

BUILDING

Do We Take Care of Our Affairs Like a Gang of Bohemians? Maybe Once, But Now--

By JONATHAN EDDY

IN days of yore, there was the court jester. The court picked a fool to amuse it, though sometimes his witticisms were of the sort to sting.

The Guild did not pick Arthur Robb. Rather, he is self-appointed. He recently wrote the following:

"Some expressed skepticism that the Guild will ever achieve a firm financial status. One said, 'The Guild runs its finances the same as its members run their personal affairs—meeting an emergency when it pops up in front of them instead of anticipating it.'"

"True it is that Guild finances to date have followed the pattern of most other journalistic employe organizations. The same weakness that has killed countless press clubs is dogging the Guild—unwillingness of newspaper people to stick together and pay dues. It may be a fatal weakness, but we found no voice in favor of the check-off as a quick and obvious remedy."

I do not think that we should be prejudiced against whatever the editor of Editor & Publisher may have to say of the Toronto Convention simply because he identified himself with the Guild in order to save fifty cents on the hotel rate. Neither do I concede that this coup qualified Mr. Robb as a financial expert.

Failing to show there was any restraint upon any of the delegates either in committee or on the Convention floor, Mr. Robb has put his own wishful thinking into the mouth of some unnamed and unidentified delegate whom presumably he encountered on one of his nocturnal journeys through the corridors of the King Edward Hotel. I wonder if it is still true that newspaper men and women, as Robb would have us believe, are incapable of managing their personal finances. I know that on unorganized and underpaid staffs, it is still true that many of the routine expenditures of life constitute "emergencies," which, as Robb puts it, "pop up" without financial anticipation. But this is because there is not enough money to put aside from the bare business of living.

HOWEVER, when Mr. Robb goes on to agree with his unnamed and unidentified Guild delegate that Guild finances have displayed the same "weakness" that has "killed" press clubs and is now "dogging the Guild," a weakness which he characterizes as "unwillingness of newspaper people to stick together and pay dues,"

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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. 33

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

NEW YORK, N. Y., JULY 25, 1938

Single Copy 15c
Yearly \$3.50

Unions Unite, Foil Boston Pay Cuts

BOSTON — Determined Guild action last week forced powerful creditors of the financially stricken Boston Transcript to abandon plans to force a wage cut and wholesale discharges upon the editorial staff of the Transcript, in violation of a contract.

The Transcript unit, which has tolerated miserable working conditions for years in order to keep the paper alive, declared itself ready to strike to prevent either the wage cut or the firings.

Officers of the Boston Typographical Union and the Printing Pressmen's Union joined Guild representatives in telling Powell M. Cabot, business manager of the Transcript, that creditors could not dictate working conditions.

Newspaper Among Creditors

The creditors dictating the management action were the International Power & Paper Company, the Great Northern Paper Company (GUILD REPORTER, July 18), Old South Engraving Company and a life insurance firm which holds a mortgage on the Transcript building. Cabot said that the four concerns ordered the Transcript management to lop \$7,500 a month off the payroll "immediately" or lose all further access to credit.

In 48 hours the militant Guild action, and the force of a common front among the newspaper unions compelled the management to abandon its plans for an editorial department wage cut, and to hold in abeyance its plans to reduce the staff. The unions maintained their alliance to control a new management plan to solicit "loans" from employees in all departments—10 per cent of their wages for a period of 10 weeks.

The management proposed that employees "lend" the money without security and with no date set for repayment. The Typographical Union, Guild and Pressmen's Union rejected the plan because, they pointed out, a loan with no call

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INCREASES GO BACK FOR EIGHT MONTHS

Commercial Group In Philadelphia Benefits

PHILADELPHIA—Wage raises retroactive for 33 weeks were scheduled to go into effect for more than 100 commercial employes of the Philadelphia Inquirer on July 22, as the local Guild continued a striking series of advances in the face of general publisher propaganda seeking to keep salaries down. The Inquirer raises total at least 15 per cent, of which 10 per cent are retroactive.

Local bargaining committees recently obtained increases retroactive for 10 weeks on the Evening Ledger and increases retroactive for 30 weeks on the Record. While the Guild continued to bring these financial benefits to its members, employes on the only unorganized newspaper in Philadelphia, the tabloid Daily News, are compelled to take three payless days off each month. There is a report that three more days will be added

July Good Standing Deadline Is Near

July 31 is the final deadline for the mailing of remittances and returns from local Guilds to qualify their membership for good standing as of July 1, in the computation of average monthly good standing which will directly affect the count for Convention representation next year.

Secretary-Treasurer Pasche has called the attention of locals to the deadline, reminding them that the Constitution, as amended at Toronto, prohibits him from crediting any remittances postmarked later than the last day of the month.

to the burden, and that the paper plans to return to the 6-day week.

The 5-day week and 10 per cent wage increases are being placed in effect for Inquirer commercial employes in advance of the conclusion

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Eddy on Tour Raises Total Of Guilds In Mid-West

Executive Vice President Eddy is visiting mid-western Guilds, and plans on his tour to aid the locals in their drives to clean up organization of commercial departments, carry forward the Convention program of consolidation, and discuss with them any special problems.

In connection with his visit, the Cleveland Guild has set July 29 for a general membership meeting, and the Chicago Guild Aug. 2. In the meantime, Eddy will meet with unit and executive committee officers of the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul) and Detroit. In the Twin Cities, where organization of the commercial departments is now going ahead full steam, and where a critical situation, possibly involving a strike, exists in the Guild unit on WTCN radio station, a ten-

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Hearst Unit Leaders Get Proposal for Chain Parley

A proposal for a chain-wide meeting of delegates of Hearst units to coordinate the Guild's organized strength on the chain in a drive to meet Hearst splitting tactics, and complete organization of the Guild jurisdiction on the chain, was submitted to unit chairmen and officers of locals with Hearst membership in a letter from ANG headquarters last week.

Executive Vice President Eddy is considering a call to such a meeting of Hearst delegates. The letter, written by Secretary-Treasurer Pasche, asked for reports on the status of organization and collective bargaining on the various papers in the chain, and for views and suggestions on the proposed meeting. The letter said:

Guild organization is particularly strong on the Hearst chain. On eleven of the twenty Hearst newspapers, working con-

ditions in the editorial department are governed by Guild contracts. Of the eleven, three contracts cover the commercial departments also, while negotiations for commercial departments and in some cases for both editorial and commercial are pending on many of the Hearst papers. Of the two Hearst syndicates, Central Press is under Guild contract, while negotiations are awaiting the outcome of the Labor Board election. There is only one paper in the chain entirely without Guild membership. Some of the Guild Hearst contracts rate among the ANG's best.

Organization and collective bargaining are progressing steadily along a wide front. At the same time, during recent months the Hearst management has intensified its anti-Guild campaign in

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The Guild's biggest magazine negotiations to date were concluded on July 15 when the New York Guild signed a contract outstanding for high minimum wages, severance pay provisions and other economic benefits, with the management of Time, Inc. Approximately 350 workers in the editorial departments of the magazines Time, Life, Fortune, Architectural Forum, and the radio and cinema March of Time are covered. Negotiations lasted nearly a year.

The total payroll increase is estimated at about \$35,000 a year, with individual raises ranging from \$2.50 to \$20 for about 175 people.

Contract provisions include the 5-day, 40-hour week, with equal time off for overtime, or pay on a time and a half basis; vacations ranging to three weeks after three years. Writers, photographers and executives making more than \$100 a week will receive four weeks vacation yearly in place of time off. Severance pay is on the basis of one and a half weeks for each six months of service, at peak salary, with a \$5,000 maximum.

Minimums to \$75

Minimum wage schedules include \$20 for inexperienced office boys, \$25 after one year; \$75 for writers and photographers with two years' experience; \$30 for inexperienced stenographers, with \$35 after two years; \$40 for secretaries after two years; researchers, \$60 after three years; proofreaders, \$50 after two years; morgue assistants, \$40 after two years; photographic printers, \$55 after two years. Inexperienced darkroom assistants receive \$25 to start and \$35 after two years; film handlers, \$45, and \$55 after two years; apprentice film handlers, \$35 after two years, and film editors, \$75 after one year.

It is expected that the proportion of people receiving salaries considerably in excess of the mini-

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Handbill Case Won By Guild On Coast

HOLLYWOOD — Three leading Guildsmen won acquittal of charges of illegal distribution of handbills last week, in the trial of the first of a series of cases growing out of the Guild's strike against the Hollywood Citizen-News. The acquittals were believed to mark the end of police efforts to further use the unconstitutional ordinance against unions.

The three acquitted are International Vice President Philip M. Connelly, International Representative Morgan Hull, and Roger Johnson, former local president and one of five employes summarily discharged by Publisher Harlan G. Palmer of the Citizen-News on the eve of the signing of a Guild contract. Charges still pending against these and other Guildsmen include contempt citations for violation of a blanket injunction against "secondary" picketing of Citizen-News advertisers. Judge Emmett ("Injunction") Wilson warned from the bench that continued violation would mean fines and imprisonment. He issued the restraint despite a higher court ruling in California holding secondary picketing legal. Guild Attorney Carey McWilliams is preparing to file an affidavit of bias and prejudice to prevent Wilson's sitting in the contempt trials.

Judges Testified

In the handbill trial, a group of municipal court judges testified before Judge McKay that it is common practice for political candidates to distribute leaflets on the streets of Los Angeles without police interference. Guild members testified that great quantities of political literature were similarly distributed on July 16 upon the arrival of President Roosevelt and that police ignored the "violations."

Attorney Frank B. Belcher, representing Publisher Palmer, twice has appeared at strike headquarters, the first time to conduct a fishing expedition, the second time to submit a proposal for settlement of the strike. The proposal was subjected to searching analysis by Guild spokesmen Hull and Connelly in the presence of all strikers. Consensus among the strikers was that there was merely a possibility that it might be made the basis for

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ITU President Fatally Stricken

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—Charles P. Howard, president of the International Typographical Union, died of a heart attack July 21 at Hotel Antlers. Mr. Howard, who was secretary of the Committee for Industrial Organization, addressed the Guild Convention in Toronto. He was defeated for the ITU presidency by Claude M. Baker of San Francisco in a referendum in May. He had held that office since 1926.

Mr. Howard was here to attend a meeting of the board of trustees of the Union Printers Home.

Units Get Proposals For Parley

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an attempt to stop the extension of Guild organization to the Guild's full jurisdiction. In doing so it has entered into an open alliance with the top leadership of the American Federation of Labor. The result has been the necessity of fighting against discrimination before the Labor Board in a number of cases, and of going through lengthy Labor Board cases to establish one's right to represent departments we have organized. The Guild's complaint and representation cases against the Hearst management now include Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle, Milwaukee, Detroit, Boston, New York, and Baltimore, in addition to King Features Syndicate. Completion of these cases will mean in almost every instance the start of important negotiations.

This would appear to be a particularly opportune time for the Guild membership employed by Hearst to avail itself of the strength of its organization, along the lines laid down by successive Conventions, for mutual support, consultation and cooperation, and coordinated action, to defeat once and for all the labor splitting tactics of the Hearst management, complete our organization on every Hearst paper and wire service, and bring all editorial and commercial departments of the Hearst newspaper industry under the protection of Guild contracts. To do so will strengthen immeasurably the bargaining position of even the strongest unit in the chain.

Unions Unite, Balk Boston Wage Cuts

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date is not a loan but a gift. The unions insisted that any loan solicited from individual employees be protected by legal means to retain the status of wages due, no constituting a first lien of the property, and that such loans carry a call date.

United Front Forces Halt
Faced by this united union front, Cabot agreed to refer the matter to the trustees and creditors, at the same time informing them of the Guild's determination to prevent fringes. He deferred action on the plan until the answer was obtained.

When informed of the Transcript unit's position, Cabot said to Fred Myers, executive vice president of the New England Guild Council:
"Of course you know a strike would lick us?"

Myers said he did, and expressed the hope that there would be none. He added:

"I hope you will impress upon your trustees and creditors that employees can get even more desperate over a lack of money than can a mortgage holder or the country's two biggest paper companies. I am quite sure that if the creditors insist on firing Transcript employees they will force a strike."

The Transcript, once one of New England's most powerful journals, has been in financial difficulties and on the market block for several years.

INJUNCTION VOIDED

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (FP)—The restraining order prohibiting picketing of the Donnelly Garment Company plant by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was dissolved in Federal Court here by Judge John Caskie Collett. His decision came almost one year after the original order had been issued. The case had been to the U. S. Supreme Court, which ordered a rehearing.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

BUILDING: A Repudiation of That 'Bohemian' Tradition

By JONATHAN EDDY
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it seems to me that Editor & Publisher is merely rewording its periodical prediction. For Editor & Publisher, under the late Marlen Pew and Robb, has been predicting for a long time that the Guild was dying. In 1934, during the Newark Ledger strike, it predicted that the Guild was through, but we won the strike. During the Wisconsin News strike, Editor & Publisher said that we were through and on the verge of dissolution, but we won that strike. The Seattle Post-Intelligencer strike was pictured by Editor & Publisher as the final crack-up of the Guild, but the Guild won the greatest victory in the history of newspaper labor. Entry of the Guild into the AF of L marked, according to Editor & Publisher, the death knell of the Guild. When we entered the CIO, we were diagnosed and found to be dying even more rapidly. Elsewhere in his piece, Mr. Robb points out that we spent \$24,000 more last year than we took in, and in making this point he

lets the cat out of the bag; namely, that newspaper men and women paid into their international organization in the form of per capita during the past year \$24,000 MORE than they had the preceding year. (Actually they paid in \$32,131.65 more than during the preceding year. Mr. Robb ignored assessments.)

Mr. Robb is able to make it appear to his own satisfaction and to that of the publishers and executives who subscribe to Editor & Publisher that an organization maintaining an efficient bookkeeping department whose activities are under the direct monthly supervision of a firm of certified accountants runs its affairs on a par with the personal finances of an impoverished Bohemian. These same certified auditors show, however, that during the year between our first and second annual Conventions, the working newspaper people paid \$16,321.10 per capita into their national organization, and during the second year, the total was \$31,965.01; and during the third year, the total was \$58,277.72; and during the fourth year, the total was \$90,409.37. Is this what Mr. Robb has in mind when he talks of our "weakness"?

The strength of any organization lies in its willingness to examine its own weaknesses. True enough, and the first and foremost inveighers on the subject of necessary and possible improvements in Guild financing have always been those elected to the positions of greatest responsibility. When thus criticize ourselves, we can always be assured that those who wish us ill will immediately convince themselves (and try to convince any sections of our membership which may be susceptible) that that terrible menace, The Guild, is in a state of collapse, indeed that it is dying. In my report to the Toronto Convention,

while conceding that we had a record of which we need not be ashamed, I endeavored to make improved finances a keynote concern. And the Convention did make it a consideration second to none. Because we are lusty and self-confident, we can afford to talk about things like that, and we can make ourselves many times stronger because we are unafraid to do so.

FINANCES are a serious matter, and if it is true that some Guildsmen would be content to see Guild finances conducted in a Bohemian mode, I am not one of them.

I have some strait-laced convictions on the subject of union finance policy in a period of consolidation. They may sound cold-blooded. I invite discussion of them. Here they are:

First and foremost, the whole psychology of "emergency" and "crisis" operation should be abandoned, if it still persists, lock, stock and barrel. We have been altogether too prone to excuse lack of union foresight and deficiencies in our modest apparatus on the grounds of "emergency" and "crisis." It is time that on the contrary we recognize that continual struggle, both to build and strengthen our organization and in the collective bargaining field, is a part of Guild routine, not an emergency situation. Of course, we have unusual situations in the Guild, but we should get away from any tendency to excuse our own lack of preparation and self-reliance by the plea that situations which have been duplicated in one form or another a dozen times in other unions or in another local of the Guild are "peculiar" and "special" and "unique." That sort of talk leads more to a state of fascination at our own inadequacy than to a habit of forestalling or overcoming any such inadequacies.

Second—and this follows from the first—the International and every local should set about immediately, if it has not already done so, the unpleasant and even agonizing task of adjusting income and expenditures. In saying this, we recognize that some locals have less leeway than others for revision of their income; and that in outlining organizational activities, some of the larger locals have possibly been guided more by union zeal than union level-headedness. But one thing is certain, and that is that the local which has enough grit and horse sense to carry through 100% with the Guild program of organization and collective bargaining, and at the same time to govern its own affairs so that it is constantly laying aside 10% of its income on the basis of known—not just ANTICIPATED—receipts, will be in ten times as good a position a year from now as its less orderly brother locals. As far as your International is con-

cerned, it is my hope and determination within the coming year to see this organization in the clear and with at least one month's operating expenses ahead at all times. (As a matter of fact, it would not be unreasonable to demand that ANG put itself and keep itself in a state of solvency to the extent of a \$100,000 or more, although this is probably too much to ask in one year.) Then, if there really should be an emergency, we would be in a position to say something decisive about it.

I so declare because I believe we have only begun to tap the possibilities of ANG, and because of my confidence in what we have already built. But in order to accomplish these things, we must not be afraid openly to face the facts, letting the Arthur Robb make of them whatever they can.

112 KILLED AT JOBS

ALBANY, N. Y. (FP)—A total of 107 men and five women were fatally injured in June while at work in various New York State industries covered by the workmen's compensation law. Industrial Commissioner Andrews reveals. The death toll was highest in manufacturing industries.

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with ANDREW CHESLEY, CHARLES WATERS
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by Paul Oskar
LONGACRE W. 45 St. Eves. 8-10
Mats. Wed. & Sat. 7-10
AIR-CONDITIONED

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by MOSES HART & GEO. KAUFMAN
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Editor 'Closes' The Guild Shop

Scraps-Howard Memphis Paper's Executive Twists ANG Clause in Talk to Stereotypers—Sharp Reply By Local Scores Time-worn Distortion of Demand.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—With a statement which was regarded here as the opening gun in the 1939 Scraps-Howard campaign against the Guild shop clause, Editor Edward J. Meeman of the Press-Scimitar last week attacked the "closed shop" in editorial and business departments in an address of welcome before the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers Union convention. The Press-Scimitar gave the major portion of its convention story to Meeman's digression, basing the head on his comparison of a newspaper to a watch.

"That won't keep running if it is banged around," the Memphis Guild executive committee prepared a reply calling attention to Meeman's time-worn distortion of the ANG's standard Guild shop demand into a "closed shop" clause and agreeing that "you can't bang a newspaper around without hurting it." It added:

"Can't Bang Newspaper Men
"And the publisher can no longer bang a newspaper man around without getting hurt."
The Guild committee asked the Stereotypers' executive board's permission for Local President Robert Talley to make the reply before the convention. In the meantime, the reply was submitted to the Press-Scimitar for publication. Meeman had said to the Stereotypers' convention:

You have the closed shop. We are glad you have. Few newspaper publishers would have it otherwise, for it is good for the newspaper industry that your union should supply us with men. Union organization recently has been extended to editorial and business departments. We have not been unwilling to see collective bargaining extended to these departments. But for the same reason that we accept the closed shop in mechanical departments, we cannot accept it in the editorial and business departments—namely, it is not good for the newspaper industry.

Talks of Strike Damage
Meeman added that "strikes are not thought of in connection with negotiations with mechanical unions. But some of the newer unions, perhaps because they are new, have not realized that a strike on a newspaper will always do more damage than any good that can possibly be gained from it."

The Guild's reply explained in some detail the difference between the closed shop, under which unions are obligated to supply labor, and the ANG's Guild shop clause, which requires that any new employees become members of the Guild and leaves the hiring to the employer. The statement added:

We should like also to remark on the inconsistency of Mr. Meeman's combined objections to

His Own Heavy Hand Blasts Boss' Anti-Guild Petition

The next step in the progress of the New York Guild toward a contract with Wide World Photos, Inc., subsidiary of the New York Times, is a Labor Board election, for which ballots went out Friday. The Times management under Arthur Hays Sulzberger insists on proceeding with the Guild strictly in accordance with the National Labor Relations Act, as Sulzberger's counsel inserted in the stipulation that the election be held. Sulzberger's counsel had some minutes of discomfort just before the stipulation was signed, while the Guild committee blasted out of the picture an anti-Guild petition that even the experienced NLRB examiner termed "pretty rough stuff."

The first signature on the petition and two others near the top were those of ineligible executives; other signers were not employees of Wide World. The circulators of the document—two persons close to the management—asked for signatures in the office in the presence of the acting manager of Wide World.

Finally, photographic copies of the petition and its list of signatures were made in the office with company material and were being sent to employees, along with individual petition blanks printed on a Wide World caption machine, at the moment that Sulzberger's representative was about to sign the stipulation that "the employer agrees not to interfere by coercion or persuasion... with his employees' free choice of collective bargaining representatives."

Sulzberger's counsel emphatically agreed that his client's executives in the New York office and all outside bureaus would be instructed to stop the petition at once. The Guild then accepted the election agreement as the quickest way to resumption of contract negotiations. The deadline of the election, in which 106 eligible employees throughout the United States can vote, is August 6.

'Unfair' Directory Hits Phone Office

TOLEDO, Ohio.—Non-union phone directories are bringing trouble to the Toledo office of the Ohio Telephone Company. The Central Labor Council has placed a ban on the publications printed by the anti-union firm of H. H. Donnelly & Sons in Chicago and union members, instead of using the telephone directory, are asking information for any numbers they wish to call. They state at the same time their reason for not using the directory and suggest that the telephone company find a new printer for its 1939 directory. Donnelly, one of the largest printing concerns in the country, is fighting an organizational drive started by the Chicago typographical local.

Workers 'Fear' Guild, AFL Claim

MILWAUKEE—Employees of the News-Sentinel commercial departments "fear" Guild intimidation, and for that reason wanted the AP of L Office Workers' Union to represent them, Harold Beck, business agent for the Office Workers' Union, testified last week at a National Labor Board hearing here. The union has no members on the paper.

Beck and Jake Friedrich, general organizer for the AF of L and Trades Council (AF of L), were the only witnesses put on the stand by A. G. Goldberg, AP of L counsel, to testify as to the proper bargaining unit on the News-Sentinel. The hearing was on the Milwaukee Guild's petition to have the commercial and editorial departments of the News-Sentinel determined by an election to determine representation.

Beck and Friedrich admitted that their efforts to organize the commercial departments ended with not a single signature on a membership application card. Earlier in the hearing it was shown that the AP of L circulated a petition on June 2, about 10 days after the smallest of the eight units that Beck had petitioned the Labor Board for an election with the industrial union setup.

The hearing took three and a half days and, except for the last hour, when Beck and Friedrich were testifying, the witness stand had been occupied by eight Guild witnesses, half of them from the commercial departments.

Both the Guild and the AP of L gave notice they desired an election and were not seeking certification.

Central Press Pact Goes Into Effect

With the ANG awaiting the outcome of a representation election of King Features Syndicate (Hearst) employees, a whole department of King Features, the Central Press Association, is now operating under a contract which went into effect last Monday. Central Press includes employees in Cleveland and Washington.

The contract, negotiated in Cleveland, is the second negotiated with a national syndicate. The first, with NEA, was consummated in Cleveland in April. The Central Press agreement follows the lines of the NEA contract, and contains some improvements over it. A clause which slightly qualified dismissal indemnity in the NEA agreement was eliminated from the Central Press contract. The contract also provides for payment of the indemnity upon death. Other points in the agreement were covered in the GUILD REPORTER of June 15.

George Green is chairman of the Central Press unit of the Cleveland local. The negotiating committee included Garland Ashcraft, John Shea, Dan Rutherford, and L. L. Kelen, chairman.

5 Papers Signed By Capital Guild

New Contract With the Herald and Times Supplants Hearst Bulletin Board Statement; All Dailies in City Now Under Our Contracts.

WASHINGTON—With the signing of a contract with the Herald and the Times, all five dailies at the capital are now operating under Guild agreements. The Herald and Times are published by Mrs. Eleanor M. Patterson under lease from William Randolph Hearst.

The contract supplants the old Hearst bulletin board statement which had been in effect here for some time. It provides the following minimum salary schedules for reporters and others employed in the preparation of news and features: first year, \$26; second year, \$28; third year, \$30; and after third year, \$35. For desk and rewrite men with more than three years experience, the minimum will be \$50.

Reporters assigned to runs will not be permitted to work for both the Herald and the Times. Severance pay is allowed for persons discharged other than for cause at the rate of one week plus one week for every year of employment.

Exemptions from the five-day week are provided for in the case of certain employees whose duties are executive in character. They must receive, however, not less than 20 per cent more than the appropriate minimum under the contract.

Provision is made for arbitration of disputes arising under the contract. Amendments, amendments or termination of the contract are not subject to arbitration.

The contract was negotiated by Robert M. Buck and James T. News unit and Kenneth Crawford of the Correspondents' unit. It became effective on July 11.

Eddy Visits Guilds In Middle-West

(Continued from Page One)
tative membership meeting was being discussed for Sunday, July 31. Aug. 4 was being discussed as a tentative date for a membership meeting in Detroit.

Before the general membership meetings, Eddy will discuss the main trends in the Guild and the labor movement today, as well as specific application of the consolidation policy. He will be prepared to answer questions. In Chicago, he will obtain first-hand information on the local fight against the Hearst-AP of L combine, which is seeking to break the eligible Guild membership up into more than a score of AP of L craft unions.

STUDY MOVES TO SWEDEN
LONDON (FP)—Having completed a 3-week study in Great Britain, the United States Commission investigating labor conditions abroad is on its way to Sweden, to continue its study.

NLRB Rejects Hanson Plea As 'Pure Demagoguery'

WASHINGTON—A novel ground for attacking the impartiality of the National Labor Board was offered by Elihu Hanson, ANPA counsel, in oral argument before the board in Washington last Tuesday in the case against the Gannett-owned Press Company of Albany.

Hanson contended that the board had decided the case in advance, because Lester Levin, board attorney, who prosecuted the case before Trial Examiner George Bokst in Albany, had stated in the hearing that "it is the board's position" that the defendant companies were guilty of unfair labor practices. Chairman Madden pointed out that this was an accepted form of legal language in use in indictments and other prosecution, and nothing more. Hanson also contended the board was biased because Tri-City Guild

El Paso Battles Low Wage Offers

Members of Two Units Express Strike Sentiment As Papers Reject Compromise Proposals; Local Refutes 'Hard Times' Plea, Wins Allied Backing.

EL PASO, Tex.—A difference of \$7.50 a week—and a principle—were at stake in the El Paso Guild's negotiations last week with the publishers of the Scripps-Howard Herald-Post and the El Paso Times.

Strike sentiment was expressed by Guild members after Dorrance D. Roderick, Times publisher, and Edward M. Pooley, Herald-Post editor, refused to make any concessions in wage minimums. The Guild had offered to accept two compromises.

The Guild had presented a contract including the Guild shop working conditions comparable with those on the majority of Scripps-Howard papers and wage minimums ranging from \$20 for beginners to \$45 for editorial workers with five or more years of experience. The Guild estimated that to put such a contract into effect in El Paso would cost each paper approximately \$40 a week more than now paid for the entire staff.

Minimizing Are Low Virtual agreement was reached on other provisions of the contract but the publishers refused the Guild shop and any changes in the present wage minimums. The present minimums range from \$17.50 for beginners to \$40 for editorial workers with five or more years of experience. Few employees get more than the minimums.

In reply to the publishers' plea of hard times, the Guild had cited: 1. That by joint operation of business and mechanical departments, with consequent reduction of forces in those departments and elimination of duplicating expenses, the two publishers had effected large savings in operating costs. (The two papers are published in the same building though ostensibly under separate management.)

2. That the publishers had increased the printers' pay scales 5 per cent since last October. 3. That additional savings were in prospect through expiration soon of a lease on the building formerly occupied by the Times. 4. That any increase in paper costs had been met by an increase in the weekly delivered price of the Times, elimination of comic supplements by the Herald-Post and elimination of certain positions required for handling of those supplements. The publishers failed to produce books or authenticated figures to support their plea of inability to meet the Guild's demands on wage minimums.

Compromise Rejected Finding the publishers dead to arguments, the Guild offered to take half of the amount of increase originally asked. It was met by flat refusal.

Finally, the Guild offered to accept no increase in the minimum of \$40 for experienced editorial workers, provided the publishers agreed to make that minimum apply to all editorial workers with three or more years of experience and adjusted beginners' minimums to \$20, \$25 for those with one year's experience, and \$30 for those of two years' experience but less than three.

The publishers rejected this compromise, although Editor Pooley admitted that it would cost the Herald-Post only \$7.50 a week more than now paid for the entire staff. Roderick refused to make any estimate on the increase for the Times' staff.

Pooley replied "Yes," when asked, "Do you mean to say that the Herald-Post is financially unable to meet an increase of \$7.50 in its editorial department weekly payroll?" (The Herald-Post advertises itself as "the Southwest's greatest newspaper.")

From other sources the Guild had determined that both the Herald-Post and the Times had made handsome profits during the past year. March figures showed an increase of 60,000 lines in advertising over March, 1937.

The Allied Printing Trades Council of El Paso has advised the pub-

Daily's Price Boost Laid to High Costs

BRISTOL, Conn.—The Bristol Press this month increased its daily price from two to three cents, attributing the rise to "substantial increases in costs that affect newspaper publishing."

Hollywood Strikers Win Acquittal

(Continued from Page One)

More than 100 advertisers have withdrawn from the Citizen-News and circulation is still falling. The strikers are unrelenting in the economic pressure against the publisher. Picket lines in front of firms still advertising in the struck newspaper have attained spectacular size, despite injunctions, and Hollywood folk line the sidewalks to watch the pickets.

AF of L Union Aides Members of the Retail Shoe Clerks Union, affiliated with the AF of L, have joined strikers in picketing Stoner's Shoe Store, which continues to advertise in the Citizen-News. The shoe clerks thus aid the strike of Guildsmen and at the same time press their own demands for higher wages and better hours.

Dorothy Parker and her husband, Alan Campbell, both screen writers at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio, have planned a large cocktail party for the benefit of the strikers. The New Republic, issue of July 20, included a quotation from an editorial by Publisher Palmer, entitled "The Boycott," in its "booby column." The Bandwagon, Under the caption "Red-White-and-Blue Herring Department," the magazine placed the following quotation from the paper: "The Citizen-News is not shouting 'red' for the purpose of alarming anyone or to 'draw a red herring' or to create a smoke screen. It merely wants the people of Los Angeles to know that many of those seeking to destroy Hollywood business are Communists who would, if they could, rule us all."

Unit in Oklahoma Disclaims Pact

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—The Oklahoma and Times unit of the Guild has disclaimed a pact with Scripps-Howard News, an act which caused the automatic suspension of the local Guild News for 17 years.

(GUILD REPORTER July 18). The unit's resolution "specifically disapproves the contract as injurious to the interests of the Oklahoma and Times unit of the Oklahoma City Newspaper Guild and deplorable the action of the News unit in signing it. The resolution rectified in detail the events leading up to the signing, and pointed out that members of the Oklahoma and Times unit refrained from voting at the Guild meeting which decided to accept and sign the contract."

RAIL PAY TALKS CHICAGO (FP)—The three separate conferences between rail unions and management on wages, which opened in Chicago in mid-July, are expected to be long drawn out affairs. The roads want to cut wages 15 per cent.

'Loyalty' Draws Reward in Bayonne; Drinking Cups Play Symbolical Role

BAYONNE, N. J.—"Loyalty" has been paying dividends since the 17-week Guild strike on the Bayonne Times ended in victory for the strikers. The head pressman, non-union, who signed an affidavit against the strikers to help the publisher obtain an injunction, was fired a few weeks after the strike ended. The excuse was economy. His place was not filled and the others in the pressroom assumed the extra duty.

Youth Congress Study Is Urged

Kenen Recommends ANG Cooperation While Awaiting Convention Action—Cites Necessity for Countering Inroads Made by Anti-Unionism.

CLEVELAND—A study of the advisability of formal affiliation with the American Youth Congress, for action by the next ANG Convention, was recommended by ANG Vice President L. L. Kenen in a report on a meeting of the Congress he attended this month at Berea, Ohio, as fraternal delegate.

Kenen participated in the discussions of the Labor Commission of the Congress which focussed on the problems of how to bring youth into the labor movement and to create a sympathetic attitude to and understanding of the labor movement among young people.

In addition to his suggestion for study and action, he recommended that in the meantime the ANG co-operate with the American Youth Congress and that all locals be urged to appoint small committees of their younger members to take part in the meetings of Youth Councils in their cities.

The Congress' Labor Commission was composed of representatives of Youth Councils, Y.W.C.A. settlement house workers, social service workers, National Youth administrators and officers of CIO and AF of L unions. The group emphasized the importance of the enrollment and educational objectives on the grounds that: "Youth people need unions if they are to be assured of decent living standards when they enter industry."

The unions need the membership and support of young workers because of the enthusiasm of youth and its alertness to the problems of a changing economy. The unions must at all times be ready to fight the matter. Hunt said he had offered the Post-Intelligencer the stories he wrote for the Oregon Journal, but they were rejected in many instances as being "too hot."

SCAB AGENCY HIT NEW YORK (FP)—Seeking to bar the renewal of license to the Railway Audit & Inspection Company, one of the country's largest anti-labor espionage and strike-breaking outfits, the Workers' Defense League, in a letter to the State Department of Licenses, urged a hearing on the application. Both CIO and AF of L unions are expected to join the league in opposing the renewal. Last fall, objections prevented the renewal of a license to Foster Strader, a former R. A. & I. agent, who sought to open his own office.

THE WOMAN WORKER The News Letter published by the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor for 17 years in mimeographed form is now a printed publication. The Woman Worker, published every two months. Free subscriptions are offered to women wage-earners and labor leaders.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES Unions having one or more employees—whether part time or full time—are liable for taxes under the Social Security Act, the Social Security Board reminded last week. Tax return blanks and necessary information are obtainable at district offices of the U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue.

At the same time a bill collector was let out. His job was filled. Most recent recipients of "loyalty" were the circulation manager, J. J. Jennings, who aided the publisher fight the strikers. He was given six weeks' notice and was promised six weeks' dismissal pay at the end of that period. He received three weeks' pay. Meanwhile the management continued to show its resentment over "disloyalty." Paper drinking cups were abandoned and individual cups were handed out to employees, including two non-Guild editors. The Guild members were passed up. Cups were given to Guildmen also when a complaint was made. Apparently, as an indication of the management's opinion of the Guildmen, they were given red-colored cups. The point was well made because the "loyal" employees received yellow cups.

UNION OUTING The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters will give its 15th annual best rail Aug. 15 on the steamship State of Delaware, in New York. Invitations have been sent to members of other unions.

The NUJ: A Contrast to Bribing of 'Journalists'

Union's Improvement Of Conditions Stands Out in PEP's Report On the British Press

Part II of a review of the 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. 338 pages.

IN their discussions of newswriters and editors, two parts of the report stand out in particular: one, the efficiency of the National Union of Journalists in improving wages, hours, and working conditions for editorial workers throughout Great Britain; the other, the bribing of "journalists."

PAPERS THERE ALSO HAVE MANY CRAFT UNIONS

Craft unionism has given the British no less than 27 unions in the printing and paper trades, with a membership in 1935 of more than 194,000. Despite this multiplicity of organizations and the existence of the British Institute of Journalists, a somewhat more stable "professional" society than its counterpart, the American Press Society, the National Union of Journalists now has about 5,600 members in the British Isles, including in its membership at least 80 per cent of those eligible. The Institute, on the other hand, "represents all branches of the newspaper and periodical world, including even proprietors, but especially the editors of provincial weeklies, who are excluded from the National Union. . . . It has a membership of more than 2,700, some three or four hundred of whom also belong to the Union, and many of whom live overseas." Its strength lies, in addition to its proprietor backing, in its benevolent and provident funds and in its employment service. The NUJ is affiliated with the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation, the National Federation of Professional Workers, and the International Federation of Journalists. "The last named connection makes for easy and agreeable contacts with foreign pressmen, and involves an idealistic feeling of accuracy and fair comment only, in the reporting of foreign news."

Under contracts signed in 1921 and later with newspaper proprietors, the NUJ has gradually improved the lot of its members and of all British editorial workers. The following paragraph outlines the Union's other services: "The NUJ provides unemployment benefit for its members and gives them free legal advice in matters relating to their occupation, as well as a number of other concessions and advantages. It is an approved society under the National Health Insurance Act and runs a voluntary superannuation fund. It has recently decided on a new national programme, which aims at raising the professional minimum wage of four pounds, seven shillings and six pence and establishing a 40-hour week for night-workers, a 44-hour week for day workers on shifts, and a 48-hour week for workers on weekly newspapers. This, it is hoped, will lead to the absorption of some of the journalists at present unemployed, and thus lessen the drain on union funds. The employment of spacemen in London is to be limited if possible, and a national closed shop campaign is in progress."

"It is noteworthy," the report comments, "that with the growth of huge newspaper organizations, the vulnerability of the press to the unions increases day by day, though in actual fact, of course, disputes are the exception rather than the rule."

IT SMELLS LIKE OUR OLD 'WE BOYS' RACKET The report's exposition of the forms that journalistic bribery takes recall those in vogue in this country in the old press club days:

A further method that some advertisers use to promote their influence in the newspaper world is that of creating goodwill among journalists and newspaper employees generally. This goodwill is fostered by free cruises from shipping companies, free photographs of editors and their children from photographers, complimentary tickets from theatre managements, handsome presents at Christmas, and so forth. Facilities for obtaining things at reduced rates or prices are probably even commoner than free gifts. It is not suggested that these practices are confined to journalists, or that the initiative always comes from the advertiser. Indeed, the demand for these privileges often exceeds the supply. Neither is it suggested that actual

Giving the Reading Public The Drop That's Left



bribery is prevalent, and there is no reason to suppose that many journalists are influenced by these methods against the public interest.

Not that the United States is entirely free of such practices!

The book systematically takes up the press as an industry (raw materials, printing, distribution), as a processor of news, including the external and internal influences focused upon news treatment, and as a social organ. It is odd to call part of the operations "the press as an industry" and other operations "the press as a processor of news." The Press Group of PEP does not, however, fall back upon Freedom of the Press or upon a cry of professionalism to rationalize this division of its subject matter. So many things have to be rationalized somehow in this country that are just accepted in Great Britain.

The report gives, in Chapters VII and VIII, what Americans will regard as an indictment of the internal and external influences that shape and even distort the treatment of news. They show, for instance, "how large-scale advertising campaigns, especially those on behalf of entire industries, are tending to hamper the press in commenting as a democratic institution on matters of public interest." But their only solution for this is a centralized cooperative agency through which all national advertising would be placed, revealing a naive neglect of the basic problem, the similarity of interest between newspaper proprietors and other industrialists. And yet, they suspect this situation, as the following reveals:

It is not only advertisers who are able

to get publicity for themselves in the press, or to bring pressure to bear. Firms which do not advertise at all, or which do so only in the trade press, can usually get their goods into the national press if they are of sufficient value, and banks and financial institutions are well placed for exercising hidden pressure, even though they do not advertise much.

The Report ends with a chapter setting forth PEP's recommendations and conclusions. It points to the dangers inherent in the control of pulp and newspaper manufacturing by a relatively few companies, some of which are associated with newspaper combines, but it insists that this situation looks threatening only on the surface. "In practice, however, it seems most improbable that anything will be done to interfere with that free access to pulp and newspaper supplies on equal competitive terms, which is evidently essential to a healthy press." It recognizes the monopolistic control of "press trains" to the provinces and of other distribution machinery by London newspapers, but this suggests to PEP "no urgent call for any action by the State," or by anyone else. It thinks something might be gained by forcing companies owning newspapers to reveal their financial situation "for the adequate protection of consumers, employees and investors from abuses which are now possible." It opposes the use of un-journalistic competitive methods (premiums, etc.) for the building up of mass circulations, "but to find a practical method of achieving it would be difficult even if agreement were got on the aim." It sums up the advertising situation thus:

In considering restriction of advertis-

ing it must always be remembered that no press has ever existed entirely without subsidies and that the open advertising subsidy is at least preferable to hidden subsidies from political parties, governments, and industries, or to bribery by private interests.

In discussing the possibility of cooperative ownership, this amazing statement is inserted:

The starting of subsidized national newspapers by certain large interests, such as the Co-operative Movement, might be practicable but would be a doubtful contribution towards a free press, and on the whole the least objectionable source of subsidy seems to be the newspaper industry itself. Several of the British newspapers and periodicals have been or are indirectly subsidized or nursed out of the money of more profitable publications, and it is to be hoped that this practice will continue until it becomes possible for a sufficient number of journals of a high standard to be self-supporting.

PEP PROPOSES TRIBUNAL FOR PRESS GRIEVANCES

One of the chief PEP recommendations is that the industry establish a "Press Tribunal" before which grievances might be brought for redress. This tribunal would consist of representatives of the leading proprietors and journalists' organizations under the chairmanship of "an eminent lawyer or public man of judicial ability commanding unqualified confidence." This sounds like a good hunch, but its adoption is a remote possibility, at least in the form offered by PEP. The proceedings of such a tribunal might all too readily "get out of hand."

Its final recommendation grew out of the difficulties the Press Group of PEP had in "assembling even such elementary information in making such a preliminary analysis of the British Press as this Report contains." It refers then to the research carried on in this country in connection with the university schools and departments of journalism, in Germany in connection with the Institut für Zeitungswissenschaft at the University of Berlin, and in France in connection with the newly established Institut de Sciences de la Presse at the University of Paris, and suggests that an adequate press institute be established in England.

We do not believe [it concludes] that the press or the public have yet begun to be sufficiently aware of the importance of the future development of the press and the need for watching it, nor do we believe that anything except greater awareness, fuller information, and a larger sense of responsibility emerging from these can give the British democracy a press adequate for twentieth-century needs. There is no short cut, and we hope that whatever criticisms may be leveled against the shortcomings of this report we may at least be given credit for not having pretended that there is any short cut.

With which concluding statement, few students of the press in this country would disagree.

THE WINCHELL TRADITION

IT'S tradition that when Walter Winchell leaves a paper, that paper folds, according to Time Magazine, and the magazine calculates that wherever Winchell goes, 200,000 readers will follow.

In the face of this, the Mirror is reported to be using Winchell's vacation to test its popularity with the readers. Backing the report is the fact that Winchell's vacation guest columnists are not used in the Mirror. They are being run, however, by King Features subscribers in other parts of the country.

Further confirmation is in the Mirror's booming of Jimmy Fidler, Hollywood columnist. Mirror office rumor says that Winchell is "definitely through," and that Fidler will take his place. Fidler's name is being emblazoned on the delivery trucks, and Winchell fans who call the Mirror are told that the guest columnists are not used "because this year we have Jimmy Fidler."

Publisher Hearst and Winchell have clashed over Winchell's anti-Nazi paragraphs, which brought an order from Hearst to "please edit Winchell very carefully." (GUILD REPORTER May 30.) Since

then, Winchell has settled his quarrel with Hearst and continued blasting away at the "Rats."

Some Hearst executives, however, do not recognize the truth. In a recent telephone interview for a future personality sketch, Clarence J. Shearn, voting trustee governing the Hearst organization, remarked that "Winchell was very valuable to the Mirror" but added that Winchell "was keeping bad company on many issues." Further, it was reported that some Hearst executives, meeting Hearst on his recent New York visit, suggested that another chatter columnist be added to the Mirror and that Winchell be weeded out quickly.

Winchell has just concluded his seventh season of broadcasting and his 14th year as a newspaperman. Time Magazine, marking the anniversary with a long piece on Winchell's career, described his rise from singing usher to a columnist, newspaper and movie star earning, last year, \$150,000 for two movies, \$192,000 for 48 broadcasts, and \$89,000 for his syndicated column.

Hatchet Gang Vs. Government

Steel Baron Loses His Thugs on Labor Board
In Battle Over Counsel's Office: Newspapers
Get Tips on Spontaneous Protest of Workers.

STUEBENVILLE, O.—(FP)—Ernest T. Weir does not like the U. S. government. He especially does not like the National Labor Relations Board. For a third of a century Weir ruled his domain—Weirton, W. Va., and vicinity—with an iron hand, and no one questioned his rule. Now the board tells Weir that he is unfair and persists in his claim.

Weir is unaccustomed to the board's methods of procedure. He prefers to do things in his own way. The enforcers of his decisions are thugs and plugugies who wield blackjacks and are not adverse to flashing a gun. His court of final resort is the "hatchet gang," headed by Claude Conway, who learned his trade as a member of the notorious, now extinct, Pennsylvania coal and iron police. An incident which served as a signal for gang activity was a decision on the part of the board's trial examiner, Edward G. Smith, to bar the corporation's chief counsel, Clyde A. Armstrong, from further participation in the case.

Armstrong is a law partner of Earl F. Reed, who tried and lost the Jones & Laughlin case—the

Daily papers received advance tips on the "spontaneous protest of workers" against the barring of Clyde Armstrong, Weirton Steel Company counsel, for his conduct at the NLRB hearing.

Newsmen on the scene at Steubenville were able to wire their offices to have conversations on hand at a given hour because at that time, they had been told, Smith, the examiner, would be hung in effigy. Phone calls from the New York office of Weirton Steel Co. warned city desks of New York dailies to "watch for a story from Steubenville."

same Earl F. Reed who headed a committee of 55 lawyers in their pronouncement immediately upon its passage that the Wagner Act was unconstitutional. From the very beginning of the hearings Armstrong and his six associates insisted repeatedly that the trial examiner was unfair, that the board's attorneys were unfair, that the whole procedure was unfair. They wasted hours and days voicing objections. Finally he became downright insolent to the trial examiner. Smith put up with it for a time, then decided to bar him from the courtroom.

Press Fell for It
If the company wanted to fight this ouster it certainly had a right to do so, but to pretend that the incident distracted the workers to the extent that they rose "spontaneously" in protest is incredibly stupid and thin enough for anybody to see through, except 90 per cent of the country's press.

Employees of Weirton Steel Company are working for the most part no more than one or two days a week. Weirton is an unincorporated town and has no municipal government to arrange for WPA projects. Weir himself, who is loyal

and master of the community, is "agin" WPA. Direct relief is miserably low and hard to get. There is starvation aplenty. Weir would have the country believe that his workers simply cannot tolerate the grave injustice of having one attorney barred, leaving only six more to try the company's case, that the businessmen, who watch the merchandise on their shelves remain stationary while their debts increase, are aroused over the incident.

And as the workers and businessmen of Weirton, Steubenville and other towns in the vicinity clamored by Weir prepared to stage a huge demonstration. To guarantee its hugeness the hatchet gang was put in charge of arrangements. Threatened with broken windows and Chamber of Commerce workers promised cooperation. The workers needed no further threats than a word from Claude Conway.

Hearings Moved
Sensing danger in the situation, the board decided to move the hearings to Pittsburgh. Word of this decision reached board attorneys in Steubenville early July 12. The hatchet gang was annoyed by this move.

Small units of the gang gathered around the Ft. Steuben Hotel, where the attorneys stopped, and around the federal building across the street, where they worked. Experience shows that when they gather in this manner they mean to slug somebody. The target of their abuse and vilification was Isador Poller, counsel for the board.

When state police from Ohio and Pennsylvania arrived, Conway and his gang were not content to give up altogether. The little groups came closer together and formed a gang of 200. "Yellow!" they shouted. "Let the Jew Poller come down!" Their hatred for Smith, a native of West Virginia, former judge and a Protestant, was no less pronounced than for Poller. They hung Smith in effigy, snapped pictures of the suspended dummy, yanked it down, had one of their number administer blows upon its head.

It was 2 a. m. before the marooned party, escorted by the sheriff, several of his deputies and state police, left the building and drove off to Pittsburgh. As they drove off, the gang shouted: "Here goes the U. S. government. Boooo! Yellow..."

Contracts Should Provide For Capital Correspondents

Reminder to local Guilds to provide for Washington correspondents when drawing up contracts is contained in a resolution adopted by the Washington Guild and forwarded to the IEB.

The resolution was recommended by the Correspondents' unit of the Washington Guild. It read as follows:

Resolved by the Washington Newspaper Guild that hereafter when contracts are negotiated or renewed they shall contain provisions for the protection of Washington correspondents. That Washington correspondents shall be included under the standard provisions for severance pay, sick

leave, vacations and job security; That the International Executive Board resist any attempt by newspapers to disassociate themselves from their Washington correspondents for any purpose, including avoidance of social security taxes; That the secretary be instructed to send copies of this resolution to the International Executive Board... and to the GUILD REPORTER.

In acknowledging the resolution on behalf of the IEB Employee Relations Committee, Secretary Treasurer Pasche said that the committee would be on the lookout for contract provisions which would exclude Washington correspondents from the benefits of the contract.

GLEANER AT WORK

APS Solicits Group Repudiating Guild

INDIANAPOLIS—Always on the hunt for prey, the American Press Society mailed brochures and application cards last week to sixteen editorial Guilds of the (Scraps-Howard) Times.

The sixteen face charges before a local trial board after having signed a month ago a repudiation of the local as their bargaining agent, although the local holds in The Times editorial department the only Guild contract in the state, and the contract recently was continued for another year.

Names of the sixteen apparently were taken from The Gleaner Bureau, for the brochures were mailed to the office and the mail box liberally blossomed bright and early in the morning when the city staff arrived at work.

The sixteen were joined in signing the document by two others who were never members of ANG and another who signed a repudiation of the disclaimer and is back in good standing. The others aired a long series of grievances and objections to Guild policy as the reason for their action.

The Free Press
Let News Be Cheerful, Urges This Advertiser

One recent attempt by advertisers to bring pressure to bear which would materially change editorial policy is probably doomed to failure at its birth. Coming from Peter Sampson, Chicago Norge refrigerator distributor, it recalls the "prosperity" is around the corner" days of 1930 in its insistence that "one or more items with an optimistic slant be placed on the front page."

The drive for cheerful news columns came in the form of a letter from Sampson to his dealers urging them to see local newspapers and to Chicago newspapers direct. Reprinted in Advertising Age from the Chicago Tribune, its main points follow:

Advertising is the life blood of the newspapers, and yet there never was a time any more than at present when the news sheets have to this extent detracted from the value of your advertising.

Small units of the gang gathered around the Ft. Steuben Hotel, where the attorneys stopped, and around the federal building across the street, where they worked. Experience shows that when they gather in this manner they mean to slug somebody. The target of their abuse and vilification was Isador Poller, counsel for the board.

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Local Set For New Pact Drive

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—With its contract expiring on Sept. 30, the local Guild is formulating contract provisions to fill the void in the interim agreement signed by all four papers after last year's week-long strike that closed the Wilkes-Barre Record.

Editorial, business office and circulation units have met in various sessions to outline demands which this year will cover minimum salary provisions, the 5-day, 40-hour week, sick leave, and other standard Guild advantages. A Guild shop is in effect at all four local papers; editorial departments and the Record's circulation department.

To aid unions, both AF of L and CIO, which are forced to strike in this area, the Guild, at its last meeting, authorized the formation of a committee to guide the public relations program of the strikers and assist in all practical ways to get the unions' side before the public.

The Philadelphia Storage Battery Company, where a CIO union was locked out, was placed on the unfair list. A drive on slow-paying Guild members was also started, and participation in the formation of a state-wide Guild council ordered.

J. W. McIlhenny, Guildsman, Dies

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—J. Walter McIlhenny, 55, newspaperman for the last 25 years, 25 of which he worked in this city, is dead here after an illness of two weeks. He had been a member of the Guild since March, 1934.

Mr. McIlhenny got his first newspaper job as a reporter on the Easton Argus in 1904. Later, he worked for the Easton Free Press, until 1914, when he moved here. He was with the Allentown Democrat until 1919, when it was absorbed by the Morning Call.

Transferring to the Call, he became day city editor of the paper on the death of Spurgeon Weston in 1933. When the Chronicle and News was purchased by the Call, he was transferred to the former paper. At the time of his death he was librarian of the two papers.

Amalgamated Label Drive Open

Allan S. Hayward, regional director of CIO, is asking all CIO affiliates to cooperate with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in observance and popularizing of the Amalgamated union label. Amalgamated has organized more than 90 per cent of the men's and boys' clothing industry.

Great Falls Action Ends Use of Paper's 'Learner'

GREAT FALLS, Mont.—Employment of an unpaid "learner" in the Great Falls Tribune newsroom was stopped by vigorous protest of the Great Falls Guild after weeks of controversial correspondence with the management during which the Guild pointed out the outright violation of contract which was involved and finally demanded payment of the scale or dismissal of the learner before it was forced to carry the controversy "to others."

There is no provision in the Great Falls Guild contract for apprentices other than the sliding scale based upon years of experience which provides \$25 for inexperienced starters in editorial work and \$18 in clerical work. The management's claim that the girl involved was an "observer" and that she was a personal responsibility of the society editor, a Guild member, was rejected by the Guild, which pointed out that the society editor had no power to hire or dismiss, and called attention to the contract preamble which clearly set out that conditions therein were to govern the newsroom without exception.

Great Falls, despite its strong labor movement, has no organization of clerical workers or stenographers and girls in these fields are the most severely exploited workers in the city. The practice of unpaid apprenticeship is widespread and it is the policy of some firms to engage such girls for the "apprenticeship" period, then dismiss them and put on others, also unpaid.

The Publishers' Corner

Big Business Space Thieves Irk Small N. J. Publishers

"Join the Fight on Space Thieves" is the demand of the New Jersey Press Association to its members, largely small dailies and weeklies, in a campaign to turn back the flood of unwanted publicity.

The unwanted publicity is mainly from national advertisers and manufacturers' associations however, and publishers may give all the free space they wish, says the bulletin, when publicity requested "has a local origin, a worth-while local angle, is submitted by a local advertiser, or comes with the (association's) information bureau's approval."

For the other kind, "one hundred per cent cooperation is needed to convince national advertisers that their money is wasted when spent for space stealing. . . . There is no other way to convince manufacturers that they should buy paid space than to demonstrate effectively to them that the free stuff does not get into your paper."

Among those who should pay for their space but try not to, the Association lists NBC and Mutual Broadcasting, Pennsylvania Hotel, Rubenoid Co., Dupont de Nemours & Co., Pontiac Motors, Kellogg Company, the A. & P., and Goodrich Tires.

The New Jersey Association dislikes equally handouts from the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Industrial Council who put out the Industrial Press Service, and services such as "From Behind the Scenes in American Business," mailed by Carl Byoir and Associates and "Industrial News Review," coming from Portland, Oregon, and "underwritten by national concerns." "Be suspicious of anything from Byoir," the bulletin warns.

Other associations listed include the Milk Research Council with the comment "interesting but distinctly advertising for the milk producers"; Distilled Spirits Institute, Inc.—"articles to fight proposed alcohol taxes"; Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroad; Golden Gate Interregional Exposition—"plenty of money for everything and everybody but legitimate advertising."

Transferring to the Call, he became day city editor of the paper on the death of Spurgeon Weston in 1933. When the Chronicle and News was purchased by the Call, he was transferred to the former paper. At the time of his death he was librarian of the two papers.

Amalgamated Label Drive Open

Allan S. Hayward, regional director of CIO, is asking all CIO affiliates to cooperate with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in observance and popularizing of the Amalgamated union label. Amalgamated has organized more than 90 per cent of the men's and boys' clothing industry.

Great Falls Action Ends Use of Paper's 'Learner'

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FUND FOR 'INFLUENCE'

FRANK GANNETT

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Other Labor Fronts

Lays Plan For Pay Cuts To 2 Firms

Charges that Postal Telegraph and Western Union had found a loophole in the Wage and Hour Act through which they planned to force a \$4,500,000 wage cut as soon as the law goes into effect were made by President Mervyn Rathbone of the American Communications Association last week, at the evening session of the association's fourth annual convention.

"The companies," he said, "are planning to place all their employees on an hourly pay basis, then, in conformity with the letter of the law, they will cut the work week to 40 hours and sever four hours pay each week from the checks of 75,000 workers."

About 200 delegates cheered the announcement that the membership of the union had more than doubled in the past year, to a total of 15,500. The union has contracts with Postal Telegraph, Radio Corporation of America, Mackay Radio, Globe Wireless and a half dozen shipping companies.

BLAMES ADVERTISERS

Charging Publisher David Smart of the magazines Ken, Coronet, and Esquire with a tendency to "capitulate completely before the more reactionary forces which continually seek to throttle the progressive inclinations of Ken's editorial policy," Miss Helen Thompson, executive secretary of the New York Book and Magazine Guild last week attacked Smart's claim that he was forced to discontinue departments by Meyer Levin and Lawrence Martin because of pressure from advertisers.

"Candid Cameraman," written by Levin which had appeared in Esquire since the magazine began, has been discontinued, while the "Ken Particles" column of which Martin was editor has been turned over to another writer, the union said. Levin and Martin, Miss Thompson pointed out, with Harvey O'Connor, author of "Molten Millions," compose the negotiating committee of the union.

WIN \$50,000 BACK PAY

NEW YORK (FP)—Reinstatement with full back pay for 107 warehousemen discharged by F. W. Woolworth & Company was recommended in an intermediate report handed down by the National Labor Board. The United Wholesale & Warehouse Employees Union (CIO) said that more than \$50,000 is involved in the award for its discharged members.

Woolworth was ordered to "offer reinstatement to each of the 107 employees with full back pay from the date of his discharge to the date of reinstatement." The 107 members were discharged during the latter part of November, 1937.

6-HOUR DAY IN SEATTLE

SEATTLE—Following months of negotiation with the Seattle Master Builders, the Seattle Building Trades Unions have an agreement guaranteeing the 6-hour day and continuing present wage scales. Originally the 6-hour day was attacked by the business men engaged in building operations on the ground that the alleged higher costs of building under the short work day were responsible for the previous sales resistance of the public. Figures compiled by the unions demonstrating that building costs are not higher in Seattle than in other places compelled the builders to sign the agreement.

KNOXVILLE ELECTS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Louis Hoffert of the News-Sentinel is new president of the Knoxville Guild. Steve Humphrey of the Journal is vice president and Bonnie Tom Robinson, News-Sentinel, is secretary. Ray Brooks of the Journal was re-elected treasurer.

Publisher Gannett Seeks \$1,000,000 for Campaign

Having opposed every major New Deal proposal since the Supreme Court's rehabilitation of Publisher Frank Gannett's National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government is now soliciting \$1,000,000 to support the most reactionary senators and representatives in their primary campaigns. Although Glen Hancock, publicity director in the New York office, denies that the group is asking for contributions, a form letter has been sent to persons with "courage and means" telling them: "With

LETTERS TO THE GUILD REPORTER

RAFS MAURY
BAYONNE, N. J.
Editor, THE GUILD REPORTER:

I have read in the Reporter a number of letters by Reuben Maury. I do not know him and do not know anything about him. However, my conclusion is that his letters are written for the purpose of showing his employer that although he is a member of the Guild he does not mean it.

REPLY TO TRAVERS
ALBANY, N. Y.
Editor, THE GUILD REPORTER:

I see by this paper that Bob Travers of Tri-City didn't like your footnote to Reuben Maury's letter—the footnote pointing out the impropriety of Maury's sending a copy of his letter to Editor and Publisher. I congratulate Bro. Travers on his inconsistency in writing his protest about the footnote to THE GUILD REPORTER, instead of to the Chicago Tribune or something.

Brother Travers and I agree on one point. We choose THE GUILD REPORTER, our own labor union paper, to write to about things which concern us as members of that union. We don't write to Editor & Publisher any more than a good Guild member runs to his boss to complain about a vote at a unit meeting.

Resolutions No Surprize
This ANG is no two-year-old. We have finished with the primer, let alone nursery school. It is elementary that union members should settle their differences within the

Secretary, Chicago Guild

The Guild Reporter

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



Editor: Clyde Beals
News Editor:
Nathan L. Goldberg
Contributing Editors:
Leon Svirsky
Richard O. Boyer
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Staff for This Issue:
Bernice Morgan
Paul Glaser
Charles Lewis

"... 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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Executive Vice-Presidents: Jonathan Eddy

Secretary-Treasurer: Victor Pascho

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July 25, 1938

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The American System

THERE is fine irony in the fact that the LaFollette committee's revelations of Steel's attempt to take over the Birmingham press came just several days after the New York papers spread, on their front pages the newly-opened campaign of seven leading chambers of commerce to "resell the American System to America."

The industries caught in the Alabama skulduggery have long been selling and reselling the American System to America. Now we know that their American System has as one of its main concepts the corruption and coercion of the press. Now we also know what to do as prospective purchasers of shares in the American System.

It should be a boom year for the manufacturers of deodorants.

AFL Takes a Stand

THIS is "No Time for Wage Cuts," says the American Federation of Labor in a caption over its survey of business for the first half of 1938.

Said the survey:

The decline (in business) came upon us just after a time of general wage increasing, and the difficulties some companies have had in meeting higher wages, together with social security taxes, on a reduced production volume has led to talk of wage cutting in some quarters. Fortunately for business, however, the wage level has been firmly held and there have been almost no wage cuts except in cases of actual distress or among those employers who pretend distress so as to impose unjustifiable wage reductions.

The AF of L here is to be commended for its stand in favor of the maintenance of wage levels in a time of decreasing industrial production as beneficial to both industry and labor.

In past depressions, the AF of L craft unions were too busy fighting for their existence to worry about such a millennial thing as high wage levels. But this time, however, benefiting as it does by riding the coat-tails of the CIO drive, the AF of L might do well to lend whatever aid it can to progressive unionism in its fight against wage cutters. If no active assistance is forthcoming in the way of organizing the unorganized and supplying locals with a definite and specific program for resisting wage cuts, the AF of L might at least desist from its present program of obstructing those unions now leading the fight against wage cuts.

To come right home to the Guild, the most recent instance of AF of L obstruction is the attempt in co-operation with the Hearst management, to split eligible Guild members in Chicago into more than 30 craft AF of L locals.

STEEL CLAWS AT THE PRESS

LaFollette Probe Bares Girdler Efforts to 'Convert' Papers;
Herald Tribune's Sokolsky Exposed as Paid Propagandist

WASHINGTON.

EXPRESSING resentment over the control over local newspapers attributed to its competitor, Tennessee Coal & Iron Company, a U. S. Steel subsidiary, and displeased with the attitude of the papers toward labor unions, Republic Steel resolutely set out to change the papers' policies in Birmingham, Ala.

This, and other evidence, some involving George E. Sokolsky, was adduced last week before the LaFollette Senate committee in its investigation of industrial anti-labor propaganda. Sokolsky, who last December—when word was spread that the LaFollette committee was probing his activities—admitted his connection as a

of the power company, "could be persuaded to use their influence" with Publisher Hanson.

Mann expressed the opinion that former Judge Charles Fiedelson, then an editorial writer on Hanson's papers and now a National Labor Board regional director, had been "converted against the communistic CIO" and could be "christianized through the use of the right influence." The reference was related to another, in a later letter to Wysor from W. H. Oldham, district manager for Republic Steel, which said:

Ex-Judge Fiedelson is a Jew and also is nothing short of being an out-and-out communist in his views, in my estimation. It is my personal belief he is one of the principal reasons for the radical leaning of the Hanson papers. Further it is my view the paper is run for income only.

These statements compared ironically with still another letter in LaFollette's possession, which referred to Sokolsky as "a communist who has reformed." It was testified that Sokolsky was paid \$1,000 a month by Hill & Knowlton who, in turn, got \$1,000 a month from the National Association of Manufacturers.

THIS EDITOR WON'T STAY PUT

The letter on Fiedelson told also of difficulties with James Mills, editor of the Birmingham Post. "At one time he is right and the next time he is wrong. In other words, he won't stay put when you get him put," Oldham lamented. He continued:

Mills was responsible for the election of a very radical city commissioner and generally took the radical side in political situations. However, I was very favorably impressed with editorials in the past demanding law and order in Gadsden and Alabama as a whole. I think I was partially responsible at least for a change in his general tendencies, as I cultivated him quite strongly for a year or two.

Another letter from Oldham to Wysor, dated July 9, 1937, expressed the view that progress had been made with the Birmingham papers. "The Birmingham Post, which is a Scripps-Howard paper, has been considerably less radical since the Supreme Court bill came into the picture and I believe, unquestionably, there is a turn for the better in both papers."

Questioning of Donald S. Knowlton and John W. Hill, of Hill & Knowlton, brought out that Tom Girdler, chairman of the Republic Steel Corporation, was upset by Republic's publicity after the Little Steel strike and wanted to know what the British labor legislation was. Subsequently Hill approached the other Little Steel companies and started the survey, including a study of British labor legislation.

Hill said that his firm's study of British labor laws had not been given Charles Hook, president of the American Rolling Mill Company, a member of President Roosevelt's commission to study British labor laws.

George Sokolsky, at his summer home in Otis, Mass., told the New York Post: "I don't give a damn what the LaFollette committee says. It's just a smear organization." Sokolsky made a defiant defense of his position on the grounds that he had made public his industrial connections. The Post story emphasized that Sokolsky acknowledged his connections only AFTER reports that the LaFollette committee would expose them.

Sokolsky used his standing as a journalist to bait labor in magazine and newspaper articles, on the radio and lecture platform. He once made an attack upon the Guild in an address before the Columbia University class in journalism.

Another point made in the Post dispatch was whether President Roosevelt's commission now studying British and Swedish labor relations was not inspired by Tom Girdler. This speculation arose over the fact that Charles Hook, president of the American Rolling Mill Company, which is involved in the testimony, is a member of the commission. Hook, said the Post, "has been credited with persuading the White House to order the study."

ITEM: George E. Sokolsky of the New York Herald Tribune has been appointed entertainment chairman of the American Press Society's New York section. The society's constitution dedicates it to "the belief that the practice of journalism is an honorable profession bearing the nature of a public trust the integrity and detachment of which are essential to free government," etc. etc.

propagandist for the National Association of Manufacturers in an article in the New York Herald Tribune, received more than \$37,000 from industry between June, 1936, and January, 1938. (GUILD REPORTER, Jan. 3.)

The public relations firm of Hill & Knowlton, through which most of this money was paid to Sokolsky, played a large part in the anti-union fight, handling the job for six steel companies.

Republic Steel's desire to break the hold of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company's hold in Birmingham was expressed in a letter dated June 29, 1937, from Kenneth D. Mann, vice president of Truscon Steel, a Republic affiliate, to R. J. Wysor, president of Republic. The letter outlined the "newspaper situation" in Birmingham, which is covered by the Post (Scripps-Howard), the News, and Age-Herald.

PRESSURE THROUGH ADVERTISERS

Edgar S. Bowerfind, an employee of Hill & Knowlton, had a part in the correspondence on the "newspaper situation." He suggested that friends of Publisher Victor Hanson of the News and Age-Herald be persuaded to visit him and "some pressure might also be judiciously exerted through advertisers in Birmingham." Confronted with his memo, Bowerfind told the Senate committee that it was just a "mental aberration," and that such a procedure would be "unethical" and "foolish."

Mann's letter had said that:

In dealing with Birmingham, it must be remembered that the Tennessee Company, being the largest taxpayer and the largest spender in the community, has a profound influence within the community. Any paid official or public relations man of the Tennessee Company can influence many people.

On the other hand, the community of Birmingham has actually suffered due to certain monopolies which the Tennessee Company enjoyed for many years and until recently the citizens, who knew what was going on, felt that the corporation had definitely stifled the normal expansion of their properties in the south to prevent embarrassing competition with the corporation itself.

I assume this feeling has largely disappeared since the corporation's expansion program has been announced at Birmingham. But I still feel that considerable sentiment can be aroused in the community to encourage the growth of a competing company which, in turn, would prevent a practical monopoly on the part of one company.

"To translate these thoughts to a tangible program," Mann added, a number of influential persons, including the chairman of the First National Bank and the president

The Will to Buy

L AISSEZ-FAIRE economists—the kind who want That Fellow in Washington to give business a breathing spell—have long and devoutly followed the old precept of keeping the right hand in ignorance of what the left is doing when their purposes are so suited.

It is interesting, therefore, to observe Editor & Publisher do a little confused arm waving in the matter of business and recovery. It is especially interesting when we discover that we agree with each of the independently waving arms.

For on one hand in E&P's July 9 issue, the publishers join in triumphant chorus with William Randolph Hearst's conclusion that "We're headed for better times." Mr. Hearst graciously ascribes stock market booms and general indices of increased business activity to the success of President Roosevelt's recovery program. And here we say, Amen!

But on the other hand, in its editorial columns, E&P agrees emphatically with Gen. Hugh Johnson that:

"BUSINESS IS IN THE DOGHOUSE . . . because it has been badly advised and badly represented by its lawyers, lobbyists and press agents." And, as does E&P, we say fervently, "Check!" (The caps are as written originally.)

The "check!" goes also for the very next paragraph in the same editorial:

"If half the money that has been expended to circum-

vent the public will had been put into production and sales effort since 1900, we might have avoided several depressions and a lot of police legislation."

We agree that the graphs point to an upswing in the nation's business. We are glad to hear that stocks are hitting new highs, wheat shipments have been greatly increased and that advertising linage is up (at least in Mr. Hearst's "Harper's Bazaar," he says.)

We can't help pointing out, however, that E&P's editorial at the same time has swung squarely to a significant truth.

That is that DESPITE spending by certain business interests "to circumvent the public will," President Roosevelt's kind of spending, together with his other policies, has succeeded in turning the graph lines upward.

And while we're on the subject, now that the publishers are generally agreed that more abundant times are on their way, how about following through with a few Guild contracts?

Mr. Hearst says his business is better. So does ANPA President James G. Stahlman. And Publisher Paul Block makes our point very well indeed when he says:

"It would appear that this is a good time for businessmen to make concentrated and courageous efforts to create the will to buy."

The best way we know of creating "the will to buy" is a larger pay check. Let the publishers, with their fingers at the public pulse, be the first to make the "concentrated and courageous efforts to create the will to buy."