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Estate

The Guild Reporter

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NEB CHARTS FINANCES FOR YEAR; GUILD TO FIGHT FOR WATSON JOB

Guild to Cite Sales, Ads AP Case to Heavily Cut U. S. Board In Harlem

National Vice-President Is Dismissed Suddenly After Seven Years

A new challenge to the American Newspaper Guild has been raised by the sudden dismissal of the Associated Press of Morris Watson, national vice-president for wire services.

Watson, member of the A. P. staff for more than seven years, was called in from an assignment on Friday, Oct. 18, and fired by J. M. Kendrick, executive editor in charge of the day A. P. report. Kendrick told him he was "dissatisfied" with his work.

The dismissal followed by only a few hours receipt of a letter by Kent Cooper, A. P. general manager, from the National Executive Board of the American Newspaper Guild, seeking negotiations for collective bargaining on behalf of the A. P. Guild unit.

Watson's dismissal brought immediate action from the NEB which adopted a resolution instructing ANG counsel to bring complaint against the Associated Press before the National Labor Relations Board in the event Watson "is not reinstated in his employment and in the event the Associated Press does not agree to meet representatives of the American Newspaper Guild for the purpose of negotiating a collective agreement."

Morris Ernst, chief ANG counsel, (Continued on page 7)

Lake Superior Guild Organizes New Unit

DULUTH, Minn.—Election of officers and organization of a new unit of the Guild marked the second annual meeting of the Lake Superior Guild, Oct. 13.

Officers chosen were John A. Magill, Duluth Herald market reporter, president; Ray McBride, Superior Telegram sports editor, vice-president; and Miss Dorothy Good, Duluth News-Tribune librarian, secretary-treasurer.

Organized as a unit of The Guild were seven news department employees of Superior, Wis., publications.

The Guild's legislative committee reported on three bills The Guild will endeavor to have introduced at a prospective special session of the Minnesota legislature in St. Paul in November.

The bills include: Making confidential communications to editorial employees incompetent in civil and criminal proceedings in courts and hearings; assuring editorial employees the right of collective bargaining; making it a misdemeanor to interfere with a reporter or photographer in the performance of their duties.

The Guild endorsed the stand of the Washington Newspaper Guild against NEB assessments.

Amsterdam News Loses Display Accounts in Lockout Fight

Backed by the widest coalition of labor, civic, social, religious, fraternal and political organizations in the history of Harlem, the New York Guild has scored drastic inroads on circulation and the cancellation of most of the largest display advertising accounts of The Amsterdam News in the militant fight against the lockout of 15 Guild members and two other editorial workers.

The two-picket rule, strictly maintained by Harlem police since the lockout on Oct. 9, was smashed in Washington Heights Court when nine Negro and white pickets were arraigned on the complaint of Mrs. Sadie Warren Davis, wife of the paper's publisher, William H. Davis. The workers and sympathizers had been arrested when 11 of them went on the picket line.

Three-score wives of Guildsmen celebrated the court victory by throwing a mass picket line around the paper's office at 2293 Seventh Avenue.

Brown Sues for Libel

Faced with dismissals of the nine cases and possible false arrest suits, Mrs. Davis allowed her counsel, Aiken P. Pease, to withdraw the charges after Magistrate Overton Harris had told The Guild, "You can have any number of pickets you wish, as long as people can still pass on the sidewalk."

As Mrs. Davis walked from the court she was served with papers in a \$250,000 libel action filed by Heywood Brown, President of the American Newspaper Guild. The suit grew out of a completely false, bitter and malicious front page attack on the New York Guild in the Oct. 19 issue of The Amsterdam News. The article called the Guild an "outlaw dues-collecting" (Continued on page 7)

Brown Cites Vote on A.F.L. to Green; Stresses Big Majority for Affiliation

Heywood Brown has written a letter as President of the ANG to President Green of the American Federation of Labor regarding the referendum on affiliation, calling his attention officially to the heavy majority in favor.

This was taken with the authorization of the NEB. Brown said: Dear Mr. Green (and Brother):

You have undoubtedly read of the referendum vote of the American Newspaper Guild in regard to applying for affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. I wish officially to call your attention to the fact that a heavy majority of the vote was in favor of affiliation. Our last Cleveland convention decided that the issue must be carried by a two-thirds vote. This was done in deference to members who

CLOSE RANKS!

A Statement by Brown and Eddy

The membership of the American Newspaper Guild has recently been in disagreement as to details of financial policy. This disagreement was also felt in the meeting of the National Executive Board. The Board voted to use an issue of defense certificates, to be sold within the Guild, as a means of augmenting Guild finances. This now becomes a part of Guild policy, and all good Guild members should do their best to make the purchase of certificates a successful venture.

We hold that there can be no disagreement as to the necessity for an active Guild, properly equipped with the necessary revenue, and beyond that, we would like to give our this statement as an indication of solidarity between the national president and the national executive secretary, who both believe without reservation that the Guild must be equipped at all times to function as a progressive and militant labor union.

We may point out specifically such issues as the withdrawal of the five-day week from a number of chain papers and wire service offices. The situation in the wire services has been dramatized by the sudden dismissal of Morris Watson by the Associated Press. We are informed that the five-day week and other Guild benefits are in danger on all Hearst papers except where our organization is strong. There are sharp conflicts and potential disputes in Newark, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Minneapolis and San Francisco. We are already engaged in battle on the Amsterdam News, and we feel that we are winning there. We have in the Guild the strength to win all along the line. The books show our actual strength bigger today than ever. Let us subordinate any differences within to our common objective of battling the enemy outside. The publishers have their united front. The time has come for us to perfect ours. Close ranks!

HEYWOOD BROWN, President
JONATHAN EDDY, Executive Secretary

Direct Action Threat Brings A Conference

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—After six months of letter-writing and personal interviews, the Twin Cities Newspaper Guild finally established contact with the publisher of the Minneapolis Tribune here Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The half-year campaign to present a Guild program to a Minneapolis publisher was blocked, in the opinion of the Twin Cities Guild (Continued on page 7)

Affiliation Vote Falls Short with 65.4 Per Cent

With a pro-affiliation vote of 65.4 percent, the national referendum on whether the Guild should seek admission into the American Federation of Labor as an international union fell barely short of the required two-thirds stipulated by the Cleveland convention. The official tabulation made at national headquarters on Oct. 18, showed 1,841 for affiliation, 975 against. Returns accounting for 227 votes were disqualified, but would not have affected the result.

The votes were tabulated in the presence of six tellers, three representing the pros and three, the ants. Heywood Brown, president; John Eddy, executive secretary, and George Gardner, of Cleveland, who acted as proxy for Garland Ashcraft, national treasurer, represented the pro-affiliationists. The anti-watchers were: Jack Beall, New York Herald Tribune; John McManus, New York Times; and Roger Gibson, of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Poll Tabulators Agree

In a statement for publication announcing the result of the referendum, Brown explained that, although the affiliation proposed had not carried, he would respect the will of the majority and work for affiliation at the next convention. He said:

"Guild members appointed to tabulate the vote are in unanimous (Continued on page 3)

ANG Funds In Sight for Full Activity

Contribution Plan Is to Help with Expenses and Prepare for Defense

The ANG is to drive forward with its operations on its present scale until the next convention.

This was decided by the delayed quarterly meeting of the National Executive Board held at headquarters Oct. 19 and 20, which also formulated a definite financial program to assume success.

The activities include maintaining at full strength the office, its staff, the Reporter and the national organizer in the field, as well as provision for conducting immediately foreseeable fights for collective bargaining, for return of the 5-day week where it has been abolished and for defense against discriminations, coercion, intimidation and discharge for Guild activity.

At the same time, the Board recognized the confusion evident in the Guild of late that has arisen from differing interpretations of the constitution and the convention's actions regarding assessments for running expenses, and it sought, in resolutions and a statement to Guilds, to clarify the situation by announcing its own interpretation and its future policy.

Two-Sided Program

An intensive effort to collect back dues and assessments and keep current dues payments up to the mark, and a plan for the raising of \$25,000 by voluntary contributions are (Continued on page 2)

New Finance Rules For Local Guilds

Financial questions confronting local Guilds in their relations with the national treasurer were clarified by the NEB and the following decisions were made.

Any local Guild claiming reimbursement of credit against dues and assessments for expenses incurred must file their claim with the NEB by November 10, 1935. Claims must be received at national headquarters by that date.

Locals can only demand credit or reimbursement for expenses incurred prior to Oct. 23, 1935. In cases of emergency arising on and after Oct. 23, any local wishing immediate help from the national office must notify the Executive Secretary. Upon receipt of the request the NEB Finance Committee has the power "to forward at its discretion not more than \$200 without an NEB vote." If more than that amount is needed the local must send a written request stating the reasons to the NEB and then it is up to the Board to vote upon the matter.

It was further decided to give the ANG bookkeeper the authority to grant credit on dues and assessments to a local Guild which has (Continued on page 7)

NEB Sets Policies on Major Problems Facing the Guild

NEB Charts Guild Finances To End of Year

A.N.G. Funds in Sight for Full Activity; Bond Plan Approved

(Continued from page 1)

The plan for raising \$25,000 by voluntary contributions is to furnish the additional funds needed besides dues to carry on the program from the first of the year till the convention needs, and to pay off the Guild's debts and create the long-awaited defense fund.

To Build Defense Fund
The first \$10,000 collected will be earmarked for current expenses, according to the plan; the second \$2,000 will go to pay off the Guild's debts, and the remaining \$23,000 will form the defense fund. Plans for conducting the campaign to raise this money are to be formulated by Morris Watson, vice president for wire services. He is expected to work them out shortly and present them to the board by mail for final approval.

A certificate plan is contemplated by the board to raise this fund. Guild members will be invited to "purchase" receipts of various denominations. Ultimately it is hoped that the Guild will be able to redeem these at their face value, but legal advice on the matter obtained from Morris Ernst is to the effect that great care must be taken to emphasize that no claim may be made against the Guild on the basis of the certificates. Otherwise, Ernst explained, it might be possible for an enemy of the Guild to get hold of one of the certificates and at some crucial time institute legal proceedings and tie up the national funds when they are most needed.

Policy on Assessments
The board's view on assessments was defined as being that these with per capita dues "are the prescribed means of carrying out the program of the convention." It set forth its intention to levy assessments "only in cases of extreme emergency," recognizing that "need of money to pay routine bills may become an emergency."

Both the questions of whether to finance the early 1936 program with the certificate plan as opposed to a specified number of assessments, and whether the money raised by voluntary contributions should be restricted to defense purposes and used in part for general expenses, were intensively debated in the meeting.

Following are the main roll call votes on crucial questions.
The decision on the certificate plan was made by the adoption of the general resolution on local policy after some perfecting amendments. This resolution was introduced by Sherman of St. Louis.

A motion to keep the sale of certificates within the Guild was accepted. One to limit the sale to paid up members was defeated. The vote: Yes, Brown, Ashcraft, Stevens; No, Buck, Sherman, Watson, Johnson. One to limit the sale to units in good standing in the treasurer's office was defeated. Those voting for it were Ashcraft, Stevens and Watson; those against, Brown, Buck, Sherman, Johnson.

The vote on the general resolution was then: Yes, Buck, Sherman,

NEB's Financial Plan

I. Resolution on Policy

BE IT RESOLVED that the NEB declare the fiscal policy of the ANG until the next annual convention to be as follows:

That the power vested in the NEB to levy assessments is necessary to the proper operation of the ANG. This will be exercised only in cases of extreme emergency.

That the need of additional revenue imposes the necessity of instituting a militant campaign:

1. To collect back dues.
2. For the prompt payment of current dues.
3. To complete the collection of assessments already levied.
4. To increase the membership within the established Guilds with the objective of doubling the membership.
5. To elicit voluntary contributions from Guild members who are able and willing to pay to the Guild more than the nominated dues, by sale of the non-interest bearing certificates of receipt (called defense certificates) in amounts from \$2.00 to \$100. These certificates shall be sold only within the Guild. The authorized issue of these certificates shall be in the total sum of \$25,000, the first \$5,000 to go into the general fund for working capital, the second \$2,000 to go into the defense fund. Vice-debts, the remaining \$28,000 to go into the defense fund. Vice-President Morris Watson shall be a committee of one to prepare and submit to the Board within thirty days detailed plans for the execution of these policies.

II. Statement to Guilds

TO ALL GUILDS:

The National Executive Board has defined a financial policy. Until the next annual convention the Board's power to levy assessments will be exercised only in extreme emergencies to support necessary special campaigns.

There is to be no material curtailment of present activities; nor will there be any present expansion of the general routine program. The Board recognizes the sound business principle that routine expenses should be met from ordinary revenues and that extraordinary revenues should be collected only to finance extraordinary expenses. The Board also recognizes, however, that need for money to pay routine bills may become an emergency. The Board has authority to levy assessments in emergencies.

Future assessments, except for maintenance of Guild members during strikes, lock-outs, or similar campaigns, can be rendered unnecessary if local Guild officers will work with increased energy to collect dues and the outstanding remainder of the three assessments that have been levied; if they will co-operate in an effort, soon to be launched by the national organization, for voluntary contribution from members in a position to advance financial aid; and if they will set to work, so that, pulling all together, we may double the membership of the Guild.

We have entered into a fight with the Associated Press which met our invitation to bargain collectively by peremptorily discharging Morris Watson, national vice-president for wire services.

Trusting that the Guilds will co-operate in this effort, the National Executive Board,
Jonathan Eddy, Secretary.

Watson, Johnson; No, Brown, Ashcraft, Stevens.
Sherman then introduced a draft of a letter to all local Guilds outlining Board policies, which was adopted. The vote: Yes, Buck, Sherman, Stevens, Watson, Johnson, Brown; No, Ashcraft, Watson. He delegated to put the letter in its final form. Both it and the general resolution are printed elsewhere in this issue.

A resolution by Ashcraft was then adopted, "that the NEB, taking cognizance of the apparent confusion in some portions of the ANG membership regarding revenue-raising clauses of the ANG constitution, hereby reaffirms the statement of the convention that the per capita dues and assessments are the prescribed means of carrying out the program of the convention." The vote: Yes, Ashcraft, Sherman, Stevens, Watson, Brown; No, Buck, Johnson.

Below is the budget for the October-December, 1935, quarter, approved by the NEB at its meeting in New York City, October 19 and 20. It provides for our present needs, but is expected to bring us to the end of the quarter with roughly the same amount payable. Hence the discrepancy between expenses and expected resources.

EXPENDITURES	
Operating Charges	
Salaries office	\$1,290.00
Over-time	30.00
Part time	52.00
Additional payroll (salary inc.)	65.00
Organizer	1,200.00
Office rent	300.00
Stationery and office supplies	180.00
Printing	42.00
Telephone	175.00
Postage	175.00
Traveling expense (routine)	200.00
NEB meeting	500.00
Professional services (auditor)	75.00
Guild office expenses	118.77
Capital Expenditures	
Filing cabinets	240.00
Adding machine	50.00
Furniture	24.50
Reserve Fund Expense	
Labor Board expense	300.00
Labor expense and bills	600.00
Amsterdam News strike	100.00
Guild Reporter	
Salaries	1,300.00
Printing	200.00
Addressing, wrapping and mailing	200.00
Postage	125.00

Buck Resigns; 2nd Region to Offer Names

Ex-Vice President Will Oppose Re-election of Eddy and Ashcraft

Robert M. Buck, vice-president, resigned from the NEB at the close of the meeting on Oct. 20. He stated his satisfaction with the meeting and his belief that they have not obeyed the constitution. His resignation was accepted unanimously without discussion at the close of the meeting. His chief reason, he said, was to oppose the re-election of Eddy and Ashcraft. He volunteered to continue his activities as The Guild liaison with the Government and labor agencies at Washington. A successor, the board ruled, is to be chosen from the second region, which he represented. To this end it requested all Guilds in the region to hold full membership meetings on or before Nov. 10 and nominate a candidate for the office. Elections to fill vacancies are made by the NEB.

A resolution offered by Ashcraft was adopted, ordering Buck's letter of resignation and his opening statement printed in The Guild Reporter.

Buck Statement
The preliminary statement follows:

New York, Oct. 19, 1935.
National Executive Board:

I hereby notify the board that at the end of this two-day session I shall resign. I make the announcement at this point in order that none may charge successfully that I quit in pique because the board did or failed to do this or that, or that I held a resignation before the board as a threat to influence its action; also to give the board opportunity to choose my successor while still in session, instead of by the unsatisfactory method of correspondence. I shall state my reasons for resigning in my letter of resignation, after the board has adjourned.

Guild officers have told Guild members that I seek election as secretary of the Guild. It is a familiar device, obviously intended to break down any influence in pursuing the welfare of The Guild as I see it. Therefore, at this time I also wish to spread of official record the further announcement that under no circumstances shall I permit my name to go before the convention as a candidate for any office whatsoever except, should certain circumstances arise, for the office that I am now relinquishing, vice-president at Washington without salary.

ROBERT M. BUCK.

The resignation letter of resignation follows:
Oct. 20, 1935.
National Executive Board:
I hand you my resignation as vice-president of the American Newspaper Guild, effective today. I have no differences with or grievances against the board. At this, its first full meeting, I participated in the majority vote on every important issue.

My principal reason for resigning is that I believe the board is unable to exercise its constitutional authority, and will be, as long as Jonathan Eddy is secretary and Garland Ashcraft is treasurer. Both of them are, I believe, of unimpeachable honesty and loyalty to the cause of the Guild as they see it. But I believe that they have not obeyed the constitution. I believe that they cannot give effect to the decisions of the board. I believe them to be temperamentally unsuited to the offices they hold.

Believing these things firmly, I deem it to be my duty to take such steps as I can to prevent their reelection at the next convention. I cannot properly conduct the necessary campaign against them as a member of the board.

Furthermore, I have been denied access to the columns of The Guild Reporter for exercise of a proper function as a board member. I will not permit anyone to muzzle me.

Inquirer Action Begun by Guild In Philadelphia

Wagner Act Invoked as Tyler Bars Contract After Many Talks

PHILADELPHIA.—The Wagner Labor Disputes Act has been invoked by the Philadelphia-Camden Newspaper Guild in charges filed with the regional labor board against the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Formal filing of charges marks the first newspaper case since the enactment of the law and follows more than a year of unsuccessful negotiations with Charles A. Tyler, president of the Inquirer, and a Guild Committee.

The Guild's negotiating committee, first asked John C. Martin, then owner of the paper, to meet with them in September, 1934. Shortly after that Martin, who is a son-in-law of the late Cyrus H. K. Curtis, publisher of the Public Ledger, lost control of the paper and it reverted to the Patterson family, former owners. Tyler, who had acted as general manager for Martin, became president of the company and the Guild started the long series of letters and occasional meetings which continued until last September.

The committee realized it was making no progress in the negotiations and so reported to the unit and to the executive council. Definite word came from the publisher in July confirming the committee's position. Tyler, writing to French in response to a request for another meeting, informed the Guild that the company never had and intention of signing a contract. The committee immediately called a special unit meeting to consider Tyler's letter and were instructed to poll the membership in a secret vote on the question of filing the case with the Regional section of the National Labor Relations Board. The vote showed 63 to 7 favoring such a course.

Affiliation Vote Short; Is 65.4%

(Continued from page 1)
agreement that the necessary two-thirds vote has been lost. There were a few technical problems, but they would have had no effect upon the issue. My own interpretation of the vote is that obviously the Guild cannot make application for A. F. of L. membership until the question has been brought up at another national convention.

"On the other hand, it seems to me, as one national officer, that I must stress the fact that a large majority of the Guild has given a clear mandate for the conception of the Guild as a trades union organization, and a part of the labor movement. Any prediction as to what will happen one year from now, is, of course, guesswork. My own intention is to respect the will of the majority, and do all I can to bring about a favorable vote for affiliation at the next convention, or in any form of referendum which it may decide to set up."

Consumers' Research Letter Strongly Protested

The Washington (N. J.) Star, a weekly, got itself in bad with the citizens of the town recently when it blundered, admittedly, in the handling of the Consumers' Research employees' strike there.

In its Oct. 4 issue, the Star announced in its editorial page that further communications from CR and CR strikers would not be published and carried under its "What Star Readers Say" column, a letter from "Disputed Taxpayer" lambasting the CR strikers. It was signed with letters of protest.

To placate the hundreds of readers who protested the Star of Oct. 11 published eight columns of letters from CR strike sympathizers.

Official Tally Of A.F.L. Vote

General Manager Refuses To Meet with Guild; Legal Steps on Way

The Associated Press has declined to meet with a committee of the ANG for collective bargaining about hours of work in its New York office. Kent Cooper, General Manager, in reply to a request from the Newspaper Guild of New York on behalf of the A.P. unit, sent a letter of refusal to the National Executive Board on Oct. 22.

"The final responsibility for anything affecting The Associated Press rests, under the by-laws," Mr. Cooper concluded, "with the Board of Directors, to which I will refer your letter and this reply."

The NEB is taking legal steps and the case is in the hands of Morris Ernst, the Guild's attorney. Mr. Cooper concluded, "with the Board of Directors, to which I will refer your letter and this reply."

I have your letter of October 17. In the twenty-five years I have been an employee, the employees of The Associated Press have always evidenced "their faith" in The Associated Press and the Associated Press has always done its best to show appreciation therefor. Under present conditions it could not do more than it has done, so that to try to force it to do something it cannot do would be disruptive of the morale and therefore injurious to its existence.

It was for this reason that when the matter of such negotiations was presented over a year ago I stated to a committee of the employees that asked to see me that I knew this to be true, and that when more could be done than is being done I was convinced The Associated Press would do it without a prompter. This I could not, without instructions of the Board, consider negotiations with outsiders looking toward such an eventuality as you have suggested.

The final responsibility for anything affecting The Associated Press rests, under the by-laws, with the Board of Directors, to which I will refer your letter and this reply.

Yours very truly,
(signed) KENT COOPER.

The by-laws of the A.P. indicate that there will probably not be a meeting of the Board of Directors until next January.

A. P. Declines ANG Request To Negotiate

General Manager Refuses To Meet with Guild; Legal Steps on Way

The Associated Press has declined to meet with a committee of the ANG for collective bargaining about hours of work in its New York office. Kent Cooper, General Manager, in reply to a request from the Newspaper Guild of New York on behalf of the A.P. unit, sent a letter of refusal to the National Executive Board on Oct. 22.

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BUILDING: A.F.L. Growing Pains—Old Guard Defeats

By JONATHAN EDDY

THE ferment apparent in the just concluded convention of the American Federation of Labor has its counterpart in the international and national, the federal unions, and in the city, county and state delegate bodies. The latter, like the American Newspaper Guild, have shown a rapid sweep towards the federation.

In the new unions in the federation is to be found the same discontent with the old policies of the A. F. of L. that is evident in the Guild. The recent convention of the automobile workers in Detroit showed that, like the Guild, a majority of the membership felt the need of becoming organizationally integrated with the American Labor movement, in order to achieve effective strength. The same convention rebelled against A. F. of L. leadership, voting overwhelmingly against a candidate for president of the new international who had been named by the old guard. The latter, however, had its way.

Rubber Workers' Convention Revolts Against Policies

IN Akron, at the first convention of the rubber workers, we again find the membership in revolt against A. F. of L. executive defeated, and the defeat stuck. Money had been offered for organizing work. With the rejection of the candidate, the offer evaporated.

Again, in the American Federation of Teachers' convention in Cleveland, the A. F. of L. leaders made proposals which seemed to the majority of the membership to be reactionary and unproductive, and the proposals got nowhere.

In all these instances the rising progressive element in the American labor movement is making itself felt. So strong is the onward sweep that the A. F. of L. executive council is forced to take cognizance of it. The "ins" fight it, just as the "ins" in any organization, confident of their continued domination, are prone to fight change. But there are rivalries even among the "ins," and some of them find it profitable to trim their sails to catch the new wind. Such leadership should be accepted—with due caution—for what it is worth.

It's Been A Political Spearhead for Workers

THE leadership of the A. F. of L., while always disavowing allegiance to general political movements, dissociating itself from the Republican and Democratic parties, and cleaving to the Gompers tradition of "rewarding our friends and punishing our enemies," has always—and today more than ever—been so much the more a political spearhead in so far as working people are concerned. For, when analyzed, its policy has been to debilitate working people from any political allegiances other than to parties controlled by employers—by bankers, industrialists and newspaper proprietors.

The significance of the advocacy by certain A. F. of L. leaders of an independent labor party is not so much that they are for it as in the fact that a split has occurred in the leadership of the Federation. The significance of the split goes far beyond the fact that these A. F. of L. leaders have their knives out for each other. They have managed to adjust their differences for years and will continue to do so—on most issues. The significance of the split lies merely in this, that working people are no longer content with employer-controlled political parties, and employer-controlled unions; and certain leaders see a chance to make capital for themselves. The split is only another evidence of the great awakening that is taking place today.

Herndon Gets 'Death Sentence' On Guild Picket Line in Harlem

News that his virtual sentence of death had been confirmed, that he had only ten days of freedom left him, was brought to a picket as he carried a sign in front of The Amsterdam News office in Harlem.

The picket was tall, gentle Angelo Herndon, youthful Negro orator of Negro and white unemployed in Atlanta, asking for relief. The next day the city appropriated \$5,000 for relief. One week later, Herndon was arrested. He was tried under a statute first passed in 1904, providing that anyone inciting slaves to insurrection. The prosecutor demanded the death sentence.

The jury recommended "mercy"; the sentence was 15 to 20 years at hard labor. Bail was set at \$15,000, which was raised by a nationwide campaign. Twice the United States Supreme Court has refused to review the case, basing its decision on a legal technicality.

Many churches, fraternal organizations, labor unions, defense organizations and other groups are circulating petitions addressed to Gov. Eugene Talmadge of Georgia, in an effort to collect 2,000,000 signatures calling for a pardon and repeal of the slave-time law under which eighteen other labor leaders stand indicted, six solely for the "crime" of having in their possession a leaflet showing a Negro and a white man with clasped hands.

Put The Reporter on Your List For Circular Letters, NEB Asks

When local Guilds circulate their about Guild problems it is recommended by the NEB that copies of their letters be sent to the national headquarters, The Guild Reporter and the NEB. The Guild Reporter and the NEB members. A motion to this effect was introduced at the October meeting by Stevens and passed unanimously.

The Reporter will "refrain from editorial partisanship on the question of A. F. of L. affiliation until further direction, in accordance with a resolution declaring this to be the sense of the NEB. The resolution, introduced by Watson, received the affirmative vote of himself, Ashcraft, Buck, Sherman, Stevens and Johnson. Brown voted against. This in no way limits the news or contributions to the paper.

It was resolved, also on motion

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 as proposition No. 17 of July 2, 1935.

Challenge

The firing of Morris Watson by the Associated Press constitutes an act of open hostility toward the American Newspaper Guild which must be met with unified and forceful action.

The ANG is taking the case to the National Labor Relations Board under the Wagner-Connelly Law, and will fight through to a finish.

John W. Davis of the American Liberty League is counsel for the AP, and the Watson case promises to blossom into a major test by the American publishers of the application of the law to the newspaper industry. The ANG is ready to meet this challenge.

But there may be delays involved in the battle. Many of the phases are technical in nature and we have not forgotten the fancy runaround the Guild got in the Jennings case. The expensive AP counsel may easily contend that under the unique AP charter the organization is not engaged in commerce at all, much less interstate commerce required for application of the law. The AP may assert that it makes no profits and is merely a co-operative organization for exchanging news.

Prepared to force a showdown, the AP counsel may be relied upon to raise every possible technicality to prevent enforcement of an order reinstating Morris Watson.

The Guild will fight to win, but let us not fail to recognize with increasing clarity that it is only in our united strength that we can find a reliable force to achieve victory.

Governmental machinery must be utilized for all that is worth. The ANG hopes for victory. But the many obstacles the publishers will throw in the way of a favorable decision, the web of technicalities that will be raised, the influences which will be brought to bear, are already obvious.

The slogan in the Watson case is: Win a labor board victory; and meanwhile, organize!

The Amsterdam News Fight

One benefit emerging from the lock-out of the staff of the Amsterdam News, New York's leading Negro journal, is the staunch sense of unity among newspapermen and women it reveals.

Mrs. Sadie Warren Davis, who controls the Amsterdam News, has habited of discrimination against the Negro. Her accusations are meaningless so far as the Guild is concerned.

Our inherent disposition against discrimination found expression at the St. Paul convention, where the men and women of our craft in their first really national convention gathered to voice their collective sentiment about journalism. The convention at Cleveland reiterated the sentiment last June when, in adopting the new national constitution, the declaration was made: "No eligible person... shall be discriminated against by reason of sex, race, or religious or political convictions."

That declaration was made in all sincerity; the events of the last three weeks afford a con-

crete illustration of our determination to keep it. Now the NEB has reaffirmed it anew.

The fight for reinstatement of the seventeen members of the staff of the Amsterdam News will take money. The New York Guild already has thrown its full weight behind these seventeen men and women with as much enthusiasm as it did for the Newark strikers and for Lorain. The other Guilds have now been asked to help.

In no surer way can the solidarity of the Guild be demonstrated.

Open Letter to Jack Price

Dear Jack: We have noted your reply to news photographers' protests against your proposal to equip reporters with cameras in Editor and Publisher. You say you never intended that regular photographers should lose their jobs. That's fine, Jack; but you can't blame the photographers for feeling that maybe you won't have the first word on that. Such ideas don't always work out the way their promoters intend them to. After all, it's the publishers who will put this idea into execution.

Taking into account the practical operating conditions in most newspapers, we can see how publishers would be under a great temptation to save money by having reporters do a double job, even if the pictures were not as good as those made by specialists. If the columns of the paper are going to be filled by pictures picked up by reporters, where will the room for the work of the so-called regular photographers? Or, for that matter, for news copy?

We can also foresee the day when a publisher will demand that the reporter he hires not only be able to cover a story, but also know what to do behind the business end of a camera and in the dark room. Moreover, technology has a way of expediting fulfillment of the desires of business management for economy. Use of reporters to take pictures would surely lead to simplification of cameras and the developing process, so that no great skill would be required to produce a passable photograph.

Especially on small newspapers, your proposal is likely to lead to doubling of the work and longer hours for newsmen. We are with you in favoring "the march of progress." But we also agree with you on the trend toward specialization in the newspaper business. We believe pictures will have to be more, not less, excellent to get into the papers, and that reporting will require increasing specialized skill and concentration. It is not quantity but quality of pictures that will promote the demand for them.

That is, these improvements will occur if pinch-penny economics does not get the upper hand. Just as the dominance of certain economic forces in other lines tends to spawn a more shoddy product, such as machine-made clothing, so cheap production methods will lower the standards in journalism. In insisting upon trained men for good workmanship we are protecting high standards.

The Guild Reporter.

Off the Record

Robert Littell says in "Today": "Newspaper men are amazingly discreet. When they have been told something in confidence, wild horses, even wild city editors, will not drag it from them. . . . I believe that big business seldom needs to bribe the press. It can insure silence by the cheaper method of telling all 'off the record'."

Mr. Littell must be recalling some evil experiences in dim bad days, when he, too, was a reporter, which must have been very long ago to permit of such romanticism. It can't be so bad as he pictures.

Yet no cub reporter gets very far along before some shrewd gent in the press agent or other business slyly offers to invest him with a great and flattering confidence. And it is true that once sealed up in the reportorial bean, it is sealed up there beyond the reach of grasping type.

It makes a ticklish problem. In many cases, notably in politics, reporters would be hamstrung from scratch if they failed to accept confidences of the sort which can be used in generalizations without the use of the name of the individual giving the information.

On the other hand, the obsessive detective zeal for "knowing," which herds men and women into the newspaper game, often leads a reporter into the wily big man's trap. He knows, but he can't print what he knows, and of what use is it often to him?

Somewhere between there must be a happy medium. And the newspaper profession might be elevated if reporters adopted greater wariness about off the record confidences.

Gaynor Advised Reporters' Union

Former Mayor's Letter Says News Men Had to Lie or Get Out

New York, Editor, The Guild Reporter:

In the records and books in Mayor LaGuardia's office, Clendenin Ryan, one of the secretaries, has found a book of the letters of former Mayor William J. Gaynor who was in office here from 1910 to 1913. The volume included one letter on newspapermen, which shows what one man in high official position thought about newspapermen and their plight as far back as 1913, when the letter was dated.

Mayor Gaynor said: "The present position of newspaper writers, and especially of those who write the news, is degrading to the last degree. They are mere slaves. Worse than that, they are dishonorable slaves. The corrupt newspaper proprietor browbeats them and kicks them about as he sees fit. He does not leave them free to write the honest truth, but dictates to them that they must lie, garble, force, steal or do anything to write down the official or person who is the subject of the animosity or cupidity of such proprietors. And if they refuse to do it, they are kicked out."

"How long will newspaper writers continue to allow themselves to be degraded in this way? I am, of course, acquainted with the young men who serve as reporters here at City Hall. They are, as a rule, fine young fellows. But some of them have to come around to the press to be degraded and to be degraded they must be degraded."

"Such an incident disrupts the relations between the regularly assigned men and the man we are here to cover and seriously hampers us in our work. Hence the rule—and that's the only reason the gentleman from Des Moines could not attend the conference with us. If any man other than one assigned to the room wants to interview the Mayor for a feature or on some other mission, that is arranged through Lester B. Stone, the Mayor's secretary who handles press contacts."

BERNARD R. MULLADY, City News Unit.

Incidentally, Mayor LaGuardia wrote that he thought we should join the A. F. of L. While writing to the Guild Reporter I want to clarify the situation referred to in the front-page box in a recent issue regarding the fact that a Des Moines reporter was refused an interview with Mayor LaGuardia because he was not Guildman.

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HEARST: THE FORTUNE—THE INCOME—THE MAN

His Newspaper Enterprises Yield a Profit Of About \$9,500,000 Yearly, a Study In Fortune Magazine Shows

A study of William Randolph Hearst, himself, his publications and his profits and losses appears in the October issue of Fortune Magazine, published by Time, Inc., and is read by business executives and persons of means.

The article is a dispassionate and broad summary.

Following is a condensation:

I. A \$220,000,000 MAN

Fortune values Hearst at \$220,000,000. His liabilities—bonds, mortgages, etc.—are put at a round \$90,000,000, making the net worth \$130,000,000.

Next to the top of the tangled Hearst Corporation. It owns most of the profitable enterprises and shows a surplus for 1934 of \$12,119,245.44, exclusive of the mines, for which no figures are available.

The figure is not very revealing and probably is not meant to be. A rough estimate can be made from the Fortune figures—again without the mines.

The total revealed profit is \$13,950,000 and the loss \$5,675,000, or a net of \$10,275,000.

To restrict the figures to newspapers alone—including the American Weekly and King Features—the profit shows as \$9,575,000 and the loss as \$2,300,000. The newspaper net then is \$7,275,000.

The magazine and other activities netted \$2,500,000.

II. MONEY MAKER

There are 28 newspapers, three of which are nominally held by others. They have a total circulation of 6,500,000 week-days and 7,000,000 Sundays. "They do over \$100,000,000 worth of business a year and are worth \$90,000,000 as they stand."

The newspapers are divided into two corporations. The first is Hearst Consolidated Publications, Inc., made up of the money makers. They are, with their earnings for 1934:

Los Angeles Examiner—\$1,250,000.

Los Angeles Evening Herald-Express—\$750,000.

San Francisco Examiner—Over \$1,000,000.

San Francisco Call-Bulletin—Over \$250,000.

Seattle Post-Intelligencer—Just barely in black ink.

Oakland Post-Inquirer—\$125,000.

The American Weekly—\$3,100,000. Fortune estimates that this would not be so valuable without the Hearst papers as an outlet.

New York Evening Journal—\$900,000. This is a decline from \$1,500,000 in 1929, but in that time the funded debt of the paper has been reduced from \$15,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

Pittsburgh Sun—Telegraph—\$400,000.

Detroit Times—\$400,000. These last two with the San Francisco Examiner and the Los Angeles Herald-Express are on the up grade.

Chicago Evening American—\$1,000,000. (Has cut a funded debt of \$9,000,000 to \$3,000,000.)

In this corporation is also the American Newspaper Corp., which earned \$300,000 in 1934.

King Features is a separate corporation. The syndicate makes a net profit of \$600,000 after deducting a loss of \$150,000 a year.

III. WEAK SISTERS

Seventeen newspapers and other newspaper companies are in the American Newspapers Incorporated.

This grouping is made mostly of the weak sisters of the chain. Besides the papers listed below, it also has the losing magazines noted below.

The syndicate is valued at \$3,000,000.

Property Loss Profit

Albany Times—breaks even

Atlanta Journal—\$200,000

Baltimore Evening News and Post—\$90,000

Boston Herald—\$150,000

Chicago Tribune—\$150,000

Cleveland Plain Dealer—\$150,000

Dayton News—\$150,000

Des Moines Register—\$150,000

Indianapolis News—\$150,000

Los Angeles Herald-Express—\$750,000

Los Angeles Examiner—\$1,250,000

Los Angeles Evening Herald-Express—\$750,000

San Francisco Examiner—Over \$1,000,000

San Francisco Call-Bulletin—Over \$250,000

Seattle Post-Intelligencer—Just barely in black ink

Oakland Post-Inquirer—\$125,000

The American Weekly—\$3,100,000

New York Evening Journal—\$900,000

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King Features—\$600,000

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Coast Guild to Be 'Neutral' on Mason Labor Candidacy

Move to Support Him for Mayor of San Francisco Is Lost by a Margin of One Vote

San Francisco, Calif.—Falling by the one vote margin of 43 to 42 to endorse the candidacy of its president, Redfern Mason, for Mayor of San Francisco, the Northern California Newspaper Guild has just settled the most controversial issue in its recent history.

Mason heads the United Labor Party ticket on a straight labor platform against several other candidates, chief of whom are Mayor Angelo Rossi and Adolph Uhl, member of the board of supervisors and perennial mayoralty candidate. Rossi is generally backed by the city's big business elements. He has also the powerful backing of various high California State Federation of Labor officials here.

The United Labor Party claims official backing of a large number of labor union and other units, such as various Epic, Utopian, Democratic party and progressive organizations, including some 40 American Federation of Labor groups, and by the Communist Party. Its candidates are drawn from these groups and one, Anita Whitney, famed defendant some years ago in a criminal syndicalism case, is a Communist. Its strongest support lies among the militant A. F. of L. unions making up the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

Making Strenuous Campaign

The United Labor campaign managers claim an expectation of some 40,000 or more votes, which might win in a split field; but odds are strongly in favor of Rossi. Mason is making a strenuous campaign. His managers hope to get Heywood Brown here to address a mass meeting in the Civic Auditorium.

Mason's candidacy announcement in this red-baiting town immediately tore the NCNG into violent debate. Opinion divided about as follows:

1. There were those who held the NCNG should conduct a plebiscite of its members on a request for Mason's resignation as president of the Guild, in view of his candidacy for public office on a ticket sponsored by Communists, among other groups.

2. A second group contended the NCNG should take a positive stand by backing Mason for Mayor in view of the National Convention's resolution approving the support of a third-party labor movement.

3. Another group held the Guild should take a middle-of-the-road course and neither repudiate Mason by conducting a plebiscite on his resignation, nor back him by the adoption of a formal resolution.

While it was widely conceded a large majority of Guildsmen will vote for Mason in the election early in November, the Guild after two hot general membership sessions chose to conduct a mail ballot on the proposition of official organization backing. The ballot read: "Shall the NCNG endorse Redfern Mason for Mayor?"

With ballots sent to about 165 eligible members, they were returned within the midnight October 16 deadline by 85. By a whimsy of the postoffice, a single "yes" vote which would have caused a tie, mailed the morning of October 16, failed to arrive till the morning of October 17.

Mason's Courage Praised

Before the balloting, the Pacific Reporter outlined opinions of various factions. Those demanding a resignation plebiscite maintained the Guild should repudiate all connection with Mason's candidacy.

Their statement said:

"The Guild was organized as a collective bargaining agency to improve wages and working conditions for the newspaperman—not as a group bound to any political faith. The so-called Union-Labor ticket on which Mr. Mason is run-

ning has not the support of the legitimate organized labor movement here, and to endorse this ticket would alienate A. F. of L. elements whose friendship to the Guild is invaluable. The presence of a Communist on the Mason ticket will inevitably render the Guild suspect in the eyes of public opinion hostile to Communism."

A summary of the opinions held by those who favor NCNG support for the Mason candidacy as presented by the Pacific Reporter follows:

"The 1935 ANG convention voted a mandate to the membership to work for independent, third-party political action, based on the interests of working people, regardless of their affiliations. Redfern Mason has had the guts to front for us in every fight we ever had, and now has the guts to join labor union rank and file in a common front for us against huge odds as candidate for Mayor in the United Labor Campaign. Suppose Communists are on the side of the United Labor Campaign—is the Guild too feeble to support a platform which stands first and foremost for '100 per cent unionization of San Francisco' just because Communists support it also?"

"The Guild, organized as a collective bargaining agency, should certainly back a group that is fighting to make the city safe for collective bargaining. The United Labor campaign is not a political faith, it is an instrument to secure better working conditions."

Group Action Unnecessary

The middle-of-the-road statement said: "The Guild can, without compromising its honesty or integrity, decide not to participate as an organization, in either side of this political campaign. Its membership can say so without either repudiating Mr. Mason or antagonizing the rank and file labor movement."

"It need only vote to refrain from organizational participation or support in any political campaign, making clear that such action is in no way intended to reflect on Mr. Mason, the United Labor Party or any other candidate or party, or to influence the political beliefs of any member."

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARX

Roy Flannagan, president of the Richmond, Va., Guild, has a story called "The Doorstep" in the November issue of Story magazine. He has published two novels, "The Whipping" in 1930 and "Amber Satyr" in 1932, and is now completing a third.

Henry Lee Moon, one of those locked out at the Amsterdam News for Guild activity, and Loren Miller of the New Masses Guild unit are on the editorial board of Race, a new quarterly magazine whose first issue will be out Nov. 1. Its sponsors announce that the magazine will not be affiliated with any left-wing political group but will advocate fundamental changes in present relationships between races and in society as a whole.

Henry Haslitt, editorial writer of the New York Times, wrote "The Fall of King Cotton" for the October Current History. In the same issue Waldemar Kaempffert, science editor of the Times, has an article called "When Science Dictates," in which he discusses the changing aspects of political institutions.

One portion of Edward Levinson's forthcoming book, "I Break Strikes: The Technique of Pearl L. Bergoff," appears in the November issue of Harper's Magazine under the ti-

Guildsmen—Help Organize!

Whom do you know in unorganized cities who might help in establishing a Guild? The Guild's strength lies in its membership and it is up to you to help it grow. Fill out the questionnaire below with the name of a working newspaper man or woman who will lend us a helping hand and mail to the Guild Reporter, 49 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y.

Name

Present Address.....

Present Paper.....

Former Paper.....

Your Name and Paper.....

May We Mention You?.....

Please write anything else you can that will help us make a contact.

Pew Fears Bias in Unionism But Backs Publisher-Censor

The following interview with Marlen Pew, editor of Editor and Publisher, is reprinted from an issue of The Pacific Reporter, official organ of the Northern California Newspaper Guild.

MR. PEW REGRETS

Praising the American labor union movement, deploring union tendencies of the Guild, and regretting that exploitation of reporters is "one of the rottenest things in the newspaper business," Marlen Pew, while in San Francisco was interviewed by a member of the Pacific Reporter staff. He said:

"Without the labor union movement in the last 25 years, American workers would now be in a state of serfdom, peonage, or there would have been a revolution."

"I've always been in favor of seeing the worker get what he deserves, and sometimes he has to fight for it. Yes, even strike. But strikes are not civilized."

"I welcomed the Guild when it came. When I found it was going to be on a union basis, with affiliations, I just couldn't take it."

"A newspaper man can't be a joiner. He's got to be free, to go get his story and PRINT WHAT HAPPENED."

"He can't have affiliations. The

worst papers are those where the editor has affiliations."

Cites Publishers' Affiliation

Two objections were raised here by the Pacific Reporter representative, first that publishers have affiliations such as with the American Newspaper Publishers Association, and act outside of the newspaper business in the way his publication, Editor and Publisher, boasted with the line "S. F. Publishers Break General Strike." His answer to that was that the publishers' affiliations are commercial and breaking the strike was their business.

To the other objection, that a newspaperman often can't print what happened—because of objection from the publisher, Mr. Pew explained:

"Well, that's right. You have to have SOME check. That's the publisher's business."

"A newspaperman must be free. I want to be free. I want to be independent. I don't want to be class-conscious. Class consciousness has no place in America."

"The Guild should have gone along on a more professional basis, to get more power."

Asked if he meant the power of contracts for wages and hours, he explained:

"No, a friendly basis that would give more power than a contract—the power of dignity."

"If some mean publisher exploits with long hours, low wages, he should be checked." Asked "checked how?" he explained:

"By an educative process."

Pew A Union Man

"I belong to a union," he said. "The Newworkers Union of Scranton. I made a speech there once and they made me an honorary member. That's a real social organization. Once a year they have a party, everybody gets together and has a wonderful time. It's not like a labor union. They have fine working conditions."

"Imagine an editor telephoning the Guild and asking for a reporter or photographer! He wants to choose his own employe. It's all right for the printers' union to send a man, but not in our department. A newspaperman doesn't need a union to become a success. He can write his way to success."

"Why should a profession I've always regarded as an art put a collar around its neck? The Guild isn't the way for a man to protect his interests."

He was asked: "What way do you suggest for a man, for instance, in a small town working for a small

Sunpapers Off Five-Day Week In Baltimore

Hearst's News-Post Wait a Week, Then Follows Suit

Well in the forefront of the move for dailies of the United States to take advantage of the disappearance of the NRA and its attendant amenities are The Sun and The Evening Sun, Baltimore, according to word reaching The Guild Reporter. They have just abolished the five-day week. In its place, the six-day, forty-hour week has been installed.

Waiting for one week to follow the example of its neighbor, The Baltimore News-Post also instituted a six-day schedule, with, it is said, a forty-eight-hour week.

Not All Had Short Weeks

On the Sunpapers, the five-day week had been a gift to some employees only, not to the entire editorial staff. On the Evening Sun, no clear line of demarcation was set, and about ten men, for some unexplained reason, never were taken off the six-day schedule. On the morning paper, a salary of \$35 a week or more was set as the dividing line, those receiving less than that sum being given the five-day schedule.

On the News-Post, a Hearst publication, practically everyone had been on the five-day basis since the Presidential "request" for such an arrangement.

The Pay Stays Down

It is certainly safe to say, from all possible sources of information, that increases in pay have not followed the return to the six-day week. As nearly as can be learned, two or three small increases were meted out, but they either preceded the return of the six-day week or else had no bearing whatever on the situation.

Without Warning

Although the staff had feared the abolition of the five-day week since the outlawing of the NRA, the actual orders to change came without warning, and, as nearly as can be discovered, to the complete surprise of even the managing editors.

The death of the five-day week aroused interest in the Guild in Baltimore in the minds of a number of persons who had never seen the light before, and added at least one new member, with several other possibilities in the offing. It also unquestionably inspired for greater interest in the possibility of A. F. of L. affiliation than had ever been expected.

paper for small wages, not a man with the talent of Brown who can command his own salary, but an ordinary man who's trying to support a family on \$15 a week, when it costs \$25?"

"He can walk away," said Mr. Pew. "Away from his job."

"Do you mean all the men working there should walk away—a walk-out?" he was asked.

"No, not at all," said Mr. Pew. "A man can walk away and get himself a better job."

"But what," he was asked, "do you suggest to correct the situation that still exists for the small paper to prevent the publisher from exploiting those who remain?"

"Oh my," said Mr. Pew, regretfully. "There isn't any way to prevent mean people from being mean. The underpay and overwork practiced by some mean publishers is the rottenest thing in the whole newspaper business, but what can you do about it?"

"Which Road for American Workers—Socialist or Communist?"

NORMAN THOMAS • EARL BROWDER

Madison Sq. Garden, Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 27, 8:30 P. M.

Tickets, 40c, 55c, \$1.10; Choice Reserved, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3.50

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