

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, APRIL 15, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

OPEN LETTER TO LOCAL 120

MASS MEETING IS ATTENDED BY TRUCKERS

St. Paul Truck Drivers Hear
Local 574 Program
Outlined

574 Band Well Received
as They Play for
Crowd

The first public meeting conducted by Local No. 574, in St. Paul, was held Tuesday evening in the German-American Hall, 444 Rice Street. Despite the fact that this meeting had received no newspaper publicity and had been poorly advertised, a good crowd was in attendance. Between 250 and 300 workers were on hand when the meeting opened.

For an hour before the chairman opened the meeting the crowd was entertained by music furnished by the Local 574 Band. William Brown, who acted as chairman of the meeting, called it to order and said that the purpose of the gathering was to attempt to find some manner in which the difference in wage scale and working conditions that exist between the two towns could be leveled. Brown showed that during the organizational drive of 1933 a sincere attempt had been made to set up a Drivers Local that would take in the workers from both cities. He said that this move had been defeated by the officials of the Teamsters International.

The conditions that now exist are the result of the splitting action of the trade union bureaucracy and, Brown said, that the situation could only be remedied when

The Upper Class



"All I can make out is that he says he belongs to one of the first families."

some sort of joint action by the two locals was undertaken.

Ted Rogers, steward at the Murphy Transfer Co., was the next speaker. He clearly outlined the contradictions that exist in the midway district and urged that the

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Birthday Issue of Organizer Will Be Published on April 22

The April 22 issue of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER will mark the first milestone in the progress of the Northwest's most militant publication. It will be the first birthday for the ORGANIZER. Just 12 months ago, at the time our charter was revoked by the Drivers International, the first regular weekly edition of the ORGANIZER made its appearance. No one, not conversant with the struggles of a labor publication to maintain itself, can realize the bitter fight that has been waged to place the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER in the mails each week.

But all the trials and tribulations endured by those who were charged with the responsibility of editing and publishing our little paper have been more than repaid by the splendid response that has greeted every issue. The history of the growth of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER is a story in itself. That story will be told in the anniversary edition.

The birthday issue, of April 22, will be eight pages. It will contain numerous pictures, cartoons, a history of the union and many other interesting articles and features. The editorial staff plan on making the anniversary number an edition that will be worthy of the event we are celebrating. Watch for the birthday number.

Madden Drivers Thank Local 574

Madden Bros., Inc.,
2277 Ford Road
St. Paul, Minnesota
April 6, 1936

The Executive Board
Local 574
257 Plymouth Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Members of the Executive Board:

We, the drivers of the Madden Bros. Inc., take pleasure at this time in thanking you one and all for your past co-operation with the solving of an agreement with our company.

Everybody in general, we believe, is more than satisfied at this time with their working conditions. In the future conditions may arrive where we can again better ourselves as members of Local 574.

Thanks to Local 574, and you can rest assured that we will all do our part in living up to our Local.

Sincerely yours,
THE DRIVERS OF MADDEN
BROS.

Steward, Larry Davidson

Meyer Lewis is still in
Washington.

Public Letter to St. Paul Union Sets Forth the Position of Local 574

GENERAL DRIVERS, HELPERS AND INSIDE
WORKERS UNION, LOCAL NO. 574

Mr. Robert Fleming, Business Representative
Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers, Local 120
347 University Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir and Brother:

We are addressing this communication officially to Local Union No. 120 of St. Paul to point out the unfortunate condition that exists today in the trucking industry of the Twin Cities and to urge the necessity for joint action by the Minneapolis and St. Paul unions for the mutual benefit of all workers involved.

Today we find an imaginary line, which serves as a boundary between Minneapolis and St. Paul, being used by the trucking employers to discriminate against an entire community of transportation workers in the payment of wages. There is no just cause for this differentiation. The work of the truck drivers, helpers and inside workers of St. Paul is the same as that of those classifications of workers in Minneapolis. Yet the Minneapolis workers on and after June 1, 1936, will receive 10c per hour more than their St. Paul brothers. This is something more than a discrimination. It provides a loophole for the employers to use in preventing the complete unionization of the trucking industry. It creates contradictions which are beneficial to the Citizens' Alliance of the Twin Cities and injurious to the workers.

This condition exists because of the lack of a unified program of action between the two unions. In Minneapolis Local No. 574 has followed a persistent policy of militant struggle, setting down as fundamental the right of every worker to a decent living wage and entering into active struggle to secure this right. In St. Paul the working agreements obtained between the union and the trucking companies were made possible mainly by the struggle waged by Local No. 574. Active co-operation, however, has never been a reality.

We propose as a solution that a definite working alliance be formed between Local No. 574 of Minneapolis and Local No. 120 of St. Paul so that we may use our combined power to standardize the wages throughout the entire trucking industry of the Twin Cities on the same level as that which goes into effect in Minneapolis on June 1, 1936.

We propose further that we work through the combined efforts of the two unions to bring every worker in the trucking industry into the ranks of organized labor and that from that spring board we further solidify our forces and safeguard the welfare of our members by extending our efforts into the field of organization in long-distance hauling.

We again ask, as we have done many times in the past, that an official committee from Local No. 120 meet immediately with a like committee from Local No. 574 in Minneapolis to begin immediate definite action to secure this objective.

Fraternally yours,
GENERAL DRIVERS, HELPERS AND
INSIDE WORKERS LOCAL 574
By FARRELL DOBBS,
Secretary-Treasurer

Mayme Hoyer Co. Is Now Union Concern

The Laundry, Dry Cleaners, and Drivers Union, 18005-183, wishes to thank all the faithful members and sympathizers for their splendid work and wonderful help given us on the picket line Saturday morning, April 11, at the Mayme Hoyer Cleaning Co., 2817 Hennepin Avenue, where a complete victory was won by our union, compelling the owner to sign up a closed shop

agreement. Forward march to victory, brothers and sisters.

—R. LATZ

Coal Mining Labeled Dangerous Industry

Coal mining was the most dangerous industry in Illinois the first six months of 1935 with 34 deaths and 21,886 non-fatal accidents. Metal and metal product industries were next with 18 deaths but 2,852 non-fatal accidents.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

MASS MEETING IS ATTENDED BY TRUCKERS

(Continued from page 1)

two unions find some common meeting ground where they could work out a unified program.

Oscar Gardner of Pratt's then spoke. He told of the accomplishments that had been made by Local 574 and cited the fact that despite our loss of charter we had been able to bring under contract almost every company employing drivers in Minneapolis. After a brief intermission, during which the 574 Band played several selections, Miles Dunne, editor of the Northwest Organizer, spoke. Dunne painted a picture of the confusion that existed in the midway district due to the difference in provisions of the agreements of Local 574 and Local 120. He proposed that the two unions set up committees that would meet with each other and attempt to iron out all the contradictions that now exist.

After Dunne's talk the floor was thrown open for questions and discussion. Many members of both unions asked questions and spoke. In general, there was no major disagreement with the program that was offered by 574 speakers. During the question period, on the insistence of one of the members of Local 120, Bob Flemming, business agent of the St. Paul Drivers Union, took the stage. Flemming stated that while he was for a program that would bring harmony between the two Drivers Locals, he had been warned, only that afternoon, by George Lawson, secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, not to take any part in the Tuesday meeting.

When the meeting adjourned the general feeling was that an agreement would soon be reached between the Minneapolis and St. Paul Truck Drivers Unions.

Wholesale Grocery Workers Organize

There are indications on every hand that workers in wholesale grocery houses, who, almost without exception, have remained completely unorganized, are beginning to turn toward the union as a means of solving the economic contradictions that confront them. Inside workers in wholesale grocery houses are some of the most cruelly exploited groups that can be found.

Wages as low as \$15 per week are being paid for work weeks which, in some cases are as long as 65 hours. The only remedy for this situation is union organization. Local 574 has a wage scale established for this class of workers. It calls for 50c per hour. Anyone, working for less is being defrauded of something that is theirs by right.

We invite workers, who come under the jurisdiction of this union and who are working for less than the established union wage scale, to get in touch with the union office.

Newspapers Fight Guild Everywhere

Organizer Bill Davy of the American Newspaper Guild came into Gene Debs' home town to organize the editorial workers of the Tribune-Star. The publisher immediately dished out a \$5 a week raise to the reporters and copy readers and sub-editors. He said he wouldn't forbid joining the guild but he'd rather not see anyone do it.

Two men joined just the same.

Sabotage Against Toledo Auto Strikers Told by Union Member

The recent militant strike of the rubber workers in Akron (see Organizer March 30) resulting in a partial but militant victory is the first man-sized dent made by labor this year in a mass production industry. It is also a victory for industrial unionism and the C. I. O. Will automobiles be next? Auto usually strikes in the spring, and since last spring a couple of things have happened. First of all the speed-up and profits from same have reached a new high. General Motors' employment has risen since last year by about ten percent, sale of cars by 34 percent, and profit 85 percent! Out of this velvet, the motor bosses gave a ten percent wage increase or 5 cents an hour. Interesting to know that ten percent more men produce 34 percent more cars. This is what is known in Detroit as the speed-up!

Every year now in the spring there has been a strike or threat of strike in auto, and each year they flop. But this time the story may be different. For two reasons: 1. The bunch of fighting industrial unionists in auto has reached a healthy size. 2. The auto workers have at last acquired education in the 57 varieties of strike-breaking and sabotage practiced by the craft union bureaucrats of the auto union. This experience should be known and pondered by every militant trade-unionist. It may come in handy at home.

The first job of strike-breaking pulled in the Chevrolet General Motors strike last year was the work of the president of the American Federation of Labor. He kept in his pocket a strike vote of the Federal Auto Union while the peak of production slipped quietly away, and 300,000 workers waited for a call to the picket line. It was all a part of that famous "industrial truce" Mr. Green had with Mr. Roosevelt. But suddenly and at last 2,300 workers in the key Chevrolet transmission plant at Toledo struck, and tied up the plant like a drum. Not even the general manager could get into "his own plant." Immediately Bill Green wrote a telegram with one hand offering his "moral support" to the strikers, and with the other wired Francis Dillon, president of the auto workers union, to "localize" the strike. He might just as well have wired to "kill it," for any strike in the automobile industry that is "localized" is dead. One local can't lick a hundred plant industry.

The strike promptly entered a phase of struggle of Local 18384 not with General Motors but with the Green-Dillon machine. Dillon make a grand tour of the automobile cities telling everyone it was a "local condition" and not to strike in support of the Chevrolet local. He said the Toledo boys were just "putting on a circus."

If Dillon pretended to think a strike of Chevrolet transmission workers a local disturbance, the General Motors Corporation and the Morgan bank did not. They threw out small wage increases everywhere as strike protection, bought up the press of the auto cities, mobilized their scab company unions, and threatened to move the whole Chevy plant to Muncie, Indiana, an open shop town. Despite G. M. and despite Dillon, 85,000 auto workers in other cities walked out in support of Toledo and for the same demands. A general strike threatened the motor industry, but what's more important a strike that promised to be successful not under Dillon's leadership but against it. Green and Dillon saw the reins of power slipping. So they acted fast. Called a govern-

ment election in the plant. Strike-breaking with government aid—one of the best of the 57 varieties!

What was the issue? Whether the workers wanted to go back to work on the bosses' terms. Believe it or not! As one picket put it to Mr. Dillon, why the hell do you think we're striking? The maneuver had two advantages for the scared bureaucrats in Washington, it offered a chance of ending the strike then and there with the votes of course of the company union, and second if that didn't work, it enabled Dillon to hold off the rest of the industry from striking until their militancy had been watered down with Dillonism. On the first point the plan failed. Despite a barrage of company publicity and duress, the Toledo strikers overwhelmingly voted to go on with the strike. But Dillon was able to stall a general walkout.

The final chapter reached a new low in bureaucratic anti-union tactics in the motor industry. By the third week of the strike General Motors was feeling the pinch, losing a hundred thousand dollars a day, and unfilled Chevy orders were going to Ford's. They agreed to negotiate, and with the strike committee at that, not with Mr. Dillon. After 18 hours confab they agreed to a slight wage increase, but not union recognition. Above all the motor dictators insisted on their point (and Mr. Dillon's) that the agreement would be LOCAL, applying, only to the 2,300 original strikers and not to the 35,000 who had struck with them for the same demands. When these Dillon-Knudsen terms were being put up for a vote in the Toledo local, their defeat was a foregone conclusion. Even Dillon admitted he was licked. But like an experienced bureaucrat he had a last card up his sleeve and he played it. He told the striking local that they had the democratic right to vote yes or no, but if they voted no, he would snatch their charter. His henchmen pleaded in the name of the A. F. of L. to vote yes, and save the union. The boys were green and they fell for it. Dillon's maneuver made him guilty of two crimes, first coercion of a union vote, second misrepresentation. He had no constitutional power to revoke that federal charter, nor would he have done so if he had. Local 18254 had most of the dues paying members of his union. To tear up that charter would have been to tear up his own pay check. The 1935 revolt in auto was dead. In five minutes Dillon succeeded in breaking a militant strike that General Motors had failed to lick in three weeks.

Believe it or not the auto union bureaucrats under Dillon's leadership broke all past records in 1936.

—C. R. W.

To be continued in next number

Letter of Thanks

General Drivers No. 574
Minneapolis, Minn.

Gentlemen:

We wish to thank you for the check you sent us during our bereavement, and for your expression of sympathy. It was greatly appreciated.

George H. Barrett and Family

Laundry Dance

Everybody invited to the benefit dance given by the Joint Local of Cleaners, Drivers and Laundry Workers Union 18005-183, at General Drivers Hall, Saturday, April 18, where the newly-created splendid eight-piece Local 574 orchestra will render modern and old time music. Admission only 15 cents.

Bill Brown Says—

Local 574 has the best organizational opportunities that have ever presented themselves to our union. Workers everywhere are clamoring for union organization while many sit idly by and watch these people continue in the ranks of the unorganized or, worse yet, become members of employer dominated unions. George Lawson, secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, is spending his time and the workers' money fighting the only form of unionism that can bring real results for the working class, instead of proceeding to organize the unorganized.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Yellow Notes

William Saunders, who is still lying in the Eitel hospital, wishes to extend his appreciation to all the boys for what they have done for him, and wishes all the boys luck with the new cabs.

Look out, boys, keep your cigarettes in your pocket, here comes Buck Chambers.

Did you see that new Yellow Taxi? It's the finest taxi in town. And does the public like 'em? Why, they just don't ride nothin' else now.

The crying towel got pretty well soaked this week.

If the committeemen are going to get as much grief each week as they did the past week, the one half of the committee will be getting just as gray headed as the other half.

Look out for "Snooping Bain," he is the editor, you know, of these notes.

Max Silver is still working ten to ten on a 4 to 2 shift.

B. O. Hanson forgets to come to the garage.

Enemies Complain About Treatment

Of late, it has come to our attention that certain enemies of our union, in the trade union movement, have indicated to a mutual friend that they have been used too harshly in the columns of the Northwest Organizer. We have no desire to treat anyone more unjustly than they deserve. Recrimination and attacks are poor weapons with which to fight labor's battles.

The columns of an honest labor publication never contain enough space to completely report the activities of labor organizations. But, on the other hand, we know of only one way to fight an avowed enemy. That is, by waging a merciless attack against such a person. To be placed on the defensive is to occupy the weaker position. We agree with the opinions of two people who, coming from widely different walks of life, arrived at the same conclusion. They were a famous French General and an equally famous American prize fighter. They both said, "When in doubt, attack."

A CARD OF THANKS

Thanks to Local 574
Your thoughtful kindness was indeed
A comfort in a time of need.
I'll always treasure gratefully
The things you did for mine and me.

Signed
MR. AND MRS. GEORGE
CLEMMER

Eight sharecroppers from Arkansas and others from Georgia, Alabama, and neighboring southern states will be students at Commonwealth College in the spring quarter. Money for scholarships for southern farm workers has been contributed to the college.

Cedar Lake Will Put All Drivers On Commission

Local 221, Ice and Coal Drivers Union, has at last taken the step which will probably lead to complete liquidation as a factor in the local trade union movement. The Executive Board, surrendering to the demands of the Cedar Lake Ice Company, has signed an agreement which puts almost every driver of that company on a commission basis. A more stupid step could not have been taken by those in charge of the union.

The leadership of the union, turning a complete about face, have abandoned the set wage scale of \$5.50 per day and have agreed to allow the employees of that company, who are members of the union, to be placed in a position where the Cedar Lake Co. will be the supreme dictators of the economic destiny of its workers.

The new agreement instead of calling for a fixed weekly wage, which has been established over a long period of time, places the drivers on a commission basis. The contract calls for the men to pay the Cedar Lake Company \$3.50 per ton for every ton of ice that they deliver. But that is not the worst feature. The agreement also provides that the workers shall rent delivery equipment from the ice company, not on a daily basis which would be more fair, but on a tonnage basis. In delivering ice under the new agreement the employee must pay the Cedar Lake Company \$1.50 per day for each ton of ice delivered.

In other words, the more ice that is delivered, the more expensive the truck rental will become. It is shameful to think, that a union that is supposed to protect the interests of its members should so grossly betray the confidence that the workers have in that organization.

It is high time that the members of Local 221 cast up accounts and find if their union is really functioning in behalf of the membership or whether it is something that serves them ill.

THANKS

Arthur Thompson wishes to thank the union and all of his friends for the kindness and sympathy shown at the loss of his sister, Mrs. George Shackel.

Local 160 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, April 16—Executive Board
Friday, April 17—Special Overhead Department meeting
Wednesday, April 22—Stewards and open organization meeting
Thursday, April 23—Executive Board
Wednesday, May 6—Regular membership meeting
Thursday, May 7—Executive Board meeting
Wednesday, May 13—Stewards and open organization meeting
Thursday, May 14—Executive Board meeting
Wednesday, May 20—Regular membership meeting
Thursday, May 21—Executive Board meeting
Wednesday, May 27—Stewards and open organization meeting
Thursday, May 28—Executive Board meeting

Workers on Central Market Are Prepared to Resist Wage Cuts

The market Workers, Drivers, Helpers and Inside Men have taken on a new life with the advent of the spring season. The market, which has suffered a serious loss of business during the past two years, owing to the inroads that have been made by chain store distributors, seems to be staging a comeback. The business conditions which have seriously affected the volume of business done by the firms engaged in distribution of wholesale fruit and produce, is having its inevitable repercussions in threats of wage cuts and general worsening of conditions of the central market.

The Market Workers Section, one of the most militant and aggressive groups in 574, have determined that any condition which affects their established wage scale must be speedily remedied. The market committee has held several well attended meetings, in 574 halls, during the past two weeks.

Harry DeBoer has been assigned by the Executive Board to take charge of the section and his addition to the ranks of the Market Workers was welcomed by them. Since DeBoer has taken charge a new spirit seems to pervade the market workers. Several discrimination cases have been settled and many formerly unorganized workers from the central market have joined the union.

The spirit that is being manifest by this group of workers indicates that they will be able to hold their own against any onslaught of the bosses. A new agreement, for the market workers, has been prepared and will shortly be presented to the market employers. It calls for substantial increases in wages particularly as it affects the skilled workers.

Minneapolis Journal Notes Farmers Rage

The Minneapolis Journal, ultra conservative, labor-hating sheet, that consistently and always represents the viewpoint of the Minneapolis employers and the most backward section of every political movement, displayed, on the front page, Friday night an article dealing with a protest meeting of farmers that was staged in Corcoran Township.

According to the Journal these farmers blamed Local 574 for their failure to get on WPA work with their trucks, for poor crops last year, for the non-laying of their hens and, in fact, if one can believe the veracity of the reporter, who evidently did not even attend the meeting, General Drivers Union was charged, by the tillers of the stubborn glebe, with every crime on the calendar.

So that the records may be kept straight, we wish to state that the meeting, which was attended by representatives of our union, merely went on record to set up a committee whose duty would be to effect a closer co-operation between the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association and Local 574. Their committee will confer with the Executive Board of Local 574 sometime during the coming week.

Demand Button

Help us build an industrial union by demanding a monthly union button from your laundry driver when sending your laundry or dry cleaning work. It is your only protection that the work be done in a union plant, and done right. We need your help!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Joint Local of Cleaners,
Drivers and Laundry
Workers 18005-183

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OVERHEAD DEPARTMENT LOCAL 160, I.E.B.W.

The grievances on wages and working conditions which were turned over to the Executive Board after the Department committee had conferred with the Department, have been submitted to the management and a reply has been given to the Board.

The Board has therefore called this special meeting to hear this report and discuss the company's answer. This meeting will decide what shall be done. All Overhead men out to the meeting.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 8 P. M.
257 Plymouth Ave.
EXECUTIVE BOARD
Local 160, I.E.B.W.

Company Guards Fire On Unarmed Men

The first blood was shed in the long-awaited outbreak between bootleg miners and coal operators, when two unemployed miners, trying to eke out a miserable existence by digging coal where the company had found it unprofitable to do so, were shot in the face by company guards.

The clash occurred at the Spring Valley strip mine of the Leigh Valley Coal Co. at Hazleton. The victims, John Krosavage and Metro Nestor, were among 200 members of the Schuylkill County Botleggers Union who sought to enter the coal holes.

Company officials said the unemployed miners had removed coal worth \$494 in 19 trucks and the guards had fired in "self-defense." They failed to explain the presence of these guards in violation of a recent act of the legislature abolishing coal and iron police. The injured men were taken to a hospital. State troopers from the Wyoming barracks rushed to the scene, but the unemployed miners had already departed.

Daniel Hoan Elected Milwaukee Mayor

Daniel Hoan, Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee, swept into office with the highest plurality that has ever been recorded in a Milwaukee municipal election. Out of a total of 208,391, Hoan got 111,167, his nearest opponent, J. J. Shiners, received 97,124.

The victory of the Socialist Mayor is all the more astounding in view of the vicious, slanderous campaign that was waged against him by the banker-newspaper-utility combine. In this election victory workers of Milwaukee indicated that they place less and less reliance in the mouthpieces of the bankers and employers, the capitalist press.

Meyer Lewis Makes Visit to Washington

It is the established practice of the capitalist press to greet well-known visitors to Minneapolis with columns of fulsome praise. The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER wishes, at this time, to reverse the customary procedure. We believe that a current news item should be recorded something like this. "Meyer Lewis, erstwhile stooge of William Green, has departed for Washington where he will confer with his employer. While Mr. Lewis sojourned here he did not create a ripple in the circles he was supposed to influence, we consider that his departure for Washington should have a healthy affect upon the local trade union movement. It is to be hoped that Mr. Lewis' duties will carry him elsewhere where his particular talents will be more appreciated. In the meantime we will carry on."

Laundry Agreement

What Every Laundry and Dry Cleaning Worker Should Know

Joint Local of Cleaners, Drivers and Laundry Workers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor presents to its members the following union agreement signed with 60 plant owners for a period of one year, ending September 1, 1936.

ARTICLE 1—Local 18005 and 183 has been recognized as the sole representative of all Union Dry Cleaning and Laundry Workers and Dry Cleaning and Laundry Drivers in Minneapolis.

ARTICLE 2—No employee shall be discharged or discriminated against for joining or belonging to the Union.

ARTICLE 3—No private agreements which conflicts with this agreement are permitted between employer and employees.

ARTICLE 4—Forty hours shall constitute a normal weeks' work in the Laundry Department.

ARTICLE 6—During peak periods, consisting of 9 weeks in the spring and 9 weeks in the fall, the employer is not required to pay overtime in the Dry Cleaning Department except for hours worked in excess of 45.

ARTICLE 7—All hours worked in excess of those mentioned above shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-third.

ARTICLE 8—All union employees are guaranteed a minimum of 5 hours per day and 4 hours on Saturday unless notified the previous day not to report for work.

ARTICLE 9—Wages earned shall be paid in full weekly, in currency or negotiable checks, on a set day of the week.

ARTICLE 10—Workers shall retain their seniority rights in their respective departments. If and when a lay-off is necessary, those hired last shall be laid off first.

ARTICLE 11—Piece work is permitted only where it existed prior to the signing of this agreement.

ARTICLE 12—Union employees working on piece work must receive not less than the minimum wages provided for in this agreement for the classification of work he or she is engaged in.

ARTICLE 13—A regular employee whose employment with any of the undersigned is terminated for any reason other than drunkenness, dishonesty, or insubordination, will be given one weeks' notice or a weeks' pay in lieu thereof. In all cases, however, written notice and cause for discharge must be given to the employee at the time of discharge or lay-off. No employee shall leave or quit his employer without serving one weeks' notice in writing. A regular employee is hereby defined as one who has been regularly or continuously employed

Meeting Schedule Local 574

Thursday, April 2—Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, April 3—Federal Workers.
Wednesday, April 8—Market Workers
Friday, April 10—574 Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, April 13—Full Membership.
Thursday, April 16—Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, April 17—Federal Workers.
Friday, April 24—574 Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, April 27—Full Membership.
Tuesday, April 28—Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
The UNION EXECUTIVE BOARD meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m.
The FEDERAL WORKERS STEWARDS meet every Thursday at 8 p. m.

ANNOUNCING

A benefit dance for a destitute union family will be held on Saturday, April 18, at General Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. North. Music will be furnished by the Local 574 Orchestra. The orchestra consists of eight pieces and will play old time and modern tunes. Tickets are 15 cents. Auspices of Cleaners, Drivers and Laundry Workers Union, Local 18005-183. A good time is assured.

for a period of three months.

ARTICLE 14—Anyone receiving more than the minimum wage scale shall not be reduced.

ARTICLE 15—All grievances and complaints of violations of terms of this agreement must be reported to the Union office not more than 30 days from time of alleged violation.

ARTICLE 16—No Union employee shall be discharged or discriminated against because such employee files a claim of alleged violation of this agreement with the Union office.

ARTICLE 17—An employee filing a claim of alleged violation shall be compensated by his employer for the time lost attending hearings on the claim in the event the Arbitration Board finds the complaint well-founded.

ARTICLE 18—Employers are required to keep a daily pay roll record which a Union representative is allowed to examine at any time.

ARTICLE 19—For settling all disputes that may arise between Union employees, an Arbitration Board has been set up consisting of three employers three Union representatives and an impartial chairman. All decisions of this board shall be binding on both parties.

Local 160 News

The past week has seen much activity in the Local. The schedule of Department committee meetings with various departments reads like a train schedule. The meter readers, the Kelvinator men and the Underground each met with their departments. A full report of these meetings will be made at the membership meeting, Wednesday, April 15.

The Executive Board meeting of Thursday, April 9, lasted to nearly midnight. Many items of importance were taken up. The Board, among other things, ordered a special meeting for the Overhead Department. See details elsewhere in this issue. Some details on setting up a full functioning office were taken up.

The Executive Board selected a special committee of three to cooperate on a May Day meeting to held in conjunction with other unions and workers organizations.

Applications are coming in fast. Brother Qualie reports he is swamped. He, by the way, was all smiles on the decision of a more efficient office. Says he can commence to see some slight signs of daylight ahead of him now.

The stewards at the Wednesday meeting enthusiastically received the outline of new proposals of handling their accounts. The new Steward's books are now available.

Week's prize story, from New York: "Walter Huston, 16, of Seattle was chosen amid great ballyhoo by a committee in 1929 as the brightest boy in America, and subsequently educated at Edison's expense. . . Young Huston graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with high honors. But upon his graduation in 1933, there were no jobs available. Today, Huston is working as a laborer in Seattle, and is quoted as saying that he was glad to get that."

Bribery Tried In Guild Strike

The suggestion that "a little trip out of town" might help him "gain the proper perspective" was made Thursday to J. Nash McCrea, strike chairman, by Benn Kinovsky, advertising director of the Hearst-owned Wisconsin News, as the strike closed its seventh week.

Kinovsky also hinted that the strike chairman's perspective might be improved by the restoration of \$450, the approximate amount McCrea has lost in pay cuts since May, 1935.

McCrea reported the "offer" to the strike meeting Thursday night. Kinovsky approached him with the proposal to sell out his fellow workers in a private conference in a Milwaukee hotel, McCrea said. An invitation to dinner with Kinovsky and John H. Black, Hearst's local manager, was extended to him and another striker, the chairman reported.

"No trick is too contemptible for Hearst to use in his frantic effort to break this strike," George A. Mann, president of the Milwaukee Newspaper Guild, summed up the strikers' reaction to McCrea's report.

"Hearst has tried force and violence in employing strikebreakers who have physically assaulted our pickets. When that failed to break the strikers' spirit, a campaign of scurrilous anonymous letters and telephone calls was directed against them. Next came the threat of a lockout. Finding that intimidation won't work, the local management is now turning to bribery. Vinegar having failed, Hearst is now trying honey, but the strikers aren't having any."

Testimony Shows Huge Spy System

Testimony before the Senate Committee, which is investigating labor spy systems, turned up many items that are startling to those who believe that employers are not interested in union organization of their workers. Repeated testimony showed that workers in various steel mills had been approached by representatives of the companies with offers to act as paid spies of the union. Many workers testified that the unions in their industry were shot full of company stool pigeons and spies.

George A. Patterson, one of the leaders of an independent labor organization at the Carnegie-Illinois South Chicago plant, told the committee his fellow employees know where there were "stool pigeons" working in the plant, and that the company had laid up large supplies of munitions and tear gas for use in event of labor trouble.

The Rat

"After God had finished the rattlesnake, the toad, the vampire, he had some awful substance left with which he made a scab. A scab is a two-legged animal with a cork-screw soul—a water-logged brain, a combination backbone made of jelly and glue."

Did you see the parade of Yellows Saturday? The new fleet of taxis presented a splendid appearance as they toured through the loop.

MEETING SCHEDULE
Furniture Workers No. 1859
Wednesday, April 1—Membership meeting.
Wednesday April 15—Membership meeting.
The Executive Board of Local No. 1859 meets on call of the chairman.
All special meetings and all department meetings will be called either by special mail notices or will be published in the Northwest Organizer.

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 St Paul Union

The situation that confronts truck drivers, helpers and inside workers, in Minneapolis and St. Paul, is a peculiar one. Perhaps nowhere in the United States do similar conditions exist. The two towns, which to all practical purposes are one, have two driving unions that hold agreements with the employers calling for wage scales which are different. Were these two towns separated by 100 miles of territory the condition which exists would never be noticed. But the two cities which are only divided by an imaginary line cannot be separated and divided as far as union organization is concerned. The problems of the drivers in both cities are identical.

St. Paul drivers drive in Minneapolis and Minneapolis truck drivers work in St. Paul. It costs as much to live in Minneapolis as it does in St. Paul. If 60c an hour is a fair wage for union truck drivers in Minneapolis, by what manner of reason can 50c per hour be established as the correct wage scale for drivers who do the same work, in practically the same city, under conditions that are no different? Obviously something is wrong. And in looking about for the cause one does not have far to seek.

The blame for this unnatural condition must be placed squarely upon the shoulders of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers. It was the agent of the International union who, in the fall of 1933, destroyed and broke up the joint Twin City local of drivers that was then being built. Despite the International, and its bigoted opinions on craft unionism, Twin City joint action must be secured. Local 574 is moving toward that end. We demand the co-operation of Local 120.

A. F. of L. Organizers

Labor in the United States today is paying the supreme penalty for adhering to, and believing in, the type of union organization that is advanced by the present leadership in the American Federation of Labor. Bearing out predictions that have been made in the columns of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER, from time to time, it is now apparent that the whole official family of the A. F. of L., executive council members, A. F. of L. organizers, officials of state federations, and directing officers of central bodies are, at the present time, directing all of their energies to maintaining the status quo.

In Minnesota, a place that has ever been the home of progressive trade unions, a state that has been the home of a genuine left wing third party movement of workers and farmers, presently finds itself a recipient of craft union soothing syrup being poured down its neck by none other than our own George Lawson, secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor. While there are literally hundreds of thousands of wage workers in this state who are completely unorganized, and while one would assume that the duties of a state federation official would be more properly be to being engaged in organizing these workers, Lawson finds both time and money to engage in a radio campaign belittling the activities and purposes of the C. I. O. and advancing the cause of craft unionism.

Mill Workers Union

The Sash, Door and Mill Workers have, at this time, a splendid opportunity to organize an industry that has heretofore been non-union. Already great progress has been made and indications are that the workers in this industry are more than willing to come into an economic organization which promises to advance their standard of living.

The meeting which was held a week ago in General Drivers Hall, by these workers, is indicative of the spirit that exists throughout the industry. Great enthusiasm was displayed when suggestions were made that an agreement be drawn up which would advance their wages, lower their hours and equalize their working conditions.

But it is well to point out here that oratory, talk, and ballyhoo do not take the place of an increased standard of living. The workers in the Sash and Door Mills, most of whom are skilled workers, are reacting in the way that working men react everywhere when their wages are reduced below a living standard. Speedy action is needed. The day has gone when a union can be built and maintained on the theory that working men will belong to a union organization merely because of a belief in the abstract theory of unionism.

The Sash, Door, and Mill Workers can be organized, but only on the basis that the union to which they belong is willing to stage a real fight for their economic advancement. Delay, stalling and hesitation will not suffice. Wages and conditions are what the workers in this industry want. The organization to which they belong must be able to secure these reforms for them. If it does that it is a union. If it does not, it is no better than a debating society.

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

Do you know that on a pole in front of the Federal Reserve Bank, 5th and Marquette, the numbers 574 are prominently displayed?

Cliff Brabant, truck driver at Pratt's, can play the piano and sing like nobody's business.

With the advent of warm weather many of the independent truck owners have returned to work.

G. Dunne is back from Washington.

Workers in the 3.2 beer joints are being organized. They are chartered by the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance.

Cedar Lake ice drivers are getting ready to take it on the chin in a Big Way this summer.

Nothing succeeds like success. Fifty-six joined the union the first ten days of April.

Many workers in wholesale grocery houses are getting lined up with the union.

A picture of the office force will be displayed in the April 22 anniversary edition of the Organizer.

Do you know that a well-known San Francisco pug ugly strike breaker has been imported into Minneapolis by a group who are interested in preserving "law and order"?

Robley Cramer, whose trial for criminally libeling the Citizens' Alliance was scheduled to start this week, will not face the court until some time in May. The employers requested the latest postponement.

The new LaBelle semi-trailer furniture van is the classiest piece of equipment of its kind in the Twin Cities.

The trouble is over at Werner's.

The cement block makers and gravel pit workers, who have recently joined the ranks of 574 are settling their wage and hour schedule with the employers some time this week.

The Friday night steward meeting, which was one of the best attended of the season, was characterized by a startling display of masculine finery. The reason? They had a group picture taken. See it in the Organizer next week.

At the risk of being called tiresome we again wish to remind coal yard workers, who are leaving employment, the necessity of taking a union withdrawal card.

Arnold Johnson is free.

Only a small number of the striking Strutwear hosiery workers have been returned to employment so far.

L. C. Long, 409 Washington Avenue North, wants to buy a used car for \$25. What have you?

Local 120, St. Paul Drivers Union, added two paid organizers to the staff last week.

Dickerson is wearing diamonds.

Jim Leary is out at Armstrong's.

There is a possibility that the second floor of the union headquarters will be remodeled this

spring. Two more meeting halls are being planned.

Ace Brewer, of the Musicians Union, lost his post as secretary of the Musicians Union in the recent election. He has always been a staunch defender of Local 574.

A small but enthusiastic crowd greeted the initial appearance of the 574 band at their dance Saturday night.

The Organizer is about to launch a new subscription campaign. Details will be announced later.

LABOR... Looks at the Press

Boston news item: "350 milk wagon drivers and 175 creamery workers went on strike today, and within a few hours company officials acceded to the union demands. Instead of a \$3 pay reduction the strikers won a \$3 raise, to \$38 a week."

There are milk wagon drivers and milk wagon drivers, you see.

Secretary of War George Dern: "The dream of disarmament has been abandoned for the present."

Whose dream? Not ours! We knew disarmament is impossible under a capitalist system that leads inevitably to war, war, war.

Statement of National Veterans groups (as the Veterans of Future Wars) would suffer court martial under military discipline."

Well, all that proves is that military discipline is something to steer clear of.

Forbers of the Minneapolis Star is AT IT again: "An American-born workman of the substantial type tells me he and other native Americans are worrying over the radical, belligerent notions and actions of the fellows who have become powerful in his union. 'Those of us who have reached middle age,' he states, 'know how well off we are. Life now is a picnic compared with what it was years ago.'"

Life is a picnic for some, all right. But it's the workers who get nothing but the sand and the ants.

Washington news item: "Charles Schwab, chairman of the board of Bethlehem Steel, took a salary cut in 1935. For his past year's services, he received only \$203,332."

It must be awful to have to worry about where your next meal is comin' from.

Local news item: "Compulsory military training, munitions manufacturers, trade antagonisms, and international armament races were listed as four factors leading toward war by George Edwards, Harvard graduate."

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt's Committee for the cause and cure of War did much better—it was able to list no less than 251 causes for war. The truth of the matter

Laundry Union To Stage Drive

In spite of the constant threats and attacks by Meyer Lewis we are getting more and more new members in our ranks. We initiated a big class of laundry workers from the Swan Laundry at our last meeting on Wednesday, April 1. We secured a substantial increase in pay and improved conditions for the newly joined workers. It is our intention to go forward and unionize every cleaning and laundry plant in Minneapolis and we are confident that with the good advice and help of Local 574 nothing in the world will stop us. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NOTICE

Members of Local 160, Local 18005-183, and Local 1859. Your union has subscribed for the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER for the entire membership. You should receive the paper regularly once a week. If you do not receive the publication, please turn your name and address in to your local secretary.

The same holds true when moving or changing addresses. Turn in both your old and new address to your union office. It is imperative that this procedure be followed promptly in order that you receive all issues of the paper.

is that today there is only one cause for war, and that is imperial capitalism.

Local news item: "Jerry, last of the old fire department horses, died Saturday night. Jerry, 35 years old, was mustered out of service 13 years ago. Two years ago he was transferred to Parker's lake, and there lived the life of Riley, dozing in the fields and being cared for in the barns."

When humans take care of their aged as they took care of Jerry, we shall have something to brag about.

Mississippi news item: Many of the bodies of tornado victims here were so heavily coated with mud, it was necessary to wash them to determine whether they were white people or Negroes."

Death—and the bosses—make no distinctions between color.

Vienna news item: "The hand of the Austrian film censor has fallen on Charlie Chaplin as a dangerous revolutionary. Charlie, in his latest film, "Modern Times," aimlessly picks up a couple of red flags used to mark roads. He attracts a following of workmen."

Spring is here—L. K. Brown, president of the International Co-operative Clubs, sez: "Friendliness in competition in business and consideration in treating debtors has permeated American life."

WPA administrators are beginning to say: "Private industry is now able to absorb the unemployed."

But the new local J. C. Penny store received over 4,000 applications for jobs in one day last week. Less than one hundred jobs are available.

Paul C. Trimmer, candidate for comptroller in the coming St. Paul elections, and backed by our friends, the Communist Party, advertises: "I am for all classes. I am active in church work, in civic affairs, a father, home owner, tax payer, and a member of several fraternal organizations."

If he's kind to dumb animals, why even we shall vote for him.

How to break a strike, as reported by the Kelmscot Mfg. Co. of Duluth: "You will be interested to know that our striking employees are back at work and how we brought this about. We hired a fife and drum corps to march up and down the streets of Duluth bearing the Stars and Stripes and a placard reading as follows: "Patriotic Kelmscot workmen will obey President Roosevelt and return to work."

The bosses might try that on Local 574, or any other bona fide union, and see how far it got.

Hot Shot, from the Industrial Worker: "Presumably there's a difference between the forgotten men of 1933 and the 700,000 who are going to be dropped from relief rolls before July 1."

A Good Crack, from the Socialist Call: "Hitler received only 98 and 79-100% of the votes in his latest 'election.' Ivory soap is still 65-100% up on him."