

REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1934!

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET NORTH

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1941

VOL. 7, NO. 13

FIVE CENTS

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!

The Next Step is Industry-Wide Elections--- This Democratic Solution Must be Achieved

On the National Picket Line

Harvel Scholl

One by one the powerful CIO industrial unions are conquering the last Open Shop fortresses of American industry. It is difficult to estimate the profound social changes that will follow on the heels of these CIO conquests.

The crushing labor victory over Ford has dazed those in the nation who have not yet awakened to the power of industrial unionism and its hold on the workers.

Ford and Bethlehem Steel—all the shop-keepers in the nation were certain that no union could lick these giants. But the CIO has done it.

The Steel Workers Organizing Committee two months ago gained a decisive majority in a poll at the huge Lackawanna plant of Bethlehem. Now the SWOC has gone on to sweep through Little Steel in easy victories at five plants of Bethlehem in Johnstown, Leetsdale, and Los Angeles. The plants, together with that at Lackawanna, will form one industrial bargaining unit, thus uniting the strength of all behind each worker.

The AFL craft-union set-up in sixty years couldn't even think about organizing the basic industries. In five years the CIO has done it. In 1937 the Open Shoppers thought they had CIO stopped in its tracks. Today the Congress of Industrial Organizations has surged far beyond the Little Steel battlefield of the spring of 1937.

No match for industrial unionism on the economic field, Big Business is moving heaven and earth to stop the onward rush of the CIO through political action. Big Business has primed its Congressmen to introduce and enact into law measures which would destroy unionism.

The CIO is mobilizing to meet this challenge. At the call of President Phillip Murray, they convened Monday in Washington a conference of representatives of all national affiliates and state CIO councils.

Murray's conference call points out that "tremendous efforts are being put forth by the enemies of organized labor to secure the enactment of repressive legislation designed to destroy the effectiveness of labor in America.

On July 16th the CIO executive board will meet to consider the same problem of mobilizing labor to defeat the union-smashing bills now before Congress.

It's a sign of the times. Down in Cleveland the AFL moved out of its labor temple because its lack of membership could no longer afford the maintenance cost. The labor temple now has a new tenant—the Cleveland CIO Industrial Union Council. Must be pretty demoralizing for the AFL.

Food prices in Minneapolis for eighteen foods have increased more rapidly than in any other part of the nation, the Department of Labor finds. The level has increased 3 per cent here in twenty days. Detroit shows a 2.4 per cent (Continued on page 4)

544-CIO Evidence Swamps AFL at Election Hearings

Witnesses Testify in Each industry as to AFL Violence, Desire of Men To Be Represented by CIO and to Have Election—Hearings on Nine Industries This Week, Union Preparing Evidence for More—Wagner Tells of AFL Intimidation at Glenwood-Inglewood where Workers Had Signed Election Petition—"Only Solution Is Secret Election," Says CIO Attorney

The union is scoring all down the line in the hearings being held daily by the state labor board on Local 544-CIO's demand for secret industry-wide elections.

By now the hearings have developed a definite formula. As each industry is taken up for discussion, Local 544-CIO brings in workers to testify that Tobin's agents have resorted to violence to induce workers to accept AFL buttons and pledge cards. The AFL counters with the claim it represents the men. Then Local 544-CIO confronts the AFL attorney, I. E. Goldberg, with cards and petitions signed by a majority of the workers in the industry. At this point Goldberg blows up and threatens an AFL boycott, or harks back to the regular membership meeting of Local 544 which voted to leave Tobin's union and join the CIO.

Tuesday hearings were held before State Labor Conciliator Alfred P. Blair on the following industries: spring water, plate glass, and Wheeler-Barnes.

At the opening of the hearing, Local 544-CIO attorneys stated the union had the right to ask certification as bargaining agent for drivers, helpers and leaders at the glass companies on the basis of union membership records, but that the union preferred an election in order that all possible doubts as to its strength be removed.

Is Only Solution "The only solution to this question is a secret election," said William K. Thomas, CIO attorney. "This dispute has been stringing along for weeks now. The time has come to let the workers themselves decide the matter."

Attend Your Section Meetings

Attention of all drivers is called to the fact that the regular section meetings of Local 544-CIO are being held as scheduled in the union's new headquarters, 1328 Second Street North.

The union meeting schedule is printed as usual on page four of this issue. During this struggle to defend the union against its enemies, it is of extreme importance that all members conduct themselves as responsible members and attend their section meetings and attend their section meetings and see that their fellow workers do likewise.

Matters of importance and interest are being taken up at each section meeting. Make it a point to attend your next meeting.

Your union grievance board meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. Your union seniority committee meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m. All grievances or questions on seniority should be taken before your union committees.

They had signed CIO cards and that they want an election. The remaining two employees were out of town.

The Wheeler-Barnes hearing brought Floyd Hanson, employee, on the stand to testify to the force used by the AFL to induce workers to accept AFL buttons. Bob Tibbets and Erling Nelson, officers of Local 359 who have since resigned and joined Local 544-CIO testified to the CIO sentiments of the Wheeler-Barnes workers and their desire for a democratic election. This hearing, too, was recessed to next week.

In all the hearings to date, Local 544-CIO has produced witnesses to tell of the brutal methods of the AFL hoodlums against the workers, and conclusive testimony as to the desire of the men to have an election and be represented by their union, Local 544-CIO.

On Wednesday hearings were scheduled for commercial gas, chop suey and cold storage. Thursday hearings will be held on furniture, grocery and concrete block. It is hoped that at Thursday's hearings, the second for these industries, the union's request for elections will be finally granted.

Union Well Prepared Local 544-CIO goes into these hearings well prepared, thanks to the splendid cooperation from the union ranks. Plenty of union witnesses have volunteered to testify on the stand as to the methods of Tobin's hoodlums. Union organizers have obtained signatures of the bulk of the workers in each industry for an election.

The union evidence is obviously making an impression on those present at the hearings and it is difficult to see how the issue can longer be dodged. The workers have every legal right to an election. They are expressing their desire to hold such elections. Elections are obviously the only fair and honest way to decide the issue. Let the elections be forthcoming.

Ten Reasons Why You Should Vote for Local 544-CIO

1. Local 544-CIO stands for higher wages to meet the rising cost of living. Tobin stands for "sacrifices" on the part of labor, but not on the part of the profiteers.
2. Local 544-CIO furnished the leadership that has raised the wages, shortened the hours and won job security for the drivers and warehousemen of this city.
3. Local 544-CIO stands for honest, democratic and militant unionism. Tobin stands for dictatorship, thuggery and horse-and-buggy craft unionism.
4. Local 544-CIO elects its officers in free and democratic elections by secret ballot. Tobin's receiver appoints officers for the AFL.
5. Local 544-CIO has the backing of the great progressive CIO industrial union movement, the dominant movement in America today.
6. Local 544-CIO has always insisted that the employers live up to the union agreements.
7. Local 544-CIO protects its members on the job, and settles their grievances.
8. Local 544-CIO fights all finks. Tobin imitates them.
9. Local 544-CIO symbolizes the future of American unionism. Tobin and the AFL represent the dead and dying past.
10. Local 544-CIO is the union that Made Minneapolis a Union Town and means to Keep It That Way!

The Main Fight Is Against the Bosses—When Tobin, Stassen, the FBI and Department of Justice Fight 544-CIO, They Aid the Bosses—Drivers and Warehousemen Have All Weapons Necessary to Win Their Demands, Preserve Their Union and Lay Basis for Honest National Industrial Union of Motor Transport and Allied Workers CIO—Industry-wide Elections Will Tell the Story

Ten weeks have passed since Local 544 presented contracts to all the major employers' groups in the city. Four weeks have passed since Local 544 voted unanimously to withdraw from Tobin's union and accept a CIO charter as the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO.

During this period every conceivable attack has been made by the employers and the employers' agents upon this union. Every boss ally has been drawn into the fight, nothing has been overlooked in the united front of reaction to cripple and destroy labor's champion in this area, Local 544-CIO.

THE EMPLOYERS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE EVEN A DENT IN OUR UNION. Despite all the attacks leveled against Local 544—from the employers, from the rat Committee of 99 carrying out the bosses' program, from Governor Stassen, from Kline, from Roosevelt, from the FBI, from the Department of Justice, from Tobin's hoodlums, from the boss press and the boss courts—this union stands stout as ever, its fighting powers intact, its membership staunch, its leaders determined to conquer.

One month ago we prophesied that labor's enemies had miscalculated. We told them they had overlooked the major point—the calibre of our union and its members and leaders, their devotion to unionism, their fierce determination to defend union democracy and the honor of the General Drivers Union.

What a tribute to our union, that it has been able to weather all the foul blows that have been dealt it in recent weeks. What pride this must call forth in the breast of every union man and woman in this city and nation. We have built better than all but the most hopeful and far-sighted unionists had thought. The experiences of 1934, the battles we have been through during all the years since then, have not been forgotten nor waged in vain. They have steeled this union and this membership for just such a trial by fire as that from which it is now emerging.

Elections Are the Only Solution

For ten weeks now the employers have stalled the negotiations, with the aid of Governor Stassen and the encouragement of Mr. Tobin and his agents. But the demand of Local 544-CIO for elections gains more power and support with each passing day. At each hearing the union presents further evidence to justify this democratic solution; each hearing further exposes the hollow pretensions of Tobin's agents to the loyalty of the men, and reveals the hoodlum tactics of these people. It becomes more apparent to all fair-minded men that the ONLY solution lies in secret elections. The employers will not be able to dodge this solution. The elections will establish in every major plant, in every industry, the indisputable right of Local 544-CIO to represent the workers.

For four weeks Tobin's imported hoodlums have been roaming the streets of Minneapolis. They have sought to win by force what they can never achieve through their "union" principles and practices. Their cowardly gangster campaign has been a failure. True, they have ganged up on some union men and beaten them. True, they have torn off CIO buttons and forced our members to submit to Tobin's dishonorable button. But they haven't changed the union principles or convictions of a single man or woman. They know it. We know it.

True, they have forced a resolution through the Central Labor Union endorsing their vicious union-smashing campaign against the best and finest union this city ever saw. But the membership of the very union that introduced that resolution has since rejected it and repudiated its sponsors.

Tobin has ordered his lawyers to start a fink suit against the union, in an effort to hamper the union, tie up its funds and lay hands upon property to which Tobin has not the slightest legal or moral rights. But the men of 544 have had experience with fink suits and the people who conduct them.

Tobin's Last Weapon

Tobin isn't relying on any of these bureaucratic weapons to break our union. He knows they will fail. His ace in the hole lies in the political support he has received from Roosevelt, the Department of Justice and the FBI. Roosevelt is simply paying off a political debt to Tobin for the support this cynical and demoralized labor bureaucrat has given the Democratic Party. Roosevelt denounced the CIO for "raiding" Tobin's antiquated organization. The CIO never raided Tobin. The men of 544 asked the CIO for a charter and the CIO granted it, as they grant charters to all groups of honest workers.

Roosevelt spoke out against "raids" when Tobin asked him to, but Roosevelt never opened his mouth when Bill Green and the AFL were plotting with the bosses to destroy the magnificent United Auto Worker in its fight to organize Ford. Roosevelt never said a word when the AFL sought in a criminal way to break the CIO strike at International Harvester.

All this false talk about "raiding" fooled no one.

Tobin understands that his string is played out, that all the dictatorial devices that have served him in the past to defeat union democracy just won't work against Local 544. In a last desperate gamble, he has prevailed upon the FBI and the Department of Justice to move against the leadership of Local 544-CIO, with the hope that the Department of Justice can so badger and hamper and cripple 544-CIO that the union cannot survive.

Let's have the truth about this vicious red-baiting game, so full of danger for all unionism. No person knows better than Tobin that his agents lie when they spread the rumor that the reason 544 left the AFL was because Tobin asked certain men to withdraw from the Socialist Workers Party and they refused.

What Tobin Hopes For

Tobin knows that those members who formerly belonged to the Socialist Workers Party—with Tobin's full knowledge, let it always be understood—formally resigned their membership in the party when the present controversy began several months ago. This action was taken by the individuals concerned in order to remove this false issue and put the dispute on the ground where it really belongs—the democratic right of a local union to elect its own officers and affiliate with a national organization of its own choosing.

Tobin knows that so far as the ranks of the union are concerned, his red-baiting will get no further than it did when he and the bosses tried it in 1934. Tobin today banks on one thing only—that the leadership of Local 544 will be forced to spend so much time in court answering his red-baiting charges that they won't be able to conduct the affairs of the union.

We warn Tobin in advance that his game won't work. The union has anticipated this move and taken the necessary steps to assure that proper leadership will be available to carry on the struggle to victory.

Without underestimating for a moment the ability of labor's enemies to stir up a wave of hysteria and prejudice against civil liberties and workers' rights, it is our considered judgment that the time is far from ripe to stampede the masses against militant unionists. The messages of solidarity received from all dominant sections of the CIO movement, the protests by the American Civil Liberties Union and other honest liberals against the Department of Justice raids here, strengthen our convictions about this matter. The fight will no doubt be a tough one. But Local 544 and its leaders never side-stepped a hard fight. When the union defeats this last desperate trick of Tobin's, he will be whipped.

544-CIO Forges Ahead

While Tobin has been shooting his bolt, Local 544 has steadily progressed towards its goal of establishing a fortress of industrial unionism in the motor transport industry. In this endeavor it is receiving the magnificent support of all sections of the Congress of Industrial Organizations nationally. While holding Tobin at arm's length in Minneapolis, the ground-work is being laid to carry the fight to Tobin on a nation-wide scale.

In Minneapolis the ranks of the AFL unions, those workers who KNOW what 544 and its leadership stand for and have accomplished, are showing in a thousand ways their sympathy with our struggle on behalf of union democracy.

The membership of our union has absorbed the first shock of the battle and is functioning like disciplined union fighters who know what they want and mean to get it. Evidence of this is shown at every hearing on the union's demand for elections, at the magnificent response the union is receiving in its requests for signatures on 544-CIO pledge cards and election petitions, in the turnout at union section meetings, at grievance board sessions, in the all but universal recognition of the despicable role being played by Tobin and his local Quislings.

The men of 544 are showing through their actions that they understand the issues of this struggle, and that they know how to conduct themselves so as to achieve victory.

We Shall Win This Fight

Let us but continue to stand as one for decent, democratic and militant unionism, and the victory is won. Cooperate in every way with the union organizers in our campaign to force the enemy to agree to industry-wide elections. Sign the 544-CIO petitions demanding elections. Attend your union meetings. Bring your grievances before your union grievance board. Act in every way as loyal and responsible union men. Carry the truth to your fellow workers.

No one can defeat this union. We Made Minneapolis a Union Town! Let's Keep It That Way.

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

To Local 544-CIO

More Pledges of Support From Nation's CIO Unions

FROM CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

The officers and members of District 16, United Mine Workers of America, extend greetings to you and through you to the membership of Local 544, UCWOC. We congratulate the membership of Local Union 544 upon their good judgment in disassociating themselves from an American Federation of Labor affiliate which holds as its prime objective the collection of dues and high initiation fees. The truck drivers of the Minneapolis area are to be congratulated and commended for their determination in breaking the chain of servitude which bound them to the Tobin crowd of racketeers, and affiliating themselves with the UCWOC which holds as its guiding thought the improvement of wages and working conditions for its membership. The slogan of the truck drivers all over America should be TO HELL WITH TOBIN AND HIS GANG.

John T. Jones, President
United Mine Workers District 16

FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO

Congratulations to the truck drivers, Minneapolis area, for becoming affiliated with the CIO and well wishes for their future success.

John Owens, President
Ohio CIO Council

FROM SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

May I express to the membership of Local Union 544 my congratulations at their affiliation through the UCWOC with the Congress of Industrial Organizations and welcome them into the ranks of this progressive union which through its form of industrial organization meets the need of modern industry.

James Morgan, Regional Director
Salt Lake City

FROM NEW YORK CITY

Please convey my compliments to your membership of Local Union 544 UCWOC upon the forward step in affiliating with the greatest movement in the world, CIO. New York TIMES today carried story of arrest of leaders of Local 445 and Local 548 Teamsters Union for racketeering. One-half million members CIO state of New York welcome these workers of Minnesota and elsewhere into our great movement.

Peter Mosele, Regional Director CIO
New York City

FROM CIO COMPTROLLER

Please extend to officers and members of Local 544 warm fraternal greetings and a hearty welcome to CIO and your organization. Best wishes for an enthusiastic and highly successful mass meeting.

J. R. Bell, Comptroller,
CIO

FROM CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Please convey to the members of Local 544 of Minneapolis my compliments in joining the United Construction Workers, a CIO affiliate. Their foresightedness in taking this action, I am sure, will lead the way for other AFL groups to do likewise.

William Blizard, CIO Regional Director

FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee wish to compliment the membership of Local 544 for their affiliation with the CIO. We feel that your action will serve as the initial step in organizing the truck drivers throughout the United States under the banner of CIO.

Farm Equipment Organizing Committee
Grant Oakes, Chairman.

FROM DETROIT, MICHIGAN

On behalf of our entire national membership may I extend to the members of Local 544 our greetings and sincerest best wishes on the occasion of affiliation with UCWOC. Truck drivers in your area can now complete their organization, strengthen CIO, and take part in great American crusade of CIO for political and industrial democracy.

Lewis Alan Berne, International Pres.

FROM LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Permit us to commend and congratulate yourself and members of Local 544 upon their repudiation of the dictatorship of the AFL and to welcome you into the ranks of the CIO. We wish you every success and will cooperate and assist you in your efforts to extend your organization throughout this region.

John Grigby, Sec-Treas.
Steel Workers Local 1693 and Local 1878
Kentucky State CIO Council
Ben C. Gardner, Organizer
United Mine Workers District 23
Ed J. Morgan, President
Peter Campbell, Regional Director CIO

FROM J. C. LEWIS

Please convey my compliments to the membership of Local Union 544 UCWOC, Minneapolis, upon their forward step in seeking affiliation with the UCWOC. Will you please express also my hope as chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee that the membership of Local 544 will be successful in relieving themselves of the yoke of servitude under which they have been laboring these past many years and that they may successfully complete the organization of truck drivers under the banner of the CIO in Minnesota and in other parts of the United States.

J. C. Lewis, National Chairman
Packinghouse Workers Org. Committee

FROM FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA

Please convey to our mass meeting the congratulations of District 31, United Mine Workers of America, for your splendid work in organizing truck drivers into the CIO.

C. F. Davis, President
United Mine Workers District 31

FROM A FORMER DRIVER

Congratulations from a former driver for Murphy Motor Freight Lines. Knowing the situation as I did when I formerly drove out of that city, I can state without qualification that the membership of UCW-544 has made a step that will be to their everlasting benefit. The UCW membership in this area backs you to the limit. So keep the ball rolling.

George W. Moses, General Organizer
UCWOC

FROM CINCINNATI, OHIO

Please convey my heartiest congratulations to the membership of Local 544 UCWOC for the action they have taken in affiliating with the United Construction Workers CIO.

R. J. Davidson, Regional Director
Ohio Valley Region

FROM VIRGINIA COUNCIL

The Virginia State Industrial Union Council is in hearty accord with the program of UCWOC in accepting into membership the truck drivers in Minneapolis and other points in the Northwest. The Virginia State Industrial Union Council welcomes the incorporation of these workmen into CIO. We sincerely hope that additional truck drivers take the same step as the Minneapolis truck drivers. Fraternal greetings to the new CIO members and best wishes for all success.

Ray Thomason, President
Virginia Industrial Union Council

FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Please convey to your meeting Tuesday evening the compliments of this office and the tens of thousands of members of the CIO in Chicago. The Chicago membership of the CIO wish Local 544 every success in their determination to relieve themselves of the yoke of servitude under which they have been laboring for many years. The membership of the CIO in Chicago pledge every cooperation to Local 544 in their endeavor and extends to them a most hearty welcome into the fold of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Ernest B. Pugh, CIO Regional Director
Chicago

FROM COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS

Please accept the warm fraternal greetings of twenty thousand communications workers affiliated with the American Communications Association on the occasion of your affiliation with our parent body, the Congress of Industrial Organizations. We know that Local 544 UCWOC will achieve a new freedom in taking this step. Best wishes for the successful organization of truck drivers into our Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Joseph P. Selly, President
American Communications Assn., CIO

FROM GLASS WORKERS

My best wishes and congratulations on your affiliation with the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee. Your move is a step toward a complete organization of truck drivers under the banner of the CIO.

Irwin L. Deshtler, President
Federation of Glass, Ceramic
and Silica Sand Workers

FROM CIO IN ST. LOUIS

In behalf of the various local unions affiliated with the St. Louis CIO Council, I wish to extend heartiest congratulations and sincere best wishes to the officers and members of Local 544 for their progressive action in joining the millions of CIO members throughout the country.

Luther M. Slinkard, Secretary
St. Louis CIO Council

FROM BIRMINGHAM

Understand Minneapolis truck drivers have joined CIO through your efforts. It takes the CIO to get results. Your work speaks for itself. We just beat AFL in elections at U. S. Steel mines here. United Mine Workers, 3,554, AFL, 758, no union, 50. Best wishes.

William Mitch
United Mine Workers

FROM GREENBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

In behalf of the United Mine Workers of District 3 I extend to you our sincere congratulations for the wonderful work that you and your associates are doing in getting the truck drivers to come under your jurisdiction by joining the CIO.

Frank Hughes, President
United Mine Workers District 3

FROM WILKES-BARRE

On behalf of our organization in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania, I wish to congratulate you in affiliating with the United Construction Workers of the CIO. Also wish you success to continue to progress under that great leadership of Phillip Murray and A. D. Lewis.

John F. Kosik,
CIO Sub-Regional Director

FROM DENVER, COLORADO

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers extends fraternal greetings to the truck drivers of Minneapolis on the occasion of their taking this most progressive step of affiliating with the UCWOC of the CIO. This most recent addition to the ever-growing ranks of the CIO proves once again the correctness of the CIO organizational program. On behalf of our union I extend the sincere hope that this new affiliation will greatly aid the CIO in the Midwest.

Reid Robinson, President
Int. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers

FROM HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Please convey my compliments to the membership of Local 544, UCWOC, upon their forward step in seeking affiliation with the UCWOC. The action taken by the membership of Local 544 and the UCWOC in chartering this local is in complete accord with the policies of the CIO. Will you please convey my hope as director of the CIO of the state of Connecticut that Local 544 will successfully complete the organization of the truck drivers under the banner of the CIO in Minnesota and in other parts of the United States.

Joseph May, State Director
CIO of Connecticut

100 Firms See Profits Rise 30%

With the first half of the year over, returns are beginning to come in on the fancy war profits being garnered by various sections of American industry. Last Sunday's New York Times, in the first such tabulation, reports that 100 industrial corporations in the building construction and related industries had combined net profits (after all taxes were paid) of \$60,544,347 in the first quarter of 1941, compared with \$47,369,358 earned in the same period in 1940. The increase marks a gain of \$13,175,000, or 30 per cent.

Thirty-three building construction and fixtures companies more than doubled their profits during the first quarter of 1941. Furniture manufacturers earned 20 per cent more profit. Four large brick and clay products corporations

more than doubled their profits. Nine heating and plumbing corporations trebled their profits, from \$1,051,818 in the first quarter of 1940 to \$3,234,682 in the comparable period in 1941.

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UCWOC Charters Dozens of Unions Throughout Nation

The current issue of the United Construction News, semi-monthly paper published by the CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, carries news of the steady progress being made by the UCWOC in all parts of the United States.

The UCWOC, with which Local 544-CIO is affiliated, has a potential membership larger than any other union in the nation. It has jurisdiction over all building construction workers, building maintenance workers, and motor transport and allied workers. It is estimated that between eight and ten million workers are embraced by this jurisdiction. Only comparable union to the UCWOC is the Transport and General Workers Union of Great Britain, headed by Ernest Bevin, an industrial union of several million members—formed through the merger of 28 smaller unions.

That the UCWOC, in the face of bitter craft union opposition, is successfully driving ahead to bring industrial unionism to the exploited millions within its jurisdiction is shown by the steady stream of new charters being issued.

Among the new locals chartered in recent weeks by the UCWOC are the following:

- Local 139, South Bend, Ind.—Employees of the Hot Machine Shop and the Roach-Appleton plant.
- Local 120, Washington, D. C.—A growing building service union.
- Local 49, Toledo, Ohio—Building service union.
- Local 32, Fort Smith, Ark.—Construction workers union.
- Local 19, Welch, West Va.—Building service workers.
- Local 18, West Virginia—Road workers employed by the state form this union.
- Local 11, West Virginia—Also embraces road construction workers.
- Local 9, Bergamo, West Virginia—Lumber company employees.
- Local 8, West Va.—Charter just granted.
- Local 4, West Va.—Charter just granted.
- Local 3, Omar, West Va.—Woodworkers.
- Local 289, Aliquippa, Pa.—Workers manufacturing nail kegs.
- Local 288, Spokane, Wash.—Employees of the General American Transportation company.
- Local 287, Cincinnati, Ohio—Lumber and mill workers.
- Local 286, New York City—This is the large local of steel door workers which just won a strike against nine plants and beat out the AFL in a labor board election.
- Local 285, California—This local starts out with a large membership among sanitary and build-former AFL international organizer of the AFL building service union.
- Local 284, Youngstown, Ohio—Charter just granted.
- Local 283, Niles, Ohio—Brick workers formerly organized in local industrial union.
- Local 282—A union of service workers at Oberlin college.
- Local 281, Hammond, Ind.—Consists of employees of the Standard Car Equipment company.
- Local 280, Huntington, W. Va.—Mill workers.
- Local 270, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Sash and door workers.
- Local 278, Alexandria, Pa.—Employees of a refractory plant.
- Local 277, Kensington, Pa.—Wrecking company workers.
- Local 276, Creighton, Pa.—Brickyard workers.
- Local 275—Planning mill workers.
- Local 274, Library, Pa.—Haulers are predominant.

544-CIO Grievance Committee Meets Tuesday, Friday

Attention of all motor transport and allied workers is called to the fact that the regular meetings of the Grievance and Seniority Committees of Local 544-CIO are being held in the union hall at 1328 Second Street North.

The union Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m.

The union Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m.

If you have grievances or questions on seniority to take up, the place to discuss them is before your union committees.

UCWOC Whips AFL In 3 Elections

The CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee has won three labor board elections this month.

Biggest of the polls in which the construction workers again chose CIO was in New York, where employees of nine door-manufacturing plants voted to be represented by the UCWOC. Of 421 votes cast, 304 were for the UCWOC, 87 for the AFL, one for neither, and 29 challenged.

Eight drivers voted for the CIO, none for the AFL. Negotiations are now under way between the UCWOC and the Metal Covered Door and Window Manufacturers association.

Win in Philly

Another important election was won by the UCWOC in Philadelphia where workers at the Keystone House and Window Cleaning company voted for the UCWOC in a poll supervised by the state labor board. Of 68 workers voting, 47 voted CIO.

In a labor board vote at the Barrett Plant of the Harbison-Walker Refractories in Indiana, Pa., the UCWOC won out, 87 to 49.

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.

Revive the Spirit of 1934

- Local 273, Moweaqua, Ill.—Carpenters, steel workers, laborers.
- Local 270, Cincinnati, Ohio—Engineers.
- Local 271, Cyclone, W. Va.—Lumber workers.
- Local 157, Bronson, Mich.—Employees of the H. H. Darling company store fixtures, just voted 126 for UCWOC to 85 for no agreement.

LOANS

Up to \$300 loans are made to wage earners and salaried people to meet financial emergencies or to take advantage of business opportunities.

HOUSEHOLD FINANCE

Corporation
Licensed Under Minnesota Small Loan Act
Licensed pursuant to chapter 11, Laws of 1939 of the State of Minnesota.
Household Finance Corporation maintains offices in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Hibbing, Marquette and Moorhead.

Donaldson Workers Join Local 544-CIO

Fed up to the point of nausea with the bureaucracy and inefficiency of Bartlett and the AFL, the employees at the Donaldson store have severed their connections with what remains of the AFL Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 and have joined the Warehouse Section of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO.

These militant Donaldson workers struggled along for the past four years under the banner of the AFL. What gains they made in wages and working conditions were a result of their determined stand to better themselves despite the miserable Bartlett leadership.

Like thousands of other workers in the transport and warehouse union movement, the Donaldson workers know that the gains made by the Minneapolis labor movement were the result of the progressive and militant leadership of Local 544, stemming from the magnificent struggles in 1934 against the organized bosses of Minneapolis and the area.

Red Baiting Doesn't Work

They also are not being fooled by the resurrection of the old red-baiting campaign that is always dragged up by the bosses and their agents and tossed into any fight between the workers and the bosses. These employees know that this is a fight to determine whether they will continue to better their conditions through their union, or whether they will be dumped into some company union set-up run by Tobin in collusion with the bosses.

They read between the lines in this fight, and can see that any union approved by the boss (such as "AFL-544") is no union at all for workers. As long as you agree with the boss and accept what he dishes out, you can maintain membership in the company union, but when you disagree with the boss and stand up for your just rights, you are tossed off the job.

The Donaldson workers have joined Local 544-CIO, where they know they will get the proper leadership in the days to come, and where they know they will be led by honest, sincere union people.

They give this message to other members who have not yet broken with Local 359 AFL.

Think this over, fellow workers. Look back at where your support came from when you were in trouble. Then join the Warehouse Section of Local 544-CIO where you know you will get honest, democratic and progressive union leadership.

\$1.40 Daily Increase Won By Miners

The United Mine Workers Sunday clinched its victory in the nation's soft-coal fields when it signed a two-year contract with a bloc of one hundred Southern mine operators. The new agreement calls for a flat \$7 daily wage (an increase of \$1.40 a day over the old pact), elimination of the "reject" clause by which operators chiseled on the minus, plus gains in vacation and seniority clauses.

The pact covers about 150,000 Southern miners and brings to 400,000 the number of soft-coal miners who have made gains of \$1-\$1.40 daily under the United Mine Workers this year.

The agreement came 48 hours before a walk-out scheduled for Tuesday morning. The pact covers miners in West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia.

Police Dictator Amendment Loses Votes in Recount

The official recount of ballots on the police dictator amendment ended last week, resulting in an even higher number of NO votes than had been originally shown. The NO votes gained 172. The amendment thus lost by a total of 651 votes.

This is the second year in which the voters of Minneapolis have defeated efforts of the organized employers to saddle a police dictator upon the city. A similar amendment was defeated in 1937.

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TWIN CITY LINES

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Mr. Tobin Launches A New Fink Suit Against Local 544

After having successfully fought one fink suit through four years of court procedure, Local 544-CIO is confronted with a second fink suit of an identical nature.

Fink Suit Number One was launched by five union haters fronting for and supported by the Minneapolis employers. Fink Suit Number Two is launched by Tobin and his battery of lawyers.

Nothing more clearly reveals Tobin's reactionary game than the identity of his suit against Local 544 with that carried on by the five finks. Both suits ask the boss court to tie up the union funds; both attack the 544 leadership; both charge the 544 leadership with similar misdeeds.

One suit was launched by the company union Local Number One. The second suit is launched by Tobin's International. One is as foul as the other.

Tobin has no more legal or moral right to a single dollar of Local 544-CIO than had the finks. Tobin never donated a thin dime to our union in all its struggles with the bosses. The only thing Tobin ever did was to take \$130,000 in per capita from Local 544, and join the bosses in attacking us.

The only thing Tobin is legally entitled to is the AFL charter and his per capita tax up to the time Local 544 voted in regular membership meeting to withdraw from the AFL and join the CIO. And Tobin has his charter and his per capita.

The Shame of Tobin
Actually, Tobin and his agents realize the shameful game they are playing in running to the boss courts to try to gain control of the property belonging to the 544 membership. And in order to defend themselves, they are forced to re-write the entire history of Fink Suit Number One.

Listen to the way Holy Joe Casey describes the first fink suit in the July 3rd issue of the Minnesota Teamster:

"As far back as February in 1938 a small band of sincere trade

unionists by legal means sought the right to inspect the books of the local union, and determine an accounting of the disbursements and income."

Fools No One
Sincere trade unionists! Bunk! Casey and Tobin know the kind of rats that fronted for that fink suit. Everyone in the labor movement knows the score there.

What a lot of gall it takes at this late date to try to dress up those fink scoundrels as "sincere trade unionists."

Who do Tobin and his agents think they're fooling by such Hitler-like lies? Certainly not the 544 membership. Certainly not the Minneapolis labor movement. The labor movement of this city went on record a hundred times to defend Local 544 against the fink suit and brand the finks enemies of unionism. All Casey has to do is to look back through the files of the Northwest Organizer or the Labor Review, to find out how the union movement regards the fink suit, to find out how the Local 544 membership felt about it, how the Central Labor Union felt about it, how the Board of Union Business Agents felt about it.

Labor's Stand on Finks
Doesn't Casey know that on April, 1940, the Minneapolis Central Labor Union adopted a resolution "condemning the plaintiffs for violating the principles of unionism by suing Local 544 in the courts, an act which can only aid all labor's enemies"—and "expressing our complete confidence in Local 544, its members and leaders."

We recall at a 544 membership meeting May 13, 1940, Robley Cramer expressed the general sentiments of organized labor when he said, in regard to the fink suit, that "The employers have started this suit against 544 in the hope that somehow they could get you members to lose faith and confidence in your organization and its leadership. . . . Even our enemies realize this is a fake suit, that the plaintiffs whose names appear in the trial are not the real plaintiffs, that the real plaintiffs are the organized anti-union employers."

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Distort Court Findings

In a further effort to justify their own fink suit, Tobin and Casey completely distort the findings of fact by Judge Carroll in Fink Suit Number One. The truth is that not a single slander against Local 544 was left standing by Judge Carroll's decision. The court and the boss attorneys went over Local 544's record with a fine-tooth comb and they couldn't find the shadow of a dishonest act in the whole record.

The court had to admit that the union elections were fairly held; that the union officials were honest; that the officers' salaries were reasonable; that the union donations to the unemployed and to sister unions were reasonable and appropriate, etc.

No Difference
The purpose behind the two fink suits is identical, and Tobin's suit against Local 544-CIO will be regarded by honest union men with exactly the same contempt as the earlier fink suit.

Just as Local 544 fought and exposed the first fink suit, so will it oppose Tobin and the new fink suit.

Leavenworth Prisoners On Strike

Despite the immense obstacles to be overcome, over one thousand prisoners at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas, have apparently organized well enough to state a successful sit-down strike in protest against an increase in the prison work week from 39 to 44 hours.

The prisoners struck last Thursday in unison, halting the manufacturing of shoes, printing, clothing, furniture and brushes. Strikers demand increased pay, double time for all hours above 38 a week and additional good behavior time to apply on their sentences. All prisoners involved in factory work are involved in the strike.

Prison officials decline to make public the basic wage scale, but it is known to be pitifully low. What little pay the prisoners receive is given them at the completion of their sentences.

The sit-down strike was called two days after the Bureau of Prisons had issued an order extending the work week.

The prison administration has made no attempt to operate the struck shops, and an investigation is being conducted.

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Thoughts While Reading The Minnesota Teamster

Back in 1934 when old Local 574 was waging its magnificent and successful strikes to establish unionism in the motor transport industry, a red-baiting tabloid was published. Its columns told the same story that is being told today by the Minnesota Teamster. Only the 1934 paper had a different name and was financed by different people. It was called the Twin City Reporter. The people who put up the money for the yellow red-baiting sheet were the Citizens Alliance gang.

The major difference between the old Twin City Reporter and its modern counterpart, the Minnesota Teamster, is that the latter masquerades as a trade union paper. The former made no bones about the fact it was a boss paper defending the Open Shop.

Red-baiting is the last resort of a bankrupt labor skate. Red-baiting is a boss device to split the ranks of labor—and the bosses can always red-bait ten times better than the most scoundrelly union bureaucrat.

Casey's gutter sheet anxiously assures its readers that "Members of 544 Now in Charge of Local Affairs." "Rank and File Run Local Union," etc.

Mebbe, mebbe. But Raw Deal Neil still appoints the officers.

Among the imported thugs sent by Tobin to Minneapolis, and praised by the Minnesota Teamster for their diligence in ganging up on good union men, are the following: Leonard Brady, S. Stasko, Jim Langly, Martin Haggerty, James Cassidy and Jim Hoffa, all of Detroit.

Holy Joe Casey, front man for the goon squads, says that "The folks back home in Detroit can be especially proud of the contingent that is in here at the present time as well as the boys from the motor city who came in here earlier and were forced to return to Detroit due to the press of home business."

We are recommending that our CIO brothers in Detroit (there ARE a few CIO men in that city, you know) pay special honors to Tobin's goons.

Other thugs who did outstanding work in beating up good union men in Minneapolis are Mike Cianciola, Wilbert Prohl, Frank White and Joe Marineau, all of Milwaukee; Bruce Travers and Ray Friestuhler, of Indiana; C. E. Birdsong of Evansville; West Jolly and L. Sirecy of Nashville; Ralph Cuzzort, Sebort Argo and H. F. Blansit of Chattanooga.

So Wally Raze "fails to see any benefits to be derived from bolting to the CIO."

The whole point is, Raze, that Tobin was determined that a union like Local 544 should no longer be permitted to exist within the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Tobin was determined to send a receiver in here and cut the union to pieces. His own agents have admitted this.

The only way to assure that Local 544 would maintain itself as a fighting workers' organization and continue to make progress was to accept the invitation to join the movement of the CIO.

The period has come to a close when Tobin will permit an honest militant union to exist within the AFL Teamsters. Tobin is openly opposed to workers making any fur-

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gains. He SAYS so. Old man Tobin's thoughts are running just the other way these days. He is calling upon the workers (but not the bosses, nor himself) to "sacrifice for the war." Indeed, the dictator from Indianapolis has lost faith in the labor movement and doubts whether it can continue to exist. And Tobin is right. HIS brand of unionism is through in America. The bosses and the government will wipe it out ruthlessly. Only fighting democratic organizations of workers can survive.

Tobin and Casey continue to whistle to keep up their courage by claiming that "this isn't a fight with the CIO." The host of CIO messages of welcome to Local 544 and the national CIO speakers at last week's mass meeting show in unmistakable manner exactly how the CIO feels about this fight. And if anyone is still stupid enough to believe that the CIO isn't in this fight to a finish, just stick around.

We only publicized a fraction of the messages from national CIO leaders and city and state CIO councils. Naturally we don't disclose those communications dealing with plans in regard to helping locals of the Tobin International free themselves from his dictatorship. Tobin says he wants to fight to a finish, and that is exactly what he is going to get. And we shall carry the fight to him in his most vital spots, where he is least expecting it.

Casey's gutter sheet complains that the Dunnes "took extra advantage of the employers." Imagine a person masquerading as a union man complaining that a union leadership "took advantage" of a boss. Yes, Local 544 has always insisted that the bosses live up to the spirit and letter of every union agreement, and has cracked down hard on every chiseler.

This kind of unionism is unknown to the Caseys and the Neals who can't be bothered with settling the grievances of the rank and file, or with enforcing seniority.

It is a foul lie of Casey that the 544 leaders ever "used" the union movement for political purposes. The heads of 544 have always placed unionism first. It's the Caseys and Tobins who suck tongues with the war-mongering Democratic Party and seek to subordinate trade unionism to boss political machines who are guilty of the lying charge they place against Local 544.

The average of the first issue of the Minnesota Teamster runs about a lie a line.

Casey says that the Northwest Organizer was published by the Teamsters Joint Council for seven years. Guess again, Holy Joe. The Organizer was launched in 1934 by Local 574 as a daily strike bulletin and revived in April, 1935, as the weekly organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference. In 1936 it became the official organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council.

The Northwest Organizer was never stolen from the Council. Local 544-CIO bought it from the Council and has the bill of sale. And who in the world has a better

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.

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legal and moral right to the Northwest Organizer than the union who founded it, named it, wrote it, published it?

And none of your fake "twinges of regret" at losing the Northwest Organizer. It never served labor bureaucrats like Tobin and Neal and yourself, it always despised your brand of "unionism." The Northwest Organizer has always been and will remain an honest union paper, serving the exploited everywhere.

"Without elections there is no democracy," writes Casey on page 7 of his fink sheet. This is the same page that records that Neal has appointed a batch of officers to 544—without elections!

In the last few weeks approximately six thousand bundles of the Northwest Organizer have been sent to every local in Tobin's International. Tobin has implored every local to "return the Dunne's red literature."

Six of Tobin's unions have done so, and we have accordingly scratched them from our mailing list. The other 950 locals like what we say and stand for. A goodly number of them say so and go far beyond that—as Mr. Tobin will find in good time.

The phone calls received by the Northwest Organizer from irate union members forced to receive other union papers have been gratefully received. We have advised these unionists to immediately enter their personal subscription to the Organizer, at the special subscription rate of \$1 for eight months. We advise all such readers from unions other than 544 to do likewise. Only in this way will you be assured of receiving a truthful week-by-week account of the fight for democratic unionism.

Office Workers Turn Down Move to Condemn 544-CIO

Members of the Office Workers Union, Local 17661, refused unanimously at a regular meeting on July 7 to condemn 544-CIO or to lend their support to the AFL in the fight against the drivers. Such action was requested by members of the executive board of the union in a resolution which they presented to the membership, but they were turned down cold.

Although this same resolution had been introduced previously into the Central Labor Union in the name of Local 17661, it was actually the statement of but two members of the board, doing the bidding of AFL representatives. Despite this fact, the resolution was publicized in the daily press and in a number of AFL papers as the stand of the Office Workers Union as a whole. The officers who sponsored the resolution were severely criticized by rank and file members for speaking for the union without authorization.

Rose Seiler and Beatrice Gould, the two expelled officers of the union, are circulating petitions addressed to William Green, requesting a fair trial according to the Constitution and By-Laws of Local 17661, which provide for a hearing before a trial board elected by the membership. A similar request was made at the meeting Monday night but was autocratically brushed aside by William Wright who stated that the union "could name as many trial boards as they wanted to, but they wouldn't be recognized by the AFL."

The great American Federation of Labor continues to preserve the democratic rights of its members through the abolition of free speech and trial by jury.

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.

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

ORGANIZER WANT ADS

(If you are a subscriber, your ad will be published here free of charge. Mail or phone the Northwest Organizer, 1328 Second Street North.

3 RM. cottage for rent, partly furnished. West side Medicine Lake, walking distance to beach. Call Or. 9053R.

LARGE one-room apartment, all modern, employed couple preferred. 2951 Upton Ave. North, Hy. 1495.

Sale Miscellaneous
OIL heatrola, 2 years old, \$25. 2 barrels and pump, \$3. 1211 36th Ave. N.

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Revive the Spirit of 1934!

Get A True Account of the Fight for Democratic Unionism in Minneapolis

TAKE A PERSONAL SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER addresses this advertisement particularly to the members of those AFL unions whom Tobin and his like have forced to discontinue their blanket union subscriptions to this paper.

For seven years the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER has been the nation's outstanding union paper—from the time it first appeared in 1934 as the daily strike bulletin of the Minneapolis General Drivers Union, down to the present when it is published as the official organ of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO.

The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER has been a tremendously effective weapon in the fight for honest, democratic and militant unionism. It has educated the present generation of unionists in the principles of unionism.

Today, as in 1934, President Daniel Tobin of the AFL Brotherhood of Teamsters, is hurling every vicious boss weapon against the Minneapolis drivers in an effort to crush them and their desire for democratic and militant unionism. Tobin has called on the cops, the courts, the FBI, Governor Stassen, the Roosevelt administration and hundreds of imported hoodlums to try to defeat Local 544 after it rejected his dictatorship and joined the CIO.

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Northwest Organizer

Published every Thursday under the auspices of Local 544, CIO

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Entered as second class matter May 1st, 1935, at the Post-office at Minneapolis, Minn., under Act of March 8, 1879

Business Manager DANIEL BURKE Editor MILES B. DUNNE

Mayor Kline Picks a Company Cop

In his first official act, Mayor Marvin Kline reveals that the labor movement of Minneapolis was 100 per cent correct in opposing this banker-controlled politician.

Mayor Kline has lost no time to demonstrate, both to his backers and to organized labor, that he is going to run the city on Associated Industries lines. Monday the mayor announced as his choice for new police chief Edward B. Hansen.

Who is Edward B. Hansen? He is none other than the head of the Northern Pump company's "protective service," the company police organized by this open shop outfit to keep out unionism.

Hansen has even further qualifications that endear him to the labor-hating employers of Minneapolis. He has been trained in the FBI police training school in Washington, and bears the endorsement of J. Edgar Hoover.

Workers in this area have had some experience with the FBI methods, all of it unpleasant. It was the FBI which organized the frame-up against the drivers' union leaders in Sioux City, Des Moines and Omaha, which sent a half dozen unionists to federal penitentiaries for two years. It was the FBI that sent its agents as stool pigeons among the striking Minneapolis WPA workers, and helped send a number to prison. In every part of the United States the FBI has more and more revealed itself as an anti-union organization of federal cops, working to weaken the labor movement and aid the employers.

In selecting an FBI-trained company cop for chief of police, Kline further reveals his hatred for organized labor and his subservience to the employers.

—And So Short a Time Ago

At the outset, we wish to go on record as stating that there are far worse union papers being published in the United States than the Minneapolis Labor Review. We have always enjoyed the vehemence with which Robley Cramer set forth his conviction of the moment, no matter how it contradicted his equally enthusiastic conviction of yesterday.

But we think Brother Cramer is pushing a wee bit too swiftly down a dead-end street these days as he jumps on Casey's band wagon and blows the horn for Tobin. The path that Cramer is taking is a false one for the union movement. And it's a bad one for Cramer, too.

For the edification of our readers—and for Mr. Cramer—we publish below the praises sung to Local 544's leadership by a certain Minneapolis labor editor in the June 6, 1941, issue of a certain Minneapolis labor paper. And we ask Cramer to square this with the trashy lies he is publishing today:

"By attacking the unions of the driving crafts he (Marvin Kline) makes plain his servility to those labor hating interests that have so long vainly endeavored to crush organized labor in Minneapolis by destroying these unions that are a bulwark of the trade union movement.

"By various devices such as precipitating strikes, trumped up law suits against the Drivers' unions, and efforts to cause division in these unions, foes of the Minneapolis labor movement have tried desperately but vainly to smash these organizations.

"When Kline vilifies and slanders the leaders of General Drivers 544, he pursues the time-worn policy of labor haters. The union is all right but the leaders are very bad. This is the propaganda always used against union officials who accomplish things.

(Are you listening, Cramer?)

"Kline apparently does not rely on the achievements of 544 have aided in securing. Under their leadership wages of Drivers have been increased from \$11 a week to \$33 a week. Hours of work for Drivers have been decreased from 60 to 44 a week.

"Drivers now enjoy annual vacations with pay. They have so far as possible of attainment under the present social system, security of employment.

"Retail business concerns certainly will not agree with Kline's condemnation of the officials of General Drivers 544 because before the Union became effective Drivers in Minneapolis had \$5,100,000 a year to spend where at present they have \$23,000,000 to spend.

"It is true that in scoring the achievements related here General Drivers union and their officers had the support of all Minneapolis unions. It is also true that since the power of the General Drivers' unions has been developed they have never failed to aid and cooperate with other unions when needed . . .

"In attacking and assailing the General Drivers and their officials, Kline assails and attacks the entire labor movement."

What will the Minneapolis Labor Review be saying one month hence? And who is there left to take it seriously?

Annual 544-CIO Picnic Postponed to Later Date

Last Wednesday evening the Picnic Committee of Local 544-CIO met and voted to accept the recommendation of the union executive board that the annual 544 picnic, scheduled to be held this Sunday, July 13th, be postponed until later in the season.

Because of the heavy schedule of work being handled by union leaders in preparation for the industry-wide elections to determine choice of collective bargaining agent, it was felt that insufficient time could be given to organize for the picnic.

It is further felt that a much more successful outing can be assured for later in the season, when the elections have conclusively established the right of the workers to be represented by Local 544-CIO.

The Picnic Committee will shortly announce the date and place for the annual union picnic.

Tobin's Kind of Picket Line



New Sales Taxes Are Threatened

The new excise taxes contained in the largest tax revenue bill in the nation's history, just completed by the Ways and Means Committee of Congress, will fall, as usual, most heavily on the lower income groups.

The excise tax has the same effect as a sales tax.

Here are some of the effects of the proposed new tax bill:

It would increase the tax on distilled spirits \$1 a gallon, bringing the total tax to \$4 a gallon.

It would double the present 3 1/2% tax on autos, parts and accessories, with higher taxes on tires and tubes and trucks.

It would introduce a new levy, a \$5 "use" tax on autos—also on airplanes and yachts.

A levy of 1/6c per bottle on soft drinks would be imposed—a 5% tax on telephone bills and heavy taxes on long distance phone calls and telegrams—a 5% tax on transportation—a tax of 2c per thousand on matches, etc.

The exemption on theater tickets is reduced from 20c to 9c, thus putting a tax on even the cheapest forms of amusement.

The proposed tax measure will not go before Congress for several weeks and is not expected to pass until September.

Revive the Spirit of 1934!

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.

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

Revive the Spirit of 1934

Tobin's Dictator-Trustee Racket

One of the numerous dictatorial devices by which Daniel J. Tobin, head of the AFL Teamsters International, retains his bureaucratic control over his organization is through his power to appoint trustees over local unions which have aroused his hostility. These powers are set forth under Article VI, Section 6, of Tobin's constitution:

"(a) If the General President has or receives information which leads him to believe that any of the officers of a local union are dishonest or incompetent, or that the organization is not being conducted for the benefit of the trade, he may appoint a Trustee to take charge and control of the affairs of the local union."

The section then empowers Tobin's receiver to take full charge of the local union, to remove any or all officers and appoint new ones; to take any actions which in his judgment are necessary; to take possession of all funds, books, papers and other property, etc.

The pertinent phrase in this whole section is that which leaves it up to Tobin whether he is "to believe that any of the officers of a local union are dishonest or incompetent," etc., etc. Tobin is the sole judge and arbiter as to whether a local union shall be furnished with a Tobin-appointed dictator.

For years Tobin has depended upon this section of the constitution to retain his grip on the Teamsters' organization, to expel militant union members and to override the democratic decisions of the union membership.

The much-discussed article on Tobin in the recent issue of Fortune magazine hit the nail on the head when it pointed out that Tobin resorts to his dictatorial powers with promptness when he suspects that militant unionists or "Communists" have been elected by local unions, but that when racketeers have crept into the unions, Mr. Tobin looks the other way and "doesn't know anything about these situations."

The tens of thousands of new drivers who have been organized in recent years, DESPITE Tobin, include many militant workers who have little time for the Tobin brand of unionism. More and more, these workers are asserting themselves. And more and more Tobin has had to fall back upon his ace in the hole, the trustee-dictator racket. In city after city—Omaha, Dubuque, Detroit, Mason City, Waterloo, etc.—Tobin has countered the democratic will of the membership by imposing his trustees upon the unions.

And when one of Tobin's trustees takes over a union, it is good-by democracy, good-by rank-and-file, good-by contracts and elections, good-by unionism.

It was exactly this threat by Tobin to impose a dictator-receiver on Local 544 that finally convinced the officers and memberships of our union of the impossibility of remaining in the AFL.

That Tobin was all set to spring the trap has been admitted by his agents who have come to Minneapolis—most recently in that yellow sheet, the Minnesota Teamster, which boasts that Local 544 left the AFL "a step ahead of the Teamsters executive order to vacate."

The handful of deluded and terrified workers who remain in the Neal organization are just now receiving their first taste of what a Tobin receivership looks like. Neal has handed them a set of officers in the same way that an Adolph Hitler tells the people of Norway who shall rule them.

Raw Deal Neal and Holy Joe Casey will go right down the line on all the other devices of a receiver to ride roughshod over the membership. Lousy contracts will be negotiated behind the backs of the members. In an effort to take the heat off the receiver and his stooges, union members will be placed on the negotiating committee by an "advisory" committee.

Membership meetings will become more and more infrequent. Honest union members who take their unionism seriously will be discriminated against and maneuvered out of their jobs, to make room for some fink friend of the dictator-trustee. Grievances will pile up and go uncare-for. Seniority lists will be juggled around to discriminate against those who have incurred the displeasure of Tobin or his Quislings. Eventually, the union will become indistinguishable from those company unions dominated by the bosses, which all honest workers scorn. Whenever the workers try to do anything for themselves, to make their union function in their behalf, they will be thwarted by Tobin and his receiver.

That this is an absolutely true picture of a Tobin

receivership will be attested by the tens of thousands of workers who have suffered and are today suffering under the iron heel of one of Tobin's receivers.

It was to escape this fate that Local 544 overwhelmingly approved the recommendation of its leadership to preserve the union and the union gains by withdrawing from the AFL and accepting a charter in the CIO.

The overwhelming majority of Minneapolis transport drivers understand and approve the action of their union, Local 544-CIO. Those few who don't yet understand the score will have their eyes opened very quickly and forcibly—not by 544-CIO but by Tobin and Neal and Casey.

Minneapolis is one city where the drivers had Tobin's score. When Tobin tried to assert his dictatorship, we beat him to the punch (in the words of Tobin's agent) and gave a demonstration to the workers of the entire nation as to how a bureaucrat like Tobin deserves to be handled by decent workers devoted to honest, democratic and militant unionism.

Raw Deal Neal Votes

Two weeks ago the Northwest Organizer warned the Minneapolis transport drivers and allied workers that Tobin's imported agents and hoodlums are here TO GIVE MINNEAPOLIS A PREVUE OF WHAT A 100 PER CENT TOBINIZED UNION WOULD BE LIKE.

We warned the transport workers that Tobin and Raw Deal Neal would not permit them to open their mouths about the selection of officers or what kind of union agreements they wanted.

Any remaining skepticism in the minds of our readers about our warning must have been removed by Raw Deal's "election" last week. On July 4th the transport drivers of this city awoke to read in their morning paper that Tobin and Neal had appointed a nice new set of officers for them. As the Minneapolis Tribune put it, "Trustee Picks New Officers for 544-AFL."

Those picked by Neal to head his "union" are listed as Leonard Brady, president, described as an "officer of the Detroit, Mich., drivers' local"; George Williams, vice-president; Sid Brennan, secretary-treasurer; Steven Nehotte, recording secretary; Ed Blixt, George O'Brien and Fritz Snyder, trustees.

At this time we shan't enter into a discussion of the calibre of these people. Every driver who knows the score knows who these appointees are and what is their record in the union movement.

The all-important point is, that Tobin and Raw Deal Neal are imposing these "officers" on the drivers in true Hitler-like style—no nominations, no free and secret elections. TAKE MY SLATE AND LIKE IT! THIS IS IT!

The difference between the full and free trade union democracy previously enjoyed by the membership of Local 544, and the dictatorial regime of Raw Deal Neal, is the difference between day and night.

From its re-birth in 1934 Local 544 has been a democratic organization. Its members have a long-standing habit of determining for themselves who shall lead them and what kind of contracts they want. Each year free and democratic nominations have been held. Each year the leadership has submitted its policies for approval to the membership, in free and democratic elections held by the Australian ballot method, under the direction of an election committee chosen by the membership. Each year the membership has shown its approval of such policies by re-electing its leaders to office.

Tobin and Neal have never understood this kind of true union democracy. They FEAR such democracy. They DISRUPT the union rank and file. They KNOW that in any fair and square election the Minneapolis drivers will repudiate Tobin and his local Quislings.

That's why Neal and his cronies, the drivers, choose to express themselves. That's why Neal, exercising his prerogative as dictator-receiver, appoints the Fritz Snyders as union officers.

The refusal of Tobin and Neal to accept the democratic decision of the 544 membership to leave the AFL and accept a charter in the CIO, the appointment of "new officers" by Neal, are of a piece with the AFL's objections to a free and democratic elections throughout the industry so that the workers themselves may decide their choice of union bargaining agent.

Raw Deal Neal may hand down a thousand appointments and ultimatums. But the drivers of Minneapolis will stick with the union and leadership through which they have made so many gains since 1934.

Holy Joe Casey Signs a Contract

It was a warm day in the front office at 257 Plymouth Avenue North. Sitting around disconsolately were Holy Joe Casey, Raw Deal Neal and other Tobin "organizers." The heat of the sun was made doubly oppressive by the radiation from the flashy jewelry adorning the persons of these fighting labor leaders.

The cause of the general gloom pervading the room was the realization that while the AFL certainly had the backing of Tobin's bankroll, the employers, the FBI, Governor Stassen and the Roosevelt administration, it just didn't have the support of the 544 membership.

"I just don't understand these Minneapolis guys," sighed Raw Deal. "When I tell 'em the Dunes are red, they say they've been red-baited by experts. All they're interested in is wages, hours and conditions, and they say they're getting along all right under the Dunes. I can't make them understand that we're to HELP them—to help both them and the employers."

"What we need is to show these dummies that we can sign contracts, too," said Holy Joe. "The bosses say they're all for us, and they help us put AFL buttons on their men, but no employer will sign an agreement with us. They say they're afraid their men won't stand for it." Sitting on the floor at Casey's feet was Harold Meyer. He agreed with everything Casey said. He agreed with everything Tobin said or would ever say.

Meyer Lewis shuffled into the room, mopping his face. He listened to Casey stress the need for signing a union agreement, somewhere, with some one.

Suddenly a feeble light flickered in Meyer's well-upholstered head. "Just a minute," he said, "back in 1936 when Tobin and me whipped the Dunes, I got a guy to sign a contract with old Local 500. It was the only guy I ever found who would sign a contract with 500. He ran a two-horse transfer outfit. His name was Fate, or Pate or something like that. No, it was Date. His two sons worked for him. He was a pushover."

"Just the man," said Holy Joe, rising to his feet. "What are we waiting for?"

Casey and Neal and Meyer Lewis drove out 6th Avenue South to the Date Transfer company and confronted Mr. Date.

"Sure," said Date, "I'll help you boys out. I'll sign anything. One dollar an hour, two dollars an hour. It don't mean nothing to me. You see, my boys work for me. We've got an understanding."

"It's got to look good," Neal reminded Casey. "What do you say to a dollar an hour?"

"Fine with me, boys," said Date.

"How about two weeks vacation?" asked Casey.

"Sure. Two weeks. Four weeks. My boys and me have got an understanding," said Date.

He also agreed to seniority, to overtime. He even agreed to pay dues for his sons. Casey thought a long time, but left that out.

Back at the hall, Casey and Meyer Lewis whistled for the smart "public relations men" they had brought in from the Coast.

"Dress it up good and play it big," ordered Casey. "Say that DATE TRANSFER COMPANY PAYS 10 CENTS PER HOUR MORE. Say that the signing of this new agreement indicates the efficient work now being done by Local 544 under its new leadership in protecting and improving the conditions of the membership. Say that the completion of this contract gives corroboration to the announcement of Joseph M. Casey of San Francisco, international representative of the Teamsters Union, that all contracts expiring will be negotiated as rapidly as possible with Minneapolis employers. Tell the Labor Review to play it up big. Tell the St. Paul Union Advocate to play it up big. Tell the daily papers to play it up big."

The public relations men ran off. The room emptied. Casey and Neal were alone.

"Well, we signed a contract," said Holy Joe, but he looked just as worried as he had earlier in the day.

"You and me both," said Raw Deal.

On the National Picket Line

(Continued from page 1)

average price rise, Seattle, 2.2 per cent.

In Frisco the price of cabbage has risen 35 per cent, in Houston 30.8 per cent, and in Memphis, 20 per cent.

Between May 27th and June 17th egg prices rose an average of 6.7 per cent in 17 out of 18 cities. Pork chops averaged a 6.2 per cent increase. Lard prices have risen 4.8 per cent in twenty days.

So sharp has been the increase in food and rent prices during recent months that the wage gains won by the CIO, and to a lesser extent by the AFL, have all but been wiped out.

This is one of the ways in which the bosses, through their ownership and control of industry and prices, are able to liquidate the gains of unionism.

Daniel J. Tobin has just become a member of the Fight for Freedom Committee, we

see. The Socialist Call points out that the war-mongers are hailing this new "champion" of liberty, who would establish the four freedoms everywhere—except in his own union.

The strike of prisoners at Leavenworth working in the factories has been broken. Strike leaders have been sent to a still harsher prison, Alcatraz.

The more one thinks about this struggle of these prison workers, the more striking is the resemblance to conditions in fascist nations. There all workers toil under prison conditions. There strike leaders are punished by the concentration camp—or death.

I dare say the mouths of many an American industrialist watered when he read of how simply the Leavenworth strike was ended.

The reactionaries in Congress, if they have their way, would like to place labor in exactly the position of the Leavenworth prisoners. A prison regime in the factories, prison wages, wage cuts and longer hours put through by ultimatums—and if any resistance appears—BANG, into Alcatraz with the strike leaders.

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

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE	
Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO	
July 8, 1941—Greenhouse and Independent Truck Drivers	July 25, 1941—Cold Storage and Produce
July 9, 1941—Garage Delivery and Department Store	July 25—Spring Water
July 8, 1941—Lumber	Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m.
July 9, 1941—Meats and Wholesale Liquor	Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m.
July 11, 1941—Wholesale Grocery	All regular meetings start at 8 p. m. unless otherwise indicated.
July 14, 1941—General Membership	
July 17, 1941—Text and Awning, Newspaper, 10 A. M. Ways and Means, L. J. S.	
July 18, 1941—Stewards	
July 21, 1941—Furniture, Col. Paper and Printing	
July 22, 1941—Building Material	
	ICE DRIVERS 2nd Monday, July 15th, 1941, Day Laborers
	WAREHOUSEMEN General Membership, Second Tuesday Stewards, 4th Monday Executive Board, Every Monday