

Demand Minneapolis Building Inspector Issue Public List of All Fire Traps!

As from this hour you use your power, The World must follow you

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

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

VOL 5, NO. 38

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, JAN. 4, 1940

FIVE CENTS

18 Dead, 25 Injured in City's Worst Fire

On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl
Class lines, always sharply drawn, are tightening as the time for the convening of congress draws near. While the Republicans and Democrats are apparently in sharp conflict over various and sundry policies by which the government is run, they are united on one thing—a huge armament program for the “protection” of our country on some foreign shore, and the lopping off of as much relief money as is possible.

Roosevelt has already announced his program for this congress. Boiled down it amounts to this—1. More billions for armaments—probably a half a billion more than has already been granted; 2. From three to five hundred millions LESS FOR WPA AND RELIEF; and 3. Dictatorial laws to smash the democratic rights of labor and all anti-war militants. He wants both the Wagner Act and the Wages and Hours laws so amended that they can be used as legal clubs over the heads of all those who dare to oppose his war-program.

Guns and Ammunition! But no food! Police clubs and prison for all those who object!

The American labor movement has a program which should be put before congress also. It has four major points, all of which would mean food in the mouths of the hungry, jobs for the unemployed, and freedom for the workers. Briefly these points are—1. The appropriation of ten billions of dollars for public works and housing programs so that all employables might find work; 2. \$30 weekly old age and disability pensions; 3. the appropriation of three billion dollars to guarantee either maintenance at school or jobs for all youth; 4. amendment to the Wages and Hours Act to provide throughout all industry, private and public, the establishment of the thirty hour work week with a minimum guarantee of a thirty dollar weekly wage.

Roosevelt asks for guns. We ask for bread.

The new budget has been made up and will be presented to congress. Every item EXCEPT THOSE FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY HAVE BEEN SHARPLY CURTAILED. Last year the WPA spent \$1,400,000,000, and even with this amount had to fire more than one third of those formerly on the rolls. This year the president asks for only one billion dollars. There are not less but more persons unemployed this year than there were last!

The appropriation for the maintenance of the Farm program has also been cut. Not only the workers, but the farmers are to be the victims of the administrations desire to “save” money. Reductions has been asked for in payments for farm tenant loans, rehabilitation loans, and parity payments.

In Ohio the jobless are disowned by their own state (Continued on page 4)

To Be Feted On Eve of Sentencing

From all parts of the state, reservations flowed in to the Minneapolis Central Labor Union for the banquet organized labor will tender the WPA strike defendants this Saturday evening at the Dyckman Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. Among those who have accepted invitations to speak at the supper in honor of the defendants are George Lawson and Robert Olson, secretary and treasurer of the State Federation of Labor; John Boscoe, president of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union; Tom Davis, leading defense counsel; George Murk, chairman of the WPA Defense Committee; officers of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, etc.

Reservations and acceptances have arrived from union leaders in the Twin Cities, St. Cloud, Duluth and many other towns throughout the state. Among those invited by the committee to attend are Aldermen Al Basis, Harold Kauth, Edwin Hudson; Judge Devaney; Fathers Dunphy and Gilligan, etc. Special invitations have been mailed leaders of various International unions.

The supper will begin promptly at 7 p. m. this Saturday, and from all indications, an overflow crowd of friends and sympathizers will attend. The banquet room at the Dyckman Hotel, 27 South Sixth street, will seat about 500 guests. All indicted WPA strikers, together with their wives or husbands, will attend as guests of the Central Labor Union. All others will pay \$1.25 per plate for the privilege of participating in the supper honoring those brave men and women who fought the fight of all labor in resisting the scab provisions of the relief law.

The supper honoring the strikers is organized labor's way of demonstrating publicly its solidarity and respect for the victims of the government and the reactionary enemies of the working class of people.

Sentences Ready for 3
Interest in the banquet was intensified early this week when it was learned the court has notified the defense attorneys that the eight men found guilty in the first two WPA trials will be sentenced Monday, January 8th, two days after the banquet. In order to assure that these defendants can continue their freedom during the period of appeal, it is learned that another \$24,000 bail may have to be raised; that is, if the court sets bond on the same basis as the previous trials.

John Bove, 544 Member, Meets Death

Members of the General Drivers Union Local 544 mourned at the tragic death of John J. Bove, 37, 6108 Third avenue south, who was asphyxiated by coal gas fumes at his home last Thursday. The fumes, apparently escaping from a coal stove in the living-room, killed John Bove and badly affected his wife, Rosemary, and their three small children, Lila, Donald and Jack.

Brother Bove will always be remembered as an active and courageous picket in the 1934 strikes, together with all his brothers.

The staff of Local 544 attended the funeral held Saturday morning at the Annunciation church, with burial in St. Mary's cemetery. Condolences are offered his immediate family and his brothers and many friends.

Furniture Workers Renew Clark Pact

For Second Consecutive Year, Renew Agreement Without Strike—Win Wage Raises for 27—Local 1859 Also Signs Trav-leez and Kozekar—But Northwestern National Bank Continues to Prevent Settlement of Puffer-Hubbard Strike—Why Does the Bank Sanction the Strange Disposal of Valuable Patent Rights?

For the second consecutive year, the Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 has renewed its agreement with the J. R. Clark Manufacturing company without a strike. Formerly an 1859 strike against the Clark company was almost an annual custom in Minneapolis.

The new agreement provides for upward wage adjustments for 27 workers, increases in vacations, etc. The one-year contract will expire on December 31, 1940; it covers about 200 workers. The agreement was unanimously ratified last Friday evening by the Clark Section of the union, and was signed Saturday morning.

Sylvester Is Out
The labor movement will be interested to learn that George Sylvester is no longer employed by the Clark company. Sylvester, officer in the national guard, first came into prominence during the trial of pickets in the Strutwear strike in 1935, when he testified against strikers. Later he was employed by the Clark company, ostensibly to continue his anti-union work. Now he's got the bounce.

Two Other Firms Sign
The Furniture Workers Union has also renewed new one-year pacts with the Trav-leez and Kozekar companies, calling for hourly wage increases of from 2 1/2c to 10c for about 25 workers, the closed shop, etc. The two agreements were ratified by the workers at a special meeting last Wednesday evening.

Bank Prolongs Strike
While Local 1859 is renewing all its other pacts without difficulty, the Northwestern National Bank continues to interpose its influence against a settlement of the Puffer-Hubbard strike, now in its 17th week. Every day new evidence comes to light that this huge banking chain is blocking settlement of the dispute, and it is alleged, for sordid reasons that do not reflect creditably upon this institution.

Some Questions
The Northwestern National Bank happens to be the largest creditor of the struck firm; also controls some preferred stock in the company. The rest of the stock is held in small lots by individuals in various parts of the country.

Employees of the Puffer-Hubbard company, during its years of operation, have evolved a number of valuable manufacturing processes. As is the rule nowadays in American industry, no worker received any credit for his inventive ability. But instead of the patents being taken out in the name of the company, as is the custom, they have been taken out by two individuals, A. L. Goetzman, receiver, and Al Johnson.

Bowling Alleys Near Union Hall?

In view of the widespread popularity of bowling with union workers, officers of the Warehouse Workers Union are seeking to set up bowling alleys in some building near the Drivers Hall. Other unionists around the drivers' headquarters are also said to be interested in the project.

Most of the unions in the building maintain one or more bowling teams throughout the season.

Goetzman and Johnson at the expense of the Puffer-Hubbard company? Has the bank “made a deal” whereby ITS interests are protected even if the rest of the stockholders suffer? Why is the bank so interested in blocking a strike settlement, when the bank's total investment is relatively small? Is it depending upon the inability of the widely-scattered stockholders to get wind of what is happening and to act to bring about a reasonable settlement of the strike?

The more one studies the activities of the Northwestern National Bank in relation to the Puffer-Hubbard strike, the more one is inclined to echo Shakespeare's line: “Something is rotten in Denmark.”

912 Aims to Broaden Social Security Law

A campaign to extend the benefits of the Social Security law to domestic employees and all other workers not now covered by the law, was initiated Tuesday night by the membership of the Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912.

Pointing out that the workers excluded from the Social Security act are the very ones most in need of what benefits it gives, Local 912 unanimously adopted a resolution which will be submitted to the Teamsters Joint Council and the Minneapolis Central Labor Union.

The Private Chauffeurs also voted to circulate petitions to be sent all Minnesota congressmen demanding they take steps to broaden the coverage of the Social Security law.

The text of Local 912's resolution follows: WHEREAS, millions of needy workers, including domestic employees, are excluded from the benefits of the Social Security law, and

One Story to Local 1859, Another to the Customers

Throughout the seventeen weeks of the Puffer-Hubbard strike, and during the negotiations preceding the strike, this company has insisted to union negotiators that its workers submit to a 10c hourly wage cut. The Northwestern National bank, receiver for the struck firm, supported this move for a wage slash.

Just how hypocritical the company and the bank are in their negotiations is shown by an advertisement being sent out by the Puffer-Hubbard company to merchants. Thanks to the cooperation and sympathy of small businessmen with the union, copies of this advertisement have fallen into the hands of Local 1859.

Addressed to grocers in this area, the ad reads: “In the bleak penny pinching days of the depression women were forced by necessity to buy where food was cheapest, regardless of service. Now, with wages and salaries on the increase grocery budgets are expanding. . . Our own statistics indicate this trend better than any other source we know of. For several years (from 1929 to 1934) orders for Hubbard's folding delivery boxes decreased, but in 1934 the trend started the other way, with orders in 1938 over 40 per cent greater than 1934.”

Sing Different Song
In negotiations with their workers, this company proposes nothing but wage cuts.

Fink Suit Against 544 Now in Court

On the witness stand Wednesday, John Asplund, one of the plaintiffs, proved the union's contention about this suit by admitting he carried and still carries “Local No. 1” buttons; that he has attended every meeting of “Local No. 1” since it was founded; that it is a matter of indifference to him whether there is a dual union to Local 544; that he had never asked permission of Local 544 to inspect its books; that other plaintiffs had accompanied him to the meetings of the fink union.

The fink suit against the General Drivers Union Local 544, which has dragged through the courts for twenty-three months, finally came to trial Tuesday morning before Judge Paul S. Carroll in district court. Tuesday the five alleged union members lost a motion to take the union's records and inspect them. On Wednesday two points were to be argued in court. Defense attorneys John Goldie and Gilbert Carlson will seek to show that the five finks are not now members of the union in good standing, and were not members in good standing at the time they filed the suit on February 16, 1938. Union counsel will also present evidence that the finks were members of the Local Number 1 outfit, a dual hostile organization, and openly solicited membership in that boss-dominated “union,” and that they are not bringing the suit in good faith.

Suit Attacks Unionism
The suit against 544, masquerading as an attempt by union members to secure a financial accounting through the courts, is actually an attack on all unionism, as was shown by an analysis of the finks' statement shortly after the suit was filed. In their original notice, the alleged unionists attacked the whole idea of picketing and of relief for the unemployed.

The Minneapolis Central Labor Union, the Teamsters Joint Council and wide sections of the national labor movement rallied to the defense of the General Drivers Union in fighting the suit. Questions asked by organized labor at that time have not yet been answered, either by Local No. 1, or by Arthur H. Anderson, their attorney.

Who Finances Suit?
To this day, no one has explained who paid the considerable sums of money necessary to bring suit against the union, and where Anderson is getting his fees.

It is considered no accident that the suit finally comes to trial on the very eve of the annual election (Continued on page 4)

Five Women, One Infant, Among Those Trapped in Marlborough Hotel—City Stunned by Disaster, Sentiment Widespread to Force Public Officials to Act Against Those Responsible—Hellish Scene of Disaster—Union Driver is Hero—Boss Press Tries to Shield Minneapolis Real Estate Board—Marlborough Last Inspected in 1936, Passed Test, Declared in “Fair Condition”—How Many Other Fire Traps Are There?—Organized Labor to Demand Probe, Funds for Housing.

Shortly before 6 a. m. Wednesday the worst fire disaster in the history of Minneapolis occurred in the ancient Marlborough apartment hotel, 301-305 East 15th street, one of the scores of ramshackle death traps occupied by the poor of this city. About 18 are dead, including five women and one ten-months-old baby. Another 25 are seriously injured, of the 115 occupants of the building, a three-story wood-and-brick structure erected fifty years ago.

The city was stunned by the disaster, and sentiment was widespread to force the responsible public authorities into action that will prevent occurrence of such tragedies.

A dull explosion was heard by occupants of the building, neighbors and passers-by. Within a few seconds, literally, the whole building was eaten by flames. All stairways were blocked by fire. Witnesses report the scene of the tragedy was hellish, with human torches plummeting to the ground, men and women leaping from second and third-story windows, amid the roar of the flames and the mad shrieks of the dying victims.

Building Was a Trap
“It was a trap, a trap, we never had a chance,” moaned the tortured victims of the tragedy from beds at the General Hospital. Survivors testified that the flames spread with incredible speed, cutting off all avenues of retreat save that of a perilous leap from bedroom windows. When firemen arrived at the scene, several victims were found on the concrete pavement at the foot of the building, dead from injuries received following desperate leaps from the inferno. Some were battered beyond recognition.

The building was occupied by working people and WPA and unemployed persons—waiters and waitresses, printer, bartender, aged pensioners, etc.

Laundrymen Will Ballot January 11

On Thursday, January 11th, members of the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131 will ballot for officers for the coming year. At the nomination meeting in December, Claire Johnson and Don Blanche were unopposed for the posts of secretary treasurer and recording secretary, respectively, and white ballots were cast for them.

The following nominees will contest the remaining offices:
For president: Leo Washtock, W. N. Burnham.

Vice-president: Verne Wold, Clarence Emerson.
Three-year trustee (elect one): Orville Hegdahl, R. A. Hutchins, V. W. Sparrow, W. J. Peterson, Will Hoffman, Art Carlson.

Voting will take place from 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. in the main-floor hall at 257 Plymouth avenue north.

544 Members to Ballot January 5-6, 7 a. m.-9 p. m.

In accordance with the by-laws of the union, election of officers for the coming year, 1940, will be held in Union Headquarters at 257 Plymouth Avenue, Friday and Saturday, January 5 and 6, 1940.

Voting shall be by secret ballot and the polls will be open for balloting from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Members in good standing who cannot appear at the polls on the specified days may cast an absentee ballot, which must be secured from the Election Board. The Election Judges will announce the results of the election at the regular membership meeting on Monday, January 8, 1940.

Be sure that you immediately place yourself in good standing in the union so that you may participate in the election.

KELLY POSTAL, Sec.-Treas.
General Drivers Union Local 544

664 Election Results Are Announced

Members of the City and Sanitary Drivers Union Local 664 held their annual election last Thursday, voting in the main-floor hall at 257 Plymouth avenue north, and chose the following officers:

For president, Roland M. Prindle, unopposed.
Vice-president—Harold H. Seavey, unopposed.
Secretary-treasurer — William Holter.

Recording secretary — Harold Nelson, unopposed.
3-year Trustee—Edward Pearson.
Sergeant-at-arms — Edwin Vogel.

Nelson, Holter, Pearson and Vogel were incumbents.
Five delegates to represent Local 664 to the Minneapolis Central Labor Union were chosen: Harold Seavey, Roland Prindle, Harold Nelson, James Ryan and Lewis Delaitre.

One of the heroes of the disaster was Henry Kadlac, member of the Cab Drivers Union Local 958 and a driver for Liberty Cab. Kadlac observed the fire as he was going off duty. He turned in the alarm, then rescued many children and adults from the building.

Firemen Are Heroic
Officials of the fire department must have experienced a sinking feeling when they learned the scene of the fire. Department officials must know the true facts about the horrible death traps infesting the city. But fear of the Minneapolis Real Estate Board, and the wealthy holders of such property, prevents the facts about these traps from being made public.

The firemen (it was a four-alarm fire which brought all the city's equipment to the scene) performed a magnificent and heroic job of rescue work, saving scores of lives at great risk. At least two fire laddies, Merritt Mason and Charles Young, were severely injured in the performance of their duty. Fire traps are just as dangerous for the fire fighters as for the victimized tenants.

Cigarette Is Scapegoat!
As is so often the case in such fires, the scapegoat for the Marlborough disaster is—a lighted cigarette! That is, if you can believe the boss press. The Times-Tribune with marvelous omniscience was able to place blame for the fire on a lighted cigarette tossed into the garbage storage chute at the apartment house.

This is surely a wonderful deduction, and even more wonderful when you stop to consider that the storage chute was destroyed and covered over with rubbish and (Continued on page 4)

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Murphy and Arnold Step Up Campaign Vs. Trade Unions

New Federal Indictments Against Electrical Workers Union, Plasterers Union, Carpenters Union in San Francisco, Against New York Fur Workers—Chicago Unions Under Attack—FBI Plants Spies in 430 Corporations, Threatens to Spread Move—"Loyalty Pledge" Exacted from Philadelphia Naval Yard Workers, Who Balk at No-Strike Clause—Government Has Large Blind Spot for Real Monopolies and Trusts, But Quickens Drive on Organized Labor

As Frank Murphy continued to overlook the real violators of the anti-trust law, and as Thurman Arnold gave his blessing to the proposed merger of the Fisk Rubber company and the United States Rubber company, the United States Department of Justice intensified its persecution of organized labor and threw out new hints that the unions "haven't seen nothin' yet."

During the closing month of 1939, the following indictments against unions were made by the federal government:

1. In San Francisco a federal grand jury indicted the AFL Plasterers Union, the Electrical Workers Union and various Carpenters Union Locals.

2. In New York City fifteen members of the International Fur Workers Union (one of the few CIO unions under attack by Murphy) were charged with conspiracy.

Chicago Unions Under Attack

As the new year started, Murphy's office announced a federal grand jury would immediately start scrutinizing the Chicago building trades. Five hundred witnesses have already been summoned. Grand jury investigations are now proceeding, or are scheduled to proceed, in a score more cities throughout the United States.

FDR Praises Cleveland Bosses

On December 22nd, President Roosevelt, when informed that an association of industrialists in Cleveland had organized a safety council "to prevent sabotage," and that this had been organized with the encouragement and sanction of the Navy's Intelligence Service, stated that "Industrial workers had a positive duty to aid Federal agents in ferreting out saboteurs." The president of course did not reveal that such boss-instigated hunts against saboteurs invariably, as in the days of 1917-1918, turn out to be campaigns against unionists and unionism.

FBI Agents Spy on Workers

The most suspicious move of all by the Department of Justice is seen in the announcement of a few days ago that "The federal bureau of investigation, at the request of army and navy intelligence services, has undertaken precautionary measures to protect 430 key plants."

J. Edgar Hoover, former gang-buster who more recently has become a union-smasher, announced that the list of factories covered by FBI agents would be increased to about 12,000 should the United States be involved in war.

A United Press dispatch from Washington revealed that "through ten special field offices established by the FBI, the G-men are inspecting plants, conferring with plant executives, and recommending steps to be taken such as installing adequate guards."

Attorney General Frank Murphy has already intimated what he means by "guards" when he admitted that the G-men were co-operating with anti-labor spy agencies.

Exact "Loyalty" Pledge

A sort of preview of what the national administration has in store for organized labor as this nation moves closer and closer to participation in the imperialist war was seen December 27th, when, according to the New York Times, "President Roosevelt received a 'declaration of loyalty' from 11,825 civil employees of the Philadelphia Naval Yard in which they promised 'to report any instance of subversive attitude or action that comes to our notice.'"

To Roosevelt and the government, unionism and strikes are "conspiracies," as is shown in the persecution of the Minneapolis WPA strikers.

Proof that the initiative for this "Loyalty Pledge" did not come from the workers themselves is indicated by the news that "the declaration was delivered to the President by a group of ten headed by John D. Daniels, president of the Navy Yard Development Association, and Michael Doyle, Philadelphia lawyer."

The Times reported the President was "very much touched" by the pledge.

The seriousness of the govern-

ment's drive against what it calls "subversive activity" is indicated by the fact that the original draft of the "Loyalty Pledge" contained a pledge "to avoid strikes and to seek to settle any complaint with the proper means of adjustment."

There is not the shadow of a doubt but what the government itself, acting through its agents, drew up the "Loyalty Pledge" and circulated it among the navy yard workers. That it sought to insert a no-strike clause in the pledge is a sinister warning of the government's intentions towards organized labor and the working-class of people in the coming period.

The actual text of the "Loyalty Pledge" is shrewdly drawn to insinuate a blind and submissive "patriotism" among the workers.

"We hereby renew our pledge of allegiance and loyalty to the United States of America and its flag," reads the pledge.

"We pledge to cooperate with the government and our superiors in maintaining the integrity and honor of our nation."

"We pledge ourselves to be loyal in every way and to report any instance of subversive attitude or action that comes to our notice."

"We pledge to put our minds and hearts in our work as an expression of loyalty to our government."

The no-strike pledge was withdrawn, reported the Times, because its sponsors "felt it was unnecessary."

"Anti-Trust" Campaign Is Farce

That Murphy's campaign against the trade union movement, under the guise of enforcing the anti-trust laws, is a monstrous farce, should be readily apparent to any thinking man if he but pause and consider the fact that the real trusts in this country, the blood-sucking corporations who dominate the nation's economy in the interests of Big Business, are not being touched by Roosevelt or Arnold or Murphy.

A choice example is the American Telephone and Telegraph company. Unharmful, unmolested by any monopoly probe, this concern controls 278 corporations, including such powerful outfits as Bell Telephone Laboratories and Western Electric. Nor do any of these subsidiaries have any real power, because Walter S. Gifford, president of the A. T. & T., votes their stock and picks their officers. Directly, A. T. & T. has a complete air-tight monopoly over telephone service in this nation, since it owns every one of the 16 million phones distributed throughout the country.

Between 1900 and 1935, Tel & Tel took in, in dividends, interest charges, and license fees and profits, \$2,916,000,000, representing an average of over \$20,000,000 every year. No other corporation in the history of mankind has ever been such a consistent and huge profit-maker as the telephone trust. Yet the United States government has never made any effort to curb THIS trust.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Arnold are much too busy prosecuting organized labor under an abuse of the anti-trust laws, to have any time to investigate the real trusts and monopolies that are smothering the nation's economy and dooming ten million workers to idleness and starvation.

No janitor work USE GAS HEAT IN YOUR HOME

With the Limousines

By Home James
Inventory of a column, or things we like to recall.

That wonderful steak party for the staff of the Organizer. (Let's do it again soon, Carlos) . . . The short but very sufficient answers of Carl Skoglund . . . The ever neat female workers around the union hall . . . The complete failure of the infamous Stassen slave law . . . The very modest way Essex calls with a full house . . . The goofy idea of installing parking meters in Minneapolis. (In spite of everybody, it looks like a payoff.)

The way Al Jones raises on nothing . . . The freakish victory of the "All Party" Republicans in the last state election . . . The oratory of brother Ray Hedin . . . The under cover propaganda of the Gallup poll . . . The very cute statement of one livery operator: "I'll close my doors before I sign another contract." (We have a standing cash offer for any or all of them.)

Mel Johnson occupying the phone-booth at Friedlunds . . . The sales tour of royalty this last year . . . Farmer Fitz's new car (much heard of but seldom seen) . . . The success of the TJC Booya . . . Roy Belden's smart neckties . . . The Stassen dictator setup of state administration.

Carlos Hudson's fine work on the Northwest Organizer . . . The ridicule given all war referendums in congress . . . Carl's DX where the boys gather . . . The complete victory of 544 and other locals in gaining new contracts . . . State Iron ore land and the framup of Wenzel . . . The poor meeting attendance of the Smith livery workers . . . Bill Hines and that thing in the back of the limousine.

State and government still ignoring us "domestic" slaves when it comes to social security . . . Ray Rainbolt reading "Grapes of Wrath" . . . The fine Christmas party at the armory and the scandalous way the daily stink sheets ignored it . . . The furtive ways of the fink "Hat Chauffeurs." The wonderful pheasant dinner we had at Eddie Forster's house . . . The underhanded work of Belden and his "Alliance" . . . The complete absence of Fuzzy, our smoke inspector . . . George the Leach fellow and the sales tax (how did he get elected, anyhow?)

The furore caused by last week's "Home James" . . . J. J. Creemers striped suit . . . The outstanding change in the editorials of the Minneapolis Star since it was taken over by the Journal . . . The Mutiny from 77 and Plowed Ground . . . Hoover back in town, we're still short two chickens and a car . . . Brother Joe Fredericks, the super ticket salesman . . . The wonderful teamwork of Jack Kartes and Jess Baxter.

The good looking females at our picnic last summer . . . Last election of officers at CLU . . . Our executive board working into the wee hours on our by-laws . . . Brother George Lieb's new house in St. Louis Park . . . The blind come to labor for assistance . . . Brother Ed Litfin's luck in bridge and 500 . . . Harold Seavey's campaign talk on the radio . . . The private chauffeurs dance at south side last spring and the prizes given . . . The sweet voice on the switch board at "union headquarters." . . . The precise presentation


of any subject by Miles Dunne.

Claire Johnson and his "Dy-dee" wash . . . The TJC meeting in St. Cloud . . . "Scissorbill Sam" the bosses' man . . . The 544 sign in the Centennial parade . . . The support of all labor to the WPA defendants . . . And many, many more things which space will not permit.

Rex Bar & Cafe

1231 Washington Ave. N.
Rex Hamilton Pete Iverson

Scissorbill Sam, The Boss's Man



I haven't a bit of sympathy with the unemployed. They are so extravagant, they spend all their relief benefits and save nothing for a rainy day.

Building Depression Blamed On Banks, Big Monopolies

Not a single Minneapolis paper reported the important testimony given recently before the Temporary National Economic Committee that the big banks, NOT the building trades unions, were responsible for the paralysis of the construction industry. This testimony is of great importance today, coinciding as it does with the national administrations' smear investigation into the building trades unions.

According to Dr. Theodore J. Krepes, of the Economic Committee's consulting staff, "The monthly carrying charge is the really important item" explaining the lag in construction.

Robert Davison, the Pierce Foundation's director of housing research, followed Krepes to the stand, and testified that a 20 per cent cut in materials costs would knock 9.33% off monthly fixed charges on a house; a 20% cut in interest and amortization would subtract 16.9%; while a 20% cut a labor costs would only subtract 4.67% from the monthly fixed charges.

In short, according to Davison, a deep slash in the wages of building trades workers would have scarcely any influence in encouraging housing. The real slash must be made in the profits going to the bankers and the building materials trust.

While it is the workers who do the work, it's the rich who get the houses, according to Davison's testimony. "In 1926, 85% of the new homes were built for the upper 10% of the income classes," he testified.

Rent, Interest, Profit

The injustice of attributing the slump in construction to the trade unions is clearly revealed by the testimony. As between equal cuts in labor costs and other costs, a cut in financing would have about four times as much effect, and a cut in materials would have more than twice the effect. None of the testimony before the Temporary National Economic Committee has yet touched on an equally important effect to be derived from cutting the artificially high cost of building sites.

The national administration is following out a policy of concentrating all its fire on the trade unions and absolving the rackets that prevent the building industry from developing; the banks with their control of credit facilities; the monopolistic building materials firms with their artificially maintained high prices; and the real estate sharks who bleed the prospective home owners who try to buy building sites.

JOBS

Don't worry if your job is small And your rewards are few; Remember that the mighty oak Was once a nut like you.

Claire Johnson and his "Dy-dee" wash . . . The TJC meeting in St. Cloud . . . "Scissorbill Sam" the bosses' man . . . The 544 sign in the Centennial parade . . . The support of all labor to the WPA defendants . . . And many, many more things which space will not permit.

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24 So. Seventh St. Minneapolis
Accredited by N. A. A. C. S.

1940 Congress Is Forum Subject

The present session of Congress which opened Wednesday will be the subject of an analysis by Carlos Hudson at the Sunday Forum on January 7th. The speaker will analyze Roosevelt's opening messages. The forum starts at 3 p. m. at 919 Marquette avenue, admission is 10c, and all workers are invited to attend. A question and discussion period will accompany the message.

TAXI TOPICS

By Lunde and Hubbard
Born: To Mr. and Mrs. Tillman Jacobsen a baby boy. Papa "Jake" is a well known member of the Liberty Cab Co.

Ira Bingham is off the job nursing an illness of weeks' duration.

Bill Ellison is still on the sick list.

Phil Knight of the Liberty Cab has been in the hospital for weary weeks. We hope the new year gives him a break.

Sam Rich of the Terminal Cab is recuperating at Glen Lake. When out for a drive pay him a visit.

Pay your hospitalization dues: you may need them this winter.

The Hennepin and Lake drivers are happy that the Christmas decorations are down so they can see the phone-lights and house numbers.

There's a lot of "bumping" from one shift to another this winter so whiskers (seniority rights) are necessary if you want to stay "put."

When unloading old ladies in front of buildings with heavy doors, risk a second and help them inside. The "scale" average will be in your favor.

Winter instructions from the shop: If your motor stalls in low zero weather, drain the radiator (cut the lower hose). This might avert serious damage to the engine. Remember, every cab that is laid up in winter cheats a man out of a much-needed job.

Quite a number of old-timers are back flipping the "Olmers"; we note George Berg, Sisk, Jack, "the Iowa dirt farmer" Kupka, and many others whose names escape us for the moment. We urge these men to attend our union meetings regularly to keep informed of the new developments in the industry.

With the men who do things: Cliff Rollins makes good "dumplings" and New Years resolutions . . . Roy "Politician" Brown can and does make long winded speeches without removing his stogie . . . Otto "Beau Brummel" Krenke going he-man with a sheepskin "benny."

Now that these two double holidays are over, it brings to mind that we won't have a double holiday on Christmas and New Years until 1943 when they fall on Saturday and beginning then we will have them three years in a row. The next extra double holiday will be on July 4, 1942, when the Fourth falls on Saturday. These are just some statistics from your old crystal-gazer, Ogren.

To the Ladies: For land sakes, see that you get your old man or boy friend to come to the dance Saturday night, January 20.

Is your Club, Lodge, Union, Fraternal organization or Church group in need of additional funds?

IF SO, why not run a dance for the benefit of your group at the Beautiful

MARIGOLD BALLROOM

(Northwest's Finest)
Call Bridgeport 2030 for details

UP IN THE AIR about "Where to buy it?"

Look in the CLASSIFIED Telephone Directory

Unfair Mortuaries

Do Not Patronize—The following funeral homes are unfair to Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912: Rainville Funeral Home, 222 East Hennepin Enger Funeral Home, Grant at Park Davies Mortuary, 1403 Harmon Place Gill Brothers, 1414 Laurel Avenue McDivitt Funeral Home, 2835 East Lake Knaeble company, 513 Plymouth Avenue north Welander Quist, Hennepin at Dupont, Chicago at 19th, West Broadway at Fremont Albinson Mortuary, Chicago Avenue at 17th Fox-Sullivan Mortuary, 113 S. E. 4th Washburn-McReavy Mortuary, 412 Central Ave.

To All Friends of Organized Labor—In case you have the misfortune to have a death in your family, please telephone the Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912, at Geneva 4691, for a list of the undertaking establishments on Local 912's fair list.

ANOTHER LOAD From City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664

By Wally Raze

The election of officers was held as scheduled on December 28. The total number of ballots cast was far from satisfactory, considering the total membership of our local. While on the subject of voting, permit me to express myself regarding the man (?) who is too lazy or indifferent to cast his ballot, whether in a local, state or national election. By failing to vote he jeopardizes, not only his own future welfare, but that of his family and his fellow-citizens as well. Such slackers are underserving of any consideration and protection from their fellows in their local or from their government and any union or nation would be better off without them. Their's my sentiments—you wanna make sumpin' of it?

New officers will be sworn in next Friday, January 5, and henceforward our regular meetings will be held on the first and third Fridays of each month.

Brother Seavey was in considerable misery last meeting night, having just undergone an operation on his smeller. Hope you have fully recovered ere this, Harold.

Brother Neil Lange is still in General Hospital and in not too good shape. The boys at 35th and Bryant hope for his quick recovery.

Brother "Gravy Davy," it is rumored, has started a pig ranch in his garage. This is not a commercial venture, but an attempt to hand-raise some real "pork chops." More power to Brother Davy.

Believe it or not, Brother George Wembert goes rabbit-hunt-

ing with a claw-hammer and gets 'em too. Of course, a 5-foot fence helps some.

Regarding the strike of Local 1859 at the Puffer-Hubbard plant: the pickets are staying in a trailer and their morale is still 100 per cent. Any books, magazines, lamps, fuel or food and coffee would sure help these boys to carry on. Even a few dishes and some cutlery would come in mighty handy. If you wish to help one of our A. F. of L. unions, call R. B. Gilmore, Re. 8694.

I'll bet that, at some time or other, every married man and woman wonders why every state in the union requires a license to make a mistake.

Witnessed the New Year in at the home of Brother Al Mlynek and his charming wife. The males, as usual, whiled away the hours by indulging in that always popular pastime — acrobatic bull-throwing, interspersed with frequent elbow-bending exercises. Result: A swell time and no casualties and yours truly isn't in the dog-house this New Years day, either.

Hoping you all are the same—Happy New Year.

MERCHANT: Why I wouldn't cash a check for my own brother!

WORKER: Well, of course, you know your own family best!

Fidelity State Bank

Place your Federal Housing Loans and Auto Finance with us. The only bank controlled by Labor and business men.
INDEPENDENT

FOR MONEY See PHOENIX Loans on Auto Plain-Note, etc.

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Peterson Funeral Home

1838 CENTRAL AVE. N. E.
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Directors and Advisors! RUSSELL PETERSON CLIFFORD PETERSON

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CHERRY 1500
FREE PARKING LOT IN REAR



UP IN THE AIR about "Where to buy it?"
Look in the CLASSIFIED Telephone Directory

Sparkling GRAIN BELT BEER THE FRIENDLY BEER



Retail Bakery Drivers—An Important Correction!

Last week's Organizer carried the text of the new retail bakery drivers' agreement, but Article I in the published agreement was NOT correct.

We herewith print Article I as contained in the final signed agreement, and suggest all retail bakery drivers clip this correct version and append it to the printed agreement:

ARTICLE I

It is agreed and understood that all employees coming under this agreement shall adhere to the following conditions:

No route drivers shall report for work before 7 a. m. but not later than 8 a. m. and shall have route completed and be in the plant not later than nine (9) hours from the time they report in the morning and must be punched out within fifteen minutes after they arrive at the plant except on Saturdays and the day before holidays when one and one-half (1½) hours additional time will be granted.

It is agreed that all drivers, as soon as their routes are properly finished, shall be allowed to drive in, unload their goods, and settle their accounts without unnecessary delay.

With the Dairy Workers Local 471

George Bergquist

It has been a long time since most of us were initiated but at that time we made a solemn promise which some of us fail to keep at various times. Our obligation reads: "I do now covenant to keep the affairs of this Union strictly private unless authorized to reveal the same." Telling the business of Local 471 to a group of strangers in a beer parlor, is far from keeping the promise we made; besides, some of us may get into a heap of trouble and be fined. We can all make a 1940 resolution to keep our original promise and Local 471 will become a bigger and better organization.

Santa Claus didn't forget Local 471; Mr. Larson of the Larson Creamery sent some beautiful Christmas cards to the organization and its officers.

Carlyle Johnson has a nice cigar for all of us. His favorite brand "Woodies," which came out recently, burn slowly and evenly. Brother Johnson must have had a break of some kind for his supply is extensive and he is very liberal at passing them out.

West Coast teamsters under Dave Beck certainly are an active group. They request our members and members of other unions to eat many more apples this winter. Europe used to be the market for these surplus apples but the war destroyed the market and the truck drivers' jobs were wiped out. Our western brothers are trying to overcome the situation, and will if we lend a hand. We are further asked to set up an "Apple Committee." They could treat every member at the next membership meeting to one nice big delicious apple.

Through the efforts of the business agents the compensation case of Carl A. Paulson was settled satisfactorily. Until they took a hand the contention was that Brother Paulson was not entitled to benefit. In these matters our officers are always glad to lend a hand.

The new pair of overshoes which Fred Thompson bought was for himself. On their first trip to the union hall some dear brother traded with Fred and left him a bottomless set. There will be no questions asked on the "return" trip and no charge for mileage.

Walter Christiansen has a badly cut hand because he slipped and fell on broken bottles. How about taking it a bit slower while it is so icy?

Remember That Last Jag?

By R. B. Gilmore

In 1914 when war broke out in Europe the general feeling here was self-congratulatory. We were plenty glad to remember that three thousand miles of ocean lay between us and the European war.

"Too bad they are killing each other over there."
"God help the people who are killing each other off."
"I am sure glad I live in America, free from Kings, Kaisers and militarists who cause these crazy wars."

And I can't resist the temptation to put in a remark once made by Eddie Cantor!

"It is great to live in the U. S. A. where a man can write a column instead of having to march in one." So far, anyway.

So we see that even back in 1914 when men who are old now were then in their prime and men who are in their prime now were still boys. Even then, the general opinion among the yaps, saps and yazzahampers was, "Let's keep out of war." So we will have to look elsewhere for our reason in being drawn into the slaughter.

The following is a copy of a cablegram sent by American Ambassador Walter Hines Page (London, England) to Secretary of State Lansing (U. S. A.) dated March 15, 1917:

"The financial inquiries made here reveal an international condition most alarming to the American financial and industrial outlook. England is obliged to finance her allies as well as to meet her own war expenses. She has as yet been able to do this task out of her own resources. But in addition to these talks she cannot continue her present large purchases in the United States without shipments of gold to pay for them, and she cannot maintain large shipments of gold for two reasons.

"First, both France and England must retain most of the gold they have to keep their paper money at par; and second, the submarine has made the shipping of gold hazardous, even if they had it to ship. The almost immediate danger, therefore, is that Franco-American and Anglo-American exchange will be so disturbed that orders by all the allied governments will be reduced to the lowest minimum, and there will be almost a cessation of trans-Atlantic trade. This, of course, will cause a panic in the United States. The world will be divided into two hemispheres, one of which has gold and commodities, and the other which needs these commodities will have no money to pay for them and practically no commodities of their own to exchange for them. The financial and commercial result will be almost as bad for one as for the other. This condition may come suddenly unless action is quickly taken to prevent it. France and England must have a large enough credit in the United States to prevent the collapse of world trade and of the whole European finance.

"If we should go to war with Germany, the greatest help we could give the Allies would be such credit. In that case, our government could, if it would, make a large investment in a Franco-British loan or might guarantee such a loan. All the money would be kept in our own country, trade would be continued and enlarged till the war ends, and after the war Europe would continue to buy food and would buy from us also an enormous supply of things to re-equip her peace industries. We should thus reap the profit of an uninterrupted, perhaps, an enlarging trade over a number of years. And we should hold their securities in payment.

"But if we hold most of the money and Europe cannot pay for re-equipment, there may be a world-wide panic for an indefinite period. Unless we go to war with Germany our government, of course, cannot make such a direct grant of credit, but there is no way in which our government might indirectly, immediately help the establishment in the United States of a large Franco-British credit without a violation of armed neutrality? I am not sufficiently acquainted with our own reserve bank law to form an opinion, but if these banks were able to establish such a credit they would avert this danger. It is a danger for us more imminent, I think, than the public on either side of the ocean realized. If it be not averted before its symptoms become apparent, it will then be too late to avert it. I think that the pressure of this approaching crisis has gone beyond the ability of the Morgan Financial Agency, for the British and French Governments. The need is becoming too great and urgent for any private agency to meet, for every such agency has to encounter the jealousies of rivals and of sections.

"Perhaps our going to war is the only way in which our present prominent trade position can be maintained and a panic averted. The submarine has added the last item to the danger of a financial world crash. During a period of uncertainty about our being drawn into the war, no more considerable credit can be privately placed in the United States and a collapse may come in the meantime."
(Signed) PAGE

544 Baseball Players Get Pro Offers

Several of the outstanding players on Local 544's city championship baseball team have received offers to play professional ball this coming season, it was revealed this week by Jack Herman, team manager. Herman, who was the honored guest at the recent banquet of the Northwest Empire Association two weeks ago at the West Hotel, has signed as manager for the Tennessee Orioles.

Norrie Hanson, star pitcher, has signed with the Crookston Club, one of the Miller "farms." If he looks good with Crookston, there is a chance the Minneapolis team will pull him into camp before the season ends.

Joe "Butch" Rosin, 544 shortstop, has also signed with Crookston, who named him on the recommendation of Mike Kelly, owner of the Minneapolis Millers.

At least three pro teams are bidding for the services of fiery Johnny Sodd, 544 catcher. Sodd is expected to make a decision next month.

Tony Pazeck has been offered a pro contract with a southern semi-pro team. Syd Alfrod, 544's captain and first baseman, has turned down two pro offers. Syd has a good job in Minneapolis, his family is here, and he says he expects to play amateur ball again in 1940 unless he gets a bid from some American Association team.

A man never becomes so lost to decency that he can fail to see another man's duty.

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100% UNION BAR
LIQUORS, WINES AND FINE FOODS
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One Block from General Drivers
UNION HEADQUARTERS

Independent Truck Chatter

By R. F. Hornig

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Zander wish to thank all of you for your kind expressions of best wishes and greetings during the holiday season.

The annual debate on coal versus dirt haulers' rights rages again over a situation existing on our only active job. . . Frank Guile begs leave to report his big WPA job was a forty-hour, three-year job assignment. . . Did Local 544 have an entry in the National Truck Rodeo in Chicago this year?

Can we turn on the heat! Z. and H. admit to insomnia. . . Dues paid for October will O. K. your vote on January 5 and 6. . . Hats off to John R. Coan, Minneapolis postmaster, for being the only topflight government official in these parts to prove his fairness toward union labor. Seventy dollars—the best dough reported so far from postoffice work. . . Anybody with a van might call Mitt for a possible two or three days' work on phone books.

Boy scout deed for the Organizer: scuff up a few jobs for the hard months. However, we will settle for a cinch program that will crack loose an early spring start.

Little birds are whispering that our wise boys have already figured out that the Committee pushing the park board seniority the hardest will deal himself out an ace. All that can be said in answer to that from this column is to welcome those who know about this use of a cold deck to come in and expose this hand-is- quicker-than-the-eye expert.

Get your dough that this summer you will have jobs to shake a stick at and more hours to work than you care for. Election year is the reason, and you will see links on many jobs because everyone will be too busy to care to chase them off. Meanwhile you sit and twiddle your thumbs while you try to hold out till spring.

Why don't the country boys get wise and go after county sponsorship of the WPA trucks at least for winter work? Seems to be a careless let-down for a group that guards its rights and privileges so fiercely and secretly during the summer season.

The Belt Line truckers had their long-awaited party in the basement of the union hall, Saturday night, the first New Year's Eve. The wee sma' hours saw plenty of merriment still rolling along and all present agreed that such an enjoyable party should have a successor soon.

Lee Hoffmocker and Rudy Schmaltz are enjoying their enforced vacation from work away up in the far North and getting in their hands on some first-class ice fishing.

For Christmas cards and best wishes received may I offer my thanks, and return to you my own sincere wish for a happy and progressive New Year.

R. Hornig broke loose with a 579 total to pace the league. His Committee teammates kept pace to set a new mark of 2,355 and the City boys bumped the single game total to 844 for the best night of pin-smashing we have had.

| Team | Won | Lost |
|------------|-----|------|
| City | 35 | 9 |
| Dragline | 29 | 16 |
| Gravellers | 25 | 19 |
| Diesel | 25 | 20 |
| Committee | 25 | 20 |
| Minnesota | 20 | 25 |
| Muckers | 13 | 32 |
| Excavators | 7 | 38 |

TRUER THAN HE KNEW
LIBERAL: "I see they are arguing about capital punishment at the state capitol; are you in favor of abolishing it?"
CONSERVATIVE: "No sir; it was good enough for my father and it's good enough for me!"

MINNEHAHA GREENHOUSE
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Flowers, Plants, Floral Designs
Members of Tile Setters and Truck Drivers Union
DRexel 4402 DRexel 0974

YELLOW TAXI CO.
Main 7171

To All Trade Union Members

So many workers applying for unemployment insurance have been rejected through their own negligence and misunderstanding of the law, despite the fact they are clearly eligible to receive such insurance, that the Federal Workers Section has set up a special department to deal with this problem.

All workers seeking unemployment insurance are asked to get in touch immediately with Ed Palmquist before applying for such insurance. Palmquist will be in the office of the Federal Workers Section from 8:30-10:30 daily except Saturday and Sunday.

LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By Richard B. Gilmore

The members of the committee wish to convey their thanks to Brother Walter Lewis of New London for the New Year's card and greetings. Same to you, Wally.

Did you boys set your lamps on that blonde that Rolf Knutsen from Puff's was with a week ago last Friday night? We think she was after his chicken. How'd it turn out, Rolf?

A Christmas party was given for a group of the Puffer-Hubbard strikers' children a week ago last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Eric Wick. The party was sponsored by Mrs. Eric Wick, Mrs. Robert Alexander, Mrs. Clair Olsen, Mrs. Frederick Corrie, Miss Helen Aldridge, Miss Margaret Johnson, Miss Ragna Wick and Miss Ferd Edlund. These ladies are members of what is called the "All Heart Club."

Gifts and refreshments were given to all the children. Among the children to share in this delightful party were Donald Hensen, age 4, Charles Hansen, age 3, Ronnie Boos, age 7, Peter Van Zanten, age 6, Nancy Nelson, age 5, Billie Stein, age 8, Jimmie Perleberg, age 5, Eddie Hanson, junior, age 4.

The parents of these children wish to thank the "All Hearts Club" for its fine holiday spirit.

This wouldn't be news if Hank Lunde didn't brag up his Chrysler car. Well, anyhow, Hank got as far as 11th street last Thursday in his trusty car and that is where the axle broke and that is where his jewel case set all day until come 4:30 and Frank Morrison to the rescue with ropes and chains. Brother Lunde claims his car was scuttled.

Crime does not pay. Stoplights didn't mean a thing to Louis Tyra last Wednesday night. That is, they didn't until the long arm of the law swooped down on Curley and knicked him for five simoleons.

How come Frank Gavere was all painted up like an Indian last Friday?
P. S. Take skiing lessons from Frank at your own risk.

Gust Zingsmark wishes to thank the boys for their kind remembrance. Gust's sister, Mrs. Sundquist of Duluth, passed away Friday, December 22. Gust went to Duluth to attend the funeral.

John Erickson was involved in an auto accident at Third and Hennepin last week.

War clouds hover over the third floor at Clark's since Al Jarvis (a Finn) gave Andy Bresney (a Russian) a little pie. Everything was appeasement until somebody told Andy how come Al gave out pie.

Local color with Mike Koslosky sitting in the hall all dressed up with one striped sock and one polka dot sock.

John Peterson was home with a sore throat Thursday afternoon. Yes, we said sore throat.

1859 Credit Union
Questions and answers:
Q. How many members has the C. U. to date?
A. 45.
Q. How much is the average loan?
A. \$25.
Q. How many loans have been made so far?
A. Seven.

Card of Thanks

To Local 544:
Your flowers brought gladness and beauty and cheer, and this little "Thank You" is very sincere.
From Marvin Berndt

Gassing With 977

The first general membership meeting for Local 977 will be held next Monday, January 8. All members interested in medical care through the union should be present at this meeting; the union's doctor will be present to explain the working of this service for the membership.

The attendants in the new Clark Super Service stations were pleasantly surprised at Christmas time to receive a \$5 bonus check; in addition to this, each attendant receives more than the wage scale called for in the Union Agreement.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Little; yes, the baby is a girl, and Eidevold believes he should be the godfather.

Any member who worked New Years day, and did not receive double time pay for same, is liable to be called before the Executive Board of the Local and fined.

The members of the Local extend sympathies to Bro. George Lacho and family; George's mother passed away last week. George is attendant at the Sinclair station, 2154 Hennepin Ave.

Through the efforts of your local, Melvin Vang was given a permanent position with the Dayton company this week; Brother Vang has been discriminated against for the past year.

Plans are being made to obtain a motion picture, REFLECTING OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF AMERICA, for the membership meeting Monday.

In an analysis of the War Referendum proposal, LaFollette's "Progressive" points out that not only are Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull antagonistic to it, but that they are joined by Alfred M. Landon and former Secretary of State Stimson in opposing the popular vote on the life-and-death issue of war.

In 1917 there were three proposals for a war referendum submitted to Congress. One was sponsored by Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Sr., Non-partisan Leaguer from Minnesota. William Jennings Bryan and LaFollette, Sr., sponsored the other two. None of these proposals got so far as the floor of Congress.

During the war scare following the sinking of the Panay, Representative Ludlow received the necessary 218 signatures on a petition to bring his war referendum measure on the floor of Congress. But the proposal was then defeated by the close vote of 209-188 after both Roosevelt and Landon voiced violent objections to such a popular vote.

SUCCESS STORY

A bank president was giving some fatherly advice to his son who was about to go into business for himself.

"Son," said the father, "I want you to know at the outset—honesty is always the best policy."

"Yes, father," replied the youth.
"And by the way," the father continued, "I would advise you to read up on corporation law. It will amaze you to discover how many things you can do in a business way and still be honest."

A gentleman is a man who won't work except at useless labor.

ORGANIZER WANT ADS

(If you are a subscriber, your ad will be published here free of charge. Mail or phone the Northwest Organizer, 253 Plymouth Avenue North, Bridgeport 8741.)

WANTED: Child's toilet seat, with foot rest. Write M. Hudson, 3029 James Ave. S.
WILL MILKMAN who saw accident Sunday, 1 p. m., at 3rd Street and 3rd Ave. S., please phone Granville 5001 immediately.

Sale Miscellaneous

G. E. SUN LAMP, regular \$60 model, will sacrifice. 2601 19th Ave. N., Hy. 1867. Apt. 7.
SUNBEAM SHAVEMASTER Sr., used 3 months, \$8. Argus candid camera, model A, \$8. Domestic Wardrobe, 1515 Spruce Place, Apt. 307.
HEATROLA STOVE, 5-ft. bath-tub, highchair, boys' sled, all in good condition, cheap. 1720 8th Ave. N.
PIANO AND STOOL, Meister cabinet grand, \$10; roll-away bed, \$5; new corner cupboard, unpainted, \$3; green winter coat, cap and leggings, size 4, \$2.50. 2446 15th Ave. S., Dr. 5629. Mrs. Roy Ferry.
BLACK COAT, size 16; Tweed-wool knickers, size 12; Keds, size 4. All good condition. Reasonable. 3401 26th Ave. S., Dr. 0419.

Watt Notes

By Amps & Volts

Well, December 31st and New Year's eve has passed, and we're startin' another year.

If you get an opportunity, write a line to Brother Howard Locke at Northwestern hospital.

If you want to know how to start a Terraplane on a cold morning with a dead battery, a crank and a necktie, ask Cecil Campbell.

The proposed schedule for operators is on display at Aldrich Sub. Better go over and take a peek, boys. It's your baby.

We understand Frank Bronsdon has the HIVES. He says it's from eatin' too many nuts on Christmas.

The Ladies Auxiliary dance will be held on February 3rd at the

NOW GOING ON
Brown's SUPER
365-14 NICOLLET VALUE
CLEARANCE

Dr. R. S. Maybury
Dentist
Sixth Street at Nicollet Ave.
627 SYNDICATE BUILDING
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Gluek's BEER

Union Hall at 257 Plymouth Ave. N. Don't miss it, boys, there'll be a lot of hot numbers there.

Brother Houck is back on the job after a week's illness. Keep plugging away, Walt. The warm days are coming.

Brother Brice of the Meter Department is daddy all over again. Although he was expecting it to be a boy, a baby girl arrived Friday, December 29th. Congratulations and best wishes to mother and child.

It looks like the boys in the Meter Department have made a New Year's resolution, "No cigars."

And how about you brothers making a resolution to send in a few news items for this column during this year?

"Link" Lindberg and his "gang" still continue to receive praise for the way they had the Army decorated for the biggest Christmas party ever held by organized labor in our city.

Keep in mind the benefit dance to be held on February 3rd by the Ladies Auxiliary of Local 160 for WPA workers' defense.

It is difficult to draw the line between the leisure and the lazy class. Difficult? Hell, it's impossible!

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Mfrs. of CARBONATED BEVERAGES
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That's where Shell Coke saves you money. It never contains more than 1/2% to 1% ash—so little you can measure it by the teaspoonful! Over 99% burns! Shell Coke is economical. It's "Easy-to-Burn"—can be kindled with a newspaper. . . fires up quickly. . . warms your house rapidly cold winter mornings.

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Shell Coke is Economical | |
| Shell Egg | \$12.45 |
| Shell S's | 9.75 |
| Shell Nut Run | 10.95 |
| Nut | 11.95 |

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Northwest Organizer

Published every Thursday under the auspices of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 257 PLYMOUTH AVE.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in advance \$1.50
Six months in advance .85
Single copies (10 copy minimum) .02 1/2

Entered as second class matter May 1st, 1935, at the Post-office at Minneapolis, Minn., under Act of March 8, 1879

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

How Many More Marlboroughs?

How many more charred victims must be served up on the altar of greed represented by the wealthy owners of death-traps in this city?

Tens and scores of thousands of shocked and alarmed citizens throughout Minneapolis are heatedly asking that question on the morrow of the worst fire disaster in the history of this community, a fire that took over a score of lives in a hellish scene that beggars description.

In the face of the Marlborough disaster, citizens of this city have a right to demand of the fire prevention inspector and the housing inspector that they immediately make public a full listing of ALL the city's fire-traps, including those classified in "fair condition," as was the Marlborough structure.

Unless city officials comply with this request, the Northwest Organizer will investigate and make public a list of such death-traps which even now house unsuspecting residents! We can name twenty places within a few blocks of the Marlborough that are no safer than that ill-fated edifice!

Those housed in fire-traps HAVE THE RIGHT to know and be warned of their danger!

We believe it is reasonable to assume that public building inspectors know the true facts about the horrible fire-traps that infest this city. We believe that only fear—fear of the Minneapolis Real Estate Board, fear of the banks, insurance and holding companies owning many of these ramshackle properties, fear that pressure will be applied and jobs lost—that only fear prevents the FACTS from being made known to the public.

Well, the time is past when such fear can be permitted. The public must throw fear of another sort into public officials—fear lest they fail to perform their public duty.

The Tax Payers Association also cannot escape responsibility for the results of its penny-pinching policies. Wednesday afternoon a representative of the city building department testified before the city council that "We've been asking several years for help for our department. Our force was cut in two at time of the depression and the men never replaced. We now have four building inspectors to cover the whole city and it just can't be done properly. It's a joke."

A pretty grizzly joke, say we! The Tax Payers Association, those sniveling hypocrites who always express so much concern for the good name of Minneapolis, must feel mighty proud of their handiwork today.

A Program

The people have a right to be warned against living in fire-traps! And the people have a right to be decently housed!

It is all very well to TALK of those "ill-housed." But the people of Minneapolis are ready now to DO something about this problem.

There must be no more unsuspecting victims caged in a fire-trap, plummeting like human torches to horrible death. There must be no more "leniency" which permits officials to overlook or to "pass" buildings that are unfit and unsafe to live in, that are condemned. There must be decent and safe housing for ALL the people, not just for the wealthy.

The progressive section of organized labor throughout this nation, joined by the building trades, has long demanded a ten-billion dollar public housing program, a program that would furnish jobs for millions and provide decent homes for those living in infested, unhealthy and dangerous fire-traps. These demands take on real meaning in the dancing light of the Marlborough tragedy.

Let no one say this program is too "extreme," or complain "Where will the money come from?"

There seems to be plenty of money—billions—for battleships and bombers. The big corporations have been coining money since the war started. Take this money, and devote it to a broad public housing program.

Members of the Minneapolis social register alone have got much more money than is needed for a bang-up local housing program. Take that money, and put it to work. If these Associated Industries characters whine, leave them a million apiece to spend on furs and silks and Minnetonka estates and caviar.

DEMAND THAT THE RESPONSIBLE CITY OFFICIALS MAKE PUBLIC THE LIST OF FIRE-TRAPS IN MINNEAPOLIS!

DEMAND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LAUNCH A TEN-BILLION DOLLAR PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAM THAT WILL PUT MILLIONS TO WORK AND END THE "MARLBOROUGH MENACE" IN MINNEAPOLIS AND THE NATION!

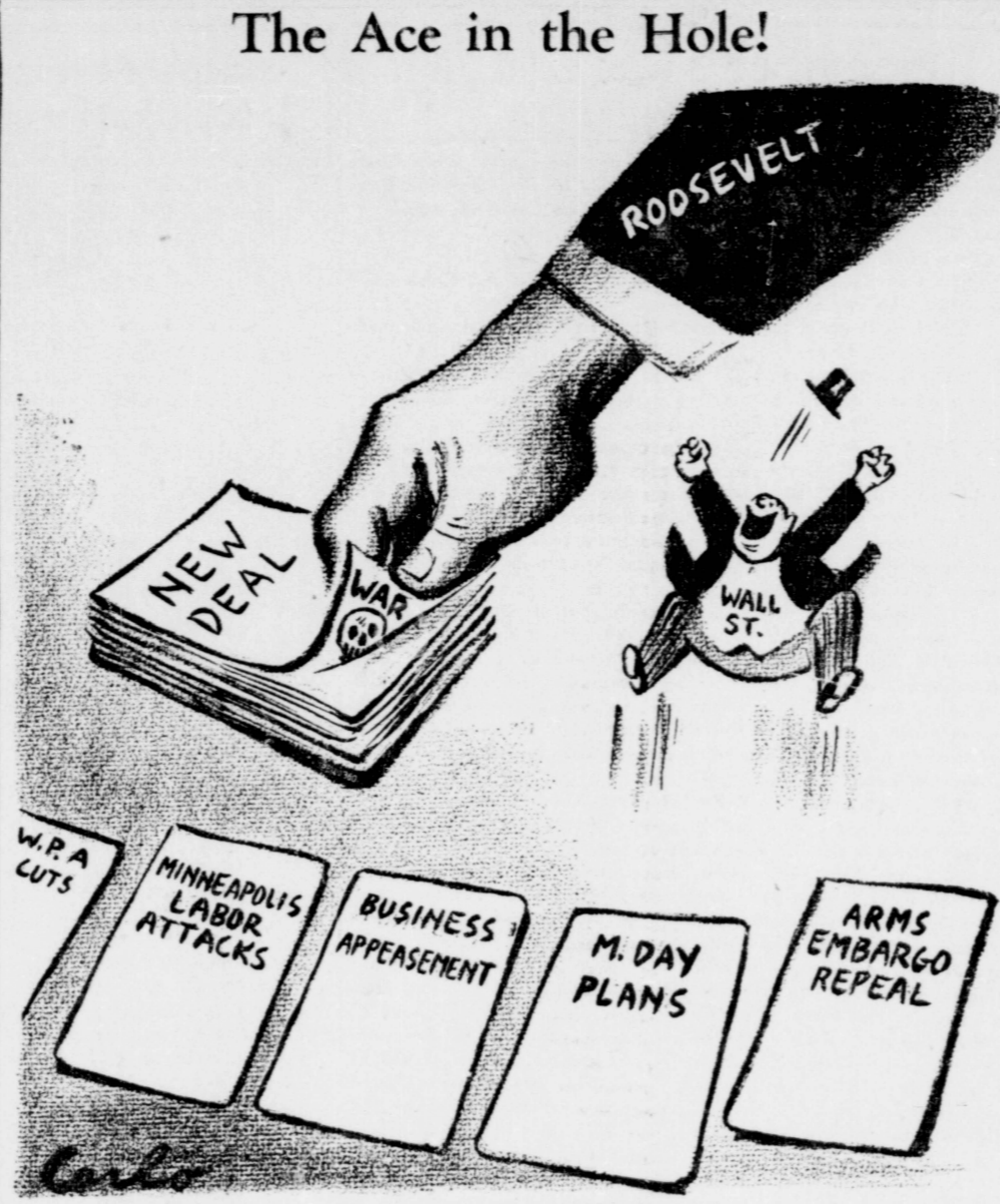
Fink Suit Against 544 Now in Court

(Continued from page 1)
of officers in the General Drivers Union.

Commentary on Press
Handling of the suit in the employer-controlled press has called forth bitter comment from many unionists. Whereas the daily papers saw fit to maintain a conspiracy of silence about the magnificent Christmas Party for children presented just before Christmas by the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, these same daily papers have

discovered that news about the fink suit is front-page stuff. They print as good coin all of Attorney Anderson's demagogic arguments, and represent Anderson and the finks as "protectors" of the union. That both Anderson and the finks are bitter opponents of genuine unionism is not indicated.

From the very start of the suit, Local 544 took the traditional labor position that it was its duty to resist turning the union's books and records over to enemies of organized labor. The union received the unanimous backing of the Central Labor body in this stand, and the approval of unionists throughout the nation. Those who are backing and financing the suit against Local 544 have discovered that it is no easy task to grab the books and records of a union,



Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

The suit for inspection of the books and records of our union has reached the District Court. This attempt to probe into the records of the union was begun over a year ago by Elward Corbett, Adolph Svendahl, John Asplund, Robert Fisher and John Ryan. These men, all independent truck owners, none of them members in good standing in the local, demanded through an attorney that all books, records, membership lists and documents of the union be thrown open to the public. This, the membership of the union refused to do.

At that time a special meeting of the union was called. In this meeting the membership voted to fight the suit to the end. We were supported in our stand by the Teamsters Joint Council, the Minneapolis Central Labor Union and every body of organized labor in the state.

544 Has Nothing to Conceal
The books, records, membership lists and all financial transactions of the union are open to inspection, now or any time, to MEMBERS of the union. Not only that, but they are open to ANY MEMBER of organized labor. After the suit was started we offered to have our books audited and examined by the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union gave our local a vote of complete confidence. As a matter of fact, there is nothing to conceal or hide in the records of any union. But

ENEMIES of organized labor want the membership records of labor unions to build up blacklists. ENEMIES of labor want to exhaust labor unions in long, expensive court actions and finally ENEMIES of labor want to discredit and besmirch honest, militant leaders of labor unions.

With Clean Hands?

What of the motives of the men who complain they want redress? Have they honest motives? Is it for the building and strengthening of the union that they demand a baring of union records? Is it for the good or bad of the organized labor movement that inner-union affairs are tried in the headlines of anti-union daily papers?

If an injustice was done these men who are responsible for the suit, does it not seem queer that they did not seek redress in the many avenues that were open to them? Why did they not appeal to the Executive Board, to the membership in a meeting, to the Teamsters' Joint Council, to the International Union? All of these channels of justice were open to them. No attempt was made to exercise these rights. Members should judge intent and honesty of Ryan, Svendahl, Corbett, Asplund and Fisher, not by accounts in the hostile daily press, but by the records which speak for themselves.

Local 131 "Gas and Suds"

By L. Clair Johnson

Mr. MacAloon is going to give the answer for the bosses today (Wednesday).

Leonard Kaufman of the National Cleaners is at Asbury hospital. He had a minor operation and will be very pleased to have visitors.

J. B. Hutton of Falconer's laundry, one of our charter members, received a dismissal notice last Saturday. John has driven a laundry truck for 35 years and has been at Falconer's for 28 years. We are having a hearing on his case this week.

The book suit against the officers of 544 has just come up for the third time. Is it mere coincidence that in each instance it has come up just as 544 is about to hold its annual election of officers? You will probably not be able to find a word about it in our local newsdistorting organs, those great molders of public opinion, the daily propaganda sheets. And you will probably find headlines announcing the banquet in honor of the WPA defendants.

Elsewhere in this issue you will

find a complete list of the candidates for office in our own local union. Elections will be held Thursday, January 11, and polls will be open from 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. In order to be eligible to vote you must have all dues, assessments and fines paid up to and including December. You all seemed very interested in the election at the nomination meeting. Show just as much interest in the actual election. Voting is your democratic privilege and duty. It is your safeguard against autocracy and dictatorship. Your officers are your servants. Select those whom you feel are capable, sincere and who are willing to sacrifice their time to make your union a better union. Let's all get out and vote.

289's Annual Dance Set For Jan. 20

The Bakery Drivers Union Local 289, famous for its social affairs, will hold its second annual dance on Saturday, January 20th, in the third-floor auditorium at 257 Plymouth avenue north. Bobby Phillips' orchestra will play. Le. en Johnson, chairman of the entertainment committee, is in charge of the affair which promises to be one of the outstanding events of the winter season.

... the last word

By B. and C.

A hundred years ago the labor movement had two main objectives—the ten-hour day and free public schools. In that hundred years, the labor movement has been the only continuous force which has made possible grade school and high school for the children of Minneapolis today. The schools to which you send your children were not built through the generosity of a millionaire but were established through legislation backed by the labor movement.

Back in 1840 the employers opposed public education because, they said, it would make people lazy. At the same time, their children were sent to private schools while the children of the working man went to work at an early age. The working-class children not only could not afford to go to school but had to help support their families. Even today a very small percentage of the taxes that all of us pay are spent for education. Although there have been great accomplishments in public education, the labor movement is still fighting to keep schools open and teachers paid. Minneapolis schools have not closed yet, as they have in many cities in the United States, but there is at the present time a proposed ten per cent pay cut for the school employes in this city.

We asked Margaret West, long-time member of the Women Teachers' Federation and instructor of social studies at Marshall high school, what this would mean to the teachers. From here we learned, contrary to popular belief, that teachers don't horde their earnings for the simple reason that they are in the moderate salary brackets, around \$1,500 yearly. If their salaries are reduced it means that they will be able to buy less of the goods that other workers produce, for example, clothing and food. You know what happens to your budget if your husband brings home \$5 less in his weekly pay envelope.

We usually think of teachers as being single and independent, but actually most of them have other members of the family who are wholly or partially dependent upon them. Even the old maids—because they are the last unmarried people in their families—are supporting mothers and fathers who would otherwise have to be supported by the state.

The Teachers' Federation, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor, has been fighting hard to maintain the present wage standards. Although the wages of a teacher in the Minneapolis schools are higher than some other classifications of workers in the labor movement, it is just as important that their wages are maintained as it is for an electrician or a building laborer whose wages are more adequate than most workers'. Our aim should be to boost all wages up to a decent level.

Just finished reading Hamptstead's revised edition of COLOR AND LINE IN

City's Worst Fire Arouses The Public

(Continued from page 1)
ice. The whole point to the Tribune's moronic theory is to turn suspicion away from the real culprit—the wealthy real estate owners, banded together in the Minneapolis Real Estate Board, who know all the ways to silence building and fire inspectors so owners of ramshackle fire traps may continue to coin blood money out of renting them to unsuspecting poor tenants. There are many and many condemned buildings in Minneapolis still "doing business" despite the fact they are death traps for their inhabitants.

Right in the Marlborough district, there are a score of such traps, just as apt to be the scene of a disaster like Wednesday's. Little wonder that neighbors were uneasy, even panicky, at the Marlborough fire.

Not First Fire

The Marlborough was built way back in 1889. Wednesday's fire was not the first to strike this building. In 1920 the structure caught fire, and fortunately there were no lost lives. In 1928, a building permit was issued to fire-proof the stairs. Just how "fire-proof" the stairs were is shown by the terrible speed with which the fire spread through the wooden hallways and stairs. The Marlborough received its last complete building inspection in 1936, at which time it passed the non-too-rigorous test and was declared to be in "fair condition."

The building is located in the center of an apartment district, many buildings of which are also in "fair condition."

Less than one-half block away, a fire three weeks ago claimed the life of Mrs. Mabel Hinze and two of her four small children.

Labor Expected to Demand Probe
From statements of leading Minneapolis labor officials, it was certain that the Marlborough fire, and the whole question of housing in this city, will be discussed at the next meeting of the Central Labor Union, and definite action taken to bring out into the open conditions leading to such disasters, to fix responsibility, and to initiate a campaign for decent housing in this city.

AMERICA, THE PEACE LOVER
The United States government has landed its troops on foreign soil on more than 100 occasions during the past 115 years.

President of Kansas Labor Likes Paper

Praise for the Northwest Organizer was received this week from A. V. Lundgren, president of the Kansas State Federation of Labor, one of the hundreds of trade union leaders throughout the United States who read the Organizer regularly.

"I eagerly await the arrival each week of the Northwest Organizer. In my opinion, it is one of the best authoritative labor publications in the country," writes Brother Lundgren.

"I am acquainted with several of the boys in Minneapolis and have the highest respect for all of them."

DRESS. Since most of us start thinking of spring clothes after the holidays, the book is especially timely. If you can afford the initial outlay, the most economical way to dress is to buy two complete outfits at one time, one for fall and one for spring. But if you can't afford that, be careful to follow these fundamental rules and you will still look well-dressed.

If you're the short, heavy woman, don't wear big prints, tweeds, wide sleeves, large bows placed over the shoulder or hips, color contrasts that form horizontal lines or tightly fitted clothes. But you should wear straight or diagonal lines because they increase your height, V-shaped necks, belts, the same color as your dress. Narrow belts are better than wide ones. When possible, your shoes should match your outfit. Get them as long and slender as possible in a well-fitting shoe.

The tall, thin woman should wear three-quarter or seven-eighth length coats because they break the length of the skirt and shorten the figure and reduce the apparent length of legs from thigh to knee. Wide sleeves, horizontal lines and bracelets are effective in shortening the length of the arm.

The cool colors—blue, green, blue, gray and blue-violet tend to make the figure smaller and they are the most flattering of all shades.

On the National Picket Line

(Continued from page 1)
government. Recently Roosevelt threatened Bricker, the Republican governor, that if the state didn't take care of its hungry, he would send in army soup kitchens. Governor Bricker, who has Republican aspirations for the 1940 nomination, accuses the president of using the relief situation in Ohio as a political football. He also charges that the state has been discriminated against in the allotment of WPA jobs. To this Colonel Harrington answers with the counter charge that Ohio refuses to put up its quota of funds, and that the state lost thousands of WPA assignments because of this.

Through it all the unemployed are still hungry, many of them actually starving. In Toledo there is no relief granted at all. Cleveland got straightened out by selling bonds—enough to take care of the jobs for a couple of months. Statistics prove that the inmates of the Ohio penitentiaries and prisons receive from three to ten times as much food as do the unfortunate who must exist on relief in that state. Says the NATION, "Back in 1929 it was perhaps understandable that the unemployed should be shunted to bread lines and soup kitchens for necessities of life. But it is a sad commentary on American politics that after ten years of experience with mass unemployment, a great state is unable to provide food for its destitute."

A sad commentary indeed. Guns and Airplanes. But no food. No jobs. Millions for the munitions makers but no money for the unemployed.

The American working class

To Be Feted On Eve of Sentencing

(Continued from page 1)
ent bonds. The rate for purchasing such bail bonds is \$75 per thousand, which implies an additional expenditure of \$1,800 may be necessary.

News of the date for sentencing is expected to call forth a flood of new donations to the AFL-WPA Defense Committee, 18 North 8th street, Minneapolis.

Those whom Judge M. M. Joyce has indicated will come up for sentencing next Monday are: Carl Penble, Richard Connell, Myron Phillips, Leslie Wachter, Ben Palmer (all found guilty in the first trial), and Milton McLean, Charles Connors and William Riley, found guilty in the second trial. Charges were "conspiracy" and, in some cases, intimidation. Each charge carries a potential penalty of two years plus a fine. No date has yet been indicated for sentencing of the 25 found guilty in the third mass trial, but it is known that probation officers affiliated with the Department of Justice are investigating each defendant.

One day a clerk in a Minneapolis store remarked to his fish-eyed boss, "I think we're going to have rain, sir!" "WE!" Snarled the boss, "WE are going to have rain! Since when have YOU been a member of this firm?"

MUST roar out strong enough for even the deaf ears of the government to hear. WE WANT A THIRTY HOUR WORK WEEK WITH \$30 PAY. WE WANT A TEN BILLION DOLLAR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATION. WE WANT AN ADEQUATE OLD AGE AND DISABILITY PENSION SYSTEM. WE WANT JOBS AND SCHOOLING FOR OUR YOUTH. NOT DEATH. NOT WAR.

ALL WAR FUNDS TO THE UNEMPLOYED.

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

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| LOCAL 471 General Membership—First and third Tuesdays each month, 7 p. m. Girls' Section—Second Tuesday each month (7:30 p. m.) | LOCAL 180 General Membership—First and third Thursdays Seniority Board—Every Monday Executive Board—Every Tuesday Stewards—Wednesdays preceding 1st and 3rd Thursdays |
| LOCAL 131 Second Thursday each month, 8 p. m., third-floor. | LOCAL 221 Day Laborer Section—First Tuesday each month. Independent Truck Owners Section—Second Tuesday each month. |
| LOCAL 259 Second Monday of each month. | LOCAL 1859 General Membership—January 3 Box Industry—January 9 Casket Industry—January 15 J. R. Clark Section—January 17 Puffer-Hubbard—January 18 Grievance Board—January 4 and 18 Executive Board—Every Friday, 8 p. m. Twin City Stewards—January 8 and 22 General Membership—February 7th |
| LOCAL 664 General Membership—First and third Fridays Park Board Grievance Committee—Monday night preceding last meeting of month. | LOCAL 20481 General Membership—January 3rd |
| LOCAL 1086 The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. | LOCAL 958 Night Drivers—1:00 p. m. third Thursday each month. Day Drivers—7:00 p. m., third Thursday each month. |
| PETROLEUM DRIVERS Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month. | LOCAL 544 January, 1940 Monday, January 1—Package Delivery, Department Stores Wednesday, January 3—Sausage, Petroleum Thursday, January 4—Greenhouse, ITO Friday, January 5—Job Stewards Monday, January 8—General Membership Tuesday, January 9—Lumber Wednesday, January 10—Market, Excavating Drivers, Wholesale Paper Friday, January 12—Wholesale Grocery, Meat Drivers Monday, January 15—Furniture Stores, Coal, Printing Thursday, January 18—Tent and Awning, Newspaper (10 a. m.) Friday, January 19—Job Stewards Monday, January 22—Spring Water Wednesday, January 24—Sand and Gravel Thursday, January 25—Transfer and Warehouse, Wholesale Drug Friday, January 26—Cold Storage Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m. in Hall 3 Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. in Local 544 office. The Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 10 a. m. in the large hall on the first floor. All regular meetings start at 8 p. m. unless otherwise designated. |
| LOCAL 977 General Membership—Second Monday each month, 9 p. m. Grievance and Seniority Boards—Each Thursday, 7 p. m. Stewards—Fourth Monday, 9 p. m. Executive Board—Each Thursday, 8 p. m. Lessee Section—Third Wednesday, 9 p. m. | FEDERAL WORKERS Regular Membership—Second Friday each month, 8 p. m. Stewards—Every Wednesday, 8 p. m. Defendants—First and third Mondays, 8 p. m. |
| LOCAL 289 Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers—Second Thursday. Yeast Drivers—Third Tuesday. Cake and Pie—Third Tuesday. General Membership—Fourth Thursday. Inside Workers—Last Saturday, 3 p. m. | LOCAL 346 Regular Membership Meeting 2nd Monday each month, 8:30 p. m., 4th Monday each month, 1:30 p. m. |
| LOCAL 103 Regular Membership Meeting—First Monday each month. Executive Committee Meeting on call. | PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month. |
| LOCAL 275 Tea and Coffee Drivers, Local 275, meets the first Friday of every month. | LOCAL 359 Stewards—First and Third Tuesday. Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday. Executive Board—Regularly every Monday. |