

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

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As from this hour  
You use your power,  
The world must fol-  
low you.

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

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## PROPAGANDISTS FAIL TO SHAKE STRIKE MORALE

**Fake Charges Seeking to  
Discredit Strikers  
Continue**

**Strikers Repudiate Charges  
and Answer With Bigger  
Picket Lines**

The reports in the daily newspapers during the last few days indicate that the strikes now in progress in Minneapolis are in a chaotic condition. Reports of conferences, from which charges of racketeering in the movement, appointments of "Secret Six" committees and publication of phony company union agreements emanate, seek to confuse the workers as to the true state of the controversies.

The facts are that all strikes are solid. Despite the publication of an alleged settlement under which the metal workers were to go back to work on Tuesday morning with an increase in pay, the iron plants are still closed. The "settlement" was strictly a boss idea. It did not take into consideration the union of the workers and, in fact, was not even discussed with the union.

On Friday, August 30, notice was served on Local 1313 that if it did not accept this boss program, the plants would be opened by force on Tuesday, September 3. The union called the bluff and the plants did not open.

At the Strutwear Knitting Works, the union is growing rapidly. All skilled workers are in the union with the exception of less than half a dozen dyed-in-the-wool scabs. Scores of women employees are joining the union and are appearing on the picket lines with the men.

The Lathers' Union is still efficiently and diligently engaged in its task of establishing union conditions for its members. Great progress has been made by the Union in this direction.

The Fur Workers find that it has come their turn to laugh. The bosses are fighting among themselves, a thing which the bosses always try to get the workers to do, and it won't be long until the striking fur workers will have union conditions on their jobs.

The demands of the workers are in every case extremely reasonable. Their tactics are legal. They know what they want and they have expressed a determination to stay after it until they get it.

It is a real tribute to these unionists that they have been able to so successfully withstand the barrage which has been leveled against them.

## New Reinstatement Fee Now in Effect

The new reinstatement fee for Local 574 became effective on September 1, 1935. Members who are three months or less in arrears may reinstate by paying their delinquent dues. Those over three months in arrears must pay a reinstatement fee of \$10.00. All those whose names have appeared on the union books since September 1, 1934, are subject to the above provisions. Those whose names have not appeared on the union books since September 1, 1934, may join as new members. The initiation fee for new members is \$3.00.

Members working at seasonal occupations, or who leave the industry for any other reason, should make immediate application for a withdrawal when their employment ends.

## Coal Men Will Meet Monday, Sept. 16

The unusual turn in the weather has brought an early upturn in the coal industry. The men are returning to the yards in considerable numbers, and with union conditions well established, it is imperative that immediate action be taken to prevent violations of the agreement.

The first meeting of the season for the coal workers has been called for Monday, September 16, at the Local 574 headquarters.

## FEDERAL UNIT PROGRAM WINS FULL SUPPORT

**Far Outstrips Records of  
Other Local Unem-  
ployed Groups**

**Plan of Action Is Prepared  
to Fight for Return  
of Increase**

The Federal Workers Section of Local 574 has shown a healthy and continuous growth since its formation. As a result of its correct policy and program it has been able to demonstrate to the unemployed that it is able to make real and substantial gains for them.

As the situation stands in Minneapolis now, the Federal Workers Section of Local 574 is the only real unemployed movement in the city. It is a significant fact that in spite of the five year crisis, and despite the fact that there have been numerous attempts to organize the unemployed and the relief workers, it was not until Local 574, the General Drivers Union, took the field in the behalf of the relief clients that a real organization of the unemployed was formed. The recent 10% increase in the relief allowance was due almost entirely to

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## Local 574 Demands That Cunningham Bring Proof Of 'Racketeering' Charges

### Meeting Schedule Local 574

Monday, Sept. 9: Full Membership.  
Wednesday, Sept. 11: Market Workers; Ice Drivers.  
Friday, Sept. 13: Federal Workers.  
Monday, Sept. 16: Coal Workers.  
Wednesday, Sept. 18: Ice Drivers.  
Thursday, Sept. 19: Independent Truck Owners.  
Friday, Sept. 20: Stewards; Federal Workers.  
Monday, Sept. 23: Full Membership.  
Tuesday, Sept. 24: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 25: Ice Drivers.  
Friday, Sept. 27: Federal Workers.

### Driver Reinstated By Skellet Company

A controversy of long standing between the General Drivers Union and the Skellet Transfer Company has finally been settled. Some time ago Richard Hoberg, a driver, was discharged in violation of his seniority rights. The case was brought before the Regional Labor Board and the board decided in favor of the driver. The company, however, refused to abide by the decision.

Visualizing this action by the company as a direct threat against their own security, the rest of the employees of the company prepared, through the medium of the union, to take organized action to secure a settlement. In the process they also prepared to settle several other grievances.

At the last minute the company agreed to the demands of the men and the controversy was settled without strike action.

### Transfer Committee Reports Progress

A series of meetings have been held by the Executive Board of Local 574 and the stewards and other representatives best familiar with special lines of work in the transfer industry. Proposals for the new agreement now being negotiated with the transfer companies were left with the Executive Board to be presented in the negotiation meetings.

A meeting with the employers is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon. The results of this meeting will be reported and discussion on negotiation continued at another specially called meeting of the transfer stewards.

There's wan sure way to keep them immygrunts out—teach them all about our instichoochions before they come.

**Union Submits Its Record as  
Living Refutation of  
Slanders**

**Accusations Are Result of  
Hankering for "Social  
Prestige"**

"Behind locked doors in the mayor's reception room, state and city leaders of American Federation of Labor unions Saturday afternoon voted to back Mayor Lattimer in a move to curb activities of labor 'racketeers' in Minneapolis." Thus did the Minneapolis TRIBUNE report that now-famous session.

A few days ago, T. E. Cunningham, new president of the State Federation of Labor, had occasion to address a group of young worker-students. After his talk, Cunningham was closely questioned on what he meant by "racketeers." After considerable hedging, he came out with the statement that this phrase referred to Citizens Alliance agents in the labor unions. He further stated that "we have positive proof that such people are functioning in Local 574." To the question: "Is it your understanding that the phrase 'racketeering' applies only to employers' spies?" Cunningham replied "Yes!"

This narrows the base of the accusations of the reactionaries, and, at the same time, throws a glowing light on their latest tactic, one which we shall quickly see is of a most revolting nature. The Corcorans, halls, Cunninghams and all the other Lawsons are slyly seeking to insinuate that the progressive leaders of Local 574 are agents of the Citizens Alliance!

Today these scoundrels are driven into their last line of defense against the economic advancement of the workers of this state: They are reduced to spreading the blackest rumors and lies about those who represent the present and future interests of Minnesota toilers.

Let us now examine this accusation. Who are the leaders of Local 574 today? Precisely the men who were tested and re-tested in the blood and turmoil of the great strikes of last year. "Are these, then, the men whom you say are agents of the Citizens Alliance?" "Y-yes," stutter the Corcorans and Cunninghams. "Then if these men are employer-spies, the Citizens Alliance must have approved of their actions. The Alliance must have defended them. Was this the way things were?" The only answer is—complete silence!

It is so well known that the

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### Our Strike Policy

The struggle of labor is a common struggle of all workers. There can be no such thing as lack of interest by one union in the struggle of another. It is the task of unions not only to fight for conditions for their own members, but also to lend their active and full support to the other locals.

Local 574 realizes the value of such support. It was only through the unselfish and devoted aid which came to us from outside our own ranks that we were able to win in 1934. We stand ready at all times to give what assistance we can, whenever we are called on, as we have repeatedly done in the past.

Certain scoundrels in the local labor movement have tried to stab us in the back for giving this assistance. They have sought to brand us as racketeers and incorrigibles. They have done this because of their eager desire to cover up their own weaknesses and fruitless policies. We cannot permit this condition to exist. It jeopardizes the standing of our own union in the eyes of honest union men and women.

Local 574 still stands by its policy of giving whatever assistance it can whenever it is officially asked to do so. We do not seek to run the affairs of other unions. We merely place what resources we have at their disposal and under their direction.

If the rest of the labor movement feels that the assistance of the Truck Drivers Union is of any value in times of trouble, we call upon the unions to halt the slanders which have been perpetrated against Local 574 and to see that we are accorded the standing which we have justly earned.

EXECUTIVE BOARD  
LOCAL 574

# ALL WORKERS INTO THE UNIONS ALL UNIONS INTO THE STRUGGLE

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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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 Bolshevik  
I'm labor."

## Toward Stability

Local 574 has become a veteran of hard struggles and has wrestled constantly with manifold problems. It is not the bosses alone that the union has been forced to combat. It has also had to defend itself against attacks from within the movement, engineered by the Tobin clique and other opportunist and reactionary elements.

Tested in this crucible of fire, the union is reaching a stability which has a real meaning to its members. There are fewer controversies with employers than there have been in the past. The union has established prestige and a reputation for fighting for its members. Conditions have been greatly improved in the coal, ice, transfer, market, construction and other sections of the union. The greatest results have been obtained in the coal and ice industries. New developments now taking place in the transfer industry will soon place it on a parallel with the other two sections. Other developments now taking root will lead to constant improvement in the other sections, as well.

The power of a strong Drivers' Union has been well demonstrated. It is valuable for the welfare of the drivers themselves and equally valuable as a strong ally for the balance of the movement. Not so many months ago it was a common sight to see a truck driver making a delivery through a picket line. Today this just simply doesn't happen.

Local 574 is an established, deeply rooted union. It is here to stay and it is here to build.

\* \* \*

## The Secret Six

Labor leaders who join in schemes to disarm the unions of their fighting power have consistently met with bad experiences. The Minneapolis Committee of 100 was very short-lived. The meeting in the reception room of Mayor Latimer's office was far from popular with the workers. Those who persist in participating in these actions must hide their identity because of the condemnation which they earn in this dangerous game. For this reason we now have a "Secret Six" in Minneapolis. It, too, will prove to be a dud.

\* \* \*

## A Much Needed Conference

A short time ago a meeting was held at which delegates from several unions drafted a resolution calling a conference to take up the question of fighting for the reinstatement of Local 574 into the A. F. of L. Many unions have signed this call and it will be sent out very soon. Recent developments in Minneapolis make this conference necessary and desirable, not only to aid Local 574 but also to analyze the whole question of "locked door" conferences, "Secret Six" committees and all the other nefarious schemes that have been brought into the open by labor fakers and political opportunists.

The time has well arrived for a showdown on this matter of "back-door" diplomacy. The closet of the reactionaries needs an airing.

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## Local 574 Asks Proof of Charges

(Continued from page 1)

leaders of Local 574 have carried almost the entire brunt of the Citizen's Alliance' vicious attacks—both in 1934 and today—that Cunningham's latest accusation does not even limp. It has not a leg upon which to stand.

But some reader will recall at this point: What about the positive proof that Cunningham mentioned? Yes, what about the positive proof? The entire labor movement has the right to immediately demand of Cunningham that he display this "positive proof." We, for our part, will guarantee to spread over the pages of this paper any such "positive proof"—if Cunningham will now undertake to make good his boast. And if he can't make good, Cunningham and his clique should be branded forever for what one is forced to believe they are: A sorry set of the most irresponsible scandal-mongers.

Those labor "leaders" who seek out the employers and banquet with them in gatherings of "Committees of One Hundred," or in "Mayor's Secret Committees" are just as surely agents of the bosses as though the Citizens Alliance slipped them its blood-tinged gold. The Citizens Alliance gave full approval to the conference "to end racketeering" and called on Mayor Latimer to open the struck plants at once.

The effect of these "leaders" actions upon the workers of Minneapolis and the state is even more devastating than if these "leaders" were known provocateurs and spies. By their actions they betray the workers to their enemies, mislead them and deceive them. And when these labor lieutenants of capitalism behave in this manner because of plain stupidity and a sorry hankering after "social prestige," rather than because they are paid cash for their actions, the result is precisely the same upon the workers and their unions.

We call upon the Cunninghams to present immediately their "positive proof" that among us are agents of the employers!

If they can't do this, we demand that they cease immediately their vicious and desperate scandal-mongering!

We ask the workers of Minnesota to think this matter over for themselves and to decide: Who are the agents of the bosses in our ranks?

## Federal Section Winning Support

(Continued from page 1)

the efforts exerted by the Federal Workers.

In the past many unemployed organizations have claimed a membership that ran into the thousands. The membership of these groups was largely on paper. It is true workers have signed membership cards in unemployed organizations by the thousands. This action signified their need and desire for help. But it is also significant that none of these organizations have ever been able to hold a membership that could secure any reforms for the unemployed.

The Federal Workers Section of Local 574 is now engaged in a fight for the return of the 10% relief raise that was recently taken away by the Farmer-Labor controlled Welfare Board. The fight will not cease until the much needed increases for the unemployed are realized.

## Labor Looks at the Press

President Roosevelt, signing the "Social Security" measure: "My hope of many years is fulfilled... If congress had done nothing else this session, it would still be regarded as historic for all time."

The whole Roosevelt "social security" measure is a hoax, and not one of us is a bit better off because of it. The only social security a worker can ever get under our present form of society is the social security that is his when he is a member of a militant and large union.

Headline: Ethiopia Proposes to Use Skunks as Offensive Weapons Against Fascists.

As though a skunk was offensive to a fascist. It's just the other way around.

Athens, Greece: "Thousands of workers returned to work today after a general strike. The workers won a 20 per cent increase in wages, the chief demand for which they struck."

Harry Colemery, national officer of American Legion: "The American Legion stands in position to realize at once all of the ideals for which it has stood since its inception."

Break strikes! — that is the one ideal to which the Legion has always been steadfast.

### Our Mr. Beckwith

Local news item: "Mr. Beckwith, president of the Kiwanis Club, addressed visitors to the Twin City Market week at a welcome luncheon given at the Nicollet hotel... He declared that the slogan "Share the Wealth" is economically and psychologically (?) unsound, and urged that there be substituted the slogan "Earn Your Wealth."

You will all be pleased to learn that King George of England has had restored to him the \$250,000 a year pay cut which he suffered in 1931.

### Confession

"Business is recovering and absorbing more of the unemployed (?). But it now appears that recovery will not end the problem. Possibly some permanent arrangement must be made to care for the slack caused by new machines putting men out of work. It is estimated that America's 1929 production could be achieved now with only 80 per cent of the labor required then."—Editorial in Christian Science Monitor.

Next time you have to wait half-an-hour for a street car, and curse the company up and down for not putting on more cars, and running

### Support the Organizer

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them oftener, remember this! (Journal news item, Sunday) "The quarterly earnings report of the Minneapolis Street Railway Company showed a net profit for the quarter ended June 30, of \$55,767.

William "Red" Hynes, captain of detectives, Los Angeles, notorious labor-hater and leader of the Red Squad: "We find that many of the most dangerous apostles of Communism and revolution today are fresh-faced, fair-haired girls and boys and splendid types of Anglo-Saxon youth, whose enthusiasm and ardor for the doctrines of Marx and Lenin make of them the most serious menace in the high schools, universities and colleges which they attend."

Victor McLaglen, movie actor and organizer of the Hollywood Light Horse Troop, recruited to break strikes: "It's amazing what they'll say about a man because he tries to be a good American. And I am an American; an American citizen; although I was born in England... We are not fascists—just good Americans... we are tied up with the country in the event of a major disaster."

By hivins! that la-ad Carnaygie knows his business. He is studied th' situation, an' he understands that if he builds libr'ies enough an' get enough people readin' books, they won't be anny wan left afther a while capable iv takin' away what he's got.

## The Boss Says

Chicago capitalist, commenting on the unemployment during the 1893-97 depression: "This is a punishment of a righteous God upon the degraded classes of the community."

President of National Glass Company, in 1900: "I want to say plainly, from my experience, that the most frequent cause and the real cause of unemployment is intemperance or some other vicious habit."

National Metal Trades Association, in 1899: "While disavowing any intention to interfere with the proper functions of labor organizations, we will not admit of any interference with the management of our business, nor deal with striking employees as a body."

President of the National Association of Manufacturers, 1902: "We are not opposed to good unionism, if such exists anywhere. The American brand of unionism, however, is un-American, illegal and indecent."

Advertisement of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, 1891: "Corporations or individuals desirous of ascertaining the feeling of their employes, and whether they are likely to engage in strikes or are joining any secret labor organizations with a view of compelling terms from corporations or employers, can obtain a detective suitable to associate with their employes, and obtain this information."

Yellow dog contract, enforced in the West Virginia coal mines, to be signed by the worker: "I, desiring to keep alive my individual freedom, certify that I am not a member of any union and agree not to join one while in the employ of the company."