

The GUILD REPORTER

Official Organ of the American Newspaper Guild, an Affiliate of the C. I. O.

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ANG Aids In Drive For Wage, Hour Bill

American labor and progressive forces were warned by their leading officials last week not to permit the brightening prospects for the wages and hours bill to lull them into any relaxation of the pressure for the bill's passage by Congress. As this issue of the GUILD REPORTER went to press, an unprecedented campaign among progressives in Congress was forcing the bill out of committee. The earliest day the measure could reach the House floor is May 23, and if it passes the House it faces the prospect of a Senate filibuster. This time, however, the bill has the united support of all labor—the measure has finally been re-drafted to suit the AF of L executive council and the federation is campaigning vigorously for it. To the CIO and AF of L pressure has been added that of hundreds of liberal and progressive organizations.

Eddy Appeal

In a telegram to Congressmen, Chairman John L. Lewis of the CIO warned that failure of passage would bring a new wave of pay cuts throughout the country. Responding to an appeal by Lewis, ANG Executive Vice-President Jonathan Eddy last Wednesday wired every local Guild an urgent message to contact their representatives in Congress and urge them to be on the House floor Friday to sign the petition for the bill's release from committee.

Among the first Guilds to report that telegrams had been sent were New York, Newark, Hudson County, N. J., and Westchester County, N. Y.

Eddy emphasized the importance to Guild members of preserving general living standards. Later he stressed the importance of continuing the fight until the bill is passed. Reports from other unions indicated that all international and local officers are urging upon their members the necessity of informing their Congressmen of labor's position on the measure.

Lewis' telegram to the Congressmen said: "Enactment of the wages and hours legislation by this Congress is imperatively necessary. Wage (Continued on Page Four)

Bridgeport Herald Set for Parley

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — The Herald unit of the Bridgeport Guild meets the evening of May 11 at the Old Heidelberg in New Haven preparatory to the fourth bargaining conference with the publisher on May 18.

Among the points remaining to be ironed out in the negotiations are salaries and hours and the Guild's demand for a clause to give members the right to refuse to walk through picket lines. Agreement has already been reached on a Guild shop clause, guarantee against pay reductions, guarantee against staff reductions as a result of signing the contract, and other standard Guild clauses.

NCNG Sends Out Its Victory Thanks

SAN FRANCISCO — In a printed letter labelled, "Thanks, Brother!" and distributed to all employees in a Bay area newspaper industry, the Northern California Guild has expressed its appreciation for the support its 700 members received from the fellow crafts during the recent negotiations.

The letter reviewed the benefits gained in the city-wide contract signed on April 19, pointing out that "the achievement was made possible by the cooperation of allied labor unions and the united support of the Guild's own membership. The Guild will never forget the fine spirit of cooperation shown by members in every other union in the industry."

Akron Gets AFL Rival To Withdraw

AKRON, Ohio — After three months' delay, negotiations have been opened with the Times Press (Scripps-Howard) for a new contract to replace the agreement which expired on April 1.

The way was cleared after the AF of L Stenographers, Typists and Bookkeepers Union waived claims to jurisdiction over 11 advertising solicitors in its contract. The Guild withdrew a petition for an NLRB election to determine the bargaining agent for the commercial workers.

Through the mediation efforts of Walter Tagg, Labor Board investigator, AF of L leaders, the management of the paper and the Guild leaders were brought into a meeting.

The advertising salesmen were (Continued on Page Two)

DULUTH PARLEYS HIT MANY SNAGS

Publisher Accepts, Then Reneges on Points--Rejects Mediators' Proposal

DULUTH, Minn. — Negotiations for settlement of the strike which has kept the Duluth Herald and News-Tribune plant closed for a month, bogged down in confusion last week as the publisher reneged on a series of proposals he had made during several days of conferences forced by a State Mediation Board appointed by Governor Elmer A. Benson.

The conferences with J. H. Jordan, local publisher for the Ridder brothers' interests, followed the board's proposal of a skeleton plan of settlement. Jordan went through the form of negotiating a point-by-point agreement.

As the talks progressed, however, the publisher began withdrawing major concessions he had made earlier, until ANG Representative H. Richard Seller, for the

Guild negotiators, insisted on his presenting a complete counter-offer before going further. After having once agreed to time and one-half provisions for overtime, he changed his position, demanding that the Guild make a concession on severance indemnity. Similarly he renewed his demand for no-strike and arbitration clauses in the grievance machinery, after having agreed to waive them, and made other switches.

Mediation Plan

The mediation board's proposal included a recommendation that a full contract be signed, that "all members of the Guild who were members prior to the strike shall remain Guild members, and all vacancies caused by death, resignation or other cause in said Guild (Continued on Page Four)

New Pact With Globe Raises Pay

BOSTON.—More than 40 pay increases are called for under the renewal contract of the Boston Guild with the Globe, a document in many respects the best so far written in New England.

The contract, covering editorial and maintenance workers, was signed by publisher William O. Taylor, Guild President Donal M. Sullivan and New England Organizer Fred Myers on May 4.

Top minimums, for desk and rewrite men, stand at the levels set (Continued on Page Two)

Job Security Drive On In Boston

BOSTON.—In the wake of mass discharges following the change of the Boston American from full size to a tabloid, the Guild last week moved swiftly to obtain a measure of security for Hearst employees here.

The discharges brought a flood of applications for membership and reinstatement to the Guild. The dual AF of L federal locals which claimed editorial and commercial department representation was practically wiped out by the discharges, without protest. The Guild set up a special negotiating committee to deal with the situation.

On Monday the Guild had established a clear-cut majority in the commercial departments of the three Hearst publications, the Record, American, and Sunday Advertiser. On Wednesday a large meeting of Hearst employees gave wholehearted approval to the Guild's plans, and on Friday as the GUILD REPORTER went to press, the special (Continued on Page Two)

Talks on Scripps Chain Hit New Pace

Bargaining in the Scripps-Howard chain gained considerable impetus last week as two leading units reported marked advances and management recession from an arbitrary position held earlier on basic points. The Cleveland Press unit was believed nearing a successful culmination in its negotiations, and the New York World-Telegram unit was in receipt of a management proposal which, while still unsatisfactory, represented large improvement over previous offers. In Akron, the Times Press unit was ready for bargaining after an AF of L local surrendered claims to advertising and office workers.

CLEVELAND WINS MAJOR POINTS

CLEVELAND.—Agreement to a single contract to cover both editorial and commercial departments, uniform dismissal indemnity provisions for all, a guarantee against pay cuts, and salary increases which will affect 63 commercial employees were won last week by the Cleveland Guild in negotiations with the Scripps-Howard Press.

For more than six weeks the negotiating committee had stood firm, backed by strong resolutions of the unit, on the fact that it would not accept separate contracts, but would insist upon a unified document.

Whereas the management had attempted to get into the contract a clause providing for a re-opener leading to pay reductions, and subsequently another clause providing for arbitration on the matter of pay cuts, it finally agreed to a clause stating: "No employee who is now receiving more than the minimums established herein shall have his salary reduced during the life of this agreement." Other employees are protected by the minimum provisions. Wage level guarantee was a point on which the Scripps-Howard Advisory Committee (Continued on Page Three)

Withered Laurels Pulitzer Awards Are Pulled From Same Bag of Publisher's Tricks

Wangling graduates into jobs has become a major preoccupation of schools of all kinds. Particularly successful at it are journalism schools. Latest comprehensive study of their batting average is for the 1935-36 crop, which the National Occupational Conference looked into in March, 1937. Twenty-one leading schools and departments reported 388 men in the crop, 85 per cent employed; 262 women, 64 per cent employed; total of 650, with 76 per cent employed—fine work for a tough year.

Particularly successful job-grabber among journalism schools is Columbia, which last week baldly assured publishers again of its safety and sanity when it announced its annual Pulitzer prizes. Of its total of some 800 graduates (since its foundation) Dean Carl W. Ackerman revealed last week, only 2 per cent are unemployed.

Butler the M.C.

Probably Founder Publisher Joseph Pulitzer did not look forward a generation and see much connection between his prizes and jobs. He provided separate lure for stud-

dents in three annual \$1,500 traveling scholarships. The awards for stories, editorials, cartoons, plays, etc., were almost an extra-curricular activity until a few years ago when smooth former General Electric public relations man Carl W. Ackerman, an old grad, became dean and wanted to inject life into the dwindling annual alumni dinners. The alumni standing committee found itself delightedly fathering the idea of announcing the awards at the dinner; and each year since, champion dinner speaker President Nicholas Murray Butler has stood up and announced them to winners, diners and press table, as solemnly as Chief Justice Hughes would confirm a death sentence.

Every year at least one award smells; this year two did. Gasps were heard when the oracle pronounced the School of Journalism's benediction on possibly the most obviously malicious articles in recent years, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette series on Justice Black revealing his Ku Klux Klan past—an (Continued on Page Three)

Firings, Payless Pay Days Make N. J. Unit Strike

ORANGE, N. J. — The Orange Courier unit of the Newark Guild walked out on strike last Friday morning in protest over a long series of abuses which culminated in the firing of five leading members of the twelve in the unit.

A picket line of more than 50, composed of Guildsmen, mailers and printers, succeeded in keeping the major part of the mechanical crew out of the plant. Several printers, members of a crew of H. W. Flagg's ANPA open shop division which broke a strike at the Courier some years ago, were escorted through by police. The Guild is the only union in the plant. Editorial scabs in the plant were Wilbur Chamberlain, managing editor, and Bertha Koerner, Betty Robinson and Vivian Barrett Heinzmann.

Notorious for his payless pay

days and poor working conditions, Publisher William Hirsch fired five Guild members within a period of eight days shortly before the strike. The cut was aimed, Guildsmen said, at employees who led in protests against payless pay days. The unit stopped work ten times to induce Hirsch to pay his employees on time and in cash instead of by check.

Those fired were John J. Wilson Jr., William Kelly and Walter McClughan, veterans of the Ledger strike, and Adele Kasewitz and Milton Hammer. Local President Agnes Fahy, another Ledger strike veteran, is in charge.

The strike was called by the Newark Guild executive committee, upon request of the unit, after many efforts to secure reinstatement by negotiation and through friendly offices of advertisers and public officials had proved fruitless.

Security Drive On In Boston

(Continued from Page One)

committee went to the Hearst management.

Unit Mandate

The committee took with it the mandate of the employees to seek to prevent further mass discharges pending a decision by the NLRB on the Guild's right of presentation, which is contested by the AF of L locals in the editorial and commercial departments. The committee also sought to ensure that any employee discharged in a Guild department, editorial, commercial and composing room helpers, shall receive at least the severance pay established by the Guild in the Hearst contract a year ago.

The wave of firings which followed the American's change came up at the end of last week. Exact figures could not be obtained, but conservative estimates counted at least 170 jobs lost. Reports were current that a new series of discharges was contemplated and indications were that, temporarily at least, the American had lost considerable circulation since the change to tabloid.

With the act poised over all employees, the Guild remained the only agency which sought to protect them. There was no sign of activity by the federal locals. Meanwhile, with a new and better contract signed with the Boston Globe, the Guild was free to put its full strength behind the Hearst employees. Demonstrating its good will and earnest desire for a complete reunion of all local newspaper employees, the Guild by unanimous resolution in membership meeting, offered to waive all back dues and assessments against former Hearst members and offered reinstatement at the minimum fee of \$1. "No one but the employers can view with approbation a split in our ranks," the resolution stated.

The special negotiating committee consists of Donald M. Sullivan, local president; C. R. Owens, treasurer; William McNeill, secretary; Henry W. Harris, Globe unit chairman; Edward Allen, Finley Peter Dunne, Jr., and Joseph Rogers, of the Boston Herald; George McKinnon, A.P. unit chairman; Moses Smith, Transcript unit chairman; and Fred Myers, New England Guild organizer.

News of other Hearst units follows.

COERCION SHOWN IN DETROIT

DETROIT—Admissions that workers in the Guild's jurisdiction were the only ones warned by management against union activity, were among last week when William Mills, Detroit (Hearst) Times business manager, by A. J. Isersman, Guild attorney, at an NLRB hearing on the Leon Everts dismissal case.

The case before Examiner Mapes Davidson is based on the firing of Everts last September and will be followed immediately by a hearing in which the Guild seeks to be declared bargaining agent for editorial and commercial departments. Everts, a commercial department artist and organizer of the commercial workers, testified to management threats and warnings preceding his "economy" firing after 10 years, satisfactory service on the paper.

Others Were Active He was followed by fellow commercial department employees who testified to management pressure and Everts' unquestioned abilities. On direct examination, Mills, the company's first witness, undertook to establish the management contention that severe advertising losses and nothing else had made "economy" imperative and that Everts' firing was simply one step in a vast campaign to cut down the overhead.

His composure left him rapidly, however, as Isersman went after

WILKES-BARRE ENDS A COMPANY UNION

NLRB Decision Gives Death Blow In Long Fight

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—Trial Examiner Henry Kent of the National Labor Board last week handed down an intermediate report recommending a "cease and desist" order against the Wilkes-Barre Record as the outcome of the Guild's complaint that the paper was fostering a company union.

The company union, the Wilkes-Barre Record Employees Association, will be dismantled by virtue of the report. The Record is required to post a notice for thirty days informing employees that it will refrain from unfair labor practices. The paper has ten days in which to appeal the examiner's report.

The examiner's decision was based on hearings which lasted only two days, the testimony being cut short by the Record's sudden announcement last month that it was willing to accept the Labor Board's decision without further sessions. The chief witness was Marvin Williams, president of the Employees Association, whose admissions were regarded as having clinched the Guild's case. Francis Murray was attorney for the Guild.

The company union existed in the Record business office and advertising departments. With its death blow, the Guild can turn its efforts to the elimination of the grievances developing over contract "chiseling" by the paper since the Guild shop strike victory last Fall.

Akron Gets AFL Rival To Withdraw

(Continued from Page One)

called into another meeting with the AF of L and Guild leaders. An A.F.O. organizer angered the salesmen when he asserted that his union had bargained for them a year ago in getting a contract in the business office. The salesmen resented this as most of them did not know that a contract had been signed until weeks afterward. They demanded that the AF of L organizer name one of them who had had any part in the bargaining or who had benefited by the contract.

MIRROR MAKES SECOND OFFER

Bargaining with the New York (Hearst) Daily Mirror last week produced a counter-proposal from Everts' side, which, while superior to an earlier offer, was inferior to the terms granted in the San Francisco contract and considered unacceptable.

The offer is the second made to the New York Guild for the Mirror staff of 500 (editorial and commercial) since the start of negotiations a month ago following an NLRB decision certifying the Guild as bargaining agent for the vertical union.

Offers Listed

If the following summary of Kelly's No. 2 offer is read with knowledge that No. 1 was lower (roughly \$1 to \$2 lower overall), a perspective impression of a month of bargaining may be gained:

Office boys, \$21; composing room helpers (proof-pullers), \$25; stenographers, \$28; non-specialized clerks, \$21, specialized clerks, \$24 to \$30; "senior clerks," \$40; ad solicitors, \$28; circulation pluggers, \$30 to \$40; commercial artists (average), \$45.

All figures quoted apply to the fourth year and to commercial departments, the Daily Mirror editorial staff having been offered minima in effect since a year ago, when the Hearst notice of policy was posted placing top editorial wages at \$60 after three years' experience.

Mirror negotiations are encountering many of the well-charted Hearst contingencies. One is typified by the category "senior clerks," into which are dumped such employees as the auditors, the credit managers and the "responsible" bookkeepers and others whose jobs correspond, in their spheres, to those of the men in the higher editorial posts, for whom special high-level pay rates have been designated.

Guild Rivals Fade Away in 3 Cities

Organizations claiming rival jurisdiction to the Guild dropped out of existence or were forced out in three cities last week. In Wilkes-Barre the company-dominated Wilkes-Barre Record Employees Association received its death blow through NLRB action. In Boston AF of L federal locals claiming jurisdiction in Hearst editorial and commercial departments have not raised their heads since mass dismissals there. In Akron an AF of L office workers' local surrendered its claim when the members demonstrated their preference for the Guild.

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(Continued from Page One)

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All Had Cards

Tagg suggested the salesmen take a secret ballot on naming the AF of L and Guild leaders. An A.F.O. organizer angered the salesmen when he asserted that his union had bargained for them a year ago in getting a contract in the business office. The salesmen resented this as most of them did not know that a contract had been signed until weeks afterward. They demanded that the AF of L organizer name one of them who had had any part in the bargaining or who had benefited by the contract.

Eddy Queries WNG on Vendors

Executive Vice-President Eddy has requested of President Robert M. Buck and the other officers of the Washington Guild clarification of the status of its enrolled news vendors, "to the end that the CIO might grant them a local charter."

Eddy said he had received on Feb. 25 a copy of a similar request made to Buck by Director John Brophy of the CIO, in which Brophy told Buck that "it is up to you and the local Guild if your news vendors unit is to continue your present relationship. If you insist upon discontinuing this relationship, then a direct relationship with the CIO is the only answer apparently."

If the news vendors have been expelled, Eddy continued, "please state by what authority you presumed to expel them without agreement on their part." He added that "I am forced to request prompt action because it has been called to my attention that these workers are apparently without union protection to which they are entitled although they are woefully in need of that very protection."

New Pact On Globe Raises Pay

(Continued from Page One)

In Herald-Traveler negotiations this year, at \$55 for day men and \$67.50 for night men. But district men, reporters, artists and photographers, under the Globe agreement, will receive a minimum of \$50 after six years.

Severance pay is set at 26 weeks' pay after 20 years, with 13 weeks' death payment. Night employees are to receive three weeks' vacation with pay, while day employees are to have one day off in exchange for each holiday worked. Loblister shift workers receive an additional \$5.00 weekly.

A feature of the agreement is in gains for maintenance department employees, enrolled in the Globe unit for the first time this year. Scrubwomen, who had been working seven nights a week for \$11 a week for many years, received a six-day, 24-hour week and a dollar-a-week raise. Janitors' minimum was set at \$23, the rate actually being paid, and janitors' hours were reduced from 48 or more to 44. Elevator operators, previously receiving a flat \$19, will receive graduated increases up to \$23 for a 44-hour week.

Another feature is a tryout system for office boys, under which 13 will be given trials in the editorial and photographic departments after one year of service and within three years. Office boys, previously receiving \$15, will henceforth be raised to \$17 after one year.

The improvements in the contract, won over plans of poverty on the part of the management, reflect the increased membership and interest of the unit. Membership is up 50 per cent over a year ago. Guild negotiators were Fred Myers, Joe Roseman, Ed Allen and Jerry O'Brien. Observers were headed by unit chairman Henry W. Harris and numbered, at various sittings, from 12 to 20, representing all the departments involved in the bargaining.

MOTION PICTURES

Reg. Tues. 9:35 a.m., May 10th

"CRIME SCHOOL" A Warner Bros. Picture

STRAUD • 25¢

On Screen "COLLEGE SWING" STARRING GENE RAYMOND IN PERSON AND KAY KESLER IN PERSON

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

4th RECORD WEEK

CLARE BENA SPENCER GALE • LOY • TRACY

"TEST PILOT" GAITHER

FOUR MEN and a Prayer

Laurea YOUNG • Richard GREENE • GALEA REVUE ON STAGE • Any Day 7:30 to 9:30

ROXY

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

IRENE DUNNE DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS JR. "JOY OF LIVING" with Alice Brady. Music by Jerome Kern. RKO Radio Picture

Capa Stage Revue • Symphony Orchestra

8th St. Playhouse 82 West 42nd St. May 10-14

"I MET MY LOVE AGAIN" "FOOLS FOR SCANDAL" "MAYBELLE"

THE GROUP THEATRE

"Not to be missed" The GROUP THEATRE presents "GOLDEN BOY" by CLIFFORD ODITS

RELASCO Theatre, 44th St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

May 10-14

"PINS AND NEEDLES"

One of the best musical shows of the year... witty, frank, hilarious, funny

NEW YORK. Latest Show - May 10-14

W.B.S. 38-39th St. May 10-14

ROSTON, Shubert Theatre, May 9 to 12

CHICAGO, Cuban's Grand - May 9 to 12

THEATRES

Julius Caesar Heartbreak House

ETHEL BARRYMORE

"WHITEOAKS" by Mass de la Roche

HUDSON Theatre, 44 St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

ROOM SERVICE

A Comedy by John Murray & Allen Boretz

CORT Theatre, 7th St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

ON BORROWED TIME

by DUDLEY DIGGES

DOROTHY FRANK PETER STICKEY CONROY HOLDEN LONGACRE Theatre, 48 St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

WHAT A LIFE

A Comedy by Clifford Goldsmith

Biltmore, 47 St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

Sir Cedric Hardwicke

in "SHADOW and SUBSTANCE" A New Play by Paul Vincent Carroll

GOLDEN Theatre, 45 St. W. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

Gertrude Lawrence

"SUSAN and GORD" A Comedy by JACQUES CHATELAIN with PAUL MCGRATH

PLYMOUTH Theatre, 69 St. W. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

OUR TOWN

A Play by Thornton Wilder with FRANK CRAVEN

MOROSCO Theatre, 45 St. E. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

JAMES BARTON

in "TOBACCO ROAD" PRICES: ALL PERFORMANCES BAL. 50¢ & \$1. ORCH. \$1.50

FORBES Theatre, 48 St. W. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

OF MICE AND MEN

A New Play by JOHN STEINBECK Directed by GEO. S. KAUFMAN

MUSIC BOX Theatre, 48 St. W. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

A Comedy by MORRIS HART & GEO. KAUFMAN

BOOTH Theatre, 48 St. W. of 5th Ave. May 10-14

"Not to be missed"

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Scripps Units Hit New Stride

Management Recedes From Arbitrary Position on Basic Points; Advances Reported by Leading Groups, Although Some Offers Are Unsatisfactory

(Continued from Page One)

tee in Cincinnati two weeks ago placed strongest emphasis.

Although the management had insisted from the outset that there could not be any salary increase because of the recession, it agreed to raise last week which will affect 63 workers in the commercial departments.

Another point on which the committee finally won out was on the matter of dismissal pay. Early in negotiations, the management had agreed to the existing 24 weeks for editorial, but adhered to a proposal of six weeks for business office employees.

Eventually, the management agreed to 18 weeks' dismissal for business office employees, but insisted that it would have to reduce the existing editorial dismissal schedule for 24 weeks to 18 to conform. The committee stood firm, however, and the management finally agreed to a standard 24-week dismissal, without qualification, for all departments.

WORLD-TELEGRAM UNIT FOR HIGHER SALARIES

Negotiations with the New York World-Telegram remained stymied on the question of satisfactory minimum wages for commercial department employees after another session last Wednesday.

The management presented the fourth of the recent series of minimum wage offers, but it was quickly acknowledged by Noel S. Macneish, chief of the management representatives, that the totals were about the same as the previous offers. Though some 200 members of the commercial department would receive increases, the minimums would still be far below those included in the recently signed contract.

During the meeting with the World-Telegram management, when Noel S. Macneish, management spokesman, was stressing recent loss of lineage and advertising revenue, one of the observers passed this note to Milton Kaufman, Guild negotiator, which he read:

"They could have paid these minimums during the depth of the depression. They didn't. Why? We have been cheated all along. Why does not the management carry a little more of the load now?"

To the apparent surprise of negotiators on both sides of the table there was a spontaneous burst of applause from the bleachers.

The management made some improvements in the offer made at the beginning of the meeting, but these improvements still left the figures far short of the unit's demands.

The management resisted putting a security clause in the contract, offering no real arguments, but stating simply that it was the management's "preference" not to do so. Instead, however, Mr. Macneish agreed to write the Guild the following letter:

"This is to inform you that there will be no payouts or layoffs made by the World-Telegram solely as a result of the signing of the contract between your organization and ours dated May 1, 1938."

"We also agree that during the life of this same agreement we will make no economy payouts."

Longer Severance Pay There was resistance against guaranteeing against economy layoffs on the ground such a provision would "freeze" the staff.

As matters now stand, the management offers no improvements in minimums for the editorial department, but agrees to longer severance pay. This would run to 28 weeks for 12½ years, amounting to

Pulitzer Prize Yarn Called 12 Years Old by Anderson

Editor, THE GUILD REPORTER:

For some time it has been evident that the Guild should establish a set of awards, to be made annually on a basis of merit, for distinguished work in journalism. The necessity is sharply emphasized by recent events.

Whether the Pulitzer prizes ever adequately served the function for which they were endowed, is open to question. Some of them have been awarded under circumstances which can only be described as ludicrous.

I shall not attempt to characterize the latest awards beyond asking what the original Joseph Pulitzer would have thought of giving his prize for "the best example of a reporter's work in 1937" to a Pittsburgh reporter for a story which originally appeared in the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser in 1926! I assume that we are all free to speculate on the considerations which influenced this choice, just as we are free to speculate on the motives for reviving and reprinting the story at a time when Justice Black was preparing to take his seat on the Supreme Court.

Aside from that, however, the important point is, that since such awards are to be made, it is extremely desirable that the selections be made by workers who are qualified by nature and experience to judge the quality of the material submitted, and who are unlikely to be influenced by any consideration other than a wish to choose the worthiest examples.

Finally, it is obvious that the awards should be made in the name of the organization which represents the men and women who do the work.

I urge that the matter be submitted to the forthcoming ANG Convention.

PAUL Y. ANDERSON.

Withered Pulitzer Laurels

(Continued from Page One)

example of "the best reporting of the year," Ray Sprigle, whom Publisher Paul Block calls his "good soldier," and a good reporter who carried out in words the same fashion "pretty much of a routine assignment," told his audience modestly that "the story may be mine, but the ideas were" Block's.

This series, aside from its actual execution, had about everything possible wrong with it, including a superstructure of buffoonery. Block added the comic relief when Robert S. Allen showed in the Nation last September that the whole idea was probably a plant by much bigger anti-liberal interests than Block.

The publisher immediately opened what Time (April 4) called "silent suit." He had high-priced New York Attorney Max D. Steuer send a host of letters vehemently demanding largely statements which Allen had not made. Block, Time said, was asking \$900,000 damages for himself and Sprigle—but omitted to file the charges in court. On April 11, Attorneys Greenbaum, Wolff & Ernst sent Steuer the Nation's answer, and thus far Block's silence has only grown louder and louder.

Block himself gave substance to the theory of a plant in an effervescent speech dramatizing himself in a radio program put on by his Post-Gazette on March 9. He was moved, he said, "by all the rumors that had spread around Washington and elsewhere, and especially from a statement made to me by a former citizen of Alabama." The generally delighted weekly, Alabama, a news magazine copying

Duffy himself at first selected 20 entries. Kent took one look and laughed uproariously. "Hell, no!" he said, "the Board will never go for those." So Kent chose one. Duffy nearly backed out in disgust and was sick at the thought of having it shown around the country. P. S. It won the prize.

Capital AFL Body Closes Sessions to ANG Reporters

WASHINGTON—The Washington Central Labor Union, AF of L, which holds open meetings, last week adopted a resolution barring reporters who are Guild members because, according to the body's vice-president, Charles B. McCloskey, "We don't want any of the information of the AF of L going in to the CIO."

The action brought an immediate rebuke from AF of L President William Green who himself was attacked several months ago for denying ANG President Brown access as a reporter to a press conference held by Green. Green said last week that the Central Labor Union's action was "essentially an attack on the freedom of the press."

Local President Robert M. Buck pointed out that the CLU was planning that the "non-union" reporters, if any, cover its meetings. He added:

"I am disappointed that any labor group can permit an unfortunate but apparently unavoidable factionalism to render it so intolerant; to lead it into an assault upon that major civil liberty, freedom of the press. Of course, reporters prefer to obtain their news by direct observation. History teaches, however, that censorship defeats itself. Added difficulties do not deter a reporter worthily of his calling from practicing it efficiently."

The resolution was sponsored by McCloskey and adopted without a record vote and without discussion.

Chicago Endorses F. D. R. Plan

CHICAGO—Resolutions of support to the Typographical Union in its organization drive against open shops and the Railway Brotherhoods in their fight against the proposed 15 per cent wage slash, to protect against reduction in WPA appropriations for white collar projects, and to support President Roosevelt's recovery and work relief programs and the wages and hours bill were adopted unanimously at the May membership meeting of the Chicago Guild on Tuesday.

The action to support the printers was taken on the plea of the ITU that the Guild join in a nationwide drive against the notorious open shop R. H. Donnelly Corporation, printers of the telephone directory.

Postcards protesting against WPA appropriation slashes and supporting the recovery and work relief programs and the wages and hours bill were distributed to the membership by the President, Harry Hopkins, and Illinois congressmen.

A collection of \$20.75 was taken at the meeting to aid the Duluth strike, and a drive for weekly pledges to support the strikers was inaugurated.

Case Won Against Amsterdam News

Carried through arbitration machinery to a hearing before an impartial chairman, the case of Mrs. Doris Kellar, discharged commercial employee of the New York Amsterdam News has resulted in victory for the Guild in a ruling by Roy Wilkins, editor of The Crisis magazine, referee in the case, that Mrs. Kellar must be returned to her job with back pay from March 8, the date of her dismissal.

The Guild contested the dismissal on the grounds of "just cause" when the publishers failed to close the Brooklyn office of the paper where Mrs. Kellar worked, although their intentions of doing so were cited as the reason for the dismissal. St. Clair Bourne, of the Amsterdam News Unit, and Geo. B. Murphy of the unit, represented the Guild at the hearing. The publishers' representatives were Earl Brown, managing editor, and Mrs. Lillian Sharpe Hunter, business manager of the Amsterdam News.

The Guild is seeking a joint contract for editorial employees of the Argus, Herald Statesman and the New Rochelle Standard-Star. Macy, in four conferences, has refused to consider any points of the contract demands until the Guild first drops the Guild shop clause proposal.

PAUL Y. ANDERSON.

THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

U. P. Seeks To Cut Unit From Pact

Bargaining with the United Press entered the contract-drafting stage last week, with opposition of the Guild negotiators, backed strongly by unit sentiment, centered against management attempts to exclude the Los Angeles City News Service employees from the contract. Management efforts to include a "non-interference" clause and attempts to exclude certain individuals from the contract benefits are also being fought.

ANG Vice-President Morris Watson, chairman of the Wire Service Committee, expressed the negotiators' opposition to these proposals and said that the committee "could not possibly sign the contract in its present form."

The attempt to exclude Los Angeles City News, owned by United Press and for which the Guild has been bargaining throughout the negotiations, was a last-minute development. The Guild was designated bargaining agent for the Los Angeles City News by the National Labor Board, which ruled that the U.P. owned and controlled the organization.

The U.P. offered the excuse that it now is considering abandonment of the service as unprofitable, either by sale, gift or outright scrapping. Negotiators for the Guild, recalling that this is a standard threat in the case of monetarily unprofitable city news services and that abandonment of any one of them would immediately create many more jobs, held firm for their insistence on a contract for the Los Angeles employees.

The "non-interference" clause sought by the U.P. would commit the Guild to responsibility for acts of individual Guild members. It provides that except upon violation of the contract by the company, "The Guild agrees that it or its members... will not interfere directly or indirectly in any way with the production, distribution or delivery of any news or news service of the company which the company may at any time be obligated by contracts to deliver to any client."

In the absence of legal advice, Watson expressed fear that the clause would bar U.P. employees from picket lines of struck U.P. clients.

The management's individual bargaining clause, which would permit individual bargaining for standards above the contract minima, also would bar contract men receiving more than \$125 weekly "from provisions of this agreement relating to hours, vacations and dismissal indemnity," and adds: "It is further agreed that any and all persons, having present existing contracts of employment with United Press, Associations are exempt from all the terms of this contract."

Objection also was voiced to phrasing of the proposed contract's preamble, work-week clause, wage minima clause, and overtime clause, but there appeared to be no essential disagreement on these points.

Local Plans Action On Firing of 3

YONKERS, N. Y.—The Westchester Guild last week was planning action on the dismissal of four employees from the J. Noel Macy chain of papers, which came as the Guild was preparing to charge Macy in a National Labor Board complaint with refusal to bargain in good faith. Three were dismissed from the Mount Vernon Daily Argus and one from the Yonkers Herald Statesman. All are Guild members.

The Guild is seeking a joint contract for editorial employees of the Argus, Herald Statesman and the New Rochelle Standard-Star. Macy, in four conferences, has refused to consider any points of the contract demands until the Guild first drops the Guild shop clause proposal.

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THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

NLRB Gets Decatur Guild Case

DECATUR, Ill.—Written arguments were filed last week with the National Labor Board by Decatur Newspapers, Inc., in an effort to avoid reinstatement of two Guildsmen discharged after strike last summer, and to dodge recognition of the Decatur Guild as collective bargaining agency.

The 36-page document filed by the company attorney, in its blanket denial of Guild charges made before Charles W. Whittemore, trial examiner, two weeks ago, revealed the panic which grew in the publisher's ranks throughout the hearing. The paper also challenged the board's jurisdiction.

Charles M. Swart, reporter and Guild president, and H. C. "Hod" Lewis, photographer and executive committee member, were discharged last August after striking Guildsmen returned to work with substantial gains in wages, hours and working conditions.

The company, which last summer refused to advance any reason whatever for failure to reinstate Swart and Lewis, now claims that they were fired on charges of "muzzing up" James S. Patton, a strikebreaker.

Robert Rissman, labor board attorney, rested his case on the Guild's charge of failure to bargain in good faith without argument of offering as conclusive proof of the company's bad faith, bulky stenographic transcripts of negotiations meetings both before and after the strike was called. The transcripts revealed that while the company was willing to "talk" at great length it consistently took an arbitrary stand which made any effort at collective bargaining futile.

E. E. Lindsay, editorial director of the Lindsay-Schaub chain, of which the Decatur paper is the home office, admitted on the witness stand that up to the time of the strike both Lewis and Swart had been considered "top" men.

7 in Washington Win Severance Pay

WASHINGTON—Spokesmen for Mrs. Eleanor Patterson, publisher of the Washington Herald and the Washington Times, have agreed to grant severance pay to be fixed in a new contract with these papers to seven recently discharged employees of the Times.

This was decided upon in a conference between the Guild negotiating committee, Robert M. Buck, WNG president, told the April meeting that finishing touches were being placed on a contract with the Herald and Times. This will be the first contract negotiated with these papers, and will replace a bulletin board statement.

The management said the discharges were economic. Overturning claims will be decided by a shop committee to be created under the new contract.

A contract with the Post, replacing the previous agreement, has been worked out.

\$172 in Raises Donated to Guild

Members of the Los Angeles Daily and Evening News unit of the Los Angeles Guild have contributed \$172.66 to the International defense fund from their first week's salary increases obtained under their contract.

The April 24 Guild Report erroneously listed the contribution with funds contributed directly by other locals to the Duluth strike. The Daily and Evening News unit's money, in accordance with the practice of contributing contract raises, was sent to the ANG defense fund. Strike support is drawn from this fund.

LOCALS ELECT DELEGATES

Local Guilds have reported the following election of delegates to the ANG Convention in June:

WATERBURY, Conn.—Delegates, Harold E. Senior; alternate, John J. Morrissey.

HOUSTON, Texas—Delegates, Robert V. Johnson and Larry Sisk; alternates, Gordon Turrentine and Mrs. Pat Barnes.

NEWARK, N. J.—Delegates, Agnes Fahy, E. B. Berlunt and George Lewis; alternates, Arthur Kaufman, William L. Callanan and Nathan L. Goldberg.

WORCESTER, Mass.—Delegates, Edward Jaffee.

AKRON, Ohio—Delegates, Ray C. Suttif and Edward J. Ryan; alternates, E. V. Garman and Keyes Beech.

(New York and Washington nominations and elections were reported in the May 2 Guild Reporter.)

Bridges Case Delayed a Year

WASHINGTON—Labor Department officials have postponed for about a year action on demands for the deportation of Harry Bridges, West Coast labor leader, pending Supreme Court review of the New Orleans Circuit Court of Appeals decision in the case of Joseph G. Strecker.

In the case of Strecker, who is a Hot Springs, Ark., restaurateur, the Circuit Court held that membership in the Communist Party was not a deportable offense. The demand for action against Bridges was based on statements by a former California convict that the longshoremen's union leader was a Communist. Postponement in the Bridges case came on the eve of a hearing on a deportation warrant issued against Bridges. Immigration officials, spurred by West Coast shipowners and other anti-labor interests, have been trying for months to prove that Bridges is or was a Communist.

LABOR CANDIDATE WINS

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.—Newspapers here credited the campaign by Labor's Non-Partisan League with the victory scored by George J. Coyle, Democrat, who was elected mayor over a Republican incumbent in office since 1914. In addition to Coyle, the league backed five councilmen who also were swept into office.

Burke, Senate Foe of NLRB, Won Office as New Dealer

WASHINGTON—Senator Edward R. Burke of Nebraska, who has made himself the front for the attack on the Labor Board in Congress and is adding to his laurels by speaking up for the publishers, began his Congressional life as an ardent New Dealer. He was defeated when he first ran for the House in 1930, but won a seat in the Roosevelt landslide of 1932.

He became known as a regular New Dealer through his consistent support of all Roosevelt measures, NRA, AAA, etc. He won the democratic nomination for the Senate in 1934 from Governor Charles W. Bryan, and the election from Robert Simmons, old-line Republican reactionary, campaigning on a 100 percent New Deal platform.

His campaign speeches and literature in that year spoke of how much he got for Nebraska in FWA and relief funds, cited his vote for the AAA, etc. A newspaper man wrote a definition of the New Deal which Burke used widely in the campaign until it became known as his own. President Roosevelt quoted it in Green Bay and that fact was used by Burke as indication of Roosevelt blessing. He won.

Typo Strike in Bridgeport A Lesson in Labor Unity

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—The underlying unity of labor has come to the surface here during the strike of the Typographical Union against the Post Publishing Company. Members of both CIO and A.P. of L. unions are picketing, distributing leaflets and working on committees. A CIO union, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, has expelled two of its members for scabbing on the A.P. of L. strikers. There is no Guild unit in the plant.

One of the men expelled was found working in a factory days and at the newspaper shop nights. The other had been laid off at the factory three weeks before, but still was on the CIO seniority list. Expulsion means that they are excluded from their jobs at the American Record Company, phonograph record manufacturers, because the firm has a closed shop agreement.

Industrial Union Lesson. Strikers, including composing room employees from the Telegram, Post and Sunday Post, are demanding the same conditions which now prevail at the Times-Star and the Herald.

The early developments in the strike were a stark lesson in the correctness of industrial union principles. Printing pressmen and typographical union members walked out.

But the stereotypers, members of a third international craft union, stayed in. So 12 hours after the walkout took place on the morning of April 21, pressmen went back, saying victory without the stereotypers was impossible.

The following Sunday, Stereotypers and Electrotypers Local 27 voted overwhelmingly to strike.

Stereotypers Wait Sanction. But the walkout of that craft still needed the sanction of the international executive board, so that up to last Tuesday the typos were holding the picket lines alone with printing pressmen and stereotypers walking through them.

One compositor from the Times-Star declared: "This has taught us what the CIO was talking about. I'm all for the CIO. You couldn't have told me this two weeks ago if you'd talked yourself blue in the face."

Heavy inroads are being made in the struck newspaper's advertising and circulation, with the ITU's Ladies Auxiliary active in contacting merchants. The three papers have been open shop since a mechanical department strike was broken by an injunction in 1921.

The board, headed by U. S. Labor Commissioner Frank E. Wenig and including representatives of the CIO, A.P. of L. and publishers, at an all-night session Monday at the State Capitol in St. Paul as anti-labor forces in Duluth were preparing to plant and arm thugs, as "special police" with shotguns.

The plant has been kept closed by mass picket lines and Jordan's "truce" pending conferences during the past week. Governor Benson, who was believed ready to send militia to Duluth if the vigilantes act, had insisted on the truce.

Besides Wenig, those on the board were R. J. Finnegan, managing editor of the Chicago Times; M. J. Dillon, a corporation lawyer; James Porter, CIO Packing House Union organizer; and Clarence Loftquist, president of the St. Paul Allied Printing Trades Council, representing the A.P. of L.

The board made its proposal unanimously, with Finnegan refraining from voting.

NEW ZEALAND EYES US. TORONTO—The New Zealand Standard, official government newspaper, will carry coverage of the American Newspaper Guild International Convention the week of June 12. The paper has a permanent correspondent here, Miss Ella Mahoney. She covered the CIO-General Motors strike at Oshawa a year ago.

Miss Mahoney made great strides in New Zealand under the Socialist government. Until 1935 there were only 60,000 union members. Last year they numbered 250,000 out of a total population no more than Toronto and Montreal combined.

GUILDSMAN CHOSEN. HOUSTON, Texas—Gordon Turrentine, executive committee member representing the Press unit in the Houston Guild, has been named by the mayor of Houston as a member of a commission now engaged in studies leading to the drafting of a new charter for the city.

HOUSTON, Texas—Gordon Turrentine, executive committee member representing the Press unit in the Houston Guild, has been named by the mayor of Houston as a member of a commission now engaged in studies leading to the drafting of a new charter for the city.

ANG Joins In Wage Bill Drive

(Continued from Page One) cuts are being threatened in the lower wage industries, and if Congress assumes the responsibility of adjournment without passing the wages and hours bill, chiselling employers throughout the nation will cast restraint to the winds.

What Bill Provides. In New York, the regional CIO office is providing locals with form postcards at \$1.25 a hundred, which can be signed by individuals and mailed to their Congressmen.

As it stands today, the wages and hours bill provides a universal wage minimum of 25 cents an hour, which shall be increased to 40 cents within a period of three years, and maximum working hours of 44 a week, which shall be reduced to 40 within a period of two years.

The Federal Department of Labor is designated as the administrative body for the proposed act, and the Department of Justice as the enforcement and prosecuting agency. The Labor Department would be authorized to allow exemptions and conduct investigations of violations. The bill has no geographical differentials as were contained in earlier measures which gave the South a lower wage minimum over northern states.

Jefferson and Horace Mann were early protagonists of a universal and indiscriminate public education for all. It was a long and tortuous road which the friends of education had to travel to attain their goal.

The art program provided in the Pepper-Coffee bill is comparable in almost exact degree to the free public school movement of a century ago. There is a perfect parallel between the task of illiteracy eradication and that of bringing culture to the people in terms understandable to the people and comprehensible to the cultural worker. It is obviously the duty of all of us to seek by every fair means to raise the cultural taste of the nation. This function has been denied in many quarters.

INTEREST IN BILL IS FAR-REACHING

The Federal Arts Committee now working for the enactment of this measure is cognizant of these related issues. It is reaching out to groups, many of which have not heretofore been impregnated with the arts idea. Sentiment for the bill is spreading like wildfire. Countless inquiries are reaching my office daily. Settlement houses and debutantes are enlisting in the crusade. Speakers are appearing in theaters and movies for 2-minute talks between acts or features. Shortly a film will be made, it is hoped, to illustrate how the projects touch life at remotest points. In such a production the merits of the arts program will be spread to the most widely scattered sections. Already, the most imposing array of artists, actors, and enlightened men and women of America is behind this bill.

S. 3296 and H.R. 9102 may be briefly described as forming a permanent Bureau of Fine Arts under a Commissioner appointed by the President from a panel of names submitted by the unions of the arts affected. The Commissioner, in turn, will have as his assistants six members appointed by himself from a panel similar to the above. The Nation will be divided into administrative regions, for each of which a committee of six (one representing each art) will be appointed. Existing personnel of the WPA will be absorbed by the new organization. An expansion of 20 percent is provided. Wages are set at a minimum of \$30 per week. Full and adequate rights to tenure, vacations, sick leave, will be guaranteed in a manner similar to that provided for other Federal employees. The right to organize and bargain collectively is guaranteed. Congressional appropriations will supply gressional appropriations will supply funds to carry out provisions of the act. Responsibility for administration rests with the national and regional committees.

Urge Relief Plan Backing by Locals

Supplies of pamphlets on the program of the National Conference on Work and Security have been distributed to local Guilds by ANG headquarters with the request that they be passed to the membership to stimulate support for President Roosevelt's relief plan. The conference program, which coincides in part with the President's plan, has been endorsed by the International Executive Board, which voted at its last meeting to urge local Guilds to support the program.

Additional copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from the National Conference on Work and Security, 1211 Eye St., N.W., Washington, at \$2.50 a thousand. The Conference is composed of delegates from union, church, welfare and professional organizations representing more than 4,000,000 members. ANG is national chairman.

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THE DINER. "NO FOOD FINKE" 234 EAST 41st STREET. Opposite News Building Entrance. Vanderbilt 3-4921.

PIROLLE now at 111 W. 45th. Famous for French specialties. — Lunch 55¢. Parfait dinner \$1. Wines and Liquors. Tel. BR. 9-6616.

Art for All: A Program of Work and Culture

In the Bill for a Permanent Federal Bureau, Says Congressman Coffee, Is a Means of Preserving Our Creative Talents and Spreading Their Fruits

By JOHN M. COFFEE
(Representative in Congress from Washington)

EDUCATION and cultural enlightenment of all the people is a primary function of democratic government. An enlightened citizenry is the strongest bulwark of democracy. Over 100 years ago the right to an elementary public school education in this country was doggedly fought for and won by the struggling trade-union and other scattered and uncoordinated progressive forces against the reactionary and insensate opposition of those who wished to limit the right to an education to a selected few—to limit the privilege to the sons of the "first families." Thomas

The Pepper-Coffee fine arts bill has the endorsement of the ANG International Executive Board.

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we have already negotiated the frontier of education.

For too long in this country, for all practical purposes, accessibility to the beauties of art and culture has been denied the masses of the people. To assist in inculcating into the hearts and minds of all a true and unmeasured appreciation for art and culture, it seems to me, is a worthy objective.

The section of painting and sculpture of the United States Treasury, the

this Congress for the preservation of birds, beasts, and insects. We spend millions to save fruit from parasites, pine trees from blister rust, soil from erosion, farm lands from drought, prairies from grasshoppers, coast lines from foreign invasion, our children from unlettered ignorance through the media of public schools, but so far we are adamant in our resistance to attempts to subsidize the theater, artists, and intellectuals in these United States. But we subsidize our

This Is How the Act Will Do It

Words by Morris Watson, Drawings by Anton Refregier

(From a Pamphlet Prepared for the Federal Arts Committee)

This is the Pepper-Coffee Bill to create a Federal Bureau of Fine Arts.

These are the artists whose

talents and skills will be preserv-

ed and used for the happiness and

culture of the nation when the bill is passed.

These are the butcher,

the baker, the candlestick maker, who will sell their wares to the artists who

will be given jobs when the bill is passed.

These are the congressmen and senators who will earn the grati-

tude and the political support of the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker, the landlords, the workers and of the people who will enjoy at a cost they can afford the music, the pictures, the plays, the dances, and the writings done for them by the artists who will be given jobs when the bill is passed.

These are the workers who will build the houses the landlords will

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These are the workers who will build the houses the landlords will

rent, and who will make the wares the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker

will sell to the artists who will be given jobs when the bill is passed.

These are the landlords who will rent their houses to the artists who will be given jobs when the bill is passed.

These are the people who will enjoy at a cost they can afford the music, the pictures, the plays, the dances, and the writings done for them by the artists who will be given jobs when the bill is passed.

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These are the congressmen and senators who will earn the grati-

tude and the political support of the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker, the landlords, the workers and of the people who will enjoy at a cost they can afford the music

On Other Labor Fronts

CIO Forms State Councils In Michigan and Iowa

State Industrial Union-Councils in Iowa and Michigan were added last week to the growing number of state councils of CIO unions.

Don Pinkston, president of the Sioux City Guild, was one of the vice-presidents elected by the Iowa council at Des Moines. Don Harris, director of the Packing House Workers Organizing Committee, was elected president. Delegates from 65 union locals in 20 industries attended the convention. The council voted to back Labor's Non-Partisan League and support New Deal legislation, including the relief-recovery program and the wage-hour bill.

Adolph Germer, whose trip to Michigan two and one-half years ago to aid the struggling United Automobile Workers Union was one of the first acts undertaken by the CIO, was elected president of the Michigan Council. The principal speaker was John Brophy, director of the CIO, who characterized Michigan as the "testing ground for CIO principles and policies," called for an end of factionalism in the auto workers union.

Brophy also will address more than 1,000 delegates who are expected to form the Indiana State Industrial Union Council at a convention to be held in Indianapolis on May 21, in which the Guild will participate.

OFFICE WORKERS PARLEY

WASHINGTON—Insurance men, bank employees, clerical and professional workers who comprise the membership of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, will meet here in the union's second annual convention May 18 to 22.

The union, which has grown from 8,615 charter members a year ago to 46,000, will map widespread organizing drives and legislative programs. Convention speakers will include Chairman John L. Lewis of the CIO, Edwin Smith, member of the National Labor Relations Board; Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee; Len DeCaux, editor of the CIO News; and E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

VICTORY FOR SEAMEN

Winning its greatest victory since formation two years ago, the National Maritime Union, after four months of negotiation, has reached an agreement with the American Steamship Owners Association covering 10,000 unlicensed seamen employed on 200 ships.

The agreement provides for exclusive bargaining rights where the union has won labor board elections, preferential hiring, extension of the present wage scales, which are now higher than ever before on the east coast, elimination of company-sponsored groups and clubs, improved conditions, overtime pay, extra payment for Saturday afternoons, Sunday and holiday work, holidays with pay, vacations with pay and grievance machinery. N. M. U. officials stated that other lines are expected to sign the blanket agreement.

"The fact that the union and the association have arrived at this agreement proves that both are ready to cooperate without the necessity of coercive legislation," President Joseph Curran of the N. M. U. said. "We hope that this agreement will put a stop to the cry of irresponsibility directed at the union by persons whose only purpose is to discredit bona fide labor organizations."

LONGSHOREMEN WIN

LOS ANGELES (FP)—Complete victory for the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILO) ended the bitter six-month litigation for control of hiring halls and union funds here.

The final ruling of Superior Judge Ruben Schmidt was that

longshoremen were free to affiliate their harbor local of the AF of L International Longshoremen's Association with the CIO since longshoremen had proved that the local's articles of incorporation had been properly amended to make the change of affiliation legal.

The long battle was started when Los Angeles longshoremen voted overwhelmingly to affiliate with the CIO. Twelve AF of L longshoremen then went to court to prevent the affiliation of 2,500 on the ground that the local was incorporated and the change of affiliation illegal. Their action was temporarily successful and the union with its funds and contracts was thrown into receivership by the court.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

WASHINGTON (FP)—Convening its work since its organization nine months ago and laying plans for future activities, the international executive board of the United Cannery, Agricultural Packing and Allied Workers, a CIO affiliate, concluded a four-day session here.

Donald Henderson, president of the union, reported that from 56 locals the union has grown to 332 locals in 30 states and Alaska and Hawaii and that enrolled membership stands at 118,000 with a dues-paying membership of 52,000.

ORGANIZER FREED

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (FP)—Walter H. Mahan, retail clerks' union organizer, was freed on a writ of habeas corpus after police held him without charges. Mahan charged that police have been arresting him daily, holding him in outlying stations and then releasing him, in order to hamper his organization activities.

PAY YOUR DUES AND ASSESSMENTS! THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

SIDE LINES

By CAROLYN MARX

ERNEST K. LINDLEY, Guild member, New York City, is a member of the New York City News Association, is the author of a fact-article in the June issue of True Magazine, titled "I Am a Labor Spy." The article is a confession of a labor spy of the Railroad Audit and Inspection Bureau. True Magazine, which is published by Fawcett Publications, 1501 Broadway, reports a shortage of fact detective, expose, pseudo-science and sensational stories.

Leland Stove, New York Guild member, for nine years Paris correspondent for the Herald Tribune, now in the New York office, was a contributor to the April 28 issue of The Nation. Guildman Ludwig Lore, who conducts the column Behind the Cables in the New York Post, has had several articles on Austria in The Nation.

Paul Y. Anderson, Guildman, Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Star-Times, is writing regularly for The Nation.

Richard Wright, whose "Uncle Tom's Children" won the recent New York Post Guild prize, is a member of the Daily Worker Guild unit in New York.

Karl Van der Linder of the New York Post Guild unit, who conducted two investigations last year for the Post on fascists in the National Guard, has sold an article to Current History on Russian-German trade relations. "War in the Ether," by Mr. Van Gelder, a survey of radio short wave propaganda with emphasis on South America, appeared in the March 12 Nation.

Harry Spalding, associate editor of the Daily Pacific Builder, and a member of the Northern California Guild, has sold a story entitled "Blue Grass" to Esquire.

Charles E. Calkins, former editor

Arbitrator Appeals to Conscience

PHILADELPHIA—The arbitrator's decision in the case of three Guildmen fired from the Philadelphia Inquirer for economy upheld the dismissals, but ordered the three men placed on a priority list for rehiring.

The arbitrator, Robert F. Brecht, of the University of Pennsylvania faculty, held that economy was a just cause for dismissal, but ordered that in the future economy dismissals be made on a seniority basis.

One difficulty that the Guild encountered in the arbitration proceedings was based on the fact that the Inquirer management had abolished the Penn-Jersey desk on which all three men were employed.

Apparently, Brecht justified the economy grounds on general business conditions because, he commented in his opinion, "the Inquirer declined to submit data concerning its capital structure to the arbitration proceedings" and presented only "meager information concerning net earnings for 1934 to 1937."

Brecht's opinion contained one sentence that may be found significant for other Guild locals seeking light on the probable attitude of arbitrators toward protection of the economy dismissals. In concluding that the management's small dollars and cents saving must not be balanced against the hardship sustained by dismissed employees, Brecht said:

"The human misery involved in discharge for economy reasons must be appealed to the corporate conscience."

Convention Plans

Toronto Is Arranging Delegates' Visit to Quints

TORONTO—Plans to entertain delegates to the ANG Convention which opens here June 13, are advancing and the program is such that the local Convention committee feels that Guildmen, even though they are not delegates, may want to spend a week of their vacations here during the sessions.

Among the plans afoot are a visit to the Diome quintuplets and a sail on Lake Ontario. Local President Ralph Foster issues this invitation to Guildmen:

The Toronto Guild is deeply appreciative of the concession the ANG is making in holding its fifth annual convention in this Canadian city.

By way of return it is working to make the coming Convention, in the King Edward Hotel, the most successful in ANG history.

Every effort is being made to comfort for delegates and visitors, to whom a large welcome is assured. Through its officers, the Toronto local issues a pressing invitation to Guildmen everywhere to spend a week of their annual vacation in Toronto during the Convention.

It is believed likely that Dr. A. R. Dufor, the quintuplets' physician, will greet Convention delegates in Toronto and personally conduct them to his charges in Callander. The Toronto Guild is negotiating a special train which, if the Canadian Railway Board approves, will bear Convention visitors to Callander free. A nominal rate for wives may be charged for the trip, which would leave Toronto on Friday or Saturday morning, depending on when sessions conclude, returning 24 hours later. The visit to Callander would coincide with the production schedule of 30th Century Fox, filming a new movie of the quintuplets.

By the time delegates arrive they will be equipped with full information about the places to eat at reasonable prices, the things they might want to see in spare moments—if any—and the best places for women folk to shop.

MORE ON THAT REVIEW

THE GUILD REPORTER has received criticisms of the review of Irene Kuhn's book from three additional members of the N. Y. News unit, Reuben Maury, Julia McCarthy, and George Dixon. Their criticisms followed the same line as that in the two letters published in the April 25 Reporter—interpreting the review as a personal attack.

BUCK REPLIES

Editor, THE GUILD REPORTER: WASHINGTON.

In view of the voluminous correspondence I have had with the New York ANG office and the number of items you have published from time to time about the troubles of the Washington news vendors, I find it difficult to believe that you were not aware of the falsehoods and dishonest implications in the letter to the editor signed by Buck and published in the House Post gave the show a page-one review, and the Press carried a two-column top head on the theatre page.

Leading roles in the play were taken by Harold Young, city editor of the Post as Hildy Johnson; Paul Hochuli, theatre critic of the Press, as Walter Burns; Larry Sisk, city editor of the Press, as Earl Williams; Patricia Barnes, Press reporter, as Mollie Malloy; and Jane Kiley, Post reporter, as Peggy.

A contribution to the International Defense Fund equivalent to 50 cents for each of its approximately 60 members was voted by the IEB. Members individually donated \$10.85 to the Duluth strike.

As much space as was used by the news vendors' unit committee in their appeal to the membership of the ANG is available to signed by Buck to reply, if he cares to, to their charges, which were:

That he denied "this unit the membership thereof which he granted and of which they have not been legally denied"; that he told the members they were not members of the Guild, and had notice of a meeting printed with the heading, "Washington News Vendors' Union, formerly of the Washington Newspaper to withdraw"; that he had asked the news vendors to absent themselves during discussion of their situation in a Guild meeting and had misinformed the local Guild to the effect that the news vendors had voted to withdraw.

from the Guild; that he incorrectly informed the meeting that he had written the minutes of the news vendors' meeting, and that he had adjourned the meeting despite a vote to the contrary by the meeting itself—Editor, GUILD REPORTER.

LETTERS

OUR BOOK REVIEW

Editor, THE GUILD REPORTER: CLEVELAND.

As one of Todd Wright's "rabble," I'm sufficiently roused to cast another vote for the "rag." It strikes me as a particularly energetic trade union paper, and, incidentally, a significant document in the history of the Guild Reporter's literary selections. It should rise above wasting precious space on a sentimental lady reporter's assignment with adventure, when important books are coming out every week.

Perhaps, as the dues-paying, hell-raising critics suggest, there may be an "ethical" medium between the Guild Reporter and Editor & Publisher, but I should hate to see the Reporter achieve it first. Disillusioned brothers who abhor partisan (not personal) journalism might do well to get acquainted with the heavy-handed union sentiment of the union journals, beside which that of the GUILD REPORTER pales to innuendo.

RICHARD LEWIS

(The Press Unit)

Convention Funds Raised by Play

HOUSTON, Texas—Funds to pay the expenses of delegates to the International Convention was raised here in a three-night pre-emption of "The Front Page" by an all-Guild cast.

The programs carried an explanation of Guild aims and a brief history of the local. Reprints of "The Bitter War of Publishers vs. Guild" by Irving Brant, were distributed in the theatre. The House Post gave the show a page-one review, and the Press carried a two-column top head on the theatre page.

I have seen the dummies, layouts, stories, illustrations, and photographs which Allen prepared, all accurate and interesting pieces, superior to anything which has yet appeared in Ken, and yet I have heard Smart sneer about spending forty or fifty thousand dollars on the Allen regime "and not having a damn story to show for it." I am now convinced that a desire to economize, not the style or character of the magazine as worked out by Allen, caused the eventual separation of Smart and Allen.

One staff out, and one to go.

In October, when the Allen staff was fired, I was shown the supposedly final prospectus which was to bear out the magazine's stated purpose—"Ken will be a step left of center... anti-war and anti-fascist." Two solid pages boasted that the magazine would not be objective but biased—nobly biased in favor of the awakening liberal-labor movement in America. Gingrich had written that freedom of the press today existed only for the publishers, "and half of them are busy slaughtering sacred cows, while the other half are grinding axes on the emery wheel of their own prejudices. Between them they constitute a barrier separating the general public from the

How the Advertisers Ganged Up on 'Ken'

Seldes Gives the Inside Story Through Which He Lived—Magazine With Progressive Policies Seeking to Win the Labor Millions Learns the Facts of Life

By GEORGE SELDES
(Slightly condensed from THE NATION of April 30)

THE reputation of the press by the American people was clearly demonstrated by the 1936 Presidential election. It may not have been complete, but it showed a vast popular disillusion. That someone would capitalize on the situation followed logically. In March, 1937, the idea of publishing a magazine for the masses who had lost faith in the newspapers was discussed by three persons in Chicago.

David A. Smart, young and rich, had made a success with a clothing-trade paper called *Apparel Arts*; Arnold Gingrich, novelist and art connoisseur, had years ago proposed a magazine "for men only"; the two had produced *Esquire*; now selling 600,000 copies a month, and later *Coronet*, which thrived despite the depression and lack of advertising. The third man was Jay Cooke Allen, one of America's great journalists. Allen was to be editor. The magazine was to be called *Ken—the Insiders' World*. Its function would be to tell the truth behind the news, to explore hitherto unexplored fields of American journalism, to defy the forces and men who are forever saying, "You can't print that."

ONE FLEETING DOUBT OF THINGS TO COME

In addition to the press department Smart suggested that I do a series of articles on the American Legion and the Prudential Life is one of this year's hood in War and Peace showing how it is possible to fool all the people all the time when government and press cooperate; a piece on how Franco and the fascist journalists take the news.

It was I who first brought up the subject of big business and advertising pressure. "Suppose they attack *Esquire*?" I said. "If you are going to tell the unpublished truth about everything you'll get in trouble with the advertisers just as magazines and newspapers always do."

Smart opened a copy of *Esquire*. "Seventy Smart men's clothes," he said, "30 per cent whiskey and soda; what is there to expose? We're invulnerable. They can't attack you. You'll have an absolutely free hand."

Enthusiasm blinds one. I realize now that in the journalistic Utopia in which I seemed to live in November, 1937, I paid no attention to the following suspicious items: prospectuses which said that Paul de Kruif and Ernest Hemingway were working editors when they were not editors at all but contributors; the sudden firing of almost the entire Allen staff; with Allen's request, two weeks' pay; troubles about payment to authors engaged by Allen; Smart's proposal to employ George Sokolsky (I had the minutes of the N.Y. munitions investigation naming Sokolsky in an arms deal, and an investigator of the La Follette committee had informed me that Sokolsky would shortly be named as being in the employ of the National Association of Manufacturers); lack of union organization among the workers and their expressed dissatisfaction over wages.

Then the trouble began. Having accepted Smart's promises at their face value, Allen went to work on a large scale, engaging editors, research workers, and assistants, and ordering big investigations which took time and money. There was nothing picaresque about the Allen plans. Since Smart had conceived of *Ken* as a left-wing *Fortune*, the staff prepared a 20,000-word feature on the fascist wars on democracy, to lead the first issue. Then a conference was held; and the left-wing *Fortune* was scrapped in favor of a left-wing *Time*. Again the staff prepared a dummy, concentrating on short items instead of one big lead story; and again there was a dispute over the essential nature of the magazine.

I have seen the dummies, layouts, stories, illustrations, and photographs which Allen prepared, all accurate and interesting pieces, superior to anything which has yet appeared in *Ken*, and yet I have heard Smart sneer about spending forty or fifty thousand dollars on the Allen regime "and not having a damn story to show for it." I am now convinced that a desire to economize, not the style or character of the magazine as worked out by Allen, caused the eventual separation of Smart and Allen.

CAME THE DAWN, COLD AND DRY

Against these facts was my strong belief that so long as I kept from men's clothing and the liquor industry I would have a free hand in publishing a free journal. Accordingly, I wrote seven articles on the American Legion, four on Falshood in War and Peace, an exposé of the Paris Herald Tribune, dozens of items for the lie detector of the press—a total of at least 80,000 words. Meanwhile the gossip columnists and the trade press spread the story that *Ken* was to represent the liberal-labor movement, tell the truth, shame the devil, and defy the foul fiend of big business.

The joy in the editors' offices was more than balanced by the gloom in *Ken*'s advertising department. It was not satisfied with the way things were going. Some publishers took space, including my own. Consumers' Union telephoned it would take a page, but the shouts of victory from the advertising solicitors turned to groans when the manager decided that a Consumers' Union announcement would further reduce commercial manufacturers. No advertising agency; no big business house appeared willing to be on either friendly

would be my job to break down this barrier.

The press department, which I was to edit, would constitute about a third of the magazine, or 30,000 words, including a "lie detector" to which members of the American Newspaper Guild would contribute. Once each month there would be an investigation of the press of a state metropolis. The emphasis was always to be on suppressed news.

My department having been decided upon, I was introduced to Mr. Smart, who invited me to join the staff with the understanding that I reassured me about the policy of the magazine. He spoke of the old days, when his family had been poor and his aunt a friend of Eugene V. Debs. "Even if I were merely doing *Ken* as a business proposition," he continued, "it would be O.K. Here's this new reservoir—the labor movement, the AF of L, the CIO, the American Labor Party, the progressives in the West—ten or twenty million people who can read. We're going to tap this reservoir."

Then the Chicago business office descended on the New York business office. There was a banquet and a conference with advertising leaders, and immediately afterward Gingrich, who represented the editorial department, called me to his hotel and said, "They not only backed me up against the wall, they backed me through

or commercial terms with a publication that admitted it favored the liberal and labor movement in America. "All that the agencies are asking," one of the solicitors told me, "is that the policy be changed to anti-labor and anti-liberal."

Then the Chicago business office descended on the New York business office. There was a banquet and a conference with advertising leaders, and immediately afterward Gingrich, who represented the editorial department, called me to his hotel and said, "They not only backed me up against the wall, they backed me through

is colored, that's enough," he said. I asked if the press department was out. He said, "No, but it ought to be something else." I wrote to Gingrich asking for an inside letter on the inside situation, but before I got it I learned from one of my friends in the advertising department that a big agency had threatened to withdraw a fortune in advertising from *Esquire* "if as much as one line pro-labor appeared in *Ken*."

The advertising men who had previously been so friendly to me now refused to talk. Outside the office one of them told me that they had had an order from Smart in Chicago not to talk to me. "You are a bad influence," he says we lose our sincerity as solicitors when we talk to you. You undermine advertising morale." A day or two later I received a telegram from Smart asking me to do my work at home as my office was needed for a photographer.

AND SO TO LOVE LIFE—WHEREVER WE HEARD THAT

My "work" now consisted of a series of articles on foreign dictators and their love life, the only subjects I had left which, according to Smart, were "up to *Ken* standards." And finally Gingrich informed me that "the financial winds seem to be blowing the daylight out of that apparently fair-weather form of liberalism that was one of the major tenets of *Ken* as you and I first planned it." Big business, and advertising, its spearhead in the attack on the liberal-labor movement in America, had won out completely. There remained but one mystery: why the press department, the main feature, had not appeared. It may not be without significance in this connection that Mr. Smart has for years also been operating the Esquire Features Syndicate, which sells comic strips and other items to more than a hundred papers.

The first issue of *Ken*, although filled with anti-fascist and anti-Mussolini material, contained almost nothing about the United States of America. Red-baiting, the sop for big business, was represented in some hurriedly gathered cartoons, one of which lumped Loyalist Spain with fascist Spain as part of the black plague of dictatorship. The second issue continued to expose Mussolini and Hitler and spies in Mexico. These foreign contributions, it must be admitted, appear to be well documented and reliable.

And there have been two articles on domestic labor problems. But it is apparent that far-away fascism is *Ken*'s real foe; there has been no mention of vigilante fascism, or the National Association of Manufacturers' brand of fascism as exposed by the LaFollette Committee, or all the other fascist movements masquerading under patriotic names in America and drawing money from the big advertisers.

THE REINCARNATION AS JUST ONE MORE

Considerable speculation is heard in various quarters about *Ken*'s future. There are persons who would like to make it an anti-administration organ for the 1940 campaign, the spokesman of big business. The McClure Syndicate release for April 20 stated that Albert Lasker, head of the powerful Lord and Thomas advertising agency, has a financial interest in *Ken*.

The history of *Ken* teaches many important lessons. It proves for our time and generation the sad truth learned by a dozen weeklies and monthlies in the great muckraking era of 1905 to 1917—that big business and advertising will either change a magazine's policy from liberal to reactionary or try to ruin the magazine. Having spent \$100,000 or more to promote *Ken*, its publishers perceived that a liberal policy might seriously affect advertising revenue. The impossibility of combining progress with profit, demonstrated before the war, is even clearer today, with the advertising agencies becoming the leaders in a class-conscious attack on progressive liberalism. On the other hand we have proof that a large audience exists which would support a popular magazine really free from advertising control. When *Ken* announced a left-of-center policy, a quarter of a million advance buyers appeared. Many of them still want the press department, the lie detector, the truth behind the newspapers, the liberal and pro-labor policy,

Smart thought I was going on at too great length. "Once you've said the news

If big business and soda water and commodities were cut, there was still the press department: newspapers didn't advertise much in magazines. I got letters from the Associated Press and United Press proving that the Hearst publications were changing "Loyalists" to "reds" in AP and UP dispatches, and otherwise distorting the news from Spain. I got out a department on Americans who had declared themselves in favor of Mussolini, Hitler, and Franco. In the LaFollette civil-liberties reports I found some great stuff on spies, machine-guns, gas, and red-baiting which no newspaper had published.

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The Guild Reporter

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 Ben H. Pearce

"... It shall be the duty of the GUILD REPORTER, under the supervision of the IEB, to promote in every legitimate way the policies of the ANG as established in Convention, and to confine its editorial policies to that specific program. All notices printed in the REPORTER shall constitute notices to the entire membership."—From Art. XX, Sec. 1, ANG Constitution.

GUILD REPORTER deadlines: For letters and feature material, Tuesdays; for news, Wednesdays, and bulletins on Thursdays.

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May 9, 1938

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Vol. V—No. 22

New Prophets

Unions have already taken advantage of San Francisco's need for united community cooperation in the huge task of getting ready for next year's world's fair. They have not hesitated to cripple their urgent preparations by striking in the middle of them. It is disappointing to find newspapermen apparently ready to join in such unpatriotic efforts for selfish purposes.

San Francisco's newspapers are chiefly responsible for the exposition undertaking. . . . It would be a great pity if these essential services should be halted at this critical time by a newspaper strike.

THE above quotation is from an editorial in the Los Angeles Times, run as an attack on the Guild in San Francisco in the midst of its recent negotiations. Because newspapers are promoting a fair, an enterprise of at least debatable value for the employees, the Guild should quietly accept any terms the publishers offer!

Editor & Publisher, taking its lead from its publisher clients, uses the same reasoning. It always looks for a "minority" angle in Guild strikes, adding up all the employees in other unions to get a big figure, and then lets loose its ready horror that our handful should disturb such a large group. (If we tried to get the members of other unions to join with us, that would be a violation of contracts, calling for even greater horror!)

Mayor Reading of Detroit recently invoked the same theory of the pre-eminent right of the larger group in the street car strike. The car men could not stop the trolleys, he boomed; cars would run, strike or no strike: he had a duty to protect the welfare of the public.

Despite the instant fishy smell of such reasoning and its obvious service to the employers as against the employees, this theory constantly bobs up; we predict it will do so more widely if the present reactionary drive in Congress and elsewhere makes headway. It is a bastard version of socialism, of course, and a root tenet of fascism. How utterly phoney it is in the American system of free enterprise can be seen by applying the reverse test. If one group of employees should not interfere with production because of the needs of a larger group, what about the runaway employer who moves his plant to another city and leaves his employees and sometimes whole communities high and dry? We have heard mutterings of resentment over this, but never has the militia been called out!

So long as the publisher serves primarily his own interest, he cannot expect us to subordinate ours. He cannot have his cake and eat it too, though, God knows, he is not averse to trying!

Echoes to Remember

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 4—Echoes of the Administration's unsuccessful fight for the Reorganization Bill were heard today in reports that several House members are receiving back as undeliverable a number of letters which they wrote to persons who assailed the measure by letter or telegram.

Members who supported the measure seem to be getting most of the undeliverable mail, while those who opposed it say practically none of their letters has been returned.

Representative Bulwinkle, Democrat, of North Carolina, a supporter of the measure, first brought the unusual number of returned letters to attention with the assertion that of some 500 replies he wrote to messages attacking the measure from persons in his district, fully half came back with Postoffice Department notations: "Cannot find," "No such address," "No such person at this address," and the like.

The secretary of Representative Dingell, Democrat, of Michigan, said several of Mr. Dingell's constituents had written him that they had received Senatorial acknowledgments of attacks on the bill which they never had sent.

The office of Representative Merritt, Democratic member at large from New York State, said there were "quite a few" returns of replies to criticisms of the bill received from Utica, Syracuse and Rochester.

The secretary of Representative Dunn, Democrat, of Pennsylvania, said that Mr. Dunn got many lots of fifty or more identical opposition telegrams, sent at about the same time from the same offices.

How about it, Mr. Frank E. Gannett, are these fictitious people members of your Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government?

Permanent, Or—?

THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD:

ENCLOSED is a contribution [\$20] toward your expenses in the United Press and other negotiations.

I'm not a member of the Guild, because I don't like the principle of permanent union organization and the unnecessary further step of joining CIO.

I do believe in the practical need of a negotiating body in the UP situation, and I like the way the Guild is performing that function coolly and firmly under trying conditions. Therefore the contribution, to equal the support of your dues-paying members. I want the five-day week, too, and I'm for the wage raises. The latter won't affect me, but your negotiations may have, because I received a suspiciously well-timed raise several months ago.

So for benefits received and benefits to be received and as support in general of your present objectives, here is my fair share of the expenses. This will sound to you like the typical liberal straddle, and that is just what I intend it to be.

Success in your current good work.

Sincerely,

Dear Mr. _____:

Liberal straddler is a whacky name. We once heard an eminent jurist describe fellows like you—good guys who want to pay their way and do what's right, but don't believe in anything and don't want to "belong" to anything—as philosophical anarchists.

Practically speaking, how can you disavow the "principle of permanent union organization" and at the same time look forward to permanent benefits such as a decent salary that stays decent and a 5-day week that doesn't degenerate into a 6-day week the moment the union loses its permanency? And the CIO—how permanent would our labor movement be without a strong central body which, unlike the AF of L, recognizes the need for historical change and is here to give us a united democratic medium of expression and support? Really, we don't need to go into that.

Thanks for the contribution and the kind words and good wishes. Say the word and we'll apply the twenty to initiation fees and dues.

False Truth

THE Institute for Propaganda Analysis has a list of seven devices that the propagandists, (and newspapers) bring into use in the news columns in order to sneak across an attack on an enemy. The glossary includes "name calling," "glittering generalities," etc. It seems to us that the Institute needs to add one, the commonly used subterfuge which might be characterized as "reverse English."

This is the device so frequently used to associate labor with violence and, indeed, to make the two synonymous. Thus we find newspapers almost invariably leading strike stories with: "Five hundred employees of Fink & Fink, bologna manufacturers, walked out today. There was no violence. . . ." Thus the second sentence in many May Day stories read: "There was no violence." Thousands of other things didn't happen on May Day, but of all of them, the violence that didn't happen was singled out for a play.

This treatment of the May Day news is more than reverse English; it is a reverse journalism that violates honesty and fairness. This is true despite the fact that the May Days of years ago had a history of violence. If the papers wanted truthfully to indicate that this generation's May-Days are peaceful, they should have reported:

"May Day was celebrated peacefully yesterday. The police had no orders to charge their horses into the crowd and no orders to slug and shoot the demonstrators."

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a message to Guild members and other newspaper editorial workers in 1937: "The AF of L invites you to join the Federal Union of Newswriters, AF of L."

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a message to members of Federal labor unions in the March, 1938, Federationist: "Federal labor unions are often handicapped by not having the cooperation of other unions in the industry. The union must depend on its own wisdom and strength in negotiations with its employer. . . ."

Rails Plan Cuts Despite Big Profits

Bled Dry by Bondholders,
 Systems Plead Poverty to
 Justify Slashes in Wages

By ELIOT JANEWAY

Federated Press Financial Writer

WITH the country teetering on the abyss of depression, only one more blow is needed to push our economy over. A wave of wage cutting would bury all hope of revival in 1938 or 1939.

This blow the railroads are now doing their level best to administer. They are undoubtedly the chief sufferers from the recession. Therefore, they should be the one group interested in maintaining purchasing power as the last defense against depression. Instead, they have served notice upon the country that their million-odd employees are to suffer a 15 per cent wage cut in July which will reduce their incomes by some \$250,000,000.

At the moment, it does not matter that the railroads are pleading for wage cuts in order to be able to meet their payrolls, while they are simultaneously laying off their men in droves. At least 150,000 men have been thrown out of work since October 1, and the day following the wage cut announcement, the Santa Fe road announced that further layoffs are most likely.

LINING UP FOR R.F.C. HANDOUTS

Nor does it matter that the roads are lining up in front of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation office in Washington in order to receive handouts so that "employment can be maintained."

What does matter in this immediate wage dispute is that there would be no question of wage cuts if the bondholders were not bleeding the railroad system dry. Admittedly, there is a serious railroad crisis. One-third of our rail mileage is bankrupt, and earnings have been seriously injured by the recession all along the line. But government loans to the railroad industry have no purpose other than that of preserving intact a fantastic structure of railroad bonded debt inherited from the days of Jay Gould and Daniel Drew.

The \$435,000,000 poured into the railroads by the RFC was not for the purpose of increasing business activity through government aid, but was intended simply to save the bonded-debt structure of the railroads. This protection of widows, orphans, insurance companies, and trust funds might be laudable if it were successful. But despite the RFC loans all but a very few railroad bonds are selling today at prices that only actual or impending bankruptcy would warrant.

A GLANCE AT THE RECORD

Let us look at the record for the terrible first three months of 1938. It shows our leading systems earning very satisfactory operating profits. The Chesapeake & Ohio is in the black for the quarter to the tune of a million and a quarter, and the Union Pacific to the tune of nearly three-quarters of a million. Bankrupt lines like the Erie and the Missouri Pacific show profits on their operations. Even notoriously sick lines like the Nickel Plate and the Cotton Belt are in the black. Chief among the roads in the red are the Baltimore & Ohio and the Southern Pacific, and each of these great systems would easily be able to absorb its deficit if not for the annual interest bill of \$30,000,000 with which each is saddled.

In sum, the operating profit situation is much better than that in the auto and steel industries. Taking only revenues and costs into account, the railroads are doing at least as well as any of our basic industries and they have no justification for pleading utter ruin as excuse for a \$250,000,000 wage cut.

It is only after operating profits are diverted into the payment of bond interest that glaring deficits appear in the railroad returns. Take the case of the Erie, which went into bankruptcy at the turn of the year. Its 1937 earnings were over \$13,000,000 and they were still insufficient to meet the road's bond charges. In what other industry would a corporation earning \$13,000,000 from operations have to go bankrupt? Precious few steel companies made \$13,000,000 out of 1937's prosperity, but almost every last railroad deficit was a deficit caused by the wiping out of operating profits by interest charges. Cut the railroad's yearly interest bill of half a billion, and there will be no need for wage cuts because the roads will then be unable to talk poor. Their profits will become evident for the world to see.

Who Said 'Ruined'?

UNCLE SAM'S credit may be "ruined," as New Deal foes insist, but if so the banks haven't discovered the sad state of affairs.

When the Commodity Credit Corporation this week sought \$200,000,000 with which to pay off its indebtedness to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and to make crop loans to farmers, it was able to borrow on 18-month paper at the extremely low interest rate of three-fourths of 1 per cent.

So eager were the banks to get a part of the loan that the offer was oversubscribed seven times.

The Treasury also disclosed that \$50,000,000 of 90-day bills had been disposed of at the lowest price in history. Banks which lent the money agreed to accept compensation at the rate of 9 cents per \$1,000.—From Labor,