

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 follow you.

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

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISTS MEET

MEAT PACKING LOCALS START UNION DRIVE

Committee for Industrial
Organization in Packing
Industry Formed

To Fight for Unrestricted
Industrial Union Charter
from A. F. of L.

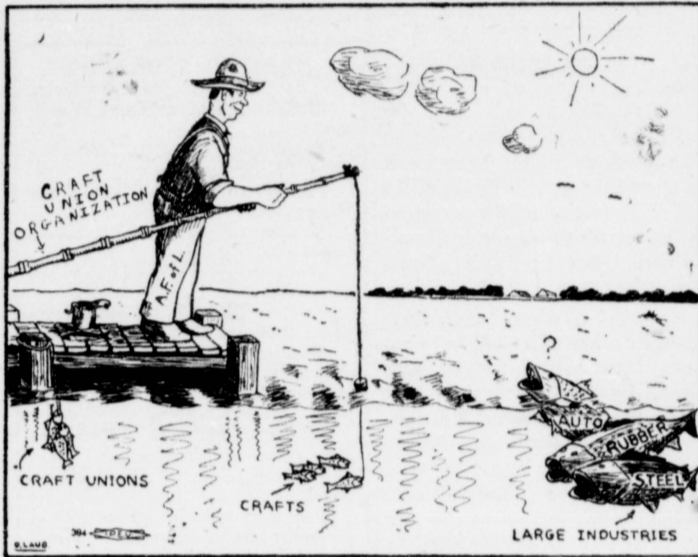
The progressive unions in the packing house industry have joined forces with the national movement for industrial unionism through the formal launching of the Committee for Industrial Organization in the Packing House Industry. This action was taken by the delegates to the conference at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on February 1 and 2. The actions and recommendations of the conference delegates are to be submitted to the membership of the participating local unions for approval. It is anticipated that such approval will be quickly granted and the Committee instructed to proceed immediately to its tasks.

The Committee for Industrial Organization in the Packing House Industry will direct its attention immediately toward the work of securing the affiliation of other packing house unions. All independent unions and A. F. of L. unions in the industry will be contacted by the committee. Contacts will also be sought among the unorganized packing house workers and those belonging to company unions.

The first action of the committee will be to establish a research committee for the purpose of securing statistical information necessary to clearly demonstrate the need for unity of action in the industry. This information, together with other educational material will be circulated throughout all packing house centers. In the near future an official news organ will be established by the committee. Visiting committees will be sent out from time to time by the local unions, and as quickly as circumstances will permit, organizers will be sent into the field by the committee. The A. F. of L. Committee For Industrial Organization in Washington, D. C., will be contacted, and at all times the work of the industrial union movement in the packing house industry will be closely co-ordinated with the national movement for industrial unionism.

The Committee For Industrial Unionism in the Packing House Industry does not pretend to set itself up as a central body for the federation of packing house unions. The only requirement which it lays down for affiliation is a sincere desire for the building of industrial unionism in the

(Continued on page 3)



New Equipment Needed

Next Saturday to See State Wide WPA Conference Open

Scab Concerns Listed as 'Fair'

With sorrow and regret we are compelled at last to take recognition of the fact that the official organ of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, THE LABOR REVIEW, has responded to the pressure exerted by the reactionaries in the Minneapolis Trade Union movement and is now, apparently, openly espousing the cause of the worst element in the whole Minneapolis trade union movement.

In a notice in the last issue of the LABOR REVIEW under the heading, "Notice Regarding Ice and Fuel Co.'s," the editor reprints the contents of a leaflet issued by Local 221, Ice & Coal Drivers Union.

This union, known and recognized everywhere as a stooge and a tool of the Cedar Lake Ice Co. for the past two decades is now, apparently, attempting to prove that they are a bonafide workers' organization. They deceive no one by the new disguise they have assumed. They still are, in every respect, a company union.

The list of coal firms, indicated in this article, comprise the worst chiselers, outlaws, and out and out scab concerns that can be found in this city. Outside of the Cedar Lake Ice Company and the Robbinsdale Ice & Fuel Co. there is not one of these firms that is a legitimate fuel concern and not one that is an employer of labor.

Among the firms listed is the River Coal & Coke Co., a concern that is being struck and banned by Local 574 for violation of the contract which our union holds with them.

Local 221 is consciously and knowingly furnishing strike breakers and scabs to this struck coal company. We are not surprised

Preparations have been completed for the state-wide PWA conference that will be held in General Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth Avenue North, Saturday and Sunday, February 8th and 9th.

Great interest has been manifest in this first state-wide meeting of WPA, relief organizations, and trade unions. Every indication shows that this will be the most widely attended gathering of its kind ever held in Minnesota.

So great has become the pressure on the WPA workers, owing to the low subsistence scale that has been set, particularly, in rural Minnesota, that it is imperative that wage reforms be secured from the state WPA administration.

Each organization will be allowed two delegates. This applies to WPA organizations, relief groups, and trade unions.

All organizations who plan on sending delegates to the conference are urged to send the credentials in before the end of this week if possible. The conference will convene promptly at 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

It is important that all delegates be on hand at this hour in order that they may take part in organizing the conference machinery. The morning session will be devoted to the election of Conference chairman and secretary and to the selection of various committees who will carry on the conference business.

All communications in regard to the conference should be addressed to Miles Dunne, chairman of publicity committee, 257 Plymouth Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn.

at the action taken by the Teamsters' Joint Council in this matter

But we say shame to the LABOR REVIEW whose editor cannot be accused of not knowing trade union right from wrong.

Permanent Committee for Industrial Organization Is Formed at Conference

The Industrial Union Conference called by Local 665, Miscellaneous Workers, convened Sunday morning at ten o'clock at 520 Hennepin Avenue. The meeting was opened by Swan Assarson of Local 665. Assarson briefly expressed the aims and objectives of the conference, pointing out the inevitable drift towards industrial unionism that was taking place and stated that no matter how much we attempted to avoid the question it would finally have to be settled one way or the other. He then read the proposed agenda which was as follows: Election of Chairman, election of Secretary, election of Credentials Committee of three, and Resolutions Committee of five, discussion by delegates, report of committees, other business and adjournment. Ruben Latz of Local 183, Laundry Workers, was elected Chairman and Hilliard Smith of 382, Auto Mechanics, was selected as Secretary.

NOTICE

The River Terminal Coal and Coke Company, scab coal concern that is being struck by Local 574, no longer is delivering coal in trucks bearing the name of the River Terminal Company. The truck now undertaking the delivery service for this non-union company bear the name of M. W. MARK ICE AND COAL CO. This company is also unfair and scab.

Belt Line PWA Projects Down

Last week all PWA projects that were included in the Belt Line development were closed down by order of the State PWA administration. Approximately 40 truck owners, who are members of the independent truck owners section of 574, were affected by the layoff. With the union drivers who were employed by these truck owners, the layoff involved 80 members.

Shutting down of the project was made necessary by the protest of residents who lived in the vicinity where the work was going on. For the past month, it has been necessary to use large amounts of dynamite in loosening the frozen ground to enable the shovels to function. The continual blasting annoyed residents in the neighborhood to the extent that their united protest to the administrator resulted in the shut-down.

The project will be resumed sometime in March or April. In the meantime, many of the truck owners laid off have bid on WPA work and it is expected that a number of them will be at work very shortly.

York, Pa.—(FP)—Several hundred WPA workers employed on the Susquehanna trail project refused transportation in zero weather in open snow-covered icy trucks. A strike was averted when other trucks were supplied.

The Credentials and Resolutions Committee was then elected. After some discussion by delegates, the Credentials Committee reported that there were 46 delegates present, representing 22 local unions.

The following organizations were present, with delegates: General Drivers No. 574, Electrical Workers No. 160, Electrical Workers No. 292, Asbestos Workers No. 34, Petroleum Workers No. 19802, Twin City Metal Workers No. 1313, Am. Federation of Actors, Building Laborers, No. 563, Upholsterers No. 61, Woodenware Workers No. 1859, Sheet Metal Workers No. 34, Laundry Workers No. 183, Miscellaneous Workers 665, Photo Engravers No. 6, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, 510, Barbers No. 61, Bartenders No. 152, Cap Makers No. 1865, Auto Mechanics, 382, Lathers No. 190, Plasterers No. 65, Plaster Tenders No. 111.

A telegram from John L. Lewis was read to the delegates. In the telegram he expressed regret for not being able to attend and cited as his reason for non-attendance the fact that the United Mine Workers Convention was now going on in Washington, D. C.

On a motion by V. R. Dunne, all delegates were pledged to go back to their organizations and secure permission to sign the organization's name to a new call that will go out shortly for a broader conference on the same question. Between the conferences it was decided to set up a semi-permanent committee who would carry on the work.

A committee of seven were elected. They will be known as the Continuation Committee for Industrial Organization. This was perhaps the most important action taken at the conference as it will set up here in Minneapolis a center and clearing-house for Industrial Union activity. The first meeting

(Continued on page 7)

Make Minneapolis a Union Town

Permanent Committee for Industrial Organization Is Formed at Conference

(Continued from page 1)
of the committee will be Sunday, February 9th.

During the discussion that took place, around the question of industrial organization versus craft unions, it was shown by many delegates that there is a crying need for a more efficient type of workers' economic organizations than can be organized under the craft union set-up. The Resolutions Committee reported to the Body with three resolutions, in all of which they recommended concurrence.

No. 1, introduced by Building Laborers, 563, asked for support in their strike on the Sumner Field project, adopted; No. 2, introduced by Upholsterers' Union, 61, asked for support for the Strutwear strikers and called upon the entire Trade Union Movement to call a public meeting in their behalf, adopted; No. 3, introduced by Local 382, Auto Mechanics, called for the re-instatement of 574 in the Drivers' International, adopted.

Attention of the delegates was called to the coming state-wide WPA conference which will be held in General Drivers Hall, 257 Plymouth Ave. North, Saturday and Sunday, February 8th and 9th. All unions were requested to send delegates.

The Resolutions Committee, in conjunction with the Continuation Committee, were instructed to draw up a statement setting forth the aims and objectives of the conference to be released to the Public Press. The meeting adjourned at 4 o'clock.

London Meat Workers Strike Against Delay

British workers evidently react in the same manner as do their American brethren when faced by long drawn out delays in the settlement of grievances by "conciliation" and "mediation boards."

A strike of Meat Workers has been called in London, England, where 4,000 workers walked out in protest against delay in settling their grievances. The Meat Cutters Union has tied up the Smithfield Central Market, where practically all the meat consumed in London is processed.

H. W. Millman, market superintendent, said: "If the strike lasts, London will be without meat." The workers announced that they would remain on the picket line until their demands were granted.

Flint Auto Workers 'Donate' to Charity

In Flint, Michigan, home city of the powerful, non-union General Motors Corporation one can, in a manner of speaking, say that the workers there, are learning how to "take care of themselves." The city of Flint, as is the case with most other American cities of its size, staged a "community fund campaign" to take care of the city's "needy." The drive had reached its last day and was still some distance from the quota that had been set.

Forty thousand employees of the General Motors Corporation were "induced" to give one-half day's pay to the Community Fund drive to put it "over the top." For every dollar that was contributed by the General Motors slaves, 50 cents was contributed by the company. The question is, did the motor workers make this contribution voluntarily? Well, frankly, we don't think so.

Downstate Button Workers Get Hearing

The Pioneer Pearl Button Co. of Wabasha, Minnesota, whose employees have been on strike since June 10, 1935, has run afoul of the National Labor Relations Board.

The striking workers of this company, whose story was told in the columns of the ORGANIZER a few weeks ago, have at last, after a long period of waiting, compelled the National Labor Relations Board to take recognition of their plight.

The Button Workers, who are organized into the Federal Button Workers Union No. 20026, on May 29 protested against a 15 per cent reduction in wages. On June 6th a committee of employees protested to the officials of the company at which time the company promptly locked out all of its employees. On October 30th, the company reopened the plant with scabs and strikebreakers.

The Pioneer Pearl Button Co. claim that the National Labor Relations Board has no jurisdiction in this dispute. They contend that they are operating in inter-state commerce.

Mr. Clark, representative of the National Labor Relations Board, will hold a hearing between the strikers and the button company at the Wabasha County Court House, February 13th at 10 a. m.

N. D. Supreme Court Refuses Rehearing

The North Dakota Supreme Court has denied a petition that was made on the 2nd for a rehearing in the Fargo "riot" cases. The status of the cases is accordingly the same as it was in the original decision, namely conviction of 13 defendants affirmed and three sent back to the Cass County Court for retrial. No date has been set for the trial of the three, Cruden, Swalde and Hughes, whose retrial has been ordered.

There is little likelihood that District Attorney Bergersen is anxious to try these cases again. The difficulty encountered in securing a conviction in the original trials, despite the hand picked jury panel, would make it plain that Bergersen would be reluctant to cross legal swords with any first class defense attorney.

Building Workers Hit Brown Derby Al

Al Smith, the "happy warrior," is in difficulty with the union employees of his huge Empire State Building. Members of the Building Service Union, Local No. 32B charges that workers employed in the Empire Building, who received less than \$25 per week, had received 25 per cent wage slashes.

The president of the union charges that Smith has repeatedly refused to deal collectively with his employees.

Charter Lifted Leader Says 'We Have Men'

Charging violation of arbitration agreements made in 1934, illegal expulsion of Paul Scharrenberg, California Federation of Labor official, and illegal participation in the militant Maritime Federation of the Pacific—termed a "dual organization"—the International Seamen's Union convention has revoked the charter of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific.

Bill Brown Says—

Last week's issue of the Labor Review carried a list of companies fair to Local 221.

This must have been a mistake, and could not have been approved by the other companies on the list. They wouldn't want to be put in the same position as the River Terminal. The name of this company should have been put in bold face type apart from the others because if they are fair because they have some 221 men working they should be considered three times as fair because they are using three men from Local 221 on each truck to break a strike called by 574, because of a violation of an agreement we had with the River Terminal Coal Co. for two years.



BILL BROWN
President of 574

Ex-Service Men's Organization at Northern States, Union Foe

The new development in the employed personnel of the Northern States Power Company deserves the serious consideration of all the workers there. Last week steps were taken, with the approval and co-operation of the management, to set up an ex-servicemen's organization among the Northern States Power employees.

It is worthy of note that this ex-servicemen's organization is being brought into being, nursed and fostered, by the management at precisely the time when the unionization of the Northern States Power workers is proceeding at a rapid pace. The management, forced to give concessions to the union in the form of wage raises and union recognition, evidently feels the need of an "ace in the hole" to combat the strides made by the union of its workers. No worker should knowingly shut his eyes to the danger that is implied in this new ex-servicemen's organization.

The role played by the American Legion in labor struggles in the United States in the past period has been a black one indeed. Time after time they have been used as strike-breakers. Scarcely a state in the union but has seen the ranks of company guards swelled by additions from the American Legion. Under the guise of maintaining "law and order" for the purpose of protecting "the interest and property of citizens," this organization has fought on the side of the employ-

Courts Crack Down on Two Depression-Molded Mothers

By Federated Press

New York—(FP)—Death in the electric chair for murder of her starving 2-year-old baby!

Separation from her children because she taught them "atheistic and communistic" ideas!

So two mothers in the metropolitan New York area heard the words of the courts of justice rule on their future lives. Both decisions, obviously brought on by the depression, have brought vigorous criticism from Gotham tongues.

"I must do my duty as I see it," pompously decreed County Judge Jonathan Wilson of Newburgh, N. Y., as he sentenced young Mrs. Dorothy Sherwood, onetime actress and Salvation Army lassie, to die in the electric chair at Sing Sing the week of March 16. Separated from her husband, lacking in food to provide for her infant child, the 27-year-old mother drowned her baby last fall "so he wouldn't starve to death."

In Bloomfield, N. J., heartsick Mrs. Mabel Eaton, described by her neighbors as a "quiet, refined woman," bid goodbye to her children after Judge Robert M. Grossman had awarded their custody to her husband, from whom she has been separated for several months. Using a copy of Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto and an I. W. W. songbook as a substantial part of his evidence, her husband succeeded in getting the separation decree on the grounds that she

was teaching the children atheistic and radical doctrines. Mrs. Eaton is a member of no radical party or group, evidence disclosed.

Legal students declare the ruling oversteps constitutional provisions for the separation of state and church and freedom of political belief. The American Civil Liberties Union, through Director Roger N. Baldwin, has asked a Newark lawyer to offer his services. The case is the first on record, Baldwin believes, in which custody of children had been decided on a political and religious basis.

William Green to Address Miners

William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, who is to address the Monday session of the United Mine Workers' convention in Washington, D. C., told the press that he would "mince no words" in talking to the miners.

This statement seems to indicate that Green is prepared to serve an ultimatum on the head of the Miners' Union for his stand on the question of Industrial Organization.

It is interesting to note that both Green and Lewis are members of the same organization, the United Mine Workers.

The Railroad Brotherhoods

The following is a concrete example of how the brotherhood bureaucracy suppresses membership opinion. Under date of January 16th, a locomotive fireman and member of the B. of L. F. & E., forwarded the following article to Labor, the Brotherhood weekly, for publication in the "Mailbag" column, to-wit:

"To the Editor of Labor:

"I think that organized labor both in the railroad unions and in the A. F. of L. would like to know from its leadership what the cause and cure is for our growing unemployment and poverty. It is about time that a scientific answer be furnished for this question. It surely is a stupid arrangement which compels millions of people to suffer want in the very midst of plenty. We have plenty of raw materials; plenty of factories and plants for production, and if necessary we can build more, and we have plenty of skilled and willing hands to operate them. Now why do millions have to live in misery and want when our productive machinery is so highly developed? What is the cause of this contradiction? What is wrong here? Why hasn't this been ascertained during the last five years at least? It seems to me that our labor leadership should get on the job and find out definitely what the trouble is and then tell the workers about it so they can be mobilized to remove it. I join with millions of others who want to know why we starve in the very midst of plenty. We want some information on this and we also want some action on it."

The fireman's full name and address, organization and lodge number, was attached to the above article. Below is the article as it appeared in Labor after being rewritten by the editorial censor:

"Why Must Millions Suffer in Midst of Plenty?"

"To the Editor of Labor:

"Can someone tell me the cause of our widespread unemployment? It is surely a stupid arrangement which compels millions of people to suffer want in the very midst of plenty. We have plenty of raw materials, plenty of factories and plants for production, plenty of skilled and willing hand to operate them. Now, why do millions have to live in misery and want when our productive machinery is so highly developed?"

I join with millions of others who want to know why we starve in the midst of plenty."

H. B.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Note carefully how all references to the responsibility of labor leaders to furnish answers to the questions raised in the original article are eliminated in the published article. The suggested mobilization of the workers behind the remedy for these social ills is also stricken out. This shows in a concrete fashion how the useless and overpaid Brotherhood leadership is carefully protected from questions and opinions of the membership. Of course, this protection is of life and death necessity to the type of leadership which the railroad unions now have. They could not remain in office for life, as they are now doing, without it. It is the duty of the progressive minority in the Railroad Brotherhoods to organize and release this official strangle hold on membership opinion.

The dreamy look in Tony's eyes is becoming more pronounced. In spite of the zero breezes, we believe that spring is near.

A. F. of L. Executive Council Orders Auto, Radio Workers To Submit to Craft Rulings

Fight Is Sure as Workers in Mass Industries Rebel

The American Federation of Labor Executive Council have almost concluded the labors of their executive session and, as John L. Lewis has so aptly said, they have "brought forth a mouse." In their decisions regarding granting industrial charters, it seems they deliberately leaned over backwards to give comfort and strength to the exponents of craft unionism who are members of the Executive Body. So far their decisions have indicated that they have no intention of retreating in the face of the almost open attacked from John Lewis' committee for industrial organization.

Refuse Mass Charters

In two decisions so far reported the Council forced the United Automobile Workers National Union to abandon its industrial form of organization and they also turned a deaf ear to the pleas of the National Radio and Allied Trades for an industrial union charter. To further complicate and hamper the efforts of the auto workers to organize on a sound basis, the International Machinists Union was granted jurisdiction over workers in automobile jobbers shops, where auto parts are made. These workers are ordered to disaffiliate themselves from the UAWNU and join the Machinists Union.

Radio Workers Shun Crafts

Workers in the radio industry who have been asking for two years for an industrial union charter were turned down by the Executive Council and were instructed to join the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, a craft union in the Building Trades department. The Radio Workers had previously rejected an offer of membership in the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Daniel Tracy and James Carey, presidents of the Electrical Workers and Radio and Allied Trades Union, respectively, held several conferences which resulted in an offer from the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to accept radio workers as Class B members. This offer was rejected by the Radio Workers Union.

Fight Predicted

It is evident from the foregoing decisions of the A. F. of L. Executive Council that they plan open warfare on the champions of industrial unionism. Even according to the decision of the 1934 San Francisco Convention these two industries, auto and radio, must be regarded as mass production industries. No sane person can doubt the need of industrial unions in these industries. Organization on any other basis is impossible. These two decisions are evidently not based on the given situation existing in radio and autos, rather they take the nature of a warning flag waved in the face of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Laundry Workers Hold Celebrations

The Banquet, Installation of Officers and Dance given by the Cleaners-Laundry Workers Union on January 29th, was a successful affair. Hundreds were seated at the gayly decorated tables and partook of the very excellent food that was served by the efficient women's committee.

Greetings were heard from Leslie Sinton, County Commissioner Youngdahl, Mrs. Leila Harding, David Smilow, Earl Martin, Al Hanson, Sam Bellman and many other friends and admirers of the Laundry Workers union.

A splendid program of entertainment followed the banquet. Great credit is due to the entertainment committee who were responsible for the really fine entertainment that was offered. The evening was concluded with dancing.

Lathers Get New Union Contracts

The Lathers, Plasterers and Plaster Tenders, have in the past two months shown what results can be achieved with militant and intelligent leadership.

In spite of the fact that these three trades are organized into craft unions, they have recently concluded an organizational campaign that has resulted in almost one hundred per cent unionization of their trades.

They have accomplished the six hour day and the 30 hour week with an increase in hourly pay schedule. They have a uniform agreement signed with 95 per cent of the contractors in the Twin Cities.

Their actions and the results that they attained should serve as an inspiration for other local building trade unions.

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.

Union Moving Season at Hand

Although the spring moving season has not yet arrived, this seems to be the season for unions to move their headquarters.

Local No. 190, Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers, have recently moved from their Franklin Ave. headquarters to their new and commodious quarters at 310 E. Hennepin. There they were joined by the Plasterers No. 65, Plaster Tenders No. 111, and Cement Finishers No. 557, who have given up their former quarters at the Central Labor Union halls.

Auto Mechanics No. 382 and Petroleum Workers 19802, have left their Marquette Avenue Union halls and are now located at 501 E. Hennepin.

Seemingly imbued with the moving spirit, Leslie Sinton of the Cooks and Waiters, announced Sunday that his organization is giving up their long time headquarters at 520 Hennepin Avenue and will shortly occupy two floors at 64 S. 6th St.

The Bartenders have also announced that they will leave their 3rd and Hennepin address shortly and will install themselves next door to the Cooks and Waiters on 6th St.

Principles Are Set Forth By Industrial Committee

Conference for progressive trade union policies, called by Local No. 365, and held at 320 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., February 2nd, 1936.

The body met and formulated the following resolution embodying the sense of the program.

Whereas, the issues of industrial unionism has been continuously raised in the convention of the A. F. of L., and,

Whereas, the trend of economic developments indicate that Industrial Unionism and the amalgamation of present craft unions on the basis of Industrial Unionism will represent the basis requirements of our movement, and will hasten the organization of the 30,000,000 unorganized workers in the United States and thereby solidify the American Labor movement;

BE it therefore resolved: That this conference of twenty-three (23) A. F. of L. Unions unanimously declare their support to the committee for industrial unionism headed by John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America. This conference has unanimously decided to work for the unification of the Minneapolis Trade Union movement, and therefore condemn any splitting tactics as practiced by Meyer Lewis (representative of William Green). We will work for the realization of Trade Union democracy as the only concrete method of achieving clarification on the vital issues of today.

The conference unanimously supports the work of its continu-

tions committee in rallying all Minneapolis unions to participate in its next conference, to be called at an early date.

The next conference will take organizational steps in support of the program to be adopted.

Signed: RUBIN LATZ,
 Chairman.
 HILLIARD H. SMITH,
 Secretary.

Food Costs Climb As Wages Decline

The Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington has released a bulletin showing that the index of retail food costs advanced .6 per cent during the two weeks ending December 31st.

A complete study of the rising commodity prices shows that the advance was largely caused by a 1.2 per cent increase in the cost of meat and a 2.3 per cent advance in the price of fruits and vegetables.

It will be noted that the articles that have increased the most are not luxury commodities but rather things that go into the every day diet of the workers.

Women of Local 382 To Entertain Saturday

A card party will be given by the Ladies' Auxiliary of Local 382 on Saturday, February 8, at 501 East Hennepin, the new headquarters of the Machinists and Auto Mechanics Union. Other features of the entertainment will include a puppet show and lunch.

Miners Deaf To Green Plea

Interrupting with boos a plea by William Green for peace within the ranks of organized labor, the United Mine Workers Monday climaxed this with an enthusiastic indorsement of the fight by their officers for industrial as against craft unionism.

The action in effect repudiated the stand of one of their own members, Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who rose to this post as a member of the United Mine Workers.

Almost to a man, the miners rose to support John L. Lewis, miner president, as he called for a vote on industrial vs. craft unionism as Green finished his impassioned plea that the scrap be dropped. Neither Green nor Lewis had any comment as the session ended.

Green, who was booed repeatedly throughout his speech, warned the miners:

"If you do go out, then there will be but one result. The American Federation of Labor will remain supreme. Attacks from within or from without can never shake it from its firm foundation."

Scattered applause greeted the end of Green's speech. Then Lewis arose. He stood silent for several minutes while the delegates roared, whistled and applauded.

"Let me call on all delegates who have changed their minds on this issue to rise," he said. Three of the 1,700 delegates took their feet.

Lewis then called for all those who wished union officers to continue their fight for organization of mass production industries by industry rather than by craft. Nearly every delegate in the hall arose.

Death Certain, Witness Believes; Southern Terror Continues

By Federated Press

Washington —(FP)— "Nobody ever escapes." Gene Poulnot was not talk of a cold or taxes but of horrible death at the hands of Florida vigilantes. He is to be a witness against Chief of Police Tittsworth who has been indicted in the murder of Joseph Shoemaker by vigilante groups in Tampa, Fla.

"I hope when it comes I'll get it right on the button. I'd hate to be tortured to death the way—" and he paused. "I don't like to talk about it," he added hastily and walked away.

Poulnot, one of those taken out and beaten at the time Shoemaker, Tampa liberal, was clubbed to death, was here to assist a drive to aid share-croppers in the South.

Slight, spectacles, he is counting the days when he must go back to Tampa to take the witness chair and face the certain attacks of Ku Klux Klan groups. He is not at all hesitant in his effort to secure conviction of those he believes guilty. But the prospects are far from pleasant.

Poulnot appeared but did not speak at a meeting at which Howard Kester, tall, drawing, told with dramatic intentness of the plight of the share-croppers.

"In the south we've been having fascism for a long time," Kester said. "It isn't centralized. That's the only difference." He pointed out that although the sharecroppers grow most of the cotton "the kind of underwear they wear depends upon the kind of sacks they buy their flour in."

The Princeton graduate who is an organizer for the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union said that in 1934 the average income per family of sharecroppers was \$210

MEAT PACKING LOCALS START UNION DRIVE

Continued from page 1 industry. The principal role of the Committee will be to carry on an educational campaign to prove the need for industrial unionism and thus to bring organized pressure to force the American Federation of Labor to issue an unrestricted industrial union charter for the packing house industry.

The date on which this objective will be realized is governed by the developments in the national movement and by the intelligence and sincere effort which the packing house unions apply to this work. There will, however, be immediate gains for the local unions through the benefit of closer cooperation in the day by day struggle against the packing house employers.

The next conference of the Committee For Industrial Organization in the Packing House Industry will be held in Austin, Minnesota on Saturday, February 29, and Sunday, March 1. Further information may be secured through Joseph Voorhees, Austin, Minnesota, and Lewis Clarke, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Win All Demands

San Francisco—(FP)—Although striking mechanics won their demands against the General Engineering & Drydocking Co., plants in San Francisco and Oakland have now shut down for lack of work. Eight other shops are still struck, but three have granted the workers' demands and the men are back at work. About 400 are still out. The union is supporting them by strike assessments.

a year, that shacks unfit for stables are being used as homes, that a million and a half are illiterate, and that since the AAA crop restriction program has come into effect thousands are being evicted brutally and without mercy.

"I appeal to the hearts and mind and imaginations of you to be aware of the forces of tyranny and terror operating not only in the south but in all America. All we are trying to do is to maintain all those things that every loyal American citizen wants to maintain."

Others who spoke at the meeting were Francis J. Gorman, vice president of the United Textile Workers Union, Dorothy Detzer, of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Arthur Keep, editor of the Railway Telegrapher, Gardner Jackson, representative of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, and Congresswoman O'Day (Democrat, New York.)

Efforts are being made to get federal relief for the share-croppers now being dispossessed by the riding bosses and plantation owners. Aubrey Williams, assistant WPA administrator, stated plans have been laid for federal relief of the situation but it was learned upon investigation that no plans are as yet under way.

Reports to the office of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union here indicate that members are proceeding with their meetings despite terrorist methods and that trouble is likely to ensue.

Evictions began when share-croppers were thrown out of work by the reduction program of the AAA and when they began organization of the union.

UNION MEETINGS HELD REGULARLY AT 703 THIRD AVE. S.
First Wednesday in Month—Laundry Section.
Second Wednesday in Month—Dry Cleaning.
Third Wednesday in Month—Drivers Section.
Fourth Wednesday in Month—General Membership Meeting.
 Initiation Fee Only \$2
 Monthly Dues Only \$1
 Help to improve our conditions
 —Join Our Union Now
 In Union there is strength
 See
RUBIN LATZ, Business Agent
 Office: Room 201
 703 Third Avenue South

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

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

A Call for Action

Once again we are forced to ask the Central Labor Union "policy committee," what are you going to do about it? The attempted raids upon Local 574 by the Teamsters Joint Council are becoming more bold and daring.

It is now time to seriously raise the question as to whether this committee can, or will, exercise the authority that was vested in them by the Central Labor Union. In the past two weeks, officials of the Teamsters Joint Council have committed two serious and flagrant violations of the agreement that was entered into by the policy committee and the Executive Board of Local 574.

At the River Terminal Coal and Dock Company, a firm that is under contract with 574, members of Local 221, with the approval of Teamsters Joint Council officials, are acting as strikebreakers.

At the Swanson Fuel and Transfer Company, also under contract with our union, and where the men are one hundred per cent unionized, Teamsters officials last Friday called a meeting of the workers there and attempted to induce them to leave 574 for 221.

This is not a cry for help. We are amply able to protect our own interests but we consider it our duty to lay these matters before the policy committee for their information and, possibly, their action.

Fargo Forges Ahead

From Fargo comes the encouraging news that after a lull in working class activities, the labor movement is again taking on new life. By this we do not mean that the old outworn and outmoded A. F. of L. craft unions that represent the official labor movement there are doing anything new. Nothing progressive can be expected from that section of the movement that is bogged down by tradition and handcuffed and fettered by A. F. of L. fetishism.

Rather any hope for the betterment of the American working class must come from those individuals and organizations that have taken recognition of the new phase of capitalist development that exists in the U. S. and are arming themselves, ideologically, to cope with it. Organization of WPA workers in Fargo is proceeding, if not at a rapid pace, solidly at least.

Two projects have been struck by the workers. A victory was achieved each time. Classes in workers' education have been formed. This is a necessary adjunct to workers' organization.

Much credit must go to those determined workers in Fargo who, despite persecution, jails, and semi-fascism repression, have carried the banner of working class organization forward.

The Strutwear Strike

Now that the troops have been withdrawn from the Strutwear plant and the burden of preserving "law and order" has again been placed in the hands of the local police, the striking workers there will find that they are right back where they started from.

With this new turn of events it will again be demonstrated to the striking hosiery workers, the absolute necessity of preserving their militancy and fighting spirit.

There can be little doubt but that preparation is being made to reopen the plant. The employers and the Citizens Alliance have won a moral victory in having the troops withdrawn. This will give them comfort and encouragement to proceed with their plans of smashing the Hosiery Workers Union.

The Hosiery Workers can meet the strategy of the employers in only one way, that is by maintaining at all times a strong, determined, mass picket line about the Strutwear plant. In the final analysis, this is their only weapon.

Lathers, Plasterers, Tenders to Dance

February 29th, the joint committee of Lathers, Plasterers and Plaster Tenders, will give a Leap Year dance at the Eastside Eagles Hall, 4th St. and Central.

The joint committee is planning on making this a very pleasing affair. There will be cash door prizes given away and a Public Leap Year Wedding will take place at 10 o'clock.

Tickets are 25c. The public is invited.

Madison Bus Drivers Strike R. R. Company

Sunday afternoon 72 bus drivers of the Madison Railway Co. in Madison, Wisconsin, struck for a restoration of wage rates paid before April, 1932, 48 hour week, and arbitration of disputes.

A special session of the City Council was called Sunday by the mayor to consider the situation. Transportation in Madison was at a complete standstill Sunday night.

The drivers announced that there would be no surrender until their demands were met.

Labor Looks at the Press

MacGregor, Strutwear attorney: "The governor relegated property to a secondary consideration, but the constitution does not do that." The hell of it is, McGregor is right. That's what the constitution was made for.

Henry Ford, in a current magazine: "Please bear in mind that I have nothing to complain about."

You can grin and bear it, eh, Henry? Despite it all, you're still bloody but unbowed.

Ford continues: "All that I personally own of any value is my experience."

Sure, pals, the billion-dollar plant with which he exploits several hundred thousands of workers isn't worth a belch in a whirlwind.

Life under Hitler, Berlin news item: "As part of the German Government's intensive campaign to make the whole population army conscious and heroic, an exhibition of military literature was recently opened in the Prussian State Library."—Monitor.

Roosevelt on Friday: "Adequate neutrality legislation is the major task of the present session."

Roosevelt on Monday: "The military budget I submit provides for an increase of 200 millions over last year."

Looks like neutrality talkie-talkie and war preparations go hand in hand.

News item from Syria: "Nationalist disorders directed against French mandate rule in Syria, and blamed on Egyptian agitation, subsided after two rioters had been slain and 40 gendarmes wounded in Damascus."

News item from Cairo: "Great Britain has today concentrated the largest army in Egypt that it has used since England assumed hegemony over that northern Asiatic country. English forces are being held ready to check further anti-British riots."

Is it hard to see why England and France are jittery about Mussolini's Ethiopian adventure?

Harry Bridges, president of the union Maritime Federation of the Pacific, exposes the plans of the coast shipping bosses: "The lock-out will start first with a series of newspaper advertisements stating intentions of the employers and arguments in support of their actions. Next will come eviction of seamen and longshoremen from their jobs by laying up ships, ostensibly because 'exorbitant' union requests make operation financially impossible. The third step will be public repudiation of all awards to and agreements with maritime unions, followed by withdrawal of recognition and offers to deal with the men 'only on an individual basis.'"—C. S. Monitor.

New York news item: "The chief officers of the steamship Morro Castle were found guilty of criminal negligence today and given sentences of two years each. The ship was destroyed by fire on Sept. 8, 1934, with a loss of 134 lives."

Remember that disaster. The officers were trying to blame it all on the sailors in those days.

Los Angeles news item: "Investigation of what prosecutors described as a protected crime ring led today to the indictment of four policemen. The grand jury charged them with burglary."

Flatfeet are the scum of the earth, no matter where you go.

Alfred Smith in his dopey speech the other night: "There can be only one capital, either

Washington or Moscow." Since the Civil War, of course, the only capital in the United States has been in Wall Street, and no one knows this better than Smith.

Governor James Curley of Mass.: "Benito Mussolini is the one dominant force for the peace of Europe and the peace of the world. He was the one individual who did more than any other to preserve Christian civilization."

Boy, that's dishing it out. We'll have to watch this guy Curley.

Sir Herbert A. Lawrence, chair-

The next sectional meeting of the Inside Laundry Workers will be held on Wednesday, February 5th, at 8 p. m., at 703 Third Ave. S. A sectional chairman, a recording secretary, and sergeant-at-arms, for 1936 will be elected. Every member is urged to be present.

RUBIN LATZ,
Business Representative.
JOINT LOCAL 18005-183

man of Vickers, English armament firm: "The sanctity of human life has sometimes been exaggerated to the disadvantage of certain other facts of public life."

Such as the fact of nice juicy profits to his stockholders.

Famous last words: "Yah, but ya wouldn't want your sister to marry one, now would you?"

Keeping Step With 574

By Mickey Dunne

Audry Carlson, daughter of a union streetcar worker, will be married to Earling Johnson, 574 member, on Valentine's Day. Happy voyage.

The Cokato WPA meeting, which was scheduled for Friday night, was postponed on account of cold weather and snow blocked roads.

The faith of loyal 574 members in the promises of the Central Labor Union Committee was put to a severe test Tuesday when Hall, Wilson and Vincent tried to get the workers at the Swanson Fuel & Transfer Co. to forsake their union, Local 574, and join Local 221. The workers at Swanson Fuel & Transfer Co. are all members of General Drivers Union and the company is under contract to our organization. How about it, C. L. U. Committee?

What is perhaps a record for earnings for a ton and a half truck was made at the Co-operative Coal in the last two week period. An independent truck owner at this yard received a check of \$181 for 12 days' work. This coal hauling fiend is Les Baumgart.

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 458, Sunday were hosts to the Industrial Union Conference, which was held at 520 E. Hennepin. The hall and all the facilities of the building were donated by the Cooks and Waiters organization.

Wm. Teskey, long time Yellow Cab driver, died at 2 a. m. Friday, January 31. He was buried at Fairmont, Minnesota, his family home.

A. R. Anderson, steward at Albert Johnson Coal Co., is putting on a one man subscription drive for the ORGANIZER. He is turning them in fast.

Bill Lotz, employed in the Union office, has never owned a car and cannot drive one, yet he has spent 13 months in hospitals due to automobile accidents.

Frosig and Skoglund will address a PWA Workers' organization in Stillwater Tuesday, February 4th.

The La Belle drivers will hold an election this week for the purpose of selecting a new job steward.

There will be a special meeting for all Flour City Coal Co. workers Friday, February 7th. This includes drivers, yardmen, and contract haulers.

Tommy Williams, Yellow driver, has done it again. He was married Thursday, January 30th.

Arnold Johnson of Cokato was a visitor in the Union Club rooms Wednesday night.

The coal haulers have had their first break of the entire coal season during the last 16 days. Every available truck has been working.

Do you know that Charlie Quick is a grandfather?

The Building Laborers are continuing their scuffle on the Sumner Field project.

The NORTHWEST ORGANIZER'S greetings in the program of the Cleaners and Laundry Workers Installation Program, "NORTHWEST ORGANIZER, That makes Minneapolis a Union town," was not too popular in certain labor circles.

FOR SALE

Two coal boxes for ton and one-half trucks, both in excellent condition. Inquire at Union office.

Laundry Workers Take Note

If you are a member in good standing of Local Union No. 18005 and No. 183 you are entitled to receive the NORTHWEST ORGANIZER weekly. In case you do not receive this publication, notify Reuben Latz, 703 Third Ave. S., Atlantic 7678.

The transfer employers Compliance Committee met with Wm. Brown and Miles Dunne Friday noon, at the St. Anthony Commercial club. The meeting was successful in ironing out a few minor grievances that had arisen in the past month.

McCune and Linker of the Hosiery Workers Union were visitors at the Union Hall, Friday night, and how.

A. M. Anderson, 3316 Fourth Ave. S., mistakenly bought a ton of coal from the River Coal & Coke Co. last week. After the coal had been delivered he found it to be full of screenings and of inferior quality. Despite his protest to the company, and in spite of his demands the coal be taken out, the company has refused to act. A typical scab concern.

The Filling Station Attendants Union is on the verge. Meyer Lewis trouble.

Society Note

John Geary is spending a few weeks in Miami, Florida.