

DAILY STRIKE BULLETIN

UNITED
LABOR
ACTION

THE ORGANIZER



TWO TWENTY-FIVE

SOUTH THIRD STREET

SMASH THE
CITIZENS
ALLIANCE

Volume 1, No. 16

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1934

Price one cent

PICKETS TO REPORT AT 4 A. M.

Bosses Again Hiding Behind The Red Scare

Raise Cry to Duck Real Strike Issues

Still unable to find any justification for their attitude which anybody but bosses will accept, Joe Cochran, chairman of the so-called Employers Advisory Committee and tool of the Citizens Alliance, this morning released a new blast against Communism.

The kept press of the city feature his statement in their noon editions.

All this talk about Communism precipitated by the bosses is merely an effort to avoid the real issues of the strike. Now they say that "the real issue" is that

"Any settlement so far suggested would be to surrender to a group of communist leaders who do not represent our employees, but who do represent the entering wedge of revolutionary communism. . . The employers are fighting for a principle that for the time outweighs the wage issue. For them to settle terms without first settling the fundamental issue would be to sell the city to the communists."

Every worker knows this line of talk to be fraudulent. The real issues are two-fold: wage increases and union recognition. The Citizens Alliance, which is the power behind the whole anti-strike and anti-labor movement in this city, is determined to smash unionism and is starting with Local 574, the most active and energetic Union in Minneapolis. They want thereafter to go on to other Unions.

They do not want to grant wage increases because such a victory would consolidate first 574 and secondly the whole trade union movement of the city. It is not that they want to beat Communists, but that they want to beat labor as a whole.

Talk of principle, of course, will deceive nobody when it comes from the mouths of men of the type of Cochran and the Employers Advisory Committee. These exploiters have only one principle: ever higher profits for themselves.

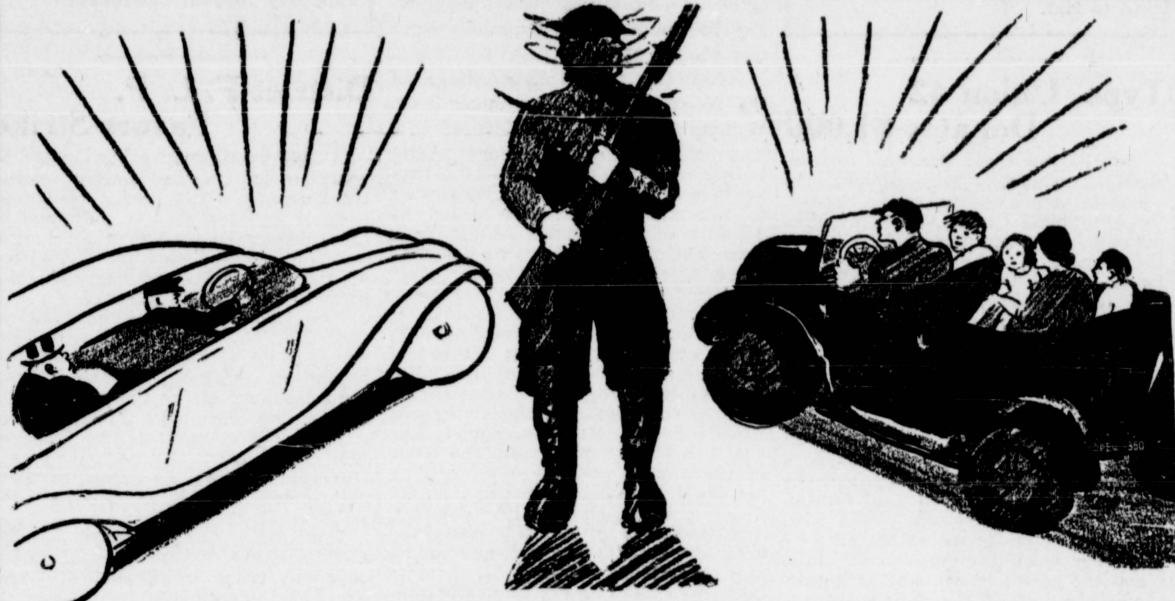
Against this Local 574 sets up the principles of Union independence, the right of workers to choose their own leaders without interference from the bosses, the solidarity of all workers in the strike struggle despite political differences, and militant battle against the exploiting bosses and their scurvy agents.

In demanding that the bosses keep their hands off the labor unions and make no move to interfere with freedom of the workers to select their own leaders, the workers of 574 have won the backing of the C. L. U.

The present leadership has several times before the assembled members offered to resign if the members wished it. In every case the members flatly refused to accept any resignations. The bosses do not like this fact because they have found out that they cannot bluff, browbeat or buy the present leaders. But they will have to put up with that fact and get down to the real issues.

TAG DAY August 4th

Register for Service at
225 South 3rd St.
COME DO YOUR BIT!



LAW AND ORDER?

We Will Not Submit!

The time has come when it should be perfectly clear to every striker, and to every unionist and workingman in town, how martial law operates so far as the strike is concerned.

As soon as the National Guard was called into action, and even before it, Local 574 took the position that martial law could operate only in the interests of the bosses and against the workers. Therefore the Union demanded and still demands withdrawal of the troops.

Before the National Guard appeared, Local 574 had every firm whose men it called out on strike, completely shut down. None of their trucks moved.

Without intervention of troops, settlement would have been forced on the bosses.

The federal mediators proposed a compromise settlement, endorsed by Governor Olson. Local 574 accepted the settlement. The bosses rejected it. Then martial law was declared.

What is the situation? Every day, in increasing numbers, trucks hitherto tied up in garages, are given permission to operate with scab drivers under military protection. The right of picketing has been infringed upon. Attempts have even been made to interfere with the freedom of our press. Pickets have been arrested; members and sympathizers selling the daily **Organizer** have been intimidated; the Union is not even allowed to hold meetings in front of its headquarters.

Meanwhile, on one flimsy pretext and another, the "permit system" which was explained as a means of limiting the movement of trucks, has revealed itself as a means of extending their movement "to normal."

When a truck moves with a professional scab, that's a move to break the strike.

When a truck moves with the aid of a police convoy, that's a move to break the strike.

Yes, and even when a truck moves with a "military permit" from the National Guard and the approval of Governor Olson, it is still a move to break the strike!

In his radio speech last night, Governor Olson declared that the troops are not here to side either with the employers or with the strikers. Is that so? We don't believe there is such a thing as "neutrality" in this fight, and we haven't seen any, either. All we know and see, all that anybody knows and sees, is that the workers' picket cars are stopped—the employers' trucks move with military permits.

The "military permit" system shows itself in practise as a means of breaking the blockade which the strike had effectively established around trucking operations.

The drastic restriction of the right of peaceful picketing shows itself in practise as a means of preventing independent labor action.

We demanded of Governor Olson that the troops be withdrawn. This was refused.

We demanded of Governor Olson that our public meetings in front of the headquarters be allowed to continue. This was refused.

We demanded of Governor Olson that our right to picket be restored. This was refused.

Finally, we demanded of Governor Olson that those trucks bearing military permits shall be operated only by Union men, working under the conditions prescribed in the compromise settlement proposed by the federal mediators and endorsed by Governor Olson. **And even this has been refused!**

In the light of these simple and incontestable facts, is it not perfectly clear that the military regime instituted in Minneapolis is working out exclusively for the benefit of the bosses in their Union-smashing campaign?

It may be objected that the bosses are also complaining. Yes, but their complaints are of an entirely different—of an opposite kind. In essence, what they demand is a speeding up of a process which is already in full swing. We demand a turn in the opposite direction.

Up to now, the situation has appeared somewhat puzzling to many workers, including even members of our Union. The great majority of the working people of Minneapolis, including the men of 574, have placed their confidence in Governor Olson.

They voted for and elected him. Thought he was their friend.

What are they going to think now?

Regardless of any intentions Governor Olson may have—and they may be of the best—the course of action he has taken has served but one purpose: to aid the bosses and to hamper and restrict the independent activity of the workers in their struggle for the right to live and to enjoy the benefits of Union organization. They cannot forgive that, and they cannot forget it. And what is more, they cannot submit to it without fighting back.

We have the right to strike, to picket, to assemble, to speak and to write—and nobody shall take them away from us.

Whoever allows himself to be deprived of these elementary rights, is no more than a coward and a slave.

We intend to fight for our rights to the bitter end, and we call upon every Union man in Minneapolis to show his colors and take his place in the fight.

574 to Go On Fighting For Right to Live

Olson's Position Unsatisfactory to Committee

Replying to the latest public statement of Governor Olson, the Strike Committee of 100, shortly after noon today issued a public statement expressing its complete dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs and with the Governor's latest orders.

The statement of the strike committee reads as follows:

"The statement issued by Governor Floyd B. Olson to the press this afternoon in reply to the demands made upon him last night by representatives of Local 574, is absolutely unsatisfactory and unacceptable.

"Martial law was established ostensibly because the employers rejected the compromise settlement proposed by the Federal mediators and endorsed by Governor Olson. It has operated and is operating exclusively in the interests of the employers and against the men who are fighting for a living wage. This is an indisputable fact which everybody has already verified for himself.

"Governor Olson's latest statement does not in any way alter this state of affairs.

"Scab trucks are operating with Military Permits in ever increasing number. General Walsh boasted in yesterday's papers that truck movement is 65 per cent of normal. This is far from being the case, but it shows what they are driving at—to break the strike and drive the men back to work at starvation wages and non-union conditions, under cover of martial law.

"The Union demanded the removal of the troops. This was refused.

"The Union demanded the right to hold its meetings in front of its Headquarters. This was refused.

"The Union demanded the right to picket. This was denied.

"The Union demanded that no permit be issued for the movement of trucks involved in the strike, until the employers agreed to the compromise settlement. Also denied.

"Finally, the Union demanded last night that all permits be revoked for a period of 48 hours, in view of the wholesale fraud that has been admittedly practiced in obtaining them; that thereafter, no permits be issued to any employer unless he secures men from the Union under the conditions of the Haas-Dunnigan proposal. This has been answered by Governor Olson with an equivocal statement which means only one thing: our legitimate demand is again denied.

"Despite all his harsh words directed at the employers, Governor Olson directs all his harsh blows at the Union and the strike.

"Against this attempt to undermine and break the strike, Local 574 has but one alternative; to fight; in doing so, we intend to assert every one of our constitutional rights.

"Local 574 is mobilizing for a continuation of the fight. Every picket is instructed and every sympathizer and supporter in the labor movement is requested to attend the mass mobilization meeting at the Parade grounds at 8 p. m. tonight, Tuesday, July 31. All pickets and supporters are urged to report at strike headquarters, 8th St. and Third Ave. S., at 4 a. m. tomorrow, Wednesday, August 1, for picketing instructions.

"Union men of Minneapolis! Rally to the cause of 574! It is your cause as well as ours."

WORKERS
FRIENDS

MOBILIZATION

TONIGHT AT 8
THE KNOLL
Parade Grounds

News and Views

After one of the boys got through announcing over the mike last night that 574 had decided that it could not tolerate any further scab movements...

A friend at St. Barnabas has a way of fixing the weather situation: have Johannes shoot the weather man in the back.

The University of Minnesota Social Problems club has garnered \$41.75 for the strike fund.

Ladies: register at once for tag day service. Your help is urgently needed. Report to 225 South 3rd St.

The Geo. W. Helm Co. has donated six cases of snuff to the Commissary run by the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Come out for tag day service! Register at once!

Burton Du Bois is another member of 574 who has sent us a very interesting poem. Unfortunately it is a bit long for our space.

Sam McGee claims he lost some weight since the strike started. Will finder kindly return same to office and oblige.

Don't forget to report for picket duty, guys, the fun is just starting.

That wasn't thunder you heard last night—it was only Happy snoring in the front office.

"Big Six" and "George" are traveling together again—these hombies usta be pienntee uftay!

Are you doing your bit toward making your neighbors "ORGANIZER" conscious?

The Chicago Tribune, that Tory rag which spits venom at every strike that ever happens, had an editorial yesterday backing up the Citizens Alliance of this town.

Which reminds us: we learn that the Nation, a New York weekly paper, is going to have an article about the strike this week.

The Norge Lodge of the I.O.G.T. adopted a resolution against the police actions on Bloody Friday.

How do you enjoy paying \$15,000 a day out of the State treasury so that the militia can grant permits to scabs and give them protection?

Are New Yorkers foreigners, as the Cits Alliance makes out? Not if they are workers, say we. Look at this proof: Wm. Galvin, President of the New York Inside Bakery Workers Union...

Every concession that could honorably be made was made and that is a pretty difficult thing to do, make concessions, when you know that you are dealing with knaves who remain in the background; the knaves and racketeers who control the Citizens Alliance and direct its policies.

Kohler Martyr Buried

In Sheboygan, Wis., 5,000 strikers marched in funeral procession to bury one of their two martyrs of the Kohler picket line yesterday. Twenty-six unions of Sheboygan suspended work in order to participate. They will also quit work this afternoon for a second martyr's funeral.

Typo. Union 42 Donates \$1,000

Translating their previous expressions of sympathy and support into concrete terms of impressive nature, Typographical Union No. 42 of Minneapolis has appropriated \$1,000 for the benefit of the strike fund of Local 574.

The resolution was signed by Fred Rauert, President of the Union, and August Hartkorn, Secretary. The resolution reads as follows: "Resolved that the sum of \$1,000 be appropriated from the defense fund of the Minneapolis Typographical Union No. 42 to be used for the benefit of Truck Drivers Union 574."

In the last membership meeting of Local 42, reports were brought in on the various difficulties encountered by The Organizer. Great interest was expressed in the fate of the paper and various proposals were made as to how the Typographical Union could help guarantee its future appearance.

Local 574 is deeply moved by this generous response to our appeal for aid. Now that we have settled down for a long siege, we need just such backing. Finances may settle the question; we must get the means of hanging on until we smash the bosses and the Citizens Alliance and save Minneapolis for unionism.

Ladies to Run Tag Day

All departments of the Ladies' Auxiliary work are still going at full blast. This includes the Commissary, office work, emergency hospital, Organizer sales and social service.

Tag day will be held on Saturday, Aug. 4. All proceeds will be for the benefit of the strikers.

The strike fund must be replenished as the duration of the strike has unearthed new needs in a number of strikers' families. No striker must go hungry. Tag day will help solve the financial problem.

All members of the Ladies' Auxiliary and all sympathizers of Local 574 are asked to register at once for tag day work. The registration booth will be at 225 South 3rd St., the old Union headquarters.

Someone suggested that the city of Minneapolis send Mayor Bainbridge as an exhibit to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington—there is only one monkey like him in the whole world.

THE ORGANIZER

The Daily Strike Bulletin and organ of General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers Union 574, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor.

Published in the interests of labor at 225 South Third St., in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

FARRELL DOBBS Editor-in-Chief

VOL. I, No. 16

Removal Pleas Are Taken Up

Brown Testifies Before Welfare Committee

A public meeting ordered by the City Council as a result of popular indignation and demands for the removal of Mayor Bainbridge and Police Chief Michael Johannes was held by the Public Welfare committee of the City Council this morning.

After the formal proceedings of the hearing had gotten under way, William S. Brown, president of 574, was called on as a witness. After telling what he knew about the happenings of Bloody Friday, he replied to the charges that 574 is led by a bunch of communists hailing from New York.

Mose Winthrop then called to the witness stand one of the victims of Bloody Friday, Ray Bloomquist, who was two blocks away from the scene of the gunfire and who was walking home after having hunted in vain for a job—not a job as strike breaker.

After this man's testimony, Jack Karson of the Communist Party took the floor and made a speech implying that the Communist Party was running the strike. Alderman Banks cross-examined Karson, and before he was through Karson was forced to admit that the strikers and organized labor refused to recognize his party and that his party had nothing to do with the strike.

At this point a Mr. Torrence took the floor against the petition. He claimed to be "just a common ordinary citizen who worked for two thousand citizens of Minneapolis." He then proceeded to praise the actions of Johannes and Bainbridge on Bloody Friday.

When Mose Winthrop arose to question Torrence, the latter retreated rapidly to his seat and, upon Winthrop's insistence, said, "I prefer not to answer questions." Winthrop then proceeded to reprimand the employers for not accepting the terms of Father Haas and Commissioner Dunnigan.

Alderman Maxil Robb, supposedly an impartial member of the committee, interrupted at this point and claimed communists were behind the petition for the removal of Bainbridge and Johannes. Alderman Ed Hudson retorted that there were one hundred and forty thousand signatures on the petitions, many of them business men, and that "they couldn't all be communists."

Robb then asked for witnesses to the truth of the strikers' statements that they had been shot down without warning. Irving Green, attorney for nine of the arrested strikers, said that if the committee cared to hear this proof they should attend the trial of nine strikers to be held August 3.

A Mr. Steffanson, who introduced himself as "just a dumb painter and paperhanger," got to his feet and reprimanded the employers who had spoken in favor of the police as admitting they didn't know the law. Heffelfinger and Robb started heckling him, but he refused to be heckled and drove them back to their seats before he sat down amidst the applause of the assembled crowd.

Alderman Hudson took this opportunity to define a scab as one who takes another man's job when he's out on strike. He said that according to law, any man who sends a scab out to work in a striker's place during a strike is deliberately inciting riot. He accused the Citizens Alliance of being a group of murderers. This almost started a riot. Members of the Alliance jumped to their feet shouting denials and cursing Hudson. This caused the meeting to be adjourned until a further date.

Peaceful Picket Fined

Peter Warhold was fined \$10 in municipal court today for peaceful picketing during the one-day sympathetic strike of the laundry and dry cleaning workers. Warhold was knocked down by Freddie Westergreen's car while talking with Westergreen against scabbing.

A number of peaceful pickets were arrested this morning in various parts of the city. Last night several salesgirls handling The Organizer were taken in by the militia and held for a while.

Apparently a determined effort is being made to discourage all strike activity. Or are they also arresting Journal newboys?

District F. L. P.

Favors Strike

A call upon their party leader to abandon his present policy in the truck-drivers strike, and a pledge of support to Local 574 is contained in a resolution adopted last night at a meeting of the Campaign Committee of the Farmer-Labor Party of the Fifth Congressional District.

This District includes the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th and 13th wards of the city of Minneapolis. The resolution is signed by Edwin I. Hudson, chairman of the Campaign Committee, and Marian Le Sueur, its secretary. The committee also voted to send a delegation this morning to see Governor Olson and press for such policy changes.

The Fifth Congressional District Farmer-Labor Campaign Committee goes on record in support of Local No. 574 General Drivers.

It considers the struggle of Local No. 574 as the struggle of all workers against the Citizens Alliance and all unfair predatory employers.

We protest vigorously against the murder of Henry Ness and the shooting of 50 pickets by the Minneapolis police.

We hold the Citizens Alliance, Mayor Bainbridge, and Chief Johannes responsible for the killing of Henry Ness.

We shall fully support the Governor in any action he may take in allowing peaceful picketing.

We ask the Governor to modify the rules of the National Guard relative to picketing and the issuing of permits to trucks and firms not engaged in the transportation of absolute necessities.

We pledge our moral and financial support to the striking truck drivers in their effort to secure a settlement of the strike on the basis of the recommendations of Father Haas and Commissioner Dunnigan, as approved by the United States Department of Labor and the new United States Labor Board headed by Senator Wagner of New York.

The Workers' Voice

To the Editor:

In 1891 Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany addressed his soldiers thus: "With the present Socialistic machinations, it may happen that I shall order you to shoot your own relatives, your brothers, or even your parents—which God forbid—and then you are bound in duty implicitly to obey my orders."

Again in 1914 a certain Rev. Pingree of Denver said, concerning the striking coal miners: "If I had my way, I'd blow up all the miners' houses!"

Again, J. P. Morgan, the elder, said at the start of the century when asked if ten dollars a week was enough for a longshoreman to live on (they were on strike at the time): "If that is all he can get, and he takes it, it is enough."

Now, in 1934, July 6th, to be exact, we hear this from Lieut. Col. D. P. Hardy to his militiamen at the San Francisco strike: "If it is a question of you or the rioters, get them first. If you are attacked, clip them, then bayonet them, then use bullets."

Thus speak the law and order men. All of them are staunch defenders of the status quo, which allows all with the longest snouts to get their fill at the public trough. Law and order is desirable to them because it protects their ill-gotten gains; it must be maintained so that these traders may cheat in peace.

Arthur W. Hopkins
1628 8th St. S. E.

Gov. Olson replied to the employers that they can say anything they please as long as they don't frighten the little children. Every time the employers mention the name of Johannes should be enough to frighten any child in Minneapolis!

dere emily

Tuesday

dere emily, 2 weeks, kid, since the strike started. 2 weeks of life, so packed full of horror and thrills and tiredness and fierce fitting and help from friends and lies from enemies—it seems a lifetime has been packed in these 2 weeks, almost.

say, guess who we run across tonight in a soljurs uneform but young fuzzy parker from Turtle Creek. we talked to him for a few minutes. fuzzy says he doesnt no what its all about. he come down here becuz they pay 2 bucks per day, but he says he sure dont want to do anything thatll hurt the workers and help those murderin bosses. we told him to read The Organizer, and then he wud no all rite what he and the rest of the soljurs were bein used for.

i am tired, emily, tired, after so long, a striker becomes a machine sort of, he gets numb to a lot of things. yep, i'm tired but i wont never give in, emily, not until we win this fite or they kill me. why do the bosses do this to us workers, emily? why must us workers have to fite so, just to win our simple demands? why do the bosses tell such terrible lies about us to evrybody, and order the cops to shoot us down like dogs, and threaten us; yes, and when we still come on and win, they use there little toy soljurs to scab on us.

and why do us workers have to live like we do, just so many parts of a masheen, selling ourselves like slaves to the highest bidder, doing the most monotonous work, over and over and over agin? geez, emily, if i thot there was nothin left in life for me but to continue to live like i been livin, why i think i'd croke myself. but i no that life kin be made better for the workers and that is why i and the rest of old 574 keeps fiting on. not all my life am i goin to keep on driving a smelly old truck aroun, strainin myself liftin heavy boxes, tearin my hands on crates and wire, and workin so long hours that when i come home at nite, i'm mostly to tired to even think, let alone read or study or go out and have a good time—if i had the money to do it, which i havent. and whats more, i'm goin to fite so that nobody else has to work under such dreadful condishuns as what i had to work under. and the 1 step in changin all this is for us to make our Union so strong the bosses will think a lot before they chaluunge us agin, and to win shorter hours and more pay for us all.

there has been strikes in this country for at least 100 years or so, did you no that, emily? and win, lose, or draw, the worker has allus got the dirty end of the stick, becuz the bosses have allus owned the government and the courts and the papers and the nashonal gards and the federal troops and had all the money. so they allus won.. but all these past strikes, and the ones that 574 has put on are at last bearin fruit for the workers, anyhow, emily. all the strikes a the past, whither they was won or lost, becuz now workers by the hundrids and thousans, all over the country, is at last beginnin to realize that the one and only way outa the whole bloody mess is for us all to unite—workers and farmers and guys that wear clean shirts and makes ten or twelve bucks per week—and throw the murderin, cheatin, lyin bosses off from our backs and begin to run things OUR way instead of there way. and the thot of this, and what it'll mean to me and all the workers that are allus bein screwed by the bosses is what shines like a lite in front a me and makes evrything worth while, and makes me keep fite.

i spoze you want to no what sammy has been doin these days, emily. well, yestiday he went out with a armful of Organizers and sold em. he was all excited becuz two guys and a lady each give him \$1.00 a piece for them, and lots would give him as much as 25 or 50 cents.

then this afternoon he went out picketing with us, near the city limits we come across a truck which didnt have no buzness runnin aroun loose and somehow the truck got dumped over and for no reason at all across the fields, throwin stones at himself meanwhile. one of our guys says it was all so unushual, it must a been an ack of God or something.

so sammy is having his fun, and doin his duty too, and also doin his best to eat our commissary outa house and home. boy, he puts it away with the best of em—just sits there and stuffs hiself like he wud split. i guess the eatin aint been so good with him back home, eh kid.

so long, kid,
Mike.

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