

# Always Say HAVE IT DELIVERED--Help Put Hundreds of Men Back to Work

Behind the Rockwell Case  
A Recent Radio Talk by Roy Wier,  
Organizer of Central Labor Union

Tonight I propose to discuss the Carstater case recently decided by the Civil Service Board. The discussion will necessarily include the attempted suspension of John G. Rockwell, State Commissioner of Education, and the general conduct of affairs of the State Department of Education, under the present administration. I shall discuss these matters as a representative of labor and also as a member of the Minneapolis School Board.

## 4 OUT OF 5

Since assuming office on January 1, 1939, Governor Stassen has appointed four of the five present members of the State Board of Education. His appointees are Julius Boraas, a member of the faculty of St. Olaf's College at Northfield, Minnesota; Mrs. Ann Smith, a political personage of Duluth, formerly chairman of the Stassen All-Party Campaign Committee; Mrs. Raymond Gould, of Minneapolis; and J. B. Johnson, a hardware merchant of Cambridge, Minnesota. In the proceedings which I shall describe, these four Stassen appointees have voted as a unit with Ann Smith and Dr. Boraas always constituting the spear-head of the attack. Mrs. A. R. Colvin, of St. Paul, is the fifth member of the Board. She was appointed by a previous administration and has opposed every move made by the majority. She is entitled to the thanks of every man, woman, and child in the state for the heroic effort she has made to keep politics out of the field of State Education.

The appointment of Ann Smith was purely political. She had no previous interest in education. Her only qualification for the position was that she was an exceptionally able worker in ward and municipal politics in Duluth. Her first appearance on the Board was July 9, 1940, and from this moment political manipulations began.

## ALL OUT OF STEP BUT SCHMID

Under Schmid's directorship the defense training program has bogged down. This was recently pointed out in a newspaper article showing that the Minnesota program is far behind that of our sister state of Wisconsin. Schmid, in a newspaper interview, admits the failure, but blames labor, school superintendents, local advisory committees, and industry generally. He blames everybody but himself. The fact is that the entire public, including labor, has no faith in Schmid or in the Board which appointed him. The Central Labor Union of Minneapolis has officially expressed its lack of confidence both in Schmid and the Board and has requested a Legislative investigation of the conduct of the State Board. The Official Representative of the State Employees Local Union Number 10 has denounced the action of the Board in refusing to re-instate Carstater as nothing less than criminal.

The State Federation of Labor, through its Executive Council, has requested a federal investigation. While the Board of Education plays politics, the Defense Training Program lags and the cause of public education is neglected.

## BOARD HEARING DEC. 26

Both before the Board of Education and at the hearings before the Civil Service Board, Dr. Rockwell strenuously defended Carstater. He was Carstater's principal witness, vouching for his character and efficiency and supplying nearly all of the documentary evidence which branded the charges as totally unfounded and false. Because of his defense of Carstater, the majority of the Board determined that Dr. Rockwell must walk the plank. About two weeks ago, before the decision in the Carstater case was rendered, the Board adopted a resolution suspending the Commissioner without notice and without pay for a period of thirty days. The only specific charge made is that the Commissioner was guilty of inefficiency because of his defense of Carstater, and this charge is now completely refuted by the unanimous decision of the Civil Service Board. In view of this decision all logical ground for the suspension

On the contrary the Board has announced that it will hold a hearing on these charges at a Board session to be held at the State Office Building on December 26. Dr. Rockwell will attend this hearing and will answer the charges.

(Continued on page 4)

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FIVE CENTS

## Educators Hit at Stassenization of Schooling System

As predicted in the last two issues of the Organizer, the Stassenite majority on the state board of education has decided to try to bluster its way out of the hole by fighting the order of the civil service board to reinstate Dr. Eugene Carstater.

The board of education took this action last Wednesday, by a vote of 3-1, Mrs. W. C. Smith being absent, and Mrs. A. R. Colvin, lone liberal member, voting against. The board temporarily authorized creation of a temporary job to keep Harry Schmid, strike-breaker who took Carstater's job, on the pay roll as state director of vocational education.

There is a law providing for a \$1,000 fine for any state official who keeps an employee on the job against the rulings of the civil service board. Spokesmen for the State Employees Union called this law to the attention of the Stassenites and said the union would probably sue the board of education.

The Ramsey county district court will review the state civil service decision in favor of Carstater on January 11th. Anticipating that the court may decide against it, the Stassenite majority on the board of education has already let it be known it will appeal the decision to the state supreme court.

Until January 11th control of the state vocational training program will remain in the hands of the anti-labor Schmid.

**Educators Back Rockwell**  
With the union movement having already fought and won the initial victory over the board of education, namely, the order for the reinstatement of Carstater, liberal educators in the Twin Cities have taken alarm at the trend of Stassen's policy toward education. A committee of educators in Minneapolis and St. Paul, led by Walter Hoffman and Russell Lewis, has set up a group known as the Citizens Committee to Insure Unpartisan Administration of the State Department of Education. The committee will support Dr. Carstater and Dr. Rockwell and others in the state department of education who have been victimized by the Stassen machine.

**Hearing Thursday**  
Sunday evening Miss Mary McGough, principal of a St. Paul grade school, spoke over station WLOL on behalf of Dr. Rockwell, suspended state commissioner of education. Miss McGough called on all persons interested in the future of education in Minnesota to attend the state board of education's hearing in the Rockwell case this Thursday, December 26th, at 1:30 p. m. in the state office building.

A large delegation of Minneapolis unionists will attend the hearing.

## Cab Drivers Choose Six on Committee

Last Thursday members of the Taxicab Drivers Union Local 958 chose their committeemen for the coming year. From the Yellow Cab section Ed Harlan, Roy Brown and Emil Kariger were elected. The Independent Section chose Howie Miller, Edgar Smith and William Warner.

Election judges were Pat Seeley, chairman; Pat Hurley and Bill Goodnough.

## Laundry Workers to Dance New Years Eve

A New Years Eve celebration will be held by the Laundry Workers Union, Local 183, at the Labor Lyceum Auditorium, 1408 Olson Memorial Highway, Tuesday night, at 10 p. m. Dancing and entertainment will be on the program. For reservations call R. Latz at Atlantic 7678.

## 664 Election Results Are Announced

Last Friday the membership of the City & Sanitary Drivers Union Local 664 balloted for office. The election board, composed of Arlington Rowe, Harold J. Nelson and Clifford Freeman, declared the following elected:

For president: Roland M. Prindle (unopposed).

Vice-president: Harold H. Seavey (unopposed).

Sec.-Treas.: William Holter.

Recording Sec.: Harold E. Nelson (unopposed).

Trustee, 3 years: Frank Dahlmann (unopposed).

Sergeant-at-arms: Rufus Anderson, Charles Martin.

Delegates to Central Labor Union: Sigurd Skarpohl, Harold E. Nelson, Harold Lanigan, Roland Prindle, Harold Seavey.

**By-laws Read**

At Local 664's meeting Friday night the report by the Constitution and By-laws Committee was accepted and the new by-laws given their first reading. Though some changes are made over the present by-laws, the changes only record what has been actual union practice during the past five years.

The proposed new by-laws will receive their second reading at the January 3rd meeting, and their final reading on January 17th.

## AFL Porters Back Waller Defense Case

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters has announced it will cooperate with the Workers Defense League and the National Association for the Advancement of

At the request of the Workers Defense League, Governor Price of Virginia has granted a stay of execution in the case of Odell Waller. Originally sentenced to die in the electric chair December 27th, the execution has now been stayed to March 14th. The Workers Defense League is preparing to appeal the case to the higher courts.

Colored People in the campaign to free Odell Waller, 23-year-old sharecropper scheduled to die in a Virginia electric chair on December 27th.

John Finerty, former attorney for Tom Mooney and Sacco-Vanzetti, has been retained as defense counsel for Waller. Finerty has already filed an appeal to the Virginia state supreme court, based on evidence that Waller shot his white landlord, Oscar Davis, in self-defense, and on the fact that the jury which convicted him was restricted to those paying the state poll tax.

## Union Campaign Launched Among Produce Workers

Local 615 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters has launched an organization campaign among the poultry workers, fish handlers and egg candlers in Minneapolis and the surrounding area. It is estimated there are about 500 workers in these categories who are as yet unorganized. Local 615 has discovered that in some towns such as Long Prairie there are sausage workers forced to labor 80 hours weekly for as little as \$6. They have been threatened with loss of their jobs if they dare join a union.

Nels Sparring, 3839 Fifth avenue South, Minneapolis, is secretary of Local 615. His phone number is Locust 5140. The union aims to win better wages, hours and working conditions for every produce worker.

The world in all but two nations bear,  
The good, the bad; and these mixed everywhere.  
—ANDREW MARVELL



## Six Thousand Kids Have Holiday Fun At Christmas Party

### Musicians Union Ball December 27

Once a year the Minneapolis Musicians Association, Union Local 73, has an annual ball at which time it seeks to outdo itself in the variety and fame of the orchestras it presents.

This year's ball will be held the evening of Friday, December 27th, from 8 p. m. on at the Marigold ballroom. Two of the finest orchestras ever to appear in one bandshell in Minneapolis will feature the ball—Gene Krupa and Carlos Molina.

Krupa's orchestra appears through the courtesy of the Orpheum theatre management; his band is playing there this week. Carlos Molina, now playing in the Minnesota Terrace at the Nicollet hotel, will appear through the courtesy of the hotel management. Thirteen other orchestras, pick of the Twin Cities own bands, will appear, including Dick Long, Ken DeVilliers, Swifty Elickson, Joe Billo.

Dancers are promised the biggest bargain in dance music they ever received. Those who attend will contribute to the welfare of needy members of the Musicians Union. All proceeds are placed in the union relief fund, and are dispersed throughout the year for charitable purposes only.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the union office, 32 Glenwood avenue, and at the Marigold, for 55c each. Tickets at the door will be 83c.

## Fargo Jury Frees Jack Wirth Of Charges in Adams Strike

Fargo, N. D.—It took a county jury only twenty minutes last Monday to bring in a verdict of "Not Guilty" for Jack Wirth, president of the Drivers Union Local 116. Wirth had been charged with beating up a scab employed by the labor-hating Adams Transfer & Storage company. The strike of Local 116 against the Adams outfit is now in its fifth week.

Wirth was charged with assaulting Ben Habben in the company yard. Habben and Raymond Miskanen, another scab, claim they identified Wirth as the assailant. When challenged by the defense attorney, Quentin Burdick, the scabs admitted that Bill Thompson, son-in-law of the company owner, had pointed out Wirth to them as the latter was carrying a banner in front of the company office.

Seeing that the jury of honest citizens was in no mood to stand for the railroading of innocent union men to prison, the states attorney, Ralph Coal, moved for the continuance of the remaining strike cases until the next term of court. Colin Campbell and Lyle Bernard face charges of malicious mischief, a favorite charge by boss courts in Fargo against strikers.

**Company to Talk**  
A government conciliator was in Fargo recently to seek a settlement of the bitter strike. He was met with a stony refusal by the Adams outfit and its lawyer, Lewis Oehlert, a man who makes a profession of hating the worker and farmer. Oehlert would like to form a vigilante committee to break the strike, rather than negotiate a settlement which would bring better wages and conditions to the workers who produce the profits for the Adams company.

Quentin Burdick, union defense attorney, is well-known throughout North Dakota for his work on behalf of those who produce the wealth of the state, the workers and farmers.

**Rogues' Gallery**  
In an effort to whip the union, the company has assembled about as measly collection of finks as has been seen in Fargo since the 1935 drivers' strike. Among them are Floyd, LeRoy and Manley Ocker, professional finks from Montana; Ben Habben, Raymond Miskanen, Phil Carey and Arthur Taylor. An outstanding case is Bill Burns, another man who makes a profession of strike-breaking. Burns was hired to scab by the Armour plant here at the time of the PWOC strike. When the union returned to work, Burns left in double-quick time, just as he will be forced to leave when the drivers win this strike, as they surely will.

## 104,416 From State Served in U.S. Army In First World War

Over one hundred thousand men in Minnesota served in the army during the First World War, according to the two-volume history of "Minnesota in the War with Germany," by Holbrook and Appel. "Minnesota's share in the cost of defeating Germany included the sacrifice of 3,480 lives snuffed out in battle or by disease and other causes before and after the armistice. Of the 104,416 Minnesotans in the army, 1,319 were killed or died of wounds received in action; 2,024 others died from causes not enumerated; and the number of those wounded, but not mortally, is reckoned at 4,480. In the navy, where Minnesota was represented by 11,236 men, 8 were killed in action and 137 died of disease and other causes. Of the 2,845 marines from Minnesota, 105 were killed or died of wounds received in action, 14 died of disease or other causes, and 319 were wounded. . . . No accounting can ever be made of the many who came back apparently fit but in one way or another subtly handicapped in the struggle of life by reason of their war service."—Volume I, p. 374.

## Marvelous Boy Singer

The little Erneven Trio opened the program. Harry Anderson led the children in mass singing of Christmas songs, after which a 12-year-old boy, Frank Franta, sang popular songs in a gorgeous voice. Young Franta was recently discovered by Jack Mason; he will shortly fly to New York where he has been promised an audition by Major Bowers.

## Kiddie Revue

The kiddie revue featuring many young dancers and singers proved particularly attractive to the children. Nyberg's accordion band from the Lindquist school of music played at intervals during the three-hour program.

Quite a few adults accompanied their children to the party and declared they enjoyed the day as much as the youngsters. One little girl shyly confided she had been waiting ever since last Christmas for this party. A group of sailors stationed at the armory also were guests at the afternoon entertainment.

## Thanks Aides

Ray Rainbolt, chairman of the Christmas Party, expressed the thanks of the Minneapolis Teamsters Council to those union officials who had worked Sunday and Monday to prepare the armory for the crowd. Special thanks are due Leonard Lindbergh and his crew of men from Local 160 who arranged the lighting system and trimmed the 50-foot tree at the north end of the armory.

Six thousand pounds of candy were distributed to our young guests; 3,500 Santa dolls, 6,500 popcorn balls and 6,500 boxes of animal crackers were also given away.

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town





