Wholesale Grocery Bosses Attempt to Confuse the Issues With Propaganda

Drivers Union Demand that Grocery Bosses Recognize Union Rights

The Wholesale Grocers, employers, looked up to the Citizens Alliance and state Republican reactionaries with Martin Nelson at their head, are attempting to put the workers off on a propaganda campaign. Their truck drivers, helpers and platform men are members of Local 544. The men feel that the Citizens Alliance have demagogued recognition and a Union contract. The employers refused to employ the truck drivers and helpers. On the other hand, individual grocery firms have admitted through their spokesmen, their drive would continue with Local 544. But at the same time indicating that they were prevented from doing so by threats of financial reprisals. Local 544 and the Teamsters Joint Council tried on numerous occasions, over a period of several weeks, to find a peaceful solution. Met by either stony silence or arrogant refusal to discuss the issue on the part of the employers, the Drivers Union has struck those firms who refused to recognize the rights of the workers to bargain collectively.

One big point stands out. Local 544 demands Union recognition, the right of all organized workers. The employer controlled wholesale grocery employers refuse to recognize that.

Confronted by the pact of solid union organization, the grocers have a choice. It is: do they continue as they are and drive workers out of the city or join with the Citizens Alliance. They seek to confuse the issue. In the pages of the paper dominated daily press they find their release for the daily press, the paper being against the workers and the Union.

The threat to alarm and frighten the women and children they cry "strike." "Strike" is another word for the food in abundance is available. There is no strike against milk, bread, meat, fresh vegetable and produce supplies.

Farmers Donate Food to Union

Union will come by Body to Meet

Many unions plan to attend the Teamsters Joint Council mass meeting in a few minutes. All additional seats have been provided and everyone who attends is assured of finding a seating place. What pleasing little prizefighter of the grocery group is out with the night picket crews? A strike activity halted for rites.

Out of respect to the memory of former Governor Floyd B. Olson, the strike activity and all bunting was stopped between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. Almost all of the striking grocery workers attended the funeral rites.

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Answering the vicious statements of the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association, pseudo farmers' organization, which appeared in the Minneapolis Tribune Tuesday, August 25, John Bosch, National President, Farmers Holiday Association, had the following to say:

"Various statements appearing in recent newspapers authorized by an organization known as the Hennepin County Farmers' Protective Association, an alleged farmers' organization, attempt to make it appear that the farmers of Hennepin County and of the state are opposed to the present strike of General Drivers No. 544.

They also try to make the public believe that farmers are unable to market their products because of labor's efforts to improve working conditions.

So that the public may know the true situation the Farmers Holiday Association issues this statement.

We are completely aware of the fact that the farmer's problems and labor's problems are identical and that any struggle labor may make to better living conditions is also a struggle to better farming conditions.

We therefore endorse the present strike of General Drivers No. 544. Through their organization, the Market Gardeners Association, have ample opportunity to dispose of their products. The so-called Hennepin County Farmers Protective Association is thoroughly understood by real farmers to be detrimental to their interests. It bears the same relationship to them that the Citizens Alliance does to labor unions.

If the present strike continues beyond a time which gives unfair employers ample opportunity to correct existing conditions the Farmers Holiday Association will assist in winning this struggle by supplying food and other assistance.

In the past the Holiday Association has helped labor in our mutual struggles for better conditions. The policy of the Holiday Association will always be in that direction.

John H. Bosch
National President

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