

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 1938

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

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

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## On the National Picket Line

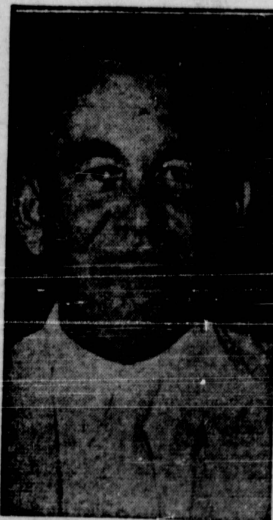
Ford Motor Company officials announced their intention last week of calling all 600 employees from the St. Louis Assembly plant, to testify before the National Labor Relations Board. Over 135 witnesses have already testified, with about forty-five yet to be heard. Ford Company is charged with unfair labor practices, discrimination against union members, and interferences with union organization among their employees.

Portland, Oregon, a city of more than 350,000 inhabitants, is without a daily newspaper as the three capitalist papers suspended publication pending the outcome of a strike called by the Typographical Union. The strike was called after weeks of fruitless negotiations, and was authorized by the entire membership on January 6. The former contract expired on December 31, and since that time there have been almost daily meetings between the union officials and representatives of the bosses. The union is demanding a \$9 wage for day workers and \$9.50 for night workers. On this question the employers have already consented, but the controversy arises over the hours per day—the union wants a seven-hour day and the employers are insisting on a seven and one-half hour day. On January 15 the employers submitted two proposals for settlement—the first for a \$9-9.50 wage, with a seven and one-half hour day, and with arbitration after a six-months period; the second proposal was for the same wages with the seven and one-half hour day but with immediate arbitration. The union rejected both proposals overwhelmingly and the walk-out began. The three papers strike-bound are the Oregonian, the Oregon Journal, and the News-Telegraph.

From New York City comes news that a strike, affecting only 200 of a hoped-for 1,000 taxi drivers has been called by the Greater New York Hackmen's and Taxi Drivers Union in protest to the lack of benefits gained for members under the new contract between the big taxi systems and the Transport Workers Union. During the recent taxi strike in New York this Greater New York Hackmen's and Taxi Drivers Union attempted to sit in on negotiations but were refused entry. The TWU claimed that they are a company union, pure and simple.

From Harrisburg, Pa., we learn that the State convention of the AFL has refused, almost unanimously, to unseat the CIO delegates present. The convention also passed a resolution demanding that the heads of the CIO and the AFL arrive at a peaceful settlement of the present controversy. Pennsylvania is the center of most of the mass production industries and as such has many thousands of industrial unionists.

(Continued from page 1)  
Today Makes 7,947 Days . . .



## Sioux Falls Drivers Insist On Demands

### Local 749 Refuses \$24 Wage, 51 Hour Week Proposed by Mayor's Board; Insists on Original Demands

(Special to Northwest Organizer) Sioux Falls, S. D.—On Monday night, a membership meeting of General Drivers Local 749 turned down flatly the recommendations of the labor board appointed by Mayor Graff to settle the dispute between the union and the coal, lumber and building material employers.

The labor board had suggested a 51-hour week, with time and one-half for overtime, and weekly wages of \$24. The demands of the union for recognition and seniority, without which any agreement is meaningless, were completely disregarded by the board.

At the Monday membership meeting, the union agreed to stick by its demands, calling for union recognition, full seniority rights, the 48-hour week, with a weekly wage of \$27. As five yards are already paying the \$27 scale, the union feels it is fully justified in its demands. The terms proposed by Local 749 have been presented to the employers and to the labor board.

The chairman of the labor board recently made the public statement that the union only had one-third of the workers in the coal, lumber and building material plants in Sioux Falls. The truth is that the union has 14 of the 19 yards solid, and has a substantial representation in the other yards. The union means to stand firm on its demands.

It has come to the attention of Local 749 that certain over-the-road haulers have been chiseling on the wage scale. The union will not tolerate such violations of the contract and is preparing to take action against such chiselers.

## Over Fifty Girls Join Local 471

Girl employees of Minneapolis creameries held their second meeting last Thursday night under the auspices of Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471. Fifty-six girls have now signed up with the section. The committee of four which had been set up to draft a contract covering working and wage conditions made its report to the meeting. The agreement was read, and adopted with slight changes.

The working agreement for this section will be similar to the fluid milk contract, stipulating the 48-hour week with accumulated half-days to be taken quarterly or during slack seasons in the industry. The girl employees will choose their own officers, conduct their own meetings, and will not vote for members of Local 471's executive board.

The next meeting of the girl employees will be held Thursday evening, January 27, at 8 p. m. at which time it is anticipated over one hundred girls will have joined the union.

## Drivers Sign Wrecking Companies

On Monday afternoon a contract was signed by General Drivers Local 544 with the wrecking companies in Minneapolis. During the peak season, this industry employs about 350 workers. Terms of the contract are practically identical with that signed by the lumber industry, except for wage scales and the "Saturday afternoon" clause.

Karl Skoglund and Jack Smith represented the union in the negotiations.

## Notice to Executive Board of Teamsters

All Executive Boards of locals affiliated to the Teamsters Joint Council, and all individual board members, are asked to keep open for a special purpose the evening of Monday, January 31st.

MILES B. DUNNE  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Executive Board, Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council



New officers of the Teamsters Joint Council No. 32, chosen unanimously at the election held January 14. Reading from left to right: "Indian" Ray Rainbolt, trustee; Gene Larson, trustee; L. Clair Johnson, looking skyward, recording secretary; M. I. Smith, vice-president; Harold Seavey, with the light suit, president; Ray L. Sawyer, organizer; Miles Dunne, secretary-treasurer; Joseph O'Hare, the man with the spats, trustee.

## St. Paul Labor Condemns Boss Grand Jury Report

### Central Labor Body Joins Northwest Unions in Fight Against Grand Jury, Reverses "Union Advocate"

By an overwhelming vote of the largest delegate assembly ever held, the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly on January 13 repudiated the Union Advocate's support of the anti-labor grand jury report. With only a few scattered no's, nearly 200 delegates to the central body of organized labor adopted a resolution which brought St. Paul labor in line with the position already enunciated by the Northwest Organizer and the Minneapolis Labor Review.

The Ramsey County grand jury, after weeks of desperate effort to pin something on the Twin Cities labor movement, three weeks ago handed down a report viciously attacking the Twin Cities driving crafts. The grand jury's abortive attempt to find indictments against union leaders was notoriously

## Dubinsky, One of CIO "Big Three", Raps CIO Conduct in Peace Parley

Sharp criticism of CIO strategy in its peace negotiations with the AFL was voiced by David Dubinsky, President of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, in a speech before all New York local executive boards on January 11.

President Dubinsky's speech was undoubtedly the most significant development in determining CIO development since the failure of the "little steel" strike last year put a halt to the growth of the CIO. The ILGWU is one of the "big three" of the CIO, the other two being Sidney Hillman's Amalgamated Clothing Workers and John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers. In the organization campaigns of the CIO, the ILGWU donated from three to four hundred thousand dollars and many of its organizers.

The speech appears in full in the January 15 issue of JUSTICE, ILGWU organ.

**CIO Honeymoon Over**  
Dubinsky's analysis of the CIO-AFL situation was based on his conviction that labor was entering a new situation. Dubinsky declared that labor's present problem can be understood in the light of three distinct periods:

1. "The first was marked by the NRA, which served to stimulate and encourage organization."

2. "The second was marked by the Wagner Act and the rise of the CIO, both of which helped to add millions of workers to the ranks of organized labor."

3. "But just as the NRA had its honeymoon period and passed it, so have the CIO and the Wagner Act too passed their honeymoon periods."

"There was and still is an opportunity for a third period of progress and advancement for organized labor, but this is conditional on peace in the labor movement. The opportunity for the in-

auguration of this period was missed at the recent peace conferences between the AFL and CIO."

**Blames CIO Leader**  
Dubinsky flatly declared that the CIO leaders were primarily responsible for the failure of the recent peace negotiations, in which Dubinsky was part of the CIO delegation.

Concerning the debated question whether the AFL negotiators did or did not have authority to conclude a peace pact, Dubinsky pointed out:  
"Whatever doubt there may be about this, one thing is clear: if an agreement between the negotiating committees would have been reached and submitted to the (AFL) Executive Council and the Council would then have turned it down—no matter how reactionary the Executive Council may be, it would have had to account to the labor movement and to the public, who are keenly watching every move and every development in this nationally important situation. How much stronger our case would have been; how much more vigor and determination there would have been on the part of the masses to fight for the achievement of a program that was turned down by the Executive Council after it had been agreed to by its own committee!"

**AFL Negotiators Agreed to Main Peace Points**  
According to Dubinsky, the AFL negotiators agreed to the three main points at issue:  
**1. Industrial Unionism**  
"I claim that at the peace conferences the problem of industrial unionism was met satisfactorily. At these discussions, the AFL committee conceded industrial unionism for the automobile industry, agreeable to Homer Martin and Richard Frankenstein; for rubber, agreeable to President

Dalrymple; for cement, aluminum, flat glass, agriculture and food processing, and several other industries. Steel was also conceded though there was a dispute as to what constituted steel, whether it also embraced manufacturing processes. Even Phil Murray (SWOC head), at these conferences, stated that this was not clear to him but that a basis might be found."

**2. All To Enter AFL**  
On the question of the 32 CIO unions being integrated into the AFL, Dubinsky denied that the AFL negotiators proposed to let only 10 unions return while the 22 newer unions remained outside until jurisdictional issues were settled. All 32 unions were to remain together until, by separate negotiations between each pair of CIO and AFL unions with conflicting jurisdiction, the differences were ironed out and all would enter the AFL together.

**3. AFL Council Limited**  
On the question of limiting the power of the Executive Council to suspend or expel unions or revoke charters, Dubinsky said the negotiators "agreed that a special convention should be called where all the CIO unions would be represented and would participate in the final approval of the terms of the agreement between the CIO and AFL forces and at which convention the constitution would be amended to the effect of limiting the powers of the Executive Council as to suspension of unions or revocation of charters."

**ILGWU Not Consulted**  
Despite its membership of more than a quarter of a million and its enormous contributions to the CIO, the ILGWU has "never been consulted as to policy, procedure, issuance of charters and strategy," said Dubinsky.

**Will Stay CIO**  
"We will not withdraw from the

cate did so before any meeting of the central body had had any opportunity to express its opinion.

The January 13 meeting of the central body of delegates was the first opportunity for the elected representatives of organized labor to state their position on this crucial question. The hall was packed to the doors when a resolution introduced by the Minnesota State Employees' Union was read condemning the grand jury report.

Motions to refer to the executive board, to other standing committees, to permit the executive committee to draft its own resolution, to postpone consideration, etc., were voted down by the delegates, determined to make clear to the world where organized labor stood.

## Harmony Reigns as TJC Chooses 1938 Officers

### Northwest Organizer Informs Tom Mooney of New Campaign

Tom Mooney  
San Quentin Prison  
Dear Brother Mooney:

The Northwest Organizer, official weekly organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, with its January 13th issue instituted a front-page feature which we intend to carry regularly until you are out of prison. We are enclosing a copy of the paper. We suggest you ask every labor paper in the country to carry this feature.

According to our calculations, by January 13, 1938, you had paid 7,940 days of your life to the frameup artists who sent you to prison. We count the period from July 27, 1916, the day of your arrest.

We hope every reader of the labor press who sees your face staring up at him each week, with the total number of days you've had to spend in hell, will not rest until he begins to act for your release. The growth of the American labor press in the past two years insures that such a campaign would reach millions of readers.

From all indications, your case is entering a new period. The time has come when the trades union movement must unite for the Big Push that can gain your release.

Fraternally,  
MILES DUNNE, Editor  
Northwest Organizer

## Schwab, Ammerman Meet With Land O' Lakes

On Monday night Clarence Schwab and Tom Ammerman met in Litchfield with the executive board of the Land O' Lakes first district association to present the demands of the union. Progress was reported in the negotiations, and another meeting will be held in the near future at which it is anticipated that final agreement will be reached.

## CLU Backs Liquor Salesmen in State

At the January 12th meeting of the Central Labor Union, a committee of six was set up to meet with the Liquor Salesmen's union of the state, requesting them to avail themselves of the help of the trade union movement in formulating a program and negotiating contracts with employers. Chosen for the committee were Roy Weir, James Bartlett, Reuben Lutz, William Wright, Karl Skoglund and Louis Boerbach.

At a meeting of liquor salesmen held at the 620 club on Friday night, the CLU committee made its intentions known. A joint meeting between the committee and a committee selected from the liquor salesmen was held at the CLU headquarters on Monday, January 17.

## Drivers in Dickinson, N. D., Get Charter

From Dickinson, North Dakota, comes news that the drivers there have received their charter from Indianapolis, and will be known as General Drivers Local 910. Clarence Schwab was present at the last meeting to participate in the installation of the charter and the election of officers for the coming year. Local 910's executive board consists of Elmer Aschbecker, president; Peter Horauf, vice-president; William Hazeltine, recording secretary; Ralph Wetstein, secretary-treasurer; Joe A. Beaudoin, William Anner, and Charles Aschbecker, trustees.

## TJC Names Ray Sawyer Organizer

Ray Sawyer, formerly secretary of the Milk Drivers, was elected organizer for the Teamsters Joint Council, at the first meeting of the Council's new executive board on Saturday.

Sawyer will work under the direction of the Council executive board.

## All Local 20316 Members Meet Tuesday

The regular membership meeting of Warehouse Workers Local 20316 will be held Tuesday night, January 25, at 257 Plymouth. All members are expected to attend. They must have membership books or receipts to show the sergeant-at-arms before being admitted to the meeting. A record of those present will be kept.

The main subject for discussion is the expiration of the union agreements with various companies throughout the city.

## Seven Officers Elected By Unanimous Vote

The 1938 Teamsters Joint Council demonstrated the harmony existing in the ranks of the Minneapolis driving crafts by unanimously agreeing upon the new seven-man Executive Board of the Council, at the first meeting of the T. J. C., held Friday night at Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth avenue.

Miles B. Dunne, acting as Secretary-Treasurer during the last two months, was elected to the same office for the coming year. Harold Seavey of City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664 was elected president, M. I. Smith of the Cab Drivers Local 125, vice-president, and Clair Johnson of Laundry Drivers Local 131, recording secretary.

Ray Rainbolt, Business Manager of Ice Wagon Drivers Local 221, Joe O'Hare, Business Agent of Bakery Drivers Local 289, and Gene Larsen, secretary-treasurer of Milk Drivers Local 471, were elected trustees. These seven constitute the Council's executive board.

All sixty-three members of the Teamsters Joint Council—the seven executive board members from each of the nine affiliated locals—participated.

All board members elected are full-time officers of their respective unions, available at all times at headquarters.

A feature of the election meeting was Miles Dunne's report on the progress and problems of the drivers' crafts. Excerpts from his speech appear elsewhere in this issue.

## Warehouse Union To Discuss Pacts

The executive board of Local 20316 has been concentrating its attention on the matter of renewals of union agreements which it holds with many companies in Minneapolis. Most of these agreements expire within the next three months.

All of these agreements, with few exceptions, are the first ever signed between the companies and the young but powerful union. The Minneapolis Warehouse Union was organized in October, 1936, and enjoyed a phenomenal growth in its first year.

A special notice has been sent to all members to attend the membership meeting January 25, where the matter of these expiring contracts comes up for discussion. With the enthusiasm which has been expressed by the union membership towards its union for the past year, it is certain that the employers will be met with a united militancy that will assure the members of contract renewals.

## Flash News!

As we go to press, it is reported that the committee of drivers' union officials from this section of the country has returned from Indianapolis where it met with Daniel Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The committee is preparing a report which will be published in the next issue of the Northwest Organizer.



Patrick J. Corcoran was murdered by unknown persons on the night of November 17, 1937. The Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council offers a reward of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the murderers.

Who Killed Him?

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town

# The Utility Workers Face A Wage Review

## 1. Unless the Entire Union Membership Is Mobilized No Gains Can Be Made—Officers and Office Are Not a Union

By Executive Board, Local 292

The Utility Section of Local No. 292 of the Electrical Workers now faces the task of entering negotiations with the Northern States Power Company for a wage review of the existing contract.

In this review we face a very different set of problems than those which we solved when we secured the present contract. On February 26, 1937, the organized utility workers, having set a deadline for a contract with the Power Company, and that deadline having passed, called a strike. Swiftly and successfully the employees rallied as one man. In eight days we drove to victory. The company agreed to a contract and on March 3rd, the first contract ever signed by the Northern States Power Company with a union representing all its men was signed.

The first thing that is new about the present review is that there is no question of a strike involved. This is very well understood by the union membership.

**Mobilization Needed**  
BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE DO NOT HAVE TO MOBILIZE THE MEMBERSHIP IN ORDER TO GET THE BEST POSSIBLE NEW WAGE SCALES. Let no union member ever forget for one moment that we won the first contract only because the membership as a whole was mobilized to carry out the decisions of the union.

Let us be blunt about the present situation. We are running into a situation which every new union runs into. The men get together and combine their ideas, their strength, their activity, and win union recognition. Flushed with victory, they return to work under the new contract. They elect a body of full-time union officers to carry on the day-to-day work of the union. There are no burning problems on the job. As time passes the fundamental lesson of the strike—that it was won by the combined efforts of all the men—is forgotten.

**The Dangerous Stage**  
Only a small part of the membership turns out for the regular meetings. Grievances are not reported to the office of the union, and when they are reported the men fall into the attitude of expecting the paid union officials not only to decide what to do about the grievance and deal with the management but also expect the union officers to do the impossible, namely, to see that the grievance settlement is observed on the job.

In other words, there develops **Unemployment Taken Up by Lodge 382**

Lodge 382 of the I. A. of M. held one of the best meetings it has had since the reorganization on Friday evening, January 14. Reports of committees occupied most of the evening. There was a serious determination to forge ahead and attack the problems confronted by its members. The problem of the unemployed received considerable attention, and will come up again for more definite action by the union. Numerous meetings of shop groups and of automobile mechanics have been held recently and there is an ever increasing drift toward the soundly established A. F. of L. union.

forth their own ideas and see to it that the union, after due discussion, comes to conclusions and adopts policies.

But the sad fact is that the utility section has some twelve hundred members and that, after due notification of the time and place of meetings, the average attendance at a meeting runs around 150-250.

**False Rumors—Why?**  
Of the various harmful results of poor attendance at union meetings, and the passivity of many of those who do attend, one striking example is familiar to all the union members. A membership meeting is held and endorses certain policies. These policies are set in motion, and word goes down the line to all the men about it. Yet, if a contrary rumor gets started, the men on the job are thrown into a turmoil. Why? Because they don't feel as though they were part and parcel of the membership which made the original decision.

**On Our Toes**  
And outside of union meetings? The union contract lays down certain classifications and the wages and working conditions for them. But some members are so passive that they never report grievances arising from the failure of the management to observe some of the classifications in individual cases. In other instances, grievances are reported, the union officers arrive at a settlement with the management—but the union members involved feel no responsibility for seeing to it that the settlement is carried out, or even for reporting to the union office whether or not the grievance has been adjusted.

**Union Base**  
The rock bottom foundation of the union is the membership meeting. There it is that the union membership has submitted to it the reports of the union officers, the suggestions for future steps, etc. There it is that the union members can comment on and criticize these reports and suggestions, bring

**Warehoumen, Cabbies, Ice Drivers Win**

The Warehouse bowlers walloped the second-place Phillips Liquor team Monday night, with J. Zoolo leading with a 573. I. Perlman's 526 was high for the losers. The Ice Drivers took three from the Teamsters Council, Bruce Vincent leading with a 524. The 508 that K. Meyers rang up helped the cabbies take a pair from the Consolidated. C. Petrick of the losers led with a 521. The Meat Drivers took the odd game from the Soft Drinks, with E. Gillespie's 520 paving the way.

The week's standings:

Team	Won	Lost
Local 125	34	14
Phillips	29	19
Meat Drivers	28	20
Local 20316	27	21
Ice Drivers	26	22
Soft Drinks	22	26
TJC	15	33
Consolidated	11	37

Members Responsible Too  
No union can live and grow without capable and honest leaders. The best men available must be found and elected and a number of them paid to devote full time to the work of the union.

But that is not enough. Indeed, the only way to be sure that the union has the right leaders, the only way to help those leaders to grow in experience and knowledge, is by having the membership of the union keep close touch with the leaders, know what they are doing, discuss tasks and proposals with them, and for the union members to accept individual responsibility for carrying out the decisions of the union. The union must, in practice and not only on the books, be constituted by the overwhelming majority of the men or it will never get anywhere.

**As we face the negotiations for a wage review, therefore, let us clearly face our union problem, for only by solving our union problem will we get the best wage review possible. We must activate the union membership. Only after the members realize that the membership really is the union, can we succeed in the coming negotiations.**

**Trucking Along With 581 FROM GRAND FORKS**

Job Stewards finally got going fairly well, they meet every second and fourth Thursdays. Some places without stewards as yet.

**Morrow to Talk Friday on Moscow Frameups**

The Dewey Report on the Moscow Trials—The Political Conclusions That Must Follow will be the title of a lecture by Felix Morrow, nationally known author, to be delivered in Minneapolis Friday night, January 21, at 8 p. m. at the Seventh Street halls, 19 South 7th street.

The meeting will be sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party, recently formed at the national Left Wing Socialist Convention in Chicago.

The basis of Morrow's talk will be the report of an International Commission, headed by Dr. John Dewey of New York, which reviewed the recent Moscow trials and reported them to be a deliberate frame-up.

All friends and sympathizers of the labor movement are invited to attend Friday's meeting. Admission is 15 cents.

elect; Secretary Treasurer, Mel Kortness reelected. John Carl was elected trustee so it will be up to John Will and Oscar Austreg to show him the ropes till he gets used to his new position.

WINNIE

There have been no casualties as the result of the Dutch Lunch after the last meeting we held, but if that was just a lunch I sure wouldn't want to take those fellows to a banquet.

# Woodworker Five Refuses High Division

Local 1859 Basketball Team Trounces Ontario Blues 19-29; Union to Dance Next Saturday

So formidable is the Local 1859 basketball team that the Park commissioners called up Coach Ray Buffalo last week and sought his agreement to enter the team in a higher division. However, the Local 1859 five will remain in the present division and several of the teams will move into a lower division.

Local 1859 scored its first victory last Wednesday night at the Jordan gymnasium, defeating the Ontario Blues by a score of 29 to 19. The woodenmen retained a ten-point lead throughout the last three quarters.

Coach Buffalo declared himself well pleased with the early season form shown by his squad. High scorers were O. Carlson and E. Pauloski, of Glazer Box, each ringing up ten points. H. Carlson, foreman of the Glazer company, was official time keeper, with A. Wicherski as assistant. Other players who acquitted themselves well were S. Banas, J. Rusin, and A. Janosko, brother of John.

**Dance Saturday**  
The union entertainment committee has arranged a dance for this Saturday night, January 22, at the hall on Washington avenue north and 23rd. Music will be furnished by the well-known radio orchestra, the Happy Hollow Gang. Admission is 25c. All friends and sympathizers of the union movement are invited. The proceeds of the dance will be used to buy jerseys for the basketball team.

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WINNIE

# Butler Brothers Meet Next Monday

A special section meeting of all Butler Brothers employees, members of Warehouse Workers Local 20316, will be held Monday, January 24, at 8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth. All members are expected to attend without fail. The matter of the renewal of the union agreement will be the subject for discussion.

Unknown strong-arm men have been introduced into the city, and are making a practice of running the cars of leading Austin unionists to the curbs, where they are threatened against pressing grievances against the bosses. Three specific cases have come to light where workers on their way home have been threatened and local labor leaders spied upon by persons in a car with covered license plates. These incidents have been reported to the sheriff's office.

Apparently, the bosses, with the active assistance of reactionary labor officials, have chosen the present moment to launch an attack against the militancy and unity of Austin labor. A new dance pavilion is being built in town. The new contract was let to the firm of Busswitz and Peterson, who claim to have a signed contract with the A. F. of L. Carpenters. The peculiar thing about this contract is that the wage scale is 10c an hour less than the prevailing wage scale established by the Miscellaneous Workers Local 478. This union threw a picket line about the construction site, and General Drivers Local 778 announced it would observe the picket line and refuse to deliver materials to a project where workers are not being paid the union scale. The result is that the project is tied up.

On Wednesday night a joint meeting was held of all Executive Boards of unions affiliated with the Austin Central Labor Assembly. Represented were Packinghouse Local 183, General Drivers Local 778, Miscellaneous Local 478, and the Central Labor Assembly. After thorough discussion, the following public statement was drafted:

**Any and every attempt to undermine or destroy the organized labor movement in this community will be met with the full forces, economic as well as others, at our command. If this is to be the beginning of a fight, the entire forces of organized labor here are in the fight to the finish.**

The magnificent traditions of unity and militancy which have made Austin a beacon light for labor—ever since the explosive sit-down strike in the Hormel plant in the fall of 1933—are being upheld by the Austin workers today, those in both CIO and AFL unions.

Our charter is framed and hangs in our office. Any member wishing to see it should step in the office. It looks swell.

ZOWIE!—Watch for the date of our first dance. The committee is up to its neck in preparations. I am sure we can all have a good time.

We are planning a drive for new members. Just a few boys who promised to join, but have not yet done so. We'll be seeing you before long.

Ernie Johnson hurt his wrist in a fall last Friday evening. Hope you're OK by now.

Joe Frederick has a birthday this month. Many of them.

Some of the boys that have Barnsdall gas books, give George Brooks a break. Buy your gas from him. He has a Barnsdall station on the road to Wayzata. I still want to see a few of those new members at the meeting. Let's get acquainted.

# Bill Brown Says—

After seeing the parade of Standard Oil witnesses last Friday in court, you'd have thought they were handled by Bernie Bierman. It was the best coached team I ever saw. The judge must've thought so too. He dismissed the case.



BILL BROWN President of 544

# Old Friends Remembered: "The Argus" In 1934 No Print Shop Dared Print "The Organizer" — The Argus Took the Job and Got Out the Strike Bulletin — And Still Gets Out Our Paper

It must be almost fifty years "Argus." For forty years the shop has been union. But there's something about the "Argus" that's different from the run-of-the-mill print shops. It isn't the way it looks, or the kind of machines. It's the men. They're men who have proven themselves. They're men who aren't afraid of a fight, when it's for a good cause.

**In 1934**  
Back in '34, when practically every man had to choose his side in a battle that covered the whole town, the printing shops were scared to death of the Citizen's Alliance. And when the General Drivers' Union decided to print a daily strike bulletin, the problem of finding a printer to take the job was a mighty serious one. The boys managed to get three issues out, after plenty of argument, and moving from shop to shop, but one after the other, the printing shops refused the union's business. During times of peace, it would be different, but with a big strike on, well, things were too hot. They backed down, one after the other.

**Argus Takes the Job**  
Finally, the strike committee in charge of the bulletin tried the "Argus." And, to their surprise, they met with no protests or excuses. "The Argus" took the job. And not just for one day, but all during the strike, "The Argus" withstood the pressure of all the organized bosses in Minneapolis. It took nerve to print that strike bulletin. And nerve is what the boys at the "Argus" have plenty of.

**Joe Goslin**  
Take Joe Goslin for instance. Joe's the foreman, and he's been in the printing game since 1904, and at the Argus since 1924. Joe could write a story as fast, and as accurate as Solow. He was a demon, and often he would just sit down and dictate the whole paper in a few minutes. An ordinary writer would take a half a day to do one third the work.

"I remember one incident, that almost robbed us of a whole night's work," Ace remarked, "and that was the time a bunch of thugs hid at our shipping entrance, and jumped the truck that was pulling out with an edition of the bulletin. There was a hell of a fight, but when the smoke of battle cleared, the 574 driver and a couple of helpers had cleaned house on the finks. After that, they kept away from the Argus."

**With the Limousines**  
The Executive Board was seated in the Teamsters Joint Council on January 14. All were present but one member, who just couldn't make it. Hope he gets down for the next meeting.

Miles Dunne was chosen secretary-treasurer, to take Pat Corcoran's place. We all wish Miles the best of luck. He can be sure he has the loyal support of the Private Chauffeurs—and of the executive board of the Teamsters Joint Council.

The Minneapolis weather doesn't agree with some of the boys. Everytime I talk to one, he tells me he's leaving for the South. We'll be seeing you boys again in the spring. Good luck to you.

Monday, January 17, was my wedding anniversary. I took my wife out to show her a good time. Bought her a chocolate soda, a bag of peanuts, and took her to a movie. Did we have fun.

Our charter is framed and hangs in our office. Any member wishing to see it should step in the office. It looks swell.

ZOWIE!—Watch for the date of our first dance. The committee is up to its neck in preparations. I am sure we can all have a good time.

We are planning a drive for new members. Just a few boys who promised to join, but have not yet done so. We'll be seeing you before long.

Ernie Johnson hurt his wrist in a fall last Friday evening. Hope you're OK by now.

Joe Frederick has a birthday this month. Many of them.

Some of the boys that have Barnsdall gas books, give George Brooks a break. Buy your gas from him. He has a Barnsdall station on the road to Wayzata. I still want to see a few of those new members at the meeting. Let's get acquainted.

they know about setting up a paper . . . and they taught him a few things about how to win a strike.

**Ace Johnston**  
And then, there's Ace Johnston. Ace is the linotype operator at the "Argus," and every word that went into the strike bulletin, passed through his fingers. He's the man who stayed on duty day and night, ready for any emergency, who pounded out the copy that gave direction and inspiration during the strikes.

"We never knew what would happen next," said Ace, harking back to the days of the struggle. "We knew we stood a good chance of having our presses smashed, the building wrecked . . . we knew what kind of a fight it was. But we were working with a cool-headed bunch of strike leaders, who knew their business, and we went along."

But Ace did more than just go along. In all his thirty years at the job, he never had a tougher assignment. Ace tells about the fact that the paper was put out in such a rush, and there was so little time to prepare the copy, that over fifty percent of the bulletin was dictated to him, and he typed it right out on the linotype without a line of copy in front of him.

**"A Worthwhile Fight"**  
"We felt all the time," Ace said, "that we were helping out in a worthwhile fight. We never said anything about it, we just did our job, just like any regular work. But it was more than that. It was a real experience, and we learned plenty about men from the union leaders, like Dobbs, the Dunnes, Skoglund, and that fellow Herb Solow. I never saw a guy who could write a story as fast, and as accurate as Solow. He was a demon, and often he would just sit down and dictate the whole paper in a few minutes. An ordinary writer would take a half a day to do one third the work."

"I remember one incident, that almost robbed us of a whole night's work," Ace remarked, "and that was the time a bunch of thugs hid at our shipping entrance, and jumped the truck that was pulling out with an edition of the bulletin. There was a hell of a fight, but when the smoke of battle cleared, the 574 driver and a couple of helpers had cleaned house on the finks. After that, they kept away from the Argus."

Ace isn't just a linotypist; he's an inventor. In fact, he could probably retire right now, on the royalties from his Linotype inventions. But Ace hates to leave the "Argus." And he has a sort of fatherly feeling every time he starts to get out the weekly edition of the "Organizer." Of course, he complains about how late the copy is in coming down, and he squawks about changing the "heads" every minute, but we think he looks forward to Wednesdays—the day the presses hum and the metal is poured and takes the shape of the "Northwest Organizer's" weekly edition.

**Roy Kalstrom**  
Roy Kalstrom, the "Argus" make-up man, the fellow who tosses the galley of type around and puts the "Organizer" into final shape, has a story to tell about the nerve-racking strike days. "They threw Farrell Dobbs, Ray Dunne and others into the jug," said Roy. "There was nobody to get out the paper. Lots of times there were days when one or two of the fellows wouldn't show up, but there was always somebody else to get out the paper. This time the cops seemed to have made a clean sweep."

**She Came Through**  
"We almost gave up the idea of putting out a paper that day at all . . . but finally in stormed Marvel Dobbs. She took charge."

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RELIEVE EYE STRAIN

She wrote copy, and directed others on what to write. Then came time for checking proofs. By then, Marvel was so excited, so worried about Farrell, that she couldn't read. I don't know whether it was the tears in her eyes, but she couldn't tell one letter from another. But she had done her work: Joe and I checked the proof, the paper came out."

In the hard times, in the days when all others refused the job, "The Argus" printed the "Organizer," and Roy and Ace and Joe did their job and much more than their job. And true to the union principle, "Argus" has been rewarded. For since they printed "Number 4" of the strike bulletin, when no other printer would, every issue of the Northwest Organizer has been printed at the "Argus."

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# The Labor Movement in Minnesota and the First World War

## V.—The Army Is Called Out to Guard Minneapolis Mills and Factories — Recruiting Ballyhoo — Trade Unions Oppose Draft — Raids and Arrests

By Carlos Hudson

Thirty years of age—that's the average of the Minnesota workers in the big unions. That means he was ten years old in 1917; he doesn't remember what life was like during the war. Let's try to recall some facts he ought to know—for if war comes again history is going to repeat itself . . .

Two days after the declaration of war on April 6, 1917, several hundred men and their officers were already gathered together at Duluth and shipped off to the Philadelphia naval yard. Two weeks before the war began, the First Infantry of the National Guard had already been mobilized at Fort Snelling, and the men were assigned to guard mills, grain elevators, foundries, terminals and railroad bridges, public utilities, etc., in the Twin Cities.

Then came their recruiting campaigns. Posters and speakers—minute men—became part of the street scene. Newspapers gave enormous space to the needs of the various branches of the armed forces, the qualifications necessary, etc., etc. "Muzzle the mad dogs of the sea," "Get the Beast of Berlin," were the titles of posters designed by famous artists. A uniform got you free theatre seats. Street rallies, band concerts, patriotic movies, were put on by businessmen associations to promote recruiting. Employers swore they would hold your job until you came back—if you got back. Women—the best looking ones that could be found—appeared everywhere in the recruiting work . . . But voluntary enlistments lagged behind the all-devouring needs of the imperialist army.

On June 4, 1917, the Public

Safety Commission—the real ruler of Minnesota during the war—decreed it a misdemeanor punishable by fine or jail imprisonment for any male person over 16 years old not to be engaged in some useful occupation. This law was used to force the unemployed to join the army.

All during the war the Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis served as a recruiting station for both army and navy. Their school trained almost 10,000 persons during the war period.

Minnesota furnished a total of 118,000 fighting men to the armed forces. Justified by President Wilson "on the principle of universal liability to service," came the draft. After May 18, 1917, all men between the ages of 21 and 30 were doomed to military service. For the first time, the United States imposed compulsory service at the very outset of a war. Hitherto, chief reliance had always been placed upon volunteers.

**Trade Unions P. otest**

A number of trade unions in Minneapolis and throughout the state, most Socialist and labor papers, protested against the draft. The Minneapolis Labor Review opposed the whole idea of a draft, whereas the Duluth Labor World offered some arguments for it, referring to the United States as "the Greatest of all Unions of Men, now on strike."

The Socialists, through Abe Sugarman, state secretary, declared that thousands of men in St. Paul would refuse to register for the draft. Anti-draft meetings were held. In the days immediately preceding the draft registration, anti-conscription literature was distributed from house to house, mostly at night. The authorities raided the bookshop of Alexis Georgian, a Minneapolis Socialist, and seized a stock of 25,000 anti-draft leaflets.

**"Freedom of Assembly"**

To combat the "spreading of disaffection," many municipalities increased their police forces. The Public Safety Commission ordered that the large cities abandon the holding of large meetings, "presumably," say the Minnesota historians, Holbrook and Appel, "lest the assemblage of large crowds give occasion for hostile demonstrations."

On June 5, over 200,000 young

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## Casket Bosses Grant Seniority Clarks Reopens

In the negotiations between Furniture Workers Local 1859 and the local casket companies, the employers have agreed to the union's demand for plant seniority. Another meeting will be held Wednesday afternoon to take up other demands of the union.

The Clark Woodenware company, which has been closed since the first of the year, reopened on Monday morning when 35 men were called back to work. Letters went out from the management Tuesday, calling 54 more men to start work Thursday. The union's negotiations with Clark, which were broken off around Christmas time, are expected to be resumed shortly. The old contract expired December 31, 1937. Since reopening, it appears there has been a change in the supervisory personnel at Clark's.

The J. K. Heymer company, a venetian blind outfit in the Terminal Building, has persisted in its refusal to reinstate one of the members of Local 1859 who was recently fired on union activities. It is possible that the union may call a strike at this plant.

## The Gas Log

By Bill O'Donnell

Beginning Wednesday, January 26, our regular meetings will be called to order at 7:30 p. m. All members should keep this change of time in mind.

We're sorry to hear of the death of Brother Ed Evenson. The entire union joins in sending its condolences and sympathies to his family.

At least one member of the Utilization Dept. has confidence in the future. In spite of depressions and recessions, Don has decided to take unto himself a wife. Here's to happiness and lots of luck for both of them.

The worried expression you see on Brother Levinson is that of a man about to become a father. With the big event just a month away, he's under a terrific strain.

We can expect lots of scoring from three basketball players, now that the fine has been lifted.

All stewards have tickets for the UNION HOP to be held on February 11th. This dance is for members and friends. Good music and refreshments. "Nuff said."

The following patents were issued January 11, 1938, to Minnesota and Duluth inventors as reported by WILLIAMSON & WILLIAMSON, Patent Attorneys, 925 Metropolitan Life Building, Minneapolis, Minn.

Charles W. W. Minneapolis, Minn., automatic temperature controller for electric heaters; Clark, Frank G., Minneapolis, Minn., chairs; Cunningham, Lewis L., Minneapolis, Minn., motor control system; Glancy, William W., Winona, Minn., air chiller; Hansson, Helmer M., Excelsior, Minn., water softener and softening water; Heldbrink, Jay A., Minneapolis, Minn., anesthetic machine; Johnson, Andre O., Mpls., Minn., attachment for elevating lifts; N. D., attachment for elevating lifts; Meyer, Adolph F., Minneapolis, Minn., manometer; Morton, Harold S., St. Paul, Minn., method and apparatus for controlling fast beds; McBrady, John A., Valley City, N. D., grain scouring machine; Nordlund, Henry, Starbuck, Minn., ice pushmold; Olson, Aivin O., St. Paul, Minn., signal; Olson, Gilbert, Minneapolis, Minn., mattress and making; Richter, Richard E., Monticourt, Minn., finger ring and making the same; Seidelman, Joel, Minneapolis, Minn., barrier wicket; Tanner, Charles H., and Watkins, E. St. Cloud, Minn., method of and apparatus for frost elimination; Wootery, Horace E., St. Paul, Minn., oil burner.

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## Rough Cuts and Mike Measurements

The advocates of "unity" are more persistent than they are consistent. How can real unity be achieved by division, which is what the "unity" group practices? Only one answer to this question is possible for those capable of straight thinking.

Having arrived at the only answer possible to the above proposition, the next question which naturally follows from it is, is it possible for the "unity" proponents to be honest in their contentions? Or is their attitude due to a certain mental condition? A sort of self-induced trance, maybe?

Whatever the condition of the individuals of the "unity" group, we must look to the political party which dominates them for responsibility for their deplorable condition.

Since January first about one hundred workers have returned to the fold in Lodge 382 alone.

It is indeed amusing to hear the various "unity" advocates deny their connection with one another. Their identity, their purposes, and their connections are becoming generally known throughout the organized labor movement.

Don't miss 382's second dance, announced elsewhere.

More auto mechanics are signing up every day with the A. F. of L. union. Better get in line with real progress.

The p. p. continues to yip at the heels of the established trade union movement. The wreckers are only envious of a union that has a membership that actually pays dues, is solid, and is growing in strength.

The disaffections nationally in the CIO together with the "successes" of the union wrecking crew locally make the "unity" crowd more desperate than ever. Workers want unity of the kind that means better protection and solidarity of workers. By "unity" the wreckers mean bringing workers under the domination of the C. P., and the results are confusion and disaster.

The splendid meeting of automobile mechanics held under auspices of Lodge 382, I. A. of M., Wednesday evening is another definite indication that the confusion sown by the wreckers is clearing up. These workers want a solid organization and will have it in the A. F. of L. machinists union.

## Face Loss of Seniority Rights

To all Members of 544: If any member of General Drivers Local 544 fails to obtain a leave of absence when taking a job outside the jurisdiction of the union, that member will lose seniority rights. No exceptions will be made to this rule.

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## The Union Gallery



Joe Lear

Joe is organizer of Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912, a post he has held since the chauffeurs first began organizing in September, 1937. Born in Danville, Illinois, and came to Minneapolis some years ago. Almost joined the Navy. Milk driver and member of Local 471 for sixteen years. Once trained to be a pug. Likes fishing, ball games and prize fights. Dislikes shutters. His union has probably the briefest contract ever drawn. Local 912 already has 200 members and is growing each week.

## Independent Truck Chatter

R. F. Hornig

Somebody complained the other day, and rightly too, that this column lately has been exceedingly dull. It was pointed out in just defense, that times are dull due to the seasonal slack and mild weather. To top this off, contributions from our membership of news items and choice gossip from the hall gang are conspicuous by their scarcity.

Forgotten Men

While mentioning these things it might be well to suggest that during the winter season some paragraphs could be given over to news of ITO on coal jobs. A slight disinclination for the mechanics of the coal business (showing, to you guys), due to a misplacement in the third lumber room causing subluxation of the sacro-iliacs is the reason for the scarcity of my visits to the coal yards.

Rudy Schmalz may be able to bring home the bacon all right but curing it is something else. An old hand told me there is no bacon so green you have to set the smokehouse on fire; but Rudy, maybe, likes his bacon crisp.

Scoop

These Broadway snoops usually call them in advance but we are only able to print with certainty three months after that Carl Bath was married.

WPA Jingles

United, we can force the issue. Divided, our work will get this as tissue! (Hear, hear!) I raked my dome for an hour and then pop with a hot flash like that!

A well-attended open meeting of truck owners working on WPA was held last Thursday evening. Based on information reported by our committee, many of those present expressed their opinions, and engaged in a free and lively discussion of the issues involved. Unanimous vote of confidence was tendered officers and committee and a representative committee of volunteers was empowered to take action to secure our demands.

Here is how the WPA-ITO stand with the Union after a complete checkup:

Seventy men are not yet members of the Union. Sixty-five union men and ninety-five emblem holders are delinquent. Letters have been sent to these offering consideration by the grievance board to help them regain their good standing in the Union.

PASSING THOUGHTS: The seniority question still irks . . . that fancy language in the second paragraph cost me \$43 . . . WPA parley Tuesday afternoon . . . your ass't sec'y. cost his insurance company some \$1200 the other day . . . a clique in the Ways and Means? . . . Camp keeps close to home these days. And we all know that Leighton MAN. Business must be good as he hasn't been around for a while.

For Sale: 1927 Plymouth Sedan, \$225 down, terms. Call Granville 5202.

FOR SALE CHEAP: Short Wheel Base Coal Box. In Good Condition. Inquire at 408 3rd Ave. S. E.

## Duluth Drivers Sign Five More Firms

From General Drivers Local 346 in Duluth comes word that five firms employing 160 workers have been recently signed by the union. Two ice companies—the Duluth Ice and Fuel, and the East End Ice and Coal—signed working agreements granting hourly wage increases of 5c, one week's vacation with pay, and seniority rights. About 60 men are involved.

Local 346 has also negotiated contracts recently with the P. S. Kelly Furniture company, Eger and Olson company, and Stone-Ordean-Wells.

## Lodge 382 Dance This Saturday

The entertainment committee of Lodge 382, machinists union, announces another dance to be held Saturday night, January 22, at its headquarters at 501 East Hennepin Avenue.

The success of the first dance given two weeks previous will doubtless be eclipsed by this one. All friends of the labor movement are cordially invited, and are assured a most pleasant evening, with good union music and refreshments.

## BAKERY BLAB

The next GENERAL MEMBERSHIP meeting is Thursday, January 20, 7:30 p. m. Everybody out—it's important.

The boys over at Regans say that Roy Manthey is smelling to high heavens from a perfume bath he recently took.

Any guys who want to know the price of pool room equipment, particularly cues, inquire of Howard Priem at Regans. He's an expert on this.

Val O'Neil is slipping—he was reported buying Christmas presents last year.

Carl Gillis, Regans, has a baby girl.

The Executive Board attended the Joint Council meeting last Friday, at which the annual election took place. Joe O'Hare made the grade as trustee. Henceforth he will be known as "Trusty" Joe.

In his report to the Council meeting, Miles Dunne made a great speech, summarizing the accomplishments of the TJC for the past five years.

Who's the blond, Ed Booth? We're watching you.

Any brothers who may be buying cars in the future, remember to ask the salesman for his union card. Be sure they have a current card—the old ones are not being recognized.

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The Executive Board of the Chauffeur's Union meant seven new members at the Joint Council meeting. This union is the only one of its kind in the country. There are about 200 members, and an employer for each member. John H. Shultz get that for his "Strange As It Seems" column.

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# 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.

## Congratulations to St. Paul Labor

Elsewhere in this issue we publish the story of the stand taken by the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly against the anti-labor report of the Ramsey County grand jury. We congratulate the delegate assembly, speaking for St. Paul labor, for having thus clearly indicated to the bosses and their grand jury where organized labor stands. By the action of the delegate assembly, organized labor in the Twin Cities now is firmly united against the attempt of anti-labor elements to use the grand jury as a weapon against the trade union movement.

## The Problems Facing New Unions

It is the unusual union, blessed with an exceptional membership, that can in its first year escape certain pressing and almost inevitable problems. With this issue, the Northwest Organizer begins a series of articles on the problems confronting the Utility Section of Electrical Workers Local 292 as it faces its wage-review after the first year of the union contract. Many a member, and many an officer, of the scores of new unions that have sprung up in the Northwest during the past twelve months will see mirrored in these articles the identical problems facing them and their organizations. Although the series speaks specifically of the utility workers, its implications are as broad as the growing trade union movement. Unhesitatingly, we recommend these articles to the members of all new unions. We feel sure that the discussion centering around the problems of the Northern States Power workers, and the conclusions drawn, will prove of value to hundreds of other trade unionists.

## An Old Slander Revived

It is hard to believe that there are employers in this state who think they can still get away with the stale and demagogic line of telling their employees: "Your union officials are getting rich at your expense. What do you need paid union officials for? You workers are fools to pay dues to unions," etc.

And yet from the Duluth General Drivers Local comes word that a group of bosses at the Head of the Lakes is spreading this sort of agitation among employees, hoping thereby to weaken unionism.

Why does a union need officials? One might as well ask: Why does a corporation need executives? or Why does an army, even a workers' army, need officers?

As in every form of organization, so in the union, there are certain members more skilled than others in defending the interests of members, in dealing with the enemy, in advancing the union's interests. As in every activity involving many persons, a division of labor is necessary. Some workers must be withdrawn from their jobs and placed in the union headquarters to carry on the daily work of the organization. To insure an adequate union apparatus, dues must be paid. Only in this way can the most efficient machine be built.

But this is exactly what the boss DOESN'T like—an efficient union—and that is why he cries out about "union officials growing fat at the expense of the workers." As though he were so all-fired concerned about the welfare of his workers! As though he isn't motivated by his dislike of an efficient union precisely because such a union can force him to abide rigidly by the terms of the union contract, can bring him up short when he tries any one of a hundred schemes for chiseling on his employees.

Officials of the driving crafts in Minnesota—and we know the movement well—are paid wages in the same range as their members receive. The democratic elections insure that the officials occupy the posts they do because the ranks are convinced they are the best workers for the job. With unquestioned honesty and integrity, these officials work long hours, find no sacrifice too great to make for their union. From our observation, we know it is the unusual official who finds his day's work done within twelve hours. He knows no Sundays or holidays in his work. The union's books are open to all union members. The union's financial reports are issued regularly, and all funds are accounted for.

And in Minnesota of all places, to try to talk a driver out of paying dues. There isn't a driver in Minnesota whose monthly union dues amount to more than a tiny fraction of what his union has won for him in the form of higher wages, better working conditions, job security. In thousands of cases, each dollar of dues money has brought from 30 to 100 per cent returns—monthly, not yearly. For large returns on a small outlay, there isn't an investment anywhere in the world that can come with a thousand miles of even looking like it could compete with the investment a man makes when he joins the union of his trade. And the actual dollars a union wins for its members are only a small part of the benefits that accrue to the working class from unionism.

We almost apologize for repeating these union ABC's, but it seems there are still employers who think they can talk their workers into believing the most incredible nonsense about unions and union officials. The falsity of such charges is only exceeded by the hypocrisy with which they are made. No worker who thinks for himself will give them a second thought.

## The All-American Game



Carlo

## Brown, Wagner Freed; Finks Routed

Despite the fact that the Standard Oil company paraded eight or ten finks in court to swear they had heard Bill Brown threaten Ralph Lawrence, non-union driver, Judge Wright dismissed the case against Bill Brown and Nick Wagner last Friday. The two Drivers' officials were charged with "breach of the peace."

In answering the charges of these fink drivers that all the union was interested in was their initiation fees and dues, Brown was able to give a talk on trade union fundamentals that went right to the point. Among other things, he pointed out that prior to 1933, the drivers were receiving \$12 a week. If it hadn't been for the General Drivers Union, he

stated, the Standard Oil company would still be paying their drivers that sum.

The testimony of the well-coached finks was so obviously false and pre-arranged, that it counted for nothing. Gilbert Carlson acted as defense attorney for the union officials.

## WDGY Tries to Stem Unionism

Dr. Young, owner of Station WDGY, is trying mightily to stem the tide of unionism among his operators, who are organized in the Radio Section of Electrical Workers Local 292. His latest trick is to try to get one of the radio operators to take the job of chief engineer. George Jacobsen, who was put back to work by the

union after a seven-weeks' struggle with Young, is holding down the job of chief engineer at WDGY. Young's attempts to cause dissension and to split the technicians has been unavailing.

Union officials have met with Mr. Hoffman of Station WMIN and have told him he must place Jules Geller, radio news editor whom Hoffman recently fired, back on the job. A counter-proposal to the union's demands for a contract has been received from Hoffman. The membership rejected the counter-proposal and instructed its negotiators to go back and proceed with negotiations on the basis of the union's original demands.

FOUND: A brown spotted scarf, at the Milk Drivers meeting Saturday night. Loser can claim at Local 471 office.

## Omaha Drivers Sign Pact With Watson Transfer

Omaha, Neb.—Disregarding the seasonal slump in trucking, the Omaha local drivers Union No. 554 stepped forward in its drive to organize the teamsters of that city. Starting with the transfer men, the new Executive Board called a "hesitation" in work at Watson Bros. Transfer Co., largest in the city, until the boss decided to sign the Seniority agreement that will put an end to chiseling on seniority.

The agreement calls for "oldest man is last laid off—last man laid off is first rehired." One seniority board for local, dock and over the road drivers. Thirty day qualification period for all jobs. All regular men to put in their full hours before extra help is employed, etc.

The company also agreed to return Frank Seger, former business agent of the Union, to the job with no loss of seniority rights. The four finks who promoted a company union set-up have been decisively squelched and removed from their regular runs.

## Unemployed of 382, 1313 to Meet Jan. 26

It has been decided by the committee making a study of the unemployed question to hold a meeting of all unemployed members of Lodges 382 and 1313 of the International Association of Machinists.

Accordingly all unemployed members are requested to attend an afternoon meeting at 2 o'clock Wednesday, January 26, at 501 East Hennepin Avenue.

This meeting will be one of considerable importance and those who are out of work are urgently requested to attend.

## Lodge 1313 AFL, Discusses Pact

One of the best meetings held since the disturbers took themselves out of the machinists locals was that of Lodge 1313 Thursday, January 13.

The meeting was addressed by William F. Wright, representative of the A. F. of L.

The meeting discussed seriously the problems before its members, and among other things, the agreement for the employees of the American Brake Shoe and Foundry Company.

The local selected a dance committee to work in conjunction with that of Lodge 382.

# Miles B. Dunne's Report to Council Surveys Growth of Drivers Unions

Secretary-Treasurer Miles Dunne's report to the first meeting of the new Teamsters Joint Council, surveying the last year's developments, abounded in facts revealing the swift and steady growth of the drivers' unions of Minneapolis.

Excerpts from Dunne's speech follow:

"One year and a half after the amalgamation of Local No. 500 and Local No. 574, which resulted in the setting up of Local No. 544, the Teamsters Joint Council has made tremendous strides forward. Since that time, all teaming craft unions have been welded into a solidly organized group under the direction of the Teamsters Joint Council. The Council finds itself today housed in a splendid four-story building which was remodeled at considerable expense to provide office space, telephone service and meeting halls for all the teaming craft unions in Minneapolis. The debt incurred by this move has been steadily reduced and today the Council finds itself in a splendid financial condition . . .

**Paper Makes Money**  
"THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER, the official organ of the Teamsters Joint Council, has grown tremendously in both circulation and prestige during the past year. This paper originally founded by Local No. 574 during their 1934 strike, was turned over to the Teamsters Joint Council at the time of the amalgamation. Under the direction of the Council it has increased its circulation from less than ten thousand to a present circulation of twenty-seven thousand. The circulation list not only includes teaming craft unions but has spread to the various other Unions who like its militant tone and program. Less than a year ago the policy of accepting advertising in its columns was adopted and since that time the paper has been steadily paying money into the coffers of the Teamsters Joint Council . . .

"Organizationally, both in numbers and gains for its members, the Teamsters Joint Council has played an excellent role during the past 12 months' period. During that time Local No. 221, Ice and Coal Drivers, whose membership was swollen by the addition of 150

was able to get a direct signed agreement between the Union and all of the employers in the laundry and dry cleaning industry. A higher wage scale and improved working conditions was brought about by the agreement.

**Get Highest Wages**  
"During the past year a new Local No. 289, Bakery, Pie and Yeast Drivers, has been formed. This local takes into its ranks all drivers and warehouse men in the industry. They now have a closed shop agreement with all bakery owners in Minneapolis. The wage scale provided in this contract is the highest that has ever been paid in the bakery industry.

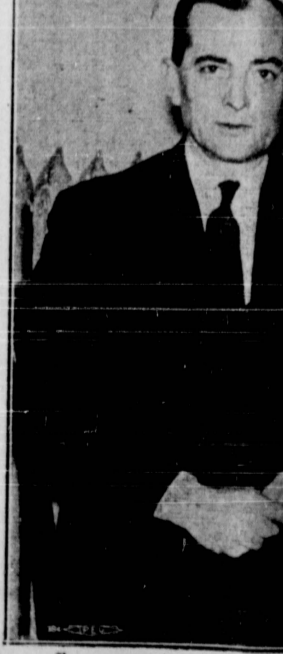
**One of Its Kind**  
"A new and unique union has been established in Minneapolis during this time. It is the Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Union Local No. 912. It has the only existing charter of its kind in the United States. It takes into its ranks only private chauffeurs, yard men and gardeners. Approximately 75% of all private chauffeurs are now members of this organization . . .

**Labors Strongest Section**  
"The Teamsters Joint Council has increased tremendously in prestige and influence during the past year. Its membership numbers well over 17,000. The Teamsters Joint Council has now taken its rightful place in the ranks of the Minneapolis labor movement. It is my opinion that it is the strongest single section in the entire movement and controlling, as it does, the truck transportation industry of the city, it becomes an organization with the greatest potential economic power of any part of the local movement.

"Members and officers of the Teamsters Joint Council have, during the past year, been active in helping create and establish the North Central District Drivers Council. This organization has banded together all of the driving Unions in five northwest states. This work alone is a noteworthy accomplishment for the members of the Teamsters Joint Council in Minneapolis . . .

**Must Stand United**  
"During the coming year it is clearly evident that the United States is faced by a new economic depression. Indications of this are at every hand and all signs point to the fact that the storm is due to break at any time. During this period it is essential that the Teamsters Joint Council close its ranks and extend even greater cooperation with each other than ever before. The coming dip in the economic cycle will bring in its train layoffs and discharges on a scale greater than ever before and it will bring, too, a more determined fight by employers everywhere to smash the hold of the Unions. I plead with the Council delegates to forget petty differences that may arise and unitedly stand shoulder to shoulder in order that we may preserve the gains already made and drive on to new accomplishments.

## Miles Dunne, Secretary-Treasurer, TJC



## On the NATIONAL PICKET LINE

(Continued on page 4)

members of the CIO affiliates, within its borders. The chairman of the convention said that to accept William Green's order and carry it out would literally mean voting the State Federation of Pennsylvania out of existence.

The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, eighteen months old infant which last year succeeded in organizing and signing an agreement with the largest of the Steel corporations—the United States Steel—faces a supreme test as to its actual strength next month when its agreement expires. Union officials and U. S. Steel lords will meet in mid-February to discuss a new contract. With more than 35 per cent of its membership unemployed the union is also in rather bad financial straits. They have been unable to pay their unemployed members any direct benefits but have turned their headquarters all through the steel territory into unofficial relief clearing houses, assisting the membership to get on relief, and to obtain WPA. The eyes of labor are upon this young organization, for it has been said, "As steel goes, so goes labor."

Another young union which has felt the impact of the present business recession is the United Auto Workers. The period between November 1 and January 1, General Motors laid off 60,000 workers. Until the return of 40,000 workers last week by Chrysler, this corporation was operating on a skeleton crew of 15,000. In all, since January 1, it is estimated that there are between idle 115,000 and 150,000 auto workers, from manufacturing and assembly plants. This vast unemployment among the members of the UAW has necessitated the curtailment of organizational staffs to the very minimum. A program of rebuilding has been instituted to provide that no essential activity be eliminated. According to the New York Times the 457 plants where union agreements existed went through the huge curtailment-of-employment program with very little trouble. Employers were "exceedingly careful" to live up to the terms of the agreements, so much so in fact, that there were less than a dozen charges of discrimination brought by the UAW.

As we go to press a determined band of stay-in strikers, holding the Atha Works of the Crucible Steel Company, in Harrison, New Jersey, are meeting to decide how to answer police threats that they will clear out the plant unless the strikers leave soon.

The steel strikers are fighting for one of labor's most elementary and most fundamental demands: the right of workers to designate their own representatives, a right presumably guaranteed by the Wagner Act.

The manager of the plant has refused to permit the union, the Steel Workers Organization Committee, to assign E. H. Kaempf, a district organizer, to accompany the plant grievance committee when it deals with the management.

Behind this union-busting move stands the notorious Mayor Hague of Jersey City, whose red-baiting campaign against the CIO is obviously a move against all trade unions. The mayor and police chief of Harrison are members of Hague's political machine. Like Jersey City, Harrison has an ordinance forbidding the distribution of literature without a permit. Last week the leader of the present strike, E. H. Kaempf, was fined for violation of that ordinance.

But this move against the SWOC is part of a national campaign of the steel barons, in preparation for the expiration of the steel contract, covering the big steel groups, on February 28.

Unionism in Akron suffered another setback last week when officials of Goodyear Local agreed to a company proposal to speed up production and ultimately cut wages. The Goodyear strike of 1936 had forced the companies to slow down production. If successful in bringing back the speed-up, the companies will cut wages. The rank and file members of the union, bitterly opposed to the concessions granted by their leaders, have taken things into their own hands and have worked over several of the "production hogs."

## UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

<b>LODGE 382</b> Lodge 382, I. A. of M., meets the second and fourth Fridays at 8 p. m., at 501 East Hennepin.	<b>LOCAL 471</b> The Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p. m.
<b>LODGE 1313</b> Lodge 1313, I. A. of M., meets the second and fourth Thursdays, at 501 East Hennepin.	<b>LOCAL 292</b> Inside Section—First Tuesday Radio Section—Second Tuesday Shoppers' Section—Second Wednesday Utility Section—First Thursday General Membership—Third Thursday Seniority Board—Every Monday Utility Advisory Board—Every Tuesday General Executive Board—Mondays preceding first and third Thursdays Inside Advisory Board—Alternate Mondays from G. E. B. Examining Board—Second Wednesday Utility Stewards—Wednesdays preceding first and third Thursdays
<b>LODGE 1037</b> Lodge 1037, I. A. of M., meets the first and third Thursdays at Olson's Hall, Hopkins.	<b>LOCAL 131</b> The Laundry and Dry Cleaning Drivers Local 131 meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month.
<b>LOCAL 664</b> The City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664 will meet the first and third Fridays of each month.	<b>LOCAL 125</b> The Taxi Drivers Local 125 meets on the first Tuesday at 4 a. m., and on the third Tuesday at 7:30 p. m.
<b>LOCAL 1086</b> The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.	<b>SIoux CITY DRIVERS</b> Grievance Committee—Each Tuesday, Friday night Stewards Meeting—Each Friday night
<b>PETROLEUM DRIVERS</b> Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month.	<b>PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS</b> The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.
<b>FEDERAL WORKERS</b> Regular Membership Meeting—Second Friday each month. Stewards' Meeting—Every Wednesday, 8 p. m.	<b>MEETING SCHEDULE JANUARY, 1938</b> <b>LOCAL 544</b> Friday, January 21—Job Stewards. Monday, January 24—Spring Water. Sunday, January 16—Over-the-Road, 11 a. m. Monday, January 17—Furniture; Building Material. Tuesday, January 25—Taxi Drivers—night drivers, 1 p. m.; Day Drivers, 7 p. m. Thursday, January 27—Transfer and Warehouse; Wholesale Drug; Excavating and Construction; Sand and Gravel. Seniority Committee meets each Friday at 7 p. m. in hall No. 1. Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. in Hall No. 2. Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m. in Staff Room.
<b>LOCAL 1859</b> Casket Section—Jan. 11 J. R. Clark Section—Jan. 19 Exec. Board, 1859—Every Friday, 8 p. m. Exec. Board, 20481—Jan. 17 General Membership, 1859—Feb. 2 General Membership, 20481—Jan. 21 Twin City Stewards—Jan. 10, 24	<b>LOCAL 20316</b> Stewards—First and third Tuesday Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday Executive Board—Regularly every Monday
<b>ICE, COAL DRIVERS MEETING SCHEDULE</b> 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.	

## Trade Union Committee to Meet Saturday

The Trade Union Committee set up by the Union Board of Business Agents met last Sunday at 18 North 8th Street. This Committee will meet again this Saturday afternoon, January 22, at 2 p. m., at the same place. All officers and business agents of A. F. of L. unions are urged to attend.

## Lake, Pick Electric Still Unfair to 292

The Lake Electric and the Pick Electric companies on East Lake street continue to be unfair to Electrical Workers Local 292. The union is bannering these shops and will continue to do so until a just settlement is made. Organized labor is asked to remember the attitude of the two unfair companies.