

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:  
257 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH

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, THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 1936

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## LOCAL 131 ENDS ARBITRATION

### WORKERS OUT IN TWO MORE CASKET FIRMS

Minnesota and Northwestern  
Casket Co. Employees  
Go on Strike

Picket Line at All Sources of  
Distribution Effects Com-  
plete Tieup

The workers at the Minnesota Casket Company and the Northwestern Casket Company have joined the picket lines after failure of the employers to agree to negotiations with the union committee. The Minneapolis Casket Company had previously been struck when the union request for negotiations was met by a company attempt to form a dummy union.

Over 100 workers are involved. All are members of Furniture Workers Union Local 1859. Picket lines have been formed at all plants and other company sources of distribution. The union strike committee reports the tie-up 100 per cent effective.

The union is demanding elimination of piece work and the speedup. So-called efficiency experts are now used in the plants for the purpose of driving the workers to top speed at all times. The union is demanding the establishment of wage rates of 80 cents per hour for skilled workers, 75 cents for semi-skilled and a minimum wage of 55 cents.

### Police Try to Block Leaflet Distribution

On Saturday morning Jimmy Bartlett, organizer for Warehouse and Inside Workers Union, Local 20316, was arrested at the Sears-Roebuck store for passing out leaflets advertising a mass meeting. Bartlett was brought before the judge and later released on his personal recognition. The trial will come up Wednesday. Bartlett will be defended in court by Gilbert Carlson, attorney for the Workers Defense League.

A few hours after Bartlett was taken into custody, several other members of the union passed out handbills at Sears. They were not molested. The handbills advertised an open meeting of all men and women employees of Sears-Roebuck Co., which was held Monday evening at the Central Labor Union. The meeting was addressed by Roy Wier and Bob Cramer.

The intense organizational campaign which has been under way at Sear's for the past few weeks is bringing splendid results. There is every indication that the workers at this large, hitherto unorganized, store will soon be within the ranks of organized labor.



### Grocery Contract Near Settlement

The report and recommendations of the executive on the negotiations with the employers were accepted by the membership of the wholesale grocery section of Local 544 at a special meeting on November 15. Indications are that the wage scale for helpers, platform men and inside warehouse employees, together with certain provisions on working conditions, which were to be settled by arbitration will be satisfactorily ironed out by direct negotiation.

The wage scale for helpers, platform men and warehouse men will probably be 55 cents per hour, with the market scale to be received in those special classifications where the work is similar to that done on the market. These

provisions will be retroactive to November 1.

It is expected that negotiations will be concluded this week, and the final complete terms of settlement will be printed in full.

### Coal Men Approve Committee Report

Agreement on the terms of the coal contract is expected this week. The executive board reported to the 544 coal workers at the November 16 meeting recommendations on the date of retroactive pay which has been one of the main points of controversy. The membership approved the recommendations and authorized the board to conclude negotiations on this basis.

The union committee will meet the employers' committee later in the week to press for immediate settlement.

## ICE CREAM DRIVERS WANT FIVE DAY WEEK IN CONTRACT

The executive board of Local 471 reports that the one item not settled in the negotiations with the ice cream companies is the question of the length of the work week. The men are asking for the same arrangement on work days as that now in effect in the milk industry.

This arrangement, by the way, is rather novel in this part of the country. The actual work week is six days, but the equivalent of a five day week is arrived at through a one week vacation every three months, four per year. This arrangement has a certain appeal to sportsmen, amateur carpenters

and drivers who like to take long drives on their day off.

The ice cream drivers wages

### Wholesale Drug Men Organizing

Organization meetings of the wholesale drug workers have been very well attended. Examination of working conditions in this industry has brought to light many conditions which need correction. Union proposals for a contract covering wage and working conditions will soon be ready for presentation to the employers.

### MILK DRIVERS

Reports have come in that several members of Local 471 have been seen starting delivery before 6 a. m. The union fought to have this starting time established for the protection of its members, and it will not tolerate the actions of those who jeopardize this improved working condition for selfish personal reasons. Disciplinary action will be taken if necessary to enforce observance of the 6 a. m. starting time.

EXECUTIVE BOARD  
LOCAL 471

### Jans Furs Signs Union Contract

During the past week the Fur Workers Union, Local 71, has continued its campaign of organization, over thirty new members having been signed up. On Friday morning, the Jans Fur Co., 83 South 8th Street, signed up with the union, bringing to a close a long strike. The agreement provides for union wages, hours and recognition of Local 71.

With the Loring and Jans Company now doing business with the Fur Workers Union, only the Menzel Fur Co., at 908 Nicollet, remains unfair to organized labor. A strike has been on at Menzel's since May 18.

The indications are that the grim courage and determination with which the fur workers have resisted the attempts of Menzel and the Citizens Alliance to undermine their union will soon whip this hold-out into line. It is rumored that Menzel is being very hard hit by the strike and that he will shortly give in.

Geneva news item: More money is being spent on armaments today than at any time previously in the world's history. . . According to figures released by the League of Nations, the principal nations spent \$9,295,000,000 during the 1935 arms race.

Enough to have given over nine million poor families \$1,000 each —and they say socialism is silly.

### MINIMUM WAGE ALSO MAXIMUM HOURS STATED

All Provisions Retroactive to  
November 1 and in Effect  
for One Year

No More Company Sales  
Meetings on Night of  
Union Meetings

The arbitration of the working agreement for the laundry drivers was concluded on November 16 after a final seven hour session of the board. The provisions of the agreement will be retroactive to November 1, 1936, and will continue in force until November 1, 1937.

The average work hours will be between 7:30 a. m. and 5 p. m., with a maximum work week of 54 hours. The union may, at its discretion, permit a variation in the daily hours where circumstances warrant such change, the 54 hour week, however, is a definitely fixed maximum. This change represents a sharp improvement over previous hour conditions in this industry.

Dry cleaning drivers will receive a minimum guarantee of \$20 per week during December, January and February, and \$25 per week during the balance of the year. Linen supply drivers will receive a guarantee of \$22.50 weekly during the next eight months and \$25 per week thereafter. All other drivers will receive the \$25 weekly minimum guarantee immediately.

All work done on Sundays and  
Continued on page 3

### Transfer Committee Will Report Soon

The union negotiating committee announces that the discussion meetings with the employers in the transfer industry are rapidly shaping the form of the new contract. With the preliminaries out of the way, the three employer sub-committees on commercial hauling, heavy hauling and long distance furniture hauling will meet jointly on November 19 to prepare for a meeting with the union committee on November 20. The union committee expects to have a complete report ready for the union membership within a few days.

The Sunday meeting of the regulated motor carrier drivers, helpers and dock men discussed at length the general provisions which they wish to have incorporated in their contract. A decision on the question of hours and wage rates is to be held up to hear the reports of the ICC hearing on these questions which opens on November 19.

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town

### Independent Truck Chatter

#### Happy Days Department

The finance companies and garages will be sorry to learn that the negotiations with the Sand and Gravel bosses are progressing nicely. This rider pertaining to hauling rates and load limits for independent trucks will give many of the haulers a new lease on life.

#### Coal Dust Is Gold Dust

Try to get to some of the coal section meetings even if you are not working in the industry at the present time. Some important developments are coming up and all the old timers should be on hand.

#### Free Beer

Everybody enjoyed the Independent party; let's have more of them.

#### He Ain't Heavy, He's Me Brudder

Who was the last to get his coat out of the check room on the night of the Independent party? Well, who is the Dutchman that sometimes spends a month's vacation at the resort on Parker's lake?

#### Sit Down

Several weeks ago some of the mucker trucks out on county WPA work "folded arms" when the contractor owning the elevating grader tried to lay off the mucker crew without notice and replace them with some favorites. Of course the original crew stayed. We are wondering if they are members of the machine operators union. If not, why not?

#### Watch Yourself

The streets will be getting icy soon, and that means more careful driving will be necessary. One factor that contributes to a higher accident toll is the failure to signal properly.

A traveler from the Pacific Coast states finds a marked difference in the attitude of the drivers toward signaling. California is considered one of the most courteous from the driver's standpoint. Every start, turn, stop, or change of direction is considerably signalled in ample time. An idea that could well be adopted by everyone. Let the other fellow know what you are going to do; it will save on the other driver's nerves, your own, and perhaps avoid an accident.

If the driver of the other car is green, a bit ratted or undecided, help him make up his mind with a motion of your hand.

A "signal as you drive" campaign by the members of this union might result in making the whole city and perhaps state more signal conscious. How's for a slogan like "Signal as you go, and make every drive a safe drive."

#### Equipment Dept.

They are putting out V8's with four wheel drives; ought to go over big with the boys on the Belt Line next spring.

Next they will need two motors, double transmission, revolving cab, duals in front, and of course gas tanks all around.

### NOVEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

- Local 160
- Tuesday, Nov. 3 — Executive Board and Stewards Meeting.
- Wednesday, Nov. 4 — General Membership Meeting.
- Tuesday, Nov. 10 — Executive Board Meeting.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17 — Executive Board and Stewards Meeting.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18 — General Membership Meeting.
- Tuesday, Nov. 23 — Executive Board Meeting.

### AFL Convention Opens at Tampa

From the American Federation of Labor Convention at Tampa, Florida, assembled on Monday, Nov. 16, dispatches announce an invitation to John L. Lewis and the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The invitation issued by William Green in his opening address asks the C. I. O. "to take their seats with us." The convention had excluded ten of the largest and most powerful international unions in the A. F. of L. by a suspension order.

John L. Lewis, speaking on behalf of the C. I. O. and in reply to the "invitation" of William Green, said, "If they want us at Tampa and want to lift the suspension order so we can go down to Tampa as peers and gentlemen then that will be another matter."

If the suspension order stands at this convention the decisions made by the convention will represent less than one-half the organized strength of the American labor movement.

### On WPA Projects

The Community Fund Drive drives home the conviction that any government that fails to provide for the welfare of all its citizens has no just reason for existence. No exploited worker has any reason for contributing a penny to this attempt to make the poor take care of the poor. Let the government collect from those who have the money.

Autocratic military airs taken on by WPA officials on the Fort Snelling project are building up pressure for an explosion. A FWS member was told by one of those budding WPA colonels that anyone who tries to organize on the government reservation would be clapped into the guard house. Others report being docked an hour for being late one minute. A steward found that each time he was ready to sign up a new member, a snooper stood at his back. Speed-up and regimentation is on an unprecedented scale. Fitzgerald's office denies having any authority over the Fort Snelling project. By what authority are these Hennepin County workers taken out of the District's jurisdiction? Conditions at Fort Snelling are rapidly approaching critical action.

Here's one for the book! Superintendent on Columbia Heights Tannery project which pays \$71.50, reported to the men that one worker had to be transferred to a \$60.50 job, so the Superintendent "impartially" held a drawing and drew the number of no one but the FWS job steward. The workers were not present at the drawing nor even asked to consent to this means of selection. No one saw the number on the ticket drawn. No one saw the ticket. In fact, no one saw the drawing. Wonderful, wonderful, how Lady Luck always picks our stewards. But this Superintendent underrated the Columbia Heights workers. His fairy tale flopped. The steward is still on the job.

#### WHEN COLD BUILD FIRES

WPA rules permit fires when working one mile or more from a warm shack. Don't let any smart foreman tell you no!

The FWS Leadership Class had its first session Tuesday. There were many registrations, but there is still room. See your steward.

### Bill Brown Says—

The fighting members of Local 544 who are so enthusiastic on the picket line during strikes would get a real bang out of the regular weekly fink drives. It would do the union a lot of good too if more of the stewards and active members would try to participate in this event. The executive board is thinking of staging an open house fink day whereby as many members as possible can join in the festivities. The bigger and better the fink drives, the bigger and better the union. Let's have a real turnout on the next fink day.



BILL BROWN  
President of 544

A new FWS branch was formed at Dayton. Members from Robbinsdale assisted. A big turnout is expected for its meeting this Thursday at the Dayton Town Hall.

It is highly gratifying to FWS members that Mrs. Seestrom is still on the Welfare Board. We believe she'll stay there until she chooses to leave. However, we doubt that Tom Latimer will be a Judge at that or any other time.

WPA has many ways of skinning WPA workers of their measly little \$60.50 wage. Unjustified discharges and transfers are used not only to punish and intimidate workers who have red blood and back-bones, but as a source of saving to the government—time lost through unjustified discharges and transfers (which the workers are not now permitted to make up) enables 10 per cent greater job quotas on most projects. Instead of \$60.50, the average wage paid WPA common labor is actually nearer \$50. This cheap chiseling must stop. The Drivers Union says so and the Teamsters Joint Council and the entire local labor movement will be aroused to block this juggled starvation scheme. A General Drivers delegation is at work on it now.

### Yellow Notes

Our "Big Boss," Masters, was ordered to bed for two weeks by his physician. A combination of a partial nervous breakdown and a recurring attack of neuritis are believed to be the causes of his illness.

Drake and his shop crew seem to have experienced a sharp increase in business of late.

Ed Irving is wishing his recently born son would hurry up and grow up so he can "pinch hit" for his old man during busy spurts.

Who said that the large frost shields that have been installed, aren't wavy?

The following is a proposed "All American team" composed of Yellow Taxi drivers. It was suggested by a 9:30 night driver.

- "Power House" Powers, fullback
- "Whirlwind" Mallinson, right half
- "Slugger" Krenke, left half
- "Silver Tongue" Jennings, quarterback
- "Lightning" Taylor, right end
- "Broncho" Rollins, right tackle
- "Stonewall" Burnett, right guard
- "Dynamite" Turner, center
- "Shadow" Sherman, left guard
- "Tuffy" Wiggins, left tackle
- "Zephyr" Iverson, left end
- Coach, Oscar "Bernie" Benson.

A few of our competitors recently petitioned the city council for more cab licenses. We would all like to know if they can produce proof that their drivers have earned and received the union scale of 60 cents per hour for every hour they have put in on

### With the Laundry Workers Union

Those that attended our Victory dance say that the affair was the most successful social event ever held by the union. A fine crowd and excellent music with Ted Brown as master of ceremonies kept everybody in high spirits.

We are informed that James Montague of the Custom Laundry, who was accidentally shot while hunting is getting along nicely. Here's hoping that Jimmy will soon be back on the job.

Saturday p.m. some of the officers of the union were served with papers to appear before the county attorney. From what we can gather our friends the "Wholesale Cleaners Association" are again listening to the call of the "Pied Piper."

If they think that the union will relinquish their union contracts with these babies so that they can return to their wholesale chiseling on hours and wages, they are wrong. If they want fight, either in the court or on the picket line, we will accommodate them.

One or two small skirmishes are expected soon, at least two plants have as yet failed to sign a Union agreement. The Plymouth Laundry which is located on Holden St. near Seventh, is on the fourth floor. This concern has always been unfair to labor and so far has defied the union. Union wages and conditions will prevail at the Plymouth Laundry shortly. There can be no exceptions, Mr. Adams, we will be seeing you.

The quicker these concerns realize that Minneapolis is a union town and that they have to pay union wages, the better off they will be. We are sorry for them, but Minneapolis, the "scab town," is no more. Minneapolis now is a union town and Local 183 is prepared to obtain for the workers in this industry the conditions they are entitled to under the contract and every boss must sign the contract.

Ellen Collins, shop steward at the Nicollet Hotel reports the Nicollet hotel near 100 per cent union now. Fine work, Ellen.

It won't be long until the union can use the telephone book's classified ads under Laundry and Cleaners as its fair list.

New members are still coming in from the large plants and with the launching of the new organizational campaign, members will come in still greater numbers. These large plants must all become 100 per cent union. We cannot remain half free and half slave.

their cabs during the last year. When this proof is forthcoming it will be time enough to again flood the streets with cabs.

Fay Cipperly's condition hasn't shown much improvement, a late report discloses.

Everybody out to the next Cab Drivers meeting.

### Dayton Drivers Joining Union

The organization campaign of Local 544 at the Dayton Company has finally cracked the main line of resistance, and the union office reports a rapid influx of new members from this company during the past few days. A steward has been appointed for this group which will soon take its place as another 100 per cent unit of the local.

The last section meeting was one of the most enthusiastic gatherings this group has seen. The executive board reported the status of contract negotiations, and the members voted unanimously to get in and pitch for a real contract.

### Instruction on the Social Security Act

Washington, D. C., November 12 — Employers and employees were reminded in a statement issued by the Social Security board here today that they need not take any steps toward preparing for the assignment of Social Security Account Numbers under the Old-Age Benefits provisions of the Social Security Act until their local Post Office delivers the appropriate forms to them later this month.

From some parts of the country, the Social Security Board said, reproductions of application blanks clipped from newspapers and magazines were already being received in Washington. The Board pointed out that these could not be considered official, and urged all workers in commercial and industrial pursuits to await the distribution of official forms, which will begin on November 24.

"Employers, likewise," the Board's statement said, "should await the delivery to them by the Post Office of the employer application forms which will be delivered on November 16."

However, under a decision of the Treasury department, it is the responsibility of the employer to secure, fill out, and return the appropriate form not later than November 21, and it is the responsibility of the employee to secure, fill out and return the employee application form not later than December 5. It is necessary that every space on the blanks be filled out.

### WEST COAST SOCIALIST PAPER OUT NOV. 28

San Francisco, (LSP) — November 28 is the date scheduled for the appearance of the first issue of "Labor Action," west coast Socialist paper. An introductory offer of \$1 for a year's subscription is offered if sent in before Jan. 1. The address of "Labor Action" is 1057 Steiner St., San Francisco, Calif.

James P. Cannon and Glen Trimble are associate editors. Frank Stern is business manager.

It was explained that the paper was being published at this time so as to keep the public informed of the facts in the maritime strike. The major portion of the paper will be devoted to reports of labor news on the economic and political fields.

### Local 1859 Meeting Schedule

- Nov. 14 — Executive Board Committee Men
- Nov. 17 — Box Industry
- Nov. 18 — J. R. Clark
- Nov. 20 — Puffer-Hubbard
- Nov. 21 — Executive Board
- Nov. 28 — Executive Board and Committee Men
- Dec. 2 — General Membership Meeting

## "Nothing Moves But the Tide" Say Workers of Maritime Federation

On October 29 the West Coast Maritime Federation was forced out on strike in defense of its control over hiring halls, the key to unionization in this all-important industry. Four days later, rank-and-file seamen on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts broke through the bureaucratic craft-union crust, and led by Joseph Curran, walked out in sympathy with their brothers on the Pacific. Yesterday, the powerful maritime workers had paralyzed with their iron grip all coastal traffic. One hundred-seventy-eight ships were strikebound on the West Coast and Hawaii; 250 more vessels were tied up in Atlantic and Gulf ports; nearly 40,000 men were on strike.

As ship after ship—the President Harding, the Manhattan, the Pennsylvania, the Santa Maria, the American Farmer, the Siboney—landed at New York, the crews walked out in sympathy with the strikers. Eggs are hatching aboard a strikebound vessel in Frisco. Two locals of the Master Mates and Pilots Union walked out in New York, the officers increasing the power of the striking workers.

The most evil aspect of the strike has been the co-operation of International Seamen's Union officials and the federal government with the Steamship Owner's association in an effort to break the strike. The Christian Science Monitor reports that, "recruiting of new crews was continued by the I. S. U. officials, who have joined with ship owners in attempting to break the strike," which has the overwhelming support of the rank-and-file.

Joseph Curran, progressive leader, charges that efforts of strike-breaking union officials to recruit crews has resulted in staffing American ships with inexperienced men, which has already resulted in a collision between a Grace Line vessel and another steamship in Havana harbor. Nevertheless, I. S. U. officials in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York continue to scab-herd in a frantic attempt to retain their hold on their pie-cards. Last week, David Grange, vice-president of the I. S. U., was arrested for feloniously assaulting strikers.

Strike leaders have complained to Secretary of Labor Perkins that the National Re-employment Service has been furnishing ship owners with new crews to man idle ships. H. S. Haddock, president of the American Radio Telegraphers' association, has charged that the United States Department of Commerce is assisting shipowners by permitting them to break rules and regulations "to sail their ships with incompetent crews." In Los Angeles a federal judge order a \$10,000 cargo of

**MEETINGS FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION**  
**FWS Stewards, each Wednesday, 8 p. m.**  
**FWS membership meetings, first and third Friday of each month, 8 p. m.**  
**FWS Leadership class No. 1, each Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.**  
**Direct relief grievance hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 to 12 a. m.**  
**Federal Workers Stewards Meetings—Each Wednesday at 8 p. m.**

bananas removed; but in the face of a determined picketline, the federal marshalls "reported their inability to remove the consignment."

Federal Mediator Edward McGrady continues to issue statements which demonstrate his hostility to the union cause, and only give comfort to the bosses. The government Maritime Commission after dilly-dallying around, announces that it will expand its investigations into maritime labor conditions to include the East and Gulf coasts.

But despite all these attempts to break their new-found solidarity, maritime workers on a six-thousand mile front magnificently fight on with their ranks unbroken. "Nothing moves but the tide," is their battlecry. Altogether, it is an impressive demonstration of the mighty power that lies in united union action welded together by progressive leaders.

This is a struggle that deserves the support of every union worker in the country. Let us show, as have the bosses, that we recognize the strategic importance of unionization among the maritime transportation workers.

### Members Enrolling For Labor School

During the month of August, sixty-five members of sixteen different local unions attended the Labor Summer school held in the Sexton building. This school was organized and run by the Workers Educational council, a body composed of delegates from local unions. Due to the success of the summer school, the council has organized another, The Minneapolis Labor school, which will start on November 23 and run until next June. Classes are held in the following subjects: Parliamentary Law, Public Speaking, Labor Economics, Labor Movement and Co-operation. In addition to these such subjects as Drama, Labor Journalism, etc., can be given if enough students desire them.

Almost every local in town is sending students—544, 25; 471, 50; 382, 50; etc.—already unions have voted to send over 250 members. For further information you may come up to the school, 249-51 Transportation building, 2nd Ave. and 4th St.

### Seamen Picketing By Boat and Plane

Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor, announced Monday that a new "peace plan," calling for federal control of the hiring halls, had met with tentative approval of all parties concerned, except the sailors, who still remain firm on union control of the hiring halls and demand, as well, cash payments for overtime.

When the S. S. George Washington docked at San Francisco Monday, she was met by a picket line of airplanes and motor boats. Union officials announced that her crew was expected to join the walk-out at once. Don't be surprised if the strike committee digs up a submarine or two for picket duty.

### The "Community" Fund

This is the time of year when the wealthy people in each city organize to pick the pockets of the workers under the guise of raising a "Community chest" to finance various private charities for the coming year. The "community chests" believe that the poor should support the poor. We say that those who benefit from the system they uphold should support the victims of that system—through higher income, inheritance and corporation taxes.

If the seven lean years have shown anything at all, they have shown how wholly inadequate are local private charities to deal with the enormity of mass misery. Only a federally-supervised program can begin to deal with a problem of such dimensions.

Furthermore, the bulk of the private charities are under the domination of the most reactionary elements in American society. It goes without saying that our friends, the Citizens Alliance, is behind this set-up 110 per cent. It is significant that none other than Alf Landon spoke over the radio last Sunday pleading for support to the "Community Funds." No worker will consciously and willingly lend his support to such a program.

### Laundry Drivers End Arbitration

Continued from page 1  
 legal holidays is to be paid for at the rate of \$1 per hour plus regular commission. All firms are to issue the pay checks not later than the Saturday following the week for which pay is computed. This is a vast improvement over old practices of holding back pay.

Another past practice has been the holding back of final pay when a driver leaves the company. The company theory being that they were entitled to do this to cover any possible error in the driver's accounts. Under the new contract if a driver who is leaving the company is not paid at once he will continue on the company pay roll until he has been paid in full, except that not more than \$20 may be held for not to exceed 30 days.

The companies have also had the habit of refusing to let a driver who is leaving their employ go back over his route to collect delinquent accounts. However, they held him responsible until the accounts were paid. In the future the company will either let the driver make his own collections or they will be required to make good these losses.

When a driver is instructed to accept a check, the company will have to make it good if it happens to bounce back. The driver will not be held responsible for thefts. If the company wants their drivers to be uniformed, the company will have to buy the uniform. This has not been done in many past cases.

It is expressly stated that there shall be no company sales meeting held on the night of the regular union meetings. The companies have frequently used this device to try to throw a monkey wrench in the union machinery.

The agreement also provides definite recognition of the union and a guarantee that there will be no discrimination against union members.

The arbitration board was composed of Morris of Custom Laundry, Fink of Gross Bros., and Benninghoff of the American Linen for the employers, and Johnson, Withrow and Carle for the union. Rabbi Albert I. Gordon served as the seventh member.

The union feels that it has made possible substantial improvements

## Spanish Workers Make Determined Stand Against Fascists at Madrid

It is just four months ago yesterday—on July 17—that General Franco seized Morocco and began the conquest of Spain by his Fascist army. The intervening period has been marked by successive defeats of the Popular Front government, which, despite the marvelous heroism of the Spanish workers, has demonstrated its utter inability to initiate the revolutionary tasks which history demands of it.

With relentless hammer blows, Franco's counter-revolutionaries have driven the popular Front forces back, back, back; for the past twelve days, Madrid itself has been murderously besieged. Fearful for their lives, government officials fled the capital last week and established headquarters at Valencia, 190 miles east of Madrid; there it sits in permanent session, receiving hourly reports from the Emergency Defense Committee in Madrid. Azana, head of the government, announces that the Cortes (parliament) will shortly be summoned to Valencia.

The achievements of the workers of Catalonia (where the workers, not the "Republicans," are in power) stand out in sharp contrast with the defeats of the Popular Front government. It is the Catalonian workers who have supplied a steady stream of planes and tanks to the Madrid defenders. Last Wednesday when it seemed Madrid would fall, it was the Catalonian workers who rushed large reinforcements into defense positions along the Manzaneres River at the northeast of Madrid and drove back the Fascists. Appearing with the Catalonian workers—soldiers was an international army of workers from Poland, Belgium, Germany, France, and Italy.

On Thursday an insurgent aviator deserted to the Popular Front government with a German plane loaded with bombs, announcing that Germany was flying planes directly to the Spanish Fascists, crossing France at night. He said many Germans and Italians were serving in technical posts with the Spanish Fascists. The day before, the International Non-Intervention Committee, sitting in London, acquitted Russia of all charges placed by Italy that Russia had given any aid to the Spanish government.

During the past week, the fighting has been carried on in the third dimension—that is, in the air over Madrid. The Fascists have had the better of the air-bombing, with the Popular Front govern-

ment having the edge in bringing down opponent planes. The government has finally established an air base near Madrid, with 70 pursuit planes equipped with from two to four machine guns each. On Monday, the Moors fighting for the Fascists gained a foothold in the northwest section of Madrid for the first time, and house-to-house fighting was expected to develop shortly. Should Madrid fall, the workers of Catalonia will carry on the struggle.

European and American trade unions have so far donated over \$500,000 to the Spanish brothers; French unionists have donated \$200,000, the trade unionists of England and the United States \$100,000 each. The Popular Front government of France continues to refuse to furnish aid to the Spanish Popular Front government.

### Union Meets Move Of Meat Employers

The union has met the wage increase of the "Big Five" in the local meat industry by an increase in the demands. The raise mentioned was received by the drivers last week and was intended as a form of bribe against unionism. The wholesale meat workers have been spurred on by this action which succeeded only in demonstrating to them the actual power which is theirs.

Special steward meetings of this group have been held and a definite and widespread campaign is now under way to solidify the union ranks in preparation for the battle for the contract.


### Union Basketball League in Making

Branch No. 38 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers (Strutwear) has sounded the call for the formation of a union basketball league. All local unions are urged to form teams and contact Pete Fagerhaug of Branch No. 38 at 1009 South 7th St. With the unions now engaging successfully in league competition in baseball and football, it seems entirely in order to invade basketball circles as well.

"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

**Nelson Welding Co.**  
 E. C. NELSON, Prop.  
 A Specialty of Truck Body Building  
 Present Location, 2520 Nicollet  
 Moving Soon—Watch for  
 New Address

**CO-OP COAL ASSOCIATION**

To the Patrons  the Profits

739 Johnson Street N. E.  
 Phone: Granville 4394

THE CO-OPERATIVE	THE CORPORATION
<b>Nature</b> Organized people.	<b>Nature</b> Organized capital.
<b>Purpose</b> To serve its members at cost.	<b>Purpose</b> To serve the public for profit.
<b>Methods</b> 1. Each member has one vote and only one vote. Democracy—the people rule. 2. Capital is paid a minimum rate of interest. Money is the servant of the people. 3. Surplus savings are distributed to the members in proportion to their patronage. The people receive the benefits.	<b>Methods</b> 1. Each share of stock has one vote. Plutocracy—money, in control of the few, rules. 2. Capital receives all the profits. Money is the master. 3. Profits are distributed among the stockholders in proportion to their holdings. Money receives the benefits.
<b>Results</b> Wealth is equitably distributed among the many.	<b>Results</b> Wealth is centered in the possession of the few.

**Meeting Schedule Local 544**

Monday, Nov. 2—Coal Workers.  
 Tuesday, Nov. 3—Block Men.  
 Thursday, Nov. 5—Independent Truck Owners.  
 Friday, Nov. 6—Job Stewards.  
 Monday, Nov. 9—General Membership.  
 Wednesday, Nov. 11—Market Workers.  
 Monday, Nov. 16—Coal Workers.  
 Thursday, Nov. 19—Independent Truck Owners.  
 Friday, Nov. 20—Job Stewards.  
 Monday, Nov. 23—General Membership.  
 Tuesday, Nov. 24—Taxi Drivers: night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.  
**GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE—Meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m.**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD—Meets every Wednesday at 9 a. m.**

**THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER**

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

**The New Regime**

Union men and women through their organizations, leading the drive against the anti-labor employers, have smashed over all obstacles and returned the Farmer-Labor Party to state power in Minnesota. Minnesota unionists voted almost as one man for what they confidently believe to be the best assurance of unrestricted rights to unionize the state.

Unquestionably many thousands among them are not altogether sure of any real help from what they call, for want of a better term, "our party." Thousands of them remember, here in Minneapolis at least, that the Farmer-Labor city ticket was given an enormous victorious vote at the last election, with the definite promises by the party:

No. 1. Not to use the police against striking union men. Violation of this promise followed within 90 days of the election. Scores of union men and women were gassed, clubbed and beaten by the police, picket lines were broken and two workers were killed by police gun fire.

Promise No. 2. To reorganize the Welfare Board, remove it from the control of Citizens Alliance stooges, and raise the relief allowances 35 per cent.

Aldermen Scott and Hudson placed upon the Welfare Board as labor members together with Mrs. Seestrom, appointed by Mayor Latimer, made an attempt to carry out this pledge. Viciously attacked by the big employer interests, these Board members fought a losing battle.

The Farmer-Labor Party, as a party, backed away from the fight and allowed Scott and Hudson to be forced from their posts. The mayor made an attempt, also under pressure from the reaction, to remove Mrs. Seestrom.

Promise No. 3. To clean out the City Council by removal of City Clerk Swanson, well known for his hatred of, and opposition to the labor movement. The mayor was still in the Council Chamber only a few minutes after his inaugural when this promise was broken by several prominent Council members elected as F-L party men. Swanson was returned to office. To date absolutely no explanation has been made by the party of its actions in scrapping the three main planks of the city election platform.

It is also well to recall the recent experiences during September and October in the Grocery and Mill strikes. Three times under the drive of the most reactionary employers in the state, threats were made to move in the National Guard to be placed under the command of Sheriff Wall. After demands by high-ranking Farmer-Labor officials, that these strikes for union recognition be called off, the state National Guard was actually mobilized; their movement against the striking union men was prevented by swift and determined action by the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council at the State Federation of Labor Convention at Cloquet.

Especially noteworthy is the history of Mayor Latimer's Employer-Employee Board, which proved to be the graveyard of so many militant union movements during the year of its existence. So detrimental to the interests of the workers were the effects of the Board maneuvers in posing as a substitute for union action, that no less a person than Republican candidate for Governor, Martin Nelson, proposed a similar board on a state wide scale.

The attitude of open hostility to this and other so-called neutral tribunals by the Drivers Union, 544, and other unions which took the same stand from the first day, eventually removed this menace to union growth and expansion.

The trade union movement has backed the Farmer-Labor Party against the old parties of reaction. The Citizens Alliance fights the trade unions and also fights the Farmer-Labor Party. The Farmer-Labor Party rests upon and has its chief points of support in the metropolitan areas of Minnesota, in the trade union movement. The Citizens Alliance and the anti-labor bosses of the state will now, after a flood of Farmer-Labor votes, try a new adaptation to the somewhat changed political lineup. To a party with practical State Power such as now rests with the Farmer-Labor Party will come in ever-increasing numbers political charlatans of all colors, claiming to be friends of the people.

Trade union men and women must take nothing for granted in the shifting American political scene. To build strong, militant unions; to keep these unions abreast of the times through a fighting policy geared to the perpetual task of raising the standard of life of the membership; to direct the attention of this membership towards a better understanding of the political parties they consider their own and also, indeed particularly, towards those they do not. This method will lead surely and speedily to greater political clarity. There is no other safe road for the trade unions.

**Keeping Step With 544**

By Mickey Dunne

**MICKEY**

Frank Searles and Ludwig Bergman, two Boyd men are bringing back deer for sure—we hope.

As we go to press there is no report from DeBoer, Rainbolt and Davidson. Maybe they are having trouble hauling back their kill.

The secretary of the bowling league failed to make schedule on the results of last week's bowling, but we want to record that the 544 office beat the Teamsters Joint Council three straight. They tried hard but the rest of the team couldn't hold up their anchor man.

Jack Smith got the answer on the question of where to get union-made diapers — and how.

Fred Dietrich has the "box lunch rash."

Janasco says the casket strike is a "dead" affair.

The wires are hot at Boyd's. Mayflower trouble again.

Pete Harris has a way about him—he sure gets results.

The executive board sent visitors to Pratt's last week. The first time in weeks. Good work, Oscar.

Floyd Evans is now at the Vet's hospital. He is pretty badly banged up.

The Nathanson Cigar had a surprise visit last week.

Local 160 is short one president—deer season.

Hallie Sellassie has shown up again at Murphy's.

Ben Koski is working for Chesapeake Brands. It's good to see you in circulation, Ben.

The 544 office is sporting some new furniture. Growing pains.

Murphy says the Dayton men are coming in so fast he can't keep up his entries in the day book. That's tough.

Zanker is sporting a new pair of pants. Looks like he was heading for a pink tea.

The tobacco drivers will meet November 17.

Looks like full steam ahead for the laundry drivers.

Local 664 put on a blow-out last Friday. Reason, wage raise.

The Local 160 entertainment committee has a surprise for the next meeting. The best way to a man's heart is through the stomach.

Oscar Gardner, Bill Ambrose and Vern Bennyhoff are competing on waistline dimension. Gardner holds a comfortable lead, or is it comfortable?

**LABOR... Looks at the Press**

By Carl O'Shea

From the Minneapolis Tribune: Repudiation of the hatred and violence that engenders wars and the hope of a warless world to come through the teachings of Christianity was the theme of a city-wide peace worship service on Armistice Day.

Lest we forget, I quote from the New York Times, May 13, 1916, describing the first Preparedness Parade: The greatest applause, however, went to the battalion of 130 clergymen, in clerical garb and American flags, under the command of Rev. Shipman of the Episcopalians, the Very Rev. James Connolly for the Catholics, and the Rev. Charles Eaton, leading the Baptists.

And on March 11, 1917, in New York City 158 congregations passed resolutions in favor of conscription and pledging support for war.

All of which goes to prove that the Golden Rule is a swell thing, but capitalism never gives it a chance to work.

The ONE way to stop war is to stop the SYSTEM that breeds war.

Major Joffre said: It costs from ten to fifteen thousand lives to train a major-general.

And the majors are all for this—if it costs every drop of our blood.

Mr. Oscar Fatts, steel magnate: The recent 10 per cent wage increase for the nation's steel workers has no relationship to the C. I. O. campaign to organize our employees in an industrial union.

**Pearson Holds Up Supplemental Coal**

At its last meeting the Welfare Board voted a ton of coal or its equivalent in fuel to each \$60.50 WPA family of three or more. The coal was not delivered. It was held up on orders of Ole Pearson. His only explanation is that several Board members requested it by phone.

When FWS representatives charged Pearson with illegality in overriding the Board's decision, he brazenly shrugged his shoulders and said, "That's what is being done."

It seems the Board has abdicated its office. Surely it has abandoned its responsibilities when it leaves Ole Pearson free to carry out orders from non-official sources. Our guess is that the Citizens Alliance and the Taxpayers associations raised hell to prevent the families of needy WPA workers from getting a little much-needed relief.

Those same "taxpayers" have just raised rents 20 to 40 per cent. As usual, they try to take everything and give nothing. This time the FWS warns those big property owners and their agents on the Welfare Board they'll not get away with it.

WPA wages can buy coal or pay rent, but not both. WPA workers will neither freeze nor permit evictions. In plain language this means NO COAL — NO RENT.

The FWS will bring the coal swindle and the whole supplemental relief question before the Farmer-Labor County Central Committee this Wednesday. The last election placed responsibility squarely upon the F-L-P. The whole Welfare Board needs immediate overhauling. We need a board that makes decisions and carries them out. Above all, the needy must be provided for—NOW.

It's up to the F-L-P to act. If it fails, the FWS will know what to do.

Of course not—and winter has no relation to autumn—except it always follows.

Washington news item: France and Italy have now joined the international agreement humanizing submarine warfare.

Oh, well—if the civilized world has decided to make it illegal for submarines to sink vessels with all hands aboard, then it won't happen again.

Springfield, Ohio, news item: The board of education voted to close Springfield schools indefinitely because of lack of funds.

It's just a beginning—the time has come when education is much too good for the common people.

Rome news item: The first battalion of an army of 150,000 soldier-workmen left today for Ethiopia, the "Paradise of Africa." Each man will receive a puppet, a pick, shovel and rifle.

Sounds like Paradise, all right.

**CORRECT SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FEDERAL WORKERS SECTION**

FWS Stewards, each Wed 7 p. m.  
FWS membership meetings, first and third Friday of each month, 8 p. m.  
FWS Leadership class No. 1, each Friday 2 p. m.  
FWS Leadership, class No. 2, each Saturday 10 a. m.  
Direct relief grievance hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 to 12 a. m.  
Federal Workers Stewards Meetings—Each Wednesday at 7 p. m.  
Federal Workers Membership Meetings—First and third Fridays of each month, at 8 p. m.