STRIKE AT LA BELLE WON BY LOCAL NO. 574
Union Recognition and Seniority Rights Are Won in Three Day Tie-up
574 Decisively Defeats the Union-Busting Attempts

An agreement was signed about 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 14, between Local 574 and the La Belle Copper and Steel Company. This company, one of the largest in the industry, was hot by the union from July 29 to July 31.

The July-August strike. Since that time there has been no such thing as recognition of the rights of employees on the basis of length of service by new hiring practice for work to be assigned on a basis of favoritism which left many men and women employees sitting on the bench while new men filled in full time.

Undoubtedly the meaning of this discrimination meant the men began to realize that they had made a serious mistake in not voting to be represented by the union which had fought the battle to establish conditions for them. One by one they came into Local 574 until all but a handful were members.

Backed up by the men, the union officials went to La Belle with an agreement which provided that Local 574 should be the recognized representative of the employees. The company, however, had been drawn by the men, should be post- and not to be recognized by the company and should be recognized by all the terms of the strike agreement. Negotiations were carried on for over three weeks, but the company consistently refused to make the agreement despite the fact that the men presented a petition stating that they wanted the union to represent them.

The deadline was set for Mon- day, August 12, and the strike was called at that time. Meanwhile, four of the individuals who had been on the La Belle "favorite list" went to see Clff Hall of Local 590, an imaginary union, to see what he could do for them. Hall talked to all four men. Hall said, with the union the company would not recognize, and that Local 574 did.

But on Monday morning when Hall went to the plant, about 7 a.m., he was led through the plant on the picket line with a flag by the official of a company Certainly did, sight, they received a rude shock and quickly shuffled off. Later Hall appeared on the scene, and when he was quickly told by the pickets, in un- understandable language, what he thought of him and his union.

(Continued on page 31)

TETZLAFF PLANS NEW SCAB-HERDING ATTEMPTS
AS FLOUR CITY PLANT RECEIVES ONE MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR GOVERNMENT PROJECT

Strikers Protest Against Government Giving Work to Struck Plant and Call Upon All Workers to Help Defeat Any Attempt to Open Plant by Violence

Authentic information has been received at the Strike Headquarters of the Or- mental Metal Workers Local 1513 that the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works has been awarded a government contract by the government in Washington, D. C. All labor is aroused to heated indignation because of this govern- ment allotment to such a notorious union-hating individual as Walter Tetzlaff. This serves as a slap in the face to labor in its fight for decent living conditions for working men and women. Vigorous protests are already being sent out from every point.

The Strike Committee urges all work- ers' organizations to raise their voices in protest.

Meanwhile the vigilance of the picket line at the Flour City plant must be maintained. Any attempt by Tetzlaff to herd scabs into the plant to begin work in this project is addition to the 3,000, the Strike Committee has learned that a meeting was held between the representatives of the Citizens Alliance where the question of running scabs into the plant to be used there, working under the protec- tion of machine guns and riot guns in the hands of thugs imported from strike breaking agen- cies, was discussed. An investiga- tion committee of five was ap- pointed to make recommendations on the feasibility of this plan.

Every Minneapolis worker is called upon to rally to the support of the striking metal workers if an attempt is made to follow this line of scheme to effect.

The members of the Baker Iron Works, who are also out on strike, have been notified to come over to support the fight because the company is going out of business.

This is a very poor staff which is nothing more than an attempt to frighten the work- ers into abandoning the strike and returning to work under the miserable conditions under which they have been forced to slave. The metal workers are call- ing this bluff by strengthening the picket line at the Baker plant and they still say, "If you can't pay a decent wage, get out of the busi- ness. There is no place for you.

Subsequent to the arrest of nine men on a charge of disorderly conduct growing out of the burning of the houses of the petty tyrants of the local City plant, an amendment to the picketing ordinances was carried in the City Council which gives labor the full right to peaceful picketing and the distribution of literature anywhere within the corporate limits of the City of Minneapolis. An objection to the amendment was raised by the labor-hating bloc in

STRIKERS SPOIL TETZLAFF'S TRICK

On the morning of Wednesday, August 14, the building and architectural en- gineer, who has been 23 years in the employ of the Flour City Iron Works, received a notice from the plant through the pretext that he was going to get in some personal be- longings from the plant. When he came out, the pickets said that he had also col- lected some materials needed for him to do architectural work for the company. On Friday, August 9, the Ferris on this discovery, they in- structed him that he would have to come to the Strike Headquarters where the officers of the Strike Committee would pass on his case.

At the headquarters the archi- tect put up a vigorous argument about his personal rights and in- sisted that he was entirely within his prerogatives as a business man when he was doing the job. The Strike Committee agreed that he had a right to an opinion but was [Continued on page 31]
New Blood Is Needed

The annual convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor at Red Wing is arousing special interest since this is an election year. The question is naturally raised, "What will the labor leaders do?" The answer to this question does not redound to their personal glory. First of all, they are craft-unionists to a man and the inevitable result of this false philosophy has led them into a thousand pitfalls which have been injurious to the movement. At a time when business is tending ever more rapidly toward industrial mergers and gigantic combinations, it is nothing short of criminal for those who pose as leaders of the Labor Cause to betray the organizational tactics of horse and wagon days.

In the industrial centers of the state, the possibilities of united labor action are virtually ham-strung through the splitting of the workers into a myriad of petty craft organizations. In smaller communities, union organization is rendered utterly impossible through the same process. We understand, of course, that it does not lie entirely within the province of the Executive Council of the State Federation of Labor to eliminate these evils but the machinery involved in this process of action is revealed in the history of the fate of the workers from Minnesota since the NRA has been thrown out by the Supreme Court. Everywhere where they have had their living conditions reduced far below the NRA standards, which in themselves were poor enough.

The Minnesota State Federation of Labor, if headed by the proper kind of leaders, could do much toward building a real Minnesota Labor Movement, could do much toward making union organization an instrument capable of combating the concentration of capital and could transform the state body into a living organization of human beings into a paper organization of economic corpses. What the Minnesota State Federation of Labor needs is a new leadership. It is the task of every delegate attending the convention to see that this objective becomes an accomplished fact.

The New York Relief Strike

President Roosevelt, commenting on the general walk-out in New York City in protest against the scab wages on the Works Progress projects, says, "This isn't a strike. The construction workers have simply returned to their homes.”

We beg to disagree. It is a strike and the workers have not returned to work. They are not marketing the jobs and calling out more workers, both unemployed and employed. Labor in New York is today in the vanguard in a fight which is for the common good of every worker in the U.S.A. Labor's decisions with their long vaunted policy of "rewarding their friends and punishing their enemies" in the political arena failed miserably in their attempt to place a decent living wage into the legislation out of which emanated the W. P. A. This war in the New Deal is attempting to saddle upon the workers the newly formed works projects is a direct, vicious and immediate threat at the economic security of every worker. Labor has no alternative but to meet this attack with its only effective weapon, a strike.

In Minneapolis we, too, are faced with the necessity of struggle against this program. It must be placed upon the order of the day in the Federal Workers Section of Local 574, which is the vanguard of the wholesale workers of Minneapolis, and a determined fight must be carried on to protect the gains made by American labor through many years' struggle and at a cost of many lives.

Tetzlaff Planning Violence Renewal

The city council, headed by Alder- man Robert Van Valkenburg, on this occasion the amendment must be passed upon at a second reading. However the matter is law. Undaunted by this infringement upon their civil rights, the merchants, according to the City Council's minutes, "appealed to the City Council for an explanation of resident neighbors who will know them for what they are," and on August 16, a meeting was held in the vicinity of the home of A. C. Tetzlaff, 6516 Main Avenue South, which was attended by over thirty citizens, laborers, together with strike sympathizers and representatives of Gustafson's neighbors, who were there to explain the situation and the unprovoked assault. A second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, at 8 p.m. on the corner of 22nd Street and 39th Avenue South, where Minneapolis will be informed of Richard Scherer, and what he stands for.

Five of the nine pickets arrested for peaceful picketing have been released on $1,000 bonds despite evidence clearly showing that they were guilty of no offenses whatever. This is the appeal for these convictions to the State Supreme Court. The strikers were arrested in 22nd Avenue South by the judge of the 22nd Circuit Court, who has promised to hear the case in the Court House at 22nd East Franklinton. They have been allowed to improve daily and everywhere on the picket line tomorrow is heard that this strike is going to be won, it takes all winter.

La Belle Strike Won by Drivers

(Continued from page 1) public service. None of them have a chanty, but an unignorable conviction.

During the day three of those who were arrested were brought before the executive board and reinstated in Local 574 with a stiff penalty. The fourth has not been seen since Monday morning. On the third was found at the CLU headquarters in the company of Cliff Hall. When the pickets made the demand that this man come to the union hall, Cliff Hall called the police, who arrested the two and the CLU called for police protection, accompanied by the hoss of the other business. The CLU then raised the unfortunate worker whom he had let down to his dignity. After a three-day tie-up in which nothing was moved and all things were done, the La Belle Company signed the contract. They met the demands of the union demands, and gave the wage scale which the New Deal is attempting to saddle upon the workers in these newly formed works projects is a direct, vicious and immediate threat at the economic security of every worker. Labor has no alternative but to meet this attack with its only effective weapon, a strike.

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Meeing Schedule

Wednesday, August 21: Ice Drive Friday, August 23: Federal Work- er Strike Monday, August 26: Full Members Tuesday, August 27: Taxi Drive Wednesday, August 28: Checker Drivers Thursday, August 29: August 1, p.m.; July drivers, 7 p.m. Friday, August 30: Federal Work- er Strike

Labor Looks at Economic Scheduling

Patrick Hurley, Hoover's secre- tary of war, before the senate utility lobby committee: "The Ac- tivated Credit endeavors to put people on the job as quickly as possible, and many people are employed, but in many cases the job is one which is not of particular importance. . . ."

For 25 grand, a guy could see a lot of things.

"... Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, on her 75th birthday: "All we Republicans are coming back to our country."

But you won't find the welcome sign.

Angela, Louisana: "Five convicts died in the prison yard here yesterday, where it was 104 in the shade."

Senior Long's state must cer- tainly have a humanitarian penal system.

J. S. Joseph, welfare board member: "The plan of reduced relief is socially and economically impossible. . . ."

Politics doesn't enter into my views on this matter. I am simply expressing the point of view which any civic-minded citizen would take.

A citizen of which class, Mr. Joseph, or your work- ing class?

William Green, MAY, 1935: "This legislation (the Wagner Labor Disputes Act) will make the workers the nation economically free."

William Green, AUGUST 1935: "The scope of the Wagner act is limited. It does not apply to all industry and labor. Don't expect too much from it."

Controlled Economy Department of Agriculture re- port: "Less milk and milk prod- ucts were consumed in 1934 than in any year.

Hearst's Daily Mirror: "America's real salvation lies in the hands of the farmers, the founders of the nation, are quietly evolving a plan to strength- en the etide farmer against the invasion of people possessing socialistic ideas."

People read that fashionable families at Newport, Bar Harbor and other smart resorts are planning brilli- ant dinners for fashionable guests. In the case of the latter, there is no evidence that American aristocrats are forgetting the dangers that threaten the country from Communist sources."

Famous Last Words: "Why, there's nothing to bargain about these people don't work for me, they just work for me."

Sioux Falls: "Mitchell Robertson, 46, a vagrant, garbage himself with a handicapschent, hopelo a double electric light cord about his neck and hanged himself."

Greenville, Conn.: "An estate valued at over 100,000 was left by the late Percy A. Rocke- feller, filing of the inventory dis- closed Wednesday.

Colonel Frank Knox, labor-hating Governor: "In any program of the Republican party in 1936 must come that first essen- tial to the government anywhere in a balanced budget."

Sound government for you, may- be, but not for the workerman.

"It seems like old times to see the bosses' ads appearing in the newspapers here again."

"I am in favor of flexible wage scales."

"And in the months of April, May and June, 1935, the General Mo- tors Corporation showed a net profit of $52,219,467."

Hunger is about that same thing in a repugnable as in a dispensable. They're not even heebie jeebies unhap- py about the hungry slave and a hungry freeman.

Union Notes

William S. Brown and V. R. Dunn will be sent to the conven- tion of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor at Red Wing to speak before that body on behalf of Local 574 and urge that it support us in our fight.

The sand, gravel and building material companies will soon be apprised of the fact that they will be expected to live up to the agreement that ended the drivers' strike.

The Drivers' Union is really a union town with the lee situa- tion.

Don't be the hand of a union man that thinks you have to count your full duty when you pay your union dues. The house that is as old as the labor movement. Personal prom- ises are only good when en- forced by a powerful union of the workers.

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