

DAILY STRIKE BULLETIN

**UNITED
LABOR
ACTION**

THE ORGANIZER



**SMASH THE
CITIZENS
ALLIANCE**

TWO TWENTY-FIVE

SOUTH THIRD STREET

VOLUME 1

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, SATURDAY, AUG. 18, 1934

NUMBER 34

All Unions Asked to Support 574 by 2-Day General Demonstration Strike

574 Asks Aid Of Federation Sends Letter of Appeal to Convention

The following letter is being sent by Local 574 to the State Federation of Labor assembled in Convention at International Falls. It is expected that this appeal for moral and financial backing will be read to the delegates at Monday's session. Local 574 hopes that it will stir the interest of all delegates and feels sure of an enthusiastic response.

August 18, 1934

Brothers, Greeting!

General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum, and Inside Workers Union Local 574 has been on strike for five weeks. The strike was forced on us by employers who refused to honor their signature to an agreement settling a previous strike. Hardly had we lain down our weapons before we had to take them up again in a battle which all our brother unions and the Central Labor Union of our city have characterized as one not only on our own behalf but on behalf of the very right of the unions to exist.

We have been through a fierce and long drawn out struggle, one which has cost the lives of two workers, the blood of scores, the sacrifices of thousands. Against a host of enemies sent to oppose us by that sinister, labor-hating clique, the Citizens Alliance, we have stood out and given no ground.

We are happy indeed to report to you how help has come to us from far and near. Brother unions in Minneapolis, the Central Labor Union, unions throughout the state, locals in other states have responded generously. The Convention of Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League assembled in our city donated one thousand dollars to our strike fund.

Today we need further moral support and financial aid. Our Strike Commissary and Hospital, our Relief and other departments must be kept going. Men who have withstood terror and threats must not be allowed to go hungry. The children of labor heroes fighting a fight whose victory we will all share must be fed and clothed.

At this time, therefore, Brothers, we turn to you, asking for moral and financial aid. We are confident that the Minnesota State Federation of Labor will take an unequivocal stand on the issue and extend financial aid to the fullest extent which its own responsibilities and obligations permit.

With Fraternal Greetings,
Local 574.

MCCW Holds Rally

About 700 workers attended last night's rally of the MCCW held at Strike Headquarters on South 8th St. The purposes and nature of the unemployed organization was explained by various speakers.

Among those who addressed the crowd were Miles Dunne and Carl Skoglund of Local 574; Karl Kuehn, Chairman of the MCCW; and Clem Forsen.

Mrs. V. R. Dunne Denies Alleged Praise of Raid

When interviewed by a reporter for "The Organizer," Mrs. Vincent R. Dunne, wife of the strike leader, flatly denied a statement concerning the raid on Strike Headquarters by Olson's National Guard attributed to her by the latest Farmer-Labor "Leader."

The "Leader" says that shortly after the raid Mrs. Dunne commented that she was glad the raid had occurred as it alone prevented serious bloodshed between strikers and the militia. The idea is conveyed that Mrs. Dunne, and by inference Vincent R. Dunne and the strikers in general, are grateful for the raid.

This is entirely untrue. Immediately after the raid on Headquarters and the arrest of Vincent R. and Miles Dunne and President William S. Brown, the Union protested vigorously. Mrs. Dunne is indignant that false remarks should be attributed to her in an effort to cover up the trail of those responsible for the raid. She states she will demand a printed retraction from the Farmer-Labor "Leader."

Dance Proves Huge Success

Large Crowd Attends 574 Affair

About 500 strikers, wives and girl friends attended last night's Hard Times Dance held at Union Headquarters, 225 South Third St. Several hundred were turned away because the hall was so crowded. A gay evening was had by all.

The committee of the Ladies' Auxiliary and the Finance Committee which were in charge of the event report that \$40 in cash and a large amount of merchandise for the Strike Commissary was paid in at the door.

Sorenson's six-piece orchestra, composed of members of Local 574, provided the music. This group has been entertaining at the Saturday night rallies at Strike Headquarters and was best known for its songs and comic stunts but last night it also proved itself to be a howling success as a hot jazz band.

Among those active on the committee running the affair last

Support of State Federation And C. L. U. Asked by 574

Faced by an ever-mounting pressure from the sinister Citizens Alliance which continues to wage by every foul means its brutal campaign to smash Minneapolis unionism, Local 574 has turned to its brother unions with an appeal for united supporting action in the form of a 48-hour general demonstration strike.

This strike, endorsement of which is being asked both

GREETINGS

To the delegates to the State Federation of Labor Convention, from the members of Local 574 and the Strike Committee of 100.

night were Mrs. Clara Dunne, Mrs. Farrell Dobbs and Brother Tom Smith.

This is the first time during the long-drawn-out battle that the strikers have endeavored to have a few hours of gayety and entertainment. It proved such a success that plans are being laid to hold a similar affair next week.

of Central Labor Union of the city and the State Federation of Labor whose Convention assembles at International Falls Monday, would be in support of the demands of Local 574 and against all those who are trying to smash the struggle of Minneapolis workers for the right to organize and to have decent living and working conditions.

The Strike Committee of 100 yesterday sent a representative rank and file delegation of fourteen to meet with the executive of the Central Labor Union to discuss this question. The joint meeting elected a joint committee to call on Governor Olson and once again present the demand, this time with the official backing of the C. L. U., for the restoration of the right to picket and the revocation of all permits which are making possible scab truck movements.

The joint committee has been seeking to contact Olson ever since about 6 p. m. yesterday, but at the time of going to press it had not yet been able to find him. The requests it proposes to make had previously been made by the Strike Committee of 100 itself, but they were rejected by Olson.

The joint meeting of the 574 delegation and the C. L. U. executive also took up the question of a 48-hour general demonstration strike in support of the position of Local 574.

Speaker after speaker of the 574 delegation asked the C. L. U. to take immediate steps to prepare for the 48-hour general protest demonstration. They pointed out that in view of the enormous forces which have been mustered against 574 and the many tests it has had to undergo in the five weeks of hot struggle, help must be given.

The Central Labor Union heard the appeal of 574 but no answer was given at the joint session. It was stated by C. L. U. officials that a closed session of the C. L. U. executive board would take the matter up. The meeting was scheduled for last night but at the present writing *The Organizer* has no report as to what action was taken.

The Strike Committee of 100 will meet tonight at 225 South 3rd St., the time to be announced late in the afternoon. It is hoped that a report will be available.

Meanwhile the Union and the Strike Committee pushed ahead with plans for bringing the demonstration strike proposal before the State Federation of Labor Convention Monday. Following the decisions of the Strike Committee of 100, the Executive Board and the Organizing Committee of Local 574 held a joint meeting at which a joint sub-committee was appointed to draft a resolution for presentation to the State Convention.

RESOLUTION

Endorsing a General Demonstration Strike

To Be Presented to the State Federation of Labor Convention Monday by the Delegates of Local 574

WHEREAS, the General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers Union Local 574 of Minneapolis has been on strike since July 16 and is still on strike and,

WHEREAS, this strike was forced upon the union by the refusal of certain employers to honor their signatures to an agreement settling a previous strike and

WHEREAS, this strike has received the endorsement and support of the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis and its affiliated unions and has been recognized by them as a fight not only in the interests of those directly participating, but one which involves the issue of unionism against open shop and thus vitally concerns every trade union in Minneapolis and in the whole state and

WHEREAS, Local 574 has encountered enormous obstacles and difficulties in this strike, the full power of the labor-hating Citizens Alliance having been brought to bear against it, peaceful pickets having been shot and killed in the public streets, and martial law having seriously interfered with the ordinary rights of picketing, assemblage and other civil rights and

WHEREAS, Local 574 has appealed to the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis to demonstrate its support by endorsing the proposal of Local 574 for a forty-eight hour cessation of work by all trade unionists in the city of Minneapolis,

RESOLVED, that the Minnesota State Federation of Labor endorses this proposal as a suitable method of warning the open shop interests to halt in their reactionary union-smashing campaign and urges the Minneapolis Central Labor Union to recommend such action to its affiliated local unions, and be it further

RESOLVED that when such action is taken the State Federation of Labor shall stand ready to assist its Minneapolis brothers in every possible way.

574 Strike Methods Are Blazing New Labor Paths

By the Old Timer

The amazing vitality of the strike of Local 574, and its ability to survive the heaviest blows and come back fighting, are evoking continued amazement and admiration in the ranks of the general labor movement. The prestige of Local 574 extends far beyond the borders of Minneapolis.

This was strikingly demonstrated by the enthusiasm of the International Convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Alliance and Bartenders International League, and its generous donation of \$1,000. This is a lot of money to donate to the strike of a local union in another trade, and could not have been possible if the delegates, coming from all parts of the country, had not been deeply stirred by the magnificent fight of our union.

Trade unionists, including many labor leaders of a more or less conservative tendency, have paid tribute to the fighting abilities of Local 574 and its methods of conducting the struggle against the heaviest odds. Even those who have taken part in important labor struggles and studied the history of others, recognize something new and different in Local 574's way of doing things, something which enables it to stand its ground and keep on fighting where an ordinary trade union would have folded up long ago.

What is the secret of this remarkable vitality and resourcefulness? What is "different" about Local 574?

The answer is, that almost everything is different. By its constitution and affiliation Local 574 is an ordinary trade union, indistinguishable from thousands of others. But within the framework of the old line trade union movement, represented by the A. F. of L., our local has evolved methods of organization and forms of activity, which go far beyond the traditional craft union methods and ideas.

The outward form is old fashioned and "regular," but the inner content is modern and pulsating with new vigorous life. In one sense of the word it can be said that Local 574 represents a fusion of the new and the old at the moment when the American labor movement as a whole stands before the prospect of great changes to meet the modern needs of the workers. No single one of the distinct features of our strike can explain the full significance of Local 574 as the herald of this new movement evolving within the formal framework of the old. The new features and methods of work fit and supplement each other. They are combined by a unifying idea, and it is this combination that gives Local 574 its power and fighting capacity.

Nevertheless, each of the distinct features brought out in this strike has its own separate importance and deserves special study. Trade unionists who want to get at the heart of the whole method of 574, and learn its secret, ought to devote attentive study to each of these features separately.

One of the many distinct contributions made by Local 574 to the labor movement is the organization of the women-folk of the strikers and their direct participation in the strike through the Ladies' Auxiliary. Even if this organization doesn't function perfectly, and still suffers from the weakness that always goes with inexperience, it has shown itself to be a real power in this strike, as it already did in the May strike to a lesser extent. The Ladies' Auxiliary is so much a part of the strike and carries such heavy burdens that it is taken for granted as an indispensable part of the union. Nobody even thinks of going on without it.

It is hard to realize that other unions go into struggle without such a valuable ally. Yet this is what happens in nearly every case. Local 574 is one of the very few local unions that have understood the necessity of organizing the women and making their organization a vital part of the strike machinery.

There is an idea behind this, also. Local 574 doesn't take any stock in the theory that capital and labor are brothers, and that the way for little brother labor to get a few crumbs is to be a good boy and appeal to the good nature of big brother capital. We see

the issue between capital and labor as an unceasing struggle between the class of exploited workers and the class of exploiting parasites. It is a war. What decides in this war, as in all others, is power. The exploiters are organized to grind us down into the dust. We must organize our class to fight back. And the women are half of the working class. Their interests are the same as ours and they are ready to fight for them. Therefore: Organize them to take part in the class battle. This is the idea behind the wonderful organization of the Ladies' Auxiliary, and its effective co-operation with the union in the struggle.

Of course, Local 574 cannot claim to be the pioneer in grasping this idea and carrying it into practice. There have been numerous examples of attempts along this line on the part of other organizations, although seldom has it been done as effectively. The greatest example of effective organization of women—one that did much to inspire us—belongs to the Progressive Miners of Illinois.

This organization carried on some heroic struggles during 1932-33 and needed extraordinary resources to survive. One of these resources, which played a decisive part in keeping the union alive and beating back its enemies, was the Women's Auxiliary of the Progressive Miners. The great importance of organizing the women, even where they are not directly employed in industry, was brought out very clearly in this experience. The Women's Auxiliary of the Progressive Miners set the pace for the whole labor movement and by right holds first place as the real pioneer.

Local 574 learned from this example and was influenced by it to encourage and assist the organization of our women. That, by the way, is another merit of our union and its leadership—they watch what is going on in the world of labor, they study the experiences of other workers and learn from them.

Lawson Asks Aid for 574

State A. F. of L. Secretary Speaks on Radio

On Monday evening George W. Lawson, Secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, speaking over station WCCO, gave his analysis of the strike situation now prevailing in Minneapolis. Brother Lawson's address made it clear to his listeners, who night after night had been defused with lies by agitators of the Citizens Alliance, that the State Federation and all organized labor endorses the strike of Local 574 to get better wages and living conditions.

The following excerpts from Brother Lawson's address should be of interest to all strikers and the general public:

"There seems to be an impression in the minds of many people that I have met with that the truck situation in Minneapolis affecting the truck drivers union No. 574 and its membership is an occurrence of the last few months; that it has been fostered and exploited very recently; that its causes are of recent origin. As a matter of fact this industrial struggle has its roots several years back, in the injustices heaped upon these men. . . ."

"The advent of the national in-

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U. S. Workers Are on March

Strike Wave Mounts Higher Each Day

It surprises no one to see labor all over the nation boiling up, giving rise to greater and greater waves of strikes, as working men and women react to the inhuman pressure of the vicious bosses. Nor does anyone really doubt but that the heroic example of the militant Minneapolis strikers has given heart to their working class brothers in dozens of cities, to fight and resist to the death the slavish starvation program that the nation-wide association of employers is attempting to press on the brow of labor.

This year there is no sign that the strike wave will abate as autumn sets in. Instead, quite the contrary is indicated, a fact which throws fear and consternation into the hearts of the reactionary bankers and industrialists.

United Textile Workers of New York, assembled in their annual convention, ordered a general strike in the entire industry, involving almost a million workers, to be called within the next two weeks. In eagerness to better their conditions, 2,000 textile workers in Georgia have already struck, closing down two big mills.

Our 1,200 striking brothers in Kohler, Wisconsin, are experiencing the same thing as is Local 574. With many flowery gestures the employers in the plumbing company drew up a settlement proposal which settles nothing at all, and offered it regally to the workers. The fake proposal was refused flatly and curtly. The Kohler strikers vow to stay out until their demands are met.

The militant picket line established by Chicago bus drivers bombarded a scab yesterday and put him in the hospital. It is said that on Monday all street car employees in Chicago will go out in sympathy with their working class brothers.

Breaking through the wall of silence built up by the boss press to prevent news of industrial turmoil from leaking out, comes rumors of an approaching general strike in Milwaukee.

All six plants of the Mellon-owned Aluminum Company of America remain closed up tight as the strike of thousands of metal workers goes into its second week.

From St. Louis we hear that 2,500 employees of the Mobile and Ohio railroad are getting ready to lay down their tools next Tuesday unless their wage demands are met by the bosses.

Five thousand sawmill and timber workers are out in West Virginia, as federal mediators scurry frantically around, attempting to put over a raw employer-instigated settlement on the strikers.

On the west coast, our brothers demonstrate that the vicious attacks by bodies of armed thugs hired by the bosses, which followed in the wake of the general strike, cannot drive them into submission nor still their fighting spirit. Five thousand salmon fishermen and cannery workers have just finished striking for better working conditions as salmon flashed unmolested up the Columbia River. A wage increase was forced from the bosses.

With increasing clarity and unexampled bitterness, workers of America are seeing through the cruel plans of the employers, which are designed to push onto the shoulders of workers the burden of the depression. And workers are reacting to these designs of the bosses with a militancy

Election Call Is Boss Trick

"Labor Review" Calls for Strike Aid

The following is an editorial entitled "Now More Than Ever," from the latest issue of the Minneapolis Labor Review, official organ of the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis. It appears in the latest issue, published today:

Now more than ever the Striking Truck Drivers and their families need the assistance of every member of organized labor and every sympathizer and of every labor organization not only in Minneapolis but throughout the state and the nation.

It seems apparent that the employers intend through their foolish request for an election to give the idea that the strike is nearing an end.

Foolish indeed the workers would be to reach any such conclusion.

This is just the conclusion that the Citizens Alliance wishes the workers to reach. They want to blunt the edge of the strike, to dim the enthusiasm and dull the courage and perseverance of those who have fought so determinedly, so brilliantly and so enthusiastically.

That the simple process of an election as proposed by the employers means nothing toward bringing about a settlement of a strike must be apparent to anyone.

It is admittedly apparent to those who spend their lives in attempting to settle strikes. Apparently the request was concurred in simply to humiliate the employers.

While the employers are being humiliated the strikers should be being strengthened and the State Federation of Labor convention will be a good place to get under way not only a statewide movement to support the striking Truck Drivers to victory but a movement on a nationwide scale.

which has not been seen in this country for almost fifty years. The selfish and relentless attitude of the arrogant bosses itself dictates the policies of those who produce the nation's wealth. Organize and Fight Back! This is the call that is spreading to every city, to every village where toilers are exploited and parasites wax rich.

"Fort Dodge milk producers on strike—All Cuban communication lines paralyzed—500 Connecticut textile workers out—Hundreds thrown off Boston relief jobs—600 Milwaukee kitchenwear workers striking—15,000 San Francisco families face hunger as relief ends—" These are but headlines which trace the condition of our fellow workers, driven by desperation to strike.

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NRA Organized Bosses; Workers Rely on Selves

By Minneapolis

How well most of us remember, when the National Recovery Act was made into law, what extravagant claims were made in its behalf. The NRA would put most of the unemployed back to work. It would start industry humming. It would redistribute the wealth of the country so that the rich would no longer be so rich and the poor would no longer be so poor. It would for the first time put the worker on an equal basis with the boss because the boss would be compelled to recognize the workers' unions. We haven't the space to enumerate all the wonderful things the NRA was supposed to accomplish for the toiling masses of this country.

The NRA had an advantage of having at its head one of the greatest ballyhoo artists and circus managers in existence. With General Johnson's loud voice and bag of publicity tricks, the American public was pretty well convinced that the millennium had arrived and the troubles of the depression would disappear. One must regret to say that the American working class was fooled the same way as every other section of the population.

Especially did the labor leaders join the chorus of those who sang praises to the NRA. These gullible and trusting leaders who thought they could organize the workers without any struggle and simply by the passing of a law in Washington beheld in the NRA the great opportunity of a lifetime. What appealed to them was the idea that they wouldn't have to do any fighting to organize the workers. The government would organize the workers and the labor leaders would collect the dues.

Those who understood Roosevelt's policy were not taken in by the NRA. What was Roosevelt's main purpose? Was it to benefit the working masses? If it was it was certainly queer that he should have considered twelve to fifteen dollars a minimum wage. It is difficult to believe that a real friend of the workers could even imagine that fifteen dollars is enough for a family to live on.

Roosevelt's purpose was none other than to save a dying social system which tolerated idle factories and starving people. He understood better than Hoover that in order to save the capitalistic system he must throw a crumb to the workers and farmers. Hoover's plan was a little too raw. He gave millions to the bankers and big industrialists and nothing to the workers. Roosevelt continued giving to those same bankers and industrialists but gave a mite to the workers and farmers.

Some of the big bankers and big business people objected to giving even a small bit to the workers and farmers and that explains their opposition to Roosevelt.

What is the net result of the NRA? It is undoubtedly true that a few million workers were put back to work. In all probability some of these workers would have gone back to work even without the NRA because there was an improvement in business not only in this country but all over the world. All in all, however, the NRA was a new form of stagger system. It divided whatever work there was amongst more workers.

We must also admit that a few million workers who were getting less than the minimum provided for by the NRA codes had their wages raised. On the other hand the bosses took advantage in many instances to fire the higher paid workers and hire new workers at the minimum wage.

What was a real blow to the workers was the rise in the price of commodities. Even the A. F. of L. leaders had to admit in one of their reports that those workers who were employed when Roosevelt came into office were worse off a year later.

Did the NRA compel the bosses to deal collectively with the workers? Not on your life. In the first place it must be remembered that section 7-A of the NRA did not give anything new to the workers. In theory the workers

always had the right to organize. What section 7-A did was merely to recognize that right.

The workers soon learned that they had to fight for their right to organize and for the right to collective bargaining the same as before the NRA. And the government that passed the NRA did mighty little to help the workers. In many instances it did everything to harm the workers. In the case of the automobile and steel industries it was Roosevelt himself who soft-soaped the great labor leaders into accepting another Board with the promise of elections.

The result is that there is no labor union recognized by the bosses either in the automobile or in the steel industry.

What the NRA did was to organize the bosses. It relieved them of all the anti-trust laws in the first place, thus furthering monopoly. In the second place whenever the bosses want any code they must organize.

As for the workers the NRA taught them a great lesson: not to depend on the government but on their own good right arms and fighting spirit.

Lawson Asks Aid for 574

(Continued from page 2)

dustrial recovery act, the activities of the labor movement, I am perfectly frank to say, brought about an awakening upon the part of those engaged in this industry as to the necessity for organization. A perfectly legitimate campaign was carried on to advise truck drivers and others associated with them of the necessity for organization and that only through united efforts and organization could they expect to remedy the evils of which they were complaining; small pay, and long hours of labor, and other conditions.

This campaign resulted in a large number of members being added to this organization, whose reason for joining it was perfectly natural and perfectly legitimate—the remedying of conditions of labor that had become in many instances unbearable. That this effort should be opposed by the employing group was not unexpected, nor unusual.

"It was felt then that the situation was cleared up, methods decided upon for the adjudication of disputes, and for negotiations of questions in dispute, but it was then found that the employers raised questions as to the right of the organization to negotiate for certain groups of workers. The question was not raised then as to the leadership of the organization, as it has been since, but the employers' committee took the position that they would deal with Local No. 574 for truck drivers and helpers, but they would not recognize their authority to represent so-called inside workers.

"Now the question of inside workers belonging to the truck workers' union might be raised by the component parts of the trade union movement because it involves the question of jurisdiction, but it is not a question for the employers to pass upon. An act of congress has said very definitely that workers shall have a right to choose their organization and their representatives for the purpose of collective bargaining.

"If these so-called inside workers choose Local No. 574, they are within their legal rights and if the officers of Local No. 574 are selected by them or with their approval to speak for them, the question is not one that should interest the employer. . . ."

MCCW MEETINGS
(8 P. M. Unless Otherwise Stated)
MONDAY—Franklin Branch—1500 E. Franklin Ave.
MONDAY—East Side Branch—225 S. Third St. Small Hall.
TUESDAY—South Branch—4201 Cedar Ave. Fire Hall.
WEDNESDAY—Central Council. 629 Third Ave. S., Room 50.
THURSDAY—3 p. m., Hennepin County Delegations at 629 Third Ave. S., Room 50. Far South, Far North, and other groups please report
NEW HEADQUARTERS, 629 Third Ave. S., Room 50.

News and Views

The Super X motorcycle which has been on the job so faithfully all during the strike, was stolen at Plymouth and Lyndale North last night. This motorcycle belongs to Marshall Wiltgen and represents a great deal to him. The license number was 1463 and it will be greatly appreciated if anyone can supply any information regarding this machine.

Pickets called guards to stop a Coca Cola truck loading without a permit. The guards finally arrived and entered the plant. They came out with a bottle of Coca Cola each, and the truck in question was not bothered.

Frank Whitstone reports that while he was at the relief office North Side branch the other day, he was informed that nobody would be permitted to read the Organizer on the premises.

Our railroad brothers are coming along in a big way now to help our strike fund. Brother Farrell has brought in \$33.50 from the Northern Pacific and tells us more is coming. Other contributions have come in from the boys at the Milwaukee, from the Soo Engineers, and others.

Other contributions yesterday were \$30 from Bricklayers, Stonemasons and Marble Masons Local 2; \$10 from Boilermakers Local 11; and \$25 from the Twin City Tool and Diemakers Club of St. Paul.

At the Eighth Ward Farmer-

Labor meeting the other night, one of the members gave a fifteen-minute speech defending 574 and the strikers, and calling on all members to support the Union in every way they could. The rousing speech was roundly applauded. It is becoming more and more evident that tank and file of the Farmer-Labor party are 100 per cent behind Union 574 in its fight for better working conditions.

On Monday or Tuesday, two oil paintings showing scenes from strike headquarters, painted by the Organizer cartoonist, will be exhibited on the main floor of Sutro Tower.

We observe that the city government has moved from 700 Builders Exchange, its seat for many years, to the third floor of the Hotel Radisson.

The strain is beginning to tell on Brother Rainbolt. He has taken to writing poetry.

Who knows which Bove is O. O. Bove? The Strike Committee of 100 does.

Grant Dunne did some of the fanciest dancing at the Hard Times party last night.

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THE ORGANIZER



Bulletin of the Strike Committee of 100 and official organ of General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers Union, Local 574, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Published every day but Sunday at 225 South Third St., Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Bring Up the Labor Reserves!

The request of Local 574 for the endorsement by the Central Labor Union of a 24-hour general protest strike, formally presented last night at a joint meeting of the Executive Board of the C. L. U. and a committee of our organization, puts the organized workers of Minneapolis before a decision of the utmost importance. The future of the labor movement in this city will be vitally affected by this decision.

In view of the concerted attack on Local 574 by all the forces of capital, is labor ready to bring its own reserves into action?—that is the question. The answer rests, first, with the leaders of organized labor in Minneapolis, and, second, with the rank and file of the individual unions with whom the power of decision rests. Workers all over the country, who are watching the heroic battle of Local 574 with admiration and sympathy, will be greatly interested in the decision.

* * *

New occasions teach new duties; new times demand new methods.

After over a year's experience with attempts to right their wrongs by talking about them in the NRA ("National Run Around"), the workers are becoming more and more convinced that the strike is labor's real weapon, and they are resorting to it with increasing frequency. From all appearances, the last half of 1934 is going to witness an even higher strike wave than the first six months.

The American workers are determined to organize and improve their lot in life. They are not afraid any more, and it is becoming harder every day to fool them with the old hooey. They want to test out their strength by means of the strike. Those leaders who stand in the way, who try to balk this determination, are out of tune with the times and are due for some bumps. The new wind that is rising in the labor movement is not a gentle breeze; it is a Kansas cyclone strong enough to blow down any barrier that stands in its path.

* * *

This was demonstrated again at the National Convention of the United Textile Workers of America, an organization which has always been regarded as extremely reactionary or conservative. The Associated Press reports that a general strike of the entire industry, involving more than 800,000 workers, was ordered by the convention with only 10 dissenting votes. Even Thomas S. McMahon, conservative president of the U. T. W., was moved by the year's experience, and the militant temper of the delegates, to say: "We have found under the NRA that the company union sponsored by the bosses is uniformly favored, provided only that the bosses do not label it as such. . . . Bosses never learn anything except what you are strong enough to teach them."

These words might have been said in direct reference to the Minneapolis situation. They hit the nail on the head. And when a labor leader of such conservatism as McMahon talks that way it ought to be a signal to more progressive leaders that it is time for all of them to speak a new and more militant language and not to fear the consequences of struggle. The only thing the trade unions have to fear is cowardice and passivity while the bosses cut them to pieces.

* * *

That is what they are aiming to do to the trade union movement of Minneapolis. Beginning with Local 574, the most militant and aggressive organization, the Citizens Alliance frankly plans to proceed to a union-smashing campaign that will sweep the field clear for the Open Shop and the Company Union.

The new fake "election" scheme is a part of this conspiracy. If the Federal mediators, representing various federal agencies and NRA Boards, lend their aid to this scheme—as it appears the bosses expect—then the Minneapolis workers will have to repeat the words of President McMahon: "The company union sponsored by the bosses is uniformly favored under the NRA."

Only, let us not say it **after** the dastardly plot is accomplished, **after** the union is smashed and replaced by a company union sponsored by the bosses.

Let us say it beforehand, and let us prevent it by our united action!

The Citizens Alliance wants to break the strike of Local 574 with a fake election—

Let us answer with a general strike of all the workers for 48 hours!

Bartender Jess

"Well, Davey," said the union bartender, after removing the pretzel-bowl out of reach of the hungry hands of Mr. Joe Muller, "I see that our high-minded employers in this fair city, not satisfied with the service they're gettin' from th' three papers, has resorted to th' Saturday Press to carry their message o' cheer and hope to all right-minded citizens."

"The Press? Why, I thought that was a scandal sheet," said young David, lighting a cigarette.

"It is, Davey, it is," said Jess. "And gettin' more scandalous with ev'ry issue."

"But don't go around belittlin' that flower o' journalism. Where other newspapers is satisfied to go around braggin' about their 100 per cent Americanism, the Press is just like my friend Andrew Mellon, the dishpan king. It ain't satisfied with less than 350 per cent, and then it howls for bonuses an' a new issue o' common stock, tradin' five for one o' th' old. An' in its elegant way, it expresses the heartfelt longin's o' ev'ry member o' the 166 employers, to whom it laughin'ly refers to as the Minneapolis roll o' honor."

"An' this paper has th' most unusual news in it, and writes it up in the quaintest way. Why Davey, I wouldn't miss an issue of the Press for Bob Cramer's nose full o' nickels. A man just can't keep up with what's goin' on in the world o' arts, litachoor an' the sciences unless he is a constant reader o' this here dainty periodical. All in one issue I can learn the most wonderful an' stupendous facts imaginable."

"F'r instance, here I see where there is 23,000 Communists in Minneapolis. Trotzky will be glad t' hear o' this. He didn't think there was that many reds in the whole country. All in this one issue, the paper manages to convey that there are plans afoot t' wreck the banks, blow up the Foshay tower, sabotage the churches; admits that the Cits Alliance are worthy disciples o' Christ; defends a murderin' pick-pocket as th' salt o' the earth; shows up th' ministers o' th' gospel for th' agitators they are. But it don't say that th' thirty red-blooded he-men who have signed up in Near's vigilantes include 23 Bergoff thugs, the five members o' the Alliance who ain't too fat to run, one officer o' the American Legion, an' the editor hisself."

"A real workin' man's paper from cover t' cover, Davey. The editor sez so hisself, an' admits that he has been downright curt with th' Alliance on more than one occasion. An' to prove that th' Alliance ain't backin' him up, he's not only willin to give his paper away free o' charge, but actually has made an offer o' four-bits apiece to anyone who'll read it."

"No, sir, Davey. When I just want t' read for amusement, an' to sooth my frazzled nerves why I sticks to Bob Cramer an' The Organizer. But when I want to get facts, right from the horse's mouth, why then I moves up on a copy o' the Saturday Press and puts on my specs."

"The editor, while statin' that he's never been to Rooshia, yet is willin' to let drop gems o' inside information on the scand'lous condition o' things in that hell-hole o' Asia. He boasts that he refuses t' stay muzzled, as though he was a water spaniel with the rabies, or somethin'."

"Say, Jess," asked David, "are you going to take in the Union's dance tonight at their Third Street headquarters?"

"I am," said Jess, "if a carton o' Twenty Grands 'll get me by the door. I ain't kicked my heels together for sixteen years or so. Not since the workers stood th' Czar o' Rooshia on his head, in fact. But I can often move around the dance floor without fallin' flat on my face."

"An' besides, I got a date with 185 pounds o' the Ladies' Auxiliary, which I wouldn't miss for all the gold in Mr. Dayton's teeth. It's a terrible Union, is 574, Davey. If we had a hundred more like it in Americy, the poor down-trodden workin' man would be in the embarrassin' position o' bein' forced to live in decent houses. He would have t' ride around in Packard roadsters all day long, throwin' chicken bones to bank presidents."

—Mike



"Won't you step into my parlor,"
Said the Spider to the Fly.

The Workers' Voice

To the Organizer:

Well, it looks as though the employers will put over a fast one by this election scheme. If they do I hope to see them in —. What is the matter with these other union locals? Are you going to stand by and let 574 go down to defeat? What's the matter with the heads of unionism in this town? Are you tongue-tied? Why not a call for a general strike? Tie up this town for 24 hours, so tight that the devil in hell couldn't get things loose. And demand that 574 get the breaks. I say get out and support unionism like the ERA workers who went on the picket lines for 574. Donations are O. K. but back them up with some force. I say to you fellows, get out a general strike call, and make it snappy. The time is ripe to show your colors. You turned out for the big parade some months ago, which was a good demonstration of unionism. Now come to the support of 574 in the same number in a general strike call. What do you say? Are you union men, or card men?

—E. R. A.

The Editor:

I am enclosing 80 cents. Would you please mail me the Organizer as long as this money lasts? I have some friends in Washington that I would like to have know the inside of the strike, which we can't get in the other papers. I am a patient at Glen Lake, and do feel so sorry I can't do something to help the boys, I would be so willing.

With good luck to all the strikers.

MRS. EDW. SPEARS
Oak Terrace
Glen Lake

Editor, Strike Bulletin:

The Citizens Alliance was first organized in Chicago about 1886 under the name of Citizens Association.

At their first meeting they subscribed \$115,000 which was left to a committee to be used any way that they see fit to get the eight hour day speakers and put them out of the way. Pinkerton thugs, bribed judges and witnesses and a jury selected to convict were their tools.

They arrested eight men, some at least good citizens of Chicago, none of whom was ever known to have committed a crime in their lives, convicted four to be hung for murder, three to prison terms and one killed himself.

There must have been a spark of humanity in some of those jurors because five of them died in the state of Illinois Institution for the Insane.

As a crime this stands alone as the blackest of anything ever committed by any organization of human beings. The papers told us that the Citizens Association was saving Chicago from anarchy and the Reds.

Now what I would like to know is this: Are these the kind birds who want us Minneapolis citizens

to come under their wing so they can save us from the Communists?
—A Citizen of Minneapolis

The Editor:

The Organizer:
Fellow Workers:

Several copies of the Organizer have reached me through friends here in San Francisco. The outstanding thing about the Organizer, TO US, is the crying fact of our great labor upsurge without any such guide. San Francisco's leaderless general strike is a sample of one way to do it. No. 574 is showing the world the other way.

I hope I will not be presuming if I urge No. 574 to preserve the full files of the Organizer and as soon as the strike is won publish the complete Organizer under the title, for instance, Organizer 574, bound. The sale of this book will doubtless be great and will not only reimburse courageous old 574 for a lot of its strike expenses, but will be warmly received by American Labor, generally. It will be a document of unquestionable educational value in the field of trade union conduct.

If it so happens that you have the full files of the Organizer to spare, I will be glad to make arrangements to pay for a complete set. I will send some kind of a donation to the union if I can have a set of the Organizers.

Then let me congratulate the courageous workers of Minneapolis, especially 574, and its sturdy, intelligent leadership. Greetings in the name of hundreds of Pacific Coast workers. Your two murdered brothers are well known on this coast. Their names are inscribed in our memories by the side of our own recent strike martyrs. More power to you!

CAESAR BOOTH
92 Carl St.
San Francisco, Calif.

August 16

The Editor:

The Organizer:

As a member of the Farmer-Labor Party I have always felt that it must be our concern to assist Local 574 in its great fight. I therefore want to tell you how much I regret that at the meeting of the Third Ward Club tonight the whole time was spent on the question of who should and should not have certain political jobs. Not a minute was given to the strike. I assure you that the rank and file of the Farmer-Labor Party does not feel that this attitude is correct. We want you to win this strike and want to help you in every way. It is the only thing that matters to the workers of Minneapolis today.

Sincerely,
I. HOBERMAN

Dear Editor:

When we die we are all supposed to be united in one union and here's hoping that this union will not have a Citizens Alliance to buck.

—Kid 574.