

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

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

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

VOL. 5, NO. 20

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1939

PRICE 5 CENTS

All Unions Join Drive to Free WPA Strikers

On the National Picket Line

The pound, pound, pound of the marching feet of millions of European workers are sounding the death knell of the so-called "peace" with which the world has been so liberally endowed for the past twenty years.

Meanwhile here in America the fight between the bosses and the workers, between the AFL and the CIO, and now between sister unions within the AFL goes merrily on.

The Green Mountain Boys have won their fight with the Warner Construction Company. Colorado labor has definitely gone a step ahead. An agreement between the six AFL unions involved in the strike, and Leroy Warner of the Warner Construction company of Chicago, was signed August 25.

Governor Carr, who sent the militia into Green Mountain AFTER the vigilantes had wounded seven union men, said that he would not lift martial law until after the agreement went into effect, and then only when it is proved to him that the agreement "can be enforced."

Seven unionists were shot, one lost an eye and is still suffering from secondary shock, in the "battle" on Green Mountain when the vigilantes came forth from the dam-site armed with high powered telescopic rifles which they had exchanged inside the dam for their old fashioned squirrel rifles. The unionists were unarmed.

There is not much doubt in my mind that this agreement WILL be enforced.

Sixteen of the 30 editorial workers of the San Diego Sun announced on August 25, that they intend to go on strike at once because of the breakdown in negotiations for a contract with the paper. The publisher, Alan L. Houser has refused either to sign a contract or deal with the union.

The workers at the Morrell Packing plant at Ottumwa, Iowa, went on strike on August 24, over the discharge of four union members who had protested when their pay checks showed that they had not been paid overtime due them.

Laurence Jacobsen, organizer for Local 1 of the Paekinghouse Workers of America (CIO) asked assistance of Secretary Perkins and she sent Commissioner William Houston of the Labor Department in to act as referee. Pickets have allowed feed

WPA Strike Prisoners Organize

Like good union men should do, the WPA strike prisoners in the Hennepin County jail have organized themselves and placed Max Goldman in charge as steward, to direct the distribution of cigars and money.

The whole upper tier of the jail has been set aside for the exclusive use of the strike prisoners. With the firm conviction of their innocence and the encouraging solidarity of the union movement, the morale of the prisoners, needless to say, is high.

Several concessions, customary in cases of this nature, have been won for the prisoners. For instance, they are permitted to mingle from 7 to 1 a. m., from 1 to 4 p. m., and from 6 to 7:30 p. m. following the supper hour.

The food, like all prison fare, is lousy and those prisoners requiring special diets are just out of luck unless they have the money to buy it. But fruit and milk have been given the prisoners. Naturally, imprisonment is not a happy experience, but the strikers express themselves as appreciative of the treatment being accorded them.

New Visiting Hours

They have had so many visitors that, after this week, the visiting days at the jail will be changed to Monday and Thursday to accommodate the wives, children and friends of the arrested. A bundle of Northwest Organizers is sent them weekly by the Teamsters Joint Council. One of the most difficult handicaps is the absence of literature in the jail. Books cannot be brought to the jail by visitors. The only way the prisoners can get reading matter is by having money and sending out jailers to buy books.

But, all in all, the prisoners are getting along famously. Some have actually gained weight during incarceration. During the hours when they mingle together long discussions are held on every subject under the sun, from their coming trial to the Stalin-Hitler agreement and the method in which Poland is to be divided.

Wives of the strikers will be permitted to visit their husbands at the county jail from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Tuesday the strike group received a welcome surprise when the enormous cake which the Bakery Union Local 222 had prepared for Tom Mooney was brought in intact and turned over to the strikers. The cake was a gift from the Bakery Union and Tom Mooney.

Local 471 Mourns Loss of H. Taylor

The Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471 wishes to express their sympathy to the family of Hyland Taylor, who was a respected and trustworthy member of this union for many years. Brother Taylor was initiated into Local 471 on February 17, 1920, and after nine years time was compelled, due to ill health, to take his withdrawal card on September 1, 1929. Although he has never been able to work since that date, he always took a very keen interest in the growth and advancement of his union.

Services for Brother Taylor were held at Anderson Brothers Funeral Home and burial was at Oakhill cemetery, on Saturday, August 26. He is survived by his wife and three sons, Lester, Robert and Harold.

CIO in "Stalin-Hitler" Pact With Erickson



Proof of the treacherous company union policies of the Stalinist-controlled Minneapolis CIO is this picture of one of the Erickson gas stations against which the AFL Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977 had called a strike some weeks ago. Erickson had imported a number of finks from Wisconsin to man his stations. When Local 977 demanded a union contract, Erickson gave his employees 30 days to join the CIO, with the alternative of being fired. The CIO has made the same

scabby deal with Erickson that it made with Direct Service.

Despite the fact that Local 977 was striking the Erickson gas stations, the CIO stepped in and made a deal with the company.

Note the writing on the station: "We are 100% CIO" and "No Strike Here." The signs are belied by the Local 977 banner in the foreground reading "Unfair to Local 977."

Arrests Slow Down But Anderson Says 'More Indictments'

His ardor to repress the WPA strikers considerably cooled by the united and formidable opposition of the entire Minneapolis labor movement, United States Attorney Victor Anderson slowed down the tempo of arrests during the past week and scrapped altogether his plans to arrest last Thursday and Friday the 40 WPA sewing project women workers who have been indicted.

Up to Tuesday evening the total of those arrested on the indictments handed down by the federal grand jury totalled only 40. A number of those arrested since last Thursday voluntarily surrendered to authorities when they learned they had been indicted.

Where the arrested would be lodged is still a question. The Hennepin County jail is so overcrowded now that a number of prisoners guilty of real crimes have been removed to Leavenworth to make room for the WPA strikers. Even then, 11 of the strikers were removed Monday to the Ramsey County jail.

With arraignment of the arrested victims set for this Friday before Federal Judge Robert C. Bell, the defense attorneys will move formally for lowered bond.

WPA Defense Committee During the week the labor move-

ment swung into intensive action to establish adequate defense machinery and launch the work of freeing the strike victims and preparing their defense.

Last Wednesday evening the Minneapolis Central Labor Union formally approved and voted support to the WPA Defense Committee representing the central labor body and the various Joint Councils. The CLU immediately voted to contribute \$1,000 to the WPA defense, and to appeal to all affiliates to respond generously to the appeals of the Defense Committee for financial assistance.

George E. Murk, president of the Minneapolis Musicians Union, is chairman of the Defense Committee. E. Clair Johnson, head of the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131, is treasurer. Johnson reported that the General Drivers Union has also donated \$1,000 to the de-

fense fund. Peter Murk of the Sheet Metal Workers is vice-president of the Committee. The Central Labor Union expressed its unanimous displeasure at the silly and vicious manner in which the arrests of the WPA strikers have been carried out by the marshals, and at the magnitude of the bail established by Judge Bell.

(Continued on page 4)

New Schedule for 289 Inside Workers

The Inside Workers of the Bakery Drivers Union Local 289 will hold regular monthly meetings henceforth on the last Saturday of each month, 3 p. m., at the union hall. Up to now, Local 289's Inside Section has been meeting on call.

No Settlement Yet on 544-Grocery Pact

With the negotiators still at it, no agreement has yet been reached on a new pact between the General Drivers Union Local 544 and the wholesale grocery industry. However, negotiations have progressed to the point where there is agreement on all clauses except those dealing with the wages and conditions of over-the-road grocery drivers.

Local 544's executive board was to survey the negotiations at its Wednesday meeting.

Dep't Store Section of 359 Meets

Members of the Department Section of the Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 met Monday to discuss the offer made by the department stores. The management offers to pay for six legal holidays not now being paid for. Inasmuch as many members reported they are already being paid for these holidays, they instructed their representatives to notify the stores some additional concessions must be granted.

359 Presents Pacts to Two New Firms

The Warehouse Union Local 359 presented agreements recently on behalf of two recently organized groups, the National Biscuit company and the Warehousing Service firm. Workers at these firms have been receiving low wages and working long hours. They intend to change this and have organized in Local 359 to obtain the wage scales paid shipping and receiving clerks throughout the city.

Executive Boards of 125 AFL Unions in Special Session Tuesday Night—Vote to Raise Bail Fund, Special Union Meetings to Be Called to Discuss Contribution to Defense Committee—Union Heads Protest Excessive Bail—State Federation of Labor Convention to Be Asked to Call One-Day General Strike of Protest Against Arrests and Convictions—Unions to Send Letters of Protest to Roosevelt

Executive boards of the one hundred and twenty-five American Federation of Labor unions in Minneapolis packed the Central Labor Union auditorium Tuesday night in a special meeting, and expressed their fervent solidarity and support of the arrested and indicted WPA strikers in six concrete motions, all carried unanimously.

Glazer Box Workers Say No to Cut

Last Thursday the Glazer Box company notified the Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 that it wished to open negotiations for a new agreement to replace the present pact which expires September 21st, 1939. The company notified the union it is proposing a 10c hourly wage cut and other minor changes.

A special meeting of the Glazer Box workers was held Tuesday evening after work and the company's proposal for a wage cut was unanimously rejected. A negotiating committee of ten was elected with instructions to go after a 10c hourly increase in wages and improvements in the vacation clause. At present only those workers employed at least 22 weeks out of the year are given vacations. Local 1859 will demand that vacations be pro-rated on the basis of one day of vacation for each 8 weeks worked, for those workers employed less than 22 weeks yearly.

Puffer Firm Remains on Tenterhooks

With the ten-day period since the strike notice having expired August 24th, the Puffer-Hubbard management has been on tenterhooks during the past week, momentarily expecting the Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 to strike.

A meeting was held in Haney's office last Thursday between representatives of the union and the company. The company still insisted on its fake plan for departmental seniority, which is no seniority at all, and its 10c hourly wage cut throughout the plant. The union refused to accept such proposals, and that was that.

Thursday night the company made rather extensive preparations for the strike which it anticipated Friday morning. However, the union did not strike. The company was caught short without material and had to lay off 17 workers Friday noon. Monday morning there was still no strike. A few orders came in, but the company had no material. The company had hoped the men would strike last Friday, when it would attempt to make it tough for its workers to get unemployment compensation.

The Puffer-Hubbard management fears to start into full production because it anticipates the union will fight in defense of its wages and working conditions.

Local 1859 will hold two meetings weekly of the Puffer-Hubbard Section, each Tuesday and Thursday evening, until the management signs a new union agreement or until a strike is called.

Following a detailed history of the new national relief bill, the nationwide protest strike which followed, and the Minneapolis indictments and arrests resulting from the current federal grand jury sitting, a motion carried enthusiastically to instruct the executive board of each union to call a special membership meeting immediately to consider a contribution to the Central Labor Union's WPA Defense Committee.

The meeting further moved to endorse the excellent resolution adopted by the Central Labor Union at its last meeting. The resolution is printed on page 6 of this issue in the editorial column.

It was further voted to protest vehemently to the authorities the excessive bail set for the prisoners. A committee of Bob Cramer, Miles Dunne and Peter Murk was named to draw up the protest.

State Protest Strike Considered The meeting decided to introduce a resolution at the coming Minnesota State Federation of Labor convention calling for a one-day statewide general strike of protest against the arrests and indictments of the victimized WPA strikers.

The heads of the Minneapolis union movement voted further to send from each union a message of protest directly to President Roosevelt against the high-handed arrests and indictments.

Finally, it was moved to request the directors of the Labor Temple association to call a stockholders' meeting to discuss pledging the Labor Temple property as bond for the victims of the federal government in the local strike.

Explain Defense Committee With William Sinnott in the chair, George Murk of the Musicians Union, head of the CLU's WPA Defense Committee took the floor to explain the functioning of the committee. Murk briefly traced the events which led up to the 163 indictments and told how the committee was set up, with two representatives from the Central Labor Union and each of the three union councils—the Building Trades, the Printing Trades and the Team-

(Continued on page 6)

Sioux City Drivers Sign Bakery Pact

On Wednesday, August 30th, the Sioux City Drivers Union Local 383 signed a new one-year working agreement with the 12 Sioux City bakeries, bringing the best wages and conditions to these bakery drivers that exist anywhere in the area.

A flat increase of \$2.50 weekly was won, bringing the wage for both city and country drivers to \$35. Many minor improvements in conditions, such as seniority and a maximum work week for supervisors, are stipulated in the contract, which is retroactive to August 12th.

About one hundred workers are covered by the agreement.

A major factor in the Sioux City agreement was the support of the Midwest Bakery Drivers Council, which lined up solidly behind the Sioux City Bakery Drivers in the drive for their demands.

Local 160 Circulates Petition for 30-Hour Week as Unemployment Cure

The Utility Workers Union Local 160 at its August 17th meeting pledged full support to the campaign for a 6-hour day, 30-hour week as a practical solution for unemployment. The campaign for the shorter work week is being led by New York Local Union No. 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Local 160 has begun the circulation of petitions locally to obtain signatures for the 30-hour week campaign. Local 3 has set a goal of 40,000,000 signatures in the United States to these petitions, for presentation to Congress.

In a leaflet accompanying the petition, the Educational Commit-

tee of Local 3, after pointing to the paradox of starvation in the midst of plenty, states:

"The Generosity of Nature could be developed to its fullest extent, and the Machines in all of the MILLS and FACTORIES could be working twenty-four hours every day, creating National Basic Wealth, and the American People could have money to buy EVERYTHING PRODUCED, if that WEALTH were more equitably distributed amongst the men and women WHO ACTUALLY PRODUCE WEALTH.

"There are today approximately 42,700,000 workers employed at

44 hours per week, and 10,600,000 unemployed . . .

"By working everybody but THIRTY HOURS PER WEEK, there would be 62,600,000 jobs available, which would put everyone to work and leave several MILLION JOBS open for our SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES each year."

Support for 30-Hour Week Grows

Local 3 has had great success in establishing the 30-hour week with no reduction in weekly pay in New York City, with the result that thousands of former unemployed union members are now working.

Iowa Drivers Rap Roosevelt, Murphy For Strike Stand

Condemning Roosevelt's actions in fostering the attack upon the nation's unemployed and his "high-handed and dictatorial" statement that "You can't strike against the government," the Iowa State Drivers Council at its meeting August 22nd in Minneapolis unanimously adopted a resolution pledging whole-hearted support to "our brothers in the Minnesota movement who are victimized by the policy of the administration."

The full text of the resolution adopted by the Iowa State Drivers Council follows:

WHEREAS, we consider the recent cutting of wages and lengthening of hours and enforced layoffs on WPA as a prelude to and an excuse for a general onslaught against union standards of wages and hours by private employers, and

WHEREAS, we consider the recent WPA workers' attempt to enforce collective bargaining in a legitimate and lawful action by the WPA workers in defense of their livelihood, and within the traditional and constitutional right of American workers as previously encouraged by this administration, and

WHEREAS, there is evidence to show that scores of FBI men were used as agents provocateur to provoke and encourage violence during the strike, and

WHEREAS, scores of union leaders and WPA workers have been indicted by the federal grand jury on the basis of prejudiced testimony,

Blame Roosevelt, Murphy, Harrington

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we condemn the actions of the administration, including President Roosevelt, Attorney-General Murphy, and WPA Administrator Harrington, in fostering, aiding and abetting an attack upon the wage scales of the country, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we condemn the President's statement that "You can't strike against the government" as a high-handed and dictatorial violation of constitutional rights of American workers and an attack against the principles of the labor movement intended to intimidate the strikers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we condemn the further action of the department of justice in prosecuting labor leaders and WPA workers for exercising their traditional and constitutional rights; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we condemn the WPA administration for its wage-cutting, anti-labor policy which provoked the strike, and,

Pledge Support
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we give whole-hearted support and assistance to our brothers in the Minnesota movement who are victimized by the policy of the administration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be communicated to President Roosevelt, Attorney-General Murphy, the American Federation of Labor Executive Committee, the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis, and the Labor and the general press.

Shachtman Speaks On Hitler-Stalin Alliance Friday

Max Shachtman of New York, editor of the Socialist Appeal, will speak this Friday evening, September 1st, in Minneapolis on "The Truth About the Stalin-Hitler Pact." Shachtman is known widely as a brilliant journalist and interpreter of foreign affairs.

The meeting will be held under the auspices of the Minneapolis and St. Paul branches of the Socialist Workers Party, at 919 Marquette Avenue, 8 p. m. Admission is 10c. The chairman will be V. R. Dunne. This will be Shachtman's only appearance in the Twin Cities.

1859 Tells Flour City: "Pay Up Or Else—"

On Tuesday the Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 sent letters to Stassen's Haney and the Flour City Box company stating that if the company doesn't pay the back wages owed its workers and cease chiseling on the union agreement, a strike will be called.

The Flour City Box firm has been consistently underpaying its men. The Policy Committee of the Central Labor Union has approved the actions of Local 1859 in "calling" the company and resorting to strike action if necessary.

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My employer says he ain't in business to make money. All he wants to do is serve his customers and keep us employes working.

544 Nine in Playoff with Northside Motors for Title

While the Local 544 nine was taking two exhibition games over the week-end, the Northside Motors sprung an upset on the favored Town Pump team to romp off with the Sunday park baseball title.

The game to decide the city park championship will be played between Local 544 and Northside Motors this Sunday, 2:30 p. m., at Parade Grounds No. 6. Fans are promised a bang-up game.

The Teamios whipped the Motors both times they met them this year in the Saturday league, coming out on the long end of 8-4 and 5-3 scores, and Manager Jack Herman's boys will go into the city finals heavy favorites. Herman has indicated that Norrie Hanson will start on the mound for 544.

Last Saturday 544 breezed home to a 7-1 victory over the St. Paul University Merchants. Hanson turned in a 2-hit game for the winners.

Cab Drivers Lose to 544
On Sunday the General Drivers team pulled out a 12-8 victory over the Cab Drivers in what was ballyhooed as a "grudge" game. Howie McPartland, 544 second baseman, broke up the game in the 7th inning when he poled out a homer with the sacks loaded.

Local 958, though it scored a run in each of the next two innings, could not engineer a game-winning rally.

A good deal of banter between partisan groups of spectators and between opposing players and coaches marked the 544-958 game. Local 544 fans were delighted to see former Teamio players performing for the cab nine, such as Dick Dubay, Tony Manthis, Russ Wrennell and Griggs. Barrett, shortstop, starred for the losers. Sirany, McPartland, Alford, Crandall and Pazig of 544 each nicked Gene Trow.

958 pitcher, for 2 hits. Alford turned in a nice game on the mound for the winners, though several times he found himself in a jam. Florey, rightfielder for the Teamios, was injured in the middle of the game, taking a nasty slide after a sensational running catch of a pop fly. He was replaced by Poulaaki.

544 Bowling Team Prepares for Campaign

Wednesday, September 8, at 8 p. m., the 544 Union bowlers will meet at 257 Plymouth avenue to make plans for their coming campaign in the Union Drivers Bowling League. League games are scheduled to begin Monday, September 18.

Warmed by the same sun, nurtured by the same air, fashioned of flesh and blood like to our own, wherein are they different to us, save that they starve while we surfeit, that they toil while we idle, that they sicken while we poison, that they die while we strangle.—OSCAR WILDE, in "Vera," comparing the lot of the rich and the poor.

ROTO ROOTER

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TAXI TOPICS

By Curly and Lunde

We are sorry to report the death of William Sorenson's mother, Mrs. Peter Sorenson of Pine City, Minn. She was buried Thursday, August 24, in the family lot at the Hustletown cemetery near her home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Sorenson wish to thank the Yellow Cab Benefit Fund Association for the beautiful flowers.

Paul Whiteman and his "boys" have our combined vote of appreciation as the best hack-riding band that have hit these parts for many a long moon; we also add, they were tops as entertainers.

The big ball game of the year was played at Chicago Field between Locals 544 and 958 Sunday, August 27. The score was 12 to 8 in favor of 544. P. S. We'll beat 'em next year.

There are a couple of chronic deck-shufflers who mix the time cards every morning and cause no end of trouble for the unlucky ones trying to find their card when they get nearly-late to work. If this don't stop, "De Dog" will be commissioned to find the culprit. Nuff said.

Since the 958 golf tournament talks at our meetings, Ray Rainbolt and Floyd Griggs have offers from other specialists in their lines... the cube-domino addicts want to know if they can have a "match" providing they use no loaded "bones"... the pinball experts claim they've practiced years (and spent money) to attain the skill needed for an exhibition game... last but not least are the bowlers and billiard sharks in our midst who "make" the daily newspapers often. Looks like material for a union athletic club.

The shop will have to put another horn on No. 68 as the "sissy-horn" Nordstrom put on just don't fit the personality of staid old Ed Harlan, the day driver of the same hack. We think the "Judge" should have a steam whistle.

Unfair Mortuaries

Do Not Patronize—The following funeral homes are unfair to Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912: Rainville Funeral Home, 222 East Hennepin Enger Funeral Home, Grant at Park Davies Mortuary, 1403 Harmon Place Gill Brothers, 1414 Laurel Avenue McDivitt Funeral Home, 2835 East Lake Knaeble company, 513 Plymouth Avenue north Welander Quist, Hennepin at Dupont, Chicago at 19th, West Broadway at Fremont Albinson Mortuary, Chicago Avenue at 17th

To All Friends of Organized Labor—In case you have the misfortune to have a death in your family, please telephone the Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912, at Geneva 4691, for a list of the undertaking establishments on Local 912's fair list.

With the Limousines

"Home James"
Here we go again for another week of news and what not.

We understand our president will be back about the middle of September.

We are sure sorry to hear about the Minneapolis chauffeur who had the automobile accident. To answer a lot of questions, he does not belong to the union.

Saw Ernie Johnson the other day. He said it is getting pretty cold up north and expects to be back to stay soon.

We hear Ed Litfin is enjoying a swell vacation.
Saw Al Jones going into the

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KINNEY'S

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Fink Union, CIO Scab on Painters, Oil Attendants

Today in the Minneapolis CIO hall on Cedar avenue there is a large sign urging that "ALL MEMBERS PATRONIZE THE ERICKSON STATIONS. THEY ARE FAIR TO THE CIO."

On the facade and windows of the East Hennepin Erickson gas station in this city are to be seen crudely lettered signs reading: "COME ON IN. WE ARE 100% CIO. WE WILL STAY THAT WAY. NO STRIKE HERE."

Around these stations trudge pickets bearing signs: "THIS STATION UNFAIR TO LOCAL 977, AFL." What has happened here? Who is upholding union principles? Who is defending the interests of the workers? Who is tearing down union principles and endangering the interests of the workers?

The workers and the people of Minneapolis has a right to know what is involved in this dispute. The Facts Some months ago the AFL Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977, which has organized the majority of the stations in this city, began an organizational campaign at the Erickson stations. Erickson employees were convinced that they could do what other attendants and lessees have done—better their wages and

under terms of the State Labor Law, sent notification it would strike in ten days unless Erickson was fair. Still Erickson refused, the ten days passed, the union called a strike and began picketing the Erickson stations.

CIO Enters Picture Erickson then turned to the CIO and proposed a deal to them. He did this because he knew that he could sign with the CIO without having to bother about such things as giving decent wages, seniority, and decent working conditions.

Joe Van Nordstrand and Rodney Jacobsen of the CIO, shameful to relate, made a deal with Erickson. Erickson agreed to force his employees into the CIO and he did this. He gave his employees thirty days' notice to either join the CIO or lose their jobs. The employees, given a choice like this, joined the CIO. The CIO is now advertising the Erickson stations as worthy of the patronage of all CIO members.

Why the AFL Objects When a union is striking against an employer, real union men and women look upon any aid given that employer as strike-breaking. Down through the years, in all countries, this has always been the rule.

At time of strike, employers are capable of using all sorts of tricks in order to defeat the union. One of the most common devices is to form a company union and impose it upon its employees, and then advertise to the world that its employees are perfectly well satisfied with conditions, and that the strikers are a group of agitators and malcontents who wouldn't be sat-

ified under any circumstances. Many times unions have been victimized in this way. The real CIO movement in the heavy industries of America has more than once been faced with just such a trick on the part of the employers. It was used in the Rand strike—the Little Steel strike—against the rubber workers of Akron—the auto workers of River Rouge.

Today in Minneapolis the CIO itself, under a leadership alien to all the fundamental principles of unionism, is acting the role of a company union against the AFL Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977.

Not First Time Unfortunately, this is not the first time the Minneapolis CIO has behaved, in the local oil industry, in a manner unbecoming to union men.

One year ago, in the strike of Local 977 against the Direct Service stations, the CIO did the identical thing. If the workers of Minneapolis did not realize that an unbridgeable gap separates the legitimate CIO movement from the fraudulent CIO leadership in Minneapolis, tremendous harm would have been done the CIO locally and nationally by the company-union move of the CIO in the Direct Service situation.

Now for the second time the Van Nordstrands and the Jacobsens have intervened at a time when the American Federation of Labor filling station union was carrying on a legitimate strike against an employer hostile to unionism. **Questions to CIO Members** It is time to ask the membership of the CIO movement in Minneapolis, of the American Newspaper Guild, and those other CIO unions that have earned the respect of the labor movement: What have YOU got to say about the actions of Van Nordstrand and Jacobsen in the Erickson strike? Do you approve, or do you disapprove? What are you going to do about it? Do you realize that Van Nordstrand and Jacobsen are blackening the name of the CIO among the workers of Minneapolis? Do you know that the American Federation of Labor movement looks upon them as it would look upon any other strike-breaker?

The CLU Condemns Do you know that at its last meeting on August 23rd the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, after hearing a report on the Erickson strike from Boerbach, Weir, Eisvold and Skoglund, voted unanimously to condemn the actions of the CIO as strike-breaking and to endorse the strike of Local 977, AFL?

Erickson Hates All Unions Do you know that Erickson is hostile to all legitimate labor organizations? That even now he is having two of his houses, at Plymouth and Emerson, painted by members of the Fink Company Union Number 1 of the Associated Independent Unions, and that the AFL Painters Union is picketing this scab paint job?

Jacobsen and Van Nordstrand are putting the CIO in the same class with the Fink Local Number One, backed by the Associated Industries of Minneapolis. CIO members, are you proud of this sort of leadership? We know you are not. No union man or woman could view such a rotten policy without deep resentment and disgust. What are YOU going to do to change the policy of the CIO in the Erickson strike?

Sailors Union Votes To Open Agreement By a vote of 2,062 ayes out of 2,876 votes cast, the membership of the Sailors Union of the Pacific voted at headquarters last week to instruct Secretary-Treasurer Harry Lundberg to notify the ship-owners that the union wishes to amend the present agreement.

Card of Thanks To Local 544: Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. John Brennan Patrick Kenney

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Keep Warm This Winter With a **WATERBURY FURNACE** The Waterbury Company 17 W. 28th St. Phone CO. 3121

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LIQUID CARBONIC COMPANY 501 SOUTH SIXTH STREET Minneapolis

"The Good Ship PROGRESS"

CHAPTER IV
"Reaping the Harvest"

According to the graphs prepared by the purser, who since has been supplanted by a mechanical and consequently more reliable calculator, the saving achieved in the operating costs of the Progress should have resulted in a 99 44/100 per cent increase in the net earnings of the ship. Unfortunately, the purser had overlooked a factor. As already stated, the passengers on the Progress had their domicile in the home port of the ship where they followed such occupations as butchers, bakers and candlestick makers, physicians, realtors, and morticians. They also included senior partners of Spiegelmeier and Schnitzelbaum (suits and cloaks) and a number of big cheese, butter and egg men.

When, therefore, the pay envelopes which the operating personnel of the Progress had formerly sent to their dependents ceased to make their appearance, there followed an appalling decline in business. Bologna became a drug on the market. So did buns. Candlesticks refused to move. People still got sick, but they either got well on their own hook or died without the aid of a physician. In the early stages of the depression, the superintendent of the morgue reported an encouraging increase in the number of patrons. But due to the fact that an increasing number of business executives stepped on the air when departing from their skyscraper offices, the mortuary business failed to pick up. (Another telling argument against socialism—for what right has the municipal street cleaning department to enter the undertaking business?) On the other hand, butter and eggs showed a tendency to become stronger with age.

Now, Abe Ginsberg, who had been left in charge of Spiegelmeier and Schnitzelbaum (suits and cloaks) reported an alarming falling off in sales, necessitating the discharge of half of his sales force and the introduction of the stagger job system among the remaining employees who still had strength enough to stagger. With the spread of unemployment and the shrinking of pay envelopes, came an increase in crime. This was largely due, as the eminent economist, Professor Bonehead, so ably explained it, to the fact that people who had found their pockets empty sought for confirmation in those of strangers. Hence, the mounting demand for more police protection, bigger and better jails and the necessity for higher taxes.

NEXT WEEK: Chapter V, Conclusion—"The Status Quo" or "The Fix We Is In."

On WPA Projects
By Blanche Albert
It would probably be more appropriate to call this "Off WPA Projects."

The Visiting Committee, organized the evening of August 23, has called on the families of the boys in jail. Almost invariably we have found the wives and families in good spirits and cheerfully awaiting the return of "their men." The fact that the women of the organization are showing such courage in the face of their

present trouble speaks well for the morale and "backbone" of the entire union.

At the jail cheerfulness and confidence are displayed by all the boys. A clear conscience seems to be a very comforting cell-mate.

Joe O'Hare to Aid St. Cloud Bakery Drivers on Pact

Late this week Joe O'Hare, business agent of the Minneapolis Bakery Drivers Union Local 289, is to travel to St. Cloud to aid the union there in its new contract. A campaign to complete organization of the baking industry in St. Cloud will be laid out.

Card of Thanks To Local 544: Thank you for your very kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy. —Mr. and Mrs. J. Kenney

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Sparkling **GRAIN BELT** THE FRIENDLY BEER

"Sanitary Ice" Independent Ice and Fuel Dealers

Independent Truck Chatter

By R. F. Hornig

With the first of September coming round this week the most important business of the moment is consideration of the new WPA bids for the last quarter of the year. With the shocking conditions imposed upon us by the stupidly irresponsible wage cutting of the new bidding system now in effect for six months, it is certain that most truckers are going to figure on a saner basis in offering their services for the remainder of the year. Let us adopt the slogan of the building trades "No union man works for less than trade union wages on WPA!"

As an afterthought, by way of explanation to the first paragraph it should be called to mind that all the daily papers shouted the defeat of the WPA strike. In this corner we thought so too, and it seemed that most of us were in agreement. Yet the building trades, spearhead of the attack on the prevailing wage, by their program of no wage cuts and banning of projects, has so crippled the project building operations as to cause abandonment of the biggest jobs. More power to 'em. Let us hope that our boys keep their wits about them and go and do likewise.

Let's hear from the bowling team captains about their team lineups. Where were all of you bowlers who were sent cards for the meeting?

It is Duane Paulson and Hansen at the park board warehouse. Also three platforms are going strong from the same headquarters and still on tree-trimming. . . . Ralph Mahoney skips one of those big green fancy rigs coming from Washington Avenue way. Are these drivers apprentices in the bud for the Hon. Harold Seavey's club No. 664?

Funny how graveling and elections seem to go together. . . . A harmless little winch line job is going to prove to someone just starting out on a short end fight that rules are not made to be broken. . . . Kenny Schiebe and the Mrs. have pulled up stakes and left for Arizona. Doctors orders for Mrs. Schiebe. We wish them better health and happiness in their new home. . . . Will any WPA man who reads this column please inform us why an army truck was backed up to the field gate on a project at Ramsey or Washburn high football field?

The summer vacations of the wise truckers who connected with out-of-town bids at good prices will soon come to an end. We want to inform them that if they keep on being smart that chances are good for them to roll in another good one as did Tiny Ber-

geron who will soon start collecting on the \$1.60 scale.

Cedric Adams, Star-Journal columnist, tonight gives the over-the-road drivers a bouquet for never failing to find the dimmer switch when passing cars at night.

Say Carlos, Mickey says to go ahead with that staff program. Wally Raze says "fine" and "glad to cooperate."

Come to the September meeting next week, Thursday. . . . Get that door prize. . . . Have the new Dempster - Dumpsters got you down? Look on the NW Organizer bulletin next door to the office for some action shots of these new WPA mechanical toys.

No reports yet from the new state bids. . . . And nothing from the out-of-town quotations except that they are quite a bit higher.

Next ITO meeting will be held Thursday, September 7, at 8 p. m. All ITO's working for City and Park Board be sure to attend for latest information.

The last WPA letting for all counties other than Hennepin County hit a new low. We hope that when WPA calls for bids in Hennepin County that those individuals working for the State, County, City, Park Board and private contractors will bid at least the prevailing scale. We can't understand why anyone who is now working on a job that pays from \$1.60 to \$2 an hour should turn in a bid to WPA for \$1.09 per hour.

Local No. 62 in St. Paul decided not to go along on calling a meeting of all ITO's in the immediate territory.

Milt, Harold Seavey and Curt called on Nelson, the WPA District Engineer, and registered a loud protest against the use of these new dumpster trucks which WPA is furnishing on various jobs. It is definite that these dumpster trucks are going to be competing for work with ITO's and for the information of everyone there are now 45 of these trucks in this area with an average of three dump boxes to each truck, so we can all see the hand-writing on the wall.

In checking over Dr. McCrimmon's records, we find that quite a few of the ITO's are taking ad-

Wichita Cab Drivers Go On Strike

Following fruitless negotiations with the blood-sucking Wichita Cab company, union drivers organized in the Wichita Drivers Union Local 795 marched out on strike late Thursday evening.

The union had made only a minor demand on the company—for a reduction of 5c daily in the "nut" which the company charges each driver for the use of the cab—but the company coldly turned down the demand.

The Wichita cab company was charging each driver \$2.55 per 12 hours for the cab, with the driver forced to purchase his own gas and oil. Moreover, the company insisted the drivers buy gas from the company at more than the market price. Under such an arrangement, there were many days when a cab driver found he had worked for nothing or for a few pennies.

Local 795 has thrown a picket crew around the two cab company garages at 728 West Douglas and at First and Broadway.

vantage of the free doctor service.

It looks like the belt line is going to enjoy a five-day holiday over Labor Day.

Things you ought to know—Ed Abrahamson says "just 30 days of freedom and then the final leap"—C. H. Quick says "The trip to Hopkins for inspection is just a lot of bunk"—Curt says "The state bids for 10 trucks went down to 50c per hour." Ralph Morstad can be found faithfully attending the Grievance Board Meetings every Tuesday and Friday. Kenneth Schiebe moved to Arizona because of his wife's health. Francis Mooney is back in the trucking business. Arnold Scheel still smokes those long black cigars. The ITO Bowling League got under way last week with a good start.

Says Brother Morrison at the J. R. Clark company, "I followed the advice of the president. I bought a new car. One reason for this madness was that the old bus had succumbed to a complication of technological heaves, blind stag-

gions, and fallen arches, aggravated by an acute case of constipation in the carburetor. The other reason is that, as a patriotic American, I wanted to do all in my power to end the temporary business depression which started ten years ago before it becomes chronic.

Needless to say, I acquired the new gas wagon on the American plan. That is, I turned the old bus in as first payment and signed twelve notes payable at certain stipulated periods, bearing ten per cent interest. (Hope springs eternal in the human heart.)

But whatever the future may have in store for the kind people who sold me the car, my own conscience is clear. I did my duty. I laid my old jitney on the altar of my country that prosperity may not tarry forever around the corner.

The six hundred and fifty dollars I owe—more than I did last week—to say nothing of the hundred and fifty dollars the poor devil who buys my old bus will owe, ought to go a long way to oil up the squeaky wheels of industry. It's true the eight hundred dollars the two of us owe is not enough to bring back prosperity with a bang. But just think what it would mean if the head of every American household bought a new or used car right now.

According to the last census, there are twenty million heads of families in the country. If only half of them bought new cars at the average indebtedness of \$650

LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By R. F. Gilmore

Local 1859 extends its heartfelt sympathy to Grace Goetz of the Northwest Casket in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Horman. Grace came back to work Friday.

Glad to see Andy Hoflin back at the Clark plant. Andy came back a middle-weight but with those big bags of lunch Andy carries he will soon be back in the heavy-weight division. Don't give up the shape, Andy.

There is some idle talk of having a guardian appointed for Bill Mullins. Bill lost his billfold last Saturday with six hard-earned berries in it.

Bright Spots Before the Eyes: Brother Waino Suomeli deposes and sez: "This is gospel fellows. The crappie weighed 4 3/4 pounds. Biggest one ever caught in Bassett's Creek." Ground cherries!

By special request we run again the story of Frank Morrison and his new Chevrolet, also known as "The Knack of Making Both Ends Meet with One End Missing." Brother Morrison will now demonstrate how to "Balance the Budget."

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According to the last census, there are twenty million heads of families in the country. If only half of them bought new cars at the average indebtedness of \$650

gions, and fallen arches, aggravated by an acute case of constipation in the carburetor. The other reason is that, as a patriotic American, I wanted to do all in my power to end the temporary business depression which started ten years ago before it becomes chronic.

Needless to say, I acquired the new gas wagon on the American plan. That is, I turned the old bus in as first payment and signed twelve notes payable at certain stipulated periods, bearing ten per cent interest. (Hope springs eternal in the human heart.)

But whatever the future may have in store for the kind people who sold me the car, my own conscience is clear. I did my duty. I laid my old jitney on the altar of my country that prosperity may not tarry forever around the corner.

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Newark Court Strikes Blow At Drivers

Newark — The boss courts of this city struck at labor this week when a Chancery Court injunction was slapped against the Drivers Union Local 863, restraining them from "interfering" with the employees and customers of the Meadowbrook Storage company of Orange, New Jersey.

The union threw a picket line around the company's plant when the company insisted on hiring finks.

One of the finks, John H. Jones, was instructed by the company to file suit in the local court complaining that as the result of the activity of the picket line he "had been threatened by union representatives and had been forced to sleep at his place of employment because of fear of consequences when he refused to join the union."

Read! Read! Read! the Good Ship Progress by the Sage of the Mack Truck elsewhere in this paper. 1859-ers, this is for you!

Woe unto you, also, ye lawyers, for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers. — JESUS CHRIST.

40 Strikers Jailed, More Indictments

(Continued from page 1) elsewhere for at least a year. What many people do not yet realize is that the uniform denial of relief to non-residents, now established throughout the United States, has in effect brought the internal passport system of the European dictatorships into the United States. For an unemployed family to move from town to town is to court starvation.

Among those jailed during the week were Ed Palmquist, leader of Local 544's Federal Workers Section, and Oscar Schoenfeld, a leader of the Youth Section of Local 544. A number of the 17 additional strikers arrested during the week gave themselves up voluntarily.

That the list of indictments may be expanded still more was indicated in statements from Anderson during the week that the G-men are still gathering evidence and that the grand jury, which reconvened Monday, will be asked for further indictments. The daily press intimated the indictments may pass the 200 mark before Anderson and Murphy's stool-pigeons are through.

If we paid no more attention to our plants than we have to our children, we would now be living in a jungle of weeds.—LUTHER BURBANK.

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Leo Date, Secretary

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Over-Road Conference In Winona Maps Plans

Winona, Minnesota, was the scene of the regular monthly meeting of the state Over-the-Road Conference last Sunday. With State Chairman Miles Dunne presiding and A. J. Schoenecker acting as recording secretary, the meeting opened with delegates from drivers unions in thirteen Minnesota and Iowa towns in attendance. The unions represented were those in Winona, Albert Lea, Mankato, Rochester, Minneapolis, Willmar, Brainerd, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Des Moines, Mason City, Fort Dodge and Waterloo.

Chief problems discussed were those dealing with the over-road section of the Minneapolis grocery industry, the Gamble - Robinson area pact and the Associated General Contractors agreement in the 4th area.

It was agreed that Local 544 should obtain a clause in the wholesale grocery agreement providing that wages and hours of over-road grocery drivers would be in line with the wages and hours to be obtained in the new area over-the-road agreement.

Ovid Moran, reporting for the St. Cloud Drivers Union Local 329, stated his local is asking for a vacation with pay and a 4-hour minimum guarantee.

A motion carried that one man from each of the three Teamsters Joint Councils would be selected

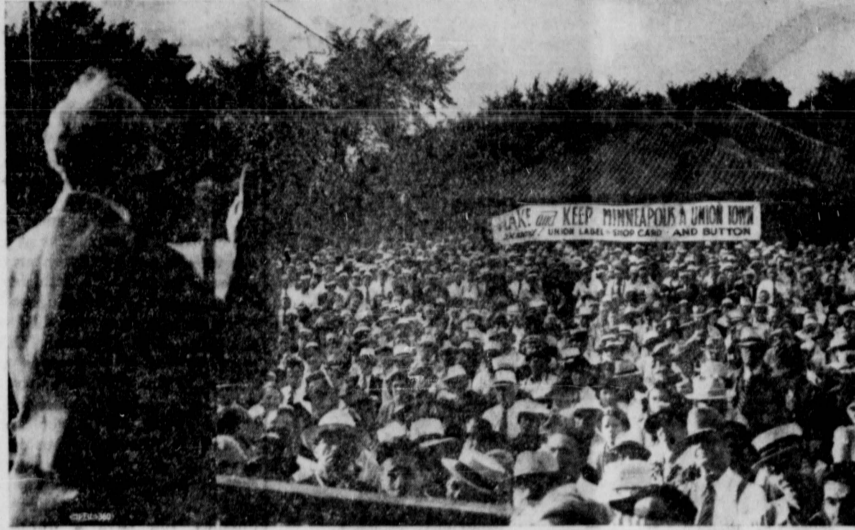
to form a state committee and draw up and negotiate the over-road pact for the state.

Area Pact with Gamble-Rob
Following the luncheon recess, the Gamble-Robinson negotiations were reported on by Art Hudson of St. Paul Drivers Union Local 120. The state council reaffirmed its stand for negotiating an area pact with Gamble-Rob. The present agreement expires October 1st; a few union pacts with this company expire earlier.

It was reported negotiations for a new AGC pact would open Monday. The state AGC committee was instructed to draft a definite program to be sent the three Joint Councils for approval.

The question of paying the expenses of the state chairman to the conferences on the area over-road negotiations was disposed of by agreement that each Joint Council would pay one-third the expenses of the state chairman and the state committee. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

Part of Huge Crowd at CLU Picnic



Above is seen a portion of the huge throng attending the annual Labor Day picnic last Sunday at Powderhorn Park. Tom Mooney, famed class-war prisoner, is speaking. Mooney defended both the New Deal and the victims of the New Deal among the Minneapolis WPA strikers.

The 289 Blab

By A. M. Ogren

The last general meeting was rather poorly attended, as have been most of the meetings this summer. But, beginning next month we should begin having better attendance again. . . . What with the hot weather, diamond-ball, etc., being over by then.

The 289 diamondball team wound up its season by losing in the play-off. Nevertheless, they won the cup in their division and the cup will be presented at our next general membership meeting. It certainly looked dark at the beginning of the season, but they got down to work and finished strong to win the cup by a game.

Following is a list of the delegates to the state convention at Duluth, beginning September 11. (They tell me, due to the tremendous amount of work to be done, including election of officers, the convention may last four or five days.): Loren Johnson, Mel Edstrom, Chet Ryan, Harry DeBoer, J. Hanna and yours truly, A. M. Ogren.

The winners of the free dues at the general membership meeting were Julius Jepsen, Purity, and Art Lynch, Continental.

Maybe you read this in Cedric Adams' column, but it's worth repeating: A probate judge in St. John's, Kansas, received a letter from a man in which he stated he had been happily married for one year. The letter went on to say that he would like to, if possible, renew his license for another year. . . . heh, heh. I thought you'd get a bang out of that.

Retail division meets the first Thursday of each month, the next one being Thursday evening, September 7. The contract committee will make a report at this meeting on the contract for 1940.

Beginning immediately, the board has instructed all stewards to turn in everyone who doesn't live up to regulations to the letter in regard to hours, etc. So let's cooperate so we won't have anyone to fine.

Charlie Neitzel, Zinmaster, has

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At the hearings last week for three men a decision was arrived at in each case without resulting in a deadlock in the committee.

Have you noticed in the daily press the ridiculous method used in apprehending the victims of the

WPA strike, also the exorbitant bail required for these people? Judge Manton, who accepted a million dollars in bribes while on the federal bench, was held on ten thousand dollars bail but they did not arrest him at 3 o'clock in the morning with a flock of newspaper photographers "accidentally" dropping by to take a picture of him manacled to a U. S. deputy marshal. The entire A. P. of L. trade union movement in this area is aroused and coming to the rescue of these men through the efforts of the Central Labor Union WPA Defense Committee.

Your B. A. is secretary-treasurer of the above committee and as the committee meets every day at 1 p. m. you will not be able to



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| 5.25-10 1/2 | \$14.55 | \$7.27 | \$8.72 | \$14.94 |
| 5.50-11 | \$15.60 | \$7.80 | \$9.35 | \$16.08 |
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60,000 at Largest Labor Day Picnic in City's History

The largest crowd ever to attend a labor festival poured into Powderhorn Park last Sunday for the annual Labor Day picnic featuring a speaking program and a round of sports.

Among the speakers presented by chairman John Boscoe were Tom Mooney, former governor Phil LaFollette of Wisconsin, Bob Cramer, George Murk, Dewey Johnson and Robert Short.

Mooney, world-famed labor martyr, highlighted his speech by calling upon organized labor to rally to the defense of the imprisoned and indicted WPA strikers. The speaker denounced the WPA indictments and arrests, the high bail set by Judge Bell, and the crowded conditions in the Hennepin County jail.

Jail Is Uncivilized
"I visited these WPA workers in the county jail only yesterday," he said, "and while it has been my experience for almost a quarter of a century to be domiciled in jails, prisons and penitentiaries, in all my experience I have never either witnessed or heard of anything so uncivilized as what I saw in the county jail in Minneapolis."

He stated that 400 men are kept imprisoned in a jail designed to hold only 86 men, that cells designed for only two persons now are holding five and six prisoners.

One hundred years ago men had 72 wants, 16 necessities. Today the average man has 484 wants, 94 classes as necessities. One hundred years ago only 200 items were urged on the consumer by the seller; today there are 3,200. The modern home would have 200 separate mechanisms. Total items, including different brands of one-type articles, amount to 365,000.

All truth is safe, and nothing else is safe; and he who keeps the truth or withholds it from men from motives of expediency, is either a coward or a criminal, or both.—MAX MULLER.

been on the sick list for some time, having been in the hospital for about a week. He is now at home recuperating. We hope to see his smiling face back on the job soon.

A guy just came into the office and said Joe and me a dozen frogs' legs each. So, I think I'll leave and try my skill at the French dish that is supposed to be so good.

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While lashing out at the outrageous injustice done the WPA strikers, Mooney concentrated his attack on Linus Grotzbach and U. S. Attorney Victor Anderson, claiming that they were cracking down on the unemployed in order "to embarrass Roosevelt."

He sought to absolve the President from responsibility for the recent attacks on the unemployed, overlooking the fact that Roosevelt himself had proposed the slash on WPA, has defended the cut from the prevailing or union wage to the "security" wage, and helped smash the strike by his treacherous statement that "you can't strike against the government."

But Roosevelt Likes Grotzbach
While denouncing Grotzbach as a "Garnercrat" and an enemy of the New Deal, Mooney failed to mention that President Roosevelt personally elevated Grotzbach to regional WPA director for his work in cracking down on the WPA strike in Minnesota. All in all, Mooney's main idea seemed to be that Roosevelt and the New Deal were still friends of the union movement and should be supported in 1940 by both the AFL and the CIO.

He praised Bob Cramer, Walter Frank, Phil LaFollette, Elmer Benson, Floyd Olson and Dewey Johnson for coming to his aid while he was imprisoned and working untiringly for his freedom. The labor martyr applauded the Wagner act, the social security act, the wages and hour bill, May or LaGuardia of New York, and the tradition established by Presidents Washington, Jackson, Jefferson and Lincoln.

At the close of Mooney's address, he was presented with a handsome cake by the Bakers Union.

Cramer Defends Strikers
Bob Cramer, editor of the Minneapolis Labor Review, reviewed the year's labor activities in this city, and urged labor to rally wholeheartedly to the defense of the indicted WPA workers.

LaFollette of Wisconsin urged his listeners "to stop, look and listen before advocating America's becoming embroiled in the international situation." He spoke in favor of the nation's remaining isolated from foreign wars.

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Mike Finkelstein, Business Manager

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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.

A Case of Mistaken Identity

One of the few light moments in the deep tragedy of the unemployed in Minneapolis which resulted in the WPA strike and its aftermath of repression was the accidental slugging of a contemptible fink named Elftman by a cop, Charles J. Marxen. Elftman, a scab on the WPA job at the Trudeau school, was making a general nuisance of himself the morning of July 12th, windmilling his arms around in front of pickets in an attempt to provoke them. Marxen mistook him for a striker and smacked him around, hauled him away in a squad car, charged him with disorderly conduct. Elftman was fined \$25.

Now the federal grand jury, on the testimony of Elftman, has indicted Marxen the cop for "interfering with a WPA worker."

To be sure, Marxen was immediately freed on bail, but even so, the thing has been carried too far. Enough is enough.

Marxen thought Elftman was a striker, and that that should give him his democratic right as a cop to slug the fellow. American democracy would come to a pretty pass if the police weren't protected and upheld in their right to club, maul, hammer, blackjack, shoot down, maim, gas and murder workers who are out on strike.

The federal grand jury was acting in the tradition of American democracy when it never dreamed of indicting the cops who went out of their way to kill and injure the unemployed the night of Bloody Friday. Down with the working class and up with the cops and law and order! That is the slogan of the whole pack of ox-headed boss politicians who are victimizing the WPA strikers, from the president, right through the Attorney General, the U. S. Attorney Anderson, Glotzbach and the rest.

But we demand the freedom of Marxen. The whole affair was obviously a case of mistaken identity.

Why Labor Defends the WPA Strikers

The following resolution introduced by the Central Labor Union's WPA Defense Committee calling for support to the arrested WPA strikers was adopted unanimously by the Minneapolis central labor body at its meeting August 23rd:

WHEREAS, the current strike of the Building Trades Unions on WPA projects, which was endorsed by the Building Trades Council, the Policy Committee and the Central Labor Union, has resulted in the arrest of dozens of strikers and strike supporters on framed-up and outrageous charges and the indictment and pending arrest of scores or more workers in a vicious attempt by the government to intimidate and frighten union men and women into surrendering their legal and lawful rights, and

WHEREAS, enemies of the labor movement and unthinking members of the labor movement have circulated and caused to be circulated false rumors to the effect that the strike of the Building Trades on WPA was "illegal," "unlawful," and "ill-advised" despite the fact that this strike had the unanimous endorsement of every section of the labor movement both local and national. Monday, August 20th, William Green, president of the AFL, speaking before the State Federation of Labor convention, said the following: "We hold that the payment of the prevailing rate of wages to workers engaged by the government is a fundamental principle that we contend for with no compromising, until the bitter end." Mathew Woll, speaking before the same convention, said that the labor movement must be rallied nationally to defend the right to strike as a means of settling grievances whether in private industry or for the Federal government, and

WHEREAS, the defense of those indicted and arrested becomes a fundamental and principal obligation of the labor movement, inasmuch as these persecutions and arrests were incurred in attempting to maintain the established and hard-won wages of a large section of the labor movement which, if allowed to pass unchallenged will result in wholesale wage cuts in every section of private industry and will eventually affect every member of organized labor, and

WHEREAS, a committee has been set up by the AFL labor movement which is known as the Central Labor Union WPA Defense Committee, which committee is made up of the various Councils and of the Central Labor Union and which is charged with raising and disbursing funds in defense of the victims of the WPA strike and who are appealing to the labor movement to give more generously than ever before in order that the innocent victims of the frame-up may secure bail, adequate legal defense and other help that may be needed, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, in regular meeting assembled this 23rd day of August, 1939, go on record pledging complete support and solidarity with the Defense Committee, urging all affiliated bodies of the labor movement to respond generously to the appeals of the committee for financial assistance and to denounce in the strongest terms the efforts of the government to frame-up and convict those workers who sought redress for their wrongs in accordance with their constitutional rights.

"The United States Navy offers a career to the ambitious youth of America," reads a navy enlistment poster. That is, if one is ambitious to be a corpse.

The Only Friend Labor Has!



Carlo

Keeping Step With 544

By Micky Dunne

Negotiations over back pay in the transfer industry have reached a point where results can be expected shortly.

Wholesale grocery agreement between 544 and employers provides forty-eight hours pay despite reduction of hours from forty-eight to forty.

The state over-the-road meeting in Winona Sunday was held in the fine new headquarters of the unions in that city.

The boys are du-fuding in Brainerd and Duluth.

The writer attended an over-the-road conference in Cleveland Monday, August 20. Eleven states were represented by state chairmen. Our own Dobbs presided for the International.

131's Clair Johnson is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Central Labor Union WPA Defense Committee. This group is doing a real worthwhile job.

COMES WHAT? The C. L. U. is holding three meetings within a week's time.

The A. G. C. is tottering.

POEME

Sing a song of Stalin,
Laud the hero high!
All the People's Front groups
baked in a pie.
When the pie was opened
The workers raised a shout—
Stalin and Hitler both popped out!

Minneapolis delegates to the State Federation of Labor Convention caucused in the C. L. U. hall Wednesday night.

HERE'S ONE FOR THE BOOKS The bail set for WPA workers arrested to date totals almost a quarter of a million dollars.

The writer will speak at the DuBouque Central Labor Union Labor Day celebration on Sunday, September 3.

The Joint Council may stage a real new type of frolic in the near future. Watch for announcement.

TO ALL LOCAL UNIONS

Give the Defense Committee all the help you can. The victims of the frame-up need it.

ILGWU Signs Closed Shop Pacts

News of the gratifying progress made by the Twin City locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union is contained in a letter from Michael Finkelstein, Joint Board manager.

The ILGWU has signed a pact with the Okney Cloak company, 400 First Avenue North, calling for a closed shop agreement and a reduction in the work week from 40 to 35 hours.

A closed shop agreement has also been signed with the Judy-Ann company, 27 North Fourth street. The union has renewed its closed shop agreements with other local cloak and coat companies.

All the union shops are now in the midst of adjusting piece prices for the fall season. Mr. Finkelstein reported that most of the union membership was fully employed and that the ILGWU was experiencing an actual shortage of skilled workers in certain branches of the industry.

A revised and enlarged version of the musical comedy "Pins and Needles" which delighted Minneapolis audiences last winter will return to the Twin Cities for a short engagement late this fall.

With the Dairy Workers Local 471

By George Bergquist

The Executive Board will continue to check the unloading chutes which must be closed exactly at three p. m. as specified in the contract. It seems that at present we are going through an educational process with both dealers and members. Since August 1st, some dealers have complied with the contract to the letter. Others seem to adjust themselves very slowly. There are only two reasons for not being unloaded by three; either the driver horses around or else the route is too heavy. If your route is over size contact the business agents, they will arrange for an adjustment. Possibly you have a workhouse route and don't know it. Take a business agent along over your route and when you get back he will be able to tell you what's what.

Milk sales in the United States for the month of July were up 5.79% over the same month last year. Such a gain means more jobs for dairy workers.

Duck season was scarcely set for October 1 to November 15 when our brother hunters were busy trying to set-up opening day, a Sunday at that. The season used to begin on Saturday so this year the drivers will have to be extra nice to the route foremen in order to get in on the opening. The only way Clarence Olson can keep peace on his string will be to pull three routes on October 1st. It has been reported that some route foremen are holding up the switch for two ducks or a quarter.

Local 471 wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the Taylor family in the loss of Hyland Taylor, a charter member of our union. At this time it is some comfort to know that his son Robert is working at North Franklin and is an active member in our union which his father helped create.

be made payable to the Central Labor Union WPA Defense Committee, 18 North 8th street.

The August 23rd resolution of the Central Labor Union pledging solidarity and support to the indicted strikers was then read and unanimously approved, after which the body took the affirmative actions listed earlier in this story.

Tom Kachelmacher, one of the three defense attorneys active in the case, reported that all kinds of property, including homesteads anywhere in Minnesota is acceptable for property bond for the arrested. A lien or a mortgage does not invalidate the property as bond.

The indictments, with few exceptions, are based upon a violation of Section 28 of the new relief law, he reported.

Bail Reduction Demanded When Kachelmacher reported that a bail of \$190,000 has been set for just the first 29 defendants, a murmur of rage swept the auditorium. It was at this point that the assembly voted to protest to the authorities against the excessive bail.

As Cramer pointed out, under ordinary circumstances the worst that the strike victims could expect would be to be hauled into police court, with bail of only a few dollars set. The custom of bail was established to enable people to free themselves from jail, not to keep them imprisoned; yet in the present WPA case the bail is so monstrously high as to defeat this purpose. Cramer further explained the reactionary set-up of the federal grand jury system, whereby juries are picked by the clerk of court and the jury commission from names recommended by county officials.

When officials of the Building Laborers Union announced their members had already voted an assessment for the Defense Committee, they were roundly applauded.

It was late at night before the special meeting adjourned but as delegates streamed from the hall on all hands could be heard expressions of satisfaction with the decisions reached, and the conviction that the defendants must be freed from jail and freed from the frame-up charges placed against them.

O'Hare, Johnson on Committee Representatives from the Teamsters Joint Council on the WPA Defense Committee are Joe O'Hare and Clair Johnson. George Murk and William Sinnott represent the Central Labor Union, Peter Murck and Walter Frank represent the Building Trades Council, and Ed O'Neil and Oscar Johnson represent the Allied Printing Trades Council.

On the National Picket Line

(Continued from page 1)

for the cattle to be moved in to the plant but up to Saturday last had not allowed anything to be taken out. Company spokesmen said that negotiations are in progress with the strike leaders relative to taking processed meat out of the plant or into coolers, lest it spoil.

Settling the strike, putting the discharged workers back to work, giving them their just wages earned, would settle this question of meat spoiling for the company. Apparently they hadn't thought of it.

Also—why, when the workers have the plant shut down, did their leader ASK for intervention by the NLRB?

The NLRB laid the ground work for another anti-labor decision out of the Supreme Court the other day when it handed down its decision in the case of the Stewart Die Casting Corporation. The board ordered this company to rehire all of its discharged workers (165) with back pay, and to bargain collectively with the United Auto Workers of America, and to "reduce to a signed agreement any understanding reached." The workers of this company were discharged after a twenty-six hour sit-down strike.

The NLRB ordered the Ford company to do the same thing. A long time ago.

They gave a like decision against the Republic Steel Corporation.

And against the Apex Hosiery Company of Philadelphia.

What happened? Ford and Republic stated flatly that they would not abide by such a ruling. They flatly refused AND GOT BY WITH IT. Apex Hosiery brought suit against the union for "willful destruction of property during unlawful occupation of the plaintiff's property" and WON OVER SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN DAMAGES. A FEDERAL COURT INVOKED THE SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAWS AGAINST THE UNION.

The workers have greater power within themselves, in their own organized strength, than was ever legislated into any law. Certain mis-leaders of labor continue to try to divert this great strength and render it impotent by letting government agencies of one alphabetical concoction or another try to take the place of labor unions.

Every real victory won since the birth of this alphabetical soup has been won IN SPITE of NOT because of it.

Workers! Use that strength. Don't let it be diluted!

Warehouse Union Organizing Drive For Members

St. Paul — The Warehouse Union of St. Paul, Local 503, has called a meeting of all organized and unorganized warehouse workers of that city to meet and make plans for the complete organization of that city's warehouse workers.

The meeting will be held at the North Central Commercial Club, Rice and University avenue, Friday, September 8, at 8 p. m.

Speakers will include John Geary, vice-president of the International Teamsters Union, Ray Wentz, organizer of the Trades and Labor Assembly, Ray Greengard of the Retail Clerks Union, and the officers of the Warehouse Union, Local 503.

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

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| LOCAL 471 General Membership — First and third Tuesdays each month, 7 p. m. Girls' Section—Second Tuesday each month (7:30 p. m.) | LOCAL 160 General Membership — Third Thursday Seniority Board—Every Monday Executive Board—Every Tuesday Stewards—First Thursday |
| LOCAL 131 Second Thursday each month, 8 p. m., third-floor. | LOCAL 221 Day Laborer Section — First Tuesday each month. Independent Truck Owners Section—Second Tuesday each month. |
| LOCAL 259 Second Monday of each month. | LOCAL 1859 Sept. 6—General Membership Sept. 12—Casket Section Sept. 19—Box Industry Sept. 20—J. R. Clark, Keller Manufacturing Sept. 22—Warren Shade, American Excelsior, Trav-L-Eez and Kozekar, Air-Loc Seating, American Wicker Works Every Friday night—Executive Board |
| LOCAL 664 The City and Sanitary Drivers will meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Park Board Grievance Committee — Monday night preceding the last meeting of the month. | LOCAL 20481 Oct. 4th—General Membership |
| LOCAL 1086 The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. | LOCAL 958 Night Drivers — 1:00 p. m. third Thursday each month. Day Drivers — 9:00 p. m., third Thursday each month. |
| PETROLEUM DRIVERS Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month. | LOCAL 544 SEPTEMBER Friday, September 1 — Job Stewards Wednesday, September 6—Sausage, Petroleum Thursday, September 7 — Greenhouse, ITO Friday, September 8—Wholesale Grocery, Meat Drivers Monday, September 11—General Membership Meeting Tuesday, September 12—Lumber Wednesday, September 13 — Market, Wholesale Liquor Friday, September 15 — Job Stewards Sunday, September 17—Over-the-Road Drivers (10 A. M.) Monday, September 18—Furniture Stores, Coal, Printing Thursday, September 21—Excavating Drivers, Tent and Awning, Newspaper (10 A. M.) Friday, September 22 — Cold Storage Monday, September 25—Spring Water Tuesday, September 26—Sand and Gravel Wednesday, September 27 — Wholesale Paper Thursday, September 28 — Transfer and Warehouse, Wholesale Drug Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 P. M. in Hall 3 Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 P. M. in Local 544 office The Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 10 A. M. in the large hall on the first floor All regular meetings start at 8 P. M. unless otherwise indicated |
| LOCAL 977 General Membership — Second Monday each month, 9 p. m. Grievance and Seniority Boards — Each Monday, 8 p. m. Stewards—Fourth Monday, 9 p. m. Executive Board—Each Thursday, 8 p. m. Lessee Section—Third Wednesday, 9 p. m. | FEDERAL WORKERS Regular Membership Meeting—Second Friday each month. Stewards' Meeting — Every Wednesday, 8 p. m. Veterans Meeting—Every Saturday, 10:30 a. m. |
| LOCAL 289 Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers — Second Thursday. Yeast Drivers—Third Tuesday. Cake and Pie—Third Thursday. General Membership — Fourth Thursday. Inside Workers—Last Saturday, 3 p. m. | LOCAL 348 Regular Membership Meeting 2nd Monday each month, 8:30 p. m. 4th Monday each month, 1:30 p. m. |
| LOCAL 103 Regular Membership Meeting—First Monday each month. Executive Committee Meeting On call. | PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month. |
| LOCAL 275 Tea and Coffee Drivers, Local 275, meets the first Friday of every month. | LOCAL 359 Stewards — First and Third Tuesday. Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday. Executive Board — Regularly every Monday. |

125 Unions Vote to Defend WPA Victims

(Continued from page 1)

The committee elected Murk chairman, Peter Murck of the Sheet Metal Workers as vice-chairman, and L. Clair Johnson of the Laundry Drivers Union as secretary-treasurer. The committee has also set up a Speakers' Bureau and a Visiting Committee to keep in touch with the prisoners. The three leading officers of the committee handle all finances, and have opened an account at the Marquette bank.

Murk pointed out that Minneapolis is known nationally as a great union city with strong organizations of militant workers, and that this fact explains why the employers are seeking to cripple the movement here through the WPA arrests and indictments. He urged each union official present to aid the Defense Committee in every way and to take an attitude of personal responsibility towards the arrested brothers.

Cramer Lashes Arrests

Bob Cramer then took the floor to analyze the repression resulting from the strike. After pointing to the nationwide character of the strike, he asked, Why has Minneapolis been singled out by the FBI? He expressed the opinion that Mayor Leach and Governor Stassen must surely have had a hand in directing the FBI to Minneapolis.

The authorities have tried to make a great point about the strikers seeking to harm the women WPA workers at the sewing project, he said. The fact is that the labor movement went to help

the women workers, not to harm them. The majority of the women workers were themselves on the picket lines, protesting against the terrible WPA law which lengthened their hours and slashed their pay.

Cramer brought the cheering news that the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly at its last meeting had acted upon the communication from the Central Labor Union and established a committee to aid the WPA Defense Committee.

"A banker who stole a million dollars wouldn't have been manacled and dragged through the streets in the way these \$60.50 WPA workers were mistreated. It is doubtful if such a banker would be asked to put up any higher bail than that asked for these poor victims.

"This is no ordinary fight and these are no ordinary times. We, none of us realize how close we are to fascism in America. Only the stubborn opposition of organized labor to these reactionary attacks can protect labor," Cramer ended. A burst of applause greeted his remarks.

Strike Will Continue

The next speaker, Walter Frank, made the point that the Building Trades workers in New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Pittsburgh and other cities are still on strike, just as the Minneapolis Building Trades unions. He suggested that labor has learned a great lesson from the repression following the local strike, and that it is necessary to build up a per-

manent defense organization and a defense fund. His announcement that the three plastering trades unions had met Tuesday and unanimously approved a \$2 assessment, 75 per cent to go to the Defense Committee and the remainder to the depleted Building Trades treasury, was roundly applauded.

Part of Anti-Labor Drive

Miles Dunne followed Frank to point out that the federal government has picked the Minneapolis labor movement as a victim in order to frighten and intimidate building trades workers throughout the country. He sharply criticized the "You can't strike against the government" dictum from Roosevelt and Attorney General Murphy, stating that nowhere in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights or the statute books is it written that it is illegal to strike against the government.

"This is a part of the national drive of the organized employers," he said in closing. "In asking for support tonight for the Defense Committee, we are acting to call a halt to the drive of reaction against the labor movement locally and nationally."

\$3,700 Now in Fund

Clair Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the WPA Defense Committee, reported that the committee already had \$3,700 on hand, and asked the officials present to give the speakers from the Speakers' Bureau a favorable reception when they appeared on behalf of the committee. All checks are to