

# THE GUILD REPORTER

Official Organ of the American Newspaper Guild (CIO), 63 Park Row, New York 7, N. Y.

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## Outweighed and Outmatched



## Guilds Polled on Convention Ideas

Local presidents are being polled informally for expressions of opinion in regard to the 1945 convention, scheduled for St. Paul June 25-29.

The IEB has postponed action on a convention until its May meeting, pending suggestions from local Guilds.

Early replies from locals revealed varied reactions in regard to the convention.

### ODT LIMITS CROWD

Conventions of more than 50 persons have been banned by Director of War Mobilization Byrnes, and ODT permit are not being issued for union conventions.

"It appears that our convention can be held only by limiting locals to one delegate each. The number of locals represented at previous conventions has averaged about 50," William W. Rodgers, ANG secretary-treasurer, said in a letter to local leaders.

### THREE QUESTIONS

Presidents were asked to advise the ANG as quickly as possible of the local's attitude on the following questions:

- 1—Should the convention be held on the basis of limiting locals to one delegate each?
- 2—Should a further effort be made to hold attendance while insuring a maximum local representation by permitting two or more locals to elect the same delegate?
- 3—Should this year's convention be abandoned?

## War Labor Board Will Review Protests Against Commission

Members of the Newspaper Commission—public, industry and labor—have been summoned to a meeting with the National War Labor Board April 2.

The NWLB will review stabilization policies, as followed by the NWLB, for the benefit of the commission. The board also will review complaints of the American Newspaper Guild and other newspaper unions on commission actions.

At the ANG wage conference, locals were vigorous in their protest of actions of public members of the commission in paring or denying wage increases, citing cases where NWLB policy was the opposite.

Only commission members may attend.

## WLB Cracks at UP, Taking Hand In New Parleys

The dispute over the United Press contract has been rejected by the National War Labor Board "in its present form."

Noting that the Guild and the UP management were in disagreement on virtually all the provisions of the contract, the WLB called on both parties to negotiate further with a WLB representative in attendance.

In effect the WLB order chastised the UP management which had failed to negotiate in good faith, and the letter to UP and the Guild contained a blunt warning for the offending party.

This is the first instance in the newspaper industry where a recalcitrant management has been rebuked by the WLB for failing to carry out collective bargaining.

The policy of ordering further bargaining has been carried out with managements in other fields where no bona fide attempts were being made to reach agreement.

The number of issues in dispute resulted from management's position it would make no counter-proposals, that all concessions had to be made by the Guild.

The Guild soon was unable to submit additional counter-proposals, charging Jack Bisco, UP business manager, and Thomas

Edwards, Scripps-Howard attorney, were not negotiating in good faith by their refusal to make any proposals.

Management's attitude was summed up by Bisco as "we can do better by going to the War Labor Board."

The WLB, however, in a letter to Bisco and the Guild, pointed

out "untimely recourse to the WLB involves... the risk of a decision which will be less satisfactory than a voluntarily agreed upon settlement."

Purpose of additional meetings will be to reduce the number of points in dispute. A meeting will be held in Washington late this month.

## Locals Press Wage Program

Since the ANG Wage Program was formulated at a special conference in Washington, a solid group of Guild locals across the country has incorporated the provisions into current contract negotiations.

Following is a list of units which have endorsed the Wage Program, and either are in the

process of negotiating on the basis of the program, or presently are drafting proposals incorporating it:

Albany Times-Union  
Boston Herald-Traveler  
Camden Courier-Post  
Chicago Times  
Cleveland News  
Cleveland Plain Dealer  
Cleveland Press  
Columbus Citizen  
Columbus Dispatch  
Dayton Journal-Herald  
Denver Post  
Detroit Times  
Elizabethtown Journal  
Indianapolis Star  
Indianapolis Times  
Los Angeles Herald-Express  
Minneapolis Star-Journal, Tribune and Times (citywide contract)  
New Orleans Item  
New York Herald Tribune  
Newark Sunday Call  
Philadelphia Bulletin  
Philadelphia Inquirer  
Philadelphia Record  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette  
Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph  
Portland, Ore., Journal  
Rochester, Minn., Post-Bulletin  
St. Louis Globe-Democrat  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
St. Louis Star-Times  
St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press  
San Antonio Light  
San Francisco Chronicle, News, Examiner, Call, Bulletin and Oakland Post-Enquirer (citywide negotiations)  
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Star and Times (citywide negotiations)  
Toledo Blade  
Washington News  
Wilkes-Barre Record and Times-Leader-News.

Many units, whose contract reopenings are some time off, have not yet acted.

Locals in the New England, Ohio Valley, Northern Ohio, and Northern California district councils also have endorsed the Wage Program.

### Jimmy's Busy

James Wechsler, about to go into the Army in a short time, was unable to prepare a Washington column for this issue of The Guild Reporter.

He will have one for the next issue, he promises.

## Guild Wins 17-0 In Woonsocket

Woonsocket, R. I.—The Newspaper Guild of Woonsocket won a National Labor Relations Board election March 14 by a vote of 17 to 0.

The local includes the editorial department employees on the Woonsocket Call and presently numbers 24 signed members out of 24 eligible employees. Prior to its organization as the Newspaper Guild of Woonsocket, these employees were members of an independent union.

Charter for the new local was issued at the February meeting of the IEB.

President Philip Murray told the gathering that "the formation of the new world labor movement provides ample opportunity for the AFL to come back into the international house of labor, which we strongly urge, and participate with other international labor organizations in the perfection of a peaceful and democratic world."

## Elections Due on 2 Miami Papers

Miami — Editorial department employees of the two daily papers here are organizing themselves into a local of the American Newspaper Guild.

When petitions for an NLRB election were filed, managements of both the Daily News and the Herald agreed to consent elections. The total number of eligible employees on both papers is about 120.

The units are facing delays in holding an election because all

NLRB examiners have been assigned to assist in conducting the strike vote of the United Mine Workers.

Ward B. Melody, ANG international representative, is directing the organization work.

Temporary chairmen have been elected by members of the two units. O. R. Mott, copy desk chief, is in charge at the Daily News, and Bob Fredericks, amusement editor, heads the committee at the Herald.

The morning Herald is owned by John S. Knight, of the Chicago Daily News, Detroit Free Press, and Akron Beacon-Journal. The afternoon Daily News is owned by James M. Cox, former Ohio governor, who also owns the Springfield, Ohio, News and Sun, the Dayton News, and the Atlanta Journal.

The Detroit, Akron and Springfield papers already are under Guild contract.



## New Brunswick Makes Gains in New Contract

New Brunswick, N. J.—A new contract covering the editorial employees of the New Brunswick Home News, members of the New Brunswick unit of the Elizabeth Guild, is ready for signature following negotiations started in January.

Improved conditions in the agreement, which now goes to the Newspaper Commission for approval, include:

A \$2 increase in top reporter minimums, maintenance-of-membership, increase of severance pay, a night differential of 50 cents per shift, and elimination of an objectionable split shift in the working day, with overtime pay at time and one-half in cash, except at the employee's option there may be cancellation by equal time off.

Chief negotiators for the union, were Charles E. Crissey, ANG international representative and former president of the Elizabeth Guild, and Fred Jaeger of the Guild Reporter staff; for management, John E. Quad, general manager and managing editor; David J. Winkworth, manager, N. J. Publishers Bureau, and M. R. Seiffert, attorney.

The New Brunswick unit recently affiliated with the Elizabeth Guild, having been members of the Newark local.

## Cleveland Puts Wage Program In No. 1 Position

Cleveland—The task of preparing new contracts in line with the ANG Wage Program is the first order of business for newly-elected officers of the Cleveland Guild.

A sample local agreement, in line with the wage program, is being drafted by the contracts committee, headed by William Davy, executive secretary.

"Cleveland officers agree the wage program is eminently workable and entirely reasonable," Davy said. "We feel sure Cleveland publishers will face these facts squarely."

"1.—The salaried newspaper worker in the lower brackets is being paid less than enough for an adequate living standard."

"2.—The newspaper worker in the higher salaried brackets is receiving substantially less in real wages than he did in January 1941."

Davy, with Charles Nichols of the INP unit, has been negotiating a new contract with the Catholic Universe-Bulletin, biggest weekly in its field, since last October.

Management, however, has not snapped at Guild suggestions that the paper can write a contract that will be a model in its field for liberality and progressiveness in line with papal encyclicals, and pronouncements of American Catholic bishops on capital and labor.

## Atlanta Backs Wage Program

Atlanta—Members of the Atlanta Newspaper Guild have endorsed the ANG Wage Program. A resolution called the program "a necessity for meeting the current minimum needs of news workers and a guide post to a sound future course on wages."

## Unit to Act on New Contract

Pittsburgh—Members of the Post-Gazette unit are to act soon on new contract proposals, which will follow the recommendations of the wage conference. The Sun-Telegraph proposals, now in negotiation, also follow the wage program.

## Wage Program Threat Feared by Detroit Unit

Detroit—Members of the Times unit and the executive board of the Detroit Newspaper Guild, in a resolution adopted without a dissenting vote "in a spirit of fraternal concern for the welfare of the entire Guild," urged the New York local to reject the ANG wage program and the bargaining position of other locals by agreeing to further minimums which are substantial for the nation's largest city.

The resolution said "it has come to our attention" that the New York local had signed contracts with the New York Times, Daily News, World-Telegram and Post providing for a top reporter minimum of \$60.

The resolution also noted that agreements were being considered providing for a \$60 top reporter minimum on the Journal-American and Mirror which effectively would "freeze" these 1945 minimum rates in New York at \$60, "thus greatly damaging demands for higher minimums in other cities."

Stating that the top minimum of \$60 was only \$1 above the Detroit top minimum for reporters established in 1942, the resolution said a \$60 top "therefore seriously would impair the bargaining position of the Detroit Guild and other Guilds."

## ANG Wage Program Gets Support in WLB Report

Despite recommendations of public members of the National War Labor Board that there be no change in the Little Steel formula, there is significant material for Guild negotiators in this report to President Roosevelt on wage stabilization policy.

Strong support is given the ANG Wage Program in sections of the report. Excerpts have been sent by the ANG research department to local presidents and local contract committees.

"Particularly noteworthy is the recognition by the report that average straight-time earnings in the newspaper industry have increased the least of any industry surveyed," Sam Eubanks, ANG executive vice president, said.

A reasonable implication is the disposition on the part of the WLB to consider the failure of its stabilization policy to provide adequate earnings adjustments for newspaper employees, Eubanks declared.

## THREE NEW DISPUTE CASES ARE CERTIFIED

Washington—Three new dispute cases involving Guild contracts have been certified to the War Labor Board and referred to the Newspaper Commission.

They are:

New York World-Telegram. Pawtucket, R. I. Times. Biddeford, Maine, Journal.

Hearing dates have not yet been set.

## Sign Agreement On Maintenance

Sacramento—A supplementary agreement to the contract, covering maintenance of membership, has been signed by the Sacramento Union and the Sacramento Valley Newspaper Guild.

The play went from Brown to the Guild's representative on the Newspaper Commission in Chicago, Ward Melody. The latter furnished the answer by sending out a copy of the so-called Friedman letter which outlines the commission's policy on guild merit applications.

"It is very clear in this letter that only where Guild contracts

The Detroit Times is a Hearst paper. Unit members also voted to incorporate the entire 1945 wage program in their 1945 contract proposals. The 1944 agreement is being arbitrated.

Declaring that the New York wage conference delegates unanimously approved the wage program, the resolution declared: "The economic status of newspaper employees for a generation to come hinges upon an effective fight by a united Guild to establish minimums at levels consistent with the postwar salary needs of our members."

In calling for rejection of the contracts now before the Hearst units in New York, the Detroit Times unit declared:

**BACKGROUND**—In the N. Y. Journal-American and Mirror proposals, the Hearst management has insisted the two cases must be treated as one.

Proposed new minimums on the Journal-American would mean increases of \$150 per week for 60 employees, in addition to \$750 due under an arbitration award now before the WLB. There are about 600 in the bargaining unit.

Management also proposes retroactivity to March 5, 1945, instead of back to August, 1944, and extension of both contracts to Dec. 1, 1945, instead of August, 1945.

The Hearst management offer is conditioned: if one proposal is rejected, the other will be withdrawn.

Accurate job descriptions also were urged, to protect against indiscriminate down-grading in the reconversion period.

The public members also considered advisability of statutory requirements, in each industry, for minimum rates for a limited number of key occupations above the minimum starting rate. These would constitute "a framework within which all intermediate rates would be set in accordance with proper job descriptions and evaluations."

This follows the pattern of the ANG Wage Program, Eubanks pointed out.

## Mixup on Union Signature for Form 10 Unlabeled by Guild

Sacramento—Through the co-operation of the Guild with the Sacramento Typographical union an attempt by a publisher to involve on printers an adverse WLB policy affecting Guild contracts only, has been thwarted.

It seems that a couple of merit increase applications for foremen at the Sacramento Union went to the Newspaper Commission without the signature of the Typographical union officers. When ITU Executive Secretary L. L. Hottman asked the publisher why, he was told that in Guild contracts the union's signature on form 10s for merit raises was not necessary, so the same applied to printers.

The idea to Hottman was preposterous to be immediately got in touch with the regional office of the WLB in San Francisco which referred him to Bob Brown, executive secretary of the San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild.

The play went from Brown to the Guild's representative on the Newspaper Commission in Chicago, Ward Melody. The latter furnished the answer by sending out a copy of the so-called Friedman letter which outlines the commission's policy on guild merit applications.

"It is very clear in this letter that only where Guild contracts

"We are aware that rejection of the proposals made by the Hearst management in New York will entail some sacrifice of immediate gains by a minority of the employees involved, and some sacrifices, perhaps, of the desires of the officers of the New York Guild."

"But these gains will not be permanently lost, but merely postponed in the well-grounded hope that we can achieve, by unity and solidarity, much greater gains for the New York membership and the entire Guild."

The unit voted to send the full text of the resolution to major units in New York, New York local officers, the ANG and to all locals.

**ONE MODIFICATION**—Clerical workers will receive \$38 after three years and cartoonists and columnists have a flat \$55 minimum.

The regional board modified terms of a level increase to \$1. Guaranteed increases of \$3 per week for those earning under \$35 and \$5 for those earning more than \$35 had been negotiated. Two are affected by the modification.

**OTHER GAINS**—The contract also has severance pay on resignation; five-day, 40-hour week; six holidays with time and one-half for holiday work; a 7% percent night differential, and three weeks' vacation after five years.

A full Guild shop was agreed to when the Guild secured recognition as the collective bargaining agent.

The contract was negotiated by Wilbur E. Bode, then ANG director of organization.

## New Contract For Allentown

Allentown, Pa.—A new contract, with wage increases retroactive to Nov. 23, 1944, has been signed, covering editorial departments of the Call and Chronicle.

Substantial improvements were made in working conditions, with increases in a number of contract minimums. The contract is before the Newspaper Commission for approval. A number of reclassifications, with wage increases, also were negotiated.

## Oregon Makes Contract Gains

Portland, Ore.—A new contract has been signed by the Portland Guild covering the editorial department of the Oregonian.

Major improvements include a 50-cent per shift night differential, a \$2.50 weekly increase in minimums for copyreaders over reporters; time and one-half for work on six holidays instead of three as formerly; overtime after 8 hours instead of being based on a 40-hour week.

The contract is being submitted to the Newspaper Commission for approval.

## "A Heavenly Match"

Little Steel pay formula must be kept now, WLB public members say as CIO and AFL members of board sharply dissent.—News item.

Cartoon by Seaman, from Justice.

Cartoon by Seaman, New York Guild.

## Regional Board OK's Raises for Negro Weekly

Chicago—A contract signed last July, with wage increases retroactive to Dec. 13, 1943, covering editorial employees of the Chicago Defender, Negro weekly newspaper, finally has been approved by the regional War Labor Board here.

Substantial pay increases are provided by the terms of the contract. Minimums are \$70 after one year for editors and correspondents; \$55 after three years for editorial designers and special writers; \$50 after three years for reporters and artists.

The contract also has severance pay on resignation; five-day, 40-hour week; six holidays with time and one-half for holiday work; a 7% percent night differential, and three weeks' vacation after five years.

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## Someone's Rocking My Dream Boat

Cartoon by Seaman, New York Guild.

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## Tide Swinging In State Drives Against Labor

Washington (LPA)—The tide has turned in the state legislature where labor-haters had concentrated their heaviest fire this year. In state after state, labor has rolled up victories against bills designed to smash unions.

Latest triumphs occurred in Vermont, Arizona and Arkansas. Also in many other states united action by the AFL, CIO and the Railroad Brotherhoods was successful in slowing up anti-labor bills that had been thrown into the legislative-hoppers.

In Vermont, the senate rejected an "anti-coercion" bill, previously passed by the house which would have virtually outlawed strikes.

**ARKANSAS VICTORY**—In Arkansas, the state legislature adjourned after refusing to adopt an enabling law to make effective the misnamed "freedom to work" amendment to the constitution which the state's voters passed by a narrow majority in a referendum last fall.

That amendment, behind "freedom to work" camouflage, would have outlawed all union shop agreements in Arkansas. It was put over following a lavishly financed propaganda campaign by the Christian American association.

In Arizona, a batch of anti-labor bills, including several phony "freedom to work" measures, were buried with the adjournment of the legislature.

**TEXAS VOTES PROBE**—The Texas legislature, by an overwhelming majority, voted to investigate the Christian American association, as well as other disguised lobby organizations.

In the state of Washington, 36 legislators signed a round-robust reply to a "Christian American" propagandist—in effect, telling him to "keep his nose" out of Washington's affairs.

In Minnesota, however, the state senate passed an anti-labor bill which also prohibits picketing and the secondary boycott.

**WLB DEFIES STATE**—In Atlanta the fourth regional WLB upheld a closed shop contract in Florida in defiance of the state's so-called right-to-work law.

The Florida law, an amendment to the state constitution, is a model of the anti-closed shop amendments the Christian American association now is promoting in various states.

## POST-GAZETTE UNIT RE-ELECTS CROSS

Pittsburgh—Charles Cross once more has been chosen chairman of the Post-Gazette unit of the Pittsburgh Guild. Other officers include Phil Gundelfinger, vice chairman; John G. Yunk, secretary; Margaret Donley, treasurer; and Edwin Fisher, assistant treasurer.

## Paper Must Bare Books In Wage-hour Action

The right of the U. S. Department of Labor to compel a daily newspaper to produce its books, records and documents, was upheld by the U. S. circuit court of appeals, third district, in a 2-1 decision in a suit brought on behalf of L. Metcalf Walling, administrator of the wage and hour division, against News Printing Co., Inc., publishers of the Paterson (N. J.) Evening News.

Irving Rosen, New York regional attorney for the labor department, said the suit has been in litigation since October 1943. Previous to that, inspectors from the office of Arthur J. White, regional director of the wage and hour and public contracts divisions of the U. S. Department of Labor, sought to examine the records of the newspaper relating to wages paid to employees.

The News Printing company refused to permit examination of its records and later refused to obey a subpoena issued by the department at Newark, N. J. Still later, the district court at New

Jersey upheld the refusal of the newspaper company. This was appealed to the circuit court.

Judge Biggs, according to Mr. Rosen, wrote the opinion, in which Judge Goodrich concurred, Judge McLaughlin dissenting. In reversing the Newark district court, the decision in part held:

"They (the company) assert the act (fair labor standards act, controlling minimum wages and overtime pay) will destroy the freedom of the press."

"We are unable to perceive how the production of the records specified in the subpoena would in anywise impede the respondent in publishing its newspaper or limit it in disseminating news. Requiring the respondent to produce the records under the subpoena will not constitute an unreasonable seizure or deprive the respondent of its property without due process of law."

"Production of the respondent's employment and shipping records is too far removed from possible infringement of the respondent's constitutional rights to render its objections presently pertinent. The judgment of the court below is reversed."

## Tri-City Member Awarded Air Medal for China Action

Chinese Combat Command, U. S. Army—1st Lt. Francis H. Sherry, 33, of Troy, N. Y., recently was awarded the Air Medal by Col. John C. Kennedy, commanding officer of a wing of the 14th U. S. Army Air Force, for his service as adjutant of an air drop detachment of the Chinese combat command.

Lt. Sherry, who reached India in March, 1943, a year after his entry into the Army, participated in the inception of air drop operations by U. S. forces in the India-Burma theater.

**STARTED TO EXPAND**—First units were comprised of ordnance and medical men and, as the lieutenant relates it, tremendous expansion began at once. "Supplies of every kind, from garden seed and live pigs, ducks and chickens to gasoline and ammunition, were packed, chuted and dropped successfully," Lt. Sherry recalls.

"Former truck drivers amassed flying hours (some now have 1,400 combat hours) and became the first ground force troops to earn flying pay and decorations."

"There were casualties, men who didn't come back, Purple Hearts, too. Then a section of fliers and packers from the much enlarged company was sent to China as a nucleus for a new dropping unit," Lt. Sherry explains.

**AIDED CHINESE**—It was this unit, with which the lieutenant was affiliated, that played an important role in dropping supplies—medicine, munitions, rice, clothing, etc.—to the nearly inaccessible Salween fighting front.

Their efforts helped to enable the Chinese Expeditionary Force to drive the Japanese invader from southwestern Yunnan Province, thereby making possible linking of the old Burma and new Ledo roads.

Lt. Sherry was on the Troy Record prior to entering active military service. He is a member of Tri-City Guild.

**TOTAL TO DATE \$1349.55**

Previously acknowledged . . . \$125.25  
New York . . . 14.35  
San Jose, Cal. . . . 15.00  
Boston . . . 15.00  
Denver . . . 15.00  
Iowa . . . 15.00  
Cleveland . . . 15.00  
Philadelphia-Camden . . . 15.00  
Portland, Maine . . . 15.00  
Atlanta, Ga. . . . 15.00

Meanwhile, unfair labor practice charges, filed with the NLRB on the dismissal of two Guild members, are in the hands of NLRB attorneys with early action expected.

## TWO NEGOTIATIONS

Duluth—Negotiations are under way with the Superior Telegram and the Duluth Herald and News-Tribune.

## Vacations Not Lost By Plant Shutdown

Washington (LPA)—Workers who are absent from their jobs because of a plant shutdown may not be deprived of accrued vacation time as a consequence, the

War Labor Board ruled last week. For purposes of determining vacation eligibility the period of the shutdown must be considered time worked, declared the Board.

Minnesota—New membership records were set in February by Twin Cities Guild with total membership more than 600 and good standing better than 97 percent.

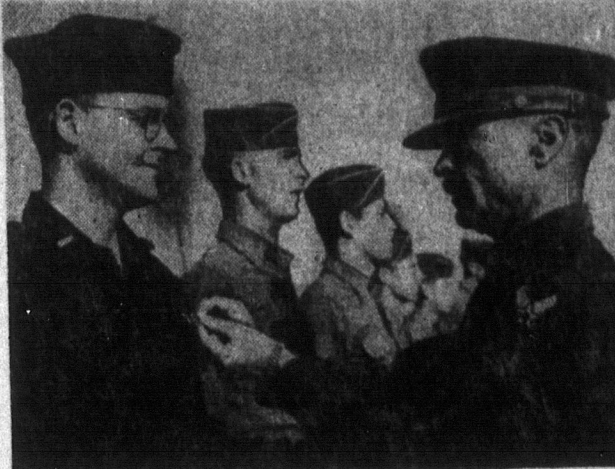
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Lt. Francis Sherry of the Tri-City Guild is pictured being awarded the Air Medal from Col. John C. Kennedy.

## Economic Pressure Campaign Is Begun on Hudson Dispatch

Union City, N. J.—Labor unions in Hudson and Bergen counties are mobilizing to support the Hudson County Guild's organization fight with the Hudson Dispatch by applying economic pressure. Two members have been discharged after the Guild sought membership of the Guild fight.

Labor unions are notifying their members of the Guild fight, and union members are canceling subscriptions and notifying advertisers of their position.

Merchants who continue to advertise are visited by union delegations.

Guilds are continuing to respond to requests to establish a special fund to aid one of the discharged men. Additional contributions include:

Previously acknowledged . . . \$125.25  
New York . . . 14.35  
San Jose, Cal. . . . 15.00  
Boston . . . 15.00  
Denver . . . 15.00  
Iowa . . . 15.00  
Cleveland . . . 15.00  
Philadelphia-Camden . . . 15.00  
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## \$5 TO ASSIST THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Demonstrating labor's support of the fight of editorial employees of the Hudson Dispatch to select a bargaining agent of their own choosing is a \$5 contribution from Lewis M. Herman, editor of the New Jersey Labor Herald (AFL). His letter transmitting the contribution follows:

"Enclosed you will find my check for \$5 as a contribution to the fund that you are raising to aid certain Guild members who have been fighting to prove to the owners of the Hudson Dispatch that we are living in a day and age when the right of workers to organize comes under the heading of—'The Pursuit of Happiness.'"

"I am somewhat familiar with the management of the Dispatch, and we on the AFL side of the fence have known for a long time what a lousy outfit it is, so it is a real pleasure for me to chip in a few dollars to help give the rugged individuals thumbing their nose at organized labor a little education in labor relations."

"If it becomes necessary to dig down in my jeans for another helping, don't hesitate to call on me."

## Veterans Win In Pay Ruling

Washington—Holding that war veterans are entitled to job reinstatement with all automatic, length-of-service wage increases granted in their absence, the WLB upheld a clause in a union contract and said it conformed to provisions of the Selective Service act.

## WLB Refuses to Reduce Staff

The New York regional War Labor Board has refused to reduce the quota of musicians Station WOV is required to hire according to its contract with Local 802, American Federation of Musicians (AFL).

The decision reversed a previous panel report recommending that the quota be reduced from 12 to five to avert "feather-bedding."

## New Records Set By Twin Cities

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## 1944 Contract For AP IS OK'd By Membership

An interim contract running from May 1 to Dec. 31, 1944, for all AP bureaus outside New York City in which the Guild is the recognized bargaining agent has been approved by members of the bureau.

The tabulated vote was 93 to 62 with some bureaus not reporting the vote.



# Department of Labor Cannot Afford a Popularity Contest

*If You Were a Farmer*

... and wanted information on the best way to keep your books, the Department of Agriculture would supply you with a pamphlet on farm management, with sample forms.

... and owned a combine or a corn picker, you may get a letter from your county agent to attend a combine school some Saturday afternoon for your section of the county.

... and had some apple trees, you might receive a regular series of postcards from your county agent telling you the dates to spray trees to control particular pests.

Perhaps you have a crop of soybeans on hand and the price is too low. Just call the county agent for information on the price support program.

Maybe you're a member of a farm co-op, and the members were trying to secure the needed contracts with individual farmers for locker space in order for the co-op to get priorities and materials to undertake construction. The county agent is sure to help you.

If there is a group of young people wanting to begin early to be better farmers, they can secure 4-H club materials from the state extension service, or the Department of Agriculture.

Perhaps you are renting a farm and need some help in drawing up a lease. The Department of Agriculture will send you a model lease based on what is best for the renter, the landlord and the land. Just send a postcard.

And if you're a wage earner, a member of a consumers' co-op, and want to purchase directly from the producer, the Department of Agriculture will assist in working out the best farm-city co-op arrangements.

Do you need a good speaker for a Farmers' Union meeting, or a Grange picnic? Do you want information, and perhaps someone you can gripe at about the weather, crops, prices, the government and life in general? Just invite a government man from the experimental station, or the county agent, or the agricultural college.

Maybe you want to think through the relationship of the farmer to the land, the community, the nation, the world. The modern classic to read evenings is the 1940 year book on "Farmers in a Changing World." Many articles packing comment, criticism, suggestion, controversy, history, facts, possibilities on almost every conceivable social and economic problem that is faced by the men who make agriculture tick.

More plasma is needed now. Go to your blood bank today.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Since THE GUILD REPORTER (Feb. 15) raised the question: Why isn't the Department of Labor functioning for labor while farmers and businessmen are given rent service by their departments, union officials and Guildmen have suggested further studies and comparisons be made.

While Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins states in a letter that there now are some plans under way which embody some of the ideas presented by THE GUILD REPORTER, it is well worth while to see how the farmer is served by his department.

A vast staff services the nation's farmers; the Department of Agriculture is of, for and by the farmers. In short, farmers get service on a myriad matters. Their department is right there to assist if new problems crop up. There is no social service approach.

This article, as the last one, was prepared especially for THE GUILD REPORTER by Albert Hamilton, an editor of Labor Press Associates, Washington news agency serving labor papers.

The nation's farmers are aided, assisted and advised by the Department of Agriculture and its many agencies and agencies.

The nation's wage earners have the Department of Labor, but services and functions of the two departments differ widely.

Were there a poll of the nation's farmers on whether or not the Department of Agriculture ever had been of service to them, there undoubtedly would be a favorable vote from an overwhelming majority.

Perhaps the farmers have received AAA checks; perhaps their farms adjoined one conducting special experiments in co-operation with the county agent; perhaps they had just received some new farming pamphlet; perhaps a department official had just spoken at a co-op annual meeting, a church supper, or a county fair.

So diverse and varied are the activities of the Department of Agriculture that the list of "perhaps" could go on and on.

## LABOR WOULD GIVE DIFFERENT ANSWER

But if there were a poll of the nation's wage earners on whether the Department of Labor ever had been of service to them, the overwhelming majority probably would ask, "What is the Department of Labor?"

In examining the Department of Labor, with an eye to achieving—eventually—a Department of Labor that will serve the nation's wage earners, and help them to solve their problems, it is well to look at the Department of Agriculture to see what it has done and is doing for farmers. Each of these departments, with a secretary in the cabinet, is supposed to serve a vast group of our population.

The blame for labor's attitude toward the Department of Labor cannot be leveled exclusively on any one person, against any single political administration, nor can it be laid to a single cause.

The Department of Labor was created in 1913. The Department of Agriculture became a full-fledged department with a secretary of cabinet rank in 1889. Behind this discrepancy of age is the fact that the beginning of a national agricultural policy pre-dates the development of a national labor policy by several decades. It is significant that 1889 was the first year income from manufacturing was greater than that from agriculture.

## LABOR LEGISLATION IS ONLY RECENT

Labor legislation was practically negligible, with some slight advances after a separate Labor Department was created in 1913. But major legislation—the National Labor Relations act, social security legislation, and the Fair Labor Standards act (wage-hour law) all were developed after 1930.

While it is not possible to translate into services to the nation's wage earners some of the work of the Department of Agriculture, there is much in the history and current activities of the latter department which is useful as a precedent and as a guide in considering the present activities and functions of the Department of Labor.

Work of the Department of Agriculture breaks down into five main headings:

1—RESEARCH in scientific problems of agriculture, in economic problems of farm management, in individual and co-operative marketing.

2—EXTENSION WORK, the dissemination of facts, the combining of successful experience with scientific experimentation. (Today the more than 10,000 employees in the extension service are many more than the total number of workers employed by the Department of Labor.)

3—ERADICATION OR CONTROL of plant and animal diseases and pests.

4—SERVICE WORK—conservation of national forests; weather service, crop and livestock estimates, market news service.

5—REGULATORY DUTIES; today the department administers between 40 and 50 regulatory laws.

## LAND GRANTS AIDED AGRICULTURE

In 1862 the Morrill Land Grant act was passed, which gave large amounts of land to the states to be sold for funds to create and maintain colleges "to give instruction in agriculture and mechanic arts."

Since then, "mechanic arts" has become engineering. This was followed in 1887 by the Hatch act which authorized a national system of state agricultural experiment stations. After 1900 county demonstration work began, and in 1914 financial aid was given by Congress to extension divisions of the state colleges which were to co-operate with the extension division of the Department of Agriculture.

Much of the department's work has developed from this historical foundation, for its activity is built around scientific experimentation, education, and demonstration. This basic concept from agriculture's extension program could be lifted bodily into the whole work of the Department of Labor.

The work of agriculture's extension service has been built around the idea of getting farmers to consider their own problems. It is believed that successful experience can be combined with scientific experimentation and that as a result farmers will develop answers to their problems and the nation's problems.

## THERE ARE TWO GOOD PLACES TO START

For those interested in making the Department of Labor into something vital and of assistance to the American wage earners, the land grant colleges and a labor extension service offer a place to start.

The CIO legislative committee's subcommittee on education, youth,

maternal and child care, in a report on land grant colleges and vocational education recently pointed out:

"The title of the bill (the Morrill act) 'Agricultural College Grant Bill' was not Morrill's, but a clerk's. Morrill emphatically objected to the term. He protested that the bill did not propose to establish agricultural colleges, and therefore the title was a misnomer. Morrill went on to explain, 'these colleges may be called agricultural colleges perhaps... derivatively; however, there is nothing excluded touching any other industrial, mechanical or classical interest.'"

Dr. Jorgensen, president of Connecticut State college, recently expressed this original intent: "... to fulfill the needs and aspirations of the common people."

While land grant colleges have served agriculture so well, they could be made to serve industrial workers better, too.

If there were a labor advisory committee functioning in the Department of Labor, it could meet with the Association of Land Grant Colleges. In the absence of such an advisory committee, the secretary of labor could suggest to the association and organized labor that a conference be arranged.

## EXTENSION SERVICE COULD WELL BE COPIED

But what of a labor extension service? Again the Department of Agriculture has some practices that could be studied profitably.

During the winter, and at other convenient times during the year, there is hardly a county in the nation where the county agent (who is an official of the extension service) is not helping to organize some kind of farmers' get-together. A worker's education program organized with and through the unions would be the labor equivalent for much of the work of agriculture's extension program.

And the Department of Agriculture gives various services to farmer co-operatives. While the co-ops compete directly with private enterprise, this fact has not kept the Department of Agriculture, backed by farmers and Congress, from supporting them aggressively.

The field of co-operatives need not be confined to agriculture—there is room for this work among wage earners, too.

## FARMERS ARE AHEAD OF LABOR AGAIN

In looking at the work of these two departments, one should note, also, the scope of the work of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in contrast with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The comparison does not reflect to the credit of BLS, for BAE has the most modern and comprehensive system of opinion-sampling in the country. This has enabled the Department of Agriculture to reflect farm opinion in its work.

While agriculture has its weekly radio program, which the department sponsors and originates, and the agricultural yearbooks which are mines of technical, social and economic information, such counterparts are lacking in the public relations program of the Department of Labor.

## THE 3 BASIC DIFFERENCES IN DEPARTMENTS

Basically, the difference between the Department of Labor and the Department of Agriculture is three-fold:

1—Agriculture is permeated with a democratic spirit of farmer participation, both individual participation and participation of farm organizations. There is little "do-goodism," little of the social service attitude attached to the work of the Department of Agriculture.

2—The Department of Agriculture is an integral part of farm life in the country. While this partly historical, it also is because so many activities of the department have a genuine bread-and-butter meaning to farmers. In contrast with a multitude of programs of credit, regulatory laws, and conservation payments administered by the Agriculture department, the Department of Labor administers only one bread-and-butter act affecting industrial workers—the wage-hour law.

3—The Department of Agriculture is never static, and now it is as much concerned with health conservation as soil conservation. Growth is possible in agriculture, and the department is receptive to new ideas and new programs.

In 1889 farmers were being placed on the defensive as the nation became an industrial nation. They got a Department of Agriculture, fostered it, criticized it, and helped it grow until it became an agency of service to them and to the nation as a whole.

Labor finally won its demands for a Department of Labor. Labor today has the responsibility of securing a modernized, grown up Department of Labor that can help labor build an economic democracy to match our political democracy.

Such a Department of Labor that is actively functioning for the best interests of wage earners and industrial workers is not going to be handed to labor ready-made.

Such a department can't be copied. It will have to be built.

## Husband of Guild Member Loses Sight in Mine Field Rescue

Philadelphia—News that an attempt to rescue a French civilian from a mine field cost Technical Sgt. William Michael Hughes the sight of both eyes came recently to his wife, Helen Hughes, Guild member and member of the Inquirer's accounting department.

Sgt. Hughes is now at Valley Forge Hospital.

The 30-year-old combat engineer, who will receive a decoration from the French government in addition to the Purple Heart, was one of two men to enter the mine-infested area on Feb. 9 at the request of the mayor of the French town.

An exploding mine killed his companion, and, blinded by the shrapnel, Sgt. Hughes lay in the field for four days before medical aids could reach him. He was

## Sacramento Names New Vice President

Sacramento—R. E. Hitchcock, display advertising salesman for the Sacramento Bee, has been elected vice president of the Sacramento Valley Newspaper Guild.

Hitchcock replaces Howard Bullock, also of the Bee display staff, who has taken a newspaper job in Fort Worth.

# Power of the Press Is Blitzed by Marines

## NEW SONG—'FROM THE HALLS OF THE EXAMINER TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI ...'

San Francisco—Seventy-four U. S. Marines (and Marines—they call 'em that because they're easy on the eyes) on Feb. 27 established a beachhead in the city room of the San Francisco Examiner without loss, but the operation didn't get into any of the metropolitan dailies although it did furnish plenty of material for conversation between newspapermen.

It all began when, on the morning of the twenty-seventh, the Examiner, considered the key-stone of the Hearst chain, ran a two-column editorial nearly the length of page one.

## CRACK AT MARINES

Headed "MACARTHUR IS OUR BEST STRATEGIST" the editorial attacked by inference and innuendo the way the two Jima landings were handled by the Marines and deplored the "discouraging communique from American headquarters in the Pacific" telling only of "limited gains" and of huge losses at Iwo Jima.

It was insinuated that the American forces were paying too heavily for the island.

Then came stuff that the 74 women and men Marines got sore about.

"Fortunately," said the Examiner editorial, "it is not the sort of thing that occurs everywhere in the Pacific war. In all such operations commanded by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, there has been neither decision nor hesitation of the American forces."

Plainly what we need in all



## NLRB Decision Being Awaited By Worcester

Worcester, Mass.—While the Newspaper Guild of Worcester is awaiting an NLRB decision leading to an election in the editorial department, additional membership applications are being received by officers.

At a meeting of the local, Wilfred T. J. Thibodeau, Gazette copywriter, was elected treasurer, succeeding James E. Lee who resigned. Mrs. Martha E. Harding and Robert L. Stewart were named shop stewards.

Revisions in contract proposals also were completed.

## ASK DEFERRMENT FOR GEORGE ADDES

Detroit—The UAW is appealing for deferment of Secretary-Treasurer Adde.

## Lehigh Valley Selects Woman to Pilot Local

Allentown, Pa.—Mrs. Frances Weishampel, Morning Call reporter, has been elected president of the Lehigh Valley Newspaper Guild, to succeed Nelson A. Weiser, who served four years as head of the local.

Re-elected treasurer was Max Levine. Named to succeed Mrs. Weishampel as vice president is Robert A. O. Wolfe, who served as secretary before he entered the Red Cross service as a field director in 1942. Weiser was named secretary.

Chairman of the Morning Call unit is Karl F. Weber, president of Pennsylvania District Council. Secretary is Mrs. Arlene DeLong and dues collector is P. Fred McCready.

Evening Chronicle unit is headed by Kenneth F. Sechler, with Edgar P. Roth as secretary and Dorothy Quinn as dues collector.

Pacific operations is a military strategist capable of accomplishing what Gen. MacArthur has consistently accomplished in all his operations.

## ENTER THE MARINES

"Since we HAVE such a strategist in Gen. MacArthur, why do we not use him more? Why do we not use our BEST strategist in all our operations instead of only in part of them? Gen. MacArthur IS our best strategist... He wins all his objectives."

The Marines assembled their forces late the same afternoon, descended on the Examiner in force and, before long, had the situation well in hand.

The receptionist must have thought he was working for Do-met the way the Marines barged in with blood in their eyes and demanded to see the man who wrote the editorial.

But the Marines weren't having any. Somewhere they got the idea that maybe William Randolph Hearst might know something about it. They demanded Wren get him on the line for them. Wren said he didn't know if he could but he'd be glad to report their feelings.

SEEK TO CALL HEARST

They said to heck with that, laid \$6 on the line for a call to Wynton, Hearst's castle on the McCloud River.

The call was made but the Marines were told the writer was out. They were told they could have space on the editorial page for any letter they cared to write and that their protest would be passed on to the top. With that they pointed police riot squads, Military Police and Shore Patrols arrived en masse in response to a frantic call from someone who yelled "Copper!"

The Marines composed a letter

another delaying action but the Marines pushed on, right into the city room. There they confronted the city desk with their demands. The city editor (or maybe it was one of the assistants) said he hadn't written it. The demands grew more forceful as Bill Wren, pugy, tanned managing editor, was summoned from the inner fortifications.

## RA in New York Backs Bridges

By a roll-call vote, the Representative Assembly of the New York local decided 88 to 12, with one delegate not voting, to ask President Roosevelt to dismiss the deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (CIO).

A second resolution, adopted by voice vote, asked the IEB to reconsider its action of refusing to ask President Roosevelt to dismiss proceedings.

## SINGER SIGNS FIRST UNION CONTRACT

Elizabeth, N. J. (FP)—The Singer Manufacturing Co., maker of sewing machines, has signed its first union contract in its 72-year history. The contract is with UERMWA (CIO).

## NONE WITHDRAW

Fewer than 15 of the members failed to bring themselves into good standing, and seven new names have been added since certification. No one withdrew.

Guild indignation soared at news of the appeal. Unit officers sent a telegram to John S. Knight, publisher of Knight Newspapers, Inc., wintering in Miami, Fla. The wire charged that the appeal was calculated to destroy a progressive achievement toward union security, and to delay further negotiation proceedings then going into their eighteenth month.

Knight made no reply, but following a second telegram sent by Ralph Novak, secretary of the local, he caused a management bulletin to be posted in the Free Press city room, denying Guild allegations of stalling, and defending the appeal on the ground that it was within his legal rights.

## UNIT ACTIVE

Meantime the unit was active. A unit election had resulted in the choice of Russell Jewitt, veteran circulation department employee, as general chairman, and John Murray, reporter, as editor.

which was placed on the top of the Examiner editorial page March 1. They pointed out the attack making invidious comparisons between the Marine Corps and Navy on one hand and Gen. MacArthur on the other was unfair and did not present a true picture of the military facts.

They pointed out that the latter's operations usually were confined to large islands where there was room for maneuver, while the Marines, like at Iwo Jima, went into spots where there was only one small beach that could be of cabbage.

He tried to explain that the editorial was "canned" and had been released to all Hearst papers, that it hadn't been written there and that he didn't know who had done it. Besides, no insult to the Marines was meant, he said.

But the Marines weren't having any. Somewhere they got the idea that maybe William Randolph Hearst might know something about it. They demanded Wren get him on the line for them. Wren said he didn't know if he could but he'd be glad to report their feelings.

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## Stalling Tactics Bounce; Detroit Unit Goes to Town

Detroit—Guild spirit in the Free Press unit soared to the highest pitch since 1940 following a management appeal of a maintenance of membership directive.

The maintenance directive was handed down by the Newspaper Commission Feb. 5 and the appeal came Feb. 19. On Feb. 20, the Newspaper Guild of Detroit certified to the commission the names of 155 paid-up members, the highest good standing list in the history of the unit.

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Fewer than 15 of the members failed to bring themselves into good standing, and seven new names have been added since certification. No one withdrew.

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## WILL NOT STAY MUTE

"The Chronicle does no propose to engage in controversy over the relative merits of our fighting forces in the various theatres of this war."

"But neither does the Chronicle propose to remain mute when the United States Marines, or any other fighting force on the world battle line, is butchered at home to make a Roman holiday."

It was insinuated in some quarters that the Chronicle queried the Marines (no action but there is nothing to substantiate that innuendo).

Not a line of the story was published by local papers, presumably on the basis of "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" but the Labor Herald, California CIO paper, carried the story in its next edition.

The San Francisco CIO council hopped on the Hearst editorial with both feet, blasting editorial policies, and again calling on Attorney General Biddle to prosecute Hearst, charging un-American and pro-Fascist activities.

Meanwhile, wages are suggesting that the Marines change the words of their hymn to "From the halls of the Examiner, go the shores of Tripoli..."

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## Commission Reversed In Significant NWLB Appeal OKing Raises

Washington—In a significant ruling on an appeal, the National War Labor Board has reversed a decision of the Newspaper Commission which had denied a wage increase to members of the Miami Typographical union under contract with the Miami Newspaper Publishers Association.

The NWLB decision was unanimous.

The commission had found an increase of .0595 an hour was still allowable under the Little Steel formula, but the commission majority, labor member dissenting, denied an increase because "no evidence was given by the union for this additional increase beyond the claim that the Little Steel formula permitted such an increase."

### ENTITLED TO RAISE

In a terse decision on the appeal, the NWLB ruled the employees were entitled to the .0595 increase and the commission order denying the change because no substantial increase had taken place since the previous increase was vacated.

Said the NWLB: "The company shall pay to its employees an increase of \$0.0595 an hour, which is allowable under the Little Steel formula." The increase was retroactive to March 8, 1944.

### 306 ARE AFFECTED

The union had reopened the contract on wages Feb. 6, 1944, under a 30-day reopening clause, three months after an increase of 7 cents an hour had been approved.

The case was certified as a dispute May 22, and a commission hearing was held Aug. 11. The commission decision came down Sept. 27. The decision by the NWLB in the appeal was made public March 8, 1945.

Affected are 306 employees of the Miami Herald, Miami Daily News, Miami Beach Daily Tropics and Miami Daily Evening News. The decision brings the day rate to \$1.53 an hour and the night rate to \$1.60.

## McGrath New Head Of Chicago Sun Unit

Chicago—John McGrath, reporter, has been elected chairman of the Sun unit of the Chicago Newspaper Guild. He succeeds Dan Smyth, who left the Sun for a public relations post with the regional War Labor Board.

McGrath, who is a member of the editorial department and Ruth Stein, vice chairman for the commercial department. Other officials elected were Helen Fried, secretary; James Supple, treasurer, and Isabelle Graham and Howard Rissler, executive board members.

## DAVIS DENIES E & P RUMOR

Editor & Publisher got his ears pinned back by Elmer Davis, OWI chief, for printing a rumor that the overseas branch of OWI may be sold to a newspaper publisher. Davis said it was like a story the Navy would be sold after the war to the Hudson River Day Line.

### GRAND RAPIDS PRESS UNIT NAMES CHAIRMAN

Grand Rapids, Mich.—B. G. Brown, assistant city editor of the Press, has been elected chairman of the Press unit of Grand Rapids Guild, succeeding Edward A. McDonnell, telegraph editor of the Press, who recently was elected vice president of the local.

**Editor's Note:** The fundamental thinking of the NWLB in the Miami decision reversing the Newspaper Commission is important to Guild cases before the commission.

Effect of the decision is that employees should receive all increases allowable under the Little Steel formula.

## Test Suit on Travel Pay

Portland, Ore. (FP)—A test suit to force employers to pay travel time to thousands of loggers has been filed here by the Labor Department against Smith Wood Products Inc. of Coquille, Ore.

The suit asks an injunction against further violations of the wage-hour law by the logging and lumber concerns, which has refused to comply with the enforcement policy the federal wage and hour division adopted Dec. 4, 1944. It will be the first test of the policy of enforcement of travel time pay.

## Wilkes-Barre Fills Vacancy

Wilkes-Barre—Arthur Rice of Times-Leader, Evening News editorial department, has been elected first vice president of the Wilkes-Barre local.

He succeeds Gomer Evans who has been appointed publicity director of the Scranton district, Office of Price Administration.

As part of the annual audit, President Joseph Collis showed to the membership the war bonds owned by the local and which at maturity have a face value of \$2,900.

## UAW Suspends Heads of Local

Chicago (FP)—The international executive board of United Auto Workers (UAW) has suspended the 17 officers and board members of Dodge Local 274, representing 20,000 workers. An administrator has been named and an immediate check of the local's books was ordered.

The action was taken because of a factional fight over the election of new officers. The Dodge plant, which produces B-29 engines, has had 116 work stoppages since December, 1942.

## Now I Feel I Belong, New Citizen Declares

Rochester, N. Y.—Joanna De Vries, Holland native who for almost two years has been employed in the library of the Rochester Times-Union and the Democrat and Chronicle, became a citizen of the United States in impressive ceremonies here recently.

Joanna came to this country from her homeland in December, 1939, just in time to miss watching the Nazis lay siege to Holland. Her two sisters and two brothers reside in North Holland, still under German rule.

The Japanese have caused her a share of personal trouble, too. Two brothers were operating a rubber plantation in Java when the Japanese invaded. One is a prisoner, and the other she has not heard from since September, 1941.

Proud of her new status, Joanna declared soon after she was taken the oath: "Now, for the first time, I no longer feel as if I'm a guest in somebody's house—I feel as if I really belong here." She has a brother who resides in Newark, N. Y.

## Publishing and Printing Peace Outlook Is Good

Victory and peace are bullish, and the reconversion hazard has been exaggerated, says Standard and Poor's in its weekly "Outlook."

The financial publishing house, in analyzing post-war outlooks for various industries, finds the future is bright for printing and publishing.

Anticipating some form of tax relief for corporations, Standard and Poor's observes that printing and publishing corporations will be in a better profit position than they were in 1941.

### SEE GAINS IN ADS

In this field, the Outlook notes: "Once paper supplies and labor again are available in ample quantities, volume in these fields should expand considerably. 'Introduction of new products and competition for markets also spell record advertising revenues.'"

On reconversion in general, the Outlook believes "the shock to our economy will be much less severe than most observers look for." In terms of the Federal Reserve Board's index, at the worst an initial decline of 24 percent is looked for.

### BRIGHT NOTE

Confusion and delay are expected, but a bright note is the progress already made toward solving these problems.

Noting that many industries will not have to reconvert, the Outlook says in regard to printing and publishing: "Although no plant conversion problems are indicated, it may be a matter of a year or so before ample paper supplies are available. Meanwhile, higher linage rates will support earnings of many companies."

## Tom Rose to Edit Buffalo CIO Paper

Buffalo—Richard Engler has resigned as editor of the Union Leader, official organ of the Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council, to go on the copy desk of the New York Herald Tribune. Tom Rose, Buffalo Evening News unit Guild member, has accepted the Union Leader editorship. Rose formerly was president of the Syracuse Guild.

## VERBARG TO HEAD OAKLAND UNIT

Oakland, Cal.—Leonard H. Verburg has been named chairman of the Oakland Enquirer unit of the San Francisco-Oakland Guild, succeeding Betty Balk. William Ryan, retiring local president, is vice chairman.

Other unit officers include Marian Retynski, secretary, and Retha M. Bunn, treasurer.

## Chicago Member Killed in Action

Chicago—Pvt. William S. Hedger, Jr., a member of the Chicago Newspaper Guild and formerly a copy boy on the Chicago Sun, was reported killed in action in Germany.

Pvt. Hedger was a third generation union member. His father, William S. Hedger, was twice president of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16.

## Unit Chairman Is Re-elected

Pittsburgh—Mary Shine Saffer, society editor, has been re-elected chairman of the Sun-Telegraph unit of the Pittsburgh Newspaper Guild.

Other officers include: Warren Small, vice chairman; Mary Somers, treasurer; Virginia Fleming, assistant treasurer; Zora Unkovich, secretary, and Dorothy Kantner, assistant secretary.

## Helps Liberated Men Call Home



Guild Member Frances Foreade, phone operator at the San Francisco Examiner, had a busy time arranging long distance calls for servicemen liberated from Cabanatuan prison in the Philippines. She is pictured placing a call for Lt. Emmet Manson, calling his wife in Worthington, Minn. Manson spent two years in the Jap prison.

## Company Appeal Fails to Delay Vote in Windsor

Windsor, Ont.—A technical appeal, filed by management, failed to delay a representation election among employees of the Windsor Star.

The company appealed to the Canadian National Labor Relations Board because the Ontario board, in ordering an election and defining the unit, had failed to include six truck drivers.

The drivers were on lists of eligible employees submitted by the Guild and management. The appeal was heard March 15, with the decision coming March 20.

Meanwhile, a special unit research committee is collecting wage and hour data and other needed information on each employee to assist in formulating contract proposals.

Charles Mulcahy, district editor, is chairman of the committee. Steve Ripley, ANG international representative, is in charge of the Windsor drive.

## RYAN IS AGAIN N.Y. ORGANIZER

John F. Ryan has been declared elected general organizer of the New York local following nomination by the Representative Assembly and no petition nominations for the post. Ryan, who formerly held the post, succeeds H. Richard Soller, now secretary to Congressman De Lacey of Washington.

His latest oak leaf cluster was awarded for meritorious achievement while participating in bomber combat operations over Europe.

## Bad Medicine



"Transfusion? Free..."

## George Kivel, Famous Police Reporter, Dies

The death of George Kivel, 57, on March 2, brought to an end the career not only of one of the best police reporters in New York, but also of a man who—

from the Guild's point of view—was years ahead of his colleagues. He was a reporter for the New York Daily News.

Back in 1919, Kivel was foremost in a little band of brave

journalists who made the first attempt to form a union for reporters. The men were weary of working seven days a week with no overtime for \$25 to \$50 a week while truck drivers got \$70. They were tired of mass firings in periodic shake-ups.

So the band formed a newspaper writers' union under the AFL.

UNION KILLED

The publishers heard of it, the members were fired, but not before a general \$5 raise was passed out. The new union disintegrated.

Kivel joined the Guild at its inception in 1933. In the first world war he served as a counter-espionage agent along the waterfront.

Kivel covered news for 43 years, the last 25 for the News. He broke the alibi of Judd Gray in the Gray-Snyder murder case, in which Gray and Ruth Snyder went to the electric chair.

BREAKS ALIBI

Kivel fished a railroad ticket stub from a spittoon, which proved Gray had gone to New York from Syracuse the night of the murder.

He was a familiar figure on the big stories around New York of the last 20 years.

His brother, Maurice, is an assistant city editor of the News, and his son, Lt. Marty Kivel, was a News reporter before joining the Marines.

## Guildsman Heads OWI Branch in Rome

Morton Glatzer, former New York Herald Tribune reporter, is head of the new OWI branch recently established in Rome in an effort to give liberated Italy a better understanding of the United States. In addition to furnishing news round-ups to Italian news agencies, Glatzer, a Guild member, will furnish the same service to American correspondents.

## Officers Picked By Bridgeport

Bridgeport—Dean Hunt was elected president of the Bridgeport local at the annual meeting, succeeding Robert C. Wilson, who was named chairman of the grievance committee.

Jack Butler was named vice president and Nancy Handrick secretary. William F. James was named treasurer but declined to serve.

## BUSINESS IS GOOD—Circulation and Ad Income Up For Boston Herald-Traveler

Boston—Despite restrictions on advertising and circulation due to newspaper problems, the Boston Herald-Traveler Corp. last year increased its revenues from circulation and advertising to \$9,028,707 from \$8,803,922 in 1943.

The company's profit before federal income taxes amounted to \$2,634,366, compared to \$2,376,662 the year before.

The federal government collected a \$401,101 normal and surtax, and a \$1,424,968 excess profits tax leaving a net profit for 1944 of \$808,296, against \$841,409 in 1943.

W. C. Wenderoth, treasurer, reported a substantial decrease in tonnage of newspaper used in 1944, reflecting a reduction in use of a lighter weight paper.

## Talking Over Contracts at Journal-American Party



It looks like harbor shop harmony, but it isn't. Snapped at the New York Journal-American unit party are (left to right) Art Miller, Journal-American photographer; William W. Rodgers, ANG secretary-treasurer; Milton Murray, ANG president; Victor Leo, acting unit chairman, who headed party arrangements; Joe Colangelo, ANG wire service director, on leave from the Journal-American, and Sam Eubanks, ANG executive vice president. In between entertainment, this group was discussing phases of Hearst negotiations and grievance procedure. The party drew 250 guests at the Guild club. Proceeds went to the servicemen's fund.

## Publisher Fights When New Group Joins Guild

New Bedford, Mass.—The Guild has filed charges with the Boston regional office of the National Labor Relations Board of unfair labor practices by the management of the New Bedford Standard-Times, where last month 14 employees were fired within a few days after the formation of two independent unions in the newspaper's circulation department.

Called on to take over the organization of circulation department employees exclusive of carrier boys, the Guild has enrolled a majority of the 55 eligible, and the group is applying to the IEB for a charter as a new Guild local.

CARRIERS SEPARATE

Carrier boys at the newspaper, which employs some 800 in its newsroom, are continuing their separate organization.

The publisher, Basil Brewer, who has retained as counsel Elisha Hanson, ANPA attorney, has failed to reply to the Guild's letter, sent by Larry MacLean, New England District Council executive secretary, asking for recognition of the Guild as bargaining agent.

"Disloyalty to the management," "inefficiency," "failure to follow instructions" and "failure to account for funds" are among the written causes for dismissal of the carriers.

Management has refused to recognize the Guild as the bargaining agent for all bureaus involved, rejecting the NLRB pre-gaming agent.

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## Commercials On Newscasts Limited by NBC

Commercial announcements in the middle of news broadcasts have been banned by the National Broadcasting Company on all stations owned and operated by NBC.

Commercials are limited to the first two and last three minutes of a 15-minute program.

FOLLOWS CAMPAIGN

While Niles Trammell, NBC president, said the ban on commercials was instituted "because today news is our number one public service obligation," the action came after a vigorous campaign against "radio plug uglies" by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch which was being taken up by other papers, stations and trade magazines.

Columbia Broadcasting System, however, said its present system was working "extremely well," and would permit commercials in the middle of news broadcasts.

TIME LIMITED

CBS has limited the total time of commercial announcements in a news broadcast.

The Post-Dispatch crusade also hit at sponsoring of news broadcasts by "objectionable advertisers," slapping also at all forms of bad taste and excessive commercialism in radio.

Time sales by the major networks last year totaled more than \$126,000,000 last year.

## Madison Has 2 War Casualties

Madison, Wis.—Two members of the Madison Guild are war casualties. Pvt. Paul R. Sather was killed in action in Germany, and Pfc. George Terpanier was reported missing in action in Luxembourg.

Both were members of the Capital Times unit. Sather was a mailing room employee and Terpanier was in the advertising department.

## Dispute Certified On Hearst Services

Washington—A consolidated dispute case, involving three Hearst services, has been certified to the NLRB, to be heard by the Newspaper Commission.

The Guild contracts involve International News Service, International News Photos, and Central Press.

REWARD TREASURER

Elizabeth, N. J.—Following expansion to include three additional out-of-town units, Elizabeth Guild members voted to pay the treasurer \$10 per month because of added duties.

## Bronze Star for Former San Antonio Guild Prexy

Somewhere in the Pacific (Delayed)—Marine 1st Lt. Robert E. Ford, 31, Texas newspaperman, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for outstanding service during the Saipan-Tinian fighting last summer.

For being twice wounded on Saipan, Lt. Ford has received the Purple Heart and a gold star in lieu of a second medal. He shares in the Presidential Unit citation awarded to the Fourth Marine division for achievements on Saipan and Tinian.

He also is a veteran of fighting at Namur in the Marshall Islands. For his work there, the Texan received a Letter of Commendation with Ribbon.

Lt. Ford formerly was associated with newspapers in San Antonio, Austin, Wichita Falls and other Texas cities. He was president of the San Antonio Newspaper Guild and was on the copy desk of the San Antonio Light when he enlisted.

1st LT. ROBERT FORD  
Outstanding service



## Covering Gripsholm No Snap

### CHIEF ACTIVITY IS SHOWING PRESS CARD OVER AND OVER AGAIN

By JOHN MASON POTTER

Chairman, Boston Globe Unit

Eight times the Swedish diplomatic liner Gripsholm has docked in New York harbor since the United States entered the war, and each time swarms of newsmen and women—reporters, photographers, movie cameramen and radio interviewers—have surrounded the repatriates as they passed through the customs barrier.

The newsmen's questions range from such prosaic topics as food and international relations, to other more sensational items such as rape, escapes and torture.

A ninth exchange of Axis and Allied nationals is being arranged with the Japanese government, and the erstwhile transatlantic luxury liner undoubtedly will be used to take Japanese from our instrument camps across the Pacific to pick up repatriated Americans.

#### IT'S COLD WORK

Covering a Gripsholm arrival is tough on the feet, the stomach, and the cigar habit. It sometimes is fruitful of nothing more than a routine story, but more often the patient reporter will get a story that will more than repay his hanging around the cold, bleak pier while denied the privilege of a drag on a cigarette—even if he has the snipe.

To get a story of life behind enemy lines, or life in an internment camp, reporters and photographers must work in cooperation with a number of different official branches of the U. S. government.

The Navy handles arrangements at the pier, but the reporter must show his badge to customs officials, and he will be prevented from getting beyond a specified point at the pier by both naval and customs men.

#### MORE CENSORS

If there are Army personnel on the Gripsholm, he must work with Army censors the day the soldiers come off the pier, and on the next day when they are interviewed at the Army medical reception center, Halloran General Hospital, on Staten Island.

And there is another government branch, the State Department, which, while not coming into direct contact with newsmen, sets many of the limitations affecting news coverage of the Gripsholm and its passengers.

Through all this the reporter has to try to get his story.

#### CARD IS NEEDED

When the Gripsholm docks, there are on hand newsmen from all the New York dailies, the wire services, and staff men from papers along the seaboard and inland bent on a story of a hometown figure on board.

On arrival at the pier, life is a round of showing one's identification card.

First there is the police officer at the building adjacent to the pier. Customs officers are next. Twenty

## Story Behind News Stories

John Mason Potter, pictured here, is chairman of the Boston Globe unit, where he is a reporter. He has covered most of the New York arrivals of the Gripsholm.

Because of interest in stories of those who have been returned from enemy hands, The Guild Reporter asked Potter to do a piece on how the arrival of the liner is covered.

The best stories of repatriates can't be told yet; the assembled press stands, waits, freezes, and hustles for stories in extreme discomfort.



yards along the pier there will be another barrier, where customs and Navy men look at his identification card again and send him along a fenced route, where another naval officer looks at the card.

After all this the reporter will be allowed to walk about 100 yards to a special section reserved for the press, but before he goes in, someone else has to inspect his card.

#### CARD IS CHECKED

And each time the card really is looked at, carefully.

The number of newsmen in the bullpen varies with the news value of the exchange passengers.

In December, 1943, there were 200 reporters and photographers on hand. On the most recent exchange, last month, there were about 40.

In the bullpen, reporters and cameramen have an opportunity to get at every civilian repatriate, for they must pass through here on their way off the pier, under arrangements set up by the public relations officers of the Third Naval District, who are in charge of arrangements at the pier.

#### NO ATROCITY STORIES

The Navy prepares a mimeographed list of all civilian repatriates, supplied by the State Department, which is given newsmen.

While the State Department negotiates the exchanges, it never

## IT'S BECOME A MERCY SHIP

The S.S. Gripsholm, built in 1925 as a luxury liner for the Swedish-American Line, has been under charter to the United States government since June 1942 through the War Shipping Administration. Its prisoner-exchange functions are supervised by the State Department.

The Gripsholm has completed eight round trips since its chartering. On the first trip, to Portuguese East Africa, U. S. diplomats and newsmen were brought home from the Far East. Because

this initial trip was to a port of call of the American Export Line, that company was named the operating line and has continued as such.

However, the big "repatriation" liner flies the Swedish flag and is manned by a crew comprised chiefly of Swedish nationals. It is painted a gleaming white, with identification in huge lettering and large painted Swedish flags, and runs with full lights at night.

The working press is not permitted aboard the Gripsholm, although several times photographers have been taken aboard for one or two pre-selected shots. Navy cameramen have taken pictures, however.

Order Maintenance For St. Louis Paper

Chicago—A maintenance of membership directive has been issued for a Guild contract with the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The action came on a contract which had expired last September, but after consultation with WLB attorneys, the commission found it could give a ruling in an expired contract.

The provision will be applied to the present contract.

Study your Guild contract... and know what clauses mean.



ITS A PLOT!

Hypo will be the first to admit that he is having a hell of a time these days.

Hypo is the famous, prize-winning six-toed cat that is the mascot of the New York Journal-American city room, a post he has held for some 10 years or so.

Besides having had his picture in the paper, and his biography on file in the United American morgue, Hypo's bid to fame is

longer gets plentiful supplies of liver, salmon and other feline delicacies. But he retains his plump, well-upholstered look.

Days he hangs around the copydesk, naps, snoozes, and keeps away from the press room, however, for the rats are almost as big as he is, and Hypo is no lightweight.

The boys report that Hypo is still a wolf.

On getting his daily milk ration he was wont to wait for the cream to rise to the top and then skim it off. Now he gets homogenized milk. The cream, of course, doesn't separate, but Hypo sits and waits and waits.

To make matters worse, what with rationing and all, Hypo no

free from censorship, but at times they have been warned by the State Department against certain types of stories as endangering those not yet repatriated.

During the wait for civilians to pass through customs, the newsmen must stand on the concrete pier. It's usually cold there, and there is no place to sit down. "No smoking" signs are everywhere, with guards to enforce rules. The waits are usually long.

#### IT'S SLOW WORK

When the Gripsholm docked last month, reporters waited four hours for the first civilian to come off, and nine hours later only five adults had come through.

As civilians come through the press section, they are asked for their home address, and then interested newsmen gather for stories and pictures.

On the first two exchanges, the liberated Americans from the Orient said the only horror they experienced was after the horde of news-hungry scribes descended on them at Pier F.

Last month American civilians returning from Nazi internment camps were so accustomed to the Gestapo that many of them thought our reporters were an American Gestapo.

Interviews with Army personnel take another form, being held on the day after arrival to give the men back from prisoner-of-war camps an opportunity to see or phone their families. These interviews are at Halloran Hospital, in the presence of Lt. Col. J. Edward Allen, a former ANG international vice president, on leave as a reporter for the Boston Herald.

STRICT ARMY RULES

Lt. Col. Allen and such other officers as he designates are in charge of giving spot clearance to stories. The Army has some strict rules of censorship. Each of the repatriated soldiers has been wounded and captured, and while many times the best parts of their stories must be deleted, there are so many adventurous tales that usually there is a good story.

No stories are permitted of escapes or attempted escapes to prevent punitive measures against men now prisoners, and to prevent details of escape attempts which might be unknown from coming to enemy attention.

This is not a needless precaution, for in at least one instance 500 lives were snuffed out because Japanese learned from a magazine article that Chinese natives in a certain section had aided Americans to escape.

#### OTHER TABOOS

Other taboos include stories of civilians who have been friendly to American soldiers and accounts of brutality in prison camps. The first is to prevent retaliation, and the second also to prevent jeopardizing future repatriations.

The working press is not permitted aboard the Gripsholm, although several times photographers have been taken aboard for one or two pre-selected shots. Navy cameramen have taken pictures, however.

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## Bayton Stays At Helm in New Hammond Guild

Hammond, Ind.—The Hammond Newspaper Guild has been organized following IEB approval of an application for a new charter.

Members of the Northwestern Indiana Newspaper Guild unit that group was dissolved and Hammond and Gary members agreed to apply for separate charters.

Ernest G. Bayton, Hammond advertising salesman, was elected president of the new Hammond Guild after serving nearly four years as head of the Northwestern Indiana Guild. He also was named Hammond Times unit chairman.

Harry S. Gallagher, city editor of the Times, is vice president, with James Broderick, secretary and unit collector, and Agnes Harper, treasurer. John Whitaker, sports editor of the Times, is the chairman of the grievance committee.

Negotiations will be opened soon for a new contract with the Hammond Times management. The Hammond Times unit has had a contract since the Guild was organized in 1937.

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## "Fearless Journalism" in Boston

STORY BEHIND THE STORY: 'Pegler of New England' Tosses Epithets Wildly, Swings too Early, and Comes off Second Best

Readers of PM and the Boston Herald have been treated to a duel of words, journalistic fencing, and, on the part of a Boston columnist, choice invective and indignant sputtering.

Kenneth Stewart, former Nieman fellow and author of "News Is What We Make It," was writing four articles for PM on Boston newspapers. In his quiet he interviewed Eijah William Cunningham, who does a daily column for the Herald for \$35,000 a year under the byline of Bill Cunningham.

During the interview, Cunningham lambasted Stewart verbally with every insult and adjective he could muster. And Cunningham is never stuck for epithets. He included his usual threat to those with whom he disagrees, to throw Stewart's neck and to wring him out.

Cunningham, assuming PM would run the interview which Stewart did only "from the record," on March 11, devoted three-fourths of his column (two columns of type) on March 10 to an attack on Stewart and PM.

STARKS WITH BLAST

Cunningham's column opened: "Your correspondent is being paid the high honor of one of the windiest blasts that ever blew through the sewers of journalism."

Pointing out that the tramp printer's chief objectionable characteristic was that he had restlessness, the types observed Cunningham had been a somewhat itinerant himself.

The tramp printer was an expert, could work anywhere, and

Warmed up, he went on: PM is a "pandering publication..." "A minor newspaper named by the name of Kenneth Stewart, one of those repertorial tramps who's worked all over the country..." "This baldheaded and shifty-eyed disciple of Flutarch."

PRINTERS JOIN IN

And in conclusion he referred to Stewart as a "dreadful plagiarist."

(The Guild Reporter learned that Stewart's article was in type when this blast was tossed by Cunningham, but the only change made was to cut off the first two paragraphs of Cunningham's attack.)

On March 12 the printers of the Boston Herald had a few words to say on all this, in a paper they issue for men in service. Cunningham had said, disparagingly, that Stewart's career was like a tramp printer's.

SWUNG TOO EARLY

Noting that Cunningham came out too early with his piece, the printers' paper observed that Cunningham looked like "the batter who starts to swing before the pitcher has completed his wind-up."

The composing room boys took issue with Cunningham on his use of "tramp printer" as an epithet. Pointing out that the tramp printer's chief objectionable characteristic was that he had restlessness, the types observed Cunningham had been a somewhat itinerant himself.

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The tramp printer was an expert, could work anywhere, and

was an expert speller and grammarian, the printers pointed out, adding, "If the printers did not repair the chinks in his (Cunningham's) armor, this noble warrior could not appear so boldly in the lists each morning."

STEWART'S ARTICLE

The printers' paper also said they were paid to read Cunningham, "whereas we read PM for pleasure and improvement."

Then, after Cunningham got his licks in early, PM ran Stewart's interview with the columnist on March 18. Much of the stuff Cunningham had protested in his column was not in Stewart's story. Cunningham devoted much space to denying he was anti-Semitic. In the interview he had conceded "I wish I had those lines back" when discussing cases in point.

Cunningham is labeled "the Pegler of New England" by PM. STARTED ON POST

A former all-American center at Dartmouth, Cunningham was newspapering in Texas when he came to the Boston Post as a sports writer in 1922 after he had filed a dramatic report of a basketball game.

In time he became a sports columnist. He switched to the Herald in 1941 for \$25,000 per year and began to write less about sports and more on politics and national affairs. With syndication and radio appearances he makes about \$60,000 annually.

Atlanta Lauds Liberal Stand Of Publisher

Atlanta—A resolution commending Publisher Mark Etridge of the Louisville Courier-Journal for a speech here calling for a progressive approach to southern problems was adopted by the Atlanta Newspaper Guild.

Mr. Etridge, speaking before the Georgia Academy of Political and Social Sciences, contended that the southerners are much less liberal than their reactionary political leaders and that in the last election the new deal won in the south in every instance where it was in issue.

The Louisville publisher, a native of Mississippi, is a former managing editor of the Macomb, Ga. Telegraph.

The resolution also commended Etridge because "his energetic work and his clearcut editorial policies challenge the other newspapers of the south and the nation to follow an example which could vitiate the press and put it in tune with the best interests of the south and its needs."

Philadelphia—T/S Frank Dickinson, 20, former copyboy and unit member of the Camden Courier-Post, was killed in action in France according to word received from the War Department. He was the third member of the Camden unit of the Philadelphia Camden Guild to be killed in this war. He enlisted in the Army a year ago.

Lima Seeking New Contract

Lima, Ohio—Negotiations for a new contract are in progress between the Lima News Management and the Lima Newspaper Guild.

The Guild seeks extension of severance pay, night differential, additional benefits for part time workers, and wage increases.

Chicago Picks New Treasurer

Chicago—Chandler Forman, Times copywriter, has been elected treasurer of the Chicago local, succeeding Betty Wood, who has gone to New York.

The local went on record upholding the no-strike pledge, and urging that government machinery "to eradicate the causes of strikes" be strengthened.

This position was wired to ANG President Milton Murray, urging he take similar action at the recent CIO executive board meeting.

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Early in his Herald career Cunningham pooh-poohed post-war planners, suggesting they be "suspended for the duration, preferably by the neck." The piece evoked a storm of protest, and Publisher Choate told a protesting Harvard group they were out of step with what the man-in-the-street was thinking, submitting 400 Cunningham fan letters.

LETTERS ANALYZED

Nieman fellows, in analyzing the letters of praise, found he was attracting a hostile group of readers who aimed avily upon his vague attacks on the government.

In his book, Stewart had written that Cunningham had "followed, unwittingly I am sure, the Axis line in a series of disruptive columns."

Stewart's article in PM barely mentioned a \$5,000 judgment in a plagiarism suit, but Cunningham, probably expecting more, devoted more space to it, admitting "we sports writers used to swipe from each other pretty freely away back there."

HAS PET HATES

Stewart pointed out Cunningham has pet hates, which he writes about violently, with un-Bostonian adjectives. Quoting excerpts from Cunningham's writings, Stewart said: "His column often is loaded against the administration, foreigners, and organized labor."

"Cunningham talks inky but

cases and methods to make orders effective.

Urges a 65-cent minimum wage. Demanding an upward revision of the Little Steel formula.

The executive board also named a three-man committee to settle all jurisdictional disputes within the CIO.

Committee members include John Green, president of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers; Sherman Dalrymple, president of the United Rubber Workers, and Frank Rosenblum, executive vice president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Sacto Backs Wage Program

Sacramento—Members of the Sacramento Valley Newspaper Guild voted "whole-hearted endorsement" of the ANG wage program as formulated at the Washington conference.

Two requests by the California CIO Council—one for a resolution asking dismissal of the Harry Bridges proceedings, and another for a resolution supporting the return of Japanese-Americans to California—were tabled at the membership meeting.

The local appropriated \$10 for the relief fund of the Hudson County Guild in its organization fight.

NAT EINHORN FATHER AGAIN

Nat Einhorn, executive secretary of the New York local, is the father of a red-haired girl, born March 14. It's the second child. Nat passed out signature.

UAW Backs No-strike Pledge

Detroit (LPA)—The first wartime test of labor's no-strike pledge by referendum of union members is about concluded by the United Auto Workers (UAW). An unofficial count showed that out of more than a million members, the total ballots cast within the deadline were 281,130. More than 60 percent voted to retain the no-strike pledge. The unofficial count was: to keep the no-strike pledge, 178,231; to revoke the no-strike pledge, 99,185.

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Early in his Herald career Cunningham pooh-poohed post-war planners, suggesting they be "suspended for the duration, preferably by the neck." The piece evoked a storm of protest, and Publisher Choate told a protesting Harvard group they were out of step with what the man-in-the-street was thinking, submitting 400 Cunningham fan letters.

LETTERS ANALYZED





## Memo from MURRAY

### Some Musings on Unity, Brass Knuckles, and a Simple Credo

By Milton Murray  
ANG President

Editor Bader has informed me that the letter section of this Guild Reporter has been increased substantially to permit some of the dues-paying members to beat off my ears. I will join you in the pleasure of perusing these epistles in print—having denied myself the pleasure (or advantage) of seeing them in script.

However, I do not intend to ignore them. When members of our union become sufficiently aroused to write letters to the editor, I believe they are entitled, if they ask, to an answer. And sometimes when they don't ask.

My sin is disunity. I am "agin" the Communists and I have abused Harry Bridges. Perhaps I should be a little coy about getting into such a quarrel. Gardner Jackson, a fellow Guild member and a fellow PM reporter, got into a similar ideological discussion one night in New York and was taken out and beaten with brass knuckles, had an eye gouged out and was damned near killed.

**OTHER THEATERS**  
A former vice president of the American Newspaper Guild has been threatened with bodily harm or other retribution unless he resigns from a regional War Labor Board to which he was appointed on my recommendation.

Brother Joseph Curran of the Maritime Union several times has invited me into the alley to debate our political differences. (I have rejected the invitation for lack of a 40-60 chance.)

**CALLED LIAR**  
Brother Saul Mills and Brother Michael Gill have accused me, as a reporter, of making "utter fabrications"—in other words, being a dirty liar.

All this, mind you, is "unity." When I dare to deny that I am a liar, I am accused of being a "dissembler"—even a "fascist." And when I take a whack at Bridges, who has been cuffing me around, the letters pour in.

**OFFERS TO DEBATE**  
I have offered to debate with Brother Bridges the question whether he is a "traitor" and a "quill" and a "misleader of labor," the terms I used in referring to him at an IEB meeting where I opposed the Guild giving him any help in getting an executive pardon rather than a supreme court appeal on his deportation order.

If—and when—he accepts that offer, I am prepared to make my case against him. It is a lengthy case and would require a little too much space for the GR to handle. Some of you will recall Brother Bridges' interest in the North American Aviation Company strike at a time when this nation was preparing for war—but the Communist Party line was opposed to war.

And some of you will read significance into Brother Bridges' urging national service legislation when the CIO was opposed to it, and to his declaration of a peacetime no-strike pledge.

**NO OUTCRY THEN**  
What surprises me is the fact that when Brother Curran, not a member of our great deal interested in our union, accused me of violating CIO policy, there was no outcry of letter writers objecting, complaining or questioning this attack upon a labor leader.

It seems that "unity" is a one-way road. You and I must travel it on an "or else" basis. One day we must, under the castigation of being "warmongers," picketing the White House and "that man Roosevelt" and the next day be sneering as "defeatists" or "fascists" those who question, in any degree, the mandates of our commander-in-chief.

**OTHER POINTS TOO**  
I'm a slow man. I catch on

## DENVER SENDS THANKS AND PRAISE

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
With brand new zip apparent in the ranks as a result of the counsel and inspiration given by Edna Berger, ANG international representative, on her recent Denver assignment, the Denver Guild is warmly appreciative of both her assignment and the foresight of the IEB in sending her to Denver even for the short period possible.

In her brief stay she put new spark in organizational affairs, assisted ably in the NLRB hearings of the Guild-AP case, took part in Post negotiations, and addressed an enthusiastic city-wide meeting on the ANG wage program for 1945.

In between times she met individually and in groups a majority of the Denver Guild members and gave them additional insight into Guild activities and Guild aims.

A letter expressing the Denver Guild's general appreciation of her assistance is wholly inadequate compensation for such splendid service, but we most certainly want the ANG membership at large to read our views.

We are hoping that ANG headquarters will assign Miss Berger to Denver again soon to push the Guild campaign still more steps forward.

**BARRON B. BISHOP,**  
President, Denver Guild.

**PREPARE NOW FOR PEACE, HE PLEADS**  
**SAN FRANCISCO.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
Asop is supposed to have coined: "In time of peace, prepare for war." The ANG might well adopt: "In time of war, prepare for peace."

Special assessments, defense funds, etc. are all very fine, but when this war is over we'll need a lot more. The reaction against organized labor will be in full swing.

Many a Guildman in service will return indoctrinated with: "To hell with the unions." The soft, lazy days of limited space for local news with duckshot competition from 4-P's and girl journalists will be replaced with tough beats and three good men for every job.

Let's be realistic! How many Guild units can survive without the Guild shop, maintenance of union, etc. I was out of the newspaper "game" for 10 years, after being in it for 16. I started for \$10 a week on the Kansas City Post and worked Saturdays from 9 A. M. to midnight. I know what the Guild has done.

I joined my first week in San Francisco and I've never been delinquent. But I also know there was more competition on those

Our Daily Bread...  
Cartoon by Bill Calhoun, New York Guild

"I forgot, Sarge... I used to work on a morning paper."

Guild members in good standing here may discuss affairs of the Guild, the labor movement, or the newspaper industry, keeping in mind the welfare of the Guild, and the fact these columns should not be used for personal quarrels.

Letters exceeding 350 words are subject to editing to reduce them to that length.

\$10-\$15 a week beats in 1915 than in 1945 when almost any wage with a little gumption can negotiate over the \$4.75 scale.

Every gray train I've ever ridden, always ended in the ditch, and I have a hunch the present joyride will be no exception. The Guild's greatest weakness, it seems to me, is that everything has been staked on wages. We have little or no solidarity, no esprit de corps. Get sick or hurt and see how many of your unit visit you, to say nothing of any representative of management.

I still remember a New York Daily News nurse visiting me in 1921. It was the only time on 17 newspapers I ever had a sick report to be followed up at home by management.

Any Army officer would face a board of inquiry if he ignored the welfare of his men as does nearly every newspaper "executive." But because management is stupid, need we be too? Tammany Hall, Pendergast, every lodge, Legion post, etc. look after their sick. How many Guild units even have a sick fund?

The G-I Guildman who had his CO visit him in the hospital, is simply not going to take kindly to our present indifference to sickness and misfortune; the weak "sick pay" clauses in most ANG contracts.

Twenty-five percent, at least, of our returning comrades will have disabilities. They will have a tough time making the grade. Lose them and their loyalty, and we will have given smart management a potent weapon.

**PAUL BRINDEL,**  
Executive Unit.

**LOOKS TO PASS FOR WHAT FUTURE HOLDS**  
**MEMPHIS.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
The left-wing lads who were kicked out of control of the Guild when the rank-and-file finally got a chance to choose their international officers appear to be getting set for a comeback trip in 1945.

They won't have a chance of succeeding, of course, if the Guild membership is fully informed on the issues.

So let's take a look into the past so our newer members can have some idea of what to expect in the future.

The Milton Kaufman-Victor Pasche-New York left-wing group had a firm grip on the ANG. During this era our top Guild officials went far afield from the normal functions of labor union leaders. They tried to poke their noses into international affairs and as a result we discussed not union matters but the Spanish revolution at our Guild meetings.

They endorsed movements tinged with ideologies strange to those of us who thought democracy was a pretty good thing.

This group, unseated by our first referendum, made it necessary for local Guild leaders throughout the country to spend much of their time beating down charges by their own members that top Guild officials had made the Guild into a Communist organization.

Finally a group of Guildmen from coast to coast had taken all they could stand. At the Detroit convention they pushed through a plan under which every Guildman in the country would have a chance to vote on their international officers. Previously convention delegates elected officers. This group selected Milton Mur-

ray, Sam Eubanks and Bill Rodgers to head their slate. This slate won.

Now we can argue with the bosses about wages and working conditions. We no longer have to argue about whether the Guild is a Communist front organization. Guildmen should remember these things when an issue is made of the IEB's action on the Harry Bridges resolution. They should remember it when red-baiting charges are hurled around by our left-wingers. They should examine the background and ideologies of those who will blast at Murray, Eubanks and Rodgers.

I'm in favor of honest criticism of our present officers and IEB members. They may not be perfect. If we're to name successors to any of them, let's see that we do so because they're more competent as union leaders—not because the old crowd that was kicked out once huris a lot of untruthful charges.

**A. L. "PETE" SWIM,**  
President, Memphis Guild.

**OPPOSES DIVERSION IN BRIDGES CASE**  
**NEW YORK.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
I think that now, if never before, is the time for American labor to remain united and act with all the integrated determination to beat back the plainly discernible employer drives in half a dozen locations, at least, to diminish union prestige and discourage their membership. I express this slithering generalization in connection with the case of Milton Murray versus Harry Bridges.

My thought is that the Guild and its membership would do well to concentrate on the paramount issues before it specifically and American labor in general. Interne bickering at this time might well be fatal. It should be avoided.

Regardless of many pros and cons in the Bridges case, it is self-evident that he has done a good war job. He has earned the support of Philip Murray, and that speaks volumes.

I admire both Murrays, but in this case I definitely would follow the lead of the CIO president, and would ask that American labor leaders refrain from following any course which would imperil us all for many years to come. The case should not be diverting us from the main goal—now, or at any time.

**WILLIAM T. ROSE,**  
AP Unit.

**THINKS CALIFORNIA WILL HANG ITS HEAD**  
**SACRAMENTO, CALIF.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
Our local Guild has seen fit to table a resolution commending the War Relocation Authority for permitting the return of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry to the Pacific Coast.

The action was a surprise to me, and I cannot understand the reasoning of our membership. As one of those who dissented I think some day California will hang her head in shame for her role in this relocation episode.

**RICHARD H. RODDA,**  
Rec Unit.

**NY Member Is Given Posthumous Awards**

Sgt. Joseph F. Kelly, former editorial employee and Guild member at the New York World-Telegram killed in action in France last August, posthumously has been awarded both the Silver Star and the Bronze Star for heroism.

**TOBIN DISAVOWS LITTLE STEEL EDITORIAL**  
**Indianapolis (FP)**—President Daniel Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) has disavowed an editorial in the union's paper supporting the Little Steel formula.

## FLASHBACKS

**MEAT AX**—The "strongest weapon an employer has to wield," the anti-strike injunction, was first used against the American Newspaper Guild ten years ago this month. An injunction restraining all Newark Ledger strike activities was obtained by the court-appointed trustees of the Ledger.

The Guild Reporter of March 15, 1935, impugned the legal maneuver as a "last-stand effort" to break the strike, and as the "strong arm of governmental power" that "not only sweeps the striking pickets and their volunteer helpers from the streets, but also seeks to suppress The Guild Reporter, to shut the radio to the strikers and in all ways to silence their appeal to the public."

The fight against the injunction by the Guild, organized labor generally and a large number of progressives, helped materially in bringing about enactment of a strong law against labor injunctions in New Jersey.

A squib in the same GR told of an earlier reporters' strike in London that ended successfully a century before. It was led by Charles Dickens, who personally directed a walk-out of reporters on "starvation wages covering the Parliamentary debates."

**OLD STORY**—The offhand refusal of the publisher members of the ANPA standing committee and also of the NIB, who for many years has been chief labor counsel of the Hearst chain.

The GR said: "The letter followed a Chicago meeting of the board at which proposals by Jonathan Eddy, Guild executive secretary, to bring about adequate reforms were voted down by the publisher members almost without discussion."

## Among Ourselves

T/S Leonard Gozard, former Detroit local treasurer, is in Europe, helping get supplies to the front. S/Sgt. Robert E. Spier of Twin Cities Guild now is on the staff of Brief, official magazine for the Army air force in the Pacific.

Loren J. Steinbauer, Wilkes-Barre member, has been promoted to captain from lieutenant. He's stationed in Holland.

Three Minneapolis Star Journal Guildmen had a reunion in a Marine Corps office in Hawaii. They were Al Ellowitz, Don Braman, and Bill Hennigan, all of the Marines.

Catherine Guesly, Minneapolis Star Journalist, is leaving as reporter to go with office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

It's a boy for Wallace Wilcox, Madison State Journal copyreader. ... Clair Miller, Lima Guildman, is recuperating after a year of recuperation. ... Wayne Current, president of the Lima Guild, named to executive board of Allen county chapter of American Red Cross.

Ralph Stevens, copy editor of Minneapolis Tribune, is leaving to go with Dental Survey magazine. ... Lt. Ted Meltzer of St. Paul Dispatch Pioneer Press assigned as censor of German newspapers—out of the Army and into OWI.

Alfred Radt, St. Paul Dispatch Pioneer Press control room, now in the WAVES. ... Sgt. M. John Conner, same paper, had articles in last Leatherneck magazine on Pacific action.

It's a boy for Dutch East Indies as Red Cross field director. ... Morgan Shaffer, former Allentown Call telegraph editor, has returned to work as editorial writer for the Chronicle after a long illness.

Dick O'Malley has left Denver AP for San Francisco bureau prior to an assignment in the Pacific.

Stork Dept.: A daughter for Bernard Seaman, who also carries for the labor press and GR. ... A son for Ben Tabenky of PM.

Shirley Newman, Allentown Chronicle, des. collector, off to Newport-News, Va., after being sent to Pto. Bernard Margulies of

## SAYS BRIDGES' UNION IS MORE DEMOCRATIC

**SAN FRANCISCO.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
We shall, for the nonce, stipulate that Milton Murray is not a paragon of political ineptitude. We shall, for the purpose of objectivity, agree that his social and mental development, or lack thereof, is not the subject of debate.

We shall confine ourselves entirely to his ineptitude as a newspaperman—as a reporter. When he bleats about Harry Bridges as a "mis-leader of labor and a wrecker of honest trade unionism," he should have checked these facts:

1. The ILWU, of which Bridges is international president, is one of the most democratic trade unions in the CIO, and far more democratic than the American Newspaper Guild. It might be embarrassing to Murray and the other members of the IEB to make a comparison.

2. The Stanford university graduate school of business brings its students in labor relations to San Francisco to watch Local 10 of the ILWU in session as an example of a democratic trade union. I know that Local 52 of the ANG (which is the San Francisco-Oakland local) could not bear the same scrutiny.

3. The ILWU has been publicly applauded by the Navy and a number of other "quelling" groups (that's what Milton Murray implies) for its no-strike performance and attitude which Murray thinks is so traitorous.

Those of us here who have seen the emergence of Harry Bridges as one of America's best labor leaders understand well the sentiments of the boys on the waterfront who once chanted on an Australia-bound ship: "If there are any more men like Bridges in Australia, send them over here!"

I have just returned to newspapering after a two-year military leave, and it is extremely distressing to note that whereas other trade union leaders seem to know what is going on in the world, Murray and the leadership of the ANG are living in a sort of world of their own. Whether deliberately or not, I do not know, but Murray is certainly doing a superb job of isolating himself from the rest of the American labor movement.

It is full time we toss him out and put some members on the IEB who—if not good trade union leaders—at least are sufficiently acute to be able to recognize that this is the twentieth century.

**CHARLES RAUBENAUH**  
Chronicle Unit.

**MORE COMMENTS ON MURRAY ATTACK**  
**SALT LAKE CITY.**

**Editor, GUILD REPORTER:**  
About last May, I was one of many GR readers who were shocked by an article by your Washington columnist, James Wechsler. It seems that Mr. Wechsler had been criticized by one George Seldes in his periodical.

In fact, Mr. Wechsler apparently did not consider it advisable to dignify Mr. Seldes with a reply in PM, although it was in his capacity as a PM writer that he had been attacked. So he used the columns of The Guild Reporter for a heated personal diatribe that would have been filed in the wastebasket by any editor I ever saw.

A number of readers protested at that time, and I got the understanding that the matter was a closed book. In GR's convention reports last summer it seemed that Mr. Wechsler had been properly rebuked, and that some dele Washington coverage should be systematic and impersonal, rather than erratic and personalized.

I was therefore doubly shocked to read Pres. Murray's column in the Feb. 15 GR. Mr. Murray says he has been attacked for his work

as columnist of PM, and his professional reputation brought into question. Also, reflections have been cast upon his standing as a trade unionist.

Now we out here read neither Daily Worker nor PM and have no opportunity to judge the merits of the dispute. In fact, we never heard about it, except from what Pres. Murray tells us, and he's obviously so mad he can't think straight. Anyhow, we're frankly not interested.

We would like to use The Guild Reporter as an organ for us. And frankly, in my opinion, it is almost less than no help at all, for the following reasons:

1. It is perpetually engaged in internecine backyard hairpulling matches about issues of which we out here know nothing and care less.

2. It doesn't stack up against the livelier young labor papers we do see hereabouts (like the UNION, of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers) either in overall craftsmanship or in trade union education.

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Milton Murray, the International Executive Board, and The Guild Reporter combined in the Feb. 15 issue to demonstrate a most disturbing frame of mind on a number of related issues.

The ostensible point at issue was a story written by Murray for the New York newspaper which employs him. Murray apparently reported that certain New York CIO leaders were lobbying for labor-service legislation, in opposition to what Murray conceives to be CIO policy.

The story was denied by the CIO. Murray and the leadership of the ANG are living in a sort of world of their own. Whether deliberately or not, I do not know, but Murray is certainly doing a superb job of isolating himself from the rest of the American labor movement.

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## Caught ON THE RUN

AP Photographer Joe Rosenthal, whose Iwo Jima invasion pictures have become a news photo sensation, can expect some extra money.

ANG negotiators, meeting with Assistant General Manager Claude Jagger of the AP, suggested joint application to the War Labor Board for approval of a merit increase to Rosenthal.

Jagger replied that "management would take care of that," having been advised that increases on Iwo Jima are not within the jurisdiction of the WLB and also that Guildsman Rosenthal presently is outside the jurisdiction of the Guild contract with AP which is limited to the continental United States.

Navy Secretary Forrestal lauded Rosenthal, saying he was "as gallant as the men" who planted the flag atop Suribachi.

More than \$1,200 was pledged for the Red Cross in departments under contract at the Brooklyn Eagle—before the drive officially had begun.

White collar workers have to organize to keep pace with organized factory workers, the Senate committee on banking and currency was told.

William H. Davis, then WLB chairman and now director of economic stabilization, told the committee:

"The white collar workers, many of them, fall into the substandard wage classification. It is very important that this situation be corrected. One of our difficulties is that they tend not to be organized. It is almost a class-consciousness among them."

But the white collar workers have to have a union speak for them if they want to get wage increases commensurate with the rise in living costs.

Several Senators admit labor's voice was listened to in the debate on Wallace. So Wallace's confirmation as secretary of commerce can be chalked up as a victory for organized labor.

Some anonymous promoter is embarking on a scheme for a special "union" for "employed and independent white collar people" via an ad in the Wall Street Journal.

Purpose, says the ad (down in the fine type), is "to stem the tide of discontent among the

white collar people and its resultant danger. The ad also opposes the closed shop. The ad seeks money so as to "employ expert publicity" and to obtain reputable leadership.

Concludes the ad: "Surely Sewell Avery and Cecil B. DeMille are not the only leaders of industry with courage left in the country."

The landlord who collects the rent on the ANG offices recently won a one-third reduction in the assessed value of the building at 63 Park Row.

While this still was news he notified tenants of plans to increase rentals sharply when leases expired.

The rent increase on ANG quarters, he said, would be 50 percent.

He explains his action thus: "I want to get mine while I can. After the war this place may be half vacant."

Note—the OPA doesn't cover office buildings.

Pfc. Daniel Schorr (N. Y. Guild) reports from camp that a newspaperman has a tough time learning what abbreviations mean. For instance, he writes:

AP means Armor-Piercing or Anti-Personnel, not Associated Press.

UP means Under the Provisions of, not United Press.

CP means Command Post, not Canadian Press, and certainly not Communist Party.

## Lehigh Valley To Have Paper

Allentown, Pa.—Lehigh Valley Guild soon will begin publication of its own local paper.

In answer to requests by members in the service, the local plans to print a bi-weekly known as "The 49'er," which also will be distributed among the local membership. For some time the Guild has been allotted space in the Hellbox, weekly sheet published by the composing room force for its service members. Lehigh Valley is ANG Local No. 49.

Editor of "The 49'er" will be Robert A. O. Wolfe, local vice president, who recently returned from a long tour of duty in the Pacific as a Red Cross field director with a Marine Air Wing. Wolfe was given a medical discharge.

## THE GUILD REPORTER

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**Secretary-Treasurer** William W. Rodgers  
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**Director of Research:** Jean Weinstein.

International Headquarters, 63 Park Row, New York 7, N. Y.

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## CIO Maps Ward Drive

The job of organizing and consolidating the employees of the Montgomery Ward stores and mail order houses over the nation into the CIO has been assigned to Irving Abramson, president of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council who has been granted a leave of absence by that organization to head the drive.

The appointment was announced by Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees after consultation with CIO President Philip Murray.

The designation of a special director to bring the 1,000 Montgomery Ward establishments under CIO jurisdiction indicates the importance placed on the fight against Sewell Avery by the CIO nationally.

A number of the largest CIO international unions have pledged full co-operation in working with Abramson to curb the anti-labor activities of Avery who is classed

by CIO leadership as one of the chief obstacles to union-industry relations.

Abramson will have the backing of a special \$500,000 fund for the drive. Objectives of the drive, in addition to organizing unorganized Ward stores, are ending the company's low wage policy, and union insistence on the rehiring of veterans.

Sewell Avery's vicious defiance of everyone from union leaders to President Roosevelt has elevated him to the position of "Union Buster No. 1."

Chief weapon in Avery's strategy is legal detail with which he stalls and complicates labor relations. The tactic of stalling by means of referral to government agencies and courts has been in use since the beginning of the war by many employers.

But the aged Avery has developed it into a fine art. Victory over Avery and his formula has thus become one of CIO's chief objectives.

## Abramson Came Up the Hard Way

Irving Abramson came up the hard way. He started to work when he was 13, getting his education before or after work, and now is a member of the New York bar.

As counsel for the New York Dress Code Authority during NRA days, he became interested in the labor movement through association with the CIO Textile Workers Organizing committee.

Abramson went to New Jersey and soon was made assistant regional director of the Textile Workers Union of America. In 1939 he was elected president of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council.

At the 1942 CIO convention he was made chairman of the National CIO War Relief Committee.

## Keith Wheeler Wounded at Iwo, Files Dramatic Series on What It's Like

Chicago—Keith Wheeler, Chicago Times war correspondent, was shot through the jaw and throat in the Iwo Jima landing. On his evacuation to Saipan, Wheeler started filing a dramatic series entitled "We Are the Wounded," relating the experience and emotions of men wounded in battle.

While in the regimental command post of the 25th Marines which was being pounded by artillery shells, Wheeler stood up to watch shells bursting among American tanks.

Then he got it.

### THOUGHT HE WOULD DIE

As he fell and the blood gushed, the regimental surgeon and two officers probed his torn throat to put clamps on the torn artery.

"I did not question that I would die. I had seen a Marine hit the same way at Tarawa and watched the life gush out of him in less than five minutes," Wheeler wrote.

Stretcher bearers took him through the shelling to the shore and he was moved to a hospital ship.

He explained his dispatches: "We are the wounded. When I write overmuch about the wounded me, I am in some sense writing about us all."

### NARROW ESCAPE

Later, when his severed artery was tied, Wheeler was told "half an inch in any direction and you'd be dead by now." His jaws wired together, he will live on liquids for two months.

Wheeler's dispatches describing his experiences as a casualty and the care and treatment given wounded men in addition to being dramatic reporting also give hope and confidence to those who have relatives who have been shot and maimed.

Following are excerpts from his series to the Chicago Times:

I have run the usual course of experiences of those wounded in battle. Twice men of great courage who were strangers to me saved my life at great risk of their own.

So long as I had thought I was dying I was unafraid. Now gradually fear and nervousness grew in me. I had always pitied wounded men who stared at their doctors with terrible intentness, asking whether they would live. And I had always thought if I were wounded I wouldn't ask.

But anxious hope and resolution don't mix. My right eye was drowned in blood, but I stared at the doctor with the other and croaked through my blood-filled throat, demanding to know what chance I had.

"You're going to be all right



KEITH WHEELER  
"We Are the Wounded"

now," he said. It was what I wanted him to say, of course, but I didn't really believe him. Nor fully disbelieve him either. I wished I hadn't asked.

The saving of wounded is a practical science—not a pretty one. I'd been in bed four hours or more (on the hospital ship) before anybody washed the blood and filth off me or made a move to scrape the sand out of the lately clean bed.

But meanwhile they gave me a blood transfusion and tied the severed artery which had been held together by clamps.

The first pain was an agonizing paroxysm every time I tried to swallow. Within 24 hours it had grown so acute that I no longer tried to swallow at all, but lay face downward, letting the stinking ooze of mucus and blood that welled continuously in my throat drool out on pillows already crusted with blood.

Pain seems to run up and down a sort of horrid musical scale.

Sometimes it stabs sharp and clear and other times it is a wide, black, aching void. And sometimes it doesn't bother much at all.

But the strange thing about being a wounded patient aboard a hospital ship full of similarly

afflicted people is that it's pretty difficult to feel sorry for yourself. There's always somebody hurt worse than you are.

Smashed, torn, eyeless, legless, bled white and disemboweled as the wounded were, the Samaritan staff kept all but 16 of them alive (out of 600).

A hospital ship filled with freshly wounded is not a place of peace or beauty. Most of the beds were bloody, and the hot air in the wards was alive always with the many-murmured voices of pain. The odor of corruption was always there.

But from the head surgeon to newest hospital apprentice, they were unfailingly kind, patient and attentive.

I suspect most of us, being occupied with our own hurts, never really knew what gratitude we owed them.

Wheeler joined the Guild shortly after he came to the Times in 1938. He had been unit treasurer and had served on contract committees.

### CITED THREE TIMES

He joined the Pacific fleet a week after Pearl Harbor and covered the first battle of Midway and the Aleutians campaign in 1942. For exclusive dispatches from Attu, Wheeler received awards from the National Headliners club and Sigma Delta Chi. Later he covered landings at Tarawa, Saipan, Guam and other islands.

One of the three reporters on naval raids on Wake and Marcus islands, Wheeler has been in many actions. He has been cited for unusual bravery under fire three times, by the Marine corps, and Admirals Nimitz and Halsey.

Wheeler was the first newsman to fly on a bomber in daring early raids on Kiska, when heavy fog made flying extremely hazardous.

He is the author of "The Pacific Is My Beat."

### WLB HITS STALLING ON PAY INCREASES

Washington (LPA)—The WLB has directed that there be no more stalling by 54 California lumber companies before putting into effect pay raises of 25¢ and 40¢ for second and third shift workers.

## No Strike, Says Big UMW Local

Mahony City, Pa. (FP)—Officers of United Mine Workers were urged by Local 886, one of the largest locals in the anthracite region, to avoid a stoppage of coal production by agreeing to continue negotiations on a retroactive basis.

"This is to atone ourselves for the past mistakes made and to gain the confidence of the public of our loyalty and willingness to continue production until final victory is won," the resolution said.