

# Buy Your Labor Defense Tag Saturday ---- Help Smash the WPA Frame-up!

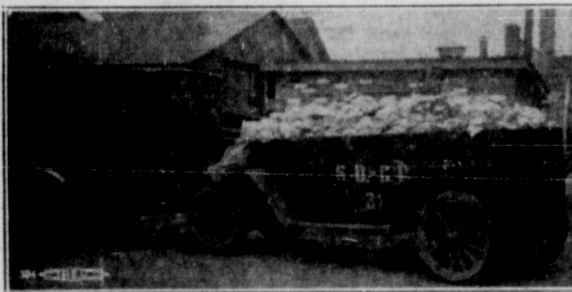
## Progress in Transportation

### City Garbage Wagon, 1901



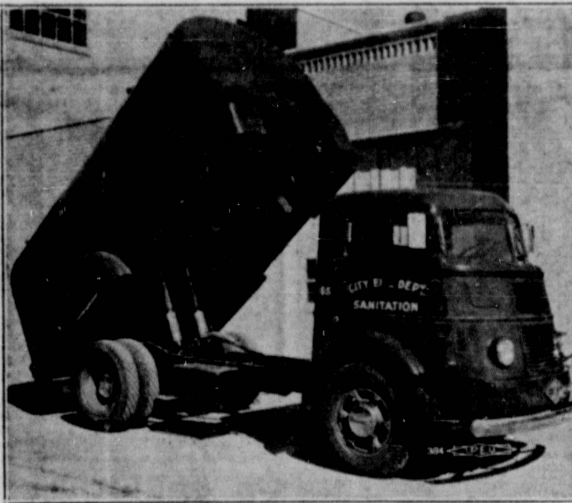
With the city celebrating its 100th Birthday, various drivers' unions have brought in pictures showing the progress in transportation during the city's history. Above is a picture owned by Herman Geisbach, city laborer, showing one of the early city garbage wagons used at the turn of the century. The picture was taken at 12th and Nicollet.

### Garbage Wagon, 1922



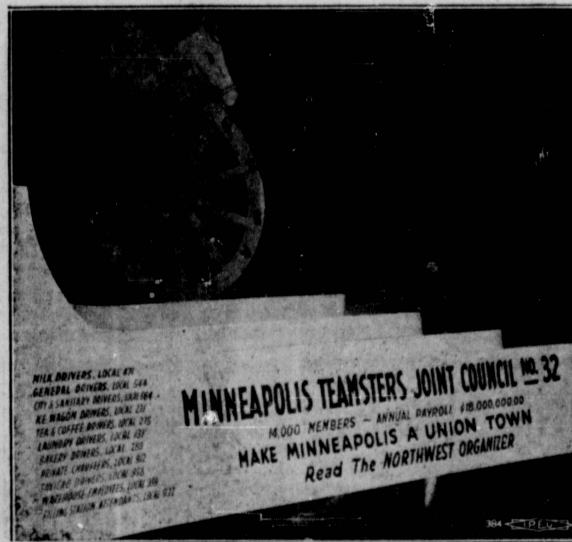
The city took over garbage collection in 1901. Prior to that, it was done by private concerns. First operated under the Department of Public Health, garbage collection was transferred in 1915 to the City Engineer's Department. Above is shown a garbage truck, 1922 style.

### A Modern Garbage Truck



Above is shown a new tank-type garbage truck now in use. With the completion of the new city crematory and the use of the new trucks, Minneapolis has the most modern garbage disposal system in the United States. Organized labor has always been in the lead to modernize the system of garbage disposal in order to guard the city's health. All the city's "G-men" are members of City and Sanitary Drivers Union Local 664.

### Representing All the Council



This is the beautiful float entered by the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, bearing a huge replica of the familiar Teamsters wheel. Listed are the eleven affiliates of the Council, etc. The Teamsters Council float drew much applause along the line of march.

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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FIVE CENTS

## Local 977 Smashes Injunction Move by Erickson Oil Co.

**Court Refuses Request for Injunction, Scores Erickson Brothers for Refusing to Deal with Union—Uncovers Connivance Between Company and CIO to Break Local 977 Strike—Local 977 Will Demand that Erickson Rehire Workers Fired for Union Activity—Company Must Negotiate with Lessees, Says Judge Rue**

The Minneapolis Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977 won a complete court victory over the Erickson Oil company and the strike-breaking CIO leaders last Thursday when Judge Lars Rue denied the company's request for an injunction to prevent Local 977 picketing.

The Erickson brothers had applied for the injunction to restrain Local 977, Local 544, the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, the Northwest Organizer and the Labor Review from picketing the unfair Erickson stations and branding the Erickson products as fink.

### Connived with CIO

Some months ago Local 977 had organized the Erickson employees and demanded a union agreement. The company immediately fired a group of its employees, imported some strike-breakers from Wisconsin and made a deal with the CIO to put them in the CIO union. This strike-breaking move was severely condemned by the Minneapolis Central Labor Union and the Minnesota State Federation of Labor. Joe Van Nordstrand and Rodney Jacobson, CIO leaders, have tried to carry this dirty stunt off in a high-handed manner by claiming their oil union was a legitimate workers' organization and not a strike-breaking outfit.

However, the court evidence proved the contention of the American Federation of Labor to the hilt. Judge Rue pointed out that the testimony proved that the Erickson brothers had connived with the CIO against Local 977 and that Joseph Erickson had encouraged employees to join the CIO instead of the AFL. All the pious pretensions of Jacobson are blown sky-high by this development.

### Must Deal with Lessees

Another interesting angle to the case was Judge Rue's observations on the status of station lessees. Erickson contended he didn't have to deal with the lessees "because they worked on a commission basis." The judge held that the lessees, although working on a commission basis, are employees in that it is "incumbent upon the owners to recognize operations of the labor relations law and to proceed, in good faith, to negotiate."

Now that the union has defeated Erickson's attempt to get an injunction, Local 977 means to force the company to put back to work those employees fired for membership in the union, and to sign a decent agreement.

### Will Clean Up Industry

As soon as the Erickson situation is disposed of, Local 977 intends to turn its attention to the few remaining sections of the industry that must be cleaned up. The Erickson case is quite similar to the situation at Direct Service Oil where the company also worked hand-in-glove with the CIO leadership to defeat Local 977.

## Local 359 To Hold Nominations

Nominations for officers for the coming year will be held at the next regular membership meeting of the Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 on Tuesday, October 24. All members of the union are requested to attend this meeting.

## Local 160 Champs To Be Entertained

The championship diamond-ball team of the Electrical Workers Union Local 160 will be entertained by the union on Friday, October 13th, 8:30 p. m. at 203 East Hennepin in the downstairs rooms. The championship Local 160 team will be honored in its first year of competition—the Union B League championship, the all-city union championship and the sportsmanship trophy. Team members will be guests of the union. Members of Local 160 who wish to honor the team by attending the banquet are invited to come. An admission of 50c will be taken at the door, to take care of the eat. There will be free beer for all. Members planning to attend are asked to notify their steward so the committee will know how much food to order.

## Wilson Whiskey Is 100% Union

The American Federation of Labor has announced that the Wilson Distilling company of Bristol, Pennsylvania, has signed a closed shop agreement with the Distillery Workers Union and will carry the label of the AFL as well as that of the Allied Printing Trades. This is said to be the first whiskey company to sign a union pact. For the most part the whiskey industry is fink.

The Wilson company markets Wilson whiskey, Wilson Reserve, and El Bart Gin.

## Joe Voorhees Still in Jail

Joe Voorhees, former leading Austin unionist, will remain in jail until October 21st under the verdict of Judge Gislason in the trial of Voorhees growing out of the strike against the Stella Beauty Shop several years ago. Gislason agreed to permit Voorhees' release late this month, the balance of the jail term to be stayed until the March term of court in 1940.

## Tickets Now Selling for Joint Council Boo-Ya

Tickets for the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council BOO-YA went on sale this week through stewards of each of the eleven affiliated unions of the Council. This is the first affair of its kind ever sponsored by the Teamsters Council and the Joint BOO-YA Committee is predicting a smashing success.

The BOO-YA will be held Sunday, October 22nd, at Costello's Grove, 92nd and Cedar, from noon until midnight. There will be entertainment, refreshments, and dancing after noon and evening to the music of Bobby Phillips orchestra. Tickets are only 25c and are redeemable at the entrance for five coupons good in trade for refreshments.

The Joint BOO-YA Committee, with representatives from each union, met Wednesday night to plan the ticket sale. The weatherman has promised a lovely autumn day for the BOO-YA. The Committee has arranged for miniature trap shooting to be available at the picnic grounds for all picnickers. Plan now with your family and friends to attend the BOO-YA.

## Murk Takes WPA Defense To AFL

The September Central Labor Union at its last meeting September 27th elected George Murk as its delegate to the annual American Federation of Labor convention, now meeting in Cincinnati. Murk is the very capable chairman of the AFL WPA Defense Committee. He was elected following his report on the week's developments in the WPA defense.

The Minneapolis Labor Temple Association received a round of applause from the Central Labor Union delegates after Murk stated that two-thirds of the WPA prisoners would still be in jail were it not for the generosity of Labor Temple stockholders who voted to place the property as surety for the release of the workers.

All unions who have not already done so are urged to subscribe to the Labor Temple fund. The Labor Temple Association will furnish speakers to any union. The phone number of the Association is Bridgeport 6837.

Murk is now in Cincinnati working with other delegates interested in the Minneapolis defense and the case will undoubtedly come up on the floor of the AFL convention.

## N. American Creameries Sign Sept. 29

All North American Creamery operations in three states and 12 cities are brought under the terms of the over-road area pact and its supplements through an agreement signed in Minneapolis last Friday, September 29th, with Walter Noonan, vice-president of the company.

The company's operations in North and South Dakota and Minnesota are covered by the agreement. In addition all city delivery work is covered. In all communities where the creamery carries on city delivery work, such work will be paid for at the wage scale prevailing in the nearest drivers' union local.

About 120 drivers are involved. Hourly wage increases will range from 10c to 30c. This is the first contract signed with North American Creamery. The agreement will run for one year.

Tom Williams represented the drivers in the negotiations.

## Drivers Officials First to Buy Defense Tags



Above are seen women active in the AFL Defense Committee work selling the first Defense Tags to union officials in front of the Drivers Hall Tuesday afternoon.

From left to right: Clair Johnson of the Laundry Drivers, secretary-treasurer of the WPA Defense Committee; Grace Elswick; Joe O'Hare of the Bakery Drivers Union; Myrtle Larson; Jimmy Bart-

lett, head of the Warehouse Workers Union; and Rose Seiler, in charge of Saturday's Tag Day.

The Tag Day Committee this week sent out a call for men volunteers to come to the Central Labor Union Friday afternoon at 3 p. m. and sell tags in front of the city's factories. Women and girls are needed for Saturday's citywide Tag Day. If you haven't already volunteered, do so immediately.

# Nation's Workers Watch Minneapolis WPA Strike Trial

## Murck Killed, AFL Unions Ask Probe

Peter Murck, business agent of the Sheet Metal Workers Union and head of the Minneapolis Building Trades Council, died in General hospital Sunday night from injuries suffered early Saturday morning when he was struck by three passing automobiles at Cedar Avenue and Fourth Street.

Murck was active in the leadership of the recent WPA strike and in the AFL WPA Defense Committee. The Tuesday meeting of the Minneapolis business agents adopted a resolution declaring the organization "will not rest until it is disclosed who the person or persons are who are responsible for the death." The union officials also demanded that "the Minneapolis police department make a thorough investigation and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the death."

A number of strange rumors surround Murck's death; that he was involved in a fight with several men; that he was attacked by a moocher, etc.

The funeral of the deceased brother will be held Thursday, 1 p. m., at the Swanson funeral home, Lowry and Irving avenues. Burial will be in the Fort Snelling cemetery. Pallbearers will be Roy Wier, John Boscoe, Walter Frank, Louis Boerbach, Donald Randles and Tom Dynes. Presidents and business agents of all Minneapolis AFL unions will be honorary pallbearers.

## 359 Signs With Lasher Carpet Co.

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 and the Lasher Carpet and Linoleum company, 615 North Third, have reached an agreement covering wages and working conditions. The company will grant Armistice Day as a holiday and will reduce the work week from 44 to 42 hours with no reduction in weekly pay.

## American Federation of Labor Convention to Consider Support for Minneapolis WPA Victims—Trial of First Eight Defendants Now On—Tom Davis Added to Legal Defense Staff—St. Paul Unions Elect WPA Defense Committee—Men, Women and Girls Wanted for Tag Day Work

As the AFL's WPA Defense Committee shifted its attention this week to the American Federation of Labor convention now meeting in Cincinnati, the opening trial of eight WPA workers alleged to have conspired to violate the relief act through attempts to deprive workers of the act's benefits started Monday morning before Federal District Judge M. M. Joyce.

## FWS to Hold Halloween Dance October 28th

The Federal Workers Section of Local 544 will hold a Halloween Hard Times Dance on Saturday evening, October 28th, at the Drivers Hall. Tickets are on sale for 25c each. There will be union music, of course, and many prizes.

## St. Paul Unions Set Up WPA Defense Group

The last meeting of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, after hearing a report from the committee that had met with the Minneapolis Central Labor Union's WPA Defense Committee, voted to set up a similar WPA Defense Committee.

The WPA Defense Committee is organized in the same way as the Minneapolis organization—two representatives from each union council. William Gydeson and A. J. Schoenecker will represent the Teamsters Joint Council; Wyeth Nelson and C. Lofquist, the Allied Printing Trades; Gerry O'Donnell and John Carlgren, the Building Trades; and Jack Niles and Leonard Johnson, the miscellaneous trades.

The committee will send speakers before all St. Paul unions appealing for funds and property.

"Just who may be indicted during the next few weeks no one can know," stated Mr. Gydeson, "but that some of our people are likely to be taken to jail and subjected to the necessity of furnishing bail is a foregone conclusion. When this happens, we want to be ready to come to their assistance."

The balcony around the fourth floor of the federal court building was packed Monday morning with union sympathizers. Most of them were refused admittance to the small courtroom, as over a score of prospective jurors took up most of the room.

Eight Defendants on Trial—The eight WPA workers involved in the first trial are Myron Phillips, Leslie Wachter, Arnold Mullen, Gordon Smith, John Marshall, Carl Fenable, Benjamin Palmer and Richard Connell. The case grows out of the disturbance at 200 Harvard street on July 12, when a fascist, Philip Slaughter, stabbed Phillips with a knife. The government believes this should entitle Slaughter to go scot-free and that Phillips and the seven other defendants should be given jail sentences.

Most of Monday was given over to the selection of a jury, and its instruction. From a panel of 31 prospective jurors, Judge Joyce selected twelve. Among the twelve are seven farmers, a lumber salesman, a former deputy sheriff, a real estate dealer, a restaurant owner and a hardware dealer.

Davis Added to Defense—On Tuesday Linus Glotzbach, former Minnesota WPA administrator (since promoted by Roosevelt), and S. J. Stolte, acting state administrator, were placed on the stand to testify for the government.

Tom Davis, widely known attorney, has been secured by the AFL Defense Committee to serve with the other labor attorneys. Davis, acting as principal trial attorney, closely cross-examined Stolte and Glotzbach Tuesday. Stolte became increasingly uncomfortable under Davis' sharp examination dealing with the question of the recent change in the hourly wage scale on WPA. (Continued on page 4)

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town





