

For the Fourth
Estate

The Guild Reporter

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U. S. Sends A Mediator To Lorain

McGrady Agent Seeks to
Contact Publisher on
Plea of Guild

LORAIN, Ohio. — Federal intervention in Samuel Horvitz's long-standing lockout of his Newspaper Guild employees on the Lorain Journal was assured when Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor, stepped into the situation.

McGrady, in Cleveland in connection with a series of labor disputes awaiting settlement, was asked to intervene in the Lorain situation by a sub-committee of the Guild's local committee, headed by I. L. Kenen.

After listening to an exposition of the case, McGrady agreed to authorize A. L. Faulkner, U. S. labor conciliator at Cleveland, to try to effect a settlement.

Faulkner conferred with Guild officials and immediately sought to get in touch with Horvitz. Horvitz, whose publishing activities are among the least of his worries these days—things not going so smoothly in the highway construction line—was out of town at the time, however, and was not due to return for several days.

As soon as he is available, Faulkner will talk with him in an effort to see if some fair adjustment cannot be worked out to end the publisher's costly fight with the seven Guildsmen whom he locked out on June 10.

Meanwhile, the Guild continues to carry on the fight. The campaign to sound out sentiment in Lorain relative to a new newspaper is being pushed forward, and special pains have been taken to let all newspaper readers in Lorain know that the U. S. Labor Department is seeking to bring peace.

Guild leaders consider the latter point important, since it proves the good faith of their repeated assertion that settlement of the trouble has been prevented only by Horvitz's refusal to listen to any peace overtures.

Reporter at New Press
The Guild Reporter with this issue is being set up and printed by the Rogowski Co., Inc., which claims the distinction of being the country's first printer to publish in the country. The change was made because the former press has moved to another city.

Guild Studies Firing of Five For 'Economy' In Westchester

YONKERS, N. Y.—The Westchester County Guild executive committee called an emergency membership meeting for Sept. 14 to draft action on dismissals begun the week of Sept. 2 by Westchester County Publishers, Inc., owner of seven of the nine county dailies and many of its weeklies.

Dismissal of nine paper means going on the blacklist of all.

The three dismissals of last week bring the total for the summer to five. Otto Frueh, city editor of the Port Chester Daily Item for seven years, was discharged in July. Paul Byrne, a newcomer, was fired from the Mount Vernon Argus soon after. Those who went last week are Dan Dillon and Stanley Rubin, seven and four years, respectively, on the Argus, and Sam Englander,

Guild Progress: The Two-Year Record

The Guild is just entering its third year of existence. Below is the record of our gains. They have been spotty; not all have been held—though by far most of them have; but our organized pressure wherever consistently applied, and with the backing of occasional stronger demonstrations, has advanced us remarkably. The record:

1934
February

WASHINGTON.—Roosevelt requests publishers of newspapers with more than 75,000 circulation in cities of 750,000 or more population to put news staffs immediately on 5-day, 40-hour week work basis. This followed two conferences at which the Guild urged him to improve hours and wages for all editorial employees.

NEWARK.—First major engagement of newspaper workers organized as Guild and a publisher. Newark Star-Eagle and Paul Block. Seven editorial workers dropped Dec. 28. Outcome—one employee reinstated, promise by Block that in case of four others he would recommend more generous dismissal pay than had been accorded.

April

NEWARK.—Guild accepts Block's dismissal bonus scale ranging from one week for less than one year's service to six months for ten years or more.

PHILADELPHIA.—Negotiates first contract between Record and J. David Stern providing for closed

shop, 5-day, 40-hour week, equal time off or pay for overtime, two weeks' vacation, sick leave, longer dismissal notices or bonuses up to three months' pay with arbitration of questioned dismissals, closed shop. Contract applies to all editorial employees.

ROCKFORD.—General increase of 10 percent effective April 16 for employees in all departments of Register-Republic and Morning Star. Restores one of three 10 percent horizontal cuts made in 1932-33. Increase followed series of conferences between management and executive committee of Guild. Increase ordered less than ten days after Guild Reporter had given front-page notice to a survey of wages and living expenses conducted by the Rockford Guild. Wage adjustment affected 230 workers.

May

NEW YORK.—May 21—Bronx Home News agrees to five-day week after conference.

August

NEW YORK.—Thirty hours after Guild voted to strike, Jewish Daily Bulletin-Jewish Telegraphic (Continued on page 2)

Guilds File Protest on 6-Day Week

Ohio Scripps Units Ask
Chief Editor to Put
Back 5-Day Plan

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—Vigorous protest against the abandonment of the five-day 40-hour week by three Ohio Scripps-Howard Newspapers was launched here last Sunday by Ohio Scripps-Howard Guilders.

Representatives of four Ohio Scripps-Howard units of ANG called upon Louis B. Seltzer, Editor-in-Chief of the Ohio Scripps Howard Newspapers to take immediate remedial action at points where the five-day week has been abandoned.

A new six-day working schedule, posted on the bulletin board of the Columbus Citizen brought the meeting. The five-day week has also been abandoned by the Youngstown Telegram and the Cincinnati Post, it was discovered at the meeting.

"Sabotage" Warning

N. P. Poynter, new publisher of the Citizen, posted the revised working schedules, providing for a 48-hour week. The staff was given to understand, however, that strict adherence to the schedule would be looked upon as "sabotage" if production suffered.

It was reported at the meeting that the Cleveland Press, of which Mr. Seltzer is editor, and the Akron Times-Press of which Walter Morrow is editor, are the only Ohio Scripps papers which have adhered to the five-day week since its inception. The Toledo News-Bee recently went back to the five-day week after a period of six-day working schedules.

Ohio Guild units where the five-day week is still in effect joined in the protest in an effort to prevent the spread of encroachments on the five-day 40-hour week.

Protest Letter Sent

The letter to Mr. Seltzer reports the meeting of representatives of Scripps-Howard units in Ohio who, acting as a sub-committee of the National Scripps-Howard Committee constituted at the recent convention of the ANG adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, that the designated Guild representatives of Scripps-Howard Newspapers of Ohio address a strong protest to Louis B. Seltzer, Editor-in-Chief, about deplorable working conditions in (Continued on page 4)

Organizational Activity On; NEB To Meet

Board Expected to Map
Financial Program
For the Year

Guild organizational activities have been resumed after their brief suspension, as the efforts of members to bring themselves up-to-date on dues so as to vote in the referendum raised August collections.

The fall meeting of the National Executive Board postponed from Sept. 1 and 2, has been set for Oct. 19 and 20. This is regarded as a highly important session, the main problem being to devise a financial program to carry the ANG through the remainder of the year. It is also expected to consider means of building up a defense fund.

Collections from the second assessment were beginning to reach national headquarters when this issue went to press. This assessment was incorrectly described in the last issue as having been levied to meet "current expenses." It was levied "to liquidate our debt to the Newspaper Industrial Board (which became due unexpectedly on Aug. 15) and to maintain ANG members locked out in Lorain, Ohio." As money has had to be advanced for these purposes out of current funds, however, much of the return from the will go to replenish them.

He Has No Guild Card; He Doesn't See Mayor

DES MOINES, Iowa.—It's paying more and more to have a Guild card.

The story is being heard here about Cliff Millen, political writer for the Tribune, who was in New York recently and sought an interview with Mayor LaGuardia.

He was told that he would first have to see the press men at City Hall. Their first question was whether he belonged to the Guild in Des Moines. He doesn't. He didn't get the interview.

Trade Journal Scents Reason For Our Rebuff

Publishers Held Girding
for Battle Over Use
of Tele-typesetter

(From editorial notes in Postage and the Mailbag, trade paper of the mail order and advertising field.)

People who have wondered why the newspapers fought the Newspaper Guild so vigorously though they have managed for years to deal with the Typographical, Engravers, Pressmen's and other unions, are soon to discover the reason. The most far-reaching technological development since the linotype is ready to bring about a new era in newspaper publishing. It is the tele-typesetter, a device by which news such as now comes over telegraph wires from the Associated Press, United Press, Universal News Service in typescript, can go right into the typesetting machine as a perforated tape which actuates the casting of type without other intervention.

What the linotype did to hand composition 50 years ago, the tele-type setter threatens to do to linotype operation soon—abolish the operator's job. The newspapers know it; the typographical union knows it. The only thing that nobody knows yet is where, when and how the war will start.

As no revolutionary technological advance has even been suppressed, the tele-typesetter is not likely to be the exception. So far the tele-typesetter is being used mainly as a substitute for the local keyboard operation of linotype machines, with some gain in speed. But sooner or later it will be put into operation in other (Continued on page 5)

News Bee Puts Whole Staff on Five-Day Week

Action by Toledo Scripps
Editor Anticipates
A Formal Request

TOLEDO.—All editorial employees of the Toledo News Bee except the editor and managing editor will be on a five-day week by October 1.

Announcement that the five-day week will be extended to twelve employees who have not had this working arrangement up to this time was made by Editor Carlton K. Matson September 5.

The announcement was made a few days after the News Bee Unit of the Toledo Newspaper Guild requested the Guild to negotiate for a more universal application of the five-day week among editorial employees of the newspaper.

Editor Matson speaks in a notice posted on the staff bulletin board Editor Matson said he was extending the five-day week "not merely in anticipation of a request which, I understand the Guild is about to make, but rather to carry out something which I feel we should do without further request from anyone."

"I feel strongly," Mr. Matson said, "that it is not fair to the dozen people who are not now on the five-day week that they (Continued on page 5)

Guild A.F.L. Referendum On; 3,600 Members Qualify to Vote

Between the 15th and 30th of September Guildsmen throughout the country will vote in our first national referendum, deciding whether to apply for admission to the American Federation of Labor as an international union.

About 3,600 members qualified to vote. Certification blanks were not received from 20 Guild secretaries and those Guilds are thus prohibited from participating in the referendum.

As the certifications were received at headquarters, printed ballot blanks were mailed to local secretaries together with printed instructions for holding the election, a form for the return of the count, and a printed envelope for the forwarding of the returns to the national office.

The national office has checked

and double checked the dues records of members as sent in by local treasurers to insure that all entitled to vote will receive a ballot.

In special instances where it is impossible for members to attend their local elections, the special committee on methods of conducting the referendum has provided that such members may vote by mail, stating that if "local Guild regulations contain no provisions therefor, their executive committee shall make special regulations for that purpose."

If any Guild sends in returns from more than the number of members certified by its local secretary as in good standing on Aug. 31, 1935, the entire vote of that guild is to be thrown out.

Howard Still Waiting to See Which Way Guild Will Jump

But Cleveland Committee, After Long Parleying, Believes Only Company Union Will Suit Him

CLEVELAND.—The Executive Committee of the Cleveland Newspaper Guild has just issued a report on its efforts, begun last January, to break the ice with the Scripps-Howard chain by obtaining a contract for the Cleveland Press, following its success in signing a contract last year with the Cleveland News, chief competitor of the Press.

While it seems some gains made in the acceptance in principle of many vital points of a draft contract by the publisher, the Cleveland Guild found itself frustrated by Roy W. Howard's categorical refusal to sign until after the national Guild referendum on affiliation to the A. F. of L. Howard added that he would refuse to sign at all if the referendum result was for affiliation.

The report concludes with the following statement on this point: "It is the belief of the executive committee of the Cleveland Newspaper Guild that Mr. Howard has never at any time or in any event contemplated contractual relations with the Guild except on a company union of yellow dog basis."

Contract negotiations came to a stop in July when Louis B. Seltzer, editor of the Press and Howard's designated agent to negotiate with the Guild, told the negotiating committee of Howard's decision regarding the A. F. of L. vote.

Scale Pay Restoration
Following a vote by the Press unit, the executive committee decided to support negotiations for a contract, but to press for restoration of a 10 percent pay cut still in effect. The demand was presented to Seltzer, but no formal response has been received from Howard, after several weeks.

A circumstance of the protracted negotiations which is stressed in the report, for the guidance of other Scripps-Howard units, is the promptness and cooperation and the same time ineffectiveness of the local editor, Seltzer, in the negotiations, in which every decision was made by the national management. Seltzer explained at the outset that he was merely a hired hand doing a job.

This point is emphasized (says the report) to make clear that it was the opinion of the Negotiating Committee that delays and difficulties which finally bogged down and completely demoralized the negotiations were not due to any opposition or stalling or blundering or bad faith on the part of the local management, but strictly to the attitude of Mr. Howard and/or the general management of the Scripps-Howard chain. It is important that all Scripps units be informed of this fact, that Scripps units may not place too much importance on the casual benevolence of local editors.

Cleveland Situation Good
The Cleveland Guild had decided to seek a contract on the Press, and advised other Scripps papers to hold off meantime, because the Cleveland News had signed with the Guild, because Cleveland is a strong labor town, and because the local management had advised the Guild that Scripps intended to settle the question in Cleveland and use the general outline of the Cleveland formula to govern its policy on the other papers of the chain, the report says.

It recounts a long history of meetings with Seltzer, drafting of terms, with constant stalling by Howard who postponed appointment after appointment. Finally, on May 14, he met with the Press members of the negotiations committee refusing to recognize the two News members, and agreed to sign a contract. The drafting of the terms took until ANG conven-

tion week, when Howard suddenly, sent word he would not sign until after the referendum on affiliation to the A. F. of L. The report continued:

Up to this point the Press management had agreed to the following provisions to be included in a working agreement when signed: Classification of employees into four groups for determining minimum wage.

The Salary Program
A \$15 minimum for office boys after 90 days; regular rates for dog watch (they had been getting less); \$20 a week for first six months of apprenticeship before starting under regular apprenticeship minimum, this to encourage promotion of office boys.

Telephone operators, secretaries and clerks: a schedule of from \$15 to \$25 after three years as a minimum, and a minimum of \$40 for chief librarians—this meaning raises for most of the members in this classification.

Overtime in equal time off or at regular rates in cash, with payment in cash at the end of service for accumulated overtime.

Dismissal pay when employee is dismissed or discharged for any reason at the following minimum schedule:
One year, one week's pay; two years, two weeks; three years, three weeks; four years, four weeks; five years, five weeks; six years, six weeks; seven years, seven weeks; eight years, eight weeks; nine years, nine weeks; ten years, ten weeks; more than ten years, more than ten weeks; 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks.

Sick leave in accordance with custom (very liberal on The Press).

Leave for Guild Work
Leave of absence without pay for two years to serve in Guild offices.

Standing committee to work out detailed methods of computation of overtime and compensation therefor.

Provision protecting employees from having to serve in year department during strikes in other department, and disavowing publisher agreements abridging the right of the employee to

On Scripps Chain Committee



Ray Sutcliffe

COLUMBUS.—William T. Shenkel, of the Akron, O., Times-Press was named acting chairman of the national Scripps committee at a meeting of Guildsmen from Ohio Scripps-Howard papers held here on Sept. 8. This committee, part of

the system for dealing with chain problems set up by the Cleveland convention, was formerly under the chairmanship of Garland Ascherhart of the Cleveland Press. He resigned because of the pressure of work as national Treasurer.

market his services with another publisher while still employed.

The formula worked out and agreed to contained a perpetual renewal clause; extension of provisions to all employees in department regardless of membership or non-membership in the Guild; a no-discrimination clause; protection of employees against being required to write contrary to their beliefs under their signatures; protection of the individual's right to bargain for pay higher than minimum.

Drawing its conclusions from its experience in the negotiations, the Cleveland executive committee makes the following observation: "It is not felt that the long negotiations were altogether in vain because the committee was able to get the publisher to agree in principle to most of the vital points in the Guild program, which, if incorporated in a written instrument, would compose an excellent contract. The long discussions between the publisher and the committee resolved many misconceptions on both sides, which ought to provide an excellent base on advanced ground from which to launch future negotiations."

On the negotiating committee were Garland Ascherhart, chairman, Lloyd White and Ralph Burkholder, all of The Press unit, and Elmer O. Fehlbauer and I. L. Kernen of the Cleveland News unit. Ascherhart resigned as chairman shortly after the ANG convention because of a conflict of national duties, and White is the present chairman.

N. Y. Telegram Accepts Plan On Grievances

Unit Committee of Three To Act—Other Points Left Unsettled

Establishment of a grievance committee was agreed upon by the management of the World-Telegram at a conference Sept. 12, with the Executive Committee of the New York Guild. A standing committee of three will be elected by the unit.

The Guild proposed a committee of two Guild members and two representatives of the management, to be added to each side in the event of a deadlock.

The Guild negotiating committee, headed by Morris Watson, national vice-president, presented five points:

1. Grievance Committee.
2. Restoration of the first pay cut.
3. Extension of severance notice to one month per year of service.
4. Increased minimum wages.
5. A signed agreement covering the above points as well as present arrangements on overtime, sick leave, the five-day week, etc.

Ray A. Huber, publisher, on points two and three, stated that the present financial condition of the paper did not warrant restoration of the first pay cut or extension of severance notice at this time. The management reaffirmed its stand of last year assuring the five-day week, however.

It will not consider signing an agreement with the Guild until after the results of the national referendum on American Federation of Labor affiliations are made known, Lee B. Wood, executive editor, said. If the Guild affiliates the publisher will regard it as a labor union, in which event the Guild will have to deal with the Publishers Association of New York City, Wood stated. Wood was asked whether, in the event of affiliation, the World-Telegram management, as a member of the association, would urge collective bargaining with the Guild; or whether in the event the referendum is negative, the World-Telegram would itself sign an agreement with the Guild, but he declined to express his views.

In closing the conference Watson agreed to submit a brief detailing the position of the Guild on the proposals it had submitted.

No High Pressure
Incidentally, the Unit used no high-pressure methods in putting over its program; tickets for the event were not sold in advance, and no "friends of the newspapermen" were solicited to buy blocks of them. The entire sale was handled at the gate.

Newark Votes Approval Of District Council Set-Up
NEWARK.—Nathan L. Goldberg, Newark Guild president and Star-Bagle reporter; Victor Pasche, Guild secretary-treasurer and New York Times correspondent; and Agnes Fahy, Ledger reporter and member of the Guild's governing board, were elected delegates to the New York district council at a general meeting of the Newark Guild. The Newark chapter approved the council's set-up as outlined at the last meeting of the "delegate body."

A board to try members who have failed to meet financial obligations to the Guild was elected. Members are Frank McLaughlin, Ledger chairman; Jerry Kurts, Ledger labor reporter; Katherine Steelman, Star-Bagle women's page editor; Frederick Boomer, Star-Bagle cameraman; and Douglas J. McKay, Sunday Call artist.

Cleveland's Soccer Day Scores a Hit

Fund-Raising Plan Is Work of the Foreign Language Unit

CLEVELAND.—The finest afternoon of entertainment on Cleveland's amateur sports calendar has now become a Newspaper Guild fixture, thanks to the initiative and energy of the Foreign Language Unit of the Cleveland Guild.

Last year the Foreign Language Unit, composed of newspapermen working on the various foreign language dailies in Cleveland, sponsored a soccer football field day as a Guild money-raising venture. The stunt was so successful that it was repeated this year, and the second annual Guild soccer tournament has just been held.

Getting the enthusiastic co-operation of John J. McEwen, secretary of the Ohio State Soccer Association, and of John Bradshaw, secretary of the Cleveland Referees' Association, the Foreign Language Unit was able to assemble six of the foremost soccer teams of Ohio at Slavia Field, Cleveland, on a program that offered to spectators three or four hours of football.

Teams Gave Services
These teams donated their services, and in the case of the Akron Goodyear's, paid their own traveling expenses. Referees and line-men were donated by the Referees' Association. Local newspapers, especially in the foreign language field, co-operated in the matter of publicity.

The result was that by selling tickets at 25 cents apiece the Foreign Language Unit was able to clear a profit of better than \$200. Recognition of the fact that this Guild tournament is a fixture came when the Soccer Association donated the opening date of the soccer season—the best "spot" in the entire list—to the Guild for the game.

The Foreign Language Unit of the Cleveland Guild has twenty-five members. Last year this unit contributed more than \$300 to Cleveland and American Guild treasuries in dues, special assessments, contributions to the convention fund, and so on.

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Veteran AP Man in Ethiopia Shared Beat on Rickett Deal

James Mills, thin-faced, grey-haired generalissimo of the Associated Press staff in Ethiopia, collaborated with the knighted Addis Ababa correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph to give the world the news of the Rickett oil deal eight hours ahead of anyone else.

It was not the veteran AP reporter's first beat. He was twenty-four hours ahead of all rivals on the armistices that halted hostilities between Turkey and the Allies in 1918. He wrested exclusive interviews from Mahatma Gandhi, Queen Mary and a score of other important world figures. Only a few months ago he disappeared into Greece for three days to come out with the first eyewitness account of the Venizelos revolt.

Mechanics of Story Obscure
The mechanics of the Ethiopian oil beat are still obscure. One version is that the English correspondent got the tip, and Mills, who knew both Emperor Haile Selassie and Francis Rickett, the oil promoter, got the news. At any rate, the AP office in New York had the story on the wire at 8 p. m., Friday, Aug. 30, while the other services didn't have it until nearly 5 a. m. on Saturday.

The New York Herald Tribune gave the story a four-column spread and used a by-line—unusual treatment for an AP story by that paper. The tabloids hit it heavily and blackly. The Times

gave it the preferred spot, though only a one-column head. The story was so hot that the editor of one New York morning paper called the AP office and said indignantly: "What's the idea of springing that kind of foolish stuff on us?"

Mills was born in New York in 1892 and in 1906 went to work as private secretary to Melville E. Stone, co-founder and for many years general manager of the Associated Press. He resigned to serve as a major with the Red Cross during the war. After re-entering the AP, he covered the post-armistice developments in the Balkans, was chief of the Moscow bureau from 1924 to 1927, and since then has been covering the high spots of European and Asiatic news.

Covered Gandhi Campaign
Among his recent assignments were the coronations of Emperor Pu Yi of Manchukuo and Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, Gandhi's "passive resistance" campaign, the Jehol campaign and the Greek revolt. Mills is not married, has no immediate family and has been in his native land only once since 1923.

Mills was waiting for Gandhi when the sage of India emerged from his imprisonment at Poona. The mahatma threw his arm familiarly around the American's shoulders and said plaintively, "When I go to Heaven, Mr. Mills, I'm sure you will be at the party asking for an interview."

Trade Journal Scents Reason For Our Rebuff
true that nobody bothered to inquire what are the other factors. The principal one was "population growth." Another was new land, yielding big crops without fertilizers. The prosperity of America and its rapid development were based upon agricultural surplus.

The tendency of prices is to decrease toward zero as technology advances. No machine ever built incorporates into itself as much labor as it dispatches. If it did there would be no point in building it. As long as labor-saving machines were built by hand craftsmanship very largely, the building of machinery to displace labor absorbed an appreciable amount of the labor displaced by the machine. But now labor-saving machines are built by other labor-saving machines which in turn have been built by further labor-saving machines and technologies.

This is the factor that has sneaked upon us while we were looking for other reasons. Technology doesn't displace men.

Free Lance Writers Enrolled In British Journalists' Union
Potentialities of strong units of free lance newspaper writers allied with the American Newspaper Guild are frequently discussed by Guildsmen. Many such writers have urged the institution of units that would take them into the fold. Many of these interested newswriters have done yeoman work for the Guild despite the fact that they are not affiliated.

The same problem of enrolling the free lance newspaper writers was given careful consideration by the National Union of Journalists in Great Britain before the first unit was organized. In the "Journalist," the organ of the NUJ, Alfred S. Rosebottom, acting clerk of the Manchester District Free-lance Chapel, has recounted the useful work of the newly formed unit and urged the wider enrollment of newswriters in this category.

Good for All
Any doubts about the real necessity of free-lance units must have been dispelled long ago, Rosebottom says, declaring that they are equally good for the staff man and the free lance.

The British writer cites a long list of complaints and grievances that have been corrected due to the activity of the free lance chapel. He gave particular mention to the "alarming extent" of the invasion of the non-journalist in the province of the working journalist. Widespread encroachment of non-journalists in the field of sports writing, he says, was investigated and adjustments made in a number of cases.

Thrive On Clip Bureaus
Preliminary surveys and action brought such prompt results that the NUJ has requested the Free-lance Chapel to conduct a three-months' experiment of checking on newspapers published outside of the Manchester district to determine the extent of "poaching" by clipping bureaus. It is planned to make a drive for payment for all "lifted" copy of NUJ members.

One of the first gains made by the Free-lance Chapel, Rosebottom reported, was obtaining a more equitable remuneration for space writers. The next step considered, he said, is a movement for some other method of payment than line age rates.

Gag Bills Will Come Up Again In Next Session

Two Measures to Restrict Civil Liberties Remain on House Calendar

WASHINGTON.—Congress adjourned without acting on the Tydings-McCormack session of the House Judiciary Committee, with bills, both of which were aimed at restricting civil liberties. Both bills will automatically retain their position on House calendar next session. The Tydings bill has passed the Senate.

The Kraemer-Russell measure was reported favorably by the House Judiciary Committee, with Rep. Emanuel Celler, D. N. Y., presenting a minority report.

Under this measure any person "orally or in writing" advocating or urging the overthrow of government by force or "who knowingly prints, publishes, issues, edits, circulates, sells, distributes, or displays in public any written matter containing any such statement" could be imprisoned for five years and fined not more than \$5,000.

Aimed at Anybody
Kraemer (D., Cal.), explained his bill was like state criminal syndicalism statutes and would take care of "such situations as California has had in the valleys."

He said it was not aimed at Communists "particularly" but at "anybody who advocated overthrow of the government by force or violence, whether they be Democrats or Republicans or radicals."

It wouldn't affect legitimate newspapers or magazines." Rep. Maury Maverick, D. Tex., house liberal leader, called it "the ill-favored twin" of the Tydings-McCormack bill, "and it's worse. This one would go after critics of the civil government, just as the other one is out after critics of the Army and Navy. Under the bill you could destroy the Republican and Democratic parties."

The Tydings bill makes subject to imprisonment for two years and \$10,000 fine anyone who "with intent to incite disaffection" advises or urges any member of the Army or Navy to disobey laws or regulations. It would apply to anyone who "publishes or distributes any book, pamphlet, paper, print, article, letter or other writing" and would subject anyone found to be searched for such writings with an espionage search warrant.

Eddy Replies
Eddy added:

"On outstanding and important changes that are very well understood by the membership, I think that a referendum is in order. But there are many matters in the constitution which deal with the details of practical functioning of the organization, and it seems to me that the way to handle them is to elect trusted representatives to deliberate on the details, and act on them."

"This is what we do in the convention. If we had to have a referendum on every step that we took, would that not amount in effect to a bar on progress?"

Staff of News-Bee Gets 5-Day Week
(Continued from page 1)
should be excluded from a privilege which is extended to most of the staff.

"Furthermore, I believe in the five-day week and think that the extra day should be an asset to the individual which should be reflected in his service to the newspaper."

News Bee editorial employees, including those on a six-day basis, have been on a 46-hour working week since the beginning of NRA, but staff editors, department heads and columnists have not had the five-day week up to this time.

Objects to New ANG Code But Will Follow It

Greensboro Guild Believes Referendum Only Should Change Constitution

GREENSBORO, N. C.—The Greensboro Newspaper Guild, at a recent regular meeting, voted to abide by the new ANG constitution, but at the same time reiterated strongly its belief that constitutional changes should be by national referendum only.

Following is the text of the resolution adopted: "The Greensboro unit of the American Newspaper Guild, meeting in regular monthly sessions, and affirming its intention to undertake to operate, for the present, under what is generally termed the new constitution of the ANG."

"At the same time the Greensboro unit registers its vigorous objection to and protest against any plan of amending or redrafting the constitution except by referendum in which every member of the ANG has full opportunity to vote on the proposed change, whether of minor or major nature."

"It is the purpose of the Greensboro unit to work for the changes necessary to bring about such a condition as early as possible, that is to say, a condition in which constitutional changes can be made only by referendum. It is the conviction of the Greensboro unit that such a plan should be instituted and put into effect at the next national convention of the ANG."

"The Greensboro unit advocates the principle of democratic government in the organization and proclaims its purposes of working for a constitution which will transfer back to the membership much of the power which has been transferred, by a very limited number of delegates at the Cleveland convention, from the membership to a few individuals composing the group of a national officers and the National Executive Board of the ANG."

Eddy Replies
Jonathan Eddy, executive secretary, in a address to the Greensboro Guild, who forwarded the resolution, pointed out that while he agreed that the membership should control the organization, it was necessary to erect the machinery which will give the membership that control.

Eddy added: "On outstanding and important changes that are very well understood by the membership, I think that a referendum is in order. But there are many matters in the constitution which deal with the details of practical functioning of the organization, and it seems to me that the way to handle them is to elect trusted representatives to deliberate on the details, and act on them."

"This is what we do in the convention. If we had to have a referendum on every step that we took, would that not amount in effect to a bar on progress?"

Staff of News-Bee Gets 5-Day Week
(Continued from page 1)
should be excluded from a privilege which is extended to most of the staff.

"Furthermore, I believe in the five-day week and think that the extra day should be an asset to the individual which should be reflected in his service to the newspaper."

News Bee editorial employees, including those on a six-day basis, have been on a 46-hour working week since the beginning of NRA, but staff editors, department heads and columnists have not had the five-day week up to this time.

Those Reckless Lunatics, the Movie Reporters

BY ANDRE SENNWALD

We newspaper men never realize what dashing fellows we are until we go to the movies.

The reporter, Hollywood style, is a scoundrel who says combines all the more characteristic habits of the lecher, the diplomat, the hayseed comic, the moron, the boor and the second-story man. In the last year he has risen to the dignity of standard comedy relief, supplanting the half-wit detective as melodrama's clown.

He has been employed dozens of times to lend his unique gift for vulgarity and merryandrew jocosity to the photoplay. He has become the low vaudeville many of the silver screen.

The Cub's Dream
The reporter, Hollywood style, is the cub reporter's dream of Valhalla. Watching him at work, we escape briefly from the tyrannies of the city desk, the ineffectualities of the night desk, the illogicality of the copy desk, and all that promise succession of club luncheons and staff-shirt committee refusing to recognize the two News members, and agreed to sign a contract. The drafting of the terms took until ANG conven-

tion week, when Howard suddenly, sent word he would not sign until after the referendum on affiliation to the A. F. of L. The report continued:

Up to this point the Press management had agreed to the following provisions to be included in a working agreement when signed: Classification of employees into four groups for determining minimum wage.

The Salary Program
A \$15 minimum for office boys after 90 days; regular rates for dog watch (they had been getting less); \$20 a week for first six months of apprenticeship before starting under regular apprenticeship minimum, this to encourage promotion of office boys.

Telephone operators, secretaries and clerks: a schedule of from \$15 to \$25 after three years as a minimum, and a minimum of \$40 for chief librarians—this meaning raises for most of the members in this classification.

Overtime in equal time off or at regular rates in cash, with payment in cash at the end of service for accumulated overtime.

Dismissal pay when employee is dismissed or discharged for any reason at the following minimum schedule:
One year, one week's pay; two years, two weeks; three years, three weeks; four years, four weeks; five years, five weeks; six years, six weeks; seven years, seven weeks; eight years, eight weeks; nine years, nine weeks; ten years, ten weeks; more than ten years, more than ten weeks; 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks; more than fifteen years, 15 weeks.

Sick leave in accordance with custom (very liberal on The Press).

Leave for Guild Work
Leave of absence without pay for two years to serve in Guild offices.

Standing committee to work out detailed methods of computation of overtime and compensation therefor.

Provision protecting employees from having to serve in year department during strikes in other department, and disavowing publisher agreements abridging the right of the employee to

market his services with another publisher while still employed.

The formula worked out and agreed to contained a perpetual renewal clause; extension of provisions to all employees in department regardless of membership or non-membership in the Guild; a no-discrimination clause; protection of employees against being required to write contrary to their beliefs under their signatures; protection of the individual's right to bargain for pay higher than minimum.

Drawing its conclusions from its experience in the negotiations, the Cleveland executive committee makes the following observation: "It is not felt that the long negotiations were altogether in vain because the committee was able to get the publisher to agree in principle to most of the vital points in the Guild program, which, if incorporated in a written instrument, would compose an excellent contract. The long discussions between the publisher and the committee resolved many misconceptions on both sides, which ought to provide an excellent base on advanced ground from which to launch future negotiations."

On the negotiating committee were Garland Ascherhart, chairman, Lloyd White and Ralph Burkholder, all of The Press unit, and Elmer O. Fehlbauer and I. L. Kernen of the Cleveland News unit. Ascherhart resigned as chairman shortly after the ANG convention because of a conflict of national duties, and White is the present chairman.

tells him to find the kidnapped baby, or vice. After "Scoop" has hung up, the editor roars at his staff to get back to work, shakes his head sentimentally, and sighs: "It's a drunken, irresponsible louse, but God, he's a great newspaper man."

In half an hour, "Scoop" calls back with the story, prefacing his recital by various affectionate references to the boss as "Horace" or "sour-puss" whereupon the city editor invariably gives him a raise and a six month's vacation with pay so he can marry the governor's daughter.

The entire staff clusters around "Scoop" when he works. He writes his best stories when he is loaded to the ears with booze. Before he has finished his load, the chief of police will call him up begging for information.

I must admit that the movies do occasionally hint at one of the realities of a newspaper man's life. The reporter's wife or sweetheart is always after him to improve himself by writing a novel. Of course, the cinema does not attempt to gift this odd female conviction down to its final absurdity. Instead, the picture will be content to side with

the wife in her quaint belief that a reporter is a bum when he is merely being an honest, hard-working newspaper man, but that he becomes a glittering success when he turns out a tenth-rate novel and gets it printed.

Written by Ex-Reporters
When I consider these flagrantly inaccurate portraits of newspaper men on the screen, I am always coming up hard against the discovery that a majority of these fantasies are composed by former reporters.

Somewhat, when the boys desert the city room for the Gold Coast, they find themselves financially doomed to fill their newspaper with the glamour that always evaded them when they were being ordered from the city desk. They are stripped by a compulsion to get the prosaic stuff they had to cover.

When the ex-newspaper man is down to write about his craft, he becomes once more the eager of his novelties, dreaming of future triumphs. He forgets that Richard Harding Davis is gone forever.

Our rage when we go to the movies is the rage of Collier, no seeing himself in the mirror.

The Guild Reporter

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the American Newspaper Guild, 45 West 44th Street, New York 36, N. Y.

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"Resolved, that the editor of The Guild Reporter be instructed to edit the Guild Reporter so that it shall promote in every legitimate way the recognition of the American Newspaper Guild, and that he continue the editorial policy of The Guild Reporter to this specific purpose."—Adopted by the National Executive Board on proposition No. 17 of July 2, 1935.

Who's Affiliating?

Guildman Mack, of St. Louis, proposes a new objection to affiliation with the A. F. of L. in a letter published in this issue. Take time out to read it before letting yourself be prejudiced by our comment.

Mack's point is that we won't know what we are joining when we vote for affiliation because the A. F. of L. may change its set-up at its convention next month.

With all respect to his plausible reasoning, we are afraid he misses the real meaning of affiliation. As we understand it, it is not proposed that we affiliate with any group of officers or politicians or subscribe to any temporary policy of the A. F. of L. It is, rather, our desire to join the organized workers of America for mutual help and the strength that comes from unity.

By affiliation we do not endorse any policy but that of united action of the workers. If the members of the American Federation of Labor find that their policies or machinery or officers are inefficient, they will undoubtedly change them. In the meantime we think it would be folly to cut ourselves off from the only organized labor movement in the country because we did not like some officer's claims or political philosophy.

There is another bugaboo raised against affiliation from outside the Guild. Some publishers have expressed themselves as "waiting to see" with the strong hint that if we affiliate, the idea of contracts is forever out. Roy Howard of the Scripps chain, in particular, has advised his employees against it, saying that he would never sign with an affiliated union.

We took that stand in Cleveland, oddly enough, before the Guild there had become so much in favor of affiliation, and when offered a contract specifically recognizing the semi-professional nature of editorial work as he likes to think of it.

The same has been true with other publishers who are "waiting." They would not sign with an independent Guild in the early days because they did not believe newspaper men should organize. They will not sign now because we may go A. F. of L. The fact is, such publishers will not sign ever unless they feel that must. Affiliation would help show them.

If anything were needed to convince us that we must gain added strength it should be the tendency to end the 5-day, 46-hour week. Although one Scripps-Howard editor in Ohio, on the Toledo News-Bea, has just shown his belief in it, others have abandoned it. But in the decisions, please note, we who are most affected, have no voice. We would have today if we had been in the labor movement years ago. Let's not look back a few years from now and find ourselves still weak.

Time to Wake Up

Two pieces of news in the Reporter today ought to be side by side: the review of the Seldes book, "Freedom of the Press," and the story that the Guild president in San Francisco, Redfern Mason, has been nominated on the Labor Party ticket for Mayor.

Most of us on reading the Seldes book will be inclined to set new world's long distance records for swearing: it presents so vividly the audacity of publishers and their wealthy clients. They copy make any view they wish prevail. While the "free press" has hailed itself as the champion of our liberties and we have gone along all our lives judging men and nations problems largely on the information it has supplied, actually it has been used consistently to preserve a climate of opinion favorable to the enterprise of a small number of individuals. Whether that climate suits us well, we do not know. From the amount of money spent to preserve it, we should say not.

After the swearing is over we can all pluck out.

advice and realize that we have been as much to blame as the publishers. We—the public of which we are a part—have given them free rein. It is high time now to take their measure and shape a new course of our own.

Which brings us to Redfern Mason's candidacy. To many of us, it will come as a shock. We have so long been the enclaves of the country, not supposed to have interests of our own, that we are bewildered when we see ourselves taking positive action. The thousands of decent men and women of all parties who are supporting Mason, too, have been as meek that when they turn and seek to advance themselves, through normal political means, it sounds like insurrection.

For our part, we congratulate Redfern Mason on his courage and energy. We are glad that the new Labor Party has found in a fellow Guildman a leader they can trust. We wish the whole effort success.

Eyes of the Press

Jack Price is one of the best and most available of press photographers. He has started a column in Editor and Publisher called "Eyes of the Press." It could be a corker from the standpoint of the newspaper craft. But it is so far a dollar-and-cents proposition, shaped to suit the publisher's mercantile policy and appropriately accompanied by camera advertising.

The thesis of Mr. Price's first column was: "There is no need for the paper to hire an extra photographer. Reporters can be put to greater use." Although most reporters are not receptive to the idea of taking their own pictures, they can be induced through a bonus and the glory to change their minds.

Mr. Price proposed even to train the reporters in dark room technique so that they could, figuratively, wash the film and prints with one hand while they rattled the typewriter keys with the other—the by-product system with a vengeance in the newspaper office as in auto plants.

Newspaper men know Jack Price too well to believe that he wants to see men of his own craft—news photographers—fired wholesale in assigning to reporters duties they could at best be only second rate at. His column, however, trends on dangerous ground, as seen especially from the fact that the remarkable new midsize camera which he mentions provides a ready-made instrument of the reporter-camera man species he advocates.

The reporter to do a finished job has got to keep his mind on facts and the brilliant writing of them and not on the mechanics of getting a good picture. And news photography has become an art with great possibilities not yet fully realized by the newspaper, as witness the artistic effects the magazine achieves. To mix the two is to muddy both. It is also to lengthen some men's hours while a growing army walks the streets.

Journalism Under Fascism

(From an article by "Austrian" in The Journalist, the organ of the British National Union of Journalists.)

When in February, 1934, after a bloody struggle, a hundred per cent Fascism was established in Austria, all papers which did not fully and at once adopt the Government course were suppressed. This suppression did, however, not only concern papers of the political opposition, but was extended also to such journals as impaired the business of the Government papers. Fascism for them was a good opportunity to get rid of competitors.

Of course, all this has a serious financial effect on the journalists employed on the newspapers. Without exaggeration, it may be asserted that under the Republic the position of the Austrian journalist was enviable. A model legislation for journalists secured for them full social rights, and protected their principles from being prostituted by their employers. They were 100 per cent in a strong trade union, which achieved for them excellent agreements with the owners, good salaries, long holidays, a free day every week apart from Sunday, long terms of notice, a few years' payment in case of dismissal, and sufficient pensions.

The Fascist regime removed the leaders of the journalists' trade union, and forced them into the so-called "Einheitsgewerkschaft" (united unions), an impotent organization of the Government, incapable of doing genuine trade union work as it is utterly helpless against the employers.

A Government order has declared some of the agreements of the journalists to be invalid; the remaining are only scraps of paper, as the employers do not keep to them.

The salaries, especially of the young journalists, and the honorariums of the free lances have been tremendously cut within the last two years. Owing to the decrease of sale many journalists were sacked. Now they are facing hopeless misery, together with their colleagues of the many suppressed papers. In view of this unemployment, the journalists who still hold their jobs have no chance of improving their financial situation.

I say, without exaggeration, that never before in Austria has the misery of journalists been so great as under Fascism—mental as well as financial—even without taking into consideration the many journalists of the former opposing Press, who have had to suffer severe political persecution, many having had to change their place at the desk with the prison cell.

The Rest of the World

King-Makers And Hay-Makers

If newspaper publishers are not makers of Presidents (on occasion it has looked as if they are), at least they have the inside track to the White House. This was spectacularly resplendent in the recent "breathing spell" correspondence between Roy W. Howard, chairman of the board of the Scripps-Howard newspapers, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, explained on the front pages of newspapers from coast to coast on September 7.

Although Washington correspondents had been asking the President for months for his answer to the demands of business men for a "breathing spell," Roosevelt ignored the hirelings and finally spilled the story to "headquarters." It was obviously a staged affair. Howard had had a long conference with the President at the White House only a short time before.

Whether the President had intended all along to make such a statement at the right time or was induced to do so by his chief journalistic supporter is anybody's guess. But it is significant to note the cordial tone of his letter and that he handed Mr. Howard not only a big story but a fair-sized amount of valuable publicity. The President seemed eager to please.

There have been many instances in American history when the influence of newspaper publishers on the Presidency has manifested itself in this overt fashion. To recall only one recent incident, there was the obviously dominant part William Randolph Hearst played in the 1932 Democratic national convention at which Roosevelt was nominated. Hearst sent to the convention a synthetic candidate for the Presidency, John Nance Garner, the Texas Throbbington, who carried the balance of power and finally placed Roosevelt in his debt by throwing the votes he controlled to the gentleman from Hyde Park.

All these facts throw further light on the extraordinary intervention by the President of the United States in the case of Dan Hoan, Mayor of Chicago. A President can occasionally defy a Morgan or a Ford; he cannot say no to a powerful publisher.

The Newspapers' Gift to Huey Long

Huey Long called reporters "skunk" after the Long Island beating. Another time he told his bodyguard, "Do what you want with him" and they beat up a camera man. Huey himself once hit a reporter, with ample strongarm.

Normally the average newspaper would have wanted to curb a Huey Long by ignoring him. But they did not ignore him. Instead, they did what they could to help him. They gave him the radio, which professed nationwide hook-ups gratis, the nation's newspapers and their writers helped float him into fame and made him a growing line of printer's ink.

He was too good copy. By modern publishing standards, he could not be ignored any more than Mussolini's march on Ethiopia, with other statistical bodies and the trend the other way. And in an unguarded moment Roosevelt revealed that his "share-the-wealth" tax will actually reduce the taxes of 95 per cent of the corporations, thus placing him on the side of moderate-sized business and against the few who control big business.

The President was compelled to admit a sharp movement away from the principle of ability to pay in the tax system. The proportion of the tax load borne by consumers through invisible taxes which weigh most heavily on low-salaried groups is 60 per cent, twice what it was in 1929. The "share-the-wealth" bill, Roosevelt admitted, will reduce the proportion of consumers' taxes only 5 per cent. The poor man is still carrying most of the tax load.

Sea Laws Benefited By a Paper's Campaign

Every man, woman and child who sails the seas in ships from American ports will hereafter be safer from such hooligans as the Vetrica, the Morro Castle and the Mohawk, by reason of distinguished newspaper work which enabled James Edmond Duffly, World-Telegram ship news reporter and marine editor, and his associates to obtain enactment of the Strivich Bill of disaster liability in the expiring minutes of the last Congress.

That the Ward Line sought to pay off nearly 200 Morro Castle and Mohawk deaths with a total of \$20,000—\$100 a life—while collecting \$5,000,000 in insurance alone on the former ship, built mostly with United States government money would seem damnable enough.

But the fundamental peril in the repeated 35-year-old sea law which permitted such an outrage lay in the fact that some shipping companies, with scant damages to fear, used unkempt, underpaid, incompetent, demented, disoriented crew and they pushed their ships to quick destruction in port and drove them around in the main—his indictment of the Associated Press, for example, has stood unmaneuvered for many years—be used some evidence that was technically faulty. Mr. Seldes has built his case more solidly. In fact the reader whose connection with newspapers is limited to a 15-minute cultural work-out, every evening, may find the documentation too ample. Mr. Seldes is not content with one sword thrust at the famous sawdust dummy, Press Freedom, for which the American Newspaper Publishers' Association has lovingly played nutwife and wet nurse. Again and again he drives his blade at the places where the vital organs ought to be.

How Free Is American Press?

GEORGE SELDES DRAWS A DAMNING INDICTMENT

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

By George Seldes, New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, \$2.75.

Newspapermen know that there is no free press. In this book, the first important and comprehensive job since Upton Sinclair's *The Brass Check*, Mr. Seldes tells why. His investigations and conclusions are even more convincing than Sinclair's because Seldes has a background of nearly twenty-five years of newspapering in the United States and abroad. Although Sinclair judged rightly in the main—his indictment of the Associated Press, for example, has stood unmaneuvered for many years—be used some evidence that was technically faulty. Mr. Seldes has built his case more solidly. In fact the reader whose connection with newspapers is limited to a 15-minute cultural work-out, every evening, may find the documentation too ample. Mr. Seldes is not content with one sword thrust at the famous sawdust dummy, Press Freedom, for which the American Newspaper Publishers' Association has lovingly played nutwife and wet nurse. Again and again he drives his blade at the places where the vital organs ought to be.

Anti-Labor Bias Described

His surgery shows that the press is partially and almost invariably paralyzed by the control of advertisers; that the newspapers are easy marks for propagandists of both domestic and international breeds; and, most significant of all, that publishers are incapable of impartial news handling because their business will last only so long as the capitalist system is preserved.

Hence the anticorporate bias, that was so brutally illustrated in the San Francisco publishers' strategy for breaking the general strike. Hence the following paragraph from a chapter on the New York Times:

"The Times in America is the organ of the men of the status quo, the friend of those in power, the conservative spokesman of a system which dreads change and which fears every reform and radical plan because every change is an attack on the established governing order. Friends of the Times declare that the corrupting influence of big business is never felt in the Times office. It is never felt because the Times is a part of the big business system itself."

When Publishers Laughed

Hence also this illuminating report of an incident at the 1935 convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association:

"An amendment was offered, requesting all members to make known any financial connections with power and paper companies."

Members of the Detroit local of the American Federation of Teachers believe that the Guild can best meet "the responsibility that devolves upon those who influence public opinion" by joining the American Federation of Labor. A resolution urging the step was adopted at a recent meeting. The resolution said:

"Whereas, the American Newspaper Guild, an organization whose members recognize their responsibility to the public, has dedicated itself to higher professional standards of newspaper reporting and interpretation, to the end that the press better serve the interests of common men, and

Whereas, as members of the American Federation of Teachers, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, believe that newspaper men share with teachers the responsibility that devolves upon those who influence

banks or other outside institutions. "This amendment," reports Editor and Publisher, "was quickly tabled amid roars of amused laughter from the assembly."

Seldes' "Roll of Honor" Discouraging though his picture is, Mr. Seldes devotes one entire chapter to shining names among newspaper and newspapermen. In New York City, he says, the only important editorial page is that of the Post. Outstanding Washington correspondents are named, and some excellent anecdotes of journalistic independence are given. But Mr. Seldes had to swallow hard before joining the names of Marlen Few and Heywood Brown in a list of the six men who have done most to improve the industry. The other four are Oswald Garrison Villard, Ernest Gruening, Silas Bent and William Allen White.

The author's prescription for a free press is not one that the publishers will cry for. Briefly, Mr. Seldes believes that the Newspaper Guild offers the best immediate remedy. He would like to see organized editorial workers get a fuller measure of responsibility, or at least some responsibility, for the integrity of their papers. He says it could be done, and has been done, but he does not predict that it will be done in the United States.

Seldes' Alternative

If the Guild (to the history of which a full chapter is devoted) fails to do the job, the last alternative is revision of the economic order. Mr. Seldes warns. Presumably this means communism, but it may have meant something else to William Allen White, who introduced the book as telling the whole truth about the newspapers.

Although realists in the Guild and elsewhere in the Publishers' Association see no likelihood that socialism will work great reforms in publishing ethics, there can be no dispute with Mr. Seldes' conclusion that newspapers habitually betray their readers. The newspaper publishers, of course, may dispute the charge, but that is understandable. They have been talking so earnestly about a free press for so many years that by now they probably believe it exists.

The book should be required reading for most of the 36,000,000 newspaper buyers in the United States. Working newspapermen will read it to find a composite history of their own experiences with news suppression and distortion. And they will probably be reminded of many things that they have forgotten.

As Broun Seems to the Rest of Us

IT SEEMS TO ME, 1925-1935, by Heywood Brown, Harcourt Brace & Co., \$2.50.

If ten different persons had been handed the complete works of Heywood Brown and asked to select their 100 favorite columns, their choices might have been widely scattered. But there is no doubt that every one of those ten would have included the famous column on Sacco and Vanzetti. And so it is quite fitting for that piece to have been lifted out of its chronological order and given first place in the present collection of Brown's "It Seems To Me" columns.

When that piece was written the average newspaper reader knew little and cared less about that now celebrated case. As Broun wrote to Ralph Pulitzer in the controversy that followed its appearance: "The most tragic factor of the Sacco-Vanzetti case is the general apathy. In ten minutes' time I will guarantee to fetch from the streets of New York one hundred persons who have never heard of the case and thousands who have not the slightest idea what it is all about."

A Many-Sided Picture

Today, eight years later, that column is still worth reading. In fact the book is worth buying if you read only that column.

Glancing through the table of contents, you may wonder if Alexander Crosby hasn't selected all the light essays and neglected all the more fiery pieces. But as you read on through the book you realize that his purpose was to avoid a one-sided picture of Broun, who has so many sides, and to show him in all his vices, to cover the widest possible range of mold and subject.

This he has done so ably that every reader of Broun will find at least some of his favorite columns and the person who isn't a daily reader will get a good sample of his political comments, his autobiographical sketches, his flights into fantasy and his reflections on life in general.

As the Columns Show Broun

After finishing the book the impression that stays with you is of a man, who all his life has fought against oppression and injustice, who becomes indignant at unfairness.

Therefore, Be It Resolved that we, the members of Local 21 of the American Federation of Teachers, earnestly recommend that the American Newspaper Guild affiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

A Washington Guild Paper

WASHINGTON.—The Washington Guild executive committee has voted to establish a monthly Guild paper. The publication committee is: Herbert Little, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, chairman; Edgy Gilmore, Washington Daily News, and Carl Skinner, United Press.



George Seldes

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A Truce on Affiliation Discussion

A ST. LOUIS MEMBER SEEKS TO RETURN TO "BASIC ISSUES"

Editor, The Guild Reporter:

Within a few days the American Newspaper Guild will vote to decide whether it wants to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor or not. Within a few days also—too late for the Guild to be guided by the outcome—the A. F. of L. will go into convention. Indications are the convention will be the hottest the A. F. of L. has had. The young industrial unions are about fed up with being handed the dirty end of the stick all of the time, but the old-line craft unions, which easily out-vote the industrialists, intend to keep right on doing just that.

After it is all over—and that will be after the Guild vote has been taken—the A. F. of L. may be the same old setup of labor politicians or it may not. It may be cleaner and better or it may be dirtier and worse. I don't know what is going to happen, but neither does Bill Green. I merely want to point out, in black caps if you will permit (Ed.—Too rough on our typographical ideals! Will you compromise on light face?) THAT THE GUILD MEMBER WHO VOTES FOR AFFILIATION CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW WHAT HE IS VOTING FOR.

The confidence of those who will vote yes on affiliation is either awfully inspiring or awfully awful. Damned if I know which.

Vote Issue Puzzling

But that isn't all that is mixed up. As I understand it, application for charter must be made to the A. F. of L. convention. This year's convention will be over before the

Guild is a Membership

I am convinced that affiliation would be a mistake, but I'm not going to drop the issue. The Guild is not going to the how-ows if it affiliates with the A. F. of L. and it isn't lost beyond recall if it doesn't. The Guild is the members, not a label. Some members will drop out either way, but the bulk of them won't. I don't intend to. Whichever way the vote goes, I'd like to call a truce on the A. F. of L. issue among the members who stick. If the affiliationists win, let the anti-affiliationists shut about the A. F. of L. there after; if the anti-affiliationists win, let the affiliationists stop harping on the A. F. of L. issue. Only so can we all get back to work on what we all agree is important.

For my part, if affiliation carries, I promise to shut up and not even peep. I don't want to see the A. F. of L. at least until the 1936 convention, PROVIDED I can find an affiliationist at least as noisy as I have been—say John Ridy—who will agree. If the vote goes against affiliation, not to stir up the A. F. of L. issue again as long as I keep still.

HAROLD TEUMSEH MEEK, (The St. Louis Newspaper Guild.)

Urges National Relief Weekly

JERRY CRY, N. J. Editor, The Guild Reporter:

I offer the following suggestion to help needy, unemployed newspapermen and women:

Unemployed newspapermen and women could be returned to work by having them assigned to write stories of the progress of all types of relief projects in their sections of the country.

The more important of these stories could be printed in a national weekly newspaper. The paper could be printed in plants all over the nation, with distribution being made into every city and town in each state.

The news organization would be directed by a national editor-in-chief, with offices in Washington. His staff would include forty-eight state editors and they could appoint assistant editors in each county.

The idea would not only give work to editorial workers, but to those capable of handling the mechanical and other work necessary in the publishing of a newspaper. Let all unemployed newspaper workers file their application with the last paper they worked for and also send a copy of the application to the national editor-in-chief. When confirmation is received through each paper the editor-in-chief will then know that he is dealing with a group of bona fide newspaper workers and not a group of picked political favorites. Preference, of course, should be given to those on relief.

This should be a good idea, especially when we stop to consider how hard the up-hill fight is with those publishers who are paying as little as possible to their employees. BENJAMIN W. BOYD, Unemployed Reporter.

Editor's Note: Several suggestions by Boyd, already adopted or under consideration, were deleted from his letter.)

results of the Guild referendum are known. (I may be wrong; it's a matter of close figuring.) If the Guild application is not made this year it will have to lie over until the next A. F. of L. convention; but before the next A. F. of L. convention is held, the Guild will have held another convention, and that Guild convention may decide—I say "may"; I'm not predicting—to consider anew the whole question of affiliation. It may even decide to drop the issue. Then what? It appears that the Guild member in the approaching referendum—the dirty end of the stick all of the time, but the old-line craft unions, which easily out-vote the industrialists, intend to keep right on doing just that.

After it is all over—and that will be after the Guild vote has been taken—the A. F. of L. may be the same old setup of labor politicians or it may not. It may be cleaner and better or it may be dirtier and worse. I don't know what is going to happen, but neither does Bill Green. I merely want to point out, in black caps if you will permit (Ed.—Too rough on our typographical ideals! Will you compromise on light face?) THAT THE GUILD MEMBER WHO VOTES FOR AFFILIATION CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW WHAT HE IS VOTING FOR.

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May I See the City Editor?

THERE'S NO STORY HERE—
THIS HAPPENS EVERY DAY

BY DAVID BERNSTEIN

YOU WILL read these words and you will not understand. It is because, perhaps, you will be expecting a story of some sort, a narrative. And there is no story. A man goes to the city editor of a newspaper and asks for a job. That is all. It happens every day.

You will want a picture of something that is real, vital, alive. You will want to read of the city room as the man walks in, of the staccato clatter of the typewriters, of the copy desk with one man sprawling over the table, cigarette drooping from his mouth, showing a page of copy to the man across, or of the tense atmosphere of speed and anticipation hanging over the room.

You will want to hear the tapping of the leased wires in the next room, and, from down below in the basement, feel the thudding rumble of the presses. Or you will want to see the city editor himself, Mr. Jacobs, his name is, sitting through the publicist, releases. You will want to stare at his pudgy, pale face, gray in the gray light of the city room, with his green eyeshade shadowing his eyes and his glasses.

But you will not find all this here. And so, perhaps you will not understand. You will be expecting something other than what is here.

The man who is walking into the city room to ask for a job is not conscious that he is acting in a story. He is not conscious of the surroundings. He knows that these things are everywhere around him—the city room, the typewriters, the rewrite men, the copy readers, the telephone—and it all seems vaguely familiar to him.

But this man, when he walks into the city room, is in a sort of trance. And that is what you must feel. It is the feeling of fear that sometimes fills every man, the sharp intangible sense of foreboding and impotence and terror. Every act is mechanical, done without thought. The mind is blank, fighting off the tense quivering feeling of frightened expectation.

There are people about, yes, and there is movement and sound and light. But you do not see these things or hear them. You feel their presence, but you are not conscious of it. Your eyes, possibly, are set and staring, but they see nothing. Your cheeks are taut and your mouth is drawn back into a tight, set, artificial grin that you cannot tear off. Your head is tingling with the rush of blood in a swirling wave of hope and terror.

You, the man, walk toward the city editor's desk. Walking, you make a sudden attempt to throw off this weight of inferiority and fear. But you cannot. It is too heavy. It is the weight of a tiny, 4-dollar-a-week furnished room, and cafeteria meals, and having to write home for money, and the sense, the knowledge, that you have lost your skill at newspaper work—rewrite work, that's what you used to do—in the year and a half since you left the Courier on that swift horrible afternoon.

Retrenchment, they'd said. You'll be taken on again first chance we get, they'd said; keep in touch with us. A year and a half ago.

But now, suddenly, the memory of all that has gone. There is a knowledge, a deep unconscious knowledge of these facts, but you do not think of such things. For you are at his desk now, at Mr. Jacobs' desk. It is terribly important that you be cool, confident, self-assured.

"Mr. Jacobs?" Your voice is shrill in your ears.

He looks up at you. There is a cold impersonal look in his eyes, and his face is expressionless. He knows what you are here for. He has seen hundreds like you. He is sorry for you, perhaps, but he cannot help you. The two of you are

you face one another know that. It is useless.

"Yes?" he says.

You hesitate. All the hot sharp fury of impotence surges through your brain.

"Mr. Jacobs, I..." quickly, "I... You don't by any chance..." as the words come, a sudden hope fills you "...need a good man? Rewrite man, I mean. I used to work on the Courier, till they had to cut down on expenses and let a lot of men go. I'm experienced. I can handle anything. Maybe I'd need a few days to get my hand in, but... I can do it. I..." he hasn't said anything; he is considering it; he must be considering. "...I have a letter of recommendation here. Here..."

You hand it to him. Your hand feels as though it is shaking, but you stare at it and you see that it is not. You feel suddenly young; voicing this patter that you have used a hundred times. You are a baby, inexperienced, a child before this man, this Mr. Jacobs. He opens the letter, deliberately, and reads it carefully. Then he looks up at you.

Now you know. You can see it in his eyes. There is a kind of pity in them, a futile pity. You hate him, coldly, pitilessly. Not as a man. As a city editor, Mr. Jacobs,

BY DAVID JORDAN

ONE OF THE objections often raised by newspaper owners against the American Newspaper Guild is the fear that unionization of their editorial employees will result in sameness of reportorial work and discourage ingenuity in the handling of news. Yet the real barriers to venturesome and untrammelled news reporting are found rather in astigmatic editorial executives who insulate themselves against the organic life of their communities.

How ingenious and unstandardized are newspapers today?

New York City's newspapers are commonly reputed to set the pace in ingenuity for the American fourth estate. Let us see the pace they set. On Aug. 20 they carried a variety of stories. There were stirring accounts of how firemen were hindered in their work by a collapsed wall; an interview with a religious faker; boy scout features and lost kid stories. The previous day they had carried pictures of a publicity stunt in which a snatched penny politician had bribed a group of children to create their own playground by clearing a rubbish-strewn alley in a slum area.

But none of the papers carried even a line on Aug. 20 to inform their readers that on the preceding day 400 needle workers had walked out in Brooklyn in a strike which affected at least 1,000 additional persons, the strikers' families. Was this an example of variety in news standards?

Free—But Not Always

Several weeks ago the New York newspapers carried stories of an incident in which a number of pickets were arrested for parading in front of a local Loew theatre and urging "patrons to boycott the movie house because it was showing a Hearst news reel." Every newspaper account of this occurrence mentioned the fact that a news reel was being boycotted, but only two or three noted that it was a Hearst news reel. Is the boycott of a Hearst movie news? Was this daring and free-spoken news reporting?

Any reporter who works on a New York newspaper learns soon enough that the news is standardized. He discovers very early that a story about an addition to the penguin family at the zoo rates

sitting there, stiffly. You hate him because, now, he feels the way you do. Because he too is tense, and his mind confused; he too is beating against the wall of impotence.

"I wish we could," he is saying, his voice a slow relentless monotone, "I wish we could. Men come in every day. Good men. What can I do? They say, retrenchment. Save expenses. No new men."

You turn now to go. Then, twisting back to face him, you say, hopelessly, "There is nothing, then? Nothing at all?"

He has changed. He is again Mr. Jacobs, the city editor, sifting through the publicity releases, the letters, the pamphlets. He is answering the phone now. You stare at his pudgy, pale face, gray in the gray light of the city room, with his green eyeshade shadowing his eyes and his glasses.

He looks up at you, quickly.

"You can register with the personnel department, if you want to," he says.

"Oh..." You turn away and walk out of the city room. There is no sensation whatever. It is as though you were dead. Your body, your mind, your senses, dead. You walk heavily. It is just a flight of stairs to the street. You are walking down now, and you do it mechanically, without realizing that you are moving at all.

It is all over. The episode is ended. This has not really happened to you. You have only been reading this thing. A man goes to the city editor of a newspaper and asks for a job. That is all. It happens every day.

The News That Isn't Fit to Print

more space than a homicide or a suicide in a working class neighborhood. He learns that stories about Negroes are taboo unless they are funny stories, or "ape-man" stories. He is informed by the copy desk spike that an eviction for non-payment of rent is usually ignored, but the fact that Mrs. Sarah Brown is growing an apple tree in her back yard is worth a feature.

When To Be Ingenious

Ingenuity, the reporter learns, must be directed along accepted channels. There can be no ingenuity about a story involving economic strife, but the account of how little Jimmie Jones wandered away from his home for several hours can be written straight, with a touch of whimsy, or humorously. Sob stories about unfortunate, sick or destitute families must end with an implied silver lining. Advertisers must have their tender toes protected from uncomplimentary news items. There are elementary rules which cover ingenuity and the reporter must respect them.

With the possible exceptions of The New York Times, the Herald Tribune and the Post—which fall themselves often enough for "phony" features—the average New York newspaper is filled with numerous casualties, to the exclusion of the vital social and economic affairs of their own community. Serious news gets its space, it is true,

but usually it must carry a Washington or foreign date line.

When the general strike broke in Terre Haute recently it came as a surprise to the New York reading public. Very few persons in the metropolis knew an important strike had been in progress in that Indiana city until the general walk-out occurred. The events leading up to the general strike in San Francisco, similarly were almost completely ignored until wholesale violence flared up.

Discovery—Or Awakening

Pads in fashion, in cultural life, in the dance halls, in public resorts rate feature articles when they are on the wane. Eras are referred to as the flapper age, the gangster period, the speakeasy era only after their demise. The word "sex" was considered too risqué for The New York Times columns until 1930. Soporifics about Prince Romanoff, the Mdivania, Doris Duke and Dan O'Brien, the alleged Hobo King, continue to drug readers while the city and telegraph desks continue to order more spreads on these prize bores.

No, it is not such organizations as the Guild which threaten alertness in news reporting, which discourage independence of the press. Where the trouble lies and where it has always resided is with pantalooned editors who slumber on a decade behind their times.

Carriers "Give" to Buy Painting For Motor Company's Offices

A five-column picture on page one of the Pontiac Daily Press presented a new wrinkle in newspaper philanthropy. It shows a group of 141 Daily Press newspaper carriers who "voluntarily contributed" ten pennies each to the fund, sponsored by The Daily Press to provide an oil painting of Injun Chief Pontiac to the Pontiac Motor Company, a unit of General Motors Corporation.

The Daily Press calls the subscription the "100,000 penny community fund" and has been asking the citizens of Pontiac to pass on a penny each to the newsboys as a gesture of civic pride in the

accomplishments of the Pontiac Motor Company. To start the ball rolling, the circulation manager called upon the newsboys to do their bit. The 100 per cent contribution of ten pennies each, or \$14.10, was "voluntarily" paid in by the boys.

Boys Not Enthusied

A story about the gift of the newspaper carriers, sent by a Pontiac newsboy, is not being used because of the rule against using anonymous communications. It hinted that the newsboys were not enthused about the solicitation and were a bit chagrined over the "voluntary" designation of their contributions.

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARK

Ildor Feinstein, chief editorial writer on the New York Post, and a strong believer in trade unionism, has just written two articles on "Racketeering in the A. F. of L." for The Nation. Before attacking the racketeers in the trade movement and the leaders who allow them to exist, he makes clear his own position on unionization. He writes:

"Powerful and militant unions are made all the more necessary at present by the growing menace of fascism, but the unions will be neither powerful nor militant until they rid themselves of dictatorship and of the racketeering that dictatorship breeds and fosters. Most unions are fairly decent. Even bad unions are better than none at all. Some unions, like the Newspaper Guild, to which the writer belongs, are splendid organizations."

Robin Lampson, who edits a column in The Berkeley (Calif.) Courier, has been working for seven years on a long narrative poem of the California Gold Rush, which Scribners will publish in October under the title "Laughter Out of the Ground." Lampson's grandfather was one of the original forty-niners.

Jack Rohan, of the Standard News Assn., has written a biography of Samuel Colt, the inventor of the

revolver that bears his name. I. r. pers are bringing it out Sept. 18 under the title, "Yankee A. M. Maker."

Herbert F. Peyser, The New York Times music correspondent for Central Europe, contributes an article called "Artists in Fascist Uniform" to the Music Vanguard, a critical review.

Harry Elmer Barnes, member of the New York World-Telegram unit of the Guild, has written more than twenty books. His latest, "The History of Western Civilization," is a monumental achievement—in two volumes he tells the whole story of man's development.

Martin Mooney, reporter on the New York American, will publish this fall a book called "Crime, Incorporated," the story of nationwide rackets, which is described as a "startling indictment of the forces of organized crime." It will contain an introductory letter by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Irving Kolodin, of the New York Sun, has written a history of the Metropolitan Opera, from 1883 to 1935, ending with the retirement of Gatti-Casazzi, which the Oxford University Press will publish in December.

Hermann B. Deutsch, of the New Orleans Item-Tribune, whose first novel "The Wedge," has just been published, has another book coming out this fall—a biography of Huey Long. He is also writing a series of three articles on the Kingfish for the Saturday Evening Post.

Edwin Schallert, of the Los Angeles Times, will be among the contributors to the forthcoming book, "The Movies on Trial," compiled and edited by William J. Perelman.

Sutherland Dealinger, New York World-Telegram Guild member, has written a book called "Commence Firing! The Navy and Its Battle Problems" a book about the new naval science written for the layman.

Robert Faherty, night city editor of the Chicago Herald and Examiner, has just published his first novel, "Better Than Dying." It tells the story of a southern jail—he covered one for two years.

Best Story Contest Ohio City Plan

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio.—Rules for the first of a series of "Best Story Contests" were published in the recent issue of the Springfield Guild Reporter. The contest was approved at a general meeting on August 25 and the rules drafted later by a committee under the chairmanship of Clyde Long.

The contest is for both feature and straight news stories. Judges are to be drawn from the Columbus, Cincinnati and Cleveland Guilds. Ratings are to be given for each story and the winner will be awarded a magazine subscription or some similar prize.

Entries for the September contest must be submitted to Chairman Long before October 5. The stories deemed worthy of consideration must be clipped from the newspaper in which they appeared and pasted on copy paper. They may be accompanied by a 50-word explanation of the story's background and special merits. Neatness will be considered by the judges.

Entrants will be allowed to inspect the report of the judges to determine the ratings given their contributions.

The activities committee is looking forward to wide interest in the contest despite the fact that no cash awards will be made.