

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. 26

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

GAMBLE SKOGMO SIGN WITH 544

FEDERALS ARE PREPARED FOR FRIDAY MEETING

Issue of Supplemental Relief Will Be Meeting Topic

"More Income for WPA Workers" is the slogan which will culminate in one of the year's biggest mass meetings on relief next Friday evening, October 16, at the General Drivers hall, 257 Plymouth Ave., Minneapolis, under sponsorship of the Federal Workers section, Local 544.

The organization demands that the Welfare Board supply the deficiency in wages actually received by workers in any employment, to bring total income up to a minimum of \$72 a month for families of three and \$8 for each additional dependent.

Friday evening's meeting is to consider the proposal that every family man working on WPA quit his job and go back to straight direct relief until the full demand is granted by the Board.

Zimmerman Invited to Clarify Issue

L. P. Zimmerman, director of the State Relief Agency, has been requested to address the mass meeting and clarify his recommendation that supplemental relief be granted to keep relief clients at work thus maintaining the flow of federal funds into this state and preventing the added drain on local and state relief funds which would result if WPA workers return to straight direct relief.

Won't Work and Starve at Same Time

A circular for Friday's meeting states "We have no reason nor excuse for starving. Our families must be provided for. Unless we get what we need we'll stop working."

FLASH Hoigaard Signs

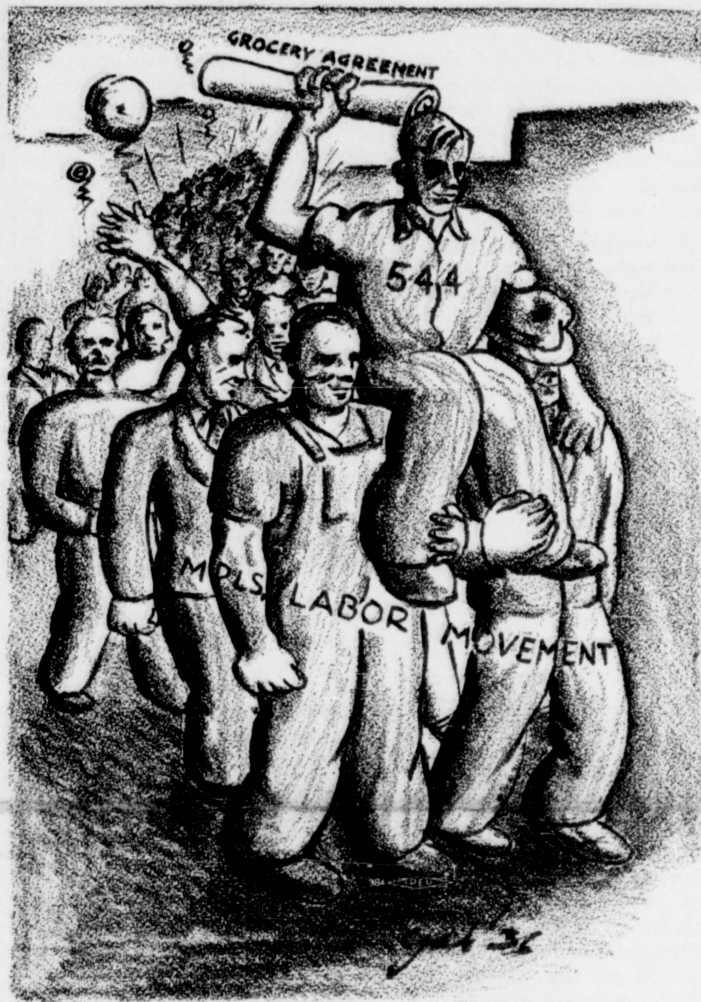
As we go to press comes the news that the Hoigaard Tent and Awning Company have signed a union agreement with General Drivers Union, Local 544. This action ends a three week strike of the Workers at the Hoigaard company.

The contract just signed by this company is exactly the same as the original agreement presented three weeks ago.

The new Union contract between Local 544 and the Hoigaard company, provides seniority, wage raises and hour reforms.

All workers there are members of General Drivers Union.

Victory!



Common Twin City Wage Scale Is Shown to Be a Sound Practice

Pig's Eye Job Demonstrates Weakness of Present Setup

The value of a common wage scale for the Twin Cities is best shown by the controversy that is raging over the scale on the Pigs Eye Island Sewer Disposal job. The wage scale of the St. Paul Building Labor union is 62½ cents per hour. The Minneapolis labor scale is 75 cents per hour. According to PWA ruling Minneapolis is entitled to furnish two thirds of the labor on the sewer tunnel of which the disposal plant is a part.

The job, which was recently unionized, calls for union building laborers. The difficulty arises when Minneapolis union building laborers arrive on the job only to find that they must work for 12½ cents less per hour than their union scale calls for.

The Minneapolis Building Laborers Union has taken the position that they cannot send union members on the disposal plant job where they must work for less than the Minneapolis union scale for building laborers. On the surface it would appear that the Minneapolis Building Laborers Union had a just cause for complaint.

But when we examine the ques-

tion carefully we will find that the Minneapolis union cannot logically enforce their demands for the Minneapolis wage scale on the St. Paul project. In the first place PWA wage scales are fixed accord-

(Continued on page 2)

Laundry Workers Set a Deadline

Laundry and Dry Cleaning Workers Union have served notice on the employers in the laundry industry that they are going to demand a direct written agreement.

The wage and hour agreement under which laundry and dry cleaning workers have been operating during the past year was not a direct agreement between the Union and the employer but a stipulation signed with the third party.

Laundry Workers and Cleaners Union has experienced a tremendous growth in the past six months and their membership numbers well over one thousand.

Unless the open shop laundry owners agree to recognize and deal with the Union organization of their employees it is almost certain that strike action will be taken by the Union in the near future.

Local Firm Agrees to Recognize Drivers Union; Contract Brings Wages

Signed Union Agreement Brings Many Reforms in Wages, Working Conditions for All Employees

Last week saw the signing of a union agreement between Local 544 and the Gamble Skogmo Company, Inc. The contract resulted from over three weeks of negotiation between the union and the Gamble Company.

This firm, which maintains a depot and warehouse at 615 N. 3rd St., and which is owner of the Gamble Stores, retails auto supplies and hardware, and employs a large number of people.

Drivers, helpers and warehouse men were taken into Local 544 some time ago. Due to the grocery strike, which occupied the entire attention of the staff for almost two months, no agreement was presented to the Gamble Skogmo Company until recently. The firm was willing, from the first, to adjust wages to the union scale, balked when it came to recognizing the right of the union to represent the men.

They insisted that a committee of the employees could deal for all without a third party. The union stuck to its right to be the representative of the union employees. On this question a break in the negotiations threatened several times.

The men, who had waited long for a union agreement, urged that the house be struck. On Thursday of last week the company indicated that they were willing to enter into a contract with the union.

(Continued on page 3)

Patronize Fair Milk Concerns

The Northwest Organizer publishes herewith a correct list of milk companies that are fair to the Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union. It is important that all members of organized labor patronize only those firms which have signed agreements with the Milk Drivers Union. Build the unions by buying from union concerns.

Lincoln Milk Company, Producers Milk Company, Johnson Bros. Dairy, Minnetonka Creamery, Northwest Dairies, Nein Creamery, Franklin Co-operative Creamery, Northland Milk and Ice Cream Company, Clover Leaf Creamery Company, Ewald Bros. Dairy, Neilsen Maple Leaf Creamery, Norris Creameries, Ohleen Dairy Company, Superior Dairies, Isles Dairy, White and Mather Dairy, Minneapolis Milk Company, Larson Milk Company, Birchwood Milk Company, Young America Creamery, Engel Dairy, Steel-DeSoto, and DeSoto Produce Company.

Stenos' Union Is Out for Members

The Stenographers and Bookkeepers Union announce the beginning of an organizational campaign directed at unionizing all office workers in the city.

A full-time, paid organizer has been put on the staff of the union and contacts are being made in various offices. Miss Strong, business agent of the union, points out that the union wage scale for stenographers is \$20 for a 35-hour week.

A wage survey indicates that this wage is not being received by 10 per cent of office workers. The union office is located at 18 N. 8th St. Call Br. 2370 for information.

Coal Agreement Is Being Negotiated

Negotiations have been opened between representatives of Local No. 544 and the Coal Employers committee. The Union agreement under which the coal workers section of Local No. 544 operated last year expired in April of this year. Efforts to have a new agreement signed at that time proved fruitless.

Two weeks ago the coal employers indicated that they were willing to meet with the Union for the purpose of discussing terms of a new contract for the coming season. Negotiations are now underway.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Common Twin City Wage Scale Is Shown to Be Sound Practice

(Continued from page 1)
ing to the prevailing union wage scale in the locality where the project is located.

The building laborers wage scale on the disposal plant was properly fixed according to the St. Paul wage. The project is located at Pig's Eye Island in St. Paul. The fact that the building laborers union scale is lower in St. Paul than in Minneapolis is to be regretted. But the position taken by the Minneapolis Building Laborers Union cannot be supported with logic.

Carried to its logical conclusion it would mean that union men could demand the union scale of their home local when working in a locality where a different union wage prevailed.

We can readily agree that an hourly wage of 62½ cents is too low. But it is the wage that has been set by the St. Paul union. If we take the position that Minneapolis union men can demand the Minneapolis wage when working in the jurisdiction of the St. Paul union, then, conversely, this would also give St. Paul union Building Laborers the right to work in Minneapolis for the St. Paul scale.

It is a long established practice in the American Federation of Labor that union men, regardless of the wage scale of their home local, work at the union wage in the locality where they happen to be located. To attempt to change this practice, merely because it happens to be a Federal project, is not sound trade union procedure. The difficulty should be adjusted by creating a common wage scale in the Twin Cities.

Yellow Notes

Our hard working claim agent had a double visit from the stork during the last week. He is now the proud father of an 8½ pound girl and an eight pound boy. The mother and the children are getting along very good. Oh, yes, Ed is recuperating also from the mental strain.

Who said the Nicollet hotel wasn't "hot" last Saturday night?

Information from the company revealed that the average receipts for every Yellow driver during the 24 hour period from Saturday morning to Sunday morning was over \$13. Two thousand cabs couldn't have supplied the demand to and from the stadium. And the boys really did some nice driving too. No serious accidents.

George Langham really was on merry-go-round Saturday night. Forty-five runs constituted his night's work.

The waiting list of applicants for Yellow Cab drivers grows each week but the vacancies are a long ways apart.

The Yellow drivers could help their business considerable if they

LOCAL 160 MEETING SCHEDULE

- October 6 — Executive Board meeting and Stewards meeting.
- October 7 — General Membership meeting.
- October 13 — Executive Board meeting.
- October 20 — Executive Board and Stewards.
- October 21 — General Membership meeting.
- October 27 — Executive Board meeting.

Torchlights to Lead Parade on Saturday, Oct. 13

HENNEPIN COUNTY FARMER-LABOR CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Greetings:

Saturday night, October 31st, will see the biggest political rally ever staged in the history of Minnesota. This rally will make Alfred M. Landon's gathering look like a committee meeting and will convince thousands of voters that their strength and alliance lies with the Farmer-Labor movement and its candidates. The Trade Union Division of the Farmer-Labor Campaign Committee has pledged that the Trade Unionists of Minneapolis will show the way with the Torchlight Parade that will demonstrate the solidarity of the workers against the Republican reaction.

Organized Labor should go to the Auditorium organized. That is the way we have won better conditions. That is the way we can win the election. Here are the plans for the Trade Union Torchlight Parade:

1—Saturday, October 31, to the Municipal Auditorium. Every Union banner in Minneapolis should be out to lead the workers of the Local Unions.

2—Every Trade Unionist should assemble at the New Postoffice Square, Saturday, October 31st, at 6 p. m. behind the banner of his or her Union.

3—Every Union man should bring his wife and children to march with the Trade Unions.

4—The line of march will be along Nicollet Avenue to the Auditorium.

5—Torch lights will be provided by the Trade Union Division at the New Postoffice Square.

6—The parade will be led by the Trade Union Delegates of the Hennepin County Farmer-Labor Association with members of the Farmer-Labor Association and members of the Central Labor Union with Al Hanson, chairman of the Farmer-Labor Association, and Al Urtubees, chairman of the Central Labor Union as Grand Marshals.

Now, we urge your local Union to take official action to participate in this Trade Union Torchlight Parade, as a unit, and with your banners. Additional plans will be prepared. Any suggestions that any members of your local Union would like to make should be turned in through your representatives on the Trade Union Committee or directly to Al Urtubees, Chairman, or to Sam Swanson at 238 Transportation Building, or by calling Br. 5772.

Truck Owners Set Dance Date

Independent Truck Owners section of Local 544 will sponsor a dance in the union hall on Saturday, November 7. This will be the first social affair given by this section. Music will be furnished by Local 544 band under the leadership of Dick Atherton. Further arrangements will be announced later.

would only use the vacant light on the roof to more advantage. It has been noted several times lately that cabs sitting on stands had no light whatsoever to inform the public that a cab was there. Let's see if we can't use this light more to our advantage. On when we are on stands or cruising and off when the cab is loaded.

Bill Brown Says—

There are some employers who sign an agreement with our Union but have no intention of abiding by the terms of the contract. We had one case last week where the employer fired a man because he complained to the Union that he was getting only \$24 a week for 60 hours. The man is back on the job and all of the men in this place are to be paid back pay from the time the boss signed the agreement and from now on the regular wage scale. Let this be a warning to the chiselers. Don't sign up unless you intend to live up to the terms agreed to.



BILL BROWN
President of 544

Workers Are Enslaved by Brutal Employer With Threat of Prison

Held in Slavery, Men Work for as Little as 10c Per Hour

The practice of chattel slavery evidently has not been entirely abolished even here in Minneapolis. During the course of organizational activity, union field men uncovered a case that smacks of pre-Civil War days.

A Minneapolis employer of labor has, for years, filled his labor wants with workers who had been paroled from a penal institution or who had been placed on probation by a court.

On the surface this would appear to be a kindly gesture on the part of the employer. But wait. When in need of labor replacements this slaver would go to the parole officer and announce that he had employment for a man on probation or parole. Nothing was said of wages or hours. There was none of the former but lots of the latter.

Once in the clutches of the slave driver the unfortunate worker was helpless. If the victim complained of the lack of pay or protested against the inhuman conditions of employment he was threatened, by the employer, with the revocation of his parole or probation. Submission to slavery or return to prison was the only alternative facing the victimized worker.

Ending of the parole or probation period was the only thing that ended the term of slavery. Fortunately this employer has been exposed and the practice has been stopped in this particular place of employment. But it is probable that it is being carried on elsewhere.

With the Laundry Workers Union

Although the Union is still hoping to avoid a strike, 1,000 members of local 183 await the zero hour.

After weeks of negotiations between the committee of the Cleaners and Laundry Owners association and the Union's committee, Local 183 ratified a recommendation by the executive board to give the employers five days to meet the demands of the Union. October 13 will be the deadline.

The situation in which some members of the Laundry Owners association find themselves this year is much different than last year. This year the workers have signed up with the Union, whereby last year the association signed with the Union and were successful in keeping the Union from organizing their people. The consequence of this was that the large plants were able to carry on a wholesale wage and hour chiseling campaign but the small plants, which were organized, were compelled to pay Union wages and in general abide by the contract.

The Citizen's Alliance controlled employers are crying to high heaven about the "God given

General Strike Is Demand of Labor

Salinas, Cal.—After the packer controlled city council passed a city ordinance forbidding picketing in a last desperate effort to smash the lettuce workers strike here, labor immediately began a poll of affiliated unions on the calling of a 48 hour general strike in sympathy with the strikers and in protest against the ordinance.

Efforts to discredit the lettuce strikers through the explosion of bombs on growers' property where they can do no damage have failed. Dynamite has been reported stolen in an attempt to terrify the community and infuriate it against the workers.

American rights" of the workers to join a Union or not join a Union. What they really mean is the rights of workers to compete with one another on wages to the benefit of the bosses.

A misunderstanding seems to prevail among some employees of hotel laundries as to this status in case of a strike, no trouble with hotel laundries is expected as the majority are signed with the Union under a one year agreement.

That "Round Robin" or questionnaire that was circulated through the Model laundry by stooges of the boss and which, of course, was generally signed by the workers, contained such questions as "Do you like your job, Do you want more people on the bread line, etc., etc?" Honestly the concern these bosses have for their workers would move you to tears. Don't kid yourself, all the boss is concerned about is profits and more profits. While he brags to other employers of his reduced labor costs, his family goes to Europe and you are lucky if you can afford a movie.

That proposed Twin City Joint Board of Cleaners and Laundry Workers would be in a position to do some valuable work now if the St. Paul committee would function.

Just why the Century Cleaners in St. Paul with their twenty-five branches in both cities should be permitted to go unorganized and continue to pay starvation wages and thereby proceed with their unfair trade practices is a mystery. If this cut throat concern has any illusions about gathering in any extra shekels on account of labor troubles in Minneapolis they are due for a disappointment.

Workers may now expect all manner of intimidation and threats, letters from the bosses to your homes, unfavorable newspaper publicity in an eleventh hour attempt to divide the ranks of the workers and weaken the position of the Union. Let us demonstrate the same solidarity in enforcing our demands that we did in making them.

"STAND ALL AS ONE TILL RIGHT IS DONE, BELIEVE AND DARE TO DO."

Battery Workers Strike Goes Into Its Third Week

Striking Battery Workers, who have been on strike against owners of battery plants, continue to remain out as bosses reject plans presented by the union to end the struggle. Battery workers are asking for union recognition, seniority and raises in wages.

The stumbling block in the path of an agreement is the fact that battery employers refuse to recognize that their employes have organized into a union. Saturday morning the striking workers, at a special meeting, rejected a proposal from the employers to settle the strike.

Guy Alexander, secretary-treasurer of Electrical Workers, Local No. 292, is in charge of the negotiations.

Furniture Workers Unionize All Shops

Furniture Workers Union Local 1859, is making great strides forward in organizing the wood-working industry in Minneapolis. Starting only two years ago with a few workers in the J. R. Clark plant, this union can now count several hundred members.

Almost without exception, every woodworking plant in Minneapolis has responded to the organizational efforts of the Furniture Workers Union. Wages have been raised over 25 per cent and union agreements are in force in many factories. The union recently signed union contracts covering workers in box factories.

John Janasco, business agent, announces that workers in the wood industry are joining the union in great numbers.

Address Changes Must Be Prompt

All subscribers of the Organizer are again notified that any change of address must be submitted to the office of the paper promptly when moving. Prompt action will prevent missing issues of the paper. In changing addresses the old as well as the new must be given.

LOCAL No. 544 MEETING SCHEDULE
Friday, Oct. 9—Local No. 544 Job Stewards.
Monday, Oct. 12—Full Membership.
Wednesday, Oct. 14—Market Workers.
Thursday, Oct. 15—Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, Oct. 16—Federal Workers.
Monday, Oct. 19—Coal Workers.
Friday, Oct. 23—Local No. 544 Job Stewards.
Monday, Oct. 26—Full Membership.
Tuesday, Oct. 27—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.

"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

Paul Porter to Speak on Sunday

Paul Porter, editor of the labor newspaper at Kenosha, Wis., and prominent in labor activities throughout the United States, will join the Minneapolis Public Forum speakers' staff Sunday for a two weeks' engagement.

His first talk will be given Sunday at 3 p. m. in Pillsbury settlement house, 320 Sixteenth avenue south. The topic will be "Labor's Internal Troubles." On next Monday, at 8 p. m., Mr. Porter will talk in Lowry school, Lincoln street and Twenty-ninth avenue, on "Craft vs. Industrial Union Controversy."

He will address a youth meeting Tuesday at 8 p. m. in Marshall high school and a regular forum meeting Wednesday at 8 p. m. in Seward school, Twenty-eighth avenue south and Twenty-fourth street. "Craft vs. Industrial Union Controversy" is the topic of his talk planned for Calhoun school Thursday at 8 p. m.

On WPA Projects

The sewing project girls are getting rather quick at the trigger. It's the new Spanish custom. WPA won't put much over on them.

WPA's Assistant Superintendent at Parker's Lake speaks more sweetly since having his mouth washed out with soap. Foul language doesn't go with FWS.

To relief investigators: Clients are humans in need—not guinea pigs for social experimentation. Entirely too many grievances are caused only by "saving the taxpayers." Too many social workers abandon their real responsibilities which FWS must then assume. Too many are just plain stooges in cutting off civil and social rights of workers. Imagine the new American Justice when clients cannot have their own attorneys, or cannot deal through their own organizations or cannot have their own witnesses at interviews with relief investigators. Yet that is what the DPR tries to enforce. Closely related is the widespread "technique" of lying to clients about the relief they are entitled to. Social workers should cease and disavow this sort of "Social Service" and work more aggressively for a better social order.

To Independent Truck Owners: Cold weather transportation comforts for WPA workers are long past due. Project workers are demanding buses.

A new Federal Workers section at Champlin and another at Osseo will function shortly. That nearly covers Hennepin county. FWS delegations visited and spoke at Cokato, Golden Valley and Columbia Heights last week. Heavier speaking and organizing schedules are planned through the state.

Local 1859 Meeting Schedule

- Executive Board, Local 1859 and Committee Men—October 17, 9 a. m.
- Box Industry, Local 1859—October 21.
- Puffer-Hubbard Section, Local 1859—October 22.
- Executive Board, Local 1859—October 24, 9 a. m.
- Executive Board and Committee Men—October 31, 9 a. m.
- General Membership Meeting—November 4.
- Executive Board, Local 1859—November 7, 9 a. m.

Local Firm Agrees to Recognize Drivers Union; Contract Brings Wages

(Continued from page 1)

The agreement signed with the Gamble Skogmo company provides the same scale of wages as prevails in the wholesale grocery industry. Union recognition is provided for. Seniority runs through the plant and an arbitration board has been set up which will settle disputes which may arise in the future. Wages of drivers will be 60 cents. Helpers and platform men are set at 55 cents.

The signing of the agreement between the Local 544 and the Gamble Company marks a signal victory for the union. It is the first time that workers in this industry have been covered by a union contract. Union officials who were charged with organizing these workers and securing an agreement for them are to be congratulated for doing a fine piece of work.

Independent Truck Chatter

A little while back Bill Haife was approached on the question of accepting a stewardship. He declined, stating that he had better hold on to his old friends—smart boy.

Believe it or not. A truck owner on the Belt Line had a vote for Landon sign on his truck. He took it off in a hurry, however, when a few of the boys got after him. Who was it? Ask the editor of this column.

FOR SALE

One coal box, capacity, 3 tons of coal, 2 tons of coke. Rugged for hoist. Also, 1 x 6 wheel. Will fit '34 or '35 Chev. truck. See Louie Groth, 2020 4th St. N.

This particular article is appearing in order to inform members of this section that the place for Union buttons is on the left side of your headpiece, not on the other side, and particularly not in a spot where it cannot be seen at all times.

After a long and uncertain and tedious period, the Curt Zanders have finally settled down and set up housekeeping. No phone, however.

Has anyone ever seen Sam Gallop without a cigar in his mouth?

PREDICTION

Al Danielson will appear with a new truck before long. This prophecy is being based on the calculations resulting from an inspection of his tires. All bad.

Warning. All Independents working on County projects and hauling men to and from work should see that the canvas on their trucks is tacked down and that all seats are made secure. The F. W. is complaining that some of the boys are quite careless about such matters and asks that such things be taken care of immediately.

We are still waiting for that four-day week that we had promised to us. Members of the F. W. S. and this section should bring this point up at their next meeting for discussion and action.

Clarence Moody laid off WPA for speaking with men. Says coal hauling is better, anyway.

The next meeting of the Independent Truck Owners Section will be held on Thursday, October 15.

Unions Must Send News to Organizer

Sister locals of the Driving crafts who are subscribers to the Northwest Organizer, complain of the fact that little news of the local union appears in the columns of their paper. Lack of news is not the fault of the editor.

Various local unions, whose membership are readers of the Organizer, have been requested to send news items to the office of the paper each week. All news items will be printed when they are received.

Signed Agreement For Liquor Drivers

All workers employed in wholesale liquor houses are now working under a signed union agreement. This contract covers all drivers, helpers and platform men employed in liquor establishments.

It provides a 49 hour week seniority, time and one-half for overtime and calls for a wage scale ranging from 55 cents to 60 cents per hour. About 150 men are affected.

International Says, Good Work

International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America
October 12, 1936

Mr. Farrell Dobbs
257 Plymouth Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minn.
Dear Sir and Brother:
I am today in receipt of your letter with copy of your wage agreement.
I want to congratulate you and your committee on its splendid success.
Fraternally yours,
JOHN M. GILLESPIE
Acting President

Voorhees, McCourt Are Out on Bail

Joe Voorhees and Sandy McCourt, members of the Independent Union of All Workers at Austin, who were arrested last week for violating an anti-picketing injunction, issued in connection with a strike called on an unfair Austin beauty parlor, were released Tuesday on \$500 bail each.

They were charged with contempt of court. A motion to dismiss the injunction is pending.

St. Paul Union Thanks Drivers

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and JOINERS OF AMERICA
UNION NO. 1252
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 9, 1936

General Drivers Local Union No. 544
257 Plymouth Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
GREETINGS:
The Cabinet Makers and Millmen, Local Union No. 1252, wishes to thank Local Union No. 544 for the outstanding support you gave us in our late strike at Lampland Lumber Co. in St. Paul.

Do not hesitate to ask us for support, should the occasion arise, as it would be a pleasure to grant it to brothers who meant what they said when they took their oath.

Hoping you will continue to give such support to brother local union when necessary, I am,
Fraternally yours,
Joseph F. Rodgorski,
Recording Secretary

Notice to All 544 Members

Members of Local 544 are again warned that failure to carry their union card on their person, at all times, while on the job, may result in drastic action being taken against those who fail to obey this union ruling.

Union organizers report dozens of cases, occurring during the past week, where men wearing a union button did not have union cards. A union rule provides that members must have the union dues book on their person at all times.

Carry union credentials and avoid penalties.

When You Ask For Relief—

By Arthur W. Hopkins

- What's your name?
(You dirty bum)
- Where do you live?
(Humph, a slum)
- Where were you born?
(Damn you, why?)
- How's your health?
(Why don't you die?)
- A citizen?
(Or bloody Red?)
- Vote?
(Vote right, or be unfed!)
- Relatives?
(To sponge upon?)
- Any income?
(Still undrawn?)
- What's your age?
(You frowsy shirk)
- Are you married?
(Can't she work?)
- Any children?
(Must be lewd)
- Names and ages?
(Messy brood)
- Rent or own?
(Not homeless yet?)
- Landlord's name?
(Get's stung, I bet)
- Any debts?
(You spendthrift cad)
- Do you drink?
(Don't look so mad)
- Sign your name.
(And darn you, smile)
- We'll put your name upon the file.
(And maybe from our golden stores,
We'll give you part of what is yours.

Meter Department Meet With Board Report Progress

The meter department and the bill passers of the Northern States Power Company met with the Union Executive Board of Local 160 Tuesday night in the Drivers headquarters.

Both departments report good organizational progress.

Casket Workers to Organize a Union

Casket workers, of which there are several hundred in the city, are busy carrying on an organizational campaign in that industry pointed towards unionizing all casket factories.

Several meetings have been held and interest that is being taken by the workers indicated that a union will soon be established. They will join Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859.

Thanks

General Drivers Local Union 544
Gratefully acknowledging and thanking you for the kind expression of your sympathy.
Mrs. Allen Crowell and Family

IN THE END ZONE

HISTORY

Way back last Saturday a young man, whose honest face has oft graced the sports pages of the daily press, made football history. We speak of Andy Uram, former Marshall High star—now the mightiest little Gopher of many years. Whenever football tales are swapped, wherever old sagas of the gridiron are recounted, there we will hear the song of Andy's flying heels. His modest job of Saturday last shall long ring in the halls of sports fame. . .

TOMORROW:

An old rivalry is continued when Michigan comes to town. The Gophers may be riding a wave of victory. Michigan may be bogged down in mediocrity—but the game will be hard fought every step of the way. Michigan will be stubborn and very strong on defense. The weight and might of a fast awakening Minnesota team should take its toll of Michigan and win by a larger score than the Gophers have managed to roll up so far this year. We take Minnesota to win by three touchdowns. . .

NUTS

In the past two weeks we have had the tough luck to pick the bad ones. One each week. First this Marshall outfit kicked over the dope, then North, whom we picked, humiliated us by losing 27-0. And now this week we find South and West tangling. Try to pick that one. Then too, the Washburn-Roosevelt games. Try that on your piano. It's tough. So we say, oh nuts, and make a stab at it anyway. . .

GAMES

We find another fine line-up this week. Today as a headliner, South goes to West, North to Edison, Marshall to Central, and Washburn to Roosevelt. South's tigers and West cowpunchers are the only two undefeated untied teams in the league. Both will shoot the works to hold that record. Central and Edison are tied for second place. Each has lost but one game. Marshall and North have lost two. Roosevelt and Washburn have failed to win as yet. So the picture is this: We find the two strongest teams matched and the two weakest teams also to play each other. In between we have two second division teams matched with two third division teams. . .

OUR GUESS:

And it's only a guess this week as to the winners that follow:
West to beat South
Edison to beat North
Central to beat Marshall
Washburn to beat Roosevelt

WHY

We don't know why West should beat South; but we do feel that West will win. Edison, only a little short of championship strength, we are sure will take North for a drubbing. Central will find Marshall difficult but should win by a small margin. Washburn we feel will outscrap Roosevelt for its first victory. . .

RURAL

Out in the lake district the gridiron race goes on at fever heat. Hopkins and St. Louis Park both favored for championship played to a 0-0 tie and are both going on to win. Hopkins finally toppled the Wayzata eleven 18-0. This Wayzata bunch had been untied and undefeated in three seasons of play.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

Company Union

A classic example of the uselessness and futility of company unions is contained in the pages of a little organ of the company organization at the Western Union Telegraph Company. The employee setup at this company is typical of all company-controlled "unions." The organization at the Western Union LOOKS like a real union of the workers but there the resemblance stops. They hold meetings once in a while. They have elections and select officers. They have a "committee" which meets with the bosses and "settles" grievances.

A large portion of the bulletin is taken up with a report of the committee which recently met with company officials and took up, as the bulletin puts it, "controversies that have arisen." Do these controversies have to do with wages and hours? Why, of course not. Company unions do not deal with such matters.

Other vital questions were gone into. Such as, we quote from the bulletin, "Women employees who are required to work after midnight will be provided with messenger escorts to their homes, or such not available, they will be sent home in cabs in necessary cases." No raise, but a cab ride.

Again, "The company agrees to make a survey of the lighting situation with a view to eliminating dark spots now found in various places in the operating room." No hour reforms but light in the dark places.

In the next paragraph the committee scores a real victory. Listen: "The Company agreed to wash the chairs at definite intervals in order that they may be kept reasonably clean and make the office more sanitary in general." Clean chairs and a "sanitary" office perhaps make up for the loss of workers' rights but we are inclined to doubt it.

The report closes with what may be a ringing declaration of "union" rights but it sounds more like a prayer to us. "The Committee felt it necessary to emphasize these matters most strongly and hopes it will not be necessary to bring them up again." Oh, yeah!

The Labor Vote

It is of extreme importance that every member of organized labor be registered and in a position to vote in the coming general election. In the ordinary course of events, workers are prone to take the "let George do it" attitude in regard to casting their ballot. On the other hand, political enemies of the working class overlook no opportunity to get out the vote of those who are apt to follow the lead of the parties of political reaction.

A grave test faces the workers of Minnesota this fall. The Farmer-Labor Party, and those who follow it, must be prepared to accept the challenge that has been thrown down by the exploiters of labor. Big employers of labor, who follow and support the Republican Party, are determined to end the political reign of Farmer-Laborites. A political party, to which labor unions are directly affiliated, and which recognizes the organized labor movement in making political appointments, is regarded as dangerous by labor exploiters.

Raving and ranting against the old reactionary parties does NOT win elections. But voting and seeing that members of your family vote and getting out the vote of your fellow worker DOES decide the outcome. The first and most important step to take is to REGISTER. Find out if your fellow workman is registered; if not, get him to do so. On election day go to the polls and vote. The outcome of the pending election will vitally affect economic welfare of every worker. The cause of the workers can prevail, as far as election is concerned, only when they register their opinions in the ballot box.

The Grocery Strike

The strike of the wholesale grocery workers, which lasted for almost two months and cost a huge sum of money and a loss of wages for those concerned, brought union wages and union conditions to an industry that had never known organization before. By this action over 400 workers were brought into the fold of organized labor. Wages in this industry have been brought to a level comparable to those received by workers in similar lines. Not only have wages been advanced, but workers in the wholesale grocery industry are now working under union conditions. Seniority has been established and job protection exists.

The victory of the grocery workers will bring courage to thousands of Minneapolis workers who are still unorganized. The recently concluded action in the grocery industry was one of the most important steps taken by the Drivers Union since the 1934 strikes. The opposition was determined to strike a real and lasting blow at the organized labor movement. The victory, although costly, will bring benefits to all organized labor.

Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Battery Workers who have been on strike for almost four weeks will give a strike benefit dance in the Drivers Hall on Saturday, October 24. Be on hand and help swell the strike fund of these boys.

Meter readers at the Northern States Power don't like to be called finks.

Gamble Skogmo is in the bag.

Truck Owners will dance on November 7.

Minneapolis driving crafts will very likely occupy the whole building soon.

Rainbolt's car was crashed by a drunken driver Saturday night. Heavy damage.

Casket workers are coming to life.

Every Independent Truck Owner was working Tuesday. Calls for trucks had to be turned down.

Teamsters Joint Council made a nice donation to the grocery strike fund.

Last week the Independent Union of all Workers, who were striking the Johnston laundry in Austin last week, had their unfair nailed to the side of the building.

Furniture Workers Union signed a new contract last week.

Laundry and Dry Cleaning Workers Union are moving on the bosses for a direct signed agreement.

The Pig's Eye Island thing is a mess.

Buster Madigan lost a \$15 court battle last week.

Battery Workers are still hanging tough.

Grocery workers were delighted with the new agreement.

Don't forget that all complaints must be made on regular complaint-blanks.

Coal workers are flocking back to the yards in large numbers. A strike scare, promoted by the bosses, has made business very good.

A new transfer agreement is in the making.

The threat of war has made the junk business hot. The workers are organizing too.

Department store drivers will soon get some attention.

Laundry drivers are Talk-it Over with the owners.

City and Sanitary Drivers like their new short week.

The Monday membership meeting voted to march in the October 31 Farmer-Labor Torch Light parade.

We almost walked out on that Saturday touchdown run. Dumb.

F-L Veterans Club Meeting Notice

The Hennepin County Veterans Farmer-Labor Club will hold its next regular meeting at 81 Hennepin Avenue, October 21, commencing at 8 p. m. and every first and third Wednesday of each month.

Skogland and Smith heaved a sigh of relief when the Grocery Scuffle was over.

The Steno's threaten to unionize every office in town. Here's hoping.

Brown is still riding it.

Duck stories are beginning to pour in. We want ducks not stories.

A new coal agreement is being negotiated.

The Federal government is going to do something about hours for long distance haulers.

Battery Workers rejected a proposed agreement Saturday morning.

A Warehouse Workers charter will soon be in town.

Iron Workers are claiming some Heavy Work from the Drivers.

Grocery Workers will hold a special meeting Friday, October 16.

There is going to be prizes and everything at the Battery dance.

The football team Took It On the Chin Sunday to the tune of 2 to 0.

Look out Fargo!

Battery Workers Will Hold Dance

Battery Workers Union will give a Strike Benefit Dance in the Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. N., Saturday, October 24. There will be a number of prizes and special features. These workers have been on strike for almost four weeks and are deserving of the support of all unionists. Tickets are 25 cents and can be purchased at the union office.

LABOR... Looks at the Press

By Carl O'Shea

From a Saturday Evening Post editorial: Sympathetic students of the labor movement frequently question whether the workers gain or lose more in the long run even from striking against private employers.

Only a student sympathetic to the bosses ever expressed that idea. By striking, workers can win higher wages, shorter hours, better working conditions—they can build an organization which can PRESERVE these gains—and if the unions have an honest and militant leadership, the unions can be a bulwark against war and fascism, the worst enemies of the working-class.

Salinas, Cal., news item: Patrolmen and citizens yesterday destroyed all the red flags placed by highway employees to check traffic. They thought the flags were placed as signal markers for communists in the Salinas lettuce strike.

Smart people, citizens and cops. They'll be after the stop signals next.

Review of Reviews: A British army officer said, "If we had known Ethiopia could be taken so easily, we'd have done it ourselves five years ago."

Clarence Darrow: I owe whatever success I have had to hard work—a day and a half of it—and

Federal Section Stage Mass Meet

Federal Workers section of Local 544 will hold a mass meeting and demonstration at 257 Plymouth Ave. Friday, October 16. The meeting will be devoted to the subject of supplemental relief.

Federal Workers point out that living costs have risen sharply during the past year and a raise in WPA wages is imperative. The meeting is open to the general public.

Liquor Dealer Is Caught Chiseling

It is reliably reported that Ed Phillips and Sons, liquor dealers, have been consistently violating the agreement recently signed with Local 544.

Seniority is being set aside in that older men are not allowed to get in a full week while younger men are working. The agreement provides that men with enough seniority must work a 48 hour week.

Waterfront Truce Is On in Frisco

San Francisco — War on the waterfront has been temporarily postponed. A truce has been signed under which the contract which expired September 30 will be continued for fifteen days. It provides for hiring through union halls, a six hour day for longshoremen and an eight hour day for seamen.

I've never worked hard since. That taught me a lesson.

Hendaye, France, news item: Refugees from Spain said here today that Madrid reds had executed over 3,000 middle and upper class citizens.

This figure brings the number of red victims in Spain up to 3,468, 743,829.

Headline in Seattle Daily Times: Herring Waste Huge in Alaska.

And with the tremendous market created by the demands of American Republican and Democratic politicians!

Reverend Merle Anderson of New York City: The trouble with unions today is that they have become simply organizations to se-hours for their members.

I bet he thinks the trouble with the army is that it is simply a fighting organization.

Paris correspondent to the New Republic: Paris is excited over the latest idea of the Communist party to form a Front Francais. . . . The object is to unify the French people against the danger of revolution at home and the fascist menace abroad.

Did you ever read Marx or Lenin on the Paris Commune—I bet they would sure go for this latest idea of the Communist party.

CORRECT SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION

- FWS Stewards, each Wed 7 p. m.
- FWS membership meetings, first and third Friday of each month, 8 p. m.
- FWS Leadership class No. 1, each Friday 2 p. m.
- FWS Leadership, class No. 2, each Saturday 10 a. m.
- Direct relief grievance hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 to 12 a. m.
- Federal Workers Stewards Meetings—Each Wednesday at 7 p. m.
- Federal Workers Membership Meetings—First and third Fridays of each month, at 8 p. m.