

Make Your Reservations Today for Labor's Banquet Honoring Defendants

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council
 MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

As from this hour you use your power, the World must follow you

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

5, NO. 37

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1939

FIVE CENTS

win City Rider to Pact is Approved

On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

In retrospect we live again the highlights and headlines of 1939...

January—Omaha over-the-road strike still going strong after five months... strikers defy anti-picketing law by bannering state house... Akron unionist arrested for picketing fink oil station, sentenced and fined... Omaha surrounded by iron ring of signed contracts... no White Spot operators allowed in outside terminals... Area committee enters Southwest... Tom Mooney is free, after twenty-two years...

February—Omaha strike a victory as four largest operators sign the Area pact... furniture haulers still remain adamant... 29,000 Fascists, meeting in Madison Square Garden in New York, need protection of 1,700 armed and mounted cops to hold their meeting as 100,000 workers picket the meeting... WPA lays off mothers and aged... Three unions, the butchers, truck drivers, and warehouse men strike Wilson and Son in Philadelphia... company asks injunction to prohibit unions from picketing in order to "protect the constitutional rights" of their (Wilson and Son's) finks...

March—President Roosevelt issues plea to Lewis and Green to create new "peace" committees to the end that the CIO-AFL fight might be terminated... Green appoints his committee immediately... Lewis stalls, then appoints himself chairman of the CIO committee... both men issue statements calling one another names... Sioux City drivers sign area pact with operators... Omaha pickets dismissed in court case brought after their arrest for picketing Beckin storage... Stassen reveals his colors... favors reactionary Vance-Myre bill, to hog-tie labor... AFL-CIO "peace" meetings begin in Washington... Minnesota unions rally to fight Stassen's slave labor act... special session of the Minnesota State Federation called... Martin UAW convention gets under way with very small delegation representing minority of the union present... movement begun to amend the Wagner Act... AFL and United States Chamber of Commerce both for amendment, Cleveland CIO convention of UAW convened with vast majority of membership represented... third group, composed of genuine rank and file delegates, proposes progressive nine point program, much of which is adopted...

April—Dallas Drivers strike in sixth week... color lines broken in deep south as Negro workers join strike... Sailors Union of the Pacific wins smashing victory against the federal government's fink hiring halls as Secretary of Commerce, Harry Hopkins, is forced to sign an agreement ending the Maritime Commission's fink hiring halls... Bituminous coal strike threatens... Harlan County again in uproar...

May—500,000 soft coal miners strike... pledging themselves not to dig one shovelful of coal until the bituminous operators sign the pact (Continued on page 4)

All Local 544 over-the-road drivers and dockmen held a special meeting Wednesday morning at the Drivers Hall to hear a report from Carl Skoglund on last week's meeting of the Area Over-Road Committee in Chicago, and of negotiations for the new Twin Cities rider to the area pact.

Following a discussion on the report, the men voted unanimously to ratify the pact. Tuesday the Minneapolis employers had agreed to the contract.



The new pact, to be published next week, retains for the Twin Cities the advantages won prior to the signing of the area pact. It was endorsed by the Area Committee.

Terms of the pact will be presented shortly to a meeting of St. Paul over-road drivers. Those active on the committee which negotiated the Twin Cities rider were Carl Skoglund, Tom Williams, Kurt Zander, Art Hudson, Arnold Schoenecker and Robert Fleming.

Sioux City Drivers Win Fruit Strike

Wage increases up to 33 percent, hour reductions and vacations with pay were won by the unionists in three Sioux City fruit houses as the result of a recent strike called by the General Drivers Union Local 383. Companies affected by the strike were Halsey-Neeley, Joe Rosenthal and Sherman Brothers.

Food Workers Hold Yearly Elections

The Minneapolis Food and Candy Workers Union Local 2012 held its annual elections on December 9th, choosing the following officers:

- President: Edgar Hoppentst (white ballot)
- Vice-president: Henry Sorrell
- Financial secretary: Stanley C. Miller (white ballot)
- Recording secretary: Lola Waheldon (white ballot)
- Treasurer: Claudia Harves
- Assistant Treasurer: George Walser (white ballot)
- Three-year trustee: R. S. Bloomquist
- Sergeant-at-arms: Mike Kulkay.

Progress in Negotiations With Kresge

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 reports this week considerable progress has been made in its negotiations for an agreement covering stockmen at the Kresge stores.

Highlights of Our Christmas Party



As the kiddies entered the armory last Saturday afternoon for the Christmas Party sponsored by all unions in the Drivers Hall, they were greeted by amateur Santas with gifts of candy, popcorn and cookies. In the foreground above are seen Morris Olson, Moe Hork and Bruce Vincent.



A huge 70-foot sign informed our youthful guests that their host was "Your Daddy and His Union."



Above are seen some of the Christmas Party guests lined up outside the armory, waiting for the cabs to take them home. Tired but happy, stuffed full of candy and taking home plenty for brothers, sisters and friends, these kids will always remember the 1939 Christmas Party sponsored by the eleven drivers' unions, Locals 160 and 1859.

5,200 Kids Enjoy Unforgettable Time At Christmas Party

Cab Drivers Elect 1940 Committee

Last Thursday members of the Cab Drivers Union Local 958 balloted for committeemen for the coming year, returning five of the six incumbents to office.

Re-elected were Emil Kariger, Ed Harlan, Roy Brown, Howard Miller and Edgar Smith. Sixth man to be chosen was Floyd Griggs.

Curly Goodnough, George Swanson and Earl "Pat" Seely served as election judges.

Eleven Drivers Unions, Local 160 and 1859, Give Children a Merry Christmas "From Your Daddy and His Union" —Entertainment Is Tops, Kiddies Stuffed with Sweets —Four Cab Companies, Cab Drivers, Local 160 Committee Thanked for Aid in Making Party a Success—Children Vote They Want Party as Annual Affair

Fifty-two hundred youngsters packed the Minneapolis armory last Saturday afternoon as guests of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, to attend the largest Christmas Party for children in this part of the country.

From the time the doors opened at 1:30 until the last child left at 5 o'clock, the armory was a scene of merriment and holiday cheer such as has never hitherto been seen in Minneapolis.

Each child was greeted at the entrance with presents of candy, popcorn balls and cookies. Officers of the various unions in the

Minneapolis, St. Paul Retail Bakery Drivers Gain in New Contract

Drivers Win Shorter Workday, Inside Men Win Raise—120 Men Affected in Minneapolis, 80 in St. Paul—Pact Negotiated Jointly by Locals 289, 409—Members Were Ready to Fight for Demands

About two hundred men are covered by the new retail bakery drivers' agreement signed last Friday between the Egekvist and Excelsior bakeries and the Minneapolis and St. Paul Bakery Drivers Unions, Locals 289 and 409.

Measurable gains were made for both the retail drivers and the inside men. The new agreement calls for a working day of nine consecutive hours with one hour off for lunch, making a workday of eight hours.

Drivers have been working as long as eleven and twelve hours daily. Though the work week is much shortened by the new pact, the same weekly wage of \$32.50 will prevail.

Inside men received a wage raise of \$1.30 weekly and shortened their work week from 44 to 42 hours.

Was Negotiated Jointly About 120 Minneapolis workers and 80 St. Paul men gained through the agreement which was negotiated jointly by Local 289 and Local 409. Ed Esboldt represented the St. Paul Bakery Drivers Union and Harry DeBoer and Joe O'Hare represented the Minneapolis Bakery Drivers Union in the negotiations.

Zero Hour In Laundry Dispute Near

Laundry bosses of Minneapolis were meetings Wednesday to consider the ultimatum delivered to them by the Laundry Drivers Union Local 131. At press time, there was no report on the attitude of the employers as the dispute headed for a showdown.

Members of Local 131 voted in a special meeting December 14th to instruct its negotiating committee to deliver the ultimatum.

544 Members to Ballot January 5-6, 7 a. m.-9 p. m.

In accordance with the by-laws of the union, election of officers for the coming year, 1940, will be held in Union Headquarters at 257 Plymouth Avenue, Friday and Saturday, January 5 and 6, 1940.

Voting shall be by secret ballot and the polls will be open for balloting from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Members in good standing who cannot appear at the polls on the specified days may cast an absentee ballot, which must be secured from the Election Board. The Election Judges will announce the results of the election at the regular membership meeting on Monday, January 8, 1940.

Be sure that you immediately place yourself in good standing in the union so that you may participate in the election.

KELLY POSTAL, Sec.-Treas.
 General Drivers Union Local 544

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

