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THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

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

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FIVE CENTS

Who Seeks a Sales Tax? An Editorial

Taxes are the prices paid by a person for services rendered by the government. All governments, federal, state and local, collect taxes and use this income to provide various governmental services—the army and navy, the coast guard and weather bureau, the FBI, and penitentiaries, the national highways; the state universities, hospitals, prisons, bridges, parks; the city schools, street cleaning, libraries, fire department, police, jails, playgrounds, sewage disposal, hospitals, etc.

There are hundreds of ways in which the various governmental units raise taxes—through property taxation, income taxation, customs duties, processing taxes, etc.

In theory, most people have agreed that the ability of a man to pay taxes is the most practical and just test of how the tax burden should be shared.

IN PRACTICE, HOWEVER, THIS THEORY IS GROSSLY VIOLATED.

Due to the fact that we live in a society that is not harmonious but is divided into classes, taxation has come to be a political device by which the burden of society is placed on one class or another. Because the wealthy pretty much control all government, it is the poor who are uniformly discriminated against in existing tax programs.

Two Tax Programs

Because taxation is at bottom a political question, there is ever a dispute between the wealthy and the poor as to what forms of taxation are to be utilized, and who is to be taxed.

The wealthy have ever sought to violate in practice the fair idea that taxes should be levied in accordance with ability to pay. This attitude of the rich is understandable. If they can shift the tax burden from themselves to the poor, they will be still richer.

Both the wealthy and the poor pursue their own tax programs. The wealthy seek to enact tax programs that enable them to escape their just share of taxes and to force the poor to pay the cost of government. The poor, on the contrary, seek to enact tax programs that place the burden on those best able to pay.

The wealthy approve taxes that have the final effect of making the poor pay a tax bill out of all proportion to the income of the poor. Such taxes as a protective tariff tax, a processing tax, a tax on the pitifully low incomes of the poor workers and farmers, a sales tax—these are the forms of taxation approved by the wealthy.

The poor, on the other hand, feel that a tax which takes money from the unused surplus of the rich and distributes it through services to the people who are in need, is a sensible tax. The poor feel that a tax which takes from the already limited buying power of the people, is socially unjust. The poor, therefore, oppose "broadening the base" of income taxes, and oppose a sales tax. They advocate, instead, that taxes be increased on corporate excess profits, on gross earnings of public utilities and corporations, on royalty taxes on iron ore and other natural resources, that inheritance and gift taxes be increased, and the tax on net income be steeply graduated. The poor, in short, seek to ease the tax burden of the worker, the farmer, and the small home owner.

New Taxes Loom

To the already crushing indebtedness of government in this country is now being added a tremendous new burden: the tens of billions of dollars allocated for armaments and war, for the army, for the unemployed whose ranks diminish but slightly despite the great increase in production.

All these vast government expenditures require vast new taxes. The rich today seek to so arrange affairs that the burden of these new taxes be placed on the poor.

In Washington and in each state capital today there are being discussed and introduced and debated new forms of taxation. Because the poor are only scantily represented in these legislative bodies, the great bulk of the proposed new taxes are of the sort that fall most heavily on the poor, that is, on those least able to pay.

Such taxes are those which would "broaden the base" of the income tax to get at the wages and incomes of even those who make as little as \$800 yearly. Other proposed measures would place a straight 5 per cent tax on the wages of all. Still another measure, the darling of the rich, is the sales tax.

What Is the Sales Tax?

A general sales tax is a tax laid upon the sale of many commodities and services at a more or less uniform rate. Whether it is levied at the factory or at the store, it is always paid for by the consumer.

All people are consumers. But not all people spend the same proportion of their incomes for consumption goods. A poor family earning \$1,000 a year will have to spend all the \$1,000 for living expenses. If even a small portion of that \$1,000 is taken from the family, it will be forced to go without necessities and will undergo genuine suffering.

With a wealthy family, it is quite different. The millionaire spends only about 1 per cent of his income on the goods and services taxed by a sales tax.

With a two per cent sales tax, it has been estimated that the poor man earning \$1,000 would spend over \$12 in sales taxes. For every thousand dollars of a millionaire's income, however, he would spend only 20c in retail sales taxes.

Thus, the sales tax bears hardest on those least able to pay.

Those who advocate a sales tax have to present some arguments for it that will make it seem plausible and fair.

Sales Tax is Disguised Wage Cut, Says T. A. Eide, Labor's Candidate

They argue that it will take the tax burden off real estate and that it is easy to administer. Neither of these claims is really valid.

Exposing Their Claims

The sales tax cannot possibly raise enough revenue to replace the property tax. It has been claimed a 3 per cent sales tax would replace the entire state property tax. BUT THE STATE PROPERTY LEVY IS ONLY 15 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL PROPERTY LEVY. COUNTY, CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY TAXES WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE PAID. A man with a \$100 property tax bill would still have to pay about \$85 in local property taxes, and in addition would have to pay a sales tax on all his living costs. He would be WORSE off than before. Only the very wealthy real estate owners would stand to gain from a sales tax.

The sales tax is plenty difficult to administer, as all governments who have resorted to it know. For every sale made, a tax is collected. This tax has been found to be difficult to administer, subject to evasion, and unfair and uneven in its effects on business. Businesses with large sales and small profits suffer under a sales tax. Firms selling less at higher profits are less burdened.

Another very great evil of the sales tax is that it still further cuts down purchasing power. It is the people with incomes under \$2,000 who purchase much more than half the goods and services in the United States. Families with such incomes spend it all for necessities. To levy a tax on the things they buy means to cut down their purchases. The already limited purchasing power of the masses becomes yet more limited. The uneven distribution of wealth becomes still more concentrated.

Who Favors a Sales Tax?

You can readily see that a sales tax favors certain groups. Wealthy businessmen like it because it shifts the burden of taxation away from income taxes which may get at the source of wealth. Eastern bankers and real estate interests strongly agitate for sales taxes in Minnesota—such a tax would take part of the load off their holdings here. The big Eastern insurance companies in particular, who have large real estate holdings in this state, want such a tax.

Through their legislative lobbies and legislators friendly to their interests, these people believe they can put over a sales tax this year. The daily press has revealed that on February 27th some 35 members of the house held a secret meeting in the Ryan hotel in St. Paul and plumped for the sales tax. Speakers there included George Bestrom of the Minneapolis Taxpayers association, controlled by the group of wealthy property owners in this city; J. S. Jones of the farm bureau, reactionary tool of Big Business, and others.

Last week the fruits of this meeting were seen. Senator J. V. Weber, one of the most notorious anti-labor ignoramuses in the legislature, introduced a bill which would levy a 2 per cent sales tax. For eight years the big real estate interests and their man Weber have been fighting for this bill. Now they think they have an opportunity to sneak it past. What is to prevent them from saddling this grossly unfair measure on the people of this state?

Governor Harold Stassen in both 1938 and 1940 made fervent campaign pledges that he would unalterably oppose any sales tax. He crossed his heart and hoped to die if he ever supported a sales tax.

His pledge was just as worthless as his other pledges—to give labor a fair break, to keep political hands off the educational system of the state, etc.

In Minneapolis recently Governor Stassen said "the time may come" when "we" will have to accept a sales tax. The governor is thus seen to be a faint reed indeed to lean upon in the fight against the sales tax.

The People Must Speak

It is the people of Minnesota who must rally to the fight against the sales tax. The people of Minneapolis in particular, who have most to lose through a sales tax, must let their voice be heard.

Fortunately the people of this city are well-organized. We are organized economically and politically. A particularly valuable instrument to rally the people against the sales tax is the labor platform and candidates of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union.

The labor platform, in its section dealing with taxation, is brief and sharp: "We are unalterably opposed to any municipal or state or federal sales tax because the brunt of such taxation falls upon the shoulders of the poor and practically exempts those really able to pay."

This is exactly the thing that the people—the workers, the small business man, the farmers—want to hear from a political party. When they hear such words from a working-class party, they can believe it.

Rally behind the candidates of labor in the coming municipal election. A vote for T. A. Eide is a vote against the sales tax. Speak up through your unions and through the political arm of labor against the cynical and paid-for legislators who would dare try to foist a sales tax upon the people of this state.

Bakery Drivers in Twin Cities Send Strike Notes

The Minneapolis and St. Paul Bakery Drivers Unions Local 289 and 409 on last Thursday filed notes of intention to strike with Stassen's labor conciliator. Previously the memberships of both locals had voted overwhelmingly in favor of strike in order to win their demands.

The conciliator has called a hearing into the dispute for 10 a. m. Wednesday morning at 235 Shubert building, St. Paul. The "public interest" clause of the Stassen labor law may be invoked, to delay the strike for 30 more days.

The governor would designate a strike of two window cleaners as being in the "public interest," if he thought it would benefit the boss and harm the workers involved.

Labor Backs Farm Demand For Milk Control Bill

Organized labor has expressed its support to the dairy farmers who are seeking passage at this session of the state legislature of a state milk control bill. Such a bill has already been drafted and is now before the legislature, thanks to the efforts of various farm groups and the Minnesota Farmer-Cooperative-Labor Council.

The bill would establish a milk control board headed by the commissioner of agriculture, which would supervise and regulate the fluid milk industry in the state.

Both its sympathies for the plight of the dairy farmers, and a regard for its own interests, dictates that labor support this measure. Only through such a bill as this can the dairy industry be stabilized, and the expensive price wars abolished. Other states with similar laws have found that in the long run such milk control bills not only bring greater returns to the farmer and cheaper milk to the consumer, but assure more steady employment to the workers in the industry. It is to be hoped that all legislators will acquaint themselves with the benefits of the milk control bill and the pressing need for such a measure.

Win Leopold Strike, Gain

Burlington, Iowa—A smashing union victory has been won by the workers at the Leopold company. On March 22nd the Upholsterers Union Local 1860 signed an agreement ending the seven-week strike. The contract stipulates that Local 1860 shall be the exclusive bargaining agent for all production and maintenance employees. It calls for hourly wage increases of from 4c to 5c; a 45c hourly minimum; the 40-hour week with time and one-half for overtime; paid vacations for those with three-year seniority; strict seniority. About 110 workers were involved in the dispute.

Co-op Grocery Store Moves to 1018 2nd St. S.

Cooperative Services has moved its grocery department, formerly located on Cedar avenue, to its central headquarters at 1018 Second street south. The store handles union label and co-op label goods, the latter carrying government grade labels and descriptions.

85,000 Workers Strike Ford—Labor Fighting for Huge Stakes

The long-awaited showdown between the workers of America and Henry Ford came Tuesday night when the United Auto Workers called a surprise strike at the River Rouge plant of the Ford Motor company, the largest factory in the world and the heart of the feudal industrial empire of Ford.

An estimated 85,000 men are affected in the Detroit area by the Ford struggle, with the possibility that hundreds of thousands of workers will be involved before the strike ends.

Every worker in America has a tremendous stake in a union victory over Henry Ford. Such a victory will break the backbone of the Open Shop in America and will send millions of new workers streaming into the citadel of Unionism.

In a very deep sense, the strike at Ford's may be likened to labor's declaration of war against fascism. Ford, with his cruel and murderous anti-labor policies and his avowed anti-Semitism, stands for everything in the United States that Hitler stands for in Germany.

Because of Ford's control of the nation's press, it is still not generally known that he pays the lowest wages in the auto industry, that he scoffs at all laws and courts, that he maintains a private army of thugs which courts have proved have been used to maim and kill Ford workers.

We urge all readers to follow closely all news of the Ford strike, to read between the lines, and to understand labor's stake in a union victory. Next week the Organizer will seek to bring you an exclusive story direct from the Detroit strike area.

Eide Supplements Central Labor Union Stand Against Sales Tax, Says It Steals Away from Labor the Gains Made Through Unionism—Rallies People to Oppose Program of Stassen and Webber to Put Over Sales Tax—Leach Is Silent

"The sales tax is nothing but a poorly-disguised wage cut. It is a method of taxation that steals away from labor the gains that labor has made through its own organized efforts."

So said T. A. Eide, labor's candidate for mayor of Minneapolis, Wednesday morning. Mr. Eide's unequivocal stand on the sales tax is made in answer to the campaign launched by Governor Stassen, State Senator Webber and the Republican machine to put over a sales tax on the people of this state.

Eide's statement is a supplement to the plank in the Central Labor Union platform condemning the sales tax.

The full statement by Mr. Eide on the sales tax follows:

"Together with organized labor I am utterly opposed to

977 Baseball Team Aiming At Park Title

The Local 977 baseball squad had its first meeting Monday, and a quick survey indicated the team that won the Federal league championship last year is ready to go even further in the 1941 park baseball season.

Union representatives will meet with Park Board officials Thursday, to discuss possibilities of entering the Local 977 Oilers in two leagues, a Saturday and a Sunday league.

City players anxious to play with Local 977 will be given every opportunity to show their stuff. Players wishing to come out for practice are asked to call Local 977, Ge. 4691.

Upholsterers Win Vote at Dubuque, Ia.

Last Saturday afternoon employees of the Northome Furniture company voted, 112 to 100, in favor of the Furniture & Woodworkers Union Local 1861 to represent them in collective bargaining with the management.

The company had agreed to bargain collectively should Local 1861 win the election. Monday afternoon negotiations got under way. John Janosco, international representative, is in Dubuque assisting Local 1861's committee in the negotiations.

BULLETIN

Tuesday evening the Dubuque Furniture and Woodworkers Union Local 1861 signed its first contract with the Northome Furniture company, where the union recently won an election. The new pact calls for union recognition, seniority, the eight-hour day, forty-hour week, with time and one-half for overtime, one week's vacation with pay, a war clause, a straight 8% increase in wages.

544 Market Group Meeting Postponed

The regular meeting of Local 544's Market Section, scheduled for next Wednesday, April 9th, has been postponed.

The union will notify all members through posters on the market of the specially-called meeting on the new contract for all market workers.

a sales tax, either on a municipal, state or federal basis. The sales tax is all wrong as a method of raising money to meet the expenses of government. It defeats the very purpose of taxation—to tax those best able to pay. The sales tax falls with a crushing burden upon the low-income groups, and touches hardly at all the wealthy who spend but a portion of their income for commodity subject to a sales tax.

Would Cut Real Wages
"So far as labor is concerned, the sales tax is nothing but a poorly-disguised wage cut. It is a method that steals away from labor the gains that labor has made through its organized efforts."

"Together with labor and all other fair-minded citizens I am firmly opposed to any form of sales tax and will do all in my power to defeat the plans of those who would like to fasten a sales tax upon our citizens. There are many other forms of taxation much fairer in their effect than is the sales tax. These other forms of taxation should be completely explored and exhausted before the sales tax should even be discussed."

Labor Heartened

The banks and insurance companies, and those with large realty holdings, have been quietly planning for months their campaign to foist a sales tax upon our people. Working through the reactionaries in the state legislature, they are seeking to maneuver to the point where in the closing days of this session of the legislature the sales tax will be made to appear as the "only way out" to meet government expenditures. Protesting that they are "against the sales tax in principle," Stassen and his followers plan to drive the plan through the legislature.

However, the mass resistance to the sales tax proposal has tended to dampen the ardor of the sales taxers. Capitol reporters for the boss press are now saying openly that there is some doubt whether the sales tax plan will succeed this year.

Organized labor is not the only group that would lose heavily from a sales tax. Farmers and small merchants would also stand to be penalized from a sales tax.

The stand of the Central Labor Union against the sales tax, now reinforced by Eide's statement, will hearten all opponents of the sales tax, offering a center of resistance whereby the people can express their desires on this reactionary measure.

Leach Is Silent

In direct contrast to Eide's forthright stand is the deep silence emanating from the Leach camp on the sales tax proposal. Is Leach for or against the sales tax? His known sympathies with this unfair form of taxation, his Republican connections, and his failure to take a position on the Stassen-Webber plan would indicate that Mayor Leach is a supporter of the sales tax measure.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Local 131 "Gas and Suds" By N. E. Carle, Ke. 4232

Stopped in at the Model last week, through the back door, as is the usual custom, and a more likely place to find the drivers for news. A heavy set "gentleman" was about to toss me out, but after some explaining as to the reason for my informal visit, I learned that numerous articles were disappearing through the back door and that it was necessary for them to know who comes and goes. Agreeing that this line of reasoning was absolutely correct and proper BUT not having seen Mr. Rossman (manager) for a couple of years I thought it an opportune time to stop in upstairs and pay him a friendly visit and at the same time get his "blessings" for any future calls. After a very cordial greeting and an informal but friendly chat this department gave the o. k. to stop in any time, moreover, to visit the entire plant sometime. Thanks, John . . . This paper will gladly help any members to sell or sway anything they might have for something they might need or for cash. It is our intention to make this column your medium in any useful way possible so avail yourselves of it. If there are any notices or comments you'd like printed, let me know. Incidentally, the bicycle advertised last week was sold to one of our readers.

Bert Dahl (G & K) was taken off the trucks one day last week and rushed by ambulance to the St. Mary's hospital. Bert's attack proved upon examination to be stones in the kidney and an emergency operation was performed. We hope Bert comes through o. k. . . . Starting a couple of months ago, the American Linen has been throwing a banquet for the drivers every two weeks at Harry's Cafe along with their sales meetings. Speaking of banquets, the Northwest Organizer held its annual banquet last week and Clair Johnson and yours truly attended along with other scribes and staff members. Those in attendance eulogized the growth, editor, staff and those responsible for its wide and successful distribution, fine editorials and news columns. In other words, everyone gave and took a slap on the back while digesting the steaks. By the way, the Northwest Organizer is nearly seven years old. . . . Marty Withrow (Lawrence's) caught his arm in a machine a week or so ago and will be off for a while. . . . Forest Renslow, formerly of the Pilgrim's, is now working for the Majestic. . . . Lambert Sutherland (Model) received notice to report for a physical examination this week. This is a preliminary procedure for the draft. . . . Vic Fish (American Linen) has been designated the official "car washer" over that way. It seems Vic washes 'em while the occupants are in them. Anyway, he received recognition in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Sentinel for one of his exploits. . . . Louis Rovner (Troy) left last week for New Jersey. He was elected a delegate from here, representing an organization of younger Jewish people.

Correction: last week we misstated Al McGerty was laid off, but Al had quit on his own accord and in addition, a little party was thrown for him by the drivers at G & K. Al was presented with a fine gabardine shirt. . . . Ask Clair Johnson to recite those famous sayings of famous people which he has managed to remember for 25 years. The Gettysburg address was mild in comparison and you'll really get a wallop out of hearing them. The next meeting would be a nice time to have him recite, Mr. Burnham. . . . Ray Alverson, former driver at the Minneapolis and Royal laundries, who has been away the past 10 years, is back again and is working for Garber cleaners. . . . Frank Daley (Despatch) was caught out on his route one morning at 7:30 a. m. Give 'em advance notice after this, Frank. The shock was too much for 'em. . . . George Mhyers (Waldron) "presented" the army with his son a short time back. Incidentally, Ray Bartell over there has officially opened spring, as those inevitable "light" pants were displayed recently. A sure sign. . . . Sandy Logan who has been employed by G & G for the last four years left there a week ago. He plans on going into the nursery business. . . . Jimmy Lontz (Custom) was laid off a week or so ago. Reason? Nine accidents in eight months. . . . Andy Hegdahl (robust shop steward at Lawrence's) makes it a point to get the dues collected just before "cash in day." Just in case? . . . Royal and Mill City are scheduled for a little court battle as to who "owns" a certain

Student Strike Against War Set For April 23rd

For the eighth consecutive year the annual Youth Strike Against War will be held. The strike is to be held April 23rd, and as usual will be confined to the college and high school campuses. On April 3, 1934, the first student strike was held, with an estimated 25,000 students participating. The next year 175,000 students were said to have participated. Students used to take the Oxford pledge, refusing to participate in any war launched by their government. In recent years, however, the leaders of the Youth Strike Against War have become more conservative. The strikes have diminished in scope. As with other pacifist groups, the actual coming of war has left the Youth Strike movement stranded.

Death tags similar to those ordered recently by the U. S. War Department, will be distributed at the 1941 strike.

With the Dairy Workers Local 471 By George Bergquist

Bread made with milk makes American soldiers better. The United States soldier can actually march farther and fight harder on his standard bread allowance than can the soldiers of foreign armies who are receiving bread and bread substitutes of inferior quality, such as the ersatz bread of Germany, according to investigations reported by Dr. James A. Tobey of the American Institute of Baking, speaking at the annual meeting of the New Jersey Bakers Board of Trade. American bread, he stated, not only has higher nutritive qualities, but is rich in milk solids which supply calcium, the food-mineral that helps to prevent fatigue, aids in nerve control, promotes proper blood clotting, and builds strong bones and teeth.

On Tuesday, April 22, Local 471 will have its annual dance at Mari-gold Ballroom with music furnished by Ernest Bjorklund's orchestra. Let's all make plans to attend and make the affair a big success. Admission is free to members who will be furnished tickets by their respective stewards. Come to dance, play cards or have a couple beers with some brother or sister member that you haven't seen for a long time. Our union thrives on sociability so let's be at the Mari-gold on April 22 and generate lots of it. . . . It was disappointing to learn that one of our brother members chiseled in on the City and Sanitary workers of Hastings. We have it direct that our brother went up and down Main street, picking up confetti (rolls of toilet paper which he had cast about) and that behind our brother were a couple of husky locals who issued numerous orders. We are reluctant about mentioning names but will say this brother is an Irishman of the first order, a gentleman farmer, a "pool shark," supervisor of wholesale and inventor of the recently marketed "pulpwood" sandwich. . . . The old maxim "to the victor go the spoils" must not apply to bowling unless our Franklin Co-operative brothers can give us a satisfactory explanation as to why the Ohlsen team went home with the prize money?

Last time we told only one-half of the story and there was plenty of heat forthcoming so here is the forgotten angle: it is a distinct violation of the Golden Rule for a route foreman or a vacation man to "ratchet" a route and make things tough for the regular driver. . . . Our Labor Manual is not complete in its definition of the word "Lockout;" it should include the case of our brother members who play poker, work hard until the wee morning hours to get a few extra dollars, only to return home and be refused entrance. It's our job to protect these brothers, organize a committee in their behalf and select Ray Mitchell as chairman. . . . In some cities skim milk has been re-christened and dressed up. Known as "Figure Milk" the product turns out to be a good seller.

ON EXPLOITATION There have been over 900 wars in Europe during the past 2,500 years. Every century has known bigger and better wars than the preceding century.—HARVARD CENSUS.

One murder makes a villain; millions, a hero; numbers sanctify crime.—PORTEUS. south side route. Aner Christian-son is the middleman. The moral of this argument is: "Don't sign anything without advice from your union."

GAS LOG By Bob Fitzsimmons

The March meeting attendance showed an increase over February and the trend towards larger turn-outs is encouraging. Last Wednesday night we had 305 members present with three new brothers taking the union obligations and it has been an unusual winter that has seen new members coming in at each meeting that definitely proves that cooperation on sales has helped to hold our jobs steady and create new ones. Donald Hil-debrandt and Earl Glomsrud from utilization and August Zuccaro from meter reading are the three new members and we all welcome them to our ranks. . . . Your writer was in very good company last Friday evening when the staff and column writers of the Northwest Organizer held their annual dinner and pow wow at Harry's Cafe on 11th St. I don't want to make your mouths water but that steak and the dinner were tops in good food and an exchange of ideas and a general discussion on how to improve what is already considered one of the country's leading labor papers rounded out a very interesting evening. . . . It is easy to see why the labor movement has grown stronger and that unity has become a byword in the movement when you find representatives of various unions willing to cooperate and discuss not only their own problems but those of sister unions. A little humor of course is always good and knowing how difficult at times it is to write a column, "I find that I am not alone on this"—it was suggested that a move be started to provide adequate funds for maintaining old broken-down column writers after they reach the age of—and can no longer take the gaff from their writings. Might be a good idea at that.

We are informed by the State Federation of Labor that no piece of legislation that the Federation is interested in has been finally acted upon. It is evident that the Farm Bloc and the Conservative Majority are doing all possible to nullify or amend any legislation looked upon favorably by organized labor ranks and the liberal groups are having their hands full holding things even. The Legislature is now in the last half of the session and will adjourn as by law April 23rd. . . . Overheard on the street car the other a. m.—a young miss after having her gentleman friend tell her that he noticed that a new five game high in the ABC had been posted remarked that 300 was a very good game but a friend of hers had figured it out where he could put more than 300 together in one game. If any of you bowlers want the formula I'll try and get the seat in front of this party on the 8-wheeler some morning again. The five in the select circle this week are as follows: Fahberg 543, Jensen 521, Sissener 520, Dymoke 511 and Pierce with 502 and Gas Heat Equipment took three from Lee's Broilers while Minneapolis Gas Heating, Murray's Red Feather and Hermetal Lins all took the odd game from Collins Electric, Bryant Gas Heat and Home Appliance respectively.

CONGRATULATIONS — After an anxious period of waiting the home of the Robert Scovilles has finally played host to Mr. Stork and Bob and his wife are both very happy over the arrival of a fine eight pound baby girl last Sunday. All are doing nicely and the boys in the service department appreciate the fine cigars. Rumors at the works have it that Earl Howes and his better half are expecting a little ball player in the family shortly. . . . A REMINDER that your steward has plenty of tickets on hand for the big party to be held at the Coliseum at 27th and Lake, Friday the 18th. Get yours now. Ed Karjala of the street department will be inducted into the army the 11th and the gang all wish him the best. NEXT TUESDAY EVENING is the regular April Executive Board meeting. Time, 7:30. . . . THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: You can be

sure that anything advertised in the Organizer carries the Union Label and that Union Clerks and Union Shops listed in this paper deserve your support. Let this help guide you when making your purchases.

PETERSON'S Funeral Home, Inc. CLIFFORD PETERSON RUSSELL PETERSON 1835 CENTRAL AVE. N. E. GR. 5166

Co-op Food Store New Location 1018 SOUTH 2ND ST. Main 1694

CY'S PLACE 5th and Plymouth CHOICE LIQUORS Cy. Patz, Prop. HY. 9968

REX BAR Plymouth and Wash. N. DINE - DANCE - EVERY NITE Wrestling Match every Monday Nite Amateur Nite every Thursday Nite Restaurant Run by MRS. JIM MURPHY Food as you like it We serve the finest liquor and beer in town and the price is right Rex Hamilton, Prop.

Firms That Are Unfair to Laundry, Linen and Dry Cleaning Drivers Local 131

- Dydee Wash, 718 Washington Ave. N. Star Valet Cleaners, 2744 Lyndale Ave. S. Bright Cleaners, 1510 4th St. S. E. Don's Campus Cleaners, 1300 4th St. S. E. Edina Cleaners and Tailors, 4952 France Ave. S. Joe Glass Cleaners and Dyers, 3304 W. 44th St. Gopher Cleaners and Dyers, 811 4th St. S. E. Hennepin Ave. Tailors and Cleaners, 2015 Hennepin. Lunow Hennepin Cleaners and Tailors, 2015 Hennepin. Lake Dale Cleaners, 622 W. Lake McKee Cleaners, 2858 Chicago Ave. New Deal Tailors and Cleaners, 1512 E. Franklin Plaza Cleaners and Dyers, 1418 3rd Ave. S. Roseadale Cleaners and Dyers, 9 West 43rd St. Rustic Lodge Tailors and Cleaners, 4811 Nicollet Sir Knights Cleaners and Dyers, 2403 Lyndale Ave. S. Bay Eee Cleaners, 4752 Grand Ave. Penguin Cleaners, 714 W. Lake St.

Note: Some of the drivers at the Liberty Cleaning and Dyeing company are UNFAIR TO LAUNDRY, LINEN AND DRY CLEANING DRIVERS LOCAL 131. If you patronize this firm be sure to ask the driver for his union book or button.

ANOTHER LOAD From City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664 By Wally Rasz

There's a decided paucity of news this week so don't look for a lengthy column. . . . Hope to see most of you at the meeting tonight. Better come down and help dispose of a couple important matters. . . . Brother George Osborne was hit by a car a week ago last Saturday and is laid up with a broken leg. Our sympathy goes to Brother Osborne and we hope for a quick recovery. That accumulated sick leave will stand him in good stead. . . . Brother Chris Jensen is planning on returning to work in May. Good luck, Chris. . . . Brother P. Berry ruined a big toe last week by dropping a hunk of iron on it. . . . B.P.C. acquired a new R-7 Diesel Cat. bulldozer last week. Pretty good rig, too. . . . The airport looked like a skating rink last week.

The Organizer columnists attended a banquet at Harry's cafe last Friday. We all had a good time, renewed old acquaintances and made some new ones, too. One problem which was rather extensively discussed was "reader interest." Brother Gilmore of Local 1859 suggests that we put on a drive for the immediate construction of a home for "old, worn out, broken-down columnists" and guarantees much more interest in the Organizer for our readers, due to their attempts from week to week to check up on other screwy ideas, promulgated by the columnists. Sounds reasonable, at that. . . . You will probably notice more cartoons in the Organizer real soon. You know a picture equals a thousand words in putting over an idea.

The B.P.C. employees, subject to lay-off, returned to work last Wednesday for 11 1/2 months of steady employment. Stick by your union, Brothers, and we'll eliminate the two weeks' layoff, also. . . . Brother Mousseau, of Pulp Workers, Local 259, wants a name for his column. The local is engaged chiefly in the making of paper cartons and paper boxes. How's about "This Side Up"?

MINNEHAHA GREENHOUSE 4258 40TH AVE. S. Flowers, Plants, Floral Designs Members of The Settlers and Truck Drivers Union DRexal 4402 DRexal 0974

MUN HING CHOW MEIN 719 Hennepin Ave. Free Delivery Within 25 Blocks Prompt Service Call AT. 3377 100% UNION

Delivery—Phone Main 9777 HEN HOUSE We Specialize in FRIED CHICKEN No Butter Used Bar-B-Q Ribs, Bar-B-Q Pork, Beef and All Other Sandwiches 1712 NICOLLET AVE.

CO-OP FOOD STORE New Location 1018 SOUTH 2ND ST. Main 1694

CHOICE LIQUORS Cy. Patz, Prop. HY. 9968

REX BAR Plymouth and Wash. N. DINE - DANCE - EVERY NITE Wrestling Match every Monday Nite Amateur Nite every Thursday Nite Restaurant Run by MRS. JIM MURPHY Food as you like it We serve the finest liquor and beer in town and the price is right Rex Hamilton, Prop.

Workers' Paper Is Harrassed by FBI And Post Office

The organization in Chicago publishing the FIGHTING WORKER has notified the labor press that the FBI and the postal authorities have been conducting a witch hunt against the paper. FBI authorities have sought to intimidate the printer, and have picked up for questioning those connected with the paper.

Postal authorities have cut off all mail to the paper, and have carried on red-baiting attacks. FBI and police agents have questioned neighbors and storekeepers for information about the paper and its friends. Remembering the witch hunt against the labor and socialist press during the First World War, news of the hounding of the FIGHTING WORKER is just cause for alarm and protest on the part of the labor movement. If the government can successfully suppress socialist papers today, tomorrow other labor papers will be subject to the same treatment.

With the Limousines By Home James

The Flower and Sick committee was active and was glad to see some of the fellows back at work after sickness and operations. . . . J. J. C. has a new car and what a beauty! All members wishing a ride call Cherry Two Ate One Two. . . . The dance will be a big success, we all hope. May 24th at 3011 First Ave. S. and a bargain at only 15c a ticket. Sure sounds like a crowd with music by Ted Johnson's band—the radio's best old and new time dance orchestra. . . . Joe F. has left New Orleans and is motoring now in the East. Should be back soon. Ted Gardner still in Florida. Esk Nielsen on his way to California. . . . It's a great life, this chauffeur stuff. . . . April 2 was meeting night and a swell crowd attended the basement meeting. The crowd outside the building was good, too. The meeting in the middle of April should be good. Lunch and bridge, plus door prizes. Let's all be there.

Cops cause more trouble than they stop.—JOHN STEINBECK, GRAPES OF WRATH.

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Up to \$300 loans are made to wage earners and salaried people to meet financial emergencies or to take advantage of business opportunities. HOUSEHOLD FINANCE Corporation Licensed Under Minnesota Small Loan Act



Jugoslav Crisis Is Forum Subject

"The Crisis in Jugoslavia" will be the subject of a talk by Mrs. Dorothy Schultz at the regular Sunday Forum on April 6th at 919 Marquette avenue, 3 p. m. Admission is 10c (with unemployed being admitted free.) A question and discussion period follows each presentation.

TAXI TOPICS By F. H. Lunde

Charles Barnette, the well-known Minneapolis Checker Cab owner, was the victim of a foul slugging by a passenger load that included a mother and baby. We sincerely hope that Charlie will mend in a hurry and that the miscreants will be made to suffer for their inhuman act. . . . This time of the year when you run across furniture or articles you don't need any more is just the right time to use your free N. W. Organizer ads to sell, trade or give away those unneeded items. Print your ads clearly and hand them to your columnist, committee man or bring them to the N. W. Organizer office at 253 Plymouth Avenue North. . . . The mailing list for our local is now being taken care of at the Northwest Organizer office with the new addressograph machine, so prompt action will be taken when you send in your change of address. . . . F. Miles has the doubtful distinction of receiving the first speed-pinch ticket of the Spring season. Let us see, that will cost you about 20 nice haircuts if you are lucky, eh, Frankie?

Watch this paper for names of candidates in the coming primaries. Be sure and cast your vote at both primaries and election. . . . Household hint by Curlie; the ill tasting city water can be improved by adding ice-cubes and bourbon. But that is no way to treat good whiskey. . . . The workers at the Johnstown division of the Bethlehem steel corporation got rid of their company union, such progress is worthy of mention. . . . The Summer drivers and motorcycle cops hit the street the same day.

With the men who do things: Art Mitchell, formerly of the Y. Cab unit, is back pushing a transfer truck. . . . Ralph Williamson of the Yellow Cab is putting his baggage bruisers on a heavy diet about this time of year to be ready for the rush. . . . Bill "The Giggler" Quinell is sporting a '40 Chevvie coupe.

CO-OP GROCERIES - MEATS 3449 Cedar Ave. DU. 2354 Cooperative Services, Inc.

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Household Finance Corporation maintains offices in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Hibbing, Mankato and Moorhead.

Watt Notes By Amps & Volts

We extend our sympathy to Brother Willard Scott whose father passed away last week. Burial was at Big Lake last Saturday. . . . The last membership meeting was very interesting, and some lively discussions took place. Many members expressed themselves "freely and without mental reservation." . . . Brother Oscar Pearson had an operation on his eye last Friday, and is doing nicely at home. Oscar expects to have the other eye operated on in about ten days—then he is A-1 condition. Here's hoping and best wishes, Oscar. . . . It is reported the meter testers and installers like the dogs in North Minneapolis; some stairways are just as slippery as the sidewalks. For further information, page Brother Haack. . . . Brother Bartlett says "Some meter installer must have ants in his pants." . . . It is reported Brother W. F. Plaisance made the Merle Potter column in a recent issue of the Tribune. How is the trained tomcat coming along, Bill? How about starting to train him now for an act when the Ladies' Auxiliary has its Christmas party? We think the "kiddies" would go for that in a big way.

ST. CLOUD NEWS — Brother Peterson of the Gas Department is troubled a lot with rheumatism, especially in his feet. However, he is still on the job. Lance, we hope it leaves you soon. . . . We understand Brother Schneider of the Gas Department learned that a winch is tougher than he is. We are told that he hit himself the other day, and the winch doesn't even show a mark. . . . Hooray! Hooray! The thermostat for the hot water heater at No. 3 is here. Maybe we will have some hot water again without carrying it. Goodby, buckets. . . . There is going to be a special meeting of the Overhead Department soon to discuss working rules. Boys, you

Donaldson's THE FRIENDLY STORE A Good Place to Trade

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WESTERN BADGE & NOVELTY CO. Bro. John A. Lethert, Prop. ST. PAUL, MINN. PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRIES—BUY BUTTONS MANUFACTURED IN MINNESOTA

DRINK MODERATELY MINNESOTA WINE AND SPIRITS INSTITUTE, Inc. (Comprised of Minnesota Wholesale Wine and Liquor Dealers)

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had better come up to the regular meeting to express your opinion as to when this meeting should be held. . . . Remember, if you have any grievance bring it up before the Committee, and then you will get results.

SCENE DOWN IN STOCKROOM—Say, Clarence, here is a bottle of transformer oil that's to be sent in for moisture test. Clarence: Just set it down there; I'll take care of a little later.

A little later—BANG! Now, what the H— Oh! Oh! Oh! It's that bottle of oil all over the clean sheet. Now, who filled that bottle without leaving an air space? (We know, Fred Albrecht.)

Do This Before You Apply . . .

So many workers applying for unemployment insurance or relief have been rejected through their own negligence and misunderstanding of the law, despite their clear eligibility to receive such aid, that Local 544's Federal Workers Section has set up a special department to deal with this problem.

BEFORE APPLYING FOR AID, get in touch with Ed Palmquist if you are seeking unemployment insurance or relief. Palmquist is in the office of the FWS from 9 a. m. to noon, Monday through Friday each week. The FWS office is on the second floor, 257 Plymouth Avenue North.

Fidelity State Bank Place your Federal Housing Loans and Auto Finance with us. The only bank controlled by Labor and business men INDEPENDENT

Wolk Transfer Co., Inc. Commercial Hauling and Moving 538 6TH AVE. N. Main 4434

WEBB OIL CO. Wholesale Distributors of GASOLINE AND MOTOR OIL PRODUCTS 35 Plymouth Avenue N. CUT PRICE GAS SINCE 1923 Telephone Geneva 4133

BUY WITH Confidence NORTH MINNEAPOLIS LIQUOR STORE THE HYMAN CO. 254 WEST BROADWAY Near Third Street Since 1903 FREE PARKING LOT IN REAR

The 289 Blab

By "Cup Cake"

If you noticed any of the members of the union looking slightly dizzy Thursday evening, it wasn't the refreshments, those were wholesome men suffering from six and half, eight and half and nine and half blues. The boys from Wonder just completed a week in which the temperature reached a new high; not the real hot heat, however. It's not brotherly men, lay off the "hot foot." Now you commission men know how a good guarantee can protect you from an economic war. Seems to me some bodes in this man's town just moved into a spot behind the well known "eight ball." . . . The refreshments were excellent and the attendance grand at the last meeting, but not perfect and Mason of Master missed the first crack at the cash. Pundy from Bamby was the second to miss out on the second and last chance for the money until next month. The jack pot now has \$15 in it. You can't win if you are absent.

Hal Borg of Regans is still convalescing from his accidental injuries and Ray Davis, a former inside man, is now doing time on the outside for Regans. Phil Hutchinson just made the same kind of a move for Wonder on Frank Jandel's old route. Frank claimed Howie Berthenssen's route (who is now an assistant big shot to Fisher of Wonder . . . The

boys on the bowling team failed to reach the money in the A.B.C. tourney . . . Had Ogren known that the steaks at Harry's Cafe were on the Northwest Organizer last week, he would have postponed his resignation for a few more weeks. The column writers get together once each year to pass out compliments. Talk is cheap! . . . O'Hare states that around contract time, failed to "pop" this year. Do you guess maybe that 237 to 15 verdict had anything to do with it? By the way, I heard some fine compliments on the old time O'Hare flare—let her flare, O'Hare.

The strike notices were sent in on Thursday, so the effective date is March 27th to April 6th inclusive, and to be eligible for strike benefits, you must have your dues paid up in full including the current month . . . Question Department — What does it cost you each week to run your route? Does your wife get up to fix your breakfast? Do you get home for lunch? Do your customers ever expect you to take a chance on their punch boards? Do you ever have to buy a ticket on some church benefit, or do you ride a bicycle? Do you ever lose matching some clerk for a cake? Do you ever check in short? Do your customers ever try to sell you something you don't need? What is your real weekly salary? It looks good on paper, but . . . You make the contract and the rules, your officers only enforce them to the best of their ability. Quiet, please. No smart outs! . . . In the good old musketeer spirit, a fifty cent (\$.50) assessment was voted for the benefit of the Grennan men, payable in April.

Boy, oh boy, is that a honey of a speech the chairman of the strike committee has, to turn loose on the radio if necessary. It's so hot, he had to use asbestos paper to write it on.

Card of Thanks To Local 544: Your kind expressions of sympathy are gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated. Max Pomerleau and Sons

Minneapolis Van & Warehouse Co. "The Safest Place in Town" Local and Long Distance Moving Storage of Household Goods a Specialty MAIN 7323

Brown's Easter Special! SUITS TOPCOATS \$17.85

Prices Are Due for Big Rise

In an effort to halt skyrocketing rents, the Consumer Commission of the National Defense Advisory Commission has proposed legislation to curb the greed of landlords in the major areas of war production. The Commission has also announced that the rising price of sugar is not justified. News of these developments was either suppressed or buried by most of the daily papers.

Miss Harriet Elliot of the Consumer Commission is asking state legislation to provide for "fair" rents in defense areas, hinting that if such legislation is not forthcoming the government may have to establish rent control. Big business is getting worried about the way landlords have hiked rents in the cities—not because business cares a bit about protecting the workers from the landlords, but because dissatisfaction with rent profiteering is so widespread among workers that "excessive labor turnover" is resulting.

Rises Unjustified March 25th Miss Elliot said that recent rises in the price of sugar were not justified, that actually larger stocks than usual were on hand. "Inquiries among food experts in the National Defense Advisory Commission and the Department of Agriculture brought replies that no shortages existed in any major food group and none was expected." But food retailers continue to boost the price of food.

Miss Elliot also warned that food prices here are bound to rise once the United States starts shipping food to Britain under the lease-lend bill. It is understood about half a billion dollars of food will be sent Britain alone in the next two years.

Speculators are very active in the various commodities markets. Wheat futures have risen about 6 cents in a month, corn about 5 cents, eggs four cents, butter 3 cents, and lard more than a cent a pound. March butter futures sold above 31 cents a pound, highest in three years. March eggs sold above 21 1/2 cents a dozen, highest in four years. Lard futures are up as much as 8 cents a pound.

These prices will shortly be sharply reflected in retail food prices. In order to meet the rising cost of living, workers must demand and obtain higher wages.

They hate you 'cause they're scairt. They know a hungry fella gonna get food even if he got to take it. — JOHN STEINBECK, GRAPES OF WRATH.

DO NOT FORGET THAT NON-UNION MEN AND THE ASSOCIATED INDEPENDENT UNION "FINKS" DO NOT HESITATE TO REPRESENT THEMSELVES AS UNION MEN.

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Office Furniture Files - Safes - Store Fixtures Immense Stocks - New and Used WE BUY - SELL - RENT EXCHANGE JACOBSON FURNITURE EXCHANGE 219 S. 5th St. MA. 8828

CHAMPION Out-Board MOTORS We Bought the Factory "Leftovers" 2.9 H.P., Streamlined, Slow Trolling, or High Speed \$29.95 HURRY! \$2 Holds on Lay-by Low, Easy Terms JOHNSTON'S 3025-29 NICOLLET AVE.

Mortuaries That Are Fair

The following funeral homes are classed as FAIR:

- Anderson, Barney & Son, 3644 Chicago Ave. Anderson Bros., 1117 East Lake Street Anderson, Henry W., 1839 East Lake Street Anderson, W. A. (Ehrenstrom), 1825 Riverside Ave. Billman, Dan, 2518 Central Ave. Burr Funeral Home, 3040 Lyndale Ave. South Davis, Harvey, 4084 West Broadway (Robbinsdale) Enga Memorial, 1300 Lowry Ave. North Enger Funeral Home, Grant at Park Ave. Elliott Mortuary, 1900 Hennepin Ave. Heinrichs Funeral Home, 902 West Broadway Johnson Undertaking Company, 1900 Hennepin Ave. Kozlak, Peter Funeral Home, 1918 University Ave. N. E. Kapala, Stanley, 230 13th Ave. N. E. Larson, O. E., 2301 Central Ave. Oakley, Otis H., Mortuary, 1900 Hennepin Ave. Peterson Funeral Home, 1838 Central Ave. Simpson, Kenneth, Mortuary, 1900 Hennepin Ave. Sullivan, Frank D., 2617 Hennepin Ave. Sundeth Funeral Home, 2024 Lyndale Ave. North Swanson's Mortuary, 1610 Lowry Ave. North

Independent Truck Chatter

By Ralph Mengelkoch

Well, the unemployment situation should be relieved considerably in the near future. The W.P.A. bids for five yards at the airport went as high as \$193 per hour. Of course, the fact that the trucks are to be loaded by a mucker may have had some effect, too. . . . The bids for the gravel hauling on Sixth avenue north were opened Tuesday, April 1, and proved to be rather surprising. They were as follows:

- 2 bids under .05 per yard mile. 4 bids between .05 and .06 per yard mile. 8 bids between .06 and .07 per yard mile. 7 bids between .07 and .08 per yard mile. 14 bids between .08 and .09 per yard mile. 34 bids between .09 and .10 per yard mile. This makes a total of 69 bids for less than .10 per yard mile. The maximum number of trucks to be used will be 50 while only 25 will work steadily. This gravel is to be hand loaded, also.

A good example of ITO throat-cutting can be noted in the last bids for Morrison County (3 yards). Fifteen trucks were required and only 22 bids were received. They ranged from \$.95 to \$1.05! . . . In St. Louis County where 35 trucks were required for a 3 1/2-yard job, the bids ran from \$1.09 to \$2.00 per hour. Incidentally, a Minneapolis trucker put in the successful \$2.00 bid . . . The county has hired a few trucks so far, although it seems to be restricted to certain districts. . . . If anybody knows where they can get cinders, they should have no trouble getting rid of them at a good price. . . . The Walter Hughes family was visited by the storm again last week, so if you run across Walt, don't forget your cigar. . . . Don't forget the regular ITO meeting Thursday night. Let's have a good turn-out.

Remember: Anyone wishing to work on a defense job of any kind

YELLOW TAXI CO. Main 7171

Hennepin Cleaning & Dyeing Co. We Call Everywhere in the City Expert Workmanship Prompt Service 2520 CENTRAL AVE. GRANVILLE 4313-4314

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LOANS UP TO \$300 POOL YOUR BILLS 20 MONTHS TO REPAY No Security or Endorsers WE ALSO SPECIALIZE IN AUTO LOANS DAY LOAN CO. Licensed Under Minnesota Small Loan Act 407 ANDRUS BLDG. BR. 7631 A 100% Home Owned and Operated Institution

Northwest Armature and Electric Co. ARMATURE REWINDING Generators - Starters - Motors Exchanges - Repairs - Sales ROLLINS STATION AT. 9781 2000 Portland Ave.

LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By Richard B. Gilmore

In Memory of William "Bill" Engelbretson, who passed away two years ago April 1, 1939.

"My ambition is to have my name on the rolls of the great who died for the working class."

We feel that he fulfilled his ambition. Mrs. Gertrude Engelbretson and daughter Lucille

This is the third and last notice. Due to reasons stated in the two previous notices the Credit Union meets to transact business every Tuesday evening, 7-8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth Avenue N. . . . Here is a chance to get a little love nest very reasonable. A 5-room frame house and extra lot located at 3947 Halifax avenue in Robbinsdale, \$1,700 to close estate. See Frank Eull, shipping clerk at the J. R. Clark plant days, or at 3303 Halifax avenue, Robbinsdale, evenings.

To All Unionists

When repairing, altering or building your home, make sure that all men you hire are members of their respective AFL unions. When signing an agreement or contract with a contractor to do any work for you, specify in your contract that "All work shall be done by members in their respective American Federation of Labor Unions."

DO NOT FORGET THAT NON-UNION MEN AND THE ASSOCIATED INDEPENDENT UNION "FINKS" DO NOT HESITATE TO REPRESENT THEMSELVES AS UNION MEN. Mpls. Building Trades Council

has to have his birth certificate and establish his citizenship. The latter takes some time to straighten out if there is any doubt about it.

There are thousands of unorganized people who would appreciate our side of the story . . . if they KNEW IT. Pass your Northwest Organizer along to them.

United Shipping Co. Interstate Truck Transportation Chicago - Minneapolis - St. Paul FREE PICK-UP AND DELIVER FRED B. WINES, Owner

BERT'S LUNCH 100% UNION 249 PLYMOUTH AVE. N. Delicious Home Made Fresh Baked Pies, Doughnuts and Cake BERT ACKERMAN, Prop'r. MEMBER NO. 544

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Argus Publishing Company Printers - Publishers Stationers Emmett L. Duemke, Pres. Union Printers for 40 Years 2335 Central Ave. GR. 3531

Stories of Minneapolis Drivers MEN BEHIND WHEELS

No. 1—The Cab Driver

(Below we print the first of a planned series of eleven articles, each article to describe one of the driving crafts represented by the eleven local affiliates of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council. The author of this article is Curly Goodnough, who describes his contribution as "A few days or weeks or months or maybe years with the taxicabs.")

By CURLY GOODNOUGH This is not in any sense to be my autobiography, but if you notice anything personal in this narrative, it probably did happen.

First we will make a few comparisons about the life of a taxicab driver today and yesterday. For instance, the first motor taxicabs were high-wheeled Abbott-Detroit and Kroxton-Keatings—all open fronts, of course, magneto ignition with armstrong starters (cranks). The old-time drivers never dreamed of pulling off a stand for less than a buck. Now about 80 per cent of the runs are for a quarter.

Twenty-three years ago in the spring of 1917, the first Yellow Cabs under the management of John E. Saxe, instituted a radical change in the industry. The drivers received 20 per cent of the take, plus half of the extras, for in those hectic days each passenger after the first one was charged for at the rate of 20c, of which the driver took half.

The shifts were twelve hours long, and after the day drivers pulled in they were often asked and even ordered to pull out extra for four, five or six hours. Also your work week was seven days.

Unionism Changed This But now under the jurisdiction of Cab Drivers Union Local 958 and the supervision of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, the cab drivers finally came into their own. At least a great stride has been made in the right direction.

All modern equipment, a guaranteed wage of \$18, the nine-hour day, the six-day week, vacation with pay, company-wide seniority, no mechanical work or tire changing, comfort for the drivers as well as the passengers—all this tends to promote a better feeling between employer and employee and ups the morale of the driver by giving him a sense of independence and manhood.

A good indication of the changed attitude of the men towards the industry is the following. The labor turnover in the cab industry locally used to involve about six hundred men yearly. Now it is confined to less than a score.

To drive a cab in this city, the driver must first get a state chauffeurs' license, then an O. K. from one of the cab companies. After that he must get a city tax-driver's license which includes a check-up by the captain of the police precinct in which he lives. If he gets by that, he has to prove himself a registered voter, have his finger-prints and Bertillon measurements taken, together with two recent photos of himself which are filed in the cab inspector's office at the courthouse. Then, if he gets by the union examination board, he is eligible to drive a taxicab in Minneapolis.

A Day's Work There are three shifts in the cab industry. A driver on the day shift at Yellow comes on at 6:30 a. m. and checks in at 4 p. m., taking one-half hour out for lunch. Each driver is allowed fifteen minutes each way in coming on and off the shift. The driver, when he pulls out of the garage, is on his own. He can cruise, or can pull into any of the more than thirty cab stands provided by the city for that purpose.

These stands are located in many downtown spots, at the larger hotels, along Lake street, Lyndale, Nicollet, Emerson avenue north, etc. Each stand accommodates from one to half a dozen cabs and is connected by phone with the company. Calls from passengers are relayed out to the cab stand to the waiting driver. A driver bringing a load from the loop out to 50th and Lyndale, for instance, can go to the cab stand at 50th and Bryant and wait for a call in the neighborhood to haul a load back to the loop again.

All cabs are serviced and fueled by the company. If you get a flat tire, the company tow truck comes out and changes it. Today's cabs don't even carry spares. In the old days each cab had its own set of tools, which were checked out in the morning and in each night.

Whereas the cabs are comfortable for today's drivers, it wasn't always like that. In the old cabs, the driver used to sit out on the front porch, with no heater or no enclosure. To keep from becoming brittle, he would wear a sheepskin coat, two pairs of pants, overshoes, etc. Even the customers didn't fare too well. There was an exhaust heater in the middle of the cab for passengers to stumble

And of course the drivers have a language of their own: scale is the word for tips, if any, jerk is a two-bit run. lead-foot is a speedy driver. hay-bag is any female passenger.

playing the sticks means working the out-lying stands. over the hump means booking in excess of \$7.50 on the shift. dog-watch is the midnight-to-9 a. m. shift.

home guards are drivers who play the same stands day after day.

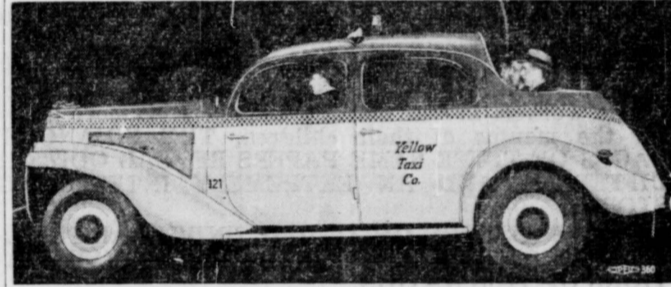
If you want to know the definition of a C.P., ask any driver, we can't print that and go through the mails.

Also—cab drivers are inveterate gamblers—policy, races, baseball tickets, pin-balls, jack-pots, crap and poker games and all other games of chance.

There are in the ranks of the cab drivers students, lawyers, ministers, salesmen, politicians, bankers, cook, soldiers, sailors, marines, railroad men, writers, singers, musicians and many other talents and occupations.

The cab driver drives on an average of 2,000 to 2,500 miles every month. Their combined accident record is much lower than for any other of the driving crafts. They put the town to bed at night and get it up in the morning and if there is any subject in the world you want information about, ask your cab driver—if he doesn't know, he knows a guy that does.

The End



Gassing With 977

ORGANIZER WANT ADS

(If you are a subscriber, you ad will be published free of charge. Mail or phone the Northwest Organizer, 258 Plymouth Avenue North, Bridgeport 8741.)

WANTED—Houses and apartments for rent, for unemployed families. Will see that rent is paid. Call Ed Palmquist, GE, 4691, mornings.

Sale Miscellaneous THOR electric iron. Hardly used. \$40. Du. 3995.

FOR SALE—4-room house. All modern. Gas heat. A-1 condition. South Minneapolis. Pa. 2874.

GIRL'S TAN SPRING COAT, size 12. Also navy blue skirt. Dr. 7872.

57-INCH MEISTER PIANO. Fine tone. Good for lady or child to learn on. \$12 or trade for something I can use. Also day bed and pad, \$2. 2446 15th Ave. S.

1936 CHEV TRUCK, A-1 condition, Goodrich tires, 6:50 front and 7:20 rear. St. Paul dump body, 2-yard-three, with 6-inch hoist. Will sell with or without body. Dr. 3762.

SEWING MACHINE, \$2. Davenport, settee, chair, drop-leaf table, kerosene stove, 2 chairs, 6x9 rug, \$11 for all. Pa. 2324.

8-PIECE fumed oak dining set, good condition. Also genuine Walrus Gladstone bag, 22 inch. Call Sunday. 213 20th Ave. N. E.

PLANTS and flowers for sale. Drive out to Logan's nurseries at Fridley (4 miles past North-corn Pump) when you are ready to make your garden. Planting and growing instructions free. No obligation.

CONSOLE victrola, \$15; 2-wheel trailer chassis, \$3.50; gas range, \$5; meat slicer, \$5; grocer's scale, \$12. HY. 6088.

50-GAL. water tank, \$5; chest of 4 drawers, \$4; clothes rack, 50c. All in good condition. 5701 Blaisdell Ave. S.

8-FOOT St. Paul body and hoist. DR. 4964.

BOY'S green gabardine suit and sleeveless sweater, size 12-14, \$3; gray suit, 14-15, \$5; both like new. Also girl's brown suit, dress, 2 skirts, \$3. RE. 2138. 3440 Emerson Ave. S., Apt. 6.

GRAY wool two-piece dress, fur jacket. Green in-between coat. Size 14-16. WA. 4294.

CINDERS, clay, black dirt and sand for sale. BR. 1056.

GIRL'S bicycle, excellent condition, \$10. HY. 2529.

CATALPA trees, 2-8 feet high, 25c to 50c each. DR. 5303. 5126 36th Ave. S.

Northwest Organizer

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EDITORIAL BOARD
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Preamble of Constitution of American Federation of Labor
"Whereas, a struggle is going on in all the nations of the civilized world between the oppressors and the oppressed of all countries, a struggle between the capitalist and the laborer, which grows in intensity from year to year, and will work disastrous results to the toiling millions if they are not combined for mutual protection and benefit.
"Therefore, behooves the representatives of the Trade and Labor Unions of America, in convention assembled, to adopt such measures and disseminate such principles among the mechanics and laborers of our country as will permanently unite them to secure the recognition of rights to which they are justly entitled.
"We, therefore, declare ourselves in favor of the formation of a thorough Federation, embracing every trade and labor organization in America, organized under the Trade Union System."

The Vanishing Point

"By the end of the year 1914, the traffic in war materials with the Allies had become deeply entrenched in America's economic life, and the possibility of keeping out of war by the diplomacy of neutrality, no matter how skillfully conducted, had reached the vanishing point."—Ray Stanard Baker, Woodrow Wilson's biographer.

THE WAR PROFITEERS

It is the deep conviction of this paper that the American people have NEVER in recent years had such a foul swindle put over on them as the present unholy newspaper crusade against "strikes in defense industry." Of all the biased and grossly unfair jobs in the long and dirty record of the American press, the present press campaign against the workers of this nation must assume first rank. The average reader of the daily papers of this nation, the average listener to the radio news broadcasts, will certainly have received the impression that labor, and particularly organized labor, is growing rich from war industry.

While the front pages and the editorial pages of this nation's press direct the public's attention to the struggles of the workers in war industry to gain a bit more bread for the mouths of their children, THE FINANCIAL PAGES OF THESE SAME PAPERS REVEAL QUITE A DIFFERENT AND AN EXTREMELY INTERESTING STORY.

IT IS A STORY OF ALMOST UNIVERSAL PROFITEERING ON THE PART OF THE GREAT CORPORATIONS OF THIS NATION. It is THIS STORY we aim to lay before our readers and the labor movement. Carefully we have amassed the FACTS and we hereby present them. We ask of any person, whether or not he is a member of the brotherhood of labor: Examine these facts with an unbiased mind. Do they, or do they not, prove that the great corporations of the United States are PROFITEERING in this war, are hogging profits at a rate and tempo that overshadows a thousand times the few cents of wage increase that a few unions have been able to win for their members?

FACT NUMBER ONE—The U. S. Department of Commerce reported last week that corporation profits last year hit the \$5,000,000,000 mark, the HIGHEST since 1929.

FACT NUMBER TWO—The New York Times on February 23rd reported that "Five hundred and one industrial corporations that have thus far reported for 1940 show net earnings of 25.4 per cent above those of 1939."

Now, corporation by corporation, we are going to trace for you just how the major industrial and banking giants of this nation fared in 1940. All our information is taken from the financial pages of the New York Times for February and March, 1941. The actual clippings may be seen on the bulletin board in the window of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER. Here are excerpts from the stories, just as the New York Times wrote them up:

MORE DIVIDENDS VOTED IN FEBRUARY—\$382,052,074 the Best Level for Any February Since the \$468,257,250 in 1931.

KENECOTT COPPER CLEARS \$43,837,330—Net for 1940 Compares With \$33,947,443 Year Before—The earnings are after provision for taxes, depreciation and retirements.

SALES RECORD SET BY AIR REDUCTION—The 1940 annual report of the Air Reduction Company, Inc., and its wholly owned subsidiaries . . . shows net sales of \$36,387,716, the largest in the company's history. The net income for 1940 amounted to \$6,446,680 after provision for federal income taxes, equal to \$2.38 each on the 2,711,137 shares outstanding. In 1939 the company earned \$5,076,825.

\$11,071,117 CLEARED BY DETROIT EDISON—Net Income in Year Compares with \$9,801,339 Earned in Preceding Period—\$8.70 for Capital Share.

NET OF EASTERN AIR JUMPS 78% IN YEAR—Eastern Air Lines, Inc., of which Captain E. V. Rickenbacker is president, last year earned a net profit of \$1,575,456, an increase of 78 per cent over the year 1939.

19% RISE IN PROFIT OF CURTISS-WRIGHT—Net of \$15,932,251 in 1940 Compared With \$5,322,455 in the Previous Year.

PULLMAN, INC. NET \$7,484,125 IN YEAR—1940 Income Equal to \$1.93 a Share, Against \$1.50 a Share the Year Before.

\$5,051,455 CLEARED BY ALLIS-CHALMERS—Net in 1940 Compares With \$3,719,546 Profit Shown in Preceding Period.

\$1,013,973 EARNED BY COTY—Profit for 1940 Above Million for First Time Since 1930.

TEXAS CORPORATION CLEARS \$31,547,662.

PROFIT INCREASED BY JOHNS-MANVILLE—\$5,882,071 Net Last Year Compares With \$4,127,691 for Previous Period—Gross Income Set Record.

WESTERN ELECTRIC EARNS \$32,787,030—Pays \$5.46 a Capital Share for 1940 Against \$2.75 on \$16,476,086 Year Before—Sales Set Ten-Year High.

PITTSBURGH GLASS EARNED \$13,793,937—Net Income for Year Equal to \$6.30 a Share, Against \$4.94 a Share in 1939.

GENERAL MOTORS HAS SALES RECORD—\$1,794,936,642 Net in 1930 Was a Gain of 30 Per Cent Over Previous Year.

ALLIED CHEMICAL SETS HIGH RECORDS—Net Income Advanced in '40 to \$20,885,270, or \$9.43 a Share of No-Par Capital Stock.

Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Well, the Letter Contest moves on and we have received some of the most splendid letters I have ever read. You all know the rules:

Tell in your own way what Local 544 has done for you, your lives, your home. Ten dollars (\$10) will be paid for the best letter, five dollars (\$5) for the second best.

Have better wages and shorter hours caused your life to be better or brighter? Write a short letter, win a prize.

This Week's Letter To Local 544:
I just couldn't pass up this opportunity to tell what benefits we have derived from my husband's membership in Local 544.

Before becoming a member of 544, my husband was getting \$18 per week with which to support our family of five. We had to live in a \$10-a-month house with no inside plumbing. Naturally on that amount of salary, we couldn't buy the necessary amount of food and clothing. We had to neglect medical attention and dental work and could spend practically nothing for any kind of recreation.

Since becoming a union man about four years ago, his salary has increased \$13 per week over what he was getting. We are now buying our own modern bungalow, have regular medical attention and

dental care, buy the children all the milk they need, and have recreation we never before enjoyed.

The first contract that was signed by his firm asked for and got one week of paid vacation. The second contract obtained two weeks with pay, and last but by no means least, his seniority rights which provide job security in many ways. I call these huge dividends on the small investment of 50c per week for dues.

I am also grateful for the comparable gains in their standard of living made by about 100 more men covered by the same contract as my husband.

I also must add that every working man or woman of the Northwest, whether union or non-union, owes a debt to Local 544, directly or indirectly, for the higher standard of living conditions which now exists but didn't exist previous to 1934. If you know what I mean, and I think you do.

Signed:
A good union man's wife

Each letter published in this contest is written by a member of Local 544 or by the wife of such a member. All letters are signed by the author and the original copies are kept on file in the Organizer office.

Anti-Labor Bosses Want Own Dictator In as Police Chief

Bosses See Eide Victory in City Election, Want to Retain Control of Police Department—Employers Revive 1937 Plan to Put Man on Horseback in Lifetime Control of Police Department—Central Labor Union, Labor Aldermen Oppose Reactionary Move

There is no question but what the labor-hating Civic & Commerce association and the Associated Industries face the unpleasant prospect of seeing their control of the city hall slip from their hands this year through a labor victory in the municipal elections.

In their anxiety to retain full control of the police department, the labor-haters have brushed off the old "Charter Amendment No. 9" and are again seeking to push it by the voters this summer.

For the information of newcomers to the ranks of organized labor, "Charter Amendment No. 9" was first put forward in 1937. It was a plan to install in the office of police chief a Man on Horseback, to place him there for life and to remove him from control of the people. The original plan provided that anyone even criticizing the conduct of the chief of police would be subject to a large fine.

Organized labor through the Central Labor Union waged a vigorous campaign against this reactionary plot. About 56,000 votes were recorded in its favor, and 52,000 votes against, the measure failing to win the 60 per cent necessary for its passage.

New Bill Just As Bad
Last Friday conservatives in the city council again introduced this measure. Though defenders of the bill claim that "objectionable portions of the 1937 measure have been left out of the new proposal," the fact is that the new proposal is every bit as dangerous to organized labor as was the "Charter Amendment No. 9."

AIRCRAFT COMPANY EXPANDS PLANT 317%—Consolidated Aircraft Corporation, builder of military bombing planes, reported earnings of \$1,400,645 last year, which was equal to \$2.30 a share on the common stock after the full dividend of \$3 a share on the preferred stock. In 1939 the company earned \$1,104,326, or \$1.79 a share.

\$20,076,739 EARNED BY EASTMAN KODAK—\$7.96 for Common Share.

\$2,850,913 PROFIT SHOWN AFTER LOSS—American Locomotive Net in 1940 Compared With 1939 Deficit of \$950,376—Many War Orders Booked.

\$2,051,727 EARNED BY NATIONAL CASH REGISTER—Company Reports Net Income in '40 Equal to \$1.26 a Share, Against \$1.10 in '39—Contracts approximating \$20,000,000 for ammunition components have been awarded to the company.

COLUMBIAN CARBON INCREASES PROFIT—\$3,068,799 Last Year Compares With \$2,231,319 in 1939.

REVERSE COPPER AND BRASS NET INCOME OF \$2,916,011 EQUAL TO \$2.39 A COMMON SHARE—It compared with \$1,615,069 in 1939 equal to 20 cents each on 557,406 common shares.

\$3,571,765 EARNED BY WESTINGHOUSE—Net Profits of Company for January and February Equal to \$1.33 a Share. It compares with a net profit of 82 cents a share on the combined shares in the first two months of last year.

UNITED AIRCRAFT CLEARS \$13,139,983—1940 Net a Record, and Equal to \$4.94 a Share, Compared With \$3.53 in 1939—The company's unfilled orders aggregated \$445,122,070. (The company makes airplane engines, propellers, Navy fighters, dive bombers and scouts.)

ASSETS OF NEW YORK LIFE UP TO \$2,869,735,205—Insurance Company Discloses Increase of \$107,456,722 in Report for 1940.

Concluded Next Week

New Move To "Get" Carstater

Justifying itself by a dubious ruling from Attorney General Burnquist's office tending to indicate that Dr. Eugene Carstater's civil service status is incomplete, the state board of education has ordered Carstater to take a qualifying examination this Wednesday, April 2, after which he would be subject to a six-months probationary period.

Through his attorney, Benjamin Drake, Carstater sought a delay in the "qualifying examination." Kenneth Pennebaker, director of civil service, has refused Carstater's request for a delay. At this writing it is not certain whether Dr. Carstater will refuse to take the examination, or whether he will take it under protest.

Certainly the whole rigamarole of attorney general's decision, incomplete civil service status and qualifying examination is part of the crude efforts of the state board of education to get around the decisions of the civil service board and the district court to reinstate Carstater, and is an effort to maneuver him into a position where the Stassenites can yet fire him from the post of vocational director.

Board Won't Pay
Despite the order of the civil service board that the board of education pay Carstater the back salary due him, about \$1,250 in back wages yet remains unpaid.

In the Rockwell ouster hearing, the state board of education has rejected the request of Benjamin Drake for permission to give an oral argument, and has ruled that attorneys must present written briefs of their final arguments.

A resolution sharply criticizing the state board of education for injecting politics in the state department of education was adopted last Saturday by the Independent Progressive Voters of Minnesota.

\$7,000,000 Is Recovered Under Wage-Hour Law

Interesting statistics on the administration of the Wage and Hour Law have recently been released by General Philip B. Fleming, administrator.

There are about 13,000,000 (thirteen million) workers covered by the law, and about 300,000 employers are subject to the act.

The Wage-Hour Administration has about one thousand inspectors at work throughout the country, making five thousand inspections monthly.

To date, the administration has obtained restitution of more than \$7,000,000 due some 250,000 workers—money they had legally earned but hadn't received from their employers.

About 1,300 civil actions against employers violating the law have been completed, most of them successfully. In addition, the Department of Justice has brought 135 criminal actions under the law; in four out of five cases, the employers pleaded guilty. More than \$250,000 has been paid in fines for evading the law.

The Wage-Hour Administration estimates that in 1941 the law will put \$100,000,000 additional into the pockets of the country's workers. General Fleming claims the law has increased the wages of a million people, and has either shortened the working hours or increased overtime pay for two million.

People Still Overwhelmingly Against War

Despite efforts in Washington to whip up war hysteria among the populace, the American people are still overwhelmingly opposed to our entering the war, the Gallup poll for March 21st reveals.

Asked "if you were to vote on the question of the United States entering the war against Germany and Italy, how would you vote—to go into the war, or to stay out of the war?" 83 per cent of those questioned voted to STAY OUT! Only 17 per cent voted for war.

The closer this nation comes to involvement, the more the people resist, the survey shows. Actually there are more people today opposed to war than there were in June, 1940, when France fell, at which time only 81 per cent were opposed to war.

The Gallup polls indicate that the majority of the American people believe passage of the Lend-Lease Bill is a peace measure, and favor it for that reason.

Always say HAVE IT DELIVERED. Help create more jobs.

On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

We are told that the war that this nation is being led into is a war for democracy. Democracy, if it means anything (and it does mean a great deal) signifies that the rights of the common man will be respected, protected and extended.

Certainly the very opposite of the spirit of democracy was represented in the United States House of Representatives on March 27th. On that day Representative Summers, Democrat from Texas, chairman of the judiciary committee, saying he spoke for

Draft Rate To Rise Quickly Here

The rate at which Minnesotans are being drafted in the army will be considerably quickened in April, May and June, to reach the quota set by the army of 18,652 men from Minnesota by June 30th.

It is estimated that by March 31st there will be 6,949 men from this state in the draft camps; this is about one-third of the above quota.

The quota for the first ten days in April is tentatively set at 752, after which sharp rises to about 2,000 for each ten-day period thereafter are anticipated. It is anticipated that all men of military age will receive their draft questionnaires by the end of June.

It is almost certain that the War Department will extend the term of service of national guardsmen beyond the one year originally set. General Marshall, chief of staff, is asking for another year of training for national guardsmen.

Million Now in Army
For the first time since the First World War, the U. S. army exceeds 1,000,000 men, the War Department announced last week. There are now 1,003,500 men in the army—467,000 enlisted men, 255,000 national guardsmen, and 213,000 drafted men, plus 68,500 officers.

If you are a professional man, you have an opportunity to rise in the army. Lt. Col. P. C. Bettenburg said in St. Paul last week. "Many draft selectees are being made officers because they have professional knowledge of some type—engineers, lawyers, doctors, chemists and so on."

Motorists Shout Hallelulah for Finseth Plan

Throughout the present century drivers of horse-drawn vehicles and later motorists have cursed large oaths while being held up for many minutes by shutting Milwaukee trains at the Cedar and Franklin crossing. During these forty years millions of drivers and street-car riders have lost hundreds of thousands of hours while waiting to slip across the street between the pokey trains.

At long last a plan has been evolved to DO something about this shameful situation. Alderman Herbert G. Finseth, labor-indorsed candidate in the 11th ward, has drawn up a plan to create an underpass at the busy Franklin-Cedar corner, whereby the traffic on Cedar and Franklin avenues will be regulated by semaphores, both avenues being turned slightly to pass under the tracks at right angles rather than diagonally, thus eliminating too long a bridge span and also doing away with a middle pier under the bridge which would constitute a traffic hazard.

To effect the plan, old buildings along both Cedar and Franklin would have to be removed. Alderman Finseth has submitted this plan to the Roads and Bridges committee of the city council, to the City Planning commission and to the Minneapolis city council. Each body has approved the plan, which is now referred to the city engineer for practical study.

If you are one of the many who have suffered by the interminable traffic delays at this busy corner, if you want the improvement embodied in Finseth's plan, you can be of aid. Alderman Finseth has asked all unions to pass resolutions in favor of the Finseth grade crossing plan. For additional information on this project, write Alderman H. G. Finseth, 3332 22nd Ave. S.

Ten poor men sleep in peace on one straw heap, but the immensest empire is too narrow for two kings. —WILLIAM R. ALGER, ELBOW ROOM.

each member of the committee, yelled that all strikers in the so-called "defense industry" should be sent "to the electric chair." Representative Cox, one of those fantastic creatures from a poll-tax state, introduced a bill to amend the draft law so that strikers could be immediately drafted into the army and forced to work under military direction.

If the fine gentlemen of Congress and the nation's press believe they can get the cooperation of the common people of this nation by working themselves up into a senseless rage at the sight of a few thousand strikers seeking more bread for their children, these gentlemen have another thing coming.

The newspapers and Congress may shout all they want to about strikes and strikers. The Gallup poll may show that 150% of the American people are for outlawing strikes and murdering every worker who dares assert his rights.

But every unbiased worker will continue to believe that whatever strikes have been called in war industry were called by the men involved for the purpose of righting intolerable wrongs of the employers, and that the workers involved had exhausted every other recourse before being forced to strike.

Big Business is chuckling to itself as it takes advantage of the present wave of reaction to consolidate itself, to profiteer, and to handcuff the workers and their unions.

The state house in Texas has passed a bill which would in effect outlaw strikes. Whereas a strikebreaker could beat a peaceful picket and be charged only with misdemeanor, for a picket to defend himself against a strikebreaker would make him liable to five years in prison. The Texas bill is sponsored by the clown Governor Lee O'Daniel.

The Oklahoma senate, the creature of the great oil companies, has passed a bill that will make it a penitentiary offense to organize workers in a "defense industry." The bill provides prison terms of one to three years and fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Neither Oklahoma, nor Texas, nor Congress, nor the White House, has suggested passing a law making it a criminal offense for a great corporation to increase its profits by 200%, and to profiteer unmercifully at the expense

of the people. If anyone were to dare suggest such a law, that would be "undemocratic"—according to the mental processes of our rulers.

Anyway, with all the strike news being played up and the profiteering news being played down, it is nice to know that a few "workers" during the past week settled their "disputes" amicably.

The N. Y. Times for March 29th reports that George D. Brooks, president of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, has received a \$15,000 increase in his yearly salary. Mr. Brooks' 1940 salary was put at \$76,420. He didn't have to strike to get this wage increase.

Out in Hollywood the other day another group of "workers" signed a nice contract—and without striking, either. All senior operating executives at the Universal Pictures corporation are now covered by a seven-year contract, with guaranteed wage increases. Annual salaries of these big shots will range from \$62,400 to \$91,000 for the first two years, and from \$75,400 to \$117,000 for the next five years. Executives will all receive a percentage of the operating income, to boot. It is said to be nice work—if you can get it.

Henry Ford continues to receive handouts from his friends in Washington. March 29th the N. Y. Times reported a new \$1,417,000 contract has been granted Ford by the War Department and approved by the OPM. As though to emphasize the point that Hillman is just worthless as a supposed representative of the workers on the OPM, the Times calls attention to the fact that the handout to Ford was passed "without the usual submission to its labor division headed by Sidney Hillman."

Law and order rain and rain in Richmond, Indiana. Governmental agencies vie with one another in breaking the CIO strike against the International Harvester plant, and in rubbing the workers' faces into the dust. Now the 82 pickets arrested at the gates of the plant are charged—with conspiracy to commit murder, an offense punishable by fines ranging up to \$5,000 in addition to penitentiary sentences to fourteen years! They also are charged with unlawful assemblage and rioting. Seventeen of the pickets are women.

The war for democracy gets more and more democratic with each hour.

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 April 2—General Membership. April 8—Casket Section. April 14—Stewards. April 16—Clark Section. April 17—Box Section. April 28—Stewards. Executive Board meets every Friday. Other section meetings subject to call.	Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912 The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.
Milk Drivers Union Local 471 General Membership—First and third Tuesday each month, 7 p. m. Girls Section—Second Tuesday each month (7:30 p. m.) Milk Haulers—Fourth Tuesday, 8:30	Warehouse Employees Union Local 359 General Membership—Second Tuesday— Stewards—Fourth Monday. Executive Board—Every Monday. Office open Tuesdays and Fridays, 4:30 p. m.
Laundry Drivers Union Local 131 Second Thursday each month, 8 p. m., third floor.	Tea & Coffee Drivers Union Local 275 Tea and Coffee Drivers Local 275, meets the first Friday of every month.
Taxi Drivers Union Local 958 Night Drivers—1 p. m., third Thursday each month. Day Drivers—7 p. m., third Thursday each month.	Utility Workers Union Local B-160 General Membership—First and third Thursdays. Stewards—Second and Fourth Thursdays. Executive Board—Every Monday. Executive Board—Every Tuesday.
City & Sanitary Drivers Union Local 664 General Membership—First and third Fridays. Payroll Grievance Committee—Monday night preceding last meeting of month.	Ice Drivers Union Local 221 Day Laborers—Every First Tuesday each month. Independent Truck Owners Section—Second Tuesday each month.
Petroleum Drivers Locals 544 and 977 and Warehousemen Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month.	Pulp & Sulphite Workers Union Local 259 Second Monday of each month, 8 p. m.
Petroleum Workers Union Local 977 General Membership—Second Monday each month, 9 p. m. Executive Board—Each Monday, 8 p. m. Stewards Section—Third Wednesday, 9 p. m.	General Drivers Union Local 544 APRIL, 1941 Wednesday, April 2—Sausage; Petroleum. Thursday, April 3—Greenhouse; Independent Truck Owners. Friday, April 4—Job Stewards. Monday, April 7—Package Delivery; Department Store. Tuesday, April 8—Lumber. Wednesday, April 9—Market; Wholesale Liquor. Friday, April 11—Wholesale Grocery. Sunday, April 13—City Pickup, Dockmen and Road Drivers who come under area contract, 2 p. m. Monday, April 14—General Membership. Tuesday, April 15—General Meeting. Wednesday, April 17—Tent and Awnings; Newspaper, 10 a. m.; Ways Means Committee I.T.O. Friday, April 19—Job Stewards. Monday, April 21—Furniture Stores; Coal; Paper & Printing. Tuesday, April 22—Building Material. Wednesday, April 23—Sand and Gravel and Excavating. Thursday, April 24—Wholesale Drug; Transfer and Warehouse. Friday, April 25—Cold Storage & Produce. Monday, April 28—Spring Water. Tuesday, April 29—General Meeting. Wednesday, April 30—General Meeting. Local 544 office, first floor. All Regular meetings start at 8 p. m. unless otherwise indicated.
Bakery Drivers Union Local 289 Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers—Second Thursday. Executive Board—Third Tuesday. Cake and Pie—Third Thursday. General Membership—Fourth Thursday. Inside Workers—Last Saturday, 8 p. m.	Jewelry Workers Union Local 103 Regular Membership Meeting—Second Monday of each month. Executive Committee Meeting on call.