

# This is Not Our War - Demand All War Funds Be Given to the Unemployed!

As from this hour you use your power, The World must follow you

## THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council

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

FIVE CENTS

### On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

Frame-ups are still the order of the day as the Roosevelt Administration continues its frantic efforts toward a nice, peaceful labor movement for the war. In Philadelphia John Murray, CIO National Maritime Union port agent, went on trial on May 27, on charges of "aggravated assault and battery, intent to commit a felony, aiding and abetting a felon to flee jurisdiction of the law, violation of the Wilkins Fire-arms Act, and conspiracy and assault with intent to maim."

Joseph Curran, national president of the NMU, charges that the Standard Oil Company is directly behind the attempted effort to break the union by this arrest. Standard Oil attorneys were present in court on the bail proceedings.

Murray was held incommunicado after his arrest on April 9, for a night and a day. A writ of habeas corpus was necessary to get his attorney in to see him. During his stay in jail he was grilled by the "Labor Squad" of the detective force.

This case grows out of a tanker strike in Philadelphia more than a year ago. According to our source a broad defense committee has been organized on both coasts by many trade unions.

On April 15, Chris Poppof, militant labor leader from Syracuse, N. Y., was sentenced to from fifteen to twenty-five years in the state prison at Attica for "second degree attempted arson and conspiracy to do same."

Chris Poppof has a long record in the labor movement. He spent many years as a railroad worker, during which time he came to blows both with the Brotherhoods and the bosses, because of his attempts to do something for the section workers. He got a job with the Syracuse Railway Company (street cars) and lost that through his union activity. At another time, while he was assisting another countryman from Macedonia to prepare himself for citizenship, he was seized by immigration authorities on a technicality and almost deported.

In fact, but for the hard work of some friends, and the eleventh hour arrival of a pardon for a previous conviction, he would have sailed with the Greek vessel upon which they had already placed him.

Poppof's alleged fellow-conspirators in this new case were Peter Gregor, owner of the restaurant which Poppof was supposed to have conspired to burn down, and Peter Burdabas, a confessed fire bug who for many years had made his living burning down buildings. During the preparation for the trial, Gregor died of stomach ulcers, and Burdabas turned state's evidence.

Yet despite the fact that Burdabas "told everything" and also implicated himself in several other fires, he got only TWO YEARS WHILE POPPOF GOT FROM FIFTEEN TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

Efforts are now being made by interested friends of Poppof to raise the necessary \$500 for an appeal. His attorney is of the opinion that the flagrant errors committed by the district attorney during the trial will force the reversal of the decision.

Police and government brutality is not confined to mere frame-ups. Last week two

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### Framed by the FBI and the Sioux City Bosses



Above are six of the seven Drivers Union officials who are being framed by the FBI and the employers of Sioux City for the alleged destruction of a bakery truck during the Sioux City bakery strike in 1938. All face two years in federal prison. Their appeal from the decision of the district court was heard last week in the eighth circuit court of appeals in St. Paul.

From left to right, back row: W. K. Stultz, president, Local 554, Omaha; Ralph Johnson, organizer, Local 383, Sioux City; Howard Fouts, vice-president, Local 383. Front row: Francis Quinn, organizer, Local 90, Des Moines; Lou Miller, vice-president, Local 554, Omaha; Jack Maloney, member of Minneapolis Local 544 and organizer, Local 383, Sioux City. The seventh unionist convicted, E. L. Carpenter of Local 554, was not present in court.

### Local 289 is Cited By U.S. Commission For "Conspiracy"

The Minneapolis Bakery Drivers Union Local 289, its seven officers, and nineteen Minneapolis bakeries were notified Monday morning that the Federal Trade Commission has cited them for a violation of the law. The Commission charges the union and the bakeries have "conspired" to "prevent peddlers and so-called independent route men or independent bread men from obtaining bread, pastries, cakes and other bakery products, to sell either at wholesale or retail in said trade area."

All defendants are notified to file with the Commission an answer to the complaint within twenty days. A hearing has been set for June 28th in the Washington offices of the Federal Trade Commission, at which time the defendants will have the right to appear and show cause why a cease-and-desist order should not be entered.

The charges against the Minneapolis Bakery Drivers Union are almost identical with those made by the Federal Trade Commission against the Des Moines and Sioux City Bakery Drivers last January.

The Federal Trade Commission's campaign against the trade unions and union agreements is supplementary to the Department of Justice campaign against the unions for violation of the anti-trust laws. The Commission does not intervene in cases where it has reason to believe the respondents have been guilty of violating the criminal sections of the Sherman Anti-Trust law or the Clayton Act.

#### Union Is Innocent

Harry De Boer, president of Local 289, stated that the union is completely innocent of the charges made, and will file answers to this effect.

Local 289 is the first Minneapolis union to feel the weight of the federal government in its drive on organized labor.

### 664 Meeting June 7th of Special Interest

A discussion of special interest will be held at the regular meeting of City and Sanitary Drivers Union Local 664 on Friday, June 7th.

Alderman Glen Wallace will speak on the municipal gas ordinance and rate proposals now before the city council. This matter is of particular interest to members of Local 664 and every member is urged to be present.

### To Decorate Graves of TJC Dead

Representatives from each of the eleven unions affiliated with the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council No. 32 will meet at the Teamsters Hall Wednesday at 2 p. m., from where the delegation will leave to place appropriate wreaths on the graves of Patrick Corcoran, Bill Brown, Henry Ness and John Belor.

Each Memorial Day the Teamsters Council is represented by a committee which makes a pilgrimage to the graves of the labor martyrs who gave so much to advance the cause of unionism in this city.

### 977 Wins First Game 10 to 0

Local 977's ball team opened the Park season Sunday by shutting out the Moses' Place nine of the Federal Division, 10 to 0. Melvin pitched the whole game for the Filling Station Attendants, delivering up only six scattered hits and four bases on balls while garnering nine strikeouts. Sangnath and Roth led at the bat for Local 977, the first getting a three-bagger and Roth hitting the only homer of the game.

The Cab Drivers Local 958 team took it on the chin in its opener against the Lake Street Merchants, losing 14-4. Several costly errors allowed the Merchants to run up the score. The game was called at the end of the seventh because of rain.

### S-M Tire Gets 359 Strike Note

The Warehouse Workers Union Local 359 has served notice on the S. & M. Tire company of its intention to strike.

Since the last part of April the union has been attempting to negotiate for shorter hours, seniority, vacations and wage increases, but little progress has been made. The employees of this company met on Wednesday, May 22nd, and voted to strike the company if negotiations are not completed within ten days. These workers have been among the lowest paid in the city.

Local 359 means to establish conditions at this company comparable to those existing in other similar companies throughout Minneapolis.

### One Law for Labor, Another for Trusts Seen in Arnold's 'Anti-Trust' Drive

As the United States Department of Justice continues without slackening its "anti-trust" drive against organized labor, it becomes more and more apparent that Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold has one law for the monopolistic corporations and quite a different law for the unions and union men.

While Arnold is relentlessly pursuing his campaign on behalf of Big Business to put union men in jail and to outlaw effective union practices, he is permitting the corporations to go into court, admit violations of the anti-trust law, and then go scot free on the promise they won't do it any more.

Several examples of this sort of thing have occurred recently.

**Bosses Promise**  
Recently the four big typewriter corporations who admit they control 95 per cent of the market, consented to a court decree which

## 544 Trial Closes; Long Wait Seen for Decision of Court

### Union Lending Library Opened in N.W.O. Office

A new lending library, with hundreds of fascinating labor books and novels, opened this Monday in the office of the Northwest Organizer, 253 Plymouth Avenue North, next door to the Teamsters Hall. The union library was one of the many ideas advanced at the recent Northwest Organizer banquet, and has been approved by the Teamsters Joint Council editorial board.

Any member of any union housed in the Teamsters Hall may take out a card in the lending library for 10c, and thereafter borrow free of charge any book he wishes. For the present, the library is open from 9 to 5 p. m. Later, it may be possible to keep it open early in the evenings, for readers unable to come to the hall during the day.

The small charge made for cards will go into a fund to purchase new books, such as "Grapes of Wrath," and other popular works. Friends who have books of interest to unionists are cordially invited to donate them to the union lending library.

### Many Unionists Protest Civil Service Cuts

Representatives of dozens of Minneapolis and St. Paul unions attended the public hearing held by the state civil service commission on the commission's proposed new wage-cutting program to go into effect July 1st. The commission has proposed to slash the wages of state employees from \$5 to \$145 monthly.

Roy Weir, organizer of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, together with Robley Cramer, entered formal protests to the wage cutting plan put forward by the Stassen civil service commission, pointing out that private employees are usually affected by the wages paid by the government.

Only explanation presented by the commission for its anti-labor stand was that it wants to level off wages between the cities and the rural areas.

Little was accomplished at Monday's meeting, the hearing being merely a legal formality. There is a possibility that a later meeting will be held between the commission and a representative committee from organized labor.

Should the proposed scales stand, no union man could accept a job with the state without scabbing on the union wage scale.

### 3,178 to be Cut from State WPA

Among the several hundred thousand workers to be thrown off WPA nationally in June will be included 3,178 workers in Minnesota. S. L. Stolte announced Tuesday. In Minneapolis, 1,301 will walk the plank.

By the way, the first week in May was designated "Employment Week" by the president. We haven't read anywhere what the results were, if any.

### AFL Membership At All-Time High

President William Green announced last week that the AFL dues-paying membership is at an all-time high of 4,300,000, a jump of nearly 300,000 over the total of last August, and more than the previous record of 4,078,000 attained in 1919.

### Joe Oilman Back in Austin

Joe Oilman, at one time president of the Austin Packinghouse Workers Union, has returned to Austin after spending two years and two weeks at the Mineral Springs sanatorium taking the tuberculosis cure, the Austin Unionist reported last week.

### Attorneys for Union and for Finks Will Prepare Briefs—Court Rejects Defense Motion to Dismiss Case—Union Leaders Well Satisfied With Answers Given Fink Charges.

Last Thursday—twenty-seven months and one week to the day since the fink suit against Local 544 was filed—both plaintiffs and defendants rested, with agreement from the court that they may bring in a few more witnesses for cross examination.

Judge Paul S. Carroll denied a motion by defense attorneys to dismiss the case. The judge announced he would take the case under advisement and ordered attorneys for both sides to submit briefs. It is quite apparent, from the mountain of evidence to sift, that no decision will be rendered for some time.

Nick Wagner, Local 544 official, was one of the last defense witnesses to take the stand. Two last-minute witnesses who appeared on behalf of the plaintiffs in what was a surprise move were Lee Gardner and Harold "Hinky" Haines. Both Gardner and Haines are members of the General Drivers Union, Haines having run for the post of president in the last Local 544 elections.

Defense Attorneys Gilbert Carlson and John Goldie estimated Monday it would require at least two months to prepare a brief of the exhaustive testimony presented to the union in answer to all the charges of the finks.

Union officials expressed themselves as very well satisfied with the extent to which Local 544 was able to mobilize crushing answers to the thousand-and-one charges made by the plaintiffs and their attorneys. Miles Dunne, secretary-treasurer of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, and Ted Neal, secretary of the Area Over-Road Committee, will take the stand Wednesday.

Business is greatly appreciated by the corporations. Recently Gilbert H. Montague, New York lawyer and chairman of the Merchants Association Committee, complimented Arnold in glowing terms for his decision to let the National Container association go free. Montague expressed his gratitude at what he described as "the surprisingly liberal attitude of the Department of Justice." Surprisingly liberal for the corporations, but stern and unyielding for the unions. That is the way the anti-trust drive appears to organized labor.

**Persecution Continues**  
Latest union men to be indicted by Arnold are eight members of the Seattle Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 99, who recently were indicted by a federal grand jury for violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Law.

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town





