

The GUILD REPORTER

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

Published Monday of each week at Guild headquarters, 1560 Broadway, New York.

Vol. V—No. 32

Entered as second-class matter August 18, 1937, at the Post Office at New York

NEW YORK, N. Y., JULY 18, 1938

Single Copy 10¢; Yearly \$3.50

Restraint Defied by Strikers On Coast

HOLLYWOOD—The picketing of advertisers patronizing the struck Hollywood Citizen-News was renewed on a large scale last week in defiance of a blanket restraint issued against the Guild by Los Angeles' "injunction judge," Emmet Wilson.

Judge Wilson issued the restraint despite a recent ruling by the State Court of Appeals in another case holding that secondary picketing was lawful, regardless of whether a strike existed in the establishment being picketed. Wilson is the same judge who issued citations for contempt of court against practically all of the strikers for distributing handbills. This action was taken in the face of the Supreme Court decision which upholds handbill distribution as a constitutional right.

As the strike entered its third month, the National Labor Board completed its hearing into Guild charges against former Judge Harlan G. Palmer, Citizen-News publisher. Strikers testified before Trial Examiner George Kennedy in substantiation of charges that Palmer's dismissal of five leading Guildsmen on the eve of signing a contract was aimed to thwart collective bargaining, and not for the purpose of "retrenchment" as he claimed.

Palmer's Testimony

Palmer offered figures purporting to show that from December 1, 1937, to May 31, 1938, the Citizen-News went into the "red" \$5,459, and testified that "the question of anyone's union activity absolutely and positively did not enter into my decision" to make dismissals. He was the paper's only witness.

From 19 Guild witnesses Board Attorney David Persinger and Guild Attorney Carey McWilliams adduced that for more than two years anti-unionism was rampant in the Citizen-News plant, while the paper posed as a liberal organ.

Reporters Alex Swan and Helen Ewing testified that Zuma Palmer, radio editor and sister of Harlan, repeatedly quizzed them on their attitude toward the Guild and declared that it was "ungrateful" of staff members to join the Guild "after all the judge has done for everyone." Miss Ewing related (Continued on Page Six)

Wage Law Gives Publisher New Slant on 5-Day Week

LOWELL, Mass.—A discussion of the probable effects of the recently enacted federal Wages and Hours law opened a new vista of hope for the five-day week in Lowell last week.

William G. Spence, business manager of the Courier-Citizen and Leader, admitted during a bargaining conference that even small newspapers probably will be ruled to be engaged in interstate commerce and hence subject to the new law.

When Fred Myers, executive vice

ANPA Sabotages Federal Probe Into Price-Rigging on Newsprint

American Newspaper Publishers Association

370 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.

L. B. PALMER, General Manager

BULLETIN No. 6818 NEW YORK, APRIL 8, 1938

"B" SPECIAL

THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION SEEKS NEWSPRINT DATA

Publishers Not Obligated to Supply Material Sought in Fishing Expeditions of Government Agencies.

The Federal Trade Commission, in connection with an inquiry which it is making, recently asked a member of this Association to furnish it with certain information.

Among the facts requested by the Commission were the following:

1. Corporate name (if incorporated), date and state of incorporation, and general office address of your company.
2. A complete list of other concerns, names and addresses, whether publishers or paper manufacturers, in which you own capital stock or have other financial interest together with the total capital stock of each such company, as well as the amount of stock and the amount and nature of other financial interest held or owned by you in each company.
3. A complete list of newspapers, daily and weekly, published by your company, and its subsidiary and affiliated companies, showing the name and location of each paper and approximate daily or weekly circulation.
4. Total quantity of newsprint paper in tons required annually for each paper published.
5. The method of purchasing newsprint paper, whether by central purchasing organization or by each individual publisher.
6. Total purchases of newsprint paper for each newspaper published, showing quantity, amount and average price paid (rolls and sheets separately) for each year 1931 to 1937 inclusive, and 1938 to date of report.
7. Complete list (names and addresses) of newsprint paper manufacturers with whom you have contracts for the purchase of newsprint paper, showing—
"a. Date of each contract;

"b. Period covered by the contract.

"c. Quantity in pounds or tons of newsprint paper purchased under each contract annually, sheets and rolls separately.

"d. Price per cwt. or per ton at the mills in sheets and rolls separately.

"e. Price per cwt. or per ton delivered in sheets and rolls separately.

"8. The complete list (names and addresses) of manufacturers from whom you purchased newsprint paper in the open market during 1937 and to date in 1938, stating the quantity purchased from each, and prices paid (sheets and rolls separately).

"9. Complete list (names and addresses) of paper merchants or jobbers from whom you purchased newsprint paper during 1937 and 1938 to date, stating the quantity and price in sheets and rolls separately, purchased from each such jobber or merchant."

But one glance at this request is sufficient to indicate not only the amount of work required to comply with the request, but the impropriety of the request itself. The member to whom the inquiry was sent has been advised that the matter of compliance therewith, either in whole or in part, is entirely optional with him. He is under no legal compulsion to answer the questionnaire.

This inquiry is typical of those which emanate from many bureaus and agencies of the government. Some indicate they are made "By Order of the Commission" or by order of whatever agency, if not a commission, issues them. Others contain excerpts from statutory enactments indicating severe penalties for non-compliance. Still others may be in the nature of general search warrants from Congressional Committees, questionnaires from such committees, or letters from the Chairman or investigators of such committees purporting to require information.

Counsel advises, in respect of all such inquiries, whether in subpoena, letter, or questionnaire form, that publishers refer them to their attorneys before compliance, either in whole or in part so that advice may be had concerning the authority of those making the inquiry and the rights of the person or persons to whom the request for information is directed.

Fishing expeditions may be resisted successfully, if the inquiries are delayed until the rights of the parties are determined. Partial compliance with illegal requests may result, however, in opening the door and making it difficult later to eject the intruders.

BEHIND THE SCENES the ANPA Carries on this Wrecking Activity.

Secret Bulletin Urges Defiance of FTC Inquiry While Publishers Use High Cost as Excuse for Low Wages

While publishers denounce the high cost of newsprint and offer it as an excuse for low wages, "economy" dismissals and for higher circulation and advertising rates, the American Newspaper Publishers Association is carrying on an undercover campaign of sabotage against the Federal Trade Commission's investigation of the newsprint manufacturers' monopoly.

In a special bulletin (photostat above) issued on April 8, the ANPA presses upon its membership the suggestion that

publishers are "not obligated" to give information to the FTC, and characterizes the inquiry as a "fishing expedition" and the investigators as "inquisitors" and "intruders." The bulletin gives substance to the long prevalent reports that the governing group within the ANPA has no desire to reduce

prices because it has a heavy financial interest in newsprint mills, or gets secret rebates on paper bills (GUILD REPORTER, Feb. 21). The publishers of the less powerful dailies and the small fry in the industry are chief sufferers of this price-fixing.

Carefully Distributed

The ANPA's bulletin was evidently carefully distributed, for in certain quarters its existence was unknown. John H. Perry, president of the American Press Association, and publisher of several newspapers in the south and of the Reading (Pa.) Times, said that he had not seen one until the GUILD REPORTER showed him a copy last week. Perry was a prime mover in the FTC investigation. Early in June a GUILD REPORTER inquiry to the Department of Justice brought a reply from Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold to the effect that the department had no knowledge of the bulletin. Arnold asked that a copy be sent to him if it could be obtained.

Undertaken early this year, the (Continued on Page Six)

100 Office Workers Join In Twin Cities

MINNEAPOLIS—One hundred new commercial department members, organized during the past two weeks on the Minneapolis Tribune, began taking active part in the Twin Cities Guild activities last week.

Committees are to be named to draft demands for the new members, for inclusion in the proposed contract which will be presented to three Minneapolis publishers early next month when organizational work is expected to be completed on all three local papers.

Star commercial employees met last week, and an organization drive was started at the Journal. (Continued on Page Four)

Newhouse Plant Reopens; 80 Under Industrial Pact

The Long Island Daily Star, shut down by S. I. Newhouse on June 25, reopened July 13 and the 80 editorial and business department employees returned to their jobs under a Guild contract.

Newhouse, with whom the Guild has had many disputes, bought the Star and threatened to keep it closed unless the Guild members signed individual yellow-dog contracts. For nearly two weeks Newhouse refused to discuss the points

New Test Due With AP; Phila. Talks End

PHILADELPHIA—A new major test of the labor policies and bargaining tactics of the Associated Press developed here last week when the AP refused to explain what appeared on the surface to be an obvious unfair labor practice.

The Guild negotiating committee, acting under instructions of the unit, immediately broke off the conference and obtained IEB authority to file charges before the National Labor Board, on grounds of discrimination and refusal to bargain.

The Guild is in negotiations at the present time with the AP in eight separate bureaus. In each case the management has insisted that the bargaining be done with the local bureau chief rather than with the central management which has the authority to proceed with normal speed. Philadelphia has the smallest AP unit among those now in bargaining.

Fired Two Workers

The tactic of breaking bargaining into units when simultaneous bargaining could obviously be handled with more dispatch and convenience for both parties has long been recognized by the AP Guild membership as a management device for delay and frustration.

In the midst of bargaining here, the management withdrew four printer attendants, all Guild members and one of them a vice chairman of the unit, from the office of the Evening Public Ledger, and, in effect, discharged two of them.

Demand that bargaining not be continued unless the management agreed to submit a satisfactory explanation within a week after the negotiating conference on July 14 was made by the unit at a meeting on July 11.

G. A. Francis, supervising traffic engineer who took charge of the Philadelphia traffic department just a few days in advance of the printer attendant shake-up, not only refused to give an explanation, but uttered a threat that there may be further changes of a similar nature.

Constitutes Refusal

Francis' position, the committee held, constituted a refusal to bargain collectively. The committee also contended that, lacking any satisfactory explanation from the (Continued on Page Two)

he had offered in the individual proposals with Guild representatives for the purpose of arriving at a collective agreement.

Finally, through the efforts of officials of printing unions, led by Michael J. P. Hogan, president of the local stereotypers, Newhouse agreed to a conference. The printing union officials agreed to sit in as mediators.

After three conferences Newhouse refused to discuss the points (Continued on Page Two)

Test With AP Due as Talks End

(Continued from Page One)

management, it could only assume that the shake-up was an unfair labor practice for the purpose of intimidation and to decimate the unit.

The case of the printer attendants goes back to June 20, when Thomas J. Mullen, unit vice-chairman, Theodore Zereny, Francis J. Carroll and John Gordon, all members of the unit, were informed that their jobs on the printers in the Evening Ledger office were abolished and the work would be taken over by the Ledger.

Gordon immediately was employed by the Ledger. Carroll was transferred to the day bureau office and given two weeks' notice. However, before the notice was up, he also obtained a job with the Ledger.

Mullen and Zereny were taken into the AP bureau office, where almost the entire unit questions the permanency of their jobs. Mullen currently is substituting for a man on vacation. His pay has been "temporarily" reduced to \$1.62 a week to that of the man for whom he is substituting. Francis said that is normal practice in the AP traffic service.

Local Protested
The Philadelphia-Camden Guild membership protested the shake-up and the committee twice took the matter up with the management. Last week the committee agreed to proceed upon Bureau Chief Paul Miller's assurance that no unfair labor practice was intended and that so far as he knew the two men at the AP, at least, had permanent jobs. At that time, according to the transcript of a Guild stenographer, Miller said the move was made at the request of the Ledger. Since then, however, Publisher John C. Martin of the Ledger wrote to the Guild saying that the changes were suggested by the AP.

The unit met and instructed the negotiating committee—consisting of ANG Vice President Morris Watson, Bill Reid of the Bulletin, and Dick Corrick, secretary of the local—to proceed only if the management agreed to submit a written explanation within a week or at the next negotiating meeting. It was the unit's demand that the management refused. Four times Watson asked the management to reply to the following question: "Will you agree within a week or at our next meeting to give a satisfactory written explanation to show that the move was not made for the purpose of intimidating the unit?" Miller or Francis evaded the question, until finally Miller asked Francis if he had any reply.

"I don't see any reason for me to write any letter or explanation," Francis declared.
Other Changes Hinted
Previously, he intimated broadly that there might be other changes when the negotiators, who included Executive Vice President Nathan

Magazine Pact Signed in N. Y.

BULLETIN
The New York Guild late last week signed its contract with the Time, Inc., magazine group, covering about 300 employees. Retroactive pay raises are provided for about 150 in the unit. The unit includes employees of Time, Life, Fortune, Architectural Forum, and March of Time radio and movie.

Minimum pay ranges from \$20 to \$25 for office boys to \$75 for writers and photographers. Vacations are three weeks after three years, and four weeks for employees whose salaries are \$100 a week or more. Severance is at the rate of one and one-half weeks' salary for each six months of service, up to a maximum of \$5,000.

Eddy at the last session, inquired about the permanency of the jobs of Mullen and Zereny.

"You never know what moves might have to be made in the future for the purposes of efficiency," he declared.

Miller told the committee that no Guild intimidation was intended, but would go no farther in explaining. Eddy and Watson, both members of the IEB Wire Service Committee, said that the AP had vangled similar "shake-ups" in the traffic department to decimate the Commercial Telegraphers' Union. The entire committee considered it significant that the changes were made within a few days after Francis was sent to the Philadelphia bureau to take over the traffic end.

NEW YORK-TIME

NEW YORK—Time and a half for overtime after 40 hours was tentatively agreed to by Byron Price, of the New York AP management, in negotiations last week. Morris Watson and Morris Iushevitz were the Guild negotiators. Watson pointed out that the Wage and Hours Bill provides for time and a half after 44 hours this year, after 42 hours next year and after 40 hours in the third year. Price said he believed there would be "no argument about the four hours." Security, sick leave and arbitration clauses were discussed. A no-strike conference is scheduled for Tuesday.

LOW OFFER ON COAST

SAN FRANCISCO—A wage scale still far below the Guild's demands and also far below present wages was offered by the AP management at the fourth negotiating session. The offer was made by L. G. Guilford, traffic chief, and Brian Bell, news editor.

Charles Irvine, executive secretary of the San Francisco-Oakland Guild, and Francis McCarthy, member of the negotiating committee, declared the offer unacceptable, and Bell, who was leaving for vacation, said he would go through Guild demands and write a proposition or counter-proposal on each to be presented to Guild negotiators at the next meeting.

PAY YOUR DUES AND ASSESSMENTS!

THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

Newhouse Plant Reopens; 80 Under Industrial Pact

(Continued from Page One)

house and the Guild arrived at a two-year contract containing a modified Guild shop, protection against pay cuts, vacations, sick leave, severance pay and a prohibition against dismissals of any kind for three months.

The Guild shop provision provides that those Guild members already on the staff are to remain in good standing and that the ratio of Guild and non-Guild members cannot be reduced by replacements on the staff. All new Guild members must remain Guild members.

When the old management announced the closing of the paper

and the sale of its assets to Newhouse there was no contract between the Guild and the Star. However, negotiations were in progress at the time of the closing.

After closing the Star, Newhouse published a north shore edition of his Long Island Daily Press to cover the Star field. He announced that the Guild had forced him to close the Star by preventing its members from signing the individual contracts. The Guild replied to these charges in a printed circular distributed throughout the city.

One hundred eighty-four employees were affected by the closing and reopening of the plant.

Radio Unit Talks Strike Over Stalls, Low Offers

MINNEAPOLIS—Rejecting an unsatisfactory counter-proposal from the newspaper-owned radio station WTCN, and stirred by eight months of fruitless negotiations, the radio unit of the Twin Cities Guild voted unanimously last week to empower the bargaining committee to call a strike whenever necessary.

The management proposal, while making concessions on conditions and hours, failed to increase materially the low wages for announcers, continuity writers and commercial employees, and at the same time sought to exempt from hampering dismissal indemnities with qualifications.

Four Demands
The committee was instructed by the unit to make four fundamental demands:

1—Wages for announcers and continuity writers of from \$25 for beginners to \$50 for four-year men; for traffic department workers, \$23 to \$30 for three years; stenographers, typists, \$18 to \$25; office girls, \$18; bookkeepers, \$25; assistant bookkeepers, \$22.50 to \$30.

2—A clause giving regular employees first call on extra "talent" work before the microphone.

3—Dismissal indemnity of one week for each thirty weeks of service with one qualification, proven dishonesty.

Carl Hagman, station manager, asked time to consult the directors of the station, but would not set a date for a future meeting. The Guild negotiators said they would contact him Monday. Twelve Guild members are involved.

'Free Press' Cry Fails Newsweek

Threadbare though it may be, the "threat to Freedom of the Press" objection was the basis of the unsuccessful fight of the management of Newsweek against the designation of the Guild by the NLRB as the sole bargaining agent for the publication's 63 employees.

In a brief filed with the trial examiner in the Board's representation hearing, William L. Ransom, former president of the American Bar Association, and Pinus M. Berkson, counsel for Newsweek, noted:

"That a certification of the Guild as the collective bargaining agent for the many employees in the editorial department who do not want to join it or be represented by it, thereby in effect compelling Newsweek to deal solely with the Guild as exclusive bargaining agent for all its editorial employees, would interfere with, separate and tend to abridge, the publisher's freedom of the press guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

The brief maintains the publisher must have full freedom to determine policies and "to be able to exercise such a right adequately and effectively, it is essential that the publisher be free to employ whomever he deems most suitable for the maintenance of untrammelled and independent editorial expression, including those who may not want to belong to a particular union or any union and who may be hostile to the union to which the majority of the clerical, technical or other employees belong."

"The exclusive agent uses its power inexorably to require membership and the payment of dues as conditions of employment at all. Such a process is wholly unsuitable to an editorial department and is inimical to a free press."

Included in the brief is a list of editorial employees "who ought not to be subjected to any outside dictation or control against their will. They should not be subjected to numerical majorities of clerical and routine employees."

WORKERS ENROLL

ASHEVILLE, N. C. (FP)—Economic problems facing the southern worker will be studied at the Southern Summer School for Workers of the Asheville Normal and Teachers College. Antoworkers, sharecroppers, miners and other unionists are enrolling for public speaking, labor journalism and methods of conducting a union meeting. The teachers will include Leo Holerman, author of The Labor Spy Racket, and Mildred Price, formerly of Federated Press.

THEATRES

Dennis Vera Vivienne Walter King Zorina Regal Screen
in the HODGES STORY Musical Comedy
I MARRIED AN ANGEL
with Audrey Christie—Charles Walters
SHUBERT THEATRE, W. 44th St. Mon. Wed. 8:45
Tues. 8:15
"The Best Show in Town"—Fischel
DUDLEY DIGGES IN ON BORROWED TIME
with FRANK CONROY • HOLDEN
LONGACRE W. 48 St. Eves. 8:45
Mon. Wed. 8:45 Sat. 2:45

"The most hilarious play to rock your seat this season"—Colman, Moore
A GEORGE ARBOTT PRODUCTION
WHAT A LIFE
A Comedy by Clifford Goldsmith
Biltmore W. 47 St. Eves. 8:45, 9:45
Eves. 8:15—Mon. Wed. 8:45 SAT. 2:45

JED HARRIS PRODUCTION
1938 Pulitzer Prize Play
OUR TOWN
with THORNTON WILDER
by FRANK CRAVEN
MOROSCO, W. 45th St. (Apt. Cooled)
Eves. 8:15—Mon. Wed. 8:45 SAT. 2:45

SAM H. HARRIS PRODUCTION
THE PULITZER PRIZE PLAY
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU
by MOSES HART & GEO. KAUFMAN
BOOTH THEATRE, 45 St. W. 47 St. Eves. 8:15—Mon. Wed. 8:45 SAT. 2:45

MOTION PICTURES

WARNER BAXTER
in "I'LL GIVE A MILLION"
with MARJORIE WEAVER
& GALE RIVETT ON STAGE
Any Day 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.
Any Day 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.

LLOYD "PROFESSION OF FAITH"
with JIMMY DORSEY and ORCHES-TRA
ANY DAY 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.
Any Day 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.

THE AMAZING DR. CLITTERHOUSE
with EDWARD G. ROBINSON
A Warner Bros. Picture
STRAND • 25th St.
Any Day 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
CHARLES BOYER
with Sigrid Gurie—Hedy Lamarr
ON STAGE: "GOTHAM GLEANINGS", song and dance revue by Leonard, Symphonic Orchestra.
1st Mainstage State Reserved. Ctr. 4-6000

"Port of 7 Seas" with WALLACE BEERY
Coming "Love Finds Andy Hardy"
Lewie STONE • Hickey ROONEY

8th ST. PLAYHOUSE
with JIMMY DORSEY and ORCHES-TRA
ANY DAY 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.
Any Day 9:30 to 10:30 P.M.

THE JOURNALIST'S Rendezvous
PEN BAR RESTAURANT
PENCIL
For Best of Food
WINES & LIQUORS
SEE
Dalmo and Bruno
203 E. 42nd St. New York

NEW YORK RESTAURANTS
GUS & ANDY'S SOMERSET
"A Bar & Restaurant of Distinction"
146 West 47th St. New York, N.Y.
Around Cor. from 43rd Street

TRUFOOD RESTAURANT
Best Dairy and Vegetarian Food
Lunches from \$2.50
Dinner 3.00
158 W. 44th St. New York

Coast Council Nears New Pact

Annual Meeting Is Featured by Report on Contract on Verge of Being Concluded With Stockton Record; New Officers Elected by Northern California Group.

SAN FRANCISCO—Announcement that a Guild contract was about to be signed with the Stockton Record and election of new officers featured the annual meeting of the Northern California District Council here last week.

The new district officers are: president, Mel Bennett, Stockton; executive secretary, Francis McCarthy, San Francisco; vice presidents, Ernest Rapley, S. F. Peninsula; William Benton, San Francisco; Jim Leonard, Monterey Bay; Myrtle Lord, Sacramento; recording secretary, Steve Murdoch, San Jose; treasurer, Gordon Leese, San Francisco.

Bennett, president of the Stockton Guild, reported that only two major points remained to be settled in the proposed contract with the Record. The points were severance pay schedule and a clause barring pay cuts and dismissals.

Expect to Win Points
Bennett expressed the belief these points would be won at the next meeting with the publisher. Satisfactory salary minimums up to a top of \$45 a week for copy readers of five years' experience and the 5-day 40-hour week have already been agreed upon by the management. One clause which the management has accepted guarantees payment of severance pay to heirs if the employee dies. Other standard Guild contract clauses have been accepted.

The Council last plans for peace negotiations with the Independent, other Stockton daily, and with the Sacramento Union. Gains in membership were reported for the San Francisco Peninsula Guild. Both the Peninsula and San Jose Guilds are pushing organization of commercial departments, delegates reported. Stockton plans to do likewise.

Ted Irvine, San Francisco-Oakland Guild executive secretary, reviewed the ANG Convention decisions and plans were laid to carry them out in the district. Other delegates present were John Kemp, Stockton; Betty Paine, Jeanne Wilburton, and Erick Erickson, San Francisco.

STEEL STRIKE PROBE
WASHINGTON (FP)—One of the broadest studies of strike-breaking and strikebreaking methods ever undertaken by an official agency was launched here on July 18 when the Senate civil liberties committee began hearings in its study of last summer's "Little Steel" strike.

The management of the Jewish Daily Forward, New York Yiddish language paper, came through with a new offer of wage increases this week after the 36 commercial department workers represented by the Guild rejected the management's first proposal as inadequate.

The Guild Unit, aroused by the protracted negotiations, delivered an ultimatum to the management last week when it appeared that the management would stand on its first offer. The other two Jewish language dailies in New York recently signed contracts with the Guild covering commercial department workers. The editorial workers are in the Jewish Writers' Union.

HARRINGTON AT EAGLE
J. J. Harrington, former publisher and general manager of the Irish Press of Dublin, has assumed his new position as assistant publisher and general manager of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. In Dublin for the past five years, Harrington is known as a labor man, having held a card in ITU's Big Six local of New York for a number of years.

DRIVERS GET VACATIONS
NEW YORK (FP)—Paid vacation periods will be doubled this summer for 3,500 employees of the Fifth Ave. Coach Co. and the New York City Omnibus Corp. as a result of negotiations completed by the Transport Workers Union (CIO). The average vacation will be two weeks.

Merle Thorpe, editor of the "Nation's Business," said "from the press the people back home must get a clear-cut non-partisan picture." No group or clique should be allowed to use the news columns for their own benefit, he said, but did not comment on the competition for editors writing the best editorial on "West Virginia's Natural Resources." The editor having the deepest, untrammelled convictions on this subject, expressed with skill and without fear or favor, will receive as first prize a set of 101 pieces of fine crystal glassware.

"If the press fails," said Mr. Thorpe, "and we lose the American tradition of ordered liberty under law, the culmination of man's greatest effort to be a free spirit, then the sin against future generations will be unforgivable." The glassware, "in the prospect of one of the best known manufacturers in northern West Virginia," according to "National Printer Journalist," which described the prizes. The high principles enunciated were carried in Editor & Publisher.

"The need is not for more liberalism or more conservatism, but for the courage to express honest opinions regardless of political effect," said President Will V. Lomis, editor of the La Grange (Ill.) Citizen. Will is eligible for the contest for "two bushels of apples," which "will be sent prepaid for twelve consecutive months to the editor producing the best full-page story about West Virginia." Good luck, Will!

The 400 editors and publishers who attended the convention gave a practical demonstration of the power of the press that will not soon be forgotten by patriotic men. They lived nine days in the best hotels, and took a six-day trip all over West Virginia, eating well and sleeping well, for a total cost of \$50 each, including tips. This is that thrifty American spirit of rugged individualism that pays spiritual dividends in the long run. If an editor wins a carload of coal for the free expression of his own thoughts, his nine-day trip will not only have paid spiritual dividends but monetary dividends. It just goes to show that honest-to-God idealism does not go unrewarded. The country is basically sound.

Vice President

ROGER IRWIN, of Toronto.
International vice president of the ANG, elected by the Toronto Convention.

4 Lose Jobs In ITU Pact
Resurrection

Four composing room helpers at the New York Times, all members of the Guild, were laid off last week when the Typographical Union insisted on the enforcement of a provision in its contract which required that the work done by the boys be given to journeymen printers. This phase of the Times' contract with the printers had been ignored for 15 years. Its enforcement may cause more layoffs.

A committee of Guild members protested to the management against making the Guild members in the composing room pay with their jobs for the Times' violation of its agreement with the printers. Colonel Adler, representing the management, said the Times would "try to find work" for the boys in other parts of the building.

The Executive Committee of the New York Guild urged the Typographical Union to retain status quo conditions in the Times composing room until representatives of the Guild and the printers could discuss the matter in detail.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID? THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

U. S. ACTS ON STEEL WAGES
WASHINGTON (FP)—An attempt to forestall reported wage cuts in the steel industry was seen in the announcement of hearings to be held by the Department of Labor to fix basic wages of steel companies working under government contracts.

PARTY NETS \$25
SALEM, Mass.—The local Guild entertained members and friends at a "Nite B-4" party at Sunnyside Inn at which a sum of \$25 was realized and donated to the New England District Council. Present at the affair were Fred Myers, executive vice president of the District Council, and Mrs. Myers, and George Markham of the Boston Guild, treasurer of the Council.

Utica Guild Opens Talks With Gannett
UTICA, N. Y.—The Utica Guild, representing all eligible editorial employees of the Utica Daily Press and the Observer-Dispatch, celebrated its first anniversary by opening negotiations with the Observer-Dispatch.

J. David Hogue, general manager for the Frank E. Gannett-owned Observer-Dispatch, Inc., publisher of the two local dailies, submitted a counter-proposal calling for a three-year contract, arbitration, no guarantee against dismissals or pay cuts, which the Guild membership promptly voted down. The counter-proposal is similar to the one originally offered by Gannett to the Rochester Guild.

M. Joseph Hahn, president of the Utica Guild, is representing the Guild in negotiations, assisted by the executive committee.

Memphis Radio Pact Is Signed
MEMPHIS—A six months contract covering employees of Station WHPB has been signed by Robert Talley, president of the Memphis Guild, and Jack R. Howard, president of Scripps-Howard Radio, Inc. Provisions of the contract, which raises wages \$2.50 and covers working conditions for technicians, engineers, program producers and office employees, were covered in this GUILD REPORTER on June 13.

Raises Retroactive For Thirty Weeks

Advertising Employees on Philadelphia Stern Paper Win Large Lump Sum Payments Through Extension of Editorial Department Contract.

PHILADELPHIA—The industrial contract which just went into effect on J. David Stern's Philadelphia Record brought with it an aggregate of about \$10,500 in raises for 33 advertising department employees and, on top of that, retroactive payment of the increases for 30 weeks to the start of negotiations.

Weekly raises ran the range from 50 cents to \$20, with four at \$15 and many at \$5. The retroactive increases will bring those in the \$5 group \$150 in lump sum payments.

The management has balked at paying one employee \$600 due him at the \$20 increase rate. The contract was negotiated with the understanding that there shall be no dismissals as a result of its signing, and the Guild is taking the matter up.

Contract Is Fifth
The contract, fifth to be renewed or signed in Philadelphia, covers editorial and advertising department workers. The minimum salary schedules were reported in the GUILD REPORTER May 16. Negotiations are now under way to extend the contract benefits to newly-enrolled business office workers.

The new contract eliminates several undesirable features from last year's agreement, notably one that provided for pay deductions for illness. It also extended the dismissal notice of 15 weeks to lump sum severance pay ranging to 28 weeks.

The negotiations dragged while the unit battled for a job security clause similar to the one obtained on the Inquirer, and which was placed in effect this month at the Ledger. The unit receded from its demand only when it divided nearly 50-50 on a strike motion.

The negotiating committee consisted of Alexander Kandrick, David S. Schick, William J. Farson and M. H. Goldstein, Guild attorney. Negotiations with the Camden (N. J.) Courier-Post, another Stern paper, which has a minimum wage schedule of 15 weeks of severance contracts, have lagged for some time, but are expected to get under way again shortly.

Col. Knox: Editors CAN Be Had
With Coal, Glassware or Apples

After a ringing defense of freedom of the press by Col. Frank Knox, who said that the news columns must be kept free of pernicious influences even at the cost of turning out the New Deal, members of the National Editorial Association at their recent West Virginia convention began their competition for a free carload of coal to be awarded to the editor "writing and publishing the best complete story about West Virginia."

Colonel Knox, publisher of The Chicago Daily News and former vice presidential Republican nominee, spoke on "Propaganda" and was against it. The free carload of coal for propaganda about West Virginia will be given the winning editor by the Knights Products Company, exclusive sales representative of the Raleigh Coal and Coke Company, Raleigh, W. Va.

"The propaganda machine," said the Colonel, "keeps in close touch with all newspaper editors. . . . That is what we are up against in this country." According to the conditions of the competition, "the coal will be shipped prepaid to the winning editor's home."

Merle Thorpe, editor of the "Nation's Business," said "from the press the people back home must get a clear-cut non-partisan picture." No group or clique should be allowed to use the news columns for their own benefit, he said, but did not comment on the competition for editors writing the best editorial on "West Virginia's Natural Resources." The editor having the deepest, untrammelled convictions on this subject, expressed with skill and without fear or favor, will receive as first prize a set of 101 pieces of fine crystal glassware.

"If the press fails," said Mr. Thorpe, "and we lose the American tradition of ordered liberty under law, the culmination of man's greatest effort to be a free spirit, then the sin against future generations will be unforgivable." The glassware, "in the prospect of one of the best known manufacturers in northern West Virginia," according to "National Printer Journalist," which described the prizes. The high principles enunciated were carried in Editor & Publisher.

"The need is not for more liberalism or more conservatism, but for the courage to express honest opinions regardless of political effect," said President Will V. Lomis, editor of the La Grange (Ill.) Citizen. Will is eligible for the contest for "two bushels of apples," which "will be sent prepaid for twelve consecutive months to the editor producing the best full-page story about West Virginia." Good luck, Will!

The 400 editors and publishers who attended the convention gave a practical demonstration of the power of the press that will not soon be forgotten by patriotic men. They lived nine days in the best hotels, and took a six-day trip all over West Virginia, eating well and sleeping well, for a total cost of \$50 each, including tips. This is that thrifty American spirit of rugged individualism that pays spiritual dividends in the long run. If an editor wins a carload of coal for the free expression of his own thoughts, his nine-day trip will not only have paid spiritual dividends but monetary dividends. It just goes to show that honest-to-God idealism does not go unrewarded. The country is basically sound.

Oklahoma Guild Is Suspended

The charter of the Oklahoma City Guild, granted in November 1937, was suspended automatically last week when a contract was signed with the Scripps-Howard Oklahoma News after its express disapproval by the IEB Employer Relations Committee. The local is the first in ANG history to be suspended for reasons other than cessation of activity.

Details of the closing of negotiations were lacking at ANG headquarters as this issue went to press.

Management pressure on inexperienced officers and membership was believed to be responsible for the situation.

Under the Constitution, a motion to revoke the suspended charter must be submitted to the International Council within thirty days, unless the IEB can rectify the situation. International Representative Hull, who has been assisting the Hollywood strikers, is being sent to Oklahoma City to help the suspended local.

Contrary to Policy

The contract, which included a large number of provisions contrary to Convention policy, summarized elsewhere on this page, and establishing conditions inferior to others in the chain, was the result of four months of negotiations. It was signed for the management by Editor Lee Hills, until recently with the chair's papers in Cleveland and Indianapolis, and on behalf of the local by Edwin Pryor, president, Lorren Williams, unit chairman, and Mahlon Hickman, unit treasurer, all News employees. Guild members on the locally-owned Oklahoma and Times, including the negotiators, Bill Kent and Ed Le Breton, opposed the signing of the contract, but local approval was voted at a meeting with a majority of News unit members present.

Automatic suspension was under Section 10 of Article XVIII of the ANG Constitution, providing for a contract in violation of any of several constitutional provisions, one of which, Section 9, forbids signing of a contract without the Guild shop and the five-day week, except upon specific IEB permission. As the contract was being signed, ANG Vice Presidents Klyman and Martin, at the request of Executive Vice President Eddy, were preparing to hold a meeting with an Oklahoma City Guild representative to advise the local in view of its plea that it was unable to obtain a better agreement. Klyman, Martin and James P. Kirby, chairman of the Scripps-Howard Advisory Committee, had written letters to Oklahoma City in support of the Employer Relations Committee's advice.

Eddy's Notice

Notifying the local officers of

Highlights of Exceptions To Oklahoma Contract

Some of the more serious contract points to which the IEB Employer Relations Committee took exception in declining to grant the necessary constitutional permission for signature of the Oklahoma City News contract are summarized below:

Preamble contains an unusual number of exceptions to provisions on salaries, hours and overtime, and the following provision:

The positions named in this paragraph are further exempt from any provisions of this contract which interfere with their functions as executives and confidential agents.

(The purpose of the provision was never made clear, but it appears that the management wanted the right to bar a number of employees from Guild membership.)

Gratuitous Verbiage

The gratuitous verbiage sought by Scripps-Howard in early contracts, but with the following additional material:

Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to impair or invade the right of the management to determine the journalistic competency, availability and fitness for the management's requirement of the employees in the editorial department of the Oklahoma News, to assign members of the staff to work which, in the judgment of the management they are best fitted to do, or to dismiss employees for reasons which the management may deem proper.

The publisher may prescribe such office rules, not in conflict with any provisions of this agreement, affecting the conduct and work of editorial employees as the publisher may deem necessary or desirable in the regulation and operation of this business.

Standing committee under contract to be picked by Oklahoma News unit, and consists of "of its own members," in violation of Guild

the suspension, Eddy, on behalf of the IEB Employer Relations Committee, the authorized representative of the board under the suspension clause, expressed regret at the necessity of the notice, and declared:

"I realize fully the injustice that is done to some Guild members who saw the damage that the proposed contract would do to the local Guild and the American Newspaper Guild. We also are quite aware that many members played merely a passive role, and that the real responsibility lies rather with the ever-manoeuvring national Scripps-Howard management and those few within our own ranks who, through compromise or lack of courage, have allowed the Scripps-Howard management to have its way without much success.

Calling attention to the statements of policy sent the local by himself, Secretary-Treasurer Pasche, and by Klyman, Martin, and Kirby, Eddy continued:

If anyone was able to create the impression that it was the

Constitution.

Five-day week delayed ninety days after signature of contract, and involving exemptions number, apparently in the neighborhood of twenty.

Paragraph in overtime section: "Nothing in the foregoing shall be interpreted to prohibit any employee from putting in extra time on unassigned work, of his own volition and without overtime compensation; nor to otherwise stifle individual initiative."

"Cub-Beginner" Group

A new classification for purposes of salary minimums, described as "cub-beginners," to cover beginners for a period of six months in the general news department, but for two years in the women's and photographic departments, and apparently intended to break down minimums.

Dismissal pay of one week per year of employment, plus one week at the start, to be paid in weekly installments, in contrast with the rate obtained in other Scripps-Howard negotiations this year of one week's pay for eight months' service, to be paid in a lump sum.

Also, dismissal pay not to apply in cases of "gross neglect of duty, gross misconduct, gross immorality, including working under the influence of liquor."

Sick leave with pay to be granted "at the option of the management on the basis of the merits of individual cases."

Outside work provision begins: "On written permission from the editor and at his discretion, employees may undertake on their own time outside work," and then adds a large number of qualifications in addition to the blanket requirement for written permission.

On compliance with the request of Labor's Non-Partisan League, the Guild membership was polled as to its choice among the eight candidates for governor. The result was an overwhelming expression of preference for State Senator Gilbert L. Olson, Democrat, who holds a consistently progressive record.

Labor's Non-Partisan League is polling all affiliated unions as to their choice for governor and will back the candidate foremost in the poll. The League is seeking to unite all progressive forces to defeat the reactionary Governor Meritt.

"Other highlights of the membership meeting were: reports by delegates to the Toronto Convention; decision to wage a campaign against local advertisers in the street; Hollywood Citizen-News; laying of plans to carry out the Convention decision for consolidation and clearing up of back dues."

Management Campaign

A management campaign against the morale of the News unit membership began practically as the local took shape simultaneously on the two dailies. R. T. Fredericks, then editor, deprecated the Guild outspokenly, and had dismissed six members before he was replaced by Hills about April 6. The last dismissal was that of Miss Adele Johnson, librarian and secretary to Fredericks, and he gave as the reason for her dismissal that she was "incompetent" because she had joined the Guild. The local was preparing to file a Labor Board charge when Hills succeeded Fredericks. Hills apparently abandoned the open discrimination, but made it clear he expected to force the local to accept a sub-standard contract. The Scripps-Howard Advisory Committee meeting in Cincinnati April 24 condemned the efforts of the management to take advantage of the isolation of the local in El Paso and Oklahoma City. El Paso has resisted these efforts and is continuing negotiations.

The membership in Oklahoma City was editorial only.

CARDERS ON STRIKE

The same Carders and Bill Posters Local Industrial Union No. 311, CIO, is on strike against Barron Collier, Inc., advertising corporation.

SUMMER SLUMPS ARE DANGEROUS!

Dues are the life blood of a labor union. If they are paid, the union functions and carries out the purposes for which it was formed. If they are not paid, the union is stagnant. Being a bona fide union with the object of improving the economic conditions of its members, it does not receive any philanthropic aid. It properly exists on the dues paid by its own members and remains free of any obligations to persons or groups whose purposes and aims may be counter or detrimental to labor. Unless you pay them, and punctually, our functions falter and achievements lag. Pay today!

Guild Backs Labor Chief In Coast Race

SAN FRANCISCO — Endorsement of the campaign of John F. Shelley, president of the San Francisco Central Labor Council (AFL), for state senator was voted by the San Francisco-Oakland Guild at its July membership meeting.

Shelley, backed by Labor's Non-Partisan League, is running on the Democratic ticket. He addressed the meeting, stressing his desire for labor unity and belief in political action by labor.

The endorsement, by unanimous vote of those present, was followed by adoption of a motion to express the Guild's best wishes for success to John Walters, president of the Oakland Typographical Union, who is running for state assemblyman.

Olson Endorsed

In compliance with the request of Labor's Non-Partisan League, the Guild membership was polled as to its choice among the eight candidates for governor. The result was an overwhelming expression of preference for State Senator Gilbert L. Olson, Democrat, who holds a consistently progressive record.

Labor's Non-Partisan League is polling all affiliated unions as to their choice for governor and will back the candidate foremost in the poll. The League is seeking to unite all progressive forces to defeat the reactionary Governor Meritt.

"Other highlights of the membership meeting were: reports by delegates to the Toronto Convention; decision to wage a campaign against local advertisers in the street; Hollywood Citizen-News; laying of plans to carry out the Convention decision for consolidation and clearing up of back dues."

PAY YOUR DUES

THEY BUILD THE GUILD!

AFRAID OF GUILD?

Prelate Echoes Frank Hague's 'Fear'

NEWARK, N. J.—Who's afraid of the Newspaper Guild? The Right Rev. Mgr. John J. Murphy of Sacred Heart Church isn't. He said so during a speech at a dinner here last week.

Echoing Jersey City's Mayor Frank (I am the Law) Hague's accusation that Guild members were to blame for the unfavorable comment he has received in New York daily papers, Monsignor Murphy criticized Guild members "and the tripe they write." Editorial writers, he said, were more deserving of the fruit thrown at Socialist Leader Norman Thomas during his talk at Newark than was Thomas.

"Who's afraid of the Newspaper Guild?" demanded Monsignor Murphy. "I am not and no one should be."

Criticizing editorial writers, he said, "Why shouldn't they sign their names to what they write? When I speak I speak under my own name so that everyone knows who is talking."

'Economy' Firings Hit In Toledo

TOLEDO—Nine economy dismissals in the editorial and commercial departments of the Toledo News-Bee (Scripps-Howard) brought from the unit a demand last week that there be no more and a warning to the management that no speed-up would be tolerated.

At a unit meeting in which there was repeated and angry condemnation of the Scripps-Howard management for the wholesale firings, the following resolutions were passed:

1. That the standing committee of the TNG request in writing a guarantee against any further economy dismissals.

2. That every member of the unit be diligent and conscientious in observance of overtime regulations.

3. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

4. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

5. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

6. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

7. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

8. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

9. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

10. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

11. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

12. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

13. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

14. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

15. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

16. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

17. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

18. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

19. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

20. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

21. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

22. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

23. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

24. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

25. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

26. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

27. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

28. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

29. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

30. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

31. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

32. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

33. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

34. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

35. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

36. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

37. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

38. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

39. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

40. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

41. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

42. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

43. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

44. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

45. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

46. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

47. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

48. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

49. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

50. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

51. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

52. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

53. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

54. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

55. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

56. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

57. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

58. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

59. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

60. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

61. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

62. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

63. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

64. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

65. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

66. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

67. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

68. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

69. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

70. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

71. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

72. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

73. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

74. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

75. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

76. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

77. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

78. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

79. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

80. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

81. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

82. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

83. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

84. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

85. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

86. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

87. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

88. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

89. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

90. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

91. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

92. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

93. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

94. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

95. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

96. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

97. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

98. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

99. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

100. That the management give in writing a guarantee of preferential rehiring to those discharged.

'Free' Press Spikes (Made in Great Britain)

Study Finds Owners Using Newspapers In Special Interest Like U.S. Publishers

REPORT ON THE BRITISH PRESS. Prepared and published by PEP (Political and Economic Planning), 16 Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W. 1. April 1938. 333 pages.

THE two chief doctrines of Freedom of the Press, the popular ideal in this country, goes like this: Freedom of the Press is a right of the people. The press of a nation is free when it is sufficiently differentiated control or is otherwise adequately motivated to represent the apparent interests of all sizeable segments of the population. This doctrine, in short, does not ask of its press owners what is "right" for the people. It asks of the people and gives them what they want, "right" or "wrong."

The democratic doctrine of Freedom of the Press, the popular ideal in this country, goes like this: Freedom of the Press is a right of the people. The press of a nation is free when it is sufficiently differentiated control or is otherwise adequately motivated to represent the apparent interests of all sizeable segments of the population. This doctrine, in short, does not ask of its press owners what is "right" for the people. It asks of the people and gives them what they want, "right" or "wrong."

The authoritarian or aristocratic theory of Freedom of the Press, growing in strength in this country and dominant in Great Britain, goes like this: Freedom of the Press is an immunity from political restraint guaranteed to the owners of printing presses. The press of a nation is free, according to this version, when demagogues do not restrain it from publishing information and views in line with its owners' conceptions of "the public interest."

So long as the fierce competition for circulation goes on there is no likelihood of a monopoly or ring in Fleet Street, and the ambitions of Lord Beaverbrook promise a continuance of this competition for some time to come. Nevertheless, a substantial measure of cooperation has been achieved, and the concentration of ownership which has taken place since 1900 has contributed to this development.

The entry of a new competitor in the national daily and Sunday Press is a very rare event. . . . The reason for this scarcity of new entrants to the industry is mainly to be found in the huge cost of building up mass circulation.

The Edward VIII interview, given above, illustrates editorial cooperation.

The PEP report both resembles and contrasts with Dr. Alfred McClung Lee's comprehensive analysis of "The Daily Newspaper in America," published last year by the MacMillan Company.

Lee's book similarly delves into the technological, economic, political and social problems and relationships of our own press. But it has further value of treating its materials more adequately as part of an evolving scene. Lee, too, is not satisfied to accept rationalizations of press policies that have as their major premise the maintenance of the status quo. He is far more interested in attempting to trace all rationalizations or even statements of press policies back to real factors, to the complex of special interests involved.

While the report lays bare the manners in which a small group gained and maintains a monopoly of the British press and the uses to which this compact oligarchy places its power, the tone of discreet politeness evident in this excerpt from the foreword is uniformly maintained. The study represents, however, despite what appears to Americans to be definite shortcomings, the first full-length portrait of the British press made by qualified observers.

The monopolistic control of the means of newspaper distribution, newsgathering, etc., through the cooperation of a narrow oligarchy of press lords has been further strengthened by subsidies.

"Newspapers and periodicals, including some of the most respected," notes the report, "are not infrequently subsidized by one man or by a group of industrialists or landowners who are anxious that a particular point of view should be kept before the public." The following statements illustrate the uses to which the press lords then put their papers:

Lord Rothermere . . . is . . . apt to commandeer the 'punch' news space for reports of interviews between himself or Mr. Ward Price and various Continental dictators. His strenuous advocacy of the revision of the Treaty of Trianon, and his adoption and abandonment of the British Union of Fascists are further instances of the way Lord Rothermere has used the news and feature columns of the Daily Mail to give more publicity to events and movements than pure news value would have warranted. There are, however, limits to the power of the proprietor to mold a paper's policy, especially if he has taken it over as a going concern.

With the majority of newspapers, however, proprietorial intervention is probably more subtle and less spectacular. In general, the owner or chairman is content to indicate the broad direction he wishes the policy of the paper to

take. . . . It is worth noting that fairly close proprietorial control does not necessarily involve the suppression of all criticism of the newspaper's policy, though again all depends on the personal factor. In the Evening Standard, for example, David Low is permitted to hold up the whole of capitalist society to ridicule in his cartoons, in particularly striking contrast to the city page, and to criticize his employer no less vividly than the rest of his victims.

In contrast with this conservative-sounding picture of control, the report quotes from a speech by Mr. (now Lord) Baldwin that drew attention to the Rothermere-Beaverbrook "power of being able to suppress everything that a man says that you do not like, the power of attacking all the time without their ever being any possibility of being hit back," which, he asserted, "goes to the head like wine."

To rationalize this and other critical statements of Baldwin in 1930-31 regarding the press, the report claims that it "is, however, unfair to look at the present situation in terms of 1930-31," and continues thus:

On the one hand, the principal press magnates have since then become much readier to conform with public opinion instead of trying to impose

The Guild Reporter

Copyright, 1938, by the American Newspaper Guild
Printed in U. S. A.



Editor: Clyde Beale
News Editor:
Nathan L. Goldberg
Contributing Editors:
Leon Svirsky
Richard O. Boyer
Harland Manchester
A. J. Isenman
Staff for This Issue:
Bernice Morgan
Paul Glaser
Carl Rigrod
Charles Lewis
George Edson

"... 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.

ANG International Officers

President Heywood Brown **Executive Vice-President** Jonathan Eddy

Secretary-Treasurer Victor Pasche

American Newspaper Guild International Headquarters

International Vice-Presidents:

Donal M. Sullivan, 33 Linnaean St., Cambridge, Mass.	William J. Farson, 2221 E. Washington Lane, Philadelphia, Pa.
Harry Martin, 1971 Union Ave., Memphis, Tenn.	Philip M. Connelly, 216 3rd St., Manhattan Beach, Calif.
Julius H. Klyman, 626 Forest Court, Clayton, Mo.	I. L. Kenen, 17412 Winslow Rd., Shaker Heights, Ohio
Robert T. Camozzi, 3718 Minor Ave., Seattle, Wash.	Quentin P. Gore, 415 James Blvd., Signal Mtn., Tenn.
Roger Irwin, 597 Oriole Pkwy., Toronto, Can.	
Morris Watson, ANG Headquarters	

International Representatives

Morgan Hull H. Richard Seller

International Headquarters: 1560 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

July 18, 1938

119

Vol. V—No. 32

Newsprint Scandal

THE ANPA's bulletin on the newsprint has the aspects of a major scandal and should be placed at the top of the agenda of the impending Congressional investigation of monopolies. The Department of Justice should also probe this thoroughly, for possible action under the anti-trust laws. The Guild membership, numbering among it many hundreds of victims of mergers, and economy dismissal drives in which high newsprint costs figure as a prominent excuse, has an important stake in any such investigations.

Consider the facts: at the request of a publisher or publishers, the Federal Trade Commission undertook an investigation of this year's simultaneous rise in newsprint prices. It attacked the subject in earnest. Thereupon we discover the ANPA in the act of circulating a bulletin to members, advising them they are not required to furnish material for a government "fishing expedition." What reason could any publisher have for withholding evidence to be used in protecting him against a newsprint monopoly, unless he is financially interested in the monopoly himself, or is receiving secret discounts or rebates on his paper bills?

This is not the first time that the ANPA has been involved in a newsprint scandal. Its officials, including members of the paper committee, should be required to explain the bulletin, who is personally responsible for it, and to disclose their own relations with the newsprint manufacturers.

A Real Reporter

UNDER this title the New York Times spoke in editorial eulogy the other day of Mrs. Edna Eaton Wilson of Ripley, Oklahoma, "champion country correspondent of 1938." Mrs. Wilson had come to New York to see the town and receive a \$500 prize for her work as rural correspondent for the Stillwater Gazette and the Daily Press.

"She doesn't get paid for this," explains the Times, "but is entitled to stationery, stamps, and occasional 'show tickets.' She even used to receive an annual Christmas card. She also does a weekly article for the farm page of the Cushing Daily Citizen and receives for that a higher rate of emolument—no less than \$1 per column. She cares nothing about rates, however. It is a pleasure and an honor," she says, "to do this."

After giving the facts about the diligent and self-effacing Mrs. Wilson, the Times writer squares off for the inevitable moral lesson. "Man does not live by bread alone," we read. "He merely eats it. But he simply devours the thrilling information about his own affairs which true newsgatherers must perforce disseminate. So it is a pleasure and an honor to do it."

Now don't misunderstand us. We think it is nice for Mrs. Wilson to get her trip to New York and the \$500 prize, and we think it is sweet of the Times to give

her something to paste in her scrap-book. We hope her publisher will restore that annual Christmas card, which he probably took away during the depression.

And boys and girls of the editorial side, we hope you don't miss the moral. A "real reporter" is one who is above all thought of financial return, who works only for the love of the game.

Our IEB Structure

IN presenting in last week's issue thumbnail sketches of the six new members of the International Executive Board, this organ stated that of the six new members, "three represent regions and three were elected at large."

The statement is inaccurate in fact and contrary to the basic philosophy of the American Newspaper Guild, which is one of complete unity of membership, with neither border nor sectional lines. Our carelessness illustrates the ease with which one can confuse constitutional mechanics with actual structure.

From the beginning of the ANG, members of its standing executive body have been elected by vote of the Convention as a whole, and electoral regions have been set up on the map for the sole purpose of insuring the presence on the Board of members from a certain geographic distribution, cognizant with possible special problems of distinct geographic areas. The number of regions has been reduced twice, the Toronto Convention bringing it down to five, and the committee report adopted by the Convention established the principle that ultimately regional lines should be abolished entirely. It declared that the present setup, in keeping electoral machinery insuring a certain geographic distribution, was merely a step toward the final removal of even the semblance of sectionalism in the ANG constitution. It recognized that in a mature organization, adequate selection of Board members, whether on a geographic or any other basis, is a matter of sound union judgment, not of constitutional machinery.

On the International Executive Board, the gentleman from Springfield, Ill., represents the membership in Illinois only as much as he does the members in Arizona or the Province of Quebec.

TOO LATE TO JOIN GIRAFFE CLUB, BUT...

ON Dec. 15, 1933, 50 or 60 men and women got together at Washington and organized the American Newspaper Guild. The following June, when representatives of the Guild locals met in Convention in St. Paul, Minn., those of the delegates who were veterans of the Washington conference in December organized the Giraffe Club. The members were people with long necks, those who stuck out their heads and braved the dismissal axe by their activity.

In the few years that have since passed, the Guild has come a long way. It has more than 16,000 members and many contracts. It has raised pay in the newspaper industry millions of dollars. Today it is still going steadily forward. A glance at the GUILD REPORTER of the past three or four weeks will show the progress. More than 1,000 new members are under newly signed contracts with New York papers; hundreds more in San Francisco, Philadelphia, and in other cities.

The new Guild contracts provide salary raises that range up to \$25 or \$30 a week in some cases. Employees who never knew the 5-day 40-hour week or overtime pay, receive both. Security measures have been widely established—when Hearst fired a large batch in Boston recently to shift to tabloid size, employees under Guild protection received indemnities ranging up to \$1,000 while non-members and those under dual AF of L unions got little or nothing.

Benefits such as these have become Guild standards. Generally speaking, the Guild is a going concern, an established union. It is taken seriously by the publishers who once tried to laugh or wish it out of existence, or fire its members. The publishers' proudest boast now is that they are able to sign a contract without including the Guild shop, where they used to boast that they had signed no contract at all.

You may enroll if you work in a newspaper editorial, advertising (display or classified), circulation, business office or any other department whose workers are not admitted to the other unions.

Now is the time!

If there is no Guild in your city, fill out the blank below. All information will be kept in confidence and will not be given out without your permission.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD,
1560 Broadway,
New York City.

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

Name _____

Address _____

Paper _____ Position _____

All members of the editorial staff who may be called upon to cover assignments, interviews, etc., for the Eagle, are expected to wear collars, ties and coats.—Bulletin board notice in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. What, no pants?

A LIBERAL Of the 80's

Labor's Altgeld Relives In 'Eagle Forgotten'

EAGLE FORGOTTEN, The Life of John Peter Altgeld, by Harry Barnard. New York. The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1938. \$4.00.

Reviewed by COLSTON E. WARNE
(President, Consumers Union, associate professor of economics, Amherst College)

MR. BARNARD has not alone written a creditable biography of John P. Altgeld, a poverty-stricken German immigrant's son who won a fortune through Chicago real estate speculation and ascended to political power in the late 1880's as a liberal Democratic leader, backed by strong populist and labor support. He has also reenacted the Haymarket tragedy of 1886 and the Pullman case of 1894 with a wealth of detail as to the class forces which focussed in Chicago.

The Haymarket case was not a mere matter of indiscriminate police shooting and anarchist bomb throwing. It, like subsequent cases such as Sacco-Vanzetti, the McNamara, and Mooney-Billings, was the conflict point of embittered class forces. It afforded an opportunity to take sides, to be counted in a fight which went far beyond the issue of the guilt of the defendants. On the one side were the vigilantes of prominent Chicago citizens, egged on by embittered newspapers and ably assisted by Judge Elbert H. Gary who presided at the trials of the accused anarchists. On the other side were the liberal and labor forces, the more discerning of which sensed that the trials went far beyond the mere question of innocence or guilt of the defendants. Darrow, Lloyd, and Altgeld played prominent parts for the liberals—the latter as governor of Illinois, pardoning those anarchists lucky enough not to be hanged in the hysteria of 1886-87.

HE WAS MUDDLED BUT CLEVER

Altgeld is revealed by his biography as a clever but rather muddled person who possessed the lucky knack of correctly appraising the underlying political discontent of the time and capitalizing upon it. He used notorious characters in the Chicago underworld to advance his political career. He was a master kisser of babies who could use his German background with full effect. He passed no judgment upon Haymarket until safely elected to the governorship even though, in protest, he would have been in conservative and safe company. He argued extensively for the compulsory arbitration of labor disputes despite his extensive knowledge as a lawyer of the prejudice of judges in labor disputes.

Looked at in his setting, Altgeld represented one of the first of the effective Democrats with a reform tinge. He found the larger Chicago capitalists trying to squeeze him. He learned through more radical friends that the monopoly system was oppressive toward others. His fight was of a catch-as-catch-can variety. In the Pullman dispute, he fought President Cleveland and the Federal authority. In Illinois, he fought the traction interests. It could not be said that he had a program.

Of greatest interest to newspapermen is the attitude of the press during the period. Led by the Chicago Tribune, which unfortunately does not seem to have altered its practices, the incessant chant was one of dubbing Altgeld an anarchist, coupling him with "bombthrowers" and "enemies of civilization." "Viper Altgeld" was one of the Tribune's more complimentary titles. It added on one occasion: "This lying, hypocritical, demagogical, sniveling Governor of Illinois does not want the laws enforced. He is a sympathizer with riot, with violence, with lawlessness and with anarchy."

WHEN DEMOCRATS BECAME PROGRESSIVE

Altgeld's career was capped by his alliance with William Jennings Bryan in the 16 to 1 campaign of 1896. Mr. Barnard, indeed, suggests that it was Altgeld who virtually wrote the 1896 Democratic platform, brought the nomination of Bryan, and turned the Democratic party from the conservatism of Cleveland to a definitely progressive stand. The bitter attacks of reactionaries only served to entrench Altgeld's political position.

Returning to Chicago after Bryan's defeat, Altgeld passed through a series of misfortunes. Carter Harrison II, whom he installed as mayor of Chicago, turned conservative. Altgeld lost his property. At the time of his death in 1902 he was lecturing and writing. His thoughts, however, had matured. One sample will suffice:

I hear men talk about following in the footsteps of Jefferson. Why, Jefferson was the great radical of his day! ... Jefferson, indeed, did say that that government was best which governed least; that was when he was speaking of those governments that are distinct from the people; that are a convenience for the powerful in plundering the people. But that is a very different proposition from having the people manage their own affairs, from having them control and own those things upon which their comfort, their happiness, their health and their very lives depend. Were Jefferson alive today, his voice would be heard from ocean to ocean demanding that the people themselves must own the monopolies.

Food and housing costs combined take as much as three-fourths of all the income of city families in the lower wage levels, a WPA survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics & Home Economics reveals. The next largest cost is clothing. Among white families studied in large cities, living expenses were found to exceed net income for the majority with incomes below \$1,000.