

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Northwest Labor Unity Conference

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As from this hour
You use your power,
The world must follow you.

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

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DEMAND INDUSTRIAL UNION

75 YEARS FOR PATTERSON IN HOSTILE COURT

Noted Scottsboro Defendant Again Convicted in Fourth Trial

Frameup Again Settles Fate of Young Negro Boy

From Decatur, Alabama, keystone of the reactionary Bourbon South, comes the news that Heywood Patterson, the most noted of the famed Scottsboro defendants, has been again convicted and this time sentenced to 75 years at hard labor.

This is the fourth conviction of Patterson on the same charge. Convicted each time, he has three times heard himself sentenced to death, but in each case has won a new trial. The Scottsboro case has, during the past five years, attracted national and even international attention.

Five years ago Heywood Patterson, in company with eight other young negro boys, was accused of attacking Mrs. Victoria Price, a white woman, on a freight train on which they were all engaged in "bumming" their way. White justice for the negro, in the south, moved swiftly, and before these negro boys had a chance to present an adequate defense before a prejudiced and hostile court, they were all convicted and condemned to die.

So flimsy was the evidence on which they were convicted and so obviously was this a case of southern negro prosecution by the whites that the case immediately gained nation-wide notoriety. Although positive and definite evidence has been uncovered, since the first trial, proving beyond a shadow of a doubt that the boys are innocent, three subsequent trials resulted in three more convictions.

Mass sentiment aroused by various working class defense organizations, who in the past five years, have raised funds and provided legal defense for these defendants, is the only thing that has prevented their legal lynching.

The newest conviction of Patterson must not go unchallenged by the American working class. The hand of the white southern Bourbons who have lynched, burned, and outraged negroes for a century, must be stayed.

Every individual, every worker and every organization that believes in justice and equity for every worker irrespective of race, color or creed must raise their voices in determined protest against the latest and most outrageous court decision in the Scottsboro case.

Quit Your Kidding



Industrial Leaders Lash Out at Green and Craft Unionists in Open Letters

Last week saw a rather spirited exchange of communications between William Green, President of the A. F. of L., and John L. Lewis, Chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization. Green, in a semi-sarcastic letter to Lewis, challenged him to make good his threat to create industrial organization in auto, rubber, and other basic industries. This letter was answered by Lewis in his speech at a huge Cleveland mass meeting, where he spoke to 30,000 auto workers.

Lewis Warns Auto Workers

In his speech in the Cleveland Auditorium, Lewis told the assembled auto workers that their only hope for setting up a nationwide union organization in the automobile industry, was by amalgamation of the existing auto unions and the organizing of the unorganized auto workers into a huge industrial union. Lewis' Cleveland speech indicated that he was prepared to take Green at his word and start a program of industrial organization in automobiles.

A. F. of L. Executive Council Speaks

In the meantime, the A. F. of L. Executive Council convened in Miami, Florida, issued an out and out ultimatum to Lewis and his Committee for Industrial Organization. The Executive Council in a bluntly worded statement called upon the Committee for Industrial Organization to "dissolve itself" and "cease functioning." Apprised of the decision of the Executive Council by newspapermen, Lewis said: "The mountain has labored and brought forth a mole."

Committee Issues Pamphlet

Seemingly disregarding the warning of the Executive Council, the Industrial Committee has issued a new pamphlet distinctly putting Green on the spot for his

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160 Committee Meets Employers

Electrical Workers Union Local 160 reports that new members are coming into the union at a rapid rate. Job committees are being formed in the various departments and crews of the Northern States Power Co. for the purpose of taking up grievances for the members. On Monday, January 27, the union executive board met with Mr. Henry Grinacher and Mr. L. D. Smith of the company to present grievances for the members and to discuss the general procedure in handling future grievances. It was agreed that in all cases grievances will be taken up with the immediate supervisor by the job committee in the department involved. If a settlement cannot be obtained in this manner, the matter will be referred to the executive board of the union, and they will take it up with the higher company officials.

A definite schedule of meetings for the union membership, organization committee, and executive board has been established. The schedule of meetings appears elsewhere in this issue.

Cokato WPA Meeting Held Despite Cold

Saturday, January 20th, a meeting of WPA workers was held in Cokato, Minnesota. Miles Dunne and Wm. Brown, who had made arrangements for the meeting during the Ortonville conference, were present to outline an organizational setup for the workers and to urge their attendance at the State-wide conference February 8th and 9th.

Despite the fact that it was 21 below zero at the time the meeting was called, about 45 WPA workers were in attendance. Great interest was shown in the plans for organizing a Federal Workers section affiliated with 574. Another meeting has been set for Saturday, February 1st, at the same time and place.

This meeting will form the organizational setup, elect officers, and issue membership cards. Brown and Dunne will be the speakers.

Lac Qui Parle Work Will Get Under Way

The \$2,131,999 Lac Qui Parle project, which was the subject at a resolution adopted at the recent Ortonville conference, has finally been approved by Comptroller General John R. McCarl.

This project, which is intended to build flood control dams for the conservation of water in the Lac Qui Parle District, will employ thousands of men.

When even the church cries out against boss terrorism, things ARE getting bad.

PACKERS FEAR STRONG UNION IN INDUSTRY

Industrial Organization Must Come for Packing Workers

Craft Unions Cannot Solve Problems of Butcher Workmen

The organization of the packing industry, the leading basic industry in the midwest, is of vital importance to the labor movement of this section. With this industry centered as it is in South St. Paul, Albert Lea, Austin, Mason City, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Sioux Falls, South Omaha, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Chicago, etc., the workers in the meat packing industry become the logical mass base for industrial unionization. Today, however, the majority of these workers are completely unorganized, with A. F. of L. unions, independent unions and company unions opposing each other in the field of organization.

This condition exists because, as in the other basic industries, craft unionism, with its policies of class collaboration, division and legal strike-breaking, has proven itself incapable of organizing the packing house workers. Since 1896, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, with a leadership committed to these false policies of craft unionism, has been making feeble attempts at organization. Their 40 years of effort has produced the disorganization of today.

The leaders of the Amalgamated boast that this organization alone has survived all attacks and point to this as an indication of power. The membership of the company unions far outnumbers the membership of the Amalgamated, and yet they claim the right to monopoly in the field organization in the packing industry.

With its policy of primary organization among skilled workmen, preferably in retail butcher shops, with its racial discriminations, its vicious attacks against independent unions trying to organize on a correct basis, its inability to smash company unionism, the Amalgamated has served to prevent real organization of the packing house workers.

The leaders of the Amalgamated have branded all attempts at independent organization as deliberate moves to divide the workers. They have taught the members of the Amalgamated to hate the independent unions and all their members. The members of the independent unions, on the other hand, have a deep and justified feeling of resentment and

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Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Industrial Leaders Lash Out at Green and Craft Unionists in Open Letter

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present attitude toward the Industrial Union bloc.

Green's 1918 Statement

Proving the truth of the old statement "I would that mine enemy had written a book" Green's statement on Industrial Organization out of the dim past rise to haunt that now staunch defender of craft unionism. Green's statement on Industrial Unionism published in 1918 contains the following observations: "The organization of men by industry rather than by crafts brings about a more perfect organization, closer cooperation, and tends to develop the highest form of organization." Further, he says: "It is becoming more and more evident that if unskilled workers are forced to work long hours for low wages, the interest and the welfare of skilled workers are constantly menaced thereby." He ends: "Summing up the situation, some of the advantages resulting from an industrial form of organization are the reduction of opportunities or causes for jurisdictional disputes, the concentration of economic strength, the blending into harmonious cooperation of all men employed in industry, and the advancement and protection of the interests of the unskilled laborer in the same proportion as that of the skilled worker."

Green Warns Committee

Late in November, Green addressed a letter to the Industrial Committee calling upon them to abide by the decision of the A. F. of L. convention and warning them that persistence in the efforts of the committee to violate the convention decision, would lead to "division and discord."

Industrial Leaders Reply

Harvey C. Fremming, President of Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers' Union, in his letter to Green told how his organization had been raided by craft unionists. He said that many times workers had refused to enter the craft unions even after they had been ordered to do so. He said: "We have held that we cannot and will not force men to become non-unionists and when they refuse to transfer, we allow them to remain in our union. We can, upon urgency of raiders, kick these loyal members out of our union but we cannot kick them into craft unions against their will."

Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Statement

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers had the following to say to Green: "The total membership of the trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and of those not in affiliation comprises upward of five million out of about 40 million organizable wage earners in the nation's industries and services. A degree of organization not exceeding 12 per cent cannot be viewed as satisfactory in an industrial and economic setup in which industry is highly organized, well centralized and subject to controls by a powerful leadership."

Lewis Also Replies

Lewis's letter to Green was in part as follows: "I do not covet your office, in proof, I submit the record of years of support of your personal and official fortunes. It is bruited about, however, that your private sympathies and individual inclinations lie with the group espousing the industrial type of organization, while your official actions and public utterances will be in support of their adversaries. Such a policy is vulnerable to criticism and will hardly suffice to

protect you against attacks that may ensue from advocates of the craft philosophy. They may feel rightfully that more is due them than perfunctory support. Why not return to your father's house? You will be welcome. If you care to dissociate yourself from your present position, the Committee for Industrial Organization will be happy to make you its Chairman in my stead. The honorarium will be equal to that you now receive. The position would be as permanent as the one you occupy. You would have the satisfaction of supporting a cause in which you believe inherently, and of contributing your fine abilities to the achievement of an enlarged opportunity for the nation's workers."

George Belden Is Boomed by Students

Tuesday afternoon at the Student Open Forum at the University of Minnesota, George K. Belden, co-owner of the Minneapolis Baseball Club and member of the Board of Directors of the Citizens Alliance, attempted to explain the Strutwear strike to the assembled students.

George's success as a speaker at the University Forum was not as pronounced as it generally is. The applause that usually followed his anti-union remarks when speaking before a group of his business associates was strangely absent at the University meeting. Instead, a chorus of boos was the student's answer to Belden's statement that the Strutwear opening was a matter of "law and order."

The meeting was hurriedly bought to an end during the question period when, in a reply to a question by one of the students, Belden said that it was not the question of whether the wage was great or small, but rather the question was of whether or not the worker was satisfied.

So great was the vocal opposition to Belden, after this remark, that the meeting was adjourned by the chairman although the question period had just begun.

U. M. W. Convention In Capital This Week

This week will see the yearly convention of the United Mine Workers convened in Washington, D. C. There is no question but that this will be a history making convention for the U. M. W. In all probability John L. Lewis, president of the Miners, will go into the convention and demand that his organization give him full support in his fight with the craft union bureaucracy of the A. F. of L.

There is little question but that the United Mine Workers, itself an industrial union, will accord Lewis full support.

New York Elevator Operators Strike

In New York, people employed in towering office buildings, that stud the metropolitan area, have been forced to walk dozens of flights of stairs and work in frigid offices.

This condition has been brought about by a strike of union elevator operators and furnace men who are striking for recognition of their union and an increase in wages. The union reports that hundreds of building owners have signed with the union and the strike is being continued in the buildings that have not yet settled with the union.

Bill Brown Says—

The State Legislature and Senate finally passed the Old Age Pension Bill after it was amended and kicked around until it means less than nothing to the old workers that are eligible for it. It was a simple matter for these same Representatives to pass the bill providing \$10 a day pay for the special session.

According to the way they voted the \$10 a day, perhaps a mistake was made in the drafting of the Pension Bill. All the Representatives should have been included, as pension eligibles and it would have passed without a fight. It will be too bad for some of these Representatives if the workers and farmers read the records of the Senate and House vote.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Non-Partisan Labor Defense Fights Fake Strutwear Suit

An attempt by a Minneapolis firm to evade the recently-enacted Federal Anti-Injunction Law is now being fought by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense. The case centers around Alfred Russell, arrested on the picket line at the Strutwear Knitting Company.

The Strutwear Company, unable to get a federal injunction, organized a dummy corporation in another state and had this dummy corporation bring a foreclosure action in federal court against the Strutwear Company less than two weeks after its incorporation. The execution of this writ brought the United States marshal into the case and made all pickets liable to the charge of contempt of court without jury trial, thus accomplishing the same purpose as if an injunction had been issued.

Russell was convicted of contempt, and his case is now being appealed on the grounds that the court had no jurisdiction since this was not an actual case between two corporations in two states but was an arranged affair created to impose upon and make use of the powers of the federal court. It is, of course, highly important that the Non-Partisan Labor Defense win this case, which is the first one involving this issue that has ever been brought in the country. Otherwise this may be only the first of many attempts to use the federal court against workers by artificially creating such interstate situations.

About \$500 is urgently needed. The money will be spent as follows: Filing fees, \$40. Transcript of evidence at the trial, \$180. Printing of briefs, \$300. No money is paid to the attorneys, who contribute their services to the N.P.L.D. free of charge. Contributions may be sent to A. C. Rouse, Executive Secretary, Minneapolis Branch of the N.P.L.D., 2506 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis. Anyone desiring further information may obtain it at the same address.

Garment Co. Strikers Dispersed by Guard

Indiana is rapidly becoming known as the state where the National Guard troops are continually on duty in one section of the state or another acting as strike breakers for the employers.

At Jeffersonville, Indiana, the guardsmen last week, with bayonets fixed and gas bombs flying, dispersed workers who were peacefully picketing the struck garment factory of M. Fine & Sons.

The picket line was dispersed and 130 scabs, who were in the building, were conducted, by the guardsmen, to places of safety.

Mass Picket Line By Steno's Union

New York.—(FP)—Protesting the firing of three union members in violation of an agreement, the Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants Union has voted to throw a mass picket line around the offices of the Metropolitan News Co. in New York.

Federal Workers Unit Skips Friday Meet

The last meeting of the Federal Workers' Section, scheduled for Friday, January 24th, was postponed because of inclement weather.

The below zero weather that has been experienced during the past week has made for poor attendance at all union meetings, but during the lull in work activity the Federal Workers have been busy drawing up a set of demands during the coming week.

The questions that are under dispute at the present time relate particularly to transportation, and pay for loss time.

The committee which was charged with laying these demands before Christgau had, up to the time of going to press, been unable to secure contact with the State WPA office.

However, in a visit to the union office last week, Sassman indicated that the State WPA regime were prepared to give consideration to the demands of the Federal Section.

Truck Owners Will Distribute Emblems

The Independent Truck Owners Section of Local 574 have been hard hit by the unseasonably cold weather that has kept them off the job every day during the past week with the exception of Tuesday. Unlike the WPA workers, the Independent Truck Owners do not receive pay when the job is stopped by unseasonable weather.

A series of conferences between the Independent Truck Owners and the Federal Workers has resulted in an understanding on the question of cold weather lay-offs.

However, during this inactive period the Independent Truck Owners have utilized the time well in bringing their records up to date, engaging in intensive organizational activity and in preparing to distribute independent emblems to all members of their section at their next Thursday meeting.

Union Crane Worker In One-Man Strike

Jim Kelley, union crane operator on the Boston Water Front, last week put on a one man strike that made history in the Maritime Union.

Kelley, operating a crane which was unloading scrap iron from the hold of the British freighter, Boscombe Chine, refused to continue work until his overtime and bonus had been paid.

The freighter, which has been on fire, was being unloaded to assist in smothering the blaze. When Kelley's employer refused to pay the overtime, Kelley, backed by the International Longshoremen's Organization, tied up the job.

Between forty and fifty longshoremen who were unloading the freighters cargo, ceased work. Kelley's demands were met.

Local 221 Issues Scab Directory

Believe it or not, Local 221, Ice Wagon Drivers Union, have gotten out a leaflet. Generally, when a Trade Union issues a leaflet, it is for organizational purposes, but this leaflet issued by Local 21, is perhaps unique in Trade Union annals.

It lists the companies which they claim to be "fair" to their organization. Among those companies listed, which principally consists of small wagon dealers, the real outlaws and chislers in the coal business, is the River Terminal Coal and Coke Company.

This scab concern which is under contract to Local 574 are, at the present time, being struck and bannered by our organization. We are striking and bannering this concern because they have flagrantly broken and violated their agreement with our union.

Local 221, through the Teamsters Joint Council, has declared this concern fair. If this constitutes fairness then Benedict Arnold was his country's saviour and Pontius Pilot was a hero.

However, this action on the part of the Teamsters Joint Council, can only be expected from an organization that has descended to the lowest depths of trade union degeneracy.

V. R. Dunne to Debate Ross Friday Evening

Friday evening, February 7th, at 8 p. m. in the downtown Eagles' Hall, corner of 8th St. and 4th Ave. South, will see a debate on fundamental political issues that should hold the interest of every worker. The question of building a national Farmer-Labor Party is one that should hold the greatest interest of every working class voter irrespective of his or her political affiliation.

The question that will be the subject of debate is "Should a Revolutionary Workers' Party help build the Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota and throughout the country."

The sponsors of this debate are the Communists Party, U. S. A., and Workers Party, U. S. A.

Nat Ross, District Organizer of the Communist Party will maintain the affirmative and V. R. Dunne, District Organizer of Workers' Party, will uphold the negative side of the question. Sander Genis, Business Agent of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, will be the chairman of the meeting. The public is invited.

Admission is 15 cents. Tickets can be secured either at the door or through the representatives of the two sponsoring parties.

New Office System Installed in Union

The new union bookkeeping system that has been in process of installation for over two months is now functioning. The card index system that has take the place of the old ledger bookkeeping system is a vast improvement in keeping the union membership records.

Each member now has an individual card which contains a complete record of his union history. The date of his entry into the Union is noted, each month's dues are recorded, fines and assessments are a part of the card record of a given member.

The ponderous ledge system which was inherited from the Drivers' International has been discarded. The newer, more up to date, and more efficient card system has been installed.

It is almost symbolic that with the shedding of the old antiquated bookkeeping system we have also turned our backs on their "horse and buggy" organization methods,

PACKERS FEAR STRONG UNION IN INDUSTRY

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distrust against the Amalgamated and all that it stands for. The foregoing analysis of the role of the Amalgamated clearly reveals to all that it is not the membership, but the leadership of the Amalgamated which is responsible for the conditions which now exist in the packing industry. A frank analysis of the reasons for the formation of independent unions, together with a consideration of their objectives, gives conclusive proof that they are not splitters but are actually pioneers on the road to the complete unionization of the packing industry.

Independent unions have come into existence through open revolt by whole local unions against the do-nothing policy of the Amalgamated, through expulsion of local unions because they rebelled against the dictatorship of the Amalgamated officialdom, and in centers where the Amalgamated failed to even attempt organization. In every instance where they won real benefits for the workers, the independent unions were organized along industrial lines. This experience clearly demonstrates the power of industrial organization. Where independent unions have dealt with a packer whose operations were principally at one point, a truly powerful industrial union has been built despite the sniping of the Amalgamated. However, when the packer's operations were carried on at several points the independent unions were unable to consolidate their organizational machinery on a sectional scale because of the interference of the Amalgamated at the same time that they were fighting the packer, thus checking the growth of industrial unionism. It is therefore evident that although the independent unions have demonstrated the correct organizational method, independent unionism is not the solution to the problem. The packing house workers must be organized into one industrial union, so that they may fight the packers on an industry wide basis.

The leaders of the Amalgamated state that they are in favor of industrial unionism, that they are for unity of purpose and unity of action. There are some who will hail this statement with great rejoicing and propose immediate surrender of the independent unions to the leaders of the Amalgamated. But before we rush blindly to follow such a proposal as this, let us ask a few questions about the Amalgamated. Let us look at the records, right up to the minute. Why haven't they already made attempts to organize industrially? Why haven't they gone as far in this direction as the miners, the brewery workers, the needle trades? Why are they not a part of the A. F. of L. Committee for Industrial Organization? While expressing a desire for industrial unionism and unity of action, the leaders of the Amalgamated say: "We alone now are carrying on the propaganda in the interest of the packing plant worker as we have for the past 40 years . . . We do not have special favors to grant workers who may still be in organizations not directly connected with the American Federation of Labor." This means that the leaders of the Amalgamated have no intention of abandoning their bankrupt policies. They demand that the independent unions dissolve themselves and send their members into the Amalgamated as individuals, without democratic rights, subject to the same rule-or-

Gauley Bridge Project Condemns 2,000 Tunnel Workers to Death

ruin policy which the Amalgamated has followed "for the past 40 years." This offers no solution to the problem. The real answer is far deeper and is tied up closely with the national movement.

The problem of the packing house workers is common to all basic industries, and the need for change has already had national expression. The huge vote for industrial unionism at the Atlantic City convention of the A. F. of L. is clear evidence of the sweeping movement for this form of organization. The attacks against the progressives now being launched by the craft union majority in the A. F. of L. executive council under the guise of "red" drives conclusively prove the reactionary character of craft unionism. The A. F. of L. Committee for Industrial Organization, launched and supported by those A. F. of L. unions which not only desire industrial unionism but also are doing something about it, is the leading group in this fight. This committee has invited co-operation from independent unions with a view toward securing their affiliation on an industrial basis to the A. F. of L. It is in this direction, with a view toward joining with the national forces in this fight, that the packing house workers must look for the real solution of their problem. The Amalgamated, if it is sincere, will leave no stone unturned in an effort to join in this national struggle on the basis of rendering something more than lip service to the cause.

The independent unions and the Amalgamated unions must join hands in this struggle on the basis of the following demands:

1. An industrial union charter from the A. F. of L. granting full jurisdiction over all packing house workers, with full protection from jurisdictional claims by craft unions.

2. Full democratic rights for the local unions.

3. An effective class struggle policy instead of an impotent class collaboration policy.

Three first requisite for the success of this program is a realization by the local unions of the necessity for the building of a strong national organization for their own protection. On the basis of this understanding they must be ready to send their best and most capable forces into this work. Every worker in the packing industry must be made to understand why the industry is today unorganized. The need for industrial organization must be demonstrated to all. Educational work must be carried on to overcome the false prejudices and policies so widely prevalent. There are certain fundamental organizational methods which must be followed to effectively carry out this program:

1. Set up and maintain a headquarters to serve as a clearing house for correspondence and information, to co-ordinate work in the industry, and to maintain contact with the A. F. of L. Committee for Industrial Organization.
2. Publish a definite and complete program and distribute throughout the entire industry. Supplement with distribution of pamphlets and other educational documents.
3. Establish an official organ for the industrial union movement in the packing industry.
4. National and sectional conferences of delegates from all unions and other interested groups to be built up through publicity, correspondence and personal contact throughout the industry by committees and organizers.
5. The participating organizations must recognize the value and importance of this task and must

476 Have Died, 1,500 More Doomed, Testimony Reveals

One of the most ghastly tragedies that has ever overtaken American workers was the cold-blooded murder of 476 tunnel workers and the fatal crippling of 1,500 more on the Gauley Bridge project in West Virginia. This project, which was completed less than a year ago, involved the driving of a tunnel through rock containing so high a degree of silicon that to work in the tunnel unprotected by masks and using dry drills, signed the death warrant of every worker on the Gauley project.

Despite the fact that Rinehart & Dennis Co., contractors, had bored test holes in the rock prior to the starting of the tunnel and had established the fact that the fatal silicon was present in highly dangerous quantities, no move was made to provide these workers with the most elementary safety devices that are required by law.

Farmers, kids out of school, and young men with wives and families to support, comprise the crew that were forced to work in this chamber of death. During the progress of the work, men sickened and died like flies of the horrible lung affliction brought about by inhaling the silicon laden tunnel air.

Subsequent investigation showed that company doctors were fully aware of what was wrong but withheld the information from the workers and continued to deceive them by diagnosing their ailment as "tunnelitis" or "a cold" or "pneumonia."

So notorious has this wholesale murder become, that a Congressional investigation is being conducted. Medical evidence shows that every worker employed upon this project, who is not already dead, is doomed to die. Four hundred seventy-six are already victims of the greed and cupidity of the Union Carbon & Carbide Co., for whom the project was constructed; 1,500 more will die.

In the words of Dr. Emory R. Hayhurst, chief of the Division of Hygiene of the Ohio Department of Health, "these men need not have died."

Cloquet Strikers Still Stand Firm

Cloquet, Minn. — (FP) — With the National Guard on duty at the Berst-Forster-Dixfield Co., Diamond Match subsidiary, and with the breakdown of negotiations with Joseph Duffy, company officer from New York, strikers at Cloquet have dug in for a prolonged siege. The strike is receiving strong support from all unions in the region.

Strikebreakers

At Morganfield, Kentucky, 35 National Guardsmen including 15 machine gunners are acting as strike breakers at the Kingdon Coal & Coke Co. where the miners have been on strike for several weeks.

Last week in a clash between scabs and strikers one union miner was killed.

Cokato will have a section of the Federal Workers in another week.

send their most capable men into this work, the men who will be able to speak with the authority of the union they represent.

6. The day by day work of the group must be carried out on a basis which will provide a maximum of accomplishment with a minimum of expense. The participating organizations must share the necessary expenses.

Meeting Schedule
Local 160, N. S. P. Co.
 Wednesday, February 5th, full membership meeting.
 Thursday, February 6th, Executive Board.
 Wednesday, February 12th, Organization Committee.
 Thursday, February 13th, Executive Board.
 Wednesday, February 19th, full membership meeting.
 Thursday, February 20th, Executive Board.
 Wednesday, February 26th, Organization Committee.
 Thursday, February 27th, Executive Board.
 All meetings at 257 Plymouth avenue north, second floor.
 Members may present grievances at any of the above meetings.

Public Meeting Tuesday, Feb. 4

The Educational Committee of Local 574, General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers Union, which is composed of Phillip Gagnon, Stephen Glaser, Charles Sandell and Walter Hagstrom, announce a public educational meeting which will be held in Drivers' Auditorium, 257 Plymouth Ave. N., on Tuesday, February 4th, at 8 p. m.

Co-operating with the educational committee in the staging of this program is Minnie Japs, Assistant Supervisor of Workers Education.

An elaborate educational program has been planned for the evening. There will be music by a WPA orchestra. A short dramatization of American Labor history will be included in the program. A performance by the Puppet Troop has been promised.

The feature of the evening, however, will be a debate by two skilled debate teams. The subject of the debate will be one that should be heard by every trade unionist. The question of the debate will be "Industrial versus Craft Form of Union Organization." This debate has been given with great success by the same debate team before hundreds of trade unions in Minnesota. It is well worth hearing.

Besides the entertainment feature of the program, good speakers will be on hand who will briefly explain the program of Workers' Education in this state. Members and non-members of the union are urged to attend and urged to bring their wives, their families and their friends.

Admission will be free. There will be no collection.

Auspices, Educational Committee, Local 574.

Witnesses Testify In Tunnel Murder

Five witnesses, brought from Gauley Bridge, W. Va., were unanimous in their testimony before Cong. Marcantonio's House investigating committee that wet drills to prevent deadly silica dust would have saved the lives of 2,000 workers on the huge tunnel project constructed for a power company subsidiary of the Wall St. firm of Union Carbide & Carbon Co. Dr. John B. Andrews of the American Association for Labor Legislation heads the newly-formed Peoples Press-Gauley Bridge Committee, 245 7th Ave., New York City.

Hat, Cap Workers Unions for Unity

New York—(FP)—To strengthen the union for organizational drives, the men's hat department of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union has voted to merge with the millinery department during the coming summer.

Apartment House Janitors Ask For Union Drivers' Co-operation

We have seen the results that can be gained by a co-operation with all organized labor in time of strike and know that such co-operation is a mighty factor in making the bosses listen to the needs of their toilers. I wonder if we have not failed to a large extent to carry this kind of co-operation to its logical conclusion and use it in peaceful organization where it would be as useful as on the field of battle. As an example—why cannot the Coal Drivers' Union and the Apartment House Janitors co-operate together and form an organization fully able to cope with the problems of this day?

Such co-operation would have mutual benefits to both parties. First, if the apartment house men

Direct Relief Gives More Than WPA

What is perhaps a partial explanation of the dissatisfaction that is being felt over the subsistence wage of \$60.50, that is being paid on WPA projects, can perhaps be found in a comparison of this wage with the amount received by a family of five who are still on direct relief. Follows the figures.

This typical family group received in one month the following budgetary allowance: milk, \$12.60; rent, \$20.00; coal, \$7.72; lights, \$3.00; clothing, \$18.89; and groceries \$33.60. This is a total of \$96.82 received during the month of December by a family of five; subtracting from this amount the \$60.50 that is paid as subsistence wage on WPA projects, it will be found that the direct relief client is \$36.32 ahead of the WPA worker.

So the slogan of more wages or supplementary relief seems a logical one for WPA workers.

would demand a union button from every coal driver before he signed the delivery slip Local 574 would have no trouble keeping the coal companies signed 100 per cent with their union, in this way eliminate a strike with its suffering to the workers through loss of wages and sickness or injury that is bound to come through a strike.

Second, if the apartment house janitors were organized in conjunction with Local 574, we would then be in shape to deal with the apartment house owners on equal terms and not have to take the few crumbs they saw fit to leave us. Surely I need not dwell on conditions existing among you apartment house janitors, of how many of you receive only your apartment in return for your work and some not even that in spite of the long hours you put in to give the tenants service. In some buildings not only must the janitor work for these measly wages, but the owners feel he has hired the whole damned family and expects them to work for the same wages. Here is a chance for you apartment house janitors to organize and help yourself and also help others. Will you take this opportunity like men—or will you remain as you are, like whipped curs who have to jump every time the boss cracks the whip?

I am sure the Organized Coal Drivers can see the value of this co-operation to them and to the apartment house men and will gladly go along and co-operate to the limit, as they are organized and educated as to the value of such co-operation. What will you apartment house men do who have everything to gain and nothing to lose by such organized co-operation?

LOWELL LOCKE
 1505 2nd Ave. S.

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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."

Extra Session Ends

The much publicized and highly touted extra session of the Minnesota State Legislature is at an end. Their seven weeks of arduous labor is over and the members of the two houses can now return to their respective communities, happy in the thought that while they did not accomplish all the socialist sounding reforms that were set forth in the last Farmer-Labor platform, they have at least given the good old college try.

Perhaps the most notable achievement that can be recorded for the recently disbanded legislative body, is the \$41,874 that the voted themselves in "mileage." They have been well paid for their labors. Now, let us see what they have accomplished.

They passed the Old Age Pension Bill. A law granting people over 65 a pension that may be as high as \$30 a month. Bound around with restrictions, tied up with qualifications and retarted by conditions that automatically guarantee that few aged persons will ever be able to cash in on the Minnesota Old Age Pension Laws, it nevertheless is an accomplished fact. It took seven weeks of intensive wrangling to secure the passage of this impotent and sterile bit of legislation. Contrast that with the ease with which the legislators passed the mileage measure, reimbursing themselves for the special session.

We can almost conclude that a more liberal pension law would have been enacted had all of the legislators been over 65 years of age.

* * *

The WPA Conference

The coming state-wide WPA conference, which is being organized to give expression to the woes of the WPA workers on a state-wide basis, is so significant and so important that no stone must be left unturned to make this not only a genuine, unhampered expression of state WPA workers but it must also be free from the influences of selfish, political group who may seek to exploit it for their own personal, political gains.

It must be first a genuine conference of WPA workers organizations and trade unions. Secondly, it must be a democratically conducted conference. A conference where every worker, irrespective of his political, religious or racial affiliations, can give free expression to his thoughts and desires.

It must not be a hodge-podge of half-baked intellectuals, political parties, leagues against this and that, and baritones and tenors. The organizations that should and must have representation in this conference are relief organizations, WPA workers' groups and trade unions. The people that comprise the membership of these organizations are the ones whose problems can be solved by such a conference.

We have been accused of being syndicalists. But such is not the case. We know and realize that in the ultimate, the whole question for which the conference was called is in the long run a political question and can only be solved in the final outcome on the political field.

But the same can be said about every problem that confronts a trade union. The purpose of this conference is to achieve reforms in the WPA State setup and not to accomplish the American revolution.

The reforms we seek can only be achieved by the combined strength of workers' economic organizations.

* * *

The New Broom

The new slate of officers that have been elected to guide the destinies of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union have been selected and will take office shortly.

The organized labor movement, locally as well as nationally, is facing the greatest crisis in its history. The old policy of hesitation, vasilation, and weakness, must be superceded by a program that has as its base, courage, initiative and responsibility. The new hands that are at the helm of the Minneapolis Trade Union center should take stock of the situation as it presently exists and chart a course which will tend to make the Minneapolis Central Body an authoritative center of trade unionism.

Many problems confront the labor movement. The rift in the top leadership of the A. F. of L., the problem of the unemployed and the great task of organizing the country's unemployed are problems that must be faced. It is to be hoped that the new leadership of the Minneapolis Trade Union Movement will attack these problems in a manner that will lead to their solution locally.

Local 574 again repeats its pledge of solidarity and support to the Minneapolis Central Body. But we say, its leadership will have success precisely in ratio to the amount of energy they put into the tasks that confront them.

Labor Looks at the Press

Adolf speaking before the League of Hitlerite Women: "Ah, if you could see my men of the Labor Corps as they move about in the open air, with no more clothing than shorts and chests uncovered. Isn't that a splendid spectacle?"—International Review.

Declaration of Italian poets and artists: "War is beautiful because it symphonizes fusillades, cannonades, pauses choked by silence, and the perfumes and odors of putrefication—because it genially remoulds terrestrial and marine landscapes with its inspired artillery—because it serves the greatness of great Fascist Italy."—La Stampa.

A rugged individualist kinda gone to seed: "Public co-operation to increase the traffic and earnings of railroads is necessary if the roads are to continue under private management."—Ralph Budd, Burlington president.

White Man Justice: "Scottsboro Negro Gets 75-year Term; Mrs. Price, Alleged Victim, Says, 'It Ain't Enough.'"—Mpls. Tribune.

It is through acts of terrorism against the innocent negro, such as the Scottsboro case, that the bosses in the South "keep" the negro in his place—that is, "keep" him from revolting against the super-exploitation to which he is subjected.

B. C. Forbes, Fascist-minded columnist in the Mpls. Star, rings the bell again: "Today I am going to turn the column over to a workman. He writes: 'I would like to see organized by employes an organization to combat the attack on men of affairs, the constitution, as well as communistic and socialistic theories of government.'"

Maybe Forbes is such a dope because he only knows bosses and finks and reds who cry when their bosses take a fatherly interest in them—he just hasn't met a real man yet.

But there's no use kicking—from now on out, the Forbes of the boss press will always be with us.

Buenos Aires news item: "Boliv and Paraguay have agreed on a plan for re-establishment of diplomatic relations and guarantees against resumption of the conflict.

Which means that Standard Oil and Royal Dutch Shell have finally come to some sort of an agreement. Oh well, only fifty or sixty thousand people were killed. And

Austin Union Ousts Non-Union Workers

The membership of the Independent Union of All Workers working in the Hormel plant at Austin decided a few days ago that they would no longer work with finks. The union decided to do something about it first in the sausage department when there was a particularly obnoxious case. On Tuesday morning, Jan. 21, the work stopped in the dry sausage room. Soon the country sausage, dairy pack, and other branches of the sausage department followed suit. There was one demand—no finks.

The company supervisors summoned the union executive board. A heated debate ensued. Work was resumed after the non-union workers in the sausage department agreed to join the union. Later in the day the company officials again called in the union executive board and an arrangement was worked out whereby every worker in the plant must become a member of the union.

it's all in the game, you know—we got to show profits.

William Green speaking, from the Everglades Hotel in Miami: "I don't recall that the American Federation of Labor has ever granted such a broad original industrial organization charter as in the automobile industry."

Yah! Outside of the fact that it still gave seven craft unions jurisdictional rights, the auto charter was swell—in fact, the bosses like it a lot.

Mr. William J. Cameron of the Ford Motor Company takes a deep breath and says: "About 72 per cent of the nation's wealth is held by ordinary, individual owners. . . The wealth of the country is not owned by a handful of people."

Old man Ford owns over a billion dollars. If all the hundreds of thousands of workers who have ever worked for him pooled their resources, they wouldn't have as much as Henry Ford. You see, he saved his money—from their pay checks.

Listen to the Saturday Evening Post carry on: "We have given the alien workers everything—our work, our wealth and our opportunity. Almost the shirt off our

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

Ace Brewer, Musicians' Tycoon, tells this one. A musician walked into Brewer's office and said, "Ace, I've just got to have some work. For Gawd's sake, I'm down to my last tuxedo."

Things to remember. The waitress at Fredlund's cafe sending out for chow mein for her evening meal.

Jack Seiverson joined the coal brigade for two days last week.

The new constitution and by-laws will be out in printed form in a few days.

Eugene Frey says that he found a coke fork. He lives at 3411 Washington Ave. N.

A nice letter from H. Hughes of Fargo containing North Dakota news.

According to F. L. P. that organization is in for a purge. It will be accomplished when the different factions decide who is going to be the purgee.

Sherman Oaks, Carnegie steward, has a new 574 member at his house. A seven pound boy. Nice going, Sherman.

The office force was absent Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The zero blues.

The union educational committee is planning a public educational meeting Tuesday, Feb. 4th, in the union hall.

Frank Cheswick is selling vacuum cleaners. His business motto is, "If you want to get cleaned, see Frank."

The Belt Line drivers have taken it on the chin five days in a row.

Watch J. L. Lewis comb Green's hair at the United Mine Workers convention. They are both members of the same union.

Baker and Teller of La-

'Where Life Is Better' New Book by J. Rorty

James Rorty's recently published book, "Where Life Is Better," is a well written, thorough-going study of troubled America. Rorty, a journalist of long experience, spent several months in an automobile tour of the United States gathering material for his rather sympathetic presentation of the case of the American workers.

After reading the book no one can doubt but that Rorty is distinctly pro-labor. Two chapters are devoted to Minnesota.

One of these chapters is devoted to the 1934 strikes of Local 574. After reading this chapter, it is apparent that Rorty is a violent partisan of the Minneapolis Drivers Union.

We advise every member of the union to get this book. "It is well worth reading.

back."

We gave them our "justice" too, Remember Sacco and Vanzetti.

For 150 years our bosses sent agents abroad to induce foreign workers to come to America. The bosses did this whenever labor in the United States began to get scarce, and wages begin to go up. Today capitalism can no longer use these workers—so the bosses want to send them home, after exploiting them outrageously for so many years.

Belle Transfer have been sick for the past week.

What is that spot on the side of Armin Garis' face?

We got a real kick-back out of that Hamm beer sign thing.

Ed Holm, market driver, was given a note by the shipping clerk where he works reading, "Pick up garlic at Harry's Cafe." A few nights later his wife found the note in his pocket. The handwriting was rather blurred, and she read girls for garlic. Enough said.

"Goodwill" Industries

Officers of the Goodwill Industries of Minneapolis were elected last week. This pseudo charitable organization, whose activity consists in begging articles of clothing and then selling them to the unemployed and destitute, has included on its Board of Directors a list of names that sound as though they had been taken from page one of Who's Who in Minneapolis.

Included on their Executive Board are such well known names as George D. Dayton, Karl DeLaitre, Karl L. Erichsen and other Minneapolis financial giants. Charity must pay!

Where is Meyer Lewis?

Waterfront Lockout Looms on West Coast

Rumblings and rumors that the west coast shipping interests are preparing for a showdown with the Maritime Unions is confirmed in the statement issued by Maritime Federation officials, in which they charge that the shipping interests on the Pacific coast are preparing to lock out the Seamen's Unions.

"It is a nation-wide conspiracy of waterfront employers, shippers, and allied financial interests to wipe out the Maritime Unions of the Pacific coast."

The Maritime Unions charged that a huge anti-union war chest has been raised for the express purpose of destroying their organizations.