MASS MEETING IS ATTENDED BY TRUCKERS

St. Paul Truck Drivers Hear Local 574 Program Outlined

The first public meeting conducted by Local No. 574, in St. Paul, was held Thursday evening in the German-American Hall, 444 Rice Street. Despite the fact that this meeting had received no newspaper publicity and had been poorly advertised, a good crowd was in attendance. Between 250 and 300 workers were on hand when the meeting opened.

For an hour after the chairmanship opened the meeting, the audience was entertained by music furnished by the Local 574 Band. William Brown, who acted as chairman of the meeting, called it to order and said that the purpose of the gathering was to attempt to find some manner in which the difference in wage scale and working conditions that exist between the two towns could be leveled.

Brown showed that during the organizational drive of 1933 a similar attempt had been made to set up a Drivers Local that would take in the workers from both towns. He said that this move had been defeated by the officials of the Teamsters International.

The conditions that now exist are on a much bigger scale than the condition of the trade union bureaucracy and, Brown said, that the situation could only be remedied when some sort of joint action by the two locals was undertaken.

Ted Rogers, steward at the Murphy Transfer Co., was the next speaker. He clearly outlined the contradictions that exist in the midwestern district and urged that the (Continued on page 1)

Madden Drivers Thank Local 574

Madden Bros., Inc., 2277 Ford Road St. Paul, Minnesota April 6, 1936

The Executive Board

Local 574

257 Plymouth Ave. N.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Members of the Executive Board:

We, the drivers of the Madden Bros. Inc., take pleasure at this time in thanking you one and all for your past co-operation with the solving of an agreement with our company.

Everybody in general, we believe, is more than satisfied at this time with their working conditions. In the future conditions may arise where we can again better ourselves as members of Local 574.

Thanks to Local 574, and you can rest assured that we will do our part in living up to our Local.

Sincerely yours,

THE DRIVERS OF MADDEN BROS.

Steward, Larry Davidson

Meyer Lewis is still in Washington.

Birthday Issue of Organizer Will Be Published on April 22

The April 22 issue of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER will mark the halfway point in the progress of the Northwest's most militant publication. It will be the third birthday issue for the ORGANIZER. Just 12 months ago, at the time our charter was revoked by the Drivers International, the first regular weekly edition of the ORGANIZER made its appearance. No one, not conversant with the struggles of a labor publication to maintain itself, can realize the bitter fight that has been waged to place the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER in the mails each week.

The accomplishments and tribulations endured by those who were charged with the responsibility of editing and publishing our little paper have been more than repaid by the splendid response that has greeted every issue. The history of the growth of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER is a story in itself. That story will be told in the anniversary edition.

The third birthday issue, of April 22, will be eight pages. It will contain numerous pictures, cartoons, a history of the union and many other interesting articles and features. The editorial staff plan on making the anniversary number an edition that will be worthy of the event we are celebrating. Watch for the birthday number.

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Coal Mining Labeled Dangerous Industry

Coal mining was the most dangerous of industrial jobs in Illinois the first six months of 1935 with 34 deaths and 21,884 non-fatal accidents. Metal and metal product industries were next with 18 deaths but 2,682 non-fatal accidents.
SABOTAGE AGAINST TOLEDO AUTO STRIKERS TOLD BY UNION MEMBER

The recent militant strike of the rubber workers in Akron (see Organic, March 9) ruffled a battle in the rubber industry. It is also a victory for labor, according to the strikers, and the "all automobiles be fixed!" Auto strikes usually in the spring, and some of the leaders of this battle of the rubber workers have been fired. First of all the spectacular strikes from which a new high, General Motors' employment has risen to 1,200,000, Ford's strike, the sale of cars by 34 percent, and the General Motors strike. Out of the strike, the motor houses gave a ten percent wage increase or 5 cents an hour. Interesting to know that ten percent more men produce 10 percent more cars. This is not as well known in Detroit as the spring-up speed.

Every year now in the spring there has been a strike or threat of strike in auto, and each year they fizzle. But this time the story may be different. The reason for this is that a new high, General Motors' employment has risen to 1,200,000, Ford's strike, the sale of cars by 34 percent, and the General Motors strike. Out of the strike, the motor houses gave a ten percent wage increase or 5 cents an hour. Interesting to know that ten percent more men produce 10 percent more cars. This is not as well known in Detroit as the spring-up speed.

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The first job of strike-breaking pulished in the Chevrolet General Motors, strike last year was with the work of the president of the Amer. He left his post, in his pocket a strike vote of the Federal Auto Union while the peak strike vote at one indication of labor's increasing strength. Only 200,000 workers waited for 10 years, by the strike of the important part of its "industrial tree". Mr. Green had with Mr. But last year almost 2,000 workers in the key Chevrolet transmission plant at Toledo struck, and tied up the plant like a drum. Not even the general manager could "turn it into a plant." Immediately Bill Green, the president of General Motors, offered his "merial support" to the strikers, and with the other union leaders, the "strikers of the strike". They think the workers are worth at least 15 percent more than the Green-Dillon machine. Dillon made a grand tour of the automo- ble cities telling everyone it was "local condition" and not to concern himself with the local. He said the Toledo boys were just "putting on a circus." widows and orphans was offered by the General Motors Corporation and the Morgan bank did not. They went everywhere as strike protection taken care of, mobilized their 200,000 auto workers in other cities and turned away from the workers. But the strike of the Chevrolet transmission plant was not a strike in the sense of "wage" and "strike." It was a strike for the "rights of the union members.

A general strike threat is a "smoke screen" that promises to be successful net to the union. But against it, Green and Dillon, with the other automobile leaders backed out. They told the workers to go back to work.

BILL BROWN

Yellow Notes

William Stimson, who is still living at the Elyo hospital, wishes to extend his appreciation to all who have contributed to his fund, and wishes all the boys luck with the new cars.

Look out, boys, keep your eig- nes in your pocket, here come Buck Chambers.

Did you see that new Yellow Turtle that crossed the road? And does the public like 'em! "Why, they just don't ride nothin' else these days!"

"The trying times get pretty wet this week.

If the committees are going to get as much grief each week to the secretaries as the half of the committee will be get- ting just as gray headed as the other half.

Look out for "Shooping Bain," he is the editor, you know, of those "Worldly Notes."

Max Silver is still working to- ten on 4 to 2 shift.

B. O. Hansen forgets to come to the garage.

Enemies Complain About Treatment

Of late, it has come to our at- tention that certain enemies of the union have been in- volved in a campaign of en- mities against us. Black Cloud, and Reporters have been characterized as worst traitors. We have to be on the lookout for all sorts of schemes and plans.

The first point we want to make is that the union is the most powerful organization of labor in the country. We have to be on the lookout for all sorts of schemes and plans.

The columns of an honest la- bor publication never contain enough space to describe the activities of labor organi- zations. But, on the other hand, we know of only one way to fight an avaried enemy. That is, by waging a merciless attack against such a person. To be placed on the defensive is to occupy the weaker position. In the history of the labor movement, the histories of people who, coming from widely different walks of life, have united to fight for the cause. They were a famous French and a famous American prize fighter. They both said, "When in doubt, attack."

A CARD OF THANKS

Thank you all so very, very much for your kind words.

THANKS

Arthur Thompson wishes to thank the men and all of his friends for their kindness and sympathy. He has been doing very well since his operation. We wish him the best of luck in his recovery.

LORIEN BARRATT & FAMILY

Cedar Lake Will Put All Drivers On Commission

Local 221, Ice and Coal Drivers, has been organized, which will probably lead to complete liquidation as a factor in the local trade union movement. The Executive Board, surrendering to the pressure of the circumstances, has signed an agreement which puts almost every driver of that company on a commission basis. A more stupid step cannot have been taken by those in charge of the union. The leadership of the city is quite complete, and has no idea of what is going on. They have been deceived by the false promises of the ice company, not on a daily basis.

The new agreement instead of the fixed weekly wage, which has been established over a period of years, is for the drivers on a commission basis. The contract calls for a minimum of the Cedar Lake Company $3.50 per ton for every ton of that company's ice, starting next week. This will be the worst feature. The agreement also provides for the trucks to receive delivery equipment from the ice company, not on a daily basis, but on an hourly basis.

In the interests of the workers, the new contract is not in the interests of the workers. The new agreement instead of the fixed weekly wage, which has been established over a period of years, is for the drivers on a commission basis. The contract calls for a minimum of the Cedar Lake Company $3.50 per ton for every ton of that company's ice, starting next week. This will be the worst feature. The agreement also provides for the trucks to receive delivery equipment from the ice company, not on a daily basis, but on an hourly basis.

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Workers on Central Market Are Prepared to Resist Wage Cuts

The market workers, Drivers, Handlers, and other employees, preparing for a strike, look forward to a new era on the market, which has suffered a serious loss of business during the past two years. Many of the employees have been made by chain store distributors, seems to be a staging of a campaign, which have seriously affected the volume of business. The employees, engaged in distribution of wholesale produce, have to work long hours, in times of threat of wage cuts and general conditions of the market.

The Market Workers Section, one of the strongest groups in the market, has held several well attended meetings, in 574 halli, during the past two weeks. Harry DeLore has been as assigned by the Board of Control to take charge of the section and his address, "What the Market Workers were welcomed by him. Since DeLore has taken charge of the section, he has met with the market workers, several discrimination cases have been settled, and he has established a relationship with the 574 workers from the central market.

The spirit that is being manifested by this group of workers indicates that the market workers are standing solidly together against any onslaught of the board, and are determined to resist any cuts made by the market workers, has been prepared and will shortly be presented to the board.

It calls for substantial increases in wages as well as working conditions, and the farmers, in order to get payment for their labor, should work for wages.

 Minneapolis Journal
Notes Farmers Rage

The Minneapolis Journal, ultra conservative, labor-hating sheet, that consistently and always represents the interests of the Minneapolis employers and the most backward section of every political movement, in its edition of September 28, page Friday morning an article dealing with the conditions of work of the farmers of that state in Corcoran Township.

The Journal claims that these farmers, blamed Local 574 for their lack of discipline, that they are not using their trucks, for crop pests last year, for the non-laying of their hens and, if fact, one can believe the veracity of the reporter, who evidently did not even attend the meeting. General Farmers Union was chartered, by the tilling of the farmers of the state, with everything on the calendar.

So the records may be kept, said the Journal, that the meeting, which was attended by representatives of Local 574, that they will not work in the Hennepin County Farmers' Federation, that they will not work, that their conference with the Executive Board of Local 574, sometimes during the coming week.

Demand Button

Help us build an industrial union by demanding a monthly union button. The driver when sending your laundry or dry cleaning order must show his button. We all work for the same company. The button will be in a union plant, and done right.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Joint Local of Laundry, Dry Cleaning, and Laundry Workers 19400-183

The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER Page 5

Laundry Agreement

What Every Laundry and Dry Cleaning Worker Should Know

Joint Local of Cleaners, Drivers, Handlers, and Laundry Workers with the American Federation of Labor presents to its members the following agreement with 60 plant owners for a period of one year, ending September 30, 1936.

ARTICLE 1 - Local 1860 and any union employee shall be the representative of all Union Dry Cleaning, Laundry and Dry Cleaning and Laundry Drivers in Minneapolis.

ARTICLE 2 - No union shall be discharged or discriminated against for joining or belonging to the Union.

ARTICLE 3 - No private agreements which conflict with this agreement shall be made by any employer and employees.

ARTICLE 4 - For any hour that constitutes a normal 60 hour's work in the Laundry Department.

ARTICLE 6 - During peak periods, consisting of 9 weeks in the spring and 9 weeks in the fall, the employees shall be paid for hours worked in excess of 45.

ARTICLE 7 - All hours worked in the Laundry Department shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-third.

ARTICLE 14 - Any union employee who reports for work on a day he is on the list shall be paid in full, in current or negotiable checks, on a regular basis.

ARTICLE 16 - Any union employee who reports for work and is not hired or paid off, shall be paid for work not performed, prior to the signing of this agreement.

Meyer Lewis Makes Visit to Washington

It is a well known fact that the cotton union movement has been going on for many years, and that there are many unions who are working on it, as well as the textile unions, as cotton is one of the most important industries.

The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER wishes to take this time to review the monetary procedure. We believe that a current news item should be discussed. The review of this, "Meyer Lewis, cotton strike of William Green, has departed for England. He is due to return with his employer. While Mr. Lewis was in Europe, he created a ripple in the circle he was supposed to be associated with. It is considered that the departure for Washington should have a healthy effect on the textile industry movement. It is to be hoped that Mr. Lewis' duties will carry him there. The recent developments will be more appreciated. In the meantime we will carry on."
The St Paul Union
The situation that confronts truck drivers, helpers and chauffeurs is a problem that is peculiar in St Paul. Perhaps nowhere in the United States do similar problems arise. The conditions to which all practical purposes are one, have two driving units working at the same time. The agreements with the employers calling for wage scales which are based on the same two cities which are only divided by an imaginary line cannot be separated and divided as far as union organization is concerned. The problems of any of the two units are identical. St Paul drivers drive in Minneapolis and Minneapolis truck drivers work in St Paul. It costs as much to live in Minneapolis as it does in St Paul. If the drivers wish to work a fair wage for union truck drivers in Minneapolis, by what manner or reason could they refuse to do the same work in St Paul? Two cities which are only divided by an imaginary line cannot be separated and divided as far as union organization is concerned. The problems of both units at the end are identical.

A. F. of L. Organizers
Labor in the United States today is paying the supreme penalty for adhering to, and believing in, the type of organization which has brought about such a fair and equal leadership in the American Federation of Labor. Bearing out these statements, one may observe the columns of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER, from which it is now apparent that the whole official family of the A. F. of L. executive council members, the directors of state federations, and directing officers of central bodies, are working at the same time, directing all of their energies to maintaining the status quo.

In Minneapolis, a place that has ever been the home of progressive thought, the whole state has been invaded by a genuine left wing third party movement of workers who are presently finds it itself a recipient of craft unionism. These people have been built and main- tained by the united front. The union movement in Minneapolis and in the other communities is a collective and the whole official family of the A. F. of L. executive council members, the directors of state federations, and directing officers of central bodies, are working at the same time, directing all of their energies to maintaining the status quo.

The Sash, Door and Mill Workers Union
The Sash, Door and Mill Workers have, at this time, a splendid opportunity to organize an industry that has heretofore been non-union. Already great progress has been made in the industry and it is obvious that the workers in this industry are more than willing to accept the contract terms of an economic organization which promises to advance their standard of living.

The meeting which was held a week ago in General Electric Hall, by these workers, is indicative of the spirit that exists throughout the plant. On the other hand, the display when suggestions were made that an agreement be signed by the workers and management, that instead of settling their wages, lower their hours and equalize their working conditions.

But it is well to point out here that oratory, talk, and ballyhooing for the best conditions of work, is not the way that working men react everywhere when their wages are reduced below a living standard. Speedy action is needed. The day has gone when the plant can be built and maintained on the theory that working men will belong to a union. The capitalists, because of a belief in the abstract theory of unionism.

The Sash, Door, and Mill Workers can be organized, only on the basis that the workers are called to a meeting to hold a conference with the capitalists, and that the union is willing to stage a real fight for their economic advance ment. Certain conditions of work, hours and wages, and conditions are what the workers in this industry want. The organization to which they belong must be able to avenge their selections. If it does not, it is not better than a debating society.

Keeping Step With 574
By Mickey Dunne
Do you know that on a pole in the United States, the Reserve Bank, 5th and Mac- quarie, the numbers 574 are permanently displayed.
Cliff Brabant, truck driver at Pratt's, can play the piano and sing like nobody's business.

With the advent of warm weather, it is no wonder that many truck drivers have returned to work.

G. Dunne is back from Wash in burn.

Workers in the 3.2 beer joints are being organized. They are being helped by the HoteL
r and Restaurant Employees Interna- tional Alliance.

Cedar Lake ice drivers are getting so nervous they might take it on the chin in a Big Way this Summer.

Nothing succeeds like suc- cess. Fifty-six joined the union the first ten days of April.

Many workers in wholesale gro- cery houses are getting lined up with the union.

A picture of the office force will be seen on the inside of the 36th anniver- sary edition of the Organizer.

Do you know that a well known Ice Cream man in Francisco city up 10 cent strike is set to be imported into Minneapolis by some of the local men that are preserving "law and order".

Robby, Cramer, whose trial for criminally libeling the Citizens' Al-liance is set to begin, will not face the court until the strike is settled. The employers requested the latest postponement.

The new La Belle semi-truck- er furniture van is the class- ic minnie to take it on the chin in the Twin Cities.

The trouble is over at Werners.

The cement block makers and gravel pit workers, who have been on the strike for the past month, and 574 are settling their wage and hours schedule with the employers some time this week.

The Friday night social meet- ing of the Minnesota state commit- tee of the best attended of the season, was charac- terized by a startling display of sound, energy, the music.

They had a group picture taken, see it in the Organizer next week.

At the risk of being called tiresome I wish to say that all minds coal yard workers, who are leaving the settlement, the necessity of taking a union withdrawal card.

Arnold Johnson is free.

Only a small number of the many swelling这支 business workers have been returned to employment so far.

L. C. Long, 499 Washing- ton Avenue, Minneapolis, has just bought a used car for $25. Have you?

Local 120, St Paul Drivers Union, is organizing in the Local 574 office in the last week.

Dickerson wears diamonds.

Jim Joyce is out at Armstrong's.

There is a possibility that the occurring union head- quarters will be reconditioned.

Two more meeting halls are being planned.

Ace Brewer, a member of the Musi- cians Union, has lost his post as secretary of the Musicians Union in the Twin Cities.

He has always been a staunch union man.

A small but enthusiastic crowd greeted the initial ap- pearance of the 574 band at the American Legion Post.

The Organizer is about to launch a new subscription cam- paign. Details will be announced soon.

L A B O R

looks at the press

Boston business: "830 milk wagon drivers and 175 craneey works went on strike today within a few hours coffee company em- ployees added to the union drive. Instead of a $5 pay reduction the strikers won a $3 raise, to $84 a week last year.

There are milk wagon drivers and milk wagon drivers, you see."

Secretary of War George Dern: "The dream of smokeless powder has been abandoned for the present."

The imaginary line in the sand of Blandina has been abandoned by the management because of union demands. Instead of a $3 pay reduction the strikers won a $3 raise, to $84 a week last year.

We are lucky there are such a large group of workers who are not heavily coated with smut, but if we wish to make use of them, we must wash them to determine whether they are white people or Negresses.

This is simply a method of telling manme-made differences between color.

Vieena news item: "The hands of the Austrian film censor has been used to cut out the pictures of a woman, as a dangerous revolutionary. Charlie," in his latest picture, is now a modern Times, is similarly picked to use red flags to mark street.

Spring is here—L. K. Brown, president of the Colorado Agriculture Co- Operative, says: "Friendship is fast becoming an important factor in the consideration of treating debtors who have permitted American life.

WPA administrators are beginning to say that the government is now able to absorb the unem- ployed.

But the new local J. C. Penny store got over 4,000 applications for different jobs last week.

Less than one hundred jobs are available.

Paul C. Trimmer, candidate for governor, is now coming St Paul, and election judges, the Communist Party, ad- versaries: "I am for all wages, I am active in church work in civil, and a father, home owner, tax payer, and is most anxious to encourage all the friendly organizations."

If he's kind to dumb animals, why even we shall vote for him.

How to break a strike, as re- ported by the Kellogg Mfg. Co., breaking up of a strike was brought about by letting in the union workers and giving them a chance to display their wares to the public.

We have now been in the factory all this week and are getting more and more numbers of the workers. We have inaugu- rated a big class of laundry work, and we are happy to inform you that we have a good advice and help from Local 574.

Notice on lemonade, Local 45, Local 160 and Local 169.
Your union has subscribed for the following number of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER for the entire membership. This subscription cannot be changed except at the time of renewing your subscription, please return your name and ad- dress to the Post Office Department.

The same holds true when subscribing for the paper. Turn in both your old and new subscriptions, as we have only a few subscriptions left.

It is imperative that this proceed- ing be done in order to see that you receive all issues of the paper.

Your union has also subscribed for the following number of the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER for the entire membership. This subscription cannot be changed except at the time of renewing your subscription, please return your name and ad- dress to the Post Office Department.

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