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OUT

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DAILY STRIKE BULLETIN

UNITED
LABOR
ACTION

THE ORGANIZER



TWO TWENTY-FIVE

SOUTH THIRD STREET

SMASH THE
CITIZENS
ALLIANCE

VOLUME 1

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15, 1934

NUMBER 31

Olson's Policy Protested

Crowd Masses At 574's Call

Denounce Anti-Strike Plot at Big Rally

Packed to overflowing on both floors, Strike Headquarters on South Eighth St. was the scene of a mighty militant demonstration last night in response to the call of the Strike Committee of 100 to give a smashing answer to the anti-strike conspiracy which was nipped in the bud on the previous evening.

Last night more than five thousand workers streamed through Eighth Street, although it is generally known that only about three thousand can be crowded into headquarters. Had the meeting been held on the Parade, it is clear that 574's record of having each public gathering larger than its predecessors, would have been maintained. For our inability to use the Parade, we have to thank the militia brought in by Governor Olson against the strikers' will.

Every criticism voiced by the various speakers against the different elements in the conspiracy unearthed on the previous day, was cheered to the echo. The attempt to put over a rotten settlement under cover of approval of the Federal mediators was explained in detail; the loosening of the permit system; the prohibition of Parade meetings; the soaking of pickets with heavy sentences, all stirred the assembled throng to intense indignation.

Among the speakers of the evening was Ray Dunne, member of the Organizing Committee of Local 574. Albert Goldman, noted labor attorney and counsel to the Union since the beginning of the strike, won tremendous applause for a brief talk on the necessity for permanent organization and militant action of all labor groups.

A guest speaker of the evening was Sister S. Loewe, secretary of the Speakers Bureau of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Sister Loewe is in town as a delegate of Chicago waitresses to the annual convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers International. She gave a stirring talk and wound up with a promise to return to Chicago and undertake an active campaign to get practical aid for the strikers from the organized labor movement of that city.

Several musical selections were given over the loud-speaking system. Just before the meeting wound up, an automobile halted

(Continued on page 2)

Portland Drivers Strike; Demand \$1 Hourly Wage

Press dispatches report a strike of truck drivers in Portland, Oregon, following the failure of the bosses there to meet the union's demands. The example of Local 574 no doubt influenced the decision of the Portland drivers to fight.

But they make us look like pikers when it comes to wage demand. According to the reports the Portland drivers are demanding \$1.00 per hour!

We hope to get more information about this strike and give a fuller report in another issue of **The Organizer**.

It looks like the truck drivers and helpers all over the country are waking up.



"Each employer is more than willing to iron out any differences." — From a radio speech by Jones, Citizens Alliance agitator.

The Stockade is a Hog-lot!

When first our pickets were thrown into the military stockade a few weeks ago, Minneapolis workers were horrified by Attorney Albert Goldman's report of foul conditions prevailing there. The protest of the outraged masses of labor compelled the National Guard officers to make a change in their practices.

Today another such demonstration of anger is necessary, because conditions in the stockade are now worse than ever.

In a statement last night to **The Organizer**, one prisoner just released from the stockade described conditions there as "filthy, unsanitary and unbearable in the extreme."

The following are some of the facts:

1. Tents are overcrowded and blankets are often insufficient.
2. The only toilet is an exposed structure infested by millions of flies. These flies get into the tents, crawl over food at mealtime, and not only make the prisoners miserable but carry disease germs which may start an epidemic at any moment.
3. Mealtime is made horrible by the smells arising from the exposed toilets.
4. Food is brought to the men in an open truck and they have to eat it cold.
5. A tractor, doing filling work near where the men eat, throws dust all over the food. The officers refuse to stop it.
6. The food is unseasoned and often unpleasant. After the first public protest against camp conditions, some fancy food was served to kid the public, but now it's slop again.
7. After the first protest, all the prisoners got clean dishes at each meal, but now only a few dishes are provided. After the first men eat off them, they have to wash them and pass them on to the next. Generally no towels are provided for drying dishes.
8. There are no bathtubs or showers, only rusty dishpans and a hose. The bathhouse, such as it is, is so close to the toilet that the men are bitten by flies when they take a spray with the hose.

The stockade, in short, is a hog-lot! Another serious complaint is with respect to the denial of the right to read **The**

Organizer. The militia, anxious to spread lies among the men and discourage them, fear the truth contained in the strikers' own paper.

One night a raid was conducted. The guards turned the prisoners out of bed, searched them and their tents and confiscated and destroyed all copies.

Organizer reporters are not allowed in the camp. The other day one was ejected from the courtroom where military "justice" is dispensed.

And to whom is all this vile treatment being given?

To our own brothers, to members of Local 574, to members of other Unions and of the M.C.C.W., who have been on the picket line with us, who have done the same things we have done, who are guilty of only one crime, the crime of being strikers and peaceful pickets!

It is these men who are being made to live under foul conditions, their health endangered, and deprived even of the newspaper they rely upon for information and spiritual sustenance.

This is another way in which the National Guard is helping the strike, trying to break the spirit of our pickets and to discourage our ranks in general.

That they have not succeeded, is a tribute to the iron will of the brothers in the stockade. True warriors, serene in the knowledge that theirs is the just cause and that our enemies are tyrants whose days of power are numbered, they do not budge an inch from the position we all hold.

The strike committee demands that the National Guard treat our brothers like human beings.

We demand of Governor Olson again that his soldiers, whom he called in and who take orders from him, cease to persecute and mistreat our brothers. We want our men out of this hog-lot!

In this demand we have the whole-hearted support of the workers of this city and of every decent human being.

WE WANT IMMEDIATE ACTION. GOVERNOR OLSON, RELEASE OUR PICKETS FROM THE MILITARY HOG-LOT!

574 Demands Quick Change

Proves Wholesale Permit Rule Evasion

A committee of 12 members of local 574, appointed by the Strike Committee of 100, met Governor Olson this morning at the Armory to protest against the strike-breaking activities of the National Guard and to present concrete proofs that the "permit" system is still being used as a cover for wholesale movements of scab trucks under military protection.

The members of the Committee were: Grant Dunne, Charles Cabana, Jack Severson, Moe Hork, Carl Sandell, Ray Tigue, Roy Fries, Ben Shapiro, Alfred Nelson, Harry Peterson, Herbert Palmer and Ray Rainbolt.

Grant Dunne opened the discussion with the Governor by reminding him of the statement he had made on the day before the strike in the presence of the Employers Committee, the Union committee and Mr. Dunnigan. "On that occasion, Governor," said Brother Dunne, "you said you would close the market and keep it closed till a settlement was made. Instead, troops are being used to open the market and to prevent picketing. We have come to lay before you definite and concrete proof."

Individual members of the Committee cited many concrete cases of restriction violations which have been brought to light by our pickets.

Jack Severson informed Governor Olson that pickets found a truck with a fake permit made out to look like a military permit, and signed by Joseph Cochran, head of the Cameron Transfer Company and Chairman of the Employers Advisory Committee.

Charles Cabana gave proof that the Dayton Company has repainted some of its oldest trucks and is using them to deliver packages with military permits secured by "dummy" owners posing as individual operators.

Ray Tigue pointed out the widespread practice of permits for specific purposes being used to haul other things. Tigue asked General Walsh, who was present, if strikers had a right to inquire of truck drivers what they were hauling. Walsh said: "You have no right to stop trucks and examine their contents, nor even to examine permits on the trucks."

Grant Dunne then again took the floor and pointed out how military rule is operating to help the employers break the strike.

"We are compelled to say openly to you, Governor Olson, that your actions as head of the National Guard are such that, if continued, they will work to help the employers break the strike. If it comes to that, we intend to place the responsibility where it belongs."

The Governor said he would consider the matter and give the Union an answer soon.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All men with claims of back pay, or complaints against discrimination, are asked to report at once to Jack Severson, Harold Sandell or Bill Sarempa. The Union needs full information at once.

Bartender Jess

Mr. Jess Corrigan looked important, but pretended to be indifferent as he mopped the bar. Mr. Joe Muller and young Dave, who had learned to study their friend Jess in order to escape disagreeable complications, patiently waited for the philosopher to speak. Jess rubbed the bar to the end, tossed the cloth into a mysterious recess with a practised movement, moved a glass or two on the shelf, flicked a finger at a fly, and cleared his throat.

"Well, my fat friends," he said, "I see that the big boys in town are gettin' just a wee bit peeved at the Union."

He paused.

Young Dave knew his cue. "Why is that, Jess?" he asked.

Jess waved a red hand. "Altruism," he said. "Sheer altruism. The employers hate to see their workers lose all those enormous wages that they're bein' offered. Always thinkin' o' the laborin' men, ev'ry day o' th' week. That's our Minneapolis bosses for you. Now in most situations o' this sort, you might o' thought the bosses maybe would give just a thought to the paltry millions o' simoleons that they are droppin'. You're wrong. Our bosses here are too big for that."

"Now what might they be up to?" asked Mr. Muller, reaching over and drawing himself half a glass of beer.

"Why it seems to me," said the union bartender, "that they're a-settin' out to bust the Unions here in town. They've arrived at th' conclusion that Unions ain't good for the workin' man. Makes him too sassy, and gives him ideas above his station. But the funny part o' it all is, that the workin' man don't see eye to eye with the employer on this here question."

"Now take a bartender like me," went on Jess, as Mr. Muller tapped young Dave on the arm, making motions which indicated that he wanted the loan of a cigarette for just a few minutes, "a bartender ain't the smartest fellow on earth, but at the same time he ain't the dumbest. Bein' situated as I am, behind this elegant expanse o' mahogany, I get to see folks from all walks o' life, you might say. I talks to 'em and they talks to me, and we find out what one another thinks, and how we live. And by the large, I have come to the conclusion that the smartest workers, and the best workers, and the workers that are just a wee bit better off in life, is always Union workers."

"See this," he said pointing to a Union card framed at the back of the bar—"I've been a Union man for 26 years now, man and boy, and I can say that what little bit o' Life's Pleasures I been able to garner has all come from the Union. It was the Union that got me my job. It was the Union that got me decent hours, so as I don't have to get in bed on one side, and roll right out on the other side to go to work again. And it's the Union that gets me my wages and sees that I keep right on gettin' them, and fights my battles for me ev'ry day o' the year. Why I would as soon think o' subscribin' to th' Minneapolis Journal as I would o' givin' up my Union card."

"If th' bosses is so set against the Unions," he went on, "why is it that they wouldn't think o' givin' up their Union, the Citizen's Alliance? It must be because they know that it's only through organization that a man can get anywhere in this world. As Shakespeare says, 'In Union there is strength,' you know."

"An' if it's so important for the bosses to organize, they own in' most ev'rything in this best o' all possible worlds, why then it's twice as important for the workin' men and women to be organized."

He stopped. "Do you think," asked young David, "that the bosses will get anywhere in their fight to break the truckers Union and then all the other Unions in town?"

"Oh yes," said Jess as he picked up The Organizer, "they'll get some place all right. The workin' men will see to that. They'll get the same place they got when they went down to the market durin' the May strike to see about movin' the trucks."

Mike.

THE ORGANIZER

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Crowd Masses At 574's Call

(Continued from page 1)

outside Headquarters and out stepped five pickets who had just been released from the military concentration camp at the fair grounds, where they had been doing time for the crime of being striking workers. The five men, who were Fred Arduser, Jim Costello, Lester Rafter, E. E. Morse and P. L. Deckers, were given a roaring ovation and several of them greeted the crowd over the microphone.

The audience was delighted when, at one point in the evening, the "International President of the Organized Bankers," a gent in a soup-and-fish and plug hat, walked through the Headquarters carrying his banner, which reads: "Local 574 is Unfair to the Organized Bankers—It Wants to Cut Our Profits."

Tonight will be open house at Headquarters with the usual program of bulletins, music and several guest speakers, including Miss Betty Hall of New York, a delegate to the cooks and waiters convention.

Union leaders and released prisoners will speak, describing the foul conditions at the stockade. All out to protest the mistreatment of our brothers by the guards at the stockade!

Socialists Condemn Chief

The Minnesota State Socialist Party on August 10 adopted a resolution demanding the removal from office of Mayor Bainbridge and Bloody Mike Johannes because of their share in the murders of Bloody Friday. The resolution defends the right of peaceful picketing and characterizes the deeds of the cops as suggesting a conspiracy between the city administration and the bosses to break the strike by terrorism. The resolution has been forwarded to the City Council.

CORRECTION

In yesterday's Organizer appeared a report dealing with the conviction and sentence of eight pickets in the military court. The report stated that the attorney for the defense advised the eight to plead guilty.

Workers might be misled into thinking that the attorney was either Irving Green or Albert Goldman, attorneys for the union. The fact is that at present the attorney for the pickets in the stockade is an army officer chosen by the army court.

After the first trials and convictions it was clear that it was useless to have a union attorney defend the pickets in the army court. Consequently, the union attorneys withdrew so that the full responsibility for jailing innocent workers would be with the National Guard's court which simply soaks pickets with sentences whenever it pleases, regardless of the evidence.

Workers and Farmers

"When you strike, you strike to win. Workers do not face clubs, high pressure streams of water, tear gas and bayonets just for fun. They do that only when driven by desperation, just as the farmers driven by desperation stop sales, prevent evictions, and otherwise become what used to be called lawless. Farmers these days are bound to sympathize with the struggles of labor for better pay and better working conditions, because farmers have at last come to understand that 80 per cent of their customers are wage workers. Underpaid working men cannot buy farm products as they would buy them if they had the money to spend. Wages must go up to correspond with increased prices of farm commodities. It is an economic fact that one will not and cannot go up without the other. The organized worker and the organized farmer must stick together and both press toward the goal of a solidly organized working class, and a solidly organized agriculture."—From the Farmers Union Herald.

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News and Views

At yesterday's meeting of the Strike Committee of 100 it was decided that all fines levied on men in the stockade are to be paid out of the Strike Committee's funds so that the men may be immediately released. It was also decided that henceforth no men who are fined will be reimbursed if they pay the fines without first consulting the Stockade Committee, composed of brothers Miles Dunn, Moe and Dreon.

George Lund has been elected steward of the petroleum workers section of Local 574. The growth of this section necessitates his giving full time to organizing work.

Pickets forced the militia to pull in some Thomas trucks yesterday.

One of the boys caught two Dayton trucks loading without permits. It is a question whether the militia will handle the problem as efficiently as pickets. Or is it a question?

General Hooley Johnson, who recently pulled that fast one about all strikes being caused by Reds, has fired an NRA employee named John Donovan from his staff in Washington. Brother Donovan's crime was that he organized the white-collar workers in the NRA office into a trade union.

Mrs. Blond donated \$10 last night to the Strike Fund, and gave a dollar each to a bunch of striker's kids.

Cardoza Furniture Co. accepts the Haas-Dunnigan agreement.

For information as to union laundry and dry cleaning plants, phone Atlantic 3773 and ask for Rubin Latz of Local 18805, Cleaners, Dyers and Laundry Workers Local 18005.

Because mine owners are too greedy to pay for safety devices in the coal mines of America, the federal government reports that 552 men have been killed in the mines in the first six months of 1934. Every one of these dreadful tragedies could have been averted by the profit-mad mine owners had they given a thought to the lives of their workers, instead of being concerned only in squeezing the maximum profits from their holdings.

The Finch brothers, employed by Pratt's express, have been taken back into the union; they and 22 others have just walked out of Pratt's.

Mrs. Halbeck donated shoes to the men in the stockade.

Swanson's Rats beat hell out of Happy's Finks in the stockade kittenball tournament yesterday. Beal was the only umpire that the Finks could not buy.

The boys at the stockade have a companion for the little white pig. It is a real union puppy, white with 574 painted on him. It will become the permanent possession of the last man to leave the stockade.

Brother Shugren is getting along at St. Barnabas; he reads his Organizer eagerly every day. Harry De Boer is now well enough to drink 3.2; Mrs. Ella Frayer brought him some yesterday.

Eugene Cracker rides around in a wheel chair at the Eitl.

The Office Rooster has got the bounce for the crime of crowing at 4 a. m. He has been moved into the big hall.

Market Recreation

119 N. 6TH ST. 100% UNION HOUSE Just around the corner from the Central Labor Union

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Nine Freed by Militia; Were Guilty of Striking

Nine more brothers were released from the stockade this morning after serving time for the crime of striking. The released brothers are Everett Richards, J. H. Johnson, I. Johnson, F. Ward, H. Olson, R. Moody, J. Devine, E. Miller and E. Langdon.

When the military court was finally compelled to give them a trial, it could not find even any fake evidence against them. Their release, however, does not make up to them the days they languished in that filthy concentration camp. We will not forget the misery Olson's guards have caused.

Brothers Jenson, Erickson, Morris and Schwab save also been released from the stockade.

The Workers Voice

To The Organizer:

I am a mother of four children and I just want you to know that I am backing your fight in every way I can.

When I saw that your paper was running advertisements, I was glad. I want to know who are our friends and who aren't. I have already sent two suits to the Crystal Cleaners to be cleaned. They will get all my business from now on because they support 574. The same goes for all the other stores who advertise in The Organizer.

Furthermore, I pledge that I will never trade again at Dayton's or Donaldson's or a single one of those 166 firms that are too stingy to give you a decent living. Also, I have cancelled my subscription to the Journal and the Tribune for the rotten deal they have given you men.

Sincerely, A mother who is 100% for 574.

Lund's Service Stations

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