

START

JACK

All right, here's the deal: if we don't sell papes, then no one sells papes. Nobody gets to that window till they put the price back where it belongs.

DAVEY

You mean like a strike?

JACK

You heard Davey. We're on strike.

DAVEY

Hold on. I didn't say—

JACK

We shut down this place like them workers shut down the trolleys.

NEWSIE

And the cops will bust our heads! Half them strikers is laid up with broke bones.

JACK

Cops ain't gonna care about a bunch of kids. Right, Davey?

DAVEY

Leave me out of this. I'm just here trying to feed my family.

JACK

And the rest of us is on playtime? Just because we only make pennies don't give nobody the right to rub our noses in it.

DAVEY

It doesn't matter. You can't strike. You're not a union.

JACK

And what if I says we is?

DAVEY

There's a lot of stuff you gotta have in order to be a union. Like membership.

JACK

What do you call these guys?

DAVEY

And officers.

NEWSIE

I nominate Jack President!

(The NEWSIES cheer their approvals.)

JACK

Gee, I'm touched.

DAVEY

How about a statement of purpose?

JACK

Must'a left it in my other pants.

NEWSIE

What's a statement of purpose?

DAVEY

A reason for forming the union.

JACK

What reason did the trolley workers have?

DAVEY

I don't know. Wages? Work hours? Safety on the job?

JACK

Who don't need that? Bet if your father had a union you wouldn't be out here sellin' papes right now. Yeah?

DAVEY

Yeah.

JACK

So, our union is hereby formed to watch each other's backs. "Union'd we stand." Hey, that's not bad. Somebody write that down.

NEWSIE

I got a pencil.

JACK

Meet our Secretary of State. Now what?

DAVEY

If you want to strike, the membership's gotta vote.

JACK

So let's vote. What do you say, fellas? The choice is yours. Do we roll over and let Pulitzer pick our pockets, or do we strike?

END

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#7 - *The World Will Know*

Jack, Davey, Les, Crutchie, Newsies

JACK

You heard the voice of the membership. The Newsies of Lower Manhattan are now officially on strike. What next?

CRUTCHIE

Wouldn't a strike be more effective if someone in charge knew about it?