

LOCAL 574 CALLS STRIKE CONFERENCE

The Sharp Shooter

What descendant of an early American family is back on his old job at 7th and Hennepin? We're all "Witt" you, Ethan!

Four and twenty bosses
Who were all alike
Joined themselves together
To resist a strike,
But when the strike was over
They all began to shout
The Citizen's Alliance
Has

Sold
Us
Out.

Notes from our Wild Animal Department.
There will be less Rats in the Central Market this summer.

What Ho! Grand Jury!

FOR SALE:—One half bushel basket of special deputy badges—very slightly used.

This column wishes to acknowledge with grateful thanks the assistance of various labor organizations and individuals rendered during the recent "unpleasantness".

LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT

Dear Mr. Summons:

Can you tell me why a City the size of Minneapolis has no Mayor?

—Tax Dodger

My dear Mr. Tax Dodger:—

This department confesses they are unable to tell you why we have no Mayor. We don't even know who the Chief of Police is. How are all your folks?

Yours in doubt.

—I. Summons

We are going to let the world in on a secret that we have just discovered. The letter "S" in the name of William S. Brown, stands for Samuel. Whoops my dear!

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Petroleum Workers Plan New Organiza- tion Campaign

The Petroleum Workers have seen the light! Their Organizational Committee is forging ahead with their plans. A circular has been prepared to counteract the employer's propaganda claiming that Local 574 is interested in truck drivers only. The Committee believes that Local 574 is the only place for the Petroleum Workers. When confronting their bosses they realize that they need the backing of every local and especially 574. Where in the labor movement could they assure themselves a more logical setup than to affiliate with Local 574?

PETROLEUM MEETING

Petroleum workers meet for organization tasks and discussion at 225 South Third Street, Thursday, June 28, 9 p. m.

The Petroleum Workers' Committee points out that in discussing the particular problems of their craft they shall meet as a separate group and have full power to make all decisions.

The Petroleum Workers are demanding an eight-hour day and forty-eight hour week; \$135.00 per month for operators; \$100.00 per month for helpers; a margin of 4-4-4 in third party stations; one per cent shrinkage allowance; \$135.00 monthly for drivers and warehouse men, and better working conditions.

At the Organization Committee meeting June 19, a plan of action was recommended.

1. Filling stations may post the union sign when all the requirements for a 100% union station have been complied with.
2. All men working in the station must be members of Local 574.
3. A recognition contract providing seniority rights with no discrimination.

The Committee also proposed a campaign to assure the support of the labor movement to organize union stations.

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Thursday, June 28, is Date for Unity Meeting

Packed to the doors in Eagles Hall, Thursday evening, the membership of 574 voted unanimously to call the Employers bluff—to demand immediate wage increases, and to enforce this demand with a city-wide tie-up, preparations for which are to proceed at once. The report of efforts to negotiate with Employers on the question of wages and hours was made by Brother Dobbs who together with the committee have been working day and night to get results. Brother Dobbs' report revealed that the Employers have been deliberately stalling. They have delayed the nomination of their spokesman. They bring forward all the age-old excuses; business is bad, they will have to close their doors, etc., etc., in spite of the fact that they have signed an agreement which pledges them to negotiate wage scales. The Employers following custom which has been popular among them in the past, continue to dodge, stall, and chisel. It was made clear that all of the talk around the terms of the agreement, by the bosses and their agents, is so much chaff in the wind, used to confuse the one crystal clear issue.

The Union has long ago, even before the strike, presented its demands, worked out with great care and in full detail. They have been on file with the Regional labor Board for months. Every Employer is familiar with the provisions of these demands. What is lacking is not knowledge of these demands but a willingness to grant these demands.

In view of the serious situation created by the arrogance of the Employers brought out in the report, the committee made the following proposal.

- (1) That Local Union 574 call a strike conference of all Transportation Unions to be held within five days.
- (2) The conference to prepare for the necessary action to force wage increases.

The proposals were endorsed unanimously with the understanding that the machinery for action is to be set in motion immediately. Thursday night, June 28, has been set for the conference.

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The Unions and The Unemployed

The place of the unemployed workers in the labor movement is a problem which deserves serious consideration by all Unions. In the May strike, real support came from thousands of men and women who live a miserable life either in the bread lines or on the verge of this disaster. Local 574 has signed a call for a united conference on the unemployed problem to be held July 1st. Our delegates attend the meetings of the conference committee each Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. in the County Commissioners Room, Court House. All local unions should see that they have live representation at the meetings and at the conference.

What About the Taxi Drivers?

We wish that every one in Minneapolis could actually know the facts about the taxi cab situation as concerns the drivers. For the last five years the actual earnings of the drivers of taxi cabs has been not more than \$6.00 to \$8.00 per week for an 84 hour week. The writer was at one time a "Hack" driver and knows something about what kind of work this is, and also knows that once known as a cab driver you are practically barred from any other kind of driving job. Every one that climbs in your "Hack" thinks to himself that the driver is a "Tough" guy, an imported Thugs or "What have you?" This may be true in some cities, but here in Minneapolis we have all local workers; good, honest, intelligent, careful drivers. All have gone through the police inspection test and cannot drive unless they have passed inspections.

The writer is aware that at times there are elements that creep into the industry that are not helpful to the union; but these elements are eliminated as quickly as possible and in general the wife or baby of any worker, or others, will receive the most courteous and gentlemanly attention that can be afforded by the head of the family. At the headquarters of each cab company the Union has placed a "Steward". The duty of this Steward is to receive all complaints of the drivers—take all grievances to their Employers, collect fines, etc. At the Yellow Cab, "Shorty DePew" is our General, and what a General. Every driver paid up—all grievances taken care of. We hope that this will be the aim of all of the "Stewards" and that all of the cab drivers will be kept in good standing. **No one can drive that is not in good standing.**

You are "The Organizer"

With a membership already numbering in the thousands and still growing at a rapid pace, Local 574 is confronted with a tremendous task in keeping its members informed about the day by day development of the organization. To build and maintain a solid union and to guarantee constant loyalty, it is essential that the organization have a voice which will reach every member. Day by day, on the street and in the stores and warehouses, our members are confronted with many questions regarding the union. To answer these questions honestly and intelligently they must have the facts. It is also true that every member feels that he is entitled to know about everything that his union is doing. He is rightfully entitled to this information and he must have it.

To serve these needs, to weld a solid bond of understanding between our members, to carry a message of hope to all non-union men, and to hold a beacon light of progress before all organized labor, "The Organizer" is to be published weekly by Local 574.

Members of 574! "The Organizer" is your paper! You made it and it is here to serve you. Read every line of it, spread its message to all workers, and contribute your ideas to its columns!

How a 574 Man Acts

First, a member of the Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers Union, Local No. 574, should be proud. He should be proud to be in a union that organized and put on the most courageous and militant strike the Minneapolis labor movement ever saw. He has demonstrated that he has a better understanding of the labor movement than the rest of his fellow workers. He should now realize that he is a member of what is perhaps the largest labor union in the State of Minnesota.

He should face his fellow workers on the job, who may happen to be non-union, with a feeling of superiority. He has done what the non-union man has not dared to do. He has taken his job and his security, and the welfare of his wife and family in his hands. He has gone out and demanded a better standard of living, and a chance to clothe and educate his children as they should be clothed and educated. The non-union man who has taken the gains that were made in the strike is the coward. You are the hero. Never forget that.

You should never be contented while there is a non-union driver, helper, inside man, or oil station attendant in Minneapolis. Make your Union bigger!

Wage Arbitration Schedule

The Committee has set up the following schedule for the wage negotiations with the employers:

Market and Food, Transfer, Package Delivery.

Sand, Gravel and Excavators, Lime, Cement and Building Material, Spring Water, and Newspaper

Magazine and Wholesale Paper.

The Regional Labor Board was asked to contact these groups and arrange for meetings in the order named, but, as usual, the Labor Board has failed to function in enforcing the terms of settlement. The Union is forced to ignore the Board and go direct to the employers with our demands for a wage settlement. This appears to be the only way we can possibly get results.

Meetings have been held with the employers from the fruit and produce houses and further meetings are scheduled. Contact is now being made with the transfer and grocery employers to arrange meetings with these groups.

As every one knows, asking for a meeting and getting it are two different things. Then, again, there is always a question as to what the employers will discuss if they come to a meeting. They might possibly discuss the wage question, but they will be more prone to discuss the weather.

We do not predict that the above schedule will work out. We say only that it is our proposal. The employers have not shown evidence of good faith with the agreement and we are, therefore, calling a joint strike conference of all transportation unions.

We want the wages which we have won; we want them now; and we propose to get them.

Finkelstein, Kneeland, and Harvey Slated for Arbitration Duty

Just to make sure that the boys get everything that is coming to them in the way of wages and better working conditions, the arbitration committee has asked that a third union member sit with the committee in an advisory capacity. This adviser must be a man who knows all the angles in the industry. Max Finkelstein is serving for the fruit group, Tommy Kneeland for the produce group, and Guy Harvey for the meat-packing group.

The Committee asks that nominations be made for other groups.



See that every worker on the job is a reader of The Organizer.

Strike Conference

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date. The conference will be called to order at 8:00 p. m. in the Central Labor Union Hall, 614 First Avenue North.

Local 574 has just gone through a strike which, for militancy and organization, takes its place with the best labor struggles of the past; it has demonstrated in action the feasibility of building a powerful Union during a strike. Many sacrifices have been made by the membership of 574. That the workers from other organizations also made real contributions, both with finances and picket support, is well known to 574. We salute those brave fighters and call upon them to stand ready for further service in what we consider to be a cause worthy of the best that the Minneapolis Labor Movement can give. The Strike brought into the Unions hundreds of new workers. All organizations have been strengthened. Local 574 won a fight against the solidly organized Citizens Alliance and their hired thugs. Victory on the Picket Lines meant a staggering blow to the organized Bosses.

These Bosses are now attempting to reorganize their forces in order to swindle the members of 574 out of this victory. What could not be done by brutal assault is now tried by double-crossing and stealth. Every Trade Union member must understand that the movement faces a crisis. Either the Employers will abide by the signed agreement, raise wages, and adjust working conditions, or the Trade Unions as a unit must move onto the battle front prepared for a finish fight.

The issue is clear. A Union city where men and women can feel and enjoy the benefits of Union security, and a decent standard of life—or, Minneapolis ruled by Black reaction in the hands of the profit mad Bosses.

All Unions into the conference!

All workers into the Unions!

For shorter hours—for better working conditions and a higher standard of life!

Petroleum Workers

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only. A new type of button which it is believed will solve the question of the Petroleum Workers representation in the name of the organization has been proposed.

As a contingent organizational plan the committee has divided the city into thirty sections. A Petroleum Worker will be assigned to each section and will visit the stations, talk to the attendants about joining Local 574, and leave a hand bill with them. We are out to get real action!

The Sharp Shooter

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LOST AND FOUND DEPARTMENT

LOST:—One Arbitration Board. Last seen in Levy's pocket. Return for reward to Local No. 574.

WEEKLY FABLE

Once upon a Time there lived a Big Shot who employed quite a few workers. He couldn't seem to dig up enough Jack to pay them much Wages, although every member of his Family wore a Packard back and forth to their Golf. One day the Slaves talked it over, joined the Union and decided to give the Old Man the Works. When the Smoke of Battle had cleared away and the Strike was over, the Big Boy said they were all an Ungrateful bunch of Bounders. He said that he had treated them like his own Children and seeing that they had repaid him in So Sorry a Fashion, he would never take them back into the Factory. When the next day Dawned, the Slaves appeared in front of the Emporium with signs announcing to the World at large that their Boss was not quite Kosher. They were back to work at noon. **MORAL: Banners speak louder than words.**

There is a guy named Kelly
And a guy named Harry
And Tut who likes to play.
These boys know what it's all about
When they start persuading there ain't
no doubt,
They are going to get their way.

If we had more Harrys
And more guys like Kelly
And men like Tut around,
The Union men would all be jake.
The scabs would have to leave the State
And we would have a Union Town.

(Boss) to worker:—"My boy, I called you into the office to tell you that I am going to raise your wages."

(Worker):—"But boss, I am getting enough money now, I can't use any more."

(Boss):—"None of that kind of talk. If you don't take the raise, I am going to lock this place up and go out of business."

(Worker):—"Well, if you put it that way, you've got me in a hole. I suppose I will have to take the raise."

You are right, my friends, the above conversation took place in the State Hospital for Insane, at Rochester.

LIFE'S LITTLE JEST

The employer who pays his workers a starvation wage and then blames outside agitators because they are dissatisfied.

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Dear Miss Fat Sex:—

My daughter is keeping company with a non-Union man. He comes to see her at the house quite frequently. What shall I do? —Worried Mother

Worried Mother:—

You should clean the rug thoroughly where he has been standing and have the house fumigated after each visit. Why don't you try shooting?

—Miss Fat Sex

Who is this guy Gilford?

The Sharp Shooter

Super-Service Station Workers

This group of fighters who played a real role in the recent strike have been active during the past period in outlining plans and making preparations for an extensive organization program. Together with the petroleum workers they will find common cause. Although not entirely similar, their problems have much in common. Joint action when backed by the powerful forces of 574 means a real opportunity to bring the Super Service Stations to 100% union organization.

Much work ahead; still many men on the platforms and in the shipping and packing rooms to reach with the message of union organization. Every 574 man must become an active organizer.

If you run up against a boss who still has the idea that he can carry on a constant warfare against the union and get away with it, come up to Headquarters, 225 So. Third Street. The union can find the means to fight back—and win.

Don't buy gas from an unfair station. Don't accept a delivery from a man without a button. Make the tire repair worker show his button. There are many ways to help build the union. Let's have your ideas.

A 574 man on every truck—a paid up button on every man.

Join the Union—attend every meeting

The July buttons are ready!

Send in news from the job for the Organizer.

Where Are You, Laundry Drivers?

If there are any workers in any line that are not getting the wages they earn, they are the laundry drivers. Not only are they not paid by the hour, week, or month, but unless they bring in a "reasonable" amount of business, they are **not paid at all**. What a terrible condition faces the laundry driver that has spent the working years of his life in this industry. Where once he was guaranteed at least a salary of \$15.00 to \$25.00 per week, today he is working on a straight commission which puts him against all of the other workers in his own industry. We would not need workers organizations if it were not for the fact that the **Bosses Are Organized. Laundry Drivers!** Did you ever notice that when one firm raises their prices that all prices go up at the same time. Do the Bosses organize? Well! What more do you drivers want to know? Oh, Yes! Some Bosses have a "Chosen few" who get all of the good business, while the fellow that works on commission gets what he can pick up. Is this fair? What will we call these favored few? Shall we have a contest to find a name for this type? Just join the Union, fellows, as we already have a name and also a remedy. I'll bet you'll be there if you're **Right**.

Finks!

Local No. 574 is in possession of a complete list of the names of those Slimy creatures, we cannot call them men, who served as special police during the last strike. We not only have the names, but also the addresses, amount of time served by each, and the amount of cheese due each rat. Now the question arises, "Would the Membership, like to have this list published in serial form in the 574 Organizer?" We can and will do this if you wish. Let's hear from you boys.

The "Low and Odor" League

We just found out this fellow John Dillinger is a "Piker." The Government is offering only \$10,000 Bucks for his capture.—Small town stuff—Why; he only killed fifteen or twenty people. Right here in our own home town; The "low and odor league" is offering \$20,000 for any information leading to the apprehension of the exterminator of a couple of rats. **THIS IS A FAST ist town. What?**

Does your news stand sell The Organizer?

Organizational Developments

Grocery Workers Strengthen Organization

The Grocery Industry Group of Local No. 574 has proposed a plan which is intended to solidify the ranks of 574 and make it possible to carry out a definite and effective campaign to increase our membership. This plan embodies the setting up of definite organizational machinery within each group and provides for a definite coordination between the groups and the central committee. The Committee is very much in sympathy with this proposal and has taken up the task of making the plan applicable to all groups.

Job Committee and Stewards

Many of the transfer and market workers have set up the job committee and steward system on the job and are very much pleased with the results obtained. This committee usually consists of three members with the chairman also serving as steward. Under this set-up it is possible to quickly settle any minor grievances and to carry on organizational work and maintain the regular payment of dues in support of the organization. The Committee recommends the widest possible application of this system.

New Button

At the request of the petroleum and inside workers, the Committee is devising a new button which will be more representative of the character of 574.

Union Filling Stations

- Albertson & Dick—Kunz.....29th & Blaisdell
- Peterson—Kunz5400 43d Ave. S.
- Ternell—Tydol42d Ave. & 41st St.
- Barnsdall—Barns.53d & M'haha
- Washburns—Tydol52d & M'haha
- Ray Shultz—BlauMorgan & Lowry
- Conoco Station—Conoco.....Glenwood & Cedar Lake Rd.
- Earl's—Texaco53d & M'haha
- Grant's—Texaco29th & Park
- Lund's Service Stations—Texaco.....2500 Franklin Ave. 4060 M'haha Ave.
- Larson & Slamm—Texaco 3200 Washington Ave. N.
- Spinner & Jossart—Texaco....4301 Cedar Avenue
- Meyers—Texaco38th & Oakland
- White & Moberg—Texaco....38th & Long-fellow
- Three Co'op. Oil Co. Stations.

Package Delivery

One of the outstanding developments in the days following the Strike has been the steady influx of package delivery men into the union. Local 574 counts as one of its best sections these men who have worked long hours for years at a small wage under non-union conditions. Loyal and persistent work on the part of a number of outstanding union men among the package delivery workers has been productive. Now the union ranks are being swelled daily by new applications. What could be more indicative of the union spirit that rolls up like a tidal wave than a flock of 574 buttons in the package delivery sections?

Union Study Class

What promises to be one of the best features of our organizational and development work is the Friday night class which is in the process of working out a definite course of lectures and study in connection with Trade Union History, Union Structure, and Strike Strategy. Due to the pressure of work which developed about the wage arbitration set up, and special meetings, last week's class was not assembled. This week with new forces to aid in the work, the class will organize for future meetings.

Ladies Auxiliary Give Benefit Dance

During the recent strike an organization was born which bids fair to play a very important part in the labor movement of Minneapolis. Local No. 574, realizing the tremendous power of women, called upon their wives, mothers and sisters for aid. Women flocked to General Headquarters to take part in the all important detail work necessary. Trained office workers took over the signing of applications, gas cards, and phone calls. Others made short work of the feeding of five thousand men. Some militant women took up the battle on the picket line.

Since the strike the important work of feeding the families of those injured, discriminated against, or jailed has been taken over by the Ladies' Auxiliary.

This work must go on. To do so it is necessary to raise money. In order to raise sufficient money to carry on, the Ladies' Auxiliary will open the new headquarters at 225 South Third Street for a Grand Opening Benefit Dance, Saturday, June 30, 1934. It is the just duty of every No. 574 man who is working to buy at least two tickets. Give us your support in order that we may keep in effect our own motto: "We help our own."