

THE GUILD REPORTER

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

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IEB EXPANDS ORGANIZING

Lockout Closes Block Paper

PITTSBURGH, March 14—The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette early this morning suspended publication for the second time during a week-old strike when union men refused to pass through the picket line of the Newspaper Alliance—an AFL federal union of circulation route men.

The latest shutdown followed a week of unsuccessful mediation efforts by the Pittsburgh Newspaper Union Council, in which the Guild is the only CIO member.

The striking union, most of whose 55 members were notified they were fired following the walkout, had withdrawn its picket line before negotiations arranged by the Council, only to find management proposals unacceptable.

The management told a new committee which the union then sent to it that the strikers could not return to work until a new contract was negotiated. The present one was to expire May 19.

Following what the union termed a long series of grievances, the outside circulation men struck March 6 after morning overtime in a special "Aid-Britain" promotion campaign. Cause of the dispute, the union said, was refusal by the circulation manager, Ray Foudray, even to discuss the hiring of a non-union man in violation of the contract.

In serving dismissal notices March 7, the management charged the contract had been abrogated by violation of a compulsory arbitration clause which provides for preliminary discussion.

The union claimed Foudray had left it no other choice than to

(Continued on Page Six)

Cincinnati Threat Wins Big Wage Raises

CINCINNATI—The Cincinnati Guild fought its way victoriously to a new contract with the Cincinnati Post (Scripps-Howard) last week after an exciting, drama-filled fortnight climaxed by a vote to strike.

Outstanding gains were substantial wage increases, with everyone sharing who had not had a raise in the previous year or was not due for a raise this year under existing minimums; a new "after the fourth year" minimum with top scales from \$1 to \$3 above the present three-year minimums; extension of the 5-day week to everyone, and particularly new grievance machinery designed to remove fear from Guild membership and provide a strong substitute for Guild shop.

Militancy of the Guild in these negotiations was prompted by a long period without satisfactory wage increases and by policies of commercial department subexecutives which had resulted in loss of membership there despite better hours and wages the Guild had obtained for members there.

The strike vote was taken March 3, with 72 members voting yes and 29 no. A subsequent motion which would have weakened the strike vote was almost unanimously voted down.

But management realization of the high pitch to which membership demand for better wages and security had risen did not come until three nights later in negotiations at which more than 100 members sat as observers.

Two tense hours during which the Guild negotiators laid the feeling of the membership before the management in frank terms, brought the peace settlement. Three prominent Cincinnatians also were present as silent observers.

The new grievance machinery assures quick and decisive action

Fred Giesel, business manager of the Cincinnati Post, made this statement during Guild contract negotiations, with more than 100 observers present:

"I see represented here those who are among the best and most efficient of our employees. I had not realized, until this crisis arose, how many and how excellent employees made up this organization. It is my firm conviction now that it would be better for the Post to have a strong and healthy Guild in the business departments as well as in the editorial department."

against any major or minor executive who in any way interferes with Guild membership. In addition the management verbally and in writing stated a realization that conditions which had brought the strike vote were bad for the Post while a strong and healthy Guild would be beneficial. Editorial workers already were 100 per cent organized, but conditions had resulted in losses in commercial department membership.

Robert Linn was chairman of the negotiating committee and Jack Kroll, Chairman of the Cincinnati Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, was chief spokesman. Participating in the final negotiations were International Representative John Dunn and Resident Organizer B. C. Kindig.

Carl Groat, editor, and Fred Giesel, business manager, negotiated for the management.

In a membership meeting immediately following the negotiations a complete vote of confidence was given the negotiating committee, which subsequently ironed out details with the management.

Adds 2 Organizers; Urges Guild Unity

The International Executive Board last weekend threw two more new organizers into the growing Guild organizing campaign and called for nation-wide Guild unity around the drive for new members and stepped-up pressure for higher wages and other contract gains.

Pointing to the urgent need for unity to ward off war-created dangers to wage and hour standards and the very right to organize and bargain collectively, the Board said:

"We are confident that the membership understands the need and deeply desires this unity, and that it can be achieved by a sincere effort on the part of all the membership and all the leadership."

The Board did not content itself with a mere plea for the unity for which it asked, but proposed a specific program for its achievement.

Program for Gains

The unity it proposed, the Board said, "is on the basis of sound and established Guild policy—policy established by repeated and overwhelming Convention action. It is a policy of industrial organization of our entire field, steady and continuing collective bargaining gains, full participation in the CIO and application of its policies, constant alertness to the growing legislative dangers, the exercise of our full strength as a union, through full membership understanding and discussion, in the field of political action, and thus to contribute to the peace and security of our nation."

(The full text of the Board's statement on this subject is at the bottom of this page.)

Orders New Election

In other major actions, the Board ruled that none of the eight candidates for the vacant IEB seat won a majority in the just concluded International Council vote, and ordered a run-off election between Ed Scott of Detroit and Louis Ade of Northwestern Indiana; pledged wholehearted support to the Jewish Day strikers; adopted a slightly increased quarterly budget of \$33,532.80, and referred to the locals for discussion and action an invitation to participate in the American People's Meeting in New York on April 5-6.

The whole Board took time during the Saturday noon recess to join the snow-sodden Jewish Day picket line and talk with the strikers.

After its personal excursion to the strike line and headquarters, the Board issued a statement (text on page 3) analyzing the cause of the strike and pledging support. The Board described attacks upon the strike by New York officers of the Amalgamated

(Continued on Page Two)

Scott, Ade Run Tie in IEB Election

Ed Scott of Detroit and Louis Ade of Northwestern Indiana ran a dead heat in the balloting for the vacant seat on the International Executive Board, with six other candidates trailing far behind the leaders. The IEB, at its March 8-9 meeting, ordered a run-off election to be conducted immediately.

The official count of votes cast, each local casting as many votes as it would have in a convention, was:

Louis P. Ade, Northwestern Indiana	52
Edwin W. Scott, Detroit	52
Rollin Everett, Cincinnati	8
Barney R. Taylor, Washington	6
Forrest Williams, Seattle	6
John Kykry, Milwaukee	5
Aldrie Revell, Madison	4
Walter Barson, Pittsburgh	3
Total	136

(The tabulation of votes by locals is on page 5.)

Neither Scott nor Ade achieved a majority of votes cast and a run-off election would have been necessary even had they not exactly tied.

Ballots for the new election were mailed from ANG headquarters March 14 and must be returned to headquarters by midnight of March 29.

Biographies of the run-off candidates were run in the March 1 issue of the GUILD REPORTER.

Figures Show Increase of Guild Shops

Contract statistics being compiled by the new ANG research department, under direction of Morgan Hull, revealed last week that 54.2 per cent of all newspaper workers covered by Guild contracts with English language newspapers are under Guild-shop agreements.

The 50 per cent mark was passed when Guild-shop contracts were signed recently with Hearst's New York Journal-American and San Antonio Light, both under the national Hearst-Guild peace formula.

Sixty-one of 131 contracts with English language papers are Guild-shop agreements, Hull's figures show. The 131 contracts cover 14,042 employees, of whom 7,604 are in the Guild-shop plants.

IEB Calls for Unity Around Drive for Guild Growth and Gains

The referendum is over. The votes have been counted.

Members have seen different and conflicting aspects in the two motions, but one fact stands out clearly in the vote on both motions. The membership has joined in rejecting the charge of "Communist control," and in declaring that it will never permit outside control.

After the months of debate, of which advantage was taken by publishers in several strike, collective bargaining, and organizing situations, we have the basis for a return to Guild unity around the consistent Guild program of a stronger union and improved conditions.

The need for unity is greater than ever. We know from the history of the last World War, that even the strongest unions were unable to keep the earnings of their members in step with the cost of living, which virtually doubled from 1914 to 1919. The war atmosphere was used then for an attack by most employers upon strong trade unionism. It is being used faster and more violently, in the same way, by the same forces today.

We are confident that the membership understands the need and deeply desires this unity, and that it can be achieved by a sincere effort on the part of all the membership, and all the leadership.

Such unity is on the basis of sound and established Guild policy—policy established by repeated and overwhelming Convention action. It is a policy of industrial organization of our entire field, steady and continuing collective bargaining gains, full participation in the CIO and application of its policies, constant alertness to the growing legislative dangers, the exercise of our full strength as a union, through full membership understanding and discussion, in the field of political action, and thus to contribute to the peace and security of our nation.

This is the policy which has brought benefits unequalled anywhere on such a scale.

Applying this program to the present facts, we are using all our resources, other than defense reserves, to strengthen our organization now. We are extending the system of resident organizers to build small but potentially big locals into big, strong locals; increase the services to all locals through international representatives and officers; increase the information on organizing, contracts, and general subjects, available to locals; stimulate in the locals the discussion of organizational and legislative problems which face all.

We again pledge ourselves to, and ask for, unity on the basis of progress for all of us. We believe the membership of the American Newspaper Guild demands it.

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Why We Lost in Toronto

Dunn Tells 'Low Down' On Defeat

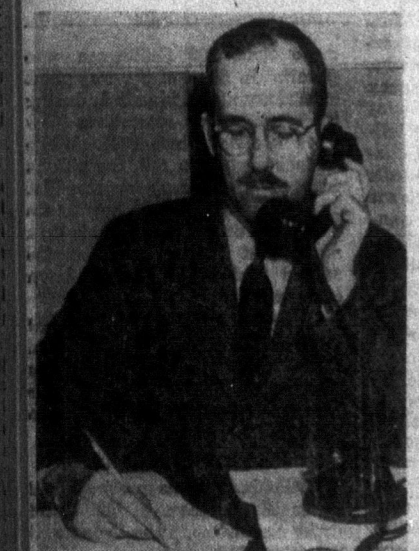
(Employees of the rich and "liberal" Toronto Star took an uncomfortable look recently in an attempt to better their wages and working conditions through the Guild. We've reported the fact of the defeat earlier, but only sketchily the why of it. In this story, International Representative John Dunn, who was in Toronto during the closing stages of the battle, takes down our hair and repairs that deficiency. His story is a trade union thriller, despite the fact that it has a moral.)

By JOHN DUNN
International Representative.

FOR five years a little band of really brave people in Toronto has maintained a Guild outpost against the organized might of the publishers of all Canada and their fierce and unanimous determination to keep Guild organization south of the border.

They still hold the outpost, but early last month Joseph E. Atkinson, paternalistic and "liberal" publisher of the Toronto Star, backed by his fellow Canadian publishers and a government which has thrown more than 70 trade union leaders into concentration camps since the war started, dealt a crushing blow to that outpost of ours.

It was tragic and bitter defeat for the Toronto and American Newspaper Guilds.



JOHN DUNN

an honest examination of the mistakes which contributed to this defeat should be enduring value to us all.

Was Third Defeat

Having been frustrated in two previous attempts at collective bargaining on the Star in 1937 and 1938, all that remained of Toronto local last year, when an organizing campaign was started on the Star, was a nucleus of eight members.

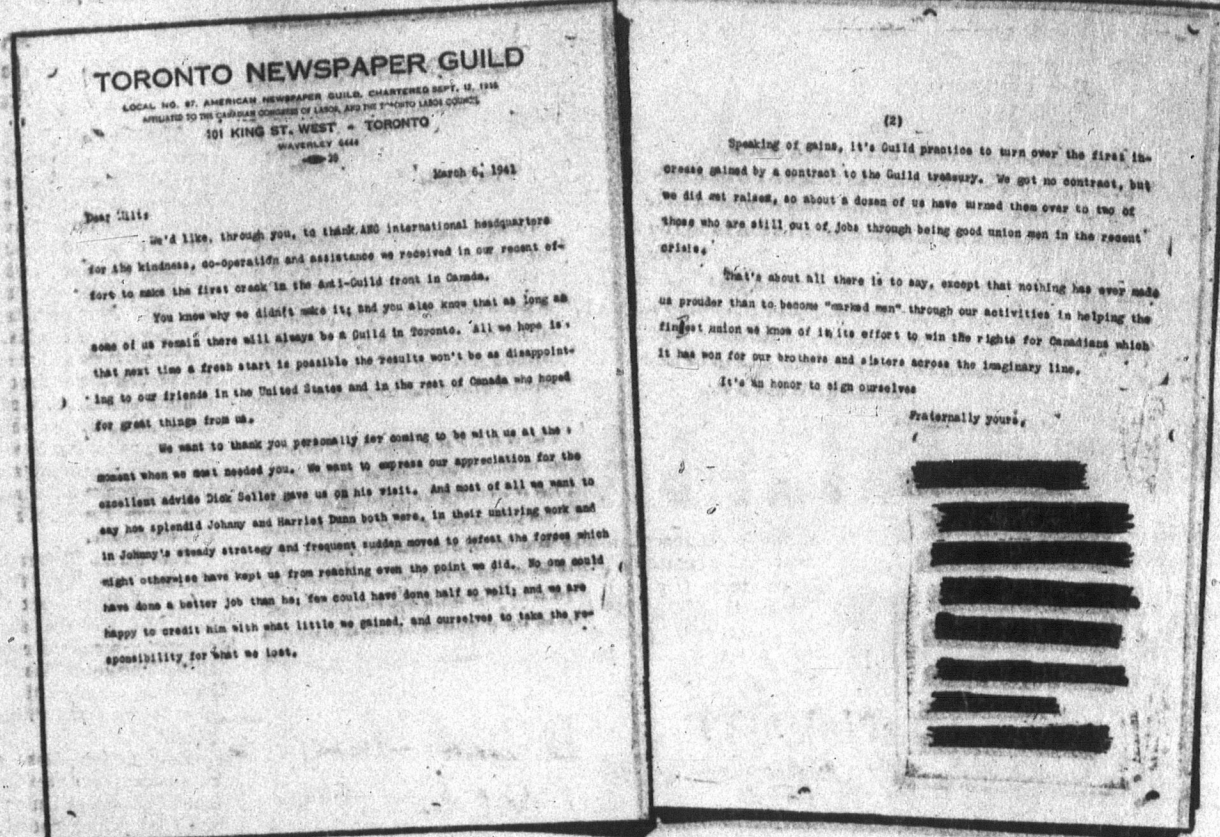
The generally adverse labor conditions under which that organizing drive started were vividly and accurately described by a Canadian Guildman in the Feb. 15 issue of THE GUILD REPORTER.

Using "national defense" as their Trojan horse, the anti-labor forces of Canada had then breached the always inadequate legal protections for labor and general civil liberties. Much more than in the case in the United States, Canadian publishers and industrialists had succeeded in persuading the public opinion that strikes—or any other fully militant means of fighting to keep the laborer ahead of the rising cost of living and to share in the huge war profits—was unpatriotic.

These things were known to us then, but we didn't fully appreciate how cruelly and inexorably they would crush us unless we took specific steps to overcome them.

ERROR NO. 1: WE DIDN'T PLAN TO USE OUR STRENGTH

KNOWING that the government would be hostile, that there were no legal safeguards whatever against intimidation and spying to guarantee recognition except a strike, the Guild should have prepared its members for a battle from the very beginning.



Across the border in Canada, it's still true that "the Guild always wins, because the Guild never quits," as this letter shows. Written as a personal communication to

Executive Vice President Milton Kaufman the letter reveals, as even John Dunn's excellent story on this page cannot, the human values that went into the

and been ready to go into action at the first sign of publisher resistance.

Instead, many of the Guild members were organized into a fool's paradise. The prospect of a fight was evaded in our anxiety to quiet the justified fears of people and get them into the union. Some over-zealous members even went so far as to tell new members that "you won't ever have to strike" and "it is all right with the publisher for you to join the Guild."

Rapidly the membership mounted to 60, then 80, finally topped 100. The local had an overwhelming majority in the editorial department of the Star.

Error No. 2

But, appearing instead of trying to dissipate the prejudices of new editorial members against commercial department organization, no effort was made to organize on an industrial union basis. That was a major tactical error.

The first sign of the publisher's determination to crush the Guild came when the local requested collective bargaining. He said flatly and forebodingly that he would not bargain with the Guild. He made it a recognition fight, and started taking steps to undermine the unit.

The publisher also took efficient steps to confuse the issue of "recognition" which he had created. Through a subordinate executive, he offered, "off the record," to discuss the five-day week, payment for overtime work, wages, and severance pay, if he were requested to do so by a "committee of employees." But not with the Guild.

The offer was accepted, in an effort to get to the realities of bargaining for the improvements he dangled as bait.

But, *mirabile dictu*, almost immediately after the discussions began, a company union group made its appearance and challenged the right of the first committee to represent the employees. It was no surprise, then, when the publisher, through his subordinate, withdrew his offer and ended the informal negotiations.

Guild Leaders Awakened

Subtle intimidation began. The company union leadership circulated rumors that "the Guild doesn't have a chance." Five or six people resigned from the local.

The ANG advised the local that it had better prepare for strike action, but because of the inexperience of the local leadership, few real preparations were made until an International organizer arrived, two weeks later.

Meanwhile, the company worked hard to undermine the unit. More resignations came to the Guild office. Guild leaders were demoralized. Company union leaders "advised" people to get out of the Guild.

SOME CANADIAN LABOR LEADERS UNCOOPERATIVE

THE Guild sought the support of the labor movement, and here we ran into wholly

new and disconcerting difficulties. The top leadership of the Canadian CIO and the Canadian Congress of Labor was, to say the least, uncooperative. The Toronto AFL leadership was obviously hostile.

As the pressure gained and the time for a strike vote approached, the publisher really turned on the heat.

Two days ahead of the meeting at which it was obviously inevitable that strike action would be taken, the assistant managing editor started calling Guild members into his office, one at a time, and ordering them to get out of the Guild.

They were forced to write out their resignations from the Guild in his presence, and give him a carbon copy.

The point was sickening to behold. When the strike vote was taken, only 60 people had the courage even to cast their ballots. The strike vote carried, but with an air of desperation. A minority on the executive committee declared it was a useless vote and wished to avoid a strike.

Individual members of the Guild took it upon themselves to talk to the publisher's representative.

Error Grows From Error

This "backstairs" action on the part of individuals was the logical outgrowth of the earlier willingness of the Guild to surrender its identity in order to obtain negotiations with the publisher. The Guild committee had talked as an individual employee. Those who were now stalling the Guild in the back could justify their own individualistic actions by precedent.

Realizing that the Guild was weakening, the publisher at last made the real issue clear.

He said that if the Toronto Guild would dissolve, with every member resigning, he would return all Guild leaders to the job from which he had demoted them, and that in a year he "might" accept collective bargaining with representatives of his employees, provided the Guild was out of existence.

The only possible answer was strike, but by this time the resignations had become a mass movement of terror.

EXPERIENCE SHOWED HOW WAR WRECKED LABOR'S RIGHTS

THE Guild's efforts to get the top leadership of the labor movement to put real pressure on the publisher got nowhere.

C. H. Millard, director for Canada of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee and ranking CIO member on the Canadian Congress of Labor executive committee, said "you can't strike in a country at war." He insisted that he would give the Guild no assistance unless it agreed to request a government conciliation board and abandon strike action.

The Dominion government also was asked to take action, but refused.

How the Canadian conciliation board set-

Toronto fight. Why the names of the eight signers are blacked out will be perfectly apparent after reading Dunn's story.

up (similar to the Knudsen-Hillman plan for the U. S.) works against unions, was adequately described in the Feb. 15 issue of the Guild Reporter. It is only necessary to add here that the Guild had been informed by the Department of Labor that it did not consider newspapers a war industry. Therefore, even if Millard's advice had been sound, it would have been impossible to get a board established.

The hostility of the AFL and the apathy of the CCL officialdom emboldened the publisher.

Threats were made after the strike vote that he would turn a strike into a lockout. There was talk of blacklists. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the FBI of Canada, had certain Guild members under observation.

All this, together with the panic of the rank and file, led to the rescinding of the strike vote at another meeting. Although there were militant members of the Executive Committee and of the rank and file who held their ground until the bitter end, the Guild fight was at least temporarily ended. The publisher had won.

DUNN POINTS UP THE ERRORS AND THE LESSONS

COMPLICATED as the Toronto situation was from beginning to end, its lesson is comparatively simple:

It is better slowly to organize a militant majority which understands fundamental Guild policies and is prepared to fight for them, than a large, loose, quickly gathered majority, of whom many are enlisted by slipping around their fears and prejudices rather than trying to educate them.

Toronto also made clear to the ANG that the fight for the elementary right to bargain is becoming increasingly more difficult and that every organizing situation is a potential strike situation in which an inexperienced local leadership can not be expected to make proper preparations nor avoid certain pitfalls.

U. S. Following Canada.

The broader lesson of Toronto lies in the fact that labor relations in the United States are becoming what they are in Canada today. There are labor leaders like Millard in both the AFL and CIO of the United States who are saying that "labor must not strike." The effectiveness of the Wagner Act is decreasing rapidly.

A study of American labor history, however, shows us that trade unions were built in this country without a Wagner Act, and that unions can only lose by renouncing militancy. Our closest neighbor, the International Typographical Union, for example, built itself into a great union by its solidarity and willingness to fight for its rights.

The whole lesson, in its sum, is that vigilance and militant use of our rights and powers is the price of their preservation.

RESULT: BIG WAGE INCREASES



This is the way good contracts are won. The view of the negotiators and part of the Guild members who sat in as observers in negotiations between the Cincinnati Guild and Cincinnati Post on March 6. Virtually 100 per cent

of the local membership turned out. Management was admittedly impressed. At the end of the table (right) is Arthur Keller, acting editor of the Cincinnati Post, and to his left, Ed Schmitt, Guild negotiator; Carl Groat, Post editor; Fred Giesel, Post business manager;

Ed Carberry (with cigarette), Jack Frilling, and Henry Childress, Jr., Guild negotiators; Robert Stevens and Rollin Everett, Guild negotiators; Robert Linn, chairman of Guild committee, and Int'l Representative John Dunn.

IEB ELECTION VOTE

	Adams	Barnes	Everett	Kyhyll	Revell	Scott	Taylor	Williams
Albany	1							
Battle Creek	1							
Boston								
Cincinnati								
Cleveland								
Detroit								
Harrisburg								
Hawaii								
Indianapolis								
Kansas City								
Lehigh Valley								
Los Angeles								
Lyons								
Madison								
Memphis								
Milwaukee								
Minneapolis								
New York								
Northwestern Indiana								
Philadelphia-Camden								
Pittsburgh								
Portland								
Rochester								
St. Louis								
Salem								
San Diego								
San Francisco-Oakland								
San Jose								
Seattle								
St. Paul								
Tacoma								
Toronto								
Washington								
Wilkes-Barre								
Youngstown								
TOTALS	22	3	9	5	4	5	2	6

The following locals sent returns too late to be included in the official count:

Denver

Denver

Rockford

San Antonio

Rex Wallace Killed by Motor Crash

BATTLE CREEK—Rex William Wallace, a charter member of the Battle Creek Guild, sports editor of the Battle Creek Enquirer and News, and one of the most popular newspaper writers in this region, was killed Feb. 18 when his motor car crashed against a tree near Colon, Mich.

Wallace was recognized by his sports fans as a sports writer who was an active and "square" sportsman himself, and was probably the best liked man on the Enquirer and News staff among his fellow workers. Although 34, he still was playing a top-notch basketball game on local courts this winter.

Mrs. Wallace suffered fractures of both legs, head injuries and frozen feet in the accident. She was in the wreckage for six hours before she was found, still conscious, and taken to a hospital.

L. A. Endorses Referendums

LOS ANGELES—By a vote of 262 to 96 the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild membership endorsed the principle of popular elections of American Newspaper Guild officials in a mail referendum held recently.

Arguments in favor of popular elections were mimeographed and distributed under the signature of President Ted Le Berthon, who contended they would increase democracy in Guild affairs, strengthen rank and file confidence and participation in the union.

Arguments against popular elections were mimeographed and distributed under the signature of John Cobee, who asserted that campaigning and mass voting would cause confusion, disruption, and "clique control."

TRAPP ELECTED

BALTIMORE—Myer Trapp has been elected secretary of the Baltimore Guild, succeeding Robert R. Hare.

British Journalists Root for ANG in Times

Aid for the big campaign to complete organization of the New York Times came last week from an unexpected source, the National Union of Journalists of Great Britain.

In a letter to Guild President Donald M. Sullivan, mailed from London Feb. 6, General Secretary C. J. Bundock of the NUJ said that he and other officers of the big British newspapermen's union have read of the Times drive in the Guild Reporter.

The National Union of Journalists, he wrote, has been "much impressed with the great work you have done in organizing conditions under which American Journalists work and by the growth and effectiveness of your Guild."

Commenting upon efforts by the AFL to set up a dual union in the Times and other newspaper plants, he said:

"While it would be improper for us to attempt in any way to offer opinions upon the merits of organization in another

country, we do think we should not be overstepping the bounds of propriety in expressing to you, our colleagues, the misfortune which in our view would follow the setting up of two or three organizations to cover the same ground and to do the same work. In our opinion the result must be confusing, and therefore detrimental to the interests of the working journalists whose welfare, as we see it, is bound up in the perfection of one strong organization."

The Guild and the NUJ have had a compact of mutual recognition and cooperation for some years and both were affiliates of the International Federation of Journalists until that organization recently was suppressed by the Nazi invaders of France. Bundock said the NUJ "would not find it practicable" to recognize the cards of any other journalistic union in the United States.

Copies of Bundock's letter were distributed to Times employees.

IEB Raps Effort to Deport Bridges

The Guild International Executive Board joined, at its meeting last week, in the rising protest against efforts to deport Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, and the manner in which the efforts are being made.

In two resolutions adopted at the request of the Harry Bridges Defense Committee, the Board requested of President Roosevelt and Attorney General Robert Jackson that hearings of charges that he has violated alien laws be open to the public and that they be postponed past the March 31 date set by Jackson for their beginning.

The date for inauguration of the hearings, apparently by deliberate intent since requests for a change in date have so far been denied, will conflict with the April 7 opening of the annual national convention of Bridges' union. The Guild's IEB agreed with the Bridges Defense Committee that this was persecution designed to embarrass Bridges and his union.

Bridges was absolved, two years ago, after an exhaustive investigation by Dean James M. Landis of the Harvard University law school, of substantially the same charges upon which now, by executive order, he is to be tried a second time.

The new hearing will be conducted by Charles B. Sears, retired judge of the New York Court of Appeals, a life long Republican. Although generally regarded among lawyers as a mildly "liberal" and fair-minded judge, according to opinions collected by Federated Press, he is inexperienced in labor problems and circles.

KNOW OF A JOB? DON'T FORGET GUILD PLACEMENT SERVICE!

Canadian Government Suppresses Liberal Newspaper by Decree

TORONTO—The immense power held by the federal government to restrict freedom of the press has been brought home to Canadians by the suspension for a three-week period of the Canadian Tribune, an independent national weekly paper of news and opinion published here.

The suspension was imposed by proclamation of the Secretary of State for Canada, Pierre F. Casgrain, under the authority conferred upon him by section 15 of the Defense of Canada Regulations, which were enacted by the federal cabinet shortly after the outbreak of war.

The Tribune has been published since January, 1940. R. A. C. Balaustyne of Montreal, president of the Guild there, is one of its three associate editors.

Refused to Support War

Three days after the proclamation of suspension, Mr. Casgrain explained to the House of Commons the Government's reasons for the suspension.

The Tribune, he said, had "stubbornly refused to support Canada's war effort," and had "repeatedly carried material which was at least on the borderline of contravening the Defense of Canada Regulations."

The Government had shown "great restraint" in dealing with the paper, Mr. Casgrain said, because the paper "sought to create the impression that it is a left wing labor organ sincerely concerned with the problems of organized labor, the preservation of civil liberties and the welfare of the masses."

Printed Banned News

However, he declared, "the recent display given by this newspaper to material obviously inspired by the actions of Communists, in the light of its whole record, has driven the government to conclude that it could no longer justify its earlier forbearance."

Mr. Casgrain's reference to the material "obviously inspired by the actions of Communists" is interpreted here as referring to an article in the Feb. 1 issue by D. N. Pritt, K. C., Independent Labor member of the British House of Commons, in which Mr. Pritt discussed the program of the recent People's Convention held in London.

In printing the article, the Tribune pointed out that it had been mailed from England with the approval of the British censor.

Suppression of the paper has

been followed by nation-wide protest from organizations and individuals, and by criticism from some members of the House of Commons.

IEB PROTESTS CANADIAN TRIBUNE SUPPRESSION

The International Executive Board, at its meeting last week-end, ordered Secretary-Treasurer Victor Pasche to protest to the Canadian Secretary of State and to the Canadian Minister to the United States against suspension of the Canadian Tribune. The Board called the suspension an unwarranted interference with freedom of the press.

Harry Rowe, secretary of the Toronto Guild, protested to Casgrain for the Toronto Guild.

"Canadians who believe in civil liberty and a democracy worth fighting for," he said, "must feel that the Canadian Tribune was suspended almost on the same day as the Financial Post, organ of Canadian finance, was described by a government spokesman as Canada's No. 1 saboteur since the war started and it continues publication without hindrance or penalty against the wealthy interests it represents."

U.S. Survey Shows Typo Union Gains

With cold scientific dullness, burying its facts in agate columns of figures and baffling graphs, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor reports in the current issue of its Monthly Labor Review that unionism in the newspaper industry pays big returns to members of the unions.

The Bureau of Statistics, which abhors editorial comment in its reports worse than nature does a vacuum, doesn't consciously draw the moral from its figures which is here reported. The conclusion, however, is inescapable from the facts presented.

The proof is in a study of "Union Wages and Hours in the Printing Trades, June 1, 1940," prepared by Frank S. McElroy of the Bureau's Industrial Relations Division. For the study, McElroy surveyed union wages and hours in 72 major cities and compared the results with figures compiled since 1907.

Wages Highest Ever
He discovered, among other things, that:

The average wage for all union newspaper printing trades workers (including mailers) is \$1.31 an hour, or \$53.24 for a 40-hour week.

Wage rates for newspaper printing trades are 13.5 percent higher than in 1929—before the crash.

Hourly rates for these union workers have almost tripled since 1907.

Since 1929 the length of the work week has dropped nearly 20 percent, now averaging 37.5 hours.

In its typically dispassionate style, the McElroy study gets off right in the beginning by stating some potent reasons why every newspaper worker—printing craftsman or white collar employ—should belong to and support actively a union. After explaining how the facts were gathered, the writer says:

"There has been a general upward trend of union hourly wage rates for the printing trades in nearly every year since 1907."

A paragraph further along he notes:

"In contrast to wages in most other industries and trades, rates in the union printing trades were not generally reduced during the post-war depression. On the contrary, average wage rates increased 9 percent between May, 1929, and May, 1931."

Organization Responsible
There is, of course, no comparison made of union wages with wages paid non-union workers. Few employers are willing to reveal, for publication, what wages they pay unorganized workmen in such a field. But it is noteworthy, for its value in appraising the part that organization has played in achieving the in-

City Editor's Book Plugs the Guild
KANSAS CITY—"If the white-collared sissies on our staff had guts enough to join the Guild, we'd put a stop to this extra work without extra pay. Birds like Bantale prate about freedom of the press, but they don't object to paying slave's wages to the hired hands."

No, it's not a quote from a soapbox orator. It's a reporter talking, in a new novel written by Dan T. Kellher, city editor of the Kansas City Journal-Post. The book's called "Mystery Makes By-Lines." It's published by Arcadia House.

Kellher was a delegate to the Guild's 1937 convention. He volunteered, in this latest of many books and short stories he has written, with William Scott, another Journal-Post unit member,

created wages and shortened work week cited, that progress in the field has been consistent, through depressions as well as booms.

And once—just once in 31 pages of figures, graphs, and prosy presentation of data—the Labor Department's Mr. McElroy slips into a statement in plain language of the obvious moral.

"As a result of an intensified drive by the unions for the 44-hour week," he says, "during 1920 and 1921 there was a substantial reduction in the index of working hours."

High Night Differential
There were several interesting by-products of the survey, possibly useful to Guild bargaining committees.

The average wage-rate differential in favor of night workers on newspapers, as compared with day workers, was 10.8 cents an hour. For photo-engravers, with the greatest differential, the night bonus was 20.7 cents an hour.

Time and one-half was found to be almost universal as an overtime rate. Only 10 of 1,077 newspaper quotations differed from that norm.

Perhaps more important, in its indication of flaws in some Guild contract wage schedules, was the revelation that there is a comparatively minor wage differential between cities of the largest and smallest cities surveyed. In northern and Pacific coast cities, the hourly averages for all trades ran:

City Pop.	Avg. Wage
Over 1,000,000	\$1.461
500,000 to 1,000,000	1.396
250,000 to 500,000	1.276
100,000 to 250,000	1.154
40,000 to 100,000	1.122

Flag's Finks Lowest
In his concluding paragraph on wage rates, McElroy uncovered another and fairly conclusive proof that the steady and material improvement in the wages and other conditions of union members has been due to their own organization.

Printing trades rates in New Orleans, he found, were 9.1 cents an hour—the lowest rate discovered in all the 72 large and small cities surveyed. New Orleans (for the benefit of those who don't know the unsavory reputation of that city among printers) is notorious as the open-shop home of "Flag's finks," the crews of flag-breakers which the open shop division of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association has many times mustered in futile attempt to stop the union progress here recorded.

Benefits Sampled, Contract Signed

JOLIET, Ill.—President Geraldine Daly of the new Joliet local believes in direct action. When contract negotiations with the Joliet Herald-News were completed in January she and Publisher John F. Lax initiated the agreement.

"This provides for leaves of absence," said Jerry. "I'll take two months."

Last week she returned to her job and gave the contract her full signature, more than two months after it went into effect.

SABINE-NECHES SUPPORTS IEB REFERENDUM MOTION
The Sabine-Neches Guild reported to International Secretary Treasurer Victor Pasche, after the deadline for receiving ballot counts at headquarters, that its members cast the following vote in the recent referendum: eight opposed; eight against the Youngstown motion; none supporting. The ballots do not affect the official tally, reported in the last Guild Reporter.

RESEARCH DIRECTOR



Morgan Hull, an international representative of the Guild since 1936, when the IEB named at its recent meeting to a new post, Director of Research. He is already at his new job, gathering and tabulating information about bargaining organizational problems which will be transmitted to locals for their aid. Hull is a member of the San Francisco Guild.

Cincinnati Drive Gets Quick Results

CINCINNATI—Even the mention of the Guild brings results. Editorial employees of the unorganized Times-Star were contacted by the Guild recently as a preliminary step to a proposed organizing campaign.

Hardly had the word "Guild" spread about the Times-Star city room, when the management announced that the five-day week was being established for the first time. It has been in operation under a Guild contract on the Post for four years.

Shortly before the announcement of the five-day week, about 30 Times-Star editorial employees had attended a meeting called by the Guild to discuss organization. Following this meeting, some Times-Star editorial workers held another meeting at which they said they wanted no Guild representative. At this meeting an independent "editorial association" was established.

Leaders of the association declared that their organization was not a company union and they would not permit company domination.

Some members of the association said privately that they felt they were able to use the threat of Guild organization as a club to get salary standards and working conditions similar to those in the Guild contract with the Post.

The next day the Post-Gazette Guild unit voted unanimously to support the Council's peace proposals. Considerable pressure was being exerted to compel enforcement of craft union contract clauses barring union recognition of picket lines, and at a conference on March 11 the Pittsburgh Newspaper Publishers Association compelled delegates to the Council to agree to carry out their contracts with the Association.

At the same time the Post-Gazette management promised to meet the next day with the Council to iron out the dispute, with publication to resume beforehand.

Accordingly, the Council then persuaded the striking union once more to withdraw its picket line to further guarantee resumption of work. The conferences of March 12, at the last of which a new committee from the union was present, ended after midnight with no progress, since the management insisted that no striker could return to work until a new and far inferior contract was signed. And even then four jobs would be eliminated, the management insisted.

With the picket line restored the following morning, union members, including Guildmen, continued to work throughout the day. In the evening the rank and file "mailers," truck drivers and electricians refused to work, and the notice that publication was suspended was posted shortly after midnight.

IEB Refers Peace Meeting To Locals

An invitation from the American Peace Mobilization to the Guild to endorse and participate in a huge "American People's Meeting" in New York on April 5-6 was referred to Guild locals by the International Executive Board, at its last meeting, with a request that locals discuss the matter.

The Board instructed Executive Vice President Milton Kaufman to reply to the APM that:

"We are referring your invitation to our locals for their consideration."

"We are confident that the membership of the American Newspaper Guild is keenly concerned with the security of our country and with the question of peace or war, and that our membership will support all measures the purpose of which is to preserve genuinely the peace of our nation and the democracy of our people."

A substitute motion by Vice President Morris Watson to endorse the meeting and send delegates was tabled. Watson and Vice President George Wilson voted against tabling. Watson said he objected to the Board's action as "equivocal," in that the Board did not say whether it supports the meeting.

The American People's Meeting has been endorsed by a large number of nationally prominent leaders of labor and liberal organizations and many unions.

The call for the meeting declares that events in America are following the anti-democratic pattern of Germany, France and the other oppressed areas of Europe, and proposes the scheduled meeting "to mobilize the people for peace, liberty, and the common welfare."

Laughing in Ford Plant Legalized

DETROIT (FP)—John Gallo, fired by the Ford Motor Co. for laughing, after five years' satisfactory service, is laughing again.

His claim for unemployment compensation, fought by Ford, was upheld by Charles Rubinoff, referee in Michigan unemployment compensation commission appeals.

Gallo was observed by Ford Foreman Henry May laughing while at work on the steering gear assembly line. He was bounced.

Referee Rubinoff, in his reasons for decision, says: "One could hardly expect a worker to concentrate on the repetitious and the monotonous task of screwing on nuts on steering gears with the devouring energy and consuming fire of a Michelangelo or a Cellini on a work of art."

Perhaps the fact that Gallo joined the UAW-CIO was less of a joke to Ford than the latest laugh.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Cheers for Miss Bishop
MARTHA WILLIAM SCOTT
Presented by Richard A. Rowland
Rehearsal thru United Artists
Columbia Stage Service
Columbia Stage Service
Columbia Stage Service

WARTIME BRITISH PAPERS
British newspapers, pinched by war, are looking less and less like newspapers. Beginning March 16, penny newspapers will be reduced, by request of the government, to a maximum of four and two of four pages each. Two-cut to 10 pages. The number of copies to be printed by each newspaper will be limited by allocation of newspaper ink, a tonnage basis.

Private Letters of an Editor

Sub-title: Why Newspaper Men Join the Guild

NEWS ITEM

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 20—Attempts to unionize editorial workers have hindered progress of the newspaper man toward the Georgia Press Institute were told by Herbert Davidson, editor of the Daytona Beach, Fla., News-Journal.

The Florida editor, chairman of the committee on schools of journalism for the Southern Publishers Association, speaking at a banquet for Georgia editors last night, termed the Newspaper Guild "an unfortunate development."

While it represents an effort of newspaper workers to better their lot by talking to employers from the vantage point of organization, he said, it also attempts to measure work which, like that of a physician or lawyer, is essentially without time limit, in terms of hours.

Newspapermen must live a special kind of life like a doctor, the editor said, and possess an impersonal, penetrating analytical attitude.

"He must even marry a special kind of girl who is able to understand what this is all about and to put up with the vagaries of a newspaper career. And how can you reconcile clock watching with all this?"—Panama City (Fla.) News-Herald, Feb. 20, 1941.

THE PENSACOLA STANDARD
124 E. GOVERNMENT STREET
P. O. BOX 121 TELEPHONE 3645
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
February 20, 1941.

Mr. Herbert Davidson,
Editor, News-Journal,
Daytona Beach, Fla.

Dear Mr. Davidson:

I was so impressed with a press account of your anti-Guild speech before the Georgia Press Institute at Athens, Ga., Feb. 19, 1941, that I thought my personal experience, bearing directly upon the subject you discussed, might be of interest to you.

It was in my fourteenth year, while I was still in grammar school, that I became imbued with a conviction of the influence for good which a newspaper editor can wield, and resolved to be a newspaperman. Everything I did from that time was designed to further that one ambition.

In my third year in high school I had a chance to get a job as a reporter and, upon widespread advice that the actual experience beginning from that young age would be more advantageous than to study journalism in college, and since it would be necessary anyway that I work my way through a school of higher learning, I took the job.

Next, I turned to seek a position with an organization that would offer the greatest opportunities for advancement and, three

years later, after working for three different newspapers, I had a chance to go to work for a newspaper of the John H. Perry chain and jumped at the chance. This was at Pensacola, Fla., on the Journal.

I began on the night side, a couple years later got a transfer to the day side, on the News, and ever conducted myself with a view to advancement. I got a furlough from my job and spent eight months on an ocean-going steamer to get background material for the advance article it would give me in covering courts and speeches. I obtained textbooks on such subjects as "Words Often Misused" and practically memorized their contents.

I was particularly impressed with your statement that a newspaperman "must even marry a special kind of girl" for I married a talented musician who had completed a course of study under two of the best teachers in New York City, a girl who knew how to conduct herself with decorum in any

kind of company, a sweet personality, and in every way equipped to be an ideal companion to one engaged in the "adventurous vagaries of a newspaper career," to quote your words.

I stayed with the News-Journal Co. in Pensacola through the depression, studying and working just as hard when my salary was steadily declining from \$40 a week to \$25 a week as I did when my pay was on the upgrade, still looking forward contentedly to the "break" which I felt sure would finally come.

During this period I read somewhere about the organization of a newspaper editorial workers' organization called the Guild. I remembered that two of my brothers had been railway employees and that the good pay and working conditions on the railways were obtained only after long years of effort by railway unions, so I talked with my

associates on the News-Journal about a local unit of the Guild. They were either indifferent or openly hostile.

Since I wanted to see the Guild get along, I volunteered to become a member-at-large just for the little bit of good which my monthly dues might mean, my opportunity came. The John H. Perry chain established a new paper at Panama City, Fla., and I was made editor, when I was 28 years old.

I worked hard—hard—for it was the big chance to which I had been looking forward since I was a boy in grammar school. I felt that hard work and patience had paid my reward.

My salary was increased only slightly when I went into the new job, but that men no difference to me, so elated was I. I started going to work at 7 a. m., found that wasn't soon enough for me to do all I wanted to do, so moved up the time to 6, and then to 5:30, which meant I was getting proper sleep at night, this meant I had to go to bed by 8:30 p. m., which was none too early for me because many was the time I arrived home so tired that I almost staggered. But each morning I felt with renewed enthusiasm for what I hoped to accomplish that day.

And was I glad that I had married "a special kind of girl"? My home life was such as to give me an enviable standing in the community, my wife was in demand in all the music circles and on every special occasion by civic clubs and kindred organizations because of her lovely coloratura soprano voice, we had a child before leaving Pensacola and had two more after going to Panama City. . . . Since my salary at the end of my first year as editor had been increased from \$35 a week to \$50 a week, then further increased two and a half years later to \$90 a week, I was proudly proud that I could adequately provide for them.

Besides my success with the newspaper, which had gone from 1,200 circulation when I became editor, to 5,000 at the end of the first year, I had taken part in the organization of a Rotary Club and served as its president in its third year, had organized the Boy Scout movement there and served as Commissioner, taught a Sunday School class in the First Methodist Church, served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army and Red Cross Board of Directors, and had led in a number of civic enterprises. . . .

Four years passed. Mr. Perry, the president of the organization, who maintained offices in New York City and only occasionally visited Panama City, had absorbed the Western Newspaper Union to take up still more of his time. After he visited Panama City in January, 1940, during which he stopped at the office about five minutes with at least four minutes of the five taken up with talking about the cold weather, he wrote me a letter

telling me that he didn't have time to continue contacts with two men in each place and he was therefore placing one man in charge at Panama City as publisher, and was advancing the business manager to that position "with full power to act." I was disappointed, for I knew that publishers are usually selected from the business office. . . .

The new publisher had power to set the news policies and censor my editorials. In addition, he reduced the number of my assistants from three to two with the result that my duties were increased a third, although I already was on the job each day three to four hours before he arrived at the office between 9 and 10 a. m. . . .

Because of my reduced staff, I took no vacation that summer and even when my youngest child was stricken with the dread infantile paralysis, I stayed home but three days, and missed another three weeks later when we took her to Georgia Western Springs Foundation Hospital, at Warm Springs, Ga. Then along in the fall I heard, via the office grapevine, that the publisher was considering a further reduction in expenses.

I commented: "Well, one thing is sure; he can't cut any further back here, for a proofreader, a reporter and editor is all there is left!"

Never was I more mistaken.

Near the end of October he walked into my office and told me it would be necessary to cut the salary for my job about one-half, that he had talked with Mr. Perry and had his approval. I told him there would be no incentive for me to remain under those conditions and he said he expected that. He suggested (casually) that I get a job on the Rotarian magazine. . . .

Naturally, my first thought was of my baby in Warm Springs at \$25 a week. So I sent an air mail-special delivery letter asking for some concession and received a reply saying that they were sorry I had been

asked for such concern since it was Frank-

lin D. Roosevelt's purpose in establishing the foundation to provide treatment for all, whether able to pay or not. I uttered a silent prayer for Franklin D. Roosevelt, the man my recent employer, Mr. Perry, hated with a venom! . . .

I looked around for another job and found that the only daily job open paid from \$15 to \$25 a week, became convinced that the best I could even hope for would be about \$50 a week after another five years even if I took one of them. And how long, then, could I hope to last?

While that situation confronted me in the newspaper world, it was quite a different story if I wanted to do something else. The head of a life insurance office, hearing I was out of a job, offered me an agency at \$35 a week to begin and said he thought I could be confident of \$50 or \$75 a week within six months!

The thought of selling life insurance, the kind of work I had always regarded as the last thing in the world I ever wanted to do, almost floored me. But then, I reasoned, which should I do: maintain my "professional standing" at a below-subsistence wage, or be an insurance agent and keep my family provided with the things they have been used to having? . . .

More than ever was I thankful that, in all those years when my salary was going up and up, that I had maintained my Guild membership, for I could use that my confidence in it had been vindicated.

The truth is this: after 16 years in newspaper work, during which I applied myself honorably, thoroughly, proved my ability beyond question, attained an enviable success, even married a special kind of girl, I find myself suddenly sitting on the outside with a family to support and solely because of one instance of a nation-wide trend toward lower and still lower salaries for newspaper editorial department employees.

There is a strong and fearless Guild.

Only through organized effort can newspaper editorial workers place themselves "on a plane with lawyers and doctors" (to quote your words again) in that only through some such organization as the Guild can reporters and editors set their

own price and get it! And only then can they have some say about the conditions under which they work and not have, for a boss, someone who has never done a day's work in their line. I can hardly imagine a hospital surgeons' staff working under a chief who had never studied surgery, or the head of a law office being anything but a lawyer.

Because your speech was given publicly in the daily press, I am sending a copy of this letter to the Guild Reporter. . . . I have documentary proof for everything I have said.

Sincerely yours,
THORNE LANE.

P. S.—The Pensacola Standard, on whose letterhead this letter is written, is a newly established weekly in which I have a contributing interest.

DAYTONA BEACH TRIBUNE
DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.
February 27, 1941

Mr. Thorne Lane
Pensacola Standard
Box 1231
Pensacola, Florida

Dear Mr. Lane:

The press account of my speech at Athens must have stirred you deeply to inspire you to write me as you did. I am afraid it did not give a very complete picture of what I said.

My talk was not an "anti-Guild speech." It criticized the guild's conception that newspaper work can be measured in terms of hours, but on the other hand was devoted to an appeal to publishers to appropriate a larger portion of their expenditures to editorial salaries and the matter of giving consideration to men of long service was particularly stressed.

Your story, which is not the first of its kind I have heard, touches me very deeply. I hope that you will eventually be able to find a place in daily journalism where you may find not only adequate compensation but security. I should like to give you a chance here if I had an opening that would interest you, but a small newspaper has very few positions of responsibility which it can afford to fill at more than \$25 or \$30 a week. As a result we often lose our best men to larger fields. I wish it could be otherwise, and maybe some day it will.

If you ever come over to the east coast, drop in for a chat, and bring the special kind of girl with you.

With best wishes,
Sincerely yours,
HERBERT M. DAVIDSON,
Editor.

THE PENSACOLA STANDARD
124 E. GOVERNMENT STREET
P. O. BOX 121 TELEPHONE 3645
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
March 3, 1941

Mr. Herbert M. Davidson
News-Journal
Daytona Beach, Fla.

Dear Mr. Davidson:

I sincerely appreciate the courteous reply to my letter. . . . Your letter brings up a number of new points which I could answer but I don't

suppose you would be interested in carrying on a controversy through the mails any more than I would. . . .

There is just one point, though, that I cannot avoid mentioning. That is that pious appeals to publishers to make greater appropriations for editorial employees will never get reporters and editors one penny. Nothing of any great or lasting benefit has ever been accomplished through force, not even the Christian church and the Bible would ever have been spread throughout the world except by the life's blood of the martyrs. Therefore, while no one enjoys the bitter words flung from a picket line, nor the words flung from heads cracked by nightsticks, yet that AND ONLY THAT will get editorial workers the pay which will afford them a decent standard of living.

Sincerely yours,
THORNE LANE.

"... \$25 or \$30 . . ."

"I WAS MISQUOTED"

It Seems to Us...

This department is open to all Guild members in good standing, with virtually no limit on subjects which may be discussed. Letters may not exceed 500 words, however, and may be cut below that length to meet space requirements.

CANADIAN VOICES WARNING TO GUILD

MONTREAL, P. Q.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:
Dave Sinclair's wife has asked me to let you know how pleased she is that you printed my letter. If any books reach him at Petawawa, he will let her know, she will tell me, and I will let you know about it. Sinclair won't be able to acknowledge them himself, because he's allowed only one letter and one postcard a week. Incidentally, I am sure that Sinclair would be very glad to hear from United States Guildsmen. His address is care of Interment Camp, Petawawa, Ont.

The article on Canadian labor in the Feb. 15 issue was read here with much interest. Guildsmen with whom I have spoken about it agree that it was an ably done round-up from which United States Guildsmen ought to draw some conclusions. Already, it seems to me, it is unmistakably clear that events in the United States are following the course traced in Canada. We know from our experience that unless the American labor movement is alert to the dangers facing it, it will find itself in the same strait-jacket as the Canadian movement. Even alertness isn't enough. There has to be united opposition to the restrictions that the reactionaries are already apparently trying to place on the freedom of unions. Isn't Kelsen proposing limitation of the freedom to strike?

So, it seems to me, now that the referendum is over, the Guild ought to sink its apparent differences and unite on a program of building its strength so that it can be more effectively, as part of the labor movement, oppose the attacks that are coming. If it doesn't, it will certainly find itself part of a labor front.

CAM BALLANTYNE.

BOSTONIAN URGES MORE REFERENDUMS

BOSTON.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:
To one who has long been trying to sell the idea that the Guild membership has more political sense than the leadership or any opposition faction, it was a pleasure to see the rank and file take charge of an unholy mess created by both sides and straighten the matter out.

By passing the Youngstown resolution, it put the Guild squarely on record against Communism, served notice that it wants no part in any kind of Popular Front with Communists, and advised the leadership to be doubly on its guard against such painfully elaborate Communist Trojan Horses as "The Yanks Are Not Coming," "The Peace Ballot," and "The Peace Mobilization," which fool no one except a few militant unionists and sincere liberals.

By accepting the IEB resolution, the membership forced it to pin the red label on the Guild leadership, and should have discouraged the use of that label for merely factional purposes. The referendum returns, together with the spectacle of the Philadelphia election campaign, should be a warning to those who would start a witch hunt in the Guild.

The majority saved the organization, in spite of all the melodramatists and clever damned fools on both sides. Isn't it time to recognize that the Guild has an intelligent membership? Isn't it time to consider the democratic approach?

Why should the leadership shudder away from referenda? It has,

to be sure, an expert opinion on questions of bargaining policy, which are somewhat technical and require specialized training. Ordinarily its decisions on such matters, taken in the IEB and conventions, should be final, as long as the leadership remains honest and sincere. But on political questions the average Guild leader is no better qualified to pass judgment than the average member—in my opinion, he is much less so. It is true that referenda cost money and cause bother, but far less money and bother than splits in the Guild.

As one who has always believed that labor must enter political activity in self-defense, I am convinced that the Guild leadership should welcome referenda instead of considering them insulting; that it should take the initiative in using them to sound out membership opinion on political questions. I believe that we should build up unity of opinion on public matters as we build it in negotiations with a publisher: from the ground up. Why shouldn't the IEB, or the convention, present the membership with a series of fairly phrased referenda, beginning with such fundamentals as defense of the Wagner Act and Wage and Hour Act, and proceeding through other key points of labor policy, until we have built a realistic framework upon which we know that the majority agrees?—preferably a large majority—agree.

In the discussion preceding such referenda, membership and leadership would educate each other in political matters. The returns would carry much more weight with legislators and the public than resolutions passed by conventions, boards, executive committees, or thinly attended meetings of locals, upon which the political pronouncements of the Guild have too often rested. A referendum policy on political questions would promote unity rather than disunity, for it would reveal a basis upon which the great majority agree, and members of the minority, knowing they belonged to a minority and were not personally committed, would be more readily accept the results.

Yours for a referendum policy on political questions,
HENRY W. HARRIS.
Former Vice President for Newspaper Unions Labor's Non-Partisan League of Massachusetts.

OUR FACE IS APPROPRIATELY RED

ROCKFORD.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:
The Guild Reporter certainly stuck its neck out in the March 1 issue. It printed criticisms of itself, as shown by a questionnaire, and then named my own unit in the list of those participating in the survey.

The Reporter thus excellently illustrated a chief weakness—accuracy. We are one company, but the morning and evening papers engage in a delicious new competition. You called us the Rockford Star and Tribune. The correct name for the last half is Register-Republic.

The absolutely correct designation, however, is:
The Rockford REGISTER-REPUBLIC and Morning Star.

HYMAN CHESTER.
(To Brother Chester and the Register-Republic unit, our embarrassed apologies.)

JOHN O. KYKRIE.

KYKRI OPPOSES REFERENDUM ELECTIONS

(The San Francisco-Oakland Guild, which has endorsed the principle of election of ANG officers by referendum asked all of the eight recent candidates for election to the International Executive Board to state their attitude toward the proposal. John Kykrie, Milwaukee candidate, sent the following copy of his reply to "It Seems to Us...")

Mr. Arthur Gilbert, President San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild, San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Brother Gilbert:

I am sorry that I cannot go with the San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild position on the election of all ANG officers by direct ballot of membership.

I sympathize with your Guild's position in the matter. It is based on a belief that the election by direct ballot will be an extension of democracy. I agree that that would be desirable. But is that goal achieved by the direct ballot? Frankly, I do not believe it is. It would be if we had a membership fully informed and alert as to men and issues. We haven't and neither has any other democratic organization and I believe ours is as democratic as they come.

The membership in such an election will be voting blindly or guided by Guild Reporter synopses and the advice of delegates to conventions. I believe the membership will naturally turn to the delegates who will be most familiar with the candidates and the issues. If that is true, why not let the delegates elect the officers in the first place? Aren't they after free and full debate, in the best position to judge which men are best for Guild leadership?

I am—and I am sure you are—interested in making democracy effective. Here we have almost invariably sent delegates to the national convention uninstructed. That would seem on the surface a denial of the local membership's right to decide the forthcoming issues? But what is the alternative? Delegate after delegate at national convention gets up and votes against his convictions and in accordance with his instructions. Meantime the uninstructed delegate has been able to make up his mind and his vote, when it is cast, will have more effect on national policies than that of the instructed delegate.

The thing could be carried to an absurdity. Delegates could be sent to the convention rigidly instructed on all candidates and all issues. It is obvious what would happen to national conventions and that that would not be democracy.

I believe the proponents of the direct election hope it will minimize the operations of factions and cliques. I fear this factionalism will deepen. Cliques will find it easier to manipulate elections. . . . We agree, I believe, that the Guildsmen most susceptible to a specious argument is the one who regularly absents himself from meetings, does not know what is going on. The direct ballot would put this Guildsmen in the deciding role. I contend that this would not be democracy effective. I do not believe the Guild, locally or nationally, should be run by absenteees.

JOHN O. KYKRIE.

GERRY HANNA.

GERRY HANNA.

SAYS WE OVERLOOKED MOST IMPORTANT ISM

MONROE

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

Can't we initiate another referendum to keep the minds of the members of the Guild occupied with matters of major consequence while the forces of reaction enslave the labor movement. I would like to condemn rheumatism.

It should have no place in the Guild. In fact, it should have no place in any individual Guildsmen or Guildswoman. It is not only an ism, it is a painful one. I know because my aged mother is a victim of this sinister ism—and so am I.

Every time rain threatens—and it threatens quite often here—my left elbow reminds me that I was kicked down a flight of stairs by the assistant dean of students at the University of North Carolina in 1924. I believe it was. He booted me because he thought I hadn't been properly respectful to a chapel speaker sponsored by the Y.M.C.A.

It all resulted from a huge amount of muddled thinking on the part of the college official, who later apologized but was nevertheless quietly eased off the faculty. He thought a group of us were lampooning the speaker, who was advocating male sex purity until marriage and presenting all the horrible consequences of unbridled passion. As a matter of fact, we were merely being publicly initiated into a literary fraternity.

I got the business end of the assistant dean's shoe because I stood my ground when he tore at two of us in a rage. In the tumble down the chapel steps, I received a crushed elbow.

That's how I got my painful ism—from a reactionary who kicked first and thought later. This reactionary, however, differs radically from those who now hold the stage in the nation. He thought later—and was remorseful, or said he was.

But regardless of where the ism came from, I think the Guild ought to do something about it. It is a subversive influence and retarding national defense.

The possibility and probability of a Roosevelt "It despotism" to preserve democracy" is of minor importance as long as we have rheumatism boring from within Guildsmen and Guildswomen. Let's get on the League-Lend Bill and attacks on the labor movement. Let's let the unemployed "root hog or die." We've got an important business. First things come first—even ahead of wages and working conditions. We've got to get rid of this ism.

HAROLD BREARD.

GERRY HANNA DISCUSSES LETTERS COLUMN POLICY

BATTLE CREEK.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

It is very encouraging to discover the Guild Reporter attempting to make something of its "Letters-to-the-Editor" column besides a scrub board for the washing of dirty linen.

I liked the two "Dear Fred" letters published in the March 1 issue as "examples" of what the new "It Seems to Us" column would like to use, and I heartily agree with Brother James of Tacoma that the slew of Philadelphia correspondence in the previous issue was distasteful. That was putting it mildly. It was putrid.

Now, I am not arguing that all letters to the Guild Reporter should be panegyrics. Constructive criticism should always be welcomed. But when the editor of a labor paper is obliged to print pure invective aimed at himself—as many of the letters from Philadelphia were—it is time the policy be changed for the sake of the union.

If it were not for the injury done to the Guild—the whole Guild—I should be inclined to laugh over the whole "Philadelphia Story." The incident had all the appearance of a kindergarten on the loose.

GERRY HANNA.

MEMBER ASKS COST OF CONDUCTING REFERENDUM

NEW YORK

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

Now that the communism issue has been "settled," I am wondering how much the referendum cost the dues payers. If you see fit to print this letter, will you please add an "editor's note," stating whether the GUILD REPORTER is compiling data on the cost of the referendum and when it will be published.

J. J. SHORES.
(Secretary-Treasurer Victor Pasche supplies the following figures on cost of the referendum: Postage, \$70.75; stationery, \$5.00; printing of ballots, \$28.53; overtime pay to clerical staff, \$255.30. The total is \$387.57. This total, of course, does not include the cost of administrative work, nor the presumably very considerable cost to many locals of conducting the balloting.)

CHICAGO APOLGIZES TO ADE AND ALL

CHICAGO.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

Are our faces red! In the midst of our lockout campaign against the Hearst-American and hectic drive for a contract renewal on the Times, the official ballot for international vice president arrived in the Guild office. In some manner it was mislaid and didn't reappear until a chapel meeting two days after the deadline for voting.

So the Chicago Guild, which nominated Louis Ade of the Northwestern Indiana Guild, failed to have its votes recorded in the election. We offer our apologies to Louis and this explanation to the membership.

AL JACKSON, CNG President.

CHICAGOAN ANALYZES ELECTION DEFEAT

CHICAGO.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

I cannot permit to go unchallenged the statement in a recent letter to the GUILD REPORTER that Communism lost the Hearst plant election and wrecked the Guild in Chicago. Harry Read, the author, a strike leader by himself, knows that the election was lost, because:

1. Strikebreakers and non-Guildsmen retained by the management so that they could vote, outnumbered the returned strikers.

2. These strikebreakers and non-Guildsmen, feared that they would be fired if the Guild won the election, hoped that if the Guild lost they would be retained.

3. Many company union members could not be dissuaded from the belief that the management would discover how they voted.

4. The strike, which lasted 17 months, engendered bitter feeling between Guildsmen and those who remained in the plant, which could not be erased in the four and one-half months between the strike settlement and the election, despite the nightly calls paid to the homes of non-Guildsmen during the organizing campaign.

5. The company unions, having obtained, on the strength of our strike, contracts which in respect to wages and hours were exact copies of contracts won by the Guild before the strike, were persuaded that the Guild could negotiate no immediate improvements. To them, one contract looked as good as another.

The Guild is far from wrecked in Chicago, because:

1. It is a vital organization on the Chicago Times, where a new editorial contract has just been signed.

2. The Chicago Hearst unit is pressing a vigorous campaign through publicity and the labor board against the Chicago Herald-American. It recently rejected an offer of \$2,000 to call off the campaign, insisting that the management live up to its contract.

3. Most of those discharged from the Hearst plant are maintaining good standing and taking (Continued on Page Nine)

NEWS OF LOCALS

Local 120 Votes 2-Edged Assessment

WILKES-BARRE—By an overwhelming vote, members of Local 120 have approved an executive committee plan to raise a defense fund by 12 monthly assessments of 50 cents for each member. The plan has another objective—to boost attendance at regular meetings.

A member will be entitled to a 25-cent rebate for each stated meeting he or she attends. In months when an international assessment is paid, the local levy will automatically be suspended.

NEW ST. LOUIS OFFICERS

ST. LOUIS—Ray Kringer, member of the Star-Times unit of the St. Louis Guild, was elected president of the local in a recent mail ballot. He succeeds Bernard A. Walsh, also of the Star-Times unit. Kringer has just completed a term as chairman of the Representative Assembly and previously served two terms as chairman of the Star-Times unit. He is chairman of the committee now negotiating a new Guild contract with the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, and during the past year has been chairman of the Guild organizing committee.

Elwood Douglas of the Post-Dispatch, a former local president, was reelected first vice president, and Miss Frances E. Foster of the Star-Times unit, who was elected secretary following the resignation of the late R. G. (Jack) Bellairs, was reelected second vice president. Foster Eaton of the Star-Times unit, who was elected secretary following the resignation of the late R. G. (Jack) Bellairs, was reelected second vice president.

L. A. MONTHLY PAPER GETS PRINTED DRESS

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Guild's monthly newspaper, "The Guildman," made its first appearance in tabloid letterpress dress last month. It formerly was a mimeograph product.

The inaugural issue in the new form, edited by William Ryan and dedicated by the local Representative Assembly to the late George Rogan, featured a statement by Ted LeBerthon, local president, of Los Angeles Guild progress during the last year.

Membership in good standing doubled during the year, LeBerthon reported, a large debt was liquidated and a substantial treasury balance created, 100 new members were gained, and two new Guild shop contracts signed with pay raises for many members.

MEISBURGER HEADS K.C.

KANSAS CITY—New officers of the Greater Kansas City Guild are: Ed P. Meisburger, president; Rex Chancy, first vice president; Millard Hunsley, second vice president; Homer Hale, treasurer; Paul V. Beckley, secretary. Meisburger was a delegate to the last convention.

HAMMOND DELEGATES

HAMMOND, Ind.—Harry S. Gallagher, rewriter and reporter, and John Tanagerman, advertising salesman, were elected delegates to the Lake County Industrial Union Council by the Northwestern Indiana Guild at its February meeting. Both are employees of The Hammond Times.

WIRE GROUP TO MEET NEXT WEEK

Executive Vice President Milton Kaufman this week called a meeting of the national Wire Service Committee, of which he is chairman, for March 19.

Chief matter to come before the committee members, most of whom are wire syndicate employees, will be the current negotiations with United Press. Preparations by several Associated Press bureaus for new bargaining also will be discussed.

The meeting will be held in the New York Guild club.

PAY YOUR DUES AND ASSESSMENTS!

Whose side is Read on, anyhow? HARRY WOHL.



This father and son team is leading Guild negotiations with the Columbus Citizen. They are Arthur Robinson (left), Columbus Citizen president, and J. A. Robinson, Arthur's father, who was local president last year and now is vice president. Son is in the editorial department, father sells advertising.

SPRINGFIELD ELECTS

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio—The Springfield (Ohio) Guild held its annual election of officers on Feb. 16, and the following officers were named for 1941:

John T. Brown, reelected president; Robert F. Sullivan, vice president; Stanley Freville, vice president; Wilbur Morris, reelected treasurer. Ben E. Williams was elected a member of the executive committee.

JAFFE GOES TO LYNN

LYNN—Ed Jaffee, former secretary of the New England District of the Guild, has joined the editorial desk staff of the Chicago Herald-American unit and was participants in the famous 1938-40 strike. Jaffee was chairman of the strike advertising committee, and Wohl has been president of the Chicago Guild and a member of the International Executive Board.

Their magazine will condense the most important and readable articles, news stories, fiction and poetry in the general and labor press each month, analyze legislation and court decisions affecting labor, and review new labor books.

"We propose to do a job of honest reporting and make labor news interesting," said Wohl. "We will not take sides, but will present fairly the developments in this tremendous field of American life."

A special introductory subscription for five months may be had for \$1. A full year's subscription is \$3, although two or more annual subscriptions sent in together may be had for \$2.50 each.

Offices of Labor Digest are at 82 West Washington St., Chicago.

HUDSON COUNTY ELECTS

JERSEY CITY—William J. Toffey, Jr., Jersey Journal reporter, is the new president of the Hudson County Guild. He succeeds Wallace Ashley, Hudson Dispatch, who returned to his old job as treasurer. Other officers for the year are Graham Roskein, vice president; Melville D. Shapiro, secretary; Howard Kay, assistant secretary; and Thomas O'Connor, Horace Tani, Ellis Shapiro and Helene Pleasants, executive board.

SIoux CITIANS LEAD LOCAL CIO

SIoux CITY—Don Pinkston, ANG vice president, and Frank Mercurio, local treasurer, were elected officers of the Sioux City Industrial Union Council at its annual meeting. Pinkston is council president, and Mercurio is treasurer. Mercurio is a street circulator for the Journal, Pinkston a reporter.

KNOW OF A JOB DON'T FORGET GUILD PLACEMENT SERVICE!

Texas Guild Helps Form CIO Group

SAN ANTONIO—A CIO Industrial Union Council was organized here last month, and Guildsmen David Beardsley elected its temporary chairman, because the San Antonio Guild and other local CIO unions have been experimenting with labor unity and have discovered that it pays off.

Acting as a provisional council, representatives of the Guild, the United Federal Workers of America, and the Pean Shellers' Union.

Beardsley, the temporary chairman, is an active member of the Light unit. He formerly was a member in Syracuse, N. Y.

NEW UTILITY LEADERS

UTICA—The Utica Guild has elected these officers: President, Leonard P. Wilbur, Observer-Dispatch copyreader; vice president, Arthur Vallee, Observer-Dispatch reporter, and unit chairman, and John W. Kelly, Jr., Press sports editor and unit chairman; secretary, Bramwell Terrill, Press copyreader; collectors, Mrs. Kathryn Jackson, Observer-Dispatch, reporter, and Henry Leader, Press, state editor.

Wilbur, on taking office at the annual meeting, said: "We never belonged to an organization that didn't do things, and this is no exception."

He will lead negotiations for a contract to replace one expiring May 6.

DUES COLLECTORS FETED BY LOCAL

MINNEAPOLIS—Dues collectors of Twin Cities Guild units, the heroes of every-day Guild work who are unsung through the year, got their deserved tribute at a dinner given for them by the local in one of the best hotels in town.

Besides winning and dining, the collectors and local officers discussed collectors' problems and the bookkeeping phases of their job.

The dinner has become a local custom which has proved its merit.

NEW BOSTON SECRETARY

BOSTON—C. R. Owens, former treasurer of the Boston Guild who did not seek reelection in the annual election, has been elected secretary to succeed Charles Whipple, recently named an ANG organizer and assigned to Pittsburgh. Owens is a Globe reporter.

KNOW OF A JOB DON'T FORGET GUILD PLACEMENT SERVICE!

ACW Head Backs Strike-Breaking

Frank Rosenblum, acting president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, approves of the strike-breaking activities of his New York Joint Board and is indignant because Guild representatives quoted him to the contrary.

Rosenblum has issued a statement contradicting the report of Morgan Hull, ANG representative, John F. Ryan, general organizer of the N. Y. Guild, and Hamilton Whitman, of the Daily News, a member of the strike committee. The three Guildsmen say, Rosenblum for two hours explained how much he disapproved of the Joint Board's defense of the employer and the Board's interference with the Guild strike.

At strike headquarters Sam Landau, strike chairman, expressed disappointment at Rosenblum's denial that he disapproved of his union's strike-breaking activities.

Landau said:

"The strikers were hopeful that the acting president of the Amalgamated would publicly disavow this strike-breaking action. If Mr. Rosenblum insists that he, too, is a strike-breaker,

I suppose there is nothing that we can do about it."

Ryan said he, Hull and Whitman had not felt it necessary to quote Rosenblum in full, but said that since Rosenblum raised the question of being misquoted that it was only fair that the full story of the conversation be told.

Ryan said that the Guild committee visited Rosenblum by arrangement with the CIO national office in Washington and that the conversation opened with Rosenblum stating:

"Before we begin I want you gentlemen to know that I had nothing to do with this statement. I think it is unwarranted and if I had known that it was going to be made I would have tried to stop it."

Ryan explained that Rosenblum did not, however, give his approval to the strike. In fact, according to Ryan, Rosenblum said it was his personal opinion that the Guild was wrong and the employer was right.

Rosenblum then disapproved "But I don't believe one CIO union should interfere with the affairs of another," Rosenblum is quoted as having said in giving the reason for his objection

to the Joint Board's statement, which denounced the strike as a "Communist plot" to destroy the Jewish press.

"Rosenblum said many things during the meeting which opened our eyes to the Amalgamated leadership's real attitude toward the CIO," Ryan declared.

"Rosenblum, who is a vice president of the CIO as well as Sidney Hillman's substitute in the Amalgamated, said that he had reached his opinion of the strike issues without consulting the Guild or the CIO Industrial Council.

"We asked him who he had talked to and who the Joint Board had talked to in order to reach the conclusion that there was a Communist plot afoot. Rosenblum answered that he had received reports from people for whom he had the highest respect but would not give their names.

"Ignorant of Strike

"During the conversation Rosenblum referred to the '12 strikers.' When we told him there were 40 strikers, not 12, he seemed surprised but this, evidently, did not change his opinion.

"Rosenblum's attitude toward the strike at that time could be

summed up as hostile but cautious. He didn't like the strike, nor the Guild, but was against any one in his union saying so publicly."

The statement which Rosenblum sent to New York papers and the Guild Reporter, carries the same misstatements of fact that have been broadcast by the publisher of the Day. Rosenblum describes the strike as a jurisdictional controversy between the Perezet Verein (Jewish Writers Club) and the Guild.

The only issues in the strike are the firing of seven employees and the reduction of the salaries of six other in violation of a contract.

Rosenblum's statement also declares: "Of course in their view (Joint Board's) that the Jewish Writers Union, an independent bonafide trade union of editorial writers, in existence about 25 years, is entitled to exclusive jurisdiction in that field. The Jewish Writers Union maintained during that period, and maintains now, the highest scale of any writer's organization in this country."

"Rosenblum ignores the fact that the writers on the Day have had four pay cuts totaling 40 per cent in five years and that the level of wages at the time of the strike was below Guild minimums in New York. No labor contract ever existed between the Perezet Verein and the Day, except a written agreement arrived at 20 months ago to the effect that no writer would object to the pay cuts which the management instituted at that time.

"Another part of Rosenblum's statement drew the fire of H. Richard Sells, ANG representative.

Rosenblum stated: "When my office was in Chicago I aided the Guild in its struggle against the Hearst papers in that city despite the fact that I differed with the Guild leaders of that strike."

Sellers said in reply:

"It was not until Rosenblum was removed as CIO regional director that we were able to get any cooperation from the CIO office. In fact, Rosenblum personally prevented us from obtaining the list of CIO unions to use in strike activity."

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Lynn's 1939 Strikers Win Wage Increases

LYNN—The Daily Evening Item was brought under its first Guild contract this week, a contract containing wage and security provisions for which the Guild members of the editorial staff waged a four months strike in 1939.

"Since settlement of the strike in November, 1939, the editorial department has been operating under terms of an arbitration award which guaranteed very little security or anything else. The

award failed to reflect the great effectiveness of the strike.

While Lynn wages had already come pretty well into line with those of other newspapers under contract in the area, the agreement makes some further improvements. One person was reclassified to give her full staff pay, a \$10 weekly increase, and the salary schedules of district men and society reporters were raised \$50.

Holidays, seven of them, will be granted for the first time, and the best national emergency clause in New England Guild contracts was secured. The latter reads:

"The Publisher agrees that all employees who leave their posts to serve in the armed forces of the United States or their adjuncts shall be granted the same or comparable posts immediately upon their return, with such service considered as service for the Publisher as far as computation of severance pay and experience rating are concerned. Such military or naval service shall otherwise be considered a leave of absence."

"The management agrees to pay the entire cost of an employee's group insurance policy while such employee is serving in the armed forces of the United States or their adjuncts. In the event such a person is incapacitated in the service, he shall receive severance pay due him."

The agreement sets up the five-day, forty-hour week, guarantees two weeks vacations and contains model contract provisions on outside activity, security, wages, and duration and renewal.

The contract was negotiated by Joseph Levin of the Boston Globe, Charles L. Whipple, now an ANG resident organizer, and George Markham, executive vice president of the New England District.

BOARD ENDORSES LABOR SEMINARS

Secretary-Treasurer Victor Pasche reported to the IEB that he had informed the National Religion and Labor Foundation, in response to an invitation to the Guild to send a fraternal delegate to its National Conference on Theological Education and Labor on Feb. 27, that only the IEB could take such action.

The Board voted authority to the Executive Vice President to send fraternal delegates to future meetings of the conf. and, to spread the Foundation's "Living Labor Seminars."

KNOW OF A JOB

DON'T FORGET

GUILD PLACEMENT SERVICE!

City Fathers Praise Union

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa. (FP)—The city council here defended the State County and City Workers' Union (CSCU) against a charge of "Communist control," made by Lewis G. Hines, Pennsylvania secretary of labor and industry and former AFL organizer. The New Kensington council said:

"Resolved that City Council go on record endorsing the State County and Municipal Workers' Union, in view of the accusation made in the press against the union that it is a Communist organization. By Lewis G. Hines, state secretary of industry, and to further state that our local union is composed of men who have been in the employ of the city for a number of years."

"Most of them are property owners we count as good American citizens and since the union came into being in the city we have found it to be a very of innovation as the workers are more satisfied, conscientious and industrious in their work."

ANPA Paints 'Pretty Picture'

In a booklet entitled "Another Pretty Picture" and aimed at advertisers, the American Newspaper Publishers Association reports 1940 lineage gains in all major newspaper advertising classifications except financial.

Compared with 1939, the publishers' little book copulates, national advertising rose 2.5 per cent; retail, 1.3 per cent; classified, 4 per cent.

Total increase was 2 per cent.

LOCAL THANKS AN AFL FRIEND

WILKES-BARRE—A resolution felicitating William J. Krommel, for 30 years Wilkes-Barre business agent of the Brewery and Soft Drink Workers' Union (AFL), upon his promotion to national headquarters secretary with headquarters at Cincinnati, was adopted by the Wilkes-Barre Newspaper Guild at its last meeting. The resolution was unanimously adopted, with a motion that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Cincinnati Guild. Krommel was leader of an AFL group which rendered aid to the Guild local in the six-month strike of 1936-39.

Plans were announced for the 1941 Guild to be held next November.

Detroit News Drive Goes Into High Gear

DETROIT—The Detroit Guild this month swung into intensive organizing work in the commercial departments of the long-unorganized Detroit News, where within the past month an editorial unit of well over 100 persons has been formed.

News unit chairman Robert S. Ball, with local Guild officials, held an organizing meeting for

commercial employees March 6 which was attended by 50 persons. A mimeographed letter over Ball's signature, citing the reasons for joining the Guild and the benefits to all of plant-wide organization, was sent to the commercial department mailing list.

With the letter went copies of "News Notes," a mimeographed paper put out by News Guildsmen. Meanwhile, a commercial department employee of the News has joined the Guild in scattered departments after individual conversations with Guildsmen.

The first issue of "News Notes" was distributed by hand through the News building, after management representatives had refused the use of office bulletin boards to the Guild, at a meeting held Feb. 24.

The paper told of the establishment of contract study and dues-collection committees in the News unit, of the projected commercial departments meeting, carried an editorial on the value of contractual security to the employee who is not protected by an individual contract, and reported the meeting with the management.

During the meeting, the paper reported, Clarence D. Brewer, News attorney representing the management, declared that the News will do nothing to hinder organization and has informed department heads that they must remain "neutral." Guildsmen had told him of apparent attempts by some department heads to discourage organization.

ON COUNCIL AFFILIATION

YOUNGSTOWN—The March meeting of the Youngstown Guild will decide whether the Steel City local will join the CIO local and state councils. Youngstown Guildsmen have twice voted to table invitations to join the CIO councils. The last vote was more than a year ago.

The February meeting acted to boycott Hearst publications, following notice of the Chicago lock-out, and voted to second the nomination of Barney Taylor of Washington for international vice president.

In an attempt to increase attendance at meetings, the meeting voted a 50 cent assessment for non-attendance, excepting when sickness, studies, or vacations prevent. Out-of-town correspondents are exempted.

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Guild Unit Wins A Restaurant

CHICAGO, Ill.—Times unit Guildsmen protested an office rule and have been promised a restaurant!

Night shift employees objected to the rule which prohibited use of an electric cooker to warm food brought from home. They complained that the only accessible night beanery was unappetizing.

Publisher S. E. Thomason told Carleton Kent, grievance committee chairman, tentative arrangements had been made for installation of a restaurant in the building, subsidized by the newspaper. It will be kept open for use of employees, he said.

Labor in Review

Biggest Labor-Industry Showdown Nears Climax

A BIG showdown is just around the corner! Organized labor and organized industry, unless something close to a miracle transpires, must very soon reach a point at which they will lock in mighty battle.

Signs of the impending—already developing—struggle include:

1. Leaders of the United Mine Workers (CIO) are in New York to negotiate a new biennial contract with soft coal operators. The present agreement, covering 600,000 men, expires April 1. For more than 20 years federal intervention in some form has usually been necessary to bring miners and operators together.

2. The Steel Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) was scheduled to present the U. S. Steel Corp. with the 28 days' required notice before negotiating an agreement covering 250,000 workers. The pact also affects the wages and working conditions of another half million employed by steel companies which follow the lead of U. S. Steel. Informal negotiations in progress since last November came to a halt when the SWOC rejected an offer of a 2½ cents increase and demanded 10 cents an hour more.

3. The United Automobile Workers (CIO) was scheduled to lead 100,000 Ford workers on strike March 28, unless the Ford Motor Co. agrees to bargain collectively. On another front the UAW was preparing to present General Motors with demands for a new contract covering an estimated 200,000 workers.

4. In the midst of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee (CIO), after days of futile negotiations in Washington, prepared to extend its strike against the International Harvester Co. by calling out workers in other Harvester plants. Four plants employing 15,000 men are now out.

5. The Bethlehem Steel Corp., holder of \$1,080,000 in defense contracts, violated its agreement ending a recent strike at its Lackawanna plant in upstate New York. The SWOC in a wire to President Roosevelt warned that unless the company met with the union as provided in the settlement, the SWOC would not be responsible for any breakdown in production.

6. In the far west the Department of Justice prepared to open deportation proceedings on March 31 against President Harry Bridges of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (CIO).

7. Looming over the entire situation was the President's statement at his March 7 press conference that he was considering the establishment of a new labor board to prevent strikes in defense industries.

CIO WILL OPPOSE SUPER MEDIATION BOARD

CREATION of any federal mediation board composed solely with possible labor disputes will be opposed by the CIO. President Philip Murray indicated this month in a memorandum submitted to Sidney Hillman, associate director-general of the Office of Production Management.

Murray's memo, submitted through Allan S. Haywood, CIO director of organization, was in reply to a proposal for a federal mediation board which was presented to a meeting of the CIO vice presidents early in February.

The proposal, as outlined in the March 1 Guild Reporter, called for a mediation board of three "public representatives" to be assisted by an advisory council of eight composed of representatives of the AFL, CIO, chamber of commerce, and National Association of Manufacturers.

The basic weakness in the establishment of such a board, Murray said, is that "an instrumentality of this kind will necessarily find its attention directed against labor in order to maintain status quo as much as possible."

Under present conditions, he added, "and as the situation may develop in the near future, this will necessarily be projected in the direction of stopping wage increases or improvement of working conditions for labor."

The memo listed five objections to the proposal, which previously was submitted to the AFL and approved by its executive council, and said that extension of collective bargaining was the best guarantee for avoiding labor disputes.

CREATION of the super agency to exercise jurisdiction over all nationally important labor problems is definitely in the wind, however, President Roosevelt indicated March 7 at his bi-weekly press conference.

Emphasizing that the matter is still in the study stage, the President left the impression during his discussion of current labor conditions that the action will be taken to handle labor relations problems involved in national defense.

In discussing with reporters the possibility of setting up a new agency, the President said that he was considering the matter from long-range aspects, involving not only labor relations and

With the AUXILIARY

By MARY FOND
Reporter for ANG Auxiliary

MONROE PLEDGES CHICAGO AID IN MESSAGE TO ALL LOCALS

"Station MNGA Calling"—and the Monroe Auxiliary issues to all locals of ANGA a message concerning its growth during the recently-settled strike in that city and pledging itself to greater activity in the future.

With a bow to the other Guilds and Auxiliaries for the "blood transfusions" given Monroe at the time of the "operation," the Auxiliary concludes its statement with:

"And above all we made the 'acquaintance' of our sisters in the labor movement—we learned from these acquaintances that we could have been of inestimable assistance to our Guild by building up the support of the labor movement in the pre-strike days by aiding and assisting the members in their weak struggle for better conditions—we learned that we could have exercised our political strength in getting the support of the politicians—we learned that we could have established respect and admiration prior to the showdown by operating as an active group of trade unionists—we learned, from the support of the organized wives of other Guildsmen, what organization means in fighting the battle. We pledge ourselves here and now to prove our worth to those sisters and brothers who taught us these things and supplied us with the necessities to win our battle."

"We dedicate our future work to the supreme sacrifice that others might gain."

NEW YORK HELPS DAY STRIKERS; AIDS TIMES ORGANIZING

New York Auxiliary members are working hard to help the Guild get advertisers to withdraw from the Jewish Day, New York paper against which the Guild is on strike. All members of the auxiliary are writing letters and committees of members are calling on the unfair advertisers. Two new members of the NGNYA, wives of strikers on the Day, attended the March 8 membership meeting and stressed the need of help for the strikers. Auxiliary members are needed continuously on the picket line.

Headline entertainment at less than 10 cents an act will feature the New York Times unit and Guild Auxiliary cocktail party, Sunday, March 23, from 4 to 7 at the Newspaper Guild Club. Hiram Sherman, master of ceremonies, Jimmie Savo, *mine supreme*, Felicia Reilly, dancer, and House and Kingsley, lute and piano, will be included for the admission price of 35 cents.

A Consumer and Home Defense meeting, sponsored by the CIO Council of Auxiliaries, was held March 7 at the Guild Club. Prominent speakers representing government, trade union, and the consumers, discussed consumer problems. NGNYA will hold a meeting March 26 at which individual members of the Auxiliary will lead a panel discussion based on the March 7 meeting.

ST. LOUIS CARRYING ON DIVERSIFIED PROGRAM; REFLECTS MRS. PRETHOLD

"What the Well-Dressed Auxiliary Member Will Wear" might well be the title of the discussion planned for the pre-Easter meeting of the St. Louis Auxiliary, when an experienced stylist will speak in what is one of the widely-varied programs offered by that Auxiliary. Other topics covered during the past year have included "Streamlined Cooking," "Labor and National Defense," "Political and Economic Conditions in Mexico," "Flower Arrangements," with a demonstration, and a review of "For Whom the Bell Tolls."

On its first birthday in March the SLNGA found that its membership had doubled and its strike aid fund was at \$32. The yearly report also shows a healthy treasury balance and a preference for afternoon meetings where refreshments are served after the discussion program and before the business meeting.

The agenda of the St. Louis Auxiliary for the next several weeks includes assisting the local Guild with the annual dance, with money from selling flowers and raffle chances to be earmarked for a portable radio, and helping the Guild to build a defense fund for the proceeds of which will be used to build a defense fund for the local.

Mrs. Hannah Prethold has been re-elected president of the Auxiliary. Other officers for the coming year are: vice president, Mrs. Doris Talley; treasurer, Mrs. Marge Plowman; secretary, Mrs. Nancy Sullivan; organization committee chairman, Mrs. Henrietta Meyer; education committee chairman, Mrs. Talley; social committee chairman, Mrs. Foster Eaton; and strike aid committee chairman, Mrs. Elly Klyman.

MEMPHIS COOPERATING WITH CONSUMER COUNCIL IN COTTON CARNIVAL

Stephen Foster's most beloved folk songs will create a musical background for the "Cotton Carnival" at the Hotel Peabody in May during the Cotton Carnival Week, where members of the Memphis Auxiliary will serve as hostesses and assist the Memphis Consumer Council with the arrangements. Mrs. Kress Swin, president of the Memphis Auxiliary, will assist in receiving the guests in a gay checked cotton frock.

Other joint activities of the Memphis Auxiliary and the Memphis Consumer Council have included a successful drive for the removal of a state oleomargarine tax. According to Mrs. Katherine Pulling, ANGA vice president who took an active part in the drive, "the removal of this prohibitive 10 cents a pound tax means that the consumer can purchase almost two pounds of oleo for the price formerly paid for one pound. The tax punished the consumer in the lower brackets and it punished the farmer who raised the cottonseed from which oleo is made."

Every member of the committee on the Wire Tapping Bill H. R. 2289, which has been condemned by labor leaders as invading the civil liberties of the people of America, has received letters from members of the Memphis Auxiliary, which recommends similar action to other ANGA locals.

All ANGA news for the Guild Reporter should be mailed to Mrs. Mary Fond, c/o Cleveland Industrial Union Council, 214 Ninth Street Building, Cleveland, Ohio. The news should be mailed to reach Cleveland at least three days before Guild Reporter deadline, to allow time for coordination of material.

An ANG "Must"

ANY Guild local which in this period negotiates a new contract or renews an old one without demanding and getting substantial wage increases is, literally, agreeing to and getting a wage cut.

This is the most important fact facing the American Newspaper Guild today.

Wage Raises Needed More than 2,000,000 members of CIO unions alone are at this moment engaged in one of the hugest economic battles in history, in bargaining with the biggest industries of the country, in recognition of the kindergarten fact that the cost of living is soaring on the wings of war, corporation profits are higher than ever before in American history, and that we, the wage-earners, are paying the freight for the whole fiesta.

Our employers and their dollar-a-year men in every nook and cranny of Washington are fighting "with tooth and toe-nail" to corner the fabulous flow of war profits for themselves.

Corporation profits are up more than 50 per cent from 1939 and more than 300 per cent from 1938! Every honest economist in the country agrees that rents and the prices of food, clothing, motor cars and every other necessity of our daily lives is going to climb the price ladder in double time, this year.

Philip Murray and John Lewis, who know intimately what's going on in Washington and in industry, state emphatically that big industry (and newspapers are one of the biggest of industries) are hell-bent on seizing this occasion to undo all the gains that the labor movement has won since 1933. We can read it ourselves between the lines of virtually every newspaper we produce.

Said Lewis, demanding a \$1 a day increase for coal miners:

"There is going to be inflation and the United Mine Workers of America are determined that that inflation shall not be in the shrunken bellies of the coal miners. We shall show that the protection of human machinery is just as important as the production of another crop of multi-millionaires."

Wages paid to American newspaper employees never yet, despite the great improvements won by the Guild in its first eight years, have even approached an equitable level. Inexorable facts convince us that unless we get big and general wage raises this year, the rising cost of living is going to give our living standards a big cut.

Of necessity, wage increases are the ANG order of the day.

Publisher's Plan

EDITOR & PUBLISHER, that faultless weathervane of thought among the more important newspaper publishers and their bosses, pointed last week in a most interesting direction.

The Old Faithful of our publisher-employers is advocating, editorially, that the super-super "mediation" board which William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman laid on President Roosevelt's desk on March 13 be not restricted to "defense" industries but be extended to cover all industries.

E&P says it is "probably" true that President Roosevelt was accurate when he said that strikes have affected only 1-400th of the "defense effort," admits that to demand an end to all strikes would be "a counsel of perfection," and then goes blithely on to advocate that all labor—not merely labor in "defense" industries—be chained with something like the Railway Labor Act.

Any suggestion that such restriction of the rights of labor might be objectionable or unworkable, Editor & Publisher says indignantly, "seems to us to deny the fundamental patriotism of the American workingman." E&P doesn't explain why a workingman can't be patriotic and still object to the provisions of the Railway Labor Act—particularly if his work has no connection whatever with "defense."

The New York Times tear sheet reproduced elsewhere on this page, synchronizes curiously with Editor & Publisher's expression of support for a new threat to labor that labor's leaders predicted long ago.

E&P and the Times make it plain that if Guildsmen don't want the proposed super mediation board to interfere in Guild affairs, Guildsmen had better help the rest of labor defeat the whole tyrannical and hypocritical scheme. Our publishers have not the slightest idea of being left out in the cold if "defense" industries get a "mediation" board to warm them.

If necessary, they'll even claim to be a "defense" industry.

WAR INDUSTRY

THE NEW YORK TIMES, T

1,700 WALK OUT AT MIDLAND STEEL

C. I. O. Union Ignores Warning by Conciliator, Belittles Defense Work Extent

SALT STRIKE THREATENED

Knudsen Points to Army-Navy Need of Product—1,500 Quit Brill in Philadelphia

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. DETROIT, Mich., March 10.—Ties in defense industry in this area spread today when a strike of 1,700 members of the C. I. O. United Automobile Workers closed the Midland Steel Products plant, which supplies automobiles for Chrysler, General Motors and the Ford Lincoln division. The plant is said to make parts for tanks, trucks and other military equipment.

Edward M. Owen, a conciliator, said he had on that it must give way to strike, under the threat of a fine.

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The National Strike Situation

At least 32,270 men were idle yesterday in the United States as the result of strikes. According to special dispatches to THE NEW YORK TIMES and to reports of The Associated Press and The United Press, 28,770 of the strikers were engaged in industries having an aggregate of more than \$75,000,000 in contracts with the United States Government for production of material or construction for the national defense program. Others were idle because of the New York City bus strike and strikes in industries not having defense contracts. The following table shows the location of the strikes and the number of men affected:

STRIKE	PLACE	IDLE	DEFENSE CONTRACTS
Russ (C.I.O.)	N. Y. City	3,500	
Cornell-Dublier Electrical (A.F.L.)	Phila.	2,400	\$1,500,000
J. G. Brill, munitions (C.I.O.)	Phila.	1,500	418,681
Midland Steel (C.I.O.)	Detroit	1,700	Army truck parts
Midland Steel (C.I.O.)	Detroit	500	5,000,000
Newspaper, Post-Opinion (A.F.L.)	Pittsburgh	Publication suspended	
Allis-Chalmers (C.I.O.)	Milwaukee	9,000	45,000,000
Humble Oil, tollol (A.F.L.) (plant construction)	Baytown, Texas	150	12,000,000
Bethlehem Steel (C.I.O.)	Los Ang.	120	
International Harvester (C.I.O.)	Four plants, Midwest	13,000	10,000,000
Wright Field (A.F.L.) (Army construction)	Dayton, O.	400	1,500,000

Ohio Senate Votes To Guard Reservoir

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LABOR DRAFT GAINS COMMITTEE FAVOR

Continued From Page One

Congress and that pressure legislative solution of the problem was becoming increasingly great. Early this month, he stated expressions in his group indicated that a majority were for a "cooling off" period. But the recurrence of strikes, Hobbs declared, had caused a change of opinion in the group toward more radical steps. The group decided every phase of the situation and acted to authors of all bills dealing subject, as well as the other witnesses, including labor executives who were in recent strikes.

Rediff Ohio State

The decision to bro

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The New York Times, as the tear sheet reproduced above shows, does not agree with Guild members who think that newspaper publishing is not a "defense" industry. Legislation ostensibly aimed at suppressing strikes and other union activities only in "defense" industries will most certainly be used against newspapermen as well.

Labor Gains of Century Menaced by Legislatures

(The following analysis of pending anti-labor legislation, dangerous to the Guild in the extreme, was prepared for the International Executive Board's last meeting by Director of Research Morgan Hull and commended by the Board to Guild locals for discussion and action at Guild meetings.)

NO period in American history has produced a greater volume or variety of proposed legislative action of extreme vital danger to the immediate needs and liberties of the American people than the past two months.

These range all the way from Sidney Hillman's seemingly "fair" proposal to create a labor mediation board, already rejected by CIO President Murray as a means of introducing compulsory arbitration, to the hysterical demand for the death penalty for "sabotage" in war industries.

The rate and volume may be indicated by the fact that one particular group of draft bills proposing internment or deportation of aliens, was introduced in the present Congress at the rate of one a day for the first 30 days.

It would be impossible in a brief report to do more than indicate the general nature of these many federal and state proposals.

WITH respect to civil liberties generally, a multiplicity of federal and state legislative proposals contemplate legalized wiretapping, licensing of domestic distribution of all publications printed in foreign countries, criminal syndicalism acts of the broadest kind, widespread fingerprinting, exemption of state military bodies from civil authority, censorship of various kinds, banning of minority parties from the ballot and militarization of the CCC.

With regard to the civil and other rights of labor more specifically, the proposals are equally dangerous and more numerous. They propose government inspection of union books and records, prohibition of union dues collections from war industry workers, compulsory arbitration, prohibitions of strikes, prohibitions of closed shops, legal interferences with organizational activities and literature distribution, strike injunction acts providing imprisonment without appeal, repeal of the NLRA and outright conscription of labor.

Most prominent among these for the moment are the administration's proposal for governmental regulation of strikes and strike votes proposed by Knudsen, the Dirksen bill which would make the operation of a hiring hall a crime and which is directed to the destruction of the maritime unions, the Cox Open Shop bill, the Hobbs Wiretapping bill, and the so-called "model" anti-sabotage and state home guard bills submitted to various state legislatures.

A NUMBER of state legislatures are faithfully following the tradition of the Dies committee. The most notorious are the Yorty committee of California, which has jailed at least 30 CIO members and hounded some thousands others out of employment, and the Rapp-Coudert committee of New York, which frankly announces that its attacks on the civil liberties of New York teachers' unions are but a prelude to an assault on the public schools to the tune of a \$12,000,000 cut in the education budget.

It is talked in Washington—and openly predicted in at least one confidential tipping service to business

executives—that the undemocratic aims and purposes of much of this legislation may be accomplished in an appropriately undemocratic manner, namely by executive order of the president under the authority granted him by the lease-lend bill.

IT is a matter of vital concern to the Guild and the labor movement at a time when the word "democracy" is seen in every editorial and on every movie screen, and heard in every legislative hall, that the actual internal threat to American democracy reaches an all-time high level in the history of our country. In our opinion there is great danger that we may be anaesthetized by words while our liberties and living standards are taken from us.

Through an extension and intensification of the actions which some locals have organized around specific issues we can effectively use our strength in cooperation with the rest of the labor movement to protect the gains we have made and prepare ourselves to defeat the assaults which are foreseeable in the immediate future.

Therefore, we urge upon local Guilds the grave importance of thorough, mature consideration of these questions as they are raised in the nation's capital and in the legislatures of their states.

THE GUILD REPORTER

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Editor:
Fred Myers

"... 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: Issue of the 15th—Letters and features, 9th of the month; news and ads, 10th; news bulletins, 12th. Issue of the 1st—Letters and features, 23rd; news and ads, 24th; news bulletins, 27th.

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