

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wis.

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

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

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

VOL. 2, NO. 44

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, FEB. 18, 1937

PRICE 5 CENTS

WAREHOUSE UNION REACHES AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL CO.

PRINTERS SIGN CONTRACT WITH DRIVERS UNION

All Workers in Printing Plants Are Covered by Agreement

Drivers, Helpers, Warehouse Men Receive Wage Increases

Tuesday an agreement was reached between General Drivers Union and all firms in the printing trade in this city. The new agreement, which provides for a closed shop, covers all drivers, helpers and inside workers employed by local printing firms.

Starting with the Jensen Printing Company, where the printing trades recently engaged in a strike in which General Drivers took part, demands were made upon all printing companies that they enter into an agreement with Local 544 for such workers as come under the jurisdiction of General Drivers Union.

Local 544 had organized and claimed jurisdiction over all workers employed in printing plants who were not claimed by any section of the printing trades. These included receiving clerks, shipping clerks and warehouse men as well as drivers.

In the contract it was provided that no worker would be compelled to work more hours than had been customary prior to the time of the signing of the agreement. The limit of hours in one week was set

(Continued on page 3)

Auto Strike Ending Leaves Many Issues to Be Settled by Union

The settlement of the recent Auto Workers strike appears to have many issues unsettled. While it cannot be called a defeat for the workers involved, certainly the ending of the affair left much to be desired, from a union viewpoint.

Recognition of the Auto Workers Union, the real issue of the strike, has been evaded by the General Motors Corporation. The G. M. C. agrees to recognize the rights of the Auto Workers Union to bargain for such employees as are members of that union. It is true that they also agree not to deal with any other organization of their employees for a period of six months.

But the testimony of the Senate committee, which is investigating labor spies and strikebreaking activities of national detective

Grain King Co. Settles Strike

Wednesday morning striking employes of the Grain King Company returned to work under the terms of an agreement reached Tuesday. Details of the settlement are lacking at press time but according to union officials the contract provides raises in wages for all of the workers concerned. Details of the settlement will be published in an early issue of the Northwest Organizer.

State Liquor Bill Hurts Drivers Union

The passage of the State Liquor Monopoly Bill would effect the jobs of over 500 members of General Drivers Union. Local 544 has organized all drivers, helpers and inside workers in the 18 wholesale liquor houses in Minneapolis. The state dispensary system would re-employ a few of these people but the majority would be displaced by the passage of the act. Besides members of the driving crafts workers belonging to other unions would also be effected.

New Offices Now Are All Occupied

The new offices in the headquarters of the Teamsters Joint Council are rapidly being put in shape by the contractor in charge. All the offices are occupied and but little work remains to be done. Revised plans now call for extensive remodeling and redecorating on the second and third floors.

General Drivers Union Gathers Trucking Data

Max Schactman To Speak Feb. 23 At Pioneer Hall

Max Schactman, outstanding Socialist and the American editor of the literary works of Leon Trotsky, world renowned leader of the Russian Revolution, will address a series of meetings in Minneapolis Tuesday and Wednesday, February 23 and 24. The meetings will be held under the auspices of the Twin City Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky. The first will take place at the Pioneer Hall, in the Lumber Exchange building, Tuesday, February 23, at 5 p. m. All persons interested in seeing that justice is done to the world's number one Marxist should attend this meeting. Other meetings addressed by Schactman will be announced later. Phone Main 7781 for additional information.

Schactman will be remembered for his able assistance to the General Drivers Union during the 1934 strikes of this union. At that time he was ordered out of town by the reactionary city administration who feared the power of this man's tongue and pen which has so ably served the cause of the working class.

Bakery Drivers Present a Pact To All Bosses

Bakery Drivers Union continues to forge ahead and are making real inroads on non-union bakery drivers. Officials of the union announce that few drivers remain outside the ranks of the organization. Meetings with bakery owners have started and it is indicated that little trouble will be experienced in securing a union contract. A committee of four owners has been set up whose duty it is to deal with the union for all bakery employers.

Coal Section Meets On Monday Evening

The Coal Workers Section of Local 544 met in the union hall Monday night. This proved to be one of the best attended meetings of the season. Not only was a good turn-out on hand but the members took up and solved some of the problems that have vexed this section for some time. Members were warned to take withdrawal cards as the coal season draws to a close.

Information to Be Used for All Contracts

General Drivers Union this week embarks on a campaign to gather facts concerning wages, hours and working conditions of over-the-road truck drivers. Local 544 is preparing to present to overland trucking employers a union agreement which proposes to regulate the working conditions of men employed in the long distance trucking industry.

The drawing up of such an agreement is hampered by the fact that little is known of conditions under which such classifications of drivers work. Sometime during the next month all long distance drivers will be asked to fill out a questionnaire which General Drivers Union expects will furnish the necessary information for the drawing up of a union contract which will regulate the wages and hours of labor in the long distance trucking industry.

The questionnaire is printed herewith.

This information is being gathered for the purpose of securing the necessary data for drawing up a Union agreement which will be presented to long haul operators covering wages and working conditions of Drivers and Helpers by

GENERAL DRIVERS UNION
LOCAL 544

Affiliated with

TEAMSTERS-CHAUFFEURS
JOINT COUNCIL NO. 32
Chartered by the International
Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America. Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and Affiliated Locals.

257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN

1. Name
2. City of Permanent Residence
3. Street
- No.
- Telephone
4. Age nearest birthday
5. Name of Employing Company
- (a) Company's Business Address, City
- (b) Street
- No.
- Telephone
6. Name all points to which Company hauls
- (a) How many Units does it Operate?
7. Where is the Main Terminal?
- City
- Street
- No.
- Telephone
8. How long have you been with the Company?

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDERS GET AGREEMENT WITH BOSSES

Warehouse, Inside Workers Union Has First Contract

Local 20316 Force Wage Raises from Liquor Employer

Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316, last week signed an agreement with Ed. Phillips and Company which covers about 45 workers employed by that firm.

The signing of this contract marks the first agreement that has been reached between Warehouse and Inside Workers Union and any Minneapolis concern.

This organization, which recently secured a Federal charter from the American Federation of Labor, has been making rapid strides forward during the past three months. The charter gives this union complete jurisdiction over all inside workers in Minneapolis.

There is little doubt but that it will soon take its place among the larger labor organizations in the city. The contract signed at the Phillips Company brings improved wages and better working conditions for all workers at this company. It establishes a 48 hour week, wage scales ranging from

(Continued on page 2)

Local 125 Signs Agreement With Three Cab Firms

Last week saw the signing of a union agreement between Local 125, Taxicab Drivers Union, and the owners of the following companies: Minnesota, Liberty and Terminal. The contract provides for 40 per cent commission which is a considerable advance over the previous rate. Besides the advance in the commission rate, the drivers were granted full seniority rights. This marks the first time that Local 125 has had a signed contract which provided for seniority. The Executive Board of the Taxicab Drivers Union announced that over 200 drivers and owners were effected by the new agreement. The new commission rate is already being paid by the owners.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

INSIDERS GET AGREEMENT WITH BOSSES

(Continued from page 1)
40 cents to 60 cents per hour and sets up a seniority list.
James Bartlett, who heads the union reports that other contracts are pending. The agreement appears below.

WORKING AGREEMENT

The Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local No. 20316, and Ed Phillips and Co. agree to be bound by the following terms and provisions of this contract relating to wages and working conditions:

ARTICLE I

The Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local No. 20316, shall be the sole representatives of all employees covered by this contract in collective bargaining with the employer. There shall be no discrimination against any employee because of union affiliation.

ARTICLE II

All employees shall be members in good standing in the union and any new employee hired shall become a member within fifteen (15) days after his first day of employment.

ARTICLE III

The employer agrees not to enter into any agreement or contract with his employees, individually or collectively, which in any way conflicts with the terms and provisions of this agreement.

ARTICLE IV

There shall be one seniority list covering all employees in all departments. There shall be no change in the present personnel in the various departments except that when a vacancy occurs in any department, the first man on the seniority list who is capable shall have first preference for the job. If the first man on the seniority list does not want the job, the second man has preference, etc. When a senior man chooses not to take the job which is open through vacancy, he cannot thereafter demand to replace a younger man who accepts the job. However, failure to accept the job open for bidding does not in any way impair the senior man's right to bid on the next job in accordance with his seniority standing. In the event of a reduction of personnel in any department because of lack of work or other legitimate reasons, the employees involved may take jobs in other departments in accordance with their seniority rights and ability to perform such work. In reducing the personnel, the last man hired shall be the first man laid off and in rehiring, the last man laid off shall be the first man rehired.

ARTICLE V

The regular work day shall be eight (8) hours and the regular work week shall be forty-four (44) hours. However, overtime shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half for all time in excess of ten (10) hours in any one day and for all time in excess of forty-eight (48) hours in any one week. When ordered to report for work, employees shall be assured of forty-four (44) hours work per week on the basis of seniority.

ARTICLE VI

Double time shall be paid for all work performed on Sundays or any of the following holidays: New Years day, Decoration day, July 4, Labor day, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day.

ARTICLE VII

The regular work week shall commence on Monday not later than 9 a. m. and each regular work day thereafter shall commence not later than 9 a. m. There

Bill Brown Says—

The demonstration staged at the last Central Labor Union meeting was only further proof that a group in that body have set out on a deliberate program of attempting to discredit General Drivers Union. It is well to know that in 1934 when members of the Drivers Union were fighting and dying on the streets of Minneapolis to establish unionism here, most of those who are now crying wolf were in the ranks of the unorganized. "All they knew about it was what they read in the papers."



BILL BROWN
President of 544

General Drivers Union Gathers Trucking Data

(Continued from page 1)

Young Socialists To Hold an Affair

To commemorate the deaths within February of three heroes of the international working class, Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg, the Young People's Socialist League is holding a gala dance on Sunday night, February 21, at 8 p. m., at 631 3rd Ave. S. The program will include old time dancing, a puppet show, skits and refreshments. A good time is assured to all who attend.

shall be no split shifts. Employees required to report for work before 8 a. m. shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half for all time worked during this period. Pay for the day shall begin not later than 9 a. m.

ARTICLE VIII

Employees who have been in the service of the company for a period of one year or longer shall receive one week's vacation with pay at the regular rates set forth herein for their classification of work. In arranging the vacation schedule, seniority preference shall be observed.

ARTICLE IX

The following minimum rates of hourly pay shall be in effect during the period of time that this contract remains in effect. Any employee receiving more than the minimum herein specified shall not have his pay reduced.

Warehousemen, 60 cents per hour.
Shipping Clerks, 65 cents per hour.
Receiving Clerks, 65 cents per hour.
Assistant Shipping Clerks, 60 cents per hour.
Assistant Receiving Clerks, 60 cents per hour.
Clerks, 50 cents per hour.
Checkers, 50 cents per hour.
Packers, 50 cents per hour.
Order Fillers, 50 cents per hour.
Stock Arrangers, 50 cents per hour.
Bottlers, 50 cents per hour.
One (1) Bottle Washer, 40 cents per hour.
Stampers, 40 cents per hour.

Any new employee hired shall not receive less than 40 cents per hour for the first thirty (30) days. After this period the minimum rate shall be as classified herein.

The minimum rate of hourly pay for all unmentioned classifications shall be 50 cents per hour.

ARTICLE X

A representative of the Union shall be the chairman of any committee duly elected by the employees to take care of minor grievances.

This contract shall remain in effect from January 18, 1937, up to and including September 14, 1937.

ED PHILLIPS & CO.

By _____
By _____
WAREHOUSE AND INSIDE WORKERS UNION, LOCAL NO 20316, A. F. of L.
By _____
By _____

Independent Truck Chatter

Monday Blues for Finks

On Monday of this week after long delay the fink trucks at the airport were given a dose of special mental castor oil for clearing the brain. There was no brain to be cleared so the finks will not be working until _____ All the trucks load under the two gas shovels, and only union trucks get loads. Much obliged to J. Jandle and G. Stinley, the two union shovel operators, for their willing co-operation in this matter.

The Ways and Means committee called a special meeting last Friday to consider numerous problems that had developed in the past few weeks. The recent nominations were gone over and the election board made a few changes that were necessary. Also many truckers were called to the meeting for the purpose of explaining past actions relative to the union, and grievances from various jobs were acted upon. These gatherings accomplish a lot and should be held frequently now that only one membership meeting is allowed each month. The next Ways and Means meetings will be held on Washington's birthday, February 22, at ten in the morning. All ITO officers, committee men, and stewards should be there. Others that receive notices must come also.

The ITO Section is trying to bring about a change in the insurance set-up for WPA trucks. One thing that could be done is to use the insurance on an hourly basis, in this way insurance would be paid only for the hours actually worked each day. Under this system all the trucks would have to be insured by the same company, and some arrangement made for deduction of premiums from each pay check.

Get to It

The stewards have been too lax about getting emblems on trucks. Contact each truck that has no emblem and have an application filled out. There is no excuse for not having a sticker or emblem on every independently owned truck no matter what kind of work it is doing.

All stewards be sure to come to the Ways and Means meeting February 22 at ten a. m. and bring a complete list of trucks working on their project. This information is important to have so that there will be no chance of an ineligible truck working when so many qualified trucks are on the unemployed list.

Harmony

Things have been going very well on Lilac Lane lately, guess the rough edges have finally been worn off some of those conflicting personalities.

That seniority list with the city will mean nothing at all after the city gets through buying these new trucks.

33. What should be the Maximum Work Day? _____ hours
(a) How many rest periods?
(b) And what length should be during this time? _____
34. What should be the maximum work week? _____ hours and _____ minutes.
35. What is the minimum time a Driver should have off between trips? _____
36. How should pay be computed?
37. What should the hourly wage scale be? _____

REMARKS: _____

FEDERALS ASK FOR REFORMS BY PETITION

Ask That Cash Relief Be Made Part of Program

February 10, 1937

To Each Minnesota State Senator and Representative:

Greetings:
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AND COMMENTS:

RESOLVED, That we desire and request of the Minnesota Legislature at this time, the enactment of legislation as follows:

1. That full responsibility and the necessary authority for relief administration in each rural Minnesota county be now concentrated in its Board of County Commissioners.

2. That each such administrative body be required to file with the State Relief Agency in advance for each month its schedule of minimum relief and supplemental allowances, its interpretations thereof, and its policies related thereto.

3. That issuance of CASH RELIEF be now made lawful.

The term "relief" as used above is intended to include all relief, mothers' aid, aid for dependent children, unemployment benefits, old age assistance, veterans' relief, and all other public aid to the needy except only those categories for which full authority and responsibility is vested in some special public state agency.

Adequate and specific penalties for violations and/or falsification and/or failure to comply with or of duties under Point No. 2, if enacted, should be provided.

All procedures necessary to obtain full and final enactment at this session, such as petition to suspend rules, etc., should be assured.

Points 1 and 3 of the above Resolution were unanimously adopted by the Hennepin County Farmer-Labor Convention the latter part of January, 1937.

Point 2 is necessary to give meaning and teeth to Point 1.

This Resolution was ordered sent to you by overwhelming majority vote of the Federal Workers Section general membership meeting of February 7, 1937.

May we be advised at once of your definite intentions herein?

Very truly yours,
FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION, LOCAL 544
257 Plymouth Ave.,
Minneapolis

By Grant J. Dunne, Chairman

MEETING SCHEDULE

Local 544

Friday, Feb. 5—Job Stewards
Monday, Feb. 8—General Membership
Wednesday, Feb. 10—Market
Thursday, Feb. 18—Tent and Awning
Friday, Feb. 10—Job Stewards
Tuesday, Feb. 23—Taxi Drivers: night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
Grievance Committee—Meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m.
Executive Board—Meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m.

Ice, Coal Drivers Meeting Schedule

Local 221, Ice and Coal Drivers Union, will hereafter hold all of its regular meetings at the new headquarters of the Teamsters Joint Council, 257 Plymouth Ave. N. Regular Union meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays. Executive Board meetings are subject to call. The Union office is now located at the above address.

PRINTERS SIGN CONTRACT WITH DRIVERS UNION

(Continued from page 1)
at 44 after which overtime starts. Wages range from 55 cents to 65 cents per hour.
Shipping and receiving clerks will be paid 65 cents and all other help will receive 55 cents per hour. This contract was signed with the co-operation of the printing trades under the direction of John Bosco.
It is reported that all print shops will soon be 100 per cent union. The agreement between General Drivers Union and printing firms follows:

WORKING AGREEMENT

The Printing Industry and the General Drivers and Helpers Union, Local No. 544, agree to be bound by the following terms and provisions covering wages and working conditions:

ARTICLE I

The employer agrees to hire only members of the Union, or those who agree to become members within fifteen (15) days, providing, however, that such employee will make immediate application for membership in Local No. 544.

ARTICLE II

The employer agrees not to enter into any agreement or contract with his employees, individually or collectively, which in any way conflicts with the terms and provisions of this agreement.

ARTICLE III

The present scheduled work hours shall be maintained in each establishment except that additional hours may be worked up to forty-four (44) hours per week in case of unusual circumstances. All hours worked in excess of the forty-four (44) hours per week shall be paid for on the basis of time and one-half except that double time shall be paid for Sundays and the following legal holidays: New Year's, Decoration day, Fourth of July, Labor day, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day. There shall be no split shifts.

ARTICLE IV

No member of the Union shall suffer a reduction in wages in consequence of this agreement.

ARTICLE V

Employees who have been in the service of the company for a period of one year or longer shall receive a minimum of one week's vacation with full pay at the rates set forth herein.

ARTICLE VI

In reducing the number of employees for lack of work or other legitimate reason, seniority shall prevail. No employee to be dismissed without sufficient cause.

ARTICLE VII

The following shall be the minimum rates of pay:

Receiving Clerks65c per hour
Drivers\$30 per week
Receiving Clerks65c per hour
Shipping Clerks65c per hour
Warehouse Men55c per hour

This agreement shall be in full force and effect from February 5, 1937, and shall continue to be in effect for one year.

THE PRINTING INDUSTRY

By
By
By
By
By
By

GENERAL DRIVERS AND HELPERS UNION, LOCAL NO. 544, A. F. of L.

"Demand" for Federal Regulation Of Labor Unions Is Held as Danger

Death to Workers Move Seen in Employers Devise

The widespread and insistent "demand" which is now arising for the "regulation" of labor unions is one of the most vicious of the many efforts to knife the trade union movement that has been attempted in some little while.

Many alleged liberals are helping with this newest attempt to grease the skids under the organized labor movement. The Scripps-Howard newspaper chain is making something of a crusade for union regulation.

The idea back of the "regulation" or registration of trade unions is perfectly plain—that is to make it possible for the courts to cripple and tie down every militant and active organization of wage earners.

This drive to force unions to be incorporated or licensed is, of course, an attempted offset on the new advances being made by labor in autos, steel and other basic industries. If unions could be sued in the way employers would like to see things fixed up it would be the simplest thing in the world to hire a professional labor spy to commit an illegal act which would at once make it possible to tie up all union funds and all union activities by court orders.

The fact of the matter is that employers don't want unions to be responsible. The people crying for the regulation of unions simply want to find a way to keep labor weak.

The trade unions of America are anxious and ready to enter into contracts with employers based on a clear-cut acceptance of the principle of free association and collective bargaining. The contracts will insure faithful performance, by both parties, automatic redress of peace while the contract is in force.

The purpose of attempting to register, license or charter unions is to destroy or weaken effective functioning of labor organizations and thus to continue a stupid, disorderly and chaotic situation for all concerned.

Yellow Notes

Believe it or not, the Yellow Notes are here again.

The Williams brothers are in the limelight again. Al did a snow plowing job to Brainerd with cab No. 20. Tommy lost a race with the stork, thereby making a delivery room out of the rear compartment of his cab. Tommy says he feels qualified now to apply for a job as an assistant in that department of some hospital.

Our "good friend" Mr. Cedric Adams really fixed it up for us cab drivers with his article in the Star recently. I am sure we would appreciate a constructive lecture from Mr. Adams with full and complete instructions as to how to eliminate "spinning the wheels on icy spots on the pavements." Perhaps he, with his vast driving experience, can tell us how to accomplish this superhuman feat under the slippery pavement conditions we have had this winter.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

The guardian of the purse strings at the Yellow Taxi Co. "Pinch-Penny" Passolt, was accused of "being loose with his money" by a lady he gave \$10 to for signing a piece of paper. They say miracles do happen every day.

With the Laundry Workers Union

The meeting of the shop stewards held on Thursday February 11, was well attended. Lively discussions were held on important questions and the following recommendations made by the executive board were approved.

- (1) To empower the office force to continue to assist the needy ones.
- (2) To help those who are delinquent in their assessment by making it possible for them to pay this assessment in installments as low as 25 cents per month.
- (3) To form an "organization committee to make a house to house canvass of delinquent members.
- (4) To apply for a charter from the newly formed Dry Cleaning International to maintain a joint local of Cleaners and Laundry Workers, not dividing them.
- (5) A musical program, dance and installation of officers be held at the South Side auditorium, Friday, April 9.
- (6) Shop Stewards meeting to be held once a month.

One more closed shop agreement was signed by Sam Gottlieb of the Plymouth Laundry with our Business Representative Thursday, numbering a total of 31 closed shops. All provisions as to wages, hours and working conditions will take effect March 1, 1937.

Efforts are being made to organize the King Cole Hotel laundry and to secure a union agreement with the management. Any assistance by Brother Unions will be appreciated.

The Francis Drake management presented a "yellow dog" contract to their employees for their signature. We wish to hereby warn all workers of that hotel not to sign this vicious document.

Jennie Brink of the Radisson hotel, who has been on the sick list for some time, is leaving the city for Annandale to spend a few weeks with her mother.

Francis Terris of the Radisson hotel has been on the sick list for a few days.

PUBLICITY AND PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE

- Alvina Baldwin
- Harry Brown
- Rubin Latz

It has been reported that Bronson, the order-taker, has developed an affliction known as "cold feet." His cure consists of wearing heavy felt shoes while on duty.

"The spendthrift," Bill Postier, has a desire to trade for a better car but the "good" characteristics of his nature won't let him loosen up on the bank-roll.

A group of self-centered, egotistical merchants in the vicinity of Chicago and Lake, by their actions of the past week, have expressed a desire to reduce the chances of a cab driver making a living. Their action in requesting the moving of the cab stand is nothing more than pure selfishness. They may have won the first round but it remains to be seen if they continue to be victorious. A boycott by all union members of the merchants who are the instigators of this raw deal may change their ideas.

Clairmont has a new assistant now.

Notes on the Pin Punishers

The 544 office team won two from Nat. Teas with Dobbs still in Washington. FWS took two games from Con. No. 2 as Hatling rolled 218. Ind. went into a tie for the lead, swamping Con. No. 1 while Norman hit 282. Joint Councils dropped three games to the leading Meat Drivers.

544	832 894 903—2629
Nat.	965 874 867—2709
F. W. S.	896 854 871—2721
Con. No. 2	779 884 821—2484
J. C.	696 678 750—2119
Meats	905 892 869—2666
Con. No. 1	854 813 811—2478
Ind.	903 815 820—2588

NOTES

Sather Thoreson and A. Olson also hit 200 scores. Next week will see a fight for first place between the Meats and Ind. Boeckman showed the effects of his recent illness by bowling 99 in his first game. The Consol. boys drowned their sorrows after the matches. Iserman, Ebert and Vincent are still in the Sunday tournament. The winner will be richer by \$7.35 this week.

Matt Klaeges, Printers; Jiggs Donahue, Milk Drivers; Gilchrist, Lincoln Alleys; Nels Larson, secretary A. B. C.; Farrell Dobbs and your secretary are forming an all union bowling tournament to be held in April. This will be an annual affair.

Spick and Span Notes

Most of the stewards were conspicuous by their absence at our regular steward's meeting last Thursday night. Try and remember that those meetings are held on the second Thursday each month. We hold these meetings in order to avoid the confusion of collecting dues at our regular meetings.

In plants where we have stewards it would be much less confusing if members would pay their dues to the stewards instead of the Secretary-Treasurer.

Many of our new members are showing a great deal more interest and union spirit than some of our older members. After all this is your union and it will be just what you make it. It seems that some of the crying about things that have been done or matters of policy comes from members who were not present at those meetings, at which they were considered.

If there happens to be no one in our office during the day, dues may be paid at the switchboard.

The committee on constitution and by-laws met Tuesday night.

The alterations are nearly complete at our new home. Those members who are too busy bowling, etc., to attend meetings and think the union will function just as well whether they are present or not, really ought to drop around some night and get acquainted. A real surprise is in store for you.

MEETING SCHEDULE Local 471

- Tuesday, Feb. 2—Membership Meeting.
- Friday, Feb. 5—Executive Board
- Friday, Feb. 12—Executive Board.
- Tuesday, Feb. 16—Membership Meeting
- Friday, Feb. 19—Executive Board
- Friday, Feb. 26—Executive Board

On the Route With the Milk Man



All members of the Milk Drivers Union should take notice of the change of telephone number of their union office. During the day the office can be reached by calling Ge. 4691. After office hours call Ge. 4695.

Notice should be taken of the new gold leaf sign on the window of the Milk Drivers office. It reads "Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union, Local 471." They have beat all the other unions to the punch as this is the first sign in the building.

Bill Sinnott took a trip to Fairbault Friday night to attend a meeting of truck drivers of that city. This was an organizational meeting and was called for the purpose of setting up a drivers union in Fairbault.

Bill reports that he took 81 applications and that the spirit for unionism was strong. A charter will be applied for in the near future. Sinnott took the place of Corcoran who is in Washington at the present time.

A new drawing from the pen of Henry Johnson is in the hands of the editor. It will be reproduced in an early issue of the Organizer.

The new stationery of Local 471 will bear the imprint of the drawing that appears on the masthead of the Milk Drivers Union column. The figures will be in red.

Demand the Milk Drivers button.

REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316
Regular membership meetings first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m.
Executive Board meets every Thursday at 8 p. m.
All meetings will be held at the new headquarters of the Teamsters Joint Council, 257 Plymouth Ave. N.

NOTICE TO LOCAL 131 MEMBERS

Any member of Laundry Drivers Union who has not paid his dues for the month of January will not receive a button for the current month. This means that your book must be stamped for the month of January in order to get the latest union button.

NEW MEETING SCHEDULE FOR LOCAL 1859

Executive Board, February 13.
J. R. Clark and Box Industry, February 17.
Puffer Hubbard, February 19.
Executive Board, February 20.
Executive Board, February 27.
General Membership Meeting, March 3.

FOR SALE

One two-wheel trailer, \$12, and one re-upholstered wing chair, \$11. For information see Charles Rogers, 91 Nicollet St., on Nicollet Island.

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."

Labor Injunctions

The more and more frequent use of injunctions in labor disputes should prove cause for alarm in the Organized Labor Movement. At the present time, scarcely a strike takes place that is not marked by the issuance of a court injunction restraining the labor organization involved from picketing, bannering or carrying on any legal, lawful strike activity. All this despite the fact that, in the past few years, labor laws have been "liberalized" and anti-injunction laws have been passed.

Organized labor has fought the use of injunctions since the birth of the modern labor movement. Labor must continue to fight against the most damaging and unscrupulous weapon that is used by the employer—the injunction. The American Labor Movement has spent millions of dollars in fighting this vicious instrument of the bosses and the boss-controlled courts. Lives of many union workers have been laid down to demonstrate to employers and capitalist courts that the American worker will never submit to the rule of injunction. Struggle against the use of injunctions, by the labor movement, is a principle struggle. Time after time, Labor Unions have defied injunction, and time after time members of defiant unions have been jailed and have suffered long prison sentences for such defiance.

Now in the face of all this, what of the members of the labor movement who use this same despised and vilified weapon against other labor organizations? What can we think of so-called "trade unionists" who, at the first hint of internal trouble within their own union, turn to the same corrupt capitalist courts, which they have soundly condemned all these years, and plead with these same courts to grant THEM the weapon with which to fight fellow unionists. It is almost incredible that anyone, even with the scantiest knowledge of the American Labor Movement, should turn to the courts to settle internal differences within their labor organization.

To those who have resorted to this foul device of the employers, we can only say, you are more guilty, more corrupt and more depraved than the courts to which you appeal. You are, by your actions, giving renewed confidence to the employers and bosses to more frequently resort to THEIR courts for injunctions and restraining orders to be used against the workers. You LEGALIZE the very instrument which the American Federation of Labor has spent years in attempting to outlaw.

The merits of the case involved are not for us here to consider. Which side is right and which side is wrong is not the point. The bald, hideous fact remains, one labor union has asked the capitalist courts for an injunction to be used against another labor union. That act calls for the strongest condemnation by all honest union men and women.

For a Labor Temple

While the Minneapolis labor movement has made tremendous strides forward during the past three years, both in increased membership and improved wages and working conditions, in one respect it has stood still. The organized labor movement, in Minneapolis, has no place that it can truly call home. Various units of the movement are scattered in all parts of the city. As an example, the Metal Trades have their own headquarters, the plastering trades have theirs, the driving crafts are in still another location while single unions and groups of unions maintain offices and meeting halls wherever they can find them. The Central Labor Union has established a headquarters in the central part of the city which has proved ridiculously inadequate for the growing needs of the ever-expanding movement of the organized workers.

There is no sound argument against a centralized headquarters which would house the entire organized labor movement. Instead all logic points to the fact that there is growing need for just such a move. Every trade unionist should ask himself this question, is a large, modern Labor Temple a possibility in Minneapolis today?

The labor movement in this city owns a large plot of ground situated in a downtown location. Only a few thousand dollars remain to be paid on it. But that lot, unimproved, is as useless to the movement as would be a pocketful of gold to a man dying of thirst in a desert. Irrespective of the price that was paid for it, the lot is valueless to the unions until a Labor Temple is erected there. All that is needed is someone with vision and courage to start the ball rolling. A Labor Temple can be built, must be built and WILL be built.

Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Things look black for the State Liquor Dispensary Bill. Its enactment would mean unemployment for many members of Local 544.

The last C. L. U. meeting was stamped by a story that sounded like something from Grimm's Fairy Tales. What next?

All printing houses have signed an agreement with Local 544. Nice wages and improved hours for all involved.

Bakery Drivers Union officials are holding meetings with Bakery employers. Almost 100 per cent union organization among the drivers.

The Steno's dance was a knock-out.

All union offices have been moved to the lower floor at 257 Plymouth Ave.

Dobbs, Murphy and Corcoran are in Washington, D. C.

The Organizer went to press without the editor last week. Flu.

The Warehouse union is packing them in.

The 3.2 Bartenders Union is taking in all the employes in the off-sale stores.

Warehouse and Inside Workers Union last week signed an agreement with Ed. Phillips and Sons. Forty workers were effected.

Furniture Workers Union will open an office at Teamsters Council headquarters.

New Steno at the Milk Drivers.

A switchboard has been installed at the headquarters. The new phone number is Geneva 4691.

The Teamsters Joint Council met Friday night. A large attendance was on hand.

Tea and Coffee Drivers Union, Local 275, request that all housewives ask for the union book.

The merger of Local 160 and Local 292 brings a powerful Electrical Workers Union in the Minneapolis labor field.

Mike Boyle was a Minneapolis visitor last week.

Trustee election at the next Central Labor Union meeting.

Laundry Drivers are continuing to take in new members at each meeting.

The new Teamsters Council office is directly behind General Drivers new headquarters.

The Office Workers report organizational progress.

All city printing plants will soon be union.

I. T. O. Members Take Notice

No special notices will be sent out for the next meeting of the ITO Section when election of officers will be held, so remember the date, March 4, 1937.

LABOR... Looks at the Press

By Carl O'Shea

Annapolis news item: The historic visit of friendship by Commodore Perry to the island empire of Japan in 1853 will be the theme of a water pageant and carnival to be held at the Naval Academy next June.

American business interests must wish Perry hadn't been so "friendly."

Letter from the New York Council on Economics: To hold that people between 35 and 50 are unfit for further employment (as private employers do constitutes a serious indictment of our economic system. In the past, people in this age group were looked upon as the very backbone of our country.

Oh well, it seems that everyone is slipping down a little these days.

General Johnson: In a world moving like an avalanche to new and untried forms, President Roosevelt has the fate of this nation and the preservation of the property and profit system on his shoulders, and the means to preserve them in his hands. He must be supported to the utmost in his efforts to preserve them.

Stated like a soldier, general—blunt and to the point.

Flint news item: A 72 year old great grandmother, Mrs. Rebecca Goddard, joined the picket line today in front of the Fisher No. 1 plant.

Boy, they sure made women in those days.

Headline in New York Times: "Teeth" Demanded in State Milk Law.

Milk teeth?

Great Bend, Kansas: Horses on the Tom Taylor farm took one look at a buggy today, shied and jumped over a high wire fence.

Well, that proves that you can change "horse" nature, anyway.

The Road to Peace as pointed out by the C. S. Monitor: The great body of youth represented in the international federation of Boy Scouts is a great moving force for peace in the world.

Yah, they had a chance to show that in the last war.

Chief Justice Hughes: Under present conditions of living and in view of the increased facility of maintaining health and vigor, the age of 70 may well be thought too early for compulsory retirement from the Supreme Court.

I think we ought to wait until the bodies actually begin to decompose.

Chicago news item: Three newborn leopard cubs were killed by their mother in Lincoln Park zoo recently. Leopards never let their young be reared in captivity.

Mothers living under fascist dictatorships could do worse than show a like fortitude.

St. Paul news item: More than \$200,000 in additional income taxes have been collected from local manufacturers on the basis of data gathered from income tax records by 50 white collar WPA workers.

That's the kind of boondoggling that the bosses must find particularly obnoxious.

Figures Show That Unemployment Has Not Been Reduced

Social Security limps on but practically seven million active applications for jobs are still on file with the U. S. Re-employment Service, according to its latest published reports. Minnesota's share is well over 140,000 with a drop of 15 1/2 per cent in private placements and a drop of 44 per cent in public placements for the month of November, 1936. While WPA cuts continue and local relief agencies throw up their hands and legislatures talk big things but do nothing, all the ballyhoo about better conditions simply refers to the rising prices and profits of Big Bizz. The fact is that unemployment continues practically unabated. Production is carried on with reduced personnel. Security is limited to the upper classes. The workers are learning that their own security depends wholly upon their own militant organized action.

Rothschild Workers Coming into Union At a Rapid Tempo

A large number of employees of the Maurice L. Rothschild Co. are now to be found in the ranks of the Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316. A series of meetings have been held with these employees and a contract has been drawn up that will be presented to the employers in the coming week.

Florence Strong, Business Agent for the Stenographers Union, Local 17661, has been actively engaged in helping James Bartlett of Local 20316 in organizing these workers. Both report great success and much enthusiasm when approaching this type of employees to join a Union.

544 Officials Meet Paper Wholesalers

During the past two weeks meetings have been held between representatives of General Drivers Union and officials of wholesale paper companies. Out of these meetings has come an understanding that should lead to a contract being signed between the two groups. This agreement will cover all workers employed in the wholesale paper industry. Negotiations are in charge of Smith and Skogland.

Workers at Sears Plan Mass Meeting

Sears Roebuck employees are planning a mass meeting for all employees of this company within the next two weeks. All those who are not yet members of the Union in this company will be invited to attend to learn the plans of Local 20316 in respect to this large mail order house.

It is expected that the meeting will be well attended.

Coal Workers

Due to a misunderstanding the coal meeting which is to be regularly held on the first Monday of each month was not scheduled for February. A special meeting of the Coal Section of Local 544 will therefore be held on Monday, Feb. 15, at 8 p. m.

Federal Workers Section OPEN MEETING

Friday, Feb. 5, 8 p. m.

Issues:

1. The six hour day on WPA
2. Direct Relief orders by mail
3. Rural Relief supplements
4. Orville Olson's written reply to FWS questions