

All Union Workers to the Auditorium on Mon. Eve. April 11

The Grand Jury Attack on Relief

Hennepin County grand juries have become mere vehicles for peddling reactionary propaganda. But the Saturday report of the retiring grand jury on "public relief and municipal financing" reached a low water mark.

The Relief Problem

What, exactly, is the "relief problem"? Let us outline that problem in all its simplicity, and then our readers will understand just how foul the grand jury report is.

1. **Unemployment is not an emergency but a permanent fact.** America has been "Europeanized." That is, America since 1929 has reached the same critical stage as Europe arrived at immediately after the World War, with a permanent army of unemployed, year in year out.

2. **The owners of the economic machinery must provide funds for WPA and unemployed relief.** Those who enjoy the ownership and profits of this great machine are responsible for its management. If they can't run it so that we can all be employed, then it is incumbent on them to provide relief and WPA jobs. Even the grand jury admits "that every worthy man and woman who is in need should be adequately cared for."

The Capitalist Chiselers

But the grand jury is merely giving lip-service to a principle which it dares not deny. Actually, the big-money boys, for whom the grand jury is a mouthpiece, don't want to give up part of their fat profits for the feeding of the unemployed. They don't give a damn how many starve, just so long as their profits aren't touched. But the bosses cover up their dirty game. The grand jury report is an example.

The Trick

That report informs us that relief in Minneapolis in 1937 cost \$18,256,000. It then goes on to say that "This is one-fifteenth of the entire assessed valuation of all the property in Minneapolis." That is, "the cost of relief took one-fifteenth of all the property of the city on its assessed basis." And the largest part of the report is devoted to building up a horrifying picture to the effect that all this comes from the home-owner, that "it will become a luxury to own the home in which one lives."

Thus the grand jury attempts to get the small home-owner, who is very often an employed skilled worker, a professional man, or a small business man, to feel that he is carrying the burden of relief, and to feel, therefore, hostile to the unemployed.

Here Are the Facts!

The actual facts are: the main item of relief expenditures in the city was between nine and ten millions for WPA jobs, ALL OF WHICH CAME FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT! That is, none of this came from local taxation. The only cost to the city for WPA was about \$800,000 for materials. Another three millions in the grand jury figures was for old age assistance, which is not part of the unemployment set-up at all, and one-third of which was provided by State funds. And of the remaining item of \$5,683,000 spent for direct relief, \$1,800,000—nearly a third—also came from State funds.

Why They Hide the Facts

Why does the grand jury report hide the fact that the main costs of relief were paid by Federal and State funds? Because such funds are raised (or if such funds are temporarily borrowed they are eventually raised) by TAXING INDUSTRY AND FINANCE AND BY INCOME TAXES. Local taxes are primarily taxes on real property. State, and especially Federal taxes, are primarily taxes on income and on business. More accurately, Federal taxation tends to be primarily such taxes.

If They Were Honest

If the bosses and their grand jury were honest in their hypocritical solicitude for the home-owner, they would say: "A bunch of crooked politicians, long before the economic crisis, spent so much city money that they raised the rate of taxation on real property to the point where it is a big item in keeping a home. That's the situation all over the country. The cities have no other source from which to raise funds for relief. In any event, the main funds for relief should come, not from the home-owner, but from the big industrial interests, the banks, and the individual stock-owners, and these are primarily taxable by the Federal government. Therefore, we propose to rally the public in a national campaign to demand that all forms of relief should primarily be the responsibility of the Federal government."

But They're Dishonest

Precisely such a program of Federal taxation, however, is what the bosses and their grand jury want to avoid. They want, instead, to shove the burden of relief on the small home owner and thereby to drive him into being an ally of the bosses in cutting relief to the bone. That is why they write such crooked documents as this grand jury report. That is why the grand jury report does not even mention the "detail" that unemployment is a world phenomenon and a permanent one. That is why these contemptible scoundrels have the gall to say that "Relief has developed a permanent relief 'class'—meaning that decent workers prefer to live off their miserly relief allowance rather than work! That is why these heartless blackguards call for "a new review of every relief case"—meaning that inquisitors should constantly harass and humiliate the unemployed, as if the bitter bread of charity were not already bitter enough! That is why these murderers—you can kill a man with a "relief system" just as well as with an axe—call for "stricter rules for giving aid to single men and women"—meaning no relief!

Mr. I. S. Joseph

The jury report was commended by I. S. Joseph, chairman of the finance committee of the city Welfare Board. Mr. Joseph likes to think of himself as something of a liberal, indeed, he says he is an enemy of fascism. But he could not think of a better way of aiding the advance of fascism than by commending a scheme which attempts to pit the employed and the middle class against the unemployed, and to weaken organized labor by providing an army of demoralized and starved unemployed willing to scab.

A Program for Mr. Joseph

Relief is a burden to the city? Very well, then, Messrs. of the grand jury and the Welfare Board: hire a special train and send a mass delegation to Washington to demand that the entire burden of relief be taken over by the Federal Government. But don't try to cut down relief! If you do try, we'll make you sorry you ever had the idea.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

NO. 49

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1938

FIVE CENTS

292 Restores Relations With N.S.P.

On the National Picket Line

The Naval Appropriation Bill, amounting to more than a billion dollars, has been passed by an overwhelming majority of the House. The Relief Deficiency Appropriations Bill was only \$250,000,000. During recent months more than three million persons have been added to the army of the unemployed.

A recent survey into working conditions and wages paid men and women in industry and business reveals that women receive as much as forty percent less than do men employed at tasks requiring the same amount of skill and physical endurance. The survey was conducted by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor and the findings were published on March 20 by Secretary Perkins. This report stated that the principle reason for this difference in wage rates was the lack of adequate labor unions for women workers. It went on to relate that many women are employed at jobs which require great precision and which drain the worker of much physical strength. The report also stressed the continued existence of the old tradition that women's work had little "cash value" contributes to the differential but denied that actual discrimination is practiced against women. However the significant fact of the whole report is that the lack of labor unions among the vast hordes of women employed in industry is the principle reason for their continued low rates of pay and poor working conditions.

The five-weeks old strike of the pean shellers in San Antonio, Texas has been won by the workers. They won union recognition, a six month contract, an impartial commission to arbitrate wages.

This victory has great significance. First it is the only victory ever won by these very poorest paid agriculture workers. Secondly, the victory came in the face of the most brutal police prosecution—tear gas raids, beatings, mass arrests (more than 700 workers were arrested during the course of the strike). They were denied relief.

The strike was called to stop a twenty percent decrease in their already miserly wages. Formerly they had received \$2.50 as an average pay check. Union organizers found some workers who received as little as \$.74 for an entire week's work. The victory is (Continued on page 4)



Who Killed Him?

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.

Council Airs Cab Strike, Licences

With more negotiations taking place in the cab strike during the past ten days than during the first four weeks of the struggle, likelihood of a settlement in the near future grew somewhat stronger.

The latest proposal of the companies for a settlement was received last Friday afternoon. In a special meeting at 3 p. m. Saturday afternoon, over 375 strikers voted unanimously to turn down the company's plan. This proposal called for a sliding scale of wages. Cab drivers would have received \$15 weekly during the first three months of the agreement; \$16.50, the second three months; and \$18 for the balance of the contract. It took only twenty minutes of discussion for the strikers to reach a decision to reject firmly the boss proposal.

On Tuesday morning the city council committee on licences held a public hearing on revocation of present cab licences. Miles Dunne, secretary of the Teamsters Joint Council and spokesman for the cabmen, briefly outlined conditions in the cab industry during the past few years. While it is realized that \$24 a week is not a living wage, said Dunne, yet the strikers are willing to settle for that amount as a guaranteed minimum wage. Dunne offered to leave in the hands of the city council committee the setting of a minimum living wage to settle the strike. Harold Seavey, president of the

Teamsters Council, also spoke. Others appearing at the hearing were C. E. Masters, president of the Yellow Cab company; owners of smaller companies, and independent cab owners; and attorneys for the companies.

The council license committee was to meet again Wednesday afternoon at three to decide whether the council had the right to revoke the cab companies license on the grounds that the suspension of service preceding the strike entitled the city to so move.

The cab drivers are as determined to win a reasonable guaranteed minimum wage as they were the first day of the strike. Their modest demands have the support of the entire labor movement. Last week the Minneapolis churches, through their Committee of Public Affairs, endorsed the demands of the cab strikers and called on the companies to make a settlement. Two of the Minneapolis employer-controlled papers disregarded the church statement entirely, though they were mailed copies. The Star printed the more innocuous sections in abridged form.

There is not the shadow of a doubt but what the overwhelming majority of persons in Minneapolis consider the demands of the cab drivers both just and reasonable, and are behind them in their manly stand to hold firm for a living wage.

Speakers List For April 11 Mass Meeting

As final arrangements for the gigantic union mass meeting were practically completed this week, every trade unionist in the city of Minneapolis, with few exceptions, was making arrangements to keep Monday night, April 11, open—to attend the greatest trade union rally that has been held in this area for many years.

John Boscoe, chairman of the Central Labor Union, will act as chairman at the mass gathering in the Municipal Auditorium. Speakers will include Governor Benson; Roy Weir, organizer of the C.L.U.; Robley Cramer, editor of the Labor Review; Walter Frank, head of the Lathers' Union; and Miles Dunne, secretary of the Teamsters Joint Council.

The Railroad Brotherhoods have been invited by the Arrangements Committee to attend the meeting and to choose a speaker to represent them on the program.

As the Auditorium only seats 15,000 persons, it was expected that the "Standing Room Only" sign would go up some time before the speaking program gets underway. A program of pipe organ music will precede the meeting.

The tremendous significance of this union rally became more apparent with each passing day, as the impact of the war crisis and the deepening economic depression makes itself felt in the Northwest.

Speakers at the gathering will discuss the problems that the maturing war crisis presents to the union movement; the economic recession and its significance for organized labor; the newest plans of the Associated Industries in Minneapolis to crush the unions; plans for supporting a great housing program of the Building Trades unions.

Over 100,000 leaflets advertising the meeting are being printed, and will be distributed by the Bill Distributors Union.

\$2,348 Won for Back Pay

Last week, General Drivers Local 544 collected a little matter of \$2,348 from the Phillippi Contracting company for back pay due 29 independent truck drivers, members of Local 544, Local 329 of St. Cloud, and Local 62 of St. Paul.

Last fall the Phillippi company was supervising a hauling job between Kimball and Luxemburg, Minnesota. Drivers were paid by the hour instead of the yard mile. Through the joint efforts of the unions involved, Phillippi agreed to pay by the regular way, the yard-mile. The result is that 29 independent truck owners received checks up to \$209 each this week. It pays an independent truck owner to belong to a strong union.

Local 1859 Presents Warren Shade Pact

On Monday the Furniture Workers Local 1859 presented a new 1938 contract to the Warren Shade company. Negotiations with this firm will probably begin shortly. Local 1859 is also awaiting the arrival of the Chicago manager of the Dustmaster corporation, to go into negotiations with this company.

Bakery Drivers Meet Thursday

A very important meeting of all members of Bakery Drivers Local 289 will be held this Thursday, March 24, at 7:30 p. m. Both drivers and inside men are to attend this meeting.

Meeting with N.S.P. Resumed Tuesday

Relations between Local 292 and the Northern States Power Company were resumed Tuesday morning when the union representatives, H. A. Schultz and William Heigel, met with F. J. Gleeson, company spokesman, in a meeting which proceeded to deal with the matters under discussion at the time relations were severed.

Labor Backs Proposed Health Law

In a room packed with members of Milk Drivers Local 471, the Health and Hospitals Committee of the Minneapolis city council last Wednesday voted to endorse a new health ordinance which would provide for the "continuous flow method" of processing ice cream. The proposed measure, which was opposed by some of the small ice cream counter-freezer owners, had the solid support of the Milk Drivers Union, the Teamsters Joint Council, the Central Labor Union, and the State Federation of Labor.

Should the "continuous flow" process be made compulsory, the public would be assured of getting much healthier ice cream than is now the case. For the past five or six years, much ice cream has been made by counter-freezer operators working at low wages in far from sanitary conditions. Such ice cream has competed with that produced by the large ice cream companies manned by union workers operating under sanitary conditions.

Alderman Al Bastis of the 6th Ward, in which the largest number of counter-freezers are operating, was the maker of the motion to concur in the ordinance. Aldermen Harold Kauth, William Meagher, and A. R. Gisslen, also voted for its passage. Alderman Riley, the remaining member of the Health and Hospitals Committee, was absent from the hearing. The Milk Drivers Union and the labor movement in Minneapolis anticipates that all Farmer-Labor aldermen on the city council will vote for the ordinance when it comes up sometime in April.

Local 749 Solid For E. Holstein

Sioux Falls, S. D.—By a vote of 73 to 3, members of General Drivers Local 749 voted in a special meeting to retain Emanuel Holstein as business agent, thus giving a decisive answer to rumors that dissension existed in the union ranks.

Local 749, in a statement to the press, further stated it would continue to cooperate with other drivers' unions in this area.

The drivers in Sioux Falls are holding a Spring Dance at the Arcadia ballroom on the night of April 19, and invite all unionists and friends to attend.

Warehouse Union Announces Dance

On Friday night, April 22, the Warehouse and Inside Workers Union Local 20316 will hold a Spring Dance and Vaudeville at the downtown Eagles hall, Fourth Ave. S. and Eighth Street, it was announced by Fred Tepilo, chairman of the entertainment committee.

Among the vaudeville performers, who will entertain the crowd before the dance, will be some talented members of Local 20316. Every member of the union is asked to contact Brother Tepilo or the union headquarters for tickets.

Wage Adjustments
Previously the union and the company had come to agreement on 1937 wage adjustments for the Underground and Trouble departments. Tuesday's meeting led to agreement by Gleeson that these adjustments would be added to the next pay checks of the men involved.

The meeting also led to arrangements for a schedule of conferences to deal on matters involving the St. Croix men, the Meter Department, and the maintenance crew at Riverside Plant, as well as several individual grievances.

Boyle in Minneapolis
Early Monday morning, International Vice President M. J. ("Mike") Boyle arrived in Minneapolis, and at his request Assistant Business Manager Schultz and Business Representative Heigel met him at the depot. After a discussion, Boyle arranged a meeting with the company for the same morning at 10:30 a. m.

Present at the conference were: Boyle, Schultz, Heigel, for the union, and Gleeson and Frank J. Miller for the company.

The Monday Conference
Boyle questioned the company spokesman regarding the difficulties between the company and the union. Miller replied that the company merely wished to know what the company could expect, under the agreement, in case of future labor difficulties, when company property was menaced or damaged and there was no grievance involved against the Northern States Power Company. Upon further questioning, Miller re-stated his question, saying that he "wanted to know whether the company was going to be used as cats-paw in labor difficulties."

The union representatives told (Continued on page 2)

292 Elects Committee On Finances

A committee to analyze the financial condition of Local 292 and make recommendations to the union as to what dues shall be, was elected at the March 17 membership meeting of the union.

Balloting resulted in the following seven being elected: Jud Caldwell, W. W. Teasdale, M. D. Lee, Carl B. Ice, Edward J. Nunke, from the Utilities Section; John Davies from the Shopmen; and Harold Smith from the Inside Section.

In accordance with the motion of the meeting, Paul Funk of St. Croix and Gerald Beggs of St. Cloud were added to the committee as ex officio members.

Special Sears Meeting March 30

All Sears, Roebuck employees, members of Warehouse Workers Union Local 20316, are urged to attend the Special Section meeting called for Wednesday, March 30, at 8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth Avenue. The question of renewing the expiring contract with the company will be the chief subject for discussion.

Executive Board, Local 20316

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Local 292 Meets With N.S.P.; Williams Case Reply Awaited

(Continued from page 1)
Miller that in no instance had the union refused to accept its full responsibility and meet with the company on any matter arising, and that the past record of the union clearly established this fact. It was the company which had been extremely lax in squarely and quickly meeting its responsibilities.

To prove his case, Miller cited three incidents: a stoppage of work in the Overhead Department on March 17, 1937; Local 292 pickets refusing to let N.S.P. line truck go into WDG property while Local 292 was conducting a strike there; and the 3500 Dupont Avenue South janitor's strike where a picket line delayed repair of service.

Watt Notes

It seems like old times with members meeting one another four or five nights a week.

Here's one for the mathematicians. "Since when does twelve out of twelve hundred make eighty percent?"

The special stewards' meeting of March 14th was very well attended.

Another myth has been exploded, the outlying districts ARE behind Local 292 and its leadership.

The Special Membership Meeting at the East Side Eagles Hall really packed the hall.

Boyle's Opinion

Boyle pointed out to Miller that the existing agreement adequately provided for handling of such occasional incidents, and that in his opinion the company had acted very hastily and irrationally in severing relations with Local 292.

Williams Case

The union representatives raised the question of the dismissal of John Williams, meter reader and member of the Advisory Board of the Utility Section of the union. After discussion, the company promised to give an answer in forty-eight hours. The union's demand is for the reinstatement of Williams and full pay for all time lost.

Relations Resumed

In answer to a direct question from Local 292 representatives Miller stated that the company was ready and willing to meet with the union representatives immediately. He himself was leaving for Washington for ten days, but Gleason would resume the meetings with the union, and was empowered to act in place of Miller. The Tuesday morning conference was then arranged.

Department Store Workers Meet This Friday

A meeting of all department store workers in Minneapolis coming under the jurisdiction of the Warehouse and Inside Workers Union Local 20316 will be held this Friday, March 25, 8 p. m., in the union hall. This meeting will map out a union program for all workers in all stores throughout the city, aimed at the time when the present union contract at the Dayton company expires.

Those department store workers formerly under the jurisdiction of Local 544 have been transferred to Local 20316, by agreement between the two union executive boards, to facilitate united action of all these workers in one organization.

Attempt to Play Farmers vs. Austin Workers Fails

Austin, Minn.—Following a sit-down strike of unemployed in the Mower County courthouse a few days ago, the Austin "Herald" issued an appeal to all farmers and taxpayers to gather at the courthouse "to fight" the unions. One issue devoted nearly half a page to blasting Joe Voorhees, progressive leader of the packinghouse workers union in Austin. On Thursday afternoon, March 3, many farmers gathered at the courthouse, prepared to fight the workers in Austin. Union officials were booted as they addressed the crowd.

Only after hours of discussion was a factual picture of conditions presented to the farmers, giving them a very different view of the unemployed and the unions than they were given by the reactionary boss press.

As a result, this latest attempt to play the farmers against the workers blew up. The "Herald" likened the Mower County farmers to the American Revolutionists, and the Austin workers to the British Redcoats. This paper has become a laughing stock in the southern part of the state for its rabid anti-working class character and its unusual ignorance.

Ward Strike Still On

Little change was noted in the three-weeks strike of the Miscellaneous Workers Union against the Montgomery-Ward store in Austin. The company was reported sending an official from Chicago to meet with a union committee looking toward a settlement of the struggle.

A mass meeting under the auspices of the union Joint Action Committee was held at which Joe Voorhees, Ray Frankling and Ernie Jacobs, spoke. An overflow crowd heard the facts in the Ward strike presented.

The meter readers are becoming more interested and active.

There can be no mistake now about the rank and file being for Brothers Schultz and Heigel.

Mike Boyle arrived in town Monday, March 21st.

The Membership stands ready, willing and anxious.

Pick Electric has signed a union agreement and is now on the fair list.

Brother Stanchfield is up and around with the help of a cane.

One gold cuff link found in East Side Eagles Hall after the Special Membership Meeting Tuesday, March 15th. Owner may have this link by calling at the Union Office.

Whoever consoles the slave instead of arousing him to revolt against slavery, aids the slaveholder.



Bill Brown Says—

Pack talked!

Statement of the General Executive Board Local 292, I. B. E. W.

To the Membership of Local 292:

As a result of a conference arranged by International Vice President M. J. Boyle, the Northern States Power Company has agreed to resume relations with the union, and on Tuesday, March 22, a meeting between union and company representatives was held, and a schedule of other such meetings arranged.

In agreeing to resume relations, Mr. Frank J. Miller stated that relations will be conducted "exactly on the same basis as they were conducted heretofore."

The company has yet to settle the case of the unjust discharge of John Williams, on which the company has promised an answer by Wednesday, March 23rd. The time lost in two weeks of no meetings will, it is hoped, be made up quickly, so that pending matters can be settled satisfactorily.

Conscious of its responsibility to the membership, the General Executive Board will proceed as quickly as possible to secure the various adjustments required in accordance with the existing agreement.

Anoka Welfare Board Refuses Relief to Jobless

Due to lack of space the following article was not published last week. However, the facts contained are still pertinent. The scheduled official meeting on March 19 between the Anoka County Welfare Board and the County Commissioners did not take place. Mr. Anderson, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, opened the meeting with the announcement that it was not an official meeting. No action was taken. This leaves the relief clients and WPA workers of Anoka County in the same impossible situation.

In order to force the adoption of the state budget, WPA and relief workers of Anoka County have decided to refuse to pay rent where there is a budget deficiency. This decision was reached by the United Front Committee.

Some time ago upon the initiative of the Federal Workers Section, 544, a united front was formed with the Workers Alliance of Anoka County to fight for decent relief standards in that area.

Upon presenting their united program to the Anoka County Welfare Board, this group obtained from the board a promise that it would establish a standard budget based on the one adopted by State Relief Department in November, 1937. The group presented a budget which not only included food and milk but also other items such as clothing, fuel, utilities, rent, and so on.

Board and the County Commissioners would be held on March 19 to take up matters pertaining to relief.

Council Demands
On March 10 the Columbia Heights council met and adopted the following motion. "At our last meeting it was brought to our attention that our requests on the matter of relief were not being given the proper consideration. Therefore we find it necessary to demand that you put the following rules and regulations into effect and that the proper people be given the proper instructions on the matter. 1. That the February 11, 1938, relief budget be immediately put into effect retroactive to March 1, 1938. 2. That the relief worker be immediately instructed to be at the Columbia Heights relief office to issue this budget to the proper people, not later than 8 a. m., March 15, 1938. 3. That 2 councilmen, namely (Severson and Wohlford) are hereby instructed to see that the above be immediately acted upon and enforced." This communication was signed by four members of the council and sent to the Anoka County Welfare Board at Anoka City.

Refused Meeting
The Columbia Heights council

Board Spurns Council
After the Welfare Board rescinded its decision the Columbia Heights council met and adopted the budget. They ordered, in very polite language that the Welfare Board pay the orders. No such action was taken.

The joint committee of the Workers Alliance and the FWS went to Anoka City on Saturday, March 5. There they went before the Board of County Commissioners to demand that this board recommend to the Welfare body that the budget be put into effect for sixty days. After much argument during which the commissioners protested on the grounds that they hadn't the money, a motion was passed recommending to the board that all supplementary aid necessary be paid.

Duck Meeting
Another meeting was arranged between the joint committee of the two relief organizations and the Welfare Board. A specific appointment was made, setting the time at 3:30 on Friday, March 9. When the committee arrived they were informed that the Welfare Board had adjourned their meeting at 3 o'clock. They left behind a memorandum stating that a joint meeting of the Welfare

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Boss Backing of "Mutual Truck Owners Assn." Shown

Following the appearance of Grant Dunne before a meeting of the "Mutual Truck Owners and Drivers Association Number One" held last Friday evening in the Viking Hall, most of the misguided workers who had been taken in by the tall talk of the backers of this phoney dual organization, left the meeting hall.

A fellow called Al Hubbard was chairman of the Friday meeting. Several speakers first took the floor, falsely claiming they were not permitted the floor at membership meetings of Local 544, and that they had been thrown out of the hall, etc. They demanded that Grant Dunne answer these accusations.

Answers Lies

Dunne then took the floor and spoke for an hour. "It is not true that any member of the General Drivers Union has ever been denied the floor. Nor has any member ever been 'thrown out of the hall,'" said Dunne. He challenged any worker to prove the charges made by preceding speakers. The speaker then reviewed the history of organization in the driving industry, cited the gains made by Local 544, and pointed to the present high wage standards in the trucking industry in Minneapolis. Dunne further mentioned the extreme improbability of any other drivers organization accomplishing a fraction of what Local 544 had won for its members.

It being apparent that the majority of the audience had come into the meeting through a misapprehension and misunderstanding of the reactionary character of such a dual organization, Dunne proposed that the meeting set up a representative committee to meet with Local 544's Executive Board. After pledging that 544's board would seriously consider any proposals made by a representative committee of the "Mutual

also requested a meeting with the Welfare Board on Monday evening, March 14. They were refused this meeting, and were told to bring their grievances before the March 19 meeting.

The whole situation smacks of politics. County Commissioners cry about the tax millage being too high all ready. They speak of a threatened tax-strike. They beg for "mercy" for the tax payers. The Welfare Board refuses to meet with representatives of their clients either on direct relief or on WPA.

The relief investigator in Anoka County is a Miss DeVois. She sits, Hitler-like, over the destinies of all those unfortunate enough to need assistance. She has repeatedly refused to certify able bodied men and women who are anxious to work, for WPA. She gives no reason for her refusal. Yet the certification of fifty-three families now on direct relief could take place at once. These people are not only willing but anxious to work. Their removal from the direct relief rolls would save the county hundreds of dollars over a period of a year. The supplementary aid necessary would in no way compare to their direct relief budget. Yet she refuses to put them to work. Why?

Events are transpiring at a rapid pace. As they happen they will be recorded in this paper. Watch next week's Organizer for news about further developments and actions taken by the union.

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Northwest Nash, Swanberg-Scheefe Unfair

The Auto Salesmen Union Local 1420 warned the union movement this week that the Northwest Nash Motors, and the Swanberg-Scheefe Buick company, are unfair to Local 1420 and to the union movement. Both these companies are completely non-union, in both mechanical and sales departments.

of union he likes is a company union which functions in the interests of the employers.

Stating that his group has the backing of the police, Taylor appeals for financial help on the basis that he wants to bring strangers into town to function as stool pigeons in the labor movement.

Taylor's Record

This Taylor has a long and black record in Minneapolis. Unemployed workers remember him chiefly for the cheap scheme he attempted to put over in 1932. At that time, "Forced Labor" Taylor, as he was then known, headed a group of misled and benten-down unemployed whom he induced to work for nothing but the most meager relief. Through the connivance of reactionary politicians, Taylor was permitted to maintain an office in the city hall.

Backs Suit vs. 544

Speaking last week before the Rotary Club, Taylor defended the Leach-inspired links who are suing the General Drivers Union, and told fantastic tales of these men being beaten up at union membership meetings by leaders of the union, for asking for an accounting of funds.

The "Mutual Truck Owners Association Number One," which Taylor, Leach and the bosses are backing, came out into the open a few days ago. Red, white and blue buttons have been issued to all drivers who would join in a crusade against unionism in the Minneapolis driving industry. The majority of recruits, as soon as they find out the true purpose of the Association, have left it in disgust.

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Leach, Grand Jury, Fight FWS, Unemployed-Why?

Reasons Behind Attack on Relief Standards by Big Business— Truth About the Federal Workers Section — Union Movement Next to Be Attacked

Today in Minneapolis Mayor George E. Leach is spokesman for those financial and industrial bosses who are plotting to smash the Federal Workers Section. A militant unemployed organization means that more relief can be forced from the welfare boards and WPA offices. More relief means higher taxes. It is to the interest of the employers to get adequate relief. It is to the interest of the unemployed to get adequate relief. It is to the interest of the employers to cut relief to the bone, so that taxes can be cut. Labor that is starved is apt to be more docile, less inclined to organize and fight, more willing to scab. Thus we see that the interests of the unemployed and the workers are diametrically opposed to the interests of big business.

There can be not the slightest doubt that the wealthy are opposed to militant unemployed organizations like the Federal Workers Section. But it is just as clear that they cannot come out bluntly and say WHY they are really opposed to us. For if they did this, every worker, every unemployed person, would see how mean and vicious the wealthy class really is, and labor would rally even closer to those who are leading its fight.

Leach and Grand Jury
The problem of the rich is to "hook up some phony reason that has a bit of plausibility about it, for their opposition to unemployed organizations, and to utilize their political spokesmen to publicize such attacks.

So we see Mayor Leach attacking the F.W.S. He pretends he is opposed to the Federal Workers Section "because it is a racket to take money from the unemployed." This is the reason Leach gives for knifing the organization that uncompromisingly has fought for and won higher relief standards for thousands of workers who have been thrown into the industrial discard through no fault of their own.

The latest Grand Jury report

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ties were so callous and ineffectual in dealing with the problem of unemployment, that late in 1930 the jobless began to organize in order to fight against the prospect of actual starvation which faced them. During the next few years, literally thousands of unemployed organizations of all sorts sprang up all over the United States.

Real Rackets
Though millions of unemployed were prepared to put up a militant struggle to gain the means of livelihood, the early unemployed organizations, with few exceptions, were of two types:

1. Organizations started by "labor lieutenants of capitalism" to blunt the militancy of labor and to turn its indignation into harmless channels. (Examples: The Rev. Mecklenberg's phony set-up, whereby the unemployed took in one another's washing, worked for script, etc. The organization started by F. L. Taylor, a forced-labor set-up whereby hundreds of ignorant and beaten jobless workers were induced to work for nothing but the scantiest relief.)

2. Organizations started by self-seeking politicians or backed by regular boss political machines, for the purpose of herding the jobless votes behind one or another of the capitalist candidates.

Part of Union Movement
A genuine unemployed organization, in contrast to the above types, functions in the interests of the unemployed by systematically fighting for more adequate relief for all needy persons, fights against discrimination on the part of relief supervisors, and exposes and struggles against all attempts of the reactionaries to cut down relief and to increase mass misery.

An unemployed organization, like any other workers' union, maintains officers, grievance and publicity committees, has a headquarters, etc. Like all trade unions, unemployed organizations charge dues. The dues are not of course anywhere as high as is customary among unions.

Consequently, most unemployed organizations today do not receive enough income in dues to pay the meager salaries of organizers, expenses for meeting halls, publicity, etc. The deficit in the case of the F.W.S. made up by contributions from unions which, with more and more members becoming unemployed, appreciate the services of the unemployed organization in obtaining relief for such workers.

Backed by Unions
Three officers are maintained on the payroll by the FWS, receiving wages at the WPA level. This removes such workers from dependence on relief authorities, and permits them to function freely in the interests of the membership. As the income from dues is not sufficient to pay the costs of the Section, a dozen or so unions make regular monthly contributions to the Federal Workers Section.

When Mayor Leach cries out that the FWS is a "racket" because it collects dues, he is being completely untruthful. Using the same argument, one could say that every workingclass union that functions in the interests of its members is a racket—"because it collects dues." But everyone knows that this is not true, and that Leach is grabbing at any straw to whip the FWS.

Why the Present Attack?
The present drive against relief appropriations has for its objective, not merely the negative reduction of taxes, but the positive destruction of the trade union gains in the last few years. Big Business feels that the unemployed organizations are the weakest section of the organized labor movement. Hence, they attack relief standards first, hoping to move from this to a broad attack upon the entire labor movement.

Big Business hopes to psychologize those still working in private industries, to get them to thinking: "We'd better hold onto our jobs at any price, even accepting drastic wage cuts. If we become unemployed, there is little or no relief for us. If we fight for better wages, or even to maintain our present contracts, there are millions of desperate unemployed who would be willing to take our jobs under any conditions."

Next week: In the second article on unemployment, we will expose the plan behind the "survey" being made of the entire Minneapolis relief situation by a national, non-profit organization, as announced in the daily press, and will publish a statement of the Executive Board of the Federal Workers Section of Local 544, dealing with the present campaign against relief standards.

Wards Is Unfair to Electricians

The Montgomery-Ward company, already known as a public nuisance in St. Paul, where it broke a strike of its employees, and in Austin, where it closed down its store rather than pay decent wages, again came into conflict with the union movement of Minnesota during the past few days.

The Minnesota State Electrical Workers Council, comprising local unions of the I.B.E.W. in this state, has sent a stiff letter to the Montgomery-Ward company, protesting "to the unfair methods used by your company. . . . Many men in the employ of Montgomery-Ward and company are doing wiring without licenses. . . . We further object to the unfair bidding of your company. . . . The majority of the wiremen your company hires in this territory are men who have little or not experience in this business. Therefore, they work for less than the prevailing wage scale," etc.

In order to sell electrical supplies and equipment, the scabbing Ward concern has been charging as little as 40c to install outlets in the area covered by the various rural electrification projects throughout Minnesota. Naturally, this work is done by low-paid, non-union labor.

The answer to the latest threat of the Montgomery-Ward company against unionization is the thorough organization of all wiremen, linemen and laborers throughout the rural areas. The State Electrical Workers Council urges all such workers to get in touch immediately with the nearest I.B.E.W. local union.

With Shovel and Tongs

Sam Schullo and Holland are fighting it out to see who will make the best anchor man for the bowling team. They won three games Monday night.

If any of the members of 221 are not getting enough work or not working at all, report to your union headquarters and they will take your case up with the Federal Workers Section of 544 for supplementary relief.

Several of the rank and file members have been inquiring about the news in the Organizer. Your editors will be glad to write your news if you will bring in any news that you have. Let's everybody help to make our column a good one.

Tom Dilly wants to thank the Federal Workers for the wonderful help he received when he was laid up.

The associate ice boys had a real "pal" Monday night. He was with the boys till the last dog was hung. Ralph hung the last dog and went home alone. Talk about a "pal."

The Independent Ice Dealers had a very nice gathering at the President Club rooms on Monday night, March 14. William S. Ervin, Attorney General of Minnesota and Joseph H. Sugar, Special Assistant Attorney General, were the guest speakers. David Smilow was the toastmaster and A. P. Eberl presided. The subject of the meeting was an explanation of the Unfair Trade Practice Act. Mr. Sugar gave a very good explanation of the act so that every member in the meeting thoroughly understood the meaning of the law.

The ice season is at hand.

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CHOICE LIQUORS
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Sioux City Drivers Start Campaign

Sioux City, Iowa.—In preparation for a campaign to bring all bakery and milk drivers into the ranks of organized labor, the Drivers Union Local 383 of Sioux City has hired two more organizers to assist Business Agent Howard Fouts and Organizer Jack Maloney in organizing the unorganized.

The new organizers are Omar Foster and Ralph Johnson, both members of Local 383's executive board.

The union is sponsoring a spring get-together for the wives and sweethearts of the drivers, to be held Saturday, April 2. Refreshments and entertainment will feature the affair, and a talk will be given to educate all women to ask for union drivers and cards on all deliveries to their homes.

Independent Truck Chatter

By R. F. Hornig
No Card Notices!

An open meeting for all WPA truck owners will be held this week on Saturday morning at 9:30 a. m. Local 544 must again assume the role of teacher and refresh the memories of some drivers with a review of the basic principles and practices of unionism. Such action is necessary at this time to pave the way for return of lost sheep to the fold, and to examine the present petty campaign in its proper proportions.

In short, we will again tell what we do, why we do it, and how. And by "we" is meant the executive board backed by the members.

Ways and Means Committee meetings will be changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays beginning this week.

Dan Doyle, 4318 North Logan, won Larry Hagen's gun.

They tell me, Mack, Jr. are orphans of the (economic) storm, so what will poor Reo Bob do now?

With the coming of mild weather so early in March, most of the boys are constantly talking shop. And many a twosome is making the rounds of the dealers.

Timken is on the market with a dual-ratio, double-reduction unit for Fords and Chevies.

You need only one guess to name the man who vacationed for five days with only a broken axle shaft as an excuse.

Wonder how the other locals in the North Central area handle the independent problem. Omaha drivers have written in to us for information.

There is the makings of a row over the recent decision of the seniority board.

The Elk River-Anoka job starts this week. Many of the ITO'ers who drove there last year are working now because of the current WPA pickup, and are hard put to get off the fence.

We hear almost daily of some one or another unloading a truck and getting out from under. Under what? Payments, you dope. Few ITO men will have the opportunity to fill in driving this summer, because of lack of employment.

Yoo Hoo, Kenny!
Cully ran clear to the bottom of the list last week.

Little Caesar.
The boss is certainly living up to the name, as a special group of ten per centers will testify. Overriding all protests, Curt demonstrated a practical application of the painless tax method we hear

The following patents were issued March 15, 1938, to Minnesota and Dakota inventors, as reported by WILLIAMSON & WILLIAMSON, Patent Attorneys, 925 Metropolitan Life Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Atwood, Edward P., Minneapolis, Minn., clear vision shield; Crosby, Vernon E., Minneapolis, Minn., combination toilet seat and cover; Forwell, Frank J., St. Cloud, Minn., device for securing objects to wells and similar structures; Schultz, Fayette C., Minneapolis, combination trunk and trailer; Steensgaard, Carl O. De Smet, S. D., mechanical force feeder for food supports and grinders; Wala, Carl F., Minneapolis, connector strip and fruit stand using the same; Wells, William O., Minneapolis, antiwear guard for gloves; Wells, William O., Minneapolis, seam reinforcing and antiwear shield for gloves.

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R. J. CARNES

Building Trades Back Rockford Drivers Union

Rockford, Ill.—As the strike of truck drivers against the building material dealers went into the second month, with a settlement apparently as remote as ever, the building trades unions of Rockford announced they would refuse delivery of any building materials hauled by non-union drivers.

The solidarity of the building trades thus knocks into a cocked hat the shrewd plans of the bosses, who have been seeking to set up an "independent association of drivers" with which to fight Local 325 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Building trades workers were to set a day this week after which they would refuse to work on any materials delivered by scabs.

Lumber Contracts Expire April 31

The Woodmen Workers Union Local 20481 announced this week that its contracts with the Webster Lumber company, and the Twin City Lumber and Shingle company, expire April 31st. Meetings with the workers involved are being arranged, to go over the current agreement, draw up new demands, and select negotiating committees to deal with the companies on new contracts.

On the Route With the Milk Man

Otto Wolfram resented crowning Al Odean the cribbage champion. He has challenged Al to a three-game series, soon to take place. Clarence White is to be the official referee. One box of snooze is at stake.

Stew Buck and Squirt Russell are feeling very cocky lately. Why? Last week at the Log Cabin they copped first prize for doing the Big Apple.

If you hear an occasional roar that sounds like the Wild Bull of the Pampas, don't be alarmed. It is coming from the vicinity of the gas pump. It's "Wimpy" rehearsing for his role in Tarzan in the Jungle Terror.

Jack Lundeen went to the rasslin' match the other night to see Ali Baba go to town. He was so excited that when he came home, he just had to show his wife how to rassle. The result is, Jack has to stay home for a week.

Some of the great Johns: J. P. Morgan, J. D. Rockefeller, and John Dodson.

Joe Hotel went to the Builders Show last week. I can see where this bird is going to be separated from some of those new ones.

Joe Saleen, the Columbia Heights stooge, now has a Packard.

Earl Anderson the Derby King also has a Packard.

so much about these days. However, a hard-working dance committee and Curt himself, overburdened with the promotion of this special affair, will greatly appreciate aid.

Frank Guile and the Corbinder are that way this week.

The dance committee is going great guns, with tickets selling like hotcakes. The only claim Bove can't make is "I covered the water-front." Milt and Harry Pfaff claim unfair tactics have left them a wee bit behind the 8-ball.

Kimball bonus checks up to \$2348.

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National Hotel Management Co., Inc.
Ralph Hill, President

Crystal Co-op Born From Early Strike

Almost seven years have passed since the Crystal Co-operative Cleaners was born, out of the laundry strike of 1928. With many of its best union members blacklisted in the industry, the Laundry Workers Union Local 18005 set about to build a plant where its members could find employment. With the help of the Milk Drivers Local 471, many other unions, and with the backing of some of the co-ops, the Crystal Cleaners was built and began business on Sept. 1, 1931.

Ever since then, it has operated 100 per cent union. Today it is equipped to clean any kind of clothing, furniture, drapes, rugs, hats, gloves, and to perform all dye work. Many unions and individual unionists own shares in the Crystal Co-op. Its plant is located at 3110 Penn Avenue North.

The ancient philosopher said that strife is the father of all things. No new values can be created where a free conflict of ideas is impossible.

Orval Hanson, the Senator, has a Royal. And do these birds pass us up.

The fellow who gets the most of the organization is the fellow who knows what's going on. He finds out by attending meetings.

Ole Ogg had a little run-in with a Chicago avenue grocer. Ole sent for a union banner. Ole won.

There'll be no chiseling on milk prices.

Elmer Swanson and William York are having competition in the paternal field. Elmer has a girl, William a boy. On to victory, boys.

Ole Roming of South Franklin has three strikes on him. Boy No. 3 arrived recently.

Ed Olson is lumbago-ing at home. Get well quick, Ed.

Wally Williams is now attending the University Farm School.

Did you ever see Mike Lavery bowl? He steps like an army horse.

Northland has some real bowling material—such as Mac Carlsson, Ole Anderson, Cecil Fulks, and a few others.

George Bergquist was seen rushing the fishing season, browsing around Minnehaha creek. The fishermen at Northland's are getting the rods and reels ready.

I wonder if some of the bus-

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ness representatives around the building know that union-made cigarettes are still being sold. Check up on yourselves, boys.

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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.

The Duluth Convention

On Friday and Saturday of this week the state convention of the Farmer-Labor Party opens in Duluth. There are many things that could be said about that convention and the problems confronting it: the still-unsettled question of the disproportionate representation given to groups other than the economic organizations of the workers and farmers, etc. But there are two basic and inter-related issues which overshadow everything else. What stand will the Farmer-Labor Party take on (1) the war danger and the brazen war plans of the National Administration and (2) the raging economic crisis and the refusal of the National Administration to provide sufficient funds for WPA and unemployed relief.

The two questions, we say, are inter-related. The war plans of the government are the bosses' way of "solving" the raging economic crisis, by wresting the Far Eastern market from their imperialist rivals. The workers will get nothing out of that "solution" except millions of dead and maimed bodies. Furthermore, the government is diverting all funds it can to the building of a war machine, and is diverting to that purpose funds which should go to WPA and unemployed relief.

The Convention Should Take Its Stand

The least we can expect the Farmer-Labor convention to do, if it reflects the deepest feelings of the organized workers and farmers is:

1. Call upon the National Administration to provide sufficient relief and WPA jobs, and for this purpose to transfer war funds to the unemployed work.
2. Dissociate itself from the war plans of the National Administration. At the convention adopt a firm resolution, expressing the unalterable opposition of the workers and farmers to the government's war plans, and to each and every bill embodying those war plans.

The War Machine Rolls Forward

Not in the halls of Congress will the struggle against war find its leaders. That is the plain meaning of Monday's vote in the House of Representatives, when by a vote of 292 to 100 the Administration's Naval Expansion Bill was adopted. The non-working class opposition simply collapsed under the whip of the Administration. That means that the fight against the war danger will be organized in the mines, fields and factories, in the trade unions and farmers' organizations, or it will not be organized at all.

War Machine vs. Relief

Over TWO BILLION DOLLARS will be spent on "regular" armament and on naval expansion, if the Administration's budget and naval bills are passed by the Senate—and this is only the beginning. Think of it! At a time when the relief appropriations are so hopelessly insufficient, that destitute workers and their families vainly beg for rent and food and clothing, at such a time the National Administration boldly and brazenly calls for a bottomless horn of plenty for the war machine. Anything for war, and next to nothing for peace. That's what it amounts to.

What the Navy Is For

Yes, we are confronted by the bald fact that the National Administration is preparing for a war of conquest. The bill as introduced by Chairman Carl Vinson of the House Naval Affairs Committee contained a bold definition of the naval policy it was to implement. It read:

Definition of Naval Policy

"It is declared to be the fundamental policy of the United States to maintain an adequate navy in sufficient strength to guard the Continental United States by affording naval protection to the coast line, in both oceans at one and the same time; to protect the Panama Canal, Alaska, Hawaii and our insular possessions; to protect our commerce and citizens abroad; to maintain a navy in sufficient strength to guarantee our national security, but not for aggression, to insure our national integrity, and to support our national policies."

Even the military expert of the New York Times, Hanson W. Baldwin, admits that "the policy defined by Mr. Vinson in his amendment would permit, it is generally agreed, a 'blue-sky' building limit, a navy of nearly any size."—(N. Y. Times, February 20).

What This Means

Workers should ponder the full meaning of this definition of foreign policy. "To protect the Panama Canal, Alaska, Hawaii and our insular possessions"—that means no further pretense of planning for defense of the continental United States, but a program of putting into the Pacific (not to speak of the Caribbean) a gigantic navy capable of attacking Japan. "To protect our commerce and citizens abroad" means to put into the oceans a navy which will serve the Standard Oil, U. S. Steel and every other billionaire corporation in their buccaneering ventures into foreign markets. "To support our national policies" means a navy to back up the sabre-rattling which emanates from Washington every time a Standard Oil steamer is fired on by accident or design, or a spinster gets slapped, or any excuse of any kind can be cooked up.

Jingoes Cover Up Their Tracks

At the last minute, before passage of the bill, the Administration strategists deleted the definition of naval policy, in order to obscure the real meaning of the bill. But the bill as passed embodies that naval policy!

The Plain Duty of Organized Labor

As was their elementary duty, the five Farmer-Laborites in the House voted against the naval bill. The two Farmer-Laborite senators will undoubtedly do likewise. Reflecting the anti-war spirit of the Northwest, every representative from Wisconsin, the Dakotas, and Minnesota—with the exception of the jingo Republican, Maas of St. Paul—voted against the bill.

But what is now needed is to demonstrate to the country that organized labor is unalterably opposed to the war plans of the Administration. Northwest labor is in a position to lead the country in this, the most im-

"Hello, Police Department—There's a Couple Outside Agitating Hanging Around My Plant"

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- 4- CALL IN THE NATIONAL GUARD
- 5- CALL IN THE ARMY AND NAVY

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CAB STRIKE ITEMS

Another Strike Committee member, Dick Molitor was called out of town on a very sad occasion, the death of his father-in-law, Mr. F. J. Kranz of Mankato.

One of the old-time "Micks," Frank Riley by name, called up and excused his absence of the seventeenth on an attack of rheumatism. Ever try rubbing the afflicted parts with a shamrock, Frank?

Our genial chef, Harry Wallace, must now know the feelings of a cur dog with a tin can tied to his posterior appendage. Saw him galloping across the dining hall one evening recently with a steel chair tied to his apron strings.

During an afternoon rehearsal, our talented four piece orchestra was playing one of Straus' better known waltzes. In our opinion, Straus lost. Why don't you boys play Hitler's theme song, "Vienna, Vienna, Vienna?"

Oren Seguin, the seventeen year old son of one of our members, has astonished the membership with his drawings, which are masterpieces of detail and originality.

Well, we finally learned the meaning of the term a "united front." It is what we saw when the membership turned down the fifteen dollar (\$15.00) insult from the bosses at Saturday's meeting.

Our court-house committee, Nick Plouman and Charlie Kock, spend so much time between headquarters and the city hall that they are beginning to look like politicians. Want to run for some office, boys?

Mark "Red" O'Neil is back with us. He was in sick-bay with an infected foot. The last few sunny days have done wonders for a lot of our other members and their families who were ill.

"Chief" Rainbolt strode into last Saturday's meeting with a four foot Indian club. We all thought he was going to do a little demonstration of a lost art, but we all survived the meeting.

One solution of this tie-up is to change from motor driven taxis to the more colorful Oriental "ricksha." This would have many pleasing advantages such as low, yes, very low, wages, low upkeep, we could all be in business for ourselves. Besides, it would have a salubrious effect on our constitutions.

See where Kirkham is carrying on the traditions of Daniel Boone. He has forsaken his uniform for the buckskin jacket.

The "twins" in their frolicsome moods break their glasses so often the supply house is considering a wholesale contract.

Now that the Gamble boys have settled and are back to work, there's more room, less work in the kitchen and the kibitzers can keep the bridge games all under control.

All our Irish and those that

We hereby petition the original cartoonist-contributors to bring the rogues gallery up to date. The latest magazine pictures, while having artistic value and "umph," don't carry the required message.

Our "soldiers of fortune" that have a penchant for traveling are setting their annual spring courses for various ports and states.

Who said the married boys haven't an advantage? They look over the daily menu and sometimes go home to mama for dinner.

Small boy alighting from a train in Chicago wanted to know what those Yellow things were that were madly dashing around.

A young man's fancy in Spring Caused him to dance and to sing. With the taxi-cab strike It was cheaper to hike So his "sweetie" could now have a ring.

Short Pomes

Taxi-cabs
On strike
Nice day
Let's hike.

Cabs idle
Bosses mad
24 bucks
Too bad.

The cabs are yellow
The bosses are blue
I'm feeling in pink
But the dinner is stew.

As his illustrious namesake, General Sherman, once said about war, Earl remarked these here now strikes ain't no tea party either.

Bill Sorenson, the famous half-cup connoisseur comes to bat with a new idea which should revolutionize the coffee industry. Soluble coffee in capsule form, swallow the pill and wash down with a gulp of hot water.

Maybe the kitchen crew don't serve chicken often enough. We saw a couple of pickets sizing up a flock of pigeons with more than passing interest.

A good number of the boys have devoted a lot of time to their muscles; they range from sweeping ones like Simon Legree's to the abbreviated ones seen on suave bond salesmen.

Now that the Gamble boys have settled and are back to work, there's more room, less work in the kitchen and the kibitzers can keep the bridge games all under control.

All our Irish and those that

helped them celebrate took care of all the traditional rites except to kiss the blarney stone.

The March 19th issue of the Minneapolis Star carried an editorial in regards to the taxi strike. While the statement that the public suffers is true, we are still of the opinion that any industry that operates in a full time capacity must pay a living wage.

According to his talk to the chair in one of our meetings, this man Keinetz must have made a study of bird habits, especially sparrows.

The Yellow Cab baseball team is already feeling out their equipment for the coming season.

Our column is practically assured of success, we have now made an enemy. I have nothing further to report.

Visitors from other locals looking in at our mysterious antics should not be alarmed, what looks like a snake dance is only the token-line.

Paul Ullie, one of our charter members, is in the Vets hospital, but we are glad to report he is in much improved shape.

Jack Herman, manager of the Yellow Cab baseball champs last year, was seen limbering up Russ Wennell, star pitcher. There's a chance Jack may pilot 544's team this season.

"Shorty" Wenell is the original baseball kid. He has played on eight different teams around these parts. Wenell was a regular hurler for the Roosevelt High team, and played for an American Legion nine for two years.

Local 1086 Signs Pact With Packard Shoe

Shoe clerks in another Minneapolis store won for themselves solid gains in wages and hours and working conditions last Friday, when a working agreement was signed between the Retail Clerks Union Local 1086 and the Packard Shoe store.

Under the union agreement, shoe salesmen received a straight \$2.50 weekly increase. Commissions were raised from 6 per cent to 7 per cent. Hours were cut from 51 to 45. All salesmen will receive one week's sick leave with pay, and all employees of more than one year's standing will receive a week's paid vacation. Those employees who have worked less than one year will get one-half day's vacation each month.

Every unionist should remember when shopping to demand that he or she be waited upon by union clerks.

Laws are important not by virtue of their being written on paper, but by virtue of the kind of people that put them into practice.

DEMAND UNION CLERKS

With the Limousines

Since last week, we have two more contracts signed with auto liveries, and hope to have a couple more on the line when you read this.

Harry Calligan did not yet get his hat back—the one he lost at our dance. Now he says it is a Panama he lost. Looks like one Irishman is looking ahead for the summer.

Jack Kartes: There is a little book under your front seat that has all the rules how to drive and where to park. And it doesn't say you can park in a no-parking zone in front of Dayton's. Better read the little book, Jack.

Some brothers are slightly behind in dues. Be sure your dues are paid up, and carry your book at all times. You can never tell when you may have to show your book. Don't get caught in an embarrassing moment.

The next regular meeting is Tuesday, April 5. Let everybody be there. I want to see a big turnout.

And DON'T forget the mass meeting on Monday night, April 11, at the auditorium. It is your duty as union members to be present, and to bring your wives and friends. Remember the date: Monday, April 11.

FWS Organizing Sewing Projects

Organizational activity among the sewing project workers, in urban and rural Hennepin as well as in Columbia Heights, is getting under way. Meetings were held with three different groups on Tuesday where organizational problems were discussed. A committee was set up to meet to plan a campaign on the various projects.

Much work is in store for these women if they are to continue to hold their present wage level. Many other phases of the work are also in need of clarification. All women employed on WPA are urged to contact either their stewards or the union office and arrange to attend the various group meets which will be held regularly from now on.

Strand Ski Workers Drawing Up Pact

(Special to N. W. Organizer) New Richmond, Wis.—The first meeting between the negotiating committee of Woodworkers Local Union 1703 and the management of the Strand Ski company was held last Thursday, for the purpose of negotiating a new contract. The present working agreement expires June 1. Questions of the closed shop, seniority and working conditions were discussed. Wages and vacations will be discussed at subsequent negotiations.

John Janosco, Minneapolis union leader, sat in with Local 1703's committee.

The Strand company is now paying notoriously low wages (the hourly maximum is 41c). In an attempt to psychologize the workers to accept still lower wages, the management is suggesting that the union should accept a substantial reduction in wages.

The Strand workers have quite different ideas, and are determined to get real wage increases for every employee.

The union negotiating committee is now drawing up a wage scale, and classifying the jobs, in preparation for future negotiations.

'Paper Organizations' Defined for Local 264

In a write-up of the Hennepin County F-L convention, the Northwest Organizer referred contemptuously to the "paper organizations of the Communist Party," which were represented. Several members of the Pulp and Sulphite Union Local 264 misunderstood the reference and thought it referred to the paper-makers unions.

A "paper organization" is defined as a group with a small membership which "fronts" for another group which, because of its unpopularity finds it difficult to operate openly. The organization exists only "on paper," and follows policies laid down by the parent group.

On the NATIONAL PICKET LINE

(Continued from page 1)
hailed by the entire labor world and it is a certainty that the success of these workers will serve as an impetus to others in the same horribly underpaid field—agriculture.

It has been some time since the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee has been heard from. Now the word comes that they are investigating the activities of the National Manufacturers Association. Significant facts brought out in this investigation are the association has more than 4,000 members; 160 member organizations have supplied the organization with all of its officials since its inception; 207 of the member organizations have been responsible for the purchase of 60% of the tear gas purchased by industrial firms; the Association purchased the tear gas used by the Johnstown police department during the steel strike last summer; and that the Mayor of Johnstown was able to pay off huge bills which he owed personally right after the strike was broken.

A fake plan to ease unemployment in St. Louis was spiked by alert labor leaders last week. The sponsors of the plan, to be called the Cooperative Employment Council, were a Mr. Chestley and a Mr. Gill. So taken with the plan were the employers of St. Louis that they offered to set Mr. Gill and Mr. Chestley up in business until the plan should be in working order. Features of this scheme to supply employers with docile labor were: discharge of all women whose husbands were working, and only one job to a family. Membership in the council was to be limited to unemployed who were "loyal American citizens."

Labor leaders attending the public meeting called to put forth this plan pointed out its reactionary character and the danger of the unemployed finding themselves enrolled in a scab-heading trap. After this expose the meeting broke up in an uproar. Needless to say the sponsors of this good old "American Plan" scheme went home to figure out a new way to get around their problem—living

Land O' Lakes Inc. Gets New Contract

On Monday the Milk Drivers and Dairy Employees Local 471 delivered a new 1938 working agreement to the Land O'Lakes management in Minneapolis, and asked that negotiations get under way immediately.

Local 471, in the proposed pact, calls for a continuance of the same general provisions contained in the current agreement. However, the union is demanding that over-the-road milk drivers be paid the present scale established in the industry by Local 544.

Forum Talk on F-L State Meeting

"What Happened At the State Farmer-Labor Convention" will be the subject of a special lecture to be delivered by Felix Morrow at the Socialist Sunday Forum next Sunday afternoon, March 27, at 3 p. m.

Morrow will attend the convention of the Farmer-Labor Association in Duluth on Friday and Saturday, and will fly back Sunday morning in order to deliver this talk. The forums are held each Sunday afternoon at 669 Second Avenue North, under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party. Admission is 10c, and the public is invited.

wages and good working conditions for their employees.

Today Makes 8,010 Days...

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

LODGE 382 Lodge 382, I. A. of M., meets the second and fourth Fridays at 8 p. m., at 501 East Hennepin.	LOCAL 471 The Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p. m.
LODGE 1313 Lodge 1313, I. A. of M., meets the second and fourth Thursdays, at 501 East Hennepin.	LOCAL 292 Inside Section—First Tuesday Radio Section—Second Tuesday Shopmen's 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
LODGE 1037 Lodge 1037, I. A. of M., meets the first and third Thursdays at Olson's Hall, Hopkins.	LOCAL 131 The Laundry and Dry Cleaning Drivers Local 131 meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month.
LOCAL 664 The City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664 will meet the first and third Fridays of each month.	LOCAL 125 The Taxi Drivers Local 125 meets on the first Tuesday at 4 a. m., and on the third Tuesday at 7:30 p. m.
LOCAL 1086 The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.	PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.
PETROLEUM DRIVERS Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month.	MEETING SCHEDULE LOCAL 544 MARCH, 1938 Sunday, March 20—Over-the-Road, 11 a. m. Monday, March 21—Building Material; Furniture Stores Tuesday, March 22—Taxi Drivers—Night drivers, 1 p. m., Day drivers, 7 p. m. Thursday, March 24—Transfer and Warehouse; Wholesale Drug; Excavating and Sand and Gravel Monday, March 28—Spring Water Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday 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. Note: There is a change in the meeting time for the Seniority Board.
FEDERAL WORKERS Regular Membership Meeting—Second Friday each month. Stewards' Meeting—Every Wednesday, 8 p. m.	LOCAL 1859 General Membership, Local 1859—March 2 Casket Industry—March 8 J. R. Clark Section—March 16 Executive Board, Local 1859—Every Friday, 8 p. m. General Membership, Local 20481—March 18 Twin City Stewards—Feb. 28, March 14, 28 Executive Board, Local 20481—March 7, 21 General Membership, Local 1859—April 6
LOCAL 289 Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers—Second Thursday. Yeast Drivers—Third Tuesday. Cake and Pie—Third Thursday. General Membership—Fourth Thursday.	LOCAL 20316 Stewards—First and third Tuesday Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday Executive Board—Regularly every Monday
LOCAL 1859 General Membership, Local 1859—March 2 Casket Industry—March 8 J. R. Clark Section—March 16 Executive Board, Local 1859—Every Friday, 8 p. m. General Membership, Local 20481—March 18 Twin City Stewards—Feb. 28, March 14, 28 Executive Board, Local 20481—March 7, 21 General Membership, Local 1859—April 6	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.