

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:  
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

As from this hour  
You use your power,  
The world must follow you.

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

VOL. 2, NO. 22

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

## RELIEF CLIENTS BEAT OATH

### LABOR HATING BOSSES STOP A SETTLEMENT

**Grocery Workers Are Firm  
in Their Demands for  
Recognition**

**All Efforts to Settle Strike  
Have Been Foiled by  
Employers**

All efforts to end the existing strike of the employees of wholesale grocery houses has failed, and the strike is apparently being carried on with equal determination on each side. In spite of the fact that government mediators from the United States Department of Labor have worked unceasingly since their arrival in Minneapolis two weeks ago, it is plain that the wholesale grocery bosses are determined to make this struggle a finished fight with the Union.

Various proposals to end the difficulty have been submitted by Federal mediator Robert Mythen. Without exception they have been rejected by the employers without even receiving the consideration of that group. The Union stands ready and willing as always to end the strike when they receive assurance from the grocery employers that Local No. 544 will be recognized as the bargaining agency for employees in wholesale grocery firms.

The strike is being conducted with supreme determination by the grocery drivers, helpers and platform men. No wholesale grocery house which has not signed an agreement with the Union has moved a truck since the beginning of the hostility. Stores are being picketed and bannered. The National Tea, the C. Thomas stores and the Piggly Wiggly have been made the particular target of the Union boycott. Representatives of these firms have been particularly obnoxious in their refusal to deal with General Drivers Union.

At the Friday meeting of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council a decision was arrived at which will drastically affect the operation of these three chains

### **Kildall Fish Co. Signs Agreement**

The Kildall Fish Co. signed a Union agreement with Local No. 544 Saturday, September 12. This agreement, which provides wage increases and improved working conditions for the workers involved, is the first Union contract that has been signed between this company and General Drivers Union. Its wage and hour provisions will go into effect at once.

### **Weafald Hits at Elevator Strikers**

Tuesday morning papers carried an article which purported to be an interview with Knute Weafald, Farmer-Labor railroad and warehouse commissioner, in which he roundly condemned the flour and cereal strike. It is almost impossible to believe that an elected representative of the Farmer-Labor party would indulge in such ill-advised and apparently unthinking criticism of the striking workers.

In the article Weafald says the strike, regardless of the issues involved, should come to an end. He says nothing of the stubborn and reactionary attitude of the millionaire mill owners who have refused to deal with the organization representing their employees. If criticism is being directed at the strike it should be directed at the place where criticism should apply. Weafald should tell of the low wages and rotten working conditions prevailing in the mills and elevators and relate the story of the cold-blooded breaking up of the Mill Workers Union by the mill owners not so long ago.

When Weafald says the strike should end we can readily agree with him, but it should end only when the flour mill and elevator owners recognize the Cereal Workers Union, raise wages in the industry and install decent conditions of employment.

### **Battery Workers Hold Firm Ranks**

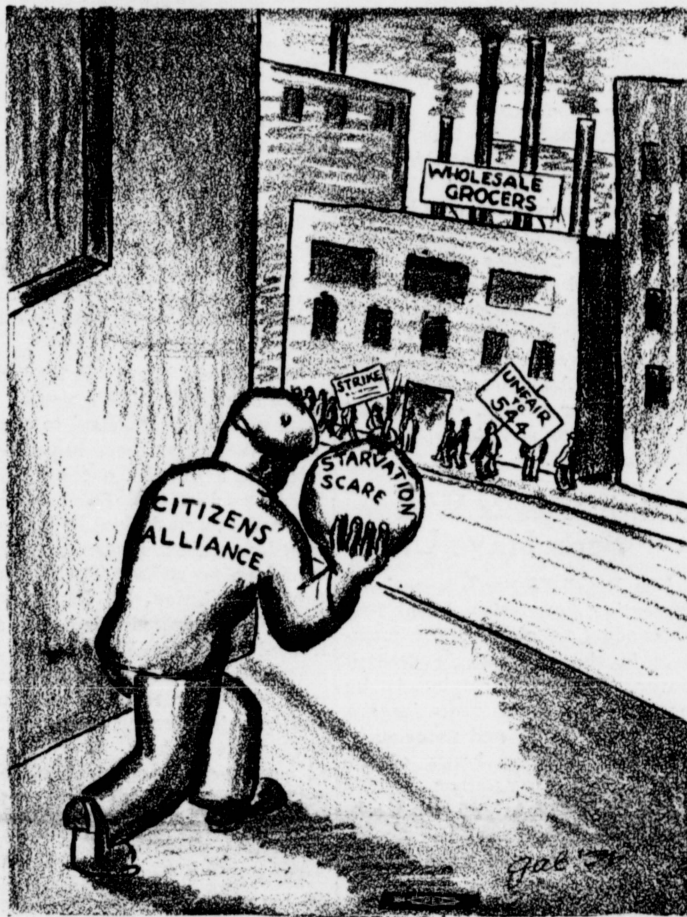
The striking battery workers continue to present a solid front to the battery employers during the past week. At the present writing, employees of every Minneapolis battery company as well as those of the Jordan Electric Co. are on strike.

Last Thursday saw a new development in the situation when employees of the National Battery Co. in S. Paul contacted the Battery Workers Union and indicated that they were ready to present demands of the Minneapolis battery workers to their employer. The company union has been in existence at the National Battery Co. for some time. Apparently workers there have begun to realize the futility of attempting to secure reforms in wages and working conditions through this organization.

In the meantime plans for securing a charter for the battery workers are proceeding swiftly. The Monday night meeting of the Battery Workers Union was addressed by Guy Alexander, Secretary-Treasurer of Electrical Workers Union Local No. 292.

Meat, milk and ice drivers refused to deliver to the struck grocery concerns Monday.

### **The Real Trouble Maker**



### **Failure to Make Gains in WPA Strike Is Explained**

**Lack of Leadership Is  
One of Major  
Causes**

Talk's cheap and claim-agents are plentiful, but Minneapolis WPA workers may lose two or three days badly needed wages as a result of the poorly planned WPA strike here last week. The question is whether it was worth the cost. We believe it was. But a true analysis is necessary for fair evaluation.

The strike was forced by irresponsible persons without regard for thousands of affected organized workers—without even the courtesy of a phone call to their organizations. Because several hundred Airport (WPA) workers were misled by former United Relief Workers and Unemployment Council leaders who had usurped control over Workers Alliance Local 362 and the Minnesota Workers Alliance, therefore, ten thousand WPA workers and their families were compelled to go out in sympathy or be strikebreakers.

The Federal Workers Section of General Drivers Union Local 544 declared a holiday in support of Airport strikers at the earliest possible minute the membership could vote. It maintained that position throughout negotiations.

Thursday, September 2, was a day of great confusion and actual violence—incited by leaders of the Workers Alliance between two groups of organized workers on WPA projects. Support voted by F. W. S. that evening brought order out of the chaos and complete peaceful shutdown of WPA projects in less than four hours Friday a. m.

The strike was settled in EXACT CONFORMITY with the vote of all except one of the Workers Alliance representatives in the Joint Negotiating Committee. Bean, Roberts and Mayville were present and did not vote against the proposed settlement. Yet, W. A. Local 362 calls it "betrayal" to cover its colossal failure. Bean became so confused he ran out, leaving his hot potato with Mayville. Bean and Mayville dropped every semblance of demands upon the National Administration to lift the \$60.50 monthly earnings maximum for unskilled labor. That alone was a direct BREAKING OF THE WRITTEN AGREEMENT between the Workers Alliance and the F. W. S. for joint negotiations, which agreement was filed by Roberts and Christgau.

Those who started the strike ignored material conditions. To win direct relief concessions from the National Administration now

### **FEDERALS WIN VICTORY OVER PAUPER'S OATH**

**Peterson Rules That Oath  
Need Not Be Signed  
by Clients**

**Plans of Joseph Faction Are  
Dealt a Blow by  
Ruling**

The Federal Workers Section of No. 544 won a smashing victory Monday when Attorney-General Peterson ruled the so-called "Paupers Oath" unconstitutional. In his statement Harry Peterson said that while he held that relief clients might be required to fill out and sign an application providing the form of application was "reasonable." In his statement outlawing the reapplication blank with its attached affidavit Peterson said:

"If we are right in our conclusion that the application is unreasonable and contrary to the spirit and public policy of our relief legislation, we believe it necessarily follows that the Board of Public Welfare, acting through its superintendent of public relief, is without authority to discontinue relief or to refuse to grant relief to a person otherwise qualified who refuses to sign such application and affidavit."

The ruling by Attorney-General Harry Peterson brings to an end an unceasing fight that has been waged by the Federal Workers Section against the "Paupers Oath" since it was first planned by I. S. Joseph and his supporters on the Board of Public Welfare.

The Federal Workers Section contended from the outset that the form of application with its

(Continued on page 3)

### **Notice for All Members**

**A 50c assessment on all Union members was voted at the regular semi-monthly Union meeting Monday night. The funds raised by this assessment will go to helping support the families of the grocery workers who are now on strike.**

**This assessment goes into effect immediately and must be made when paying current dues. Members are urged to pay their dues promptly in order that the funds so raised can be devoted to assisting in winning the strike of the grocery drivers, helpers and platform men.**

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town



# LABOR HATING BOSSES STOP A SETTLEMENT

(Continued from page 1)  
of stores. The decision calls for a complete stoppage of all deliveries to National, Thomas and Piggly Wiggly stores. Starting Monday morning no milk, ice, meat or groceries were delivered to any of the stores involved. The only exception to this driving stoppage is that farmers can continue to deliver home-raised produce to these stores. When this driving stoppage begins to take effect the three chain stores involved will be practically forced to close their doors.

Saturday all workers involved in the strike received temporary relief orders and every effort will be made by officials of the Federal Workers Section to place the strikers on the regular relief rolls until such time as the strike is settled and the workers resume their employment.

The commissary is functioning smoothly under the efficient direction of the strike committee and no stone has been left unturned to bring the strike to a successful conclusion for the workers involved.

## Strike Notes By Pete

A couple of pieces from a calf anatomy were sent over to me by my good friend Charley from the meat row. Guess he thinks I'm studying to be a veterinarian. . . . They tried to keep a couple of our pickets in the city bastille. The boys broke out with that sickness called Mistakenidentity. . . . One of the pickets told a woman that he was going to be a minister out at Hopkins. She told him he had better take the cigarette out of his mouth.

### NEW WRINKLE DEPT.

Pickets catch truck unloading can goods in coal yard. . . . Have your groceries and coal delivered in the same load. . . . Everyone is bragging about our meals. Well, our cooks have had plenty of experience. One had cooked in the army and the other was a chef on the railroad. . . . One of the boys bet the writer that the strike would last until after election. And do I ever need a new hat.

The Organizer ought to have a story contest. Some of the tales that are told around here. Whow! . . . A certain company that just signed up is plenty Scotch. No donations they say. Phooey on them. . . . All you folks who need fish for Friday, call Kildahl Fish Co. They saw the light, they must be right.

## Retail Clerks Will Soon Have Union

The Retail Clerks International Protective Association, Local 709, is conducting a drive for members in the retail chain grocery stores. Workers employed by most of the chain groceries are grossly underpaid and notoriously exploited. Weekly hours of 70 and 80 are not uncommon. Wages range from \$14 to \$20 per week. Need for organization in this category of workers is as great as exists anywhere.

Retail clerks are urged to communicate with the organizer of Local 709 in regard to joining the Union. Contact with the organizer can be made by calling the Central Labor Union, Br. 2370.

on September 19. Yowsah—right up in the ballroom on the third floor of the Drivers Building, 257 Plymouth Ave. N. Bring your wife! Bring your best girl! Bring them both—we'll keep them from fighting. Bring your baby. Pete Snapco will look after it. He needs only one hand to play trumpet with anyway. . . .

### CLASS

We are sorry to announce that we have lost the services of Jerry Snyder. With the return of school, Jerry had to go back to the Dakotas where he is principal of schools. Tsk, tsk and we used to say dem and dose in his presence.

### DRAG—

There are some 400 unemployed members in the Musicians Local 73. All applications for admittance are denied. The band sponsored by 544 managed to get in. We are not unemployed. . . .

### ADVANTAGE—

Readers of the Organizer have never been denied news. They enjoy the comments of seven columnists. Sparkling editorials have always been featured. Now a department of sports has been established. Keep abreast of the times by reading your Organizer.

### HECKLE—

We are tormented with a desire to slide a peeled grape down the back of the originator of a certain ad for pipe tobacco. It is an open suggestion to encourage women to try pipe smoking—Shades of Snuffy Smith—What next?

## Bill Brown Says—

Before the next election every member of our union should see that every person who is old enough to vote in their family register in order that they will be eligible to vote in the November election. Most of the troubles of the workers can be traced to the organized Bankers, the C. A. and Banker Controlled Republican and Democratic candidates for office. The Bankers have their people running for office. Let us, as workers, not become confused and vote for the same people that prevents settlement of strikes, and are for longer hour of labor, less pay and company unions. Send Martin Nelson and his gang back where they came from. Keep the F-L party in control of state government.



BILL BROWN  
President of 544

## Failure to Make Gains in WPA Strike Is Analyzed

(Continued from page 1)  
while powerful interests press for curtailment would have required statewide closing, not only of WPA projects (which only pleases those seeking curtailment) but the more necessary PWA projects as well, and so as to induce similar action in many states at the same time. No preparations for such broad support were reported. Instead, all indications pointed to a hasty, slipshod intent to put F. W. S. into a hole. The W. A. national office would not have approved such action.

Was it possible to spread the strike effectively in Minnesota? A mass meeting in St. Paul to consider strike action there has a total attendance of 150 out of 7,000 WPA workers. A St. Paul job steward held back dues he had collected, seeking assurance there would be no strike. The Citizens Protective Union, St. Paul's only unemployed organization, has affiliated with the W. A., but its membership consists for the most part of direct relief clients and has but just begun to organize the project workers. A great deal of constructive organization—not agitating—is needed before St. Paul can be much of a factor in any strike situation.

Outside the Twin Cities, Bean's premature "Minnesota Workers Alliance" depended almost wholly upon the Minnesota Labor Ass'n. covering ten western counties. In one of the counties there is a recent organizational revival due to the Lacque Que Parle WPA project, but in any extended strike situation at present it would require more help than it could give. The F. W. S. stands ready to give such help. The organizational strength of the M. L. A. for effective strike action is an unknown factor. There, also, further organization is needed. Whatever organization Bean has gathered or held in other scattered communities of the state is uninformed on effective methods of struggle and demoralized by Bean's constant advocating of petty political action, fighting by petition and pressure by empty threats which gain nothing for the workers except disappointments.

Viewed in all its aspects, M. W. A. has plenty to talk about but little to act with. A tremendous amount of genuine organizing work is necessary before a statewide WPA strike in Minnesota would accomplish much.

The four day week on WPA could have been gained without a strike because the government gave up nothing in granting it. It saves each worker about 18c a month. An 88 hour work month would not have produced a penny of additional income—the thing we need most—but would have shut off all claim for a higher hourly rate without reduction in hours. It would have antagonized and estranged the rest of the labor movement by reducing the income of skilled and semi-skilled workers, since it is impractical to work them longer or different hours than the unskilled. The former Unemployed Council gang

was ready to commit this fatal error now—to accept the 88 hour week without increasing the \$60.-50 monthly maximum—and thereby to split organized labor wide open. What a triumph for the government that would have been.

To realize the gains of the "holiday" it is necessary to consider the future. The petty immediate gains: the four day week, negotiations still pending for main demands, possibility of making up time lost by strike, the local fight for supplemental relief, maintenance of cordial relations with the Unions—these are immediate gains. But none of them required the strike.

The dodgers put out by the Bean-Roberts clique on September 9 is a series of misstatements from beginning to end. It is but an attempt to cover up their responsibility for the strike by dumping everything into the lap of the F. W. S. No honest workers will be fooled by such duplicity. The facts are too well known and don't even deserve a reply.

The matter of the W. A., however, needs clarification because of the great need for unity on a state and national basis. To further unity the Federal Workers Section has applied to the Workers Alliance of America for a charter on the following basis:

1. That we do not recognize the present Minnesota Workers Alliance because it is not an effective organizing medium.

2. That a Minnesota convention of the W. A. A. be held only after the November elections, and be limited to unemployed organizations and that representation therein be in direct proportion to actual present paid up membership. We are informed that these conditions are acceptable.

The real gains from the WPA strike and holiday in Minneapolis stated simply are: 1. That the incapable and unprincipled leadership of the present Minnesota Workers Alliance has effectively exposed its own true character, and, 2. That the relief workers of Minneapolis and Minnesota are now ready for real progress toward effective unity, coordinated action and more intelligent responsibility. There is less likelihood of headlong plunges into bad situations. There is better ground for hope and action in the struggle for better living conditions.

## Mpls. Knitting Workers Meet

Employees of the Minneapolis Knitting Co., who have been meeting in General Drivers hall for the purpose of attempting to unionize the plant, have called a mass meeting of all workers there for Wednesday, September 16. It is planned to secure a charter in the Textile Workers Union.

Demands include abolition of the Mani system, retention of the 40 hour week and a 25c increase in piece work rates. A committee of the workers will be in charge of the meeting.

## Members Resign In a Body from Employer Board

Saturday all members of the Minneapolis Employer-Employee Board submitted their resignation to Mayor Thomas E. Latimer at whose instigation the Board was brought into being. The employer-Employee Board, made up of representatives of employers and members of organized labor who were appointed by Mayor Latimer, had been in existence almost exactly one year.

From the outset this Board was doomed to failure in its efforts to mediate and conciliate labor controversies. Lacking power to enforce its decisions and decrees, the same weakness that marked the National Labor Relations Board, it proved itself an inefficient weapon for the workers.

While the whole history of the Board is lacking it is safe to say that the Employer Board proved itself to be in the final analysis a stumbling block in organized labor's path. No matter how just the claim or demands of a labor union and no matter how dire their need for reforms, the function of the Employer-Employee Board was to always turn back the workers short of their goal. The Latimer Board was the brain child of Dr. Prosser, former head of the Dunwoody Institute, training school for non-union building trades mechanics. The make-up of the group itself was a guarantee that labor could expect very little from the Board's decisions or orders.

On the surface, the make-up of the Board left little to be desired. Equal representation from both employers and Unions. However, conceiving that interest of employers and labor clashed on the Board and each side stood determinedly for what they considered right, the decision was then left in the hands of the seventh man on the Board, A "neutral chairman."

The chairman happened to be the same Dr. Prosser who had conceived the idea of the Board and at whose instigation it had been brought into being. Prosser has written several books on "employee relations" and in some quarters, among the employers, he is considered quite an authority on preventing "labor unrest." Along with that the secretary of the Board was Frank Miller, former secretary of the local Regional Labor Board office. From the outset it was Miller who conducted the day by day work of the Board, got out publicity, made decisions and issued proclamations apparently on his own authority. Mr. Miller's sympathy and understanding of labor's problems and labor's aspirations has always been a matter of grave doubt. It is sufficient to say that Local No. 544's dealings with Miller prior to his acceptance on the Latimer Board lead the Drivers Union to conclude that little justice could be expected from such a set up. Mayor Latimer in a public statement Saturday refused to accept the resignation of the group prior to the settlement of the existing labor disputes in Minneapolis. With the resignation of all members of the Board, the future of this body is in grave doubt. It is probable that it will go out of existence shortly.

## Notes to You by Kenn Harlan

### BULL—

Monday, September 7, we dashed out to Nicollet park where, according to rumor, the Minneapolis and St. Paul cops were going to play baseball. After a fashion they did play ball and even steal bases.

Minneapolis' brave guardians of the law won by a score of 17 to 4 and why not after that batting practice of 1934.

Most amusing of all incidents occurred as Minneapolis' chubby little third baseman, while at bat, was hit in the lap while his back was turned.

And for the first time in our life we saw triple parking—and cops all over the place. . . .

### STREET SCENE—

The auto is fast replacing the horse. Yet old dobbin hangs on and rivalry continues. The other late afternoon a peddler with horse and wagon and all passed by Drivers headquarters. Thereupon the drivers loitering about began heckling. The peddler heckled back—old dobbin stepped on it and left the scene in indignation. . . .

### POLICY

B-29-490 looks like a numerical combination in a game of policy. It is the number in a game of poor policy. It is the number of the car which sneaked a load of goods out the back window of Jordan-Stevens on Tuesday, September 8. Nuts to you, B-29-490. . . .

### ANNOUNCING—

The panic is on! The season is here! It has begun! Dick Ather-ton's new, rejuvenated, revitalized swing band starts its dancing tour

### MEETING SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Local No. 160

- Tuesday, Sept. 8—Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 15—Executive Board Meeting and Stewards' Meeting
- Wednesday, Sept. 16—Regular Membership Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 22—Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, Sept. 29—Executive Board Meeting

**Nelson Welding Co.**  
E. C. NELSON, Prop.  
A Specialty of Truck Body Building  
Present Location, 2520 Nicollet  
Moving Soon—Watch for New Address



# FEDERALS WIN VICTORY OVER PAUPER'S OATH

(Continued from page 1)

accompanying affidavit was not only illegal but it also provided a dangerous weapon in the hands of the reactionaries on the relief board who could use it to intimidate and coerce relief clients out of that which was rightfully theirs.

The Federal Workers Section, Local No. 544, advise all members of that organization to refuse to sign the oath and to insist that they continue to receive relief. At every Welfare Board meeting since the inception of the new application form, representatives of the Federal Workers Section have been on hand protesting against the vicious affidavit. The ruling of Peterson temporarily knocks the props out from under that group on the Welfare Board who are determined to continue to starve the relief clients and deny them their rights.

Mayor Latimer refused to comment on the new development.

# Laundry Workers and Dry Cleaners

The regular membership meeting September 9 had all the appearances of a young mass meeting.

Howard Y. Williams, national organizer for Farmer-Labor Party, gave an organization speech that held the attention of the members. In his discussion of the class struggle in America today he touched upon the plight of the sharecroppers and textile workers of the south and emphasized the need of powerful militant Unions to hold in check the encroachment of organized capital on the rights of the workers, "We must not scab, either on the job or at the polls," said Mr. Williams.

One or two laundry and cleaning plants heretofore thought to be Union proof are giving way before the continued aggressive organizational drive being sponsored by Local 183.

The Citizens Alliance propaganda that some bosses are enclosing in the weekly pay envelope are fooling nobody. All workers should demand that such tripe be printed on Union paper and carry the Union label.

The bosses do not object to the workers belonging to the Union if they are "reasonable" and "reasonable" they mean don't ask for anything.

As yet we have heard of no laundries threatening to move out of town.

At latest reports the demands of Local 131 Laundry Drivers Union are to be presented soon.

All members of the Union are urged to impress upon non-union workers the importance of joining before October 1. At that date the initiation fee will be increased from \$2 to \$5.

Workers are demanding the abolition of piece work in the industry and rightly so. All speed up and stretch out systems cause unemployment, break the health of the workers and harm the industry itself by making it possible for the "Simon Legree" type of boss to cut production costs and thereby chisel and cut prices on his competitors.

# Labor Picnic Draws Huge Throng As Speakers Tell of Labor's Rights

Sunday saw a huge turnout of members, friends and supporters of the Minneapolis trade union movement at the annual labor day picnic held in Powderhorn park. Despite lowering skies and a constant threat of rain throughout the day, a huge crowd, estimated in excess of 20,000, was on hand to assist in celebrating labor's holiday in a befitting manner. The picnic, which had originally been scheduled for the latter part of August was postponed by the untimely death of Governor Floyd B. Olson.

Besides trade unionists and their friends there were present a number of members of various farm organizations and liberal political groups. A splendid program of sports events was on tap for those athletically inclined. The speaking program was the highlight of the day's outing and a long list of speakers was on the program representing various trade union organizations and political parties.

Prominent among the speakers was Governor Hjalmer Peterson, Governor of the state since the death of Floyd B. Olson. Peterson characterized the former Governor as "A real friend of labor, whose death comes as a blow to the entire working class."

Senator Benson, Farmer-Labor candidate for Governor, said that, "Labor can achieve its end by unity, singleness of purpose and continued close co-operation."

One of the most interesting events of the afternoon was the speech of George Thomas Davis, San Francisco attorney, who is Tom Mooney's legal representative in his fight to clear himself from the frame-up of the Preparedness Day bombing. Davis told a moving story of Mooney's fight to free himself from the results of capitalistic persecution.

Other speakers on the program were Phillip DeMore, legislative representative of the Railway Trainmen; Congressman Ernest Lundeen; Dewey Johnson, candidate for Congress in the Fifth district; Robley D. Cramer, editor of the Labor Review, and Mayor Latimer.

The Union office is in receipt of a communication from Mrs. Floyd B. Olson, Patricia Olson and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Olson thanking the Local Union for the expression of sympathy accorded to them during their recent bereavement.

# Petroleum Workers Send Aid to Union

**PETROLEUM WORKERS' UNION**  
Local 19802, A. F. of L.  
501 East Hennepin Ave.  
347 University Ave.  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
September 3, 1936

**RESOLUTION**  
WHEREAS: The General Drivers Union Local 544 is now on strike against a group of wholesale grocers who are either a part of the Citizens Alliance, or are being intimidated by that group, keeping them from signing an agreement with this Union, when the demands of Local 544 are reasonable and just, and

WHEREAS: We, the workers in the Petroleum industry, are met with the same resistance by our employers who have, in the past, forced us into a similar situation, we are wholly in sympathy with the struggle for better working conditions.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That we endorse this strike, and contribute our moral and financial support to these strikers.

**PETROLEUM WORKERS UNION 19802**

# IN THE END ZONE

## LOCAL

baseball is a past issue so far as avid interest is concerned. That there remains but a momentary flash as the World Series is played off, following which we all swing our attention to a man's game—football...

## THE OBJECT

of this department shall be twofold. First we'll stick our neck out and try picking the winners in local college and high school ball. Second, since this is a weekly publication, we shall have to be content with a rehash of each week's play...

## WITH

the Gopher-Husky game just nine days away, all loyal Gopher fans are going around with their fingers crossed. So much advance publicity has come out of Washington State concerning the irrefragable power of those Huskies that some of us are unduly worried. But don't misunderstand—those Huskies are powerful. They are out to get Minnesota's scalp...

## HOWEVER

we are still banking on Bernie Bierman. The old master has a never exhausted bag of tricks. He should pull the Gophers through...

## STACKED

up against our Gophers are these adverse conditions: Loss through graduation of such stars Levoir, Seidel, Biese, and Oech—a 2,000 mile trip—a strange climate and the unprecedented early season game...

## HIGH SCHOOL

ball presents an interesting picture. A darn close race is assured with the weak division stronger and the strong division weaker. Anything can happen. Pete Guzzy has hopes for his Edison wizards this year. Cully Swanson at Marshall hopes to carry on where Dal Ward left off and produce more championship teams...

## OUT

in the lake district where the rural boys play a fine grade of ball and where your writer scun his nose in Prep school, a good season is promised. Hopkins, our old Alma Mammy, in the past four years has been twice champions and twice runners up. Under the able coaching of Butzy Meatzold, Hopkins will be right in there again this year. Mound, which produced Bruin and Beise and which has always had dangerous teams, should be up to par this autumn once again...

## SMALL

colleges such as St. Johns, Hamlin and St. Thomas will play along in the muck of the line and a fine brand of ball will go almost unnoticed. It is regrettable that teams playing such good ball should be overshadowed by the looming greatness of the Gophers...

## HERE THEY ARE

all laid out before you. Take your pick—get an old felt hat—a clay pipe—and a red blanket. Go out and park on some hard, cold bleachers. Yell yourself hoarse, and you'll be a football fan, my freind—What's more, you'll enjoy it...

Local 1859 diamondball team will sponsor a dance at Kozlak Hall, 20th and University Aves. N. E., Saturday, September 19, at 8 p. m. Admsision 25c.

So many of the lady members of our Union are married to 544 boys we are wondering if that doesn't make 544 and 183 related in a sort of in-law way.

# Socialist Party To Hold Dance

The Minneapolis Socialist party will hold its election campaign Norman Thomas - for - President dance and carnival Saturday, September 19, at the General Drivers hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. N. Dick Atherton's orchestra has been engaged to furnish the evening's music. Several carnival booths are to be set up at which a mock election is to take place, darts are to be played and interesting knick knacks auctioned off. The target for darts is to be a Spanish fascist leader who every worker can only have deep hate for.

The committee pledges itself to make this dance and carnival an outstanding social event. Come early and stay late! Tickets are available at 631 3rd Ave. S., headquarters of the Minneapolis Socialist party. A good time! A good cause!

# Spanish Workers to Be Subject Sept. 18

Locals Minneapolis and St. Paul of the Socialist Party are standing solidly behind their Spanish trade union brothers and comrades who are waging a bitter struggle with the Spanish land owners and capitalists operatin gthrough their Fascist tools. Local St. Paul has invited all St. Paul unions to send delegates to a conference on September 19, where plans will be drawn to arrange a mass meeting in support of the Spanish workers. Minneapolis Socialists have called upon all unions in the city to send funds and resolutions pledging support to the Spanish workers, also inviting them too express their solidarity with our Spanish brothers and sisters by attending a mass meeting to be held at the Socialist Party headquarters, 631 Third Ave. S., on September 18 at 8 p. m. At this meeting, the locals' outstanding members will discuss the issues for which our comrades—men, women and children—are fighting to the death.

# Company Union Is Dropped by Workers

The National Battery Co., St. Paul battery manufacturing corporation, whose employees have been organized into a company union for a number of years, recently suffered the same fate that has overtaken many Minneapolis and St. Paul industries during the past year. The workers at this company recently made up their minds that the company union was not functioning in their interests and decided that a real union organization would take its place. Unless a settlement is arrived at with this company the workers there will soon join the ranks of other striking battery workers.

# Furniture Union Seeks Agreement

Local 1859, Furniture Workers Union, who have been conducting a campaign in woodworking plants including box factories, have recently succeeded in organizing the workers in Flour City and Northwestern Box Co.

Negotiations are being carried on between the employers and the Union. It is indicated that a Union agreement will soon be in effect covering wages and working conditions in these plants.

Police Commissioner Valentine of New York City: The citizen has a right to "yes sir" and "no si" from a police officer.

Before or after he shoots you in the back.

# Independent Truck Chatter

The Independent Truck Owners Section organizing committee, headed by B. G. Ambrose and Curt Zander, were in St. Cloud Thursday, September 10, to try and regulate the pay rate for independent truck owners on road jobs. They were unable to meet with contractors, but found conditions favorable for organizing drivers. The drivers want to open a branch in St. Cloud.

Morris Olson of the Independent Truck Owners Section is in Room No. 201 in the new Swedish hospital. It would be fine for some of the boys to get together and call on Morris. How about it, boys?

It seems that trucks on the Belt Line are having a hard time. Three were down Friday. It was rear end trouble.

Red Haley must of had his hoist fixed. He has been working two weeks steady.

We hope we can get Zander in the doghouse. (Beware, Curt.)

We expect to see Baumgartner, driver of the big Studebake on the Belt Line in the Union after next pay day, the 20th. If not, look out!

If any of the Independent Truck Owners are sick or if any member in our Section dies, be sure to call Bill Ambrose at Dr. 0375 so that flowers may be sent.

## WELL SUITED

"Please, ma'am," said a hesitant voice as the housewife opened the door. "I've come from the labor exchange to apply for the position of housemaid."

The housewife looked puzzled. "Are you sure you've come to the right house?" she asked the girl.

The latter confirmed the address.

"But I do all the work myself," replied the housewife.

"My word, ma'am," exclaimed the prospective applicant, "I'm glad they sent me here. It sounds just like the sort of job that'll suit me."

"We Are Proud of Our Coffee"  
**S & S CAFE**  
633 THIRD AVE. S.  
We feature Home Cooking  
Try Our Sunday Chicken  
Dinners, They Are Delicious  
35c up

**Local 544 Meeting Schedule**  
Tuesday, Sept. 1: Block Men.  
Thursday, Sept. 3: Independent Truck Owners  
Friday, Sept. 4: Federal Workers.  
Wednesday, Sept. 9: Market  
Friday, Sept. 11: Local 544 Job Stewards  
Monday, Sept. 14: Full Membership  
Thursday, Sept. 17: Independent Truck Owners  
Friday, Sept. 18: Federal Workers  
Monday, Sept. 21: Coal Workers  
Friday, Sept. 25: Local 544 Job Stewards  
Monday, Sept. 28: Full Membership  
Tuesday, Sept. 29: Taxi Drivers; Night Drivers, 1 p. m.; Day Drivers, 7 p. m.  
**NOTES:**  
Local 544 Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday at 8 p. m.  
Local 544 Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 9 a. m.  
Federal Workers Job Stewards meet each Wednesday at 8 p. m.



# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

## The Worker Voter

As the state and national elections draw near, the campaign carried on for election by candidates of all parties becomes intensified. As charges and counter charges fly through the air, as newspaper headlines shriek to high heavens that unless this candidate or that candidate is returned a winner, disaster and famine will grip the land and as the air waves are filled with pleas of various political parties for votes, the workers whose welfare is most vitally concerned tend to become more confused and are more inclined to forget the real fundamental issues involved.

In Minnesota, however, the third party political movement, as represented by the Farmer-Labor party, has made the issues somewhat more clear-cut. While the Farmer-Labor party cannot be regarded as a political philosophy that will ultimately solve the problems of the poor farmers and exploited workers, it is at least many steps in advance of the two old parties who represent reaction and little else. In Minnesota the choice of worker voters is simplified. It is a question of voting for progress or for decay. The Republican party candidate for Governor of the state of Minnesota is the out and out representative of bankers and big employers. Indeed he makes little claim to being anything else. The same can be said for the candidate on the Democratic ticket.

The Northwest Organizer has no intention of attempting to tell anyone how to vote. The readers of this publication no doubt range from Communists to Republicans. Each and every individual is entitled to a free and open expression of his or her political philosophy. But we would be equally remiss in our duty if we failed to point out that little choice remains between voting in the interests of the bosses and bankers or voting for the party that represents the interests of the workers. Whether or not the Farmer-Labor party has sufficiently fought in the interests of the working class in the past is not involved in this question. The Farmer-Labor party in its program and platform has declared against the old party labor hating open shop cliques.

Members of organized labor and workers everywhere should have no hesitancy in supporting candidates on the Farmer-Labor ticket. It is the duty of every worker to support whatever political movement most closely represents his economic needs. If the party is not all that is to be desired, then the duty of every worker is to attempt to mold it into a weapon that will represent, on the political field, something that will fight in the interests of the exploited. In Minnesota the abstract question of how workers should vote is a simple one. The Farmer-Labor party must be accorded full support.

## A Shameful Thing

At the Monday night membership meeting there occurred an episode which cannot pass unnoticed. Such a thing has never happened before in the halls of General Drivers Union. Never before has the question arisen of whether or not Local 544 would accord full and complete support to a section of the Union on strike. After the vote had been taken on a 50c assessment for the support of the striking grocery workers boos and cat calls greeted the passing of the motion. So shameful was the selfish attitude displayed by the dissenters that it was almost impossible to believe that one was in the meeting place of General Drivers Union. Those who objected to the passage of the motion to give financial support to the striking grocery workers indicated by their attitude that they were indifferent to the welfare of their own Union.

The strike of the grocery drivers, helpers and inside workers is the gravest crisis that has confronted Local 544 since the 1934 strikes. The Union is fighting the whole organized strength of the Citizens Alliance, backed by a huge slush fund and united in their determination to crush the Drivers Union. Every bit of moral and physical help must be accorded these strikers and every resource of the Union must be thrown into the struggle.

Those who objected to the assessment should recall that in the long struggles in the summer of 1934 thousands and thousands of dollars were raised and expended. That money came from unselfish individuals inside and outside the Minneapolis labor movement who realized that disaster faced the organized labor movement should the drivers fail. That same unselfish attitude must be adopted by every member of the Union. Not one single member but has benefited financially by belonging to Local 544. No one should now hesitate to give back to the organization a tiny fraction of those benefits received.

It is comforting to know that the objections came not from the whole Union but only from a minority who indicated by that action that they are selfish individualists and not unselfish trade unionists.

# Keeping Step With 544

By Mickey Dunne

Guy Gale, master of the broom at union headquarters, was married in Wisconsin last week. A girl from his old home town.

The maids at the General hospital won the right to have the grease removed from the fire escapes leading to their dormitories. Another shameful chapter in the history of the hospital management.

Attorney-General Peterson said that the Federal Workers were right all the time about the paupers oath.

As predicted in last week's issue, all members of the Latimer Board submitted their resignations to the Mayor.

Red Cole donated a buck to the strikers Monday night.

Dick Atherton is as good as in the Musicians Union.

Gale Mackan was a union visitor Friday. It was about the retail clerks.

Chiseling has been reported among the signed wholesale firms.

A committee from the Meat Cutters Union stormed union headquarters Tuesday morning.

Knute Weafald took a lousy crack at the elevator strikers Tuesday morning. A Farmer-Laborite, too.

The company union at the National Battery Company has gone boom.

Girls at the Minneapolis Knitting Company are very uneasy.

Union stewards voted to recommend a 50c assessment to support the grocery strikers.

George Swanson, Ferrin driver, took the plunge September 5. It was a secret affair. They had plotted it for nine years.

### LOST

Black Leather pouch containing Federal dues books. Call L. F. Shaw, 906 11th Ave. N.

Kildall Fish Company is in the bag.

City and Sanitary drivers believe they have got something.

Bob Mythen, Department of Labor representative, has been as busy as the well-known paper hanger for the past week. It was on the grocery strike with no results to show for all the work.

Broom Makers Union settled their ten days' strike last week. It brought more wages.

Jim Lucas, north side ice magnate, offered to keep the grocery strikers supplied with ice.

Chris Moe was in Underwood, Minnesota, last week.

The grocery strikers have a wall newspaper on the third floor that's worth walking up there to see.

Local No. 544 officials who conferred with Governor Peterson last week were J. Smith, G. Dunne, C. Skoglund, R. Dunne, F. Dobbs and M. Dunne. Sort of a well done thing, if we may be permitted.

M. Johnson had his little three year old daughter, Jacqueline, at the strike meeting Thursday night.

The Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., who are not involved in the grocery strike, are just pretending. Such fun.

Local 120, St. Paul Drivers Union raised their initiation fee to \$15 September 1.

A campaign is being carried on by Local 160 to get trade unionists to refuse admission to meter readers not wearing the Union button.

A five-ton coal box can be bought cheaply by seeing Chris Moe at the Fuel Distributors yard.

Heat service men at the Pittsburgh Coal Co. have all joined the Union.

Battery workers installed a radio in their strike headquarters to wile away the time. It broke down and 150 striking electrical workers couldn't fix it.

C. Skoglund explained the grocery workers strike to the Meat Cutters Union Monday night.

L. Murphy flew from Chicago Tuesday morning. Fog delayed the ship an hour. Murphy said it was very disquieting.

The Monday night membership meeting was very well attended despite the rainy weather.

Officials of 1859 conferred with box factory employers until late Monday night.

Federal Section will hold a specially called meeting Friday night. The recent WPA strike will be discussed.

The Socialist Party will hold a campaign dance in Union headquarters Saturday evening. The Atherton band will furnish the music.

No dice on little Abner yet!

### NORMAN THOMAS TO VISIT TWIN CITIES

The Socialist Party's candidate for presiden, Norman Thomas, will come to Minneapolis and St. Paul October 8 and 9 for a series of meetings. Socialists in this locality are already mapping extensive plans to arrange for the huge crowds expected to attend meetings this outstanding Socialist and humanitarian will address. In 1934 Thomas spoke to overflow crowds in this city and many were turned away because of the lack of a sufficiently large hall. When Norman Thomas comes to the Twin Cities this campaign. Socialists will see that a large enough hall is secured so that no one will be disappointed. To take care of the probable overflow crowds, the Party will have loud-speakers to carry Thomas' message to those unable to get into the hall. The tentative schedule calls for two mass meetings in the Twin Cities, a banquet at St. Paul on September 9 and an address to the University of Minnesota Student Forum.

Statement of the Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs on the current strikes: The arrogance of this (544?) leadership is not to be underestimated. It challenges not only the mayor and his employer-employee board, but the very principles of law and order and even society itself.

My, my—what a lot of dust to just over the refusal to grant union recognition.

# LABOR... Looks at the Press

By Carl O'Shea

Biggest silly of the week: A whispering campaign is under way telling the people that relief will be kept down if Gov. Landon is elected.—Col. Frank Knox.

There's nothing "whispering" about it. It's what Landon sez. He wants to balance the budget. You can either pay enough relief to keep the millions of unemployed from starving to death (like today), or you can balance the budget—BUT YOU CANNOT DO BOTH. Or you can say, to hell with them all, and create a worker's government to institute socialism.

Paris news item: Premier Blum said he was not closing his eyes to the fact that there existed what he called a "misunderstanding" between his Popular Front government and a part of the working class.—Temps.

And what we might call "a sense of betrayal."

Tokio news item: The Japan Platinum Popularization society is urging Japanese women to adorn their fingers with platinum rings, so that there shall be a large reserve supply of the metal in war-time.

That's an idea—we might get American men to wear bandoliers of machine-gun bullets to hold up their pants. The gals could wear barbed wire necklaces.

Ralph M. Easley, of the National Civic Federation: For years the intelligentsia have tried to get into the A. F. of L. and run the organization as the radicals did by getting into the British labor movement. Now, however, the radicals have accomplished their purpose through the American Newspaper Guild.

Heaven help us if the guildsmen don't do better than the British. News item from Greece: Recently the Greek government decided to make a determined effort to improve conditions for the poorest section of the people.

And so they gave the workers and peasants—fascism.

Mrs. Willha Prendergast of Moline, Ill.: What guarantee has our government that the people on relief are of good Christian character? Let no man or woman get relief unless he or she can prove by letters from their pastors that they are good Christian citizens.

A good Christian attitude. The relievers had also oughta prove that they're nice to their mothers.

New York news item: A rest of indefinite duration has been prescribed for J. Pierpont Morgan, relatives said.

Why make it so indefinite?

Famous Last Words: "...but I am not going to sit idly by and watch a tie-up of business. I will insist upon some action for a settlement of these strikes," said the governor.

Genteel racket: "Dr. Bhagwan S. Gyane, educator and instructor of Self-Culture institute, New York City, will open a series of lectures Tuesday on 'Creative Wisdom' at the Radisson hotel. Dr. Gyane is considered an authority on the philosophy and culture of the far east."

Headline in New York Times: ROOSEVELT SPENDING SCORED BY WOMEN.

Women are nice ones to score anyone for spending.