

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

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

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

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

VOL. 2, NO. 24

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCT. 1, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

\$2500 GIVEN TO STRIKERS BY ST. PAUL DRIVERS UNION

ALLIANCE SET FOR FIGHT IN FOOD STRIKE

Bankers Back Bosses in
Struggle Against
Local 544

Meetings With Employers
Result in No Plan
for Peace

As the strike of the grocery drivers, helpers and warehouse men goes into the sixth week it is apparent that real deadlock has been reached. Last week saw the closing of the Thomas chain and of the Piggly Wiggly stores. Although numerous conferences have taken place between grocery employers and officials of 544 no real gains toward settlement can be recorded.

Through the conferences an interesting fact has come to light. It is an established fact that only a small minority of the wholesale grocery owners are standing out against a settlement with the Union. This minority group, backed by the large banks and the Citizens Alliance, dominate, with threats of financial reprisals, that section of the grocery employers who favor recognition of the Union representing their employees.

Picketing is being carried on in a vigorous fashion by the strikers involved. Bannering of unfair stores continues and those retailers so bannered find their business falls away to nothing in a short time. The strikers' commissary, where over 150 men are fed daily, is being handled in a highly efficient manner.

Regular donations of foodstuffs and money are coming in in greater quantities than ever before. Independent grocers, who are just coming to the realization of the service that is being done their cause by General Drivers, are generously supporting the strike.

Another significant development
(Continued on page 2)

Truck Owners Hold Meeting

The Independent Truck Owners Section of Local 544 will hold a special meeting October 1st. The first Thursday of the month falls on October 1st and for that reason this notice is being given to all members to acquaint them with the fact that the first regular meeting of this section will be held earlier in the month than usual. All members are requested to be on hand at 8 p. m.

Resolutions on Office Workers

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the established practice of Trade Union organizations to patronize other unions, and

WHEREAS, the Union Label Committee of the State Federation of Labor has frequently gone on record as being supporters and advocates of the union label and have repeatedly declared themselves as being in favor of employing only such people as are members of recognized bona fide trade unions, and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the officials of the Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Typists and Assistants Union, No. 17661, that non-union people have been employed by trade union organizations whose duty it should be to set an example to all other employers of labor, and

WHEREAS, non-union people have been placed in employment by these organizations while unemployed members of said organization were still without employment, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all trade union offices and all other places where members of our organization are customarily employed be required and bound to call the office of the Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Typists and Assistants Union, No. 17661, and ask that they be supplied with office employees from said union, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Federation of Labor be requested to send out a communication to all affiliated locals requesting the employment of only members of Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Typists and Assistants Union, No. 17661, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be printed in all papers fair to labor.

Submitted by
Stenographers, Bookkeepers,
Typists and Assistants Union,
No. 17661

By Delegates
Jennie Sammel
Viola Flanz
Georgiana Brown
Blanche Kurtz

Adopted by Minnesota State Federation of Labor in convention assembled, September 21, 1936.
Cloquet, Minn.

David Lloyd George, English politician: Hitler is one of the greatest of the many great men I have ever met.

Yes, he IS great all right—for the handful of big bosses in Germany. Great for them, but hell for the people.

State Convention Is for Reinstatement of C. I. O.

Bakery Drivers to Stage Union Drive

Drivers employed by wholesale baking companies will soon be made the object of an organizational drive by Local No. 544. At the present time there is no existing charter for bakery, cake and pastry drivers. A charter once existed here but due to inactivity in the local the Union gradually went out of business.

Bakery drivers will be organized directly into General Drivers Union, Local No. 544. Wage and hour conditions for this class of drivers are very bad. Bakery employers seized upon the 1929 depression to sharply cut wages and lengthen hours in the industry. With the Bakery Drivers Union in a non-functioning condition the drivers could find no way to resist the lowering of their standard of living.

With the baking industry organized it is expected that wages and working conditions of bakery drivers will be brought back to the place where they belong.

Local 544 Meeting Is Well Attended

The specially called membership meeting Monday, September 28, was attended by one of the largest crowds that have been to a strictly Union meeting for some time. Reports of the various strikes now being conducted by 544 were reported to the membership and an appeal was made for support for the striking grocery workers whose struggle is on going into the sixth week.

A real debate developed around the question of providing a special organizer for the Independent Truck Owners Section. Farrell Dobbs and L. A. Murphy made a complete report of the financial standing of General Drivers Union. Numerous Independent Truck Owners took the floor to put their side of the controversy before the membership.

M. B. and V. R. Dunne spoke for the Executive Board whose recommendation was that the Independent Owners Section be accorded no special privileges and that a regular organizer already employed be assigned to the Independents. The meeting adjourned without a record vote being taken.

Did you hear about the truck driver whom a copper called a moron after an accident? He denied it and said that he had been born and raised a Methodist.

Endorses Program of Lewis - Led Labor Unions

The fifty-fourth convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, held at Cloquet, Minn., came to an end Wednesday, September 23, with only two accomplishments worthy of note being made.

Being a non-election year the usual jockeying for elective positions was absent. The first day was devoted to setting up convention committees and passing on delegates credentials.

It was apparent after the first day that the only two issues which would provoke a real fight in the convention was the question of the C. I. O. and the endorsing of Farmer-Labor candidates. The resolutions, always the important part of a labor gathering, were many. They ranged from endorsing Father Coughlin and the Union for Social Justice to putting the convention on record for affiliation with the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Adoption of resolutions calling for a drive for the five-day week, and the six-hour day, for old age pension of \$50 per month and for the organization of the unemployed were passed without discussion.

It was apparent that resistance would develop around a resolution calling for endorsement of the C. I. O. program or for any resolution taking the A. F. of L. Council to task for suspension of the C. I. O. Unions.

A caucus of left wingers was called for Tuesday night to discuss strategy for putting through their resolution endorsing C.I.O. unions and calling for their reinstatement. The caucus was attended by over 100 delegates and from the strength shown there it was easy to see that a strong resolution would be the one adopted.

The Resolutions Committee offered a substitute resolution for all resolutions on the C. I. O. question. This resolution was couched in very conciliatory language and was voted down on a roll call, 201 to 159. The resolution on the C. I. O., which was finally adopted, put the Minnesota State Federation of labor on record backing the C. I. O. and calling upon the Executive Council to reinstate all suspended Unions.

The only other struggle of the convention developed around a resolution calling for blanket endorsement of all Farmer-Labor candidates. This was voted down

(Continued on page 2)

120, ST. PAUL DRIVERS, GIVE STRIKE FUND

\$2,500 Donated to Strike
Fund of Workers in
Industry

Saint Paul Drivers Union
Votes Gift of Money
at Meeting

Bringing encouragement and new solidarity to the ranks of the wholesale grocery strikers of Local No. 544, and striking terror to the hearts of the labor-hating bosses of the wholesale grocery industry, came the news last Saturday morning that General Drivers and Helpers Union, Local 120, in St. Paul had donated \$2,500 to the strike fund.

This splendid action of the St. Paul Drivers Union was taken at their meeting Friday, September 25. Without a dissenting vote a motion to give \$2,500 to Local No. 544 passed. A check for \$1,250 was immediately handed over to the officials of the Minneapolis Drivers Union and a further check for a like amount will be forthcoming this week.

This demonstration for brotherly solidarity for brother unionists is an action that will not soon be forgotten by members of Local No. 544.

It came in an hour when the need was great. It will provide the sinew of war which will enable the wholesale grocery strikers to carry on their bitterly fought battle against the whole force of the Minneapolis Citizens Alliance.

Coal Workers To Meet Oct. 5

The Coal Drivers and Coal Workers Section, whose last meeting, scheduled for September 21, was postponed, will meet again Monday, October 5, at 8 p. m.

It is imperative that all workers employed in the coal industry in Minneapolis attend this meeting to find out the plans that are being made for securing a Union agreement with the coal employers. The coal season will soon be at hand and it is important that no driver or worker be allowed to return to employment without being in good standing in Local No. 544.

Closing of the Thomas Stores was the highlight of the grocery strike. It has been reported that they are losing over \$10,000 per day. How they can take it!

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

ALLIANCE SET FOR FIGHT IN FOOD STRIKE

(Continued from page 1)

has also taken place this week. Employees in wholesale grocery warehouses, who up until last week were not members of Local 544, are now flocking to the Union in large numbers. Instead of the strike losing strength as time goes on, it is gathering momentum and it is apparent that an irresistible force has developed which will not stop short of the original demands.

The wholesale grocery industry is completely paralyzed by the strike. Foodstuff, however, is plentiful. Firms that have signed with the Union are reported as doing a gigantic business as they continue to supply the many grocery retailers.

Partial List of Federal Donors

- John's Place, 224 Plymouth.
- Rackner's Grocery, 525 W. Broadway.
- Woolworth's, 308 W. Broadway.
- Crescent Laundry, 2016 Washington N.
- Mike's Bar, 2029 Washington N.
- Christie, 1909 Central Ave. N. E.
- Wm. Olson, 2226 Central Ave. N. E.
- Samar, 2326 Central Ave. N. E.
- Economy Shoe Store, 2401 Central Ave. N. E.
- Katan, 3500 Central Ave.
- Thurston, 2418 Central Ave.
- Joseph Ross, 1238 Newton N.
- Browde Bros., 1213 Washington
- Browns Dry Goods, 5th and W. Broadway.
- E. G. Dahl & Bros., Washington & W. Broadway.
- Lindquist Jeweler, 612 W. Broadway.
- Pauly Cigar Co., 12th and Washington N.
- Schomburg's, 1028 W. Broadway.
- L. Lawn, 1105 W. Broadway.
- A. Oswald So., 916 W. Broadway.
- Broadway Hat Shop, 610 W. Broadway.
- Broadway Coffee Co., 918 W. Broadway.
- Broadway Liquor Co., 234 W. Broadway.
- Baron's, 6th and Plymouth.
- Engstrom's Meat Market, 600 17th Ave. N.
- Garvey Grocery, 602 17th Ave. N.
- New Deal Grocery, 1700 Lyn-dale N.
- W. B. Frazier Grocery, 709 Plymouth.
- H. J. Holden Service Station, 728 Plymouth.
- Wm. Mandel Hardware, 1109 Plymouth.
- Shaughnessy's Grocery, 1224 W. Broadway.
- Deep Rock Filling Station, Girard and W. Broadway.
- Dad's Service Station, Irving and W. Broadway.
- Bartsch Square Deal Hardware, 1407 W. Broadway.
- Bargain Food Market, 1802 Riverside & 1401 E. Franklin.

IN THE END ZONE

NO NEWS

We'll skip over Minnesota's victory over Washington. The daily press has already covered that far above our mean power to add or detract. It was a fine game, marred only by the jinx that seemed to be following Minnesota. In spite of injuries, hotel fires, fumbles and dressing room robberies we came out on top. We have a short breather now before we meet an all too anxious and powerful Nebraska team on October 3. We think this Nebraska team should be just as tough as Washington. . .

BIG TEN

The most interesting game so far as local interest is concerned, should be this Iowa-Northwestern game tomorrow. Coaches Lynn Waldorf and Oze Solem pit their brains and the brawn of their boys against each other at Evanston. Iowa boasts of another powerhouse this year while Northwestern is reputed to be fast and tricky. Solem and the Iowa team will feel the loss of Dick Crain, lost through graduation. Waldorf has a lot of last year's talent left plus a lot of new but good material. . .

HARD WORK

It's no cinch picking the winner in this Iowa-Northwestern game. This seems to be a year of breaks and then, too, passing is in this season more than ever. We won't go so far as to predict by points but we will do this: We'll string along with the Northwestern team for this game. So it's Northwestern to beat Iowa. . .

LUCK

We had a bit of luck last week in picking the winners in the local prep school games. All of our predictions came through. No credit due—just luck. Hope we can have the same luck in this week's choose orchard. . .

THIS WEEK

We find the prep school football picture hardly less packed with thrills. The scene is only slightly different. All four games will be just as interesting to spectators as were last week's. North goes to West to battle the Green Wave on its own field. South has its turn with the Tartarous Washburn eleven on the Millers home ground. Edison takes its wizardry to the Central stadium in an attempt to blot out last week's loss to West. Marshall moves its bulk to Roosevelt to engage the Teddies in a session of Knock Knock. All these games will be bitterly fought. Anyone who thinks this is a marshmallow league had best not stand near the side lines while wearing a white suit.

The West-North game is this week's headliner but for ourselves we should like to see the Edison-Central tangle. This game should be good. . .

OUR CHOICE

For this week's prep winners we pick the following:
 West to beat North.
 South to beat Washburn.
 Edison to beat Central.
 Roosevelt to beat Marshall.

WHY—

West's green wave should outclass a truly great North team. South may have a little difficulty with Washburn, but should run and pass her way to victory by some margin. Edison smarting under last week's short decision to West should by superior scrap and speed outpoint Central. Roosevelt, we are sure, has the speed and punch to defeat a ponderously slow Marshall outfit. . .

Bill Brown Says—

The recent convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor again demonstrated the fact that the Labor movement of the state of Minnesota is one of the most progressive in the country. The clear-cut stand taken by the convention on the question of the Committee for Industrial Organization proves that the workers of Minnesota are for a form of union organization that can organize the vast number of unorganized workers employed in the basic industries of the United States. Every delegate should be proud of the stand taken by the convention.



BILL BROWN
President of 544

Yellow Notes

The members of this Unit feel deeply the loss of Allen Crowell, who died last week after a long illness. In addition to being very well liked by all of us due to his pleasing personality, he was a staunch supporter and believer in our organization. Although he never received a financial benefit from being a member of this organization, he was one of the first inside workers to join and it gave him great satisfaction in seeing others derive benefits. In this he exemplified the true spirit of brotherly love which should exist in every organization. To Mrs. Crowell and other members of his family, we wish to extend our most sincere condolences in his loss.

One of the strangest things happened during fair week. Joe Degarmo, the sentinel of the Lake and Hennepin stand, was actually seen in the line up at the fair grounds. He evidently followed a Como-Harriet street car going in the wrong direction. How about it, Joe?

"Lantern Jaw" Larson discarded his Packer recently because of his inability to pass a gas station with it. He now has a Terraplane and with one gallon of gas, he can pass them all.

A great number of us were very glad to hear of the accomplishment of two important matters by the State Federation of Labor convention. The main one being the resolution regarding the suspension of the C. I. O. from the A. F. of L. and the other condemning state constitutional Amendment No. 2. It can very plainly be seen there were a few delegates from progressive organizations in attendance.

A few drivers on the top of the seniority list have been trying out for the job of telephone operator and dispatcher. Quite a number of them will now agree it isn't as easy a job as they imagined it was.

It is hard to conceive the line of logic a member of this unit can use to arrive at the conclusion they could retain the benefits they have derived from this organization should it dissolve. If those who are suffering from this "hallucination" would conscientiously consider the benefits they have really received over pre-union conditions, it is almost certain they would change their ideas. For their information, two important facts should be considered. One is that the total amount of commission lost on shortages for the year previous to the unionization was just twice what the entire membership is paying in dues. Another one is that the pay checks are now approximately 35% higher for six days work over what they were

SIT BACK

and enjoy yourself till game time today. Then follow the crowds to one of the four games. Football season is here and football is an American institution. We do our fighting in sports. We don't go to War. . .

when we were working seven days. In addition there are several other benefits, too numerous to mention, which have been of material benefit to all. As it has been stated before, it is too bad we haven't a "Devil's Island" with our old working conditions in force there, to send these dissenters for awhile. Maybe they would appreciate the "privilege" of paying dues and being members of our organization.

Our committee-man, Hagstrom, has been assisting the St. Paul cab drivers draw up their agreement for the past few days. Hence his absence from the job.

Elevator Workers Continue Strike

Monday, September 28, members of Flour, Feed and Elevator Workers Union, Local No. 19152, who are still on strike against mill and elevator employers, rejected a proposal to settle the controversy and decided to continue the struggle.

At this meeting the Flour Workers Union submitted a counter proposal, copies of which were sent to the group representing the employers, to Governor Peterson and to the United States Department of Labor. Several of the large mills and elevators have already settled with the Union.

On WPA Projects

WITH FEDERAL WORKERS Prosperity Cornered

The U. S. Employment Service reports it had over 139,000 applications for jobs renewed during July, 1936, in Minnesota. For all the states it was 6,600,000 through this one agency alone. For the same month there were some 13,000 employable on direct relief in Minnesota.

Lac Que Parle WPA strikers returned to work last week. They had ample grievances. Rural living costs are as high as urban, but WPA rural wages are much lower. We don't know what their strike gained but it looked similar to the hastily called, ill-prepared Airport strike in Minneapolis. F. W. S. again says that the first need is for well grounded economic organization, carefully laid plans and broad trade union backing before strikes are undertaken. Needs and grievances alone can't win a strike. Dependable experienced leadership is essential.

Unqualified support for and expansion of the F. W. S. program throughout the state was voted by the Minnesota State Federation of Labor and the Teamsters Joint Council at Cloquet and referred to the State Executive Council for action. Good work, Grant.

Columbia Heights' meeting last week was visited by a delegation from the F. W. S., and Columbia Heights officers and stewards returned the compliment. Relations between those groups look promising.

F. W. S. stewards voted to start

Convention Is For C.I.O. Unions

(Continued from page 1)

and Farmer-Labor candidates were endorsed by name. They included only candidates for state offices and for long and short term senate office.

A committee from the convention was sent to Governor Peterson with a request that the Governor make a thorough investigation of Sheriff John Wall of Hennepin County in regard to his action in the cereal strike. During the course of the convention a caucus of delegates of all state teaming craft unions was held at the Lennox hotel in Duluth. It was attended by over 70 delegates of driving unions. A program of unified action in the convention was adopted and several resolutions pertaining to the trucking industry were recommended by the caucus.

An organizational drive on all workers employed in the trucking craft was planned by the gathering. The convention adjourned late Wednesday afternoon without the 1937 convention city being selected. Its selection was left in the hands of the executive committee of the Federation.

their meetings at 7 o'clock each Wednesday evening to take care of their growing duties. . .

Certainly! The regular F. W. S. business meeting is Friday, October 2, at 8 p. m. New applicants can sign up before the meeting. . .

Supplemental relief is the main immediate issue. Coal at cost is no solution when the workers don't have the "cost." Rents are up 40% to 50%. Food prices have skyrocketed. It's getting cold. Men on projects and children going to school need clothing. WPA wages don't buy adequate food, let alone clothing. The shoddy stuff given out last year is like a bare bone to a dog.

One WPA worker with a family of seven had a semi-monthly paycheck of \$16.50 on September 25. He had lost two days from sickness in the family and two days in the WPA strike. Fourteen dollars paid for rent left \$2.50 for all other necessities for half a month. Yet the Division of Public Relief refused to help this family. Mrs. Bearman, north side relief supervisor, said it was on orders from Ole Pearson. Seems as if the Labor Movement should warm up Ole's. . .

Direct relief investigators have been snooping around project 1733, probably looking for more alibis for the Welfare Board in the supplemental relief fight. It's a high old life at \$60.50, isn't it? . . .

Women on a WPA project were asked to clean up the place on their own time. F. W. S. members refused and complained to John Wing. Due to WPA red tape there will be no charwoman on this job until October 1. Meantime a few weak sisters are submitting, thus marking themselves for possible hair-pulling when occasion arises. . .

Over 100 workers at the Parkers Lake project signed a petition to remove Assistant Superintendent O'Brien. Assistant District WPA Administrator Bovine has the goods on this foul-mouthed trouble maker but only proposes further "investigation." No investigations precede 403's to the workers and many innocent children are thereby unjustly deprived of necessities. The workers want action.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

- Local No. 160
- Tuesday, Sept. 8—Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 15—Executive Board Meeting and Stewards' Meeting
- Wednesday, Sept. 16—Regular Membership Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 22—Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 29—Executive Board Meeting

Notes to You by Kenn Harlan

SNAPS—

A recent visitor to Minneapolis, who has evidently heard of the rivalry between this city and her sister city, St. Paul, got off this nifty snap: "I always knew there was rivalry between the Twin Cities, but I didn't realize that the government had to put Fort Snelling between them to keep them from fighting."

FASHIONS—

There will be little change in trouser pockets this fall. Black eyes will be worn by the male populace of our colleges—football special. This is one season of the year that a fellow can walk down the street with a blanket on one arm and a girl on the other and nobody asks questions.

CLASSIC—

Games like Knock Knock go on and on till they grow tiresome. But once in a while a genius rises among us and produces a real classic. Such is Kraft Music Hall's Bob Burns, who with a pun and a poem leaves this:

Innuendo I get up at night, And dress by yellow candle light. Insomnia quite the other way. I have to go to bed by day.

NEWSMEN—

have done almost as much to bring light into the dark corners of civilization as have missionaries and pedagogues. The press and its "heart interest" newsmen, by throwing the light of publicity on otherwise obscure things, have stopped many cases of cruelty such as the recent Golden Valley flogging.

POLITICS—

With the rant of politics constantly in our ears we are reminded of the comment of an English visitor. He had been in this country but a short time and that during a political campaign. He was asked what he thought of American politics. He answered: "It's just like England, old fellow. The most birds follow the dark horse who promises the biggest job."

CASUAL—

So much drama, so much action, so much suspense was packed into the recent Minnesota-Washington game that your correspondent almost became one of the injured. When Minnesota scored her second and winning goal we leaped up and waved our arms lustily. Almost broke a wrist on the bookcase.

NIGHTLIFE —

Chrisanos on the East Side are still advertising air cooling in the shivering midnight. . . . A drunk on lower Plymouth standing in the street with his arms outstretched and begging verbally to be run over. . . . An angry woman in a north side dance hall breaking crockery while the janitor calmly swept it up. . . . A reckless driver boozily embracing the arresting cop with a "Wattha hell we don dinwee?"

SEND OFF—

544 has stood always for bigger and better things. The magic touch of 544 has made better living conditions for thousands. With a united front this Union has forged steadily ahead.

A small example of 544's progress can be seen in its encouragement of music and relaxation. From its humble beginning the 544 dance band under the good guidance of Dick Atherton has become a fine co-ordinated, all Union band. Union members

Public Forums Will Be Held In All Schools

Soviet youth, Fascism, industrial conflict and collective bargaining—all will be considered by speakers on the Minneapolis Public Forum program next week.

Fred W. Ingvaldstad, new forum speaker, will talk twice at adults' meetings on "A Hint to Fascists in America." Dr. Emerson P. Schmidt of the University of Minnesota, will speak twice at evening meetings on "Industrial Warfare and Collective Bargaining."

Mr. Ingvaldstad will talk on Soviet youth at a meeting Monday night at North high school and Tuesday night at Marshall high school. His talks on Fascism will be on Wednesday evening at Fulton school, Vincent Ave. and Forty-ninth street south; Thursday evening at Calhoun school, Girard avenue and Lake street, and Friday evening at Harrison school, James and Fourth avenues north.

Dr. Schmidt's dates on "Industrial Warfare and Collective Bargaining" will be Monday evening, at Greeley school, Twelfth avenue and Twenty-sixth street south, and Thursday evening at Nokomis junior high school, Thirty-fifth avenue and fifty-first street south. The evening meetings all are at 8 p. m.

Mr. Ingvaldstad is president and organizer of the Self-Help Industries for Unemployed at Lansing, Mich. He broadcasted regularly for years on the Religion of the Coming Social Order, won an interstate contest in a field of 46 college orations, arguing against militarism, and is author of a volume to be published soon, "Crosses Over the Kremlin."

With the Laundry Workers Union

Rubin Latz and Alvina Baldwin, delegates of Local 183 to the State Federation of Labor Convention held at Colquet, Minn., report the passing of many progressive motions including the C. I. O. resolution.

From all reports the Laundry and Cleaning drivers, Local 131, are getting into action. More power to you, boys, the inside workers, Local 183 are back of you 100%.

Bosses must learn that it is the duty of the Union to represent its members. If Mr. Boss would abide by the agreement, workers would have no cause to complain to the Union.

Rumors have filtered in that Henry Lake, one-time President of the Union, has taken unto himself a bride. We take this opportunity to wish Mr. and Mrs. Lake a long and happily married life.

Norman Thomas, presidential candidate on the Socialist ticket, will speak at the Eagles' hall Thursday, October 8, 117 4th St. S. E. "After the New Deal—What?" will be the subject. Every worker regardless of political faith should hear Mr. Thomas speak. Tickets may be had by inquiring at the office.

Already there is talk of a mammoth Victory dance when our new should be proud of its musical unit and support it with their co-operation. For your next dance use a band that is a Union with a Union.

SHORT SHOT

They laughed when I sat down to play. Howinhell did I know it was a bookcase. . . .

Jordan Stevens Send Out Letter Filled With Vicious Propaganda

On September 18, 1936, Jordan-Stevens Co., struck wholesale grocery concern, addressed a letter to its customers. This missive purports to explain, not only the existing grocery strike, but all strikes that are taking place in Minneapolis at the present time. For sheer downright misrepresentation and for an ignorant and bigoted viewpoint of the whole situation no similar document has ever come to the attention of the writer.

The letter goes on to say that Local No. 544, General Drivers Union has the leadership and is responsible for all strikes taking place here at the present time. It is difficult to imagine anyone, however ill-versed with the labor movement, being gullible enough to believe such an astounding statement. There are, at the present time, some half a dozen strike actions taking place here. Of that number Local No. 544 is directly or indirectly concerned with only one, that is the strike of the drivers, helper and platform men employed by local wholesale grocery firms, of which the Jordan-Stevens Co. is one.

In one paragraph of the communication the statement is made that only a tiny minority of employees in wholesale grocery firms are members of General Drivers Union. This is a deliberate falsehood on the part of the writer of the letter. The vast majority of all workers coming under the jurisdiction of Local No. 544, employed in the grocery industry, are members of General Drivers Union.

In further confusing and bewildering paragraphs statements are made that Local No. 544 was responsible for the flour and cereal strike, for the woolen mill strikes which are threatened and for all other existing strike actions. Every strike now going on in Minneapolis has been called by workers organized into bona fide A. F. of L. Unions which have absolutely no connection with Local No. 544. The letter concludes by saying that it isn't a question of wages; that it is a question of control. Actually the question involved is the right of the workers involved to be represented by an organization of their own choosing. But as long as the writer of this piece of employers' propaganda has raised the question of "control," we say to them: Yes, we want control over our lives and our standard of living. That involves hours, wages and working conditions.

Only Union representation can bring decent hours and wages in the grocery industry. Despite all false and misleading propaganda of bigoted and profit-mad employers we will continue to fight until we have secured our rights.

agreement is signed. Members can be certain that this will be the biggest dance in the history of the Union. President Mathews says, "This Union goes sin for breaking records." This will be no exception.

If Bosses of one or two unorganized large plants will please be a little patient, we will get to their people in their proper sequence. With the amount of wage chiseling uncovered in some of the recently organized concerns, we've discovered some excellent organizational opportunities and are availing ourself of the same. Just bear with us a little while and we will give you our individual attention.

Our Shop Stewards are something to be proud of. Already they are carrying out their duties like veterans. As soon as we have

Auto Workers Send Sample Newspaper

UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS OF AMERICA

September 21, 1936 General Drivers Local 544 257 Plymouth Ave. N. Minneapolis, Minnesota Gentlemen:

I am enclosing a copy of our latest newspaper from the General Office. This paper is mailed out once a month to the members.

I am also enclosing a copy of Wisconsin Unemployment Act. If you or any of your Union members would like to have some more of these copies I will be glad to mail them to you.

With kind personal regards, I remain,

Fraternally yours, WESLEY VAN HORN President Local Union 95 I.U.U.A.W. of America 101 E. Milwaukee St. Janesville, Wis.

Norman Thomas To Speak Oct. 8

Norman Thomas, candidate for president of the United States on the Socialist Party ticket, will speak in Minneapolis and St. Paul next week. Thursday noon, October 8, Mr. Thomas will speak at the Men's Union, on the University campus, on "The Future of Youth." Thursday night, the Socialist candidate will speak at a public meeting at the Eagles' hall, 117 Fourth St. S. E., on "After the New Deal: What?" On Friday night, October 9, Mr. Thomas will be a guest at a dinner at the Deutsches House, St. Paul, sponsored by the Socialist Party of St. Paul.

Splendid Dance Is Held by Federals

The dance of the Federal Section which was held Saturday, September 26, in General Drivers' auditorium was a well-attended affair. About 400 people were present during the evening where they danced enjoyably to the music of Dick Atherton's band.

A feature of the evening was the raffling off of a large number of prizes which had been donated by local merchants and other sympathizers of the Federal Workers. In all, more than 65 gifts were distributed during the evening. Ed Palmquist acted as master of ceremonies.

such trifles as getting agreements signed, etc., out of the way, meetings will be arranged for Shop Committees in large plants in addition to the regular Shop Steward meetings.

While passing handbills in the shops for the mass meeting, the presence of Union buttons on the workers was a sight to gladden the eye, and what do you think, in most cases the girls out-do the men in this respect. If buttons were supposed to be carried in the pocket, they wouldn't put pins on them. WEAR YOUR BUTTON, BUY UNION, BE UNION.

"We Are Proud of Our Coffee" S & S CAFE 633 THIRD AVE. S. We feature Home Cooking Try Our Sunday Chicken Dinners, They Are Delicious 35c up

Nelson Welding Co. E. C. NELSON, Prop. A Specialty of Truck Body Building Present Location, 2520 Nicollet Moving Soon—Watch for New Address

Strike Notes By Pete

THANKS To those two swell fellows from the Meat Cutters Union for their splendid donations and the use of their radio for the game last Saturday.

To Ray Rainbolt for helping the writer put Minnesota over a winner, thereby putting a small wagger back into my empty pockets.

To our Editor for his donation of chips the other A. M. Wonder what the lucky number was?

To Brother Murphy for being so nice when I go in and see him about you know what. Oh yeah!

To our Brother Union, Local 120, for their large donation, which certainly makes the boys plenty happy. They can't beat that kind of spirit.

To George W. Helme, R. E. Tritz and Dohney Tobacco Companies for the donations of tobacco and snuff. Bet the boys will always use these companies' brands.

To these firms for their donations. Please patronize them when it is possible.

- P. Neisen N. W. Fruit Co. Eng Olson Fruit Co. American Fruit Co. U. S. Fruit Co. Morris Fruit Co. Weisman Co. W. & B. Wholesale Grocers Stillman Grocers Knudsen Wholesale Grocers Oken Bros. Wholesale Grocers N. W. Bakers Supply Eck's Sausage Co. Standard Sausage Co. Minneapolis Sausage Co. Christman Sausage Co. Sanitary Sausage Co. Cserpes Sausage Co. Albert Beyer Meat Co. Kantar Prov. Rifkin Meat Co. Minneapolis Packing Co. Birkle Meat Market Feinberg Sausage Co. C. L. O'Hara Fruit Co. Freed Bell Fruit Co. Bearman Fruit Co. L. K. Stein Fruit Co. McGarvey Coffee Co. Wonder Baking Co. Paramount Pie Co. Geo. O. Hart Grocery C. A. Bohlin Grocery O. F. Bergman Grocery

When picketing the wholesale houses the pickets look at the hands of those who go in, and drive away the ones who have calloused hands. Pretty smart, I call it.

A new check-up system has been worked out and only those who have showed up daily will be paid off. Better get into line, slackers.

Local 544 Meeting Schedule Tuesday, Sept. 1: Block Men. Thursday, Sept. 3: Independent Truck Owners Friday, Sept. 4: Federal Workers. Wednesday, Sept. 9: Market Friday, Sept. 11: Local 544 Job Stewards Monday, Sept. 14: Full Membership Thursday, Sept. 17: Independent Truck Owners Friday, Sept. 18: Federal Workers Monday, Sept. 21: Coal Workers Friday, Sept. 25: Local 544 Job Stewards Monday, Sept. 28: Full Membership Tuesday, Sept. 29: Taxi Drivers; Night Drivers, 1 p. m.; Day Drivers, 7 p. m. NOTES: Local 544 Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday at 8 p. m. Local 544 Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m. Federal Workers Job Stewards meet each Wednesday at 8 p. m.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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"When I ply my needle, trowel or pick,
I'm a decent Sheeny, Wop or Mick,
But when I strike, I'm a Bolshevik
I'm labor."

Council Program

In Minneapolis, at the present time, the problem of organizing all of the driving crafts should be solved at once. With the splendid base of the completely organized Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union and from the powerful General Drivers from which to operate, organization of those workers in the smaller driving crafts should not be hard.

The bakery drivers, the laundry drivers, tea and coffee drivers and other workers in similar crafts are in great need for organization in their industries. The Teamsters Joint Council have demonstrated in recent months that they are able to stage an efficient organizing campaign which gets results. The Council's attention should be given to the weaker Unions until we can truthfully say that there are no unorganized drivers on the streets of Minneapolis.

Driving Federation

The caucus of delegates from state driving craft unions, which was held in Duluth during the State Federation of Labor convention at Cloquet, demonstrates again the need for a state central organization of driving craft unions. At this caucus, brief as it was, and called for a different purpose, problems which confront local drivers unions in various parts of the state came to the surface.

The importance of the unionization of workers in the truck transportation industry cannot and must not be neglected. This section of workers comprises the real base for Union organization, particularly in small localities. They cannot be organized in a haphazard manner or without the bringing into being of a real state-wide organizational campaign which must be unified and coordinated by some central agency. That agency must be in a state council of driving craft unions.

Union organization in every line is on the upswing. More workers are responding to the call for unionism than ever before. To neglect the workers in the truck driving industry at this time is criminal. The formation of a state driving crafts federation is a simple matter. Let us get to the task.

Leftward Swing

The recent convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor furnished ample proof that there is a powerful swing to the left developing within the American Federation of Labor. The expulsion of the C. I. O. Unions by the Executive Council was the spark which ignited a fire which may sweep through the organized labor movement.

The forthright endorsement of the policy and program of the Committee for Industrial Organization by the convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor is significant in that it is also a condemnation of the program of craft unionists who now lead the American Federation of Labor. The vote on the compromised resolution as proposed by the resolutions committee also has a real meaning. Two hundred and one delegates from various local unions throughout the state indicated by their vote that real support must be accorded that section of the labor movement which is putting forward a program that means progress for the movement. The resolution which was later adopted records the convention as supporting the C. I. O. and demanding of the Executive Council that all suspended Unions be reinstated.

This record vote is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that the Minnesota labor movement is very little affected by the suspension of the insurgent Unions. Practically the only local Unions affected by the suspension, whose delegates will probably be unseated in central bodies, are the printing and garment trades. Delegates from these crafts were in a minority at the convention. The support accorded the resolution endorsing the C. I. O. came from almost every section of the Minnesota labor movement. The action indicates that there is a widespread and deep-seated demand for a more efficient form of Union organization than that which is offered by the present leadership of the A. F. of L.

That part of the resolution calling for the reinstatement of the suspended Unions indicates that delegates to the state convention are against splits and divisions in the labor movement but rather are for a program of progressive organization which would include an organizational campaign, directed at the country's basic industries under the banner of industrial unionism directed by the American Federation of Labor.

Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Although the convention was a splendid vacation, there was no end of worry about the first issue of the Organizer that we have missed for a year and a half.

How did you like that St. Paul donation? A \$2,500 gift to fellow unionists spells solidarity in any man's language.

The coal section will meet on the first Monday in October.

The Monday membership meeting was a riot!

A delegation from the Petroleum Workers Union were union visitors Tuesday.

Robert Peterson, contractor who rearranged the union hall, was a caller at the union office Monday.—Such fun.

Chauffeur's badge 60082 and a September union button were found in the hall after the Monday meeting. Call at office.

Cement block plants have been calling the union office for skilled help. We can furnish it.

Many unorganized grocery workers have joined the union in the last few days.

Smith, Murphy, Dobbs and Skogland called upon the governor Tuesday.

The State Convention endorsed the C. I. O.

A honey of a card game has been running for the past week. It's grocery strikers playing for buttons.

The Independents put forward some eloquent speakers Monday night. That's talent in that that section.

Bill Brown is on the sick list.

Lotz is lost.

Hork and Hagstrom both took the floor at the State Federation Convention.

Sennit says that these conventions are hard on the eyes.

It's nice in Superior.

The Hoigaard strike has that firm closed tight. Would we be wrong in saying that we have it all over them like a tent?

Madden Brothers firm is no longer hauling autos from Duluth. Reason? The drivers want their union recognized.

The commissary of the grocery strikers is really a slick affair. Come up and see them some time—but don't try to move in at meal time.

Snuffy Brown suffered a burnt hole in the coat of his new suit at the convention. An over-loving delegate tried to embrace him with a lighted cigar in his hand. No insurance.

A strike looms in the Office Workers Union. Well, or something.

Laundry Drivers No. 131 are Going to Town.

The Elevator strikers turned Thumbs Down on a bum settlement Monday. It was at 18 N. 8th St.

A girl picket, putting the heat on an Eighth Street fur store, was walking arm-in-arm, in loving conversation, with her sweetie, one day last week.

Such goings-on in Cloquet.

Charlie Granger, star scribe, is leaving for Milwaukee shortly.

Look for a Shakeup on 8th St.

Four girls now working in the General Drivers office. Sounds sort of sissy.

Flanz has a car.

Well, we have our troubles, too.

Welcome, Abner!

LABOR... Looks at the Press

Hot Springs, Ark.: Governor Futrell today recommended birth control among sharecroppers and tenants.

And we recommend sterilization of all fathers of governors like Futrell—plus a living income to the sharecroppers.

Father Coughlin: I am interested in saving our country and Christianity, not by killing capitalism but by curing capitalism.

Curing it—with fascism, like Hitler and Mussolini "cured" German and Italian capitalism.

From the Chicago Tribune, on the Minneapolis strikes: The employers, for the most part, are willing to increase wages which they freely admit are below the standards for the rest of the United States.

Well, well—live and learn something new every day about the bosses. Did YOU ever see a boss who was willing to increase wage scales and admits he is paying a sub-standard scale?

Have you seen that certain giggle ad, by the way, with a picture of a worker saying, "Ain't got time for loose talk, folks, etc., etc.?"

As though a picture of a fink like that could take the place of the union label.

From a Saturday Evening Post ad: Our readers are the pick of the flock—people on the way up... These are the sane, solvent, aspiring Americans.

G'wan—there ain't any people on the way up today. And there won't be for any but a handful as long as capitalism lasts.

Philip Benson, Republican bank president: A social security plan in America is a blow to labor.

Well—if a Republican, and a bank president to boot, says that, then it must be so, eh, boys.

Washington news item: \$10,000 bills are becoming numerous, but \$5,000 bills are scarcer, according to a recent treasury report.

I've noticed the very same thing.

Famous last words: According to the Governor, the artillery is only to transport the infantry.

George Crowley, president of the Illinois Association of Private Employment Agencies: Anyone who has any qualifications,

Independent Truck Chatter

All members of the Independent Truck Owners Section are urged to immediately turn in their agreements to the effect that they are paying their drivers the scale of 75c per hour. This is of great importance and is in accord with the vote taken at a previous meeting.

All Independents are urged to attend the general membership meetings regularly. The next one is on the 28th of this month and the following meeting comes on October 12. Matters continually arise that are the concern of the truck owners and we should all be there to discuss them.

It seems odd that many of the stewards on the Belt Line are to be found on the water wagon. Should the Job Committee inquire?

All of the boys on WPA are still looking forward to the four-day week that was promised by the setup. We should find out why it has not been put into effect as yet.

The entire crew from the 34th and Pierce project were recently transferred to the airport. This called for the "jacking of cabs" for those trucks under that mucker.

And Quick is one of those sent out.

It is reported that Richard Hornig has also been sent out to the airport and that is No. 1 complaining now. It all depends on whom the shoe fits. You will recall Hornig's stand at the time the section was preparing a strike vote.

In the event that a contractor notifies you to come to work for him, and you are unable to do so because of other employment, you are requested to call Curt Zander at Gr. 3168 in order that he may put some of our unemployed brothers to work. Over 30 have benefitted in this manner in the past.

Stewards report that donations to the E. L. P. campaign fund are not coming in as expected. All members are urged to do their bit and help support their party.

mechanical or commercial, can be placed in a job today; industry needs them.

Except for ten or eleven million people, the statement is accurate.

Week's most devastating headline: Diplomats in Discreet Move to Humanize War.

Ain't that ducky, though?

Mrs. Clarence Appel of the Sacramento Women's club: America must continue its middle-of-the-road policy, turning neither to the right nor to the left.

Sort of a road-Appel policy, eh.

From an article in the National Republic, A Magazine of Fundamental Americanism: We should like to hear someone say, for a change, that nothing has changed; that everything is the same as it always has been, and no doubt always will be; that "this changing world" is "just the same old world after all."

Yep, that's what the bosses would like to hear, all right. But the onward sweep of world history only mocks their desire.