

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.
GENERAL OFFICE: 286 E. 6TH ST.
St. Paul, Minn.

As from this hour
You use your power,
The world must fol-
low you.

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

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1935

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Local No. 1313 Fights Injunction

Workers Honor Ness and Belor

Loop Traffic Jammed Almost Two Hours

The demonstration on Saturday, July 20, in memory of Henry Ness and John Belor, noble fighters who laid down their lives in the strike of Local 574, was an impressive testimonial of the solidarity of Minneapolis labor. The meeting at the Parade grounds was attended by 2,000 workers, all of whom participated in the march afterward to the scene of the shooting.

More impressive than the size of the demonstration was the number of unions represented by their members who loyally came out to do homage to these labor heroes. Large sections were present from all of the most militant unions, and there was some representation from almost every union in the city. Many faces were to be seen which had been familiar on the picket lines.

Marching under a boiling sun, the long column of workers tied up traffic in the loop area for almost two hours. Attempts by a few individuals to drive through the column were blocked with the same fighting determination with which the order "No trucks shall be moved by nobody" was carried out last summer.

During the speaking program the workers listened attentively and enthusiastically while they were told of the splendid role which Ness and Belor had played, and they pledged themselves to a man to carry on the task which their fallen brothers had left for them to finish.

Speakers were present from the Central Labor Union, the Labor Review and Upholsterers Union, the Machinists, Station Attendants, Ornamental Iron Workers, Veterans Farmer-Labor club and Local 574.

The Pine County section of the Farm Holiday Association was present with a large delegation which participated in the speaking program and marched under their own banner in the parade.

The absence of Mayor Thomas E. Latimer who was scheduled as the principal speaker has not yet been explained. At the membership meeting on Monday a motion was passed by Local 574 to send a committee to see the mayor to ask an explanation of his absence.

The Joint Organization Committee of Locals 382, 574 and 18902, sponsors of the demonstration, have announced that the memorial will be made an annual event with a bigger and better demonstration planned for 1936.

Our Anglo-Saxon relations is always a give-away—on some wan.

AN OPEN LETTER

To the members of Milk Drivers Union Local 471:
It has not been, nor is it now the policy of Local 574 to interfere in the administration of the affairs of the Milk Drivers Union. We believe that our past record is ample proof of this fact, and we feel that you will understand that in addressing you in this manner we do so only in the interest of our own defense.

The charge has been made by P. J. Corcoran, an official of your union, that Local 574 has organized certain groups of milk salesmen, commonly called peddlers, who through their method of selling on a commission basis have been instrumental in undermining the wages and working conditions of the milk drivers.

We were long ago informed by your officers that these peddlers are not eligible to membership in your organization, and during the General Drivers strikes of 1934 we co-operated with your union to the fullest extent in this matter and at a great deal of trouble to ourselves in the form of ill feeling aroused against us because of this action. And even today, despite Corcoran's allegations, there are no milk peddlers holding membership in Local 574.

It is common knowledge, however, that there are peddlers operating on a commission basis out of certain union creameries, and further, these peddlers are members of Local 471. It is our opinion that Brother Corcoran would do well to turn his undivided attention to the task of correcting this condition which is detrimental to the welfare of your union, that such an effort as this would be much more becoming to a union official than his present occupation of trying to destroy Local 574.

Local 574 deeply appreciates the splendid support we have received in the past from Local 471, and we realize that the present attacks upon us are from the officials and not from the members of your union. We ask only that the Milk Drivers refuse to aid Tobin in his unjustified attacks on us, and we ask that the members of Local 471 force the officers to obey the will of the membership.

GENERAL DRIVERS UNION LOCAL 574
FARRELL DOBBS
Secretary-Treasurer

Minneapolis NPLD to Assist Fargo Appeal

The widespread struggle of the American workers during the past three years, struggles extending through the whole length and breadth of the country, demonstrates clearly the crying need for a non-partisan labor defense organization, the only purpose of which is to support the fight of the workers for improved working conditions, by supplying them with legal defense when and if such defense is needed. That the latter is a pressing need is known to everyone in the labor movement, who followed, with some care, the recent strike struggles in which the attack of the employers upon workers was greatly strengthened by the legal attacks upon the collective membership of the fighting unions and upon the individual officers and members who showed themselves in some manner outstanding from among the rank and file.

Anyone is able to recall the numerous injunction orders attempting to smother with their blanket prohibitions the workers' drive for better wages and shorter hours. It is hard not to recall the great number of criminal prosecutions of outstanding strike leaders, which prosecutions were considered by the workers nothing but frame-ups and many of them are so stamped by the higher courts to which some of the cases were carried for final decisions.

Recognizing such a need for a truly non-partisan labor defense, some year and a half ago, a handful of men and women, real friends of labor, decided to and did organize the Non-Partisan Labor Defense (N.P.L.D.) which during its short existence demonstrated to be nothing else but what its name implied. Beginning with an insignificant support the N.P.L.D. successfully participated in the criminal-syndicalist trial of Sacramento; in the strikers' defense in Fargo, N. D.; in the protest fight against the ousting of Prof. Hallett for his labor activities from a Pennsylvania college and in many other legal defense moves. At the present the Chicago attorney of the NPLD, is in Fargo, N. D., to perfect the appeal of the supreme court in behalf of the 16 strikers convicted of rioting.

The work of the N.P.L.D. is carried on by local committees, composed of individuals and representatives of labor organizations, who subscribe to the program of the N.P.L.D. Such a committee, temporary as yet, exists in Minneapolis, which even though small, was quite a factor in helping to rally moral support and to supply financial aid to the national

(Continued from page 1)

All Plants Are Still Picketed

Bosses Resort to Paid Ads to Attack Union

At the time of going to press, the struggle between striking ornamental iron workers and the employers has reached a point where definite developments can be expected which may bring the strike to an end. The striking iron workers, under the leadership of Machinists Local 1313, have staged a determined and courageous battle against the labor-hating bosses in the ornamental iron industry. Balked in their efforts to place scabs and strikebreakers in the plants, the employers are now playing a waiting game. There is no doubt that they will now attempt to starve the workers out. The picket lines which have kept plants surrounded since the start of the strike, has succeeded, by their militancy, in defeating all efforts of the employers to break the strike by the use of scab labor. At the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works the bosses centered their attempts to crush the strike. With the help of the police and hired sluggers and gunmen, several real attempts were made to operate the plant with the scabs and strikebreakers. In every case the scabs were met by a fighting picket line whose slogan was, "They shall not pass." The workers of Minneapolis have rallied to the support of the striking iron workers to the extent that the picket line has been swelled by many times the number of actual strikers. The bosses, as usual, have gone to the courts and have secured an injunction which they expected would prohibit picketing. The workers have treated this infamous weapon of the bosses as it deserves to be treated—they have defied it. Picketing at the plants is going on as usual. The bosses have also resorted to newspaper advertising in an attempt to turn the public against the just and reasonable demands of the strikers. As in the drivers' strike of last summer, the bosses are trying to fill the air with the poison propaganda. This attempt will fail now as it did then. Every worker in Minneapolis, employed or unemployed, should rally to the aid of the striking Machinists. Their fight is your fight. A victory for them will be a victory for all!

If me ancestors were not what Hogan calls ragicides, 'twas not because they were not ready an' willin', on'y a king niver come their way.

Ye may talk about it as much as ye want, but government, me boy, is a case iv me makin' ye do what I want an' if I can't do it with a song, I'll do it with a shovel.

Exposition Opens Saturday, July 27

Saturday at 7 p. m. the big event we have been waiting for will start. The Labor Progress Exposition sponsored by Local 574 and Laundry Workers Union 18005 will get under full swing. It should be understood that all of the proceeds of this exposition are to be applied toward the liquidation of some of the indebtedness resulting from the strikes of last year. Everyone who has received tickets should not only sell their tickets but also make their returns for their books by Friday, Aug. 2. This exposition will result in a direct benefit to the union and every member is vitally affected. Every night there will be special events including a public wedding.

New York news item: "William, 7½ pound baby of the John Jacob Astors is expected eventually to inherit an estate which was estimated at \$100,000,000 in 1875." Aw, shut up, you Bolsheviki. The kid earned it, didn't he?

DON'T MISS A NIGHT. COME EARLY AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS. EVERYONE OUT. Listen for the daily broadcasts over station WDGY.

Meeting Schedule Local 574

Wednesday, July 31: Heavy Haulers
Thursday, Aug. 1: Independent Truck Owners
Friday, Aug. 2: Federal Workers
Wednesday, Aug. 7: Ice Drivers
Friday, Aug. 9: Federal Workers, Job Stewards
Monday, Aug. 12: Full Membership
Wednesday, Aug. 14: Market Workers
Thursday, Aug. 15: Independent Truck Owners
Friday, Aug. 16: Federal Workers
Wednesday, Aug. 21: Ice Drivers
Friday, Aug. 23: Federal Workers, Job Stewards
Monday, Aug. 26: Full Membership
Tuesday, Aug. 27: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.
Friday, Aug. 30: Federal Workers

ALL WORKERS INTO THE UNIONS ALL UNIONS INTO THE STRUGGLE

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

Workers' Demonstrations

The Ness-Belor demonstration on Saturday, July 20, was a very impressive ceremony, a splendid tribute to the newly developing class consciousness of the Minneapolis workers. It is a fact, however, that the workers generally do not yet realize the true significance and value of a mass demonstration.

Where there were 2,000 participants, there should have been 10,000 despite the terrific heat. Had it been a question of establishing a picket line, there would have been more than 10,000 on the line.

The lesson that the workers have yet to learn is that in the struggle of labor for better conditions, with the ruthless and many sided opposition to the organized employers, they must utilize every instrument of struggle which they possess. The demonstration is such an instrument, and it has a real value. It is one of the most impressive of labor's manifestations. It deserves the solid support of every worker.

* * *

The Northwest Labor Unity Conference

For a long time in the past the labor movement has been lacking in sufficient co-operation between the various groups of the working class as especially manifested by the poor progress of the workers of the smaller communities and also the various farmer-worker organizations that arise from time to time. With a very evident and willing spirit but sorely lacking in organization this fact was manifest in the strikes of 1934.

The workers and farmers from great sections of the Northwest were hungrily looking for true news of these economic upheavals. These same groups and individuals were more than willing to do their bit to assist their fellow-men involved in these upheavals. The link necessary to complete the tying together of this able assistance was a definite organizational path conducting to these thousands the accurate facts and returning their aid and co-operation.

With a realization of the tremendous benefit to be realized from the proper utilization of mutual aid, a group of the more progressive elements of all these groups met to set up the Northwest Labor Unity Conference. Owing to the wide diversification of the various organizational groups involved membership to the conference was provided for only on the individual basis.

Soon after composing the conference on a stable base the Northwest Organizer was launched as the official organ of the conference. Steady progress has been made and to date many wide sections of the Northwest have been contacted and brought much closer in the continuous and increasingly difficult fight for a decent living.

The slogan of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference: All workers into the Unions—All Unions into the Struggle, gives the complete picture. The slogan is to be literally constructed. ALL workers means exactly that—city workers and farmer workers.

Annyhow, no matter how bad a painther he is, annywan that can get money out iv an Ameri-

can millyonaire is an artist an' deserves it. There's th' rale art. I wish it was taught in th' schools.

POPULAR GIRL CONTEST

Age 16 to 60

First Annual Labor Progress Outdoor Exposition

You nominate the winner and receive \$5.00
Please enter my candidate as:

Name

Address..... Tel. No.....

First Prize, Diamond Ring
Second Prize, Wrist Watch
Third Prize, \$25.00

Name of Sponsor.....

Address.....

Fill out and bring or send to the Labor Progress Exposition Committee at 257 Plymouth Avenue North.

Cab Committee Is Re-elected

As a reward for their efficient service during the past year, the Steward Committee of the Cab Drivers section of Local 574 was given a solid vote of confidence in the election on June 23rd. Those returned to office are Chairman Shorty Depew, day committeeman, Hank Morrell and night committeeman Walt Hagstrom. Tony Manthies was elected to replace M. Pagel as recording secretary. Pagel has left the cab company to take employment with a motor transport firm.

Long strides of improvement in wages and job conditions have been made under the guidance of this committee, and their re-election assures continued progress for the cab drivers.

Minneapolis NPLD to Assist Fargo Appeal

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organization to carry on its work. The Minneapolis committee is at the present engaged in enlarging itself by inviting further affiliation of individual and collective members, and expects to obtain the support of all progressive elements; of all those whose sympathies are with labor and who are ready to do real effective work to carry out the program of the N.P.L.D. to provide legal defense for the embattled workers of this country.

Reading Between the Lines

Reading from between the lines of the daily press, the things that are not printed, or at least not meant to be understood by the workers, is an interesting and most of the time an instructive occupation.

The spectacle enacted by and between Mr. Hopkins of the Federal Relief and the Illinois Legislature will be in the future taught in the schools as an example of "pulling the wool over the eyes of the people." Illinois—where the Supreme Court knocked out the "Income Tax Law" on the ground that "taxing those who have" is unconstitutional—has a law putting the cost of unemployment relief, in the form of a two per cent sales tax, upon the employed and unemployed workers. The law was enacted to raise the moneys necessary for relief, but the greatest portion of the sales tax was deleted for other purposes. To get more money from those who "have not," the tax was to be increased to three per cent. Here is where the stunting started. Mr. Hopkins informed "whom it may concern" that Illinois has to contribute \$3,000,000 a month before further federal relief is granted. The governor promptly caused his satellites of the Democratic majority to introduce a bill increasing the sales tax to three per cent. The Republican minority, for partisan reasons and not for reasons of the workers, opposed the legislation, and because a two-thirds majority was needed, of which the governor was shy two or three votes, the law could not be enacted with the emergency clause which would have made it effective immediately. Horse trading went on and Mr. Hopkins made his threat good by shutting down all relief stations in Illinois until the state contribution was forthcoming. The state contribution, as the Democratic bosses declared, was not available unless the sales tax could be in-

creased. The opposition of the employed and unemployed workers which demonstrated itself in the form of hunger marches, was not considered of any importance and the Democratic majority proceeded to vote upon the bill five times after it was defeated four times before, while the capitalistic newspapers were pointing to Hopkins' demand for state contribution before the relief stations would be opened. Thus hunger and starvation of the unemployed on relief was made a football between the state and federal relief agencies until a compromise was effected that the sales tax be increased to three per cent and that it be effective from July 1st for seven months only. The aim having been accomplished, the cost of relief was placed entirely upon the employed and unemployed and the relief stations were again reopened.

Di-diplomacy has become a philanthropic pursuit like shop-keepin', but politics, me lords, is still th' same ol' spoort iv highway robb'ry.

Catchable crime is a pursuit iv th' simple minded. Th' other kind, th' uncatching kind that is took up be men iv intellect, is called high finance.

Labor Looks at the Press

Movie Heroes

"We're confused. In the movies the Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted Police are always rescuing fair damsels from the clutches of wicked, wicked villains. But at Regina, Sask., they shot into a group of jobless men and wounded many of them. They probably forgot how to act with no cameras on the scene."—Mass Action.

Mark Twain: "It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those unspeakably precious things: free speech, free-

Organize

There is an old political story of a candidate for sheriff who was campaigning in Mississippi. He was riding over a corduroy road through a cypress swamp in a buckboard drawn by an old mule. The cruising speed of the mule was about two and a half miles per hour, the weather sultry and the mosquitoes bad. The old negro driver amused himself by snapping flies off the mule's back with his whip. At this Ezra was skillful and the mule didn't mind it at all. When the candidate for sheriff noticed a hornet's nest on an overhanging limb he suggested that Ezra try his marksmanship on the new quarry, but Ezra promptly declined with the emphatic declaration: "No, sah, Boss, dem's organized."

dom of conscience and the prudence never to practice either of them."

From a full-page ad in the Minneapolis Tribune of last Monday: "The Hearst papers labor to maintain the American standard of living."

and
Headline from Mass Action, weekly organ of the National Unemployed League: "HEARST BREAKS STRIKE, USING TRANSIENTS; Imports Professional Strike Breakers, Tricks Transients into Breaking Newsboys' Strike on the Washington Herald."

What He Says

Premier Mussolini: "Italy fully realizes the mission of civilization that she has to accomplish in Ethiopia."

What He Means

"I'll make Italian workers and peasants go there and fight. If we win, I'll make every Ethiopian a slave, and turn their country over to the Italian bankers—and scatter a few favors among the other imperialist powers to keep them satisfied."

Cuba's got her freedom or something that wul look like th' same thing if she kept it out iv th' rain.

1935 Workers Study Classes Under Way

A class in economics which is being sponsored as a part of the workers' education program by the Emergency Education Division, ERA, had its first session last Friday evening at 257 Plymouth Ave. N. in Minneapolis. The class will continue to meet at that address each Friday evening at 8 o'clock. The class procedure is a lecture followed by questions and discussion.

The purpose of the course as a whole is to give workers an understanding of the contradictions in the present economic system and how such contradictions may be overcome—how an economic system can be made to serve human welfare. This will include a discussion of such topics as money, banking and credit, profit and its effect on purchasing power, the capacity to produce and the capacity to consume, and economic planning.

The course will consist of ten lectures on economic principles. There is no charge for membership in this class.

Workers' Education Classes

Classes in economics meet each Friday evening at 8 p. m. at the General Drivers headquarters, 257 Plymouth avenue north. The following are the subjects for the next two sessions:

July 26: The Present Productive Machine.

August 2: Money in the Economic System.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

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