

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

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

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

VOLUME 1, NO. 34

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1935

PRICE 5 CENTS

PROGRESSIVE UNIONISTS CONFER

PACK TO FETE ALL EMPLOYEES AT GAY PARTY

Northern States Power Co.
Workers Will Receive
Presents

Municipal Auditorium Will
Be the Scene of Grand
Affair

On Thursday, December 19, the Municipal Auditorium will be thrown open for a party. This will not be as you may well suppose a social affair given for poor or homeless children or for the needy citizens of the city, but rather it will be a sort of an innovation in Christmas celebrations. The party is being given by Mr. Pack, General Manager of the Northern States Power Company. Mr. Pack is giving this entertainment and frolic for the employees of his company. Is the party going to cost the workers of the Northern States Power any money? Not one single cent. Mr. Pack is evidently throwing this party out of the goodness of his heart and no doubt, is motivated by the feeling that his employees deserve a good time once a year even though their wages are not all that they should be. A Kelvinator refrigerator and an electric water heater are going to be given away free.

But wait, that is not quite all. One hundred turkeys have been provided that are also going to be passed out during the evening. Is there going to be entertainment and dancing? Yes, of course. The Marigold Ballroom band has been hired for the occasion. To quote Mr. Pack's own words, "After the entertainment, speaking and gift distribution is over, we will clear the hall and get together in a good old time dancing party." How about the wives and families of the Northern States Power workers? Can they come to the party? Yes, indeed, they are urged if not practically ordered to be present on this festive occasion. Mr. Pack is going to make a speech. He, no doubt, is going to say that the employees of the Northern States Power are all one big "happy family." He is going to say that there is no need for union organization in this company. He is going to demonstrate with gifts, dancing, music, entertainment, etc., that this is the kind of treatment his employees can always expect.

But every honest, intelligent worker at the Northern States Power knows what is behind this pre-Christmas celebration. A wave of organization is sweeping through the Northern States Power Company. Mr. Pack

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Welfare Board Ousts Kjorlaug

Last Friday morning at the meeting of the Welfare Board, a sight greeted the eyes of those interested in the City Relief Department that they had not seen for many moons. For the first time in the recent history of the Welfare Board the liberal members of the Board joined forces and presented a solid front to the reactionaries. The occasion for this new alignment of forces was the removal of Kjorlaug as Superintendent of Relief. Standing solidly together, Scott, Hudson, Latimer, Seestrom and Herbolzheimer had their way with the Board before the morning session was over and Kjorlaug stood suspended for sixty days. McLaughren and Joseph, representatives of the Taxpayers Association, and the bankers waged a desperate fight against Kjorlaug's suspension.

McLaughren waxed almost tearful as he recounted the splendid "service" that had been rendered by Kjorlaug. The entire Executive Board of Local 574 were at the meeting prepared to support the majority. Although the room was packed by representatives of the Real Estate Board, Civic and Women's clubs, Civic and Commerce Association, etc., so decisive was the action of the majority of the Board that none of them took the floor to defend Kjorlaug. Relief clients will view with interest this new shakeup in the Relief Department; they should reserve their judgment until it is demonstrated that this latest move means an improvement in their conditions.

Henn. F. L. P. Group Hits at 'Red Purge'

Last week the Hennepin County Farmer-Labor Central Committee adopted a resolution submitted by the Fifth Ward unit denouncing Meyer Lewis's policies as tending to disrupt the organized Labor Movement and divide the liberal political forces. Only two delegates had the courage to raise their voices against the adoption of the resolution. Although George W. Lawson, Secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, had stated that Lewis's activities had no political significance, speeches by many delegates from the floor indicated that they thought that this was not the case. The action of the Hennepin County Central Committee is significant in that it places the entire Hennepin County Farmer-Labor Unit, whose membership embraces thousands of Trade Unionists, as standing opposed to so-called Red drives in the Labor Movement

Shorty Depew says: "Yellow Drivers are good Drivers because they are union Drivers."

Purged!



NORTHWESTERN WORKERS' GROUP MEETS IN AUSTIN

Industrial Unionism Is En-
dorsed at Meeting of
Delegates

New Movement in A. F. of L.
Gains Full Support of
Unity Groups

An unqualified stand for industrial unionism and a move to coordinate the independent unions in the northwest with the movement for industrial unionism in the A. F. of L. were the outstanding features of an enthusiastic meeting of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference at Austin, Minn., Saturday, Dec. 7. About forty delegates from various northwestern points were in attendance. Local 574 was represented by Ray Dunne and Farrell Dobbs. A strong delegation was present from the Independent Union of Packing House Workers at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Other delegates were present from Austin, Albert Lea and Mason City.

After a speech by James P. Cannon of New York City, who had been specially invited to address the conference on the subject of progressive labor policy, a thorough discussion took place in which the majority of the delegates participated. Unanimous opinion was crystalized that the Conference must push its campaign for a policy of class struggle and for industrial unionism as a necessary modern form of labor organization.

Hail Movement in A. F. of L.

The movement for industrial unionism which has developed in the A. F. of L. was hailed as a big step forward, which must be supported and encouraged by all progressive unionists, whether affiliated to the A. F. of L. or not. Emphasizing that progressive independent unions must on no account give up their demand for industrial unionism and the democratic right to regulate their own internal affairs, the Conference unanimously recommended that, on these conditions, independent unions should declare their readiness to affiliate to the A. F. of L.

It was pointed out in the discussion that the independent auto workers unions of Detroit, now on strike, had taken this position, and the action of the Detroit independents was hailed with approval in the adopted resolution. The resolution also calls for a coordination of efforts and activities of the progressive independent unionists with the industrial union movement in the A. F. of L. in order to hasten the day when we will have a truly unified trade

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Labor Convention Endorses No. 574

The Minnesota Labor Association, whose headquarters are in Montevideo, held the largest and most progressive conference in the history of their organization, December 1st, in Montevideo. Minnesota Labor Association of employed and unemployed workers in seven western border counties.

The principal stronghold of this organization is in Bigstone, Swift, Kandiyohi, Yellow Medicine, Pope, Chippewa, and Lac qui Parle counties. Of interest to the Minneapolis Labor Movement should be the resolutions that were passed at this conference of over four hundred delegates.

Although Federal Workers Section, Local 574, had been officially invited to send delegates, the delegation from our Local were unable to be present. However, Emanuel Holstein, who was working in the vicinity of Montevideo at that time, attended the meeting and spoke unofficially for the Drivers' Union. He spoke on the

Garment Worker to Hit N. Y. Sweat Shops

Cleveland, December 6.—The Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Union authorized Friday a general strike of 105,000 garment workers in three thousand New York City shops.

various strikes that are going on in Minneapolis and of the position of the General Drivers' Union in regard to the rest of the Labor Movement. The conference passed a resolution endorsing and supporting the Strutwear strike.

A strong resolution was adopted condemning Meyer Lewis and the A. F. L. Red purge and expressing solidarity and support for Local 574. On the subject of the Work Relief Program a resolution was passed calling upon the Federal Administration to pay the wage scale of 62½ cents for common labor and the union scale for all skilled labor. A copy of the resolution pledging support to Local 574 is printed elsewhere in this issue.

GENERAL DRIVERS FUN, FROLIC and ENTERTAINMENT Drivers Hall

Dancing - Fun - Prizes

Saturday, December 14, 1935

Jack Malerich's
Band

Dancing
9 to 12

TICKETS 35c

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

NORTHWESTERN WORKERS' GROUP MEETS IN AUSTIN

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union movement organized on an industrial basis.

Greet Oklahoma Strikers

A motion was unanimously carried to send a wire of greeting to the Packing House Workers now on strike at Oklahoma City, pledging support in their struggle and asking for the establishment of closer communication and co-operation.

It was decided that a full Conference be held at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on Saturday, February 1. The resolution adopted for consideration by all the affiliated organizations pending the next conference is as follows:

RESOLUTION ON POLICY OF THE NORTHWEST LABOR UNITY CONFERENCE

1. The Northwest Labor Unity Conference has come into existence in order to bring the progressive unionists in the northwest closer together, to provide a common meeting ground for the discussion of problems and the co-ordination of the educational activities of its members to unify and strengthen the labor movement.

2. The conference stands for a policy of class struggle and for industrial unionism as the necessary modern form of labor organization. All the experience since the formal launching of the conference a year ago has shown the correctness of this position. In the coming year progressive unionists everywhere must work more aggressively and energetically than ever to popularize these ideas and convince the unions of the necessity to adopt them and put them into practice.

3. The struggle for the industrial form of organization conducted at the recent convention of the A. F. of L., and the setting up of a committee headed by the presidents of several international unions to continue this campaign, are developments of the greatest significance and importance. Progressive unionists are bound to support every decisive step for industrial unionism which alone will make possible the organization of the unorganized millions, especially in the mass production industries, and thus strengthen the labor movement everywhere. Progressive unionists are likewise firm advocates of union unity. Wherever progressive organizations are kept out of the A. F. of L. because of craft union restrictions, or because of expulsion by reactionary officialdom, they should continue to work for unification without, however, giving up their progressive policies or their right of internal democracy.

4. The development of the big movement for industrial unionism within the A. F. of L. creates the conditions to co-ordinate the efforts of industrial unionists outside as well as inside the A. F. of L. The conference recommends that non-A. F. of L. unions follow the example of the independent unions of automobile workers at Detroit and declare their readiness to co-operate with the industrial union A. F. of L. forces and to enter the A. F. of L. on only two conditions: 1) industrial union charter, and 2) internal democracy. By taking such a position the independent unions can greatly strengthen the movement for industrial unionism in the A. F. of L. and hasten the unification of the labor movement on an industrial union basis.

Chas. P. Howard Answers Green

By Federated Press

Washington — (FP) — The warning issued by President Wm. Green of the American Federation of Labor against the Committee for Industrial Organization is based on a misunderstanding of its purposes, and constitutes an attempt to restrict the rights of minorities, in the opinion of Chas. P. Howard, secretary of the Committee and president of the Intl. Typographical Union.

Howard explains his stand and that of his Committee in reply to the letter addressed by Green to all eight unions which joined in forming the committee. Green declared that some A. F. of L. officers "regard separate movements formed within the main organization structure as dual in character." He expressed his own "feelings of apprehension over the grave consequences which might follow" and warned against "the danger of division and discord."

Defends Rights of Minorities

In his answer, Howard says he considers organization of the unorganized "so essential that it overshadows almost every other consideration." He vigorously defends the rights of labor minorities to work for changes in official policies, by attempting to convert the rank and file of the workers.

"To confine the effort to the conventions of the A. F. of L.," says Howard, "would be to presume that only the officers and delegates are to be considered and that the members of national and international unions, who support the Federation, as well as the millions of unorganized to whom we would make appeal, should have no direct interest or influence in making the fundamental policies of the A. F. of L. My experience does not justify acceptance of such a restriction upon the rights of minorities."

The printers' leader expresses some criticism of the methods whereby A. F. of L. conventions are controlled. "During the years I have been a delegate to the conventions of the A. F. of L.," he says, "I have observed the strongest cohesion in a controlling group for the purpose of determining every question. . . . Much to our regret, some of us have had the conclusion forced upon us that the merits of proposals are not the determining factor in rendering decisions. Proposals having to do with fundamental policies have been adopted or rejected by combination rather than by converting the delegates."

Oppose Dual Organization

Howard emphasizes the declared purpose of the C. I. O. to promote organization of mass production industries and affiliation with the A. F. of L., asserting that this "does not include the possibility of dual organization or constitute a menace to the success and welfare of the A. F. of L."

He declares that it is not the intent, aim or purpose of the committee to "raid" the membership of any established union or infringe on its jurisdiction. Nor is it the committee's purpose, he says, to try to make any union change its form from craft to industrial, but only to organize on an industrial basis "the millions of workers in mass production industries who have not been and can not be organized upon a craft basis."

As author of the declaration on industrial unionism adopted by the San Francisco A. F. of L. convention and reaffirmed at Atlantic City, Howard declares that he had no thought that when charters were issued in the auto and other industries specified they

Bill Brown Says—

In spite of the fact that Local 574 is attempting to live in peace with the rest of the local labor movement, it seems to be the kind of peace they are having over in Ethiopia. Some one must have had their fingers crossed when they called Kings X. When we got out our rubber ball and started to play O'Leary some of the local labor leaders began throwing stones! We want to play ball, and will play fair, but we know where there are some stone piles, top.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Brewery Workers Facing the Issue

The fight that has broken out in the A. F. of L. must inevitably have its effects and repercussions in the ranks of those unions that have not yet openly aligned themselves with one faction or another. Just as it is sure that the Building Trades Department must take sides in the internal strife now going on, it is equally as sure that such organizations as the Brewery Workers International must soon cast their lot with the Lewis faction.

The jurisdictional disputes that are tearing the Brewery Workers International Union apart can be settled in no other manner than by aligning themselves with those forces which stand for industrial organization in the breweries. Leading the attack on the Brewery Workers International is Daniel J. Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers.

"Raids" on Brewery Union

Proceeding along the lines of the Green decision which awarded the Brewery Drivers to the Teamsters International, Tobin is now conducting unprincipled raids against that organization in Seattle, Tacoma, Cleveland, Chicago and elsewhere. Open warfare has broken out between the Brewery Workers Union and Tobin's organization. On the West Coast this fight has manifest itself in its most unprincipled form.

There, not only has Tobin's organization gone to the lengths of attempting to have the contract between the Brewery Workers organization and the Brewers nullified, but they have resorted to the courts, gangsterism and all the things that go with it. At least three workers have been slain in this craft jurisdictional dispute on the West Coast. Tobin is not alone in his offensive to smash the Brewery Workers International.

Other Crafts Involved

Taking courage from the decision which granted the Drivers to Tobin's organization, other crafts have followed and now at least nine are making jurisdictional claim in the Breweries. It is reliably reported by a brewery owner that previous to the Green decision he had dealt with one organization; he now is dealing with seven.

The Green award was one of the most notorious ever handed down by the A. F. of L. Executive Council. It is a step backward into the past; it can lead to only one thing, if followed to its logical conclusions; it means the total destruction of the splendid industrial organization of the Brewery Workers.

For their safety, for a continuation of their strength, and for the preservation of their organization, the Brewery Workers have only one place to go, that is, in the camp of those who are advocating the industrialization of the American Federation of Labor.

would be restricted. "We believe the executive council failed to carry out the instructions of the convention," he says.

Aggressive Austinites Rebuke Erring Editor

In last week's issue there appeared a short article congratulating "The Unionist," official organ of the Independent Union of All Workers of Austin, Minnesota. This week we received a letter from the Austin union thanking us for mentioning their newspaper. They, however, mix the bitter with the sweet and took us mildly to task for an inaccuracy that appeared in the article.

In our article, we said: "Since the suspension of their regular union paper, the Austin American, they have been getting out The Unionist." The letter we received contained the following paragraph: "The boys down here have asked me to write you correcting the above statement. The Austin American ceased to be a union paper last spring when O. J. Fosso, ousted president of the union, was put in as editor. Since that time the union has been doing everything in its power either to get him ousted or kill the paper. The publication of the first four issues of The Unionist were made during the time the Austin American was still running and we sincerely feel that they helped to end the life of that paper for which we are all deeply thankful."

A Fool There Was

(With Apologies to Kipling)

A fool there was and he had no job,

Even as you and I.

And he did not want to steal or rob,

Even as you and I.

And so each day as he thinner grew

He tightened his belt a notch or two

'Til it nearly cut him right in two,

Even as you and I.

He voted for beer to ease his lot,

Even as you and I.

And they pledged him a chicken for his pot,

Even as you and I.

But after election—all was grief,

He got no chicken; he got no beef,

And all that he got was Home Relief,

Even as you and I.

He watched the depression growing worse,

Even as you and I.

And sometimes he'd pray, sometimes he'd curse,

Even as you and I.

He pinned his faith in the NRA

Or hoped for a job with the PWA

But day by day he wasted away,

Even as you and I.

He looked to Congress to ease his woe,

Even as you and I.

And heard Roosevelt on the radio,

Even as you and I.

They told him this was a country grand,

With plenty of everything in the land,

So he starved to death with a flag in his hand,

Even as you and I.

—Joseph Brandon.

What was "Honest John" doing in Fredlund's Monday noon?

PACK TO FETE ALL EMPLOYEES AT GAY PARTY

Continued from page 1

is determined to head it off. He has raised wages in some departments. He has attempted to bribe, with the promise of better jobs, some of the leaders of the union. He is now attempting, through a social affair, to bring the wives and children of the Northern States Power employees into a meeting where they, softened with gifts, flattery and music, will be susceptible to anti-union propaganda. The Northern States Power employees should remember the words of a wise Roman who said: "Beware of the Greeks, when they come bearing gifts."

Clark Box Workers Secure Agreement

The workers at the Clark Box Factory, who are organized into Furniture Workers Union Local No. 1859, affiliated with the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, won a signal victory last week. This union which has been in existence for about a year, has never been able to secure any sort of a written agreement or contract with the employer, although they have been granted raises in pay brought to them by the threat of organizational action. Their union had never been recognized by the management and discrimination and discharges were the order of the day.

On November 24th, the Executive committee of the union along with the grievance shop committee appeared at the headquarters of Local 574 and asked that assistance be rendered them in securing an agreement with the J. R. Clark Co. In conformity with their wishes one of the organizers of 574 was appointed by the Executive Board to give them the desired assistance. On November 25th, an agreement was drawn up which covered the recognition of the union and established seniority in the plant. On December 1st the contract was presented to the management. After a week of stalling and delay followed by the usual threats that the plant would move out of the city or close its doors, the management capitulated and signed the agreement.

The workers at the Clark Box and, particularly, the committee who handled the negotiations deserve great credit for the skillful way in which they proceeded. The contract which is printed elsewhere in this issue is one of the soundest and most thorough union recognition and seniority agreements that has been signed in recent years in Minneapolis. These workers are to be congratulated.

Living Costs Mount, Wages Hit New Low

While the living standard of the relief client and those engaged on WPA projects is being adjusted downward, a significant statement comes from the National Industrial Conference Board, Employers Research Organization. They report that wholesale prices as applying to food, fuel and clothing have increased over five per cent since spring. They say "the rise in price of foodstuffs both wholesale and retail has been much greater than any other class of commodities. The increase in the price of foodstuffs has been greatly stimulated by the crop control activities of the AAA."

LOCAL 574 STATES POSITION

Mooney Making Freedom Fight

San Francisco—(FP)—The jitney bus in which the prosecution claimed Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings traveled to the scene of the 1916 Preparedness Day explosion would not have been able to get there, as all traffic was halted at the time.

This latest blow at the famous Meup was delivered at hearings in San Francisco before a special referee by none other than Duncan Matheson, who at the time of the explosion was head of the bomb bureau and police lieutenant in charge of policing the preparedness parade on lower Market St. Matheson is now city treasurer of San Francisco.

The Phantom Bus
Matheson testified to the absence of the traffic and said that no jitney bus was allowed on Market St. east of Second St. after 1 p. m. Thus the prosecution's phantom bus, with Mooney and Billings in it, could not possibly have reached the spot where perjured testimony placed it.

Other damaging acknowledgements of the ex-head of the bomb bureau were:

That his first hint "to look up Tom Mooney" in connection with the explosion came from Thornwall Mulally, grand marshal of the parade, and official of United Railroads, against which Mooney had led a strike.

That the prosecution's star witnesses—Frank C. Oxman, Mrs. Nellie Edeau, the latter's daughter—did not reach the attention of District Attorney Fickert through the bomb bureau.

That his office was not asked to investigate the character of Oxman, or of Ed Rigall, whom Oxman sought to use as a witness.

That Oxman's first description of the man he saw with the suitcase at Steuart and Market Sts. was so grotesquely unlike Billings that if Matheson had seen it he would hardly expected Billings to be arrested.

That Matheson, although head of the bomb bureau, had no knowledge of use of the Burns Detective Agency to secure a statement from Oxman before Police Lieutenant Bunner had reached him.

Constitutional Right Denied
That Mooney and Billings had a constitutional right to demand attorneys on their arrest, which should not have been denied them.

Two letters to Fickert from Martin Swanson, public utilities detective, were introduced. In these letters, dated Aug. 15, 1916, the defendant's radical activities were described and there was set forth the now familiar "prosecution's theory," which Fickert thereafter merely sought to bolster up.

Alva Powell, who was badly injured in the explosion, testified that he saw no jitney on Steuart St., where he stood from 1:15 p. m. until the explosion occurred.

In the face of Standard Oil, David Lawrence still writes: "The League of Nations has proved itself in the present emergency an effective instrumentality for the organization of economic pressure."

* * *
Good for a grin: "The Nobel committee has decided that no peace prize will be awarded this year."

* * *
Since when have cribbage debts been outlawed?

The following letter sent to the Central Labor Union explains the position of Local 574 and its co-operative attitude toward the C. L. U. and its affiliated organizations:

November 20, 1935
To the Executive Board and Special Committee of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union
18 North 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Sirs and Brothers:
The Executive Board of Local 574 at its session on November 19th considered the initiative taken by your body for an adjustment of the relations between Local 574 and the general labor movement and gave this matter the serious attention it deserves. In compliance with your request, we are presenting herewith a statement of our point of view:

Welcomes Intervention
The Executive Board of Local 574 welcomes the intervention of the Central Labor Union and wishes at the outset to assure you of our desire and readiness to maintain cordial and friendly relations in all respects with the C. L. U. and its affiliated organizations and to adjust any disputes which may arise on a fair and reasonable basis.

As stated by our representatives in the conference with your committee on November 19th, we feel that a fundamental settlement of the present difficulties which are disturbing the Minneapolis labor movement, necessitates the reinstatement of Local 574 to its rightful position in the Teamsters International, as well as the restoration of the charter of the Laundry Workers Union who, we are convinced, have also been unjustly expelled.

We hope you will find a way to use your good offices to effect such a fundamental settlement of the issue. On our part, we shall continue our efforts to secure the restoration of our charter, which has been revoked without just cause, and to make it clear on all occasions that Local 574 wants to be a part of the American Federation of Labor and that it presents no demands whatever and claims no rights not enjoyed by it and recognized by the Teamsters Joint Council prior to the revocation of the charter.

Pending our reinstatement as a duly chartered local of the Teamsters International, we desire to live in peace with the general labor movement as represented by the C. L. U. and to co-operate with it in all matters to protect the interests of the workers and strengthen the position of organized labor in this community.

Co-operation Sought
Even now, while Local 574 is technically disaffiliated, we believe that amicable co-operation can be established on the basis of the same relations which existed between Local 574 and the other driving crafts prior to our expulsion. While firmly determined to maintain the organization which we have built up in bitter struggle with the aid and co-operation of the entire labor movement, we have not in the past, nor do we intend in the future, to infringe upon the jurisdiction of other unions of the driving crafts obtaining in the Teamsters Joint Council at the time of our affiliation to that body.

It is well known to you and to all members of organized labor in Minneapolis that Local 574 has never interfered in the slightest way and has no dispute with other unions affiliated to the C. L. U. On the contrary, the record clearly shows that we have responded to every call of established unions for aid in their struggles with the employers and have assisted the C. L. U. on several occasions in the establishment of new unions in hitherto unorganized trades without presenting any jurisdictional claims of our own.

We desire especially to point out that, in the interests of the progress of the general movement toward the industrial form of organization, to which we are firmly committed, we have unhesitatingly relinquished jurisdiction claims concerning drivers to the Gas Station Employees Union and the Laundry Workers Union and have never, at any time, challenged the jurisdiction of the Brewery Workers Union to the drivers employed in the brewing industry.

Respect All Bona Fide Unions
These well known facts are recapitulated here merely to indicate once again the scrupulous respect Local 574 has always shown for the rights and jurisdictions of other bona fide unions. We intend to continue this policy in the future, and we ask nothing except that the same rights be accorded to us. If this position is taken on all sides, we feel that the situation can be cleared up with little difficulty.

The above statement is submitted to you with the conviction that your committee will find the attitude of Local 574 to be fair and reasonable, despite the unjustified attacks which have been made against it. We are confident that the efforts you have made in the past for the restoration of our charter will be continued in the future.

We wish, in conclusion, to again express our appreciation of the initiative you have taken and to assure you of our readiness to co-operate in further steps for the speedy restoration of peaceful and harmonious relations within the ranks of the Minneapolis trade union movement.

Fraternally yours,
GENERAL DRIVERS, HELPERS, AND
INSIDE WORKERS UNION LOCAL NO. 574
By WM. S. BROWN, President

Meeting Schedule Local 574

Wednesday, Dec. 11: Market Workers.
Friday, Dec. 13: Coal Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Dec. 16: Coal Workers.
Thursday, Dec. 19: Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, Dec. 20: All Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Dec. 23: Full membership.
Tuesday, Dec. 24: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
Friday, Dec. 27: Federal Workers.

Clark Box Factory Union Agreement

This contract shall constitute an agreement between Furniture Workers Union Local 1859, Party of the First Part, and the J. R. Clark Company, Party of the Second Part.

ARTICLE I.
This agreement shall cover only seniority of the employees of the J. R. Clark Company and does not deal with wages, hours of work, or conditions of employment.

ARTICLE II.
This agreement shall supersede and take the place of any existing agreement or proposed agreement or any rules or regulation which may conflict with the intent or provisions of this agreement.

ARTICLE III.
In laying off and/or dismissing employees from service for lack of work or for any other legitimate reason, length of service shall govern.

ARTICLE IV.
Seniority shall run throughout the entire plant and not through departments. Men must be exchanged from department to department according to their seniority.

ARTICLE V.
Seniority list will be made from payroll records from the year of 1932 at the time of the lowest ebb of employment in that year.

ARTICLE VI.
No one shall lose his seniority because of seasonal layoffs.

ARTICLE VII.
In calling employees back to work after a seasonal layoff, those oldest in seniority shall be the first called back. In case the oldest men are not available the next oldest man in seniority shall be put to work. In such case the older men on the list will be given 30 days to claim the job. In event he does not put in such claim within 30 days, he will be considered dropped from the seniority list.

ARTICLE VIII.
All differences having to do with the interpretation or/and adherence to the terms of this agreement which cannot be settled directly by the parties concerned or by the union shop committee shall be referred to a Board of Arbitration. Said Board of Arbitration shall consist of two men selected by the employer or his representative, two selected by the union, and the four men so selected, if unable to agree, shall choose a fifth man who shall serve as an impartial chairman. The decision of the majority of said board shall be final and binding upon all parties concerned.

ARTICLE IX.
This agreement shall become effective, 1935, and shall continue until 1937.

J. R. CLARK COMPANY
By _____
Authorized Representative.
FURNITURE WORKERS
UNION LOCAL 1859
By _____

Al Russell Trial Set for Dec. 19th

Al Russell, arrested on the picket line at the Strutwear plant during the attempt to reopen it with federal protection (under guise of a fake replevin suit), came up for trial before Federal Judge Molyneux on Monday, December 9. He had been confined in jail for ten days under heavy bail. He was first held without charges until a writ of habeas corpus sued out by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense resulted in his technical release and immediate rearrest on the charge of criminal contempt. At the request of the United States district attorney, who apparently had no evidence on which to sustain the charge, the trial was postponed until December 19.

Bail was reduced from \$2,500 to \$500. Then later in the day, after this bail had been procured, it was automatically raised again back to the original exorbitant figure of \$2,500. It is evident that powerful influences are at work to keep Brother Russell in jail and thereby to intimidate other pickets in the carefully prepared and well-advertised conspiracy to reopen the Strutwear plant and break the strike of the hosiery workers.

Noted Labor Attorney in Court
Francis Heisler, the noted labor attorney of Chicago, and Gilbert Carlson appeared in court to defend Russell. This formidable legal battery had been retained by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense which is in charge of the case.

The persecution of Brother Russell has become a public scandal and the case is attracting wide attention. This was attested to by the presence in court of a large number of union members and labor leaders, including Alexander McKeown, first vice president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers. A large crowd of Strutwear strikers, proudly wearing their union buttons, were in the courtroom in a demonstration of solidarity with Russell.

Demand Strutwear Show Books
Attorneys Heisler and Carlson are turning the defense of Russell into a legal offensive against the maneuver of the Strutwear outfit to break the strike with the aid of the federal courts. They are going into court with a motion for a subpoena duces tecum, requiring the Strutwear company to produce their books for examination by a certified public accountant. The object of this action is to get at the bottom of the ill-smelling "replevin" action under which United States marshals were brought into the situation, and to ascertain whether the writ of replevin was misused or not.

G. Dunne Chairman Of Federal Section

The last regular meeting of the Federal Workers, held on Dec. 6th, was one of the most important sessions held in recent months. On the recommendation of the Executive Board of Local 574, Brother G. J. Dunne was installed as chairman. Brother George Vines reported on the relief coal situation. A motion was passed instructing all members of the Federal Workers to accept coal deliveries only from paid up drivers of Local 574. It was decided that the Federal Workers would hold a social affair on the 17th of January. A committee was elected to lay out the plans. The report of Kjolraug's removal from the relief department was greeted with cheers.

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

The Right to Organize

Mr. Robert F. Pack, head of the Northern States Power Company, is still refusing to recognize the right of his employees to organize and bargain collectively. On one pretext or another he has been giving Local No. 160, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the run-around for more than a year. Last week we reported his refusal even to talk to the negotiating committee of the union on the arrogant ground that he did not like their officially selected spokesman, Farrell Dobbs. This attitude which strikes at the very heart of the principle of collective bargaining—the right of the workers to representatives of their own choosing—aroused such resentment among the workers that even the czar of Northern States Power could not maintain it. On Monday of this week he found it expedient to meet and talk to the negotiating committee, with Brother Dobbs present as their spokesman.

But.

He refused to discuss the union agreement in any way.

And in the reasons he gave for this refusal Mr. Pack disclosed what was really at the bottom of his refusal last week to confer with the committee on the pretext the spokesman was objectionable to him. At Monday's meeting he flatly challenged the authority of Local 160 itself to negotiate an agreement for its own members, or do anything else, without the sanction of the International officers of the Electrical Workers.

Mr. Pack is taking in more territory all the time. Last week he tried to tell Local 160 whom it should or should not elect as its spokesman in the negotiations. This week he assumes the power to order the internal affairs of the trade union movement and to regulate the relations between a local union and its international office.

The trouble with Mr. Pack is that he is thinking in terms of financial autocracy and forgets that he is dealing with living men. He cannot recognize their right to think and act for themselves. He is accustomed to giving orders and having them promptly obeyed. What right has a trade union to interfere with this smooth-working system? Or, if the workers in a locality do organize a union, why shouldn't it function like the branch office of a corporation, automatically obeying all orders from the "head office?"

He forgets that all workers have a clearly established and legally recognized right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing. He forgets that trade union democracy means the right of a local union to regulate its own internal affairs and make its own terms with the employers.

And he forgets something more, of no less importance.

Enlightened and organized workers have the POWER to enforce these rights.

Union Drivers Are Proud Drivers

Union drivers in Minneapolis can well be proud of the record that they have made in the past month. When we stop to realize that, less than three years ago, a canvass of truck drivers would have revealed less than 100 union men in the entire city, the feat of stopping the Strutwear shipping is a record to be regarded with pride.

Not only are the vast majority of truck drivers organized in this city, but not one single driver, union or non-union, could be found that was willing to pull a truck into the struck plant last week. The refusal of truck drivers to go into the Strutwear plant does not come about by accident. It is the result of the education and understanding that has been gained by truck drivers in the past two years.

Those in the union have learned the lesson of solidarity with their fellow men by their association with their union brothers. The non-union drivers have learned to respect a union that insists that even scab employers live up to the wage scale set by the union.

Not only did Local 574 prevent the shipment of goods from the Strutwear plant in the past month, but the union has grown and prospered during the attack that has been made upon it by the so-called "Red purge" of the A. F. of L. No one need feel ashamed of a union that made a record that has been made by Local 574. Rather we should have abiding faith in such an organization.

The mass meeting at Eagles' Hall Monday night in solidarity with the Strutwear strikers was a splendid demonstration of the militant mood of the Minneapolis workers and their determination to see the hosiery workers through to victory. Several speakers commended the help Local 574 has given to the strikers. All we've got to say is: There's more where it came from.

Keeping Step With 574 By Mickey Dunne

The union auditorium is being redecorated for the Saturday night affair.

We hear that officials of Local 221 are claiming that they have a letter from the Mayor stating that 221 is the official coal drivers union. We doubt if they have such a letter. But even if they have, it don't mean a D-m thing.

Brother Williams of Local 160 bought lunch for the union Executive Board one day last week—under pressure.

Sherman Oaks, steward at Carnegie Coal, has gotten the job 99 per cent.

Bring or send your children to the Christmas party. It is going to be a real event for the kiddies.

Since Farrell has been acting for Local 160 he has had the slogan on his calling cards changed to read "Durable Dobbs Does Double Duty."

The Clark Box boys like their new Christmas present.

The Unity Conference Committee, that met in Austin Sunday, say that great strides are being made towards a conference some time in January.

Milt Hodson is working!

The Werner crew and the La-Belle crew both met in the union hall Friday night.

The Saturday night dance and card party of the 11th Ward Farmer Labor Club was well attended. A good time was had by all with the exception of those who object to dancing to the music of scab musicians. It was a non-union band.

Steve Glaser had the Camron boys up Sunday afternoon.

PAGE SHERLOCK HOLMES

What became of the goods that were moved out of the Strutwear plant? The Peacock "Company" that was supposed to have received them have no office, no plant, no warehouse and no address in St. Joseph, Mo.

No, the Strutwear strike is settled yet. Why not, did you say? Because the owner still refuses to deal with the union. Does that make everything clairvoyant?

Bob Diemert, of Fargo, turned in 28 ORGANIZER subs in one day. Nice going out there, Bob.

While the Welfare Board were awaiting the arrival of Kjolraug Friday morning, it is reported that he was dining at the Y.

HEARTS AND FLOWERS DEPT.

I. S. (friend of the masses) Josephs, read Kjolraug's obituary Friday morning.

Last Friday night was the banner meeting night of all time. Seven separate meetings were going on at one time.

The Fun Frolic, Saturday night, promises to be hot.

A driver came into the union hall the other day and reported that there was a swell strike picture at one of the down town picture houses. Several members of the staff drove down to see it.

Labor Looks at the Press

B. C. Forbes in the Star: "If the great majority of employers can win the goodwill of most of their work-folks, the latter will vote mainly as their employers vote."

But how can an employer win the goodwill of his "work-folk," except by raising wages and shortening hours — and this is exactly what the boss refuses to do.

Paris Headline: "Laval Promises Chamber of Deputies to Disarm French Fascists."

Of course he won't do it—any more than Henry Ford would agree to fire his company guards and the Dearborn police.

Taffy candy: "Officials of the Strutwear Company denied the St. Joseph plant had been opened because of labor difficulties in Minneapolis."

Washington news item: "William Green today indignantly refused John L. Lewis' suggestion that he resign as president of the A. F. of L. to head the industrial union movement."

He can't say he didn't have his chance.

Laughs from the last Citizens Alliance bulletin: "For a time, daily statements were made in the press by Mr. Meyer Lewis, from which it appeared that progress was being made. For the past ten days, however, there have been no further public statements concerning this drive against communist leadership, and the rumor is current that someone has put a quietus on this effort."

Annie Dickie Oleson: "Our civilization has become too masculine . . . The strengthening of home ties, of ties between husband and wife, a study of the spiritual duty in life as brought forth in Christian ideals—all this offers a great opportunity to women in American life. There is no corner on the things of the spirit or the intellect."

No. But there IS a corner on food, clothing and shelter; and without these, it is a mockery to seek the other things.

But the prize story of the week was that one B. C. Forbes told in the Minneapolis Star—about how the employer explained to the reputed Communist how he was much better off in America, and the "Communist" broke into tears and expressed profound gratitude.

The refinery and marine workers may speak a word on that deal.

Financial Note: "The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey has agreed to furnish \$81,000,000 worth of oil to Fascist Italy in its war with Ethiopia."

Berlin correspondent of Christian Science Monitor: "Socialism in National Socialism received a serious blow and many pet economic theories were unsparingly attacked by Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Minister of Economics, in a spirited defense of capitalism based on individualism."

When they arrived at the theater the banner over the entrance read, "G Men strike at gangsters."

Joe Davis, the wine merchant, reports that he met Mayor Latimer coming out of a non-union barber shop the other day. What were you doing there, Joe?

I guess the Fascist Schacht, and ex-President Hoover both believe in individualism—for their class but not the working class.

Major General George E. Leach: "The national guard is a powerful and growing force upon which the nation can count in both peace and war."

And especially during strikes, eh, Leach?

Local item: The Junior Chamber of Commerce will hold a Victory stag party at the West hotel. . . . Several special entertainment features are program highlights."

But I guess our Farmer-Labor mayor won't see fit to try and raid them.

Bruce Barton: "In times of financial disaster, it is the meek who inherit the earth."

Maybe he means it's the poor who get put on subsistence farms.

Francis Perkins, Secretary of Labor: "Increased wages and shorter hours will provide the working class with buying power and industry with a market."

Then why the hell does she always try to break strikes?—

Sewer, Water Service Men Will Organize

Last Wednesday night a group of workers appeared at the union hall asking for a conference with the executive board of the union. Upon being informed that few members of the executive board were present, their spokesman asked that some official or organizer of the union confer with them for a few minutes. During the course of the brief conference, it developed that these men were sewer and water service workers. They make street connections for the plumbers when they are installing a new water or sewer service. They wanted advice as to how they should proceed to form a union organization of workers in their industry. They were told that it would be necessary for them to form an organizational committee, set the date for another meeting, and attempt to spread the word of the organization that was being formed. The committee of their group was selected who will be known as Provisional Committee for the organization of Sewer and Water Service Union. Their next meeting was set for Tuesday night.

The Executive Board of 574 contacted the business agent of the Plumbers' Union. He gave his unqualified support to the move to organize these workers.

Okland Teachers Aid 574 at State Meet

Last week we received a communication from a local of the American Federation of Teachers in Oakland, California, informing us that they were bringing in a resolution in support of Local 574 which they intended to introduce at the California state convention of the American Federation of Teachers. Lacking an official communication from our local, the motion was introduced verbally. They ask, however, that we send an official communication to the state convention and promise to give it their unqualified support. A resolution along with an explanatory letter has been forwarded to these union brothers and sisters.