

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DAILY STRIKE BULLETIN

THE ORGANIZER



TWO TWENTY-FIVE SOUTH THIRD STREET

SMASH THE CITIZENS ALLIANCE

UNITED LABOR ACTION

Vol. 1, No. 4 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, MONDAY, JULY 16, 1934 Price: one cent

Strike Monday Midnight!

Membership Assemblies at East Side Eagle's Hall, Monday, 8 p. m.

Sharp Shooter

of fate do so decree
 must fight to win.
 rises rise and classes fall
 e battles' din.
 where else
 ow else
 kers sound their hour,
 y standing toe to toe
 ting strongly with the foe
 their way to power.

your advertising campaign
 Mr. Levy?

our readers a solemn prom-
 this will be the last time we
 the Saturday Scandal Sheet
 column. It is like shooting
 with machine guns. Even
 u score a bullseye, you don't
 isting.

Mr. Beardaly, we'll be seeing

Weekly Doubt

Bigdough in a statement to
 yo says, "The men in my plant
 atified. They are being influ-
 outside agitators."

th
 rgo-Moorhead Local have the
 0. Not only drivers, helpers,
 t petroleum workers, but milk
 rders as well—just imagine.

3. d is a big guy. Huh! So was
 us of manure before the farmer
 \$t on the North Forty this
 Nome—

dock workers and truck driv-
 risco are going to make a
 m. Oh! Mr. Casey!

wic
 use us, in this local, of be-
 merican. But how's this for
 l American members:
 T Holstine—Chippewa.
 ainbolt—Sioux.
 jllotson—Chippewa.
 pl—Chippewa.
 jers—Chippewa.
 elanger—Chippewa.

ditorium meeting was a darb!

How About It?

e being forced by the employ-
 on strike again—for what we
 eady won. He, or they, have
 loop-hole. In case they win
 ke, which we truck drivers,
 petroleum workers and plenty
 e and platform workers say
 not win, they will use the un-
 d inside worker for the pur-
 ndermining our union. If you
 know how he can do that, I'd
 your employer. He must know
 wouldn't care if you joined a
 or not. But friends, the employ-
 willing to put up a fight to pre-
 ur union from taking you in.
 u going to stand back and watch
 for the welfare of your loved
 ed yourself? If you are, you
 ways think "if I had only lis-
 employer does not care for you
 loved ones. If you think he
 'd say meet him on the street
 time and see what he says or
 bet he'd see every cloud in
 y when you meet him, but not

STRIKE CALL OF LOCAL 574

Unanimously Adopted at General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, July 11

Since the settlement of the strike on May 25th, Local 574, through its duly authorized representatives, has been attempting to negotiate wage scales with the employers in accordance with the agreement which brought about the ending of the strike. We have attempted to settle with the employers all other matters left for negotiation. All these attempts to settle the dispute by negotiation conducted with the greatest patience and persistence, have met with failure. The employers, egged on by the Union-hating Citizens' Alliance, behind which stand the banks and the sinister financial interests of Wall Street, have violated the agreement. They have set out to break our union and rob us of the fruits of our victory.

All the efforts of our Union, over a period of six weeks since the ending of the strike, to establish living wages and hours have been frustrated by the arrogant attitude of the employers. The Regional Labor Board by its action, or rather, by its failure to act, has aided in every case in upholding the hands of these employers. Every attempt of the Union to negotiate and secure satisfaction for the just demands of its members has been met with evasions, tricks and subterfuges. Every approach for practical discussions of our grievances has been answered by columns of paid newspaper advertisements filled with misrepresentations, lies and slanders against the Union and its leadership.

The vital questions of wages and hours, which are of life and death concern to our members and their families, have been callously ignored. The right of the Union to represent all its members — which was explicitly agreed to in the strike settlement, has been denied. Seniority rules provided for in the agreement have been violated by a majority of the firms.

In this unscrupulous course, the Citizens' Alliance and the employers are seeking to shift the issue. They cloak their campaign to wreck the Trade Union movement and deprive the workers of decent human lives behind personal attacks on the leaders of the Union. The bosses want to dictate to the Union what leaders it should have. We reject this dictation. We have the right to be represented by leaders of our own choosing and we intend to assert this right. We reject the insolent demand of the Citizens' Alliance and the bosses to choose our leaders for us. Local 574 is a democratic trade union organization. Its membership is fully capable of deciding this question for itself without any advice from the exploiters of labor.

The general membership meeting declares that the leaders of our Union have faithfully served the interests of the membership. They have conducted themselves as responsible trade union officials and have not imposed on the Union any issues, political or otherwise, contrary to the interests of the Union and its members. They have shown their efficiency as organizers in the building of our Union. They have demonstrated their loyalty and courage under fire.

The "Red Scare" of the Citizens' Alliance is nothing but a fraudulent maneuver to distract our attention from the struggle for decent living conditions and demoralize our ranks. They will not succeed. The conditions of our lives are too bitter. Nobody can divert us from the fight to better them.

We note with the greatest indignation that D. J. Tobin, President of our International Organization, has associated himself with this diabolical game of the bosses by publishing a slanderous attack on our leadership in the official magazine. The fact that this attack has become part of the "ammunition" of the bosses in their campaign to wreck our union, is enough for any intelligent worker to estimate it for what it really is. We say plainly to D. J. Tobin: "If you can't act like a Union man, and help us, instead of helping the bosses, then at least have the decency to stand aside and let us fight our battle alone. We did it in the organization campaign and in the previous strike and we can do it again. We received absolutely no help of any kind from you. Our leadership and guidance has come from our own local leaders, and them alone. We put our confidence in them and will not support any attack on them under any circumstances."

We are fighting for more wages, for better hours and working conditions and for the right of Union organization. The conditions under which we work are intolerable for men who want to live as human beings and who aspire to provide a decent existence and a future for their families in this, the richest country in the world. That is our right. We have worked for it, and we intend to fight for it to the bitter end.

In doing so we feel deeply convinced that we are fighters for the preservation of the Trade Union movement and for the rights and interests of all workers. Our strength and confidence is multiplied by the conviction that our fellow workers and brother unionists in other trades, who helped us so nobly before, will rally to our aid again. We rely on the sympathy and solidarity of the other unions and workers organizations who endorsed our demands by their presence in the great labor demonstration Friday, July 6th. We appeal for the support also of the organizations of farmers and gardeners, of the unemployed workers, of the rank and file of small business and professional people—of all who are cheated and oppressed by the financial tyrants who have turned our great, rich country into a land of privation and misery for the masses.

We are confident that our appeal will not be in vain. Therefore, convinced of the justice of our cause, relying on our own strength and the sympathetic aid of the great majority of the population, the general membership meeting solemnly declares:

1. All members of Local No. 574 will go on strike for the enforcement of the Union demands on Monday, July 16th, at 12 o'clock midnight.
2. We call upon our sister Local No. 120 in St. Paul to take similar action at its general membership meeting Thursday night, and we pledge to Local 120 our solidarity and co-operation in a joint struggle to a successful conclusion.
3. We call upon all other trade unions in the Twin Cities to rally to our support with moral and financial aid and to hold themselves in readiness to take sympathetic strike action if such becomes necessary to secure our victory and smash the union-wrecking campaign of the Citizens' Alliance.

Propose Strike Committee of 100 to Lead

Secret Ballot to Reaffirm Strike Decision

The Organization Committee and the Executive Board of Local No. 574, assembled in joint session at the Union Headquarters Saturday evening, July 14th, to complete plans and preparations for the strike in accordance with the unanimous vote of the membership at Eagles Hall on Wednesday, July 11. At this meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION

(1) To call a general membership meeting of Local 574 for Monday night, July 16, at 8 P. M. at East Side Eagles' Hall, to take final action of the membership on the strike.

(2) The Organization Committee and the Executive Board consider the unanimous strike vote at the July 11th meeting as a democratic expression of the firm will of the membership to enforce its just demands by strike action. In order that the membership may have an opportunity to reaffirm its unanimous action and to demonstrate its sentiments finally and conclusively, a secret ballot on the strike will be taken at this meeting.

(3) The Organization Committee and the Executive Board will recommend to the general membership meeting that it confirm its unanimous decision of July 11th, and proceed with the strike as scheduled for midnight, Monday, July 16th, and that it elect a Strike Committee of 100 to conduct the strike.

Strike Deputies

- Lyle Bickford—8 E. 17th St., Br. 2698.
- A. Brenfang—32 Glenwood Ave., Ma. 9451.
- Merle Birmingham—St. James Hotel, No. 412.
- Thos. R. Bissonette—1130 14th Ave. S. E., Gl. 2871.
- Harold E. Bither—1302 7th St. S. E., Gl. 1930.
- Everett O. Bittner—1800 Nicollet Ave., Ke. 4429.
- Peter Bliss—1118 9th St. S.
- Joe Bolleg—64 E. Hennepin Ave., Ma. 8981.
- Russell Bomsta, 1418 5th Ave. S., Ge. 3994.
- Sophias Borgen, 3229 Nicollet Ave.
- Ben Bowen—1904 10th Ave. S., At. 4998.
- W. R. Brabec—3307 Bryant Ave. S.
- David Brancheau—3240 Hennepin Ave., Re. 3811.
- Ernest Braxton—607 6th Ave. N.
- Albert Brecht—1330 Adams St. N. E., Gr. 1013.
- Claret Bright—302 Lyndale Ave. N.
- Hardid. Broold—106 E. Hennepin Ave., Ge. 0874.
- Harold G. Brothers—1933 Ewing Ave. S., Ke. 6308.
- Herman Brown—607 6th Ave. N.
- L. M. Bruen—10 E. 19th St.

A Trade Unionist Views The Strike Meeting Of Local 574

Being in Minneapolis on organizational work for my union I accepted the invitation courteously extended to me by members of Local 574 to attend the strike vote meeting Wednesday. It turned out to be a worthwhile and fruitful experience. Having just come from two recent strikes of our organization successfully conducted in New York and Baltimore, it was extremely interesting to watch the men in this industry.

Two things about the meeting that impressed me very much were the careful deliberation of the leadership of the union and the amazing calmness of the membership in this crucial moment. No hysteria—a crew of experienced men who have been through the mill. Coolly aware of the full meaning of the decisive action they were about to take.

The solidarity of the drivers and helpers with the inside men; their willingness to stand firm and solid by their promises that the union was going to act for EVERY man in the organization; that was a fine thing and worthy of the highest praise. But more important than that, it showed that the leadership and the rank and file are fully aware of the importance of welding every man in the industry into an unbreakable chain that would encircle the whole field of operations.

Reading the papers only the day before, I noticed that the bosses were pulling the oldest gag in the labor movement: the red scare. What was unpardonable from my viewpoint as trade unionist was that your own International President had added fuel to the flame of anti-union propaganda by attacking the local leadership.

Let me say that your union made a great impression everywhere in the fighting manner in which the last strike was conducted. It was hard to understand why such a union and its leadership should be so rabidly attacked by the President of the International, Mr. Tobin. The echoes of the Minneapolis strike of six weeks ago reached the Eastern seaboard as a thunder of encouragement to us. We felt then (and the bosses raised the same red scare in our strike) and we still do to-day—that Local 574 deserves the active support and solidarity of every labor organization in the country.

On behalf of our national membership, and I know that I speak for every man in it, I want to pledge our solidarity to the striking men of Local 574 and all other organizations that may answer your call. Your fight is a good fight, and a worthy one. We feel confident that the same spirit which won for you six weeks ago will prevail again and be crowned with success. Go to it!

Herbert Capelis
Organizer, National Council,
Dental Technicians Council of
America.

The Labor Question

The labor question is a question for the working man to study and learn, and the working man cannot become too highly educated in this question. The more you learn of it, the better things will be for you and your fellow workers, for in studying to learn you will constantly discuss the question in mind and get the view of your fellow worker and he will do likewise.

One question that lies before us now at this time is: "Why do all unorganized workers fail to join a union in which they rightfully belong?" Read the Organizer and find out why these fellows so far have failed to join a union.

1. Some of the reasons are because they haven't the fighting heart or courage to fight for the better things for their wives and children and also for themselves.
 2. They are afraid of the Boss.
 3. The Boss paid them during our last strike and for that reason he's a Hell—of a nice fellow. But just wait, fellows, he'll get you yet.
- Some day, fellows, the so-called Boss might hand you a two-bit piece with instructions to go out and buy a rope and hang yourself. With your courage, you'll do it.

—R.

Laundry and Dry Cleaning

Minimum wages of \$25 per week
20% for third \$100 and thereafter
including loading and unloading.

Laundry Drivers Draw Up Demands

The time has come for the Laundry Drivers to make a calm and deliberate analysis of his present situation. All about him he finds new groups of workers joining labor organizations. He sees a new spirit pervading the workers of Minneapolis. He feels a tremendous pressure bearing down upon him. The inside workers of the plant from which he makes delivery are organizing rapidly. On the streets he finds that the drivers in other industries have organized. From everywhere, in the plant and on the streets, he is questioned constantly as to what role he is playing. It becomes more and more difficult for him to remain disinterested.

He asks himself what it is all about. He puts this same question to others and is told that the workers have sickened of promises and starvation wages. His fellow workers tell him that the workers must all get together; they must all get into the unions; they must present a united demand for a decent wage and a guarantee of security on the job. The strong and the weak, the skilled and the unskilled, all must bind themselves together for mutual protection from further exploitation and for a general improvement in the standard of living.

What are the conditions under which the Laundry Driver works? It seems that the drivers in the large plants are in somewhat better circumstances than the others, but what do they get? An average pay of about \$20.00 for a 50 to 70-hour week. Work begins about 7:00 A.M. and they work until they get through. A wonderful commission plan is added to this. The boss keeps an accurate record of the average gross business on each route, and when a

driver... he will... sales... that this... average... of the route... In other... competition... to their own... detriment and to the sole benefit of the boss. But this is not enough. In many cases, the boss also insists upon a Yellow Dog Contract to further protect the profits of the boss. Among other things, this "contract" usually provides that a driver, if quitting the company, shall not in any way attempt to solicit any of his customers on behalf of himself or any other company. If you are the good fellow the boss claims you are when he pats you on the back, why must he get this "protection" against you? He must do this because he knows that sooner or later you will get wise to his commission racket and it would be hard for him to keep your customers if they knew the full facts. **Do you know that these Yellow Dog Contracts are illegal and can and have been beaten in the courts?**

The driver in the small plants is confronted with even worse conditions than these. He is accustomed to a \$14.00 weekly pay check and \$18.00 looks mighty big to him. As long as these conditions are permitted to exist in any one plant, they are a threat to the drivers in every plant. Don't forget that the profit-mad bosses are always looking for new ideas to steal more of the wages from the workers. The only way the Laundry Drivers can solve their problem is through organization. And remember this—the boss cannot fire you for joining the union. It has been tried by a number of them but none have succeeded.

The Scab and The No-Bill

You all know what the world thinks of a SCAB,—a man that works as a strikebreaker. It seems to me that a man who consistently refuses to support the organization of his craft is worse than a scab because the scab makes no bones about being what he is while a no-bill considers himself as a decent member of society and therefore entitled to the respect of his fellows.

A Scab says, in effect: "Here I am acknowledging to the world that I am a rat, and self respect has departed from me. I know you strikers will sock me with eggs and assault me with bitter words whenever I poke my head out from behind police protection. I'm a dreg of humanity and you can take me or leave me."

That is what a scab the same as says. But listen, a no-bill speaks thus: "Here I am working alongside of you and expecting civility from you in our daily associations. Each day I work my eight hours, each pay day I draw my check, based on the rate the union got for me. My seniority date is always guaranteed me. I am assured of extra pay for overtime work. Day in and day out I am drawing the same benefits that you do, and I AM NOT PAYING FOR THEM. You are doing that."

Your money and your efforts keep the Truck Drivers Union going in Minneapolis. When the Committee meets the Truck Owners to discuss something that concerns me, I am represented by the representative paid for by you.

"I would not think of asking the drivers to chip in and help me pay my grocery bill. I would not dream of asking you to throw in a dime apiece to help pay for my radio, or my car. I am too high, principled, for any thing as cheap as that. But I am not too high, principled, to ask you to buy me my UNION PROTECTION, that means more than any thing else in my daily life***** and I won't even thank you for doing it. To do so would be to acknowledge that my rotten half-baked flimsy excuses are all wet."

What about it, you non-card drivers

and inside workers in Minneapolis? As long as you don't belong to the Union, and continue to work long side men that are working day and night to keep the UNION going, you are laying flat down on your obligation to your self, your family, your fellow worker and to humanity. REMEMBER there is no half way business to it—You have got to be all RIGHT or all Rat.

Think this over. The cost is not much, about the cost of one scoop of beer a day. The beer, perhaps sometime, will give you a head ache; lack of membership, will sometime give you and your loved ones a heart ache.

—Roger.

Believe It or Not

I see that some of the Finks and Favorites are still wearing their scabby uniforms at the Minneapolis Transfer and Warehouse Company, and also they get no work if they don't put them on when the Boss tells them to.

Nobody Loves 'em

By M. E. Carlson

(Reprinted from the Star "Everybody's Ideas" Column)

Please someone inform me why Tobin, the 166 noble employers and the Communist party all agree so perfectly regarding the drivers' union leaders. Tobin says they're Communists. The noble 166 say they are Communists.

The Communist party puts out circulars saying the leaders are no good and in with the big bosses. No one loves the poor leaders except the truck drivers.

This issue of the Organizer is the first of a series of Daily Strike Bulletins that will appear during the duration of the strike. Support the strike by buying the Daily Bulletin! Read it, pass it on to your friends! See that your newsstand carries the Organizer!

Appeal to Unemployed to Rally to the Support Fighting 574

We drivers, helpers, petroleum workers and inside workers, address ourselves to you.

The bosses are attempting to cheat us of our victory in the May strike. They re-interpret the agreement which they signed with us. So the inside men who joined our union because they wanted to join and to be represented by our union, are now told that the union cannot represent them.

What has been your lot in these last bitter four years? We know what our lives have been. But always we have been patient.

—WAIT! AROUND THE CORNER! hoorayed Hoover.

—Why all right, Mister, fair enough. We'll wait.

—WAIT! THE NEW DEAL! smiled Roosevelt.

—Okay, Mister, I guess we can wait a bit yet.

Yes, fellow workers, we have been patient.

And in the last year we say that things have been better. BETTER FOR THE BOSSES. Millions in government subsidies for them, millions in dividends for them, millions in profits and salaries and bonuses for them. But not for us have things been better. Things are worse than ever with us, fellow workers. Speed-up, low wages when we are working, long hours—and a policeman's sap in our teeth when we try to better our lot.

Yes, the Bosses are quite well off, now. And why not? They have climbed out of the pit ON OUR BACKS.

Now we say to you, our unemployed brothers and sisters: We have been patient month after month, weary year after year. We have not lived as men should live. NOW we think it is time to try a bit of IMPATIENCE! Not too much. **But enough to win our demands. AND TO WIN YOUR DEMANDS.**

Yes, unemployed workers, General Drivers No. 574 asks you to help us in our battle. And, for our part, we pledge ourselves to go to bat with you for your demands.

We are not getting a square deal from the Bosses. Now we say that we have suffered enough. **IMPATIENCE IS THE ORDER OF THE DAY!**

We know what your lives have been for many months—the beastly holes you have been forced to live in, to call "home"; the slops that a niggardly relief has given you in the guise of food; the official insults and abuse that you and your wife and children have taken with tongues behind your teeth. Family life is wonderful, they say. What kind of family life, the BOSSES family life, or your "family life."

How humble we have all been! **BUT NOW ALL THAT MUST CHANGE.**

The logic of events has at last brought us face to face with our enemies, in a fight for life. How many hundreds of times in these last awful months have you tightened your jaws, longing to strike a blow for yourselves and your loved ones—and never known where to begin, where to strike? Today our day has come!

Today we point out to you our opponents on the picket lines—and the interests whose tools they are—and say to you: "There are our enemies. There are your enemies!"

What is the notorious CITIZENS ALLIANCE? We will tell you. Minnesota is one of the most fertile outposts of Wall Street. Wall Street is represented in our midst, primarily, by two great banking institutions in Minneapolis. These imperialist banks are the organizing power behind the Alliance. Before a business man can get credit with these banks, he must play ball. It is well for him to join the Alliance, to agree to the most vicious labor-hating policies—against us. The Citizens Alliance is the Boss Union, the Boss United Front—hateful to us, hateful even to many of its own members. The alliance fights for 5% of the citizens of Minneapolis, we fight for 95%.

Ah, you should listen to them when they are speaking of us, you should thrill at the love in their throats, you should read what they write of us.

YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW THEY LIVE. See them whisk up to their Minneapolis Club of a noon in their limousines, ascend to their mas-

sive dining hall blooming w napery and crystal (in the culous taste, to be sure) and well-fed bodies—to be greeted looking young boys bearing boxes filled with hot pop—their estates at Lake Minn Gold Coast, their summer hon campment Forest, witness th with which they spend thous debut tea, thousands on a money drenched with our s our blood.

Yes, this is the unholy Alliance strikes at your throats and This is the Alliance that libe threatens us, imports Chic to beat us, to shoot us down.

But now they have push low that our feet rest at las bottom. We cry out: It is that men, women and childr live in this great rich coun and ours have had to live. hood rebels against such misery. Painfully are we str up. Our honor and our pride. There is no longer room in for both the Citizens Alliance selves. The Alliance must g

Last Thursday the local p nounced that \$7,000,000.00 been made available by the Government, for use in the For you and us? Not so fa This money is available for for Industry with a capital seven millions go to the B would mean a lot, would it n sum went to the unemployed cent relief checks, for decent ization, for jobs at trade unio working a five-day thirty-ho And never you worry, the Government has the money **ONLY WE WILL HAVE TO GET IT.**

To each of you unemployed Come! Fight shoulder to sho us in a comradely way. **TO WE CANNOT LOSE.** And strike is won, we will be at **TO WIN YOUR DEMANDS** win, you have a mighty ally. An organized picket has the weight of an unorganiz Make your work count. Men Come today to Union l ters, 225 South Third St. Sig us, your brothers and sisters gether we will move on to a victory.

Into the Picket Lines!
For the Union's Demands!
For the Union's Victory!
For the Unemployed Dem
For the Unemployed Victo

Some Things We Accomplishing

- A big Unemployed Picnic abore 12th.
- Every worker in an organiz
- Coordination of all workers ast
- A real strike in St. Paul.
- Timing of strikes to coincide cities.
- A general Strike on 6 hours
- A General Strike Council.
- Busting the Union Busters.
- Law Enforcement when it bosses.
- Collapse of certain trials from evidence.
- Unity of employed and Unem 50,000 marchers in the next monstration.
- Bill Brown getting caught up
- Getting one of Bell's ice cus
- A real acquaintance with V. Relief administration by the Meat processing and storing ments for the next strike.
- Squaring the ladies' accounts cops.
- A daily Labor newspaper?
- Low & Odor membership
- Spotting the deputies and sp
- A net-work of minute-men mobilization.
- Ending Forced Labor—again time.
- Jobs for all at Union wages, conditions.

Don't buy gas from an un tion. Don't accept delivery man without a button. Make repair worker show his butto are many ways to help build th Let's have your ideas.