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REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1934!

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544  
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET 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. 7, NO. 10

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1941

FIVE CENTS

## Local 544-CIO Strikes 19 City Furniture Firms; All 300 Workers Come Out Solidly Behind Union

### On the National Picket Line

Two contrasting statements came, this week, out of the two apparently warring groups which are forming within both the AFL and the CIO. The president's strike-breaking action in the North American Aircraft strike widened the already deep schism. Labor's Non-Partisan League, headed by John L. Lewis, characterized the general trend of events of the past week as a "virtual tidal wave of reaction." The other group, which calls itself the "Fight for Freedom, Inc.," said to the president, "Go Forward. Go Forward, boldly."

After reading both statements, I'll vote for the Lewis summary and tell you some day when I have more time what I think of the other one. The League's statement reads in part:

In a virtual tidal wave of reaction, the Administration sponsored legislation that advances far along the totalitarian path of forced labor, embraced compulsory arbitration, perverted the Constitution Act into a strikebreaking agency, deserted the unemployed, accepted a blanket condemnation of strikes, and finally ordered Federal troops on strikebreaking duty . . . and the week ended in a witch hunting free-for-all with Administration sources outwitting the Dies Committee in slandering elected union representatives . . . these congressional actions, plus the work-or-fight and army strike-breaking orders of the Administration, all add up to the most severe crisis of the modern American labor movement . . . Unless the events of this past week can be reversed, it is clear that American democracy will soon be just another museum piece to be put on a shelf aside the former democracies of the Old World."

The witch hunt of which the League speaks is on in full swing. Every militant in the organized labor movement is finding himself labeled a Communist or a Nazi or a Fascist if he so much as raised his head. Frankenstein, representing Philip Murray, has already taken over the local union of the UAW Aircraft Division which last week had its strike at North American Aircraft broken by Uncle Sam's little boys in khaki. All eight of the local leaders of this strike face indictments on California's Criminal Syndicalism Act. Yesterday Murray himself "convinced" O. M. Orton, president of the 12,000 striking loggers in the Pacific Northwest to send his men back to work under a formula proposed by the National Defense Mediation Board. And today, Monday, the Industrial Union for Marine and Shipbuilding Workers signed a two-year contract with 55 shipbuilders which OUTLAWS STRIKES.

Sunday the striking Machinists who for more than a month have tied up the San Francisco Bay area shipbuilding, voted to continue

## Austin Drivers Union Joins CIO

Austin Drivers Union Local 778 Votes Unanimously to Leave AFL and Join CIO — Sunday Membership Meeting Takes Action—Movement of Drivers to CIO Spreads Outside Minneapolis—Fargo Drivers Union to Vote Late This Week on CIO Move—Fargo Chamber of Commerce All for Neal and Tobin—544 and CIO Receive Flood of Inquiries from Other Drivers Unions

First of the drivers' unions outside Minneapolis to leave Tobin's International Brotherhood of Teamsters and affiliate to the new CIO industrial union movement in the motor transport industry is the Austin, Minnesota, Drivers Union Local 778.

Last Sunday the Austin union, at a regular membership meeting in the presence of Walter Brock, representative of the CIO United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, voted unanimously to swing over to the more progressive CIO movement.

"Our union voted to take this action because of the dictatorial action of Daniel J. Tobin and the executive board against Local 544 of Minneapolis and other unions in this territory, and because of lack of assistance from the international in time of trouble in the Austin area," stated Howard Ollman, head of Local 778. "We have applied for a charter to the CIO, asking that we retain our union number, 778."

A. D. Lewis, chairman of the UCWOC, announced that the charter was being sent post-haste to the Austin teamsters. The move to the CIO spread outside the confines of Minnesota last Monday night when the Fargo Drivers Union at its membership meeting took steps to go CIO. The Fargo union approved a resolution to vote by secret ballot Friday and Saturday of this week on the CIO move.

Fargo Drivers Next  
The Fargo membership meeting was attended by Harry DeBoer of Minneapolis Local 544, CIO, and by T. T. ("Raw Deal") Neal of Tobin's group. Neal was met at the airport by a delegation from the Fargo Chamber of Commerce and transported to the union hall in a non-union cab. There is no question but that the overwhelming majority of the

### Important To Delinquent 544 Members and to The Unorganized

Having completed the move from the AFL into the CIO, the Minneapolis Local 544, CIO, wishes to start off with a clean slate. The union executive board therefore has moved to accept for reinstatement into Local 544, CIO, all members who have become delinquent in dues under the old set-up. Reinstatement can be affected by the payment of the current month's dues of \$2.00. Drivers and allied workers not hitherto members of Local 544 may also join Local 544, CIO, simply by paying the current month's dues of \$2.00. Until further notice this decision will remain in effect.

### Lavoris Men Vote for CIO By 27 to 1

Fed up to the gums with Bartlett and the AFL, workers at the Lavoris company, 918 North 3rd, voted last Friday, 27 to 1, to withdraw from the AFL and join the CIO. These workers, because of the nature of their work, become a section of the Chemical Division of the United Mine Workers Union headed by John L. Lewis.

### Strutwear Hosiery Union Welcomes 544 Into CIO

A hearty welcome to Local 544 in its affiliation to the CIO was extended Tuesday in a letter to President Miles Dunne, signed by the entire executive board of Branch 38 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers. "The executive board of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, Branch 38, CIO, extends to you and the organization you represent the best wishes of the hosiery workers for a successful future," the letter reads. "Although we deeply regret the events which made it necessary for your membership to transfer its affiliation to the CIO, we welcome your entire membership and leaders into our ranks. We know full well your union will carry on under the CIO banner in the same militant manner for the workers as it has in the past. "We have no quarrel with the local American Federation of Labor unions, but fully support the right of your Union, or any other Union, to change its affiliation if the rights of the members are being denied by dictatorial leaders. "Branch 38 still remembers the militant assistance given us by your union when the chips were down and no holds were barred. Your Union played a major part in making Minneapolis the Union Town it is today. No one can speak of Unions without mentioning your Union, Local 544. "We hope the friendship which has existed in the past between our respective locals will continue in the future, and we wish to assure you of our full support in the future in any problem which may confront your union." With fraternal greetings, Branch 38's letter is signed by the fourteen members of the union's board and staff.

Here It Is, Men  
Motor Transport & Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544

**UNITED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**  
AFFILIATED WITH THE C. I. O.

Doth Grant This Charter to  
MOTOR TRANSPORT AND ALLIED WORKERS INDUSTRIAL UNION

CHARTER MEMBERS

MILES B. DUNNE	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	CLARENCE HAMEL	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
GEORGE FROSIG	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	HARRY DEBOER	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
RAY RAINBOLT	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	WALTER HAGSTROM	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
KELLY POSTAL	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	MOE HORK	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
NICK WAGNER	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	GRANT DUNNE	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
CURT ZANDER	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	CARL SKOOLUND	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
EMIL HANSEL	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	MILT HOBSON	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
V. R. DUNNE	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	STEVE GLASER	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

To Constitute a Local Union to be known as Local Union No. 544—  
This Charter with all of the rights and privileges appurtenant thereto is granted upon the condition that the said Local Union shall at all times comply with the rules and the regulations of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee; and in the event of violation thereof this Charter may, pursuant to said Rules and Regulations be revoked, whereupon all rights and privileges appurtenant thereto shall be annulled.  
So long as this condition shall be duly performed in all respects, the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee does hereby agree to promote and assist the said Local Union in the exercise of all of the rights and privileges secured hereunder.  
In Witness Whereof we have hereunto attached our signatures and caused the seal of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee to be affixed.

Dated this 12TH day of JUNE, 1941.  
*A. D. Lewis*  
Chairman  
*Garrett H. Wiles*  
Controller

Here is the copy of the new CIO charter received last Saturday by Local 544. The new union is to be known as Motor Transport & Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544, with jurisdiction covering Minneapolis and vicinity.  
Charter members, as can be seen, consist of the entire sixteen members of Local 544's general executive board and staff.  
In place of the horse-and-buggy organizational set-up enforced by Tobin's International, the CIO recognizes the necessity for streamlined industrial unionism in the motor transport industry, with all types of drivers, warehousemen, inside workers, helpers, filling station attendants and allied workers in one powerful industrial union.  
Whereas Tobin insists in splitting up the drivers into a dozen or score of weakened crafts, and playing one craft off against another, CIO industrial unionism helps to concentrate the full power of all the workers behind each union section. Such concentration of economic power cannot help but be translated into better wages and hours and conditions for the affected workers, and greater capacity to resist the growing union-smashing efforts of the employers.  
Local 544's new charter is not only the legal embodiment of its affiliation with the CIO. It is a charter to freedom for the drivers and allied workers of this vicinity—freedom from Tobin's treacherous and reactionary dictatorship.

### Strikers March on Picket Line to Show Bosses and Tobin Their Loyalty to Local 544-CIO—Local 544 Board Issues Statement Recounting Bosses' Stalling—Union Complies With All Provisions of Stassen Slave Law—Bosses Admit Strike Is Effective

Tuesday morning three hundred members of Local 544-CIO employed by 19 wholesale and retail furniture stores in Minneapolis were called out on strike. The men came out solidly, established picket lines and effectively shut down the struck establishments. The strike was called only after the bosses continued their stalling tactics and refused to renew the union agreement. A strike notice had been served on the companies on May 22nd. The old agreement expired June 1st. Giving the lie to the bosses' claim that they "didn't know who to deal with," and to Tobin's claim that Local 544-CIO didn't represent the drivers of Minneapolis, the 300 drivers, warehousemen and shipping and inside workers came out on strike unanimously. The employers later admitted that this was the case and that they could not operate in face of the strike. Several hours after the strike began the bosses received a temporary restraining order from Judge Luther Youngdahl, which was later served on strike pickets. As fast as the restraining orders were served, other pickets came forward to patrol the struck firms. Despite the restraining order, the strike will effectively continue. Bosses made no attempt Wednesday to move trucks.

544-CIO Statement  
Tuesday evening the executive board of Local 544-CIO issued the following statement on the furniture strike:  
"Three hundred employees of 19 wholesale and retail furniture stores in Minneapolis, including truck-drivers, warehousemen and workers in the shipping, receiving, furniture and finishing departments, were called out on strike this morning by Local 544-CIO.  
"The Union has been compelled to take this action after the failure of the furniture employers to renew their long-standing contractual agreements with its worker-members of Local 544.  
"Our Union has had continuous contractual relations with the furniture employers involved for the past seven years and aside from minor disagreements these relations have been maintained on an amicable basis during that time.  
"The last contract expired on June 1st. Following its regular procedure a Union Committee opened negotiations with representatives of the employers for a renewal of the contract on mutually acceptable terms. These negotiations began a month before the expiration of the contract.  
"Bosses Evasive  
"The negotiations dragged on for weeks. The Union representatives met with obvious evasion on the part of the employers to have any serious discussion concerning the terms of a new contract. They have persistently refused to sign any contract at any time. Following a long series of unproductive meetings, in order to protect the interests of its members, the Union was obliged, ten days before the expiration of its contract, to file written strike notices with the State Labor Commission, as required by law. The Union has at every step complied with all provisions of the Stassen Slave-Labor Law.  
"Even during the legal period of waiting, the union committee made several attempts to persuade the furniture employers of the necessity of arriving at a mutually acceptable agreement. As late

as yesterday the Union met with Lloyd M. MacAloon, the counsel retained by the furniture dealers, to endeavor to come to terms. MacAloon was given until 8 p. m. to meet the union demands. When Mr. MacAloon was called upon the telephone at that time, he gave a firm and final refusal to accede to any terms. "Confronted on the one hand by this evasive attitude on the part of the employers and on the other hand by the swiftly rising cost of living, the furniture workers unanimously voted to instruct their executive board to prepare immediate strike action. This was taken.  
"Mr. MacAloon today issued a statement to the press that the furniture dealers do not know whether to deal with CIO or AFL representatives in this situation. There is no such thing as any AFL employee coming under the jurisdiction of the teamsters in any of the furniture stores involved. They are all members of Local 544-CIO. MacAloon and the furniture dealers know this full well.  
"Strike headquarters of Local 544-CIO are now located at 1123 Second Street North." All union business and all meetings of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544 will be held at 1123 Second Street North until further notice. Editorial offices of the Northwest Organizer are also located at that address. The phone number of 544's headquarters is Atlantic 4403.

### New Members Stream Into 544, CIO

Over three hundred new motor transport and allied workers have joined the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544 since last Friday, Steve Glaser announced Wednesday morning. The bulk of these men are new members. A portion of them were delinquent members of Local 544. All are taking advantage of Local 544's offer to reinstate delinquent members and take in new members for the payment of only the current month's dues of two dollars (\$2.00).  
Workers in the motor transport and allied industries who have not yet taken advantage of this offer may do so by coming to Local 544's new headquarters at 1328 Second Street North and paying the current month's dues.  
One of the most heartwarming aspects of the present struggle between Local 544 and the bosses is the arrival of old Local 544 and 574 men from all over the country into Minneapolis, to join the fight.  
A typical case is that of a staunch unionist who arrived several days ago from California. "I heard last week out on the Coast that Local 544 was in another big battle," he told union officials. "I drove up here as fast as I could and I'm ready to pitch in and fight for our union." This man is a distinguished veteran of the 1934 strikes, ready to fight again for his union.  
"Even during the legal period of waiting, the union committee made several attempts to persuade the furniture employers of the necessity of arriving at a mutually acceptable agreement. As late

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town - - - Let's KEEP IT That Way

A. D. Lewis Announces

# Streamlined Drive Launched for Motor Transport Workers

### CIO Conference in Chicago Sunday Launches Streamlined Organizing Campaign Among Motor Transport and Allied Workers of Mid-West—Extensive Plans Laid for Series of Meetings in Minneapolis and Area—Local 544-CIO Leaders Attend Conference—Eyes of Nation's CIO Workers on Minneapolis

A. D. Lewis, National Chairman of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, announced at a CIO conference at Chicago last Sunday that his organization is launching "a streamlined CIO organizing campaign among the motor transport and allied workers of the entire midwest area" to bring them "into a modern, progressive industrial union."

This great forward step followed the momentous action taken by the Minneapolis General Drivers Union Local 544, in severing its affiliation on June 9th with Daniel J. Tobin's antiquated AFL craft union Teamsters International.

The Minneapolis union immediately applied for and received a charter from the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, an affiliate of the CIO. The UCWOC has created the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union to embrace under one broad, national, industrial organization all the motor transport workers.

The Chicago conference was held at the offices of Frank Barnhart, Regional Director of the UCWOC in the Engineers Building. In addition to Lewis and Barnhart, there were in attendance at the meeting, Lee Pressman, General Counsel for the CIO, who formulated legal plans for defending the CIO Teamsters movement; a committee from Local 544-CIO Minneapolis; representatives of several AFL teamsters councils and local unions in the midwest area; and a group of CIO field organizers working under Mr. Barnhart.

Extensive plans were made at this conference for a series of meetings to be held in Minneapolis to promote the organizational efforts of the new CIO motor transport movement, at which leading CIO officials are expected to speak. Lewis announced that the offices from which the CIO campaign will be directed, will be established in Minneapolis this week. Legal counsel from the CIO's staff is being sent in to handle the legal problems connected with the efforts of Tobin's lawyers, Judge Joseph Padway and Democratic state senator Gerald T. Mullen, to tie up Local 544 in legal knots in the bosses' courts.

Full Speed Ahead  
A. D. Lewis declared that the CIO organizing drive would move full speed ahead and would not be stopped by President Roosevelt's warning, made in response to Tobin's appeal against jurisdictional raids by rival unions. He said that the CIO would welcome new members whether they were former AFL teamsters or unorganized. One leading CIO officer wanted to know why President Roosevelt didn't move against "raiding" when the AFL was trying to muscle in on the CIO unions in the midst of the struggle against Ford at the River Rouge plant.

The blue and white 544 CIO buttons have been blooming on workers' caps and lapels all over Minneapolis giving AFL adherents the "blues." The teamsters were delighted to toss away their AFL buttons, and enthusiastically accepted the new CIO emblems.

Austin Drivers Go CIO  
The campaign to bring the truck-drivers under the CIO banner gained momentum when Teamsters Local 778 of Austin, Minnesota voted unanimously on Sunday to quit the AFL and apply for a CIO charter. Lewis' office reported that the charter had been sent to them, special delivery. The action at Austin was taken in the presence of Walt Brock, general organizer for the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

## These Leased Standard Oil Stations Unfair

Keep this list of unfair leased Standard stations in your car and refuse to patronize them:  
Sears-Roebuck Stations  
Millot and Lake Streets  
Downtown Stations  
18th and Harmon Place  
7th and 3rd Ave. South  
South Stations  
50th and France Ave. S.  
22nd and Hennepin Ave.  
64th and Nicollet Ave.  
45th and Nicollet Ave.  
Lake St. at Lake Calhoun  
44th and Morningglade Ave.  
22nd and Hennepin Ave.  
40th and Nicollet Ave.  
Excelsior and Minnetonka Blvd.  
64th and Lonsdale Ave. S.  
Holmes and Lake St.  
North Stations  
Frymouth and Olive Ave. N.

tion Workers Organizing Committee.

### Many Requests

News of the creation of the Motor Transport & Allied Workers Industrial Union under the UCWOC have called forth requests from many AFL teamsters unions throughout the country, for information about the new movement, and it is expected that other important teamster locals in the midwest area will join the swing to the CIO in a short time.

The revolt against dictator Tobin's domination and the antiquated craft union set-up of the AFL International Brotherhood of Teamsters has only begun. It will not end until all of the motor transport workers from coast to coast have been brought under the banner of the great modern, progressive union movement of the CIO.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

## New Eruption in AFL, Move to Suspend Brewery Workers

The American Federation of Labor, which has just lost 80,000 members in 900 locals of the International Typographical Union, is apparently on the verge of suspending the large Brewery Workers International Union.

According to the Chicago Federation News, the executive council of the AFL at its May session in Washington, D. C., adopted a resolution to notify all affiliates of the Federation that the Brewery Workers Union would be suspended as soon as the remaining legal technicalities are removed.

Referring to the conduct of the Brewery Workers Union as "intolerable," the board relates the history of the jurisdictional dispute between the Brewery Workers Union and Tobin's International Brotherhood of Teamsters. For many, many years Tobin has coveted the brewery drivers. If the money and time he has spent in concocting craft-union raids on the Brewery Workers Union had been spent in organizing the unorganized drivers of this nation, the IBT would have over one million members today, and the union would be a very different organization than it is.

Finally in 1933 Tobin induced the Washington convention of the AFL to give jurisdiction of the teamsters in the brewery industry to the IBT. Succeeding conventions of the AFL have affirmed this decision. However, the Brewery Workers Union has defended itself, in court and out, against the AFL's decision. Tobin continued to rave and bluster at each yearly AFL convention, but the AFL executive board did little to carry out the convention decisions in regard to the brewery drivers.

The fact that the governing body of the AFL should suddenly galvanize itself to life over this matter would indicate that some deal has been made between Tobin and the AFL. In return for the AFL's promise to finally execute the decision to suspend the Brewery Workers Union, it is felt likely in labor circles that Tobin has made some behind-the-scenes concession to certain AFL leaders. Incidentally, Local 544 always got along well with the friendly

### With the Limousines

By Home James

Rain and more rain, and it requires more elbow grease. If it keeps on, we will have all the chamois worn out. . . It was good to see Pop Kline at the meeting Tuesday night. He is hale and hearty, and ready to go back to work. . . We are also glad to have Jess Baxter back with us again. The members passed a motion concerning the admission of new members into the local. . . Yes, Lorenz Miller has landed a driving job, but he is still keeping Miller's DX gas station at 1210 LaSalle avenue. He has Dave running the station, so we will have a place to stop and chat when we are downtown.

### CIO Gives Tobin Fair Warning Not to Try It

The threat of Daniel J. Tobin to undertake "reprisals" against CIO workers because of Local 544's move to the CIO was immediately and sharply answered last Saturday by Frank Barnhart, regional director of the CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

Tobin has made it clear he does not want the progressive leadership of CIO-544 in his organization," Barnhart said, "but the CIO, on its part, welcomes them into its ranks and will help defend them against Tobin. At one time, Tobin seemed to want for the National Labor Relations Act, and what it stood for, but now he is resorting to every conceivable means to prevent Minneapolis motor transport workers from having an organization of their own choosing."

"Tobin will not settle this issue by running to President Roosevelt. The CIO did not raid Local 544. The union voluntarily entered the CIO by an overwhelming vote of its membership. 5,000,000 members of the progressive leadership of CIO-544 in his organization," Barnhart said, "but the CIO, on its part, welcomes them into its ranks and will help defend them against Tobin. At one time, Tobin seemed to want for the National Labor Relations Act, and what it stood for, but now he is resorting to every conceivable means to prevent Minneapolis motor transport workers from having an organization of their own choosing."

Barnhart announced a mass rally of CIO-544 members will be held shortly in Minneapolis.

The Modern Woodmen are extending an invitation to all members of Local 912 and their families to come to their picnic this summer — plenty of prizes, all kinds of races and also dancing, coffee and sugar free, just bring your lunch and cups and containers. Let's turn out and make half of it a chauffeurs' picnic. . . Here are a few pieces of this and that I picked up: You can't believe everything you hear, but you can repeat it. . . Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. . . There is hardly anything in the world that some man cannot make a little worse and sell a little cheaper. . . It ain't so much the things that people don't know that makes trouble in this world, as it is the things that people know that ain't so. . . We also wish to remind you members that you should turn in your tickets or money from the dance, so that the committee can straighten up their books, and find out how much was made on the dance.

This just happened about a week ago, so it is still news. A chauffeur who was out of a job due to the boss' dying, landed a job at \$125 a month. They also hired a butler at \$100 a month, and then a man to take care of the lawn. But lo and behold, a fellow came along and took all three jobs for \$100 a month. Now the chauffeur wants the union to do something for him. He is not a member now, because he dropped out a long time ago, so I don't see what the union can do for him. . . The sick committee was out visiting the other evening, and saw our old friend, John Anderson, and also Ed Foster. We are glad to hear they are feeling fine and wish them a speedy recovery. . . In closing, let us add that old "Home James" will keep spouting off so long as there is a progressive labor paper left, regardless of what kind of union button it wears.

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

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

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# Roosevelt Orders Army to Break Air Plant Strike

### President Steps Forward as Nation's No. 1 Strikebreaker — Company Shakes Down \$7,000,000 Profits But White House Moves Only Against Workers — CIO Head Protests But Tobin Maintains Shameless Silence at Bayoneting of Pickets

President Roosevelt stepped forward as the nation's No. 1 strike-breaker when the Cabinet, the Army, Navy, the Selective Service System and Congress combined with the White House to move against the workers in two important West Coast struggles. These involved CIO auto workers of the North American Aviation plant at Ingelwood, Calif., and AFL-CIO shipyard workers at San Francisco.

Roosevelt, in his capacity as "President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces," sent 3,000 U. S. troops, with bayonets drawn and carrying machine guns, to break up the picket line at the North American Aviation plant and to take possession of the factory. One picket was bayoneted by the advancing troops after 30 persons had been injured in clashes between pickets and strike-breakers.

The striking aircraft workers had previously disregarded appeals to return to work from the President, Secretary of Labor, plant officials and various AFL and CIO officials on the ground that the Defense Mediation Board was stalling in meeting their demands. The union negotiators demanded a 75 cent basic hourly rate compared with the present 50 cent rate, and a 10 cent an hour boost in higher skilled classification. Pickets carried placards reading: "Bayonets won't build bombers" and "We can't feed our families on 50 cents an hour."

The North American workers were asking only a small share of the tremendous profits being made by the corporation. These profits (over \$7,000,000 in 1940) were the largest of any other aviation firm and amounted to \$855 for every worker employed last year. It is estimated that the company should make at least \$40,000,000 in 1941.

Instead of exerting pressure against the North American officials to grant these reasonable demands, Roosevelt proceeded with full force to disrupt the workers' solidarity and break their strike. When the aircraft workers disregarded his threat to get back to work by Monday—or else, Roosevelt ordered in the troops and personally directed their movements. When Col. Branshaw, commander of the troops, reported that the strike had been broken, Roosevelt declared, through his secretary, that he was "delighted" at the results.

Immediately thereafter, with Roosevelt's approval, Gen. Hershey, director of the Selective Service System, ordered draft boards to re-classify for military service, all registrants who because of striking, were not working on the jobs for which they had been given deferred status. This order, which included all strikers and not simply those engaged in "wildcat" strikes, gave local draft boards a powerful weapon for strike-breaking.

### Roosevelt Strike-Breaking Denounced

In contrast to Daniel J. Tobin and other leading AFL officials who have approved or remained silent concerning Roosevelt's strike-breaking actions, CIO President Philip Murray, on June 12th, denounced the use of Federal troops to break strikes and requested all affiliated unions to fight against the anti-labor bills now being rushed through Congress. Murray declared that "the injection of armed forces of the nation into a private industrial dispute must also be condemned. Such action can only serve to create a status of enforced labor in this nation, and enforced labor can only create bitterness on the part of the working people. Repression and the use of force are not the methods that can be or will be countenanced by the American people for the es-

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We Specialize in FRIED CHICKEN  
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But—not for those who wisely ride Street Cars and Buses. Not only do they save parking fees, traffic tags, and the excessive cost of driving, but they enjoy more comfort and safety.



establishment of wholesome and sound industrial relations."

The CIO president denounced Brig-Gen. Hershey's "work or fight" order to strikers as "deeply repugnant to the American way of doing things" and a "flagrant abuse of the Conscription Law, and an open breach of faith with labor."

Murray came out in opposition to compulsory arbitration and all other curbs on the right to strike. He said "no Mediation Board, which has as its function to mediate labor disputes, should usurp or be given the authority to impose compulsory arbitration or to interfere in any way with the basic rights of labor."

The Vinson Bill and Compulsory Arbitration Amendments to the Military Appropriation Bill passed by the House last week were branded by Murray as "vicious and having but a single intent—to destroy organized labor." "The Connally Amendment," he said, "is the most flagrant attempt to wipe out all rights and benefits which the workers of the nation and labor unions have obtained down the years through bitter struggles."

### Rallies CIO

Murray's letter ended with a call to all CIO unions to take immediate action to inform members of Congress and government officials of their opposition to all the anti-labor measures now under way. Many CIO local unions, City and State Councils all over the country have already passed resolutions vigorously condemning Roosevelt's use of the troops against strikes and the reactionary boss anti-labor campaign connected with it.

Meanwhile President Roosevelt has been taking a personal hand in trying to smash the five-week-old strike of the machinists at 11 San Francisco shipyards, where naval trucks and marines have been used to run in strike-breakers but without success in renewing operations. The President flatly ordered Harvey W. Brown, head of AFL machinists, to "get the men back to work."

The striking AFL and CIO machinists, however, have held their lines firm against all efforts to smash their struggle. Members of the two unions, in closed meetings Sunday, voted against ending the strike until the open shop Bethlehem Steel Corp. is forced to sign a closed shop agreement with them and the other struck plants agree to the union wage demands.

## Average Wage \$877 Yearly—Raises Needed

The average annual wage in 1939 of 32,000,000 wage earners covered by the Social Security Act was only \$877, according to the official statement just issued by the Social Security Board.

The Act does NOT cover workers engaged in domestic or agricultural labor, the two groups accepted as the lowest-paid and most exploited in the nation. Were these two groups to be included, the annual wage would be considerably lower.

The only conclusion to be drawn from these figures is that healthy wage increases are due all along the line for the nation's workers. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has computed the cost of living "at a maintenance level" for a manual worker's family of four at a national average of about \$1,400.

Of the 32,000,000 workers covered by the Social Security Act, 25,000,000 (about 78 per cent) received less than \$1,400 in 1939.

64 per cent earned less than \$1,000.  
55 per cent earned less than \$800.  
45 per cent earned less than \$600.  
35 per cent earned less than \$400.

Who said only one-third were ill-housed, ill-clothed and ill-fed? The proportion is much, much higher. The cure is bigger and more militant trade unions.

The conspiracy indictment is a legal device which has been used as a modern and ancient dragnet for compassing the imprisonment and death of men whom the ruling class does not like.—Clarence Darrow.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

agreement with them and the other struck plants agree to the union wage demands.

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