

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!

VOLUME I, NO. 39

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

STATE WPA MOVE STARTED

Packing House Workers Are for Industrial Union At Mason City Meeting

Conference Condemns Acts
of A. F. of L. Craft
Union Leaders

Encouraging progress toward the goal of unionizing the packing house workers was made in the conference held at Mason City, Iowa, on January 11th and 12th. Delegates were present from the unions at Cedar Rapids, Mason City, Austin, Albert Lea, South St. Paul and Faribault. The Faribault and South St. Paul unions were new recruits. The secretary of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference was also present.

The delegates spoke very frankly of the difficulties which were being encountered in the various unions and agreed that the only answer to the problems confronting the packing house unions now established is the complete unionization of the packing industry on a national scale. There was complete agreement that it is the splitting policies of the disciples of craft-unionism that have prevented the achievement of this goal in the past. Amid ringing applause the conference went on record to work for the establishment of one industrial union for the entire packing industry with complete immunity from jurisdictional claims by craft unions.

In conformity with the declared aims of the Committee for Industrial Organization headed by John L. Lewis of the miners, the delegates voted to work toward the consolidation of the A. F. of L. and independent unions into the proper type of industrial union. Aid from the Lewis committee will be sought in this work.

The dictatorial policies of the A. F. of L. craft union leaders were bitterly condemned, and true internal democracy was set down as one of the primary requisites in the new industrial union which is to come.

Racial prejudice was branded an instrument of the bosses. One negro delegate, pointing out that two-thirds of the skilled butchers in the packing plants are negroes, cited several instances where the bosses had used these workers to break strikes when the white workers refused them membership in the unions.

A provisional organization committee of ten was empowered to work out a program of procedure for actual organization work. The committee recommendations will be submitted to the participating unions for approval.

The Provisional Committee will meet at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on Saturday, February 1st, in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference.

Wabasha Button Workers Get Help

The striking button workers at Wabasha, Minn., are to receive aid from Minneapolis in their fight. A special meeting has been called at the city hall in Wabasha on Friday, Oct. 17, at which a speaker from Local 574 will outline in detail the manner in which assistance can be mobilized for this fight. All Wabasha workers, employed and unemployed, are urged to attend the meeting.

Drivers Local No. 574 Shows Steady Growth

December, the month that usually finds the greatest ebb in organizational activity in a union, also had its effects in our union. The Christmas season, with its usual added expense, coupled with the fact that this month generally finds the greatest unemployment of any time of the year, makes organizational efforts difficult. Dues payments also fall behind during the holiday season.

Last year, however, in Local 574, dues payments were very good. In the number of applications a slump was experienced. In November we had a total of 114 members join the union. In December that number fell down to 75 applications. In November the applications averaged four a day. In December about three.

January promises to be tops for applications. The first ten days of the month have seen almost 75 applications registered.

Tampa Outrage Condemned

Friday, January 3, the Milwaukee Federated Trades Council, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, went on record as declaring that the American Federation of Labor Convention should not be held in Tampa this year because of the horrible lynching of Joseph Shoemaker.

Against Wage Cuts and Speed-up



Over 1,500 members packed the union hall at Austin on January 9th, while an overflow crowd of 300 or more stood outside. The Hormel Packing Company has resorted to an underhand method of cutting wages. Workers are transferred into departments paying a lower wage, and after the pay is reduced, are transferred back at the lower rate of pay. The petty bosses are again attempting to speed up production to a man-killing pace. Strike feeling ran high at the meeting, but the union leaders correctly advised that efforts be made by the Executive Board to have the company cease this practice before resorting to the strike weapon. The union is also opposing the granting of seniority rights to scabs. If a fight comes with the Hormel Company the union has indicated that it will call upon packing house workers in other centers to refuse to process Hormel stock.

Machinists Call for Industrial Set-up

Lodge No. 459, International Association of Machinists, located in St. Paul, have just demanded the amalgamation of all metal trade workers international unions into one organization that would be covered by an A. F. of L. charter.

The committee report approved by the local lodge reads as follows: "We believe that all metal trades international unions should amalgamate at the earliest possible date, and urge all local unions to select committees to consider the matter.

It appears that local unions, being closest to the facts and having the ultimate power to determine the issue, should take the initiative as units and through conferences. We invite the views of other metal

trades unions on this question." Lodge No. 459 can be reached through Herman Hussman, 2395 University Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Yellow Is Union

Who says cab drivers are not alert union men? Saturday, a union member, who has been picketing the River Terminal Coal and Coke Co., was late for his banner carrying turn so he called a Yellow Cab to take him to the coal plant.

When he gave the driver the address, the cabbie said: "Are you a driver there or are you a picket?" The banner carrier told the cab driver that he was picketing the place.

"O. K.," said the cab driver. "In that case I'll take you, but if you were driving there you could walk as far as I am concerned."

Local 160 Wants Written Agreement

The organized pressure of the employees of the Northern States Power Co. through their union, Local 160, has forced important concessions from the management of the company.

The company, however, takes the position that it is not necessary to put the agreement on wages, working conditions and the right of union membership into writing. They contend that demonstration by actual pay increase is sufficient evidence of sincerity.

As a matter of fact the company does not want to put the agreement in writing

because they do not want to admit that it is the power of Local 160 which has won improved wages. They know that this will solidly establish the union with every employee a member.

Local 160 is the power which has produced results in this controversy. It must continue as a power if the gains made are to be preserved. To do this it must retain a solid membership. This can be accomplished only when the union has definite guarantees of the continuation of the gains made.

THE AGREEMENT MUST BE PUT IN WRITING.

ORTONVILLE IS SCENE OF BIG LABOR MEETING

Plans Made at Conference
Call for State-Wide
Gathering

Minneapolis to Be Place of
Enlarged Conference
February 8-9

The Ortonville conference, which concluded its labors Sunday, January 12th, at 2 p. m., after a two day session, can well be considered a milestone on the road to complete organization of all state WPA workers.

Delegates representing over 30 WPA, relief organizations and trade unions were present when the conference convened at noon on Saturday. E. C. Lasher, state president of the Minnesota Labor Association, called the conference to order.

William Felton of Montevideo, Minnesota was elected chairman of the conference. Ex-Governor Langer of North Dakota who had been billed as the principle speaker failed to put in an appearance. Miles B. Dunne, Editor of The Northwest Organizer, took Langer's place and in a half hour's speech stressed the need for state wide organization of all WPA and federal workers. In his opening talk Dunne proposed a plan for the calling of a further state wide conference in some central location and urged that the conference follow this program to the end that a state wide organization might be formed.

Conference Gets Under Way

A credentials committee was elected which consisted of Harry Stanley, Columbia Heights, W. T. Berg, Willmar, and H. Witt, Minneapolis.

A resolutions committee was elected who were Dunne and Bean of Minneapolis, Peterson of Willmar, Bunders of Anoka, Hagen of Appleton, and Warhol of Minneapolis. A great number of resolutions were received by the committee and they immediately went into session.

During the afternoon and evening session, speeches and discussion by the delegates indicated that the majority of those present were for taking immediate action on a state wide basis.

Several delegates pointed out that elsewhere in the United States WPA organizations had, through united action, been able to gain real reforms from state WPA administrations.

Following the adjournment of the evening session a dance was held in the Armory which had also been used as the Convention hall. Good music had been pro-

Continued on Page 2

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Meyer Lewis, Belatedly, Calls For Resignation of R. F. Pack

Wednesday, January 8, Meyer Lewis once again demonstrated his complete unfitness for the position that he is supposed to hold as a personal representative of William Green in Minneapolis.

Two months after the formation of Mayor Latimer's Employer-Employee Board, Lewis apparently belatedly comes to the realization that all is not as it should be on this board. Despite the fact that most of the employer representatives on this board are Minneapolis' most notorious openshoppers and labor haters, Lewis has gone along with the board without uttering a word of criticism in regard to its personnel and activities, or rather, lack of activity.

Two months ago the Northwest Organizer, speaking for the General Drivers Union and the progressive section of the Northwest labor movement, denounced this board as being impotent, sterile, vicious and a real danger to the trade union movement. We called upon labor representatives, selected to serve on this board, to resign and denounce the board for what it was.

Wednesday Meyer Lewis called upon Robert F. Pack, head of the Northern States Power Company, to resign from the board. He charges that Mr. Pack has interfered with the attempts of his employees to bargain collectively. Meyer Lewis is absolutely right in this contention. The only trouble with his stand now is that he is taking it three months too late.

Mr. Pack has refused to deal with his employees collectively, over a period of one year. He is absolutely opposed to the organization of "his" workers. That has always been his stand and he has never changed it.

The ironic part of Lewis' Wednesday statement is that he is falling behind the movement instead of leading it as his impressive title would indicate.

The veriest novice of trade union strategy should have known, months ago, that Pack had no intention of dealing with the union that represents his employees. But Lewis chose to blandly shut his eyes to this very obvious fact until Pack apparently said no to him in no very uncertain terms. Then, and then only does Lewis make up his mind that Pack is not fit to sit on the Employer-Employee Board.

Like all alleged trade union

Organizer Sub Drive Will Be Continued

The Organizer subscription drive, which was scheduled to end December 28th, has been extended for an indefinite period.

So great has been the response to this drive and so insistent have been the sub-takers that they be granted more time, it was felt necessary to allow the good work to go on.

The Organizer subscription drive is a little different than the usual campaign of a newspaper to increase its circulation. The average newspaper desires a large circulation in order that they may become a more desirable advertising medium.

We have no advertisers to satisfy.

We honestly believe that a left wing trade union publication, such as The Organizer should be read by every worker, organized and unorganized. So we are going to carry on.

We wish also at this time to thank our many friends and well wishers who have worked so hard in this campaign.

They are doing a valuable work in spreading the gospel of sound unionism.

leaders of his type, he has to be kicked a few dozen times by the employer before it begins to dawn on him that when the employer says no, he means just that. No doubt, some day, Meyer Lewis will be able to write the history of the trade union movement but certainly he will never be able to accurately understand it or predict its future.

Yellow Drivers Alter Organizational Set-up

The Taxicab section of Local 574 has just finished getting over an attack of Lewisism. It has been definitely established that paid agents of Lewis and of the Drivers International have been busy for the past sixty days attempting to disrupt and break down the splendid organization of Yellow Cab drivers.

So serious had the trouble become that it became necessary for the union executive board to take recognition of the situation. Steps were taken at once to clear up the trouble.

In collaboration with the cab drivers committee, a plan was set up to checkmate the disruptionists who were busy in that section of the union. The union executive board has taken complete charge of settling all differences between the drivers and the company. In this work they will be assisted by the cab committeemen.

A checkoff system has been installed and members' dues at the Yellow Cab, will hereafter be deducted by the company.

This change of organizational setup was approved at an especially called meeting of the cab drivers' section held on December 26th.

Austin Union Paper Appears in New Form

The Northwest Organizer extends cordial and fraternal greetings to the January 10th issue of The Unionist, official organ of the Independent Union of All Workers, of Austin, Minnesota.

This issue appeared as a standard size, seven column paper. The child of a mimeograph machine has grown to manhood.

Well written, full of interesting meaty labor news of the northwest and with a nice makeup that draws the eye and makes one want to read the paper, it promises to be a splendid addition to the progressive labor publications of the northwest.

The Austin union is to be congratulated for the splendid work they have done that has made this publication possible.

We say to you, here is to labor's solidarity.

On with the struggle.

Frank Androff Wins All Chicago Fights

Frank Androff, Marshall High student and member of Local 574, has just returned from a successful fistic invasion of Chicago.

Frankie engaged in four fights in the Chicago Stadium, winning all of them by knockouts. None of the bouts went over two rounds.

Androff, who is only 21 years old, has a brilliant future before him in the ring.

Frank was the Golden Gloves winner in 1933.

He is managed by Tommy O'Laughlin of Minneapolis.

Frank's clean living and decent actions have made him a host of friends in the union who wish him all the luck and success in the world.

Bill Brown Says—

Mayor Thomas E. Latimer is now No. 2 organizer for Local 500. Meyer Lewis is No. 1. Poor old misguided Tom doesn't realize that when he was elected there was no such local as 500, and that Local 574 held several large meetings for Tom that must have netted a large vote.

Now to show us that he hasn't forgotten us he calls meetings of employers and asks them to break their contracts with 574.

We are waiting to hear Latimer explain to the voters at the next election How It All Happened.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

ORTONVILLE IS SCENE OF BIG LABOR MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

vided and a crowd of over 400 were in attendance.

Resolutions Committee Reports

Immediately after the morning session convened at 9 o'clock Sunday, the Resolutions committee made their report. The resolution presented by General Drivers Union Local 574 was the only one that called for specific action and outlined a method of procedure that would follow the adjournment of the Ortonville meeting. The resolution follows:

General Drivers' Union No. 574

Whereas, The Minnesota Labor Association Conference, held in Ortonville, Minnesota, January 10th and 11th, 1936, has accomplished a notable purpose in bringing together WPA, Relief Organizations and Trade Unions, who have never met before in joint conference, and

Whereas, we believe that the most notable achievement that could be accomplished by this meeting would be the calling of a further state-wide conference, at an early date whose purpose would be to attempt to bind together, a loose federation, all workers' organizations who would subscribe to a common program of action for needed working class reform and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That this conference go on record as being the sponsors and initiators of a state-wide conference of all unemployed organizations, project workers, relief groups and trade unions who are willing to subscribe to such action as may be accomplished by such a state-wide gathering, and

Be It Further Resolved, That this proposed conference be called within four weeks of this date in such a location as will be most convenient for the greatest number of delegates and that an Organization and Publicity Committee be selected whose duty shall be to co-operate with all state labor organizations to the end that they may take part in the proposed conference.

General Drivers' Union,
No. 574.

Per WILLIAM S. BROWN,
President.

This resolution recommended by the Resolutions Committee was adopted unanimously by the conference. The date of the state wide conference was set for February 8th and 9th, and the place will be General Drivers hall, 257 Plymouth avenue north, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Many Resolutions Passed

Of the twenty some odd resolutions brought in by the Resolutions Committee which dealt with subjects ranging from curbing the power of the U. S. Supreme Court

MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 16: Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, Jan. 17: Coal Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Jan. 20: Coal Workers.
Friday, Jan. 24: All Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Jan. 27: Full membership.
Tuesday, Jan. 28: Cab Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
Friday, Jan. 31: Federal Workers; Coal Stewards.

to the support of the Cloquet and Strutwear strikers, all but two were recommended by the resolutions committee for adoption. On these two a minority report was made and around them developed the first, and only struggle of the conference.

National Farmer Labor Party Resolution Defeated

The first resolution in which the committee recommended non-concurrence, was one introduced by the United Relief Workers association, which called upon the conference to go on record for the building of a national Farmer Labor party. A real fight developed over this question.

Delegates from the Unemployed Council, Ex-Service Men's League, United Relief Workers' Association, and the Upholsterer's Union fought for the adoption of the resolution. Opposing it were the delegates representing Local 574, Federal Workers, and the I.U.A.W. of Austin.

The resolution was disposed of on a motion to table with only one vote against it.

Resolution Calls for Committee

The second resolution around which a struggle developed was one calling for the setting up of a committee to lay the demands of the conference before Christgau, prior to the state wide conference. Although the Resolutions Committee had recommended non-concurrence it was adopted by the convention.

Committees Selected

With the resolutions disposed of, the only business remaining before the convention was the selection of various committees. The publicity and organization committees, called for in the resolution introduced by Local 574, were first elected.

The Publicity Committee elected is as follows: Nielson of Austin, Felten of Ortonville, Moll of Alexandria, and Davis, Bean and Dunne of Minneapolis. Dunne was chosen chairman of this committee.

The following organization committee was then elected. Witt, Patrick, Bishop, Sear, Himle, Lasher, Bean, Felton, Link, Brown, and Stanley. Wm. S. Brown was elected chairman.

Committees Meet

Following the adjournment of the conference, all committees met to organize themselves and to plan the work that will have to be done prior to the February 8th conference.

Plans of the Publicity Committee call for getting state-wide publicity for conference by getting out news releases to all labor publications within the state and by contacting various organizations who were not at the Ortonville meeting.

The newly organized local, of

River Terminal Unfair to Union

Friday, January 10th, Local 574 severed relations with the River Terminal Coal and Coke company and placed a banner before the entrance of this plant.

Gene Kalkman, owner of the River Terminal Coal and Coke company, has, for the past two months, consistently refused to live up to the terms of the union coal agreement of which he is one of the signers.

Over a period of sixty days Kalkman has employed, in his coal yard, five workers who are members of Local 221 Ice Wagon Drivers' union. This is a direct violation of the union agreement that is now in force between Local 574 and the River Terminal Coal and Coke company. Article I and II of the coal agreement read as follows:

"ARTICLE I

The wage scales and working conditions regulated by the terms of this agreement shall apply to all employees directly engaged in loading, unloading, storage, and delivery service of the said employers.

ARTICLE II

No agreement or contract will be entered into by any of the parties to this agreement, with individual employes or groups of employes, which conflict with the terms and provisions of this agreement."

Kalkman has entered into an agreement with Local 221 or its members. This is contrary to the terms and provisions of the agreement with 574.

The River Terminal Coal and Coke company have been asked repeatedly to straighten this trouble out. They have refused. Hence the banner.

This coal company, at the present time, is unfair to Local 574 and to every right thinking person in the trade union movement. We have no quarrel with those five men who are members of 221, but we say to them and to Kalkman, their place is with the Cedar Lake Ice Company or the Hy-Art Company, the only two firms that are under contract to Local 221.

Organizer Grets New Publication

Saturday, January 11th, saw the first issue of "The Progressive." This newspaper is the newly born official organ of the Minnesota Labor Association.

Printed in Graceville, Minnesota, and published in Ortonville, it is intended that this publication will become the rallying force that will complete the organization of all workers in the western part of the state.

The Northwest Organizer is happy to greet the Progressive. We wish it luck and success.

The election board, Williams, Skoglund, Severson, Rainbolt, and Hagstrom, who had complete charge during the two-day union election, raked the union hall with an iron hand.

574 in Mankato, Minnesota, had a good five delegation at the conference.

It consisted of the following: Hugo Muetzel, Rudolph Wajahn, Roy Kogley, and Leo Ayers.

The Austin I.U.A.W. sent three delegates: C. P. McDaniel, Ray Gainey and C. N. Nielson.

Any organization desiring to get in touch with the conference committee can address Miles B. Dunne, Chairman Publicity Committee, 257 Plymouth Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Local 574 Elections Return All Officers and Trustees to Office

Friday and Saturday, January 10th and 11th, saw the first union election that has been held since Local 574 has been moved outside of the sacred confines of the American Federation of Labor and the Teamsters International.

What chiefly characterized the first nomination and election held under our new constitution and by-laws, was the almost complete lack of interest in it, displayed by the membership.

The feeling that seemed to prevail almost everywhere among union members was that there was no necessity of making a change in the elected personnel of the union.

Time and time again during the period between the nomination and election was heard this statement: "The present officers and Executive Board have carried this union through the most trying period that any organization ever experienced."

Despite the fight that has been put on the union by the A. F. of L. and others, the union has signed new contracts with employers, solidified its position and increased the membership by hundreds. A change now would be like swapping horses in the middle of a stream."

Union Cast Small Vote

The lack of interest that was displayed by the members was fully borne out when the ballots were counted. Less than 15 per cent of the total membership voted during the two day election.

All Officials Returned to Office.

The counting of the ballots revealed that scarcely an contest had been made. All the present officials and executive board were returned to office by a sweeping majority.

The only place where a contest had been promised was for the Executive Board where there were eight nominees, three to be elected.

The present board of trustees were elected, however, by a vote of more than 2 to 1.

The installation of officers took place at the Monday night meeting.

Mankato Drivers Form 574 Branch

Thursday night, January 9, saw the first organization meeting of the Mankato Section of Local 574. The meeting was attended by 140 workers composed principally of truck drivers, helpers and WPA workwks.

Officials of the Minneapolis union made the trip to Mankato Thursday night to assist the Mankato workers in setting up their organization. Farrell Dobbs and C. Skoglund of Local 574 and Earle Martin and Vern Rutledge of Local 160, Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' Union, addressed the meeting.

In conformity with the decision of the Executive Board of Local 574, Dobbs laid before the Mankato workers a plan of organization that had been worked out previously. It was decided that the Mankato union be formed as a direct section of General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers Union Local 574. They are to function as an independent organization with their own officers, Executive Board and organization committee. Ten cents of each member's dues each month will be forwarded to the Minneapolis union which will be payment for the Northwest Organizer.

The Minneapolis union also agreed to furnish whatever executive or organizational assistance may be required by the Mankato union. The meeting voted unanimously to accept this recommenda-

Overheard at a Party

At a social gathering of women who were employed in a certain garment factory one woman was heard to say to another: "My husband works for the Northern States Power Company. He has belonged to Local 160 for over a year and they haven't been able to get any wage raises yet."

"But they are going to get them now because he told me that 574 was behind them."

Fascist Rule Hits German Workers

Any worker who imagines that the Fascist regime in Germany, under Adolf Hitler, has brought security and good wages to the German working class only has to read the copy of a German pay envelope reprinted here.

The copy of the German pay sheet and the article that accompanies it is reprinted from the Chicago Journal of Commerce, a news sheet published by and in the interest of large employers of labor. In a lengthy article it lauds by implication, at least, the system that has been used by European employers in dealing with their workers, particularly in countries where Fascism holds power.

In comparing labor relations in Germany and the United States it cites the fact that here, while frequent strikes and lockouts "disrupt production, jeopardize margins and seriously curtail profits," in Germany, such disturbances, under the Fascist regime, are unknown.

If a comparison of the weekly rate of pay of the German worker after deductions have been made for taxes, sick benefits, etc., is made with that of the average American worker, it can be readily seen why American industrialists praise employee-employer relations under a Fascist dictatorship.

Following is a bona fide copy of the weekly pay envelope of a German worker.

Copy of a German Pay Envelope

Showing Deductions for Social Insurance (Translated into United States money)

REINHARD	
(Name of Industry)	
Wages from Oct. 6 to Oct. 12, 1934	
Name—HERMAN HILLENBACH	\$15.78
48 hours at 32.84 cents	
Deductions	
Total wages	\$15.40
Tax free	9.78
10% tax of	\$ 5.67 57c
Sick benefit	53c
Old age benefit	51c
Disability insurance	43c
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (2 1/2% of total payroll)	89c
Citizens' tax	61c
Marriage assistance	46c
Total deductions	\$ 8.50
Net wages	12.28
November 1 There Will Be	
Workers' card	22c
Widows' insurance	11c
	.33
	\$11.90
AVERAGE DEDUCTION FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS 20 PER CENT OF THE PAY	
—Source—"Nation's Business," December, 1935.	

CHRISTMAS THANKS

Local 574, Minneapolis, Minn. Gentlemen: We wish to thank you very kindly for the Thanksgiving and Christmas remembrance we received. It was very much appreciated. Yours very truly, Mr. and Mrs. Al Peterson and Family, 3250 Aldrich North, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

One hundred seven members joined the organization at the Thursday meeting.

A temporary set of officers was elected, consisting of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Recording Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer and three trustees. An organization committee of 30 was also elected. Ten delegates were selected to attend the Ortonville conference. The Organizational Committee will hold its first meeting Friday, January 17, at 8 o'clock.

St. Cloud WPA's to Form Organization

Friday night, January 10th, three members of Local 574, Dunne, Frosig, and Holstein journeyed to St. Cloud to speak at a meeting of WPA workers.

They were there at the request of the St. Cloud organization as announced in the Organizer last week. The meeting which was held in the new Eagles' Hall was a combined dance and business meeting. A crowd of about 400 was in attendance.

Information disclosed the fact that there was no real organization of WPA workers in St. Cloud at this time. An organization there that had formerly functioned for these workers has gone out of existence.

G. J. Dunne spoke to the meeting, stressed the need for organization, and pointed out to the workers what had been accomplished elsewhere by organized effort. A committee of five was selected who will come to Minneapolis Saturday afternoon, January 18th, to confer with 574 officials on plans for an organization campaign. The committee that visited St. Cloud reported the situation was excellent there for organization. Truck drivers in St. Cloud were reported as being completely unorganized.

Prospects for establishing a driver's local there are also good.

National Industrial Conference Report Shows Company Union Gain

As further proof that the Wagner Bill, hailed by A. F. of L. chieftains as the "Magna-Charta" of labor, has done little if anything to curb the growth and activities of company unions, a statement by Arthur H. Young, a \$75,000 a year "labor relation" director of the United States Steel Corporation, is revealing. "I am not seriously worried by the act," said Young. "I think the bill is unconstitutional and I am not surprised by the growth of company unions."

The National Industrial Conference Board, employers' research body, in the report of an investigation, just concluded, said that about 30 per cent of the 2,452 business concerns covered in the survey had "employee representation plan." The report said further that 68 per cent of the companies with more than 10,000 workers on their payrolls had company unions. Only 32 per cent had union agreements.

The report concluded with a statement that should hold great significance for the craft dominated A. F. of L. leadership. The concluding section of their report showed that the country's basic industries, iron, steel, automobile and rubber, were almost completely dominated by company union-

Industrial Committee Warns Craft Unionists

Sunday, January 12th, the A. F. of L. committee for industrial organization addressed another sharply worded warning to the leaders of the craft union bloc.

The A. F. of L. executive council, which meets Wednesday in Miami, Florida, received a communication from the Industrial Committee saying that they would demand "serious and immediate steps to promote organization of the auto, steel, rubber and radio workers along industrial lines."

This meeting of the A. F. of L. executive committee will determine, to a great extent, how serious have been the inroads of the industrial unionists.

It is evident from the strongly worded communication of the industrial committee that they plan no surrender.

To Whom It May Concern

Recent erroneous reports have conveyed the impression that Local 574 has endorsed certain candidates for office in the coming political campaigns. These rumors are false. If and when any candidate receives the official endorsement of Local 574 such endorsement will appear in the columns of the Northwest Organizer.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, Local 574

Hartford Central Body Discloses Spy

The Hartford, Connecticut, Central Labor Union deserves credit for uncovering the stool pigeon and spy who had succeeded in worming his way into the local labor movement.

The spy, Roszel, Secretary of Federal Local 18920, had in the short space of one year managed to gain a responsible and leading position in the Hartford labor movement. After the exposure, Roszel promptly disappeared from the scene. Roszel is the second stool pigeon that has been uncovered in Hartford in the past year.

Previously Bergil Belling, an operative of a strikebreaking agency, was exposed after he had gained some prominence in a federal union at the Fuller Brush plant.

Senate Group Shows Morgan War Profit

The much discussed and never settled question of who won the war is still a subject of discussion in many groups. After the repudiation of war debts and when all the double-crossing was over, the answer to that question is more of a mystery than ever.

Any intelligent person, after hearing the Senate munitions quiz can answer the question of who started the war. The blame for the United States entry into the late World war can now be placed squarely on the munition manufacturers owned or financed by the J. P. Morgan Banking Company.

Senate investigations disclosed the fact that not only did the Morgan firm lend millions of dollars to the allies in the form of munitions and supplies prior to our entry in the war but they financed existing munitions manufacturers to enlarge their operations and encouraged others to enter the grim business where they could invest more of their millions.

Who won the war we still don't know. But it's a cinch that Morgan made it.

Car Men Wear Buttons

Tuesday morning was a red letter day for the Street Car Men's union. The red and white union buttons they wore on their uniform caps proclaimed to the world that they were union men, and proud of it.

If the motorman or conductor on your streetcar doesn't wear a button, ask him why.

Huge Salaries Report Shows

A recently published report of a list prepared by the Bureau of Internal Revenue discloses some rather startling facts, in regard to salaries paid to some of our local financial magnates who are just now engaged in crying for "law and order" and industrial peace. A most compact little group is rewarded this.

Five officials of the Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, the linseed oil producers. S. M. Archer, \$49,999.92; Samuel Mairs, \$39,999.96; L. M. Leffingwell, \$30,000; T. L. Daniels, \$19,999.92; W. H. Morris, \$24,999.92; and W. L. Dedon, \$19,999.92. The board of five who head the Midland Company receive a total yearly salary of \$184,996.64. Net bad!

J. J. Coffman of the Colonial Warehouse, Inc., receives \$22,382.61 yearly. F. O. Watson of the Madsen Construction Company, \$35,942.42. The Sweatt family at the Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company do pretty well, too. W. R. Sweatt, \$22,950, H. W. Sweatt, \$42,000, and C. B. Sweatt, \$31,000.

The Northwest Bancorporation pays J. C. Thompson \$24,300. The Pittsburgh Coal Company finds the services of J. B. Beardsllee worth \$20,250. The newspaper publishing business seems to do pretty well here also.

The Minneapolis Journal pays G. B. Bickelhaupt \$44,553.60, Carl W. Jones \$20,207.60, and Lydia A. Jones \$17,082.

But it remained for Mr. A. R. Gallenkamp of the local Woolworth dime stores to lead the local financial celebrities. Mr. Gallenkamp receives a mere \$59,868 yearly. Lest this information prove misleading to workers in various Minneapolis plants who have suffered wage reductions in the past few years, it is well to state here that the figures as reported above probably also represent some drastic wage retrenchments suffered by these industrial kings.

Garage Mechanics Get Chance to Settle Old Score

This is the tale of a New Year's party with a surprising kick finish to it. New Year's eve, one of the large Motor Parts company, who are chiefly noted for the fact that they pay low wages for long hours of work, threw a party for garage employees.

From the outset, it appeared that complete harmony did not prevail among the invited guests. Among those attending the affair were a large number of garage employees who are members of Auto Mechanics Union No. 382. Another group were the employees of two notorious labor hating non-union garages.

In one of these garages two union pickets were shot down during the Auto Mechanics strike a year ago. Scabs, who were in the garage working when the shooting took place, were there at the party.

Their employer, who evidently had anticipated that ill feeling between the two groups would prevail, had hired a pug-ugly to attend the party with his scab workers to look out for their interests.

Warfare soon broke out. Where a minute before had been a scene of joy, revelry, and good fellowship now became a scene of carnage. When the smoke of battle had cleared away, the guard was on his way down town nursing a bruised head and the scab garage mechanics were on their various ways home.

Then the party really got underway.

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Published every Wednesday under the auspices of the
Northwest Labor Unity Conference

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION

257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

GENERAL OFFICE: 286 EAST 6TH STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

Subscription Rates

One year in advance \$1.00

Six months in advance .55

Bundle copies (10 copy minimum), each .02 1/2

Entered as second class matter May 1st, 1935, at the Postoffice
at Minneapolis, Minnesota, under act of March 3, 1879.

"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."

Until Further Notice

The official organ of the Minneapolis trade union movement last week carried a news item, boxed in bold face type, on the front page, announcing that the American Federation of Labor had opened an office in the National Building, 6th Street and 2nd Avenue South.

The concluding paragraph stated that **until further notice** Meyer Lewis would be in charge. We have no personal quarrel with Meyer Lewis. Whether he remains here or not is a matter of complete indifference to our union, as long as he ceases his unprincipled and vicious attack upon our organization.

There is plenty of work for an A. F. of L. organizer in Minneapolis, and in the northwest, doing the kind of work their title would indicate they are paid to do. But there is no room here for one who advocates the policy of destruction to the trade union movement.

We say to Meyer Lewis: "By your actions and by the statements you have made to the press and before various organizations, your mission here is to eliminate Local 574 as a factor in the local labor movement."

So, **until further notice**, we are forced to conclude that Meyer Lewis is an enemy of our union and, until further notice, we will take such steps as will protect our union against the head of the new Minneapolis A. F. of L. office.

Until further notice we will continue to do, in the future, what we have done in the past, fight in the interest of the organized workers.

The Ortonville Conference

The recent conference held in Ortonville, Minnesota, accomplished something that was really worth while. Like the Montevideo conference which preceded it, the Ortonville meeting turned out to be a rallying force for a still larger conference which will be held shortly.

No doubt there were those at the conference who felt, because some drastic, definite action was not taken at once, that nothing was accomplished. But we believe that a splendid accomplishment can be recorded for this meeting.

The conference definitely placed itself on record for the calling of a state-wide conference of all WPA organizations, relief groups and trade unions in the near future. The conference has also gone on record for the forming of a state federation of all such organizations.

This, in itself, constitutes the greatest step, for the well being of all WPA workers, that has ever been taken in this part of the country. It is well for those who believe in action without organization to know that the reverse is true. Without organization no successful action can be taken.

While the abuses that exist on WPA are a national question they can be solved on a state basis if the proper organizational machinery has been provided. The Ortonville conference has laid the basis of providing the vehicle by which WPA project workers can secure the reforms that are so sorely needed.

Central Labor Union Passes Resolution

The last meeting of the Central Labor Union passed a resolution condemning the activities of a group of business men who have taken part in various meetings where plans for reopening the closed Strutwear plant have been discussed.

Referring to the recent meeting at the Radisson hotel as a mob whose function was to usurp the authority of elected officials, the resolution condemned all such activities as un-American. The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, there has been a strike in progress at the Strutwear Knitting Company since August 16, 1935, and the officials of this company have refused to meet with representatives of the strikers; and

WHEREAS, every legitimate effort has been made by the strikers to effect a settlement favorable to both parties to the dispute and the company has resisted all such efforts; and

"WHEREAS, a group of employers going under the guise of

law-abiding citizens have charged the mayor of Minneapolis and the governor of Minnesota with failure to provide proper police protection for the operation of the plant, while they are at the same time denying the workers the right of collective bargaining; and

"WHEREAS, this group of employers have attempted to foist their wishes upon the mayor of Minneapolis and the governor of Minnesota by means of intimidation at a meeting at the Radisson hotel on January 7, 1936; and

"WHEREAS, we believe it contrary to the doctrine of American government for any such mob to usurp the functions of duly elected government officials by attempting to dictate the manner of carrying out the duties of their offices:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Minneapolis Central Labor Union this eighth day of January, 1936, in meeting assembled, that we go on record denouncing this un-American policy as one which is calculated to destroy our democratic institutions and to hinder the duly elected officials of our government in the performance of their duties."

Labor Looks at the Press

From a Tribune editorial: "The senate hearings (teach that) it will be extremely difficult for the United States to remain out of any general war which lasts for any length of time."

That is, unless the masses take matters into their own hands and abolish the system that breeds war as rats breed a plague.

J. P. Morgan testifies: "No one is more opposed to war than I."

Recent Washington news item says: "A \$9,500,000 profit to the J. P. Morgan syndicate for underwriting the first big allied war loan was revealed Friday by the senate munitions committee."

Morgan is opposed to war just as a bandit prefers to pick his victim's pocket peacefully. But woe if the victim protests.

Excerpt from report on Minneapolis relief situation by Burdette Lewis, public welfare racketeer: "Help the mayor and the city officials to see to it that the miseries of those upon relief are not increased by making them the footballs for alien and un-American class warfare propaganda."

In other words, smash the unemployed organizations.

Seems that Minneapolis just can't draw a decent guy by the name of Lewis.

Dr. C. M. Roan, director of the Union City Mission, solid citizen, speaks: "Communists and racketeers have teamed up in Minneapolis to threaten and intimidate citizens."

Or is it the racketeers and the business men who have teamed up against the people?

He's Loose Again

B. C. Forbes, fascist columnist for the Star: "Is it wise to conclude employers will act unreasonably towards their work folks? Responsible employers recognize that reasonably prosperous conditions among the wage-earning classes are essential to national prosperity"

Ortonville Notes

The Minnesota Labor association deserve a world of credit for the smooth staging of the Saturday and Sunday conference.

Bill Felton, editor of The Progressive, spent a busy Saturday afternoon as chairman of the conference session.

Local 574 delegates met many of their old friends at the conference and made many new ones.

The Ortonville Armory provided a splendid meeting place for the conference.

Stanley, of Anoka, was his old aggressive self. His advocacy of direct action was popular with the delegates.

The Saturday night dance proved to be a real rallying spot for all the delegates, male and female.

From the information gathered in Ortonville we conclude that the Lac Qui Parle project will be a big thing for that part of the country if it every becomes an accomplished fact.

The delegates from Local 574, Mankato, proved to be an intelligent aggressive group.

Tom Robinson, the champion Organizer sub-getter of western Minnesota, was one of the delegates.

and national stability."

So what does that make Mister Pack?

Life under Hitler, as portrayed in a Berlin news item: "Jews of Germany today discharged their Gentile maids under 35, who are forbidden to work for them. . . Some maids are expected to flock into the cities. These the government will promptly send back home. Others are likely to be placed in special homes or 'schooling camp' at their own expense until they find new jobs."—Christian Science Monitor.

Life under Mussolini, as portrayed in a Rome news item: "Or-

ders have been issued by the Ministry of Propaganda banning the works of all dramatic authors and composers belonging to countries applying sanctions against Italy. . . . Shakespeare's plays, however, may still be played, because, according to the Fascist press, Shakespeare was born in Italy and produced his plays in England under an assumed name."—Christian Science Monitor.

London news item: "Discussions at the Naval Conference made it apparent that hope of general naval limitation is dimmed for the present."

The A. F. of L. sums up tersely in its annual review of business: "The year 1935 was a year of progress for business at the expense of workers. Profits up 40 per cent, workers' wages up 3 per cent."

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

THE "SONS" HAVE IT

As is fitting and proper in this Scandinavian populated state of Minnesota, the names ending in "son" had all the rest in the union roster. The Johnsons lead the league with 61 members. Andersons are running a close second with a 48. Petersons not quite so good—33. The Olsons have the Hansons beaten with a score of 31 to 24. Carlsons run them a close second. Twenty of that name. The Larsons and Ericksons run a dead heat—14 to 14. The Swansons are in the cellar with 13.

A grand total of 261 members whose names end in that typical Scandinavian manner.

Nutty Facts

A prusal of the membership roster of the union discloses some rather curious facts. The colors are well represented. We have Grey, Rust, Brown, White, Green, Black and Blue. For building material we have Steel and Wood. There is a Haws and a Castle, a Dorr and a Gate. We could arm ourselves with a Spear or a Sword.

Our feathered friends are represented by Stork, Bird and Roban. We have a Carpenter, a Weaver and a Miller, a Nichol and a Penne and, believe it or not, a Lion and a Lamb.

Monday was pay day on the Belt Line. The Independent Truck Owners' committee was in the hall planning a sweeping campaign on this project.

The editor and the president of the union were in Ortonville Saturday and Sunday.

Fairrell Dobbs was in Mason City.

G. Dunne, St. Cloud.

The mystery of why the recording secretary did not return from St. Cloud with G. Froisig and E. Holstein has not yet been solved.

Local 574 is going to be host to the State WPA Conference on February 8th and 9th.

Reeves is kosher.

Local 221, Ice Wagon Drivers Union, held a special meeting Monday night. Both members were there.

It is reliably reported that Meyer Lewis is willing to declare an armistice.

W. A. Young of the General Electric receives a salary of \$90,-672 per year. Gerald Swope of the same corporation also gets \$90,-672. Wonder what Pack gets?

Some union member said the other night that he now could understand what made it so hot around the union hall. He said that the initials of Wm. S. Brown contained the letters that made for free speech.

The Monday night meeting was poorly attended.

Saturday afternoon, Local 500 held a mass meeting. It was for drivers who they hoped to organize. Fourteen men attended the meeting. Seven were members of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council. Four were 574 members seeking information. Three were people who just happened to be passing by. So goes it.

The new Mankato local has 107 members.

If a federation of all WPA and project organizations can be set up in Minnesota, there are politicians who had better see us before the next election.

The River Terminal Coal and Co. are on the unfair list with Local 574. Union men, take notice!

The union election turned out a disappointingly small vote.

The last meeting of the Central Labor Union was an executive session. What the hell have they got to hide?

Local No. 665, Building Service Union, have issued a call for a progressive trade union conference which will be held Sunday, February 2, 10 a. m., at 520 Hennepin Avenue.

Al Russell, Strutwear picket, who is now serving time in the Minneapolis workhouse, has been unable to raise bail pending his appeal.

The Executive Board is safe for another year.

"Honest" John Williams, of Local 160, is back on the job.

How soon, Mrs. Struthers?

Don't forget the Federal Workers' dance Saturday night, January 18th.

CARD OF THANKS

Dear Sirs: We want to thank you very much for the Christmas basket you sent us. We appreciate very much all you have done for us. Sincerely, Mrs. Anna Sanford and Ethel, 2320 Walton Place North, Minneapolis, Minnesota.