

# *Electrical Union Offices Bombed*

## *Seek Clues in Mysterious Labor Blast*

(Picture on back page)

A terrific explosion, believed from a black powder time bomb, damaged the interior of the headquarters of Local 134 of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, 600 Washington blvd., last night.



Boyle

Police were seeking clues to the blast in activities of the local which handles juke box servicing, represents city electrical inspectors, and lately has been conducting an organizing drive among industrial maintenance and electrical workers. The union also represents other workers in various industries.

The local is headed by Michael J. [Umbrella Mike] Boyle, a labor czar for 50 years. The two story building is known officially as the Boyle Labor temple.

### **Bomb Set in Lobby**

Robert P. Brooks, assistant business manager of local 134, precipitated a storm late last year when he "commandeered" the city bureau of electrical inspections and boasted of running it altho he was not a city employe.

The bomb was set in the second floor in the lobby just outside the business offices of the local. It blew a three foot wide hole thru the concrete floor, ripped venetian blinds off the windows, blasted window glass across Washington blvd., ripped fixtures from the ceilings, and cracked the walls.

### **Door Jimmied Open**

A door giving access from the top floor to the hallway stairs had been jimmied open, leading to the belief that the bombers may have entered thru a skylight. Police said it also was possible that someone sneaked in and hid during an organizing meeting in the afternoon.

Two business agents, Tom J. Murray, 9130 Damen av., and James Quinlan, 6161 N. Leoti av., disclaimed knowledge of any trouble in the union. They issued a statement saying they were organizing maintenance and electrical workers at International Harvester plants but had "no reason to believe the rival unions would be responsible."

Murray and Quinlan were questioned by Capt. George Barnes and Deputy Chief John Walsh of the uniformed force.

### **Damage Put at \$5,000**

Fire Chief Frank A. Thielman of the 1st division made a tentative estimate of more than \$5,000 damage to the building, which was remodeled at reportedly vast expense last year for Boyle's headquarters. It

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# MYSTERY BOMB ROCKS UNION'S HEADQUARTERS

## Local Handles Repairs on Juke Boxes

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formerly was a street car power house.

A detective bureau squad which was only a block away when the blast rocked the neighborhood and other witnesses nearer the scene said they saw no one near the building at the time. This led to police belief the explosion was caused by a time bomb.

### Filled With Smoke

Occupants of the bureau car were Sgt. Anthony Zolna and Detective John O'Donnell. They sped to the building and found it unoccupied and filled with smoke.

Edward D. Bayr of 300 N. Des Plaines st., a superintendent for the Parmalee Transportation company, was driving east in Washington blvd., at the time of the blast. He saw no one leaving the building.

### Police Hunt Boyle

Another witness was Mrs. Ruth Schielke of 7048 N. Clark st., who was in the office of the Alco Letter service, 607 Washington. She gave police a similar report.

Police were seeking Boyle and Smith for questioning in the theory that the lucrative juke box racket, fought over for many years but in relatively stable control recently, once again had been thrown up for grabs by rival factions.

# -Bomb AFL Electrical Union Offices



[TRIBUNE Photo]

Section of second floor headquarters of Local 134, AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, 600 Washington blvd., where time bomb was exploded. Bomb blew a 3 foot hole (arrow) thru concrete floor.

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