

For the Fourth
Estate

The Guild Reporter

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Vol. II. No. 20

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 15, 1935

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6-Day Week Back on AP; NEB Parley This Week Unit Fights On Finance

Restoration in New York Brings Guildsmen Into Quick Action

BULLETIN.

AP news department employees in New York City voted 68 to 4 in favor of a resolution designating their agent in collective bargaining with the management. The resolution asked the Guild to negotiate regarding conditions of work and particularly hours.

The number voting for the Guild amounted to approximately 62 per cent. of the total of all editorial employees in the New York office. All but one of this number signified their intention of continuing as Guild members. This represented a gain of 30 in the unit strength.

The Associated Press has placed its New York office back on the six-day week, bringing a sudden end to the five-day schedule on which the staff has been working for more than a year. Return to the old work schedule instantly galvanized the Guild unit into action, resulting in a call for a special meeting and the unanimous approval of a referendum on a resolution calling upon the American Newspaper Guild to institute collective bargaining on behalf of the New York staff.

First notice of the changed working schedule was made to members of the day staff late in the afternoon, Monday, Oct. 5, with no explanation. The night staff learned of the change when a new schedule was passed around, giving each employee one night off each week. Sports, feature and cable staffs also reverted to the old working conditions. Cable desk men had been on a six-day week for two weeks, necessitated, it was said, by the press of East African war news.

Followed Directors' Meeting
Guild leaders, when apprised of the ruling, viewed the action as having possibly large significance, as it followed in less than a week the semi-annual meeting of the AP directors. Prompt response to the Associated Press Unit's appeal was promised.

Officials of the AP declined to say why the order was given to end the five-day week schedule. Lloyd C. Stratton, executive assistant to

Members Advance Costs for Meeting to Map New Program

National Guild finances and the whole question of Guild program and policy stemming therefrom will come up for action Oct. 19 and 20, when the National Executive Board convenes in New York for the first time since the Cleveland convention. Although the Guild is without money to finance the \$700 traveling expenses, national officers practically, without exception, have assured headquarters that they will be on hand.

The main problem before the NEB will be the matter of financing all or part of the program voted at the Cleveland convention, including publication of our national organ, continuance of our organizer and of the new national office in Chicago, an organizing drive, and other matters felt to be tied in with Guild expansion.

The Board has declared that an emergency exists, and voted a third assessment of 50 cents per capita to help tide over the present jam. This assessment is levied as of the first week in October. Stamps have been sent out for it.

Also, the Board has voted that any surplus remaining from the July assessment, levied to meet the Newspaper Industrial Board debt and to help maintain the Guild members locked out in Lorain, Ohio, shall be transferred to the general fund "to be expended in the discretion of the Treasurer and the Finance Committee to help preserve our credit."

A third resolution just passed bearing on the situation invited all members of the National Council, the body composed of local Guild presidents, to submit for the forthcoming meeting any proposals or guidance they can to help "the NEB in formulating a financial program."

(Continued on page 7)

Unofficial A. F. L. Returns

Guilds Certifying on or Before Sept. 5

	No. Certified	Yes	No
Albany, Schenectady and Troy	33	14	19
Akron	46	17	29
Baltimore	47	..	..
Buffalo	79	29	50
Boston	37	25	12
Des Moines	8	5	3
Detroit	32	28	4
Duluth	39	26	13
Durham	10	9	1
El Paso	22	17	5
Greensboro	15	8	7
Hudson County	36	27	9
Lansing	24	5	19
Lehigh Valley	17	..	..
Minneapolis and St. Paul	156	114	42
Muskegon	12	8	4
Newark	113	83	30
Philadelphia and Camden	311	92	219
Pittsburgh	94	40	54
Rochester	65	37	28
Reading	17	17	0
Rockford	15	8	7
Cleveland	252	132	120
New York	1,302	730	572
San Antonio	9	9	0
St. Louis	177	34	143
Salt Lake City	3	20	17
Spokane	3	..	..
Springfield, Mass.	22	13	9
Springfield, Ohio	26	14	12
Southern Minnesota	19	12	7
Wilmington	33	11	22
Washington	139	52	87
Westchester County	23	15	8
Youngstown	44	17	27
Northern California (San Francisco)	158	101	57
Milwaukee	55	38	17
Totals	3,526	1,806	1,720

Guilds Certifying After Sept. 5

	No. Certified	Yes	No
Brockton	14	13	1
Cincinnati	52	41	11
Columbus	21	14	7
Kansas City	12	..	..
Madison	16	..	..
Toledo	79	51	28
Valley	2	0	2
Winston-Salem	14	0	14
Totals	3,740	1,925	1,815

New York Fights Lockout Of 17 With Aid of Unions

The lockout of fifteen members of the Amsterdam News unit is being fought by the New York Guild with the aid of the Harlem Labor Committee, which includes more than eighty labor unions, and the support of clergymen and civic and professional leaders in Harlem.

Mayor LaGuardia took a hand and asked the owners to meet him on Oct. 14.

Mass picketing, with as many as 20 persons on the picket line at one time, was conducted in front of the building. Heywood Brown, president of the national Guild; Frank Crosswath, Harlem labor leader, and Milton Kaufman, executive secretary of the New York Guild, were among those who took their turns on the picket lines.

Members of the Building Service Employees Association also joined in the picketing. A picket line was even formed in front of the Amsterdam News' printing shop downtown.

The fifteen Guild members were among seventeen editorial employees fired Oct. 9 by the Harlem weekly for economy. Strikebreakers were hired immediately and lavish offers were made to Guild members.

This is the first open dispute between organized Negro workers and a Negro employer.

The campaign against the lockout is reported to be gaining ground steadily and big dents were expected to be made in the paper's circulation.

Conflict in Management

Mayor LaGuardia called the president and largest stockholder of the Amsterdam News Company, Inc., William H. Davis, to his office last week, but learned that he had been ousted from control of the paper by his wife, Mrs. Sadie Warren Davis, and her daughter, Mrs. Odessa Morse. Davis was to attend the Mayor's conference with Mrs. Davis on Oct. 14.

Davis assured the Mayor of his sympathy with the employees. He

(Continued on page 7)

Affiliation Lost, Early Tally Shows

Unofficial Result Is 1,806 to 945, or 1% Less Than Needed

With returns almost complete, unofficial tabulation of the nationwide Guild poll on affiliation with the American Federation of Labor indicates that affiliation failed of passage by a margin of 1 per cent under the required two-thirds.

Counting the votes of guilds that certified their paid-up membership before Sept. 5, in accordance with the rules set up at the Cleveland convention, a total of 2,751 valid ballots have been cast, 1,806 votes for affiliation and 945 against affiliation. A switch of 28 votes would have carried the issue. Three Guilds have not yet reported the results of their voting.

Eight Guilds failed to certify their qualified votes by the deadline of Sept. 5. Of these six have sent in returns. Including their votes the totals are 1,925 for affiliation and 1,005 against. The matter of the disputed votes will be decided by the NEB when the official count is made.

Newsman proved to be reckless as to observing regulations, for a large number of official returns came either unsealed, or without the required covering envelope at all.

Despite the apparent defeat of the referendum, a decided swing in the direction of affiliation was evidenced by the heavy increases in sentiment over previous polls. A vote of 430 more than a majority is shown. There was a majority for affiliation in 30 of the Guilds recorded, as compared with ten Guilds having a majority against.

New York Strongly Pro

New York City gave the pro-affiliation cause heavy backing, with 730 yes and 180 no. The pre-convention poll in New York instructed the delegates to favor affiliation by a seven to three vote, 543 to 232.

Minneapolis-St. Paul, with 114 yes, 33 no, and Northern California (San Francisco), with 101 yes, 16 no, were the runners up in support of the affiliation issue.

The St. Louis and Philadelphia-Camden Guilds gave the heaviest support to the anti-affiliation stand.

(Continued on page 7)

Akron in Campaign For New Members

AKRON.—An intensive drive to swing all newspapermen and women in this city and adjoining territory into the Guild has been started.

According to plans made public by Ray Sutliff, local Guild secretary, every editorial worker in all towns and cities within twenty-five miles of Akron will be contacted personally by Guildsmen. Akron is getting the names of eligibles and will send them to the Guild Reporter.

Between issues of the Reporter the Guild will send out to prospects a mimeographed letter containing news of local developments, and a local mimeographed newsheet.

The letters will be followed by personal visits.

The local organization committee also is formulating steps for negotiating with the publisher of the Canton Repository, one of the Moore-Brush chain, with a view toward obtaining a Guild contract for Canton editorial employees.

Brockton Ratifies Plan For District

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Ratification by the Brockton, Mass., Guild of the New England District Council plan drawn up at a provisional assembly here, has been received by Scott Anderson, temporary secretary of the council. With an earlier action by the Springfield Guild, Brockton's ratification furnishes half the vote necessary to establish a permanent district.

A vote on ratification of the district plan which was mailed to secretaries of all New England Guilds and also published in The Guild Reporter, has yet to be taken by the Boston, Lynn, Meriden and Waterbury Guilds.

Springfield elected the first official delegates to the council, in the course of its annual election. With four candidates competing for two appointments, Valery Buratt, former president of the Guild, and Norman Corwin, chairman of The Republican unit, were named.

Time For Back-Dues Drive

—AN EDITORIAL—

Nearly \$11,000 are owed to the Guild in unpaid dues and assessments.

Some of this we shall never collect, because it represents the joiners who came in during the first flush of organization and left when they saw the Guild meant more than backslapping.

But the men and women in the Guild today know it is a serious-minded effort to improve their working status. They know the Guild must grow, that it must constantly be ready to function aggressively. They know that such an organization costs money; they are ready to support it.

Let's make a drive to bring every last one up to date in Guild payments! Some may be behind for special reasons, but most are behind because of poor methods of collection. Let's end any slipshod or faltering methods now.

Let's put full steam on, form committees, check the membership lists, send effective groups to see members who are behind, discuss the problem, work out a plan of payment.

It can be done—we had a taste before the referendum.

And nothing will do the Guild so much good.

These unpaid dues and assessments are the worst bane of our existence. They balk us by never letting us know how much we really have. They discourage us by leaving the burden to be carried by the most loyal members. They irritate us, by causing more assessments than should be necessary. They trip us up and make the stabilization of finances all but impossible.

While they are unpaid we have only the skeleton of an organization; we live on an emergency basis. We can only really begin functioning after our troubles have hit us; we should do more before.

Let's get into a position to advance! Clean up the back dues and assessments!

Make the Guild financially healthy!

Guildsmen Wrestle With the National Financial Problem

Issue of Special Assessment Brings Varied Responses

Fiscal and Organizational Questions Raised—No "Monthly Assessment" on NEB Agenda

Discussion of national finances has been taking place in several Guilds in connection with the letter sent out by the executive committee of the Washington Guild. For joining are items received at national headquarters:

Youngstown, O., Backs Systematized Collections

The Youngstown Guild, letter went to the Washington Guild. It said, in part:

"Believing that a proposal to levy a 50-cent assessment each month is contrary to the vote and consensus of the national convention, the Youngstown Guild joins the Washington Guild in opposing further assessments until dues collections are systematized."

"It described the levy as a 'violation of the spirit of the convention' and a 'questionable use of a loophole.'"

Springfield, Mass., Guild Deplores Personal Strife

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—The Springfield Guild at a meeting on Oct. 7 authorized the following expressions in answer to the Washington protest on assessments:

"1. It prefers financing through regular dues, if possible; but places the responsibility for the necessity of special assessments upon the local, such as ourselves."

"2. It commends, with deep respect, the necessity of financing the NEB, with so little at hand; and acknowledges with warm gratitude the self-sacrifice of national officers, some of whom have gone without pay; some of whom have contributed of their personal finances to the support of the Guild."

"3. It deplores personal strife within a Guild as the NEB."

"4. It recommends that in the future all decisions of the NEB and its subcommittees be reported in majority and minority opinions, as affecting the disunity of a much-needed avenue of expression; that after opinions have been reported, both sides shall refrain from debate, except as necessary to satisfy interrogatories; that the minority abide by the will of the majority and strive to fulfill it."

The newspaper Guild of Springfield instructed that copies of the letter be sent to Secretary Jonathan Eddy, Treasurer Garland Ashcraft, and Clyde Beale, editor of the Guild Reporter.

Say It in the Reporter, Akron Guild Advises

Ray C. Sullivan, secretary of the Akron, Ohio, Guild, has transmitted the following communication to national headquarters as the reply of the Akron Newspaper Guild to the Washington letter:

"I am directed by the Executive Committee, pursuant to a resolution adopted at a recent meeting, to write you that the Executive Committee of the Akron Guild wants to go on record as opposed to the circulating of Guild officers that has been going on in the NEB fight over dues collections and assessments and expressing the belief that the Guild Reporter is the medium that should be used for such expressions."

"The Executive Committee feels that such circulars as recently have been sent out not only fail to reach the membership-at-large, as they would if placed in The Guild Reporter, but are a waste of Guild money, be it the money of the national Guild or the local Guild that is sending out the circular."

"Furthermore, the Akron Executive Committee believes that disputes like the current one over dues and assessments should be settled by the NEB, which was selected to function during the period between conventions, and that the local Guilds cannot properly express their feelings in such disputes unless a referendum is held or a convention called."

"The Akron Guild is going ahead with organization work in its territory and believes the NEB should settle matters of policy among its own members, chosen as a policy-making group, and encourage expansion of the Guild rather than injecting its quarrels into the membership."

Winston-Salem Urges 'Regular Fiscal Policy'

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Winston-Salem Guildmen approve the attitude of the Washington Guild toward special assessments, but voted at their last meeting to pay second assessments. The question was lengthily discussed at a recent meeting, and it was agreed that there would be no objection to paying an assessment levied in the spirit of the constitutional amendment, but that the Winston-Salem Guild, which has always been 100 percent in paying dues, would not pay assessments as a departure of the regular fiscal policy.

Washington Reiterates Its Assessment Stand

By the Reporter's Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON.—The determined opposition of the Washington Guild to further assessments except in cases of extreme emergency was reiterated this week in actions of its executive committee. At the same time a desire for unity in national Guild ranks was expressed.

Following receipt by local members of a seven-page mimeographed letter from Garland Ashcraft, national treasurer, denying that the NEB exceeded authority in ordering an assessment when there was no emergency and that the action was a violation of the convention's mandate. Supporters of the committee further reiterated their contention that paid-up Guilds were being penalized to support delinquent Guilds. They said the action would cause disunity and disaffection.

On a test vote the committee's actions were approved. In the Oct. 4 meeting of the executive committee, at which the letter to local members was authorized, it was agreed to differentiate in its official records between actions authorized by the committee unanimously or by a majority.

Held Fundamental Matter.—The general sentiment of the executive committee, and the majority membership of the Guild, which so far has supported the committee, appeared to be that the present altercation was a more fundamental matter than a dispute over authority to levy an assessment or a number of assessments. It appeared that the Washington members who have led the battle against further levies felt the situation would be effectively settled until those in charge of Guild finances and executive policies either changed their views or were replaced by officers who had different convictions. Superintending to that position, it was felt that a vigorous dues campaign should be instituted and that money should be on hand before commitments for spending it were made.

Monthly Levy Plan Is Not on NEB Agenda

In the Washington letter Jonathan Eddy was reported to have said at a meeting of the Washington Guild

servient to him. Buck, who at the request of the committee, attended all its meetings, did not refer to the epithets, but repeated his objections to the assessment. He termed it an attempt to establish "organizational fascism."

The question of the eventual result of continuing assessments, which has instigated intense discussion in membership and executive meetings and outside, was thoroughly canvassed. It was pointed out that the local Guilds stand against a series of assessments taken at a regularly called meeting and endorsed at the next regular meeting.

At that meeting members of the Guild who disagreed with the action of the executive committee presented their arguments. They charged the action in dispatching a letter to other Guilds would lead to a "dangerous factionalism" and questioned the authority of the committee to dispatch such a letter. They asserted the committee was being "used" by Buck to promote his own views and spread dissension in national ranks. They said the assessment money was "needed to carry on the essential functions of the Guild. They made a particular point of the charge in the Washington letter that continued assessments would lead to "small units of trained seals," and contended support of national officers was necessary to continue the work of organizing and protecting low-paid men.

Discipline Found Helpful

He advocated discipline, rather than relying upon the "right spirit."

"Only in one or two cases," he continued, "has the Hudson Guild had to suspend a member for non-payment of dues, but the point is we were willing to go through with that. This is where the national must go back to the local, must insist on such steps, as it is well able to do with the new plan of keeping at headquarters the individual record of every member in the country."

"Duster" Less Members than Carry Deadwood

From Richard L. Turner, president of the Washington Guild, came the example of "duster," known in the national capital as "the human checkoff."

Along Came Law Health.—Washington dues collections were so bad at one time, said Turner, that national headquarters whittled the Washington monthly quota abruptly from 350 to 100.

Health of the United Press chapter, how things were going, and he and two lieutenants took over the situation.

"Every pay day my every man contacted by Law or one of his lieutenants," Turner wrote. "Here came a revealing lesson. The men approached were not even reluctant to pay.... We have sought to imitate the same plan in every one of our units, in all cases with a marked improvement. The key to the problem is to find the right men. Law Health's of course are few."

Turner added: "On the assumption that Guild members generally feel much the same way, it strikes me that the problem of the national is to see that the right men are doing the collecting. I would suggest that some one be assigned to visit the delinquent Guilds, talk with the local officers, drum the

Dues Advanced for NEB By Washington Guild Vote WASHINGTON.—The Guild's executive committee voted to forward its November dues quota a month early in order to help provide funds for the October meeting of the National Executive Board.

Guild Presidents Give Hint On Building Up Collection

Lively Treasurer Called One Key to Problem—National Contact With Him Urged

An appeal to local Guild presidents to clear up back dues and assessments was broadcast by the National Executive Board Oct. 1. Accompanying the appeal, sent out in mimeograph form by Executive Secretary Jonathan Eddy, was an invitation to the presidents to make suggestions for more effective dues collecting at the NEB meeting Oct. 19 and 20. Eddy wrote that regardless of what measures are finally accepted, "we shall be quite dependent upon local Guild officers to carry them out successfully."

There was an immediate response of letters. Norman W. Williams, president of the Hudson County, N. J., Guild, sent a check for \$50, and said: "One essential, for locals and national, is a capable, energetic treasurer with collectors of the same stamp to assist him. The Hudson County Guild is especially fortunate in this respect."

Graham Rankin is secretary-treasurer of the Hudson County Guild.

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and THE WAR ON POVERTY

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(Continued on page 3)

Thursday, Oct. 17

at 8:45 o'clock

Photographers Join Fight On Camera Issue

Plan to Make Reports Take Pictures Bringing Groups Into Action

A general meeting of all New York City news photographers has been called by the representative assembly of the New York Guild for Oct. 25 at the Times Square Hotel to discuss means of combating the spreading practice of equipping reporters with cameras.

The photographers at this meeting will also nominate one of their craft for the executive committee of the New York Guild and take steps for the greater organization of photographers.

A committee of photographers is in charge of arrangements for the meeting. The committee includes Al Amy and Art Sorenson of the Post; Leo Lieb of the Journal; William C. Greene of the World-Telegram; secretary of the Press Photographers' Association; Tony Sarno of International News Photos, and Omond Levenson of the Daily News. Ruth McKenney of the Post is on the committee as representative of the executive committee of the Guild.

Price's Article Scored.—At a preliminary meeting of the committee Oct. 3, the issuance of miniature cameras to reporters of the New York American was discussed. It was said that with this equipment the reporters could not undermine the jobs of the photographers and that there were few skilled cameramen among the editorial employees. Nevertheless it was felt that a campaign against the use of cameras by reporters was a paramount economic necessity.

A second meeting of the arrangement committee will be held in the offices of the New York Guild Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 8 o'clock.

Acting for the Press Photographers' Association of New York, Greene, on Oct. 1, protested to "Editor and Publisher" against an article by Jack Price under the heading "Eyes of the Press" in which Price advocated the use of cameras by reporters. This article was one of Price's regular contributions.

Greene wrote "Editor and Publisher" that the article was "resented" by the newspaper photographers of New York. He protested against what he said were misstatements, saying he was amazed at the ethics of permitting a commercial photographer to write for a publication about a subject "that he has not been in close contact with for many years."

Greene Thanks Guild.—"We know that Mr. Price has not been in the newspaper photographers' field for a good number of years and of course conditions have changed just the same as they would in any other field of endeavor," he wrote. He has had experience on but one New York newspaper and that was the old New York Morning World. How can man who has been out of touch with the business for so long pretend to know how a modern newspaper works?

"Any real newspaperman can read through the lines in his story and see that he is only building himself up on a commercial basis. In fact his article fairly smells of an advertising campaign by a miniature camera concern."

Greene sent a copy of the letter to the Guild Reporter together with a note expressing the thanks of his association for the stand taken editorially against the carrying of cameras by reporters.

In Washington E. C. Nelson, Sheppard, veteran reporter on the Washington Star, has been elected to the Washington Guild Executive Committee. He is expected to lead in rebuilding the Star Unit, weakened since the death of Dan DeSouza.

Cops Federal Job

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2 Thugs Beat Lorain Picket; Fight Spurred

Night Attack Upon Guild Member Arouses New Determination

CLEVELAND.—The Lorain members of the Newspaper Guild who have been fighting the lockout of Publisher Sam Horvitz and the Lorain Journal since last June, discovered last week what "industrial violence" means.

The Guild member to make the discovery was George Canales, who was slugged on the head with a blackjack and knocked unconscious by two unidentified thugs.

The attack took place at about 11 P. M. as Canales was returning home after a day on the picket line before the Journal's plant.

As he turned down his own street, two men stepped out of the darkness and came up to him swinging. He dodged one and got a blackjack blow from the other, dropping to the sidewalk unconscious.

Lockout benefit payments had been made that day, and Canales had his money in his pocket. The men had not touched it, nor had they made any attempt to relieve him of any other valuables.

Approximately a week before, Publisher Horvitz had blandly refused to accept a negotiation offer of U. S. Labor Conciliator Pauline, on the ground that there was no trouble at the Journal plant and, consequently, nothing to negotiate.

Prior to new determination by the Lorain Journal, Canales and his co-workers in the lockout ranks are carrying on the fight as before, with one change—the temporary absence from the scene of Johnny Dunn, chairman of the Lorain unit of the Guild.

Dunn was offered a temporary job in Toledo and, on the advice of the lockout committee of the Cleveland Guild, accepted it—with the understanding that his name would be removed from the benefit rolls, his absence, and that he would return to Lorain whenever his presence might become necessary.

Dunn's absence has failed to hamper operations of the lockout—Guilders for the reason that his wife, Harriet Dunn, immediately declared herself "in on the fight" during her husband's absence.

Early in September, labor's opposition to Priest vanished and he was appointed the next day.

Priest has been a member of the Tribune unit of the Salt Lake City since its organization. He has had wide experience in newspaper and publicity work in Salt Lake City, Boise, Idaho and Los Angeles.

Belief No Guildsman 'Covered' Him Led Roosevelt to Jennings Ruling

A revelation of an inquiry of President Roosevelt's when he was deciding how to handle the Jennings case was made in an article by Paul Ward, entitled "Roosevelt Keeps His Own," in The Nation of Sept. 25. Speaking of the various White House secretaries, the article said:

Despite his chronic silliness (Stephen Early) is rated by reporters as the most expert press officer the White House has ever known. . . . He is loyal, efficient, unimaginative, but not so well-informed as he might be. There was, for example, the occasion when Roosevelt, pondering the prodigious of trucking to Hearst and the American Newspaper Publishers' Association by clipping the wings of the National Labor Relations Board when it asserted jurisdiction over the newspaper industry, asked Miss Perkins whether there were any members of the American Newspaper Guild among the White House correspondents. The Guild presented the case on which the NLRB's jurisdictional claim was based. Miss Perkins referred the President's question to Early and Early replied with misinformation. That is to say, his answer to the President's question was in the negative and Roosevelt thereby was falsely assured that he could clip the NLRB's wings without arousing the press corps. It was, furthermore, a major error in press strategy, for it caused an almost universal doubt of the President's courage and sincerity among the correspondents, and until then had been willing to give him the benefit of all doubts.

BUILDING: Labor a "Problem"

By JONATHAN EDDY

WITHIN a few weeks the National Executive Board must name the place of the next convention. Where should it be? What would be the reaction to taking a poll of local Guild presidents? I have heard four cities mentioned: Two are in the East, two in the Middle West. If any one has any strong ideas on the subject he would do a favor by writing in.

Where the Local Needs Assistance

It is sometimes charged that the national office does not pay sufficient attention to local Guilds. The charge is well founded in fact. Here is a letter from the Guild, South of the Mason Dixon line, and near the Eastern Seaboard.

"The fact that one Guild has folded up will, we sincerely hope, not discourage other newspaper staffs contemplating organization, or act as a damper on those chapters in the smaller communities where Guild affiliation must necessarily be for the present merely a matter of paying dues."

"Beggared down in the hinterland, so to speak, our direct contact with larger and more active chapters was confined to an occasional trip by some member, a situation that was inadequate to keep interest in the Guild fanned to any fever heat."

"Publication of the Guild Reporter helped immensely, but the personal touch was lacking; there were many who were in the news close position of feeling that they were a part of the Guild and yet not a part of it. It was as if they had lived on an isolated island for years and were tired of hearing each other talk. A stranger might have worked wonders in keeping interest alive."

The situation outlined will be recognizable in many Guilds, where, fortunately, it has not reached so acute a point. A new, fighting or

garrison, spread across the entire map of the country, absolutely requires a means of personal contact between its various parts. Each local Guild should be visited regularly by a representative of the national organization; or lacking that, of the District. Yet only two districts have been set up to date, and only one of these has completed its framework and applied for approval of the national.

And because of the present financial crisis, national officers are not getting around as they should.

Labor a "Problem" of the Depression

I have just run across a new book on "Labor and the Government," published by the Twentieth Century Fund, and sponsored by a committee comprised of a former national NRA compliance officer as chairman, a magazine editor, the chairman of the national railroad mediation board, a manufacturer, a professor of business, a former governor, and two functionaries of the Fund. What sort of book might one expect, under the sponsorship of such a non-labor committee?

The first sentence of the preface affords an indication. It reads: "Labor has been a central problem of the depression and of the struggle for recovery." The problem would seem to be how to increase hours and lower living standards without facing strikes.

It was minds like these who had to contend with on government boards that cheated labor out of its legal rights under NRA, minds that have the unrighteous arrogance to subscribe to a characterization of the group that has borne the weight of the depression, a group that itself has seen unemployment by the millions, that has taken wage cuts and longer hours while corporation profits went up, as a "problem of the depression," a "problem" in the struggle for recovery.

The resolution embodying these views was adopted unanimously at a Guild meeting; the statement said.

Guild Views Vary On Assessments

(Continued from page 2)

that "he has placed on the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the national executive board a proposal to levy a 50-cent assessment each month."

Regarding this statement Eddy said, "A monthly assessment of 50 cents is not on the agenda of the approaching NEB session. I was misled repeatedly at a meeting of the Washington Guild whether I had placed such a proposal on the agenda and denied repeatedly that I had done so. The tentative agenda has been published in the Guild Reporter and the only current change is to make resolution of our financial problems the primary item of business, which it certainly de-

Rockford, Ill., Comments On Levies Discussion

A statement of the position of the Rockford, Ill., Guild arrived as this issue of the Reporter was going to press. It opposed assessments for purposes other than strikes and lockouts. It further "deplored" the injection of personalities into disputes over Guild policy and the circulating of Guilds on controversial issues without at least notifying national headquarters. "In place of assessments to carry on regular activities of the Guild when other funds were inadequate it proposed making a plea for voluntary contributions."

The resolution embodying these views was adopted unanimously at a Guild meeting; the statement said.

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THE FREE PRESS

By EVELYN SEELEY

NEWSPAPERS brought the war dramatically into the lunchtime of New Yorkers Thursday, Oct. 2. "Extra! Extra!" rang through the crowds with a new excitement.

The Daily Worker was first on the streets with its extra at 1 p.m. Its headline read "War," half way across the page in big black type, and opposite it two lines, "Ethiopia Invaded!"

Page 1 was all war news at the bottom a picture of marching ranks of Ethiopian soldiers and the banner "Defeat Italian Fascism—Defend Ethiopia!" Page 2 carried a complete summary of events leading up to the war and a political and economic analysis of how war came.

The New York Post was a close second and other extras, waiting for the declaration that never came, burst out in rapid succession all over the city. The Daily News had the biggest head, with a great black "War Begins" in 12-point block type running three-fourths of the way down the page, and below "F. D. R. Pledges Peace for U. S."

"Corriere d'America," Genesee People's afternoon daily, slanted the head this way: "Ethiopia Is Driven Out of Italy Ad Una Avanzata."

Wilson Premises Recalled

As they read of war and the President's solemn pledge to the American people that he will keep this country free of "foreign wars and foreign entanglements," readers recalled startlingly the newspapers of 20 years ago and the pronouncements of Woodrow Wilson who "kept us out of war." The Post brought the point home from the start, with a photograph, the day after war broke, of a cemetery of crosses in Alsace and similar pictures of death and destruction every day following. Below the picture it read, "The present war broke out in Africa. No interest of the United States was involved at the outset of either conflict."

The crumpling yellow newspapers of 20 years ago show contrasts as well as similarities. They show that reporters have gone a long way in 20 years toward realistic reporting. The sentimental attitude toward war is spectacularly absent from most reports. Affective no longer weigh war paragraphs down with heroism and romance. With a few sob-stories (male or female) exceptions, this war—with its stuporous brutality—is being told in understatement.

Correspondents assume, on the part of their readers, a greater awareness of what modern war is like. They offer no apology for reports gained second, third and fourth hand. Their stories are full of "it was reported," "according to official communiques," "according to a witness," "according to well-founded sources." They state frankly "the message was garbled," "some believed the rumor that—" and so on.

"First-hand accounts of battles are no longer expected, except in soldiers' letters home and post-war novels. War news is essentially vague at the time it happens. The difference between the vagueness of reports 20 years ago and today is that then the correspondent, although vague, felt he had to sound omniscient, and now the correspondent is vague and admits it. And the public, knowing more about modern war than it knew 20 years ago, understands the inevitability of this vagueness.

Linton Wells, in the New York Herald Tribune Friday, Oct. 4, told of some of the difficulties of covering this war. Will Barber, of the Chicago Tribune, who covered the Ethiopian army, died last week of malaria.

Will Irwin might well have mentioned his own famous story, "The City That Was," the story of the San Francisco earthquake which he wrote in New York.

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-hunting.

Will Guildman, 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 Seeley, care of Guild Reporter.

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

Monitor Plays Up Causes of War

War coverage by the Christian Science Monitor is significant. Its headlines are moderate but its coverage is exceptionally thorough and revealing. The day the war began the Monitor carried a front-page box editorial concluding, "In reporting, as a newspaper, the story of warlike measures of war, the Monitor, as a Christian Science publication, also speaks its readers' attention to the fact of peace."

Along with its war news the Monitor played up, more analytically than most papers, the basic causes of war. It gave a big play to the part of the munitions trade in war, especially as to the United States and this war, and it published on Page 1 "Why Italy Is Prepared to Challenge British Power Shown in Confidential Survey of Mussolini's Policy."

War Made It Tough For World Series

That other war, the World Series, due for most of Page 1 the country over, struggled to place at all. In many cases it was crowded off Page 1 entirely; in most cases it got but a bottom line. In Detroit it got its traditional place and the war barely made the front page at all. It was not so simple a decision for newspapers as for the radio, where Mussolini's war was the main event for the broadcast of the first Big Series game, Henry Ford having paid \$100,000 for the air rights.

My What a Change In the Chronicle!

The San Francisco Chronicle has adopted a liberal policy in covering the longshoremen situation. A year ago the Chronicle vied with Hearst's San Francisco Examiner as red-baiter, terrorist, distributor of the longshoremen's strike and general strike that followed. Both blamed union labor ("conservative union labor moved swiftly yesterday to purge its ranks of Communists") for what the San Francisco News frankly called "the strike." They whipped up fear of "sabotage," "according to well-founded sources." They state frankly "the message was garbled," "some believed the rumor that—" and so on.

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Sentimental Attitude Is Absent In Reporting Of Ethiopian War

Western trip—and basing its policy on the assumption that there are now getting better, as in plans to taper off work relief, virtually to abandon the "works program."

The New Republic hopes, naturally, that the depression is ending, but it does not know "what it needs in the papers." It recalls certain facts "that rarely enter into the headlines of the optimistic press," facts that suggest that "the depression is not over."

"Over and over again," the article continues, "we have tried since 1929 to ballyhoo ourselves out of depression. Always in the past, these efforts have failed and have left us in worse case than before."

"The light of experience, has little to commend it."

"The difficulties, prestige, honesty, influence and station of the men who write the country newspapers have been described in detail and it finally boils down, all of this stuff, to the unanimous decision on the part of the various authors, that a couple of thousand country editors are God's gift to the spool folk of the material."

"In all of this welter of glory that is being showered down on the buccle press, it seems to me that if William Randolph Hearst and Roy Howard and Paul Bloch and Colonel McCormack and some of the rest of the powerful figures were to spend a week at the desk of an ordinary country newspaper they would discover a lot of things about Mr. Average Citizen that can't be found on San Simon or in the bowels of an ocean liner or on the beach at Miami."

Stop Only at Murder

"Excluding the legal profession—probably the rottenest section of American life is her press and every newspaperman knows it. The great liberal newspapers of the country, owned by the same group of men, generally, constitute one of the most fronted trusts the country has had since Teddy Roosevelt busted up the Rockefeller combine. To enter into competition with these liberal organs who live and breathe heavily in every issue for the rights of man, is to discover that nothing short of murder will be resorted to if their profits are endangered."

Pittsburgh, city of more than a half million, surrounded by more than a million others, must get its news, colored according to the various extreme viewpoints of Block Hearst or the hypocritical Scripps Howard Ideas, is in an unfortunate spot."

"Our country needs a newspaper owned by Pennsylvanians, have something besides an interest in how much profits the community will return them."

"The country press may print its columns upside down or its pictures as a black smudge but most newspapers are as far as Americans usually are."

"Who ever heard of a metropolitan chain daily newspaper that had the slightest conception of fairness—especially where profits were concerned?"

Country Editor Looks At Big Publishers

A Pittsburgh Guildman sends in a pungent column on the American press by John McDowell, The Country Editor of the Wilkes-Barre Gazette, Sept. 27. Here is most of it:

"There has been much hullabaloo in the literary publications of the nation in recent weeks about the country press."

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6-Day Week Is Back on AP; Unit in Action

(Continued from page 1)

Kent Cooper, AP general manager, when asked about the change by The Guild Reporter, at first professed ignorance of any general return to the old hours. After an inquiry, he said the change applied only to some departments and a few members of the day staff. Within 24 hours, however, the order had been applied to the entire staff.

A telegram was sent by the Guild to Frank B. Noyes, president of the Associated Press, asking whether the change represented a policy adopted by the board of directors, and if not, whether he would have the order countermanded. The telegram called attention to the pledges of business and industry that the end of the NRA would result in a lowering of the working standards. No answer has been received.

Unit Urges Regulations

The Associated Press Guild Unit met on Wednesday night. The resolution calling upon the American Newspaper Guild to enter into negotiations with the A. P. management, was unanimously approved.

Photostatic copies of memoranda ordering blanket censorship of all news pertaining to "strikes, students' strikes and school walkouts" were published in the September 25 issue of The Nation, in an article by Clinton Reed summing up the case.

The Guild Reporter is continuing its investigation of the charges that AP members in some States receive no compensation whatsoever for stories filed.

When a request for a statement regarding AP policy was addressed to Elean Ayres, New England AP head in Boston, he replied that everything was up to "members" of the local paper (four owned by Sherman H. Bowles) and to draw up recommendations for ending the discrimination between sports and staff stars.

Tact endorsement of the newly organized United Labor Party in Springfield was effected when the Guild passed a resolution advocating individual support of the candidacy of Matthew Campbell, Washington Union leader, for mayor.

The Guild rejected a proposal to support the party collectively, but elected Barker H. Harsbom official observer at party meetings.

Plans for the second annual banquet of the Guild are progressing under the direction of Marshall H. Bragdon.

At this time the unit took a secret strike vote which was signed by all members of the editorial staff. One of them, however, Romeo L. Dougherty, sports and theatrical editor, who was then a member of the Guild, resigned from the unit soon after and began to organize a "cuck" take to take over the jobs of the strikers in case a walkout was declared.

All Vacations Cancelled

The question did not come up formally again until July, when the management arbitrarily cancelled all vacations. This led to a request for negotiations.

The management refused even to consider them despite the militant proletrarian policy of the paper. A Citizens' Committee thereupon called on Mrs. Davis and tried to intercede in behalf of the workers.

Mrs. Davis, on the advice of her attorney, reiterated her opposition to dealing with her organized employees and again expressed her intention of firing anyone who dared belong to a union.

The dismissed employee included with the others, Elsie McCollum.

Immediate Vote Ordered

An immediate vote was ordered on the resolution, with the balloting ending Friday night, Oct. 11.

Morris Watson, vice-president for wire services of the American Newspaper Guild, himself a member of the New York Assn. E. Unit, said:

"We will resist with every ounce of our energy this retrogression from a standard that has been accepted throughout the nation as fair and just. This fall back endangers the economic security of every newspaper worker in the United States. It means that he shall have more competitors on the bread line to bid for his job, and that his employer will have correspondingly more opportunity to lower his pay and conditions."

Whether the step taken by the management in its New York office will hit other AP bureaus having the five-day week was not known as this issue of the Guild Reporter went to press. The five-day week has applied to bureaus in cities where newspaper publishers themselves adopted the shorter week.

The unit controller reported at the meeting that non-members were rushing to join the Guild as a result of the AP's action and the Guild's effort to combat it.

Washington Seeks New Office

WASHINGTON.—Establishment of an office to house the Washington Guild headquarters was favored at the Oct. 4 meeting of the executive committee. A sub-committee of Richard L. Turner, James D. Secret and Nathan Robertson was appointed to investigate available locations.

Strike News Censorship Exposed by Guildman

A number of one of the eastern Guilds was responsible for the recent exposure of censorship of strike news by the Crowley Radio Corporation's Station WLV in Cincinnati.

The member, who preferred to remain anonymous, furnished the American Civil Liberties Union with full documentary evidence of the station's secret censorship order and the union promptly brought charges.

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Payment by AP To Be Studied In Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—The Guild has appointed a committee to study the distribution of payments by the AP for stories filed by the morning and evening Unions.

For a long time members of both staffs have been irritated by a discrepancy between the systems of The Republican and the Union with regard to these payments. The former paper allows reporters to per cent of the AP remuneration for stories originating with them; each Union, on the other hand, permits an individual to collect all the money.

When a request for a statement regarding AP policy was addressed to Elean Ayres, New England AP head in Boston, he replied that everything was up to "members" of the local paper (four owned by Sherman H. Bowles) and to draw up recommendations for ending the discrimination between sports and staff stars.

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Unit Opposes Compromise on 5-Day Week

**Columbus Citizen Guilds-
men Oppose 6-Day, 40-
Hour Working Offer**

COLUMBUS.—The Columbus Citizen Unit of the Columbus Newspaper Guild voted unanimously last week not to accept a compromise offer of the management in the negotiations for a return to the five-day week.

The five-day week was abandoned by the management in the first week of September in favor of a six-day, 40-hour week. The staff was told it would work seven hours a day, and that everyone would be given a day off once every three weeks.

Authorized by the unit, the Guild executive committee went into action immediately. Letters and conferences with the editor were abetted by a state-wide conference of Scripps-Howard Guild officers and a letter to Louis B. Seltzer, editor of the Cleveland Press.

Editor Nelson P. Poynter, of the Citizen, answered a letter from the Guild at an open staff meeting. The executive committee requested and received a written answer.

Guild Submits Own Schedule
The executive committee next prepared and submitted to the editor a five-day week operating schedule that was carefully examined for "bugs" by every member of the Citizen unit, which includes nearly every editorial employee.

This was rejected under the signature of Managing Editor C. F. Weimer, who offered, as a compromise, to give each editorial employee a day off every other Saturday, saying he preferred to operate with a short staff on Saturdays rather than provide days off for part of the staff in the middle of the week as in the proposed five-day schedule. Still operating on a seven-hour day, this called for only a 3 3/4-hour week.

After the unit voted against acceptance of the compromise, the executive committee repeated its request for an immediate return to the straight five-day week.

Meanwhile, the compromise offer of the management has been put into effect and is at present the rule of operation.

Treasurer Barry Marries Heiress

**Philadelphia Guildsman Is
Wed to Mary A. Reed**

PHILADELPHIA.—Robert Barry, treasurer of the Newspaper Guild of Philadelphia and Camden and member of the Evening Public Ledger staff, was married to Mary Allison Reed, society heiress, in this city on Sept. 29.

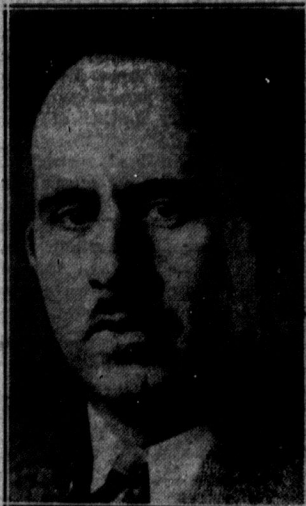
The marriage came as a surprise to friends of both. Miss Reed was to sail from San Francisco on a tiger hunting trip to the Orient but canceled passage and flew back East after a last minute marriage decision.

Barry, who is 31, was born in Kentucky and was graduated from Haverford College in 1924. He taught English at the University of Pennsylvania and at other institutions before joining the Ledger staff.

Miss Reed, who is 24, made her debut in 1928. Her father, the late Alan Howard Reed, was a former assistant business manager of the Curtis Publishing Company and left an estate valued at \$2,629,055, to be shared by his widow, son and daughter.

The Barrys will reside at the Reed mansion in Wyncote.

New President



Robert J. Fitzsimmons, Head of the
Twin Cities Guild

Fitzsimmons Heads Twin Cities Guild

**Succeeds Vogt in the Fall
Election—Assembly Formed**

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Robert J. Fitzsimmons, of the St. Paul Daily News, was elected president of the Twin Cities Guild at the annual meeting Oct. 9. He succeeds Earl L. Vogt, of the St. Paul Dispatch, elected to one of two vice-presidencies.

Preceding the election of officers, the Guild amended its constitution to provide for a representative assembly, each unit to be entitled to one representative for every 10 members or major fraction thereof, to meet once a month, with meetings of the entire Guild to be held quarterly, instead of monthly as heretofore.

The Executive board, which formerly consisted of one representative from each unit, now will comprise only five members—the president, secretary-treasurer, two vice-presidents and chairman of the representative assembly.

R. S. Gillilan, of the Minneapolis Tribune, the Twin Cities Guild's first president, was elected chairman of the representative assembly; John J. Biddison, of the Minneapolis Journal, was elected as

TO NON-GUILD MEMBERS

Copies of the Guild Reporter are being sent to you in the belief that as a working newspaper man or woman it is both to your interest and to ours for you to join us in the **American Newspaper Guild**.

This is the first organization that has succeeded in bringing together on a national scale the newspaper editorial employees for purposes of bargaining collectively to improve their working conditions, wages and security of employment, and to raise the standards of journalism.

It was started and has had an amazing growth because the men and women who gather, write, edit and illustrate the news have at last discovered that their wages, working conditions and security compare very poorly with those of men and women in their same newspaper plants who are members of trade unions.

The Guild is now two years old and has more than 5,000 members in more than forty Guilds in cities and towns of all sizes throughout the country. It induced President Roosevelt to install the 5-day, 40-hour week on papers in at least the larger cities of the country, and it obliged the drafters of the news code to provide at least small pay increases for several hundred news employees in the lower brackets, and in bargaining conferences with individual publishers has made innumerable gains in wages, cuts in hours and security provisions.

JOIN NOW. Ask your nearest Guild for information or write to national headquarters, the **American Newspaper Guild**, 49 West 45th St., New York City.

one of the vice-presidents, and Edwin B. Olwin, of the Dispatch, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Fitzsimmons, the new president, has served on several negotiating committees and has been active in the Guild since its organization. He has covered City Hall for the News for two years and before that worked six years on the Minneapolis Tribune.

Siege of Front Office

Is On in Winston-Salem

WINSTON-SALEM.—From the third meeting with the management of the Winston-Salem "Sentinel" and "Journal," the negotiations committee of the Winston-Salem Guild got the "impression" rather than the pledge, according to Nady Cates, Jr., of a salary rise early in the fall. Cates reported to the regular October meeting of the local Guild.

Negotiations were adjourned until a suitable date after Oct. 15, due to the absence from the city of Unwin Moon, publisher. The unit unanimously instructed the committee to continue unceasingly its siege of the front office.

Steps to renew the work of the Piedmont District Guild were discussed at a recent Guild meeting.

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARX

Royce B. Howes, assistant city editor of the Detroit Free Press and member of the Detroit Guild, will have his first novel, "Death on the Bridge," published by the Crime Club on October 18.

Heywood Broun contributes a short story "of a newspaper that died" to the current issue of the New Masses, under the title, "Enduring Bronze."

James Street, Guildsman of the New York American, has almost completed a book tentatively called "Look Away." It is composed of a series of autobiographical sketches of the South and is described as an "unorthodox history of Dixie."

Leon H. Tebbetts, reporter on the Portland (Me.) Sunday Telegram, has just published "The Amazing Story of Maine," a book in which he outlines the story of prehistoric Maine. If all goes well, he hopes to do the same for other states.

Louis Asrael, Guild member and columnist of the Baltimore News-Post, is giving a course for would-be dramatic and movie critics at the University of Baltimore.

Damon Runyon's new book, "Money from Home," will be out Oct. 16. "A Slight Case of Murder," the play which he wrote with Howard Lindsay, is now on Broad-

way. Runyon is a member of the New York Guild.

Isidor Schneider, New York Guild member and literary editor of the New Masses, is just publishing his second novel, "From the Kingdom of Necessity." His first novel was "Dr. Transit," and he has had two volumes of poetry published in between.

Lamar Middleton, who has been correspondent for American newspapers, the United Press and Havas in Paris, London and Berlin, has finished a book called "The Rape of Africa." It is a modern political history of Africa since 1877.

Norman Corwin, chairman of the Republic unit of the Springfield, Mass., Guild, has had three poems accepted by Esquire. They will appear in the November issue and are called "Boy Retiring," "Street Corner" and "Realist Reading a Sonnet Sequence."

Harry Hansen, literary editor of the New York World-Telegram, has written several books of non-fiction, but his first novel, "Your Life Lies Before You," will be published Oct. 31.

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

'Firing Notice Is Signed Away In Indianapolis

**Scripps-Howard Times
Puts Its Staff on
44-Hour Week**

INDIANAPOLIS.—The management of the Scripps-Howard Indianapolis Times gathered its editorial staff together unexpectedly for a prolonged meeting on October 7, at which time it caused the men and women involved to sign away their right to recently established severance notices without opportunity for due consideration.

Early in the day a bulletin announced the staff meeting. At 4:40 p. m. the session . . . (a one-sided debate because the publisher had taken the staff entirely by surprise . . . started and at 8:45 p. m. an angry and much abused staff left the building. They left after having "voted" to give up their severance rights and after having learned that the paper was about to go on a 44-hour schedule, replacing the 40-hour week, without additional recompense.

It was reliably reported that the company owed one man 100 days' overtime, and that he was practically forced into accepting the two weeks by way of arbitration.

While each individual apparently was given the "privilege" of voicing an opinion, there is certainly no question but that opportunity for due deliberation was not given. The decision was jammed down the staff's throats. Before the meeting adjourned, the lash had been applied, and the workers, not wishing to jeopardize their jobs, meekly agreed.

This Indianapolis newspaper represents itself in its editorial columns as supporting labor and those who have worked for a living.

A second general staff meeting was held on Wednesday night of the same week. This time the writers and copyreaders were obliged to sit in conference from 4:30 P. M. to 7:40 P. M. listening to instructions on style, etc.

The Indianapolis Times, so far as could be learned, had made no provision for paying the staff for the seven-hours' conferences they had put in in practically two days running. In neither case was provision made for the staff to eat.

The new editor of the Indianapolis Times, Ludwell Denny, formerly of Washington, is said to have come to this town to put the editorial workers on the Times in what he is said to call "their proper place."

A spirit of unrest has already invaded the office.

By

HEYWOOD BROWN

"ENDURING BRONZE," a Short Story of
a Newspaper That Died, in This Week's

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