# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH Till right is done! and do!

VOL. 2. NO. 18

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

# **NEWSPAPER DRIVERS WILL DRAW 83 CENTS PER HOUR**

# MAYFLOWER CO. FEELS WEIGHT OF LOCAL 544

Huge Indianapolis Truck Concern Attempts to Scab

Two Units, Manned by Non-Union Drivers, Are Stopped

Last week saw General Drivers Union Local 544 engaged victoriously in a struggle with one of the largest trucking operators in the United States. The Mayflower Transit Co., who operate a fleet of more than 250 units out of their headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, attempted to leave the Boyd docks with two loads of furniture consigned to Detroit, Michigan. Both units were operated by non-union men.

Union organizers who spied the Mayflower units in south Minneapolis immediately discovered that the Mayflower Co. operated nonunion throughout the whole United States. Both trucks were tied up and the drivers were advised that it would be necessary for them to join General Drivers Union before the equipment would be allowed to proceed.

In company with Union officials the drivers called their headquarters in Indianapolis by long distance phone and asked that money for initiation fees be wired to them immediately. When the day had passed with no reply from the Mayflower Co. the trucks were impounded until such time as the men became Union members.

The second day following, Mr. Smith, Vice-President of the Mayflower Co., arrived in the city from Indianapolis. He immediately contacted the Union and indicated that he wished a conference that would lead to the ironing out of the difficulty. Murphy and Dunne met Mr. Smith at the Boyd

## **Brother Elmer Piatt** Is Buried Monday

Elmer Piatt, member of the Independent Truck Owners Section, suffered an accident in his home Monday, August 10, which resulted in his death. Brother Piatt slipped on the top stairs of his residence and suffered a fall which caused his death Friday. He was buried Monday afternoon from the Swanson mortuary.

Interment was at the Crystal Lake cemetery. Brother Piatt is survived by a wife and two small We Will Not Sign



# Midway Meeting Proves to Be Rallying Point for Men

Many Join Drivers Union

The midway mass meeting on Thursday, August 13, at the German House in St. Paul attracted a huge turnout of drivers, helpers and platform men from the midway district.

When the meeting was called to order at 8:30 by Chairman Wm. Brown the large assembly room company's office and in a brief (Continued on page 2) on the third floor of the Rice Street meeting place was filled to overflowing. Preparations for the

## Liquor Drivers Meet Tuesday

Thursday evening, August 27, General Drivers and Helpers Union Local 544 will hold a special meeting for liquor and tobacco drivers. This meeting will be open to all drivers, helpers and platform men employed in the liquor and tobacco. ployed in the liquor and tobacco industry. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the drawing of a Union agreement covering wages and working conditions of men employed in these two classifications.

Hundreds Attend Meeting; meeting had been made with great care and no trouble had been spared to see that every driver and helper employed in that section of the city was notified of the meet- pull off the highway at 29th and

> Prior to the opening of the meeting two tables had been set up in the lobby where applications cants filed up to the table and joined the Union.

Smith outlined the work that had to drive the tractor. been carried on in the two cities by the joint action of 120 and 544. He pointed out that organizational work was going forward in a bet- proceeded to its destination. ter manner in both cities than it ever had before. Smith spoke of the necessity for even closer cooperation between the various local unions of the driving crafts in the two cities and urged the setting up of a Twin City Teamsters Joint Council.

Robert Flemming, Business Representative of St. Paul Drivers Union, spoke in glowing terms of

## Kohler Strikers Thank Local 160

August 13, 1936
Electrical Workers Local
Union No. 160
Mr. H. A. Schultz,
Business Mgr.
257 Plymouth Ave. North

257 Plymouth Ave. North
Minneapolis, Minn.
Dear Sir and Brother:
Acknowledging the receipt of
twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)
from your Local as a contribution to our strike fund, we
thank you heartily for your
generous support. Your liberal
donation helps us to continue
our struggle for Union recognition and better working conditions. With the fine and inspiring co-operation of your
Local as well as other Unions
we can't lose this strike.

Assuring you of our appre-

Assuring you of our appre-ciation of your support and co-

operation of your support and co-operation, we remain Fraternally yours, FEDERAL LABOR UNION NO. 18545 Rudolph Renn, Rec. Sec. 1512 ½ St. Clair Ave. Sheboygan, Wis.

# **Park Transfer** Halted in Non-**Union Attempt**

Monday, August 10, Park Transfer Co. attempted to move a power shovel from Anoka, where the Park Company recently completed a job, to the site of the new Municipal Market on Holden Street, with non-union drivers.

The Union, which had been notified of the projected non-union moving operation, met the shovel at the city limits with a couple of Union organizers. The driver hauling the equipment was notified to Vincent where the tractor, trailer and shovel promptly proceeded to bog down in a soft spot.

The non-union crew employed were received. Between 7 and by the Park Company to do the 8:30 a constant stream of appli- moving job deserted the ship and walked away with the Union representatives. Despite the fact that by Wm. Brown, President of Local secured the assistance of three 544, Jack Smith, Vice-President of squad cars, he found it impossible the same Union, was introduced. to move the shovel without men

In a short time he agreed to unionize the men on the job. As soon as this was done the caravan

#### Pete Goes to Town

Elsewhere in this issue it is reported that Pete Harris, steward at the Western Grocer Co., secured 47 Union applications in one week. According to reports just received, Pete turned in 102 applications secured over a 15 day period.

That's really going to town.

# **UNION SIGNS NEW CONTRACT** FOR NEWSMEN

Kelly Transfer Is Successful Bidder on Minneapolis Star

Drivers, Extra Men Will Get Pay Raises at Once

Monday, August 17, saw the . final windup of the controversy over the Daily Star hauling. The Star, which has maintained its own fleet of trucks over a period of years, recently decided to let out its hauling to a trucking contrac-

The Star received bids on its hauling over two months ago. During the time when negotiations between Local 500 and Local 574 were underway the matter was at a standstill. Monday it was an nounced that the Kelly Transfer Co. was the successful bidder.

This necessitated the negotiat ing of a new contract with the successful bidder which would cover wages and working conditions for those drivers engaged in newspaper hauling. Under the terms of the contract George Date takes over the hauling equipment formerly owned by the Daily Star and is compelled to re-employ drivers who had been employed at the Star.

Under the terms of the previous Union agreement between Drivers Union and the Daily Star, regular drivers received 83c per hour, helpers and extra men received 75c an hour.

Under the terms of the new Union contract signed Monday between Local 544 and the Kelly Transfer Co. covering the newspaper haulers there will be a considerable improvement in wages and working conditions for the former Star drivers. Extra drivers and helpers will be raised After a short introductory talk the employer called the police and from 75c an hour to 83c, two more regular routes have been established which will employ two regular drivers and other reforms in working conditions have been effected. Two drivers engaged in hauling bulk paper to the newspaper have been raised from 60c to 83c per hour.

The signing of this agreement closes a controversy of over two months standing. Jack Smith, Vice-President of Local 544, conducted the negotiations for the

#### Liquor, Tobacco

The Liquor Drivers and the Tobacco Drivers will meet on Saturday at 8 p. m.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

# **Donors to General Drivers Picnic Printed With Thanks of Committee**

#### Prizes Are Donated by Many Minneapolis Business Firms

The following is a list of firms and individuals who donated articles that were used for prizes at Lecal 544 picnic Sunday, August 9. The Picnic Committee and General Drivers and Helpers Union Local 544 wish to offer their most sincere thanks to these donors who made the success of General Drivers picnic possible. We wish to urge our members and friends to patronize these firms that have showed their friendship to Local 544 by their generosity. The greatest care has been used in the compiling of this list. However, it is possible that some omissions have been made. Any omissions or errors in this list will be promptly corrected if attention is called to them.

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Broadway Liquor Store, 234 West Broadway; Blue Ribbon Meat Market, 411 East Hennepin; Central Cash Market, 466 East Hennepin; St. Anthony Mea tMarket, 323 East Hennepin; East Hennepin Cleaners, 318½ East Hennepin; Dahl and Daniels Garage, 707 Central; Dooher Oil Co., 179 Irving N; J. E. Anderson, 331 East Hennepin; Weld-Rite Service Co., 1039 Central; Northeast Oil Co., 939 East Hennepin; Davis & Ruben, 29-31 South 6th St.; New Franklin Provision, 1307 E. Franklin; Carlblom's Service Station, 13th Ave. S. and 24th St.; Dickerman Themerson; Frank Schiele Restaurant, 219 3rd Ave, N.; Lilljeberg Bros., 128 S. 3rd St.; Ray Baron, 533 Plymouth; Rackner Food Market, 1304 E. Franklin and 512 Plymouth N.; White-Wander Co., Furniture, 28th Ave. and Lake St. Frazer-Morris Electric Co., 252 Nicollet; Rustic Inn., 239 West Broadway; Jacobsens Van & Storage, 709 Lowry N.; Len Schuller & Son, 1618 Lowry Ave.; The Bungalow, New Jefferson Highway, Eass Lake Road; Nathanson Bros. Co., 42 South 6th St.; Bloomington Fruit Co., 2511 Bloomington Ave.; Ben & Ecrnie, 1501 East Franklin; Kopacek's Crocery, 2606 Cedar Ave.; Grand Central Market, 614 Hennepin; Advance-Tower Laundry, 2445 Bloomington; Scholberg's Meats and Groceries, 2443 Bloomington; John A. Dalsin & Son, 2441 Bloomington; Murdock Pharmacy, 25th and Bloomington; A. E. Rustad, 3301 31st Ave. S.; Andrew Anderson, 2028 Riversion; Holmboe Bros., 2618 E. 25th St.; L. J. Fritz, 4022 E. 46th St.; Wawin Cal Co., 1291 E. Island; Crown Ice & Free Co., 2230 E. 35th St.; Massers Ice & Free Co., 2230 E. 35th St.; Massers Ice & Free Co., 2230 E. 35th St.; Massers Ice & Free Co., 2230 E. 35th St.; Pioneer Paper Stock Co., 620 Oak Grove Ave. N.; Knaeble So., 511 Plymouth N.; Fanks Dept. Store, 417 Central Ave.; John A. Eoski, Pure 6il, 1421 Glenwood Ave.; Ry's Dept. Store, 317 Central Ave.; John A. Eoski, Pure 6il, 1421 Glenwood Ave.; Ry's Dept. Store, 317 Central Ave.; John A. Eoski, Pure 6il, 1421 Glen

## Highway Dept. Writes Letter

The following letter was re-ceived from the District Main-tenance Engineer of the Minnesota State Highway Department. It was written in answer to a communication sent him thanking the department for co-operation they shown in placing members of General Drivers Union to work. The letter follows:

Local No. 544 257 Plymouth Avenue N. Minneapolis, Minnesota Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter dated July 17th in which you generously showed appreciation for the work given members of your union by this district.

While I am not entitled to the credit for permitting day labor work in this district in preference to contract work, I do want to take this opportunity to express my entire satis faction and approval of per-mitting individual truck owners to share in the fullest ex-tent on highway work.

Your boys have shown a fine spirit of co-operation and have conducted themselves in a way which would be a credit to any

organization.
Wishing you continued suc-

Yours very truly, GLENN H. MARTZ District Maintenance Engineer

## Meter Men Meet On Thursday Nite

Thursday, August 20, Local 160 will hold a special meeting for meter installers, testers and repairmen. This meeting has been called for the purpose of ironing out special problems that have arisen in this department. Union and non-union men will both be welcome. The meeting will be held at 257 Plymouth Ava No. 18 p. m. mouth Ave. N. at 8 p. m.

Johnson's Greeery, 905 Summer St.
N. E.; O. F. Bergman, 2958 Johnson
St. N. E.; Crystal Market, 420 E. Hennepin; Square Deal Bar, 224 E. Hennepin; Gabriel Burman Plumbers, 2209
Johnson St. N. E.; Howard's Service, 22nd and Johnson St.; Art Burns, 2654 Johnson St. N. E.; Howard's Service, 22nd and Johnson St. N. E.; R. E.
Johnson, 2251 Johnson St. N. E.; R. E.
Johnson, 2251 Johnson St. N. E.; R. E.
Johnson, 2851 Johnson St. N. E.; R. E.
Johnson, 2851 Johnson St. N. E.; R. E.
Johnson St. N. E.; L. J. Peterson, Druggist, 1946 Johnson St. N. E.; Hagen's
Dry Gooda, 2846 Johnson St. N. E.; Hagen's
Dry Gooda, 2846 Johnson St. N. E.; Hagen's
Dry Gooda, 2846 Johnson St. N. E.;
Western Auto Supply Co., 231 E. Hennenin; C. E. Nelson, 3883 W. Broadway;
L. Ginsberg, Pratt's Express; Twin City
Plumbing & Heating Co., 2012 Bloomington; Royal Meat Co., 601 Hennepin;
Marcy Grocery, 716 11th Ave. S. E.;
Charlie's Inn, 622 Plymouth Ave. N.;
Steward Boyt Transfer, P. Gagnon, 2413
Monroe St. N. E.; Washington Shirt
Store, 17 Washington Ave. S.; Co-operative Oil Assn., 2135 Washington Ave.
N.; Frank Weiss, 901 Plymouth Ave.;
A. C. Steinmetz, 707 6th Ave. N.; Co-operative Glove Assn., 720 Washington
Ave. S. E.; Ray Ray Plaisance, 659
Adams St. N. E.; Central Body Co.,
949 Central Ave.; Watsons Market, 427
E. Hennepin; G. A. Peterson, E. Hennepin; Pomerleau & Son, 227 E. Hennepin; Pomerleau & Son, 217 E. Hennepin; Pomerleau & Son, 217 E. Hennepin; Dr.
L. E. Holmea, 209 E. Hennepin; Dondon Dry Cleaning, 217 E. Hennepin; Osnon Jewelry Co., 211 E. Hennepin; Dick & Art's Cafe, 965 Central Ave. N. E.;
A. V. Dietzen, 1025 3rd Ave. N. E.;
Rose's Cafe, 1032 3rd Ave. N. E.; Anderson Shoe Store, 213 E. Hennepin; Trackage Oil Co., 215 W. Broadway;
Chris the Barber, 3207 Penn N.; Booth
Grocery, 2208 Lowry; Ray Arf, 3124
Penn Ave.; Chapman Hardware, 3505
Penn N.; Engberg's Service, 3601 Penn N.; Hordware, 3609 Penn N.; Graff
Shoe Shop, 2137 Lowry N.; Victory Dry
Goods, 3503 Penn N.; Shanedling's, 300
W. Broadway; C. R. Schallbetter, 703
Plymouth.;

# Truck Owners Are

Independent truck owners report the usual middle-of-the-month slump in the number of trucks employed on WPA projects. According to the best figures obtainable, approximately 75 trucks have been severed from employment during the last week.

These truck owners will be reabsorbed by the projects before the first of next month.

# Car Checkers Talk

Workers employed by the Twin City Car Checkers met in the Union hall Tuesday, August 11. The meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the minimum wage that should be set in their proposed Union agreement. A minimum wage of \$26 per week was tentatively arrived at. Another meeting will be held in the near future.

### OH, MR. BOERBACH

Austie McInerny was not at the General Drivers picnic. When asked about it he said that it was so hot that day that he even hated to tackle the job of painting his bath-

the only Minneapolis newspaper delivered by union drivers.

#### Bill Brown Says-

Local 544 is going places. Close to one thousand men will join the Union in August which should prove to the members of organized labor that we can never afford again to be with out a strong labor movement. When the employers were well organized and could fight off all attempts made by workers to get better conditions, Minneapolis reached an all time low for wages and conditions. Now we are reaching for an all time high. Every Union should put their shoulder to the wheel in this drive for a better life for workers. drive for a better life for workers.



BILL BROWN President of 544

# MAYFLOWER CO. FEELS WEIGHT OF LOCAL 544

(Continued from page 1) conversation it was discovered that Smith was unalterably opposed to the unionization of his drivers. Although Smith protested he paid high wages it is a wellknown fact to the Union that the Mayflower drivers are paid as low as \$24 per week and out of that sum are compelled to pay their expenses while on the road.

Smith was told by the Union officials that he had two ulternatives. He could either put his men in the Union immediately or unload the trucks and leave Minneapolis empty. Despite the fact that the loss of the loads and the tie-up of the trucks cost the Mayflower out.

As a result Union workers at Boyd's unloaded the scab-driven furniture on the Boyd dock and the Mayflower drivers were allowed to leave the city with the empty units. The Mayflower Company demonstrated in this brush with the Union that they are a thorough-going non-union concern and intend to continue to operate in that manner.

Communications will be sent out by Local 544 to all of the local unions in this part of the country telling them to watch for the scab Mayflower Co. and to tie until this non-union Indianapolis hauling firm either unionizes its Local 544. drivers or ceases doing business. | Jack says he likes it.

# Yellow Notes

On a recent visit to Bill Saunders it was found they had removed the cast from his leg and that they are going to make him a metal brace for his leg. It won't be long now before he will be able to get out and around a little. He still would appreciate a few visitors.

The four drivers who drove the chartered Yellows for the picnic have just about recuperated from their strenuous workout.

Committeeman Harlan reports he paid a grocery bill the other day of \$5.74.

There has been such an epidemic of broken off and sprung right rear doors here lately. It seems Co. several hundred dollars the as though the boys are trying to management chose the latter way make our fleet of cabs a fleet of "fresh air taxis."

> If the tires onthe new cabs skid and slide as much on ice and snow as they do now on wet pavement, we ought to have a rip-roaring sliding good time this winter.

Oscar, the Fin, is back on single shift again. Wonder how long this time? By the way, he was on the water wagon" on his last day off.

#### Jack McCormick

Jack McCormick, platform man who had been in the employ of them up at every opportunity. It the L. S. Donaldson Co. for 45 will be only a question of time years, recently did something he has never done before. He joined

# Suffering Lay-offs Mooney Hearing Comes to End as Observers Predict New Setback

and startling decision, the Cali- the credibility of the witnesses, fornia supreme court has ordained against whom he could make no a speedy finish for the Tom Moo- rulings when they appeared on ney habeas corpus hearings in San the stand. Francisco and indicated that the victim.

nally appointed merely to certify the record of the hearings, to "prepare and file standings of fact the stand rebutting the testimony upon the evidence."

dicating an almost certain adverse decision for Mooney.

As a result, Defense Counsel Frank P. Walsh and John F. Fin- mite charge (which resulted in his erty will hurry back to San Fran- acquittal); his real connection cisco for the final arguments of with the anarchist publication. the hearings, which have produced reams of new evidence proving the innocence of Mooney and Warren K. Billings in the bombing which sent them to prison for life. The hearings will probably be over by the end of Auugst.

Apprised of the supreme court's ruling, Attorney George T. Davis, who has been handling Mooney's legal work at the hearings recent-The Minneapolis Daily Star is ly, demanded the right to protest to the court at the conclusion of the hearings. Under the decree,

San Francisco-In a sudden Shaw will be allowed to decide on

The fact that the court entrusts state's highest judicial tribunal entire judgment on the hearings will once again rule against the to an obscure lawyer without crimnation's most famous frameup inal court experience should be the last fact needed to convince the The order empowers Referee U.S. Supreme Court that Mooney A. E. Shaw, who had been origi- has no chance for justice in California, observers feel.

Meanwhile Mooney is still on of his early prosecutors. Against The court's action is seen as in- strenuous objections and every possible obstacle, he has succeeded in telling the story of his framing in 1913 with Martinez on a dyna-"The Blast," and other matters relating to his labor activity.

Assistant Attorney - General Cleary has tried to secure some sort of damaging admission from Mooney, but without success.

Nelson Welding Co. E. C. NELSON, Prop

A Specialty of Truck Body Building Present Location, 2520 Nicollet Moving Soon-Watch for New Address

# Ice Cream Men Join Local 471

Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees Union Local 471 are now engaged in an active campaign to unionize all non-union ice cream companies operating in this city. The Ives, Kemps and Jersey companies who have a large proportion of the ice cream business in Minneapolis, have always been violent foes of Union labor. The Milk Wagon Drivers Union feels that the time has arrived when a showdown with these companies should be attempted. Union organizers of 471, under the direction of Wm. Sennett, Business Agent of the Union, have been carrying on active organizational work in all of the non-union plants. As a result of the work that has been done several group meetings have been held with nonunion ice cream drivers. It is expected that union organization will be effective in the three plants in a short time. The unionization of the hitherto non-union ice cream companies will be a real victory for Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees Union.

# With the Laundry **Workers Union**

The full membership meeting of the Laundry Workers, Drivers and Cleaners Local 183 held on the evening of August 12, was an inspiring event, the Union hall was packed to capacity. About 30 new members took the obligation.

The practice of opening meetings with the singing of "Solidarity" and the "Anthem of the Laundry Workers" has proved very successful and the pep they put into the singing is only comparable to the enthusiasm that is being shown in organization work.

The Union can truthfully state that they represent the workers in the Laundry and Cleaning industry.

Some confusion exists as to the status of the drivers in Local 183. These drivers are mostly members of long time standing, many are ex-members of General Drivers Union, and participated in the historic truck-drivers strike and helped to break the strangle hold of the Citizens Alliance on the workers of Minneapolis. After the strike they were transferred to the Laundry and Cleaners, then 18005. They are now members in good standing in the International L. W. C. 183, and until such time that they may be transferred to some other organization with ample assurance of protection and consideration of their rights as bona fide Union members, Local 183 will meet its obligation and responsibility to these drivers to the best of its ability, and announce to all members of Organized Labor that these drivers are entitled to their share of its pa-

Last Thursday night, the shop stewards had their first meeting since the Organizational Campaign started. The duties of the shop. stewards were explained by the Business Agent and President, and 26 shops were represented.

It is the intention of the Union to devote part of the time at each of these meetings to educational work. A teacher will be procured and parliamentary law will be taught as well as labor history and public speaking. In this manner the future leadership of Local 183 will be built.

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

# Midway Meeting Proves to Be Rallying Point for Men

the work that was being accomplished. He showed that new agreements had been signed between the employers and the

Union and that many workers had joined the organization in the campaign under the joint auspices of the two General Drivers Unions.

Pat Corcoran, Secretary-Treasurer of the Minneapolis Milk Drivers Union and Secretary of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Coun Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, was the next speaker. Corcoran spoke of the work of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council and urged the workers to see that their Unions became part of a Twin City organization.

Joseph Poirier, Personnel Di-Highway Dept., was then introduced by Chairman Brown. Poirier who has many times demonstrated his friendship for Minneapolis General Drivers Union. spoke in glowing terms of the accomplishments of that organization in the Twin City trade union movement. He urged the workers to join unions of their respective crafts and to become militant, loyal Union men.

The next speaker of the evening was Miles Dunne. Dunne outlined the organizational campaign that then joined the FWS, was REwas proposed for the two cities INSTATED THE NEXT DAY. and stated that advancement of the wage scale in one city alone was an impossibility. He urged the present drive be continued un- in a single case since the FWS til no non-union workers in the driving crafts existed in either city. Dunne closed with an appeal for all workers to join the Union and for the setting up of a Twin City Central Body for the teaming crafts.

On the whole the meeting was be no doubt that great results can be expected from the meeting itself and from the extensive work that was done in preparation for it. There is no longer an excuse for truckers in the midway district pleading that they are not aware of the work that the Union is doing in that particular part of the Twin Cities.

Similar meetings will be held in various localities in the near fu-

## On WPA Projects

LAY-OFFS AND TRANSFERS mark the week on WPA projects -losses of time and wages that cannot be made up-dismissals of workers having no Union to fight for them-speed-ups and provocation by chesty foremen looking for WHAT should be done. Now they excuses to fire workers - more grievances! Why? Answer: The They are realizing they must or- us on the field of honor - and same POLITICS that caused WPA ganize and unify FOR A DEFI- bring his own lunch. fund restriction. Republicans de- NITE PURPOSE, and as to stateclared for "returning" relief to wide organization that representastates and localities, so Roosevelt tion must be in direct proportion shows they can't do it-by PINCH-ING THE NEEDY and making a great cry of human misery go up NUAL PICNIC is Sunday, Aug. for resumption of Federal financcing of relief. Individuals or petty political groups can't do a thing about it. Only broad economic organizations which merit and hold the confidence of the workers because disciplined by the workers, will count from now on.

SHARPLY RISING LIVING COSTS is the week's dole to direct relief clients. The Minneapolis Welfare Board is "neutral"it doesn't care whom it hurts just so it isn't the Big Boys. Clients report browbeating, intimidation and misrepresentation by relief officials. What will it be when winter comes? Again, only the

solid force of the Union and a Federal Workers button get consideration.

WPA INEFFICIENCY! Thirtythree WPA workers were fired because they ignored the foreman's crazy order that they make up ten minutes spent in checking out tools. The proper WPA higher official said they had "quit" so nothing could be done. The 33 then joined Federal Workers in a body-on Thursday. By Monday morning they were back at work and a FWS steward was on the job. During the process the "proper official" begged for a change in the FWS representative dealing for the men, because "he so unreasonably insists that all 33 be rector of the Minnesota State put back to work." Imagine such officials! Yet workers and their families suffer for such official WPA inefficiency. The whole makeshift slipshod WPA local officialdom would collapse into a tangled heap if FWS didn't keep it straight.

Mayor Olson of Hopkins AL-MOST put one over (on Bernhagen), didn't he? Is it true that Olson offered \$25 to anyone who would take his job?

The worker reported in last week's column as fired and having

MILITANT? The Welfare Board has not dared to enforce its Paupers Oath re-registration order mass meeting sent it a clear sharp ultimatum. A special meeting of the Board considers the matter Wednesday. Clients see great natural resources and modern processing methods which make them impatient with inexcusable "sub-sistence." Not even the surface of a splendid success and there can their militancy has been scratched

INSIDE TIPS ABOUT WPA: \$60.50 workers with large families can get supplemental relief. See your steward. Projects outside the County bring longer hours but no more pay. More projects will shut down. Bigger lay-offs are coming, contrary to Sassman's definite promise. (The bosses need cheap labor.) Best tip of all: GET INTO THE UNION.

PROJECT MEETINGS will continue. Watch for the Organization Committee on your project. If workers on your project want a meeting soon, call at the office.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING of FWS is Friday, August 21, 8 p. m., at 257 Plymouth Ave. Every member should attend.

TENSER INTEREST AND DE-TERMINATION of workers is evident everywhere. They're seeing through petty superficial issues, to in some time is no signal that fundamental facts. They know want to know HOW TO DO IT. he wants satisfaction he can meet to actual membership.

FEDERAL WORKERS AN-30, beginning at 10 a. m. at Glenwood Park, Grounds No. 1. A full program of games, races, etc., for all ages, with plenty of valuable prizes, is all set. There'll be dancing, refreshments, lots of fun for all-and of course, speaking. Aug. 30 is Labor's picnic day in Minne-PURGES, BUDGET CUTS and apolis parks. The Federal Workers Picnic is at Glenwood.

> All day Saturday the Union office was a mad house. A row of applicants stood in front of the window from early morning until late in the evening to join the Union. It looked like a run on a bank.

# Notes to You Kenn Harlan

CO-ACCIDENTS

One of Minneapolis most popular nite spots where beverages are served which test considerably more than 3.2% is called the 620 Club. It takes its name from its street address, 620 Hennepin. Nightly the intemperate stumble about the avenue and among other spots, visit the 620 Club. And heres the pay off-the street address of the Murray Liquor Cure establishment is 620 South Tenth. Rather a different 620 Club, whatwhat? \* \* \* Ed Harlan, sire of your correspondent, paid his grocery bill last week. The credit and debt column each totaled 574.

SPEAKING-

Of 574 and its numerical sucessor, 544—the boys are loath to speak of General Drivers as 544. To them it is still 574. And why not? — that's the banner they fought and died under. Nothing will replace it. \* \* \*

### POST MORTEM:

Dancing proved quite popular at the picnic Sunday before last. We coyly admit that the music was good and blushingly we remind you that the place was overrun by women. The band never before realized its sex appeal. I sit way back in the back rowho hum! \* \* \*

INFLUENCE-

America is very susceptible to crazes. Silly little things find their way among us and sweep the nation. There were crazes of crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, Yo-Yo's, Handies and now the pun has come into its own. It's a game and played like this-

A. Do you know Butch and

B. Butch and Jimmie who? A. Butch your arms around me and Jimmie a kiss.

Or we might add, Dunn up and see me sometime, or Elizabeth Independent in Your Style, or Hyram I Doin'?

#### OTHER BUSINESS-

May we take this time to introduce the newest addition to our band. Some mention was made of him a few issues ago but the job was improperly done. His name is Jerry Snyder. He plays a trombone very fine. He's a nice boy and well liked. You have probably seen him. Next time pay your respects-if you don't mind.

Pete Snapco is not getting off as easily as he thinks. The mere fact that he hasn't had a mention we're letting up on him. We still think he's "tetched," yeah, and if

### Newspaper Workers Look for Agreement

Drivers employed by the Havstad Co., a concern which does the hauling for the Minneapolis Tribune and the Minneapolis Journal, and who have joined the Union in considerable numbers in the past few weeks, are anxiously awaiting the opening of negotiations be-Harstad Co. and the Union.

In accordance with a contract recently signed with the Daily Star, wages of newspaper drivers per hour. Non-union drivers employed by this company are urged to immediately affiliate themselves with the Union in order that they may secure the benefits of higher wages and better working conditions.

# Story of Al Peterson Should Be Inspiration for All Union Men

The story of the case of Al the pressure of the speed-up sys-Peterson, long time employee of tem at the Williams Co. and the the Williams Hardware Co., is one that should teach every union man the value of a trade union and should make everyone be proud of the organization of which they are tuberculosis and he was advised a member.

Prior to the 1934 drivers strike Peterson had been a faithful employee of the Williams Co. for 14 years. He went out on strike with the Drivers Union in July and August and at the termination of the struggle he was put back to work over the determined protest of the management who feared Peterson's militancy and loyalty to the Union.

During the period of the close of the strike in the spring of 1935 strength for the Union. He consistently continued to maintain the position of the Union at the Williams Company and fought hard for the interests of other members

During the winter of 1934-35

## Independent **Truck Chatter**

The new WPA wage scale is \$1.50 an hour for hand loading and \$1.65 an hour for mechan- he had been assured would be ically loaded equipment or its equivalent.

The question of the drivers is not quite settled.

Quite a number of the boys on the Belt Line have been transferred and are now working for the State Highway Department.

B. G. Ambrose is gaining weight.

Axel Soderberg said that he would not like to be in the shoes of the one who started circulating the petition against the strike.

The independents had their 'day" on the end of the tug rope during the picnic at Bass Lake. It had to be done three times before Rudy was convinced who the victors were.

Curt Zander will offer to debate the question of birth control with anyone in the Union. He will take the losing side. (Editor's note: Which side is that?)

The committee handling the picnic affair is to be congratulated for its good work. It was one of the most orderly and best conducted affairs of the season.

It has been reported that many new applications have been received for membership into the Independent Truck Owners Section in the last two weeks. We are still growing.

The last meeting of the Independent was not very well attended. We want to impress upon members that they must attend at least one meeting a month.

Get your information at the Union meetings instead of asking the steward on the job what took place. He has enough work to do

## Glenwood Drivers Are Joining Union

Glenwood - Inglewood drivers, who have been joining the Union have been set at a minimum of 83c at a rapid pace, will soon be covered by a Union agreement according to the latest advices.

> When this company is brought under a Union contract it will complete the unionization of the bottled water companies in this city.

continual struggle in behalf of the Union made Peterson a sick man. In the spring his illness was diagnosed as a preliminary stage of to immediately seek hospitalization in a sanitarium. With the assistance of the Union he was able to secure admittance to Glen Lake.

Although the Williams Co. wrote him a letter, shortly after he was admittedly to the hospital, saying they were sorry for his trouble and promising his job would be open to him when he was sufficiently recovered, they, no doubt, were glad to see what they thought would be the last of Peterson. He had been a thorn in their side. Peterson proved to be a tower of His never swerving loyalty to the Union and his unflinching courage in the face of intimidation and coercion was something the employer never learned to admire.

From April, 1935, until July, 1936, Al Peterson lay in a ward in the Glen Lake sanitarium gradually building up his health and strength and slowly but surely freeing himself from the gerras of the white plague. Finally in July he was discharged from the sanitarium completely cured.

Now, thought Peterson, to cash in on the promise of the job that waiting for him on his recovery. He reported to the Williams Company in the middle of July, a picture of health and completely cured of his previous ailment. He told the management that he was ready to return to his former job.

The Williams Company told him that he no longer was connected with the company, had no rights there and under no circumstances was he to be returned to employment. This proved to be a severe blow to Peterson whose financial condition, during his long confinement in the hospital, was in a desperate plight.

But without hesitation he turned to the organization that he had fought for in 1934 and who had assisted him and his family during his long illness, the General Drivers and Helpers Union. While the Peterson case had been pending at the Williams Company another trouble had arisen at the same place. The platform workers employed there had never received their raise in accordance with the provisions of the June agreement.

Union representatives were sent to the Williams Company who were instructed to not only settle the withheld pay of the platform men but to compel the Williams Company to return Peterson to the job in accordance with the agreement made with him in 1935. The argument with the company was short lived. The platform workers are now being paid the Union scale. Back pay from June 1 has been granted them but most important of all, Albert Peterson is again an employee of the Williams Hardware Co., a better Union man than ever before.

#### Local 544 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, Aug. 6—Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, Aug. 7—544 Job Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Aug. 10—General Membership.

Wednesday, Aug. 12-Market Workers.

Workers.
Thursday, Aug. 20—Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, Aug. 21-544 Job Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, Aug. 24—General Membership.
Tuesday, Aug. 25—Taxi Drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.

p. m. NOTE: Federal Workers Job Stewards meet each Wednes-day.

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Published every Wednesday under the auspices of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

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

## The "Pauper's Oath"

Actions of functionaries at branch relief stations, during the past week, indicate that the local relief administration, acting under instructions from the Board of Public Welfare, intends to carry out its brutal, vicious and inhuman policy of attempting to compel relief clients to sign the "pauper's oath" as a prerequisite to receiving relief. Numerous instances have been reported where relief clients, on applying for their food and rent orders, were told they must either sign this degrading and dangerous document or be cut off from all future aid. As a result of the determined opposition that is being shown by relief recipients to signing the socalled new registration blank, hundreds have already been refused relief and case after case is coming to the attention of relief organizations where families are without food and are in danger of being dispossessed from their homes.

This document, brain child of I. S. Joseph and other representatives of bankers and business interests on the Welfare Board, is without question the most open and dangerous attempt to intimidate and threaten relief clients tha has ever been attempted in the city of Minneapolis. According to its provisions it places in the hands of the relief administration the weapon with which they can readily prosecute and imprison any relief recipient who may find himself in the possession of a penny for which he

cannot account.

The "pauper's oath," sponsored and introduced by Joseph and McGaughren, is the final result of a campaign that has been carried on by Taxpayers Association representatives on the Welfare Board for over a year. All the publicity that the so-called "chiseling cases" received was part of that maneuver. The impression they intend to convey is that thousands of people are receiving relief aid that are not entitled to it. This is as false as the motives of those who urged the passage of this vicious document. The "pauper's oath" is a relic of barbarism. A determined stand against it is the need of the hour.

# Mass Meeting Results

The Twin City teaming crafts mass meeting held at the German House, St. Paul, Thursday, August 13, was a vivid demonstration of what is possible to accomplish through joint action. Both Local 544 in Minneapolis and Local 120 of St. Paul co-operated 100 per cent in making this meeting a success. Casting all suspicion of ulterior motives aside and joining hands with each other in a spirit of real co-operation, the two Unions brought about a noteworthy accomplishment.

The success of the midway meeting cannot be judged solely by the number of applications that were received on that evening. The week's preparation for the meeting which included contacting hundreds of drivers, helpers and platform men will continue to show results long after the mass meeting has become a memory. Those who judge the results of a Union organizational campaign solely by the immediate results that such a campaign brings about are entirely under-estimating the significance of such work. Every driver who was talked to by a Union organizer during that period has received at least the beginning of an understanding of the value of a Union in his craft.

Every worker who attended the meeting, whether or not he joined the Union at that particular time, had the seeds of trade unionism planted in his mind. It is impossible to estimate the value of trade union propaganda imparted in this manner. As a result of this meeting hundreds of workers will voluntarily join the Drivers Union. Hundreds more will become more susceptible to future organizational efforts. The German House mass meeting was an unqualified success. Similar meetings should be held from time to time.

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#### Power Workers to Settle With N. S. P.

Local 160, Northern States Power Employees Union, after a long period of attempting to negotiate grievances directly with the Northern States Power Co., have been forced to resort to arbitration to settle the existing differences between the Union and Union agreement. The Union will the employer. Several meetings between the Union committee and Robert F. Pack, General Manager, have resulted in only a deadlock. Two weeks ago the Union submitted a list of 39 specific griev- as the neutral chairman. ances.

been settled as far as the company was concerned. While the Union conceded that a few cases had been adjusted, a great number of them, particularly those dealing with seniority, had been left unchanged.

Friday morning the Union notified the company that they desired a Board of Arbitration be set up in conformity with the existing select two, the company two, and a fifth neutral chairman will be chosen by the first four. Local 160 submitted a list of five names that would be agreeable to them

Meeting of the Arbitration At the last meeting with the Board on the disputed points will management the Union committee take place as soon as the formawas informed that these cases had tion of the committee is completed.

# Sacco, Vanzetti Honored by Meet

Sacco and Vanzetti, noble martyrs of labor, will be hon-ored at a meeting to be held August 24th at the Central Labor Union, commemorating the ninth anniversary of their legal

murder.
The history of the rawest frameup in history will be told by the speakers, Al Russeii, Strutwear strike picket who was convicted of "contempt of court," and Carl Ross. Sacco and Vanzetti died nine

years ago because they were labor organizers, because they had offended the muck-a-mucks of "law and order," by organ-izing workers. Their trial was a farce but in the face of everya farce but in the face of everything they bore themselves heroically. Everyone should attend the memorial meeting at the Central Labor Union, Monday night at 8 o'clock, August 24th. A puppet show, chalk talk and mass singing will also be on the program. The admission is 10c.

# Keeping Step With 544 By Mickey Dunne

Pete Harris, steward at the Western Grocery Company, set a real record for the boys to shoot at. He signed 47 new members in one week.

The German House meeting packed 'em in. And did they join the union!

Packing house drivers met Thursday with Bruce Vincent. Nine houses represented.

The Mayflower Transfer Line found out that playing horse with 544 doesn't pay.

Did you know that Skoglund tried to steal Murphy's glasses?

The trouble at the Daily Star was settled to the satisfaction of the Union after a Monday morning strike that lasted one hour. It's George Date's worry now.

B. G. Ambrose complains that he is also being used as a Federal steward. Well, he's big enough to hold down ten

L. A. Murphy laid down the law to the owner of the Mayflower line. He made it stick, too.

Packing house drivers continue to come into the Union at a rate that guarantees that this section of the market will soon be 100 per cent.

The big downtown department store, the last stronghold of the open shoppers, is beginning to crack under pressure from the General Drivers Union.

Milk Wagon Drivers Union is making it tough for nonunion ice cream drivers. More power to them.

Brooks Fruit Co. drivers met in

Union will soon be accorded some substantial help from the Teamsters Joint Council. This should be done speedily. The plight of the Laundry Drivers is a bad one.

Elmer Piatt, member of the Independent Truck Owners Section, was buried Monday, August 17, from the Swanson mortuary.

The Laundry Workers Union held an open organizational meeting Wednesday, August 19. M. Dunne spoke.

The efficiency of the office system is something to marvel at. Friday a member came to the window to pay dues. The girl who looked up his card came back and reported that this member was dead. It turns out that the member had been reported desperately ill and the girl had made the fatal-

ity notation just in case. The member, like Mark Twain, said the report had been grossly exaggerated. \*

The Independent Truck Owners failed to turn in their usual chatter column last week. Picnicitis.

We are glad to welcome the return of Ken Harlan and his notes. They are very readable.

The Minneapolis Sausage Co. recently became a 100 per cent Union concern. The drivers are all in the Union. The inside workers belong to the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen.

Notices of additional donors to the picnic continue to come in. We will publish them from time to time.

According to reports, that tall swamp grass slows Nick Wagner up.

Carl Grazer, Belt Line superintendent, made a nice stand for the independent truck owners who were transferred to PWA. He talked the Highway Department into giving them the \$1.65 scale. Thanks.

The Riverside sodding job, employing 11 truck owners, was tied up Friday while wages were adjusted to confirm with the Union scale. All were 120 men. Casper of the St. Paul Union co-operated.

Local 160, Northern States Power Co. Employees Union, is going to arbitrate over 40 grievances. The Arbitration Board is being set up now.

Organizers report that many of the large docks are now 100 per cent Union.

The Relief Department is cutting hundreds off the relief rolls who refuse to sign the infamous 'pauper's oath."

Paris news item: A strike in the American hospital ended tonight after American residents of Paris volunteered to scrub the floors and do orderly work.

#### Local 160 Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, August 18-Stewards and Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 19—General Membership
Tuesday, August 25—Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 1—Stewards and Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 2—General Membership

\*Note the changes of Executive Board meetings and the new setup for stewards meet-

## LABOR... Looks at the Press

From the National Republic: Waldo McNutt is . . . a Communist, a Socialist, a pacifist 'united front,' and is also a member of the Rocky Mountain YMCA.

Sort of a One-Man People's Front-I was beginning to wonder if he weren't all those things too.

New York news item: When the clerk of the Application Bureau announced he would hand out applications for watchmen, 2,000 men descended on his office. When the smoke of battle cleared, the clerk's desk was scattered in fragments over the lobby, and 23 police fought the job hunters .-N. Y. World-Telegram.

Ah, there is a certain nobility and dignity about life these days,

Miss Mary C. Duffy, supreme regent of the Catholic Daughters of America: Much misguided financial support is geing given to communism and radicalism by certain rich American foundations.

Sure, sure-it is well known, for instance, that the Rockefeller Foundation is kicking in heavily to the campaign of Norman Thomas.

Cerbere, France: 200 French volunteers recruited from the Socialist party have passed through here on their way to Barcelona to serve in the Catalonian armies fighting against the fascists .-N. Y. Times.

Bravo-here are men who do not find life so dear but that they are glad to fight and die for a great cause.

Madrid, Spain: An aristocratic mansion here has been taken over by the toreros union as a home for aged bull-fighters. The golf caddies, organized in the Marxist Youth League, have taken over the fashionable Club Del Campo.

Italy, Germany, Austria, Spain today and tomorrow France. And do you think we in America will not have to fight Fascism with arms in hand?

Washington news item: Miss Frances Perkins is studying the law recently put into effect by the French government which provides for annual vacations with pay to all workers.

Here's hoping the Madame doesn't set up a labor board to see that we get those vacations.

Dr. Wendell C. Bennett, archaeologist and curator of the American Museum of Natural History: All Indians originated in Russia, moved across the Behring Sea, and drifted southward.

Goody-now the Indians can be sent back where they came from