

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.  
GENERAL OFFICE: 286 E. 6TH ST.  
St. Paul, Minn.

As from this hour  
You use your power,  
The world must fol-  
low you.

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

VOL. 1, NO. 10

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1935

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## BIG DRIVE TO UNIONIZE ALL INDUSTRY SET

**Auto Mechanics, Station  
Men and Truck Drivers  
Participate**

**Strike of Station Men Over  
Wages and Hours  
Looms**

Another long stride toward the complete unionization of Minneapolis has been taken in the formation of a Joint Transportation Council. The council will be made up of seven delegates from each of the following organizations: Auto Mechanics Local 382, Station Attendants Local and General Drivers Local 574. This step has received the enthusiastic endorsement of all three of the unions participating.

Recognizing the close relationship between the truck drivers, the auto mechanics, and the station attendants, these groups of workers have taken this action to better facilitate the complete organization of the transportation workers. In the fleet garages, filling stations, tire shops, super-service stations, wherever a truck goes, or is serviced in any manner, all workers involved will be drawn into these unions. And the three unions will be solidly united in the common struggle for improved wages and working conditions.

To better facilitate organization work and to meet the emergencies of an impending strike of the filling station attendants, the membership of Local 574 has voted to permit the oil truck drivers to join the station attendants union if they so choose. This permission has been granted on the basis of mutual co-operation through the transportation council.

The council will hold its first meeting within a very few days, and a plan of action will be brought back to each union. Subsequent meetings will be held at regular intervals to continue guiding the organizing activities.

## Sioux Falls Strike Off Indefinitely

Sioux Falls, S. D.—Threatened strike of workers at the Morrell Packing company was postponed indefinitely today as a result of a conference between union officials and Gov. Tom Berry.

Workers said, however, that they would not yield from their position of demanding reinstatement of 29 men dismissed following a strike last March. The men demand their former jobs, back pay since March and seniority rights.

Company officials said they were equally determined not to reinstate the men.

## Deadline Is Set On Scissor Bills

Notice has been served to the scissor-bills who have been receiving the benefits of the working conditions established by Local 574 without helping to support the organization that they have until July 1 to join the union.

From that time on, companies who do not live up to the terms of the agreement are not going to operate, and scabs are not going to work on trucks.

Local 574 has the forces necessary to see that this order is carried out.

## Federal Workers Present Demands

Although only a little over a week old, the Federal Workers Unit of Local 574 has a membership of over five hundred and is still growing at a rapid pace.

Demands were served on the welfare board on June 25 for an immediate increase of thirty-five per cent in relief budgets, and that workers on relief receive ice books and full allowance for gas and electricity.

A representative committee composed of delegates from each of the relief projects has been elected to direct the activities of the unit.

The demands of the organization will be backed up by the weight of the entire union.

During the organizing period the unit will meet each Friday night at the union headquarters at 257 Plymouth avenue north.

## Grand Opening Ball Saturday, June 29

The General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers, Local Union 574, will hold their grand opening ball next Saturday evening, June 29. From 8 p. m. until—when? The new headquarters will resound with revelry. All of 574 will be out for a good time.

The immediate changes have been completed and will be open for inspection. The office is now installed in its permanent location. The clubroom facilities will be opened for the first time at this gala event.

The "Prezzy," William S. (Snuffy) Brown will lead off. Everybody out for the big event. Twenty-five hundred tickets have been distributed, so join the big parade.

## Help Wanted

Twenty-five salesmen or saleswomen, ages 16 to 60. No experience needed. Union sympathizers. Attractive wages. Call or see Oscar Coover, 257 Plymouth avenue. Atlantic 3773.

"To argue with a man who has renounced his reason is like giving medicine to the dead."—Thomas Paine.

## NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY ON ICE CONTRACT

**Conditions in Ice Industry  
Demand Quick Action  
by Union**

**Special Meeting Wednesday  
to Lay Broad Plan  
of Action**

The workers in the ice industry are today confronted with a condition not of their own making which prevents them from earning a decent livelihood. They are burdened down by a hodge-podge of duplications of coverages and a general condition of cut-throat competition which is detrimental both to the industry and to the consuming public. There is sore need for remedial action.

To protect the welfare of its members who are employed in this industry Local 574 has embarked upon a program which will lead to the ultimate solution of this problem. Negotiations have been opened with the ice producers for the purpose of establishing a working agreement which will affect improvements.

As we go to press the negotiating committee reports that certain of the ice producers are attempting to evade the signing of an agreement and a special meeting of the ice men has been called for Wednesday, June 26, at which time the developments will be fully reported and decisions made as to the action to be taken to obtain the agreement and enforce compliance.

## Just a Reminder

Are you pushing our own press whenever the opportunity arises? Remember the powerful and important role the **Organizer** played during last year's strikes. There is no more powerful ally to labor than a truly labor-press. Push the subscriptions of the **Northwest Organizer**.

## Meeting Schedule Local 574

Monday, July 1: Ice Drivers.  
Friday, July 5: Stewards, Federal Workers Unit.  
Monday, July 8: Full membership.  
Wednesday, July 10: Market Workers.  
Friday, July 12: Federal Workers Unit.  
Wednesday, July 17: Ice Drivers.  
Thursday, July 18: Independent Truck Owners and Construction Haulers.  
Friday, July 19: Stewards, and Federal Workers Unit.  
Monday, July 22: Full membership.  
Tuesday, July 23: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.  
Friday, July 26: Federal Workers Unit.

## Local 1313 Asks Aid from Drivers

Reporting that the Ornamental Iron Workers, Local 1313, had voted to go on strike, Brother Millman of that union, speaking before the membership of Local 574 on Monday night, asked that two members of 574 be sent to serve on the strike committee of Local 1313, and that 574 send two speakers to the strike meeting on Wednesday, June 26.

In the same spirit in which 574 responds to all calls for assistance by other unions, the request was granted by the unanimous vote of the membership.

## Speilman Attempts To Tie Up Buttons

When the membership buttons for the month of July were ordered by Local 574, the union was informed by a letter from the company which makes the buttons that Jean Speilman, speaking as the State Printer, had issued orders that the union was not to be supplied with buttons. **The union got the buttons.**

A motion was unanimously adopted by the regular membership meeting of Local 574 on June 24 demanding that Governor Olson force Jean Speilman to cease his attacks on the union.

**All workers into the unions.  
All unions into the struggle.**

## Labor History to Be Exposition Souvenir

The joint committee of the First Annual Labor Progress Exposition which is being sponsored by Local 574 and the Laundry and Dry Cleaners Local 18005, reports increasing activity. The immediate concern of the committee is the detail of a souvenir history of labor progress in Minneapolis.

The committee is asking for the loan of pictures of any labor activities to be used either as exhibitions or to be reproduced and printed. It is intended to get out either a 24 or 32 page booklet on Minneapolis Labor History. Anyone having or knowing of such pictures or information, please get in touch with the committee immediately.

The committee can use some more volunteers on the distribution of the 10 cent admission tickets which also give the holder a chance to become the owner of the 1935 Plymouth sedan that will be given away. The advance sale of these tickets is imperative to the success of the exposition. Every member and friend of the drivers and laundry workers should dispose of at least one book. Many have already disposed of dozens. Those with leisure time can profitably invest their time in this work. Call or see Oscar Coover, Joint Exposition Committee Chairman, 257 Plymouth avenue, Atlantic 3773.

## TOBIN HENCH- MEN CONTINUE FIGHT ON 574

**Speilman, Corcoran, Wing  
and Geary Take Lead-  
ing Role**

**Ask Employers to Break  
Contracts With General  
Drivers**

With many hundreds of members, all of whom are faithful and devoted union men, and with the rank and file and most of the officers of other unions deeply interested in the welfare of Local 574, all the activities of the people who are working against the local are reported quickly to its officers.

Their trail has been followed about the streets, where they have attempted to interview drivers, into the offices of the bosses, where they have attempted to have Local 574's agreements broken, and into hotel rooms, where they have attempted warfare against us on a wholesale basis.

On Monday, June 24, John Geary of the Drivers International, Jean Speilman of the Book-

## 574 Baseball

574's amateur baseball team will play Cambridge, Minnesota, next Sunday, June 30. The game will be called at 2:15 p. m. at Cambridge.

In recent weeks the team has been rapidly improving. With a little more concentrated practice a class A team will be representing Local 574.

Manager Fred Nelson reports that 574 fans have been neglecting to support the team in regular 574 style. Next Sunday we expect a good representation to be on hand at Cambridge to thoroughly picket the bleachers.

binders, who is also State Printer, Pat Corcoran of the Milk Drivers, John Wing of the Plasterers, and other so-called labor leaders held a meeting at the Nicollet Hotel with representatives of the employers associations. The objective they sought was to have the employers break their contracts with Local 574 and enter into new agreements with a series of Tobin sewing circles. Wherever they have gone, these people have stabbed viciously at Local 574.

It is both fortunate for and a high tribute to the movement as a whole that there are so few individuals who are playing this treacherous role. The overwhelming majority of the union men and women in Minneapolis are solid in their support of the truck drivers, and most of the officials of the unions are actively sympathetic. It has remained for a mere handful of men, who pose as leaders of labor, to seize upon a situation which they may use as a ve-

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# ALL WORKERS INTO THE UNIONS ALL UNIONS INTO THE STRUGGLE

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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"When I ply my needle, trowel or pick,  
I'm a decent Sheeney, Wop or Mick,  
But when I strike, I'm a Bolshevik  
I'm labor."

## Toward a Union Town

The workers of Minneapolis are going steadily forward toward their goal of the complete unionization of the city. Following in the wake of the truck drivers' battles in 1934 other unions have seized upon the opportunities presented by the new surge of hope in the breasts of the workers and are building real organizations based on actual struggle for better wages and working conditions.

Those self seeking and unprincipled individuals who wish to obtain the favor of the overlords of the A. F. of L. even at the expense of jeopardizing the welfare of the workers are a drag upon the movement. They seek to tear down where others seek to build. Under any circumstance their crime would be a great one, but in the light of the tremendous possibilities in Minneapolis today, it is an unpardonable one.

The splendid opportunities for workers' organization which exist today must be utilized. Those who stand in the way of progress must be removed.

## The Federal Workers

As a part of his demands upon Local 574, Tobin calls for the disbanding of the Federal Workers Unit. In his opinion these workers should be relegated to the industrial scrap heap. He does not choose to recognize them as human beings who have to find some means of providing for their welfare.

After seeing these very men roll into the strike headquarters, truck load after truck load, on Bloody Friday in 1934 the members of 574 and all the workers of Minneapolis will never agree to the program of Tobin.

## The Transportation Council

The transportation council just formed by the auto mechanics, station attendants and truck drivers heralds a new and important phase in the history of unionism in Minneapolis. Joint councils are not a new thing, but a joint council which will bring into being a close co-operation between different craft unions is a new and fundamentally correct development.

With this rise in organizational effort to a higher plane, a base can be built from which a wedge can be driven into all open shop industries and a new and better day brought to all Minneapolis workers.

## Workers Oppose Mobilization

Judging from the reports in the daily papers one might be led to believe that the workers of Italy were tickled stiff over the prospects of their having to fight the Abyssinians. But this is not the case.

It is interesting and educational to note that as a matter of fact there are mutinies and demonstrations going on all over Italy in protest against the mobilization. It is also interesting to note that in Hitler Germany news of the Italian mutinies is being carefully suppressed.

## Coast Labor Leader Slain in Police Duel

Los Angeles—Central figure in waterfront labor controversies, Fred Friedl, vice president of the recently formed Pacific Coast Maritime federation, was shot and killed by police Saturday after he was alleged by them to have fired four shots at the officers. Police went to Friedl's apartment on a "tip" that he was maintaining an arsenal in his rooms, they said. They reported they found firearms. Friedl entered the apartment and was ordered to surrender, the officers said, but instead slammed the door and ran. The police gave chase. Friedl turned, they said, and fired at them, whereupon they killed him.

## Bakers Strike Ends After Fierce Battle

New York, N. Y.—After three weeks of militant picketing, marked by violent clashes with company thugs and arrests of pickets, the Gottfried Baking company strike is over.

An agreement carrying a substantial increase in wages and partial recognition of the union has been reached.

The agreement provides for the firing of strike breakers hired during the strike; immediate reinstatement of strikers. Though full union rates were not secured, wage increases of from 20 to 50 per cent were gained. Wages will now range from 41 cents an hour for women helpers to 90 cents an hour for oven men.

# FUR UNION NOW IN RED CONTROL

## Five Thousand Members Vote to Continue Work With Communists

New York.—Organizers and sympathizers of Communism took virtual control today of the international fur workers union, American Federation of Labor organization with a membership of more than 15,000.

Defying an edict of President William Green of the A. F. L. that unions admitting Communists would be expelled, 5,000 members of the fur workers' union voted vociferously at a mass meeting to continue efforts for a "united front" with the reds.

Implications of the fur union's leftward swing go far beyond the consequences of its own action, labor leaders said. They pointed to a strong kinship between the fur union and the powerful organizations of at least three needle trades. They considered it noteworthy that before Green issued his drastic anti-Communist edict Wednesday he conferred with leaders of needle trade unions with memberships totaling more than 100,000 persons. All three have a history of militant and radical action.

Organized fur workers throughout Canada and the United States hailed with joy a vote of the international convention in Toronto which ended years of strife between their left and right wings. The conflict frequently took the form of riots in New York and prevented united demands for labor contracts.

**EDITOR'S NOTE.** The above article, a reprint of an article run in the daily press, when read with a very slight touch of "reading between the lines" gives every conscious worker an exhilarating feeling. Here we see the machination of the bureaucracy feebly trying to prevent the wage worker from effectively organizing for united action. The old wornout "red scare" is being attempted but workers hail with joy their success. As for Green, seems as if he were attempting to "out-Tobin Tobin."

## Tobin Henchmen Continue Fight

(Continued from page 1)

hicle on which to ride to glory in the eyes of D. J. Tobin. Glory for them at the expense of the workers.

What have these men done for their own unions? Have they brought so many workers into the unions that they can now afford to devote their time to an attempt to smash a union which has brought great gains and new hope to every Minneapolis worker? With the building trades workers destitute for work and the milk drivers defeated in their attempts to improve their conditions, it would seem that these people could well afford to spend their time in building unions and not in attempting to smash them.

The Citizens Alliance, having failed to break Local 574 with clubs, riot guns, and police revolvers, is no doubt greatly pleased by this attempt to do their job for them. These substitutes for the police and special deputies who parade as labor leaders, are trying to do with the poison pen what couldn't be done with bullets. They must be recognized for what they are.

# Labor Looks at the Press

### Sugar Talk

Hitler: "Germany will forego any type of arms that all the other powers will agree to abandon, and agree to an international control of armaments if only a general system of limitation is devised."

Baldwin: "Great Britain does not want war and does not mean to have war, but if war can only be stopped by letting the aggressor know that war will not be permitted in Europe, this country will play her part."

Mussolini: "Italy will not break the peace, but she must be ready for all eventualities."

### From "Common Sense"

"The administration and congress are not proceeding in any haphazard fashion. Each of our steps have a definite relation to every other step." — Franklin Roosevelt.

Each one a little further backward.

Relief applicants in New York are being subjected to a rigorous quiz as to why they need relief. If they could answer that they wouldn't be needing relief—they would have jobs in the Brain Trust.

The only trouble with Fireside Chats is that smoke gets in your eyes.

### Mr. Fizzbrain

Arthur Brisbane: "I advise all business and professional women to give up their careers, get married and have six good children."

Women don't abstain from marriage because of careers, but because of economic obstacles. The chief of these obstacles is the organization of society that Mr. Brisbane fights to maintain by fair means or foul.

### But Don't Go Near the Water

Father Coughlin: "We must have a change, but civilization cannot prosper unless the natural (?) right to private property is protected."

### Not at All, Not at All

Chief Justice Louis Brandeis: "There is a widespread belief that the existing unemployment is the result, in large part, of the gross inequality in the distribution of wealth and income which giant corporations have fostered."

### The Army Mind

Lt. Col. J. M. Scammell, in June "Reserve Officer": "Universal and total disarmament means universal and perpetual war. . . Truly, the Kingdom of God is gotten by violence."

### Just Justice

Jasper, Indiana, news item: "Judge John L. Sumner today sentenced two young boys, 14 and 17, to life imprisonment for kidnap-

ing a sheriff and riding him across several counties."

and  
Telluride, Colo., news item: "Delos Waggoner, Telluride banker, was released today after serving 5 1/2 years of a 15-year sentence. In 1929 he obtained \$500,000 fraudulently with forged telegrams."

### Among Our Bidders

Frank M. Totten, of the Chase National Bank, addressing the Minnesota Bankers Association: "The United States will never see socialized banking or ever bow to regimentation. . . Prepare yourselves for better times. . . You must vow never to allow yourselves to be swallowed up by this peril of standardization."—Okay, Butch!

Walter Schmidt, president, National Real Estate Board: "The safety of American institutions lies in keeping this a nation of realty owners."

New York news item: "City Marshal Leef, backed by a detachment of 20 police and three men armed with crowbars, broke down doors in an apartment building at 436 East Fourth street yesterday and evicted three tenants."

Her Father Must Be a Banker  
Queensville, Kentucky: "Emma Tucker, newly arrived daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shipley Tucker, was born with eight perfect fingers on each hand."

### These Republican Wits

Mark Sullivan, in the New York Herald-Tribune: "Roosevelt is turning away from socialism."—If that was socialism, I hate to think what the conservatives are thinking these days.

### Looks Like Rest of Us

Headline: "New NRA to Be Just Skeleton."

### Best News of the Week

Council Bluffs, Iowa: "Bringing \$500 worth of food to the striking members of the Omaha Tram Workers, Local 1002, farmers in the Farmers Holiday Association in three southwestern Iowa counties have added another link to the growing chain of co-operation between farmers and workers."

### Oh, Oh, McIntyre

O. O. McIntyre, in the Sunday Minneapolis Journal: "America doesn't want 'social security' half as much as an unlimited chance to get to the top."

There hasn't been an unlimited chance to get to the top in America since 1860. . . at least, not for the popular masses. By its very nature, capitalism can offer this chance to only a handful of people.

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