

STRIKE EXTRA! STRIKE EXTRA!

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

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

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

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MASS MEETING FRIDAY TO SUPPORT GROCERY STRIKERS

Wholesale Grocery Bosses Attempt to Confuse the Issues With Propaganda

Local 544 Shows That Food Is Plentiful Here
Despite Bosses' Lies

Drivers Union Demand that Grocery Bosses
Recognize Union Rights

The Wholesale Grocery employers, hooked up to the Citizens Alliance and state Republican reactionaries with Martin Nelson at their head, are attempting to create a panic with the cry of "food shortage." Their truck drivers, helpers and platform men are members of Local 544. These men through the Drivers Union have demanded recognition and a Union contract. The employers refused to even meet with the Union committee. Many of the individual grocery firms have admitted through their spokesmen, their desire to sign with Local 544. But at the same time indicating that they were prevented from doing so by threats of financial reprisals. Local 544 and the Teamsters Joint Council tried on numerous occasions, over a period of several weeks, to find a peaceful solution. Met by either stony silence or arrogant refusal to discuss the issue on the part of the employers, the Drivers Union has struck those firms who refused to recognize the rights of the workers to bargain collectively.

One big point stands out. Local 544 demands Union recognition, the right of all organized workers. The banker controlled wholesale grocery employers refuse to recognize this right.

Confronted by the pact of solid Union organization, the bosses act in accordance with the outworn ideas of all Citizens Alliance stooges. They seek to confuse the issue. In the pages of the banker dominated daily press they find release for their daily slander against the workers and the Union.

Attempting to alarm and frighten the women and children they cry "starvation."

Local 544 replies: **FOOD IN ABUNDANCE IS AVAILABLE.** There is no strike against milk, bread, meat, fresh vegetable and produce supplies. A number of reliable grocery firms are operating as usual, having signed agreements with the General Drivers Union.

Thinking to split the ranks of organized labor, the Grocery Employers also in the daily press, accuse "certain" union leaders of making impossible demands.

Local 544 asks the question: Why do these few Wholesale Grocery employers refuse to sign a Union agreement if, as they claim, they are already paying the Union scale?

Local 544 once again points out that its demands on the Grocery employers are identical with the provisions in scores of Union agreements between the General Drivers Union and other Minneapolis trucking firms.

Making a direct thrust at the Farmer-Labor party in its hour of sorrow, these bosses, inspired by the Martin Nelson Old Guard, demand that state officials intervene.

Also with the deliberate intention to split and disrupt the good relations which exist between the farmers and laborers, the bosses' press falsely asserts that the General Drivers Local 544 has prevented the farmers from delivering produce. The Union strike committee has as usual, made full preparations in order that farm

produce delivery be unhampered. The Central Market is not affected, retail grocery stores may receive farmers' produce, except where banning is necessary.

A clear statement on the Farmer-Labor strike relationship by John Bosch, president of the Farm Holiday Association, appears elsewhere in this bulletin.

The Wholesale Grocery bosses are not concerned with the question of food for the people of Minneapolis. They are concerned only with the profit which they squeeze from the people while their employees, under open shop conditions, handle this food. Local 544 demands that these employers be accorded their rights. The General Drivers Union again proposes that the employers meet, negotiate and sign a Union agreement.

Farmers Donate Food to Union

Spiking the false propaganda released by grocery employers, to the effect that real farmers are against the strike of General Drivers Union, farmers and farm organizations are donating foodstuffs in the form of farm commodities to the commissary of the striking drivers, helpers and platform men. Wednesday John Hadjieff, Hennepin County farmer, gave the strikers a large quantity of garden produce. Thank you, Brother Hadjieff!

Unions Will Come In Body to Meet

Many unions plan to attend the Teamsters Joint Council mass meeting in a body Friday night.

Additional seats have been provided and everyone who attends is assured of finding a seating place.

What pleasing little prizefighter of the grocery group is out with the night picket crews?

Strike Activity Halted for Rites

Out of respect to the memory of former Governor Floyd B. Olson, all strike activity and all bannering was stopped between the hours of 1 p. m. to 3 p. m. Almost all of the striking grocery workers attended the funeral rites.

Noted Leaders On Program

Almost every well known figure in the local labor movement will be on the speaking program at the Friday open mass meeting.

Come and hear leading trade unionists discuss the real issues of the strike.

All free.

Plenty of seats.

Donations are coming in fast. A list of these individuals and concerns will be published later.

What a hungry bunch. Grocery boys is right. And how they can eat.

John Bosch Answers the Vicious Attack of 'Farmers'

Answering the vicious statements of the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association, pseudo farmers' organization, which appeared in the Minneapolis Morning Tribune, Tuesday, August 25, John Bosch, National President of the Farm Holiday Association, had the following to say:

"Various statements appearing in recent newspapers authorized by an organization known as the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association, an alleged farmers' organization, attempt to make it appear that the farmers of Hennepin County and of the state are opposed to the present strike of General Drivers No. 544.

They also try to make the public believe that farmers are unable to market their products because of labor's efforts to improve working conditions.

So that the public may know the true situation the Farmers Holiday Association issues this statement.

We are completely aware of the fact that the farmer's problems and labor's problems are identical and that any struggle labor may make to better living conditions is also a struggle to better farming conditions.

We therefore endorse the present strike of General Drivers No. 544.

Farmers through their organization, the Market Gardeners Association, have ample opportunity to dispose of their products. The so-called Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association is thoroughly understood by real farmers to be detrimental to their interests. It bears the same relationship to them that the Citizens Alliance does to labor unions.

If the present strike continues beyond a time which gives unfair employers ample opportunity to correct existing unfair conditions the Farmers Holiday Association will assist in winning this struggle by supplying food and other assistance.

In the past the Holiday Association has helped labor in our mutual struggles for better conditions. The policy of the Holiday Association will always be in that direction.

JOHN H. BOSCH
State President
National President

MASS MEETING WILL TELL OF BOSSES' TRICKS

Teamsters Council Holds
Open House Friday
Night

All Minneapolis Workers
Urged to Support
Drivers

Friday night, Aug. 28, at 8 o'clock, there will be held a huge labor mass meeting. Held under the auspices of the Teamsters Joint Council, the meeting for the purpose of rallying labor's support for striking drivers, helpers and platform workers in the Wholesale Grocery industry. News that the grocery bosses are attempting to break the strike has spread through working class circles like wildfire.

The refusal of grocery bosses to meet with the Union, vicious lies and stories which they are circulating by the employers and paid advertisements in the daily press are all indications that this strike is a fight to the finish with the Citizens Alliance.

The bosses' fight is not aimed at General Drivers Union alone. It is the beginning of a struggle against the whole organized labor movement, the Farmer-Labor party and everything progressive.

Union Will Fight Back
Local 544 will use every resource in its power to defeat the program of the bosses, bankers and the Citizens Alliance.

General Drivers Union, Local 544, calls upon the whole Minneapolis working class, every friend of labor and everyone who believes in the right of workers to live decently to rally to the support of the grocery strikers. We invite every man and woman in this city who believes in the right of collective bargaining to attend the Friday mass meeting, support the strikers and aid in beating back the efforts of Minneapolis grocery employers to destroy the trade union movement.

Time: 8 p. m., Friday, August 28.

Place: General Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. N. All will be welcome.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town!