

Here's to a Happy
New Year!

The Guild Reporter

Double the Guild
This Year!

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New York Strike Won, Pact Signed; 5-Day Week Back In San Francisco

Labor Aid Gives Coast Its Victory

Appeal to Unions Gets Quick Results; Papers Quarrel a Factor

SAN FRANCISCO.—Climaxing an intensive drive for return of the five-day week on three dailies here, the Northern California Newspaper Guild has won important victories. The shorter week has been re-established on the two Hearst papers in San Francisco and the Chronicle has announced 30-day vacations. The Scripps-Howard News has remained on the five-day week without interruption. The Oakland Post-Enquirer (Hearst) across the Bay is also on a five-day week now.

Union labor support and a reported "rift" between publishers of the Chronicle and the Examiner helped gain the victories.

Organizing a strategy committee, the Guild talked with more than a score of unions here and in Oakland, "flank attacking" the return of the six-day week.

Work of contacting every one of the 120 locals here and the more than sixty in Oakland and inducing them to pass protesting resolutions was well under way when the vic-

(Continued on page 2)

NLRB Power Is Challenged

The Watson case appears to be headed for the United States Supreme Court.

Although being played down or not carried at all in most papers, the complaint issued by the Labor Relations Board in the Guild's behalf against the Associated Press for the dismissal of Wire Service Vice-President Watson promised to become one of the major issues of the day when John W. Davis, Liberty League lawyer and counsel for the AP, made a sweeping challenge of the constitutionality of the Wagner Industrial Disputes Act.

Almost coincidentally, the Labor Board in New York City announced a hearing concerning the ANG's representation of AP editorial employees in New York City, in response to the Guild's demand for collective bargaining. This hearing is scheduled for Jan. 9. The other hearing had previously been announced for Jan. 8.

The wide interest of organized labor in the Watson case was indicated by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, in a speech before the New York Guild.

Attacks Labor Act. Davis's categorical denial of the constitutionality of the Labor Relations Act was contained in his reply to the Labor Board's complaint. He challenged the authority of the

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Tell the Public About Watson Case!

A Statement by the Watson Case Committee

TO ALL GUILDS:

Morris Watson was discharged by the Associated Press because he took an active part in the Guild's efforts to raise the professional and economic standards of journalism in this country to a level comparable to that abroad.

This issue is very simple: shall American newspapermen be entitled to the right to go before their employers through elected committees for collective bargaining, or shall this right be abrogated and destroyed? The Associated Press cannot be permitted to penalize those of our fellows who are elected to leadership in the Guild by withdrawing from them (and from their wives and children) the means of existence.

Watson's dismissal is not merely an attack upon the Guild, but upon the American principle, established at law and in decisions of the Supreme Court, of the right to self-organization and collective activity.

The Associated Press is comprised of the most influential publishers in this country, who, in the past, notably in the Jennings case, demonstrated their ability to exert pressure as high as the White House itself.

But there is a still greater voice and that is the voice of the people themselves, the wage earners, carried forth through the trumpet of organized labor. What organized labor, when fully informed and so awakened to the issues, can accomplish has just been demonstrated in the re-establishment of the principle of the five-day week in San Francisco and Oakland.

But the people are not now being informed about the Watson case. Newspapers throughout the country are playing down

the story with the deliberate intention, we believe, of belittling its great significance.

We can defeat this maneuver. We can force the papers to carry adequate stories. We can do this by sending speakers to all labor, liberal, religious and civic organizations in Guild cities to present the issue to them, and ask them to express their interest to the papers and demand full coverage.

To enable local Guilds to check quickly on the accuracy of the stories appearing in the papers, the Committee in Support of the Watson case, appointed by President Broun, will co-operate by furnishing mimeographed daily stories of the hearings to local committees desiring them.

Moreover, we can make this wide public support count in high places. Ask the organizations to pass resolutions expressing their interest and, as far as possible, their support. Urge them to send these resolutions to the management of the Associated Press (and A.N.G. H.Q.); to the National Labor Relations Board in Washington; and—remembering the Jennings Case—to the President and the state delegations in Congress.

The A.P.'s dismissal of Watson and its arrogant evasion of negotiations are an attack upon the American Newspaper Guild and upon the principles of freedom of opinion, of expression, of self-organization and collective bargaining.

It is to the interest of the vast body of the people to protect these principles. They will do so if the danger is made plain to them.

The trial hearing begins on January 6. We urge you to act at once.

COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF
THE WATSON CASE.

Money Is Needed for Defense Fund

A Statement by the Defense Certificate Subcommittee

TO ALL MEMBERS:

The Guild is now to raise its long-awaited Defense Fund. The plans have been worked out; local committees are being mobilized.

Before the main collection drive can begin, money is needed to finance it—to have the certificates and special stamps printed and for the incidental expenses. For this purpose the Certificate Subcommittee is authorized to seek advance gifts, for which certificates and stamps will be issued later.

This money is needed at once.

The raising of this Defense Fund will be one of the greatest steps yet taken for Guild progress.

We have struggled hard; we have shown enthusiasm, determination, energy; we have had the moral support of a good cause; and we have won victories.

But throughout the Guild are delicate situations which we must handle sooner or later. A few have arisen because Guild members, awakening to the possibilities of organized bargaining, have committed the sin of asking for negotiations; most have arisen because the publishers are trying to take, or have taken, away the five-day week.

We have had to go slowly, to stall, even to lose ground.

The reason is easy to see. The publishers have vast advantages of wealth, influence and ready access to the public. We are volunteers; our struggles mean work after hours; our money comes out of too small wages.

We cannot change all these conditions, but we can even up the balance at least a little. We can do this by preparing in advance.

We must build the Defense Fund as our first step. With it we can act with more assurance; if blows have to come, we can hit harder and more effectively. We can stop stalling in the face of attacks. With a fund at our command, Guild members everywhere will have a new feeling of strength and security.

Help start the ball rolling. Local presidents are asked to collect and forward contributions.

Give NOW to open the Defense Fund Drive!

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
COMMITTEE,
By the Certificate Subcommittee.

Staff Again On Job With Higher Pay

Scabs Go Out as Entire Guild Group Returns— Many Improvements

Complete victory has been won in the Amsterdam News lockout fight.

The triumphant Guild members marched back to work in a body on Christmas eve with a contract unanimously ratified by the unit, embodying a 10 percent wage increase and other features in line with the Guild's program. The scabs and strikebreakers were discharged and the entire Guild group re-engaged.

A large crowd outside cheered the entry into the plant and a flood of visitors, phone calls and telegrams from many parts of the country stilled the early efforts to get busy on the new issue. Messages kept pouring in all Christmas day and Thursday.

Profits From Experience

So ended a dramatic 11-weeks' struggle in which the ANG's pledge of no discrimination among members "by reason of sex, race, or religious or political convictions" found living expression with white

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Lewis Defines Industrial Aim

A call to all working people to recognize that they must save themselves from the present breakdown of management in the country, by building up the labor movement, was made by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, veteran of many labor struggles and chairman of the new Committee for Industrial Organization, in a speech before a record-size meeting of the New York Guild on Dec. 18.

The hope of building up this movement, Lewis said, underlay the new drive for the formation of industrial unions, which he is leading.

Lewis congratulated the Guild for the fight it was making in the Watson case and for the progress it had made in its organization, and asserted that it was becoming "a moral force perhaps greater than many of its members comprehend or understand." Much of the text of his speech is printed on page 4 of this issue.

In a resolution passed unanimously at the close of his talk, the New York Guild reaffirmed its belief in industrial unionism as in harmony with the aim stated in the ANG constitution and expressed its own readiness to co-operate in establishing such organization in the newspaper industry. The resolution said:

"WHEREAS, the Newspaper Guild
(Continued on page 4)

Five-Day Week Is Regained in San Francisco

Labor Aid and Quarrel Between Papers But Old Schedule Back

(Continued from page 1)

The Chronicle (Independent morning) was the first to announce a change. Reporters and rewrite men were put back on the shorter week Dec. 2, placing them on the same level with other editorial employees. Reporters and rewrite men had been working on a six-day week for the past three months while other members of the staff continued on a five-day week.

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Strike Chairman



T. R. POSTON, Chairman of the Amsterdam News Unit and now on New York Executive Committee.

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In Oakland the Tribune, with which the Guild has had difficulties, reverted to the six-day week shortly after the NRA was voted illegal by the Supreme Court. At present the Tribune is engaged in another labor controversy, with the teamsters' union this time. Four drivers were assertedly discharged after joining the teamsters' union and picketing of the plant was begun almost immediately. The matter is now in the hands of an arbitrator's committee.

Active in the Guild drive were Leo Geo, Barney Peterson, M. B. Brazier, George Wilson, H. R. Hill and Hedden Mason, retiring president.

This was not satisfactory to the executive committee of the Guild and the fight for the full five-day week was ordered continued by the strategy committee. One of the first results of this new drive was the passage of a resolution by the strong District Council of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, composed of all maritime crafts on the Coast.

Prior to this action Harry Bridges, president of the district council and militant longshore leader, telephoned Paul Smith on the Chronicle and in friendly terms accused him of fostering a company union.

Smith, a reputed liberal, has in recent weeks been on friendly terms with Bridges, who was excommunicated by newspapers here during his leadership of the longshore and maritime strike in 1934.

A noticeable liberal tendency on the part of the Chronicle during this time has been apparent in its handling of waterfront news and this condition is believed partly responsible for the "rift" between this paper and the Examiner.

The Examiner (Herald morning), at practically the same time the Chronicle came out with its new plan, announced that the full five-day week would go into effect there on Dec. 16.

Guild members, inspired by these developments, immediately began "taking up" the Guild to many laudable, winning ground and securing back dues.

The Alameda County General Labor Council was the first union group to voice its protest against the longer week. Alameda County Building Trades Council was next. These two groups, representing 46,000 men and women, protested the longer week in resolutions to the publishers.

Other unions who sent protest after speakers had visited their meetings were the Inter-Prof-

essional Association of the East Bay, composed of professional and semi-professional persons: American Teachers Federation, an A. F. of L. affiliate; Building Material Drivers; Miscellaneous Employees; Communications Council; Carmen's Union 3364; Maritime Union; Cooks and Waiters' Union; Bakery Wagon Drivers, and others.

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Amsterdam News Unit Wins; Back at Work With Pact

10 Per Cent Wage Increase, 5-Day Week, Guild Shop in Pact Ending 11-Week Struggle

(Continued from page 1)

and Negro members marching side by side on the picket lines.

The whole outlook fight was characterized by a smooth efficiency gained from the Guild's previous experience in struggles with publishers and which was demonstrated by the immediate appeal for labor support and picketing of large advertisers until they withdrew support from the paper. The result was heavy cuts in the paper's revenue almost immediately after the lockout began, leaving the length of the struggle to be decided by the patience of the creditors.

Huge indebtedness

The end came suddenly when the host of Mrs. Sadie Warren Davis, the publisher, that she would close down the paper rather than negotiate with the strikers, had almost been made good. In the face of the withering, unrelenting bombardment of every source of revenue that could be reached, including the withdrawal of the paper's own circulation, the publisher's position was steadily until Dec. 20, 72 days after the lockout, the three largest creditors instituted bankruptcy proceedings and forced the paper into receivership.

These creditors were the Pension Trusting Company, the Powers Engraving Company and International News Photos. The printing company, it is believed, claimed an indebtedness of over \$10,000.

Immediately upon his appointment by the Federal Court, the receiver, L. H. Axman, called the full into conference. His position was that unless an agreement could be reached, within the Guild, the paper would have to be liquidated.

New Publishers

The settlement was signed on Dec. 24, after four days and five nights of almost continuous negotiation. It was negotiated by the Guild with Axman, and the new publisher, Dr. C. B. Powell and P. M. H. Sawyer. The new publishers are Negroes, as were the former. Negotiations were handled for the Guild by Carl Handan, president; Milton Kaufman, executive secretary, and Hugh Holahan, chairman of the Emergency Committee.

Within two hours of the signing, the reinstated workers were back at their jobs. The contract is for two years and provides reinstated Guild men will be retained at least three months. Also provided are the 5-day, 40-hour week, time off for overtime, establishment of a Guild shop severance notes, and adjustment committee, and assurances against strike-breaking and discrimination.

The whole editorial staff was locked out on October 8 after the Guild had sought to negotiate a contract for the unit. The contract proposed then did not ask for higher wages, shorter hours, or any stipulation which would place added expenditures on the management.

Aided by Unions

In its militant fight, the Guild was aided by the support of the United Rubber Workers of America, who had adopted a resolution commending the publishers of the Times-Picayune and the Beacon Journal for refusing to follow the lead of other newspapers in taking advantage of the collapse of NRA to increase working hours of editorial employees.

The resolution, addressed to the publishers, says: "At our regular business meeting on December 3, our membership voted unanimously to send a letter of protest to the publishers of the Times-Picayune and the Beacon Journal for refusing to follow the lead of other newspapers in taking advantage of the collapse of NRA to increase working hours of editorial employees."

"Although we are convinced that a much shorter work week is necessary to enable recovery and re-employment of the millions now unemployed, we can appreciate the position of employers such as you when confronted with such a serious problem and feel you are to be commended in your stand with regard to the longer work week."

"We hope your present attitude on this question will continue indefinitely."

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NLRB Power Is Challenged In Watson Case

AP Lawyer Contemptuous—Guild Is Mobilizing Citizens Committee

(Continued from page 1)

Wagner Labor Board and attacked the complaint as an infringement of the freedom of the press.

The tone of the reply, widely criticized for its truculence, is indicated by such statements as the following: "The National Labor Relations Act is not in truth and fact a law and cannot be enforced by or through the supposed National Labor Relations Board... Its agents or otherwise."

Said pretended statute is unconstitutional, void and of no force and effect."

"The Associated Press is not required by law to answer said complaint or to appear before said National Labor Relations Board... Its agents or otherwise."

Davis also asserted that the wire service organization is not a profit-making organization, and denied the statement in the complaint that the AP's operations occurred in the course of interstate commerce.

Haywood Brown, in commenting on the Associated Press reply, declared that if "workmen used such words" they would be accused of sedition. He said: "We all go down to labor."

"The answer of the AP through John W. Davis, its attorney, is just what might be expected except for two points. At the start the AP says, 'The National Labor Relations Act is not in truth and fact a law.' This reply cannot be directed against the Guild, but against the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States."

"We didn't write the National Labor Relations Act. It happens to be a law of the land. If workmen used such words as 'accusations of sedition and un-Americanism' to the papers it feels that they are in contempt of the law."

"Same Pink Herring"

"In the second place, the AP says that when Morris Watson is ordered back to work the freedom of the press will be in peril. This is the same desperate cry which was emitted by many newspapers when a move was made to stop child labor. We assume that any order for decent sanitary or work conditions would be the same pink herring. We are in this fight to win for Watson and all other workers of the nation, and establish for all time the right of the worker to organize for his economic betterment."

In an effort to strengthen the AP fight nationally the ANG committee is supporting the local machinery was part of a general plan signed by the national committee for the conduct of the campaign. Efforts will be made to clean up the unpaid assessments by Feb. 6; to have all the Guild districts that can be completed this year organized by Feb. 20; back dues cleaned up by March 6; and completion of the defense fund and doubling of the present membership by April 20. These dates have been tied up with Guild Reporter deadlines, so that the paper can be used most effectively in prosecuting the campaign.

Response to Date

Guilds in widely separated parts of the country are responding to the plan. The Washington Guild has been the first to impose on itself a quota for the purchase of defense bonds. It will undertake to raise \$10,000 as an initial step, a \$50 down payment on a \$100 certificate was voted at the December meeting by the membership. Other purchases will be individual.

B. S. Dekey, president of the Durham, N. C., Guild, and Hugo Germino, secretary, have been designated by their Guild to represent the national defense committee.

The American, too, disregarded Brown's reply.

The Herald Tribune has three stories of a few paragraphs each, the first on the filing of the complaint with the NLRB, the second when the Board served its complaint against the AP, and the third on the Board's setting of a date for the hearing. It carried no story about Brown's reply.

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Plans of Locals In Defense Drive Asked By Jan. 6

National Committee Organizes, Seeks to Complete Campaign Machinery—Washington Guild Pledges \$1,500 Contribution to Fund

(Continued from page 1)

January 6 has been set by the newly constituted National Defense Committee as the date for completion of local machinery to conduct the three-sided defense drive ordered by the NEB to strengthen the Guild in efforts to preserve and extend its gains.

All Guild presidents have been asked to send to headquarters "will before that time a statement of the Guild's plan for cooperation. Formation of a junior Guild at the University of North Carolina, where there is a school of Journalism is being considered by the Durham group.

Tacoma Co-operates

In the rugged Northwest, the Tacoma, Wash., Guild has named Ed Honeywell and Stuart Welch of the News-Tribune unit; Rex Kelly and C. R. Mayhew, Times; and Eldon Ottenheimer and Ralph Curry, Ledger; to represent Tacoma on the NEB defense committee.

The board of directors (executive committee) of the Newspaper Guild of Buffalo will serve as its defense committee, subdividing as necessary to handle special problems.

A membership campaign to strengthen Guild battalions will be launched by the Baltimore Newspaper Guild immediately. Co-operation from the national office is expected to push forward the drive and members of the Baltimore Guild will work intensively in unorganized districts via letters and personal contacts.

Advance Aid Sought

Meanwhile, the newly constituted certificate subcommittee of the National Defense Committee went into action by making an appeal to members to make advance contributions to cover the initial expenses of the drive. (The appeal appears on page 1.) It was arranged for printing of certificates as this issue went to press. Certificates and stamps will be forwarded to advance contributors as soon as they are ready.

The certificates and other main subcommittees. These groups are for collection of back dues and assessments and regularization of current payments, membership, expansion, and building of a defense fund.

Garland Ashcraft of Cleveland, national treasurer, is chairman of the dues and assessments collection subcommittee; the other members being Carl E. Johnson of Duluth and President Brown. Jonathan Eddy, executive secretary, is chairman of the membership subcommittee; with Clyde Beale, Guild Reporter editor, and Bill Davis, national organizer. Thomas B. Sherman of St. Louis is chairman of the defense fund subcommittee, with Morris Watson and Ed Stevens of New York City. Eddy and Beale are executive on all committees.

Deadline Set

The setting of Jan. 6 as the date for completion of the local machinery was part of a general plan signed by the national committee for the conduct of the campaign. Efforts will be made to clean up the unpaid assessments by Feb. 6; to have all the Guild districts that can be completed this year organized by Feb. 20; back dues cleaned up by March 6; and completion of the defense fund and doubling of the present membership by April 20. These dates have been tied up with Guild Reporter deadlines, so that the paper can be used most effectively in prosecuting the campaign.

Response to Date

Guilds in widely separated parts of the country are responding to the plan. The Washington Guild has been the first to impose on itself a quota for the purchase of defense bonds. It will undertake to raise \$10,000 as an initial step, a \$50 down payment on a \$100 certificate was voted at the December meeting by the membership. Other purchases will be individual.

B. S. Dekey, president of the Durham, N. C., Guild, and Hugo Germino, secretary, have been designated by their Guild to represent the national defense committee.

The American, too, disregarded Brown's reply.

The Herald Tribune has three stories of a few paragraphs each, the first on the filing of the complaint with the NLRB, the second when the Board served its complaint against the AP, and the third on the Board's setting of a date for the hearing. It carried no story about Brown's reply.

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Plans of Locals In Defense Drive Asked By Jan. 6

National Committee Organizes, Seeks to Complete Campaign Machinery—Washington Guild Pledges \$1,500 Contribution to Fund

(Continued from page 1)

January 6 has been set by the newly constituted National Defense Committee as the date for completion of local machinery to conduct the three-sided defense drive ordered by the NEB to strengthen the Guild in efforts to preserve and extend its gains.

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Guild 'Sits In' A New Era of Economic Freedom Sought by Lewis With Labor At Washington

By JOHN L. LEWIS,
President, United Mine Workers
(From a Speech Delivered on Dec. 18 Before the New York Guild.)

Central Union Delegates Speak, But Have No Vote in Council

WASHINGTON—Four fraternal delegates to the Washington Central Labor Union and his associates officers that I felt one of the real accomplishments on the part of the Guild has been the demonstration that it could not only organize but that it could continue to exist and endure as a growing instrumentality.

There were perhaps many people who when the Guild was first projected and organized, and since, were of the opinion that it would not endure, that newspaper and journalistic work was of such a nature that the individuals who engaged in it were perhaps too individualistic to merge their interests into a common organization and carry on against the obstacles placed in its path and the confusion that might ensue within its own ranks.

The resolution proposing election of delegates was supported on the ground that the support of the central labor body was the first resort of the Guild in strikes or lockouts and the source of greatest strength in the fight against publishers.

It was pointed out that the local Guild voted for affiliation with the American Federation of Labor by the required two-thirds majority and that the national conventions had definitely placed the Guild as a labor union. Supporters also said the election would not commit the Guild to actions of the CLU.

Opponents held the action unwise until the Guild affiliated nationally with the A. F. of L. and argued that a fraternal delegate was valueless as he could not vote.

Elected delegates were: Eddy Gilmore, Washington Daily News; Richard Baker, Washington Times; Robert Buck, Washington Daily News; and Bernard McDonnell, Washington Post.

Lewis Describes Aims of Program

(Continued from page 1)

of New York is mindful of and in complete agreement with the forceful expression of the American Newspaper Guild convention favoring the principle of industrial unionism in the newspaper industry; and

"WHEREAS, the Newspaper Guild of New York has voted four to one in favor of the American Newspaper Guild affiliating with the American Federation of Labor as an international union, and an overwhelming majority of the national membership having similarly voted;

"HE IT RESOLVED, that the Newspaper Guild of New York extend its warmest thanks to John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, for his address before the general membership at the Hotel New Yorker on December 18, 1935; and That the Newspaper Guild of New York, reaffirming its attitude toward industrial unionism, express its readiness to co-operate wherever possible in bringing nearer the goal of an industrial union in the newspaper field."

Officers for the coming year were installed at the meeting. They are: Carl Randau (World-Telegram), president, who was re-elected; James M. Kieran (Times), first vice-president; Edward Leinson (Post), second vice-president; Ruth McKenney (Post), secretary; and Roger Dakin (Daily News), treasurer, also re-elected.

Eight members of the Executive Committee, newly elected by the Representative Assembly, are: Tom Cassidy (Daily News), Joseph Barnes (Herald Tribune), Ed Johnson (Evening Journal), Bernard Mullady (New York City News Association), Nat Elmhorn (Brooklyn Daily Eagle), Karl Bostrom (Bronx Home News), William Minkold (The New Republic), Theodore R. Poston (The Amsterdam News).

Your Guild has a splendid reputation and a splendid organization. I told President Brown and his associates officers that I felt one of the real accomplishments on the part of the Guild has been the demonstration that it could not only organize but that it could continue to exist and endure as a growing instrumentality.

There were perhaps many people who when the Guild was first projected and organized, and since, were of the opinion that it would not endure, that newspaper and journalistic work was of such a nature that the individuals who engaged in it were perhaps too individualistic to merge their interests into a common organization and carry on against the obstacles placed in its path and the confusion that might ensue within its own ranks.

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Elected delegates were: Eddy Gilmore, Washington Daily News; Richard Baker, Washington Times; Robert Buck, Washington Daily News; and Bernard McDonnell, Washington Post.

The Newspaper Guild is in the process of demonstrating its right. It was the Jennings case last year, and the Jennings case in its final essence was an answer to your organization and one that demonstrated to your own people the necessity for fighting for what they believed to be their due, and now it is the Watson case. Your enemies will continue to feel out your weak spots.

I am very glad that it is the intention of your organization to fight the Watson case through. I think it is a very powerful interest, and the outcome of it will doubtless clarify many of the issues that today are before us.

John W. Davis, in his brief, asked that the right of the Associated Press to discharge an employee be sustained as against the Industrial Relations Act, because in truth and in fact it is not a law. Strange words and strange policies to emanate from the lips of one who offered himself at one time to the people of the United States to be elected, if possible, to the office of the first executive of the nation, from one who throughout the years

Better Wages—Better Papers, Mickelsen Tells School Press

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—The history, purposes and accomplishments of the American Newspaper Guild were sketched recently before 1,200 delegates to the fourteenth annual convention of the National Scholastic Press Association at Milwaukee by Gunnar Mickelsen, a director of the Milwaukee Guild.

"We in the Guild believe the publishers who oppose the Guild are taking a shortsighted view," he said. "Unions in industry have tended to force up the general wage level. This is necessary if there is to be enough money in circulation to buy the products made or raised. Higher salaries for newspapermen may not change the national

In Industrial Unionism the Veteran Mine Leader Sees a Means of Creating Real Democracy

has preached the sanctity of the law, the right of Congress to enact statutes for the government of a people, and now denies the right of Congress to enact statutes for the government of the Associated Press. I do not know of anything that could be said or done to teach greater disrespect for law and for the authority of the government than for words of that character to emanate from the lips of men of the station and character of John W. Davis.

I have no doubt his words will be echoed by those associated with him in the Liberty League, and by those in New York, who have been and are today struggling to maintain such tremendous control upon the resources, upon the people, and upon the government of the United States.

The record of your organization demonstrates the fallacy of that judgment. Your Guild has become a moral force perhaps greater than many of its members comprehend or understand.

The Guild has had work to do before it could justify its own right to live. It takes a long time to demonstrate to hostile interests, national adversaries, that you are determined to live. On that subject I can speak with some authority, as representing an organization that for some decades was compelled daily to fight for its very right of existence, to justify in the councils of industry and finance in this country the right of the United Mine Workers of America to live as an instrumentality, to work in behalf of the men who work in the mines of this country.

Adversaries Search For Our Weaknesses

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union policy, it it attains any reasonable degree of success—a success I believe it can obtain—are very great. They affect not only the interests of the workers but they affect the interests of the small business man and practically every citizen of the land. An articulate labor movement not of some three or four or five million, as we have now, but of five or ten or more millions of workers, will multiply the existing strength of the labor movement.

Granted that the existing labor movement has some strength, granted that it has many accomplishments to its credit, is it not every day a thing to be desired that we increase that strength and extend the radius of influence of men and women of this country who serve these industries and perform a task for our American civilization.

The Twin Cities originally proposed the Guild's sponsoring the debate and the proposition has been passed unanimously by the NEB.

Some may say these are abstract questions. They are, but they run right to the concrete problems that affect each man and every woman in our everyday activities. The effort will be felt sooner than many anticipate. Our country is not yet safe. We still have 11,000,000 or more unemployed citizens in this country. Recent statistics reveal a great increase in production and volume of trade with an inconsequential increase in employment—meaning that our processes of production have been intensified and made more efficient. In so doing we are penalizing ourselves by failing to provide employment for those who must live.

I think we must solve that question before this country of ours will be saved. And I want to deal with these questions in an intelligent way. I do not think the Liberty League can solve them. I do not think the corporations that center in the downtown banks will solve them. I do not even know that they want to solve them. I think they are primarily concerned with the protection of their own property and dollars, and that they are short-sighted, for in failing to protect the working people of this country, they are jeopardizing their banks, their lands, and their dollars, and their corporations.

I want the working people of this country to become alive to the fact that they must do something to save themselves, to become alive to the fact that the management of this country has broken down, and become alive to the fact that they must take the management of this country into their own hands and the method of protecting themselves in the future. I want the working people of this country to organize, to make themselves articulate, to band themselves together, to cement themselves behind definite proposals, and I realize that the only way that can be done is to expand and build up this labor movement of ours.

Since it has become true that the Mine Workers of America have established collective bargaining in their own industry and have profited greatly thereby, it is also true that they want to stretch out their hands and add those less fortunate situated in order that we might bring in this country a labor movement worthy of its name, a labor movement equal in strength to those interests which have ruled and exploited this country so much.

That is not merely an unselfish thought. The United Mine Workers of America know that if they can contribute to the strength of other industries in the country, that collective bargaining and industrial democracy can be established in America, that they, the mine workers, in turn will profit by the greatly increased strength of the other workers of the land and that hand-in-hand they can march forward in the accomplishment of greater things in a material and a moral way, in a way that will profit greatly all those who claim America for our own country and are proud of our citizenship.

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The implications of an industrial

Guild Backs Debate Of Talmadge and Olson

NEB Decisions Cover Variety of Topics—Deadlock on New Member of Board

Governor Floyd B. Olson of Minnesota and Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia will engage in a debate to be conducted under the auspices of the ANG. The governors are now being consulted about the time and place.

The subject decided upon is: "RESOLVED: That throughout American history the only danger to our Constitution came from and still comes from the judicial branch of the government, which has constantly usurped its authority." Governor Talmadge has accepted the negative side of the question. The Twin Cities originally proposed the Guild's sponsoring the debate and the proposition has been passed unanimously by the NEB.

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Granted that the existing labor movement has some strength, granted that it has many accomplishments to its credit, is it not every day a thing to be desired that we increase that strength and extend the radius of influence of men and women of this country who serve these industries and perform a task for our American civilization.

The Twin Cities originally proposed the Guild's sponsoring the debate and the proposition has been passed unanimously by the NEB.

Some may say these are abstract questions. They are, but they run right to the concrete problems that affect each man and every woman in our everyday activities. The effort will be felt sooner than many anticipate. Our country is not yet safe. We still have 11,000,000 or more unemployed citizens in this country. Recent statistics reveal a great increase in production and volume of trade with an inconsequential increase in employment—meaning that our processes of production have been intensified and made more efficient. In so doing we are penalizing ourselves by failing to provide employment for those who must live.

I think we must solve that question before this country of ours will be saved. And I want to deal with these questions in an intelligent way. I do not think the Liberty League can solve them. I do not think the corporations that center in the downtown banks will solve them. I do not even know that they want to solve them. I think they are primarily concerned with the protection of their own property and dollars, and that they are short-sighted, for in failing to protect the working people of this country, they are jeopardizing their banks, their lands, and their dollars, and their corporations.

I want the working people of this country to become alive to the fact that they must do something to save themselves, to become alive to the fact that the management of this country has broken down, and become alive to the fact that they must take the management of this country into their own hands and the method of protecting themselves in the future. I want the working people of this country to organize, to make themselves articulate, to band themselves together, to cement themselves behind definite proposals, and I realize that the only way that can be done is to expand and build up this labor movement of ours.

Since it has become true that the Mine Workers of America have established collective bargaining in their own industry and have profited greatly thereby, it is also true that they want to stretch out their hands and add those less fortunate situated in order that we might bring in this country a labor movement worthy of its name, a labor movement equal in strength to those interests which have ruled and exploited this country so much.

That is not merely an unselfish thought. The United Mine Workers of America know that if they can contribute to the strength of other industries in the country, that collective bargaining and industrial democracy can be established in America, that they, the mine workers, in turn will profit by the greatly increased strength of the other workers of the land and that hand-in-hand they can march forward in the accomplishment of greater things in a material and a moral way, in a way that will profit greatly all those who claim America for our own country and are proud of our citizenship.

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The Guild Reporter



"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 continue the editorial policy of The Guild Reporter in that specific program."—Adopted by the National Executive Board as proposition No. 17 of July 2, 1935.

Editor:

Clive Davis

Assistant Editor:

Leon Svirsky, The New York World-Telegram Staff for this issue;
Dan Williams, Charles Calkins, Sydney Penney, Adrienne Wolf, James M. Kilgus, Selma Wolsky, Morris Colman, Arthur McManus, Emanuel Perlmutter, Saul Miller

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Westerners, Ho!

Breathes there a Gudder, who did not feel like sending a warship at word of the Northern California Newspaper Guild's latest achievement?

In the first line of many a fight, from the days of Burgess and Jennings on, the geographically isolated San Francisco pioneers were among the first to suffer in the national drive against the five-day week. Today, they are the first to emerge victorious with the five-day week won back.

There was no magic about this victory. In the light of two years' bitter experience, just enough San Francisco Guildmen had learned two things: not to take a slip lying down but to act as a labor organization and get the help of other organized labor.

Let there be no illusions. The NCMG was no perfect organization. It had never organized more than a majority of those eligible in San Francisco and Oakland. Its finances had been kept low by repeated struggles. Its membership, under impact of outward and inward dissension, had ebbed and flowed in both numbers and morale.

But, developed out of the Newspaper Guild rank and file, stood leaders who had sense enough and courage enough, when their right was in retreat and their left was shattered under the six-day onslaught, to attack with their center and yell for reinforcements from their natural allies—other organized workers of hand and brain.

Nor did they cry or wait for "help from the national." They themselves acted.

The fact that a contributing cause of the return of better conditions was a competitive squabble between the Examiner and Chronicle does not alter in any way the basic fact that, had there been no organization of newspapermen and had it not roused the supporting pressure of other organizations, the victory would never have been achieved. It was purely and simply the strength of organized labor in San Francisco, as a market and as a potential boycott force; that made it good business for newspaper publishers to beat a retreat from an attempted raid, led by William Randolph Hearst, on the very lives of editorial workers.

The historic significance of this victory in the annals of American newspaper work can not be exaggerated. The world is not full of competent newspaper editorial workers, nor do they grow on trees. Nor, once having tasted better conditions, will they be easily robbed of them and still do good work to the profit of their employers.

Provided—that those newspapermen are organized and that they act, under the constitution of the American Newspaper Guild, in "friendly cooperation with all other workers" and "do all in their power to strengthen and promote the labor movement in their respective areas."

Dangerous Agitators

The American Newspaper Publishers Association once described the National Recovery Act as an "incitement to employees to ignore obligations."

If this could be said about the law of the land, we wonder what characterization is appropriate for the answer of the Associated Press, made by John W. Davis, its counsel, in the Watson case. For this document incites employees not only to "ignore obligations" but to break the law.

Davis writes with high contempt of the Na-

tional Labor Relations Act. The fact that a good majority of Congress thought it was constitutional, and that the Supreme Court has yet to speak, weigh with him not at all. The fact that he is attacking a fundamental right of the vast mass of the population, does not temper his arrogance.

Speaking in behalf of a handful of wealthy, powerful men, he stretches the Constitution into a charter of lawlessness. For expressing such sentiments as his, anarchists a generation ago were unceremoniously thrown into jail.

Swift on the heels of the Davis "verdict" comes the decision of a Federal Judge of Republican persuasion in Kansas City holding the act unconstitutional—in equally contemptuous language.

It is amazing to see this high-handed attitude displayed toward a law which, weak as it is, possibly represents a high-water mark in the regulation of industrial relations in this country.

It gives sharp point to the statement of John L. Lewis in his New York speech, that even laws of a little avail unless you have the power to get them enforced.

Victory in Harlem

Eleven weeks ago, in Harlem, the publisher of the Amsterdam News, a weekly newspaper, locked out his Guild staff.

On Christmas Eve, the staff went back to work under the terms of a two-year contract, which, it is hoped, will result not only in the opening of a new era of decent employer-employee relationships on Negro papers, but in the extension of better standards of employment on all papers.

The fight was one that possessed many new angles. Of these, the race factor was the most difficult to handle. A "white" union was accused of trying to blast a Negro business. The publisher urged our Negro Guildmen to form a Jim-crow Guild. An effort was made to create a race riot. The Guild refused to be provoked; never failing to emphasize that the aims of a Negro publisher are those of white publishers, and the needs of the Negro newspaperman are the needs of all newspapermen. Nor could the thousands of trade unionists of Harlem be swayed from their almost instantaneous support of the Guild fight. By the persistence and honesty of its campaign the Guild convinced Harlem that there was only one issue: the right of newspapermen to organize and to bargain collectively.

Whether the Guild had won that fight or not, it was a challenge which could not be evaded. The Guild won. It won one of its most sweeping victories. The fight and the victory heightened the stature of the whole organization.

A Council of Labor?

In another column appears a letter from one who "helped to beat the inflation referendum" urging that the Guild, through the NBB, take the lead in forming "An American Council of Labor."

This organization would include the A. F. of L., the railway brothers and "the new organization which will emerge from the split which Lewis is now leading."

The purposes of the council, as outlined in the letter, strike us as approximately the same as those of the A. F. of L. and of its allies.

The member who wrote this letter has demonstrated in many ways that he has the best interests of the Guild and of the labor movement at heart, and his ideas will receive thoughtful consideration. However, we do not see eye to eye with him on two major assumptions: we do not believe that the present leadership of the A. F. of L. is ready to surrender that leadership to any American Council of Labor, and we do not believe that one is justified at the present stage in asserting that the Committee for Industrial Unionism, led by John L. Lewis, is headed for a split in the A. F. of L. We do not believe at the present stage that it wants to bring about a split.

The past history of the Guild, and the failure of rival organizations attest, we believe, to the fact that newspapermen are opposed to dual unionism, whatever form it may take. We believe Lewis and his fellow advocates of industrial unionism (among which advocates the Guild is definitely numbered by its constitution) are unalterably opposed to dual unionism, in whatever form.

We regard it as more to the advantage of newspapermen and all wage earners to revise and improve the existing American labor movement than to attempt to start another one, in whatever form.

The Rest of the World

Romanticism On a Hard Road

A U. P. reporter counted among 1,200 delegates who were at the National Scholastic Press Association convention in Milwaukee to learn about press, type, typewriters and journalistic jobs.

"They did not want their names mentioned, they were too grateful for the free trip. They said:—'Young managing editor:—'You newspaper guys never make any real money. I'm going to land my talents to the engineering profession. Now there is some real dough.'"

A young editor (law preferred):—"Looks all right, pointing at the reporter's baggy trousers and hat, and said: 'Do you think the world respects you just because you can go and get the news? I'd rather look at the news.'"

The staff side (17-year-old port red head who made the reporter meet with her smile):—"Not I. All they ever do with a girl in a news paper office is to make her pound her fingers to the bone about wedding and silly old fables. I'm going to be a nurse."

Hoover Undergoes Renovation

How human is Herbert Hoover? Many of us remember him as a dull, worried man while he was President, a gentleman wearing a hair shirt and with scant sense of humor. It is a little surprising now to discover the good old "build up" in the papers for Hoover, who is ostensibly not yet a candidate for the Republican nomination for the Presidency.

The build-up started with the assistance by Ben Allen, who ghost-wrote Hoover's speeches, that the former President is a witty man. Indeed, his recent addresses, in it true, show signs of wit, though skeptics are asking whether it is Hoover's.

The next step in the campaign to humanize Hoover was the information that he rivals firemen in the art of quick dressing; he can don his evening clothes in seven minutes flat.

We await the next human interest morsel with zest, but now that the holiday season for politicians is open we are thankful that the Dime ninetenths reside in Canada.

A College Looks At Its Labor Record

The badge of liberalism on a front door is not enough to insure that all the conditions inside are liberal. Teachers College, Columbia University, is widely regarded as one of the most enlightened institutions of its kind, yet labor difficulties have arisen in its dining halls during the last three years to such an extent as to attract considerable attention.

A student-faculty committee, appointed by the Dean to investigate, has just made a unanimous report. It reveals discriminations against college cafeteria employees for union membership, and the casual charges of radicalism; finds that in these last three years, the wages of the poorest paid employees have been cut as much as 40 per cent while the highest paid officials were cut only 4 per cent, and the average cut was 20 per cent. In addition, the report showed discrimination for union membership and activity that constituted "a decided injustice." And it held that the deep source of the difficulty lay in the opening practice of the college itself. It recommended a reconsideration of this policy.

The attitude of Dean William F. Russell, we are glad to note, is favorable. He wrote:—"We have always thought that we had a fair and efficient labor policy. If it appears to need modification in the light of the most careful study, we shall change it; and as quickly as possible." Teachers College can do much if it will take the lead in developing an enlightened and forward-looking labor policy.

The interminable nature of the move serves to emphasize the importance of universal unionization from the mass-power of the nation to insure their own security without having themselves tied to a given corporation by the thong of a steadily devised system of pension and other benefits, certain in themselves to encroach on wages, not dividends.

In the meantime, we commend to the newspaper publishers a fair trial of the idea of reconsidering their own policies.

The Middle Class Faces a Decision

The present social crisis is forcing disturbing decisions on the members of the middle class, and the doctors are offering advice. Two books that take somewhat divergent views have lately won wide attention.

Lewis Corey in his book, "The Crisis of the Middle Class," holds that the educated, nonproprietary middle class must unite with manual worker unions in order to protect themselves.

Alfred Hougham, discussing the middle class in "Imagined America," warns it to beware of the traditional A. F. of L. union which is likely to have a vested interest in big business, often a big business bargaining entity itself with limitation of membership and accumulated invested funds.

Obviously short of a major mass movement, the only effective means of organization for salary workers is in labor unions. Unions are collective and definite whereas organizations based on theories and dogmas and lacking a meat-and-bread basis are a definite vocational affiliation are amorphous and ineffective and always subject to schisms and disintegration and political exploitation.

But used this as a jump-out of the frying pan into the fire? Hardly.

The problem of the middle class salary-earners in joining or forming unions is to keep their destiny in their own hands in combating throughout organized labor the influence and power of the traditional labor leader with his money allegiance and master psychology.

The hope of humanity is in actively functioning both in the democracy which is the union and in the democracy which is the State.

Competition with Social Security Law

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey is raising the government's new Social Security Law.

I propose that an American Council of Labor be a body with a similar name be formed.

This council should have as its members the American Federation of Labor, representing the craft unions; the new organization which will emerge from the split which Lewis is now leading; to represent the industrial unions; the great railroad brotherhoods; and any other independent labor bodies that may exist, including the A.N.G.

The chief duty of this council should be to direct the propaganda activities, the educational service and the organization end of the labor movement; to co-ordinate the efforts of labor if it is to hold what little it has gained and to make new gains, and to bring a realization to the average man and woman of the power that labor can wield to improve economic conditions if only it will organize.

Give Them Even Feeding By setting up a new labor body and bringing in the craft and industrial unions on an even footing and balancing the new body with the independent organizations it would be possible to wipe out the parasites that have been seriously retarding the labor movement.

One thing above all others that must be understood by labor is the education of the unorganized workers so that they realize what organization can accomplish for them. To this the A.N.G. could contribute greatly through furnishing them with pamphlets and women skilled in the art of persuasive writing.

I would like to have the NBB discuss this proposal and also would like to hear from other Guildmen who have ideas along this line.

RAY SUTLIF, Secretary, Akron Newspaper Guild.

Seeks A Council Embracing All Labor Groups

Says We Could Educate Unorganized Workers To Do Their Part

Editor, The Guild Reporter:

As one who was openly opposed to affiliation with the A. F. of L. in the recent Guild referendum and who has been in effect for a full year, now, and has been of the highest benefit to the four score odd men and women in the News editorial department.

My reason for opposing A. F. of L. affiliation was simply that the Federation was due for a crack-up and, instead of strengthening an affiliation would involve us in a bitter fight that might carry us all down to defeat.

I hold the attitude of the A. F. of L. to organize mass production industries responsible for the defiant attitude of industrialists toward labor legislation. The Guild has a vital interest in that legislation.

The reason the mass production industries have not been organized is in labor unions. Unions are collective and definite whereas organizations based on theories and dogmas and lacking a meat-and-bread basis are a definite vocational affiliation are amorphous and ineffective and always subject to schisms and disintegration and political exploitation.

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THE ROCKY ROAD TO A CONTRACT
Cleveland Guild Held Steadfastly to Aims Through Long and Often Discouraging Parleys With Publishers

The No. 1 Charter Guild leads off a series of stories about what the locals have done, and how.

The Cleveland Newspaper Guild's biggest achievement to date, of course, has been the gaining of a signed contract for the Cleveland News unit. This contract has been in effect for a full year, now, and has been of the highest benefit to the four score odd men and women in the News editorial department.

The contract set up minimum wage scales ranging from \$15 a week for office boys to \$40 a week for journeymen of four years' experience. It established the five-day week, so that when newspaper offices generally began returning to the old six-day, unlimited-hour schedule a few months ago the News staff was quite unaffected. It provided for substantial discharge payments, which the News management has lived up to scrupulously.

Above all, it gave to News workers a sense of security in their jobs.

This contract decidedly was not handed to the Guild on a silver platter. It took long and patient negotiation to get it, and it took, also, solidarity and determination upon the part of the Guild as a whole and the News unit in particular.

Negotiations were begun with Publisher Dan R. Hanna, of the News, over a year ago. Members of the negotiating committee steadily discovered that no publisher is willing to concede anything without an argument.

Strike Vote Saved For Last Resort

There were many discouraging moments. At one time it appeared that the utmost the publisher would concede was something in the nature of an allowance of free pencils to members of the editorial staff and an agreement on mileage at rate of one cent per mile for use of staff-owned automobiles. At another time, negotiations were broken off completely, and it appeared for a few days as if a strike vote might have to be taken.

Throughout, however, leaders and members of the Guild fixed their minds on two objectives: to press determinedly for a written agreement embodying the utmost humanly possible of attainment, and to exhaust every possible means of

peaceful negotiation before taking a strike vote.

In the end, this attitude gained the day. The negotiating committee met with the News unit in a series of lengthy meetings, at which all viewpoints were freely (and occasionally heatedly) debated. The unit selected an offer from the publisher to establish a new pay scale without a contract and ordered its committee to resume negotiations for a written agreement; and the publisher, impressed by the solidarity of the staff spirit thus displayed, at length signed the contract.

The other large unit in Cleveland is that of the Cleveland Press. That unit voted to begin contract negotiations the moment the News contract was signed. Here, again, an exceedingly rocky road was encountered.

Bulletin Board Temptations Fought

The Press is a member of the Scripps-Howard chain of papers, and negotiations had to be carried on at long distances, to a great extent. This fact in itself was a prodigious brake on the progress of the negotiations; another danger was the staff's common knowledge that the management was ready at any time to embody practically all of the concessions the Guild was asking for in a bulletin board agreement.

It need not be pointed out, probably, that this fact constituted an ever-present temptation to staff members to forget about the contract and take the concessions offered. The importance of written agreements running for definite periods of time was thoroughly sold to the Press unit.

At one time it appeared that a contract would be signed in a matter of a day or so. At the last minute, however, word came that Roy Howard would refuse to sign any contract until he knew whether the Guild was going to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

A general meeting of the Cleveland Guild was called on receipt of this news, and a resolution urging affiliation was adopted, meanwhile the principle of using "peaceable means of approach, to the very utmost, prevailed, and the negotiating committee was instructed to suspend negotiations without preju-

dice until the A. F. of L. referendum vote was taken.

Once the result of the referendum was known the committee was ordered to resume negotiations. As this is written, negotiations are still in progress—hindered, once more, by the difficulties incidental to long-range negotiations. Incidentally, the Press reporters have already benefited by their Guild membership to the extent of a partial restoration of the depression pay cuts (asked for and obtained through the Guild) and through the fact that the management has informally established discharge pay rates similar to those in force in the News contract.

Lorain Lockout Precipitated Struggle

Then on the smaller units in Cleveland have displayed a realization of the fact that first achievements must come through the larger units. The Central Press, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Foreign Language and wise associations have marked time patiently until the Guild should be strong enough to tackle the peculiar problems which their special circumstances present.

There remains one more unit to mention: that in Lorain.

What happened at Lorain is undoubtedly familiar to all Guild Reporter readers. The fight that took place there was not fought by the Guild. It was thrust upon it by a publisher whose attitude was almost exactly parallel to that of L. T. Russell; the Guild accepted the challenge and conducted a prolonged campaign under great difficulties. All the members whom Publisher Horvitz had locked out before the campaign ended or had been given an assurance by the Guild of financial support until they could get jobs.

The Cleveland Guild has had some difficult moments, of course. It has had its internal fights, some of them exceedingly bitter; they have been aired on the floor of general meetings, and in every case the Guild has been able to close ranks and go forward afterwards. This, probably, is due chiefly to the presence of active and aggressive Guild leaders and to a widespread realization among the rank and file that only by united action can the newspapermen of this or any city hope to better their conditions.

Lindbergh Exile Is Blamed On The Press

Journalistic Nonsense Causes Injustice, Says Guildman

New York City.

Editor, The Guild Reporter:

No inspired editorial or sermon, no feature story by the most brilliant columnist could condemn so well as a conscientious American public as did the departure of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh and his family.

Let us thank you, Colonel, that you did not slam the door as you went by renouncing your citizenship. We hope, some day, to help stamp out those practices in American journalism which threaten the safety and peace of our citizens. Many members of our profession are of the type who serve on unfortunate situations created by others to aggravate them for their own advantage. But we hope to elevate our calling eventually so that we may no longer be found in our ranks.

Meanwhile in this "land of the free and home of the brave," we face a test as to whether collectively as a nation we can take such an indictment squarely "on the chin," face the music and remove the fault.

How many really believed Will Rogers when he said, in effect, that newspapers were filled with fiction. That in itself, though said with a smile, was damning enough—but far worse is the fact many publishers, and editors, incidentally, about news so unadmittedly that their record is as unimpeachable as back home gossip. We have laughed at the humor of Will Rogers, but I wish he could speak now.

Today no one's security is assured because of that type of journalistic nonsense which mingles with justice and steps at nothing to ferret out facts that are non-essential news, but the withholding of which sometimes is essential not only to the ends of justice but to the safety and contentment of those involved.

No more apt Christmas greeting could have been found for many "news-hawks" than this silent departure into voluntary exile of the principal in one of the greatest modern scientific achievements and at the same time victim of a type of journalism that is ethically unjust.

FREESTON KING SHELTON.

Wants Guild Units in Journalism Schools

Iowa City, Iowa.

Editor, The Guild Reporter:

Sigma Delta Chi recently announced its annual expansion program. This, no doubt, is old news to you. Many persons feel as I do and have expressed the opinion that this is a plot on the part of the newspaper publishers to form an organization in opposition to the Guild. However, I have seen no editorial comment in The Guild Reporter as regards this new program.

As an embryo journalist of the class of '36, I see a threat in this. I would like to go out into the newspaper world and be assured a decent job with decent wages. But I cannot see a decent standard of living for newspaper men with the attitude of the publishers as it is.

If Sigma Delta Chi can have a hold both in the schools and in the professional world, the publishers are practically assured of their doctrine being spread throughout the newspaper world. That is what they desire.

Might I suggest that the Guild extend its activities so that the students in journalism schools would be included. The establishment of Guild units in journalism schools would be an important step in improving the status of all newspapermen.

If I can be of any assistance to the Guild in any way I will be glad to help.

HOWAN.

News Contract Talk Held Up In Cleveland

Publisher Demurs Until Opposition Papers Are Also Signed

CLEVELAND.—Negotiations for the renewal of the News contract, which has been in effect a year and is now expiring, struck a snag a fortnight ago when the negotiating committee received a letter from Dan R. Hanna, publisher, that the News would not renew the contract unless a similar contract were signed with the opposition papers in Cleveland.

This fact was laid before a meeting of the entire Guild by Frank O'Neill of the News unit, chairman of the negotiating committee. As a result of the meeting the committee is returning to its labors with renewed confidence.

It was disclosed that the Press (Scripps-Howard) unit is making a strong drive for its contract. Complete agreement has been reached with the management on the terms and all that remains is a decision as to the actual signature.

In laying Hanna's views before the Guild, O'Neill emphasized that Hanna has no antagonism to the Guild as an organization, and has no fault to find with his paper's experience of one year under a Guild contract. The publisher simply feels that when he is the only Cleveland publisher to sign such a contract he is compelled to operate his paper under a handicap.

Besides the information about the efforts to sign a contract with the Press, the discussion brought out several facts:

Gains Now General

First, Hanna undoubtedly would not insist on seeing a contract signed in the Plain Dealer office, where the Guild does not have a unit. Signing of a contract with the Press, it was agreed, would unquestionably remove his objections to renewing the News contract.

Second, the contract does not as a matter of fact place the News under a handicap, since the Press management has already equalled or bettered the News working conditions in such matters as the five-day week, discharge notices and so on. To a certain extent the same is true of the Plain Dealer.

A petition declaring that the long delay in signing on the part of the Press is utterly unjustified, and demanding a speedy decision in favor of the Guild, has been circulated among Press unit members. At this writing, it has been signed by an overwhelming majority of the staff, and, when it is transmitted to the Scripps-Howard management, is expected to bear the signature of almost every editorial employee.

All of these points were thoroughly canvassed at the meeting. As a result, the Press negotiating committee is confident it will receive a speedy answer; and the News negotiating committee is preparing to meet with Publisher Hanna, ready to persuade him that the contract which has brought such harmonious relations and high morale to the News staff for the past year can profitably be renewed.

A clause in the contract continues its provisions in force for two months, pending negotiations for renewal.

MRS. MAY LUMSDEN, formerly a member of the New York Times unit of the Newspaper Guild of New York, has been appointed manager of the first publicly-owned, low-rental housing project in the United States. The project was built in New York City's East Side shum district under the supervision of the New York Housing Authority. It will be Mrs. Lumsden's job to supervise this model housing development, which accommodates 120 families.

Battle Creek Organizes Again; Back Dues Waived

At the request of the executive committee of the recently revived Battle Creek, Mich., Guild, the National Executive Board has voted to waive delinquent dues and assessments extending from March 1 to Nov. 1, totalling \$110.10, and re-enroll the members as of Nov. 1, 1935.

National Organizer Bill Davy recently visited Battle Creek, which has been inactive, and found sufficient interest among its twenty members to effect reorganization.

The present officers are: Ken Frank, president; Egmond Hoekstra, vice-president; Ruth Maynard, secretary, and Louis Sinclair, treasurer.

Photo Show By News Men Gets Wide Acclaim

The incentive of news photographers to improve their artistry was stimulated, everybody agreed, by the photographic exhibit of the Press Photographers' Association of New York put on Dec. 10 to 15 in Rockefeller Center.

The first such co-operative enterprise in their history, the exhibit was highly successful. Visitors jammed the show room. Rockefeller Center officials said it was one of the best of the many exhibits displayed there.

The entries were submitted by the Association's 150 members, whether taken on the job or privately. There were 60 judges—art critics for magazines, newspapers, and advertising agents. One of them, Mayor La Guardia, found all of the entries too good, he said, to make a choice.

There were two classes, pictorial news and spot news, and the subjects varied from tragedy to heart interest. The first spot news prize, won by R. F. Cranston of the N. Y. Daily News, showed an overturned auto, a woman stretched dead on the street and her husband staring dazed at her body. The second, awarded to Philip Levine, also of the Daily News, was a shot of the late "Legs" Diamond peeping from behind a policeman's shoulder.

In the pictorial group, first prize was awarded to Arthur Sasse of the International News Photos, Victor Twyman took second prize, and J. Hal Steffen of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune won third place.

Photo Men Install Officers for Year

Newly elected officers and members of the board of directors of the Press Photographers' Association of New York City will be installed at a meeting on Jan. 6.

Walter Ranzini of the Daily News was re-elected president. The other officers elected are: First vice president, Joseph Heppner, Metropolitan Photos; second vice president, Thomas Sande, Associated Press; secretary, William C. Greene, World-Telegram; assistant secretary, Charles Payne, Daily News; treasurer, Victor Twyman, Daily News; and assistant treasurer, Robert A. Wands, New York Times.

The new board of directors includes: William Zerbe, Herald Tribune, chairman; Anthony Quintieri, Il Progresso; Frank Marta, Acme News Photos; Robert Seelig, Daily News; Carl Nesenha, Times Wide World; Joseph Lyons, Sun; and Jack Frank, Herald Tribune. Jack MacMillan, unattached, was elected marshal.

A recent story in the Reporter about the candidates' programs in the election spoke of meetings of a committee and members of the association with Edward F. White, president of the New York Photo-engravers Union. These meetings, we are informed, were not sponsored by the association and did not represent it officially.

THE FREE PRESS

"RESOLVED, That the American Newspaper Guild strive tirelessly for integrity of news column."
—St. Paul Convention, June, 1934

Edited by EVELYN SEELEY

A Van Sweringen Can Rest in Peace

WHEN the Van Sweringen boys break into the news, strange things happen that "rile" good reporters. One Guildsman writes:

RELAX AND ENJOY IT

If the newspapers and picture syndicates of Cleveland had been owned lock, stock and barrel by the Van Sweringens no more nauseating exhibition of complete subservience to the rail barons' whims could have been given than that which recently attended the death and burial of the younger of the two brothers, Mantis James.

Yet it was engineered with no other weapon than the adroit Irish tongue of one Joseph Doherty, who, since he left the newspaper business to become the personal "buffer" between the Van Sweringens and the public, has probably managed to kill more good news stories than any other man with the possible exception of the late Ivy Lee.

It would be a mistake to call Doherty a publicity agent; his job is to prevent publicity, and he has done this so capably that he has more than earned the fat salary reputedly paid him. His latest accomplishment certainly should merit him a raise.

With only a telephone to serve him, he managed in one morning to convince the editors of all three major newspapers—the News, Press and Plain Dealer—as well as the picture syndicates with Cleveland offices that by no means should they attempt to photograph the services for Mantis James at Daisy Hill Farm, the hermitage in which the notoriously shy brothers maintained their legendary seclusion until parted by death.

In return for this agreement, the editors were given permission to have reporters inside the premises, and a promise that the armed guards posted at all points to keep a keen lookout for cameramen, would not manhandle them.

In a day of more spirited journalism Cleveland has seen editors who, given such a proposition, either would have told its brochures flatly where they could go and attempted to run the gauntlet of gentlemen thugs, or else would have ignored the entire matter, story as well as pictures. The Plain Dealer did partially attempt this; it had no man at the funeral. However, it asked the Press for permission to use the facts gathered by that paper's reporter.

Doctors Disagree on Van Sweringen News

The recent story of the Van Sweringen brothers' auction in Cleveland brought out strange divergence in editorial handling. O. P. and M. J. Van Sweringen had defaulted on a \$48,000,000 loan, you'll recall, and the banks which

had accommodated put up the collateral for public sale in Cleveland. The collateral included securities which—creditors' claims disregarded—carried control of a 25,000-mile railway system and some fine pieces of Cleveland real estate. The Van Sweringens had most of this collateral bought in by friendly interests. Because of the deflation to which securities sold had been subject, these interests paid only about \$3,000,000 for their purchase.

The New York papers played the event to the limit—with front-page stories before and after the sale, with maps, color stories, etc. The World-Telegram, which cracked the story, ran a chart showing the ramifications of the Van Sweringen holdings. The Herald Tribune ran a map of the Van Sweringen railways, the largest system under one control—including the publicly-owned Russian and German systems. The Times ran a photograph of the Cleveland promoters.

Muffler On in Ohio

In Cleveland, where the Van Sweringens' really holdings were capitalized at \$150,000,000, the story got less space than in New York.

But here was the big difference, according to another Cleveland correspondent:

The New York papers outlined a picture of two holding company promoters being sold out for default and nicking their creditors for about \$43,000,000. They noticed the significance of their having to buy in their empire through an agent to avoid a deficiency judgment action. But the Cleveland Plain Dealer inferred that the Van Sweringen brothers were rising like chubby Phoenixes from a deplorable misfortune in a brave and presumably meritorious effort to start again—though what was to be started again was not made clear.

The Cleveland News offered a diluted version of the Plain Dealer's piece. The Press gave the most realistic account in Cleveland.

As We Read of Fascism in the Papers

Editors apparently differ about fascism—in fact and in news value. Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes said on Dec. 4 in Detroit:

It is the fascist-minded men of America who are the real enemies of our institutions through their solidarity, and their ability and willingness to turn the wealth of America against the welfare of America. The papers played it in a variety of ways—on the front page and buried inside, some with the obvious fascist lead and some with no mention of fascism at all. Editorially they scoffed or frothed at the mouth or, in case of the more liberal papers, hailed it as a reasonable pronouncement.

Most spectacular was the united

front of the New York Herald Tribune and the Daily Worker. Both played the speech prominently and tied it up typographically with the news of the National Association of Manufacturers and "Congress of American Industry" then delivering the industrialists' blasts against the New Deal. The Daily Worker was plainly tying the fascist label on the manufacturers. Whether the Tribune thought Ickes symbolized the policies which the industrialists were attacking, or was merely playing the news with conspicuous neutrality, as it sometimes does, could hardly be told from the headlines.

The Times played Ickes conspicuously down, and the American had him well inside, near a big run-over spread with sonorous, highly eulogistic captions about the manufacturers. The Times also panned Ickes editorially.

Mr. Ickes is the Fat Boy of the Administration who always wants to make your flesh creep . . . Fascism is a loose term and Secretary Ickes uses it loosely . . . To suppose, or predict, that anything like that system . . . is to go against all the known facts . . . Well, we can see various questionable shapes on either road, but not one of them looks like the terrible Fascist of Secretary Ickes.

He Who Gets Hurt May Be Funny Now

It used to be a rule, when we were cubs, never to ridicule the poor, the crippled, the sick and wounded! That rule sometimes goes by the boards nowadays, if a story has political implications and names that do not matter.

The New York Herald Tribune published the following bright little story at the bottom of page one Dec. 20:

5 W. P. A. MEN IN CHAIRS ROLL OFF AS TRUCK YEERS Casters Betray Relief Workers Luxuriating on Moving Van

The unwisdom of luxury was effectively demonstrated to five W. P. A. workers yesterday morning while they were conveying a load of office chairs to the Bronx Terminal Market. There were five of the chairs—all equipped with casters, and their bureaucratic comforts so appealed to the employees of the Works Progress Administration that they each took a seat. The driver of the truck, Angelo Errico, of 2248 Bassford Avenue, the Bronx, took no notice of what was happening behind him.

The argosy proceeded happily along the market ramp until the turn into the market itself presented itself. The W. P. A. workers had neglected to notice that the truck had no sides. Errico turned the truck sharply, and all five sitters sailed off the truck and down to the concrete pavement. Michael Hickey, forty-five years old, of 774 Ninth Avenue, suffered a lacerated scalp and an injured ankle, while Hugo Samino, thirty-one, of 297 East 151st Street, the Bronx, suffered a fracture of the right wrist. Both had to stay in Morrisania Hospital.

Tony Conzio, twenty-three years old, of 741 East 213th Street, the Bronx, and Edward Pavona, twenty-seven, of 309 East 118th Street, both suffered sprained backs and general lacerations, while Alfred Holloch, thirty-five, of 516 East 34th Street, received cuts about the left eye. They were taken to the hospital, too, but were discharged after treatment.

N. Y. Guild Member Dies

Augusta de Jesus, a member of the La Prensa unit of the New York Guild, died on Dec. 3, after a long illness in the Sutton Hospital. De Jesus was a native of Porto Rico and served as Porto Rican editor of La Prensa for two and a half years. He wrote for other papers and magazines as well. He is survived by his wife, Consuela, and four children.

Non-Members: Organize Now!

The Guild is now embarking on a big organizing campaign. Members in all Guild cities are forming committees to help form locals nearby.

We want you with us. Help the movement to improve wages, working conditions and security for all newspaper men and women.

These improvements will come only through the organized efforts of editorial staffs. Every new member adds strength for the task.

If there is a Guild near you, write to it. If you do not know of any, write to national headquarters. There may be others in your city who already belong as members-at-large, with whom you could work in forming a Guild.

If you are not ready to join you may be of great help in telling about the opportunities and problems of organizing in your city. Write us about your situation.

Address: AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD,
49 WEST 45th STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.