

THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

VOL. 5, NO. 26

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1939

FIVE CENTS

350,000 Drivers Covered by New Area Pact

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!

... One Woman To Another ...

By Marvel Scholl
They say of a woman when she does things which are contradictory that she is "charmingly inconsistent." There was nothing very charming about the inconsistency of two events which took place in Minneapolis last week.

Fashion note ... There will be no "war toys" for the Christmas trade this year ... just toys of "national defense."

An obscure item in Monday's press says that the War Department will "look to" the Civilian Conservation Corps for swelling the ranks of the army and navy ... the CCC camps contain hundreds of thousands of our youth.

In a radio broadcast last week, Mrs. Roosevelt urged the women of America to "make peace your crusade." We heartily agree that it is up to the women to keep this country out of war.

More Than 2,000 Operators in Twelve States Covered by New Over-Road Agreement

Chicago, Ill.—Early this week a new two-year working agreement covering all over-road operations in the Middle West was signed between the Operators' Area Committee and the Union Ara Council.

The following men served on the Operators Committee: John Bridge, Interstate, Detroit; Jack Keeshin, Keeshin Motor Freight Lines, Chicago; Fay Watson, Watson Transportation, Omaha; B. D. Blaney, M. K. & C., Kansas City; Bernie Boher, D. M. Transportation, Des Moines; R. B. Godfredson, Trans-American, Detroit; Walter Malloidy, Decatur Cartage, Detroit; W. J. McCarthy, Brady Motor Freight, Chicago; Ben Spector, Spector Motor Freight, Chicago; E. C. Lacy, Shippers Dispatch, Chicago; H. H. Hiland, Interstate Dispatch, Chicago; H. J. Lee, Lee Bros., Chicago; F. P. Raymond, Raymond Bros., Minneapolis; E. W. Krause, Silver Fleet, Louisville; C. H. Ozeo, Hayes Freight Line, Mallom, Ill.; John Cooper, Holland Motor Freight, Holland, Mich.; John Gottlieb, Pioneer Motor, Chicago; and E. A. Murphy, Gateway, Madison, Wis.

Signing for the Union Area Council of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters were Farrell Dobbs, International organizer; Joseph Scislawski, Local 200, Milwaukee; Frank Brown, Local 710, Chicago; Joseph O'Laughlin, Local 299, Detroit; Ted Neal, Local 41, Kansas City, Mo.; Joseph Williams, Local 135, Indianapolis; Jack Maloney, Local 383, Sioux City; Thomas Flynn, Local 364, South Bend; Tom Smith, Local 554, Omaha; Miles B. Dunne, Local 544, Minneapolis; Carl Keul, Local 90, Des Moines.

Negotiations With Retail Bakeries On

Wednesday morning negotiations started between the Bakery Drivers Union Local 289 and the two retail bakeries, Egekvist and Excelsior, for a new working agreement.

160 Member To Receive Honor Medal

Ivan Wright, a driver in the overhead department of the Northern States Power company and an active member of the Electrical Workers Union Local 160, was in New York on Wednesday where he was to receive the Thomas McCarter medal from the American Gas association.

977 Pressing Erickson for Agreement

Following up its victory over the attempted injunction move of the Erickson Oil company, the AFL Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977 this week pressed for an agreement with the company to cover all present leasees and attendants and provide for company-wide seniority.

Erickson is seeking to retain the imported strike-breakers at two stations and to hold them in the CIO. That the company is thereby seeking to play the CIO fink set-up against Local 977 is further shown by the fact that Erickson has seen that its St. Paul driver, a brother of the company auditor, is enrolled in the CIO.

Needless to say, Local 977 has not the slightest intention of permitting such a situation. Plans are being readied to clean up this dirty mess.

A meeting was held last week between Local 977 officials, Jacobson of the CIO and Haney to discuss the situation at the Emerson and Plymouth station of the Erickson company.

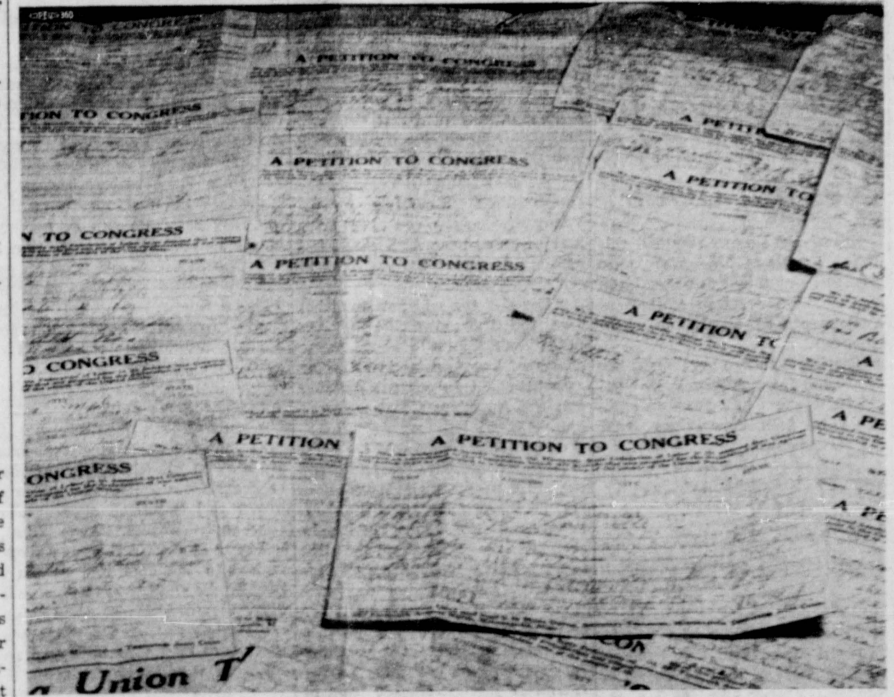
The company is also moving to take over two of the leased Erickson stations. Local 977 has no objection to this move, but is insisting that Erickson sign an agreement covering all leasees and attendants, with company-wide seniority.

Big Business Wants More Armaments; New WPA Wage Slash Starts in N. Y.

Possibility that the national administration may be preparing to provoke a new nationwide protest of the unemployed was hinted last Wednesday when the wages of 13,000 WPA white collar workers in New York City received new wage cuts up to \$20.80 monthly.

Unlike previous wage cuts in recent months, says the New York Times, "the present cuts represent an independent action of the WPA administration in Washington."

Readers Demand: LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON WAR!



Hundreds of Northwest Organizer readers are mailing in the signed petitions calling for Congress to amend the Constitution to let the people vote on any proposal for the declaration of war against any nation.

You'll Meet Your Friends at Drivers Boo-ya October 22

Plans are virtually completed to the last detail this week for the great BOO-YA to be given by the family of Teamsters unions at Costello's Grove, 92nd and Cedar, on Sunday, October 22nd.

The huge Boo-ya will be one of the most amazing affairs ever presented by any organization in any part of the United States. The finest Boo-ya cook in the Northwest is already ordering whole cows and flocks of chickens

are planning to bring their entire families to Costello's Grove for the Boo-ya.

The Boo-ya Committee of the Teamsters Council, made up of representatives of all drivers' unions, met Monday night to plan the finishing touches for the great day.

sharpen their eyes by participating in the miniature trap shoot to be set up on the grounds.

To top off the afternoon, the Committee is arranging for a diamondball game to be played between two leading teams from the Drivers' movement.

The Boo-ya will start at noon and continue far into the night. Rain or shine, it will be held.

Whether or not the Roosevelt administration will follow the New York wage cut with a new national slash of WPA wage levels remains to be seen.

Free Want Ad Column to Start Next Week

One of the many fruitful suggestions that came out of the recent dinner for the columnists and editorial board of the Northwest Organizer was the proposal that our paper start a free classified section as a service to our 25,000 subscribers.

Defense Shatters Government Case In WPA Trial

Testimony of Defendants Shatters "Conspiracy" Charge, Claims of Intimidation—The Fink, Slaughter, Shown to Have Started Violence Against Pickets—Government Backs Down on Intimidation Charges—Popular Support Heartens Defense

As the first trial of eight WPA workers entered its second week Monday, the defense began to get in its innings, with the result that the government's case was shattered into a hundred pieces.

Tag Day for WPA Defense Nets \$1089

The pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters of the poor fell into the collection cans of hundreds of union men and women last Friday and Saturday in the citywide Tag Day sponsored by the WPA Defense Committee of the American Federation of Labor.

About 400 union men and women participated in the Tag Day. On Friday evening there were 111 on the streets; on Saturday morning, 166; on Saturday afternoon and evening, 100. A dozen more volunteers aided in the office.

Especially high praise was earned by the workers in the J. R. Clark plant. These men, all members of Local 1859, took charge of their own Tag Day for the WPA defense and raised no less than \$83.75.

Organizations who contributed to the luncheon served Saturday for participants in the Tag Day were the Cooks and Waiters Union, the Milk Drivers Union, the Bakers, and the Meat Cutters.

Star defendant on the stand was Carl Pemble, steward of the Federal Workers Section. Pemble, a former member of the St. Paul Laundry Workers Union, is a graduate of the chemical engineering college of the University of Minnesota.

In his testimony, Pemble showed that the WPA protest in Minneapolis was part of a nationwide protest movement against the relief cuts, and that reports of the protest throughout the nation were published in the daily press.

A "Conspiracy" of Strangers As for the ridiculous charge of "conspiracy," Pemble showed that he did not know any of the seven other defendants save Wachter until the strike began, and that he had not discussed the strike with Wachter.

At one point in his testimony Monday, Pemble used the impressive device of standing in the courtroom and delivering a 10-minute speech identical to the talk he delivered July 10th before his fellow WPA workers.

He told of coming to work and finding other workers inspecting the bulletin board notice informing them their wages had been cut and their hours lengthened.

"You workers must go out and protest this action," he said. "I urge you to come to a meeting of WPA workers and vote on the question of striking. The papers tell us that WPA workers all over the country are walking off WPA jobs. You have a right to strike and a right to picket. I warn you to be careful, however. There are always a few screwballs and hot-heads around, not to mention the provocateurs and spies. You understand if anyone gets tough with you, you have got to take it ..."

Explaining to the jury, Mr. Pemble declared that he and the other WPA workers were protesting in the best tradition of the American working class against the savage attack on their living standards.

Pemble stated that workers in certain essential projects such as nursing were not asked to go on strike and were allowed free exit and entry to their projects.

Finks Started Violence "There was no violence until Slaughter (government witness and a fink) drew a knife on Phillips and stabbed him," declared

(Continued on page 4)

544 Gains in New Market Agreement

Paid vacations, strict seniority and the provision that if hours are shortened weekly pay will remain the same, are contained in the new agreement signed late last month between Local 544 and firms operating on the market. Text of the new contract follows:

It is mutually agreed between the Minneapolis Market Firms and the General Drivers Union, Local No. 544, that the 1938-39 contract will remain in effect with the following changes:

1. All employees covered by this agreement, who have completed one year of service with the company shall receive four days vacation before June 1, 1940. Commencing June 1, 1940, all such employees shall receive one week's vacation with pay each year.

2. No breakfast time with pay. Employees starting work at 6 A. M. or after, shall have their breakfast before coming on the job. Employees starting to work before 6 A. M. shall be given one half hour off for breakfast to be taken on their own time.

3. Seniority rights shall prevail in all matters relating to employment except where special qualifications or training is required. The senior qualified man on the job from point of service shall be given the regular job and shall be provided full time work, if work is available. In reducing the personnel because of lack of work or other legitimate cause, the last man hired shall be the first man laid off, and in returning men to work, the last man laid off shall be the first man rehired.

4. The senior qualified employee shall have first preference on the job provided, however, that the present assignment of employees in the various classifications of work shall not be disturbed in any manner other than that set forth below:

(a) When a regular job becomes open for any reason in any classification of work covered by this agreement, it shall be bulletined by the Employer. All qualified employees in the order of their seniority standing are eligible to accept or reject this job without jeopardizing their present or future seniority standing. A reasonable time not to exceed thirty days shall be allowed for the employee to qualify on the new job or return to his former job, unless because of obvious physical or mental infirmities the trial of such employee on such job would entail serious danger of financial loss to the employer, in which case the employer shall immediately notify the Union of such fact together with a statement of the infirmities of which said employee complains. Any controversy over the qualifications of the employee to handle a job during the trial period shall be settled as provided in Article 7 of the 1938-39 Market Agreement.

Seniority for new employees shall begin after they have worked a total of thirty (30) consecutive working days, seniority to start from the first day of employment provided, however, that the employer will not circumvent the intent of this clause by deliberately arranging intermittent employment in any case so as to keep the employee from becoming eligible to seniority.

A list of the employees arranged in the order of their seniority shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the job.

4. The Union and the employer agree that the shipping clerks will be exempted from Article 3 but agree to choose their shipping clerks from their employees on the seniority list.

5. In the case of classifications, which have been affected by the Wage and Hour laws, or which are later affected by those laws, the signatories hereto agree to maintain a regular schedule of hours which shall produce the regular weekly wage paid by the individual signatories on October 23, 1938, for senior employees, if and when work is available, except in weeks in which holidays occur. In that event paragraphs six, seven, and eight would apply.

6. In the weeks in which the six national holidays occur, employees shall be guaranteed the equivalent of a 40-hour work week, if and when work is available.

7. Effective October 24, 1939, and until October 23, 1940, the work week shall be 46 hours and the hourly rates of pay for the first 42 hours worked shall be the same as in the old contract, and time and one-half will be paid for the next four hours worked in order to produce the same total weekly pay for 46 hours work as formerly paid for 48 hours work.

8. Effective October 24, 1940, to May 31, 1941, the work week shall be 45 1/2 hours and the hourly rates of pay for the first 40 hours worked shall be the same as in the old contract, and time and one-half will be paid for the next 5 1/2 hours worked in order to produce the same total weekly pay for 45 1/2 hours work as formerly paid for 48 hours work.

9. This employment agreement shall become effective as of September 26, 1939, and shall continue in full force and effect until May 31, 1941.

With the Limousines

By Eskild Nielsen

Another week around again before we know it and seeing that you fellows have been pretty stingy with the low-down, you will just have to take what we give you.

Galloping Poll

Chauffeurs Institute of Public Opinion, Galloping Gallop (N. D.), director. Today's burning question asked around by old nose Gallop is as follows: "Do you believe there is any war propaganda in our daily papers?" Believe it or not, this is the result the old fellow got.

Results: 33 per cent . . . sure! 67 per cent . . . didn't know there was anything but propaganda in them! So you see now for yourself what you see and, as we have said before, this is the only real dope and don't believe in any other trash.

Expect to see you all out at the Teamsters Joint Council's now famous "Bo-ya" on October 22 at Costello's Grove. Our own Mel Johnson is on the committee and that in itself ought to guarantee a howling success.

Haven't seen anything of the midnight station-wagon of late. We just wonder if the "ducks" got the best of those fellows and you know Jack Kartes hasn't brought us any of those fat birds yet. But then we don't blame him because if we had to row as hard in the mud as he did, we'd probably eat them ourselves.

While on the subject of the roaming "ducks" we'd like to know how Ed Litfin came to call in the electrician for his hunting party. Didn't he charge you for his lessons last year? Oh, yes! And also Eddie Forster's ducks haven't arrived at this office yet. But we're still hoping.

Found out the other day why our good brother George Liebl has been missing meetings this summer. If you go out and look at 4019 Quentin Ave., St. Louis Park, you'll see the reason and so far as we can tell it's a good one. (You guessed it.) It's a new home he built. When is housewarming, George?

It's a cinch we'll have to butcher the fatted calf now. Among other lost brothers we extend our welcome home to Bob Evans. How does it feel to be among your friends again, Bob?

Have you heard about that certain old style furniture revived again on a national scale? They're called "pigeon stools" and they are not Union Made. We're glad of that. That kind of furniture is just as useless and futile as for instance our Governor making speeches to the insurance companies.

SUMMONS
S-L 2292
STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
In District Court, Fourth Judicial District, at St. Paul, Minnesota.
Nathan Helfgott, Plaintiff,
vs.
Selma Helfgott, Defendant.

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: You, Selma Helfgott, are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint of the plaintiff in the above entitled action, which complaint has been filed in the office of the Clerk of said District Court, at the City of Minneapolis and State of Minnesota, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber at his office, in 229 Metropolitan Bank Building in the City of Minneapolis, said County of Hennepin, within thirty (30) days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint, together with his costs and disbursements herein.
Dated: September Twentieth, 1939.
JONAS G. SCHWARTZ
Attorney for the Plaintiff
329 Metropolitan Bank Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Sept. 22: Oct. 5, 12.

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Card of Thanks

To Local 544:
Your kindness and sympathy at this time is more deeply appreciated than any word of thanks can ever express.

Mrs. Webber

To All Trade Union Members

So many workers applying for unemployment insurance have been rejected through their own negligence and misunderstanding of the law, despite the fact they are clearly eligible to receive such insurance, that the Federal Workers Section has set up a special department to deal with this problem.

All workers seeking unemployment insurance are asked to get in touch immediately with Ed Palmquist before applying for such insurance. Palmquist will be in the office from 8:30-10:30 daily except Saturday and Sunday.

Donaldson's, 359, Resume Negotiations

Negotiations were resumed this week between the Warehouse Workers Union and the Donaldson store. The Donaldson employees' committee will sit in on these meetings. The Dayton store agreement has been signed, which places the Donaldson workers in a favorable position to gain concessions from the management.

FDR Mediation Of War Is Forum Topic

"Roosevelt as War Mediator" is the timely subject of a talk to be given by Michael Freed at the Sunday Forum, 919 Marquette, Sunday, October 15th, at 3 p. m. Admission is 10c and the public is invited.

DEMAND UNION CLERKS

problems in St. Louis about the labor problem.

Speaking about labor problems we see where Stassen's man Haney claims that the Minnesota Slave Law settled 161 labor disputes. We admit we don't remember back much over forty years but even in that small space of time we fail to recollect any one year we ever had that many labor rows.

Seeing as how we figured out now what caused all this labor trouble (the Slave Act) we think it's well to keep in mind that the real reason for settling all this commotion brought on by this labor-hating act of our state legislators was and is the combined strength of organized labor. If you don't believe that, we'll call to your attention the fact that labor got what it wanted in every case.

What was it that made the world safe for that time we went across the ocean? We see by latest news dispatches that the Communist Party representatives in France are getting thrown in jail and although we're not in accord with the Communist Party we still don't care for that type of democracy.

And that's all the more reason why we should stay right here and try and better our own particular kind of democracy. We can make a good beginning by obtaining the right to Vote on War. And that, dear friends, would be part of a true democracy.

SIGN THAT PETITION TODAY.

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CLIFFORD PETERSON

ENJOY
Gluek's BEER

Scissorbill Sam, The Boss's Man



They tried to sell me one of those Labor Defense Tags last Saturday, and said that the WPA workers were fighting the battle of all workers against wage cuts. But you can bet I didn't bite.

Tobin and AFL Will Appeal Decision on Brewery Drivers

Last Friday Judge Goldsborough of the District of Columbia Federal Court ruled that the Brewery Workers Union could not be compelled by the American Federation of Labor to turn its drivers over to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Goldsborough, in a reactionary decision charging the AFL with being a "despot," granted the Brewery Workers an injunction against the Teamsters and the AFL.

The judge denied that the AFL had power to change the jurisdiction of international unions. President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters announced both the Teamsters and the AFL would immediately appeal the decision to the circuit court.

"The decision will not stand before the Federal Court of Appeals," said Tobin. "Federal Judge James of Los Angeles in a similar case returned an adverse decision and the Appellate Court reversed aim."

Would Cripple AFL
"Judge Goldsborough expressed prejudice of the most brutal type against the teamsters and the AFL throughout the entire case. In granting the injunction, he ties the hands of the AFL and prevents it from carrying on functions which it has carried out for more than fifty years, and limits its power merely to the granting of charters and prevents it from amending jurisdiction set down in charters once the original charter is issued."

"Such a rule if allowed to stand would destroy not only the powers of the American Federation of Labor but those of any other voluntary association."

Judge J. A. Padway, general counsel of the AFL, agreed with Tobin, saying "Judge Goldsborough's decision is unsound and contrary to law . . . No court has the lawful right to enjoin the AFL from settling its jurisdictional disputes."

544 Gives Banquet for Ball Team

Members of the 1939 city championship ball team of the General Drivers Union Local 544 were feted by the union at a dinner held Saturday night in the Nicollet Hotel. Speakers were W. H. Fox, director of Park Board athletics, V. R. Dunne, Miles Dunne and Jack Herman, team manager. Mr. Fox praised Local 544's ball team highly for its ability and sportsmanship, and attributed the success of the 1939 park baseball season in large measure to the role played by the 544 team.

Small gold baseballs, appropriately inscribed, were presented all team members by the union.

Most of the debts of Europe represent condensed drops of blood.—Henry Ward Beecher.

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LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By R. B. Gilmore

At the general membership meeting our local credit union was installed and the officers elected. Membership in the union will require a fee of 50 cents, half of which will go to defray expenses and half to cover possible bad loans.

Carlos Hudson, editor of the Northwest Organizer, gave a talk on M-Day. The points brought out in this talk were very pertinent and will be given careful consideration by the membership.

I have always wanted to know the difference between a hobo, a tramp and a bum. Joe Lazarowitz, who was elected president at the last hobo convention explains it this way: A hobo will work, a tramp won't work, a bum can't work. This clears up the situation.

The Swiss bell ringer or Mama, here's that man again. Brother Ernest Nelson was stepping high, wide and handsome on upper Nicollet the other evening. We say "was" advisedly because Ernie ain't gonna do it no more.

Let's we forget — a reminder. The TJC is giving a grand and glorious Boo-ya blowout at Costello's Grove, October 22, all day and half the night. Go out Thirty-fourth Avenue to Ninety-second Street. Come one. Come all.

Brother Bill Boe is back at work again. A riddle within a puzzle, wrapped up in an enigma. What became of Bill's razor?

Lost beans for John Ericson last Monday. John spent a couple of hours fixing up his busted trailer so he could haul home a load of wood. "Looks," said John, "like dirty foot awerk."

The main job of a man is making a living. Don't gamble your job for a few drags. Try snoose.

The press gave a talk on "100 Years of Progress with Minneapolis" at the general membership meeting.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Brothers and sisters of the labor movement are becoming alarmed over the very obvious preparations and forces at work in our United States which are just as surely as God made green apples drawing us closer and closer to being involved in the wars of Europe.

Leon Trotsky, in a statement recently published in the local papers, states emphatically that the entrance of the United States into the war is only a matter of time and is inevitable unless—get this, brothers and sisters—unless the organized labor movement shows a strength and solidarity beyond the expectations of the war mongers. In other words, the delay in entering into the war will last as long as it requires the war-

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One Block from General Drivers UNION HEADQUARTERS

No janitor work USE GAS HEAT IN YOUR HOME

Unfair Mortuaries

Do Not Patronize—The following funeral homes are unfair to Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912; Rainville Funeral Home, 222 East Hennepin; Enger Funeral Home, Grant at Park; Davies Mortuary, 1403 Harmon Place; Gill Brothers, 1414 Laurel Avenue; McDivitt Funeral Home, 2835 East Lake; Knaeble company, 513 Plymouth Avenue north; Welander Quist, Hennepin at Dupont, Chicago at 19th, West Broadway at Fremont; Albinson Mortuary, Chicago Avenue at 17th.

To All Friends of Organized Labor—In case you have the misfortune to have a death in your family, please telephone the Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912, at Geneva 4691, for a list of the undertaking establishments on Local 912's fair list.

mongers to crush the militant American labor movement.

Eddie Rickenbacker, a war ace in the last European conflict, has this to say: "The United States of America can reap nothing but bankruptcy and death from taking sides in this European war."

Colonel Lindberg, in a radio address to the citizens of this country, points out that we have everything to gain and nothing to lose by having nothing to do with England and France or Germany.

The famed Third Infantry at Fort Snelling is going to be transferred to South Carolina and the reason has not been revealed even to our so-called civic leaders.

It is intimated that Fort Snelling will be used as a training ground for numerous new recruits. Seventy new members are to be added to the medical staff of the army.

It is apparent beyond the slightest molecule of doubt that if the United States of America is going to be preserved as a free and democratic nation it will have to be the organized labor unions who save it. No other power on the face of the earth but organized labor can save our democracy from the stupid, blundering methods our princes of poisons and lords of finance are blindly following. We have got to depend on ourselves, fellow workers.

Gunpowder Gulch, Colorado—A ragged, half-starved man was picked up by forest rangers near here today. He explained that his town was divided into two factions, half pro-German and half pro-British. When they found he was pro-American they united and robs him out of town on a rail.

Boot Hill, Oklahoma — Two skunks caught under Ole Olson's corn crib turned out to be foreign propagandists. A Britisher and a German. They smell and look just alike except the Britisher had a ring of white fur around one eye instead of a monocle.

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125 Labor, Farmer Leaders Gather at Alexandria Supper

Over a score of trade union leaders from Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth met with one hundred cooperative and farm leaders in Alexandria, Minnesota, last Thursday evening at a dinner meeting sponsored by the Minnesota Farmer-Cooperative-Labor Council. The meeting was eminently successful and further cemented friendly relations between the workers of the city and the countryside in this section of the state.

Farm leaders who acted on the local committee arranging the dinner were Senator Wincher, co-op leader in that area; Charles Coy, editor of the Park Region Echo, a paper owned by 500 farmers; Fred Foslien, manager of the Production Credit association; Clifford Hove, Judge Edward Barness of Glenwood, and others.

Visit Co-op Center
Thursday afternoon the local committee played host to the visiting trade unionists by taking them for a visit to Garfield, an unused community center a few miles from Alexandria. Garfield is a complete cooperative village. The group visited a cooperative creamery, a co-op produce plant, a co-op meat locker, a co-op feed mill and elevator—everything in the town was organized on the cooperative basis.

The dinner was held in the Alexandria Hotel at 6 p. m., followed by a spirited and friendly discussion of farmer and worker problems that lasted well after 11 o'clock. The evening was so interesting that not a single guest left the meeting.

Among the trade unionists who spoke were Gene Larson of Minneapolis, William Wright, Robert Rooney of Duluth, Ray Wentz of St. Paul, Miles Dunne, and Paul Rasmussen, executive secretary of the Minnesota Farmer-Cooperative-Labor Council.

Work of Council Endorsed
The achievements of the evening in clarifying the aims of organized labor and the organized farmers were heartily praised by all present, and the work of the Farmer-Cooperative-Labor Council was wholeheartedly applauded. This is one of an ambitious series of such meetings being held in all sections of the state by the Council.

Furniture Council Will Meet Here

The North Central District Council of Furniture and Woodware Workers will hold its quarterly meeting in Minneapolis on Saturday and Sunday, October 28-29. The official call for the gathering has been sent to all eligible unions in the area.

Attention—All 471 Members

In accord with the instructions voted at the last meeting, Mr. Paul Rasmussen, executive secretary of the Minnesota Farmer - Cooperative - Labor Council, has been invited to speak at our next membership meeting Tuesday, October 17th. Mr. Rasmussen has agreed to speak and his talk will be a special order of business at 8 p. m. He will discuss "The Farmer - Cooperative - Labor Council and How it Can Aid Organized Labor in the Rural Areas."

Local 131 "Gas and Suds"

By L. Clair Johnson
The negotiations on the new contract are dragging a little. The employers have turned their part of the job over to Lloyd McAlon with whom we have been meeting. At present, we have had no word from him as to arrangements for the next meeting. In St. Paul there has been no further progress.

We were faced last week with a peculiar situation — making a choice of protecting one or the other of two finks.

Some members, when summoned before the Executive Board, have ignored the summons. Our by-laws plainly provide for a penalty of \$10 for such an offense.

You will be able to obtain tickets for the Boo-ya from your steward or at your union office. They are 25 cents each.

Jack Schmidt of Garbers is back to work again.

We appeared before the labor conciliator again today. We have been informed by a man who just came here from Los Angeles that at the largest plant there, which is non-union and has 120 routes, that the following situation prevails: on 110 routes the driver owns the truck chassis, the company owns the body and the driver pays the truck expense.

The average volume on these routes is \$250 and the driver receives 25 per cent commission or \$66 for \$250 and his truck expense is 15 per cent per week, leaving a net of \$51. He purchases the chassis from the company, paying them \$8 per week for same, leaving him \$43 net until the truck is paid for. On the other ten routes the company owns the trucks and the average volume is higher. On those routes the driver receives 17 per cent straight commission with a guarantee of \$27.50.

The cheapest inside female help receives 40 cents per hour, some receiving as high as 60 cents. The price of laundry is about half what it is here. A driver here receives \$38.50 for \$250.

What's wrong, anyway? The bosses here say they are going broke and they say the reason

Strike Machinery Is Set Up For Gamble-Robinson Strike

A union committee representing Gamble-Robinson employees in five states set about to establish strike machinery this week for the pending show-down with the Gamble-Rob company. The three Teamsters Joint Councils in Minnesota—in Duluth, St. Paul and Minneapolis—have approved strike action against the company. The Iowa Drivers Council had previously endorsed such a strike.

A report on the relations with the Gamble-Rob firm has been drawn up and sent to the Area Drivers Committee and to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, accompanied by a request for strike benefits.

A meeting of union representatives from the three Teamsters Councils in the state was held Tuesday night in Minneapolis to discuss plans for the strike. The same committee that has handled negotiations with Gamble-Rob will serve as the Strike Committee in the five-state area.

The 10-day waiting period expired some days ago. During the unsatisfactory negotiations with the company, incidentally, even the state labor conciliator agreed that the union's demands were moderate and just.

Workers to Meet
All Gamble-Rob employees in southern Minnesota have been summoned by the union committee to a special meeting next Sunday afternoon in Mankato where a report on the final negotiations will be presented. A meeting for employees of Gamble-Rob houses in northern Minnesota will be held at the same time, in Bemidji.

Snyder Drug, 359, in Negotiations

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 and the Snyder Drug company have opened negotiations for a new working agreement. The company has already offered a slight increase in wages. However, the workers involved do not feel the increase is sufficient for the type of work they do. These stockmen intend to have their wages brought up to the level of men doing similar jobs in similar industries.

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is that delivery cost is too high, production labor costs are too high and that they must have relief if they are to continue in business. Maybe soap is cheaper in Los Angeles!

IBT Gains 30,800 Members in Year

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters again reported the largest single membership gain of any union for the past year, an increase of 30,800 members since the last convention of the AFL.

According to the report given to the AFL convention in Cincinnati, the AFL increased its membership by 383,267 during the year to reach a paid-up membership for August, 1939, of 4,006,354.

Other unions to report large gains were the operating engineers (28,000), the electrical workers (25,300), movie operators (14,200) and the retail clerks (18,600).

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LONG DISTANCE Rates Step Down Every Night After 7... All Day on Sunday



Gassing With 977

By John Eidavold
Help!
Lost: Dues receipt book Number 8840-8850 of Local 977. Please return, as this is very important for your union records. Check your receipt numbers. If your number corresponds with above numbers, please call Ge. 4691, Local 977.

Brother Braunschweig is now working, through the efforts of your local, at the Globe oil station, Johnson street and East Hennepin. Remember, if you are laid off, call at the union office for your honorary withdrawal card and place your name on the unemployed list for work.

Charles Hafey, attendant at the Pure Oil station, 50th and Xerxes Ave. S., will be absent from the station October 28. No, he isn't going to duck hunting. He intends to be married—Good luck, Charlie.

We are wondering whether Johnnie Crews' watch gained time, or whether he was just a little over-anxious last Sunday while duck hunting. To top it all off, Johnnie bagged two birds with one shot while one of Stassen's choice game policemen was watching nearby. For advice on early morning hunting you may contact him at his Texaco station, 2801 Cedar.

A note of interest. Your book-keeper and columnist is John Jon — this week, anyway. Jon Conder is on his vacation. Jon was exercising his vocal cords at the Leamington hotel, blasting away in a recital last Tuesday evening.

What tire company gave a beloved brother's wife only four days' vacation pay because he had only worked part of a year?

Don't forget the big Boo-ya sponsored by the Teamsters Joint Council. It is to be held Sunday, October 22. For the time of your life, be sure to reserve October 22. Fun for all! Tickets may be obtained from your steward or collector, Carroll Melloy.

Jim Nielson, at the Standard Oil station, West 50th and Bryant South just received a bounding bundle. His wife is home from the hospital and doing very well.

Remember, if you are interested in the cooperative group Health Mutual insurance, call your local office so we can hold a special meeting on this important matter.

Don't forget the Boo-ya. Davidson will have his trap shooting at the Boo-ya, October 22, at Costello's Grove.

Barney Stoltman, working at Diamond Tire company, was grinning from ear to ear last Monday night. He was the winner of the door prize—one month's dues, at our monthly general membership meeting. You know Barney!

"THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN"

Take up the White Man's burden:
Send forth your sturdy sons,
And load them down with whilkey
And Testaments and guns.
Throw in a few diseases
To spread in tropic climes,
For there the healthy Negroes
Are quiet behind the times.
And don't forget the factories
On those benighted shores...
They never work twelve hours
a day,
And live in strange content.

War is the ignoble trick of slitting open the blood vessels of the excited working class to satisfy the honor and save the pride and the profits of crowned and uncrowned cowards of the ruling class.—George Kirkpatrick.

1859 Busy In Many Negotiations

The Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 was active on many fronts this week as it sought new agreements from local manufacturing concerns.

No change was reported in the Puffer-Hubbard strike situation as the strike entered its fifth week.

Workers of the American Excelsior company met Tuesday night to consider a counter-proposal from the management calling for a renewal of the present agreement, with its 52½c guaranteed hourly minimum. The workers voted to ask for a new clause that in case of a rise in living costs the pact can be re-opened for wage negotiations. Negotiations are still being carried on.

Wicker Pact Ready
The American Wicker Work workers also met Tuesday night at the union hall, and voted to accept a one-year extension of the present pact with some wage adjustments upward. This contract should be signed by press time.

The J. R. Clark Section of Local 1859 will resume its sectional meeting schedule next Wednesday, October 18th, where workers will review the present pact and set up committees to draw up demands for a new working agreement.

Watt Notes

Hope to see all of you brothers at the next membership meeting Thursday, October 19. The Executive Board announces that this will be one of the most important meetings of the year, so everybody out.

Don't forget the stag for the diamondball team Friday, October 13, at 8:30 p. m. The price is 50c and the place is at 203 East Hennepin avenue. Everyone is assured of a swell time.

Brother McMullen of the Trouble Department is up and around and is expected to be on the job again soon.

Brothers DesRosiers and Gilbertson report getting their limits of ducks, mostly mallards, up at Baldy's so-called "Jodge."

Who was the guy who posed as a scarecrow in the cornfield to get his bag of pheasants?

Who said 30 hours a week is too much time to work?

Looks funny that the big boys are supporting Roosevelt now on the embargo issue.

Satisfactory labor relations between employer and employee depend on sincerity, honesty and open-mindedness.

Why should we try to solve Europe's problems and neglect our own?

Let's see you brothers who want to squawk do so at the next membership meeting. One good squawk always deserves another. Protest before things happen, not afterward.

Fenton Brice is growing one of those things on the upper lip.

A hint to members wanting to save money on laying in their winter supply of potatoes — "See Shorty Wear in the Arc Department."

One of the Executive Board members (and a babe) was observed Friday afternoon in front of Stanley's at Broadway and Second Street North rattling a couple of WPA Defense Tag Day cans.

The first four lucky comers will call Ch. 8988 and be able to buy a B-K vacuum brake booster from Hornig for the modest sum of \$6.

Last Tuesday Harry Leonard got hooked in a speed trap—38 miles per, they say—Sounds like Harry is going to part with some of that hard-earned lucre.

Owing to pressing business, the Executive Board meets every Tuesday promptly after 5 p. m.

If you are interested in your wages and working conditions, attend the meetings regularly. If you are not, stay home.

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Independent Truck Chatter

R. F. Hornig

Too much time has been taken up lately in meetings by our city group arguing over their plans for protesting the purchase of additional trucks by the city. We cannot expect any consistent attendance by other members interested in any different class of work. It seems to me it would be better for the ITO and for these individuals to get together in small groups and plan out a program for action. To debate such a question in a large meeting to such a length is to invite trouble because too many personalities react unfavorably against many indifferent members whereas they might work and cooperate more successfully with smaller sympathetic committees. This seems to be the general opinion, but true or not, your ideas on this matter would be welcomed.

Although we have previously reported Kenny Schiebe had left for Arizona, we are very sorry to hear that he was forced to remain in Minneapolis due to a very serious accident suffered by his father. We wish to extend our sympathy to Kenny and his family and hope for a speedy convalescence for Mr. Schiebe. Kenny is going to remain in town for an indefinite time to take care of his father's affairs.

Newspaper Clippings—WPA favors defense jobs! . . . F. R. appointing all army men to high-up federal positions. (What's it going to be, another Hitler "putsch" a la Nazi?) . . . Store sales gains here lead the nation. (Can it be that the powers that be will have to recognize the value of unionism in raising the Am. St. Liv. . . Of course, the General Drivers will not be given any credit for starting the ball rolling . . . Hennepin County is third in the nation in annual per family income.

A word to you bowlers. You have done nothing yet worth publishing, but you have already gained enough experience so your improvement is showing on the score sheet. Don't get discouraged too easily. You can be the poorest man in any one week and come back the next, get hot and ride on the top of the heap and break all your old records. If you cannot be there any evening please call your captain so he can arrange for a substitute. You are supposed to pay for bowling and the prize money both even though you aren't there. This ruling is in effect in every alley in the city, but if you arrange for a substitute you are required to pay only your share of the prize money. Failure to pay will only cause the loss to be charged against the winnings of your teammates.

Contract trucks stand at 106 today . . . Park board has five small dump trucks working . . . The county is getting like the dyking duck . . . And on the duck subject we report that luck was poor over this weekend. Hatcher and several other ITO are working on bids for the state out of Duluth—Nice job the boys say.

City and others bid on the Sixth Avenue North job next Friday, the 20th . . . The postoffice deal will not be forgotten this year.

Although you filled out new applications for the city contract list you will not be issued new numbers until the end of the year. About nine dead letter applications were returned. My best guess is that the outside boys will jump down 20 to 30 numbers, and those around the 100 mark now will cut the mustard 10 numbers.

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