

For the Fourth
Estate

The Guild Reporter

Pass This Issue
to a Friend

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Vol. II. No. 19

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1, 1935

Price, \$2 a Year

Early Votes Are 3-to-1 To Affiliate

Lansing First Local to
Oppose; Count Stands
187 Yes, 54 No

Early Affiliation Returns	
For	Against
Newark	83
Lansing, Mich.	5
Hudson County, N. J.	27
Duluth, Minn.	25
Youngstown, O.	17
Brockton, Mass.	13
Reading	17
Total	187

Early returns on the nationwide poll of Guildsmen to decide whether the Guild shall apply to the American Federation of Labor for admission as an international union, show a vote of more than 3 to 1 in favor. The total vote from six locals, representing a cross section of the Guild, with cities in New England, the east, the north and middle west, stood on Sept. 25, 187 for affiliation and 54 against.

Of the seven locals which had forwarded returns on September 25 only one, Lansing, Mich., flatly turned affiliation down. The vote there was 19 for, five against.

Youngstown Vote Light
YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.—The Youngstown Guild approved affiliation by a vote of 17 to 9. Little interest was shown in the referendum, only 17 members turning out for the meeting at which the vote was taken. Nine votes were cast by mail.

The balloting was conducted in the usual election style, the secretary handing out the ballots and two Guildsmen standing by the ballot box. Tellers compiled the results as soon as the last ballot was cast.

Newark—83 Yes, 15 No
NEWARK.—With 98 out of 112 eligible members casting ballots, the Newark Guild decided in favor of A. F. of L. affiliation by a vote of 83 to 15. The election was held on the second anniversary of the meeting at which it was decided to organize Newark newspapermen.

A polling place was kept open from noon until midnight. Tellers, working in all groups of three, were on hand at all times. During the entire day there was at least one known anti on duty.

Less than a dozen votes were cast by mail.

The result of the poll was no surprise. Most Newark Guild members were convinced by the Ledger strike (Continued on page 3)

Book Contest Deadline Near; Dec. 31 Last Day For Entries

Several Scripts Already Received—More Than
100 Guild Members Request Entry Blanks

With only three months left in which to submit manuscripts for the \$3,000 in prizes being offered in the American Journalists' Book Contest, Guild members wishing to enter are urged to write immediately to national headquarters, 49 West 45th St., New York City, for entry blanks, which must accompany each manuscript submitted.

The deadline for the receiving of manuscripts is Dec. 31.

The contest, sponsored jointly by the Guild and the Dodge Publishing Company, is open only to members of the Guild as of Dec. 31. Two prizes of \$1,500 each are offered for the best work of fiction and non-fiction submitted.

More than 100 requests for entry blanks have been received from all sections of the country, and several manuscripts have already been re-

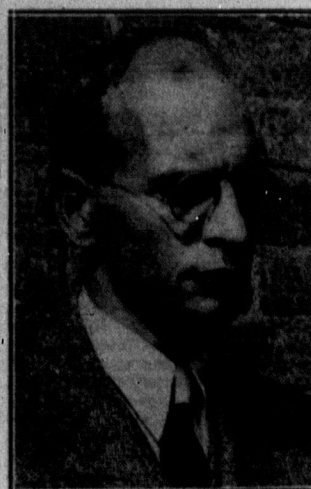
ceived. The judges for the contest are Heywood Brown, ANG president, and Lewis Gannett, of the New York Herald Tribune.

The Critics Wait
Book critics await the prize-winning works with interest, as it is the belief of many that there is a distinguished book hidden away either in some newspaper man's trunk or in the back of his mind. The contest has received wide publicity in writers' journals and in the book notes of newspapers.

The prize-winning books, which must be not less than 60,000 words nor more than 125,000 words in length, will be published in America within six months after the prizes are awarded.

In the event that other works besides those awarded the prizes are considered of outstanding merit by the judges, provision is made for their publication. For further details of the contest, write to national headquarters.

Starts New Drive



MORRIS WATSON

Drive Begins For Members On Services

New Labor Law Is Seen
as Giving Confidence;
Negotiations Asked

Coinciding with a nation-wide campaign further to organize all wire-service editorial workers into the Guild, the national press association committee's negotiations in behalf of International News Service and Universal Service employees throughout the country is being pushed forward and a second conference between the Guild negotiating committee and the INS-Universal management is expected in the near future.

The enactment of the Wagner Labor Disputes Law will add considerably to the confidence of eligible wire service employees in joining the Guild. In the opinion of Morris Watson, Guild vice-president representing press associations, and it will be utilized by the press association committee in pressing for agreements with the managements.

Watson pointed out that the new law refers to all enterprises engaged in interstate commerce, and thus specifically applies to wire services. Under the Wagner Law, Watson continued, no press association management may legally refuse to negotiate with a Guild committee after the Guild has been designated (Continued on page 3)

Washington Stirs Debate On Levies

Asks Guilds to Oppose
Them; Newark Raps
Its Arguments

The Guild's financial problem, still awaiting solution by the National Executive Board at the meeting it hopes to have this month, developed a new knot as this issue went to press with the news that the executive committee of the Washington Guild had written to a number of local guilds in opposition to further assessments "until collection of monthly dues shall have been put on a systematic and business-like basis."

The Muskegon, Mich., Guild has responded by refusing to pay the last assessment; the Buffalo and Twin Cities Guilds have aligned themselves with the Washington executive committee's position, and the Philadelphia executive council has protested the second assessment but presumably will collect it.

The Letter Challenged
A refutation of the Washington letter was written by Victor Pasche on behalf of the executive committee of the Newark Guild, answering the arguments and challenging some of the facts.

The Washington letter, while stating that Guild's intention to do all in its power to meet emergencies in national finances always, reported a statement of Jonathan Eddy's to the effect that he would ask the National Executive Board to consider making a levy of 50 cents per month. It argued that this was contrary to the Cleveland convention's wish. It added:

"The Washington Newspaper Guild believes the Guild must build greater strength by getting more members and by collecting dues regularly. This is more laborious than levying assessments but success depends upon it. We face the choice between a large Guild paying small dues in sufficient numbers to finance ordinary expenditure, or a small union of trained scribes paying high dues, and freeing out the fellows of lesser salaries."

Pasche agreed with the aim of a large guild paying small dues, but, he said, "to achieve that aim, the Guild must be kept going, and its program must be financed by the members now paying dues, not those we hope to enroll."

Upholds Assessments
Challenging the view that the collection of monthly assessments would be contrary to the convention (Continued on page 2)

N. Y. Approves Higher Dues to Meet Budget

Assembly to Set Rates;
Proportional Basis
Is Discussed

A general meeting of the New York Guild recorded itself on Sept. 19 as "recognizing the need for raising the dues" and turned over to the Representative Assembly the job of setting rates that would cover its budget.

This action followed the recommendation of the special finance committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, which had previously been approved by the Representative Assembly. This body, however, had voted to obtain the approval of the general membership before proceeding to establish higher dues.

The monthly budget of \$321 for operating the New York Guild was also approved. It contained the following items:

Furniture and fixtures, \$6; telephone, \$30; telegraph, \$5; rent and light, \$50; stationery, \$70; meetings, \$12; postage, \$71; miscellaneous, \$12. (Continued on page 3)

Weekly Radio Programs Planned by Hudson Guild

UNION CITY, N. J.—A weekly radio program to be broadcast over Station WAAAT, Jersey City, (940 klio), was planned tentatively by the Hudson Guild at a meeting in Union City, N. J., on Sept. 21.

The series scheduled to begin in the latter part of October, will run for 14 weeks. On the committee are Hal Gold, Stephen Haef, Jr., of the Trans-Radio Press; Horace Tani, Graham Rosekell, Norman Williams, Guild president, of the Hudson Dispatch; William Greenspoon, and G. Warren Morgan, Jersey Journal.

Lorain Journal Owner Spurns U. S. Mediator

Guild Renews Picketing
After Effort to Settle
Lockout Fails

LORAIN, Ohio.—Sam Horvitz, publisher of the Lorain Journal, has bluntly refused even to discuss a possible peaceful settlement of his long-standing lockout of members of the Newspaper Guild.

A. L. Faulkner, federal conciliator of labor disputes, found this out when he intervened in the Lorain situation at the request of Assistant Secretary of Labor McGrady.

Faulkner got in touch with Horvitz immediately upon receiving McGrady's request and asked him if he would not meet with Faulkner and representatives of the Guild in an effort to end the lockout.

Horvitz replied that he would not confer with any Guild committee and that he would not now or at any time sign any sort of agreement with the Guild.

He added that he was willing to talk with Faulkner alone, but that he would not talk with him if Guild men were present.

Effectually stymied by this attitude, Faulkner was obliged to report back to the Guild that mediation in this situation was impossible.

As a result, the Guild renewed its picketing of the Journal plant and of downtown streets in Lorain.

Policy on WPA Work Unified By Six Writer Organizations

Six writer organizations responded to the invitation of the New York Guild to discuss methods of co-operation in the coming WPA Federal Writers' Project, and at a conference Friday night, Sept. 20, a committee was set up to arrange to meet administration officials.

The Authors' League, the Yiddish Writers Union, the Writers' Union, League of American Writers and the Yiddish P. E. N. were represented along with the Guild but, while participating in the conference, John Howard Lawson, vice-president of the Authors' League, stated his organization would prefer to co-operate for the present without formal participation on the committee.

Working Group Formed
Each delegation chose one of its members to serve on the working committee to carry out the program agreed on. The committee consists of Alfred Kreymborg,

League of American Writers; William Edlin, president, Yiddish Writers' Union; Ivan Black, secretary, Writers' Union; A. Corlani, Yiddish P. E. N., and Milton Kaufman, Newspaper Guild.

It was estimated that the number of unemployed persons the participating organizations sought to place on the relief project approximated 500, while preliminary estimates of the number the project in New York calls for reach 300. It was agreed that the committee would seek to expand the project so that all the unemployed in this field would be absorbed.

Seek to See the Mayor

The committee will try to arrange a conference with Mayor LaGuardia with a view to eliminating the pre-requisite of home relief. It will seek to reclassify all employed on the writers' project as "professionals" at the salary level of \$103.50 per month. The conference also planned (Continued on page 3)

Chicago Sets Up U.P. Unit; Plans Aid for Jobless Scribes

CHICAGO.—One of the first attempts at Guild unit organization in the Chicago district was scheduled for the week of Sept. 23, when members of the strong United Press unit were to hold a special meeting at the American Newspaper Guild headquarters here. The United Press outfit in Chicago is about 100 per cent in the fold, and is one of the most enthusiastic Guild units in the district.

Members of the U. P. unit were to elect officers and arrange an order of meeting at their confab, at which it is also expected many matters of importance will be aired. The ANG acting secretary was to conduct the affair.

National Organizer Bill Davy, after 10 days at the Chicago office, left for Toledo to confer with the Toledo Newspaper Guild. He was later to visit Detroit, Mich.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Cleveland, and Indianapolis.

Guild Aids Unemployed
Before leaving, Davy set in motion a plan to place Chicago's unemployed newspapermen on Works Progress Administration projects. After having made little progress with Walter Roy, deputy administrator in charge of professional workers, Davy secured the support of Ed Nockles, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, who introduced him to Martin Durkin, Illinois Director of Labor.

Durkin, after several conferences with Davy, has promised to help the ANG place its unemployed men.

Unemployed newspapermen of Chicago have been rounded up, and a meeting was to have been held at headquarters Sept. 23.

While in Chicago, Davy learned that Louisville, Ky., and Memphis, Tenn., are "aching" for organization, and it is not impossible Davy's itinerary will take him to those points in the near future.

An enthusiastic group awaits his arrival at Indianapolis. Davy was informed just before he left Chicago.

Washington Stirs Debate On Levies

**Asks Guilds to Oppose
Them; Newark Raps
Its Arguments**

(Continued from page 1)
tion's intention, Pasche, who was a delegate, said:

"The convention refused to adopt dues which would finance the enlarged national program. Realizing this weakness, the delegates then provided as many as sixteen 50-cent assessments in one year and specifically declared that funds levied by assessment could be applied to general expenses. The intent of the convention was made clear in the extended debate and action on this issue, although covered in the constitution only by the provision permitting transfer of funds by the NEB."

Regarding the proposal to oppose assessments until monthly dues had been put on a "systematic and business-like basis," Pasche pointed out that this would penalize the national office for the failures of local guilds, since collection remains a local problem.

The Newark executive board sent copies of the two letters to the Guild Reporter.

The texts appear elsewhere.

Treasurer Replies

A copy of the Washington letter reached Cleveland, Garland Ashcraft, national treasurer, has written a lengthy reply on the whole subject addressed to the National Council, the body composed of the presidents of all local guilds.

The extent of the Washington executive committee's move is not known at national headquarters. No copy of the letter, addressed "To local guilds," was received until the New York Guild did not receive any; nor did the Westchester and Hudson County Guilds, the other two locals in this immediate area.

National headquarters is at present spreading current income out to pay as much as possible on each of its bills and still maintain a working bank balance. It is carrying on the organizational activities as far as possible until the National Executive Board has an opportunity to go fully into the whole problem and reach a plan.

Financial tables showing the Guild's actual expenses and income, heretofore not revealed because of a desire not to give any unfriendly publishers assistance, are presented in broad outline in this issue.

As the table shows, current expenses incurred to carry out most of the expansion program ordered by the convention run ahead of current income.

Dues and Expenses

The average dues receipts per month for the year 1935 down to Sept. 1 have been \$1,924.45, and average expenses \$2,665.55. The Guild started the year with an indebtedness of about \$2,400. This was brought down to a low of \$1,323.30 in May. Since then it has been mounting until on Sept. 26 it stood at \$2,138.67.

Dues, running consistently ahead of last year, reached a high point in May, the pre-convention month, of \$2,503.78—which was more than \$600 above the previous May. Then there was a drop to \$1,923.58 in June. July was better and August showed a bulge for the referendum, reaching \$2,344.60. Some of the bulge at the high points, of course, represents payments of back dues. September collections to the 26th were \$1,961.59.

The NEB's decision to incur at once at least part of the additional expenses ordered by the convention was made with the idea that it was an investment which would bring quicker returns in growth than any other policy.

The essential soundness of the Guild is shown in figures apart from regular income and expenses. Besides dues payments the membership has carried the weight of the Newark strike and part of the Lorain lockout. In at least two months emergency fund contributions exceeded dues payments. The June assessment, also brought in \$1,187.54 for the Lorain lockout. The

Texts of Washington-Newark Letters

The texts of the letters exchanged between the executive committees of the Washington and Newark Guilds follow:

Washington Letter
Washington, D. C., Sept. 12, 1935.
To Local Guilds:

At its regular meeting August 20, the Washington Newspaper Guild voted to pay the second ANG assessment and in the same resolution expressed opposition to further assessments until collection of monthly dues shall have been put on a systematic and business-like basis.

The Washington Guild will do all in its power to help meet financial emergencies of the national office, now and always. But we are concerned that the national financial policies shall not be detrimental to the membership at the next general meeting. In the meantime, I have been authorized by our board to write to your letter on its behalf. "We are in hearty accord, as I trust Guild members are everywhere, with the principle which you advocate, of a large guild paying small dues. But to achieve that aim the Guild must be kept going, and its program must be financed by the members now paying dues, not by those who have to enroll."

The national office asks for a budget of \$40,000 a year. At 50 cents a month, 4,847 paying members will provide that sum. It is variously estimated that there are 25,000 to 40,000 persons in the country eligible to Guild membership. Mr. Eddy reported at Cleveland that 6,000 members paid dues in May. Later reports show between 5,000 and 5,500 paid during the summer.

The Washington Newspaper Guild believes the Guild must build greater strength by getting more members and by collecting dues regularly. This is more laborious than levying assessments but success depends upon it. We face the choice between a large Guild paying small dues in sufficient numbers to finance ordinary expenditures; or a

July assessment money is just starting to come in.

The Washington Stand

Backed by Twin Cities

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The executive committee of the Twin Cities Guild has voted unanimously to endorse the action of the Washington Guild in opposing the levying of special assessments by the National Executive Board to pay current expenses of the ANG. The vote was taken at a meeting on Sept. 22.

The board's attitude is in effect that assessments would be in effect as long as the convention voted down.

Muskegon Not to Pay

MUSKEGON, Mich.—The Muskegon Guild at a meeting held Sept. 16 voted not to pay the second assessment of 50 cents a member for general purposes. In a letter to national headquarters reporting the decision, Ralph W. Egbert, secretary-treasurer, said:

"The local Guild takes the position that it is unfair to expect some Guilds to meet assessments for other Guilds which have failed to send in their regular dues. However, on assessments for strike purposes, such as at Newark and Lorain, Muskegon can be counted on to meet its assessments. Our members are unwilling to pay in accordance with the action of the Washington Newspaper Guild, as of Aug. 20, in opposing further assessments until collection of monthly dues shall have been put on a systematic basis. Let us have more members with lower dues, rather than a small membership with a high monthly cost to each. Local salaries, in the face of rising living costs, are so small that our members will be unable to pay more than they now are doing."

"The above convey accurately the sentiments of the Muskegon Guild members."

Buffalo Goes on Record

BUFFALO.—A general meeting of the Buffalo Guild on Sept. 19 voted to pay the latest national assessment but to protest against any more assessments on the ground that they discourage an increase in membership. One unit particularly complained.

The Buffalo action follows the

small union of trained seals paying high dues and freewheeling out the fellows of lesser salaries.

We invite other Guilds to consider this question and communicate to their opinions.

JAMES D. SECREST,
Secretary.
Authorized by the WNG Executive Committee.

Newark Reply
Newark, N. J.,
Sept. 23, 1935.

Dear Secret:

I placed your circular letter of Sept. 12th before the Board of Governors, which is the local executive committee of this Guild, on Sept. 19th. I shall place it before the membership at the next general meeting. In the meantime, I have been authorized by our board to write to your letter on its behalf. "We are in hearty accord, as I trust Guild members are everywhere, with the principle which you advocate, of a large guild paying small dues. But to achieve that aim the Guild must be kept going, and its program must be financed by the members now paying dues, not by those who have to enroll."

The views expressed by your letter on the subject of assessments do not appear to us to match the facts of the situation. You say in effect that the action of the Cleveland convention bars the imposition of an assessment each month. The Cleveland convention adopted a definite national program which included, among other innovations, a paid Guild Reporter edit, other publications and one or more organizers.

The convention refused to adopt dues which would finance that program. Realizing this weakness, the delegates then provided for as many as 16 fifty-cent assessments in one year and specifically declared that funds levied by assessment could be applied to general expenses. The

lead of the Washington, D. C. Guild, which recently took a position against future assessments until the collection of per capita dues from the various guilds is more satisfactory.

Philadelphia Council

Protests Assessment

PHILADELPHIA.—The executive committee of the Philadelphia and Camden Guilds has sent a protest against the second assessment to Garland Ashcraft, national treasurer. The letter, written by Robert Sharf, Philadelphia treasurer, at the instance of the council, added:

"The Council has instructed me to collect the second assessment as of September and not as a July assessment."

The 1935 Financial Record

The Guild's financial condition this year as revealed by receipts and expenditures, is shown in the following table, along with dues collections for the same months last year:

	Dues Receipts from Guilds, 1935	Item	Expenses, 1935	Total	Current Balance
January.....	\$1,174.00	General	\$1,000.00	\$174.00	\$1,174.00
February.....	918.90	General	892.30	26.60	1,200.60
March.....	1,285.50	General	1,015.00	270.50	1,471.10
April.....	1,218.40	General	1,088.41	129.99	1,601.09
May.....	1,168.55	General	1,011.25	157.30	1,758.39
June.....	867.55	General	800.48	67.07	1,825.46
July.....	1,238.65	General	1,020.13	218.52	2,043.98
August.....	1,258.55	General	1,100.99	157.56	2,201.54
September.....	1,200.76	General	1,070.51	130.25	2,331.79

* September, 1935, income and expenses as of September 26, 1935.
† A small amount of revenue has come from Guild Reporter subscription dues from members whose charges and contributions. Reporter advertising revenue has not yet started to come in.

THE PRESENT DEBTS

The current indebtedness of the National Guild as of Sept. 26, 1935, amounts to \$2,138.67. This debt was incurred for the following classifications of items:

Office Expense (including rent, office supplies, printing, telephone, telegraph, etc.)	\$651.33
Guild Reporter Expense (including printing and mailing)	674.90
1935 Collection for SRA hearing, January, 1935	156.00
Balance collected for SRA hearing, January, 1935	\$119.07

intent of the convention was made clear in the extended debate and action on this issue, although covered in the constitution only by the provision permitting transfer of funds by the NEB.

It seems to us that far from forbidding a monthly assessment, the convention quite clearly contemplated such a schedule of levies by the NEB.

As far as I can recall, Mr. Eddy did not report that 5,000 members had paid dues in May, but that 5,000 per capita dues had been paid. His report said that we should budget on the basis of 4,000 members paying dues.

For local guild to oppose further assessments "until collection of monthly dues shall have been put on a systematic and business-like basis" would mean the systematic collection of dues is still a local guild problem.

If local guilds undertook to turn in dues for all their listed members, they might not be faced with the necessity of collecting assessments. Until they do so, it would seem that the financial policy of raising enough money from active members to keep the guild alive was a desirable one, not a detrimental policy.

If the general membership feels it is worthwhile to have a guild and a guild program, it must be willing to pay the freight. Without having any knowledge of the proposed monthly assessment which you mention, we some time ago told our membership, in view of conditions, that we must expect such an assessment to be collected.

By direction of the board, I am sending a copy of this letter to the Guild Reporter.

VICTOR PASCHE,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Camden Guild has sent a protest against the second assessment to Garland Ashcraft, national treasurer. The letter, written by Robert Sharf, Philadelphia treasurer, at the instance of the council, added:

"The Council has instructed me to collect the second assessment as of September and not as a July assessment."

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May.....	1,168.55	General	1,011.25	157.30	1,758.39
June.....	867.55	General	800.48	67.07	1,825.46
July.....	1,238.65	General	1,020.13	218.52	2,043.98
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French Resigns As Guild Chief In Philadelphia

**Cites Personal Financial
Needs, "Scant Support"
in Explanation**

The resignation of Paul Corneil French as president of the Philadelphia-Camden Guild was made and accepted at a general meeting Sept. 15, a letter from French to the national office of the Guild.

In his letter of resignation, French cited personal financial reasons as well as the "scant support" he had received.

The Philadelphia-Camden Executive Council had previously engaged French as a paid organizer for a trial period, as one of the points in a "six months' program" presented to the council by French and reported in the Guild Reporter of Aug. 15. The council recommended an increase in dues to defray the salary of a paid executive.

This increase, failed of ratification, being tabled at the general meeting.

French in his letter of resignation urged that the Philadelphia-Camden Guild make the presidency a full-time, paid job, pointing out that "the Guild must learn it cannot expect men to assume positions of leadership—with the possibilities that their names will shortly appear on a publisher blacklist—unless the Guild can assure them some protection."

"I have been continually hampered in attempts to unify and strengthen the Guild into a fighting, militant organization by a small group who opposed my proposals merely because I offered them," he wrote.

Robert Corbin, first vice-president, was named acting president at the meeting. Ed Hunter was named second vice-president, and Carlton Cressman third vice-president.

A challenge of the election on the paper and foundered, being abandoned by Louis Feinstein, copy boy on the Record, according to a report of the meeting in the Guild Reporter.

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Contract proposals drafted by the St. Paul Daily News unit were presented to the executive board September 22, and a number of revisions ordered by the board. The News requests, as finally approved, cover all the essential points in the Tribune proposals and will be presented to the publisher as soon as revisions are made.

The chairman of the Minneapolis Journal unit reported to the board that his unit also wishes the Guild to start negotiations on its behalf and to a list of qualified voters furnished by the secretary, E. B. Olwin, secretary-treasurer, reported the Guild's financial situation to be the best in a year, with dues collections improving rapidly.

Discuss District Plan

Carl E. Johnson of Duluth, NEB member, urged the Twin Cities Guild to join in organizing a district council for Minnesota to carry on organization work. Board members demurred, contending the task of solidifying their own Guild and carrying on negotiations would require all resources of the Twin Cities organization during the next few months.

The question of organization of local Guilds in preponderantly rural areas—all that remains unorganized in Minnesota now—was raised, and the board authorized the president to name a committee of two to co-operate with committees from the Duluth and Southern Minnesota Guilds in surveying the field and determining the feasibility of a district setup.

William Gordon, a Guild member of long standing on the Salt Lake Tribune, has transferred to the Northern California Guild, incidentally taking a regular berth on the San Francisco Examiner copydesk.

Contracts Are Next on Slate For Twin Cities

**One Negotiation Is On
Now; Two More to
Start Soon**

St. Paul, Minn.—The Twin Cities Newspaper Guild is conducting contract negotiations with one paper, expects to start with a second within a few days, and the staff of a third paper is whipping its requests into shape for presentation.

After four months of letter-writing, negotiations finally met with Tom Dillon, managing editor of the Minneapolis Tribune, who had been authorized to act for Publisher Frederick E. Murphy, and discussed with him requests for:

Minimum salaries starting at \$20 a week for beginners and progressing to \$45 a week for men with five years' experience. A five-day, 40-hour week, with pay for overtime at rate of half day's pay up to four hours and full day for from four to eight hours.

Full restoration of all pay cuts since 1929 and salary adjustments for those hired since.

Two weeks' dismissal notice after one year, with additional week for each additional year up to twelve weeks' notice.

Two weeks' vacation with pay after one year, three weeks after five years and four weeks after ten years.

Preferential Guild shop. Sick leave. Grievance committee.

Objects to "Closed Shop"

Dillon received the requests very favorably, objecting strenuously only to the preferential Guild shop, which he termed nothing but a closed shop. Guild negotiators agreed with him.

He said he would discuss the proposals with Murphy, who has been all summer, and that a contract would be made as soon as Murphy had studied them. Since that meeting, Murphy has been away for his health, and the Guild has had no further contact.

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Mason's Mayoral Candidacy Stirs Warm Debate on Coast

**Effort to Repudiate Him
Fails; Private Poll
Backs His Drive**

Below is a complete story of the debate in the Northern California Guild over the candidacy of Redfern Mason, its president, for Mayor of San Francisco on a Labor Party platform. The story in the last issue was a verbatim with the aid of a telegram and personal letters.

SAN FRANCISCO.—A general meeting of the Northern California Newspaper Guild, attended by 35 members in good standing, defeated a resolution that would have repudiated the candidacy of the Guild's president, Redfern Mason, for mayor of San Francisco. The meeting was held in the Press Club Sept. 11. Mason was forced to resign from the Examiner staff after he had been elected unit chairman.

The resolution first appeared in the form of a message to the meeting, signed by sixteen members of the Examiner chapter, fifteen of whom did not attend. The message declared "the embarrassment caused to the Guild by Redfern Mason's candidacy for mayor of San Francisco" and urged that the Guild make it plain that the Guild as an organization is not supporting any candidate for political office.

Substitute Defeated

Supporters of Mason's candidacy insisted that the message be put in resolution form in order to get an expression of the sentiment of the meeting. After a substitute motion to endorse Mason and the United Labor Ticket upon which he is running had been defeated 19 to 15, the first resolution was tabled.

Thus the local Guild has taken no official action for or against Mason's candidacy, although an unofficial and incomplete canvass of members as individuals went almost unanimously in his favor. One of the chief objections raised to the Guild president's candidacy for mayor is the fear that the presence of a member of the Communist party on the United Labor Ticket might weaken the Guild's position in future attempts to negotiate with the publishers.

The United Labor Campaign represents a fusion of liberal, progressive, labor and radical groups, and from these its candidates are drawn. The only Communist on the ticket is Anita Whitney, former Oakland society woman, who was convicted of criminal syndicalism about ten years ago.

The chairman of the Minneapolis Journal unit reported to the board that his unit also wishes the Guild to start negotiations on its behalf and to a list of qualified voters furnished by the secretary, E. B. Olwin, secretary-treasurer, reported the Guild's financial situation to be the best in a year, with dues collections improving rapidly.

Discuss District Plan

Carl E. Johnson of Duluth, NEB member, urged the Twin Cities Guild to join in organizing a district council for Minnesota to carry on organization work. Board members demurred, contending the task of solidifying their own Guild and carrying on negotiations would require all resources of the Twin Cities organization during the next few months.

The question of organization of local Guilds in preponderantly rural areas—all that remains unorganized in Minnesota now—was raised, and the board authorized the president to name a committee of two to co-operate with committees from the Duluth and Southern Minnesota Guilds in surveying the field and determining the feasibility of a district setup.

William Gordon, a Guild member of long standing on the Salt Lake Tribune, has transferred to the Northern California Guild, incidentally taking a regular berth on the San Francisco Examiner copydesk.

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The Guild Reporter

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"Resolved, that the editor of The Guild Reporter be instructed to so edit The Guild Reporter that it shall promote in every legitimate way the recommendations and mandates of the Second Annual Convention of the American Newspaper Guild, and that he confine the editorial policy of The Guild Reporter to that specific program."—Adopted by the National Executive Board on proposition No. 17 of July 2, 1935.

We Need an NEB Meeting

We urge again that every member do everything in his power to make the meeting of the NEB possible this month. The members of the board have tried hard to iron out the financial problem by mail. As they naturally have different theories of Guild expansion and interpretations of the constitution, however, their debates have grown involved and a meeting around the table is essential. Let's not let anything stand in the way.

Another Alarm Clock

An article of forbidding import not only to men and women who work in composing rooms but to those of the editorial departments also was reprinted in the last Guild Reporter from "Postage and the Mailbag." It said in effect that the installation of teleprinters was near in the newspaper industry with the possibility of throwing many editorial workers out of jobs.

And tele-typing is but one branch of labor-saving technological advance in newspaper publishing including telephone and even radio transmission of pictures and ultimately even of whole pages among groups of newspapers.

Obviously it was not wise for the editorial workers of America's newspapers to continue blindly about their work while these inventive ways approach and roll over them. For self-preservation they have started doing more to-date thinking and acting as an organized group.

The Newspaper Guild has become the medium by which editorial workers in city rooms the country over are becoming aware of and voicing their economic problems of themselves and others as never before.

In their traditional role of observer and reporter they had tended to maintain an aloofness and attitude of detachment toward problems of labor. They tended to treat their problem of economic survival as one exclusively between them and their city editor or managing editor.

Now newspaper men are pooling their economic problems. They are learning the language of labor as dwellers in the country and not only as visiting reporters wearing their detachment as a holy frown grown in the hothouse of the publisher's counting room.

The mere process of organizing is causing newspaper men to think more deeply on their personal economic destiny. They will no longer let the publishers have sole control over the complex machine of journalism in its onward sweep toward reduced personnel.

Where Do Those Days Go?

We are humiliated. Looking back over recent months, we cannot recall the name of any newspaperman or woman who has done something really important in the higher levels of living. True, in their daily labors the gentlemen of the press have put in some good hours toward staying off war, removed corrupt public officials, exposed many exploiters of the public and made the man in the street a little more aware of what it is all about. Some have even written remarkable books. But where are our chess or golf champions, who has won garden prizes, what notable picture have we painted, what newspaperman is recognized by his children, if any? We are afraid journalists are wasting their new leisure in talk.

This fear is further borne out by the score of the annual baseball game between City Hall reporters and the city officials in New York. The reporters struggled through with a victory, 31 to 19, in seven innings. But we submit that any aggregation which allows a group of fat-bellied politicians to score 19 runs in seven innings is simply gone to seed.

This editorial is intended to be constructive. We are not saying a word in criticism of those who like to spend their two days off each week just loafing. But it does become boring to some and there are many ways to use the time so that a fellow gets more out of life. An absorbing hobby or side interest adds sparkle to existence. Profitable use of leisure time, however, requires some study, technique and organization. Unfortunately, there are too few facilities for the indulgence of one's hobbies in most communities, but there are far more than are generally known. The New York Adult Education Council provides a free information

Legislation by Grapevine Telegraph

There are innumerable ways of killing an organization like the Guild. We never expect, to see any of them succeed or even become menacing, because the good sense, reasonableness, determination and high purposes of the great majority of members have already been too thoroughly demonstrated.

But it would be dangerously naive to forget that many proposals made with good intentions and devices used without sufficient thought might if carried through have either a fatal or a crippling result.

The Washington Guild's executive committee in attempting to work against national assessments, has addressed a letter "to local Guilds." How many received it we do not know. New York did not; neither did Westchester nor the Hudson County Guild. Nor did national headquarters receive one directly; its copy, forwarded by the Newark Guild, arrived only after other Guilds had already acted on it.

This method has serious potentialities on two scores, which are worth examining carefully.

First, it does not, to say the least, court full discussion. It tends to limit the views exchanged to those of the Washington executive committee and each other interested Guild. In other words, it tends to lead some Guilds to take action, as actually happened in this case, on the basis of a one-sided presentation of the facts.

It is natural and proper for Guilds and Guildsmen to correspond with each other, but when large questions are up for decision, why not bring the matter before the whole membership? Any action by a part of the Guilds tending to tie up funds means a weakening of the whole body. Shouldn't the whole, therefore, be consulted?

It can be reached easily through the Guild Reporter. The Reporter has consistently regarded itself as a forum in which the whole membership could discuss policies. If at times the discussions have seemed one-sided, it is because the partisans of one side have been the more

active. The space was here for both; still it is. If members with proposals to make fear the honest comment that may accompany them in these columns, that seems to us to make their case doubly worth examining. All possible sides should be heard in determining any important Guild policies.

The Washington executive committee's method, secondly, tends toward minority rule. It invites the formation of a bloc, which, by being some of the purse strings, might be able to cripple the main body and force it to come to terms. In effect, the committee's letter asks local Guilds to make their own interpretation of the national constitution and act on it, rather than to ask the interpretation of either the whole Guild or its lawfully appointed representatives. This is what has happened in small degree. Such methods may be tempting at first sight; yet in their logical conclusion they would be ruinous.

The whole incident should warn us to greater caution and the avoidance of snap decisions. Every member is justified in such cases in insisting on time for careful consideration and in opposing intransigent stands against the action of the main body. We all realize that, in the end, we must get on with it. We must do things for ourselves through the Guild—which is the only way it can help us—we quickly come upon the need of all the rest. No intelligent general wrecks his own line of communication.

The Guild does not function perfectly. It is still a hastily constructed, unfinished machine. The delegates at Cleveland, thoughtful and careful as they were in writing the new constitution, were hardly sufficiently experienced to catch all the loopholes that allow conflicting interpretations and friction. Are we, then, when we disagree, to stand flatfootedly and say: No, by golly, we've got the power and you'll dance to our tune? We think not. The primary wish of all of us is that the Guild shall function. That means patience, a reasonable degree of give and take and an eye for the main goal.

Unionism is balked by Slavish Attitude
(President Charles P. Howard, writing in the International Typographical Union's Journal.)

One of the difficult problems with which we are confronted in carrying on successful organization campaigns is the slavish attitude of many of those whom we attempt to organize. They appear to have accepted and absorbed the primitive belief that an employer is especially favoring them in providing an opportunity to work and that as employees they should be satisfied with any wage the employer sees fit to pay; they should be willing to work as many hours as their employer desires; under any condition he establishes.

That was the relation of wage slave and master during medieval times, but in this age it is difficult to understand how intelligent workers can accept such a philosophy. No doubt those employers who have interfered with the rights of their employees by requiring them to sign "yellow dog" contracts, discharging because of union membership and compelling those employed to join company unions are responsible.

It has been the habit of the non-union employer to instill into the minds of his employees the belief that trade unions and such organizations of workers are wrong in principle and wrong in practice. The attitude of the non-union toward the union is based upon the misinformation and falsehoods that are disseminated by the non-union employer

and their paid agents. It requires patience and an intelligent campaign to prove to the non-union worker that organization is worth it, more for his interest than it is for ours. . . .

Union members must help to destroy the condition of non-union employer. The fundamental policy of the union must be to organize the non-union worker. It is our duty to convert the non-union worker to unionism. If we do this all will enjoy the benefits of collective action and co-operative effort. If we do not, no legislation that has been or can be adopted will help us.

We hope the press does not rest on its laurels and that it follows with further evidence of vigilance and freedom.

The Depression "Ends" But Contrasts Remain

The Beer-Louis fight made a lot of people think the depression was over. The wealthy folk, who had been spending with as little restraint as possible during the depression, came out of hiding. "Bright Crowd Stingers City by Spending," said a Herald Tribune headline the day of the fight. N. K. Jacobs, promoter of the battle, estimated the crowd spent \$7,500,000 on transportation, entertainment, etc.

Ringside tickets were being sold by speculators for \$100 apiece and the Herald-Tribune reported a top of \$400 for a single ticket at a "Long Island horseman."

Four hundred dollars, spent by this individual for a thrill which lasted less than twelve minutes, is more than many families in the United States have to live on for a year. It is not far from the total relief allowance for a family for one year in New York City. It is one fifth or more of the total annual income of the majority of American families.

On the same front page of the Herald Tribune which reported the orgy of spending appeared the story of a 68-a-week delivery "boy" in Wall Street who found \$150,000 in negotiable bonds in the street and returned them to their owners.

Albert Corvett, 22, receives \$13.15 a week in salary and \$3 in tips. The family of seven is on relief, the father, a printer, having lost his job in 1931.

Albert started to study journalism at Columbia University and was near the top of his class but had to drop out of college to go to work delivering sandwiches to the captains of finance at annual pay less than one of them paid for a fight ticket.

Four hundred dollars to Albert Corvett might mean the difference between bitter frustration and his desired career.

The W.P.A. workers who struck for the union scale and won something like it have done wonders for the world generally a good turn.

The trick was done by reducing the number of hours worked for the pay allotted per man.

On its face it might be assumed that this would mean the government would get smaller results in the amount of work performed. Actually it is said to be getting as much or more results and a better product.

Discontented cows, they say, don't give good milk.

When you look back on the last few years it seems grotesquely unfair that the nation's jobs should have been called on to work for a fraction of the scale current in private employ.

There was no urgency in the work itself which demanded that. The whole business turned Uncle Sam into a sweatshop operator.

This sweatshop policy was breeding chaos and demoralizing character. The stroke of resentful cows which drove the W.P.A. men's strike against palpable injustice and economic futility is a hopeful sign for an American people which even amidst destitution speaks up for its rights and for common sense.

Many Guildsmen ask what the Guild is doing. All too few ask what they are doing for the Guild. And in the final analysis, the success and the future of the Guild rests in the hands of the membership.

No officers, regardless of their ability and devotion, can carry the load unless they receive personal and financial support from the entire membership. That is vital.

I personally think it is time that all face the problem squarely and honestly, that we understand that we can receive no more from

the Guild than we are willing to put in it.

Many Guildsmen object to paying the assessments. I think we should face the facts: call a special national convention and raise dues to cover the cost of a growing organization.

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The Rest of the World

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Negotiations—Agreement—Split Ranks: From the Akron Guild Comes a Lesson

Any Guild and any Guild committee which goes through a stage of negotiations with a publisher learns much. It is folly to let those lessons go, by the board even though they may have been dearly bought and the effort has left much to be desired in the way of accomplishment.

It is with this in mind that a resume of the Akron situation has been undertaken.

The negotiations between the Akron Newspaper Guild and the Akron Beacon Journal led to an unfortunate split within the Guild and ended in a verbal agreement between the Beacon Journal and members of that unit of the Guild.

Time and circumstances have conspired to reunite the Guild, at least partially. An analysis of what happened and why may not gain allies either from the local or the national point of view.

Whole Unit Affected
In every Guild, and especially a two-unit Guild, one of the major problems is the part the unit not directly affected is to play in the negotiations. It is obvious that the fact that observance of the 48-hour five-day week has been more haphazard since the agreement than it was before.

Failure to carry on the negotiations as a Guild as distinct from a unit was a major factor in precipitating the break between the units—which came, incidentally, over a vote to table the contract not a vote to defeat it. The vote was taken after a telegram from Jonathan Eddy, executive secretary, urging delay, had been read.

The negotiating committee consisted of two official members and two observers from the Beacon Journal unit and two official members from the Times-Press unit (in violation of the national constitution with the provisions of which nobody took the trouble to acquaint themselves).

Error in Setup
The distinction between official members and observers on the committee was one of denomination and not of fact. In effect, there were four representatives of the negotiating unit to two representatives of the other unit. The hands of the two representatives of the Times-Press unit were further tied by a gentlemen's agreement under which the Beacon Journal men would do all the negotiating with their management and the Times-Press men would do the time when the time came.

With this 2-2 set-up, objections of the Times-Press unit representatives to the compromise proposal were rendered ineffectual, however well founded.

Two other factors further complicated the situation: The first was the fact that negotiations of the time were going ahead on the Cleveland Press (a Scripps-Howard paper, like the Akron Times-Press).

Unit Strong in Numbers
To illustrate this it is only necessary to point out that there was a decided argument about whether or not even to ask for a closed shop. And nobody, or almost nobody, considered seriously the possibility of actually achieving it in spite of the fact that there was at that time only one actual "hold out" in the office involved.

A more or less paternalistic publisher policy combined with a complete absence of interference with

the Guild's activities had led to the development of a numerically strong unit without any very clear conception of the importance of safeguarding the organization.

The result was that when a compromise contract was offered which provided individual benefits in the form of 10 per cent and 5 per cent wage increases and certain minimums which meant even larger increases for some members of the staff, the absence of any provisions of the aforementioned type was given scant consideration.

Grievance Committee Needed
Developments since the agreement was reached have served to emphasize the importance of at least a grievance committee form of working recognition, as distinct from merely nominal recognition. Unless there is such a recognized committee everybody feels a little leery about accepting the responsibility for making complaints about breaches of the agreement.

In fact, in the instance under consideration, that responsibility has not been shouldered in spite of the fact that observance of the 48-hour five-day week has been more haphazard since the agreement than it was before.

At that meeting the "committee" was instructed to ask that a clause providing for a grievance committee be included in the contract—but the Beacon Journal men, who had no say in this was conceded. This rather effectively tied the committee's hands as far as forcing the issue was concerned.

As a matter of fact, the publisher, who had tentatively indicated such a committee would be acceptable to him during the first negotiations conference, did not give a flat yes or no on this question at any time. He said he didn't think such a committee would be necessary, his door would always be open, and he didn't want to be bothered by people continually running to him with matters the managing editor should settle. That settled it.

But the realization that there is a difference between casually entering the boss's office as an individual and doing it as part of a recognized committee of an organization has sunk in since.

One real battle which the Guild committee put up with was made on the matter of a general wage increase, by one of the observers, and was won.

The factors which were present when a vote to table the contract, at least pending receipt of a national opinion on it, were:

"One unit had a raise coming the following Saturday if the contract was ratified."

"The other unit was convinced that something better would come out of negotiations with a sister paper in Cleveland, and that acceptance of the contract in question would jeopardize its

position."

"The Akron Beacon Journal was in a position to pay the assessments. I think we should face the facts: call a special national convention and raise dues to cover the cost of a growing organization."

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After five months of negotiations between a committee of the Akron Newspaper Guild and the publishers of the Beacon Journal, marked by little progress, the publishers drew up a compromise contract providing several improvements in conditions for their staff, including immediate pay raises.

It is a Guild of two units and the question of acceptance without substantial changes developed into a sharp issue between them. Eventually the proposed agreement was accepted on a verbal basis.

This happened last May. In an attempt to help the whole Guild profit by any mistakes made, a leading member in Akron has surveyed the episode and set down his conclusions here.

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Tied Committee's Hands
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May We Hear From Them?

Sheboygan, Wis.
The Guild Reporter,
49 W. 45th Street,
New York City.
Gentlemen:

For some time you have been sending about six copies of your publication to various members of our news staff. Inasmuch as they have never subscribed to this magazine and would rather have it passed on to someone else, will you please take their names off your mailing list?

Thank you for giving this request your immediate attention.

Very truly yours,
THE SHEBOYGAN PRESS,
Marion Koch, Librarian.

KAY BURTON, until recently of the Chicago Daily Times, and formerly of Transradio Press, is planning on returning to her home town, Pittsburgh, Pa., about Oct. 1. Miss Burton has been an exceptionally enthusiastic Guild member in Chicago, donating her services to the Chicago office for hours of stenographic work to help National Organizer Davy "clear the decks" for action.

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and it looked as though a better agreement might be obtained there. The other was the fact that a tentative vote of acceptance was given to the compromise contract proposal of the publisher at a unit meeting.

Tied Committee's Hands
At that meeting the "committee" was instructed to ask that a clause providing for a grievance committee be included in the contract—but the Beacon Journal men, who had no say in this was conceded. This rather effectively tied the committee's hands as far as forcing the issue was concerned.

As a matter of fact, the publisher, who had tentatively indicated such a committee would be acceptable to him during the first negotiations conference, did not give a flat yes or no on this question at any time. He said he didn't think such a committee would be necessary, his door would always be open, and he didn't want to be bothered by people continually running to him with matters the managing editor should settle. That settled it.

But the realization that there is a difference between casually entering the boss's office as an individual and doing it as part of a recognized committee of an organization has sunk in since.

One real battle which the Guild committee put up with was made on the matter of a general wage increase, by one of the observers, and was won.

The factors which were present when a vote to table the contract, at least pending receipt of a national opinion on it, were:

"One unit had a raise coming the following Saturday if the contract was ratified."

"The other unit was convinced that something better would come out of negotiations with a sister paper in Cleveland, and that acceptance of the contract in question would jeopardize its

position."

"The Akron Beacon Journal was in a position to pay the assessments. I think we should face the facts: call a special national convention and raise dues to cover the cost of a growing organization."

PAUL COMLY FRENCH.

BERT GOODALL, controller of the Evening Ledger Unit of the Philadelphia-Camden Guild, has resigned to accept a position with

THE FREE PRESS

Seldes Book Leads Reviewers Into
Introspective Trances

Edited by Evelyn Seely

Let's See About This Freedom

How does the press use its freedom? No question is of more concern to us, as the resolutions of two national conventions have testified.

This department proposes to keep a running check. To make it, we want clippings of news that is colored or distorted, and reports of suppression from New York to San Francisco and all points between. We also want to know about outstanding crusades and exposures, and instances of exceptional news-handling.

Will Guildsmen, Guild Reporter correspondents in particular, please cooperate so that this department may become a real yardstick of what is going on. Please send material to Evelyn Seely, care of Guild Reporter.

In cases of news distortion, please document it—if possible—by honest reporting of the same story.

Mr. Seldes tells of the suppression of news by business organizations, by political factions, department stores, drug manufacturers, oil, steel and other powerful groups as well as by occasional friends of editors. His conclusion is that there is little freedom of the press left.

Is the press free? If so, how does it use its freedom? Newspapermen, reviewing Seldes' book, were on the spot. Their opinions on the free press were enlightening.

William Allen White of the *Empire* (Kansas) Gazette:

"Too often enterprise is the corollary leading to the trap of propaganda. Mr. Seldes has painted American journalism, wars and all, as honest, sturdy, portrait. It is good for sore eyes to have a look at it."

New York Post, editorial, Sept. 18:

"There has long been a legend in the trade that an attack on any newspaper weakens respect for all newspapers and for the whole industry. The Post has never subscribed to that theory. It has always felt that when a publisher does something wrong, he ought to be kicked in the ass, just like anyone else."

"The best thing that could happen to journalism would be more books like this to force journalists to take down their hair and act like human beings."

Don Wharton, *Brooklyn Eagle*, Sept. 4:

"Whether Mr. Seldes sees it or not, a free press is a free press to be partial, to be prejudiced, to be stupid, to be the tool, even, of public utilities and power companies."

George Currie, *Brooklyn Eagle*, Sept. 4:

"Mr. Seldes' vigorous exposure itself concludes as a no less vigorous propaganda for the New York paper Guild, the editorial and reporter."

Quotes From Unit Papers

H. C. L. UP-SALARIES STILL DOWN

While the salary of the average newspaperman has remained stationary, the prices of many essential food products have skyrocketed between 40 and 124 per cent during the past year, statistics of the Federal Department of Labor reveal.

Even if newspapermen's pay cuts are restored, their wives will still have to curtail purchases at butcher shops and groceries. Lard has led all other kitchen necessities in soaring 124 per cent between August, 1934, and August of this year.

Meats Skyrocket

Sliced bacon jumped 84.3 per cent in that time, while pork chops skyrocketed 83.3 per cent. Other astounding increases were:

Pork beef.....	60
Sliced ham.....	55.5
Chuck roast.....	51.3
Poultry (dressed).....	45.4
Eggs.....	42.8
Rib roast.....	42
Round steak.....	38.8
Sirloin steak.....	36.3
Canned peas.....	29
Canned corn.....	24
Lard.....	12.2
Butter.....	12.2
Cheese.....	9.1
Cereals.....	8.2
Fresh milk.....	7.2
Evaporated milk.....	2.9

The August report of the National Industrial Conference Board, according to the New York Times

for September 11, 1935, estimates that all food prices, as a whole, are at a 34 per cent higher level than in August, 1934. The monthly rise alone being 3 per cent. Comparison of the manufacturers' figures with those of the Labor Department indicates that employees are supposed to subsist largely on a potato and bread diet.

Rents Increase

The ultra-conservative figures of the Industrial Conference Board set the increase of rents at 9.3 per cent over August, 1934. This represents a 1.4 per cent higher level than July of this year.

Although coal prices—largely a

worry of the landlords—climbed 5 per cent over last month, they were 2.1 per cent lower than in August, 1934. This falls to explain why rents took such a jump, but newspapermen's salaries are not coal purchases.

While men's wearing apparel prices declined 3 per cent from July, the cost of women's clothing remained at last month's level, which was 2.9 per cent less than in 1934. It has been estimated that only 10 per cent of the average newspaperman's earnings can be devoted to clothing for himself and his wife.

Living Costs 45 Per Cent Higher

The cost of sundries remained at the July level, which was 3 per cent higher than in August, 1934. But the entire cost of living last month climbed 4.5 per cent over the estimate.

Gardner, New Executive Secretary in Cleveland; Active in Lorain

CLEVELAND. — The Cleveland Newspaper Guild has appointed George Gardner as its full-time executive secretary.

Bill Davy, now national organizer for the American Newspaper Guild, originally held this post. When he resigned to take the position of national organizer, Pauline Fischer was hired as secretary by the Cleveland Executive Committee.

Experience showed, however, that the Cleveland Guild needed an active newspaperman who would contact other Guilds, help direct such

activities as the Lorain lock-out, and in general carry on some of the functions of organizer as well as secretary.

Gardner, accordingly, was given the post by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. He had been a member of the staff of the *Cleveland News* for six years.

Since the beginning of the Lorain lock-out, Gardner has been one of the most active participants in the struggle. His unflinching energy and willingness to devote much time to the fight proved his merit to the Executive Committee.

Wants Security Action

UNION CITY, N. J. — The Hudson County Guild has adopted a resolution asking Governor Hoffman to prepare the legislative and financial surveys necessary for the introduction in the next legislature of laws to make effective those portions of the Social Security Law requiring state support or direction.

Photo-Engravers Deny Competition

A report circulated lately that the International Photo-Engravers' Union had sent out instructions to its locals to organize photographers on newspapers where the engraving departments are undisturbed has been denied by Edward J. Vols, president of the engravers' International.

In a letter to Johnathan Eddy, executive secretary of the American Newspaper Guild, who queried the report when it first was brought to his attention, Vols said no such instructions had been sent out by the International and added:

"We have at no time sought the jurisdiction or affiliation of photographers except those having photo-engraving experience or employed as photo-engravers."

"It is quite true that in one or two isolated instances in the past the photographers in engraving departments have been requested to join an outside news association. However, I have not heard of a recent activity along this line."

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A simple report such as: "Ambulance going to Broadway and Forty-sixth street; man shot," will send the boys running through the door of headquarters across Center Market Place to the various offices where most newspapers maintain a direct line to the central office switchboard. The boys read the slip to the buffer on the city desk who will in turn transmit the information to the night city editor.

In the Herald-Tribune office a call is placed for Charles Seelig,

who is in the city editor's office. The boys read the slip to the buffer on the city desk who will in turn transmit the information to the night city editor.

Striking Ship Radio Men Ask Guild for Support

The American Radio Telegraphists Association, whose members are on strike against shipowners in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, has appealed to the American Newspaper Guild and to Guildsmen for contributions to the strikers' relief fund. The association is in the Communications Council which the New York Guild is considering joining. The radio operators' union offices are at 10 Bridge St., New York City.

About 175 men are on strike in New York. Four lines had signed agreements by Sept. 24 when the strike had been in progress three weeks.

Herwood Brown was the principal speaker at a mass meeting on Sept. 24, at Irving Place in New York City in support of the strike.

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Newspaperdom's Great Unsung: The Ultra-Spy New York District Men at Work

By LEO J. MARGOLIN

THE district men, unsung heroes of New York City journalism, stand as the first line of defense between Metropolitan dailies and the spot news that occurs every minute within 300 square miles of a city, pulsating with life. These men also called police reporters, can be found as quickly at the scene of a daring Times Square holdup as at the spot where a petty racketeer has met his end in the swamps of Canarsie.

"So, you won't talk, eh?" is to most people the most trite of police expressions, but any district man who carries a shield-shaped police card will tell you that the exclamation is more likely "Well, I'll be a no-and-so; how did you guys get here so fast?"

Veteran policemen are mystified and amazed at the speed of district men in reaching the scene of a spot news event. They pop up from behind ash cans; they drop from thin air; they arise from manholes and walk unrestrained through tightly closed doors. As to their means of transportation, it is sufficient to say that they would as readily thumb a ride on a subway car as ride on the tire rack of a speeding police car.

The District Man Is the Boss

Upon their arrival, they work quickly and efficiently. For all purposes they are their own editors. If the story isn't worth the nickel for a telephone call to the city desk most city editors will take their word. Their work trains them to a point where a hurried perusal of events will bring an immediate decision as to the story's significance. When a district man kills an insignificant news item, that item will never arise from his grave to bother anyone.

The newspapers of the city follow the geographical outlines of the city police precincts in setting out their districts. Of the five boroughs comprising the city, the largest concentration of men is found in Manhattan, a borough still called New York by city dwellers.

Manhattan, focal point of the city's activities, is divided into four large districts, the first of which is at police headquarters. There each newspaper in the city in addition to the City News Association and the United Press maintains a reporter. These men cover that part of Manhattan below Fourteenth Street. Assisting are slip boys whose duty it is to stand near a teletype machine in the lobby of police headquarters and record the news tips which are sent from the police telegraph bureau on the top floor.

When the Boys Go Into Action

A simple report such as: "Ambulance going to Broadway and Forty-sixth street; man shot," will send the boys running through the door of headquarters across Center Market Place to the various offices where most newspapers maintain a direct line to the central office switchboard. The boys read the slip to the buffer on the city desk who will in turn transmit the information to the night city editor.

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Charges Frameup

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possess these reporters carry a current issue of the Social Register in a convenient pocket.

Some of the best jewel robbery stories have come out of this section, though some of the stories were obtained with great difficulty. As a consequence, the east side boys are experts in ferreting out detectives who suppress information. They have a method peculiarly their own in handling these detectives, and there is many a patrolman gathering bunnies on a hard pavement who once was a dapper sleuth.

The west side district is bounded on the south by Fourteenth Street, by 15th Street on the north, Fifth Avenue on the east and the Hudson River on the west. Within this territory is the world-famous Great White Way, the hotel center, the theatre section and most of the large steamship piers. These reporters are used to both the lesser homicides of Hell's Kitchen and the more spectacular hotel and night club murders a few streets away.

Big Stories Covered By the District Men

It is most disappointing to the newspaper-reading and movie-going public to be told that the famous Arnold Rothstein murder was covered not by the star reporters pictured as invincible in the movies, but by the district men in the ordinary performance of their duty.

If a star reporter showed his nose in the Park Central Hotel while police were investigating the case, he might have caught cold from the icy stares of harassed plainclothesmen. The district men, who are used to the less glamorous work, arrived and gathered their information from detectives whom they personally knew. These unfortunate men were sent by excited city desks gathered no more and probably less than the district reporters.

There is the value of the district reporter. He knows his district from stem to stern; he knows the police precincts and precinct detectives by their first name; he knows his news contacts intimately and they know him. On many occasions he is sought out and important information is passed to him for the asking.

This does not mean that the district man must stay rooted on a comfortable chair in the district office. On the contrary he may be found in the West Twentieth Street, West Thirtieth, West Forty-seventh Street, West Sixty-eighth or the West 109th Street station houses at any time during his hour of duty.

The Divisions Of The City

A similar group of men is maintained by newspapers on the east side of Manhattan, the district covering all the territory east of Fifth Avenue to the East River, and bounded on the south and north, respectively, by 14th St. and 155th St.

This section has been called the silk-stocking district, but also contained therein is the street known as the toughest in the world—East 103rd St.—in addition to the famous murder stable, where more than twenty men have met violent deaths in the past five years. The homes of the big news names are also in this district, and for practical purposes

that night would fill a good-sized book, but suffice it to say that, with all the odds against them and in imminent danger of serious injury, they did a noble job of reporting. Extra men sent directly from the city rooms found themselves helpless while the trained district men went through the "war area."

District men on the battle ground did not come out unscathed. Harry Johnson, a New York American reporter who covers the east side, was brutally beaten. A Daily News photographer was removed to a hospital with serious injuries. The regular district men were banded together in the automobile of Walter Henschel of the Herald Tribune, and rode about surveying the battle.

Rioting Brings Its Dangers

The fourth and northernmost district in Manhattan is Harlem, which covers, in addition, Washington Heights and East Harlem. Included is all the territory north of 125th St. to the Harlem River. Seldom productive of a front page news item, the district has been the scene of a number of the most serious outbreaks in the city since the war.

Brooklyn—Mother of Stories

Brooklyn, most populous of the boroughs, has been called, and perhaps not undeservingly, the best news town in the country. When better stories are to be had they can be found in Brooklyn. So important is Brooklyn to most newspapers that a number of them divide the borough into districts similar to those of Manhattan and

maintain regular men in addition to their men in Brooklyn police headquarters.

The coverage of so important a story in Brooklyn as the \$428,950 armored car holdup was solely the work of district reporters. The speed with which the men arrived at the scene and a lucky bit of mistakes identify—the victims thought that the reporters were detectives—was overwhelming to most editors and practically every newspaper representative was rewarded with a bonus. The stories were the first to be written by reporters from offices were half-way to the scene.

Brooklyn is a district by itself, with the activity center opposite Bronx police headquarters. Bronx reporters had their peak activity during the Lindbergh investigation when Dr. John F. (Jafie) Condon and Bruno Hauptmann as principal nightmarers.

'Ridiculous,' Guild's Answer To Mrs. Liggett's Bias Charge

Case of Publisher, Charging a Frameup, Never Discussed, Is Retort

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Neither Walter W. Liggett, publisher of a Minneapolis weekly, nor his wife, who charges Minnesota Guild members with bias against her husband, has ever attended a meeting of the Twin Cities Guild or contacted any of its officers for information about the Guild.

In a letter printed in *Marion Pew's* "Shop Talk at Thirty" columns in the Sept. 14 *Editor & Publisher*, Mrs. Edith F. Liggett, making a plea for funds to defend her husband in a pending trial on a sex charge, says:

"I hope that we will be fortunate enough to have some reporters present who are not Guild members. In this state the attitude of that brotherhood is that anyone who opposes Gov. Olson should be in prison on general principles."

"I don't know much about its membership in the East, since it was formed since we returned to Minnesota. But there is no doubt that the Minnesota members will exert themselves to persuade Eastern Guild reporters that Walter probably deserves hanging."

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Drive Begins For Members On Services

New Labor Law Is Seen as Giving Confidence; Negotiations Asked

(Continued from page 1)

representative of the employees. As the first step in the organizing campaign, an index of all ANG members who work for press associations is being compiled in the national offices.

"As soon as this index, classifying all press association members, is completed, we will begin a nation-wide drive to organize all news service employees in the Guild," Watson said.

To strengthen the hand of negotiating committees in collective bargaining activities, all press association employees who have not already joined are urged to apply for membership in the Guild. In cities where local Guilds do not yet exist, press association workers may apply for membership directly to the ANG offices in New York.

Negotiations to Be Renewed

The negotiations in behalf of INS and Universal employees, expected to be renewed in the next few days, will continue the work of the conference held Aug. 7 between the Guild negotiating committee and the management. The Guild committee consisted of Watson, Carl Randau and Milton Kaufman, the latter two president and executive secretary respectively of the New York Newspaper Guild. The management was represented by Joseph V. Connolly, and Barry Faria, editor of International News Service.

Informal agreement on several proposals in the Guild's program was reached. Connolly, however, declared the issues of Guild shop and severance notices to be matters of general interest, and he agreed to communicate with the general management on these points.

Pursuant to this understanding, Watson on Sept. 15 wrote a letter to H. M. Bitner, general manager of Hearst Newspapers Corporation, reviewing the conference of Aug. 7. Watson's letter concluded:

"On behalf of the editorial employees of International News Service and Universal Service, I make this formal request, that you authorize the management of the two organizations to sign an agreement with the American Newspaper Guild and the Newspaper Guild of New York covering the points on which we have already agreed, and that you authorize the management to negotiate further, looking toward agreement on the other points outlined in this letter."

Watson also informed Mr. Bitner that it was the Guild's understanding "that there would be no reduction of anybody's present pay rates, regardless of any agreement that might be reached on the other points."

Conference Requested

On the same date Watson also wrote a letter to Connolly requesting a second conference. Two days later Connolly's secretary advised Watson by letter that the news service president was in Europe and that the request for another conference would be called to his attention upon his return in two weeks.

The results of the Aug. 7 conference were described in the Guild Reporter of Aug. 15 issue. They covered a national grievance committee representing both Guild and non-Guild members on the two services, which is now being set up; and a promise by Connolly that if the business improvement of the services continued the five-day, 40-hour week, recently suspended, would be restored before the end of the year.

The committee also asked, under authorization of the New York INS and Universal Service units and of the Hearst wire service employees in all parts of the country, for salary minimums for various grades of employees ranging from \$15 weekly for first-year copy boys to \$75 for main desk men in New York, Chicago and Washington. It asked for a \$35 minimum for all editorial workers who are not managers or assistant managers.

Look Where They Ask For Guild Card Now!

NEWARK.—That Guild card is needed in the most unexpected places. Jacob Mogelev, one of the Newark Ledger Guild strikers and who has just become city editor of this paper, went to a nudist colony at Long Valley, N. J., and sought an interview with the manager, Leslie Bain. "Have you got a Guild card?" Bain asked. He had, and showed it. "Why don't you keep your dues paid up?" Bain asked, but he agreed to the interview.

Bain is a movie cameraman and member of the American Society of Cinematographers.

Writer Groups Unify Policies On WPA Work

Six Organizations Form Joint Committee At Conference

(Continued from page 1)

to have each organization communicate with members in Washington who could constitute a committee to see the federal heads of WPA.

Among those who attended the conference were: Mr. Lawson, Louise Silcox, secretary; Albert Malta, Arthur McGeogh and Ivan Van Auv, assistant secretary, Authors' League of America; Edlin and L. Berman, secretary, Yiddish Writers' Union; Black, Grace Lumpkin, Matthew Smith, William Cunningham and David Rosenberg, Writers' Union; Josephine Herbst, Michael Blankfort, Bernhard Stern, Kreymborg and William Rollins, Jr., League of American Writers, and Carl Randau, president; Lucien Zacharoff and Kaufman, of the New York Guild.

New York Pledges Help for Strikers

Aid Voted for Consumers' Research Workers

Support of the strike of Consumers' Research employees in Washington, N. J., was voted by the general assembly of the Newspaper Guild of New York at the Hotel New Yorker on Sept. 19. Several hats were passed and \$40 was collected for the striking members of the Technical, Editorial and Office Assistants' Union, an American Federation of Labor affiliate.

The Representative Assembly's invitation to executives of Consumers' Research to send a speaker was ignored. Alexander Crosby, a Guild member and a striker, spoke for the union. He asked Guildsmen who are CR subscribers to notify the corporation that their subscriptions will be cancelled if the strike is not satisfactorily settled.

Picket lines have held solidly since the strike began on Sept. 4, and only a few scabs have ever been able to crash through. A recent story in The World-Telegram revealed that Consumers' Research has hired guards from the Robert J. Foster agency in Newark. Foster has a long history of union-smashing activity in the steel industry.

A Lady Speaks

Three days after Heywood Broun presided at a protest meeting of CR subscribers in Town Hall, New York, Miss M. C. Phillips (wife of F. J. Schlink, president of CR) allegedly told several visitors from New York City: "What a fool we are going to make of Heywood Broun before this thing is over."

In a lengthy printed statement mailed to the 55,000 subscribers, the officers of CR charge that the strike is a plot of Communists and big businessmen, working together to undermine CR. The union has issued an answer, copies of which may be obtained by sending a post card to the New York Strike Aid Committee, 41 East 20th Street, New York City.

N. Y. Approves Higher Dues to Meet Budget

Assembly to Set Rates; Proportional Basis Is Discussed

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\$17; convention, \$51; audit, \$3.33, and contingency (5%), \$20. Salaries totaled \$481, including an increase for a member of the office staff from \$15 to \$21 weekly.

Based on Experience

With the exception of the increase in the salary item, and the jump in the rent item consequent upon the removal of the New York office from the headquarters of the national organization, the budget was based on the actual experience of the Guild during the past ten months. It covers, however, items for which no provision had been made in the past, such as liquidation of debts on past conventions, contingencies for exceptional expenditures, and an audit.

No action was taken on a recommendation to raise dues to 65 cents for those now paying 50 cents (members earning \$25 weekly or less) and to \$1.35 for those paying \$1. Other suggestions, however, were offered by speakers, such as a scale of 50 cents for the low brackets, \$1.35 for the middle, and for members earning \$50 or more, \$1.50. The final recommendation of the membership meeting was that the Representative Assembly investigate the feasibility of basing dues on a proportion of salaries received. The Representative Assembly was urged also to establish the new dues rates on Nov. 1 or Dec. 1.

Objection Voiced

Objection was voiced to the raising of dues for those in the 50-cent class, because it would affect many copy boys earning only \$15. Other members felt that the suggested increase of 15 cents a month would work no hardship, and yet help defray the cost of maintaining members in this class.

Current dues in the New York Guild provide an average of 34 cents per member, on the basis of 1,400 in good standing, for operation and administration of the Guild. To cover the budget 57 cents per member is required, it was pointed out. To the argument that members would not pay higher dues, many speakers answered that if the membership were convinced that the Guild needed more money in order to progress they would provide it.

Newark Puts Up \$20 Prize Money

Photographer and Writer Will Divide It

NEWARK.—The board of governors of the Newark Guild has earmarked \$20 as prize money in two contests. Half will go to the news photographer who submits the best picture. The remainder will be awarded to the writer of the best news or feature story. The contest committee includes Alexander N. Sloan, Sunday Call, chairman; Robert L. Moore, Sunday Call art gravure editor; Emmet Crozier, Ledger editorial writer; Jerry Kurtz, Ledger labor editor; Joseph F. Reilly, Star-Eagle city editor, and Edward Fallon, Star-Eagle news editor. The photographers' contest ends in December and the competition for news writers ends Oct. 1. If the latter is won by a Star-Eagle man, the management has promised to give an additional \$10 prize.

Newark Gridiron Dinner

NEWARK.—The Newark Newspaper Guild is planning a gridiron dinner to be held sometime in November. Nathan L. Goldberg, president, has appointed a committee of 22 to handle the affair.

BERNARD BERGMANN, formerly connected with the New Yorker, has joined the Record staff as feature editor.

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARX

MAX MILLER of the San Diego Union is back home after some weeks in the frozen North. His book, "The Great Trek," the story of the five-year drive of a reindeer herd through the icy wastes of Alaska and Northwestern Canada, will be out Oct. 4, and he is already hard at work on a new manuscript.

Johannes Steel, foreign editor of the New York Post, has an article in the October issue of Fight, in which he predicts that Japan will seize the first opportunity to invade Soviet Russia. In the same issue William N. Jones of the Baltimore Afro-American states his conviction that the best ally of Ethiopia is the anti-war and anti-Fascist movement of the people of all countries.

Dorothy Dayton, Guild member of the New York Sun, has an article called "Their New York" in the October issue of Mademoiselle. It is the first of a series of articles analyzing the habits, manners and lives of certain young New Yorkers.

Russell Owen of the New York Times has written a foreword for "Alone Across the Top of the World," the authorized story of the Arctic journey of David Irwin, as told to Jack O'Brien. It will be out Nov. 1.

Ladislav Farago, European feature writer of the A. P., who was packed off to Addis Ababa immediately after the Wal-Wal incident, has written a book called "Abyssinia on the Eve." Putnam's are publishing it this week.

Antoinette Donnelly, whose daily columns appear in the New York Daily News and the Chicago Tribune, has just published her first book, "Charm Never Fails."

Forrest Davis, chairman of the New York World-Telegram guild chapter, had to add a postscript to his biography of Huey Long, which was already at the bindery the day the senator was shot. The book was rushed through and was on the stands ten days after Long's death. It is brought out by the Dodge Publishing Company.

LEONARD H. ARNOLD, of the Universal Service Staff, has been transferred from the New York headquarters office to the Chicago bureau, where he will serve as executive news editor. A staunch Guildsmen since the organization's early days, "Len" is expected to continue his activities in Chicago.

DON CORVELLI, Camden Courier-Post photographer, and Mrs. Corvelli are being congratulated on the birth of a daughter. Corvelli leaped into fame when struck by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., while snapping a picture at a boat race in Philadelphia.

THE AMERICAN SPECTATOR Edited by Charles Angoff

The October issue of The American Spectator, the first under Mr. Angoff's editorship, will contain, among others, the following features: "Munitions Makers Go Hunting" (a hitherto unrevealed phase of the munitions business), by H. C. Engelbrecht; "All the News Printed to Fit" (how the "New York Times" tried to understand the phenomenon of Lenin), by George Simpson; "Mendacity on a Factory Basis," by Sidney Wallach; "Clericalism Invades American Politics," by Ferdinand Lundberg; "Of Nothing and the Wolfe" (a parody of Thomas Wolfe), by Clifton Fadiman; "Two Cents for Fiorello La Guardia" (a critical study of Mayor La Guardia), by Allan Chase; "Wage Slavery in New England," by John Lowell; and an editorial on "The Un-Americanism of Mr. Roosevelt," together with a comprehensive appraisal of the work of Heywood Broun, by Mr. Angoff.

The American Spectator invites all members of the American Newspaper Guild to become subscribers. They will find in it news and opinions not to be found elsewhere in American journalism. 10 cents a copy, \$1.50 a year.

THE AMERICAN SPECTATOR, 132 West 31st St., New York, N. Y.

Ferdinand Lundberg of the New York Guild has an article called "Clericalism Invades American Politics" in the October American Spectator.

E. L. Jordan, Guild member of the New York Times, is giving a course on modern word usage and vocabulary building for the Brooklyn Teachers Assn.

In Burns Mantle's annual, "The Best Plays of 1934-35," Charles Phillips, dramatic critic of the Chicago Tribune, contributes a chapter on the season in Chicago; George C. Warren, dramatic editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, writes on the season in San Francisco and Philip K. Scheuer, assistant dramatic editor of the Los Angeles Times, describes the season in Southern California. Burns Mantle, dramatic critic on the New York Daily News, is a Guild member.

Maurits A. Hallgren, of the Baltimore Sun, has an article in the September Current History called "Labor Under the New Deal." He is also doing a book to be called "The Gay Reformer," which is said to be an analysis of the present state of American capitalism in relation to the Roosevelt Administration.

Charles Wagner of the New York Mirror spent his summer vacation finishing work on his book of children's verse, "Poems for Polite People."

The name of Clyde G. Bartel, rewrite man on the San Diego Sun, is listed in Edward J. O'Brien's Roll of Honor in his 1935 collection of "Best Short Stories." The story, receiving the three-star rating, was called "Fog Covers Everything" and appeared last July in Story magazine.

Please send notes about the outside writing of your fellow Guildsmen for this column. Address contributions to the Guild Reporter.



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Master of the informal essay, Broun has provided innumerable readers with pieces they never forget. This book collects 105 of them—skilful caricatures, fight-talks, reflective studies, humorous sketches, milestones and monuments of a decade. "These comments on the current scene should be cherished in the years to come for even better reasons than we cherish Addison and Steele."—HARRY EMERSON WILDES. "The fact is Mr. Broun is no 'columnist' at all—but a writer of great wit, force, and intelligence."—CLIFTON FADIMAN, NEW YORKER. \$2.50

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