

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

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

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

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

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1935

PRICE 5 CENTS

Machinists' Union Supports Drivers

In three separate communications addressed to the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, the Machinists' International Union and Daniel J. Tobin, Machinists and Auto Mechanics Local 382 has presented a strong appeal in support of Local 574.

Citing the aid which 574 has given to their local during recent periods of strife, they ask that the whole question of the charter revocation be given serious reconsideration for the general good of the Minneapolis labor movement.

Local 574 appreciates such fine co-operation as this which has come from our brothers the machinists and auto mechanics. With such splendid support as this between unions, Minneapolis cannot help but become a real union town.

The full text of the letter to the Central Labor Union follows:

June 10, 1935.

Central Labor Union
28 N. 8th St.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The Central Labor Union has before it at the present time, the urgent task of preventing a serious disruption of the unity within the ranks of its affiliated bodies.

Several weeks ago, in response to a telegram from Paul Smith, the General Drivers Local 574 was unseated and expelled from the Central Union. Our delegates protested this decision and our Local has sustained them in this action.

We believe that an almost irreparable damage has already been done against the unity and solidarity which has been growing within the movement during and since the strikes of last year.

To penalize, by expulsion, that very organization, Local 574, which stood on the forefront during the battles which registered such a decisive defeat against the Citizens Alliance, is to make a mockery of the words: BROTHERHOOD, FRATERNITY, SOLIDARITY.

The reasons given for this expulsion, delinquency of per capita tax, is particularly obnoxious when one considers the amount of money, energy, blood and lives which were expended to achieve the victories that gained so much for the trade unions as a whole.

Our membership in regular meeting assembled, voted unanimously to again propose the seating of the General Drivers Local as regular delegates to the Central Labor Union. Only in this way, we believe, can amends be made and a grievous wrong made good.

Anticipating speedy and just action, we are,

Fraternally yours,

LOCAL 382, I. A. of M.
Selmer Johnson
Rec. Sec.

Federal Workers Unit To Meet Relief Board

The newly formed welfare board has issued an invitation to representatives of unemployed organizations to meet in special session with its relief committee.

The Federal Workers Unit of Local 574 will have its committee at this meeting in full force, prepared to present the demands of the organization which have already been determined by the group.

Local 574's Federal Workers Unit is growing rapidly on the basis of its well founded program and organizational structure. Special buttons and membership cards have been prepared for the unit and it has been given the full sanction and support of the entire local. The unit meets each Friday evening at 257 Plymouth avenue north.

Joint Committee Goes Into Action

The first meeting of the Joint Organization committee formed by the Station Attendants, Auto Mechanics and General Drivers was held Monday, July 1. After a prolonged discussion of the aims and objectives of the committee, a sub-committee of one member from each union was selected to meet in advance of the next full committee meeting and prepare a tentative program for a broad organization drive for new members.

The committee was formed at a happy time, since it will be able to render much assistance, both directly and organizationally, to the station attendants in their strike which is set for Monday, July 8.

Popular Girl Contest Opens

Local 574 and Laundry Workers Local 18005 are holding a popular girl contest in connection with the First Annual Labor Progress Outdoor Exposition.

The lady receiving the highest number of votes will be awarded the first prize, a diamond ring. The second highest, a wrist watch, and the third highest \$25. The prizes will be awarded at 11 p. m. on Monday, July 29, at the Exposition grounds, 29th and Nicollet.

The friend who is first to place in nomination the name of the most popular lady will receive \$5 as a reward. Nomination blanks will be numbered in the order in which they are received at the committee headquarters.

Each ticket purchased entitles the holder to ten votes in the contest. The lady's name is to be written on the back of the admission ticket stub. Persons who sell complete books of 30 tickets are entitled to write the name of their candidate on the back cover of the book. This ballot will count as 250 votes.

All votes must be in the hands of the committee not later than 12 p. m., Saturday, July 27. Those wishing to sell tickets may obtain books at the committee headquarters at 257 Plymouth Avenue North.

Grand Ball a Success

The committee in charge of the Grand Opening Ball held last Saturday, June 29, reports a very successful evening.

As a direct result the entertainment committee has announced a new program, as note elsewhere in this issue.

Reading Between the Lines

Reading from between the lines of the daily press, the things that are not printed, or at least not meant to be understood by the workers, is an interesting and most of the time an instructive occupation.

The antics of some of our Congressmen during the debate on the bill to "draft the wealth during the war" were amusing, but all were outdone by Rep. Everett Dirksen (Rep. Ill.) who while speaking against the bill showed an almost broken heart not for the rich whose wealth may (?) be drafted, but for the worker who, as the Honorable E. Dirksen states, may be "fined or jailed if he accepted an increase in wages in case an emergency (that is war) was declared." Come, come, Mr. Dirksen, you really don't have to worry about that because the employers will see to it that the worker does not get any increase in wages unless he is willing to put up a good and stiff fight for it.

You, Mr. Dirksen, may be too young to remember the last war when, while your friends, the war profiteers, made millions, the workers, those who escaped the hell of the battlefield, had to fight hard not for better living conditions only, but also for maintaining their previous standard which was lowered in spite of the small wage increases obtained because of the ever increasing prices foisted upon the country by the same gentlemen whose wealth the bill now pending, attempts to draft along with the workers drafted for the filthy trenches or for the filthy ammunition factories.

There is another bill before Congress in Washington which would more or less effectively eliminate utility holding companies as organized by the late lamented Samuel Insull, Foshay and the lamented but still present Billesby Company. It was more than obvious from the hearings and arguments

(Continued on page 2)

ICE PRODUCERS SIGN DELIVERY AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL NO. 574

Lucas Ice Company Last to Sign After Brief Tie-up Tuesday Morning

With the signing of the Lucas Ice and Fuel Company during the early morning hours on Tuesday, July 2, a delivery agreement between Local 574 and the local ice producers went into effect. In addition to the Lucas Company the other signers are the Cedar Lake Ice Company, Kemps Ice Cream Company, Minneapolis Sanitary Ice

Company, Hygienic Artificial Ice Company and Minneapolis Ice and Fuel Company.

Cab Drivers Elect Committee July 23

At the next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 23, the cab drivers unit of Local 574 will hold their annual election of steward committee members. The present committee consists of Shorty Depew, Hank Morrell and Walt Hagstrom. Under the guidance of this trio the cab drivers have made real gains during the past 12 months.

Protest Anti-Labor Acts of Film Stars

WHEREAS, Gary Cooper, Victor McLaglen, and George Brent have sponsored or taken active leadership in anti-union organizations, and

WHEREAS, such organizations have volunteered their services for breaking strikes or any other move against union activities; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Independent Union of All Workers, Local No. 1, Austin, Minnesota, in annual meeting assembled, requests all union members and union sympathizers to refrain from attending or supporting pictures in which the above are featured or shown; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the local theater managers and to the state booking offices for film productions. Also that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Northwest Labor Unity Conference.

Adopted June 30, 1935.

BEATRICE CHASE
Secretary.

Meeting Schedule Local 574

Friday, July 5: Stewards, Federal Workers Unit.
Monday, July 8: Full membership.
Wednesday, July 10: Market Workers.
Friday, July 12: Federal Workers Unit.
Wednesday, July 17: Ice Drivers.
Thursday, July 18: Independent Truck Owners and Construction Haulers.
Friday, July 19: Stewards, and Federal Workers Unit.
Monday, July 22: Full membership.
Tuesday, July 23: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
Friday, July 26: Federal Workers Unit.

New Leisure Time Program Announced

Starting Saturday evening, July 6, the entertainment committee of Local 574 is inaugurating a series of weekly dances and fun fests. The facilities of the new headquarters are such as to make such a program very desirable and at the same time afford all members and their friends an open house for relaxation and entertainment.

It is the ultimate aim of the committee to provide a real union headquarters for the lighter side of life with the same spirit of progress that Local 574 has shown in the past.

ALL WORKERS INTO THE UNIONS ALL UNIONS INTO THE STRUGGLE

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

The New Welfare Board

With a clear liberal majority in the newly constituted welfare board, the workers on the relief rolls have every right to expect better living conditions for themselves. The time has arrived for liberalism to face the test and it should apply itself vigorously to the task.

This does not mean that the workers can in any sense stand idle, holding out their hands for benefits which they may expect to receive. This is the time, of all times, for them to get into their organizations and do battle for the things to which they are rightfully entitled. The Federal Workers Unit of Local 574 is the organization through which this battle can best be carried out successfully.

The Labor Board

A local news item reports that passage of the Wagner bill will revive activities of the regional labor board "which has been largely dormant since the Supreme Court decision affecting the NRA."

Dormant is a good term to use, but why limit its application to such a short period? The labor board has never settled anything. It enters a labor controversy allegedly in an attempt to "settle" it. In most cases the "settlement" is made at the expense of the union. Sometimes a worker has a case so sound that the labor board has no choice but to rule in his favor. If the employer does not choose to abide by the board's decision nothing is done about it.

It is our opinion that the labor board will still be dormant long after the Supreme Court has declared the Wagner bill unconstitutional.

Real Weapons of Defense

Word comes from Warsaw, Poland, that under a new law 12 million of the 13 million voters in Poland will be deprived of the right to vote. This measure is being forced through by a governmental machinery which does not represent the will of the Polish people. Future balloting will be confined to district electoral colleges comprised of citizens holding government decorations or having university educations or members of local government organizations.

This should serve as a warning against those who would stake the whole welfare and security of the workers on the "protection" of the ballot. When a liberal form of government begins to tread heavily upon the toes of the controllers of employment and property, these exploiters begin immediately to strip their government of all semblance of democracy. Witness the Polish event.

The ballot is at best a second rate weapon of defense. The principal safeguard for the future welfare of the workers lies in the power of their own union organizations. And these unions must rid themselves of false leaders who content themselves with the crumbs dealt out to them as a sop by the controlling interests. The leadership of the unions must be prepared to lead the workers in militant struggle for that which is theirs.

Reading Between the Lines

(Continued from page 1)

that the holding companies had only one purpose and that is the putting of millions of "paper expense accounts" upon the books of the operating companies to be paid by the electric and gas consuming public. That these are facts is not denied even by the great-moguls of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, but those gentlemen are against the bill because the "proposed legislation would adopt federal regulatory authority overlapping and duplicating state jurisdiction" maintained by the state Commerce and Railway Commissions. Now, gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S., come through—you are really not worrying about "overlapping jurisdiction," or are you? Is it not that the utility barons were more than successful in establishing "friendly relationship" with the cheap political crowd, in many states occupying the position of state commissioners' jobs (as in Illinois where S. Insull bought a U. S. Senatorship for Mr. Smith, the then Chairman of the Commerce Commission, to regulate the utility companies owned by the same S. Insull), and now the new federal control bodies to be established by the bill are feared because they may put a crimp into the "Roman Holiday" of the utilities? Gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, why not be honest once and say that you, the owners and controllers of this country, don't want anyone, however ineffectively, to oversee the dirty business called "utilities?"

A third bill pending before Congress wants to control the banking business and that is nothing less than blasphemy, says another upholder of the Constitution who cries out in horror because the proposed federal authority would have invested in it the authority "over investment, speculation. . ." Here, says he, we cannot have any kind of the control because such control, if honestly and effectively applied, would probably prevent the banks from taking people's deposits after the bank was insolvent (as happened and is happening now). It may even prevent thousands of banks from speculating with the people's deposits in money, and the most horrible of all, it may even prevent, in the future, the closing of thousands of banks with billions of the people's deposits locked in. Oh, no, such a thing should not pass—the bankers want to go ahead as they did up to now, "taking us all for another sky-ride."

The most miserable of all spectacles seen in Illinois was the attitude of Mr. Olander, the state secretary of the American Federation of Labor, who came out in a statement and attacked the Illinois Workers Alliance for the hunger march conducted by it in opposition to the increased sales tax. Mr. Olander came out for the increased sales tax even though the A. F. of L. in Illinois had gone on record against the sales tax in general and its increase in particular. But the big bosses of the A. F. of L. are running true to form. They are, as Olander showed, always ready to take from those who "have not" in order to relieve those who "have."

From the Grass Roots conference: "The Republican party, since Lincoln, progressively gave the workingman the full dinner pail, a living wage and a saving wage."

What about the chicken in every pot?

Labor Looks at the Press

From Vanity Fair's "London Letter": "No longer is a weekend in England an event to which one takes valets, chauffeurs, trunks and one's own barber. For now all one needs is a dinner jacket, some polo shirts, grey flannel trousers and an odd tweed coat."

To work on a federal relief project here in Minneapolis one no longer requires one's own barber, either. All one needs is a blue shirt, an odd pair of trousers and a pair of white mitts with red tops.

Acting President Edwin Jarrett of Rensselaer Polytechnic, the college that fired Professor Hicks for radicalism: "Our school was founded by a capitalist . . . We have developed and prospered under capitalism. . . We have trained men eager to work under that system, full of confidence that the doctrine of rugged individualism is the doctrine which will bring to them financial independence and protection from adversity."

That's doing one's bit for dear old Rensselaer and the Board of Trustees.

The Solid South

Wiggins, Mo., news item: "One negro was lynched and another was kidnaped and whipped in the course of 24 hours of mob rule by citizens. County peace officers returned a verdict that the negro 'came to his death at hands of unknown parties.'"

The southern white business men try in this way to scare the negroes from joining hands with their brother white workers in unions.

Trouble Ahead

From the Sunday Minneapolis Tribune: "The fleet of six armored cars for use by police in waging war on bank robbers is nearing completion and will be ready for use next week. Half of the cost of the armored cars was contributed by bankers and business men of Minneapolis. Chief Johannes said the cars will be kept in readiness at all times, and will be ready to speed to the scene of emergency at any moment."

Do you doubt that these armored cars will be used primarily, not against bank robbers, but against workers who are out on strike?

The retiring Chief Johannes: "To you (department heads) goes credit for the fact that the city has not had a . . . major crime in the last 16 months."

Bloody Friday was no crime. That was a pleasure, eh, Chief?

Lollypop

Minneapolis Journal editorial of Sunday, June 30: "Yet, strangely enough, as the air clears and issues are more sharply defined, it seems increasingly apparent that the

ideals that moved the . . . Constitutional Convention of 1788 . . . are the only hope of mankind . . . At bottom there is no class war . . . Rich and poor stand or fall together."

Nope! What's good for the rich is bad for the poor, and vice versa.

Erle P. Halliburton, millionaire Oklahoma oil magnate: "There is not now, and never was any excuse for the dole (relief). Certainly, any man who wants to work can take the modern methods of the present day and earn for himself a better living with less effort than he could 30 years ago."

Who was it that said: "It takes a revolution to accomplish just those things which will not fit into the heads of the rich."

From San Francisco: "A voluntary Fair Play League is being sponsored for twenty trade associations as a potential nation-wide instrument for maintaining wages and working conditions."

Oh—oh! Smells like the Committee of One Hundred. We know a better way to maintain wages and working conditions: ORGANIZE!

"Sunshine Diplomacy," as reported in the Christian Science monitor. "Just why the peace and disarmament statesmen have chosen the pleasant sites of Europe for their deliberations it might be hard to say. Was it without premeditation? Or was it some unsuspected instinct which associated peace with beauty?"

Whatever it was, it didn't work.

Dopiest Statement Representative Dies of Texas, who is campaigning for legislation to deport 6,000,000 aliens: "If there were no aliens in this country we would not have an unemployment problem."

In the first place, it is the aliens who have always done the hardest work in the United States. In the second place, there aren't six million unnaturalized aliens in America. In the third place, this legislation will be used to railroad every militant worker out of the country, and labor should fight it tooth and nail. Not to run out the aliens, but to run out the few hundred all-powerful capitalists—that's labor's program.

Father Coughlin, advising the Auto Workers what to do with their dues:

"Part of the money should be spent on hiring 'bargaining brains. You workers lack the education and the training."

We wonder if the Reverend has ever tried bargaining with a truck driver, an inside worker and a chicken picker.

All workers into the unions. All unions into the struggle.

POPULAR GIRL CONTEST

Age 16 to 60

First Annual Labor Progress Outdoor Exposition

You nominate the winner and receive \$5.00
Please enter my candidate as:

Name

Address

First Prize, Diamond Ring
Second Prize, Wrist Watch
Third Prize, \$25.00

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Fill out and bring or send to the Labor Progress Exposition Committee at 257 Plymouth Avenue North.

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