

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, NOVEMBER 20, 1935

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LEWIS ROUTED IN ASSEMBLY

Local 574 Goes to College; Lewis Gets It on the Chin

Bill Brown Puts Disrupter
on Ropes in Brief
Verbal Tilt

Professor Rebukes Lewis as
He Tries to Dictate
Forum Rules

On Tuesday, November 12, Meyer Lewis, the would-be union-buster, appeared as guest speaker at the University of Minnesota Student Forum. This was his first deviation from his program of speaking to boss' organizations. He doubtless assumed that the students would drink in his ambiguous remarks about "reds" as eagerly as the bosses do. But he reckoned without his host.

Sitting complacently in the room where the Forum was to be held, caressing his notes on his scheduled talk: "The Red Purge in Minneapolis," Lewis was looking forward to a field day. Suddenly his whole world changed.

Into the room walked Bill Brown and Ray and Grant Dunne of Local 574. They had never met the Splitter before, but they went straight to him and made themselves known. Lewis gave them a clammy handshake, paling visibly. The 574 leaders then took a seat in the front row so that Lewis might look them in the eye as he made his attack on the union.

When Lewis began to speak, he had forgotten his fiery "Red Purge" notes and, instead, launched into a long, rambling, incoherent speech which became a living tribute to his profound ignorance of the labor movement. He boasted of "flying from city to city and

Hosiery Workers Promise Support

The appeal of Local 574 and other progressive unions for the support of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in the fight against William Green has received quick response. In a communication to the secretary of 574 Emil Rieve, general president of the Hosiery Workers, advises that he is "doing everything possible to prevent the American Federation of Labor from making the mistake of going on a 'red baiting' campaign."

Action in Minneapolis

At the same time Alexander McKeown, International representative of the Hosiery Workers, now leading the Strutwear strike, flatly rejected a demand by Meyer Lewis and officers of the State Federation of Labor that he publicly repudiate Local 574.

Speaking before the striking hosiery workers of the Strutwear, McKeown told them that 574 had been of great assistance in the strike and was a real friend on which the strikers could always depend for aid.

Sub Drive Starts

The **Organizer** subscription drive, which has for its object doubling the number of **Organizer** readers, got under way Monday morning. Every member of the union should interest himself in taking part in this campaign. Subscription blanks have been prepared and are now available at the union office. Under the club subscription plan the **Organizer** can be secured for six months for 25c in groups of three. The sub blanks are in the form of a self-addressed post card. All that is necessary to get into the competition is to purchase three sub cards for 75c or six cards for \$1.50, or as many as you like in groups of three. Take these cards to your friends and fellow workers and ask them for 25c for a six months subscription. There is no worker in Minneapolis or elsewhere who will not be benefited by reading the most progressive trade union paper in the Northwest. Make up your mind to win some of the really worthwhile prizes that are being offered. The prizes range from a months to a year's free dues in the union. Get your wives, mothers, sisters and sweethearts working for you. Canvass the neighborhood where you live. Show them the **Organizer**. Get their sub. Remember, a year's dues amount to \$19.20, six months \$9.60, etc. These are prizes worth working for. Let's all get busy! The drive ends Dec. 28. Weekly reports of progress will be made in the **Organizer**.

Laundry Workers Hit Lewis Program

While Meyer Lewis sat in the Central Labor Union taking a sound licking from the outraged delegates, the members of Laundry Workers, Dry Cleaners and Drivers Union Local 18005, meeting in their hall on 3rd Avenue South and 7th Street, were handing him another defeat.

Ten days ago Lewis confronted the executive board of 18005 with a demand that they submit to the dictatorship of the craft unionists in the A. F. of L. and that they publicly repudiate Local 574. Realizing that 574 has been their most valuable ally, and understanding that Lewis was preparing to cut their union up into small craft units, the 18005 executive board turned him down by a vote of 4 to 3.

A resolution was drawn by the executive board in which the meaning of Lewis' demands was clearly explained and a program of action for the union outlined. The resolution was signed by all members of the board. The membership of the union adopted the resolution by unanimous vote.

Howard Y. Williams, national organizer for the Farmer Labor Party, told the union members to hold their ground against Lewis. "This is a national fight," said Williams, "and the eyes of the en-

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Norman Thomas Pledges National Support to Local Drivers Union

Norman Thomas
208 EAST 18TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 16, 1935

Mr. Farrell Dobbs, Secy., Treas.,
General Drivers Union, Local 574,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Brother:

I have your letter of November 8th.

You may say that I am on the side of Local 574

from start to finish. I am sure that enough pressure can be exerted within the American Labor movement to save a militant union which has proved its value to the entire labor movement of the country. I have communicated with some of my Socialist comrades and learn that Socialists from Wisconsin will be in Minneapolis to confer with you. If I personally can do anything, let me know. I am on your side.

Fraternally yours,

BSEA-U-12646

Norman Thomas

Meyer Lewis' Record Shows 13 Times At Bat; No Hits, No Runs, 13 Errors

A little over seven weeks ago Meyer Lewis arrived in Minneapolis, sent here with instructions to "purge" the unions of "reds" and make the labor movement safe for the craft union bureaucracy.

"Now Meyer, my boy," said Green, "when you get out there to Minneapolis, remember what I have taught you. If we are going to hold our jobs, we can't have unions in the A. F. of L. which go out and fight the bosses to get higher wages for their members. This kind of a program brings large numbers of workers into the unions, and if this happens, we are sure to lose control."

We must be very careful about the size of the unions. The workers must be kept split up into small groups so that it will be impossible for them to mobilize all of their fighting power. If we don't do this, we are going to lose the patronage.

Ten days ago Lewis confronted the executive board of 18005 with a demand that they submit to the dictatorship of the craft unionists in the A. F. of L. and that they publicly repudiate Local 574. Realizing that 574 has been their most valuable ally, and understanding that Lewis was preparing to cut their union up into small craft units, the 18005 executive board turned him down by a vote of 4 to 3.

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574 Button Supply Exhausted on 15th

For the first time in the history of Local 574, the union office ran out of buttons for the current month on the 15th. Despite the large number of union buttons that were ordered the supply was exhausted before the month was half over. This condition is due to the fact that a large number of new applications have been taken during the first half of the month and also because members have paid their dues more promptly than ever before. More November buttons have been ordered.

Dallas Butchers Win Wage Fight

Dallas, Tex.—(FP)—In a one-day strike, union butchers at 51 Safeway Stores in Dallas won a new contract providing an increase of \$5 a week.

MEETING ENDS IN UPROAR AS UNIONS REBEL

Delegates Refuse to Accept
Program of Tearing
Down Unions

Plain Clothes Cops Brought
to Meeting by Meyer
Lewis

The delegates to the Central Labor Union made it unmistakably clear at the meeting on November 13 that the union men and women of Minneapolis are bitterly opposed to the union-busting tactics of Meyer Lewis. This was Lewis' first appearance before the central body although it has met a half dozen times since he arrived in the city.

The Splitter came into the meeting intending to force the assembly to officially endorse his efforts to brand Local 574 a "permanent outlaw" and to back him up in the revocation of the Laundry Workers charter. He further intended to use the prestige of the Central Labor Union to force the local unions to boycott the buttons of the General Drivers and the Laundry Workers.

As Lewis attempted to outline his program he was continuously interrupted from the floor. Delegate after delegate rose to condemn him, and the chairman was able to set them down only with great difficulty. The Disrupter spoke for forty minutes, not because he had a great deal to say, but because he had such a hard time saying it.

When he finally sat down fifty

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Power Employees Start Union Drive

The Employees of the Northern States Power Co., organizing into Local 160 of the I.B.E.W., have run a long gamut of reverses in the seventeen months that the union has been chartered. Mike Boyle, vice president of the I.B.E.W., McGlogan, St. Paul representative of the Railway Electricians, Guy Alexander of Local 292, County Commissioner and member of Mayor Latimer's Employer-Employee board, all have had a hand in Local 160.

In every instance the participation of these exponents of William Green's policies of craft unionism and "labor statesmanship" has succeeded in keeping the union small and without a working agreement with the company. Whenever a healthy idea or a healthy element crept into the union these men were quick to stamp it out.

Local 160 was chartered in June 1934 with Mike Boyle as its godfather. Out of a possible eleven

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Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Meyer Lewis' Record Shows 13 Times At Bat; No Hits, No Runs, 13 Errors

(Continued from page 1)

leaders into private conferences and demand that they go along and support you. If they refuse, threaten to revoke their charter. Use the daily papers to help you. They always give us splendid co-operation when we are fighting the unions. Go into the Central Labor Union and demand an oath of allegiance from the delegates. Threaten to revoke their charter so that they will be plenty scared.

"I made a horse trade with Tobin," Green concluded. "He has a union out their called Local 574 which has been giving him a lot of trouble. I agreed to help wreck it if he would support me in the convention. When you get to Minneapolis take plenty of time to get your bearing and then open a blast in the newspapers. Say this is a national drive starting in Minneapolis. Say that this local 574 is permanently outlawed from the A. F. of L. Call its leaders reds and racketeers. Arouse all the boss organizations against it—the civic clubs, the patriotic organizations, the yellow scandal sheets and all the other anti-labor instruments you can find. Say that Tobin's new union, local 500, is going to take over the truck drivers.

"You should be able to wreck 574 in less than a week. If any union stands in your way, revoke their charter, too. We are going to clean the industrial union forces out of Minneapolis if we have to wreck all the unions there to do it. Tom Latimer was in to see me the other day. He is for our program. He says it will help take the heat off him. He did some shooting last summer, and it went pretty hard with him. He wants to co-operate with us.

"And when you get through there I will have work for you in Toledo, San Francisco, St. Louis, and the other industrial centers where the unions are active. We are going to continue to run the A. F. of L., or there isn't going to be any A. F. of L. left to run."

Armed with these instructions and this authority, Meyer Lewis tripped light-heartedly out to Minneapolis and started his campaign. He took about a month to get his bearings, and then he opened the "drive." Let us see what the balance sheet shows.

1. On Wednesday, Oct. 30, he announced to the press the opening of a national "red drive," to be started in Minneapolis. His statement was headlined in every paper in the big cities throughout the United States, and it made page one in London, Paris and the other world capitals. But the going proved plenty tough. On Sunday, Nov. 3 Green was forced, for the protection of his own hide, to publicly deny that the drive was national in scope. "It is purely a local affair," said Green.

2. Meyer Lewis announced to the world that local 574 was a "permanent outlaw" and that local 500 was the truck drivers' union. Local 574 answered with a mass meeting of over three thousand members and sympathizers, at which leaders of many unions appeared to publicly indorse local 574. In the next few days local 500 lost seven of its sixteen members to Local 574.

3. He told the bosses that he was out to rid Minneapolis of the "reds." The Citizens Alliance thereupon gave him its indorsement. This completely discredited him in all trade union circles.

4. He said he would purge the station attendants' union. A few days later the union was declared purged without a single change in the personnel of the union.

5. He demanded that the Laundry Workers union repudiate local 574, and that it submit to a reorganization and division. They re-

jected his demands completely. He revoked their charter, and the laundry workers joined hands with the truck drivers to fight him.

6. He appeared before a student forum at the University to speak on the "Red Purge." Local 574 went to college to meet him and with plenty of support from the students, made him retreat in confusion.

7. On Thursday, Oct. 31, he called a special meeting of the business agents to demand their support. They listened in silence. On Tuesday, Nov. 12, the business agents' meeting was hastily adjourned by the weak minority supporting Lewis to prevent the meeting going on record to demand his removal from the city.

8. He tried to intimidate various union officers into supporting him. He met with flat refusal.

9. He called on employers with whom local 574 has labor contracts, demanding that the employers break these contracts and sign with local 500. The employers, in every instance, having no desire to again tangle with local 574, refused his demands.

10. He tried to whip the Cooks and Waiters Union into line. The General President of the Cooks and Waiters sent Green an indignant telegram protesting Lewis' action.

11. He imported Gillespie, Tobin's right bower, to aid in the fight on 574. Gillespie remained in town two days, threw up his hands in despair, and departed.

12. He talked so much about "reds" and illegal union activities that the bosses took advantage of it to demand that the Strutwear be opened by violence. The Central Labor Union descended upon him and upon Latimer with a threat to rouse the movement and "tear the plant down, brick by brick" if such an attempt were made.

13. He finally mustered sufficient courage to go into the Central Labor Union and demand its allegiance and support. The meeting adjourned in an uproar as motion after motion was made to repudiate him and demand his removal from the city.

In the parlance of the sporting world a balance sheet for Meyer Lewis would read something like this: Thirteen times at bat; no hits, no runs, thirteen errors.

Employers Attempt Strutwear Opening

The Strutwear is still closed despite the latest attempt of the bosses to have it opened by the medium of police violence against the strikers. This move was a direct and natural result of the actions and statements of Meyer Lewis.

On the heels of the press announcement that a large committee of bosses was to call on Mayor Latimer to present a 13 point program of opening the Strutwear (with scabs) came a vigorous threat from the Central Labor Union to rouse the entire movement and "tear the plant down, brick by brick" if Latimer attempted to carry out the boss program.

There is little question but that Latimer would be willing to attempt to oblige the bosses. His record since he took office makes this very plain. The reason he has not moved is because all the unions are determined to see that the plant remains closed until such time as the management recognizes and deals with the union of its employees.

If an attempt is made to open the plant by force, the striking Strutwear workers will find that they have many thousands of Minneapolis workers ready to spring to their assistance.

ARRESTED FOR CONSPIRACY



These four charming young ladies, salesgirls at May's Department Store in Brooklyn, N. Y., face jail terms, though right now they're out on \$1,000 bail. The crime the cops have pinned on them is "conspiracy to interfere with business" by picketing during a strike. Statute was so musty cops had to blow off the dust before using it.

300 Kroger Chain Stores Picketed

St. Louis.—(FP)—Three hundred Kroger stores and the St. Louis warehouses of the large mid-west grocery chain are being picketed by members and sympathizers of Warehouse Employees Union Local 667.

Following the example set in the recent gas house workers' strike, a daily strike bulletin is being issued for distribution to members and the public.

Editor's note: The Gas House Worker, official daily of the Gas House Workers Union during its recent successful strike was edited by Miles Dunne who was loaned to the Gas House Workers by Local 574 at the request of the St. Louis union.

33 A. F. of L. Men in Alaska Face Frameup

Juneau, Alaska.—(FP)—Thirty-three-workers, members of the International Longshoremen's association or of the International Union of Mine Mill & Smelter Workers, are going to trial this month on riot charges that will carry possible sentences of 3 to 15 years.

Their unions assert that the Alaska-Juneau Gold Mining Co. is about to put through a frameup, as it has lost money since the strike began in comparison with last year. The riot charges grew out of a clash between union pickets and company gunmen when the mine tried to reopen in June. About a hundred unionists were seriously injured.

The newspapers in Juneau have refused to print the miners' side of the story but the Daily Empire finally consented to publish the union statement as a paid advertisement. The union statement is an offer to arbitrate all questions except the right of belonging to a union and of collective bargaining.

The company formed a company union which is not making any headway.

Union Taxi Drivers Improve Conditions

Portland, Ore.—(FP)—Union taxicab drivers won a notable victory in their one-week strike in Portland. Hours were cut from 10 to nine daily, and wages were raised from \$2.50 to \$3, plus 30 per cent of all fares over \$8.

Attention! Truck Owners!

If you have equipment that is suitable for hauling jobs on WPA projects, come to the union office and register for work. Your truck must be equipped with hoist, dual tires and steel dump body. If you are not a member of the union, join now and take advantage of this opportunity.

Laundry Workers Hit Lewis Program

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tire country are upon Minneapolis.

Carl Skoglund of Local 574 told the laundry workers that they will have the solid support of the General Drivers in their fight. "This is not merely lip service, either," said Skoglund. "574 has designated a member of its executive board to work with your officers, and joint sessions of the executive boards of the two unions are also being arranged."

The first move by Local 18005 will be against a group of small laundries which have not yet signed the union agreement. Local 574 has been given full information in the matter and is arranging to assist the Laundry Workers Union to settle this case.

Injunction Halts Mates Picketing

It seems that there is no freedom left for the labor movement or anyone else. In Canton, Ohio, a divorced husband, who was banning his ex-wife's house to keep prospective suitors away, was served with an injunction which restrained him from "Picketing, banning or continually parading himself in the immediate vicinity of the plaintiff's home."

Nice going down there at Strutwear, boys.

MEETING ENDS IN UPROAR AS UNIONS REBEL

(Continued from page 1)

delegates leaped to their feet at the same time, demanding an opportunity to answer him. There were not ten people in the hall who wanted to defend Lewis and certainly no one who dared to do so.

After he had been thoroughly lambasted from all sides, Lewis again took the floor to attempt a second speech. He had only started to talk when Sander Genis of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers rose to a point of order and made a twenty minute speech in which he clearly pictured the vicious role played by Meyer Lewis and showed how his tactics could only serve to destroy the splendid unions which the Minneapolis workers are building.

Motions were made to write Bill Green and demand that Lewis be removed from Minneapolis, to form special committees to repair the damage done by Lewis; every motion made was against Bill Green's disrupter. The meeting finally adjourned in an uproar shortly after midnight. Plain clothes cops were present to whisk Lewis out of the meeting and see him safely to his scab hotel.

Once again Meyer Lewis had received a crushing defeat.

Strutwear Visitor Rides With Picket

One day last week one of the Yellow drivers picked up a fare at the Union Station who asked to be driven to the Strutwear plant. The driver somewhat suspicious of the passenger's motives, told him that the plant was closed by a strike and asked the man what he was going there for. When assured that the rider was only a visitor they proceeded to the destination.

The fare went inside and conferred with someone for a few minutes. As he came out, climbed into the cab and gave the address of a downtown hotel he said to the driver, "You were right when you told me the mill was closed, but the hell of it is that the superintendent, whom I was just talking to, told me that I was riding with one of the pickets."

574 GETS BOX SEATS AT STUDENT FORUM

(From the Minnesota Daily)

There were plenty interesting happenings at yesterday's Forum that did not meet the casual eye. Before Meyer Lewis' speech, William Brown, prexy of "574," walked up to Lewis and said: "I'm Brown, meet Ray and Grant Dunne." Before yesterday these four, the leaders on both sides of the A. F. L. Red purge battle, had never met face to face. And here's how the Dunes and Brown got around the Forum rule that no outsiders will be admitted until 12:15. . . They sent up a student who bought 4 tickets and then the group slid in grabbing ringside seats.

GRAND ANNUAL
Frolic, Dance and Entertainment
Marigold Ballroom
 Grant at Nicollet
 Given by the
Waitresses, Waiters and Cooks' Union
Tuesday, December 3, 1935
 Dancing from 9 to 2 Music—Mert Floe's Canadians
 Tickets (in advance 25c) At door after 9 P. M., 35c

LABOR OBSERVERS LOOK AT LOCAL 574

Herbert Solow

"War in Minneapolis"

(The Nation, July 25, 1934.)

The strike leaders are not out to abolish capitalism or overturn the government by means of this strike. They are out to build a union, to get workers better conditions, to strengthen the whole Minneapolis labor movement, to teach the workers some elementary lessons not only in halting scab trucks, facing down armed cops, and tying up a city, but also as to the true nature of the capitalist government, revealing itself in this strike, and as to the need for working-class unity and militancy.

The outcome of the present struggle is uncertain. But win, lose or draw, Local 574 will have put on a justified and an able and a glorious fight. It is making labor history in the city of Minneapolis. Its victory will be a boon to the whole American labor movement.

Meridel Le Sueur

"What Happens in a Strike"

(American Mercury, Nov., 1934.)

What happens in a strike happens not to one person alone. It is the same all over America. What happens now does not happen from or for a few people. It is a crisis with meaning and potency for all and prophetic of a future. The elements in crisis are the same. There is a fermentation that is identical. The elements are these: a body of men, women and children, hungry; an organization of feudal employers out to break the back of unionization, and the government Labor Board sent to "negotiate" between this hunger and this greed.

When men are hungry they at first mass silently, coming closely together, and then after that they are likely to do something. They are very docile at first standing together, and then they are not docile any more.

The elements of the Minneapolis strike are identical with those of all recent strikes. . .

On Saturday Henry Ness, father of four children, war veteran, died with thirty-eight slugs in his body. . . The following Tuesday, labor followed the funeral cortege that took three hours in passing. . . A grim silence stood in the afternoon that frightened the city.

When men are hungry, one man dead in their cause will make living and dangerous men of slaves and skeletons.

Anne Ross

"Labor Unity in Minneapolis"

(New Republic, July 25, 1934.)

"Labor in the Twin Cities is heading toward action as 'one big union.' Craft divisions are proving less and less a barrier to united action in support of the militant truck drivers, whose second big strike in three months is now under way. It is a story of labor discontent, left-wing leadership and competent organization and planning."

Mineola Craftsmen Hit New Deal Wage

Mineola, N. Y. —(FP)— Attempts to impose "security wages" on skilled building trades workers on Long Island WPA projects have led to a strike involving 2,000. Flying squadrons are expected to bring out 3,000 more employees. The strike was called by the Mineola Building Trades Council, which seeks union wages of \$180 for 120 hour's work, in place of \$93.50 offered.

Editor's Note

Last week we reprinted portions of a pamphlet called "Strikes Under the New Deal," published by the Socialist-controlled League for Industrial Democracy. The introduction was by Joseph Schlossberg, General Secretary Treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, a great industrial union which built itself in struggle against the reactionary top clique of the A. F. of L. and which is today a leading factor in progressive moves inside the A. F. of L. We also reprinted a chapter from the LID pamphlet which gave some of the history of Local 574.

"The courage to organize and fight" was Schlossberg's summary of the recipe for trade union success in the modern industrial world. The chapter on 574 was an illustration of such courage and of the success that followed it.

The LID pamphlet referred to a number of magazine articles published in 1934 on the activities of Local 574. This week we print a few quotations from those articles. The authors are all well-known journalists. Meridel Le Sueur and Anne Ross are both natives of Minneapolis. Herbert Solow was editor of the Organizer when it was a daily paper. He is a member of the Newspaper Guild and on the National Executive Board of the Non-Partisan Labor Defense.

Local 574 Goes to College; Lewis Gets It on the Chin

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stopping strikes" to convince his audience of his great conservatism. He spoke about the "good bosses," and though he admitted the standard of living of the workers was very low, he condemned the "outside influences" which were leading the workers to struggle for higher wages.

One of the professors in attendance jumped to his feet in a point of order when Louis began to dictate how he would handle the questioning. The professor held that the student chairman should make these rules and not Lewis. This brought considerable applause from the audience.

When asked why he had not attended a meeting of the Central Labor Union, the Disrupter said it had not met since he had come to town. His questioner proceeded to prove this statement false, and a visible wave of indignation swept through the meeting.

In the words of the Minnesota Daily, official paper of the university: "Lewis' declared policy of ignoring all questions which he thought immaterial or foreign to the topic brought down the scorn of the audience, which asked questions with a decided 'put him on the spot' intent."

When asked how many members there were in Tobin's dual union, Local 500, Lewis replied: "You'd be surprised." The questioner then cited the 574 meeting on November 8 where more than 3,000 were present. "How do you know that most of the people present were members of 574?" Lewis asked. This brought several students to their feet, and one of them shouted that he had been there and had seen a most of those present wearing 574 buttons.

Then Bill Brown got up. "I'm Bill Brown, President of 574," he announced. All eyes turned upon him. Lewis became excited and shouted, "I refuse to answer your question, before you ask it!" Quick as a trigger, Bill flashed back, "I don't expect you to answer my question before I ask it." This witty retort brought down

Coal Workers Raise Funds for Christ Moe

Monday night saw a well attended meeting of the coal section of 574. Reports from the various yards indicated that the unionization of the coal industry was almost complete. The meeting was saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Christ Moe, wife of the popular steward at the Fuel Distributors yard. A move was started in the meeting to raise money by a subscription list to assist Brother Moe defray the heavy expense he has been under. The Fuel Distributors yard reported that they had already raised \$50.

thunderous applause and laughter.

When the meeting had again calmed down, Brown said to Lewis: "Why do you say that Minneapolis is one of the worst places in the United States? Haven't the unions in the past two years been growing? Haven't they been winning strikes, and getting higher wages and better conditions? What harm have these leaders done?"

Lewis answered, "Maybe they haven't done any harm to Minneapolis. Maybe they've done some good. But we are not interested in Minneapolis, we are interested in protecting our organization."

So dramatic was the appearance of the 574 officers at the meeting, so thoroughly was Meyer Lewis drubbed; that the next evening, the Minnesota Daily broadcast the highlights of the Forum as part of its regular newscast.

The necessity for a genuine workers' paper is revealed by the way in which the big daily papers covered up completely Lewis' defeat at the Forum. This is just another instance of how the daily papers serve as instruments of the bosses.

Build the Organizer! Push the sub drive to victory!

Welfare Board Gets Dictator

Yielding to the demands of the minority faction on the Welfare Board headed by I. S. Josephs, the SERA female Hitler, Edna Dumaresq, watchdog of the state Relief Administration, was returned to power Monday morning. Scott and Hudson, who had led a fight against state domination of the local relief board, were defeated by the Josephs faction who had connived with B. E. Youngdahl, social service chief and SERA administrator of state relief funds. Youngdahl, Monday morning, cut off all relief funds due the city from the SERA and 7 a. m. Monday found all relief offices closed. At the special meeting of the Welfare Board called for nine o'clock Edna Dumaresq was crammed down the throats of the local Welfare Board. As soon as the Board had returned the representative of the SERA to office Youngdahl found \$250,000 and the relief office opened.

Emergency Teachers Will Gather Friday

The Minnesota Emergency Teachers Association will hold a meeting in Pioneer Hall, Lumber Exchange building, Friday, Nov. 22, at 8 p. m. The meeting will be addressed by Paul Hendrickson of the CLU Educational committee and by A. H. Ahlstrom of the Men's Teachers' Federation.

Industrial Set-up Gets Labor Support

Washington — (FP) — Formation of the Committee for Industrial Organization has touched off a spark of enthusiasm in many labor quarters, judging from early reactions noted in Washington. At the same time, those labor men who fear industrial union encroachments on craft union jurisdictions are inclined to view it with caution.

The committee, headed by President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers and President Chas. P. Howard of the International Typographical Union, was formed by a group of unions favoring industrial unionism in mass production industries. Its functions are educational and advisory, and its purpose is to promote organization in mass production and unorganized industries, to bring the workers into the American Federation of Labor.

Members of the committee, besides Lewis and Howard, include the following union presidents: Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; David Dubinsky, International Ladies' Garment Workers; Thomas F. McMahon, United Textile Workers; Harvey Freming, Oil Field, Gas Well & Refinery Workers; M. Zaritsky, president cap and milinery department, United Hatters, Cap & Milinery Workers, and Thomas H. Brown, International Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers.

Among the first of the labor reactions expressed is that of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, which hails the committee in an enthusiastic editorial in its official paper.

More reticent are leading craft union officials, who opposed the Lewis group at the Atlantic City A. F. of L. convention. They were reluctant to comment until they knew more about the committee. President John P. Frey of the Metal Trades Dept., A. F. of L., for instance, told Federated Press that he would withhold judgment until the committee's actual activities revealed its character.

"Every militant, practical and progressive unit within the American Federation of Labor should at once come forward with definite offers of co-operation in this excellent and necessary undertaking," says the Hosiery Worker, welcoming the formation of the committee on behalf of the A. F. H. W.

"The cause of industrial unionism is not likely to be advanced so much by theoretical debates within the labor movement as by practical work in attempting to organize the unorganized. The new committee set up by the international presidents is not formed for the purpose of issuing propaganda but rather to aid and stimulate the unionization of many workers in the basic industries."

Pointing out that the task which the committee has set itself is no easy one, though none-the-less necessary, the hosiery union paper declares:

"The proponents of industrial unionism are not merely seeking day strike, union butchers at 51 ganization because it might be a little easier to unionize workers under one name than another. The industrial union advocates seek to build a labor movement that is capable of, and willing to, undertake bigger and more difficult things for the sake of accomplishing greater benefits for the working masses."

Shorty Depew wishes to deny the report that he will lead the Grand March at the Taxi Drivers' Ball on Nov. 20th.

Power Employees Start Union Drive

(Continued from page 1)

hundred members, Mike had recruited almost sixty in six months' time. The active members of the union, impatient with Boyle's slow progress, began to take matters in their own hands. They elected a large organization committee, threw Boyle's proposed agreement in the waste basket, and proceeded to draft a set of demands in accordance with the wishes of the workers. In six weeks' time the union grew from sixty to seven hundred members.

Mike went back to Chicago in a huff, deputizing his satellite, Tucker, and McGlogan to represent him. At this stage Robert F. Pack, president of the Northern States Power Co., and now also a member of Latimer's Employer-Employee board, began to take active steps against the union. He called meetings on the company's time, attendance compulsory, and opened a "red" drive of his own in which he had the co-operation of Boyle, Tucker and McGlogan.

Pack's subordinates began calling individual members of the union on the carpet, making threats against them if they did not cease their union activities. Under this combined pressure the union was soon reduced again to Boyle's size—sixty members—and still there was no agreement.

Affairs were then left in the hands of Guy Alexander where they have remained up to the present, and still there is no agreement. But now the union members are up in arms, and there is every indication that they have profited by their experiences.

An organization rally has been called at 18 N. 8th St. on Wed., Nov. 20, at 8 p. m. A portion of the text of the executive board's statement calling the meeting follows:

"Our employer, Robert F. Pack, is posing as a public benefactor by serving on Mayor Latimer's Employer-Employee Board. Yet he is violating the first premise of fair employer-employee relations by refusing to recognize and deal with the union of his own employees. In this he has had the moral support of the alleged representatives of labor who sit with him on the board.

"We are no longer deceived by these people. We must depend primarily upon the strength of our own ranks and upon the support of other trade unions. As has been demonstrated in the battles for union recognition waged by the truck drivers, auto mechanics, metal workers and other unions, we will have the full support of all unions in our fight.

"To warrant such support we must solidify our own ranks. We must again set up a strong organization committee to assist the executive board. We must see that every employee of the company is provided for and protected."

Roy Weir, organizer for the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, and Bill Brown, president of General Driver Local 574 have been invited to speak at the rally and to assist in the work of reshaping a program of action for the union.

Work or No Work, Jail Awaits Worker

Austin, Tex. —(FP)—The cops in Austin get the poor man coming and going. If he is jobless, they arrest him for vagrancy. If he finds a job, they jail him for working without a permit. One man who thought he could safely turn an honest penny by selling a fish he caught in the dam was fined for selling without a license.

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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 Bolshevik
I'm labor."

Local 574 Does Not Oppose the A. F. of L.

Frequent and persistent rumors are being circulated that Local 574 does not want to be reinstated into the A. F. of L. Charges have been made in some labor circles that the General Drivers Union is infringing upon the jurisdiction of other unions. All of these statements are false. They are deliberately manufactured by enemies of Local 574 in an effort to reflect discredit upon it.

Local 574 did not withdraw from the A. F. of L. It was expelled under the subterfuge of per capita tax delinquency in the face of its desperate efforts to remain in good standing. The union has fought constantly for reinstatement, and in this fight it has had the full support of the large majority of the other local unions in the city. As late as October 28, two days before the inauguration of the "Red Drive," an official communication was sent to the Teamsters Joint Council again asserting that the General Drivers Union was still ready to discuss the question of reinstatement on the basis of a sincere effort to arrive at a mutual agreement.

Since their expulsion the truck drivers have continued to give their support to the A. F. of L. unions. They have given assistance in organization work. The Machinists and Auto Mechanics Union has secured many new members through the influence of Local 574 in the fleet garages. Union truck drivers have been able to aid the building tradesmen in unionizing construction jobs. Unorganized workers, candy makers, chicken pickers, building maintenance employees, and many others, have come to 574 for assistance and organization. In each case they have been given assistance to establish union conditions in their industry and have been turned over to the A. F. of L.

In every strike that has occurred, Local 574 has been found on the picket line doing everything that it could to help win. Union drivers refused to deliver to scab jobs. 574 men have been on every picket line. The benefit of the experiences of the truck drivers has been made available to the strike committee of the striking unions.

It is common knowledge that Local 574 has been one of the leading exponents of industrial unionism in Minneapolis. By pursuing this policy it has been able to form a truly powerful union which has brought real gains to its members and added power to the entire movement. Today there are many others in the labor movement nationally who agree with this concept of organization method. A powerful group of International Unions has set up a committee in Washington to carry on the fight within the A. F. of L. for industrial unionism. They will not be content to see their supporters isolated from the movement. 574 is just one such case of isolation, but it is of sufficient importance that it will obtain the support of this national industrial union group in its fight for reinstatement.

While the Drivers International snipes at Local 574, it permits other union within its ranks to organize industrially. The Milk Drivers Union of Minneapolis is organized in the dairy industry on that basis. We do not criticize this. We are for it. But we do say, if the Milk Drivers can do this, why isn't it alright for the General Drivers to follow the same course?

The charges made against Local 574 of "outlawry," infringement on jurisdictions, and sabotage of A. F. of L. unions, are false statements being circulated as propaganda in the interest of the craft unionists. These untrue statements must be recognized as such and dismissed from the minds of honest trade union men and women.

Local 574 is not opposed to the A. F. of L. It is fighting in the interests of the workers and is anxious to give full co-operation at all times to all bona fide unions.

Strong Words

The official magazine of the Drivers International in the November 1935 issue carries an item stating that the Milk Wagon Drivers and "other local unions" in Minneapolis appeared before the General Executive Board asking aid to fight "certain Communist and radical leaders who were still endeavoring to represent an organization, formerly No. 574 of that city. . . ." The International Union is reported as promising aid "even to the extent of calling on the governments, both state and national, to protect real American trade unionists. . . as well as honest employers. . ."

Alright, gentlemen, when do we begin? Daniel Tobin and his Minneapolis pie-card artists have tried everything else, so why not try this? We are ready.

Republican Propaganda

The American Liberty League, the new propaganda agency of the Republican party, with its 59 overfed, well-heeled attorneys, has offered to defend—free of charge!—any person who feels that his constitutional rights are being denied.

The Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union of York, Pennsylvania, denied its right to peaceful assembly by the mayor of that city, has appealed to the fat Republican lawyers. But they will find that these great patriots are not interested in the constitutional rights of the workers. If they were, they would already be busy working for the release from prison of Tom Mooney, Norman Mini, Angelo Herndon, the Gallup miners, and the scores of the working class victims of predatory capitalism.

We can best judge the meaning of the propaganda of the American Liberty League by remembering the wise words of Ferdinand Lassalle, the father of the German labor movement: "Whenever you behold a party . . . which makes its battle cry . . . 'To rally 'round the Constitution,' . . . you will always be able to say: this constitution is at its last gasp. . ."

Sinton Rebukes Splitter Lewis

Shortly after the 574 mass meeting, Meyer Lewis called Leslie Sinton of the Cooks and Waiters Union and demanded that he come to Lewis' scab hotel and explain why he had given the drivers a copy of Flore's telegram to Green (printed in No. 30 of the Organizer.)

Sinton told the Splitter that he was interested in building unions, not tearing them down, and that if Lewis wanted an audience with him he could call at the Cooks and Waiters offices where he would be accommodated provided there was nothing more important to be done.

Next day Sinton arose at the Business Agents' meeting to roundly denounce Lewis; he then demanded that the BA's count noses then and there so that they would be prepared to deal with the Splitter in the Central Labor Union the next night.

L. Boerbach of the Painters' Union followed with a motion that the Business Agents repudiate Meyer Lewis, his program and tactics. The motion was quickly seconded only to be ruled out of order by Chairman Pat Corcoran of the Milk Drivers.

A heated debate ensued over Corcoran's action in which it became clearly evident that there was a strong majority sentiment against Meyer Lewis.

As the going began to get real tough for the pro-Lewis minority, John Boscoe of the printing trades, long time champion of reaction, member of Latimer's fake "Labor Board," moved adjournment to prevent the meeting from taking any definite, constructive action.

While Meyer Lewis was under this fire in the BA meeting, he was appearing in person at the Student Forum at the University when he took it on the chin from the students and 574.

Dominion Electric Co. 'Flees' Labor Trouble

Some time ago, in these columns, the question was raised as to whether or not any firm had ever left Minneapolis because of labor trouble. A case has been unearthed where this actually happened. Here is the story.

Last spring shortly after the Filling Station and Arrowhead strikes, the Dominion Electric Company, a notorious labor hating concern whose workers had always been underpaid and exploited, made up their mind that their employees were in danger of being organized and so decided to move to a milder climate. They packed up their machinery and supplies and hid themselves to Mansfield, Ohio. They gave as the reason for their move that they wished to locate closer to their source of supplies and to avoid "Labor Trouble." The move did not bring the Dominion Company 100 per cent results. Three months after the Company had settled in their new "Peaceful" location their workers organized, and struck for higher and better working conditions. After three weeks of militant picketing and struggle, the Dominion Company settled with the union. The settlement brought raises in pay for the workers which averaged over 7c per hour.

The moral of this story seems to be: Workers get just as hungry in Mansfield as they do in Minneapolis.

Tacoma Upholsterers Lick Local Bosses

Tacoma, Wash.—(FP)—The Upholsterers Union has won wage increases from 7 to 10 cents an hour in a two-week strike affecting 100 Tacoma workers.

Bill Brown Says—

Taking an example from Governor Olson of Minnesota and Governor Herring of Iowa, I hereby offer to bet Meyer Lewis, also of Iowa, a 250 pound pig that he loses his fight with 574. The pig to be delivered to the scab Windsor Hotel, if the Splitter wins the bet, by a 574 truck driver. On our side there will be no rough or crooked fighting. We won't even scout Meyer Lewis' meetings with the Citizens Alliance.

If Splitter Lewis can't find a 500 driver to deliver the pig to us when he loses the bet, we will furnish him a 574 driver.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

The Executive Board of Local 221, Ice Drivers Union, have been holding their last few meetings in the basement of Bert Neilson's house. Who is Bert Neilson?—Don't be silly.—He is the General Manager of the Cedar Lake Ice Company.

Well Known Fact Dep't.

John Geary is not a subscriber to the ORGANIZER.

Bruce Vincent, Cedar Lake driver, has taken a six weeks leave of absence. Want to know what he is doing? He is Cliff Hall's bodyguard. At \$40 per week.

The Milk Wagon Drivers are moving for 8 a. m. delivery of milk. It's a good move. We are 100 per cent for it.

Some of the Independents reported that they saw Meyer Lewis on the Belt Line job.—Tut! Tut! boys. Did you ever see a rabbit on Nicollet Ave.

Twenty-seven of the International Fuel boys, one man short of a perfect score, held a meeting in the Union hall Thursday night on seniority.

In the new set-up at the Fuel Distributors yard there are two stewards. One for the drivers and one for the yard crew. Harold Hultgren is the new yard steward.

There is no truth in the report that Larry Hagen, of the Belt Line is going to wear a silk hat to work when he gets that new 1935 job.

What was the matter with the Minnesota Sand and Gravel crew the day following the Smoker?

By the way, the "Smoker" was just that. No more. No less.

Despite the fact that the last C. L. U. meeting was held behind locked doors with the "Reds" safely excluded, before the evening was over progressive delegates had Lewis' hide nailed to the wall.

Did you know that the John L. Lewis faction in the A. F. of L. is going to have a representative here this week.—This column wishes to propose that the representatives of the two factions be put into a ring where they can fight it out with disturbing the labor movement.

There is no Union Label on the Clover Leaf Creamery milk tickets.

John Wing spoke to the Independent Truck Owners Friday afternoon.

It may be of interest to union members to know that the ORGANIZER has subscribers in almost every state in the Union.

Workers at the Northern States Power are bracing their feet for a show down with the Company.

Johnny Dickerson, Clubroom host, married his niece last Saturday.—We mean, of course that he

married her off to someone else.

The office force was visiting her sister in St. Peter Sunday.

Ray Rainbolt announces that he will continue to wear his face while some minor repairs are being made upon it.

While the International crew were fighting it out over the seniority list the other night Sam Schue, whose place in the list was in doubt, saw one of his friends leaving the room to get a drink. He piped up, "For God's sake don't go now, I may need your vote in a minute."

Conversation overheard between two truck drivers. "What's this I hear about Meyer Lewis all the time? I thought we elected Latimer last spring."

Wonder if Lewis can play the Swan Song?

Many members have asked if their wives can take part in the ORGANIZER sub drive. You bet your life they can. Every subscription that is secured by the wife of a member will be credited to that member.

Wonder if there are enough musicians in the union to get up a band. Let's hear from the horn tooters.

Mrs. Christ Moe Dies Sunday Eve

The wife of Christ Moe, steward at the Fuel Distributors and long time member of Local 574, died at Asbury hospital Sunday evening at seven o'clock. The body will lie in state at the Werneck Brothers Funeral Home, 37th and Nicollet Ave. The funeral will be held from the same place Wednesday at 1 p. m.

Gulf Port Strikers Find Latimer Rival

Beaumont, Texas.—Mayor P. E. Renfro, of this city, has proven an apt side-kick for Latimer, the "labor mayor" of Minneapolis.

Before the election, the politicians, running on the labor ticket spoke with tears in their eyes of friendship for the working man. sympathy for the striking workers tute the redemption of Renfro's pledges.

The union petitioned the city council to close the port during the period of the strike. But the members of that labor-elected body hid out in order not to take action.

The backward rural sections of the state have been scoured for scab labor which has been shipped in by the carload. Widespread to alter the methods of labor or has prevented, thus far, the calling out of the National Guard.

Meeting Schedule Local 574

Thursday, November 21: Transfer men; Independent Truck Owners.
Friday, November 22: All Stewards; Federal Workers.
Monday, November 25: Full membership.
Tuesday, November 26: Cab Drivers; night drivers, 1 p. m.; day drivers, 7 p. m.