemployed Union has passed a resolution branding such legislation as the work of the manufacturers' associations. "The final effect of such a law will be to strangle all trade union activity by allowing interference with the internal finances of the union, by putting restrictions on personnel and activities of the officials of the organizations, by restricting the activities of the union itself, and by forcing the opening of membership lists of the unions."

The resolution denounces the union-incorporation proposal as anti-union and anti-labor and calls on all workers and unemployed to condemn and oppose the projected legislation.

The union wishes to help those of us who are engaged in landscape work by giving us a boost in the NW Organizer. Anyone who hauls black dirt and sod, etc., should take advantage of this offer of free advertising. Write in a letter to the Organizer, 257 Plymouth, or send to me (Alderman Hornig, if you please) whatever information you think will do the business the same as you use the papers in the want ad column. The staff will try to include a story on your activities each week during the season. P. S.: Of course, you should be in good standing.

All of our unemployed who are interested in making regular contact with the union should remember to stop in every day at the office and inquire for bids. Any bids that we can obtain will be on hand from 2 'til 4. Any latest news on hand for the ITO on road work and miscellaneous construction work will be posted on a bulletin board.

The state drivers felt the heavy hand of the new administration by suffering a 15c per hour cut.

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Don't forget your civil service applications, and please see to it that your truck is registered at 1246 University, St. Paul.

Now that Tom McCue has deserted his big truck to join the common horde it is to be wondered whether he will be as active as before. Moving his rights over to the 1 1/2 ton list, Tom took over No. 1 position, moving Andy Rasmussen and all the rest of us down a peg.

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Glueck's BEER

EVERYBODY BUYS AT
HASKELL'S
Liquors - Wines
"THERE'S A REASON!"
39 S. 7th St.
(Next to Radisson)
Free Delivery AT. 2434

VELIE MOTOR CO
1937 Olds 6 \$587
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1933 Plym. DeLuxe Trg. Sed. \$227
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1929 Ford Coach \$57
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Pickwick Tavern
Corner Broadway and 2nd St. North

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Flowers, Plants, Floral Designs
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822 Nicollet Ave. BR. 4703
Sig. Grafsland, Watchmaker
ATTENTION
First ten customers bringing in this ad will receive a complete watch cleaning FREE. The next fifty will receive watch cleaning, with staff and jewel, for only \$1.95, so hurry.

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2825 E. Lake St. DR. 3621

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Funeral Chapel

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Jim Rerat George Rerat

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Independent Truck Chatter

By Richard F. Hornig

The new by-laws go into effect the first of May. This means that all of you men not in the habit of paying dues regularly will have to watch your step. Payment for the month of May must be made on or before the 31st or a fifty cent fine will be charged against you. To be eligible for Dr. McCrimmon's services your dues must be in by the 15th.

Anyone who wishes to get a withdrawal card must see Harry DeBoer in person. Those who are not working and are a couple of months in arrears should see Harry.

It seems impossible for the Belt Line crew to stay on the job for more than six months without a squabble arising over seniority. A committee was chosen to bring about a more friendly feeling on the job. See Ralph Mengelkoch for all the details.

The union wishes to help those of us who are engaged in landscape work by giving us a boost in the NW Organizer. Anyone who hauls black dirt and sod, etc., should take advantage of this offer of free advertising. Write in a letter to the Organizer, 257 Plymouth, or send to me (Alderman Hornig, if you please) whatever information you think will do the business the same as you use the papers in the want ad column. The staff will try to include a story on your activities each week during the season. P. S.: Of course, you should be in good standing.

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Turn or Go With Omaha 554

Many jobs have been created by the enforcement of the contract which provides for road men working on the road and city men in town. Many skimmers had been in the habit of picking up their loads and delivering loads around town. This is going to stop and stop very abruptly. Anyone caught violating the rule will be dealt with harshly. We are also trying to locate jobs in other towns for our men who are still out, pending a settlement of the furniture contract. Important news out of the west is expected this evening. It may put about twenty men back to work.

The long whiskers, the long sideburns, the checked vests and top-hats, the phoney store-fronts on the beer-joints around town create a most daffy impression. One wonders if the good citizens have gone awry. But there is meaning behind this circus. And circus it is. In the old days of the Roman emperors, they used to give the people circuses. . . . and it was bread the people wanted.

The masterminds of Omaha are saying that the big carnival is going to create a lot of work, going to stimulate buying power. One tenth of them are just hypocrites. Eight tenths are just repeating their master's voice, and the other tenth are simply over-working, and over-straining a semblance of a truth. The real facts are that while there will be some more work, it will be at the low wages that means enormous profits. That's why the biggies are all excited about the carnival. They are going to sell a lot of merchandise and make a lot of money. . . . but their over-worked clerks who put in all kinds of fancy hours in their fancy uniforms won't get anything out of it except. . . more work. Meanwhile hundreds and hundreds of workers are being thrown off WPA, and they are being ruled INELIGIBLE for relief by E. F. Magaret! Let them starve, while the good citizens frolic in costume!

IGO VAN AND STORAGE and KNOWLES VAN AND STORAGE—these are two fine companies who have not signed contracts.

BUSINESS: Joe Broin wants a good used 7:50x20 tire. Call him at Hy. 1524. . . . For sale: One Wood Hydraulic Hoist and power take-off for Ford V-8 or Dodge. . . . Swap: 9 ft. steel dump box for a 7 ft. Hy. 6458.

One big Will went the way of the ancients; and a shiny new overize International is taking its place. . . . Joe Faugsten popped already for another new Ford. From holding a big truck for ten years Joe is going in for a fast one year changeover.

Bob, bring back American City before Ed Toohy gets so old his eyesight will be too weak to let him read it.

The column this week is pretty well filled out thanks to the generous contributions of Curt Zander. But please do not misunderstand me; I mean to say that the ITO organizer and the writer of this column are still duelling.

Will I be uncharitable if I say that because the few big boys on the list squabbled the whole park board contract truck payroll was washed out?

The Ways and Means committee took its regular monthly workout for a change on Saturday morning. And that city meeting, if you will recall, was nothing but a rehash of the same argument we had last winter after that last big snowstorm.

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MARCHING AS TO WAR

By Dwight Macdonald

There was a sinister little item in the press a few days ago, which indicates a certain drift in business class thinking over here. The Whaley-Eaton Service—described as "an international agency supplying information to all important American banks and business houses"—sent out to its clients a confidential report urging support of the fascist regimes of Hitler, Mussolini, and France. "Of great significance," it began, "is the marked turn throughout the world toward discipline, or law and order. Conservative groups in Britain and France have long taken the view that this re-establishment of discipline among the masses is the primary requisite in the world today. . . . Whatever else may be said, there is now firm government in France, Germany, Italy and Spain, and that type of government is an assured prerequisite to economic rehabilitation. Agitation in the world is lessening. Where there is order there can be economic progress."

THE CUSTOMER IS NEVER RIGHT
Speaking of Germany, there may be firm government there but there is a shortage of sheets—as of practically everything else except guns. The story is told of a housewife who managed to persuade a shopkeeper to sell her a single sheet. When she got home, she found a tag on it stating that boiling would have a disastrous effect. (All good Nazi sheets start out in life as part of a tree.) She took it back to the shop and asked to exchange it for one that could be laundered. "Certainly," said the shopkeeper, but you must first sign this." And he handed her a paper bearing the words: "I AM AN ENEMY OF THE FOUR YEAR PLAN." The lady changed not her sheet but her mind.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RAILROAD TRACKS
The 1938 edition of the "Periodicals Directory" is a volume of 465 closely printed pages which lists and describes 10,200 publications, most of them trade papers. There is a section headed "Grocery Trades," with 24 publications listed, another headed "Vending Machines," with 4, and so on. But there is no section headed either "Munitions" or "Armaments" or "War Supplies," and the only trace of the subject in the lengthy index is: "RIFLES—See GUNS and SPORTS: Hunting; Shooting." Alone among

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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 Bolshevick
I'm Labor.

A Case for Local 544

The Minneapolis relief department is becoming concerned about the soldiers from Fort Snelling who are marrying, establishing homes in Minneapolis, and having to resort to supplemental relief because of the impossibility of living on a soldier's wages of \$30 a month. Relief Superintendent Pearson says there are now about a score of such cases.

It seems to us the Army ought to be summoned before the National Labor Relations Board. For an employer that gets so many hours a day out of its employes, the Army ought to be able to pay better wages than one dollar a day. Even CCC boys are better paid than regular army men.

Worse Off Than Before

Some weeks ago the Republicans and Democrats in Congress joined hands to order WPA to bar all non-citizens from federal relief. The government got away with this move so easily it encouraged Washington to move swiftly to attack the rest of the unemployed, with the result that hundreds of thousands of citizens have since been slashed from WPA.

There must have been thousands of unemployed workers who fell for the argument of the boss politicians that the more aliens kicked off WPA, the more jobs there would be for the rest.

It hasn't worked out that way. It never does. After the 45,529 non-citizens were dropped in the dump-heap, there weren't any more jobs available for the citizens. On the contrary, there are less. The blow dealt the aliens was followed up by an even more crushing blow at the native-born. Which was exactly what the bosses planned to do all along.

From time immemorial, the political shysters ruling the world have always sought to divide those they rule. One of the most effective means of division has been to emphasize the unimportant distinction between "natives" and "foreigners." The trick is to first get the sanction of the public to carry out a reactionary blow against the "foreigners." Once this is accomplished, the same blow is struck even harder at the "natives."

This trick has been played dozens of times in the United States, and every time it is played, the workers are in a worse position.

To smash opposition to the first World War, the government first drummed up agitation against all "foreigners" and then went to work on all the rest who were brave enough to protest against what everyone now knows to be one of the greatest crimes of the ages.

In the bosses' drive against the labor movement in the 1920's, the employers picked out the foreigners—the Saccos and Vanzettis—as the initial victims, in order the easier to carry the attack over to the rest of the workers.

The same thing has now just taken place with WPA. Because millions were too complacent about the drive against the aliens on federal relief, the administration was able to prepare the ground for its drive against all the unemployed. Now we are all worse off than before. Anyone who doesn't see this today is a hopeless scissorbill.

Next time—let's see to it there is no "next time."

Standard Oil Heads For 'Unfair' List

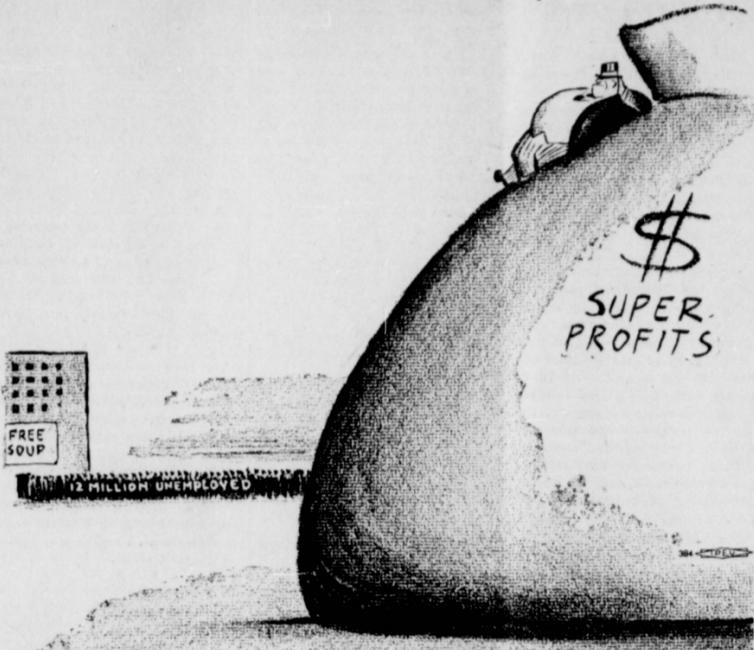
Having given the Standard Oil company in Minneapolis more than ample opportunity to enter into fair relations with the union movement, and having received nothing but a continuation of the chiseling practices of this company, the Filling Station Attendants Union Local 912 has prepared a resolution to be introduced at the Minneapolis Central Labor Union meeting Wednesday night, April 26th. The resolution cites the anti-labor attitude of Standard Oil towards its drivers, lessees and filling-station attendants and calls upon the CLU to place this company on its "We Do Not Patronize" list.

The resolution points out that "affiliated unions of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council have been carrying on an intensive campaign to unionize all employes in the local oil industry for the purpose of securing decent wages and hours for these workers, and "Whereas, this campaign has achieved a good measure of success except for the Standard Oil company which persists in maintaining its familiar labor-hating policy, and

decent union wages to the attendants, and "Whereas, these actions of the Standard Oil company constitute a threat against all employes in the oil industry, therefore "Be it Resolved, that the Minneapolis Central Labor Union place the Standard Oil company on its "We Do Not Patronize" list, and "Be it Further Resolved, that no Standard Oil stations be patronized save those where oil and gas are delivered by Local 544 drivers and where both the lessee and attendants are members of Local 977, and

"Be it Further Resolved, that a list of such fair stations be published weekly in the labor press and that this resolution be published also." The union movement in many places throughout the United States has had to take the same attitude towards the Standard Oil company that is being prepared in Minneapolis.

"The American Way"



Carlo

Keeping Step With 544

By Micky Dunne

GOODBYE
It is an established fact that the present Minnesota CIO chief, Van Nordstrand, is to be replaced at an early date. It is said that a new policy toward the A. F. of L. will be introduced.

Jack Smith, who has been ailing in a local hospital, is back on the job this week.

A conference of all unions affiliated with the Central Labor Union has been called for Sunday afternoon at the Eighth Street headquarters. It will be made up of the Executive Boards of all unions. The question is on the new State Labor Relations act.

DON'T BE FOOLED AGAIN

All sorts of people, candidates for political offices, are now engaged in attempting to convince liberals, progressives and trade unionists that they, the candidates, have the backing, support and/or the endorsement of organized labor. DON'T BE FOOLED.

Compel such candidates to show their union cards, a record of their endorsements and demand to know what section of the labor movement supports them. Don't be fooled by them! Labor HAS endorsed and is supporting candidates in the coming election. Find out who these candidates are. SUPPORT them! VOTE for them!

Private Chauffeurs may be exempt under the new state labor law.

Local 977, Filling Station Attendants and Helpers union, will take steps this week to put Standard Oil Company and all of its products and services on the unfair list.

Mention Savage to Curt Zander and watch him turn pale.

The Warehouse Union has applied for a charter in the Teamsters International.

Elsholtz trouble in Fargo has been settled.

In a recent bid invitation the State Highway Department announced wages below the union scale for almost all classifications of skilled and unskilled workers.

COMPENSATION
As coal yards go down, building material starts to move.

The CIO and the A. F. of L. are at war over proposed changes in the Wagner Act.

Labor Campaign Committee has headquarters at Third Avenue and Fourth Street.

See lots of Hornig signs in the Third Ward.
Vacation talk is in the air.

Stassen Bills Spur Labor's Campaign

(Continued from page 1)

His relief officials testified that this city would require \$3,000,000 next year from the state, the Stassen legislature passed a relief bill that appropriates only \$4,000,000 for the entire state for the coming year. Even less, only \$3,250,000, was appropriated for the second year.

Local relief officials stated the city was heading straight for a deep relief crisis in the fall.

In its broad onslaught upon relief conditions and social security measures generally, the boss-controlled Stassen legislature which ended its 51st session last Wednesday did not spare either the young, the aged or the blind.

After all Stassen's fine talk last fall about doing something for the tragic army of unemployed youth, the young men and women find themselves today worse off than ever. As if to give point to its cold-blooded disregard of the plight of the youth, the last act of the 1939 legislature was to cut from \$5,000 to \$1,500 the appropriation for an interim committee "to study youth problems."

All that the old folks got from Stassen was a bill requiring recipients of old-age pensions to give a lien on their homes to the state. When Stassen signed that bill, he might just as well have branded the word PAUPER on the aged brows of the pioneers who built this state with their sweat and blood and courage.

Even the unfortunate blind were not exempt from the blows of the Stassen administration in the state capitol. Despite the

picket line that the sightless threw around the statehouse, the 51st legislature adopted a measure cutting by \$3 a month the aid to the blind.

One has to go back to the infamous regime of Governor Burnquist to find a more cruel and inhuman record than that rung up by the 51st Minnesota legislature. "It was a Stassen legislature, this legislature," boasted a reactionary columnist the day of adjournment.

"Yes, and we will never let the Stassen gang move into the Minneapolis courthouse," answered the local labor movement this week.

The only way to stop the reactionary advance in this state is for every worker, every unemployed person, every man of good will, to throw himself heart and soul into the campaign for the labor slate named by the April 8th conference.

The only fitting answer to give to Stassen and his gang of political cutthroats is to place T. A. Eide and the entire union slate in office by the most resounding majority this city has ever seen.

Office Workers to Dance May 20

Members and friends of organized labor are invited to attend a SPRING SWING SESSION to be held by the Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Typists and Assistants Union, Local 17661, on May 20. Dick Atherton's union orchestra will play music that will satisfy both jitter and non-jitter bugs. The dance will be held in the Franklin Co-op Hall at 2108 Washington Ave. N. Tickets are 25 cents each and may be obtained from members of Local 17661 or in the union office at 18 N. 8th St.

Olson Union Committee Is Most Active

With union committees covering the Tenth Ward from the river to the city limits, present indications are that Morrie Olson will lead the field by a wide margin in the primary election for short-term alderman in the ward.

The dyed-in-the-wool Republican candidate against Olson is taking a leaf from Stassen' book and is campaigning on a labor platform, making fantastic promises of what he will do for the workers and unemployed if they will only give him the job.

But labor saw, in the last session of the legislature, that the Republican idea of what is good for labor was a thousand miles away from what is really needed by the unemployed and underprivileged of Minnesota.

Morris Olson is more than just "a friend of labor." He is a real honest and sincere member of the trade union movement, ready to go to bat at any time for the benefit of the toilers. His record in the city council is irrefragable. If the laborites of the ward remember their obligation when they joined the union, Alderman Olson will be re-elected by the greatest majority ever seen in the Tenth Ward.

Dy-dee Wash Customers Hear of Firm's Behavior

With the labor-baiting Dy-dee Wash continuing to use armed guards and deputy sheriffs to deliver wash to its customers, the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131 this week sent out a letter to scores of Dy-dee customers informing them of the true facts about the current dispute. "We think it is important that you have the following information in regard to the diaper laundry service which you are now using," reads the letter.

Des Moines Oil Lessees Join Drivers

Des Moines, Iowa—A majority of the 410 oil station lessees in Des Moines have now become members of the Drivers Union Local 90, practically completing the work of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in making the entire oil industry here 100 per cent union, from bulk plant to service station.

Local 90 has recently signed new contracts with seven local breweries and with several local machinery companies, bringing higher wages and shorter hours to a majority of the employees.

"The Dy-dee Wash company and the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131 some time ago entered into a written agreement which was assumed to be satisfactory to both sides. Since that time the Dy-dee Wash has broken and violated this existing agreement and is operating contrary to its terms and provisions.

Use of Guards Cited
"Local 131 has made sincere attempts to compel the Dy-dee Wash to live up to its legal and lawful obligation to the union. To date all efforts have failed. When Local 131 attempted to picket the plant of the Dy-dee Wash company, the company resorted to the use of armed guards on their trucks. The men who are now picking up and delivering your baby's apparel are the type of persons who are engaged many times by employers to break strikes and are usually classed as strike-breakers and thugs. They are carrying arms and clubs with them and it would not be beyond the realm of reality to imagine that a serious accident could occur in your home while these people are there.

"We believe that it is not your wish that your laundry be delivered in this manner nor that your work be done by a firm which violates its written agreements. We trust that you will call this to the attention of the company and insist that they not only discontinue the use of armed guards as drivers but that they live up to their contractual relations with Laundry Drivers Union Local 131."

The letter further points out that there is another firm engaged in the same business, whose service is safe and dependable.

COMING EVENTS

Union Defense Guard Dance—This Saturday, April 29th, 8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth Avenue. Music, entertainment. 25c a couple.
May Day Celebration—Arne Swaback of Chicago will speak at Socialist Workers Party celebration Monday, May 1st, 8 p. m., at 919 Marquette Avenue. Admission 15c. Buffet luncheon.
May Day Celebration—Socialist Labor Party will celebrate Monday, May 1st, 8 p. m., 5th floor of YWCA, 1130 Nicolet.

All Unions Called To Sunday Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

to evade, to flout or to obstruct the law, THEY WILL FIND THAT THEY WILL MEET... A FIRM POSITION BY THE ADMINISTRATION."

On Monday, the Governor became even more pointed. "I will stand back of this law with the full strength of the state government," he said. "The effort to make this law workable will depend on the willingness to give it a trial, ESPECIALLY ON THE PART OF LABOR."

Stassen knows full well that the bosses won't think of "evading" the bill. Why should they? It is a one-edged sword that Stassen has placed in the employers' hands, a sword that cuts only one way, against organized labor.

Names Labor Conciliator
On Monday the Governor executed what he imagines is a shrewd move by appointing Lloyd J. Haney, president of the St. Paul Typographical Union, as state labor conciliator to administer the Stassen anti-labor bill. Haney was a member of Stassen's campaign committee.

By this move Stassen hopes to appease the workers of Minnesota. "See, I've appointed a union man to administer the bill. Organized labor will find that the new set-up isn't so bad, after all," the Governor is trying to say in effect.

That the Governor has found a card-carrying man willing to administer his bill doesn't make the anti-labor measure any less vicious or dangerous to organized labor. "The sword will cut just as deep with a man carrying a union card on the business end of the sword as it would if a full-blown boss were administering this anti-union weapon," was the way one Minneapolis union official expressed himself Tuesday.

Minneapolis labor leaders thought it very significant that on Friday, two days after the labor bill was passed, the Minneapolis Civic Council, a "front" organization for the labor-hating Associated Industries, began an energetic drive for new members.

It goes without saying that the bosses throughout the state are tickled pink with the Stassen bill. It was even better than they expected. They are now seeking to enlarge the Civic Council in order to give them a wider base among the employing class in preparation for an attack upon the union movement.

All Out Sunday

Every eligible union, without fail, must see to it that its full executive board turns out for the Sunday meeting and participates in this extremely important meeting. The very life of organized labor in this city—nothing less—is at stake.

Plumbing Supply Negotiations Continuing

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 20316 and the plumbing supply bosses are still attempting to iron out differences of opinion relative to provisions in the new working agreement. It is anticipated final agreement will be reached before the week ends.

Teamsters Win Strike Vs. Elsholtz

(Continued from page 1)

luth Drivers Union Local 346; Art Hudson of the St. Paul Drivers Union Local 120; and Kelly Postal and Thomas Williams of Minneapolis General Drivers Union Local 544.

L. U. Stambaugh, attorney and head of the Fargo Merchants & Manufacturers Association, represented the company in the negotiations. Eleven meetings between the union committee and the company were held between April 13th and 19th.

At a meeting of the men held last Thursday in Fargo at 2 a. m., it was voted after a discussion to accept the settlement. The contract is retroactive to February 1st, 1939.

TAXI TOPICS

By Curly and Lunde

A. B. "Edison" Christenson of the Blue and White section of Local 958 has a patent on a very practical gadget, a simple device of wire and a spring to hang up a cap or hat when no regular hooks are available. It also makes it difficult to walk off with a sky-piece so equipped. It is on sale at some local places, and we think Bro. Chris has got something. It's called the A.B.C.

Pigs is pigs: Chuck Younglove reports a quadruple act by one of his guinea pigs—just getting its spring work done early, maybe.

The reason one William "Half-a-cup" Sorenson got a new uniform cap with yellow braid is out: He chauffeured loads in and out of Number 510 and gave the people a chance to look at another important Dane.

Eric and Joe on the Y.C. baggage done a rush-order job for the Mayor of an important Scandinavian city. If they add a nickel to their combined tip they can buy a box of snuss.

Paul "Torpedo" Gesino will keep a date at the church with "the only ONE" about knee-deep in June.

They're gulping the guppies, eating footballs and phonygraft records in collich, but our champion epicures have switched to the lowly hamburger in keeping with the lower spring "scale budget."

Oscar Benson is a double-eagle closer to Finland—he won it on the avenue, and in kroner it may be heaps of "dough."

While crossing Franklin and Knox a driverless automobile rolled in front of Hilding Holmberg, jumped the opposite curb. "Hillie" thinks there's room in that car for a Local 912 chauffeur.

Those new contract and by-law booklets make mighty pretty reading and leave no excuse for our members to be in the dark on said contract.

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

LOCAL 471 The Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p. m.	LOCAL 160 General Membership—First and third Thursday. Seniority Board—Every Monday. Executive Board—Every Tuesday. Stewards — Wednesdays preceding first and third Thursdays.
LOCAL 131 Second Thursday each month, 8 p. m., third-floor.	LOCAL 275 Tea and Coffee Drivers, Local 275, meets the first Friday of every month.
LOCAL 259 Second Monday of each month.	LOCAL 1859 General Membership—April 5 Basket Section—April 11 Box Section—April 18 J. R. Clark Section—April 19 Puffer-Hubbard Section—April 20
LOCAL 664 The City and Sanitary Drivers will meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Park Board Grievance Committee — Monday night preceding the last meeting of the month.	LOCAL 20481 General Membership—April 5 Executive Board—May 6
LOCAL 1086 The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.	LOCAL 958 Night Drivers — 1:00 p. m. third Thursday each month. Day Drivers—7:00 p. m. third Thursday each month.
PETROLEUM DRIVERS Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month.	LOCAL 544 MAY Monday, May 1—Package Delivery; Department Store Wednesday, May 3—Sausage; Petroleum Thursday, May 4—Greenhouse; Independent Truck Owners Friday, May 5—Job Stewards Monday, May 8—General Membership Wednesday, May 10—Market; Wholesale Liquor Friday, May 12—Wholesale Grocery; Meat Drivers Monday, May 15—Furniture Store; Coal Wednesday, May 17—Building Material Thursday, May 18—Tent and Awning; Printing; Newspaper, 10 a. m. Friday, May 19—Job Stewards Sunday, May 21—Over-the-Road, 10 a. m. Monday, May 22—Spring Water Tuesday, May 23—Sand and Gravel Thursday, May 25—Transfer and Warehouse; Wholesale Drug Friday, May 26—Cold Storage Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. in Local 544 office. The Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 10 a. m. in the large hall on the first floor. All regular meetings start at 8 p. m. unless otherwise indicated.
LOCAL 977 General Membership — Second Monday each month, 9 p. m. Grievance and Seniority Boards — Each Monday, 8 p. m. Stewards—Fourth Monday, 9 p. m. Executive Board—Each Thursday, 8 p. m. Lessee Section—Third Wednesday, 9 p. m.	
FEDERAL WORKERS Regular Membership Meeting—Second Friday each month. Stewards' Meeting — Every Wednesday, 8 p. m.	
LOCAL 289 Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers — Second Thursday. Yeast Drivers—Third Tuesday. Cake and Pie—Third Thursday. General Membership — Fourth Thursday.	
LOCAL 346 Regular Membership Meeting—2nd Monday each month, 8:30 p. m. 4th Monday each month, 1:30 p. m.	
LOCAL 103 Regular Membership Meeting—2nd Tuesdays. Executive Committee Meeting—On call.	
PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.	
LOCAL 221 Day Laborer Section — First Tuesday each month. Independent Truck Owners Section—Second Tuesdays each month.	
LOCAL 20316 Stewards — First and third Tuesdays. Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday. Executive Board — Regularly every Monday.	