

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET NORTH

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

Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul, Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1941

FIVE CENTS

Labor Fighters Against War Go On Trial Monday

Blair's Latest Move: Backs Company Union

Hounded by Biddle For Anti-War Views

Blair's Latest Move: Backs Company Union

The day before his resignation last Tuesday to accept job of "labor relations expert" with the labor-hating Gamble-Robinson company, Stassen's state labor conciliator Blair, committed his final act of labor betrayal and dishonesty.

Blair's last official act as Stassen's labor conciliator symbolizes his whole crooked career as conciliator. He treats the W-W workers as he treated the Minneapolis drivers. Rather than permit them to have a union of their own choice, Blair tries to turn them over to the hated company union.

Symbolizes His Career

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CIO Will Appeal

Knowing Blair's dishonesty and his commitments to Governor Stassen and the employers, the two CID sister unions who have cooperated with the Waterman-Waterbury workers, anticipated that Blair would play the boss's game with these men. On October 6th Local 544-CIO and Local 1140 filed a joint petition with the NLRB demanding an election at Waterman-Waterbury. This is but the first step being taken to protect the rights of these workers.

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New Pamphlet Issued Defending 28 Here

NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 20.—The American Civil Liberties Union has just published a pamphlet in defense of the 28 Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party members who are to go on trial October 27 in Minneapolis on "sedition" charge.

Written by Roger Baldwin, director of the Civil Liberties Union, the pamphlet is entitled: "Sedition: The first federal peace-time prosecution for utterances and actions since the Alien and Sedition Act of 1798."

The pamphlet repeats again the facts which the Civil Liberties Union made in a letter of August 1940 to Attorney General Biddle, that prosecution constitutes interference by the government in an union dispute on the side of the employer, Tobin.

In his letter to Biddle, which is printed in the pamphlet, the Civil Liberties Union pointedly demanded that Tobin on June 27th appeal to President Roosevelt for federal action that Local 544-CIO and that same day the White House had issued a statement supporting against the CIO. Two days later came the FBI raids at the St. Paul and Minneapolis headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party and the announcement that the Department

of Justice was asking the federal grand jury to indict the Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party leaders.

From these facts, the Civil Liberties Union declared, "It is reasonable to conclude that the action thereafter taken by the government arose from the President's reaction to Mr. Tobin's report."

Attorney General Biddle answered the ACLU letter on September 4. Biddle's answering letter denied that the government prosecution was undertaken to aid Tobin, but had been long in preparation.

After reviewing all the facts in the case, the pamphlet concludes that "it is essential that the case should be vigorously defended and that any conviction obtained should be appealed to the higher courts."

The American Civil Liberties Union, it explains, has endorsed the appeal for funds of the Civil Rights Defense Committee.

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Tobin's Quislings and Blair

After months of singing State Labor Conciliator Blair's praises, the AFL-Tobin crowd is hastily attempting to dissociate itself from its hero.

Unable to explain or justify Blair's sell-out to the labor-hating Gamble-Robinson corporation, Tobin's MINNESOTA TEAMSTER in its October 17th issue expresses the pious hope that "Blair—who was once considered a friend of labor—will not now turn his experience and knowledge against labor."

What hypocrites and scoundrels are these Tobin Quislings and hopheads!

OF COURSE Blair will fight the employees of Gamble-Robinson and Pacific Fruit. That's what his job as "labor relations expert" is—to protect the profits of these two corporations against the demands of the workers.

Furthermore, Blair's "friendliness to labor" didn't end when he accepted the high-paid post as "labor relations expert" with the two corporations. Blair's treachery to labor began the day he accepted appointment as State Labor Conciliator from Governor Harold "Slave Law" Stassen.

Blair administered the Stassen Slave Act. Only a fink and a Judas would accept such a post. Time after time, Blair hamstringing unions in all parts of the state, made them "cool off" while the bosses prepared to smash the union, certified the controversies to Stassen as "in the public interest" and thus prevented the unions from striking for an additional 30 days, etc.

Blair's crowning act of treachery as State Labor Conciliator was his refusal of elections to the Minneapolis drivers, and his certification of Tobin's "union" without elections as the bargaining agent for the motor transport drivers and warehousemen.

Part payment for this act of treachery is the corporation post which Blair now holds, and which he will use as he used his post as State Labor Conciliator—as a point of vantage from which to fight labor, to weaken it, to thwart its democratic will, to grind its face in the dirt.

Scott, boss of Gamble-Robinson, knew exactly what he was doing when he arranged with Tobin and Stassen to hire Blair as "labor relations expert." Scott had seen how Blair, by denying the drivers' demand for elections, had struck a smashing blow at unionism in Minneapolis.

"A man who has the brass to pull off a job like that is the man I need to handle my employees," Scott said to himself.

Tobin's hopheads can't fight Blair. They are too roughly committed to his defense, for the dishonest decision he made in their favor. They can't defend the interests of the Gamble-Robinson workers against Blair.

There is a day that Local 544-CIO looks forward to.

That is the day when the crooked Blair decision is swept aside by the Minneapolis drivers and Local 544-CIO opens contract negotiations with Gamble-Robinson and we confront Mr. Blair across the table.

CIO Forces Showdown in 'Carrier Case' Over Government Policy of Aiding AFL

OPM Head Sidney Hillman Called to Explain His Rotten 'Stabilization Pact' With AFL Bureaucrats

WASHINGTON—The Senate (Truman) Defense Investigating Committee will seek a showdown on the government's labor policies in the construction field by making Sidney Hillman, A. D. Lewis and William Green for joint testimony on Wednesday concerning a Wayne County (Michigan) housing project.

Chairman Truman said the committee desired to ask Mr. Hillman, co-director of the Office of Production Management, in the presence of Mr. Lewis and Mr. Green for an explanation of why a contract was not awarded to the P. J. Currier Lumber Company of Detroit (employer of UMWOC labor) which was low bidder on the project for \$431,000.

"What we want to do," Chairman Truman said, "is to make certain that the low, qualified bidder gets the contract irrespective of the labor he employs."

WASHINGTON — The "Carrier case," which has stirred the nation as has no other labor issue of the war program, involves a "stabilization agreement" handed by Sidney Hillman to the AFL Building Trades Department whereby the craft unionists were given a virtual monopoly on all government construction work. Hillman's answer to this week's charges of AFL favoritism is of vital concern to the whole CIO.

As Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers has said, "If the policy of the government is to be on the same discriminatory basis as in the Wayne project, then the freedom of choice between unions, guaranteed by the National Labor Relations Act, is effectively repealed. The unduplicated facts in this episode reveal a government policy that resembles one of systems of forced labor practiced in the Fascist-dominated nations of Europe."

The Facts

When bids were opened September 18, 1941, by the Federal Works Agency on a project to construct 300 defense houses at Wayne, Michigan, it was found that the \$979,500 bid of the P. J. Currier Lumber Company of Detroit was low by \$431,000, or a saving of \$1,321 per dwelling unit. It was the only bid that came within the limitations of the funds allotted for the project. Currier's financial standing, building record, labor and material record were examined and pronounced satisfactory by the FWA whose officials congratulated him and told him to go ahead.

When FWA Administrator John Sarnuly referred the matter to the Department of Justice for a legal ruling, the Department found that there was no basis in law to deny the contract to the lowest bidder, the Currier company. Said the Department of Justice: "It is impossible that the government of the United States should have adopted any policy of favoring one labor organization to the exclusion of the other. It is the law of the land that the government should award contracts to the lowest bidder."

At the time of the bid that he is ready, willing and able to perform this contract expeditiously, efficiently, and economically, the contract should be awarded to him. In this case Currier's bid was far below the other bids. He has also satisfactorily demonstrated that from the viewpoint of financial responsibility, organization and experience he is eminently qualified to perform this contract pursuant to the specifications of the Federal Works Agency. He should therefore be awarded this contract without further delay in order that work upon the project may proceed forthwith."

AFL Threatens

From Detroit, meanwhile, came word from the AFL that it would call a general strike in the Detroit area if this contract were awarded to a firm employing CIO construction workers. September 30th the AFL Weekly News Service reported that "Hillman, in his official position as twin head of the OPM, helped in the negotiation of this (stabilization) pact which gives the AFL unions a virtual closed shop on all defense projects."

Nation's CIO Protests

Affiliates of the CIO throughout the nation have rallied to the aid of the UMWOC and of modern methods of housing construction, and have flooded Washington with telegrams demanding an end to the OPM interference on behalf of the AFL craft union leadership. The Carrier case is but one of a series of incidents revealing the strong AFL bias of Hillman. The OPM, a powerful government agency, is being lashed by the CIO for its willingness to prostitute its conditions that have retarded technical progress in the construction industry and exploited the construction workers for so many

Auto Workers Head Backs UCWOC in Carrier Contract

President R. J. Thomas of the United Auto Workers Monday sent telegrams to President Roosevelt and John Carmody, Federal Works Administrator, protesting the failure of the FWA to grant a contract for 300 defense houses to the Carrier Lumber company which has a contract with the UCWOC. Thomas condemned the OPM for discriminating against the CIO by signing what amounts to a closed shop contract with the AFL craft unionists.

Thomas is a vice-president of the CIO.

That Hillman, who has been identified with the CIO, should enter into a conspiracy with the AFL against the CIO, he shocked some members of the CIO.

CIO affiliates throughout the nation are writing the Truman Committee, and are demanding of Sidney Hillman a full explanation of his reactionary policy.

(See Local 544-CIO's letter to the Truman Senate Committee, page 4.)

Drivers of Texas Join The CIO

Several hundred general drivers have already joined the CIO United Construction Workers in Dallas, and the CIO is making headway among the city's 6,000 drivers. President W. W. Barr of UCWOC Local 321 reported recently.

Eighty employees of the Dallas Cartage company are working under a closed shop contract with the CIO, bringing their wage increases of from 17 to 33 per cent. The high initiation fees and craft union abuses of the Tobin machine are responsible for deep resentment among the Dallas drivers, who are turning to the new CIO movement among the motor transport and allied workers.

Imperialist War-Mongers Are Trying to Stifle Militant Voices of Labor

Firmly resolved to defend their anti-war opinions, the Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party leaders go on trial this Monday, October 27, on the "sedition" charge engineered by the War Party in Washington.

As Eugene V. Debs in the period of the First World War turned a federal courtroom into a forum from which he denounced imperialist war, so will the 28 labor leaders speak out in the Minneapolis federal courtroom against their war-mongering persecutors.

History has already given its verdict in the case of Debs. Every working man and woman honors his memory, while the name of Attorney General Mitchell Palmer, the prosecutor of Debs, has gone down in history as a symbol of anti-labor viciousness. Not even his present initiators dare defend Palmer's "Red Raids" of 1918-1920.

So too, whatever the immediate verdict in this case which begins Monday, history will render its own verdict. The defendants, who face possible conviction on terms up to sixteen years each, will go down in history as men who courageously stood up against all the imperialism in the Second World War. Their prosecutor, Attorney General Biddle, will be disgraced in history as a second A. Mitchell Palmer.

Dress Up Biddle

Biddle's publicity men are heaving heaven and earth to save him from that fate. "Liberal" spokesmen and stenographers by Biddle, long "character studies" in the New York Times and elsewhere, seek to portray Biddle as one who is unlike his predecessor Palmer. Thereby Biddle is trying to get out from under the mounting wave of labor and liberal protests against his "red pack" against the Socialist Workers Party and its ordering of the present trial.

Blurted Out Truth

But Biddle, like a clumsy thief, has left his indelible fingerprints behind him. He cannot erase the indelible mark of his thieving. As Assistant Attorney General Schweinhaut, that his prosecution is only the first of many to come against the labor movement. "We packed down here that Mr. Biddle has said this is only a start. So you can expect other indictments to follow shortly." (See Paul Matzsch, June 28.)

Not only Biddle, who out his own statement of June 27, which admitted that the Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party defendants are being persecuted for their anti-war opinions. Since that date, under the protests of the American Civil Liberties Union, Labor's Non-Fascist League, etc., Biddle has attempted to argue that he is not persecuting opinions but only "investigating" them. But this is what Biddle actually stated in Washington on June 27:

"Principal basis of the action, the Department of Justice announced, is found in a Declaration of Principles adopted by the Socialist Workers Party at its Washington convention, held in January, 1938."

"The pertinent portions in this declaration were given by the Acting Attorney General Biddle as follows: 'It is in the interest of the industrial workers, the U. S. government, and the war effort, that the SWP will not, under any circumstances, support the war but will, on the contrary, fight against it.' (Minneapolis Star Tribune, June 28.)"

Biddle cannot erase these facts as the trial begins, nor twist and squirm as he may, can refute the solemn verdict against him by the national officers of the American Civil Liberties Union—such nationally famous liberals as the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, the noted attorney, Arthur Garfield Hays, and Roger Baldwin, director of the Civil Liberties Union.

Biddle Aids Tobin

These men carefully examined Biddle's case against the defendants and then informed Biddle, in their now-famous letter to him of August 29, that they had come to the conclusion that this case arose from the fact "that the government intended itself into an intervention controversy in order to promote the interests of the one side (Tobin) which supported the administration's foreign and domestic policies."

These "foreign and domestic policies" are summed up in one word: WAR.

The War Party includes not only Roosevelt Democrats and timid conservative Democrats like Carter Glass, but also Republicans like Wallace and Governor Stassen. The War Party, indeed, represents all Big Business and its totalitarian agents.

To wage war abroad, the War Party must crush the anti-war masses at home. While they export "democracy" they import dictatorship.

War Party Behind Case

That is the meaning of the case. The 28 defendants, men and women of long years of service to the labor movement, are being persecuted because of their loyalty to labor and their opposition to the war. The prosecution is seeking to stifle these anti-war voices and thus to terrorize into silence the laboring men and women who want no part of this war.

But these anti-war voices are not yet stifled. Those voices will be raised in the courtroom.

Representing the anti-war sentiments of the millions of laboring men and women who do not want to fight Wall Street's war, these 28 defendants deserve the support of every trade unionist and friend of labor.

By their conduct in this trial they will demonstrate how fully they deserve that unstinting support!

The trial, originally scheduled to start Monday, October 20, was postponed one week to this Monday by Federal Judge Matthew M. Joyce.

FOLLOW THE TRIAL

Order your Special Three-Month Subscription to the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, for only fifty cents (\$50c).

SEE OUR ADVERTISEMENT PAGE FOUR

\$1,500,000

Last week we reported that one million and five hundred thousand dollars was the figure named in AFL circles as the amount paid out so far by the Tobin-AFL forces to take care of all angles in the Tobin fight against Local 544-CIO.

This week we are in a position to name the man who stated that figure. It was Frank Fenton, International AFE Organizer. He is also a member of the Woll Committee which the AFE Executive Council sent in here to "judge" the AFL Central Labor Union. Naturally Mr. Fenton didn't tell directly to us how much his gang paid out. But we have friends everywhere, who tell us what is going on.

There is absolutely no doubt that large sums of money changed hands in this dirty deal. Who got that money? Some of it, we are certain, found its way into the pockets of certain politicians. We shall try our best to identify those politicians and the amounts they received. Stand by for further bulletins on this story!

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We Made Minneapolis a Union Town - - - Let's KEEP IT That Way

Reprinted from the "New Republic"

A Liberal Magazine Reviews the Facts Behind Prosecution of Twenty-Eight

(Below we republish from the current issue of the New Republic the article by Daniel Eastman, "The Minnesota 'Sedition' Case," dealing with the federal indictments against Local 544-CIO and the SWP.)

On October 20 in the United States District Court in Minneapolis twenty-eight defendants will stand trial in the first peacetime federal prosecution for seditious opinion in more than a century. The twenty-eight, fifteen members of the Teamsters' Union, Local 544, CIO, and thirteen members of the Socialist Workers' Party (Trotskyite), have been indicted under two laws. One, the recently passed Smith Act, makes it a crime merely to express an "opinion" as to the "propriety" of overthrowing the government by force and violence. The other, Section 6, Title 18, of the United States Criminal Code, is the established law against overt acts calculated to overthrow the government by force.

Two circumstances in connection with this case have aroused attention. First, the only overt act of sedition charged against the defendants was the organization of a Union Defense Guard to protect themselves against threatened attacks. And second, there is a strong suspicion that the government undertook the prosecution as a political favor to Daniel Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL.

For these reasons the American Civil Liberties Union recently wrote to United States Attorney General Francis Biddle asking that the indictment be reconsidered with a view to dismissal.

Biddle's Views

In his reply of September 4, Attorney General Biddle said nothing to improve the case. In his view prosecution for mere opinion may be constitutional; in any case he prefers to let the courts decide this issue.

As to the alleged overt act, the organization of a Union Defense Guard, Attorney General Biddle says he is "confident" that the prosecution will be able to prove this defense guard was in fact an armed militia for the purpose of overthrowing the government by force and violence.

A good many facts concerning this alleged militia have been brought out since

the indictment. They make it difficult to share Attorney General Biddle's confidence.

The Union Defense Guard

In August, 1938, Roy Zachary, a national organizer of the Silver Shirt fascists, came to Minneapolis and held several open meetings in which he publicly called for violent attacks upon the headquarters of the Teamsters' Local 544. At the same time the union leaders were informed that a reactionary Minneapolis employer had been seen at these meetings, and was reported to have raised a fund of \$35,000 to hire gunmen to intimidate the union leaders. These threats of violence were given weight by the fact that one union leader in Minneapolis, Patrick Corcoran of the Teamsters' Joint Council, had actually been murdered some months before; and by the further discovery by the police of two high-powered rifles equipped with telescope sights in an automobile parked near the Minneapolis Central Labor Union.

Everyone Knew About It

It was in these circumstances that the defendants decided to form a Union Defense Guard. There was nothing secret or conspiratorial about this organization—the contrary it was announced in the union paper and noised abroad considerably in order to intimidate the Silver Shirts. At the first meeting of this defense guard in September, 1938, some two hundred men showed up.

If these two hundred were members of an armed militia for the purpose of overthrowing the government by force and violence, as the indictment claims, they were themselves ignorant of that fact. The majority of the two hundred were not Trotskyites, but ordinary Republican and Democratic workers. Even the Attorney General's office tacitly admits this in not indicting them.

At their meetings these two hundred men discussed methods of repelling anti-union violence and engaged in calisthenics.

They also engaged in target practice, and it is probably upon this point that the government will rest its case. The funds for the purchase of the necessary guns and ammunition were raised at a dance which was announced for that purpose and held on December 17, 1938. Two .22 caliber single-shot rifles, and two .22 caliber single-shot target pistols were purchased. The total fire power of

this armament, it should be noted, is less than that of the ordinary six-shooter carried by one policeman. These guns were used exclusively for target practice; none of the defense guard went armed.

Ushered at Children's Party

When the local Silver Shirts, intimidated by this display of determination, ceased their appeals to violence against the union, the defense guard was put upon a social basis. There were no more mobilizations, no more calisthenics and no more target practice. The remaining members constituted a sort of honorary society of union activists and confined themselves to ushering at union functions. In December, 1940, this guard engaged in its last activity—usher at a Christmas party given by the Minneapolis Teamsters' Joint Council.

The Attorney General, then, would seem to be "confident" he can prove that an organization of two hundred ushers located in Minnesota was plotting to overthrow the United States Army with four .22 caliber rifles.

The feeble nature of this alleged revolutionary militia seems to lend weight to the suspicion that the prosecution was undertaken by the government as a political favor. In his letter replying to the American Civil Liberties Union, Attorney General Biddle says: "That conclusion is entirely unwarranted. The investigation of this case began in early 1940. . . . The prosecution . . . was not requested by anyone in or out of the government or undertaken for the benefit of any person or group."

If the Attorney General is correct, the circumstances surrounding the arrest of the defendants on June 25 of this year form a striking coincidence.

A Favor to Tobin

The Teamsters' Local 544 in question until recently belonged to the American Federation of Labor International, of which Daniel Tobin is president. There was long-standing friction between Mr. Tobin and the union, which came to a head this spring when Mr. Tobin asked the local to allow him to appoint a representative with the power to expel any members he considered undesirable. The local rejected this pro-

posal, and on June 9, by an almost unanimous vote, decided to leave Mr. Tobin's International and join the CIO. Three days later, on June 13, Mr. Tobin sent a telegram to President Roosevelt, saying in part that the transfer of Local 544 was "indeed a regrettable and dangerous condition," and urging that the union leaders, the men now under indictment, "be in some way prevented from pursuing this dangerous course."

Upon receipt of this message, Stephen Early, President Roosevelt's secretary, issued a statement from the White House saying in part: "When I advised the President of Mr. Tobin's representations this morning, he asked me immediately to have the government departments and agencies interested in this matter notified, and to point out that this is no time in his opinion for labor unions, local or national, to begin raiding one another. . . ."

This was on June 13. Two weeks later, on June 25, the defendants, including sixteen leading members of Local 544, were arrested by the Attorney General's office.

Against this muddled background, shot through with coincidence, the trial is to take place. Its outcome will be awaited with deep interest by all who are concerned with the workings of justice in a time when fears and passions run abnormally high and the word "sedition" arouses emotions that in less critical hours would not be stirred.

Stalinists Whipped in News Guild

In the first national referendum election of the American Newspaper Guild, the Communist Party-controlled leadership has been dumped by a vote of approximately five-to-three.

Milton Murray, head of the "Pro-Guild" slate, polled 5,534 votes for President, as against 3,371 for the incumbent, Donald M. Sullivan. "Pro-Guild" candidates for regional vice-presidents won by substantially the same majorities.

The Twin Cities Newspaper Guild played a major part in the victory of the anti-Stalinist slate.

Opposition to the Stalinist machine control of the American Newspaper Guild crystallized after the Stalin-Hitler pact and the consequent "anti-war" line followed by the CP in the United States. Since Hitler turned on the Soviet Union the CP, together with the officers of the Guild, went all out for support of Roosevelt's war program, adopting the same stand on foreign policy as the "Pro-Guild" group.

The "Pro-Guild" supporters fall generally into two classes—those newspaper workers who opposed the Stalinists on progressive grounds, because of the unprincipled policies of the Communist Party and its disregard for the welfare of unionism; and Guild members who fought the Communist Party from a reactionary "patriotic" position. The future of the Guild lies with the progressives among the "Pro-Guild" supporters.

Priorities Unemployment Still Spreads

Between 7,000 and 8,000 workers face immediate layoffs in General Motors plants in the St. Louis area; another 4,000 to 5,000 face loss of their jobs in Kansas City. These 12,000 workers forced into unemployment are but the lightning before the real storm of priorities unemployment breaks about the auto industry and the other basic industries in America.

Minneapolis is not a manufacturing center, but primarily a distribution center. Yet already small shops here employing ten to twenty workers are closing down every week. "I can't get wire"—or metal—or other materials," the boss says.

The black plague of unemployment eats away at the American working-class. The germ is carried by the refusal of the great monopolists to forego their greed for profits. The cure is a Workers and Farmers government which will take over all the means of production and run them in the interests of all the people.

Card of Thanks

To Local 544-CIO: The family of Gertrude Moe greatly appreciate your kind expressions of sympathy in their time of sorrow. John Moe, Alvina, Moe, Chris Moe, Mrs. Laurely Peterson

Prosecution Of 544-CIO Is Only Start

"We cracked down here first. Mr. Biddle has said this is only a start. So you can expect other actions to follow shortly." (St. Paul DISPATCH of June 28, 1941.)

So boasted Assistant U. S. Attorney-General Henry A. Schweinhart in announcing that the Department of Justice would seek an indictment against the leadership of Local 544-CIO.

That success in the Minneapolis prosecution would unleash a nationwide series of indictments against militant workers was further indicated by I. F. Stone, reporter for THE NATION, who remarked in the July 26, 1941, issue of that paper, following a visit to the Department of Justice, that "Shrewder and more determined influences see in this prosecution . . . a chance to establish precedents which can be applied more broadly."

Labor's Non-Partisan League correctly sized up the indictment here as calculated to set a precedent by which other unionists "can be jailed for their opinions. If it is successful, many informed observers are expecting other indictments of labor figures who do not toe the mark in the way some bureaucrat would prefer that they do."

Every worker must realize that if the Department of Justice succeeds in its prosecution of the leaders of Local 544-CIO and of the Socialist Workers Party, the government will drive ahead through such an opening to launch a witchhunt in the style of Attorney-General Mitchell Palmer after the First World War.

Which is an additional reason why every worker and every union—CIO and AFL—must stand firmly behind the defendants and support their democratic right to free speech and freedom of opinion.

Stalinists Support Tobin Against CIO

Communist Party Backs Indictment Against Minnesota Defendants

The Communist Party, for many years notorious as a disruptive force in the labor movement and today the most blatantly war-mongering organization in the United States, has performed another service for Big Business by aligning itself with Dictator Tobin and the Department of Justice against the CIO and the 28 indicted members of Local 544-CIO and of the Socialist Workers Party.

Inside Tobin's AFL Teamsters, the Stalinists have made their peace with War-Mongering Dan and are defending his union-busting moves against Local 544-CIO and the other unions who have revolted against Tobin and joined the CIO.

The Stalinist-controlled IBT NEWS, self-styled "voice of the rank and file" published monthly by the Communist Party teamsters fraction in New York City, has in recent issues gone all-out in support of Tobin against the CIO nation against gangster rule in certain locals, we are sure that he would get even more support from the rank and file," the IBT NEWS says!

Defend Tobin Dictatorship

The leading editorial in the September issue of the IBT NEWS is one long defense of Dictator Tobin and his gangster methods.

The Stalinist sheet complains that "in some cases they (the CIO) have taken advantage of some of the justified grievances of the rank and file of our organization."

Maybe the members of the IBT have some just complaints, say this Stalinist sheet.

Use War As Excuse

"But today, when our country is in a state of emergency . . . we feel that this so-called CIO drive is promoting warfare among laboring men at a time when we need cooperation." In other words, according to the

to the death those drive those local unions who democracy in the organization

The Stalinists end their defense of Tobin with an attack on A. D. Lewis and L. Lewis for their refusal to put up for the imperialist . . . Throughout the country ever they have influence circles, the Communist bureaucrats are aligning with Tobin against the CIO Construction Workers.

In Iowa, where AFL unions are rebelling against Tobin's receivership racket against the CIO, the Stalinists mimeographed false the voice of Tobin's agents, in condemning those who stand up for union democracy.

Back Indictment

On August 16th, the WORKER, central organ Communist Party, in a lengthy article, headlined "The Prosecution of the Minnesota Trotskyites," condemns the leaders of Local 544 as "enemies of the rank and file."

Blind to all principles of solidarity, the Stalinist WORKER goes on to say that the indicted "deserve no more support from labor and friends of democracy than do the Nazis."

Then the Stalinist sheet its sole objection to this position. It does not like the indictment because the ment calls the Trotskyists "enemies" revolutionary organization.

Instead, the Stalinists say, "mand that the Federal government make clear that . . . it is the Trotskyists not as a revolutionary organization, because it is a fascist fifth column."

In other words these Stalinists want the Federal government to write an indictment in identical language which used in his indictments Lenin's co-workers in the Moscow Frameup Trials of '38! They want the Local leadership railroaded to prison by the Biddle formula but Stalin formula!

Apart from this one odd says this same Stalinist they "could not but unreserved support it (the indictment)"

In this way the Stalinists established their united front with Tobin and Biddle. While the and the progressive elements of Local 544-CIO, the Stalinists are as determined Minneapolis bosses to union.

Here is one more proof so-called Communist Party most reactionary force American labor movement

fraternal attitude towards red worker is part of the unionism. But to an AFL artist in the South, it is "maternity" and "seditions," the Mobile AFL LABOR NAL refers to the UCWOC "illegitimate organization."

These AFL aristocrats bemoan the fact that the U is seeking democratic whereby the workers can their own union. "Since skilled production worker is just as good as the skilled man!" complains the AFL "the CIO is able in some to win an election, as with the Alabama Shipyard election which the majority of votes cast by the common laborers, and yet have neglected and reactionary Negro workers and unskilled are certainly unfit for a position of trust in the labor movement.

On the race question, and other questions, the streamlined industrial union of the CIO is a century of the pre-Civil War period and superstitious of the bureaucracy.

There are thousands of organized people who would hate our side of the story—they KNEW it. Pass your trial Organizer along to the

People who call themselves leaders, and yet have neglected and reactionary Negro workers and unskilled are certainly unfit for a position of trust in the labor movement.

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People who call themselves leaders, and yet have neglected and reactionary Negro workers and unskilled are certainly unfit for a position of trust in the labor movement.

YOU Can Help The Defendants

The twenty-eight men and women who go on trial next Monday morning in the federal courtroom in Minneapolis are front-line fighters in the cause of union rights and civil liberties in this nation.

They merit the whole-hearted and generous moral and material support of every progressive organization and individual genuinely concerned with maintaining our democratic and constitutional rights.

Their fight against the prosecution must be won. That is why the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE has been organized. Chairman of the Committee is James T. Farrell. Vice chairman is John Dos Passos. Secretary is George Novack. Scores of outstanding laborites, educators, civil liberty defenders, liberals have joined the national board of the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

The government prosecution has been denounced by the CIO, Labor's Non-Partisan League, the United Auto Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union, THE NATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC, etc.

The CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE needs \$7,500 immediately to defray the heavy costs of fighting this case. Aid the 28 defendants by contributing promptly and generously to their Defense Fund. Mail all donations to the

Civil Rights Defense Committee
c-o Industrial Organizer, 1328 Second St. N.
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A receipt will be mailed you from the Industrial Organizer and from the national office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee.

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4's Union Defense Guard and Biddle's Claim

Government Will Base Prosecution Upon Defense Guards—FBI Agents Scouring Ground for "Witnesses"

FBI agents spent this last week before the "sedition" trial a feverish hunt for additional "witnesses" to use against the Union Defense Guard.

Scouring around Minneapolis in search of likely "witnesses," the FBI agents seemed to be badly in need of a week of preparation which was made possible by the Federal Judge Matthew M. Joyce postponed the trial to visit his ill mother in Portland, Oregon.

The prosecution appeared particularly interested in getting more "witnesses" on the Minneapolis Union Defense Guard.

It had become clear that the Union Defense Guard is the center of the prosecution's case. Answering a protest from the American Civil Liberties Union which charged that the case was a prosecution of the League of Women Voters and Socialist Workers for their anti-war activities, Attorney-General Biddle said that the Union Defense Guard was formed for the purpose

of "arming workers" in order "to carry out" the overthrow of the government.

Now the FBI is trying to bolster Biddle's alibi with whatever they can conjure up.

Just what was the Union Defense Guard? Let us, on the eve of the trial, review the irrefutable facts.

Guard Widely Known

Far from being a "conspiracy," Local 544's Union Defense Guard was known throughout the country. Certainly, every person within 25 miles of the union hall knew about the Union Defense Guard, and when and why it was organized. The story of the guard was published in the daily press. The Northwest Organizer, copies of which were sent throughout the nation to unions and labor organizations, carried many stories on the Union Defense Guard.

The Union Defense Guard was organized as an answer to a series of threats of violence against Local 544, and of actual vigilante attacks upon labor in many parts of the country during the summer of 1938.

During 1938 the Fascist Silver Shirts were extremely active in the Twin Cities. Roy Zachary, national organizer, openly called at Silver Shirt meetings for gangster bands to raid Local 544's hall. The Minneapolis papers disclosed the fact that the head of the Associated Industries, George K. Belden, had attended more than one Silver Shirt meeting.

This tie-up between the Silver Shirts and the labor-hating Associated Industries convinced the members of Local 544 that measures should be taken to protect the union hall and leaders from attack.

Function of Guard

The formation of the Union Defense Guard was announced in the September 8, 1938, issue of the Northwest Organizer. The function of the Union Defense Guard was

described as "defense of the union's picket lines, union headquarters and members against anti-labor violence."

On the front page of the Northwest Organizer for December 1, 1938, the labor movement of Minneapolis was invited to attend a dance and raffle sponsored by the Union Defense Guard.

The activities of the Union Defense Guard demonstrated that it was exactly what it proclaimed to be—nothing more, nothing less. At meetings held in the basement of the Drivers Hall general discussions took place on methods of repelling attacks by fascist gangs.

Scores of workers will recall a lecture given before the Union Defense Guard by Vincent Dunne, 544 organizer, on the rise of fascism in Europe and the failure of the union movement in Italy and later in Germany to cope with the fascist gangsters.

None of the guard members possessed or carried arms. The Union Defense Guard purchased two .22-calibre single shot target rifles, two .22-calibre single shot target pistols and some ammunition for target practice in the basement of the General Drivers Headquarters. These four practice weapons and ammunition were purchased from funds raised through the sale of tickets to dances and public entertainments held at the Drivers Hall.

The government will be hard-put to prove to any rational person that these four .22-calibre guns constituted a "revolutionary arsenal."

From the several score of union members who fired the guns at the paper targets twenty feet away, the government's claim will draw a real horse laugh.

Guard Fulfilled Purpose

The members of the Defense Guard knew exactly what they were organized for. And the Union Defense Guard was a success. The show of strength of the Union Defense Guard, and the publicity accompanying it, drove the Silver Shirts into hiding and inactivity. With the disappearance of the Silver Shirts the Union Defense Guard discontinued its target practice and its sole functions thereafter were dances, and acting as ushers at union picnics and affairs.

Calisthenics were discontinued almost as soon as begun. It seemed that the even husky truck drivers got stiff muscles from squatting in calisthenic drill. By popular acclaim, such exercises were dropped, the general feeling being that the Union Defense Guard members were still in plenty good condition to beat off any Silver Shirt scum that might try to raid the union hall.

The Union Defense Guard last functioned in December, 1940, when Guard members acted as ushers at the Christmas party for children sponsored by the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council.

Such is the real record of the "armed forces" which the government would have the public believe was planning to march on Washington, overcome the United States army, navy and air force, and chase Sistic and Buzze and all the other Roosevelts out of the White House.

Who does the prosecution expect to believe that story? Certainly, not the members of the Union Defense Guard. Not the union movement. Not the people of Minneapolis.

Finks Made Same Charge

It so happens that the five finks financed by the bosses who launched the 544 "Fink Suit" made accusations against the Union Defense Guard similar to that made by the Department of Justice.

Judge Paul S. Carroll, in his findings in the "Fink Suit," disposed of the finks' charge in the following words: "According to the Union's position, these so-called 'defense guards' were organized to meet the threat of Silver Shirt leaders and other anti-labor gangsters and to defend armed raids against union halls. It was not shown that these men were ever armed or did other than general policing at their picnics and things of that sort."

Are Union Defense Guards Good?

In the light of the federal indictment regarding Union Defense Guards, what must be said about such organizations today. Does labor need them? Are they the correct answer for the union movement to give to fascist and vigilante violence?

Absolutely. The wave of anti-labor violence today sweeping across the country, the brutal beating of union organizers, the vigilante gangs being used against strikes and organizing activity, the re-birth of the Ku Klux Klan—wherever these things happen it is incumbent upon all unions to form Union Defense Guards for self-protection.

THE BEST GUARANTEE AGAINST FASCIST VIOLENCE IS THE UNION DEFENSE GUARD. Local 544's experience showed that.

Government Hypocritical

It is more than strange that the Department of Justice, which certainly must have known about the

Mrs. Colvin Quits Board, Raps Stassen

Protesting Governor Stassen's "political interference" in the affairs of the state board of education, Mrs. A. R. Colvin, lone liberal board member, resigned Tuesday.

For the past year Mrs. Colvin, old-time Farmer-Laborite, and one of the state's most revered liberals, has been carrying on the fight from her sick bed against the Stassen machine's plot to undermine the state school system.

In an open letter to the Governor, Mrs. Colvin charged Tuesday that she was "convinced that you (Governor Stassen) are responsible to no small degree for the withstanding against Dr. Rockwell, Dr. Carstatter and other liberal employees of the education department who have been ousted by the Stassen majority of the board of education."

The American Federation of Teachers is financing an appeal to the courts on behalf of Dr. Rockwell, former state commissioner of education. In the interests of educational freedom, the national union of teachers considers it necessary to fight Governor Stassen's political interference in the state school systems.

Finks Tried It

Not First Time Defense Guard Used Against Us

The Department of Justice is not the first body to make the charge that the Minneapolis Union Defense Guard was a "subversive and revolutionary body."

In the famous 544 Fink Suit, the five finks financed by the bosses made accusations against the Union Defense Guard similar to those made in the federal indictment.

Judge Paul S. Carroll, after a searching inquiry into the affairs of the Union Defense Guard, disposed of the matter with this comment:

"According to the Union's position, these so-called 'defense guards' were organized to meet the threat of Silver Shirt leaders and other anti-labor gangsters and to repel armed raids against union halls. It was not shown that these men were ever armed or did other than general policing at their picnics and things of that sort."

Bolivia Strike Of Railwaymen Broken by Army

Desperate at the enormous increase in the cost of living, railway workers throughout Bolivia were preparing to go out in a nationwide strike for higher wages.

The strike has been nipped in the bud by a presidential decree forcing all railway workers into the army and ordering troops to occupy railway stations and take over the service if necessary.

Railroad workers must report to Army Headquarters within 48 hours and thereafter report for work daily under military supervision and discipline.

The strike was voted only after the Bolivian Senate had refused to adopt a bill granting a special bonus of from 20 to 40 per cent of current wages to all workers.

Financial circles opposed the bill. Bolivia is one of the South American countries of which President Roosevelt never tires of terming the "twenty-one Latin American republics." With few exceptions the nations of Latin America are rigid military dictatorships.

Union Defense Guard as far back as 1938, or at least during the Fink Suit of the following year, waited until two-and-a-half years later—when Roosevelt and Tobin wanted to drive the Minneapolis motor transport workers back into Tobin's set-up—to discover suddenly that the Union Defense Guard was only "ostensibly" to protect the union and that its real purpose was to "overthrow the government."

The Department of Justice waited until seven months after the Guard had drifted into inactivity before it made its "discovery."

In good American language, that is pretty raw. We look forward to that point in the trial when the prosecution will try to dress up the Minneapolis Union Defense Guard as a "conspiracy" to march on Washington and take over the government.

Revive the Spirit of 1934

Head of State CIO Lashes Slave Law

Frank Ellis Exposes Stassen as Labor's Enemy

AUSTIN, MINN.—The actions of Governor Stassen in the struggle between the Minneapolis drivers and Dictator Tobin are such as to "lead one to believe that there exists a conspiracy between the Governor and Tobin, head of the AFL Teamsters, to wreck the CIO organization," Frank Ellis, state president of the Minnesota CIO, told members of the strike committee of the Austin Motor Transport Drivers Union Local 778-CIO.

Ellis appeared before the transport drivers' strike committee after word reached Austin that Stassen had invoked a 30-day "cooling off" period in the dispute between Local 778-CIO and the lumber and coal bosses of Austin.

"This declaration is made in view of the refusal of Stassen's tool, Blair, to grant an election to members of Local 544-CIO of Minnesota," Ellis continued.

"We are also wondering whether Governor Stassen may be conspiring with Geo. A. Hornell & Co., since we appear to be getting nowhere in the settlement of grievances now pending."

"PERHAPS WE MAY HAVE TO REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1933 (the year in which the Austin packinghouse workers staged their victorious sit-down strike), AND TAKE A STRIKE VOTE."

"Hev Hitler hash't a thing on Minnesota's governor. Our forefathers fought, bled and died for Democracy, and we working people must fight to maintain it!"

Stassen Slave Law Exposed

Scoring Governor Stassen for his action in forcing a waiting period of 30 days on the Austin drivers, Ellis said that "The activity of the Chief Executive in this direction should bring home to the working people of Austin, as well as toilers everywhere, the real meaning of Governor Stassen's labor relations law . . .

"Austin is well organized and wouldn't give two whoops in Hades for the Chief Executive's thirty-day 'cooling off' period. He cannot coerce the workers into buying their coal and lumber from any of the dealers now involved in the labor dispute, and I feel certain that enough union members will refuse to patronize these unfair operators that the economic pressure will be felt deeply, thus permitting a settlement within thirty days."

Governor vs. Democracy

"While speaking unofficially at this time, I would personally welcome a strike of every CIO union in the state, a walkout that would

continue until every cog in the Stassen bureaucracy was stripped clean. The working people who voted for Governor Stassen in the last election ought to bury their heads in shame. The Governor has ignored every single principle of Democracy and at the same time is demanding that we defend the very things he denies to us.

"Governor Stassen has never tangled with the workers of Austin. But now that he has revealed his hand he may find that the CIO is a very militant and aggressive organization when its members become aroused to injustices."

Ellis called upon the membership of Local 778-CIO to stick to their guns in the dispute with the greedy lumber and coal bosses.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, OF THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, FOR OCT. 1, 1941.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN—ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Beatrice Gould, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Business Manager of The Industrial Organizer, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union, Local 544-CIO, Minneapolis; Editor, Miles B. Junne, Minneapolis; Managing Editor, Carlos Hudson, Minneapolis; Business Manager, Beatrice Gould, Minneapolis.

2. That the owner is: Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union, Local 544-CIO, Minneapolis; Miles B. Junne, President, Minneapolis; George Friedman, Vice President, Minneapolis; Kelly Postal, Secretary-Treasurer, Minneapolis; Ray Rainhold, Recording Secretary, Emil Hanson, Trustee; Nick Wagner, Trustee; Curt Zander, Trustee.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

BEATRICE GOULD
Business Manager

"Witch Hunt in Minnesota"

Read the new 24-page pamphlet just published by the Civil Rights Defense Committee, setting forth the true story behind this unprecedented Federal prosecution of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party.

George Novack, national secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, wrote the pamphlet "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA." The foreword is by James T. Farrell, national chairman of the Committee and author of "Studs Lonigan," etc.

- HOW DOES THE ADMINISTRATION FIGHT THE CIO?
 - HAS THE BILL OF RIGHTS BEEN ABOLISHED?
 - HOW DOES THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SERVE DANIEL J. TOBIN?
 - HAVE WORKERS THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN UNION?
 - WHAT WAS THE UNION DEFENSE GUARD?
 - IS IT TREASONABLE TO OPPOSE THE WAR?
- You'll find the answer to these and many other questions in "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA." Copies of the pamphlet sell for 5c each, or 25 pamphlets for one dollar (\$1). Send for your pamphlet today. Order copies for your friends.

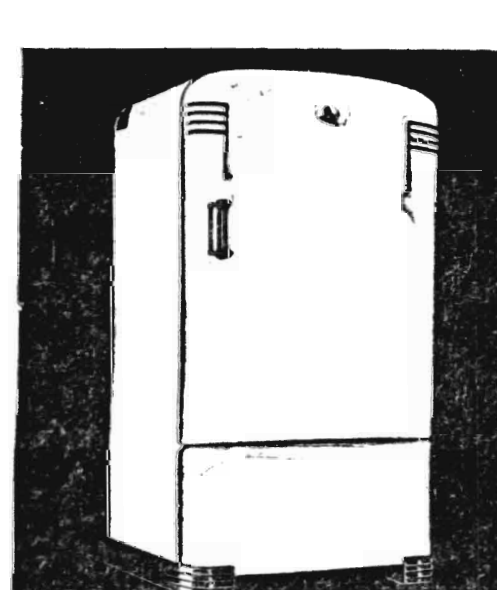
TO INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER
3228 Second St. N.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Friends:

I enclose (one dollar for twenty-five copies) (five cents for one copy) of the pamphlet "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA," published by the Civil Rights Defense Committee. I want to get the background of the Minneapolis trial. You pay the postage. Mail immediately to

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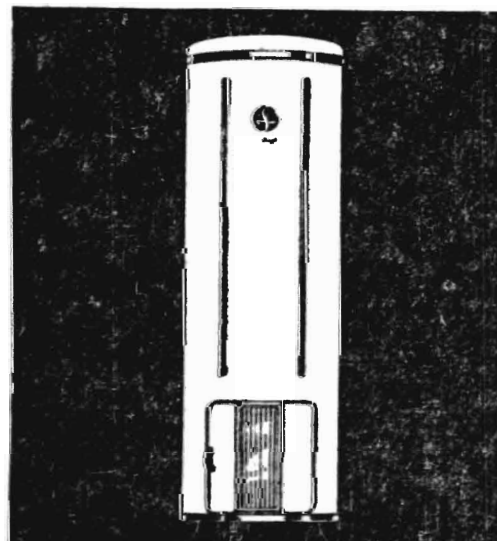
18,000 WOMEN (In Minneapolis) AGREE:

YOU'LL FIND SERVEL, the silent gas refrigerator, in more homes every day! But you'll never hear any noise, or radio interference, or find any ice box repair bills, in those Minneapolis homes — now more than 18,000 of them!

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See the beautiful new Servel, before you invest.

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Read this letter: "We had an electric range 4 years, but when heating coils had to be replaced, we installed a gas range. 'In one year we saved about \$29.'" Mrs. J. P. Hornig, 1315 Emerson Avenue No.

Mrs. Hornig's letter is similar to scores from Minneapolis housewives. Be sure to see the new gas ranges. Note that burners on a gas range are guaranteed for 20 years!

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Published every Thursday under the auspices of Local 544, CIO

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Business Manager DANIEL BURKE Editor MILES B. DUNN

Tobin vs. Progress

To those who know Dictator Tobin's long reactionary history, it comes as no surprise to see him joining the AFL craft union bureaucracy in opposition to the introduction of modern mass-production pre-fabricated techniques in the construction industry. Tobin is going down the line with his brother craft-union dictators in opposition to the Carrier contract in Wayne, Michigan.

Throughout his disreputable career in the union movement, Tobin has ALWAYS been a barnacle on the ship of progress. Thirty-five years ago, in his home town of Boston, Tobin fought the introduction of the motor transport truck. He argued that the auto was a "fly-by-night" invention, and that it could never displace the team and wagon. He opposed the organization of the pioneer truck drivers, just as thirty years later he fought the organization of the over-road drivers.

To this very day, from prejudice and ignorance, Tobin retains the horse-and-buggy craft-union organizational concepts of the 1900's. He even insists that his organization retain the name of "Teamsters."

"What was bad enough for my fathers is bad enough for me," is Tobin's motto.

Tobin hates and fears the CIO. This tenth-rate bureaucrat, with a head like a goose and pockets like balloons, examined to the ears with backward superstitions, is an unbearable handicap to the nation's drivers.

Their problems can be solved only as they free themselves from the 19th century ideas and concepts of Dictator Tobin, and get in tune with the times, through CIO industrial unionism.

End Secret Diplomacy

The news dispatches from Japan tell us that the Prince Konoye cabinet has been replaced by a new cabinet, one that is even more militaristic and friendly to Hitler. One of the reasons for the fall of Prince Konoye was the dissatisfaction within the Japanese ruling class over the results of the negotiations now taking place between Tokyo and Washington.

Obviously the American imperialists were not offering Japan as much as the German imperialists were promising Nippon.

The American newspaper all interpreted the change in cabinets as meaning a worsening of relations between the United States and Japan and bringing the prospect of war much closer.

The Tokyo-Washington negotiations, then, are of sufficient importance for the Japanese bosses to change their cabinet. The Japanese bosses KNOW what has been taking place in Washington and they act accordingly.

Likewise, we can be sure, the big American finance capitalists get a full and daily report of the discussions.

But unlike the bosses, the workers—who may have to give their lives as a result of the discussions—DON'T KNOW what has been taking place in Washington. The American diplomats have not deigned to tell the workers what has transpired. Complete secrecy envelops the discussions.

The lesson should be clear. Just as the union man wants to know what is taking place in any negotiation with his boss, so too, every worker has the right to know exactly what the American government is committing him to in these negotiations with Japan.

The labor faker who failed to give a full report to the rank and file on any strike negotiations should unceremoniously be tossed out of the union hall on his ear. Every union man knows this.

Yet here, where the stakes are the lives of millions of workers and not merely questions of wages and hours, the political bosses in Washington refuse to give the workers any inkling of what they are cooking up.

The American workers have every right to know exactly what is taking place in Washington, to learn what war plans the politicians are making.

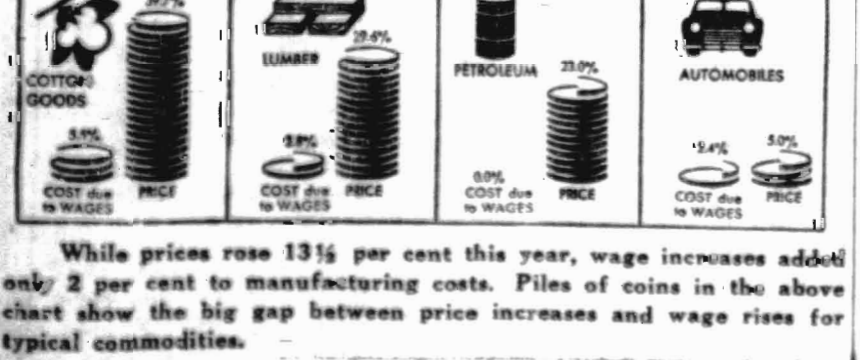
Secret diplomacy is the method used by boss politicians who dare not tell the people openly what they are doing.

We demand that the State Department publish a full and complete report of the negotiations with Japan. The method of conducting negotiations behind closed doors and behind the backs of the workers must be abolished!

Only those who desire war want to keep the facts from the people.

END SECRET DIPLOMACY!

The Gap Between Prices and Wages



544-CIO Protests Pact Between AFL and OPM

Below is the text of the letter sent by Local 544-CIO to the Truman Committee protesting the refusal of the government to grant the Wayne housing contract to a contractor employing UCWOC workers:

October 21, 1941

Senate Committee Investigating the National Defense Program
Washington, D. C.
To the Honorable Senator Truman
Dear Sir:

In the interests of the UCWOC members employed by the Carrier Lumber Company, of the nation's construction workers, of the right of all workers to exercise democracy in choosing their union, of modern technology in the construction industry, and of race relations, we write to urge you to expose and publicize and condemn the misnamed "stabilization pact" reached between the OPM and the craft union bureaucracy of the AFL Building Trades Department. We further urge you to seek to abrogate that pact and to see that the Carrier Lumber Company is granted the Wayne housing contract on which it is low bidder by \$431,600.

If the pact between Hillman of OPM and the AFL craft union leadership were to be maintained, it would mark a further step backward from democracy for the workers of this nation. It would take away from the workers in Wayne, and elsewhere, the right to select a union of their own choosing. Here in Minneapolis the federal government has used its power to buttress the dictatorship of Daniel J. Tobin of the AFL Teamsters over the drivers of this city. In the Carrier case, the government is apparently using its power to bolster up the dictatorship of the AFL Building Trades unions over the nation's construction workers.

The craft union set-up of the AFL Building Trades is as old-fashioned and wasteful as are the construction methods which the AFL officialdom insists upon preserving. The AFL set-up keeps the nation's construction workers divided up into a series of small and impotent craft unions, and saddles them with the expense of keeping a score of over-paid sets of national officials and headquarters, etc.

The AFL bureaucracy have set their faces like flint against the introduction of modern low-priced methods of home construction through the prefabrication methods. On this question, as on all others, the AFL officialdom represents the dead past; the CIO, through its United Construction Workers Organizing Committee which organizes the construction workers in an industrial union and which welcomes the introduction of modern technology, represents the future.

We urge you to give serious consideration to the striking difference between the AFL and the CIO, in their attitude towards the Negro workers. The AFL Building Trades unions are notorious for the anti-democratic Jim Crow methods they use in cooperating with the employers to deny Negro workers the right to jobs. The United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, on the other hand, welcomes the colored worker into the union, realizing that the interests of both white and colored workers are served by modern democratic industrial unionism.

In the Carrier case, it is clear that the interests of democracy, of progress and of justice can be served only by abrogating the OPM-OFL "stabilization pact" and by granting the Wayne housing contract to the low bidder on that project.

Sincerely,
KELLY POSTAL, Sec. Treas.
Local 544-CIO

Stalinists Back Tobin Against Drivers in Ottumwa

(Reprinted from Ottumwa Organizer)
OTTUMWA—It would take a long stretch of the imagination to believe that it was a coincidence that the Iowa State Committee of the Communist Party and Carl Keul (Tobin's Iowa agent) at one and the same time started screaming the same thing. Trotskyite! Trotskyite! Trotskyite! The Communist Party says it in a Minneapolis speech; Keul repeats the doctrine of the Dies-McCain Federalistic to say it all over the front page three times—once signed by C. J. McNeil, once signed by Leo Quinn, and again signed Committee to Keep Iowa Labor 100% American. This third signature is apparently Carl Keul's own impressive alias. A peculiar thing about the two publications is that they mispell the same words in the same way. They were delivered the same day. What does it all mean?

Even while Keul with badly affected nonchalance through the boss' newspapers proclaims himself victor, he is suffering with extreme jitter. His attempt to find a reasonable and logical argument with which to answer the members of the truck drivers unions that are leaving the AFL has got him completely bedeviled. So he says four pages of the Dies-McCain Federation, to tell the people that he is sure at Ben Henry, Regional Director of the CIO, Frank Green, Organizer for the UCWOC, and others who have been instrumental in fighting against Tobin's dictatorship in the teamsters movement.

Dark Dave Defend Tobin.
It is noteworthy that in all the profuse verbiage dispensed by Keul and the Communist Party there is not even the slightest attempt to defend or justify Tobin's high-handed methods, his denial of democratic rights to the membership of his union or his racketeer gangster tactics which are the real cause for thousands of members leaving the AFL set-up. Why? Could it be that they forgot the main issue? No, they know full well that there is nothing that can be said in defense of Tobin's brand of Hitlerism any more than that of Hitler's own system. They know that there is nothing honest about Tobin's policy of supporting a war against Hitler in Europe and at the same time instituting Hitler's system of government in his own union. There was nothing they could say about that; they were smart not to try it.

Our "Crime"
But they had to say something

Government Victim



John Santo, former secretary-treasurer of the CIO Transport Workers Union, who was seized by federal agents in New York on a charge of being illegally in the U. S. Real reason behind the government's action is Santo's record as a pioneer organizer of the union.

TWU President Michael Quill declared the union will back Santo "to a man."

Mother of Sherman Oakes Passes On

The many union friends of Sherman Oakes sorrow with him at the death of his mother, Mrs. Sarah Ann Oakes, 88, who passed away last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. H. Higgins, Mrs. Oakes is survived by her husband, Owen, four sons, three daughters, 17 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday.

UCWOC Head Is Drowned

Seattle workers mourn the death of William H. Murray, official for the CIO United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, who was drowned Tuesday when two CIO picket boats collided in Lake Union in a heavy fog.

The boats were picking the Pioneer Sand & Gravel plant for its refusal to sell materials to a housing job on which UCWOC labor is employed.

Brother Murray died as he fought, fighting in the interests of the working class, he was widely known for his honesty and integrity. He enthusiastically supported the Minneapolis drivers and Local 544-CIO in the struggle against Dictator Tobin.

Local 544-CIO has wired condolences to his UCWOC brothers in Seattle.

"U" Students Applaud Dunne Talk on Tobin

The University of Minnesota Student Forum audience listened intently and sympathetically last Friday noon to Vincent R. Dunne, as the pioneer organizer of Local 544 spoke on the history of the struggle between the Minneapolis drivers and AFL Teamsters President Tobin.

"The indictment of the 544-CIO's leaders stems from the fear and fear of the AFL officialdom for industrial unionism and democracy, and from the war hysteria being provoked by the government," Brother Dunne said.

The students showed their understanding and sympathy for Local 544-CIO by the many questions asked of the speaker.

Through the Student Forum Committee invited many AFL speakers to debate with V. R. Dunne, not a single AFL representative dared face the 544-CIO spokesman.

Court Upholds Death Sentence For Walker

The death sentence of Edell Waller, 24-year-old sharecropper, was upheld Monday by the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, which rejected the argument of John Finerty, defense counsel, that the Virginia law itself kept off all juries people who had not been able to pay the state's \$1.50 cumulated poll tax.

The Workers Defense League, active in behalf of Waller, immediately announced it will appeal the case to the U. S. Supreme Court. As a first step to save the life of the poor sharecropper, the League has asked Governor Price of Virginia to grant a third stay of execution for Waller, who was convicted of shooting his white landlord in a dispute over share crops.

Waller's case has been the subject of mass meetings throughout the country. Waller's mother spoke in Minneapolis last winter at a meeting on behalf of her son.

Court is Lenient To Tobin Hopheads

Pratt, Goff, and Narcotic Agents Smile on Beeler Boys

Tobin's notorious Beeler boys, whose crime spree made the headlines day after day in August before they finally broke their way into jail, found court and prosecution more than lenient Wednesday in District Judge Frank E. Reed's court.

One of Tobin's "business" agents, Kenneth Backley, of Kansas City, was sentenced to 90 days but given the alternative of a \$100 fine and time in which to raise the money. The other two—John Beeler of New York and Henry Smith of Kansas City—were given 90 days.

strangely enough, one material witness had gone and moved to Texas, which is far away; and that the alderman's brother, the doctor, who had been badly beaten by the Beeler boys in the original fracas, now found it very inconvenient to come here to testify against them.

In the same spirit of forgiveness, Goff and the judge permitted the trio to plead guilty to a lesser charge—petty assault—and the defendants, beamed in smiles, hurried off to get this over with so they could go back to doing Tobin's dirty work again.

Equally imbued with the Christmas spirit so early in the season, the federal narcotics agents who had seized the Beeler boys' marijuana were neither to be seen nor heard.

Hopheads Are Happy

For these three hopheads this was a happy ending to their three-man crime wave. Readers will recall the crimes these gangsters committed: attacking a Rochester nurse in her room at the Nicollet hotel and beating the hotel employees who answered her cries for help; attacking Alderman Desmond Pratt and his brother, Dr. Gerald H. Pratt, in Harry's Cafe; fleeing from justice when Alderman Pratt swore out a warrant; beating up another man in the Eau Claire, Wisconsin, cafe where they stopped to drink on their flight from Minneapolis; being found with a load of illicit narcotics—the marijuana weed—in their car when seized by Wisconsin police on the Minneapolis warrant, etc., etc., etc.

They got away with everything else, but apparently made their mistake when they attacked a city elder and were indicted for it by the county grand jury. However, that turned out to be not beyond redemption, either, it would seem.

For thanks to a letter from Alderman Pratt to County Attorney Goff, and Goff's warm heart, they were not tried on the felony charge—second degree assault—for which they had been indicted.

Pratt, Goff Open Hearts
AFTERMATH: Pratt wrote a letter to Goff informing him that,

Rail Unions Say 'No' to Arbitration

Balking at the trap them by the Roosevelt finding board and the owners, the nation's unions turned thumbs to the board's proposal for arbitration.

The offer of the fact board to arbitrate the controversy was quickly snapped up by management.

In rejecting the offer up the workers' arbitration, the railway leaders expressed their respect for the board.

The five-man fact board had added its opinion of the dispute and urged to President Roosevelt before November 15, allowing a 30-day per railway workers will just be free to strike.

DATE	MEETING SCHEDULE
Sunday, October 12	Over-city pickup dockmen and drivers who come under the contract, 2 p. m.
Monday, October 13	Funeral: Coal; Paper gang
Thursday, October 16	Funeral: Newspaper, 10 a. m.
Friday, October 17	Job Street
Monday, October 21	Spring
Tuesday, October 22	Building
Thursday, October 24	Tramway
Friday, October 25	Warehouse: Wholesale
Friday, October 26	Cold
Ice Drivers—2nd Monday, Oct. 27th, Day Laboratory	
Warehousemen—2nd Tuesday, Oct. 27th, Day Laboratory	
Friday, October 10	Wholesale Grocery

Follow the Trial Through The Industrial Organizer

You have learned that in the many labor trials held in Minneapolis, the daily papers distort and suppress the workers' side of the case. This was so in the Strutwear Strike Trials, the Local 544 Fink Suit, the WPA Strike Trials, the hearings before Blair, etc.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF LOCAL 544-CIO. Get the defendants' own stories, week by week. Read the facts, so that you can discuss the case intelligently with your friends and fellow workers.

SPECIAL SUB DRIVE Only 50c

We offer you a three months' subscription to Local 544-CIO's financial organ for only fifty cents (50c). Fill out the subscription blank below, right now.

TO INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER
203 Second St. N.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Brother:

I want to get the truth about the trial of the 28 men and women for "sedition conspiracy." I want to read the defendants' own story in the columns of THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER.

I enclose fifty cents (50c) for a three months' special subscription. If you and my friends do subscribe too, so they will understand the case and know how important it is to support the 28 defendants who are today the front-line fighters in the cause of civil liberties and workers' rights.

My Name is _____
My Address is _____
City _____ State _____