

Official organ of the
American Newspaper
Guild, an affiliate of
the American Fed-
eration of Labor.

The Guild Reporter

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NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 15, 1936

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California Agreement Is Posted

San Francisco Guild OK's
Statement of Scripps
Paper

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—The first wage and hour agreement negotiated by the American Newspaper Guild in the Far West was approved last week by the San Francisco News, Scripps-Howard, and the Northern California Newspaper Guild, representing News editorial employees. The agreement was embodied in a bulletin-board announcement.

Guild members on the News, constituting two-thirds of the editorial employees, voted their acceptance of the bulletin-board statement of terms, already agreed to by W. N. Burkhardt, editor and publisher of the News.

The statement establishes a minimum wage scale ranging up to \$59 a week for employees with five years' experience and continues the 40-hour, five-day week now in effect. It means substantial wage increases for other staff members, running up in one case to \$20 a week.

The agreement becomes effective during the present pay period and will remain in effect for one year.

More Negotiations On

At the same time, it was reported by the NCNG collective bargaining committee that contract negotiations were proceeding satisfactorily with the publishers of the San Francisco Examiner, San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco Call-Bulletin and Oakland Post-Enquirer.

The statement by the San Francisco News publisher, although not taking the form of a formal contract, is declared by Samuel Kagel of the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau, labor relations counsel for the NCNG, "definitely to constitute an employee-employer agreement in which the publisher accords recognition of the Guild."

"It is a bona fide agreement," Kagel adds, "since not only are both parties named, but in addition the commencement and termination dates are specified. There is no preamble attempting to modify the terms or spirit of the agreement."

No estimate has been made yet as to what the total weekly cash benefit to employees will be.

(The text of the announcement appears on page 2.)

Staff to Witness A Bargaining Bout

What may prove to be the ideal form of Guild negotiations will take place in Brooklyn on the evening of Nov. 24, when the entire staff of the Daily Eagle, 80 per cent of which is organized in the Guild unit, will be invited to attend a conference between a Guild negotiating committee and the management. The unit numbers more than 130.

The suggestion was made by M. Preston Goodfellow, publisher, who felt that such a conference would enable the staff to understand the problems of management as well as their own. At a recent conference with the managing editor, the management held that its views had not been fairly reported to the unit.

The executive committee welcomed the idea.

Guild Congressman



Henry Teigan, Twin Cities
Guildsman and Minnesota
Farmer-Laborite Who Goes
to House (Story on Page 3)

'Accord' to End In Cleveland

Press Says It Won't Renew,
Conveys "Regrets"

The Cleveland Press management has announced its desire to end its "accord" with the Guild at the expiration of the year's contract on Feb. 9 next. It gave notice on the last day before the automatic renewal would have taken effect.

In a communication addressed "Dear Lloyd" and signed "Louis," Louis B. Seltzer, editor, expressed to Lloyd White, acting chairman of the Press unit of the Cleveland Guild, his "genuine regret" that "this step must be taken."

The letter follows:

November 10, 1936.

To: Mr. Lloyd White,
Acting Chairman of The Press
Unit,
Of the Cleveland Newspaper
Guild.

Dear Lloyd:

Formal notice is herewith given in compliance with the provision contained in the Guild accord between The Cleveland Press and its Editorial employees, as represented by The Cleveland Newspaper Guild, that the management wishes to terminate the agreement.

As a direct corollary to this notice it is herewith stated that all the terms and conditions contained in the agreement shall be continued and that all of the procedures for negotiation shall be maintained. In other words, we shall proceed informally in a manner identical with that under which we proceeded formally.

The paragraph of the accord which provides for the notice herewith given reads as follows:
It (referring to the accord) becomes effective February 10,
(Continued on page 2)

Hearst Is 'Friendly' But Balks at Peace

Money Is Loosening Up! Start Your Bargaining

Events on all sides make it more and more clear that every Guild can produce notable economic gains for its members this year if it will press forward with its bargaining.

First we had the election. Now many industries are showing that money is available for pay rises. The steel industry, faced by the prospect of a militant organizing campaign under the direction of the Committee for Industrial Organization, grants its employees increases in wages ranging from five to twenty-five percent. General Motors, facing a similar organization drive, throws a bone to the workers on the assembly lines in the shape of a \$10,000,000 bonus and a small increase in salaries (at the same time handing out \$65,000,000 in dividends!) Many

lesser companies are following their lead.

Besides the dread spectre of unionization haunting these companies, there is another factor indicated by the quotations from Standard Statistics, the Wall Street Statistical agency, appearing on an inside page in this issue. This agency predicts that our own industry stands to benefit handsomely as a result of present business factors.

Thus the publishers are now in an excellent position both to make general salary increases and cut hours and restore five-day weeks.

By insisting on all these improvements we shall be enhancing not only our own positions but those of our still jobless fellow-newspaper men and women.

When is your next meeting?

Boston Confers 6 Parleys On For a Contract

Herald-Travellers Unit
Seeks Five-Day Week

BOSTON.—The negotiating committee of the Boston Guild conferred for two hours on Nov. 13 with E. W. Preston, publisher of the Herald-Traveller, and Robert B. Choate, managing editor, looking toward a Guild contract.

Harry P. Grages, business agent of the Boston Central Labor Union, and Kenneth I. Taylor, assistant secretary-treasurer of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, represented labor on the Guild's committee. They had been selected to so serve by both the Boston Guild and the Herald-Traveller unit. John Barry, (Continued on page 2)

Two Hearst Papers Are
Meeting with Guild

Guild negotiations, unit reorganization, newly organized units and dues collections in the New York Guild all point to a marked upturn in a drive to consolidate the organization and press for the extension of economic advantages in the city rooms.

The New York Guild is in negotiations with six publishers, including two local Hearst managements, and is at the moment attempting to open conferences with two others. In the last six weeks four news magazines (Time and Fortune, Literary Digest, Tide and Mid-Week Pictorial) have been organized, with an initial membership of over 100. The News- (Continued on page 2)

Do Not Fail Seattle Strikers Now! Money Needed to Keep Up the Fight

Every strike has only one real settlement, but at least nine reported agreements or hopes of settlement. The support of the striking group must go right on until the real settlement arrives.

The faintest talk of "settlement" has a tendency to cut contributions to the Guild's Defense Fund. Many members are so optimistic as to believe that negotiations mean that the successful end of the fight is at hand, and that the need for strike money is over.

The fact, however, is that the period of negotiations is the one which calls for the most enthusiastic financial support of the strikers. That is the time when the publisher is

feeling us out, demanding concessions, deciding whether he must yield something or wait a little longer for us to peter out. That is the time when the strikers should feel the full backing of their fellow-members. They must bargain unhampered by concern over money, secure in the tradition that the Guild will carry a fight just as long as necessary to win.

We repeat that victory in Seattle is within our grasp. It is just a question of time and money. To make that victory sure is the job of all local Guilds. Those that have not reorganized their strike financing are counted upon to do so now. Guilds that have placed their col-

lections on a systematic basis should check on the functioning of the system now. And again every week!

Remember that every strike, even though it has been forced upon us, is an investment in the future of our organization and ourselves. We are building a reputation for effectiveness. If we succeed, that reputation will stand every Guild and every member in good stead.

Seattle is a crucial test. Remember that the outcome depends just as much on you doing your part as on the small group carrying the heavy burden there at the strike scene.

INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE
FUND COMMITTEE.

Talks with Broun on Guild, Sends Wires to Strikers—Still No Settlement

William Randolph Hearst himself was drawn into the attempts to settle the three-months-old Guild strike on his Post-Intelligencer in Seattle in the last fortnight, but except for his expression of a desire to be friendly, the attempts appear to have resulted in bringing the Guild and the management little, if any, nearer together.

Heywood Broun saw him in New York on Nov. 9, and Richard Seller, president of the Seattle Guild, exchanged wires with him directly in an effort to start negotiations.

New trouble for the management of the Post-Intelligencer, which has remained suspended since Aug. 13, developed when the heads of Seattle Mailers Union No. 33 announced publicly that the paper had never lived up to an agreement made with their union and that whatever the outcome of the Guild's peace efforts they would oppose any attempt to remove the paper from the Seattle Central Labor Council's "unfair list" until their own union's grievance was settled.

Arbitration Offered

The Guild's renewed peace drive resulted partly from the changed situation created by the completion of the election and partly from the fact that all issues, the strikers returning to work in the meantime.

A telegram from the Seattle Guild to Hearst asking, in typical newspaper fashion, for a statement from him about the election for use in the Guild Daily, started the fresh crop of peace feelers. Richard Seller, president of the Guild, immediately after the election wired the publisher for a hundred word statement "at our expense." Hearst made an astonishingly friendly reply, voiced in strong terms a belief in the "superior wisdom of the majority" and in the obligation to "comply cheerfully" with the majority's will. His statement, holding out an olive branch to President Roosevelt, was printed all over the country.

Both the Seattle Guild and International headquarters seized upon his remarks as opening the way for (Continued on page 5)

Eddy Is Delegate To AFL Convention

The ANG will be represented at the Tampa Convention of the A.F. of L., starting this week, by Jonathan Eddy, international executive secretary.

Heywood Broun, who is automatically a delegate by virtue of his position as president of the Guild, is not attending.

Eddy visited some unorganized cities on his trip down the east coast and reached Tampa last week in time for a scheduled meeting of the board of the International Allied Printing Trades Council.

PUSH DRIVE IN DETROIT

Negotiations With Free Press Advance

ORGANIZER THERE

DETROIT.—While negotiations with the Free Press took another step forward with an exchange of letters with E. D. Stair, publisher of the paper, the Detroit Guild pushed its drive for new members under International Organizer Bill Davy.

On Oct. 24, replying to a Guild request for a conference on wages and working conditions, Stair said he was "pleased to meet fellow workers on the Free Press at any and all times," but added that any complaints should be discussed by individuals with their immediate superiors.

"Any other policy would be harmful to the institution and would tend to destroy authority and spirit," his letter said.

Following a unit meeting the Guild replied that the request was "not an individual matter, but a request for a conference with you by the Detroit Newspaper Guild, acting at the behest of a majority of the Free Press editorial employees."

Meanwhile Davy, who is working in Detroit for a month, began a vigorous campaign to strengthen the unit on the Times, Hearst paper, and to build up units on the News, independent evening paper, and the wire services.

Guild members and officers were contributing time and work to make the drive a success. Turnouts at meetings were noticeably larger and more enthusiastic.

Brothers Now

Commercial Artists Enter A. F. of L.

The presentation of an American Federation of Labor charter to the Commercial Artists and Designers Union on Nov. 12 marked the first step in the unionization of "white collar" workers in the advertising field. Immediate objects of the new union will be the elimination of certain "evils" which, according to the executive board, include unpaid overtime, inadequate salaries, and work performed by student apprentices.

Under the terms of its charter artists of every category, from magazine illustrators to merchandising designers, whether free lance or regularly employed, are eligible for membership. Officers of the union point out that while the mechanical divisions of advertising, such as engravers, typographers and printers, have long been organized, this is the first movement of the creative

Non-Members—Meet the Guild Reporter!

We are sending the paper to give you a close-up of the nationwide organization through which editorial workers are seeking to advance their economic well-being and security and to improve the standards of their craft.

The paper is sent free for three months. Eligible non-members who have already received the paper for that period or longer are now being taken off the list.

If, for some reason, YOU do not expect to join, subscribe at once. See the box on page 8.

Martin Kane Re-Elected Chicago Guild President

CHICAGO.—Martin Kane, of the United Press, was re-elected president of the Chicago Newspaper Guild at the first annual election Kane was the only nominee for the office.

Two press correspondents, Carl Haessler and William H. Mueller, were named first and second vice-presidents respectively. Haessler is on the staff of Federated Press and Mueller on United Press. E. A. H. Stevenson, editor of the Train Dispatcher, was re-elected secretary and Paul Puschel of Abendpost, treasurer. These candidates were also unopposed.

Herman H. Meyer, Abendpost; Hy Fish, Labor and Socialist News Service, and Harold Rossmann, Chicago Times, were retained as delegates to the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Writers Out

WPA Group On Strike In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS.—Fifteen members of the Federal Writers' Project, a WPA group affiliated with the American Writers' Union, have been on strike here since Oct. 27, when Mrs. Geraldine B. Parker, state director of the project, refused to rehire Wayne Barker, project photographer.

The union contended Barker had been fired for organizational activities. Barker was discharged on Oct. 16 for "lack of cooperation and absence from the project without excuse," according to Mrs. Parker. The union contended Barker had been fired for organizational activities.

Barker had been active in the formation of the St. Louis Writers' Union. On one occasion, during the formative stage of the union, Barker had taken the door to reply to Mrs. Parker and to insist that union organization be not delayed.

Barker had occupied a responsible position on the project for nearly a year. A large number of non-union employees signed a petition asking for his reinstatement.

The union made numerous representations to Mrs. Parker. A committee consisting of Julius Klyman, ANG Vice President; Wayne Barker, vice-president of the St. Louis Newspaper Guild; Joe Morris, organizer for the Workers' Alliance; and Mathieu Smith, organizer for the American Writers' Union, after meeting with Mrs. Parker in an effort to avoid a strike, reported that the charges against Barker did not hold water.

Among the striking employees are Jack Conroy, author of "The Disinherited" and winner of a Guggenheim fellowship in 1934, and Edward Moser, nationally known short story writer.

Groups in the business to join the ranks of organized labor.

Another organization, the American Advertising Guild, which was formed recently to organize copywriters, production men and space buyers in advertising agencies, is recognized as another indication of the trend toward unionization of the "white collar" advertising employees by officers of the new union.

Remember THE NEWS

Local correspondents.—Send the Reporter stories about:

1. Your bargaining and other organizational activities. Bargaining experiences particularly will be informative and stimulating to the rest of the ANG.

2. Important personal events.

3. Incidents for the special columns, Free Press, Labor World, Side Lines, and Labor Features.

Deadlines for spot news are the 8th and 22nd of each month at headquarters; bulletins, one day later. Deadlines for feature papers and special department material, 6th and 26th.

Note to Local Guilds: Each local is responsible for appointing its correspondent and supplying the news. If news about your activities does not appear frequently, it is not being sent. If this is the case, please remedy.

2. For some reason, YOU do not expect to join, subscribe at once. See the box on page 8.

Decatur Guild Seated In Trades Assembly

DECATUR, Ill.—Delegates of the Decatur Newspaper Guild, were seated on Oct. 22 by the Decatur Trades and Labor Assembly. The delegates are: J. N. Martin, Harley C. Lewis and Richard Walter of the Herald staff; and Oliver Miller, of the Review. Both papers are under the same management.

A brief report of the affiliation of the Decatur Guild with the Trades and Labor Assembly was printed in the Herald and a similar story appeared in an early mail edition of the Review, but was ordered killed in city editions by the managing editor who questioned its "news value." The city editor who printed the story in the Herald was criticized for his action.

UNION LINK VOTE DUE

Affiliation Ballot Is Stated for Memphis

SPUR BARGAINING

MEMPHIS.—Proposed affiliation with the Memphis Trades and Labor Council will be decided by a referendum vote in December, the newly organized Memphis Newspaper Guild decided at its regular monthly meeting. The organization is weighing the proposal carefully and a report by a special committee was presented to members at the meeting.

Several new members were accepted, giving the local guild an enrollment of 46 members, with the total expected to pass the 50 mark by the December meeting.

The Commercial Appeal unit named a collective bargaining committee at its meeting recently. The group will compile facts to be used as the basis of negotiations with the paper's executives relative to minimum wages and hours and working conditions. Harry Martin, president of the guild, was named chairman of the committee. Other members are Jack Lockhart, Mattie Wilroy, Virginia Lee, Earl Maxwell, Beaumont Ligon, Tommy Baldrige, Charles Phillips, Dick Brown and Bill Day.

The Guild instructed its executive committee to draw up resolutions of welcome to Frank Ahlgren, new executive editor of the Commercial Appeal and formerly a member of the Cleveland Guild. The organization bought a quantity of the souvenir stamps issued by the Seattle Guild to aid its strike fund. The purchases were made by the local Guild as an organization and by individual members.

Robert Gray, radio news writer of the Commercial Appeal, was named publicity director of the local Guild.

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Globe-Democrat Unit Elects, Maps Program

ST. LOUIS.—The Globe-Democrat recently elected Roy Oetzer, Federal Building reporter, as president, to succeed Wayne Parker, not a candidate for re-election.

Other officers elected are: Bill Bradley, vice-president; Charles King, treasurer; Barney Wipold, secretary, and Dave Brown, Wayne Parker, Charles Clayton, Dan Tammany and Wipold, members of the executive committee.

The officers and executive committee decided to start a drive for additional members, to make a survey of economic conditions for use in renewed negotiations with the management and enlarge social activities.

The resolution pointed to the victorious conclusion of the Wisconsin News strike, and termed the Seattle Post-Intelligencer struggle "the most successful fight of this sort ever waged in American labor history" against "employer ruthlessness and the open shop."

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Milwaukee Grievance Is Adjusted by Guild

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Negotiations between a grievance committee of the Wisconsin News unit and John H. Black, general manager, over the management's failure to return Vivian Gardner, a striker, to her former post as radio editor, were ended when Mrs. Gardner decided that her new position was to her own advantage.

The unit considered the management's course a technical violation of the agreement ending the strike and conferences between the grievance committee and Black were started. Mrs. Gardner's decision that her present post as a general reporter was to her liking was accepted by the grievance committee and the unit as a satisfactory conclusion of the question. Her present salary is 60 per cent higher than before the strike.

Two well-known dance orchestras have been engaged for the Milwaukee Guild's Fall Fete to be held at the Wisconsin Roof ballroom on Nov. 6. The event is to raise funds for the Guild's treasury. Lee Bennett, radio singer, and his orchestra, and Stan Jacobson, of Milwaukee, and his swing band, will share musical honors.

Hearst Is Challenged To Prove Americanism

ALBANY, N. Y.—William Randolph Hearst is challenged "to prove his boasted Americanism" by speedy settlement of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer Guild strike in a resolution adopted by the Albany Central Federation of Labor.

The federation unanimously insisted that the strike as "a widespread concern to the printing trades" unions whose members on the newspaper are without employment during the shutdown of the plant. Defeat of the Guild in the dispute, the federation declared, "would be a defeat for all organized labor and a victory for Fascist-tending forces in America."

Mailers 'Strike'

P.-I. Union Denies "Happy Relations"

SEATTLE.—Frequent statements by the Post-Intelligencer management that it has "enjoyed happy contractual relations for many years" with all labor unions in its employ were contradicted by members of Seattle Mailers' Union No. 32 in a statement to the Guild Daily last week.

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That Was 11 Years Ago

"It is now 11 years later and almost half of the mailing room staff was non-union at the time the Guild strike was called," Heyl said. "There were 12 union men and 10 non-union men."

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Chicago Labor Backs Seattle Strike

CHICAGO.—Fresh support for the Seattle strike is forthcoming from the Federation of Labor here. All constituent bodies, their members and friends of organized labor in general are urged in a resolution adopted at the last meeting of the citywide group to extend moral support and "contribute financially in as generous a manner as their means make possible" to make this "nationally important strike" successful.

Hearst was booed frequently and vociferously during the four-hour session whenever mentioned. The resolution pointed to the victorious conclusion of the Wisconsin News strike, and termed the Seattle Post-Intelligencer struggle "the most successful fight of this sort ever waged in American labor history" against "employer ruthlessness and the open shop."

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NEW REGION IS FORMED

Mid-Atlantic District Council Set Up At Reading

COVERS FIVE STATES

READING, PA.—The Middle Atlantic District Council, comprising Guilds in Pennsylvania, Delaware, southern New Jersey, Maryland and West Virginia, was organized at a meeting called by International Vice President W. Erie Homan in the Berkshire Hotel, Reading, on Nov. 1.

The Potomac District has tentatively included Maryland in its jurisdiction. Correspondence has now been started to find which group it fits into best.—Ed, G. R.

The following officers were elected unanimously for one-year terms: Paul Comly French, of Philadelphia, president; E. Martz Schoffstall, of Reading, vice-president; and Richard V. Cornish, of Camden, N. J., secretary-treasurer. Additional vice presidents will be elected as other Guilds enter the district setup.

The delegates voted to start immediately an organization drive throughout the district, beginning with an effort to reorganize the old Anthracite Guild in Central Pennsylvania. A meeting will be called at Ashland, Pa., for this purpose later in the month.

It was decided to call the next district meeting one month from the date of organization. Wilmington, Del., is the tentative site for the session.

Delegates present at the initial meeting were Max Ways, president of the Philadelphia and Camden Guild; David Schick, of the Philadelphia and Camden Guild; Homan, French, Schoffstall and Cornish.

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Party To Be Held

A benefit party from which a substantial share of the proceeds will go into the ANG Defense Fund is being arranged by the Labor Press unit of the New York Guild. It will be held on Dec. 5 in the hall of the International Ladies Garment Workers Headquarters at 3 West Sixteenth Street; which the union has offered without charge. Several hundred persons are expected.

HEARST GESTURE PROVES EMPTY

Guild Stand Lauded By Printers in Seattle

(Continued from page 1)

a friendly settlement. In New York Heywood Brown immediately sought an interview with Hearst, and in Seattle Seller wired asking for a personal conference either there or between Guildsmen and Hearst in New York, expressing the hope that in this way the issues of the strike could be clarified and a settlement or arbitration arranged.

The response to both requests was friendly, but otherwise unproductive. Hearst told Brown he liked newspapermen and wanted newspapermen to like him, Brown revealed in remarks about the strike made while testifying before the National Labor Relations Board at the conclusion of its hearings into the dismissals of Lynch and Armstrong.

The conference, while inconclusive, was "amicable," Brown said. It was arranged by Joseph V. Connolly, general manager of King Features, who accompanied the ANG president.

Brown found the 73-year-old publisher informed only in a general way about the details of the strike. The Seattle request for a conference Hearst sent a lengthy telegram extending no offer and interpreting the AP of L. Executive Council's proposal as being binding on the Guild.

Seek Saving Formula

Meanwhile the AP of L. Executive Council's proposal still remained undisposed of before the Seattle Central Labor Council. Each regular Wednesday night meeting of the Council has postponed action in the hope that someone would find a formula which would save the management's face while still protecting the two Guildsmen whose dismissal precipitated the strike, Frank M. Lynch and Everhard Armstrong, and assuring the other strikers improvements in hours, wages and working conditions.

It was evident that much pressure was being put on local unionists to get the strike out of the way, but many others were still insisting that any settlement must strengthen not only the Guild, but the rest of the Seattle labor movement.

Affected Unions Approve

The Guild's offer of arbitration, though not accepted by the management, was actually viewed with approval by many veterans in the labor movement and a letter drawn up by the local executive councils of six newspaper unions affected and addressed to the Seattle Central Council voiced their unanimous approval of the Guild's offer of arbitration.

Much of the financial support that has been given the Guild has naturally been diverted to the waterfront strike, so that the Guild needs help from the rest of the ANG more than ever.

The complaint of the mailers against the Post-Intelligencer was voiced in a statement to the Guild Daily by Ves Heyl, president of the union, and A. S. Larkin, who said that the paper still refuses to live up to an agreement signed in 1925 and declared that they were ready to protest the removal of the Post-Intelligencer from the Seattle Council's unfair list until the management agreed to honor that agreement reached in 1925.

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GUILD DAILY NOW HAS NEW SWITCHBOARD

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The Guild's offer of arbitration, though not accepted by the management, was actually viewed with approval by many veterans in the labor movement and a letter drawn up by the local executive councils of six newspaper unions affected and addressed to the Seattle Central Council voiced their unanimous approval of the Guild's offer of arbitration.

Much of the financial support that has been given the Guild has naturally been diverted to the waterfront strike, so that the Guild needs help from the rest of the ANG more than ever.

The complaint of the mailers against the Post-Intelligencer was voiced in a statement to the Guild Daily by Ves Heyl, president of the union, and A. S. Larkin, who said that the paper still refuses to live up to an agreement signed in 1925 and declared that they were ready to protest the removal of the Post-Intelligencer from the Seattle Council's unfair list until the management agreed to honor that agreement reached in 1925.

Party To Be Held

A benefit party from which a substantial share of the proceeds will go into the ANG Defense Fund is being arranged by the Labor Press unit of the New York Guild. It will be held on Dec. 5 in the hall of the International Ladies Garment Workers Headquarters at 3 West Sixteenth Street; which the union has offered without charge. Several hundred persons are expected.

SEATTLE'S PLAN FOR ARBITRATION

Guild Writes Publisher of Its Proposal—Printers Consider Plans "Very Fair" They Tell Central Labor Body

SEATTLE.—The Guild's offer of arbitration was set forth in a letter to C. B. Lindeman, publisher of the Post-Intelligencer, with copies to E. B. Fish, who has represented the management in informal talks with the Guild, to Bert Swayne, representative of the Seattle Central Labor Council at the Executive Council hearing, and to all affiliates of the Seattle Council.

This letter and the comments of the Seattle printing unions on the Guild's arbitration proposal, follow:

To clear away any doubt in your mind regarding our present position in regard to recent proposals, including the recommendation of the American Federation of Labor Executive Council, I have been authorized by a vote of the striking Post-Intelligencer unit of the Guild to address this letter to you.

As I personally informed you by telephone on the afternoon of Oct. 9, the unit then rejected virtually unanimously a proposal, similar at least in most details to the recommendations of the executive council.

Therefore, the unit now offers you a proposal which they consider as eminently fair that few employers would refuse to accept it. The proposition is arbitration of all matters in dispute—including hours, wages and working conditions; reinstatement of Frank M. Lynch and Philip Everhardt Armstrong; clauses covering the right to organize and bargaining; and other matters in dispute.

So that there may be no misunderstanding as to interpretation of this offer, we would like to point out:

1. Our offer includes the signing of an agreement between the Post-Intelligencer and the Guild to submit all such issues to arbitration, the decision of the arbitration board to be final and binding on both parties.

2. The setting up of arbitration machinery, with time limits for the selection of a third arbitrator and for the decision of the arbitration board.

3. The language of the foregoing motion indicates the sentiments of the executive board members, and but little is required in amplification.

"We hold that the P.-I. management, if they are sincere in seeking a settlement of the strike, should readily accept the proposal for settlement offered by the Guild."

"The best interests of all parties to this controversy demand a reasonable approach to the settlement, and in our judgment the Guild's proposal is eminently fair."

to go as far as is consistent with the maintenance of a free and untrammelled press and of the essential rights of a free citizen to bring about a mutually acceptable adjustment.

Finally in regard to your suggestion let me state that I have been away, as you perhaps know, and that I am not completely familiar with all the details of the situation in Seattle, and of the discussions looking toward its solution. In the second place I have not sufficient authority to take the matter out of the hands of those bodies who are intelligently and informally endeavoring to reach a solution. In the third place I am notified that they and you have already submitted your differences to the highest authority in the American Federation of Labor, of which I understand you are members and that the Seattle Post-Intelligencer people have agreed to accept the recommendation of that authority.

So it seems to me that we have already arrived at a method of conciliation or arbitration which should be particularly acceptable to you. I hope that it will be successful and that cordial relations will be restored.

Guild Clears Up Misconceptions

In reply to charges of violence and abstraction of files the Guild Daily stated:

Appreciate your reply and your expression of willingness to bring about a mutually acceptable adjustment. However, you have been undeniably misinformed regarding force and violence in Seattle and most certainly misinformed regarding abstraction of files since it is from your wire that we were first informed that any such charge has been made against us.

It was to this end—the removal of all misconceptions which lie between us—that we suggested the meeting with you. We believe as you do in American rights, including naturally the right to organize and to bargain collectively.

As to the present situation it was not our intention to take the matter out of anyone's hands in which it now rests, but we were of the opinion that your own word was final in the last analysis as to relationships between your newspaper and its employees.

There has been no submission on our part of differences to the American Federation of Labor Executive Council and since that body was mistaken as to our wants and desires it is natural that we could not accept a recommendation of that kind.

In place of that, we are now suggesting the American way of arbitration of all matters in dispute—including hours and wages and working conditions and the reinstatement of two men who we claim, were discharged for union activity—such arbitration to take place after our return to work and the resumption of publication by the Post-Intelligencer.

We have submitted this plan directly to you and again ask you to consider possible meeting with us.

No answer has yet been received to this request.

UNIONS JOIN IN 2 FETES

Washington Dance To Raise Cash For Seattle

PARTY ON COAST

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Mechano-Pen Club, recently organized to bring together socially the editorial and mechanical workers on local papers, will hold a dance Nov. 20 to raise money to aid the Seattle strike.

Heywood Brown, ANG president, has signified his intention to be present. The National Press Club, through the efforts of George W. Stimpson, its president, has made its auditorium available for the dance at a nominal charge.

Ben Pearce of the Washington Star unit, the club's first president, explained that the proceeds of the dance would be used to aid members of all unions affected by the Post-Intelligencer strike. All Washington unions will contribute through the medium of the dance.

Officers Elected

Officers of the club were recently chosen. In addition to Pearce, the new officers are: Charles Agos, ITU, Star, vice president; Perry H. Miller, ITU, Daily News, secretary; G. M. Billingsley, ITU, News, treasurer; and George Warren, photo-engravers, Washington Post, sergeant-at-arms. On the committee making arrangements for the dance are: Clyde Mills, WNG, Star unit, chairman; Billingsley; Frank Bray, Pressman, News; Jack Milligan, WNG, Times; William Smith, Stereotypers, News; and A. D. Murray, ITU, News.

Coast Get-Together

SAN FRANCISCO.—Members of the Northern California Newspaper Guild and five printing trades unions will gather here on Dec. 2 at a semi-social get-together designed to cement the friendship between shop and editorial room employees on San Francisco Bay area newspapers.

The meeting will be sponsored by the NCNG, Typographical Union No. 21, San Francisco Web Pressmen's Union, Stereotypers and Electrotypers Union, San Francisco Photo Engravers Union No. 8 and the San Francisco Mailers Union.

Plans for the affair, which for the first time in San Francisco's history will bring together the general memberships of the printing trades unions and the Guild, are being made by a committee representing the six unions.

This committee was formed three months ago at the suggestion of the NCNG and consists of regularly elected delegates from the NCNG and the five printing trades unions directly concerned with newspaper publishing.

The committee serves as a clearing house of information relating to the six unions composing it. Printing trades executives are unanimous in hailing the committee as a "welcome and important step forward in affecting a better understanding among printing trades unionists of the program and purposes of the Guild."

Unit of WPA Writers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A Federal chapter of the Washington Newspaper Guild, composed of Guild members holding jobs in the emergency relief agencies of the Federal Government and District of Columbia Government, was formed at a recent meeting.

The membership of the new chapter is confined at present to employees of the WPA magazine project in the District of Columbia and one employee of the FWA who is temporarily doing work in the press section.

Officers elected were: William E.

HOW GOOD ARE THESE WOMEN SCRIBES?

Miss Ross' Book Praised Although She Gives the Girls Big Break

"LADIES OF THE PRESS." By Ibbel Ross. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$3.50.

By BERT MacDONALD, Assistant City Editor, New York World Telegram

The ladies get a simply swell press from Ibbel Ross in her newest book. They march triumphantly through 600 solid pages. Their failures are few. I don't think they can be that good—and that isn't to say that as a city desk man I have any of the traditional prejudices against newspaperwomen.

She presents a record of the women who have worked on newspapers, their names, where they have worked, their exploits, and a thumbnail estimate—invariably complimentary—of each. She recounts the early journalistic struggles of such figures as Sally Jay, Jane Swisshelm, Anna Royall and those two enigmas, Victoria Woodhull and Tennessee Claflin; and traces the newspaperwoman's history through the stunt girl era of Nelly Bly, through the sob sister period up to the present, weaving in the history of the newspapers of those times.

Of course, if Miss Ross had taken her subjects apart, she would have been set down at once as a top-lofty cat, which she isn't by any means.

N. Y. Election Lesson Seen in Unit Vote

City Guild Leaders Nicolet Points to Election with Old-Line "Business Union" Policy as Issue

Nominations of officers of the New York Guild for the ensuing year will be made at a meeting of the representative assembly set for Nov. 18. Twelve days remain for those who wish to nominate by petition to obtain the required signatures.

The election, which will be held shortly after Dec. 1 will be supervised by a committee of five elected at the last meeting of the assembly. The turn to city-unit elections comes just as unit elections have been concluded.

Herman H. Dinmora, foreign desk, was elected to succeed William L. Laurence, New York Times unit chairman, who declined to run after two terms. Laurence was elected a delegate. Paul Frederickson, Miss Emma Little, both from the Sunday department, and Donald Marshall, were elected vice chairmen.

Richard L. Tobin, who covered the Hauptmann trial for the New York Herald Tribune, and who was later promoted to assistant city editor, was elected to succeed Leo Margolin, as unit chairman. Joseph Barnes is vice chairman, and a delegate to the assembly, as are Margolin, Lewis Gannett and Edward Schneider.

Vilas Boyle, was elected chairman of the New York Post unit to succeed Edward Levinson. George Cassidy succeeds Miss Ruth McKenney who recently resigned from the Post to work on a book in Akron, O. Incumbents on the Daily News, headed by Alan Hathaway, re-wrote, were re-elected. On the World-Telegram Joseph Mitchell, feature writer, replaced Wesley Price, who is now vice-chairman. Mrs. Dorothy Dunbar Bromley was elected secretary.

I. Kaufman remains chairman of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. Peake, chairman, J. Bernard McDonnell, vice chairman, Robert Knight, secretary, and Thomas Magruder, treasurer. An executive committee was named composed of Peake, McDonnell and William S. Odlin.

Peake, chairman, J. Bernard McDonnell, vice chairman, Robert Knight, secretary, and Thomas Magruder, treasurer. An executive committee was named composed of Peake, McDonnell and William S. Odlin.



Ibbel Ross

means. Miss Ross has always been eminently fair in her new treatment and here she seems to be bending backward a bit to give the girls a break.

Viewing from the rather harried seat of one who hands out assignments, I've never been able to find the common faults generally ascribed to newspaperwomen. Such bowdleries of the City Desk as Stanley Walker have left an impression that the girls are inclined to be slovenly, shirking office politeness, etc. are apt to wave their petticoats at a gent reporter to seduce news from him rather than scramble for it themselves.

They Come Good and Bad

My own impression is that newspaperwomen are just like men—they are good, bad and indifferent. Certainly, they don't give the city desk so many headaches as the gents by getting tangled on an assignment.

L. A. GUILD CHARTERED

AFL Convention Delays IEB Session

COMMITTEE RENAMED

As the AF of L convention, which begins Nov. 16, will probably end at practically the time set by the Constitution for the next IEB meeting, the Board has voted to postpone the December meeting to Jan. 8 and 9 in order that the Board's actions at that time may be based upon the decisions rendered at the AF of L convention and the subsequent developments. The vote: Yes—Ballantine, Klyman, Ashcraft, Mickelson, Homan and Watson. No opposing votes received.

A charter has been granted to the Los Angeles Guild. The vote: Yes—Ballantine, Klyman, Ashcraft, Mickelson, Homan and Watson. No opposing votes received.

Since Don Stevens, who was appointed a member of the IEB Employer Relations Committee, is now AF of L organizer attached to the Guild and not available at international headquarters, the IEB has named Treasurer Victor Pasche to take his place. The vote: Yes—Ashcraft, Mickelson, Klyman, Watson and Homan. No other votes received.

In the absence of Jonathan Eddy, the Board delegated Clyde Beale, editor of the Guild Reporter, to be spokesman for the Guild at the NLRB's continuation of the Seattle hearing in Washington. The vote: Yes—Mickelson, Ashcraft, Klyman and Watson. No other votes received.

An advertisement may be re-run for any adequate reason. One can only quarrel with the adequacy of the reason. It is the case of "Oxyres" all over again, a book which was certainly not not—and the highest courts finally so declared—in any sense of the word salacious. Mr. Farrell's high seriousness has never been questioned.

What was the result? Mr. Levinson, personally popular, recognized the Guild's position in the election. He was defeated by 61 votes to 54, although at the election a year before he had won overwhelmingly. Of the candidates for five additional delegations in the Representative Assembly, three winners are strongly of the viewpoint outlined by Mr. Boyle and a fourth was a supporter of Mr. Boyle though making some exceptions in viewpoint.

Mr. Levinson received approximately the number of votes he received the year before. But after an additional year of enforced inactivity in the Guild through the closed shop agreement, the normally inactive membership crashed through overwhelmingly for the other viewpoint.

Inactive Members Voted

This normally inactive membership naturally represents the type of newspaperman who, on a paper without a closed shop, either declines to belong to a left-wing political party or, if he does belong, remains passive rather than fighting for his viewpoint. His support is essential for a representative union.

The Levinson group had said repeatedly, and sincerely believed, that the opposition sentiment was almost non-existent on the Post. The election showed the error.

This election result should have the beneficial effect of a shock of cold water on the Guild leadership. It gives strong support to the opinion that I have often expressed—that despite the apparent overwhelming strength of the crusading left-wing viewpoint, American newspaper workers actually represent a normal cross-section of the public; that the Guild can never become a normal effective union as long as it deliberately splits in the eyes and steps on the toes of a majority of newspaper editorial employees.

Offer by Nixon

Those of us opposed to the present tactics are not against the Guild; far from it. We are earnest supporters of the idea of a strong newspaper-

men's organization that shall be in no sense a professional society. Most of us, I believe, favor an organization that is an attempt to discredit the language of the street; that is a small boy talking in the words that a small boy knows. But the offense, if there is any, lies not in the words themselves, but in the poverty and ignorance out of which they rise. When our members of bad language protest against these also, we shall be able to accept their comradship of words with better grace.

For Wives, Too

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Guild wives have been invited to the last two general membership meetings of the Buffalo Guild. There were nearly as many wives as Guildmen present and some wives attended without their husbands, who were busy covering assignments.

The wives displayed particular interest in a group medical plan which the Buffalo Guild has been considering.

men's organization that shall be in no sense a professional society. Most of us, I believe, favor an organization that is an attempt to discredit the language of the street; that is a small boy talking in the words that a small boy knows. But the offense, if there is any, lies not in the words themselves, but in the poverty and ignorance out of which they rise. When our members of bad language protest against these also, we shall be able to accept their comradship of words with better grace.

I speak, naturally, only for myself; for myself I want to say that if the leadership will recognize the significance of the Post result, I shall return to an enthusiastic support of the organization, as I gave in its earlier days.

C. C. NICOLET

THE FREE PRESS

"The American Newspaper Guild, while recognizing that the responsibility for both news and editorial policy rests upon the publisher, and not upon the newspaper men, nevertheless declares it to be the objective of newspaper men to strive constantly for greater honesty and accuracy in the presentation of news."—Resolution of the 1936 convention.

You Pays Your Money

The Spanish situation continues to depend on what paper you read. The New York Times of Nov. 12 headlined:

LEFTISTS RECAPTURE TOWN 4 MILES SOUTH OF MADRID; CAPITAL HOLDS FOR AT BAY

The Herald Tribune: REBEL ASSAULT CHECKED, MADRID BRACED BY NEW FOREIGN LEGION OF 2,000

The American's story admitted that "late tonight (the 11th) the relative positions of the opposing forces seemed much the same as this morning." The headline: MADRID DEFENSES CRUMBLING

The Sensitive British

Verily reports that no American newspapers for Oct. 16, 17 or 18 were available at the large international newstands in London. These issues were news of Mrs. Simpson's divorce suit. Four pages of the magazine Time for Oct. 26—an article headed "Innocents Abroad"—were "deleted" before it went on sale in England.

A Paper It Never Made

According to the New York Times book reviewer, James T. Farrell's new novel, "A World I Never Made," "...is a broad human scene, peopled by characters unmistakably human and deplorably true to life." But, according to the Times advertising department, the book is "too frank."

As a result, "A World I Never Made" is not being advertised in that paper. Said The Nation:

"An advertisement may be re-run for any adequate reason. One can only quarrel with the adequacy of the reason. It is the case of 'Oxyres' all over again, a book which was certainly not not—and the highest courts finally so declared—in any sense of the word salacious."

Mr. Farrell's high seriousness has never been questioned. What the Times is said to object to is Mr. Farrell's "language." His characters talk the language of the street; that is a small boy talking in the words that a small boy knows. But the offense, if there is any, lies not in the words themselves, but in the poverty and ignorance out of which they rise. When our members of bad language protest against these also, we shall be able to accept their comradship of words with better grace.

Charges of murder were brought against the three men just as maritime union negotiations were in a precarious state, and, according to Vice-President Betty Ballantine of San Francisco, "many unions here feel this is an attempt to discredit the maritime unions and to break maritime unity." The following voted favorably on the proposition: Ashcraft, Watson, Homan, Klyman and Mickelson. No opposing votes received.

Right Man for The Job

The New York Post, in an editorial, points out "...Newton D. Baker and the late James M. Beck were paid \$55,000 by the Edison Electric Institute to write an opinion holding the Tennessee Valley Authority unconstitutional. 'The purpose of this opinion was to influence the public and the courts in advance of a final decision on this question by the Supreme Court.' (Italics ours.) The Post adds that Baker has recently been named chairman of the American Bar Association Committee on Co-operation Between Press, Radio and Bar Against Publicity Interfering with Fair Trial of Judicial and Quasi-Judicial Proceedings.

It was this committee which invited representatives of the American Newspaper Publishers Association to join it, and it was Baker who gave the Newspaper Guild the run-around when it had the audacity to suggest that it, too, had an interest in the standards of the press. It was decided finally that the committee could not be enlarged without "impairing" its effectiveness.

General Johnson To the Rescue

The National Labor Relations Board's ruling certifying the United Electrical and Radio Workers as collective bargaining agent for certain classes of RCA employees was made over the objections, according to the Associated Press, of a "rival group, known as the Employees' Committee Union." Who thought up that name for a company union?

"Although a majority of the employees did not vote, the board found that after a representative of the 'rival union' had agreed orally to the election when it was proposed, that group later boycotted the vote and conducted a campaign against it."

General Hugh Johnson, a stickler for upholding the law, promptly said that as "labor counsel" for RCA "I must advise it to ignore this certification." The general's outburst saved the Washington Herald and Post from the unpleasant duty of playing up the board's ruling. Said the Herald headline: "Johnson Charges NLRB 'Prejudice'—Pears Blow to Peaceful Settlement of Disputes."

No mention of the ruling itself. Said the Post: "Johnson Assails Ruling by NLRB."

The vote ought to convince many

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARK

Jesse Lavenoth, Harrisburg correspondent of the Philadelphia Record, and a member of the Record unit, is the author of "Pennsylvania Hits the Roosevelt Trail," which was printed in a recent issue of the Nation.

Joseph F. Dinneen, on the editorial staff of the Boston Globe, is the author of "The Kingdom of Massachusetts," which appeared in a recent issue of Harper's. Gov. James M. Curley of Massachusetts is suing Harper's for \$500,000 for printing the article.

R. L. Duffus, staff contributor to the New York Times, will soon have a new novel, "The Sky But Not the Heart," published by Macmillan.

Joseph Henry Jackson, literary editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, has written an account of his trip over the Pan-American Highway called "Mexican Interlude."

Franklin P. Adams, Guildman columnist of the New York Herald Tribune, has selected the best of his verses for inclusion in "The Melancholy Lute," which has been published by Viking Press.

John Kieran, New York Times sports columnist, whose book, "The Story of the Olympic Games," has just been published, will have an article called "Sponsored Football" in the December issue of College Humor.

George Weller, Athens correspondent for the New York Times, who is now in America on a leave of absence, is publishing a new novel this month called "Clutch and Differential."

His first novel, about Harvard, was called "Not to Eat, Not for Love."

B. H. Haggin, music critic of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, is contributing a fortnightly column to the Nation. Haggin, who is a member of the New York Guild, is also reading proof on his "Book of the Symphony," to be published by the Oxford University Press.

A novel tentatively titled "The Anointed," by Clyde Brion Davis, Guildman and a reporter on the Buffalo Times, has been accepted by Farrar & Rinehart of New York City for publication in the spring.

Hugh O'Connor, of the New York Times, has been working for the last year on a biography which he calls "Boss Murphy: The Puritan of Tammany Hall." It will be published by Covici Friede.

Edwin Lanham, of the New York Guild, City News Unit, has a short story called "Widow Quizzed in Doctor's Death" in the November issue of Harper's Bazaar. His recent book, "The Wind Blew West," attracted wide attention.

Cecil Carnes, of the New York World-Telegram Unit, has just published a biography of John L. Lewis, and has already received the approval of the Times management. The management showed its willingness to meet with this group, even before it was fully organized, and immediately after failing to answer a request from the Tacoma Guild for a meeting.

Richard Watts, Jr., drama critic of the New York Herald Tribune, contributes an article on D. W. Griffith to the November New Theatre. Watts is a member of the New York Guild.

Irving Kolodin, music critic of the New York Sun, tells the story of the WPA Arts Project in "Footlights: Federal Style," an article in the November Harper's.

Lee Shippey, of the Los Angeles Times, will have a new novel out early next season. He calls it "The Girl Who Wanted Experience."

Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen, members of the correspondent's unit of the Washington Guild, have just issued their latest collaborative effort, "The Nine Old

men," and signed their names to it. When their first book, "Washington Merry-Go-Round," appeared, it was published anonymously. The result was that every Washington correspondent was mentioned as the possible author and a rumor spread to the effect that it was the combined work of a dozen men.

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

The World of Labor

Terror, Tear Gas and 'Law and Order' Break Lettuce Growers Strike at Salinas

By M. IUSHEWITZ

Salinas is in the fair state of California, and the next time you buy California lettuce, think of Salinas, and then think of tear gas, killings, evictions, vigilantes and strikers.

The seasonal pickers of the lettuce crop there were on strike as members of the Fruit and Vegetable Workers Union. Of course getting the crop to market was far more important than seeing that the workers were decently paid. So, once the strike was declared, state police were brought in, vigilantes were organized and the Mayor of Salinas actually conscripted all able-bodied men for duty.

Strikers were forbidden to assemble anywhere and all attempts to meet were broken up with tear-gas attacks. The strikers were evicted from their miserable shacks and, needless to say, accused of being highly-paid agents of Moscow.

How this was possible in view of the responsible labor support received by the strikers has not been explained by the corps of press agents sending out publicity for the lettuce growers. The State Federation of Labor was behind the strike and the members of the Screen Actors Guild contributed \$5,000.

The strikers held out for two months. Then they had to give up. Most of the workers are permanently blacklisted by the employers and scale hold most of the jobs. Perhaps this means defeat, but the fight put up by these weekly organized members of the New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut, the chief markets for this non-union product, should be especially of interest to the lettuce growers. The effort to organize the Hoffman Beverage Company has been a long drawn-out affair and the Newark membership deserves every co-operation from every lowly co-op operator.

Especially the members in New York City, Long Island, N. Y., Hudson County, N. J., Philadelphia, Pa.; and the entire States of New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut, the chief markets for this non-union product, should be especially of interest to the lettuce growers. The effort to organize the Hoffman Beverage Company has been a long drawn-out affair and the Newark membership deserves every co-operation from every lowly co-op operator.

Here is an item in the A. F. of L. clip sheet that should interest Guildsmen.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The call for the annual convention of the International Labor Press of America to meet in Tampa, Fla., was issued by Secretary E. L. Woodmansee.

The convention will be held in the Hotel Tampa Terrace on Monday evening, Nov. 16, for the first session and the headquarters of the association will be in the same hotel.

Many of the labor editors will be delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention, which meets at the same time, and a large attendance is expected.

What does a boss say when a communist comes to the League? A communist union which can possibly help.

Another 'Rival'

The Times is a member of the Scripps League of newspapers. The organization, now fully formed, includes only members of the Tacoma Times staff, and is known as the Association of Newspapermen, Inc. E. T. Short, Times historical writer and president of the new organization, denied to Guildsmen that the association was a "company union."

He stated that it was just a group of editorial workers who disagree with Guild tactics.

The object of the association, Short claims, is to bargain collectively with the management on hours and wages, but to join, prospective members must evince dissatisfaction with "Guild tactics and leadership." Only one Guild member is known to have joined.

Short talks of establishing "chapters" in other cities. One of the members is the son of an executive of the Scripps League.

Credit Union Has Profit

The Detroit Newspaper Industrial Credit Union now has assets amounting to \$11,522.52, according to the recent report of Roy C. Marshall, treasurer-manager. The credit union, which was a year old on Oct. 28, gained 310 members in 11 months.

The report shows a profit of \$229.51 and 120 loans outstanding.

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 Third Annual Convention of the American Newspaper Guild, and that he confine the editorial policy of THE GUILD REPORTER to that specific program."—Resolution of the 1936 Convention.

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Leon Svirsky, New York World-Telegram

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Vol. III, No. 23 November 15, 1936

A New Voice

On the morning of November 4, when we lay in bed a little later than usual, the temptation was great to let ourselves sink into a delicious state where we felt all our problems were solved. The promise of a more abundant life for all had been installed with an overwhelming mandate in the White House. Labor had spoken, and presently its command would bring showering into its lap higher wages, shorter hours, pensions and protection of its liberties.

As a matter of fact, the response to the election returns was heard even a little more promptly than expected when several industries announced wage increases. Unfortunately, the newspaper industry was not among them.

Now that we have had time to look at the election soberly, what does it mean to editorial workers and the Guild? It probably strengthens the chances of a successful outcome of the Watson case and governmental enforcement of the right of collective bargaining. It may awaken newspaper publishers to the realization that the public does not consider them sacrosanct and that the same standards of public responsibility and fair treatment of employees are expected of them as of other employers.

Above all, we drink encouragement from the convincing demonstration in this election of the power of labor when it knows what it wants and is not afraid to break new paths. The common man learned that he need not be content with what is served up to him in the way of candidates or ideals but that he can be a creative force bringing into being conceptions of government that stem from his own desires.

The use of the machinery of government by the great majority of the people for their common benefit is not paternalism. It requires intelligent co-operation and tough fibre, as we in the Guild can testify from the hardships of our effort to promote a common cause.

But the election could easily make us

too optimistic. Great popular votes are notoriously like cyclones. They make a clean sweep and send the enemies scuttling for cyclone cellars. Then the wind is forgotten; the old guard, one by one, edges back into the picture, and soon business is going on as usual.

If we want to hold the ground we must make ourselves politically effective year in and year out. The election did not obviate the need to do so; it showed we could.

Profits and Wages

Paste this editorial up on the wall. Clip it also to your next message to the management asking for collective bargaining. Here are some figures to take your breath away.

Profits:

Estimated profits of 403 large American corporations for 1936 are 40 to 50 per cent above those for 1935. The expected total for this year is \$2,243,000,000, which beats 1927. In the first half of 1936 profits of 230 large industrial corporations were 58 per cent greater than for the same companies in the corresponding period of 1935. Dividend payments for 492 companies are 23 per cent greater this year than last.

Wages:

Average hourly wages, according to U. S. Labor Department figures, were one-half of one cent higher in the first eight months of 1936 than in 1935. Like this: 1935—57½ cents an hour; 1936—58 cents an hour. The average work week lengthened this year by two hours, from 38 last year to 40 in 1936. The cost of living rose 2.3 per cent. So the worker's real income for an hour's work showed a net loss. By dint of working longer hours, he received weekly wages giving him 3.1 per cent more buying power than in 1935.

Because 2,250,000 more workers were employed in September, 1936, than last year there was a total gain of 9.3 per cent in workers' buying power.

Profits gained 40 to 50 per cent; wages 9.3 per cent.

Here's the picture from a different slant. Production of automobiles per worker per hour rose 10 per cent this year. Wages per hour rose only 5 per cent. Production in the boot and shoe industry increased 10.5 per cent, while wages dropped 2.6 per cent.

These figures are from the American Federation of Labor's monthly survey of business. The survey concludes that workers are not sharing in recovery, whose upswing is expected to become more pronounced through the fall and next spring.

"Without question," says the survey, "American industry has been in a position to grant substantial wage increases to workers this year. That it has not done so is a matter of serious concern to all citizens, because it means an eventual shortage of buying power."

Morris vs. Milkman

In both Guild strikes against Hearst papers the managements have made a great play of their "cordial" relations with union labor. Here is an editorial from the Guild Daily on the "cordiality":

MORRIS vs. MILKMAN

Oliver Morris, city editor of the *Post-Intelligencer*, has quit taking milk from the milkman.

This would seem relatively unimportant, but Mr. Morris made the announcement in emphatic voice on his front porch while the milkman stood respectfully by, listening to the editor's economic views.

Said Morris to the milkman, in effect: "I am not going to take any more milk from you—I'm through! You are a union man and I shall not patronize union men. They and their crowd are a bad lot."

The milkman drove away. Editor Morris closed the door firmly.

A trifling episode, possibly, but on the other hand an episode fraught with considerable social significance. Morris, by his actions, was simply conforming to the policy of terrorism which the *Post-*

Intelligencer attempted against all union men in the community in its efforts to punish them for their widespread support of the American Newspaper Guild. Despite its pompous protestations of fealty to Seattle business, the *Post-Intelligencer*, in its fury, would have destroyed any business enterprise that employed union labor. Thus would the *Post-Intelligencer* have obtained revenge on the Guild. But the campaign fell flat as all Seattle knows. Economic terrorism was not to have a place in the life of this community.

Morris, in his rage against unions, was simply acting as did Hitler in Germany and Mussolini in Italy. Fortunately, Morris and his employer have not the dictatorial powers of Der Fuehrer and Il Duce.

If Morris goes down to the grocery store for his daily supply of milk, he still will be patronizing a union milk wagon driver in all probability—the milkman who trucks the milk to the store. If Morris even boards a street car his transfer will be handed him by a union man, a member of the Street and Electric Railway Employees of America.

Unionism, and the richer, the fuller American life for which it stands, are here to stay despite Mr. Morris. Even the new union of editorial workers gives every evidence of permanency. If Morris is to remain in American journalism he should recognize this fact and save himself much mental turmoil.

Have We Really Come of Age?

After the clear-cut stand on the trades union issue taken by the last Convention, we basked for a while in the belief, expressed by various observers, that the "Guild had come of age."

Can we make such a claim if we continue to regard the collection of dues and strike funds as matters for drives and appeals, instead of an accepted routine? Discipline in money matters is probably the first test of maturity of an organization. Members of established unions do not have to be persuaded to pay their quota, even though it is usually much higher than all moneys paid for Guild membership. They know that shelling out coins and bills for dues and strike assessments are not acts of generosity.

There is every sign that the Guild movement is entering upon a period of great growth and achievement. In making the most of it, it will be up to all locals to prove, by the manner in which they regularize their fiscal machinery, that we really have come of age.

The Record Stands

Apparently *Editor & Publisher* is worried that someone may think the publishers are responsible for its wild attacks on the Guild. It becomes apologetic over our statement that the late Marlen Pew told friends who asked him why he fought the Guild, that, after all, he was working for a publishers' organ.

Pew's statement was reported to us by a completely trustworthy individual, not a member of *Editor & Publisher's* staff, to whom it was made. It merely corroborated the recorded evidence that what Marlen Pew wrote in the columns of *Editor & Publisher* to please the publishers did not always jibe with his private opinions. An exhibit was Morris Watson's open letter to Pew after a particularly raw statement, reminding him that he, Pew, had privately "batted for" the dismissed AP Guildsman and tried to get him a job. *THE GUILD REPORTER* published this letter while Pew was alive. He did not deny it.

Marlen Pew's personal conduct or standards do not concern us. What does concern us is to clarify just whom *Editor & Publisher* speaks for. We hold it to be self-evident that regardless of his personal views, no other course than to attack the Guild is possible for the editor of an organ necessarily pledged to "100 per cent editorial co-operation" with the publishers.

Smaller Cities Need Guilds

Here's Lincoln Situation—How About Others?

A friend of the Guild finds interest awakening in his middle-western city:

Overheard during an editorial room bull session in a Lincoln, Neb., office:

"It's all right for the Guild to align itself with industrial unions, take up the cause of a farmer-labor party, and center its efforts in the eastern and Pacific Coast cities, as long as it doesn't ignore the smaller cities altogether."

"Lincoln isn't an industrial town; but conditions here certainly make a Guild chapter inevitable. If we could get some help in Lincoln—in every midwestern city like Lincoln—to break down opposition I think these new chapters could throw a lot of support to the movement at this time, when every ounce of fighting force is needed."

The reporter backed up his statement by citing present salaries: full time reporter, police reporter, assistant night sports editor, \$14 a week (the janitor, in accordance with time-honored custom, gets \$20 a week); top day reporters, \$16; night sports editor, \$22; assistant night telegraph editor, \$30; night telegraph editor, \$40; night city editor, \$35; day city editor, \$45, ad nauseam.

These wages are paid on the larger of two daily papers in a city of 75,000. The publisher and his two assistants paid income taxes on \$16,000 salaries.

Because of inter-ownership of stock the two papers recently cut composing room forces by trading ad matrices and publishing a joint Sunday edition. The smaller paper, strangely, pays higher salaries—apparently a personal policy of the editor's.

The Typographical union on both papers is well organized, have conducted successful strikes and, naturally, draw salaries far greater than the editorial staffs.

When the ANG was first organizing someone dared to mention the possibility of forming a chapter, but the movement was hastily quashed by the publishers. No doubt that opposition would now be doubled, in view of recent Guild successes, but the staff efforts would be redoubled by awareness of the same victories and by the hope that newspapermen will be able to obtain a decent wage even if they don't live in an industrial city.

Non-Members: Wouldn't that description almost fit your city? Many newspaper editorial workers all over the country are looking around them for the first time and realizing the need of organization. Join in helping get a Guild started in your city. Fill out the blank below and mail it in. All information will be kept in confidence and will not be given out without your permission.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD,
49 West 45th Street,
New York City.

Please send me an application blank and statement of membership requirements.

Name

Address

Paper..... Position.....

Do You Want The Reporter?

Editorial workers interested in the Guild, but not ready to join, and others interested in the movement who have been receiving the *REPORTER* are urged to subscribe and thus keep up with the Guild's activities. The subscription rate is \$2.00 a year in the United States and Canada.

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