Furniture Workers Union Wina Sit-Down Strike in Factory

Get All Demands When Owner's Agreement Is Binding

The members of Furniture Workers' Union Local 1859 have written a new chapter in Minnesota labor history, as they sit-strike their victorious three-day sit-down strike. On March 12 the J. R. Clark Co. discharged a union member, Walter Lehman, for all his union activities. The union, however, contended that Lehman had been arbitrarily fired by the foreman and demanded that he be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the agreement. The company flatly refused stating, "The case is closed."

The union thought otherwise. Every other demand of action exhausted, a strike was called on March 22. The company issued statements to the press charging that the union was violating the agreement and forbidding the "Picker Board" (Latenic Em- ployer-Employee Board). The company union hung tight, and on the third day of the strike, the company agreed to meet with the union and submit to arbitration in accordance with the agreement. The company fur- nish agreed, in writing, that all in future the worker would be removed from the payroll until the union agreement was canceled and, if necessary, the case taken to arbitration. Aware that a strike would be called, the company officials were surprised to see the workers file into the plant on the morning of the 23rd. But they were even more surprised when they discovered the workers were prepared to start production. The strikers had a new agreement and the union was still in force. The charge against the foreman was in full force. The doors of the offi- cers of the company were barred, the outside doors were guarded. Only the friends of the strikers were allowed through the gates. No boxes were allowed.

Out of the 300 men involved, only one proved to be a weakling. He bowed for "liberty." A com- mittee of the union was sent to the door and invited him to help himself to all the "liberty" he wanted. The remaining 299 stood firm and proceeded to find ways and means of exercising their rights. In two days and two nights stay in the plant (sit-down strikers just sit and sit, day and night) an impromptu band was organized, speaking prose throughout the day and the night, and the manufacture of improve

Unemployed Members

Members of Local No. 574 who are now on either direct relief or on WPA will find it to their advantage to register themselves at the union office without delay. Calls are coming from drivers for places and other members of the union who will have to be employed on WPA. We urge all members of the union and all those who register to join for this work.

Milwaukee Newswoman Tells of Police Fury in Guild Strike

Milwaukee—Soaring under the strikebreaking tactics used by the police against Guildmen and their sympathizers Saturday, workers here today prepared to demonstrate that "they can't throw labor around and get away with it."

Union men of the city, rioted to white heat by the raving and manhandling of several women in the crowd (one woman was set upon by five burly policemen) pledged themselves to "turn up the town" for next Saturday's mass demonstration at the Heart-of- Wisconsin News, etc.

The state of the nation and the expectations, brought to light by the WPA, was called for this week.

Rising Tide of Organization

The Rising Flood of Organization

DECLARATORY

As we go to press comes the news that hundreds of Southern and Great Swindle, leaders of Local 1735 of the Morris and Farnese, N. D., were convicted in Judge Page's court on the charge of "resisting an officer in the performance of his duties." The charge grew out of last year's strike in Fargo. They have not yet been sentenced. Details will be printed next week.

Sash Workers To Meet Friday

Secretary of Labor

Friday, April 3 there will be a meeting of all sash workers, Local 954 and the District Board of Sash Workers. The meeting will be held in General Distribu- tory, 255 Plymouth Avenue. This meeting is required for all members in the Sash Door and Mill Industry. This is a strike, and all sash and door plants are being held under the auspices of the Sash Door and Mill Workers Union. This organization, which has been in existence for about two years, has decided to seek the help of Local No. 574 in spreading its activities so as to be able to take in its ranks the majority of workers in this industry.

The union points out that wages in the sash and door mills are fully 40 per cent lower than in the 1929 wages levels. With the cost of living having increased, an impetuous that upward adjustment is long overdue for those workers. They point out very logically, that only a strong industrial union can bring about this result. And such a union is so desperately needed by the workers.

The committee in charge of the arrangements of the mass meeting have promised an interesting and informative speaking program. It

is sure that every worker in the industry will be present. Everyone, sash, door and mill worker in the city is invited to attend.

The meeting is free. There will be no collection.

Endorsed Slate Includes But One Member of Labor

Local 574 Delegates Are Seated As Labor Opposition

The State Farmer-Labor Con- vention ended shortly before day- light Sunday, March 29. Instead of being the stormy controversial gathering that had been anticipated, it proved to be a fairly tame affair. The main points of dispute were minor, and the party was both stable and strong.

Mr. Gayle Is Hospital Patient

Mrs. Gayle, wife of Mr. Gayle, a long-time member of the Blackfoot Indian tribe, is seriously ill in the General Hospital. Stricken on March 28, she was removed to the hospital on the same day. So seri- ously was her condition that mem- bers of the family were summoned home from Chicago, Wisconsin and other points. Mr. Gayle wishes to thank the union and its mem- bers for the many kindnesses shown him during his wife's illness.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town
The U.S. National Labor Policy

Petroleum Workers Want Co-operation

Petroleum Workers Union Local 960 have made a very reasonable request upon members of our local union to consider carefully the letter recently received from the Independent Truck Owners. Their letter asks that the union members consider making contracts or price agreements with the large oil companies to work out a fair price for the local market. The letter points out that conditions existing for the delivery of crude oil are changing making a local base for a price war disastrous.

They state that the amount of actual money saved in this manner is very small but that it is more important that agreements are to place amicable relations with the labor-hating oil companies who use these weapons against the organized worker.

We feel that it is only correct that the Abraham Lincoln trucks, the others, before making contracts or for oil and gasoline, should consult with the representatives of the Oil Workers Union. They are located at 691 East Lemonade.

A Journey Through the East and What We Saw

By Farrell Dobbs

The most surprising experience enjoyed by the Local 274 commit- tee which was sent east to visit the national leadership of the Oil, was the way in which movement to learn of the popular national support which this strike and what was being called—and we talked with many important leaders of the situation in Pittsburgh and other cities, through the General Drivers' Union was known and admired. Although they knew not exactly what we have done—this they knew—but what the union intended to do—next. They expressed satisfaction with our account of the present better working condition of 574 and its excellent prospects.

In every big industrial center we found the workers and the pro- labor organizations and leaders in very good spirits. All were highly con- vinced over the new possibilities of industrial democracy with the new opening up for them through the strong movement for industri- al unionism. They were intelligent leaders and the overwhelming majority of workers in big and small industry are completely convinced of the ridiculousness of craft unionism. They tell you convincing stories to show that their beliefs are not based on pure theory.

A union is created in a steel plant. At the time in question this was a rubber plant—it matters not whether it is the story the same. All the workers band together in one embracing unit. They prepare to do battle to prevent the employers from being able to drive a wedge between them and to fight for higher wages, shorter hours, a decent place to work, and the right of the men of the world to union a movement like this which has never before been seen.

And there are no more words. Beginning with a series of sit- down strikes, the workers in the steel plant in question have led the way in this movement. They have shattered the fetters which restrained them, and, of course, they are trying to win the battle. The line that they have taken, the determination to remain un- combined with militant struggle. No- body scabbarding on a craft union until that is the only way to win the battle. They are fighting for it all and on the picket line. The picket line is the great battle line. They have liked very much to hold this union, but they did not dare. All the forces were on this side. The le- sson to be drawn from such action and battle is that the workers are in control of the situation. The strike of the building serv- ices workers in New York is a see- dly affair. The movement to be made is the same.

The strike spread like wildfire. Elevator operators, carpe- nters, janitors, every one, have a winner'sGithub.com. The campaign is one of one and fighting very effectively, including the real estate cases.

The craft unionists do not like these manifestations; they do not like the zest with which the work- ers take to the idea of industrial unionism. It is the very zest in which the workers support the movement. Even Tilden in a rather peaceful way, says "it is a great thing that the craft unionists are doubling back on the old fashioned union, and it is certainly in my way his spirit is half the battle in recovering from an ill- ness which he has experienced. We are using up our strength, and the spirit is half the battle in recovering from an ill- ness which he has experienced. We are using up our strength, and the spirit is half the battle in recovering from an ill-

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The Railroad Unions

Program Recommendations for the Coming B. of L. E. Convention

The B. of L. E. Convention is coming within the next few weeks, and it is three years between each Convention. This is the third Convention for all progressives in: How well organized and prepared are the different unions, and which will attend this Convention? Are they prepared to go into the Convention with one voice, or can they get a program upon which they have agreed in advance. These are questions that are very important for every progressive union.

Let us see right at the beginning what principal the progressive unions should stand for. This is the most basic one: If progress is to take place the progressive minority must have a program when they are in complete control of the Convention upon which there has been previous discussion and decided upon. If, and only if, they do not have a program which is not progressive but more inclusive, will the grass be growing and drawing their pay.

Wage Progress, Minority or Majority in the B. of L. E. Convention? What program of good or bad do you want to see acted upon now? Have they previously met and do they know what steps they can act in concert at the Convention? The results at the Convention will be decided at the Minneapolis Railroad Program for the B. of L. E.

The Minneapolis Railroad Council all delegates, follow this letter to the conventions of all to B. of L. E. Divisions and Delegations:

2. Resign, according to Sec. No. 55, statute and enact free speech clause in its place.
3. Vote for the Ritual. It contains the worst kind of mental evil and the most important part of membership. One would think from reading the B. of L. E. ritual that the Union was the last to be founded in dark ages. The ritual also contains vicious habits of the time in which the B. of L. E. is entrenched.
4. Abolish all political and all legislative Lobby. This is not a thing and a bureaucratic racket, but it is the only means by which B. of L. E. to the formation of a political partly based on a correct working class program.
5. Unconditional amalgamation with the international which means the terminals supported and attended by our Grand Officers and General Convention, the work of the councils of the American Labor Union.
6. Oppose any proposal to levy a blanket subscription on the B. of L. E. Past for the welfare of the railroad workers. B. of L. E. is concerned. Have the Convention go on record favoring an extension of the C. L. O. in which workers may register and exchange ideas and influence leadership. Under the present editorial policy the labor paper is practically a nonentity, and is, therefore, practically misleading. It has no definition of the work of the workers on anything except to keep them saddled with the craft system and its leadership and to...

Milwaukee Newsman Tells of Police Terror in Gold Strike

Membership Meeting

Wichita, April 1. "Our work here will be the first of a series of protests made by the organizers for the Cleaners, Drivers, and Warehousemen of Wichita. The district meeting of April 2, 1905 and 153, Railroad representatives, and a large body of women workers who attended the meeting in April to bring pressure on the Police Department for the needed laundry and dry cleaning facilities. There are strong feelings among women workers, the union, to the meeting. All of the workers who are in the district will be taken in at this time.

Market Workers Plan Campaign

The organization committee of the Market Workers Section of Local 574 met with representatives of the market employers was discussed and plans made for locally drafting proposals for the terms of the renewal agreement. The principal topics discussed at the meeting had to do with the house janitors, the penalties for the employers in the time. It was agreed not to proceed with the representation on this year only a few in the community. The house janitors are not set of special composition, this to be a move in the right direction. Power Supply, News. paper, stands on porch railing in the office. The way to get the support of the workers a voice. They use it to appeal for appeal. He starts to inform that crowd that a delegation is to be made to the county board. Suddenly the doors burst open. We are going to have a new way of fighting. Two or three men who, cops, файоу, quotation marks and the surprising crowd. "Get out. Move your manufacturing magnates who is janned by police pressure because there is the same thing as can't move." They pick the bar up, throw her between the doors. Five policemen seize another woman; one has her by the throat. Attempting to defend her, several men pand right down a hill with a parking lot to the right doors of half the miller's crowd is broken.

Well-known Fact Dept.

When Meyer Lewis was asked on the witness stand, by the Strickland delegation, if an incident of the Auraria massacre was going to fizzle the labor movement, he said "I don't say so don't mean by no, Meyer, Yes!"

At that, you gave it the old college try. cast their votes for Capitalist pol.

at.

7. No skipping of Conventions like the B. of L. E. and the B. of L. E. leadership put on over their membership. The Firemen have had a Convention since 1901 in spite of the fact that their constitution calls for a regular convention. Don't permit this to happen in the B. of L. E. International.

8. Serve our demands concerning, and the six hour day, pensions, etc., on the employer directly. The employers agree behind these demands, and distinguish the present protective policy of looking to Congress to get these things for us. We have no more to see with Congress and we have to means to influence the employer if we have no influence that will use it.

If the above, together with the aid of the workers, the force of the force and effect of the delegates at the convention, of the Dominating Labor Union, the Locomotive Engineers' Union will point the way out from this organization and hopeless division and furnish inspiration to every other union of the executive board.

Vicious Attack in Union Advocate Answered by General Drivers Union

Slander in St. Paul Paper Inspired by A. F. of L. Leaders

Ordinary mob organization by the labor leaders of the St. Paul strike is to protect the railroad workers. They have become a target for the railroad workers. The newspaper for the strike was the Minneapolis Newsman. The Newsmen are affiliated to the B. of L. E.

The Buffalo, N.Y., Labor Federation. They have called a meeting for April 22, at 8 p.m., in the E. A. E. O. Hall.
Mrs. Struthers Talks

If there was anyone who doubted the true feelings of the bosoms of the right-thinking workers, such doubts were completely removed by the testimony of Mrs. Flor- ence Struthers, whose name is inseparable from the Washington, D.C., convention trial. Mrs. Struthers very bluntly stated that she had no sympathy with the idea of the workers having the right to strike as a means of political change. In other words, she looks upon the workers in her plant as chattel slaves who have been permitted to exercise freedom of action only when this will not conflict with the selfish interests of Mrs. Struthers.

Struthers had a very frank and the Federal court replevin action, which recently precipitated trouble at the plant, was a deliberate move to get materials through the picket line for production of their business and transfer to the so-called Peacock Knitting Co. at St. Joseph. The Machinists executives mulled out at the time that this whole action was a fake.

Mr. Lewis provided a touch of comedy to the hearing when he said, "No George, that is Minneapolis for a "red purge." He wriggled mightily with "undocumentable" elements which he gave to the press last fall stating specifically that this was the main object of his visit. Meyer is finding his "purging" business to be a nagging chore.

The Strutwader strikers are reported to be closely studying the case in Local 1839 at the J. R. Clark Co. The sharp contrast between the politics of these labor unions and the effectiveness of their programs has given rise to much serious thought.

The Coal Industry

Now that the coal season is drawing to a close, it is to be expected that Local 105 of the United Mine Workers will be directed toward an effort to block the renewal of the 574 agreement. The employers are fully conscious of the advantage which they gain from the unwritten and unprincipled tactics by Local 221, and they have already given some indication that they intend to try to exploit this situation.

Local 105 members are confidant that they can "steal" the coal industry from 574 by offering the coal bosses a "acceptable" agreement than that presented by Local 574. This is nothing more and nothing less than organizing workers from a strong union into a weak union through fear. When the price of coal is reduced, the coal bosses will try to organize them just as any other strikebreakers.

Before the Decision

Before the decision of the judge is handed down, in the Strutwader injunction suit, it is important that the workers see for themselves, to leave in mind a general outline of course of action for the workers to be in a position to decide is to change the law to the lowest point. The possibility of the injunction suit may result in consideration of all future plans in the coal industry. The strike in the near future. There is little doubt that the same sort of a decision would be given in this case. Taking this fact into consideration it is important that the workers and their families for themselves this eventuality. Plans must be made to carry on the industry in the event of a legal obstacle that are placed in the way. This will be the cause of the unions if there will be no action in the courts. The unions have been crippled with injunctions and restraining orders, legal obstacles, in some cases, have been won in spite of the circumstances. In our opinion too much time has already been lost by the workers in embracing the threats. It is only honest to say that the Strutwader strike has reached a desperate stage in spite of the union's standpoint. No pains, effort, or expense should be spared. More than ever, militancy and action should be the watchword for all to the most naive observer of strike affairs throughout the country. It will be the job of the entire movement to proceed in such a manner as will secure that assistance.

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

John Shef, militant member of the United Mine Workers, who has been in the hospital for the past month suffering from a serious heart ailment, is again on his feet and delighted his friends Monday by appearing at the union meeting apparently completely recovered.

The inquiring reporter has unearthed the information that the miner is in such fine shape. "One more sure vote in the Tonelage word," says Irving.

Sash, Door and Mill Workers Unite in a committee of twenty at the union meeting Sunday afternoon. M. B. Dunne met with the delegation from the St. Paul Trudres and Labor Assembly looked mighty foolish when they heard that the Credentials Committee had seated Local 574 delegates. They threatened to withdraw if that was the final decision. Horace, they stayed there.

Since we published the editorial in the previous issue of this paper our constitution and by laws have received several document requests from the Miners' Union for a copy of our constitution, it is a sound working class document.

Y. R. Dunne has been in Montana for the past ten days. For sale or trade, four-room house at 204 Cedar Avenue. Furnace hot, well water and electric service. Will take $350 for mortgage against property. Will take $250 for equity or will trade for major tool or equipment. 2404 16th Avenue South, at or under contract.

Mrs. Struthers, on the stand, said that she was "not a syndicalist" and would not agree with the rules of conflict bargaining." Who in the hell ever heard of that?" she asked.

Joe Davis, Second Avenue wine merchant, was an ardent defender of John Abingdon judging from the looks you could see them Sabbath morning. Moral bosses in the store.

Several of the smaller transfer companies have completed unionization during the past two months.

Many drivers on the Belt Line project have left to work on the Rose Brothers Trucks.

The Federal Workers' record are set in stone in a place by All Russell.

The J. R. Clark boys are jubilant over their victory.

Brother Carlin, of the Independent Truck Owners, was a conviction winner Saturday afternoon.

A long and interesting report has been received from William E. Jones of the Federal Workers Transfer Department.

574 Band Credit To Drivers Union

The new 574 band is going about what the band is doing it is organizing itself in a manner which will help the company, and it indicates that it is going to be one of the most interesting bands that have been. It is an idea on how to suffice them that they can be done with a fine appearance when all their bands are realized.

The band gave a fine performance at the recent mass meeting in spite of the fact that it had very little opportunity for previous practice. The maestro, Dick Ather- ton, deserves much credit for this splendid initiative in launching this commendable project.

Erber Will Speak Thursday, April 3rd

Ernest Erber, National Chair- man of the 574 People's Labor in League, will speak at 681 3rd, Friday, 8 p.m., April 3. No admission is charged to hear this sensational young speaker who has made a good deal of the socialist youth movement. Erber, in his early twenties, has been a regular member of the labor movement. He is known court to speak as a lending spokesman for the Socialist posi-

tion employment of Native Class Unioners will be published in an early issue.

Bill Grey, an officer of 574 for many years, is a frequent visitor to the St. Paul office and is a member of the Federal Workers Section.

The Farmer-Labor convention was a good demonstration of the widespread friendship that will our union has established. Large delegations of delegates from all the state branches have been coming to the convention that they would fight to the end to have seated.

Local 160, Northern States Labor, will have their regular constitutional meeting in the union hall Sunday night.

With sorrow and regret we announce the death of George H. Sweeney, militant fighting member of Local 574. He was seriously wounded in both hands by the local of the WPA Drivers and Auto Mechanics' Union. He had his left arm put back to the top of a box car in St. Paul. He was burned Saturday.

The Federal Workers Section is happy to announce their convention by G. Dunne and D. Bartlett.

The Raymond Bros. boys are off to St. Paul.

Local 120, St. Paul Drivers Union, is going to move to the St. Paul Labor Temple. Their new home will be the center of many meetings.

SOCIETY NOTE

The Sixth Street Grandpas were over to see the Governor's surprise. They were served punches, and good times were had by all.

The picture of William Brown and family, which appeared in Sunday's paper, was taken, we understand, at the moment when he was pledging Olson to the negro vote.

Don't miss the article by F. Dubois, on his visit to G. I. O. that appears in this issue.

LABOR... Looks at the Press

Angola County Council of Labor
Columbus Heights, Minnesota

Federal Section
207 Plymouth Avenue N.

Dearest Brothers:

We are members of the Angola County Council of Labor want the united labor organizing for the interest of our member. Harry Stanbery, will have the pleasure of greeting you in this case. Respectfully yours,

Records Secretary.

St. Cloud Linemen

Make Up Lost Time

Linemen employed by the Northern States Power Co. in St. Cloud who are employed on a monthly basis at $150 per month are now being compelled to make up for time that was lost, due to inclement weather during the past month.

They are granted work five 9-hour days and one 8-hour day during the past two weeks of this month. Each week, 13 hours of the lost time.

During the NRA making up lost time by workers employed on a regular job is not compulsory. At the conclusion of the NRA Mr. Pack sent out a circular letter regarding the working conditions would not be possible by the ending of the National Recovery Act. The 574 Linemen should organize and pre- sume to the law that is clearly a violation of their rights.

George Barretts' Daughter

The daughter of George Barrett, of Golden Valley and a member of Local 574, suffered the loss of his little girl last Saturday night. She died Sunday. She was buried Tuesday in St. Peter. Funeral services were held at noon, 1 p.m., supplemented by a later service.

Jean is survived by her mother, her father, three brothers and a brother. The union extended sympathy to the Barrett family.

by 13 Percent Advance in Wages

No bad idea— workers get higher wages—fighting not yet over— and to wage a good fight today, workers need industrial unions.

Mrs. Jane of the National Woman's Organizing Committee, said: "It is unnecessary to point out to American workers the menace to women's minimum wage law applying to them alone."

The second bit of social se-

curity is a real threat of the day."

Kenosha, Wis., news item: "Gustav Toclik took a day off from his job to work on the Four Square restaurant that fell from a scaffold, broke his back, and died.

That ought teach him a lesson."

Madison, Wis.: "Governor Philip LaFollette today brought 700 members of the National Guardian Society, nearly 100 WPA strikers to raise the demands of the state government. The strikers

"The LaFollette Progressives the workers about what Lai-

cie gave us in Minneapolis. There's a lesson in all this."

The Nation's Morals, as examined by Judge "Bernard Wilson, 19 years old, choked a candy shop of $8, then returned home. He didn't need it, was held for a mental examination today by Judge J. M. Braude."