

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.  
GENERAL OFFICE: 286 E. 6TH ST.  
St. Paul, Minn.

As from this hour  
You use your power,  
The world must fol-  
low you.

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

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1935

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## METAL WORKERS STAGGER BOSSES

### LOCAL 500 ATTEMPTS TO PLAY THE ROLE OF STRIKE-BREAKER

**Cliff Hall Signs Up Driver and Offers to Protect Him as Scab**

**Local 574 Wins Strike at Gilmore Co. Despite Hall Action**

Daniel Tobin's illegitimate child, Local 500, which Corcoran, Hall and Company are attempting to nurture, has once again clearly demonstrated the role which it will attempt to play in unionizing the Minneapolis workers. This local, organized for the purpose of attempting the sabotage of Local 574, has just made an abortive attempt to play the role of strike-breaker.

At the D. M. Gilmore Plumbing Co., Arnold Johnson, the senior driver, was discharged. When the representatives of Local 574 called on the employer, Mr. O. S. Burman, to investigate the matter, they were told that he was discharged because of lack of work. The union representatives pointed to the seniority rights held by Johnson and informed Burman that if any one should be discharged, it must be the younger driver who was still working. Burman countered by stating that Johnson, a man with 10 years service, was inefficient and not capable of performing his duties. The Union refused to consider this ridiculous statement and the job was struck.

The younger driver, Wally Anderson, held off the job by Local 574 because of the strike, was told by a member of the Milk Drivers Union to see Cliff Hall of Local 500, assuring him that Hall would give him protection. Hall took Anderson's application for membership in Local 500 and told him to go back to work, promising him that Local 500 would see that he was not interfered with by Local 574. Anderson returned to the job but Hall's protection was not forthcoming. The job was still tied up by Local 574 and Anderson did not work.

At this stage the employer, O. S. Burman, asked for a meeting with the Executive Board of Local 574, which was granted. After listening to the contentions of Burman and the stories of Johnson and Anderson, the drivers, the Executive Board sustained the decision of Grant Dunne and George Frosig.

Burman threatened to close his doors and go out of business but he is still in business, Johnson is back on the job working and Anderson is still waiting for Local 500 to do something.

### Strikers Fined for Peaceful Picketing

Thursday, August 8—Five ornamental metal workers, members of Local 1313, were tried before Judge Wright this morning on a charge of disorderly conduct. The men, Anton Brooks, Archie L. Perry, Odin Christopherson, Charles Mehl and Julius Bolaczuk, were arrested Wednesday as a result of the banning of the home of A. C. Gustafson at 2913 37th Ave. S., one of the petty tyrants of the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works.

During the trial Gustafson identified only Perry and Christopherson and testified that Christopherson did not carry a banner. The police testified that there was no disorder at the scene of the picketing. And yet the men were found guilty of disorderly conduct and each of the five was fined \$10.

The case of Robert Carlson, Albert Green, David Tapper, and Joseph Simmonson who were arrested for banning the home of Richard Scherer at 3212 30th Ave. S., a second Flour City foreman, has been postponed to Friday.

This action against the strikers is a direct thrust at their constitutional right of peaceful picketing and must be opposed to the bitter end by all organized labor. The strikers remain undaunted by this attack by the police and the courts and have sworn their determination to carry on the fight in an even more determined manner.

### Store Clerk Gets \$7 as Weekly Pay

The sharp need for union organization among the retail clerks is effectively depicted by the hours worked by a clerk in one of the many stores operated by the National Tea Company. This lad works a scheduled shift of 37½ hours weekly for which he receives \$7. His hours are from 1 p. m. to 6:30 p. m. from Monday to Friday with no time off for meals. On Saturday he works from 9:30 a. m. to 9:30 p. m. with one hour off for the noon meal and one hour off for the evening meal. This makes a total of 37½ hours but he seldom gets away on week day evenings before 7 p. m. and on Saturday it is usually 11 p. m. before the day's work is done so that he actually works about 41 hours per week for a \$7 pay check.

### Gamble-Robinson Drivers!

There will be a special meeting on Sunday, August 11, for all Gamble-Robinson road drivers to take up the question of excessive overtime.

The Capitalists say, "There ain't no class struggle."

### G. W. OLSON CO. SIGNS AGREEMENT ON BASIS OF STRIKERS' DEMANDS

#### Friday Deadline Ferrin Transfer

Over 90 per cent of the employees of the Ferrin Transfer Company are now members in good standing of Local 574. In the election last fall the Ferrin Transfer Company was lost by the Union but since that time attempts to discriminate against union men have been blocked by Local 574 and as a result the men are unanimously in favor of having the Union represent them. A copy of a working agreement drawn up by the men was handed to the Ferrin Transfer Company by the union representatives on Wednesday, August 7. He has been given until Friday, August 9, to act on this matter. If they refuse to sign, the men are ready to take whatever organized action is necessary.

#### Union Headquarters Asset to Membership

The new headquarters of the General Drivers' Union, which are located at 257 Plymouth Avenue North, provide what is perhaps the finest home of any union in this part of the country. The former headquarters of the union, which were at 225 South Third Street, served the union well enough immediately after the strike and during the time the union was consolidating its forces and preparing to really take in the bulk of the people who are engaged in the driving industry in Minneapolis.

The success of Local 574 Drivers to organize the driving industry is demonstrated by the fact that in a few months' time their headquarters on Third Street were outgrown. The Committee who were in charge of seeking a place that would serve as new headquarters for the Drivers' Union found that they had a real job on their hands.

It was extremely difficult to find a suitable place. First there was a meeting hall sufficiently large to accommodate the membership meetings of the union. The second difficulty that was encountered was finding a place where the landlord was sufficiently liberal to rent his property to an organization that, to say the least, is somewhat in disrepute with the employers, landlords and bankers. The locating of the present headquarters at 257 Plymouth avenue was a real stroke of for-

(Continued on page 2)

#### Employers' Arguments as to Union Demands Made to Appear Ridiculous

#### Scabs' Homes Banned by Pickets; IUAW Helps Block Out of Town Work

A terrific blow has been dealt to the employers in the Ornamental Metal industry through the signing of a working agreement between the C. W. Olson Company and the Union. The C. W. Olson Company, in signing the agreement, has met with all the demands for which the Ornamental Metal Workers Local 1313 went on strike over a month ago. The workers at this plant who returned to work on Monday, August 5, after the signing of the agreement, will receive the following rates of pay and other union benefits:

Class A mechanics, 67½¢ per hour; Class B mechanics, 55 to 62½¢ per hour; helpers, 45 to 50¢ per hour; common labor, 45¢ per hour. Forty hour week; time and one-half for overtime; seniority rights; Union recognition; and a Shop Committee which will supervise the enforcement of the agreement and look after the day to day problems of the workers in the shop.

The C. W. Olson Company has indicated through this action, which came as a result of the tremendous pressure of the strike, that the arguments of the employers that they could not pay these wages and remain in business are ridiculous. If the C. W. Olson Company can operate on the basis of these wages, and they are demonstrating that they can, the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works, the Crown Iron Works and the other Ornamental Metal plants can do so as well. The strikers have determined that they shall do so and have redoubled their vigilance on the picket lines at the other plants to see that they remain completely closed down until such time as they are willing and ready to pay their employees a decent living wage.

As a result of the long period of inoperation since the strike began, the pressure of the customers of the metal plants has mounted steadily because of their desire to secure the materials which had been ordered before the strike and on which no work has been done since the strike was called. Numerous attempts have been made to sneak small quantities of material for special jobs, which had been completed but not delivered,

(Continued on page 2)

### Immediate Demands for Relief

The following are the immediate demands of the Federal Workers Unit of Local 574, for improving the basis on which direct relief is administered in Minneapolis to become effective August 1, 1935.

1. Groceries: A general 10 per cent increase in present budget.
2. Ice: Same provisions as now in effect.
3. Water: Full bill to be paid upon its tender to Relief Department.

Other items according to the following table:

Number in Family	Rent	Gas	Light	Quarts Milk	H'hold Goods	Clothing	Misc.
1	\$ 8.00	\$.75	\$.75	15	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$1.00
2	10.00	1.25	1.50	30	3.00	6.00	1.50
3	15.00	2.25	2.00	45	3.50	.....	2.25
4	15.00	2.25	2.25	60	4.00	.....	2.75
5	15.00	2.50	2.50	75	4.50	.....	3.25
6	18.00	2.50	2.50	90	5.00	.....	3.75
7	18.00	2.50	2.50	105	5.50	.....	4.25
8	18.00	2.50	2.50	120	6.00	.....	4.75
9	18.00	2.75	2.75	135	6.00	.....	5.25
10	18.00	2.75	2.75	150	6.00	.....	5.75
11	20.00	2.75	2.75	165	6.25	.....	6.25
12	20.00	2.75	2.75	180	6.25	.....	6.75
13	20.00	3.00	3.00	195	6.25	.....	7.25

All figures in the above table are for one month. Four calendar weeks constitute one month. Clothing for children: Ages up to and including 1 year, \$10 per year; one to six years, \$10; seven to 12 years, \$12; 13 to 16 years, \$15. Over 16 years, same as adults.

Number of persons in family	Grocery order at present	Ten percent increase
2	\$14.00	\$15.00
3	18.50	20.35
4	23.50	25.85
5	29.00	31.90
6	33.60	36.96
7	37.80	41.58
8	43.90	48.29
9	51.00	56.10
10	56.70	62.37
11	59.40	65.34
12	66.00	72.60
13	71.80	78.89

# ALL WORKERS INTO THE UNIONS ALL UNIONS INTO THE STRUGGLE

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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"When I ply my needle, trowel or pick,  
I'm a decent Sheeney, Wop or Mick,  
But when I strike, I'm a Bolshevick  
I'm labor."

## An Age-Old Attack

In the July 27, 1934, issue of the **Minneapolis Labor Review** there appears a statement endorsed by the Central Labor Union and the Executive Board of the Building Trades Council which reads in part as follows:

"There is being carried on through the columns of the daily press a determined attempt to destroy the morale of the General Drivers Union, which is fighting for a living wage, and to split the ranks of our 112 local unions by an age-old attack on the leadership of Local 574 . . ."

"The Central Labor Union and Building Trades Council wish to express to the public, our membership and the press that we endorse this strike, the policy followed and the principles involved, which are so dear to us, the right to representation through collective bargaining."

This was the position taken by leading bodies of the Minneapolis Labor Movement when Local 574 was attacked by the Citizens Alliance and the kept press. What is their attitude to be when the same kind of an attack is leveled against the Union by Daniel Tobin, P. J. Corcoran, Jean Spielman, Cliff Hall and Company?

\* \* \*

## Spielman, Yesterday and Today

Jean Spielman has not always thought and acted exactly as he does today. In fact, at the turn of the twentieth century when the progressive section of the I. W. W. was attempting to rid that organization of Sherman, the Daniel Tobin of that time, Spielman not only took a position on the question but left a few of his footprints in the sands of time. In the December 1907 edition of **Mother Earth**, an anarchist magazine published by Emma Goldman, speaking on the question of the vicious attack launched by Sherman against the progressive majority, Spielman writes:

"To such criticism I would reply that in a crisis there is no question of 'legality.' It is the time for deeds."

Since that time there has been a marked change in Spielman's attitude both on the question of legality and the question of proper conduct in a crisis. In his alliance with Daniel Tobin he supports the same type of vicious individual against whom he struggled in 1907.

\* \* \*

## Watch This One!

Prior to the date on which its charter was revoked, Local 574 took up the question of organizing the milk haulers with the officials of the Milk Drivers Union, offering its support to put them in Local 471. The Milk Drivers asked Local 574 to organize these men.

We are glad to see that the milk haulers are now being organized into Local 471. We believe that this is the proper place for them, but it is well for us to point out that this may prove to be an attempt to transfer them en bloc into Local 500 so as to use them as a spearhead in the attack upon Local 574.

\* \* \*

## Hold a Public Hearing

The articles in the daily press regarding the grand jury investigation of the controversy in the metal industry are couched in language calculated to infer that there is some deep, dark and sinister plot behind the strike. It is entirely possible that some such "discovery" may be hatched; it may be a scoop which will put Hamilton Fish and Vin Weber to shame. An examination of the personnel of the present grand jury, together with the memory of the attitude toward labor evidenced by previous grand juries, causes the workers to brace their feet for an attack from this direction also.

As far as the workers are concerned, there is no cause for holding an investigation of the metal industry behind closed doors. The workers have nothing to hide. Labor is anxious to have a PUBLIC hearing, Labor is anxious to have ALL Minneapolis know the truth about working conditions in the metal industry.

## Metal Workers Stagger Bosses

(Continued from page 1)

through the picket lines but in every case this has been effectively blocked.

The pickets have carried banners in front of the homes of those who have attempted to scab on the striking metal workers so that the entire neighborhood would know about their despicable conduct and in every case the neighbors of the scabs being banned have expressed their full approval of this action by the union.

Thousands of leaflets have been printed, giving the true facts about the conditions in the metal industry and the demands of the workers. These leaflets are being distributed house to house throughout all the working class districts of Minneapolis and especially in the vicinity of the Flour City plant and the Crown Iron Works.

On Monday, August 5, in the auditorium of the Central Labor Union, a huge mass meeting was held at which speakers from the striking Local 1313, the Central Labor Union, Local 382 and Local 574 gave the true facts of the controversy and appealed to the entire labor movement to continue and increase its support of the strike. The meeting was attended by many of the unorganized workers employed in the metal shops not involved in the strike. As a result of the meeting many of these workers have joined the Machinists Union and are working to bring others into the Union with them.

Upon rumor that the local plants were attempting to get some of their work done in metal shops in southern Minnesota, the strike committee immediately contacted the Independent Union of All Workers at Austin and has secured their co-operation to watch for and prevent any attempt to get work done for the struck plants.

The ranks of the bosses are broken. The C. W. Olson Company has signed with the union. Picket lines are solid and vigilant at the other plants. The strikers have declared this a fight to the finish. The Flour City Ornamental Iron Works, the Crown Iron Works and the other metal plants will remain closed until such time as they decide to sign up with the Union, pay Union wages and treat their workers as human beings.

## 574 Federal Workers Unit Grows Rapidly

The last meeting of the Federal Workers Section of Local 574 was attended by over 800 federal workers. This is by far the best meeting held since the formation of the Federal Workers Union. The organization is now a real power on the Federal projects.

Ye can't take freedom into a stew an' ye can't cut a pair iv pants out iv it.

### Meeting Schedule Local 574

Monday, Aug. 12: Full Membership  
Wednesday, Aug. 14: Market Workers  
Thursday, Aug. 15: Independent Truck Owners  
Friday, Aug. 16: Federal Workers  
Wednesday, Aug. 21: Ice Drivers  
Friday, Aug. 23: Federal Workers, Job Stewards  
Monday, Aug. 26: Full Membership  
Tuesday, Aug. 27: Taxi Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.  
Friday, Aug. 30: Federal Workers

## Labor Looks at the Press

Calgary, Canada—"Sir James MacBrien, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Commissioner, today urged the formation of citizens' leagues which would give valuable moral and physical support to the police in enforcing law and order if such should become necessary." What he means is to help the police break strikes.

\* \* \*

"Herbert Hoover will maintain what prestige he has with the masses by remaining outside the ropes in this next campaign."—Good Republican.

\* \* \*

"Nearly half a million more persons are unemployed than a year ago, according to the Alexander Hamilton Institute. The number of unemployed in May rose to 12,838,000. No progress has been made toward the solution of the unemployment problem in the last year and a half."—New York news item.

Only the unemployed, by organizing themselves, can solve that problem.

\* \* \*

### Another Choice

"Either the constitution must give way to the new deal or the new deal must give way to the constitution." — Henry Fletcher,

## Union Headquarters Asset to Membership

(Continued from page 1)

tune for the Union.

It is probable that many members of the Union have not as yet inspected the beautiful headquarters we are now housed in. It is truly a magnificent home for 574. The Assembly Hall, which is located on the third floor, is the third largest public hall in Minneapolis. It has a seating capacity of 2,000. It is provided with a stage, motion picture screen and everything that is necessary to conduct large public meetings. The third floor Assembly Hall is beautifully decorated and is unique in that on three sides of the hall are windows which insure proper ventilation that is so necessary where large bodies of people meet.

On the second floor are the offices of the Union. Space there is provided for the Secretary-Treasurer and the stenographers. Windows open into the hallway at the head of the stairs provide a space where members may pay dues and transact other union business without entering the office. Opening off the office and also off the hallway is a hall which seats approximately 200 people. This will prove useful for stewards and committee meetings. Opening off this hall and immediately adjoining this is a hall which has a seating capacity of 150 people.

The new feature of the headquarters on Plymouth avenue is, however, a club room which is owned and operated by the General Drivers Union. This recreation room, which occupies a space approximately 40 by 50 feet, is provided with recreation facilities for the use of the members. It is to be hoped that no member of the union will overlook the opportunity to visit and become familiar with the wonderful facilities now at their disposal.

Every member is urged not only to visit their union halls, offices and recreation room, but to bring their friends and fellow workers so that they too may become familiar with what it is possible to accomplish through real organization.

chairman of National Republican committee.

Or they might both give way to a government where the great mass of people, the workers, had something to say.

\* \* \*

### "War to End Wars"

Headlines from this week's Press:

World War Destruction Began 21 Years Ago Today.

Britain Will Put 1,000 New Planes in Air.

England to Have Entire New Navy by 1942.

Japanese Militarists Press Five-Year Plan for War Preparations.

U. S. Industrialists Speed War Preparations.

Mussolini Concentrates 300,000 Troops in Africa.

War Stocks Rate High in Wall Street Rating.

\* \* \*

London News item: "Rutlandshire, England's smallest county, has set a record unmatched in police and legal history. For the twelfth year, there has not been a single crime committed . . . Rutlandshire has little unemployment."

This is the way it works: Capitalism breeds unemployment. Unemployment breeds crime. To do away with the great majority of crime, we must first do away with capitalism which denies a decent living to the great majority of citizens.

\* \* \*

Washington news item: "Dr. Hugh S. McGill, president of the American Federation of Utility Investors, testified that his organization spent \$60,000 to defeat the utility bill.

## Union Notes

The employes of the Stanchfield and the Casey Hoban Transfer companies who are working off a union dock, will find that they are better off in Local 574.

\* \* \*

Although the baseball season is not yet over, the boys are talking about football, so seriously, that they are going to throw a football dance in the near future. Watch for it!

\* \* \*

The Independent Truck Owners Section of Local 574 are beginning to get some real action out of the city and state officials who have to do with the hiring of trucks. Their last meeting was attended by Andy Cooper, secretary to the Mayor, and Alderman Hudson of the 12th Ward, who promised that they would exert all their power to see that discrimination which has been shown against the organized truck owners will be stopped.

\* \* \*

Don't forget the regular Saturday night dances that are held in the union hall. There is a big place to meet your union brothers, help your union and have a good time.

\* \* \*

The ice situation is gradually working itself out. It cannot be done in a day because the conditions that prevail in the ice industry now, are the result of 26 years of mismanagement and fighting among the owners. It can and will be cleared up.

\* \* \*

Do you know that the union ball team is playing real major league ball? Last Sunday they beat the Stillwater ball team.