

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wis.

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

As from this hour
You use your power,
The world must follow you.

VOL. 2, NO. 39

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JAN. 14, 1937

PRICE 5 CENTS

TRUCKING UNIONS MEET IN DRIVERS HALL ON SUNDAY

CASKET FIGHT STOPS WITH A UNION VICTORY

Local 1859 Wins Wage Increases for All Workers

All Casket Plants Now Are Manned by Union Members

The seven weeks' old strike of the Casket Workers Union, who are organized into Local 1859, Furniture Workers Union, ended Monday morning, January 11, when the workers returned to the factories under a signed union agreement.

Splendid advances were made by these workers in the union contract. New high wages were set, hours were shortened and made uniform in the various plants and many other concessions secured.

A minimum wage for women was established at forty cents per hour. The women were formerly paid 32½ cents per hour so that the new wage scale gives them an hourly raise of 7½ cents.

Minimum wages for men were established at 50 cents per hour. This schedule provided an increase of approximately 10 cents per hour. All workers receiving more than 50 cents per hour previous to the strike were given a flat 10 per cent increase in wages. Seniority was established for all the workers in the industry which will run through each plant.

The contract specifies that all workers who have been employed one year or longer with any firm will receive one week's vacation with pay each year.

The victory of the striking casket workers came after seven weeks of determined resistance by the casket employers. The signing of the union agreement by casket employers brings a new group of organized workers into the stream of the Minneapolis trade union movement.

The firms which settled with the strikers were the Northwestern Casket Co., Minneapolis Casket Co. and the Minnesota Casket Co. The strike involved approximately 100 men and women.

Coal Workers Get Their Withheld Pay

According to authoritative sources back pay which was granted to all coal workers under the new agreement amounted to in excess of \$45,000 throughout the industry.

Some coal yard workers received as high as \$350.

Local 544 Will Take Job Census; Stewards Will Get Information

Form Will Go to All Job Stewards to Be Filled Out

General Drivers Union has taken steps to secure figures on employment in trucking and related industries. Stewards in each place of employment will be required to fill out the form below and forward it to the union office.

JOB CENSUS LOCAL 544

(Fill out and return to Farrell Dobbs, Secretary, 257 Plymouth Ave.)

Company _____

Address _____

Total number men eligible for membership _____?

How many men under each classification of work:

of Men (Driver, Helper, etc.)

Number Classification

List on a separate sheet the names and addresses of those employees who are not members.

List on a separate sheet the names and addresses of those members who are delinquent in dues, showing the months for which they are delinquent.

Is there a seniority list prepared? When was it prepared? Do you have a copy?

Have you a complete steward kit (Pouch, receipt book, stamps, buttons, check-in sheets and identification card?)

List items missing _____

Are you acquainted with the meeting schedule as it applies to your men?

List the companies where you collect dues _____

(Signed) _____

Job Steward

North Central District Drivers Council Formed By N. W. Driving Unions

P. J. Corcoran, Organizer of Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, Elected President of Organization

Action Will Start at Once to Begin Drive on All Unorganized Truckers in Six Northwest States

A conference of delegates from truck drivers local Unions affiliated with the Drivers International of the A. F. of L. held in Minneapolis on Sunday, January 10, formally created a North Central District Drivers Council. The district will include North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and upper Michigan. An Executive Board composed of three active officers and a vice-president from each local Union was elected. The following active officers were elected:

P. J. Corcoran, Minneapolis Milk Drivers Local 471, President.

R. E. Rooney, Duluth Milk Drivers Local 32, First Vice-President.

Farrell Dobbs, Minneapolis General Drivers Local 544, Secretary-Treasurer.

The other vice-presidents and members of the Board are:

George Lyes, Duluth General Drivers Local 346.

Richard Wilson, Minneapolis Ice and Coal Drivers Local 221.

Claire Johnson, Minneapolis Laundry Drivers Local 131.

Al Bernacki, Superior General Drivers Local 288.

Harold Seavey, Minneapolis City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664.

Sandy McCourt, representing the truck drivers of Austin, Minn., was elected as a fraternal delegate. Other local Unions which affiliate to the Council in the future will automatically have a representative on the Executive Board.

The purpose of the Council is to promote the organization of workers engaged in truck transportation throughout the entire district and to establish uniform wages, hours and working conditions. A full-time organizer will be put in the field to co-ordinate this work. The Conference voted unanimously to create a negotiating committee with representatives from all local Unions involved to negotiate a Union contract with the Regulated Motor Carriers Association to establish uniform conditions in long distance truck transportation throughout the entire district. All member Unions will throw their full support behind local Unions having difficulties in any part of the district.

Milk Drivers Ask for Cooperation

Milk Wagon Drivers would like to remind housewives that assistance can be rendered union milkmen by more co-operation during the cold winter months. Many housewives, through carelessness or error, make it necessary for milkmen to make two and sometimes three trips to the same customer each day. During these cold, dark mornings it is well to bear in mind that the milk driver has a cold, disagreeable job to perform. Give him your co-operation.

Local 160 Drive For More Members With Committees

Since Thursday of last week union committees have been out on organization drives each evening. The committees are calling on their employees who still are withholding their membership.

The biggest obstacle as is revealed by the reports of the committees is the tremendous amount of misinformation that non-members have about the union. It is up to union members to patiently and firmly overcome this mass of rumor and malicious misinformation.

Every union member should report for this committee work every evening he can possibly do so. Much work is to be done and all hands are needed.

Ecklad Heads the Joint Teamsters

The last meeting of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council was devoted to the election of officers who will serve the council during the coming year.

The following are the newly elected officials of the teaming craft central body:

President, V. Ecklad.

Vice President, C. Skoglund.

Recording Secretary, C. Johnson.

Financial Secretary, P. J. Corcoran.

Trustees, Sundberg, Seavey and Eberl.

Union Man's Widow Receives Benefits

The past week saw the first time a Local 160 member's beneficiary received the insurance benefit that is a part of every I. B. E. W. membership. The widow of Brother Charles Thain received her benefit Association check.

The necessary death certificate and policy were mailed air mail to Washington on Monday and the return check arrived on Saturday. This being the first experience for Local 160 we believe we are justified in feeling proud of the fast service.

Ask Aid for the Spanish Workers

As the Civil War drags on in Spain, the anti-fascist forces require more and more supplies from their friends throughout the world. To meet their needs, the Minneapolis Committee for the Relief of Spanish War Victims (affiliated with the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy) is seeking to raise sufficient funds in Minneapolis to purchase a trainload of flour which will be shipped to the Madrid Loyalist government.

All workers and organizations interested should send checks and donations made out to George B. Leonard, Treasurer, Committee for the Relief of Spanish War Victims, Room 335, Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis.

Taxicab Drivers Get New Agreement

Local 125, Taxicab Drivers Union is now engaged in negotiating a new agreement covering drivers at the Liberty Cab.

It will be patterned after the 544 agreement at the Yellow Cab.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

LOCAL 1859 DEFEATS THE INJUNCTION

Judge Refuses to Grant the Request of Casket Companies

The court hearing on the injunction and restraining order, asked for by stooge employees of local casket companies against Furniture Workers Union, Local No. 1859 was dismissed January 7 by Judge Lars Rue.

The suit which was brought by local casket companies covered by the names of scab employees, sought to restrain Local 1859, its officers and members from picketing the plants of the casket companies and from molesting and interfering with the so-called "loyal" employees.

The ending of the injunction suit with the refusal of the judge to interfere was a victory for the whole labor movement.

Officers of the union who were affected by the injunction were Frederick Dietrick, William Engelbretson and John Janasco.

Yellow Notes

We would all like to shake the hand of the Terminal driver who is booking \$50 a day. Wonder just what dope a guy has to take to have pipe dreams like that.

Minneapolis, according to the estimation of a coast to coast traveler, has the most courteous, careful drivers of any Yellow Cab Co. in the U. S. Not a bad reputation to have. Let's keep it.

A few more weeks like the last two and the Yellow Drivers will have to start a bank of their own.

Wonder who the first Yellow driver will be to collect on the Old Age pension under the Social Security Act?

Apologies are extended to Mrs. Olstad for not reporting the recent addition to the family. If old "Pinch Penny" wasn't so tight he would have released the information so it could have been printed sooner.

Some competitive cab drivers still seem to feel we are members of an old ladies' sewing circle. It's nice to kid yourself even if you can't get anybody else to believe it.

Wonder if Shiertz framed that last pay check he got?

Two of the boys enjoyed a "short vacation" extended by our illustrious Mr. Dobbs.

Rankin won a round in court recently. Some people still haven't got rid of the idea of calling "copper."

Have you noticed how fat Ed Irving is getting lately? Late

Local 1859 Meeting Schedule

January, 1937
 Sat., Jan. 2—Executive Board.
 Wed., Jan. 6—General Membership.
 Sat., Jan. 9—Executive Board.
 Sat., Jan. 16—Executive Board.
 Tues., Jan. 19—Box Section.
 Wed., Jan. 20—J. R. Clark Section.
 Fri., Jan. 22—Puffer Hubbard Section.
 Sat., Jan. 23—Executive Board.
 Sat., Jan. 30—Executive Board.
 Wed., Feb. 3—General Membership.

Transfer Group Want Adherence To Agreements

I read with a great deal of interest the article in last week's issue covering the case of a manufacturing firm and it causes me to remark that I hope that no similar situation of alleged agreement violation will ever arise caused by the conduct of any member of the association which I represent. Furthermore, I can very definitely state that should there be a willful violation on the part of any member of the Minneapolis Transfer Men's Association, Inc., that that matter would be quickly brought to the attention of an arbitration committee, and that committee would drop onto them like a ton of bricks. In this case, I am speaking of our own members and am pretty sure that we will take action before your committee would have time to make a complaint, providing that we knew it soon enough to beat you to the punch.

We have a membership that is composed of people who are attempting to make this industry go, and it can only do so by co-operation, and I feel pretty sure that No. 544 knows that there is a central office to deal with and that the terms will be carried out justly.

Signed
FERRIS MARTIN
 Secy, Minneapolis Transfer Men's Association

Martin Writes on Salary Receipts

January 9, 1937
 Mr. Miles Dunne, Editor
 Northwest Organizer
 257 Plymouth Avenue
 City

My dear Mr. Dunne:
 It might be very well for you to put some sort of notice in the Northwest Organizer to the effect that every employee should be sure to get a salary or wage receipt which shows the pay earned less the deduction and the amount of the deduction. The Internal Revenue Department states that such a receipt should be given with every payment and I have found that quite a number of the employers did not know it at the time we issued a bulletin so informing them. The idea of course being that with these receipts that the employer keeps a copy so that in case of any future check-ups by the state or federal authorities they will have definite evidence which will coincide with their monthly and yearly returns which they will have to make.

It also may be an advantage in that employee keeps his receipts to be used at a future date when he might want to make his application for benefits.

Very truly yours,
FERRIS B. MARTIN
 Executive Secretary

Express Drivers Receive Warning

Last week a conference was held between officers of Local 544 and representatives of the Railway and Steamship Clerks Union.

The purpose of the meeting was to straighten out the status of the American Railway Express drivers, who in the past have been accustomed to go through picket lines and deliver merchandise on struck jobs.

An agreement was reached between officials of the two unions that such procedure would not be followed in the future.

hours and hard work seem to agree with him. Let's not let him get too fat though.

Bill Brown Says—

The successful finish of the strike of the Casket Workers goes to demonstrate that union men, who are determined to improve their condition, can secure wage advances and better conditions of employment. In spite of the fact that the employers seemed determined in this fight and presented a solid front to the union, the workers were able to win because they stood shoulder to shoulder and resisted every attempt of the bosses to break their ranks.



BILL BROWN
 President of 544

Joseph Poirier Will Be Arbitrator in Local 160 Dispute With N. S. P.

Wright Case to Be Aired Before Arbitration Board

The Executive Board recently had a meeting with Mr. Pack and Mr. Miller on the Wright case. Mr. Miller had previously promised to reinstate Wright in the Kelvinator Dept. and pay him for the time lost.

After several weeks, a number of times during which Mr. Miller said he was arranging for Wright to go back to work, Miller finally informed the union that Wright could not be put back to work. The reason given for this reversal being that the union and Wright had done too much talking.

The Executive Board thereon arranged a meeting with Mr. Pack to ask just what was going to be done. After an interruption in the meeting, Mr. Pack informed the Executive Board he would agree to submit Wright's case to arbitration with the local office of the National Labor Relations Board as arbitrator. The Executive Board accepted this arrangement for arbitration and the Labor Board was contacted. Because of the change in program of the National Labor Relations Board under the Wagner Labor Disputes Law the local board office said they could not act as arbitrator. It seems the work of the Labor Board is now confined only to prosecutions under the Wagner Act. After contacting the company several times and submitting various names back and forth as possible arbitrators agreement was finally reached on Judge Joseph Poirier, formerly Personnel Director of the State Highway department. Arrangements are now being made and possibly by the time this appears in print arbitration hearings will have been held on this case.

Commerce Group Hearing in Chicago

The Interstate Commerce Commission will hold a series of meetings in Chicago on February 8, 1937, in regard to maximum hours of service of all common and contract carriers in interstate commerce. Representatives of local driving unions will be on hand to offer testimony.

Teigan Writes on Help for WPA

Jan. 8, 1937
 Mr. Miles Dunne
 General Drivers Union No. 544
 257 Plymouth Ave. N.
 Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mr. Dunne:
 We are in receipt of numerous requests for appropriations for the independent truck owners of your section.

Kindly write us at your earliest convenience, stating the stand of your organization on WPA work concerning the independent truck owners and the WPA workers themselves, and also what amount of money your organization deems necessary to continue this work for the coming year.

With kindest personal regards to your organization, I am
 Very truly yours,
HENRY G. TEIGAN

Independent Truck Chatter

Buyer Loses Truck—Wins Suit

Kenneth Hackenjoss, 882 Hagua Ave., St. Paul, can collect \$276 from a St. Paul automobile concern for his loss in the purchase of a truck through alleged fraudulent inducement the State Supreme Court held Friday. Hackenjoss asserted that he was persuaded to buy the truck because an employe of the company assured him that he could have a hauling job at the new Minneapolis post office for 3½ to five months. He said he worked part time for only a few weeks, losing the truck to a finance company. He sued to recover the money he had paid on the truck.

Several columns ago the writer pondered upon the idea of car dealers being put on the spot for guaranteeing and misrepresenting a job to anyone that would buy a truck. Milt (Eagle Eye) Hodson ferreted out the above clipping, which shows what happened to one dealer that was over eager to sell some equipment.

The last meeting brought forth proof that the idea of seniority isn't fully understood by even some of the older members. It's so easy to lose sight of well founded principles when they strike close to home.

Smile a la W. W.

As painfully suspicious as an Independent trucker where a dollar bill is concerned.

The initiation fee is now boosted to \$25 as voted by the general membership. There are a few cripple-wits left that aren't sure if they want to stay in the trucking business. Indecision is always expensive.

Suggestion

If he must make his excursion around town, the only way Groth can expect to keep out of trouble is to stop driving his truck and start using shoe leather.

Another name for ITO Section gatherings is spontaneous combustion as demonstrated at the last meeting.

Members that are out of work, and paid up in their dues can get a withdrawal card upon application to secretary at ITO meeting. All cards for truckers must be O. K.'ed by the ITO section before becoming final.

Hafie is now chief spokesman for a minority group. Some one said he always puts the emphasis in the wrong places.

MEETING SCHEDULE Local 544

The membership meeting on Monday, January 11, voted to alter the meeting schedule on the following basis:
 (1) There shall be only one full membership meeting per month, to be held on the second Monday.
 (2) There shall be two job steward meetings per month, to be held on the first and third Fridays. (The next job steward meeting will be held on Friday, February 5.)
 (3) There shall be not more than one regularly scheduled meeting per month in any section. The schedule to be arranged by the Executive Board. Wednesday, Jan. 13—Market. Tuesday, Jan. 26—Taxi drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
 Note: Schedules for other section meetings are now being arranged.
 Grievance Committee — Meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m.
 Executive Board—meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m.

Chicago Steno's Will Get Paper

January 9, 1937
 Mr. Miles B. Dunne, Editor
 The Northwest Organizer
 257 Plymouth Avenue North
 Minneapolis, Minnesota
 Dear Mr. Dunne:

We welcome your suggestion of exchanging our papers, and you will find enclosed the latest edition of THE OFFICE WORKER, which is the second edition that has been published. We are desirous of making THE OFFICE WORKER a monthly publication, and trust that we will be financially able to do so. We will be happy to forward every edition that we get out to you. Your suggestions and comments regarding our paper are invited.

Fraternally yours,
SANDRA G. SLOTKIN
 Organizer
 Stenographers, Typists,
 Bookkeepers, and Assistants Union No. 20074

With the Laundry Workers Union

Those elected at the annual election of officers of Local 183 were Harry Brown, president; Kenneht Swanson, vice president; and Illene Swanson, recording secretary. Rubin Latz and Alioua Baldiour were re-elected to their same offices. On this newly elected leadership lies the responsibility of the growth and health of the Laundry Workers Union.

If it pursues a policy of action to give protection for the workers that are discriminated against and steers clear of class collaboration, keeping in mind at all times that the function of the union is to better the conditions of the workers, then the future growth of Local 183 is assured.

Every member of Local 183 regardless of his sentiments either prior or after the election should bear in mind that the union itself comes first, last and all the time, and every one should put their shoulder to the wheel in order to maintain our union and help direct its policy.

After an election of officers of any union those defeated must bow to the mandate of the membership and with good grace, carry on, relentlessly, tirelessly, regardless of consequences, to fight for the principles of their convictions, and if their principles are right, their cause will ultimately prevail. So, Let's close our ranks and utilize every effort and talent we possess to further the interests of those that make our union possible —the membership.

Changes in Union Quarters Proceeds

The alterations on the first floor of General Drivers headquarters are proceeding at a rapid rate and it is expected that inside of two weeks some of these offices will be ready for occupancy.

Ten offices and a large meeting hall besides sanitary facilities will occupy the entire space. The work is in charge of Robert Peterson.

Wage Raises Given at Northern States Without Union Approval

The first actual adjustments that were pointed out by the special letter of several weeks ago are now announced by the Northern States Power Co. The operators have been informed through the department heads and chief operators that the stations are now to be grouped in three classes, and the wages are to be adjusted as to the class of station.

This idea is somewhat along the lines the operators have been proposing. The difference being that now the company is more or less arbitrarily making what changes they deem best.

The men are in no way consulted. This is just such action as the union anticipated and pointed out in the special letter. The company's idea being to lead the men to believe their interests are being properly safeguarded without any participation in the arrangements.

To fully convince all that this adjustment is for the benefit of the men concerned a wage raise of five and ten dollars is included. There is no mention of any such thing as seniority or of how progressive advancement to the better paid stations is to be handled. The same vague and worn out past program of "reward for merit" is inferred.

For anyone who might question the inadequacy of the five and ten dollar raises as compared to some of the wide differences now prevailing is reserved this threat of "reward for merit."

As to the "reward for merit" nothing more eloquent could be said than the actual record of so many of the present operators of ten and 15 years standing. Where is their "reward?"

Laundry Workers Hold an Election

Wednesday, January 6, the Cleaners and Laundry Workers Union Local 183, held their election of officers for the ensuing year. The following officers were elected, President Harry A. Brown defeating N. S. Osborn with a vote of 177 to Osborn's 72. Vice President Kenneth Swanson defeated Arthur Larson with a vote of 172 to Larson's 80. Business Agent Lubin Latz defeated Clarence Mathews with a vote of 157 to Mathews' 82. Secretary Treasurer Alvina Baldwin defeated N. S. Osborn by a vote of 104 to his 30. Recording Secretary Ilene Swanson defeated Caroline Stroh with a vote of 138 to Stroh's 52.

Truck Owners Leave For Washington, D.C.

A committee from the Independent Truck Owners section left Wednesday noon for Washington, D. C., where they will confer with WPA officials in regard to continuation and extension of WPA and PWA projects.

The committee's trip was made possible by a fund which was raised by levying an assessment on all members of the independent truck owners section.

The following committee made the trip: C. Zander, C. Skoglund, T. McCue and J. Lindholm.

MEETINGS FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION
 FWS membership meetings, first and third Friday of each month, 8 p. m.
 FWS Leadership class No. 1, each Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.
 Direct relief grievance hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 to 12 a. m.
 Federal Workers Stewards Meetings—Each Wednesday at 8 p. m.

Citizens Alliance Name Change Seen As a New Move

Following is a letter received by the editor shortly after the Citizens Alliance "went out of business." It shows clearly that it was only a change of name.

Friend Miles:
 Herewith is exact copy of letter of announcement sent out by Citizens Alliance to its members on occasion of announcing the new set up. It clearly indicates that the change is in name only.

"On December 17, 1936, members of the Citizens Alliance met and adopted a complete new constitution and by-laws.

With this action the Citizens Alliance as such, passed out of existence and there came into being a new association known as the Associated Industries of Minneapolis.

The new association will carry on a broad constructive program of specialized activity in the field of industrial relations."

Labor School Holds Classes for Trade Union Members

A large and enthusiastic group of union members attended three new classes this week at the Minneapolis Labor School, 249-250-251 Transportation Building Annex at 4th St. and 2nd Ave. S.

Consumers Co-operatives as a means of improving the immediate conditions of the American workers was discussed in the Co-operatives class which is regularly held from 9 to 10 p. m. on Monday nights. In this class union members will study the history, principles and organization of co-operatives.

Beginning also this week was a class in Collective Labor Agreements, dealing with such vital trade union problems as: What is a contract, Collective Bargaining, Can labor agreements be enforced by courts, Model contracts.

This course will be very helpful to all members of unions as well as to the business agents and officers of unions.

The third class, in Labor and Politics, was offered on Thursday evening at 7:45 to 9 o'clock. This course is offered in response to students' demand. Active union members are now realizing the importance of a clear understanding of labor and politics.

All union members are cordially invited to come up to the school for these classes are organized and run for the benefit of workers. The Minneapolis Labor School is sponsored by the Minneapolis Workers' Education Council, composed of delegates from Minneapolis Unions.

Stenographers Union Elects Its Officers

The election held last week in the Stenographers, Bookkeepers and Typists Union No. 17661 resulted in some change in the elected personnel. The following members were the successful candidates for office:

President, Jewell Flaherty; Vice President, Jennie Sammeli; Secretary, Georgiana Brown; Treasurer, C. Reiherzer; Trustees, Violet Johnson, Adeline Geehan and Blanche Kurtz; Delegates to Central Labor Union, Jewell Flaherty, Viola Flantz, Violet Johnson, and C. Reiherzer; Delegates to Hennepin County Central Committee,

Thanks
 749 Fillmore St. N. E.
 Minneapolis, Minn.
 January 5, 1937
 Union No. 544
 To whom this may concern:
 Mr. Sands joins me in thanking you all very much for the lovely chicken and sack of groceries you sent us for Christmas.
 I am very truly yours,
 MRS. CHESTER SANDS

Butchers Union Regulates Hours

Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union, who have been engaged in an intensive organizational campaign in Minneapolis during the past three months, announced Monday that they had secured an important concession for all workers in that industry.

Starting February 15 all retail meat markets in Minneapolis will open and close at a new hour. After the middle of the month retail markets will open at 8 a. m. and close at 6 p. m. except Saturday, when the closing time will be one hour later.

This marks a great stride forward for the workers engaged in retail meat shops. Their hours had formerly been 10 to 14 per day.

'544' Team Wins From Meat Crew

BOWLING NEWS

The J. C. took one game from the mighty Nat. Teas without the ailing J. Smith. Independents swamped the F. W. S. and rolled a new high three game total of 2,934. Con. No. 2 went back into second place as they won two games from Consol. No. 1. Arnold Johnson scored 231 as Dobbs' "544" team took three straight games from the Meat Drivers.

Nat. Teas 786 910 889 2,585
 T. J. C. 964 731 778 2,473

Meats 887 905 873 2,665
 "544" 891 1,008 881 2,180

Con. No. 2 806 743 904 2,453
 Con. No. 1 741 774 784 2,299

Ind 970 1,001 963 2,934
 F. W. S. 833 838 814 2,485

NOTES

The "544" team won the first game by four pins and the last by eight. The Independents had a large cheering section pulling for them. Dick Wilson also had help in the gallery. Wilson, Sinnott, A. Johnson, O. M. McKean and Robert Nelson all increased their averages with nice games. Next week, "544" vs. J. C.

Perspective

The fields of war! The fields of war!
 Where men die knowing not what for;
 Still feeding worms, while Caesars prate
 Of glories that have made them great;
 Yea! great are they, and poor are we:
 Their glories made our misery.

The school of war! the school of war!
 Two things ye learn: learn but one more:
 That drill and gun play serve them best
 In righting wrongs that long oppressed.
 Put skill and strength to your own use,
 End the damned masters' long abuse.

—Arthur Hopkins

Twenty drivers were taken into Local 131 Monday. Nice work, Claire.

Bob West, C. Passi and Mrs. Butler.

Laundry Worker Writes on Danger Of New Setup of Minneapolis Bosses

Points Out Danger to Labor Movement

"ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES"

All union workers should be ever on the alert, watching constantly less the boss class, through their "Citizens Alliance" and "Associated Industries" steal the march on them by sly attempts to diminish and neutralize the power and militancy of the unions.

"The crystallization of sentiment" now going on between employers and labor leaders in certain service industries to have a "little NRA" introduced in the state is a perfect example of class collaboration and bespeaks no good for unions or the common people.

Another tentacle of that octopus, "The Associated Employers" which is trying to grip labor in its slimy arms, is the attempt "through duly constituted authority" to weaken organized labor's position where and whenever the wishes of the bosses and the rights of the workers reach that point where force must decide the issue.

It is well to recognize the fact that whenever the bosses are strong and a union is weak in numbers and militancy, that the bosses will tell you that you do not represent the workers and will refuse to arbitrate. However, if the reverse is true, arbitration boards are then in order. Such is the psychology of the boss mind. Build your unions, rely on their power and militancy alone and exercise the same forcefully and promptly when the necessity arises. In the meantime, view with suspicion all attempts to wrest from you the right to strike and picket for a decent standard of living.

The words, "With due constituted authority," have a decidedly ominous sound and their repetition in recent articles in the capitalist press of Minneapolis possibly gives cause for undue apprehension. Nevertheless, considering the national labor situation and the rumbles of impending strife in the basic industries, we deem it wise to keep an ear to the ground.

N. L. OSBORN

Y. P. S. L. Will Hold A Real Sleigh Ride

The Young Peoples' Socialist League is conducting a sleigh ride on the evening of Saturday, January 16. The truck which is to transport the group to the barn from which the ride is to start will leave 631 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, at 7:30 p. m. After the sleigh ride, there will be dancing and refreshments at 631 3rd Ave. S. Tickets can be purchased at 631 3rd Ave. any time for the nominal price of 35 cents.

On the Route With The Milkman Local 471

Due to the fact that copy for the new column devoted to the interests of Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union, was not received in time for this issue, the column will not get under way until next week. Watch for the heading, "On the Route With the Milkman."

Ramsey Co. F-L-P For 'Neutrality'

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 6, 1937—The swift blocking of large shipments of war materials to the Spanish government today brought into sharp relief the consequences of such "neutrality" legislation as that introduced by Senator Pittman and rushed through specifically to block the shipments to the Spanish workers.

In this matter, the Fourth congressional district central committee of the Farmer-Labor Association played a completely reactionary role. This Ramsey County committee unanimously voted to support "neutrality" legislation. Without putting forth any reason other than the fact that such legislation already exists as far as war between nations is concerned, the committee resolved "That the central committee of the Ramsey County Farmer-Labor Association instruct its secretary to immediately communicate with all Farmer-Labor members of congress and urge their co-operation in amending the national neutrality act to prohibit the exportation of arms, ammunition and other armaments from the United States to any foreign power, corporation or individual either engaged in warfare of any kind or in the business of supplying armaments to nations or factions engaged in warfare." This action was reported in the St. Paul Union Advocate. However, the INS reports an attempt by Rep. John T. Bernhard, Minnesota Farmer-Laborite, to block passage of the bill.

Morton Salt donated 100 pounds of salt to the Union. Thanks.

MEETING SCHEDULE LOCAL 160
 Jan. 5—Stewards and Executive Board.
 Jan. 6—General Membership.
 Jan. 12—Executive Board
 Jan. 19—General Membership.
 Jan. 26—Executive Board.

CO-OP COAL ASSOCIATION

To the Patrons the Profits

739 Johnson Street N. E.
 Phone: Granville 4394

<p>THE CO-OPERATIVE</p> <p>Nature Organized people.</p> <p>Purpose To serve its members at cost.</p> <p>Methods 1. Each member has one vote and only one vote. Democracy—the people rule. 2. Capital is paid a minimum rate of interest. Money is the servant of the people. 3. Surplus savings are distributed to the members in proportion to their patronage. The people receive the benefits.</p> <p>Results Wealth is equitably distributed among the many.</p>	<p>THE CORPORATION</p> <p>Nature Organized capital.</p> <p>Purpose To serve the public for profit.</p> <p>Methods 1. Each share of stock has one vote. Plutocracy—money, in control of the few, rules. 2. Capital receives all the profits. Money is the master. 3. Profits are distributed among the stockholders in proportion to their holdings. Money receives the benefits.</p> <p>Results Wealth is centered in the possession of the few.</p>
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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."

The Leopard Changes Its Spots

The recent announcement in the newspapers that the Citizens Alliance had disbanded, discharged its functionaries and vacated its offices is to be taken with a grain of salt.

The Citizens Alliance, it is true, has changed its name, but whether it is called the Citizens Alliance or the Associated Industries is a matter of small importance to Minneapolis trade unionists.

But it would be also wrong to think that Minneapolis employers have not changed their tactics, method and strategy in dealing with their employees.

The new policy will be to kill the unions with "kindness." In the place of imported gunmen, thugs and strike-breakers will be substituted a small army of trained employer representatives, labor conciliators and employee relation directors.

The new Minneapolis labor movement has reached the most dangerous stage in its history. Trade union leaders whose courage is unquestioned and who have the ability to fight to the death on the picket line are apt to fall a prey to the new spokesman of employers' groups.

The North Central Council

A step of supreme importance to northwest driving unions was taken last Sunday when delegates from various teaming unions in this part of the country set up THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT DRIVERS COUNCIL.

With the general growth of the trade union movement and with the steady membership expansion of unions affiliated with the Teamsters' International, it is imperative that some central agency be set up to coordinate the activity of the various locals in this section of the country.

The Council will prove particularly valuable at this time when drivers' unions are attempting to regulate hours and wages of long distance freight truck drivers.

Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Casket Workers went back to work Monday morning.

Attendance at the Sunday drivers conference was held down because of the weather.

Beauty operators are talking about organizing a union.

Milk Drivers Union report all but three men working.

Hosiery Workers still declare that Berkshire hosiery is unfair to organized labor.

Skogland left Wednesday for Washington with the committee of Independent Truck Owners.

The head timekeeper on the Belt Line is in the grease.

Ray Sawyer, head man of the Milk Drivers, says that he has never received the Organizer.

Collections in the Joseph Flieter case have amounted to \$76 to date.

There are now 162 recognized stewards in Local 544.

The new halls are taking shape on the first floor. Thirteen unions will have offices after February 1.

Back wages, to the extent of \$400 was collected for one man last week.

Members of Laundry Drivers Union will not receive the current month's button until their book shows the month's dues stamp.

The North Central District Drivers Council will start functioning at the beginning of next month.

Walter Johnson of the Bailif Transfer Company is confined to the Veterans' hospital.

That Grand Jury thing is still hot.

Meat Cutters Union announce that, beginning February 15, all local meat markets will open at 8 a. m. and close at 6 p. m. except on Saturdays when they will close at 7 p. m.

Two of the office steno's get lunch with their typewriters each day.

The casket workers went back to the coffin mills Monday.

The only strike going on in Minneapolis at the present time is the J. R. Clark affair.

The transfer agreement was read to the membership meeting Monday night.

Pockrandt Lumber Company was straightened out with a short strike the first part of the week.

C. White has truck license number 544.

Pete Harris is in politics.

A job census is being taken. The job stewards will furnish the information.

Ray Rainbolt's little daughter, dangerously ill in the hospital, was given a blood transfusion by Dr. McCrimmon. He furnished the blood.

The Independents' Washington delegation consisted of McCue, Lindholm, Zander and Skogland.

Liberty Cab is also union. All drivers are members of Local 125.

All ice cream drivers in Minneapolis are members of Local 471.

Six coal companies have not yet signed the coal agreement.

Judge Vinc Day gave the outgoing Grand Jury a real going-over.

Smith's baby was a Fridlund visitor Monday night.

LABOR... Looks at the Press

The death of Arthur Brisbane reminds us of an old saying of Brann's: Many people are killed by pneumonia—contracted while keeping their mouths open on subjects they knew nothing about.

Arthur Brisbane was worth \$250,000 a year to the masters of America, because better than any other man he could make seem almost plausible all that great burden of lies which mankind drags after it.

San Francisco news item: The state of California made public its findings opposing release of Tom Mooney from prison. The state's findings are that Mooney failed to establish that any witness against him committed perjury; that prosecutors honestly believed Mooney guilty; and that Mooney had a fair trial.

How much longer, boys?

Washington news item: Provisions to cut off shipment of airplanes to the Madrid Loyalists were made in record time, Wednesday. The embargo bill snapped through the Senate in a few minutes, 80 to 0; a few minutes later the House passed the bill 403 to 1.

The boys all jump into line nice, don't they, when the possibility arises that some aid might go to the workers of Spain. No matter from what party they come from.

Yawn-of-the-week in Minneapolis: Representatives of leading business and industrial firms today organized the Associated Industries of Minneapolis. The Citizens Alliance now passes out of existence, the announcement said.

Alfred Sloan, head of General Motors: No General Motors worker has to pay tribute to anyone for the right to work.

Required reading for Mr. Sloan: Year-end dividends of General Motors in 1936 were \$65 millions. . . Yearly salary of Mr. Sloan is \$374,505. . . Yearly salary of Mr. Knudsen, G. M. vice-president, is \$325,869. . . "the automobile industry paid substantial salaries to hundreds of executives; many salesmen received more than \$100,000. . ."

That's quite a lot of tribute.

Alfred Sloan—and all the bosses for that matter—couldn't live without the workers. But the workers would just begin to live without the bosses.

The Sloans of life consume, and the workers produce.

And maybe that is why, as Gene Debs used to suggest, the bosses run mostly to stomach, and the workers run mostly to hands.

How violence begins in labor disputes—from a Janesville news item: Sheriff Croke will swear in

50 additional deputies today as a precautionary measure against violence in the General Motors sit-down strike.

Another bit from the auto strike front: The civil strife in labor's ranks entered the auto strike today as four craft A. F. of L. unions asked the company to reopen a plant closed by the C. I. O. auto union.

I think that is what is still called Union Scabbing.

Washington news release: Record Arming Sums Provided—Roosevelt recommends a record peace-time national defense expenditure of \$980 millions for the fiscal year beginning next July.

So this is what the Pan-American Peace Conference paved the way for.

Los Angeles news item: Dr. Lee De Forest, 63 year old inventor of more than 300 radio and talking picture developments, has entered a voluntary petition of bankruptcy here. His assets are \$390.

Did any of you still believe you could attain individual social security by inventing something that was of social value?

Governor White of Mississippi: Our high percentage of native Anglo-Saxon citizenship, with an absence of the disturbing elements so common in large industrial centers, offers a great attraction for those looking for new fields in which to establish their factories.

That is what the auto bosses thought when they imported a few hundred thousand Hill-Billies. And now look at the "native Anglo-Saxons."

History shows that there have been times when "native Anglo-Saxons" were not so supine before oppression, which gives the lie to the governor's slander.

Laugh - of - the - week: Railroad Unions Ready to Fight for 6-Hour Day.

Now how in blazes can the railroad workers fight for ANYTHING—split up as they are in 21 different unions.

Notice to All Local 544 Men

JOB GRIEVANCES Effective immediately job grievances from members will be received by the Union during the following hours only:

7 a. m. to 9 a. m. except Sunday.

7 p. m. to 8:30 p. m. except Saturday and Sunday.

2 p. m. to 4 p. m. Saturday only.

Grievances will not be accepted at any other time except by special appointment. All grievances must be submitted in writing on the standard Union report form. Grievances will not be accepted over the telephone.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Any group of members in a company or section desiring a special meeting may obtain a meeting hall and the assistance of a Union official by contacting the Secretary of the Union.

Meeting facilities cannot be guaranteed unless arrangements are made through the Secretary.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 544