

## This Week in Eden History

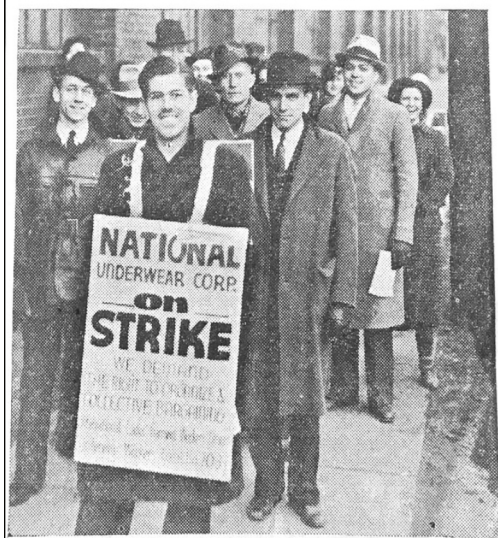
### March 2 | Eden students join garment workers picket line

“11 Eden Students Join Underwear Picketing” was the headline in the **March 2, 1937** *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. The National Underwear Company announced wage cuts at its St. Louis factory at 239 S. Boyle Ave. on Feb. 3. The 225 employees immediately walked out on strike, and many supporters joined in the daily protests. The article stated that the “picket line at various times had included housewives, wives of college professors, a delegation of visiting members of the Progressive Education Association and other persons having no connection with organized labor.”

Eden students mentioned in the article included Roland Pantermuehl, Paul Eisen, Armin Maronn, Arnold Lambarth, John Niensted, W. W. Lynch, Joseph Andrew, Roy Anderson, Friedrich Rest, Harold Wilke, and Theodore Van Dyck. They said they felt that the striking workers had been underpaid and their cause merited support. Unfortunately, the month-long strike failed when the company closed, leaving the strikers unemployed.

Most of the students graduated over the next few years: Rest and Van Dyck in 1937; Anderson in 1938; Pantermuehl, Eisen, Lambarth, Niensted, Lynch, Andrew in 1939; and Maronn in 1940 and served in parish ministry in the Evangelical & Reformed Church and subsequently in the UCC. Roland Pantermuehl was awarded a D.D. degree in 1965 after his distinguished pastorate at St. Matthew’s Church in New Orleans. Only one, Harold Wilke, did not graduate from Eden. He went on to receive an M.Div. degree from Union Theological Seminary and a PhD. from the University of Chicago. He gained recognition for his work as a pastor, chaplain, and advocate for people with disabilities. Eden awarded him a D.D. degree in 1993.

#### Students Taking Strikers’ Side



Students from Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves who marched in the picket line with strikers at the National Underwear Corp.'s plant yesterday, in protest against what they called “unfair conditions.” Arnold Lambarth is carrying the sign. The strike began a month ago. (Staff Photo.)

Newspapers clipping, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, March 2, 1937, page 1.