

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.
GENERAL OFFICE: 286 E. 6TH ST.
St. Paul, Minn.

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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TAXI DRIVERS WIN CONTRACT

SUMNER FIELD PROJECT FIGHT WON BY UNION

Laborers Union Gets Contract With Wrecking Companies

Long Struggle Is Won by Local 563; Drivers Aid in Fight

The Common Laborers Union Local 563, at a special meeting Sunday afternoon, voted 300 to 4 to settle the strike on the Sumner Field Project. The Laborers Union has been striking this project for almost three months.

At the outset of the strike they appealed to Local 574 for aid. Our union responded to this request by ordering all of the truck drivers off the job. The two wrecking companies, who were the successful bidders on the demolition project, found it impossible to continue wrecking operations unless the wrecked material was hauled from the job to their warehouses. Lacking truck transportation due to the refusal of truck drivers to work on the struck project, the companies found it impossible to operate.

The Laborers Union maintained a picket line on the job continuously. The agreement ending the strike gives the Common Laborers Union a year's union agreement with all of the major wrecking companies. This agreement is a tremendous advance for the Common Laborers Union. For the first time in the history of Minneapolis, wrecking companies will be forced to operate their jobs under union conditions and pay the union wage scale of 67½ cents per hour. It was found that after almost three months of protesting to the Federal administration, officials in charge refused to recede from the wage scale they had set on this housing project.

The Building Laborers Union are to be congratulated for the courageous and determined fight they have made. The gains they have made should have a healthy effect on their local union.

Newspaper Guild Is Host at Grid Dinner

The local Newspaper Guild is to be congratulated for the manner in which their first Gridiron dinner was staged. The skits that were written by Twin City newspaper men and staged by players from the university, satirizing various big shots in political and labor circles, hit the bullseye almost every time.

It is interesting to note that almost without exception the playlets had a distinctly pro-labor tinge. It was an enjoyable affair.

Akron Rubber Strikers Defy Police and Guards At Goodyear Tire Plant

Akron, Feb. 25—All workers in Akron, Ohio, were at fever pitch tonight as the strike of 15,000 Goodyear rubber workers went into its ninth day. This morning there occurred one of the most dramatic incidents in American labor history. An injunction had been granted against the union, limiting the strikers to ten men at each of the 163 picket posts which are established on the eleven-mile strike front. The union had followed out the injunction order, but had backed up the picket posts with five thousand pickets in the street. Early this morning Sheriff

At It Again!

The other day a misguided truck driver, who had made the mistake of joining Local 500 under the impression that it was a real union, came into our union office to get right. When he turned in his book, and it was examined, whose name do you suppose was signed to the receipt? None other than our old friend, who had pledged himself to remain neutral, Pat Corcoran. Milk Wagon drivers, ask Pat if he would like to see another Milk Drivers Union in Minneapolis. It can be done!

Union Officials Meet Compliance Group

Saturday morning at 10 o'clock representatives of General Drivers Union, Local 574, met with the Coal Employers Compliance Committee in regard to the situation existing at the River Terminal Coal and Coke Co. The union committee laid before the Compliance Committee the gross violation of the union agreement that is being committed by the Terminal Company.

This concern, despite its agreement with Local 574, is employing and dealing with representatives of a dual organization. The Employers Committee have agreed to call in representatives of this company in an attempt to straighten the matter out.

Violence Flames in Amalgamated Fight

New outbreaks in the garment district resulted in seven additional arrests today and sent one woman to a hospital after free-for-all fighting between some of the 6,000 garment strikers and workers.

The new arrests brought to 29 the number held in the greater Boston area since the walkout went into effect yesterday.

Violence attributed to power company strikers disrupted electric light and power service in four towns north of here today. Two "high lines" carrying 6,000 and 12,000 volts were severed when power line poles, sawed in two, crashed to the ground near Canutillo, Texas.

*Flowers and Police Chief Boss announced that they were going to march up Market street to the struck plant and break through the picket line. At a few minutes before ten a. m. the army of strikebreakers marched up the hill towards the strike headquarters, which is directly across the street from the Goodyear plant. Included in the forces of law and order were 150 cops, 300 deputies, and a number of foremen and superintendents who had been specially deputized. All were armed with riot guns, tear gas guns and gas bombs. At the top of the hill fifteen hundred pickets drew themselves up in a solid mass. Half a block behind were thousands more, forming a second-line defense.

Closer and closer marched the strikebreakers. Not a picket budged. Suddenly the cops and deputies noticed that each picket carried a club. The strikebreakers halted not ten feet from the phalanx of pickets. Police Chief Boss was in a panic. He shouted out, "I have never led my men into a slaughterhouse and I am not going to start now." The cops melted away. Sheriff Flowers, a notorious labor-hater, came bustling up, a gas gun in his hand. Suddenly a giant Goodyear picket stepped forward. "I dare you to use that gun," he said. "If you do it'll be the last thing you do on this earth." The sheriff, with his bluff called, backed down. A tremendous jeer went up from the triumphant pickets as the sheriff wheeled his forces around and marched down the hill. The strain on the finks was so terrific that one of them suddenly clutched his stomach and became violently ill.

Goodyear Refuses Negotiations

For several days before the strike started, the union attempted to negotiate with the management to take back 137 workers whom Goodyear had fired for taking part in a recent sit-down strike. Litchfield, president of the company, tried to turn the problem over to the Goodyear Industrial Assembly, a company union which has been in existence for 17 years, and refused to have anything to do with the union. The workers in Akron are fed up with the company unions, and determined to fight for their own union. The company remained adamant. On Monday,

NOTICE
Independent Truck Owners
It is of extreme importance that all Independent Truck Owners who are listed at this time on the payroll list of the City Engineer's Office, or who expect to make application to the City Engineer's Office for employment, that they attend the next meeting of the Independent Truck Owners section Local 574 on March 5th at 257 Plymouth Avenue N., 8 p. m. The City Engineer's Office is sending to all truck owners with city payroll numbers a questionnaire which must be filled out and notarized. This questionnaire will lay the basis for a complete revision of the existing city payroll list. These questionnaires will be on hand at the Independent Truck Owners meeting on March 5, and their significance and importance will be explained in a thorough and exhaustive manner by competent speakers. Attend this meeting without fail. Bring your payroll number.

Local 221 Is Just One Year Late

It is reported that a movement is now under way by Local 221 Ice Drivers Union to attempt to stabilize wages in the ice industry, as refers to independent drivers. It's a commendable job that this union proposes to do. No one can quarrel with a union or other organization that makes an honest attempt to boost the living standard of workers.

One fact, however, is overlooked by this Local 221. That is that Local 574 did the job last summer. It is significant that never before in the whole 25 years' history of Local 221 have they made an attempt to settle wages or working conditions for any workers in the ice industry except the employees of one company that they had organized. For years, hundreds of independent ice men begged this union to take them in as members. A cold refusal was the answer they received.

Two years ago Local 574 decided that these independent ice men needed organization and so, brought them into our local union. These workers soon found that union organization brought them vastly improved working conditions.

Now after the hard work has been done and the independents have been brought under union conditions, Local 221 would be their "savior." It's a good move, but about one year late.

Feb. 17, the union held an all-day meeting in its headquarters, and around 6 p. m. decided to strike. As the next shift came out it was notified of the strike call, and the plant was hurriedly cleared. As the new shifts came to work, they joined the ranks of the strikers. Picketing began immediately, and a mimeographed strike call was issued throughout the town. During

(Continued on page 2)

NEW CONTRACT ACCEPTED BY CAB DRIVERS

New Agreement Will Give Wage Increases and Work Reforms

New Cabs Will Arrive in Minneapolis on April 20

Monday the cab drivers' section of Local 574 voted to accept a new and improved agreement with the Yellow Cab Company. In two special meetings Monday, one for the day crew and one for the night drivers, the new contract was given a thorough discussion.

The new agreement provides for an increase in commissions, raises in wages for salaried workers, improved working conditions and covers, by union agreement, many taxi workers who formerly were not protected by the organization.

Masters, manager of the Yellow Cab Company, spoke to the drivers at both meetings. He told the union members that the Yellow Cab Company was buying a new fleet of cabs which would be in operation on the streets of Minneapolis early this spring. Sixty of the new cabs will be delivered on April 20 and 65 more on May 20.

The new agreement is the soundest union contract that has ever been signed between a cab company and a union organization in the United States. It will run until December, 1937.

General Strike Threatens Akron

As we go to press comes news that the organized labor movement of Akron, Ohio, speaking through their official body, the Central Labor Union, has threatened a general strike in Akron to support the struggle now being waged by the Rubber Workers Union.

This action was brought about by the rubber company's head that force was going to be utilized to reopen the idle Goodyear plant. Fourteen thousand striking rubber workers, so far, have maintained complete control of the situation. Men and women strikers man a seven mile long picket line that surrounds the three factories of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co.

One hundred twenty picket stations, mostly tents, have been provided where the pickets are sheltered from the elements. An attempt by Federal mediators, aided by reactionary trade union officials, to put over the notorious "Toledo plan" of settlement was angrily rejected by the strikers without their bothering to even vote upon it.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Akron Rubber Strikers Defy Police and Guards At Goodyear Tire Plant

(Continued from page 1)

The next few days the management made no attempt to break through the picket lines. At first the union permitted the office workers to enter the plant. But four finks were noticed going in with the office workers, and from that time on no one has been permitted to enter or leave the struck plant without written permission of the union. On Friday the pickets prevented any railway cars from entering the grounds of the Goodyear company, the strikers having placed some of their picket posts directly on the railroad tracks. The company hurriedly swore out an injunction, cut loose with a barrage of newspaper ads containing the usual boss slander against strikers, and began to round up all the finks to prepare to break the strike. Twenty-six thousands dollar a year superintendents were attending the fink meetings dressed in overalls, masquerading as workers who "wanted a right to work without being dictated to by the union." The march on the picket lines this morning was the only result of these maneuvers.

The strike has the wholehearted support of the entire labor movement. The Central Labor Union in Akron has already collected over \$14,000 for the strikers, and has sent a committee to Gov. Davey, warning him that if he dared to declare martial law, he would be answered by a general strike. The workers at the Firestone and Goodrich plants have already signified their willingness to come out in support of their striking brothers. The United Rubber Workers international has sanctioned the strike and has designated its leading officers to act as a strike committee.

John L. Lewis Backs Strike

The most significant aspect of the strike for the future of the American labor movement is that John L. Lewis and the C. I. O. is backing the strike to the hilt. John Brophy, executive director of the C. I. O., was in Akron last night and spoke at strike headquarters, pledging his support. Adolph Germer, United Mine Worker organizer, is stationed in Akron for the remainder of the strike. Lewis has turned over funds to the strikers. Organizers from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the International Ladies' Garment Workers and the United Mine Workers will be in town tomorrow. Should the strike result in a brilliant victory for the rubber workers—and there is every chance that this will be the case—John L. Lewis will have gained ground tremendously on William Green and his craft union associates. A victory in rubber will have tremendous effects on the workers in the auto and steel industry. They will reason: if the rubber workers can make these

great gains, it is only because they are organized in an industrial union, in a union that makes no distinction between carpenter, painter, electrician, sheet metal worker, pipe fitter, machinist, etc., but admits them all and protects them all.

Women Play Leading Role

One of the most heartening aspects of the Akron strike is the splendid way in which the women are enthusiastically supporting the rubber workers. In the first place, there is organized in Akron a Union Buyers club, open to every wife, mother and sister of any union man. This Buyers club, which has hundreds of members has been invaluable in neutralizing or winning over most of the small merchants to put pressure on Goodyear to negotiate with the union. The idea of such a Buyers club is one that could well be duplicated by the union movement in every city. But that is not all the women do. Fifty girls are on duty 24 hours a day at the strike headquarters. Every two hours they serve 1,000 sandwiches, plus hot coffee, to the pickets. They are active in the office, signing up new members. Since the strike began, the membership of the Goodyear local has increased at the rate of about one thousand a day. The membership of the whole union movement has made corresponding gains. The Firestone local, for instance, reports an increase of 2,000 members during the past week.

The women also are seen in numbers around the picket posts, staying with the men to guard all the entrances to the struck plant. With such support as this, Goodyear will have to move heaven and earth to smash back the forces of labor.

Copy 574 Tactics

The strike committee, with the advice of several militant members of the union, has taken over several of the tactics developed by the truck drivers in the great strikes of Local 574 in Minneapolis in 1934. There is the strike headquarters, with its commissary, hospital, loudspeaker, etc. Twenty-two cruiser cars are constantly on the job, checking up on the picket posts. Each picket post consists of a canvas windbreak, a stove and benches. Twenty tons of coal a day are distributed to the posts. Only one thing is lacking: a daily strike bulletin to counteract the lies of the bosses contained in the full-page ads, in the editorial columns and from the broadcasting studios. Such a bulletin, properly edited and widely distributed not only in Akron but throughout the country, would prove an invaluable weapon in the hands of the Goodyear strikers. As it is now, the press of the entire country is playing a game of boycotting all news from Akron. The employers in America fear that the splendid fight of the Akron rubber workers may easily arouse the workers from coast to coast, and stimulate them to organize in defense of their elementary rights.

But the good news from Akron cannot be stifled. A victory in Akron will mean that the rubber industry has been conquered for the American trade union movement. A victory in Akron will mean a victory for all the forces working for strong industrial unionism. Such a victory will be followed by tremendous campaign in auto and steel. The chief threat to such a victory is the move of Secretary Perkins to send McGrady, the ace government "mediator," to Akron to "settle" the

Bill Brown Says—

I see by the daily papers that Rip Van Winkle Wilson, B. A. of No. 221, is going to stabilize prices next summer for Independent Ice dealers. If Rip had less rip and more zip he would know that Local 574 did that last summer. The question now arises, has Wilson secured Smith's permission for this campaign? Listen, Rip, go back to sleep for another 26 years, wake up and you might be right by that time. Happy dreams.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

The Railroad Brotherhoods

EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to the press of local and national labor news the concluding instalment of Brother Nelson's letter to Labor had to be omitted from this issue. It will appear next week.

The Minneapolis Railroad Council met at 631 Third Ave. S. Sunday morning. Due to the bad weather conditions that have created an unprecedented amount of work on the road, the meeting was not a large one. However, there were several new workers in attendance. The most interesting part of the meeting was the report of the conference which took place Saturday, February 24. It was pointed out that real gains were made at this meeting by the railroad workers. The proposed merger of two of the independent railroad unions who attended the Minneapolis conference was regarded as being an encouraging development for American railroad workers.

The council decided to adopt the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER as the official publication for their organization. The ORGANIZER'S circulation among railroad workers is increasing rapidly and it was pointed out that this organ would be a valuable forum where the railroad unionists could exchange ideas.

The editor wishes to again urge railroad workers, organized and unorganized to make use of the columns of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER to state their views and advance their ideas on questions pertaining to union organization on the railroads. It is well to remember that the ORGANIZER gets into the hands of hundreds of progressive railroad workers. It has been demonstrated, time and again, that the official organ of the railroad brotherhoods, LABOR, has closed its columns to the expression of rail workers' opinions when they differ, even slightly, from the opinions and ideas as set forth by the reactionary leadership of the Brotherhoods.

No matter how well written your article may be if it reaches only the waste basket of LABOR'S editor your contribution will not accomplish the end for which it was intended. Letters and articles NORTHWEST ORGANIZER should be brief and to the point. If you cannot express yourself well on paper, if you desire, the editorial staff will be glad to put your ideas in shape for publication. Let us hear from you.

Palmquist, Brown and Dunne to Court Fri.

G. J. Dunne, W. S. Brown, and Ed Palmquist were visited Monday morning by our old friend, Deputy Stszemp of the Sheriff's Office. The cause of the visit was a subpoena that was served on the above three.

However, imagine their surprise when they received on an average of \$1.20 for accepting the service. The subpoena, which is being served on many of the labor leaders named in the injunction suit, calls for their appearance in District Court Friday morning at 9:30.

brought out that Polk had never worked, at any time, under his accuser. The foreman admitted he must be mistaken. Could it be he had a former grievance against Polk?

Consequently, Jack and Albert led the way last week to prove there is a "process of elimination." One assistant superintendent who had a Simon Legree complex, is missing. But not missed.

Federal Workers Section Hears Leo Kriske Praise Organization

The Federal Workers meeting of Friday, March 27, was enlivened by a splendid address delivered by Leo Kriske, International organizer of the Amalgamated Garment Workers. He spoke on the splendid reputation enjoyed by 574 on a national basis. Kriske said that it was obvious that such a form of organization as the one set up by our local union was the proper type of organization of the American worker in order to meet modern economic conditions.

When the meeting was opened 22 job stewards were present in the hall. All of them reported that organizational activity on their projects was at a high pitch and that project workers were joining the organization in considerable numbers. Many other stewards reported grievances that had arisen on their jobs and an interesting discussion took place on how these various difficulties were settled.

Brother Anderson of the Independent Truck Owners spoke to the meeting and asked the Federal Workers to co-operate as closely as possible with the Independent Truck Owners. Brother Ed Palmquist spoke at some length on the heavy load of grievances that was accumulating on the organization. He told of many of these grievances being adjusted and spoke of the continual struggle that was necessary to secure justice for WPA workers.

A leaflet, which will be distributed this week calling a special meeting on March 6, was read and approved. A vote of thanks was extended to the Independent Truck Owners section for the co-operation they had shown in bringing WPA workers to the last mass meeting. The meeting adjourned about 10:30.

Cleaners, Laundry Workers and Drivers

Everybody is invited to the Cleaners' Sectional meeting on Wednesday, March 11 to 703 3rd Ave. S., third floor.

Miss Flynn, teacher of the Workers Progress educational department, will hold a class on labor history promptly at 8 p. m. from 8:30 to 9. Business will be transacted.

Be sure to cash in for your books from 9 to 12. The much advertised Hard Time dance and Kangaroo Court will follow.

Don't fail to come and bring your friends. Admission to dance only 10 cents.

strike. The workers must guard against another sell-out at the hands of the government labor boards, such as was suffered in the Akron strike of a year ago. If this move of the government can be exposed, there is every chance that the Goodyear union will come through with a smashing victory. Their own rugged strength, plus the support of the entire trade union movement, creates a bright and inspiring picture in Akron today. It looks as though industrial unionism will soon have another scalp in its belt.

On WPA Projects

WILL TRADE

A member of the union announces that he has a set of overload springs for a half-ton Chevrolet truck. Also, a 17x5.50 truck tire nearly new. He wishes to trade these articles for furniture, or what have you. Inquire at union office.

Last week eight WPA workers were discharged from the Belt Line job. They have all been reinstated due to efforts of Federal job stewards.

Fritz Snyder, Belt Line steward, has been a champion membership getter since the drive started. He reported that one worker on the job offered to pay him six months dues in advance.

The much publicized drive against drinking by WPA workers failed to do anything startling. Few arrests were made by the police after the last WPA pay day.

The next Friday meeting of the Federal Workers section will be called by a handbill which will be passed out on the job, Thursday and Friday.

The ORGANIZER is being eagerly sought on WPA projects according to reports of job stewards.

PROJECT NO. 1760

Leonard Hanson is looking for the knuckle, missing from his right hand. It is strongly suspicioned he might find it in Polly Anderson's teeth. However no one can get close enough to Polly to make sure.

After being missing for several days Swede McCormick, finally turned up in a Yellow Taxi.

Our new assistant superintendent stopped the pie man from coming down on the job. Says he takes up too much of the men's time. Of course we know the real reason is we cannot afford a five cent pie on sixty fifty a month.

Two attempts convinced Jim Ritchie he could not pump up a tire with a grease pump. Ask him!

Mrs. Hagen's little boy Slim, forgot to duck at a recent blasting. And stopped a large portion of the hill with his head. Seven stitches repaired his scalp o. k., but all the sixty fifty jobs in Minneapolis will not replace the three front teeth he lost.

See Jack Novack or Albert Pratt for your Federal Workers buttons.

MAKE UP YOUR MIND, AXEL
Lester Polk was accused of being an agitator, useless, and of using abusive language to a pusher (foreman to you). When it was

MEETING SCHEDULE

Local No. 160, N. S. P. Co. Employees
Wednesday, March 4—Membership meeting.
Thursday, March 5—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 11—Organization Committee.
Thursday, March 12—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 18—Membership meeting.
Thursday, March 19—Executive Board.
Wednesday, March 25—Organization Committee.
Thursday, March 26—Executive Board.
Department meeting will be held subject to call.
All meetings at 257 Plymouth Ave. N., second floor.
Members may present grievances at any of the above meetings.

Independent Truck Owners Urge Reforms in City Rolls

The Independent Truck Owners section of Local 574 have decided that the time has arrived when a complete revision of the City Engineer's payroll list is warranted. According to action taken in their meeting of Thursday, February 20, a communication was addressed to the City Council Good Roads Committee calling upon them to immediately conduct an investigation in the method employed in the City Engineer's Office in hiring trucks for city use.

Among other things the Independent Truck Owners charged that a series of abuses have grown up in this department that make it necessary that new methods be employed. One paragraph of their letter read: "We are certain that some of the trucks now listed with your department are not owned by the people in whose name they are registered. We believe it to also be a fact that a considerable number of those registered are not residents of the city of Minneapolis. We believe, too, that there are now on the payroll list truck owners who have not been available for service for periods as long as twelve months. We believe that if every truck owner, registered with your office, is compelled to fill out the enclosed questionnaire, the data you will obtain will allow you to bring your payroll list up to date and will necessitate your dropping from the payroll many numbers that you are now carrying."

Along with the letter was sent a form of questionnaire worked out by the Independent Truck Owners section of Local 574. This questionnaire is in the form of an affidavit requiring certain information. It is the belief of most members of the Independent Truck Owners that the information so acquired by the City Engineer's office will do much to straighten out many of the contradictions that exist there now. The questionnaire submitted by the Truck Owners section is reprinted below:

In order that the City Engineer's Office may comply with the requirements of the City Council which called for giving preference to owner driven trucks, this office requires that you fill out and have notarized the following questionnaire:

1. Are you the owner of the truck now registered with the City Engineer's Office?
2. Do you own more than one truck? If so, how

many?
 3. Are you a registered voter?
 4. Are you a resident of the City of Minneapolis?
 5. Have you an insurance policy on file with this office?
 6. What year did you first register with this office?
 8. Have you continuously owned a truck since that time?
 8. Have you continuously owned a truck twelve months prior to this date?
 I agree not to allow anyone to use my payroll number.
 State of _____
 County of _____ ss.
 _____ makes oath and says that to the best of his knowledge the foregoing statement is true in all respects.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me, a _____ in and for the State and County above named, this _____ day of _____, 193____
 (SEAL)
 My commission expires _____

Coal Workers Set Special Meeting

Monday, March 16, will be a special meeting for all coal drivers, carrymen, yard workers and helpers. This will be one of the most important meetings for those engaged in the coal industry that has been held for the past year.

The agreement which Local 574 holds with the Minneapolis Coal Employers expires this spring. The contract, which will be presented for renewal should be given the most careful consideration and study by the workers in this industry. The agreement covering wages and working conditions is

Local Law Enforcement Officials Pass Buck on Strutwear Fight

Last week was characterized by a struggle that took place between city and county officials on one hand and the Adjutant General's department on the other. The controversy was over who was going to be responsible for maintaining of future "law and order" at the Strutwear Knitting plant. It was more or less of a Tinker to Evers to Chance combination. No one wanted to be put on the spot and no one wanted to accept the responsibility of policing the area adjacent to the Strutwear plant. Latimer said: "You're it, Wall." Wall replied, "I'm not playing, Tom." And Adjutant General Walsh took the position that unless he received some co-operation from both parties he could be definitely counted out of the game also.

It seems that the suits, injunctions and what-not have had the desired effect upon local public officials. No one wants the darby. The erstwhile staunch defenders of preserving peace seem strangely shy as applies to the Strutwear thing. Later in the week, however, Latimer, Wall and Forestal got together and decided that they would form a united front against the forces of "lawlessness."

In the meantime, the injunction which named various organizations, labor leaders and individuals will have its hearing in District Court on March 5. There can be little doubt that the suits directed against state and city officials followed by the petition for an injunction and restraining order, aimed at tying the hands of the local labor movement, is but part and parcel of the campaign by the Strutwear Knitting Co. tended by

Laundry Dance

The joint local Cleaners, Drivers and Laundry Workers Union No. 18005 and 183, will give a hard time dance at De Sota Hall, third floor, 703 Third Avenue South Wednesday night, March 11, 1936. Both old time and modern music will be played. Admission is 10 cents.

All workers in the Laundry and Cleaning Industry, and their friends are invited to attend.
 A good time is assured for all.

the one that all coal workers will operate under the season of 1936-37.

A matter that so vitally concerns the welfare of every worker should merit the most serious consideration of everyone concerned. The contract has not yet been drawn up. Any changes in it will be made at this meeting and, prior to it, by the meeting of coal stewards, which will take place on Friday, March 13.

It happens, many times, that after an agreement has been discussed for a long period of time, finally drawn up and signed by the employers, that objections to its provisions are raised by workers covered by the agreement.

It is well to point out at this time that after the agreement is signed is the wrong time to raise objections and suggest changes. This should be done when the agreement is in process of formation. The new coal agreement is being discussed and drawn up at this time. We urge that all coal workers, actively engaged in the industry, religiously attend all coal meetings from now until the time the agreement is ratified by the union. It is your job and your responsibility.

If you do not accept this responsibility, any complaints in regard to the shortcomings of the agreement should not receive serious consideration.

threats to compel public officials to perform their sworn "duty" and to frighten and intimidate the local labor leaders to the extent that they would recede from the position they have taken supporting the Hosiery Workers Union.

No serious person can doubt that an attempt will be made by the management in the near future, to open the struck plant.

News Guild Fights Scab Hearst Rag

The American Newspaper Guild, newly organized union of news gatherers and editorial writers, is now engaged in conducting a fight here in the northwest that should have the support of the whole organized labor movement.

In Milwaukee the Guild reporters have struck the Hearst-owned Wisconsin News. Hearst, living up to his title as America's chief exponent of fascism, has bluntly refused to deal with the organization of his workers. Belying the screaming headlines of his fascist-tinted sheets that cry for free press, free speech and all the usual hokum that comes so readily from the pens of these "100 per cent Americans," Hearst is denying to his organized workers the very "freedom" that he advocates for others.

The American Newspaper Guild has demonstrated, since its formation about three years ago, that it is an aggressive, militant and determined organization that will be a valuable adjunct to the rest of the organized labor movement.

Their strike needs and deserves the sympathy and support of every worker, organized and unorganized. It is true that they are not

Furniture Workers Unions to Fight Against Discrimination

Despite the fact that Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 have a signed agreement with the J. R. Clark Co. covering both wages and conditions of employment, this firm is again trying to find a way out for themselves. This militant and progressive union has won for itself a real place in the Minneapolis trade union movement.

The J. R. Clark Co., unorganized for years, has at last been compelled to deal with an organized group of its workers. The union there, at the outset, had a very difficult job to accomplish. The record of another union that had once been defeated in this plant had not entirely been forgotten by the workers there. But in spite of all the handicaps Local 1859, which has in its ranks, 95 per cent of all of the workers at the J. R. Clark Co., was able to force the employer to recognize their union and to grant substantial wage concessions.

The latest action of the employer at the J. R. Clark Co. has been an attempt to upset the seniority agreement that is held by the union. The attempt to upset seniority has been made by attempting to split up various departments of the plant into sub-departments. When the union committee resisted this action the company announced that from this date on they would operate the plant on a three day a week basis. (They were formerly operating on a five day week).

The two-day shutdown per week is, without a doubt, an attempt to frighten and intimidate the workers to the end that they will relax their vigilance in enforcing their union contract. The union committee, very correctly, pointed out to the employer that operating on a three-day basis under the present pay schedule was more financially advantageous to the workers than was the five-day week under the old pay schedule.

The union is prepared to resist to the utmost limit the attempts of the company to upset their seniority agreement. Lest there be any mistake about the value of an agreement guaranteeing seniority to the workers we can quote the words of a famous trade union leader who said: "Seniority is the heart and soul, the life and blood of any agreement between the worker and the employer. When he has it, it becomes his shield and his weapon. Without it, he is helpless before the determined onslaught of the employer."

Scab Truck Drivers Fined in City Court

As an aftermath of the illegal hauling of goods from the Strutwear plant by the Winona Drayline in December, two drivers of that fink transfer line were fined \$25 each for operating trucks on the state highways without proper drivers' license.

100 Applications

Although February was the shortest month of the year, new applications for membership in Local 574 continued to come in a very encouraging fashion. Exactly 100 applications were received by the union office during the last month. There were 25 working days in February. The applications came in at the rate of four a day.

at the present time affiliated with the A. F. of L. but they are an organization of workers who are fighting on one of labor's many fronts. They are striking against an employer who has demonstrated countless times that he is the greatest, most active and most aggressive enemy of the labor movement. This strike must be won.

Fargo Notes

From Fargo comes news that is indicative that the labor movement there, both A. F. of L. and independent, are showing new life. The Fargo Trades and Labor Assembly, according to a Forum dispatch, indicate that the local labor body is preparing to send a delegate to the State Non-Partisan Convention in Bismarck, March 3. Both George Seiler and George Martinson, the former a delegate, the latter an alternate, have been endorsed by the two contending factions in the Non-Partisan group. They will both be at the convention.

WPA workers in Cass County have formed a recreational setup among themselves which met in the transient bureau headquarters last Tuesday. Clarence Torbinson was elected chairman and H. H. Hughes was named secretary-treasurer. The committee plans to hold an old time dance sometime in the near future.

It is interesting to know that the same group that was the spirit behind Local 173, General Drivers Union of Fargo are the same ones who are instrumental in organizing the Independent Union of All Workers.

The experience they gained during the hectic days of last winter are standing them in good stead.

'Hobby Club' Alias For Company Union

Who wants to join the Hobby Club at the Northern States Power Company? What is a Hobby Club? We don't blame you if you do not know. We did not know that there was such an organization until the following announcement appeared on the Company bulletin board.

"What is your hobby? It is proposed to form a hobby club at the N.S.P. Co. Employees (Mpls. Division). If interested write your name, department and hobby on a sheet of paper. Mail to E. O. Skogerson, Distribution Department, 15 So. 5th St. We will compile list and write you announcing date, to elect officers."

No doubt the hobby club will be a very interesting organization. Developing hobbies, however, have a tendency to make workers forget their low wages. Sort of a sleeping powder as it were. And then it, of course, can never take the place of a union. Make you forget? Yes. Get you more wages? No.

Tuesday morning, a union committee from the meter department met with Mr. Braney, head of the meter department. The question discussed was overtime. According to Mr. Braney, no overtime was being worked in that department. The committee indicated they would take the matter up with R. F. Pack.

ATTENTION LAUNDRY WORKERS

March buttons are now ready. Call at union office, 703 3rd Ave. S. daily from 4 to 6 p. m. Phone AT. 7678 and the union representative will deliver them to you at the shop.

MEETING SCHEDULE Furniture Workers No. 1859

Wednesday, March 4—Membership meeting.
 Wednesday, March 18—Membership meeting.
 The Executive Board of Local No. 1859 meets on call of the chairman.
 All special meetings and all department meetings will be called either by special mail notices or will be published in the Northwest Organizer.

MEETING SCHEDULE Local No. 574	
Monday, March 2—	Coal Workers.
Tuesday, March 3—	Executive Board.
Thursday, March 5—	Independent Truck Owners, Federal Stewards.
Friday, March 6—	Federal Workers, all No. 574 Stewards.
Monday, March 9—	Full membership meeting.
Tuesday, March 10—	Executive Board.
Thursday, March 12—	Federal Stewards.
Friday, March 13—	Coal Stewards, Federal Workers.
Monday, March 16—	Coal Workers.
Tuesday, March 17—	St. Patrick's Day.
Thursday, March 19—	Independent Truck Owners, Federal Stewards.
Friday, March 20—	All Stewards, Federal Workers.
Monday, March 23—	Full membership meeting.
Tuesday, March 24—	Executive Board; Taxi Drivers, Night Drivers, 1 p. m.; Day Drivers, 7 p. m.
Thursday, March 26—	Federal Stewards.
Friday, March 27—	Federal Workers, Coal Stewards.
Tuesday, March 31—	Executive Board.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

Rubber Leads the Way

The fierce clash between organized labor and organized capital in Akron, Ohio, is what will perhaps develop into a signal for the American working class to go into a joint assault upon entrenched capital. Fifteen thousand organized rubber workers have become convinced that their reduced wage is no longer sufficient to maintain a decent living standard for themselves and their families. Rubber constitutes one of the basic industries in America. It is a significant fact that no longer than a year ago these rubber workers who were brutally and callously sold out by the A. F. of L. bureaucracy have again reformed their ranks and are presenting a solid front to their class enemy. The situation that exists in Akron is unique in the annals of the American labor movement. Past history has shown that when a major strike has been defeated or where the workers have lost out through treachery of their leadership, in almost every instance a generation has elapsed, during which the story of the defeat has been forgotten or where the workers, who took part in the disastrous attempt, have been replaced by new workers, before their ranks could again be reformed. Not so, in Akron. The history of last year's defeat has not been forgotten in the rubber capital of America. Necessity, however, has compelled these workers to act. A new and more militant leadership has arisen. New and up to date strike strategy has been adopted. This is a demonstration that in this present epoch defeats of workers' organizations does not necessarily mean that their cause will be forgotten for a generation. The motive that actuated the Akron rubber workers is the same motive that is causing the whole gigantic American working class to stir restlessly. The Akron action is the heat lightning that heralds the coming storm.

The Union By-Laws

Every union man should thoroughly and completely acquaint himself with the constitution and by-laws of his union. This little book is, by no means, a complete set of instructions that covers every specific problem that may arise. But, in a general sense, it is an outline in which the union member can either find a solution for his problem or a place to go to have his problem solved. This booklet could not possibly deal in details with every condition that might confront the worker on the job. But a careful perusal of its contents will give to every union man something that is better than that. It outlines, in some detail, the principles that should motivate every member of a trade union in his dealings with his fellow worker and with the employer. If every member of Local 574 would read and understand the preamble to the Constitution and By-Laws, it would be safe to say that every member would be a better member by reason of the understanding gained by such study. At the risk of offending some, we believe that the booklet containing the preamble, Constitution, and By-Laws of our union should become the union man's Bible. Follow its precepts and your relations with your fellowman will be such as will never bring a blush of shame to your cheeks.

Trucks at Strutwear

Following is a reprint of an editorial from the Hosiery Worker, official organ of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers Union. It deals with the Strutwear strike:

The story of the thirty-week strike at the Strutwear Hosiery Mills in Minneapolis, Minn., deserves to be more widely publicized in labor and liberal circles. The amazing solidarity which the labor movement in Minneapolis has demonstrated in the help given the valiant hosiery strikers, should be an inspiration to the whole country. When the Federal Court interfered in the strike situation (and that is a story in itself) and when Federal marshals attempted to move goods from the plant, it was impossible to hire a truck in the city to haul scab goods. The value of effective unionization was never more vividly demonstrated in an American labor conflict.

What the editorial does not say, however, is that drivers union stopped the movement of goods from the struck plant. In justice to General Drivers Union, Local 574, we must say that it was our local and no other that kept the truck from moving. No other union had the power. The three thousand members of Local 574 would not touch an article that came from the scab plant. We think that it would be only fair to state that Local 574 said "no trucks at Strutwear." That order stood.

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

If the Central Labor Union executive committee doesn't really get behind the movement to sponsor a public mass meeting for the courageous young workers on strike at Strutwear, they are demonstrating a very peculiar and strange brand of solidarity.

The Government has not receded one iota from their announced intention of paying a 40c minimum wage on the Sumner Field Slum Clearance project.

The Independent Truck Owners are making a real attempt to straighten out the payroll list in the City Engineer's office.

William Samuel Brown, who was that way with sinus trouble, has recovered and is back in our midst.

Axel Anderson, steward at Albert Johnson's, in the absence of C. B. Carlson, has adopted a system that could very well be copied by all of the coal stewards. He has posted a notice on the bulletin board calling to the attention of all the workers there the necessity of taking a withdrawal card when they leave the union during the summer lull.

Seven rear ends went out on the Belt Line job in two days. Bad dump conditions.

What downtown labor leader is due for a big surprise before the middle of the current month?

The Strutwear workers voted with their feet Saturday morning when they unanimously rejected an out-and-out Citizens Alliance proposition to end their tussle with the Strutwear company. Nice work.

The Strutwear strikers say no more coal deliveries at the plant. We hope they mean it.

The Nicollet Hotel, which recently came under new management, has made a lot of changes in its hired personnel. The biggest surprise, however, is that the employees there are organizing like nobody's business.

ROMANCE DEPARTMENT

The editor of this column feels that a deliberate conspiracy is on foot to with-

hold from him certain vital statistics. Members get married, babies are born, and people die and the only information that we seem able to secure is from the cold columns of the daily press. Let's have the heart throbs or this department will be compelled to fold up.

Ed Palmquist is driving a new car. That is, we mean, new to him.

The support meeting for the Strutwear strikers held at 520 Hennepin Ave. Friday night was a good demonstration of who is really who in the local labor movement.

The Eighth Street gang were particularly conspicuous by their complete absence.

Do you know that Squirrel Palmquist and the Robbinsdale widow are going to do it?

Albert Pratt, long time member of 574 and Federal Workers section suffered a severe accident Thursday afternoon. While on his way home from the WPA project, where he was employed, Pratt

slipped and broke his right leg. The Federal Workers and Local 574 extend him their sympathy.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Gratefully acknowledging and thanking you for your kind expression of sympathy. Mr. Mike Dunn and Family.

Brother Schiel, militant member of Federal Workers section, is desperately ill of a serious heart ailment in the General Hospital. All join in wishing him speedy recovery.

Johnny Anderson, Hennepin truck pusher, is going to drop 705 for 574.

The J. R. Clark boys are in a turmoil again. It's seniority this time.

Don't be surprised at the next move that is going to be made by the Committee for Industrial Organization. It will be startling.

Leo Kriske of the Amalgamated talked to the Federal Workers Friday night.

Labor Looks at the Press

Commissioner of Police Valentine, of New York City, says, "Henceforth there will be a new police technique in dealing with demonstrations of workers—no arrests and in case of violence the leaders to be removed from the scene, to prevent these people from making martyrs of themselves to gain cheap publicity."

I guess that's O. K. with the "martyrs," Chief.

Washington news item: "Social Workers from 48 states, attending the American Association of Social Workers conference, said today relief administration without the Federal government resulted in low-grade pauper treatment." And WITH the Federal government, it's high-grade pauper treatment.

Ad of the Automobile Dealers Association in a Seattle paper: "We are determined to conduct our business free from any outside interference or dictation by agitators and radicals in the labor ranks. . . . We are united in our stand for the American plan of conducting open shops."

Sounds like the Committee of 166—remember it?

Extracts from the Daily Worker, Feb. 17th: "A Farmer-Labor mayor would not call the police—

he would lead the unemployed parade himself. . . . A Labor Party police department will help the workers in their struggles."

I guess they forget that their paper is read out here—where men are men and Latimers are Farmer-Laborites.

Twenty Years Ago Today column: "President Wilson today formally announced his candidacy for re-election, reiterating his stand for peace."

From the Sociaist Call: "The American Liberty League should have its name changed to the American Cellophane League, for two reasons: it is manufactured by duPont, and you can see right through it."

Field Marshal von Ludendorff: "War is the supreme effort of a nation for the conservation of its existence. . . . In time of peace, the objective of politics should be to prepare the people for this life and death struggle."

Headline from Toronto: "Green Dinner Coats for Men Predicted at Tailors Meeting."

Most the dinner coats you see around nowadays are already green—with age.

New York news item: "The War Department's graph for mobilization of American industry to meet the requirements of the next war is drawn to a 110 billion-dollar-a-year scale, Col. Harris said."

That's one expense the American Liberty League won't kick about.

Headline in Christian Science Monitor: "Rents Rose 10 Per Cent in 1935."

From the report of the National Public Housing Conference: "Two-thirds of all the tenant families in America's cities are unable, because of low wages, to pay more than \$6.25 a room for rent."

But we still gotta keep wages down—eh, Mrs. Struthers?

New York news item: "William Green addressed by radio the ratification meeting at which 110,000 workers in the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union voted unanimously to endorse the settlement forced from the employers. Green congratulated the workers.

And it took industrial unionism to win that settlement.

New York Union Power Paper Praises Settlement of Local 160

Of interest to local union power workers is the following article clipped from LABOR TRUTH. This paper is a left wing union publication issued by the progressives in Local No. 3, I.B.E.W., New York City.

"Occasionally a bit of fresh air enters New York via the out of town route. Local Union 160, I.B.E.W., is on the march and Minneapolis big-business is forced to retreat. A general wage increase, seniority rights, recognition of the right of the employees to hold union membership, and representation by union committees in settling grievances are among the gains that have been won for the employees of the Northern States Power Co. by local Union No. 160 of the I.B.E.W. Membership Votes on Agreement

These conditions are guaranteed in writing by the president of the

company, R. F. Pack. The terms of the settlement were accepted by unanimous vote of the members of Local 160 at a special meeting held on January 15. The meeting had been called by a previous decision of the union for the purpose of taking a strike vote after the negotiations committee reported that the company refused to discuss a written agreement.

Workers Know Why They Won

The company is now striving desperately to convince the workers that Local 160 had nothing to do with getting the wage increase. On the day after the union meeting, the department supervisors informed the men that they were going to receive a raise in pay, but the workers informed them that this was not news, that they had heard all about it at the meeting of the union the night before, and that they knew that it was the union that had got them the raise.