

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town

UNITED  
LABOR  
ACTION

## THE ORGANIZER



SMASH THE  
CITIZENS  
ALLIANCE

TWO TWENTY-FIVE

SOUTH THIRD STREET

VOLUME 1

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1934

NUMBER 39

# HOW TO VOTE FOR 574

## Mass Tonite On Parade

### Last Public Rally Before Vote

The last public activity of Local 574 before the Tuesday elections will be the mass meeting tonight on the knoll at the Parade grounds.

There a general report on the outcome of the strike will be made to the Minneapolis workers who stood so firmly behind Local 574 in its great battle for unionism.

Explanations of the elections will be made and the plans of the union to get out its full vote will be outlined. In order to concentrate all attentions on the preparation for the elections all other activities have been laid over till after Tuesday.

The dance which had been announced for Saturday night at headquarters has been postponed.

The mass meetings at the Parade grounds held during the strike were sensational demonstrations of the great popular support the union had behind it in the fight.

The meeting will be a celebration for the cause of unionism in Minneapolis, and ought to be the starting point of a renewed campaign of all labor organizations to strengthen their ranks and increase their numbers in preparation for determined efforts to improve the conditions of the workers.

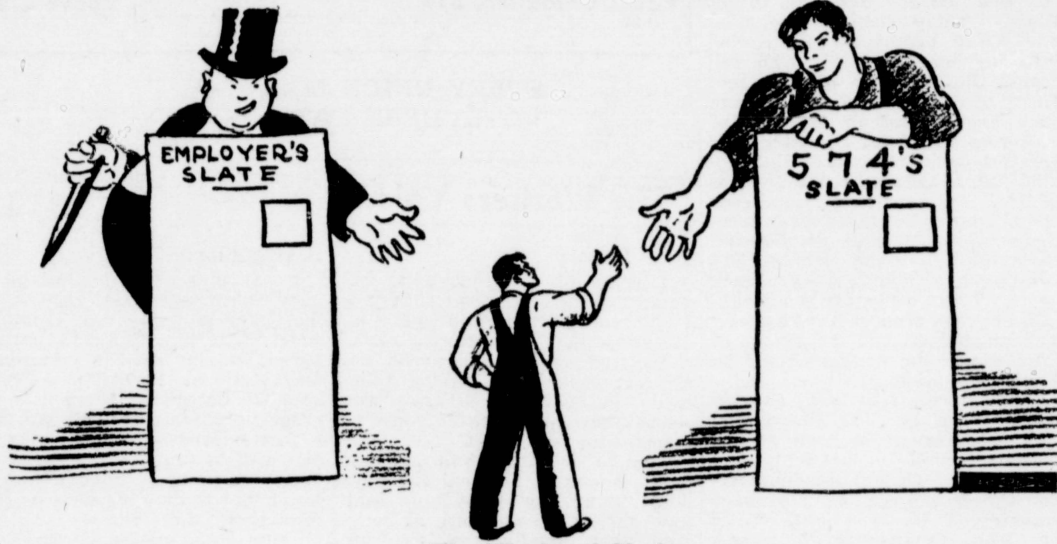
President William S. Brown and Miles Dunne, back from International Falls where they attended the State Federation of Labor Convention as the delegates of Local 574, will be present and speak at tonight's meeting. They will give a report of the reception they received and of the deep impression the great strike made on the labor organizations throughout the state. They will also give a report of the present status of labor organizations in the State of Minnesota, as indicated at the Convention, and the various proposals for strengthening its position.

"I think more workers have been convinced by the example of our strike than by anything else that the best policy for labor is the policy of struggle," said President Brown on his return from International Falls. "Nothing has stirred the masses so deeply for a long time. What arouses the greatest enthusiasm everywhere is the fact that the union-smashing campaign of the Citizens Alliance has been halted, at least for the moment, and that Local 574 comes out of the battle stronger than ever. That encourages all trade unionists, and it is fitting that we have a public victory celebration in which all can take part."

The loud-speaking apparatus which served so well at the previous meetings on the Parade ground, and every day at strike headquarters, will be in operation again tonight under the direction of the Union Announcer.

Carl Skoglund will give a report on what the union is doing to enforce the no-discrimination clause. Farrell Dobbs and the Dunne brothers will also speak about various aspects of the struggle and the future plans.

All workers, all friends of Local 574 are cordially invited to attend the mass meeting tonight.



The Workers' Choice

## We Declare Independence

There is as much difference between a trade union and a company union as between a free and independent country and a colony of another nation. In each case the difference is fundamental.

America, once a colony of England, began existence in its own right with the Declaration of Independence. We are also fighting for independence. We have had our Bunker Hill and Lexington—the May strike and the July-August strike. Now we are going into the elections to put our signatures to our own Declaration of Independence.

Why not vote for any list of "candidates"—can't they represent us just as well as Local 574? These are the kind of questions being put into circulation by the stooges for the employers.

They want to make it appear that the only question involved is "representation," and to cover up the most important question: **What kind of representation?**

The attempt to substitute "employee representation" in each house for Local 574 is a scheme to put over a form of company unionism. This kind of "unionism" is always under the control of the employers and is run by company stools and snitches.

The "collective bargaining" carried on by such representation is a farce, for the simple reason that the company union has no power, no independence, no self respect. It does not meet the employer on a basis of equality. The company "union" is under the thumb of the employer and is in no position to protect a representative who might put up a fight for the workers' interests.

Under company unionism, those who speak for better wages and conditions become marked for victimization and soon get the gate.

A trade union, such as Local 574, is something fundamentally different. The trade union is **independent** of employers.

When the union comes to an employer to negotiate disputed questions or to take up grievances, it comes as an independent force which is able to back up its demands, if necessary, and to protect its members from discrimination. It stands to reason that this kind of organization, covering all

the houses and uniting all the workers, is preferable to dummy committees in each separate house.

Company unionism never prevails over trade unionism by the free will of the workers. Company unionism is accepted only where the workers have been defeated, where they are terrorized and unable to get their forces together and defend themselves. But the minute the workers get on their feet and regain their self confidence, they scrap the hated company organizations and set up genuine workers' unions in their place.

Minneapolis is about the poorest place in the whole country to try to put over any kind of a company union scheme. We haven't been defeated. We are not terrorized. On the contrary, we conducted two great battles in the space of two months, and Local 574 came out victorious both times. We not only organized the workers here, but indirectly we organized tens of thousands of others throughout the country.

Our strike gained the admiration of the labor movement of America. We have proved that we are fighters. We won our right to have a genuine union in battle. We won our right to independence. Nobody is going to trick or fool us out of it now in the elections.

There is only one way to insure a period of peace and stability, with improved conditions and protection of the rights of the individual workers—that is by making the election a clean sweep for Local 574.

Such a result in the elections, after the demonstrations of our strength in the two strikes, will halt the union-smashing campaign in Minneapolis for a long time. Workers everywhere will take heart. Other unions will arise. The general standard of living all around will be improved. Workers will begin to think more of themselves, to stand up straighter, to demand more of the good things of life which they have produced.

The victory of unionism in the elections will be a victory for all workers, and for the general good of the great majority of the people. Make it a sweeping victory!

**Vote for Local 574.  
Make Minneapolis a Union Town!**

## Ballot Shows Two Tickets

### Workers Should Get Registry Cards

The ballot to be used in the elections Tuesday, a sample of which is printed on the back page of this issue of **The Organizer**, will show the Union ticket on one side and the non-union ticket on the other. All union men, and all workers who want to have representatives who will really fight for their interests, will vote for the union ticket by marking a cross in the proper space.

The union ticket will carry no names of individuals; it will simply list Local No. 574 of the General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers.

The non-union ticket will carry the names of a number of individual workers in each particular house. No matter what names of workers appear, this is a non-union ticket. **Even if some of these names are those of good union men, a vote for them is a vote against the union.**

The election will be held in 144 houses for drivers, helpers and platform workers on the payroll July 16. In the 22 market firms the elections will include drivers, helpers, platform workers and inside workers.

Some bosses have told workers that they cannot vote because they are salesmen.

**Any workers who devotes less than 60 per cent of his time to selling, is not a salesman but an inside worker and he has a right to vote for Local No. 574.**

If you are in doubt about your rights, get in touch with the Union at once. Telephone Atlantic 3773, or come down to headquarters at 225 South Third St. and ask for one of the union officials or a member of the Organizing Committee.

The elections will be held Tuesday, August 28, in Fire Station No. 6 at 13th St. and Yale Place, between Nicollet and Hennepin Avenues. The voting hours are from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. Every worker should get to the Fire Station some time between these hours and cast his ballot.

The boss has been instructed by the Regional Labor Board to furnish each worker with a registration card which shows the employer's name, the worker's name, the worker's home address, the worker's exact occupation (driver, helper, platform man or inside worker), and his payroll number on the payroll as of July 16.

If you are still out of a job but were on the job July 16, you have a right to vote for Local No. 574.

Bring your registration card with you to the polls Tuesday so you can be checked in and given a ballot.

The ballot will be secret. The boss will not know how you voted.

Do not write anything on the ballot except the x-mark in the space for Local No. 574.

The Union will have two watchers at the voting place. They will see that nothing is put over on the workers.

If the boss wants to put the name of good union men on his fake list, don't let him.

If any intimidation is attempted notify the union right away.

**ALL OUT Mass Meeting!** THE KNOLL  
Parade Grounds  
TONIGHT AT 8



dere emily Friday

dere emily, well kid, its all over now but the elekshuns on tuesday. which the bosses have about as much chants a winnin as a one-armed pikalo player has a being a solist in a simfunny orkestry. cuz the workers in mpls has lernt a lot in the last year.

i gess evry worker must no by now that without a Union behind em, a worker is nuthin but a measly slave. all alone, he is week as 3.2 and helpless as a newborn calf. hes a whipt guy before the first bell rings. the boss kin rag him and sass him aroun like a genril orders a buck privut. or like the big banks order aroun the newspapers. the boss kin cuss him out for havin red hair, or cuss him out for bein bald. he kin fire em, hire em, make em, brake em, kick em, lick em, with a wave a his little finger.

if a worker aint got a Union behind em, he kin be made by the boss to work 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 hours a day—and git paid whatever the boss feels like throwin in his face—10 or 20c an hour, anything, whatever the boss or his wife feels like. if a bosses wife wants a new hunk a jewelry or a skunk coat, why she goes up ta her bloke an sez, "george, i simply cant go another winter with only 3 fur coats." "ok, my dere," sez the boss. i'll squeeze it outa my workers." an sure enuf, next mornin he lops off a nickel an hour from each of his workers, an the skunk coat is paid for in short order.

an the worker which aint got a Union ta fite fer him has to take it an like it. cuz God nos, he sure cant do nothin about it. the guy may be brave as tom mooney. he may have mussels like jack dempsey, he may work like paul bunyan, his kids may be cryin for milk and his wife may be bear-foot.

but without a Union, he's gotta take evrything the boss throws at him an like it. the boss kin tell him to rassle his hash in hell an he must do it. tho he's chokin with anger an sick with hate, he's gotta put his tale between his legs an go it.

an by God, if a worker has a chance ta organize an is too dumb to jump at it, why he's gettin just what he deserves. he's bein treeted like the jackass he is.

but take a worker that is organized. in a fiteen Union which will go to bat for him evry day in the week and twice on sundays. which has the guts to stand up to the boss and tell em just where to get off at. this worker kin lead an intirely diferunt life. knowin that he's got a Union behind him like a rok a Geebralter, knowin that he has a thousand brothers thatll cum to his aid when he beckons, he kin stand uprite and look the hole world rite between the eyes an say, "i'm a MAN. t'hell with ya."

after all, emily, what a guy—and a woman—most wants in this world is to feel secure like. an the foundashun a security for a worker is his Union. with the Union on the job, the worker nos that his keepin on the job dont depend on whether the boss ate too much for lunchin and has got dispepsia. with the Union on the job, a boss CANT fire a worker whenever he feels like it. a boss CANT work the men outrajus hours. a boss can be forced ta pay livin wages to all his workers by the Union. the Union tells the boss ta cum thru or else—an the boss that's wise turns pale aroun the gils—an cums thru. the boss cant discriminate against tom, dick an harry just becuz he dont like the cut a there coat, or becuz they got a bit more guts than the rest.

the workers aint satisfied with things as they is now, emily, thats for sertin. the workers wanta get sumthin outa Life besides toil an trouble. an the very 1 step towards a better state a things is a Union. no one is goin to help a worker, no one cares a dam for a worker, ceptin his wife or his girl, his mother—an the Union. the boss dont giv a dam about him, the government dont give a dam about him, the butcher or the baker dont give a dam about him. but the Union cares for him, the Union will pertekt him and nurse him when hes sik an feed him

THE ORGANIZER

Official organ of General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers Union 574, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor.

Published in the interests of labor at 225 South Third St., in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Close G.H.Q. On Eighth St.

Union Activities Now at 225 S. Third

For the last time the cruiser cars have pulled out of Strike General Headquarters at 215 South 8th St. The central point of the great five-weeks drivers struggle has been closed. Sutorius Tower, where once our brave pickets concentrated and where "Station 574" used to broadcast its calls for "A Car and a Man" and its messages to the public, is once again just an abandoned garage.

The boys are back at work, and while they are glad to be done with Sutorius Tower, they will always remember the weeks passed there. Who will ever forget that momentous first morning when the city was tied up? Who will forget Bloody Friday when our wounded and dying brothers were carried into our headquarters? Who will forget the staircase that rats and finks used to fall down, getting such large bumps on their heads?

Across the street from the now empty headquarters, the Minneapolis Club is showing renewed signs of life. The bond-holders and coupon-clippers who stayed away from their house of pleasure because they didn't like the sight of 574 running life in 8th St., are back again. Their wings are a bit clipped, but they seem still to be pretty well padded against the bumps of life—except those administered by a militant union.

Headquarters is now at 225 South Third St. The Discrimination Department as well as the regular union departments are now located there. Headquarters for the Organizer has also been transferred to 225 South Third St. The Commissary is closed, but Harry O'Brien remains in charge of the distribution of groceries for home relief on the usual system. He is being aided by Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Swenson.

DANCE POSTPONED!

In order that the Union and its members may concentrate on the important work of preparing for the elections, the dance scheduled for Saturday night has been postponed by order of the Executive Board and the Organizing Committee.

Tonight's mass meeting at the Parade Grounds will be the last public union activity until after the elections. Monday night the membership will meet in Eagles Hall, 4th Ave. S. and 8th St., to discuss and prepare for the elections. A full explanation of the method of voting and of the rights of the union in the election will be given at that time.

A date for the postponed dance will be announced later by the committee in charge.

To All Non-Union Men:

The bosses have accepted a settlement. This settlement provides for an election. When the union wins the election, the union will represent you. The boss is not going to fire you and get away with it. The union is going to fight any kind of threats, coercion or discrimination.

When the boss wakes up he will have to deal with a powerful union whose thousands of members will protect you.

when he's hungry, the Union will fite for him.

i'm busier 'n hell, emily, so i'll hafta sine off in a shake. i'm goin aroun ta all the guys on the job, tellin em why they shud vote the 574 ticket on tuesday. sum a them aint never had nuthin ta do with 574 rite along. that's o.k. with me. we want em all to cum in with us now. evry last 1 a them kin still get rite with the boys next tuesday. all they gotta do is string along with the resta us, an vote for the Union. the past will be forgot, an we all start out agin together, with a clean slate. already 3 a the guys which has bin no-bills upta now has cum to me to talk over 574. tonite we're all gettin together to thrash out the hole thing. an once these men see what 574 stands for, what it'll meen in there lifes, i no they'll cum in with us. an we'll take em by the hand, like 1 brother to another; an frum next tuesday on us workers all over the city will be standin sholder ta sholder, fitin the grate fite against the bosses. an then nuthin kin stop us. we're goin to town, emily—an anybody which stands in the way is goin to get slapped down hard.

Yours, Mike

Sample of Ballot for Tuesday

ELECTION CONDUCTED BY MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL REGIONAL LABOR BOARD

This vote cast by an employe of

DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME ON THIS BALLOT

I favor Local Union No. 574, Minneapolis General Drivers, Helpers, Petroleum and Inside Workers, to represent me in my negotiations with my employers relative to wages, hours and other conditions of employment.

I favor the Committee, named below, to represent me in negotiations with my employer relative to wages, hours and other conditions of employment:

JOHN BROWN SAM SMITH TOM HARRIS

Mark X

Mark X

I vote for Local Union No. 574

I vote for the above Committee

EVERY UNION MAN VOTES HERE

The Workers Voice

Dear Editor:

I want to say that after we voted for the settlement at Eagles Hall the other night and wound up our long fight with getting something that we can go ahead on, the satisfaction of having trimmed the Citizens Alliance who swore they would never come to terms, was very great.

And to that I want to add how great it was to hear all the boys sing "Solidarity" which I think now should be our official song. And then finally the wind-up, when Brother Sloan or "Just the Announcer" signed off for "Station 574." I think you should print his closing remarks.

Oilman.

(Brother Sloan closed the meeting with his usual theme song, running as follows: "This is Station 574 at Sutorius Tower, broadcasting with 7,500 pickets, 450 cruiser cars, 16 motorcycles and two airplanes, by authority of the Strike Committee of 100. Good night!"—The Editor.)

Dear Editor:

I think we ought to put a want ad in all the papers to read as follows: "Dear No-bill, All will

MCCW MEETINGS (8 P. M. Unless Otherwise Stated)

THURSDAY—North Branch, 1426 6th Ave. N., Basement Hall.

THURSDAY—Organization of New Branch in territory west of Chicago Ave. between Franklin Ave. and 38th St., at home of Mrs. C. Hagen, 2601 1st Ave. S. CENTRAL OFFICE 629 3rd Ave. S., Room 50

Make Minneapolis a Union Town!

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800 South 10th St. Fresh Meats and Groceries at Reasonable Prices

be forgiven. Come home Tuesday. The Boys." How about it? —C. W.

Dear Editor:

I was present at several interviews between representatives of the Union and Governor Olson, in which Attorney Goldman participated. Having read in yesterday's Organizer of his return to his home in Chicago, I think it is appropriate at this time to say that I was impressed by the manner in which he handled the situation. We were lucky to have a man of his caliber to give his services free throughout the strike.

Sincerely yours, Elmer Crowl

PATRONIZE ORGANIZER ADVERTISERS

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