

THE GUILD REPORTER

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STONE WALLS DO NOT A PRISON MAKE
IF YOU BRING YOUR OWN TOOLS . . .

Reporter on Overtime For Time in Jail Under Guild Contract Terms

As he waved goodbye to the jailer,
He changed his mind about crime.
"Evidently you CAN make it pay—
"If you're here on overtime."

—From the "Ballad of Washington Gaol," by Hemlock Peterson.

Washington—Crime doesn't pay. But when William P. Flythe, Jr., goes to jail, he gets paid for it. At Guild contract rates, too.

But this is more a story of the Washington jail. The hoosegow there has been making news of late because of the traffic problem. So many prisoners had been involved in jailbreaks that unsuspecting pedestrians were in danger of being knocked down by fleeing felons.

So with this situation at hand, the city editor of the Times-Herald assigned Flythe to the task of getting himself locked up. In the process he was to smuggle in various tools designed to aid a cell inmate in again achieving liberty.

So Flythe, who is chairman of the Guild unit there, took on the assignment.

He smuggled in a file, hacksaw blades, and a vial of acid that would make short shrift of iron bars. The saw blades were in the soles of his shoes, the acid in his fountain pen, and the file he just sneaked along.

Posing as an ordinary Washington drunk, Flythe was nabbed by a minion of the law and



marched to the station house where the usual police frisking failed to uncover his tools to freedom.

Flythe then languished in durance vile for nine days, with his file, his hacksaw blades, and his acid handy for use. The idea wasn't for Flythe to escape; that might be dangerous. (Never can tell what a cop will do.)

After nine days he was released, and the Times-Herald ran a story on how easy it is to smuggle such tools of the trade into the local clink. His story written, Flythe cannily filed an expense account.

The Guild contract provides for overtime after eight hours in a day. Flythe wanted same.

Down in the counting house, the business manager paid an extra two hours for four days in the

3 Maintenance Contracts Set

Before winding up its affairs, the Newspaper Commission issued rulings for inclusion of maintenance of membership provisions in Guild contracts with the Minneapolis Star-Journal and Tribune, Ft. Worth Press, and Cincinnati Post.

In the Cincinnati case the commission decision was in the form of a directive order, since both parties had agreed to abide by the ruling. Recommendations were issued in the cases of the other papers.

Maintenance was the only issue in dispute in the three contracts.



hokey pokey. That's the provision for out of town assignments. The Guild grievance committee pointed out this was different; this wasn't out of town. It was overtime.

So Flythe got an additional eight hours pay at time and one-half for the nine days. Regular overtime, the company said.

But the grievance committee insists on another eight hours at overtime for each day as Flythe was locked up 24 hours a day, and hence on assignment 24 hours a day, which means three days' extra pay for each day in the hoosegow.

At this writing they're still negotiating. But the contract language is clear.

New York Negotiations Reach Showdown Stage

Negotiations for some 3,900 employees of five New York dailies are rapidly reaching the showdown stage, with New York Guild members standing pat on its demands of a month ago.

Despite minimum wage improvements which already have set new highs for the industry, two of the five units involved, the Times and the Mirror, have rejected the management's final offer and have authorized the New York Guild Steering Committee to "take any action it deems necessary to bring about the successful settlement of the contract."

The News, World-Telegram and Journal American units are expected to take similar action within the next week.

MEAN WHAT THEY SAY

"The publishers have to learn that the members mean what we say about standards in New York City," said John F. Ryan, NY

The New York Times wants to end once and for all the discussion of "ability to pay." Not by opening its books. You can take the Times' word for it, it is wealthy.

Here is what the Times told Guild negotiators at the last meeting: "We could afford to pay more—much more—but we won't."

Wire service contracts for 1946 which achieve virtual uniformity in minimums, and which will cost the services \$1,000,000, are being voted on by members.

For the first time, the wire service contracts are being brought generally into line with daily newspaper contract standards in respect to overtime, holidays and night differential pay.

RECORD GAINS

"The gains represented in the present offers are the greatest ever made in wire service negotiations. A major objective of uniform minimums has been achieved, with the only deviation being on INS in certain cities," according to Joseph G. Colangelo, ANG director for wire services.

The offers were secured after almost 18 months of negotiations, parleys having begun as early as October, 1944. Last spring, when no agreement was reached, the cases went to the Newspaper Commission, which returned them for further negotiations last fall.

NEW MINIMUMS

In the proposal now before the members, top minimum for newsmen and photographers in New York, Chicago and Washington is \$82.50, up from \$10 to \$22.50 over previous minimums. In other bureaus, top minimums are \$72.50 in major bureaus, and \$62.50 in others.

Services involved are Associated Press, United Press, International News Service, International News Photos, and Central

Press. (Contracts on Acme Newspictures and NEA expire shortly, and negotiations will be opened soon.)

Other major gains in the contract proposals which mean additional compensation, are night differential on UP and AP, an improved night differential clause on INS, INP and Central Press; and premium pay for work on holidays.

Under the proposal, the contracts would be for 1946, with a general increase to those on the payroll Jan. 1, 1945 and employed all year according to the following schedule:

To those earning up to \$35 a week, \$4 weekly; \$6 weekly on salaries between \$33.01 and \$50; \$8 weekly on salaries from \$50.01 to \$5,000 per year. These raises would be effective Jan. 6, 1946.

HIGHER THAN ASKED

Minimums tentatively agreed to in negotiations are generally higher than what had been proposed for the 1945 contract, and which languished before the Newspaper Commission.

Wage minimums for newsmen on UP, AP and INS would be uniform, starting at \$32.50 and progressing to \$62.50 for all bureaus, in the fifth year. Major bureaus would be covered the addition of a sixth year minimum of \$72.50. An additional year would bring New York, Washington and Chicago to \$82.50.

The progression schedule for newsmen is: \$32.50 to start; \$37.50 after one year; \$45 after two years; \$52.50 after three years; \$62.50 after four years

While holding out on equitable minimums and general increases, the New York City publishers, led by the Daily News, are effectuating substantial advertising rate increases. The News has informed advertisers and agencies that the new 1946 rates per agate line will be:

Daily: \$2.03 — Metropolitan: \$2.25—Sunday: \$3.50.

This compares with the old rates of:

Daily: \$1.81 — Metropolitan: \$1.81—Sunday: \$2.53.

These rate increases represent a 12 percent increase in the daily rate, 24 percent for the metropolitan edition and 39 percent for the Sunday paper.

average approximately 15 percent above the 1945 payrolls.

Early in the bargaining session, the six units whose publishers were part of the city-wide program set up a steering committee. This subsequently was enlarged to include the executive committees of each unit.

Under the present New York plan, approved by the members, all the disputes will be turned over to this committee with complete and final authority to carry the fight to the public, and to arrive at satisfactory settlements.

Total cash benefits for the 2,000 employees of AP, UP, INS and INP are estimated to approximate \$1,000,000 during the contract term.

This reflects increases in 1945 payrolls due to general increase and minimums averaging \$8 per week per employee, or about \$624,000 annually. Additionally, there is about \$240,000 in retroactive pay for 1945, and about \$75,000 annually in benefits due to night differential pay.

This month the AP also will pay to employees in bureaus represented by the Guild retroactive night differential pay as far back as September, 1943.

with the added progressions as noted.

RETROACTIVE PLAN

For 1945, and as a consideration for signing the 1946 agreement, the managements have offered the following retroactivity:

\$80 for those eligible for the \$4 increase; \$120 for those eligible for the \$6 general increase; and \$160 for those eligible for the \$8 general increase. For returning servicemen, retroactivity will be to Aug. 19, or the date of return, whichever is later.

The AP and UP contracts would provide a voluntary checkoff for Guild dues and assessments. On INS, INP and Central Press, the maintenance of membership clause was continued.

On AP and UP, an employee hired at a salary above the minimum for his actual years of experience will be credited with an experience rating equivalent to the years of experience required for the minimum in his classification equal or nearest below his salary.

FOR SERVICEMEN

Returning servicemen will get the benefit of all general increases or new minimums, whichever is higher.

AP correspondents in charge of satellite bureaus will receive not less than \$7.50 above the top minimum for their cities. On INS, in bureaus of two or more employees, the bureau manager will receive not less than \$7.50 above the top minimum for their cities.

On UP, desk editors on a six-day, 40-hour week will get a minimum of \$7.50 above the minimum for their classification, plus two extra weeks of vacation with pay.

TWO APPROVED

Members in good standing have been asked to vote on the proposal, indicating approval or rejection. INP and Central Press members already have approved their contract proposals.

The contract proposals now achieved resulted from action by (Continued on Page Six)

ANG Staff to Hold Parley

ANG staff members, including international representatives in the field, will have a four-day conference at ANG headquarters Feb. 13 through Feb. 16.

Topics to be discussed include organization objectives and techniques, collective bargaining plans for 1946-47, and district council administration.

A Look at General Motors' Bank Roll

The question of corporate profits has been brought into sharp focus by the adamant refusal of General Motors Corp. to discuss its profits and a pay increase for members of United Auto Workers (CIO) without raising prices.

Illumination is shed on the General Motors financial position by George Soule, one of the editors of the New Republic, in the first of a series of articles in that magazine, headed "Profits by the Billion." Only the section devoted to GM is quoted here, but this lucid compilation of the statistical data available is recommended to those who are exposed to the big, black paid ads of GMC and other corporations.

Some notes that corporate reports do not reveal all the essential facts, but nevertheless interesting things can be learned from a few of the more prominent of our corporations.

Here is what the New Republic reports on General Motors:

"This great company has had during the war years a net income after taxes ranging between \$150,000,000 in 1943 and \$202,000,000 in 1945. On the whole, excess profits taxes have kept its net about down to prewar years.

"But if, in 1946, it should have as large a business as in 1945, without change in costs or prices, the repeal of excess profits taxes would leave it with between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000, or about a third more than before the war.

"Since 1939 the corporate surplus of this company has been charged out of earnings, rising from \$471,000,000 in 1939 to \$645,000,000, a gain of \$174,000,000, after payment of dividends.

"In addition, it has built up special reserves, called 'provision for contingencies,' to which it has contributed—and charged to expense—\$17,000,000 in 1940, \$18,000,000 in 1941, \$24,000,000 in 1942 and \$30,000,000 in 1943. Later figures are unavailable. This money is on hand for reversion expenses and the like.

The stand-pat attitude of General Motors—insisting on price increases in the event of wage increases regardless of ability to pay—is becoming the pattern for other major industries, either by coincidence or design.

Hence the fight of the UAW for pay raises without price boosts which would enhance inflation in all the more important for labor.

"All investments in enemy and enemy-controlled countries—and they were considerable—were written off in 1942, before profits were reduced. Reorganization of charges to the government, resulting in deductions, is accounted for in these figures.

"The annual charge for depreciation and amortization in General Motors has risen from \$40,000,000 in 1939 to \$64,000,000 in 1944. This increase might be expected, in view of its much larger plant and equipment in the later year.

"There is an additional charge for depreciation of special facilities acquired for war production, all of which the company will have free and clear, if it wants them, five years after their purchase.

"The point of these figures is that the company has reckoned its profits only after paying out of its own earnings on the installment plan, as it were, for a lot of new equipment. Aside from the special war machinery, it pays for the rest in 10 or 12 equal annual installments.

"General Motors' total sales nearly tripled between 1939 and 1945. In the same period its expenses for maintenance and repairs have grown steadily, from \$69,000,000 to \$309,000,000 in 1945—the last year of which there is record.

"The fact that maintenance and repairs have risen four and a half times, or half again as rapidly as sales, may be a reflection of expensive war readjustments in production, but it seems to be at least an indication that

all such expenses were carefully counted in before figuring profits and that the plant is in good condition for future work.

"In the list of the 15 men in the country receiving the highest remuneration for their services, GM executives account for six. Its head, Charles E. Wilson, is second on the list, with an annual reward of \$459,841. The six men together received, in one year, \$2,654,806. This includes merely salary and bonuses, not income from investments.

"Ormond E. Hunt was paid \$359,519; Albert Bradley, \$350,432; John Thomas Smith, \$306,810; Donaldson Brown, \$306,210; and Charles F. Kettering, \$306,117. "In spite of its huge spending, General Motors had, at the end of 1944, \$169,000,000 in cash and \$428,000,000 in government securities. All of this is available on short notice to pay bills, interest or dividends, even if losses should be incurred in current transactions.

"For instance, the company could shut down for perhaps three or four years and yet would have enough liquid assets to remunerate its stockholders at the usual rate during that time, disregarding any future rebates of taxes."

In regard to corporations as a whole, the New Republic quotes Department of Commerce estimates that profits of all corporations, after deductions of taxes (including excess taxes) were \$9,900,000,000 in 1944—more than twice as large as in 1939, the last year in which the war did not affect profits.

The 1944 profits were \$3,000,000,000 higher than 1939, the greatest year of business boom hitherto experienced in the U.S.

Says the New Republic, "The extra profits made by corporations were not, for the most part, distributed to their stockholders. Dividend policy was conservative. The companies devoted their additional earnings mainly, not to increasing the current purchasing power of their owners, but to strengthening their position."

All of which bolsters the idea GM is out to bust the union.

UAW Registers Big Gain with New Contract

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. (AP)—The Kaiser-Fraser Corp. contract with United Auto Workers (CIO) will work out to an increase of more than 30 percent over present General Motors rates and to over 35 percent increase on present Ford Motor Co. rates, UAW spokesmen calculate.

The present straight-time GM average wage, according to both union and corporation, is just under \$1.12 an hour. The Ford average is figured at \$1.19 an hour. The Kaiser-Fraser contract structure is placed together as follows under the contract:

1. Begin with the present Ford rates, averaging \$1.19 an hour.
2. Add whatever hourly increase in cents is finally won from GM, whose workers are now on strike for a 30 percent raise. The expected increase is persistently rumored at around 17 1/2 an hour. If this is true you add the 17 1/2 to the Ford average of \$1.19, making the Kaiser-Fraser average \$1.36 an hour.
3. Put a bonus of \$5 per car in a trust fund to be paid at the end of the year to all employees who have refrained from unauthorized stoppages or slow-downs. The UAW estimates this will average another nine an hour, making the grand total average Kaiser-Fraser wage \$1.45. A 30 percent increase on present GM rates would bring them to an average of \$1.45 an hour while the same increase on present Ford rates would average over \$1.55 an hour.

The union, besides gaining from Kaiser-Fraser what it regards as the full 30 percent without a strike, has neatly solved the company-security problem that has been troubling negotiators in both Ford and GM departments. The Kaiser-Fraser contract plan deprives participants in unauthorized stoppages of their annual bonus.

CIO Auto Workers Fight GMC Idea on Cutting Benefits

Detroit—An attempt by General Motors Corp. to disqualify 3,600 workers in the Fisher and Buick plants at Flint from drawing unemployment compensation benefits was denounced by President R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO as "a mean use of a legal technicality to cause discomfort and privation to the corporation's employees."

Thomas said that the 3,600 workers involved were not on strike, but were on unemployment compensation because they had been held off prior to the start of the General Motors strike because of shortage of materials, glass at the Fisher plant and

GM Missed No Bets in Propaganda War

By WILBUR H. BALDINGER
Washington Guild

The lexicon of labor needs some new words to characterize the public relations campaign put on by General Motors in its strike-tentacles with the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

The words at hand have been used so often (and sometimes so indiscriminately) that their impact has been deadened and their meaning dulled. Take the whole book—anti-labor, union-busting, reactionary, strike-breaking, phony, Tory, fascist—at General Motors. It's inadequate.

Maybe the whole story will not be told short of a congressional investigation of GM and its strike-financing works which has been talked about here by Senator Wayne Morse (R., Ore.) and Senator James E. Murray (D., Mont.), chairman of the Senate labor committee.

PROPAGANDA WAR
Meanwhile, it is perfectly plain that the U. S. public has not been subjected to a comparable propaganda war over a domestic issue since the mid-30's, when Howard Colwell Hapson and his incredible Associated Gas and Electric Company fought to kill any New Deal regulation of vast holding companies.

AGECO went down and Hapson went to jail at the end of that war. There is no intimation that GM is going to go down or that anybody is going to go to jail at the end of the GM-UAW war. But GM has adopted, adapted,

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and improved on Hapson's propaganda plants in the corporation, the UAW in the current strike conflict.

HERE IS THE LIST
Here are a few of the things which have been going on:

- 1.—The Saturday Evening Post runs a big story by Peter Drucker on how long-suffering and down-trodden corporations need to keep their hard-earned dough, and how they simply can't survive under free enterprise if wages go up. Drucker turns out to have been on the GM payroll as an economic adviser.
- 2.—The Society of Sentinels engages Detroit as a phalanx of patriots who want to save America by repealing the Wagner, social security, price control and sundry acts. A vice chairman of the U.S.A. is heading out to be Stephen Du Brul, GM economist and GM labor contract negotiator.
- 3.—The mails are stuffed with reprints of a Detroit Free Press page-long editorial anti-labor district entitled "Must We Have Government by Violence Instead of by Law?" The reprints, mailed to a telephone-book list by the R. L. Polk Company of Cincinnati are "privately printed" by Henry Grady Weaver. He turns out to be a consumer counselor on the payroll of GM.

WHAT UAW FACES
And so on. Add to these propaganda piches the twice-weekly radio "commentary" by Henry J. Taylor for GM over the Mutual Broadcasting System, the system

There is a small company of correspondents in Washington who have put the strike questions honestly—notably such bylines as Ed Leahy of the Chicago Daily News, Dick Street of the Christian Science Monitor, Margolis Childs, Tom Stokes (one of whose GM pieces was killed by the New York World-Telegram), Lowell Mellett.

On the other hand, there have been Mark Sullivan, Frank R. Kent, Ralph Robey of Newsweek, and any number of anonymous newspaper editorial writers who have taken their pitch from Westbrook Pegler and Frank Waldrop of the Patterson-McCormick press. Not to mention Hearst.

By any conservative estimate, GM has already spent millions of dollars of tax-exempt money to bust the UAW's strike. Senator Morse, the Oregon Republican, said that GM's "advertising costs alone are running into millions of dollars for a campaign of misinformation."

The UAW doesn't have that

kind of dough. It needs dough. If I can add a personal note at this point, it is this: the UAW needs money to help keep the GM strikers and their wives and kids clothed and fed during this crisis, which in the long run touches all of us, in or out of the Newspaper Guild.

For the information of Guild locals, the strike address of the UAW is 411 West Milwaukee Avenue, Detroit, Mich. For the further information of Guild locals, the GM strike continues to be the contest which can make a new lesson for labor.

FORD DENIES INTENTION TO BREAK UNION

Detroit (AP)—President Henry Ford II of the Ford Motor Co. told the Society of Automotive Engineers that lower costs through mass production is the key to higher wages as he called for better understanding between management and labor.

Ford said he seemed "that all of us agree that labor unions are here to stay. Certainly, we of the Ford Motor Co. have no desire to 'break the unions,' to turn back the clock to days which sometimes look in retrospect much more attractive than they really were. . . . We do not want to destroy the unions. We want to strengthen their leadership by urging and helping them to assume the responsibility they must assume if the public interest is to be served."

Ford closed by asking the "same hard-headed attention to human factors that we have given so successfully in the past to mechanical factors."

MEMO

As we go to press, telegraph service in New York is curtailed because of a strike of CIO employees, protesting WLB reversal of an earlier WLB wage decision. We are not accepting service. Don't wire—write.

Telephone service, at this moment, threatens to be disrupted by a strike of telephone workers in an independent union.

Don't phone—don't wire . . . write.

Guild Shop and Pay Raises in Atlantic City

Atlantic City—Tentative agreement has been reached on a contract covering the editorial department of the Press-Union. Atlantic City is a unit of the Philadelphia-Camden Guild.

Contract gains include a 15 percent increase, with a maximum of \$7.50 if not so raised by increased minimums. New top reporter minimum is \$50 after four years, up \$5. Rewrite and desk men have a flat minimum of \$52.50.

Increases for the year for the 26 in the unit are estimated to total more than \$6,000. A full Guild shop also was negotiated.

Tentative agreement was reached when better proposals were forthcoming after the unit unanimously voted to strike if a satisfactory settlement could not be negotiated.

Ceding on severance pay was raised from 15 to 30 weeks, and on death of an employee, the publisher will pay \$1,000 to the beneficiary. Work on holidays is compensated by an additional day off. News and Sunday editors, previously exempted from the agreement, now are covered, by terms of the contract.

The settlement included an immediate increase of \$6.75 per week, and an additional increase of \$2.75 after a year, plus two weeks' vacation, sick leave and elimination of arbitration of disputes.

New day side wage scale is \$54.75.

New Contract For Biddeford

Biddeford, Me.—The Biddeford unit of the Portland Guild has concluded negotiations for a new contract with the Biddeford Journal providing for few changes in minimums, but improvements in several other contract provisions. Top minimum for reporters will be \$45 in the fifth year, compared to \$42 in the fourth year under the previous contract.

Improvements made include a five-day week instead of a six-day week. Seven holidays will be granted instead of six with straight-time pay in addition to the weekly salary for holiday work and an extra day off if a holiday falls during an employee's vacation.

All overtime will be paid for at time and one-half in cash. Previously the first three hours of overtime were liquidated in time off.

George Harris, ANG vice president, assisted in the negotiations.

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

Signing New Washington Post Contract



Seated, left to right, President Dorothy Rockwell; Charles C. Boyson, Washington Post business manager; Mrs. Mary Kerner, Washington secretary; Standing, Mary Spargo, unit contract proposals chairman; Philip J. Antensen, unit chairman; Harry Reed, negotiator; ANG President Milton Murray, chairman of the negotiating committee.

Improved Washington Post Contract Brings \$124,800 A Year in Wage Increases

Washington—Unanimously voting it the best in its history, the Washington Post unit, approved a new contract at a record-breaking meeting.

The contract, secured after a prolonged struggle with management, incorporates many unprecedented gains for the unit. It was signed Dec. 29, two days before the old contract expired.

ANG President Milton Murray, chairman of the negotiating committee, spent more than 100 hours in negotiations before reaching an agreement.

One "final" management proposal was unanimously rejected a week before further concessions made the contract acceptable.

The 370 employees covered by the contract received general increases ranging from \$4 through \$9 weekly, retroactive to October 15. Management said the new contract is expected to cost the Washington Post \$2,400 weekly—\$124,800 a year.

New minimums, keyed to the ANG National Wage Program, followed the program in nearly all cases, and in some brackets exceeded it.

In addition, circulation department employees, whose work week formerly ranged from 44 to 48 hours were brought in under the 40-hour week. Management figured that in some circulation brackets the reduction in hours and the new minimums established a 61 percent increase.

EXEMPTIONS CUT
A long list of exemptions from the contract and of exemptions from the payment of overtime were materially cut down, which will reflect in increased pay in some of the higher brackets.

Among gains for 1946 were: Job security; three weeks' vacation for employees of five years' standing; additional severance benefits for veterans (service time will now count in figure

Copeland, Swim Renamed to CIO in Tennessee

Memphis—W. A. Copeland and Pat Swim were re-elected president and vice president of the Tennessee State CIO Council. Copeland, ANG vice president, also is CIO director at Memphis. Swim is president of the Memphis Guild and head of the Memphis CIO Council.

The slate of council officers headed by Copeland was elected by a vote of approximately 175 to 60 for all offices. An opposition slate had been advanced by the numerically large Steelworkers and Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers locals, but one Steel Worker local swung to the Copeland ticket.

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Ledger Ruling On Severance Being Appealed

Philadelphia—A federal district court decision barring severance pay for 300 Guild members on the suspended Evening Ledger has been appealed.

M. H. Goldstein, attorney for the Philadelphia-Camden Guild, has filed an appeal asking that the third circuit court of appeals, which sits in Philadelphia, set aside the third district court's order.

The district court, through Judge J. Cullen Ganey, rejected the Guild's contention that the employees were entitled to severance pay as the result of the suspension, by the same court, of the Ledger on Jan. 5, 1942.

A referee in bankruptcy had previously issued an opinion rejecting the Guild's claim. The Guild was opposed in the case by the trustees, who were named by the court, and all the other creditors except the Philadelphia Typographical Union. The Typo's claim of vacation pay was also rejected by the referee and by the district court. They also will appeal.

The Ledger was suspended after series of managements had failed to place it on a paying basis. The last publisher, the late Robert Oreswell, attempted to place the blame on the Guild after the suspension.

However, the court proceedings brought out the fact the Guild had agreed to lower wages on the Ledger than on any other Philadelphia paper.

The mystery deepened. No one knew who was in charge, or who was publisher, or whom the trustees represented.

THE \$64 QUESTION: Who is Publisher in Springfield?

Springfield, Mass.—The \$64 question here is: "Who is the publisher of the four Springfield papers?"

The Guild is trying to get an answer to that riddle, in a series of dixey events which gets dizier. Purpose in unmasking the publisher, or the owners, of the papers now operated by Sherman Bowles (in what capacity is not clear, as this dispatch will reveal) is so that the Guild can sign a contract—with a non-existent corporation has no legal effect."

At the first meeting, three officials showed up, saying they were representing management. But Edna Berger, ANG international representative in charge of the Springfield drive, soon learned they had no authority. "Bowles just told us to come here," they explained.

CHARGES FILED
The Guild then filed charges with the NLRB of refusal to bargain. The officials then announced it had been a mistake. They were representing management and had authority, they announced. So a second session was called.

Again the ostensible management representatives confessed they did not know whom they were representing. They did not know who the publisher is—or was. Progress was made in negotiations, until the Guild asked

who would sign the contract, and by what authority.

INSURANCE
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MORE CONFUSION
To add to the general confusion, Bowles dispatched a copy-reader to the session "to represent management." The copy-reader is in the bargaining unit, and voted in the NLRB election—ostensibly as an employee and not as a management representative.

If no disclosure is forthcoming by Jan. 19 on the owner of the papers, the Guild will wear its charge with the NLRB.

Meanwhile, the Guild has filed other charges of unfair labor practices as the result of denunciation of two city editors and transfer of a photographer to reporter because of Guild activity.

INSURANCE
Insurman also is preparing charges for the wages and hours division on behalf of a number of employees who were worked more than 40 hours a week without overtime at time and one-half, as required by law. They were paid straight time.

Recently the four papers were handed a \$552,000 tax penalty because of wage increases handed out without WLB approval.

PAY RAISES CONTRIBUTED TO GUILD BY DENVER NEWS UNIT

Denver—In warm support of their organization, virtually all Guild members of the Rocky Mountain News unit contributed to the Guild treasury the first week's pay increase obtained through the new Guild-News contract.

All terms of the new agreement were put into effect at once. These provide approximately 13 percent wage increases for all covered by the contract and a top minimum of \$60 a week for reporters, as compared with the former \$52.50 after five years.

Retrospective pay increases to Aug. 18 and a bonus of \$3 a week from June 30, expiration date of the old contract, to Aug. 18 also were distributed.

The program for contribution of the first week's pay increase to the Guild was advanced by Barron B. Danaher, president of the Denver Guild and feature and political writer on the News staff.

Living cost footnote—You can't buy food with a deficit.

Guild Raises Bring Offer to Other Unions

Sacramento—In an unprecedented move by management in local labor relations, the Sacramento Publishers Association (Sacramento Bee and Sacramento Union) offered all mechanical departments a 15 percent increase, effective Jan. 1, regardless of the opening dates of their respective contracts.

The offer came a few days after each paper had signed a contract with the Sacramento Valley Newspaper Guild calling for 15 percent boosts for editorial and circulation employees of the Union and editorial and advertising employees of the Bee.

The stereotypers and pressmen, both AFL and the Malters union, independent, accepted the offer, but the ITU local and the Photo-Engravers local turned it down. Later, the increase was made retroactive to Oct. 1, at the Bee only.

The condition which made the offer unacceptable to the printers and photo-engravers was that they waive their regular wage reopening dates. This would have meant that the ITU would have had to sign a 16 months' contract.

The 15 per cent would have given the printers \$8.40 a week, boosting their scale from \$6.06 to \$6.46 a week. But this, they argued, would put them far under San Francisco which has just signed for a \$13.50 boost for the day shift and \$16 for the night shift. The Sacramento scale has been slightly under that of San Francisco.

The photo-engravers rejected the offer on similar grounds.



Norristown, Pa.—Ruth O'Bryan, News Herald reporter and member of the Norristown unit of the Philadelphia-Camden Guild, is convinced the airplane is safer than the automobile.

Miss O'Bryan divides her time between newspaper work and duties at Wings field near here. While driving to the News Herald office one morning, a wheel came off the car, ditching her. A few days later the gear was pulled out as she was shifting. Now she's all for planes.

ST. LOUIS STARTS COURT SUIT TO COLLECT SEVERANCE PAY

St. Louis—The St. Louis Guild has started court action to collect \$917.50 in severance pay for Mrs. Pat Haley from the Globe-Democrat.

The Guild refuses to agree with the hair-splitting contentions of the company in refusing payment, and took court action when repeated grievance sessions failed to adjust matters.

Mrs. Haley was discharged last June after having been employed since 1928 in the circulation department.

She had resigned to take a position with the Post-Dispatch, but before her resignation took effect, she was offered a job at higher pay in another department to the Globe-Democrat. She was dis-

As Indianapolis Signed New Times Contract



Seated, left to right, Wilson Pollard, Guild treasurer; Henry Mann, Times business manager; Walter Leckrone, Times editor; and Myron McGeehan, local president. Standing, Joe Shepard, Star unit chairman and president of the Indianapolis CIO Industrial Union Council; Powers Haggood, CIO regional director; and Harold Misco, Times, also a member of the negotiating committee.

Indianapolis—The Indianapolis Newspaper Guild has signed a new contract with the Indianapolis Times providing for a general increase of \$2.50 to \$5, raises in some minimums, and several other improvements.

The increases will total \$45,000 for about 150 people in the unit; retroactive raises were \$15,000.

All employees earning up to \$24.99 will receive a \$2.50 weekly raise, and those earning \$25 and up will receive from \$3 to \$5. Top

Akron Gets Minimum of \$65; Pay Raises Total \$24,000

Akron—The Akron Newspaper Guild and management of the Akron Beacon Journal have agreed upon a 1946 contract embodying pay raises estimated at \$24,000 a year for the Beacon. Journal's editorial department employees.

The contract calls for a 15 per-

cent pay raise, with a \$10 ceiling, and the following schedule of minimums:

During first year \$30; after one year's experience, \$36; after two years, \$44; after three years, \$52; after four years, \$60; and after five years, \$65.

These figures compare with a

previous top minimum of \$51.75 after four years.

Many other conditions of the contract were improved.

Hereafter all Sunday work is to be paid at the overtime rate, time and one-half. A five per cent differential for night work, initiated last year, is continued.

A new clause provides for a week's severance pay for any employee, fired from a full-time job, after the first three months' service. Regular severance pay continues to be computed at a rate of one week for each six months with a maximum of 30 weeks.

The military service clauses of the contract were revised to provide that any full-time employee returning from service shall receive, in addition to other benefits included in the contract, credit for one year's additional experience in computing his or her minimum salary.

A committee headed by Julius Greenfield, president, and including John L. Nicholas, vice president, and Ford Barker and Leon Walters represented the Guild in the negotiations.

DUES BOOST PLAN FAVORED BY ST. LOUIS

St. Louis—In a referendum, members of the St. Louis Guild voted for a revised dues schedule which will bring the local added revenue. Dues start at \$1 per month for those earning \$25 per week or less, and go up in 50-cent jumps to a top of \$3.50 for those earning \$65 per week or more.

The vote was almost two to one. The new rate starts Jan. 1. The additional revenue, estimated at more than \$100 per month, will make possible employment of an executive secretary, already authorized by the membership.

At the same time members voted for revised by-laws, which wiped out the representative assembly, voted out some time ago.

2 More Locals Take Action on China Question

The Los Angeles Newspaper Guild has adopted a resolution distributed by the New York local calling for immediate withdrawal from China of United States troops and lend-lease supplies, for the recall of General Weimer and an investigation of his activities and those of former Ambassador Hurley.

The resolution also hit intervention by the U. S. in China's internal conflict and support of the Kuomintang party, and urged "a U. S. policy which, instead of encouraging civil war, will encourage the Chinese people in their determination to achieve democratic unity and a heightened standard of living."

Meanwhile, the Lake Superior Guild adopted a resolution concurring in the stand of the Detroit Guild executive board which "received and filed" the New York resolution, holding "that this type of issue is extremely damaging to the unity and welfare of the Guild and that such issues should not be injected into Guild councils."

The Detroit memorandum to locals referred to "endorsement of the Chinese Communist regime" and condemnation of the Chinese republic of Chiang Kai-shek.

John T. McManus, New York president, has notified the Detroit Guild this charge was in error, and that the New York resolution had "no endorsement of either side in the Chinese civil war." McManus deplored "reading into a resolution a political controversy which was not there in the first place."

NO WONDER SHE'S MAD AT BUS DRIVERS



St. Louis—Rose Klemme, blond and pert Star-Times copy girl, was a half hour late for work recently, and is she mad at bus drivers.

Wearing bobby sox and sweater, she was riding to work on a bus loaded with school pupils, getting a seat when the pupils got off. But the bus driver said, "Playing hooky, eh? Well, we don't take truants down town." And the driver wouldn't move the bus until she got off.

Rosie hopped off, cursing the driver and her schoolgirl appearance, and took a later bus.

HUTCHINSON RE-ELECTED IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles—George Hutchinson has been re-elected president of the Los Angeles Guild, without opposition. Local offices being contested are two vice presidencies, and sergeant at arms.

Others re-elected without opposition include Harva Sprague, secretary; G. Kay Williams, treasurer; and William Brodie, administrative officer.

Hutchinson was the first president re-elected by Los Angeles. Nominating speakers, in urging re-election of present officers pointed to progress of the past year.

Quincy Facing NLRB Election On New Ruling

Quincy, Mass.—The Quincy Guild faces an NLRB election in the editorial department of the Quincy Patriot Ledger, to determine whether the Guild shall continue as bargaining agent for some 20 employees involved.

The election results from a directive order by the NLRB, on the application of the Patriot Ledger Editorial Employees Association, an "independent" union which last spring halted negotiations for a new contract with the Guild by intervening. Although the hearing on the representation case was held in August, the decision was not handed until late last month.

WAIVER RULING

The board held that the editorial group constitutes an appropriate unit, notwithstanding the fact that heretofore the Guild has represented both the editorial and circulation departments at the Patriot Ledger, and that both departments were under a single Guild contract. In a hair-line decision, the board held that "insufficient bargaining history" had been established by the circulation department employees to warrant their continuing as an integral part of the two-department bargaining unit.

CHARGES FILED

The date of the election cannot be fixed until two complaint cases lodged by the Guild against management for discrimination against Guild editorial employees have been disposed of. A field examiner has interviewed the individuals involved for the Boston regional board.

Both editorial and circulation members joined hands effectively in October and November, subsequent to the hearing, in publishing the Quincy Journal, a daily paper which put out 44 issues during the period of a lock out of members of the Typographical Union at the Patriot Ledger. That paper suspended publication after Guildsmen refused to handle struck work or to cross the printers' picket lines.

Union Helps In Cops' Raise

St. Louis (FP)—More than 300 civilian employees of the city's police department have been granted salary increases of \$10 to \$15 a month. Most of them are members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFL), which only a short while ago began a campaign to bring about pay raises for police.

President Mark D. Eagleton of the board of police commissioners sought to disclaim the union's success in forcing the pay boosts to be granted but he did so with tongue in cheek. For it was not until the union came into being and received backing of AFL and CIO locals that any action was taken to alleviate deplorable conditions on the city's police force.

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Guild Fights Discrimination By Gannett Paper in Albany

Albany—Discrimination against two members of the Tri-City Guild has resulted in charges of unfair labor practices being filed against the Knickerbocker News, Gannett paper.

The two members involved are Janet Scott, local president, and John Wanhope. Both figured in an earlier discrimination case in which the U. S. circuit court ordered the Gannett paper to cease and desist from discriminating against Guild members.

Wanhope, a reporter, has been punished for Guild activity by being given no work. When Scott led a grievance committee to protest the failure to give Wanhope assignments, she was taken off the state house run, which she had handled for years, and was sent to a suburb of Albany.

She was given no office nor phone, and was told if she had any stories, to send them in.

In the NLRB proceedings, the Guild points out this new management retaliation is in violation of the 1940 court order.

They're Waving Retroactive Pay Checks



Members of the Cleveland Press Dealer unit are pictured waving retroactive pay checks, representing raises to last July 31, won in the new Guild contract. Pay boosts ranged from \$4 to \$10 weekly, which will total more than \$50,000 annually.



And at the Cleveland Press, even Paymaster Ted Newport was smiling as he passed out retroactive checks to Unit Chairman Dick Preston and others of the 300 editorial and commercial department members who shared in an estimated \$125,000 in pay increases won by the Guild. Raises ranged from \$4 to \$10, most of it retroactive to July 13.

BAY CITY, READY TO STRIKE, WINS 12 PERCENT PAY RAISE

Bay City, Mich.—In a final negotiations session 12 hours before a strike deadline, members of the Saginaw Valley Guild concluded an agreement with the management of the Bay City Times for a new contract.

Parleys had been staggered since Nov. 9, with no agreement on wages, union security and holidays. Conciliation meetings left the parties farther apart.

When Guild members served notice "all peaceful means apparent to the Guild" had been exhausted, and that a strike would be called at 6 a. m., Jan. 10, Typographical Union members voted unanimously to respect Guild picket lines. CIO unions pledged full support.

At that stage, the ITU suggested the Guild meet once more with management. The settlement then resulted.

Also aiding at the final session were Ralph Novak, Detroit, ANG vice president, and Rose Collier, Battle Creek, president of the Michigan District Council.

Woonsocket Honors Former Officer

Woonsocket, R. I.—George R. Farrar, Jr., former sports editor of the Call and vice president of the local, was honor guest at the annual Christmas party of the Woonsocket Guild. Farrar now is with the publicity staff of the Rhode Island Auditorium.

Daniel J. Kelleher, Guild president, presented Farrar with a fountain pen and a war bond on behalf of his former co-workers.

3 Calif. Guilds Attend Parley On Legislation

Sacramento—The San Francisco-Oakland, Los Angeles and Sacramento Guilds were represented at a non-partisan legislative conference assembled here for the purpose of demanding state legislation on housing, child care centers, full employment, fair employment practices and other important reconversion subjects.

The conference, attended by some 500 delegates representing labor organizations, civic groups, women's clubs, farm organizations and others, was called by Attorney General Robert W. Kenny, Democrat, and Bartley P. Crum, San Francisco Republican who headed the California Wildlife campaign in 1940.

LIST OF DELEGATES

Guild delegates included: SFONG—Vice President James Murray, Former President Art Gilbert and Executive Secretary Bob Brown; Los Angeles—Vice President Don Kirby; Sacramento—President Robert J. Deward and Retiring President Bert W. Eustis.

Among the conference speakers were James Roosevelt, son of the late president; and Col. Evans Carlson, leader of the famous Marine raiders.

GUILD PARLEYS

The Guild delegates held informal conferences on mutual problems between sessions of the legislative meeting.

The conference was held on the eve of the opening of a special session of the legislature. Gov. Earl Warren, Republican, had included more than 50 subjects on the agenda, giving the lawmakers an opportunity to enact a comprehensive reconversion program for California.

3 Members Die In Philadelphia

Philadelphia—Three Guild members, all employees of the Inquirer, died here in one week.

Paul P. Foster, 70, one of the nation's foremost newspaper librarians, had been director of the Inquirer's library for more than 20 years. He was an authority on newspaper indexing. Foster began his library career on the Youth's Companion in 1893.

Foster, with Jules Schick, prepared the material on pension plans and systems which was presented to Guild locals several years ago.

Oscar H. Cooper, 57, was an editorial assistant in the Sunday department of the Inquirer.

Sidney Supak, 25, was an assistant in the Inquirer library.

JACK GILL DIES

Indianapolis—Jack Gill, secretary-treasurer of the International Typographical Union (ITU), died here of a heart attack. A special election April 9 will fill the vacancy.

Hammond Guild Has a Party



James S. DeLaurier, publisher of the Hammond Times joined with members of the Hammond Newspaper Guild in celebrating at Christmas party at the Hammond Press Club headquarters. Above, left to right, are Mrs. DeLaurier, Mr. DeLaurier, E. G. Bayton, Guild president, Chan Forman, ANG vice president, and Rudolph Olson, president of the Lake County Industrial Union (CIO).

—Photo by Charles Klemmen

Phila. Camden Wins in 4 Arbitrations

Philadelphia—Four arbitration decisions, vitally affecting enforcement of contract benefits, have been won by the Philadelphia-Camden Guild. The decisions:

1.—On the Philadelphia Record. An award of \$2,000 severance pay for a former printer transferred into a Guild department and then dismissed. The award also blocked a unilateral attempt by management to exempt a position from the agreement.

2.—On the Philadelphia Inquirer. Two decisions awarding vacation pay to employees who had left the paper before they had taken vacations provided under the contract.

3.—On the Camden Courier-Post. An award of three weeks' vacation to a former printer who became a reporter. Management failed in its argument that his service as a printer could not be counted in determining the length of his vacation under the Guild contract.

The Record and Courier-Post decisions are intervenors, as they involve former printers, and both papers are controlled by J. David Stern.

In the Record case, Charles P. Nolan, for 16 years a Record printer, was offered the post of head of the detail department, and the Guild was not notified of the appointment, as required by

contract. When Nolan held the post for 30 days, he was asked to join the Guild.

Nolan said management had told him the job was exempt from the Guild and he had been told not to join. It developed the Record, unilaterally, had renamed the department, calling it the advertising production department, exempting the manager from the Guild contract.

MAN DISMISSED
While conferences were being held, Nolan was dismissed. The Guild now claimed dismissal pay, and Guild contract coverage for the job. The case went to arbitration. The Guild opposed exclusions at the will of management, citing that the entire department was covered by the contract.

The arbitrator, Federal Judge Albert E. Maris, found for the Guild, holding that "parties to the contract did not leave the question of coverage to conjecture." The company's contention that a man transferred from a non-Guild department to a Guild department was not covered was denied.

TRANSFER CASE
In the Courier-Post case, also before Judge Maris, a printer, John Courter, was transferred to a reporting job. He had been with the paper since 1925. When the 1945 vacation schedule was posted, Courter was listed for

one week, although the contract provides for three weeks for employees of five years or more service.

Judge Maris ruled for the Guild, following the same line of reasoning as in the Record case. At the same time the arbitrator ruled against the Guild in a copy boy dismissal and upgrading of a copyreader.

VACATION PAY
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The Inquirer, controlled by Triangle Publications, Inc., argued the two had forfeited vacation pay by resigning, and cited a ruling by Conciliation Commissioner Fred Croston, sitting as an arbitrator, in which he ruled against the New York Guild in a similar case.

The Guild's arbitrations were handled by Arthur Riordan, local president; Harry Robert, Andrew Khinoy, Irving Fagin, William J. Ferson, G. Norman Gollis, Mary Smith, and M. H. Goldstein, the local's attorney.

Individual negotiations continued into 1945, with deadlines being reached in spring when no satisfactory wage offers were forthcoming. Negotiations also had to proceed under wage stabilization regulations. The disputes were referred to the Newspaper Commission.

SPECIAL PANEL
The Guild asked the National War Labor Board to appoint a special panel to hear the cases, and to consolidate them. A special panel was named, with Judge William Knowl as chairman. Hearings were held in October, and then further negotiations were held in Chicago at the request of Judge Knowl.

A proposal by management was rejected by Guild negotiators, and all units unanimously ratified action of the committee. Negotiations were resumed in New York at the request of AP management. The proposal that resulted was presented to the Central Press, and the management agreed to the proposals, now before the members.

UP then gave the same proposals, and with tentative agreement being reached here, tentative contract terms for wire service members were achieving a degree of uniformity.

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In the 18 months of negotiations, and commission hearings, a number of negotiators and wire service members participated, including:

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Included in those returning from military service to St. Louis Globe-Democrat are Charles Sherman, Dan Tammann and Barney Wipplod. . . . Ed Brennan and John Walsh back at Gary Post-Tribune. Brennan was Navy hospital technician. Walsh is credited with capturing 170 Japs while armed only with a pair of pliers.

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Love Is Named To Wage Board
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While all those who served in the forces should receive seniority credit for military service, it seems to me that there are those who are especially deserving. I am referring to enlisted men who worked on service publications: Stars and Stripes, Yank, Leatherneck, Navy News, the enlisted Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard correspondents, most of whom saw more action than civilians war correspondents; and a few officers in the same position.

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contract. When Nolan held the post for 30 days, he was asked to join the Guild.

Nolan said management had told him the job was exempt from the Guild and he had been told not to join. It developed the Record, unilaterally, had renamed the department, calling it the advertising production department, exempting the manager from the Guild contract.

MAN DISMISSED
While conferences were being held, Nolan was dismissed. The Guild now claimed dismissal pay, and Guild contract coverage for the job. The case went to arbitration. The Guild opposed exclusions at the will of management, citing that the entire department was covered by the contract.

The arbitrator, Federal Judge Albert E. Maris, found for the Guild, holding that "parties to the contract did not leave the question of coverage to conjecture." The company's contention that a man transferred from a non-Guild department to a Guild department was not covered was denied.

TRANSFER CASE
In the Courier-Post case, also before Judge Maris, a printer, John Courter, was transferred to a reporting job. He had been with the paper since 1925. When the 1945 vacation schedule was posted, Courter was listed for

one week, although the contract provides for three weeks for employees of five years or more service.

Judge Maris ruled for the Guild, following the same line of reasoning as in the Record case. At the same time the arbitrator ruled against the Guild in a copy boy dismissal and upgrading of a copyreader.

VACATION PAY
In the Inquirer case, the Guild claimed vacation pay for Ellenora Smith and Terry Viscuso, both of the business office, who resigned before taking the two weeks to which they were entitled.

The Inquirer, controlled by Triangle Publications, Inc., argued the two had forfeited vacation pay by resigning, and cited a ruling by Conciliation Commissioner Fred Croston, sitting as an arbitrator, in which he ruled against the New York Guild in a similar case.

The Guild's arbitrations were handled by Arthur Riordan, local president; Harry Robert, Andrew Khinoy, Irving Fagin, William J. Ferson, G. Norman Gollis, Mary Smith, and M. H. Goldstein, the local's attorney.

Individual negotiations continued into 1945, with deadlines being reached in spring when no satisfactory wage offers were forthcoming. Negotiations also had to proceed under wage stabilization regulations. The disputes were referred to the Newspaper Commission.

SPECIAL PANEL
The Guild asked the National War Labor Board to appoint a special panel to hear the cases, and to consolidate them. A special panel was named, with Judge William Knowl as chairman. Hearings were held in October, and then further negotiations were held in Chicago at the request of Judge Knowl.

A proposal by management was rejected by Guild negotiators, and all units unanimously ratified action of the committee. Negotiations were resumed in New York at the request of AP management. The proposal that resulted was presented to the Central Press, and the management agreed to the proposals, now before the members.

UP then gave the same proposals, and with tentative agreement being reached here, tentative contract terms for wire service members were achieving a degree of uniformity.

MANY ASSISTED
In the 18 months of negotiations, and commission hearings, a number of negotiators and wire service members participated, including:

Paul Simmons, Atlanta AP; Israel Silverstein, Boston AP; Arthur Gaudesman, Chicago UP; Harry Wohl of the St. Louis Star-Times is in Germany for the war crimes trials and other duties. . . . Ray Kringer, former St. Louis president, back on Star-Times after Army service. . . . Out of the Navy and back reporting for St. Louis Post-Dispatch are: Mills Schaefer and James Hedges. . . .

Included in those returning from military service to St. Louis Globe-Democrat are Charles Sherman, Dan Tammann and Barney Wipplod. . . . Ed Brennan and John Walsh back at Gary Post-Tribune. Brennan was Navy hospital technician. Walsh is credited with capturing 170 Japs while armed only with a pair of pliers.

Sheldon Wintermute, Edward Schroder and A. C. Hages have rejoined Wilkes-Barre Record after serving as petty officers in Navy. . . . Phil Storch, Lehigh Valley Guild, now out of the Marine corps. . . .

Erlyna Woodside, Knoxville News-Sentinel church editor, back at work after long illness. . . . Joe Stocker, AP stationhouse reporter in Denver, resigned to take up free lance work in Phoenix, Ariz. . . . Robert Fleming, former Madison Capital Times reporter, out of the Army and now on Milwaukee Journal. . . .

Love Is Named To Wage Board
Philadelphia—Gervase N. Love, ANG vice president, is one of two labor members appointed to the third regional Wage Stabilization Board here. Joseph Ball is chairman of the new agency succeeding the WLB.

Love, an editorial desk assistant on the Philadelphia Record, is controller of the Philadelphia-Camden local. He was named to the regional WLB originally in 1945 and served until the end.

Albert F. Hein, Madison, Dies
Madison—Albert F. Hein, 48, veteran Madison Guildman and reporter on the Capital Times, died Christmas eve. He had worked on the Capital Times for 23 years, covering city hall and the federal building. Before that he was a reporter on papers in Watertown and Marinette, Wis.

JULES SCHICK.

It Seems to Us..

SPECIAL PLEA FOR SERVICE WRITERS

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

An ex-service man complains in The Guild Reporter of Nov. 23, 1945, that when he returned to his job on a wire association he went back on his old salary because the Guild contract did not provide for accrued seniority during military service. The editor's note explained that the Guild had sought to get experience recognition for time spent in the armed forces.

While all those who served in the forces should receive seniority credit for military service, it seems to me that there are those who are especially deserving. I am referring to enlisted men who worked on service publications: Stars and Stripes, Yank, Leatherneck, Navy News, the enlisted Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard correspondents, most of whom saw more action than civilians war correspondents; and a few officers in the same position.

These men have been working at their profession under tougher conditions than civilian editorial employees. No employer would intelligently refuse to give them seniority for pay purposes for time in uniform.

ROBERT H. PHELPS
Harrisburg Guild.

WEBER REPLIES TO McMANUS LETTER

DETROIT.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

Following is the text of a letter which I have sent to John T. McManus, president of the New York Newspaper Guild, in reply to an open letter to me. Brother McManus, in his communication published in the last GR, criticized the action of the Detroit Guild's executive board which received and filed a resolution from New York on the Chinese question, and urged all other Guilds to do likewise.

"I am surprised to learn from your letter that your resolution on the Chinese issue was not intended to take sides in the dispute. That is an impression which could scarcely be gained by merely reading the resolution, without the benefit of the interpretation you have given us. How-

over, I am sure that we are prepared to accept your statement that any seeming partisanship in the resolution was inadvertent.

That, of course, is entirely beside the point. The Detroit Guild's executive board did not pass upon the merits of the issue raised by your resolution. On the contrary, it declined to pass upon that issue, because it does not believe the issue is germane to the aims and purposes of the Guild."

PAUL W. WEBER,
Executive Secretary.

URGES ASSESSMENT FOR DELEGATES

NEW YORK.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

Certainly the ANG should advance money to insure that every Guild local is represented at national conventions. The money should be a gift, not a loan. It should be raised by an equal per capita assessment of the entire ANG membership.

To have a truly democratic representation at conventions and a truly democratic ANG, we must do more than want it. We must be willing to pay for it.

VIRGIL FULLING
New York Guild.

FOSTER AIDED IN PENSION SURVEY

PHILADELPHIA.

Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

I am sure most Guildmen will be interested and also will regret the passing of Paul F. Foster, head librarian of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Foster, always a good Guildman, was responsible for many plans and success for pension plans in ANG contracts. While I carried on as chairman of the pension committee for the IEB Foster should get all the credit for any efforts on behalf of pensioners for working newspaper people. Foster was up in years and did not want to leave the impression he was interested in pensions because of his age. It is regretful he did not have the health to carry on the work he started with me.

Let us hope that a pension system will be included in all future contracts wherever possible.

JULES SCHICK.

It Seems to Us..

SPECIAL PLEA FOR SERVICE WRITERS

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Editor, GUILD REPORTER:

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Caught ON THE RUN

"Never come in empty-handed" is the motto of John Blawis, ANG international representative who returned to work this week after four years in the Army.

As part of his equipment, Blawis brought a German portable typewriter, complete with unlaet letters, and formerly the property of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront, Hitler's own "labor" organization.

Blawis liberated the machine in Stende, on the Elbe river last April and toted it to Nuremberg, LeHavre, Antwerp, keeping it in the bottom of his duffel bag.

He still has to get used to the fact that the Y is where the Z ought to be.

will break their contract if they strike Jan. 14.

Taint so. The contracts, which run to Oct. 31, 1946, can be re-opened at any time if the national wage stabilization is changed. That policy was changed last August. Under that clause Steelworkers ask a wage adjustment. Nothing in the contract forbids a strike during the wage reopening.

Philadelphia story

An ad solicitor who went into the Army just after the Philadelphia Ledger folded in January, 1942, has been discharged and he applied for an ad job at another Philadelphia daily.

The department manager, impressed by the applicant's background, asked the veteran how much he'd want. "I'd like \$50," said the veteran with his fingers crossed.

"We can't pay you \$50," The veteran's spirits sank. "No," continued the manager, "we can't pay you less than \$57.50 under the Guild contract." Then came introductions to the advertising director, who asked:

"And what are you paying this man?" The reply was \$57.50.

"My God," shouted the director, "we can't pay him \$57.50." Again the veteran's spirits dropped. "No," said the director, "he gets \$62 under the Guild contract finally handed down by the Newspaper Commission."

Which is why the veteran thinks the Guild is a very fine thing. And why it's most important to incorporate raises into the minimums.

If you've been wondering where your money goes, the Department of Labor reports that prices kept on going up after the war, and the average wage earner found himself with \$4.43 less a week to meet the rising cost of living.

For the benefit of editorial writers, that helps explain the fight of unions for more pay, and makes the position of corporations (with war-time profits and tax cuts) all the less tenable.

NUJ HAS 20 IN COMMONS

London—Twenty members of the National Union of Journalists were elected to parliament in the recent general election.

Record of progress

With a gain of 35 percent, the St. Louis Newspaper Guild now stands at the peak of membership and good standing in its 11-year history. Active members number 705, with 124 in the armed forces.

Special efforts were under way to get everyone in good standing by Jan. 1, when a new dues record system was to be installed. Fast growth in membership was reported by President Adolph Rahm after the lock out by three papers last August, and subsequent Guild contract gains.

St. Louis also is expanding in other directions, having moved into larger quarters which now boast a piano, more desks, and chairs and dishes for social affairs. On order are a mimeograph, portable bar, and other equipment, along with decorations.

The expansion called for insurance: \$3,000 burglary; \$5,000 fire and extended coverage; and \$40,000 public liability.

Chicago Newspaper Guild has a good idea for meetings. Husbands and wives are invited, and refreshments are served. Thus the other half gets a good idea of the importance of the Guild contract in regard to the paycheck.

Those big, black company ads in current strike situations are giving Truth a going over, and with brass knuckles. Take those steel industry ads, for example.

The ads charge the United Steelworkers of America (CIO)

WASHINGTON ROUND-UP

"Sentinels" Show Anarchism In the Citadels of Finance

By ALAN BARTH

Washington Guild

Washington—A fellow is liable to be suspected of semantic confusion—or anyway of confusion—if he refers to leaders of American industry and banking as radicals. Yet how else can one catalog the members of that doughty organization, the Society of Sentinels, whose interesting "Open Letter to President Truman" graced the pages of The Washington Post, The New York Herald-Tribune and probably other newspapers beyond my immediate grasp on Sunday, Jan. 6?

PM has identified as among the officials of the Society of Sentinels (they were conspicuously unidentified in their advertisement) Stephen Du Brul of General Motors, Robert G. Waldron of the Hudson Motor Car Co., L. C. Allman of Fruehauf Trailer, Ross Roy, head of a Detroit advertising agency, Wayne Stettbacher of the Detroit Employers Assn., Seward Lawson of the Detroit office of the RFC, and Noble Travis of the Detroit Trust Co.—substantial men, all of them.

Their "Open Letter," the limpid prose style of which revealed the skilled hand of a high-priced advertising copywriter, offered the president some gratuitous advice on how to address congress when he delivers his annual message next week.

FOR THE BENEFIT of those who failed to see this fascinating screed, let me summarize its thoughtful yet unmistakably revolutionary proposals: Immediate repeal of the Wagner act, the wages and hours law, the social security act, of "all Federal laws for the control of prices, production and the allocation of materials" and of "all laws designed to influence the prices or the production of farm products."

The reasoning behind the last two items reveals the warm, human sympathy of the Sentinels. "If the elimination of price controls results in a great rise in prices," they say simply, "then we will know the true value of our money and we can then base our actions on the facts." As for our farmers, "they should be free to operate their farms without help or hindrance from the federal government."

The Sentinels also believe that the government should make no loans to other nations and no contributions to UNRRA. "In most cases," they declare forthrightly, "federal aid to the states should not be granted." And they are opposed to any appropriations for federal housing. "It is not the function of the federal government to build houses for the people to live in, any more than it is the function of the government to make shoes for them to wear or to bake bread for them to eat."

NOW, THERE ARE SOME, I know, who characterize this as a conservative position. Of course, it is nothing of the sort. These ideas are the final flowering of Proudhon's philosophy and stem directly from the Russian revolutionist Bakunin. They are not so much, as PM termed them, anarchic as they are anarchic.

The plain and terrible truth is that the Sentinels have revealed themselves as the most rabid of all radicals. They are anarchists.

According to Webster's New International Dictionary, anarchism "stands for terroristic resistance to all present government and social order." We might as well face it. Behind the deceptively unassuming faces of these business tycoons there lies a revolutionary scheme to make over America in accordance with alien doctrines.

Whether these radicals are paid for their subversive activities in

the United States by some international revolutionary body, I do not profess to know. It seems clear, however, that we conservatives must stand together in defense of the institutions they would so recklessly destroy.

THERE IS BUT a single inconsistency in the anarchism of the Society of Sentinels. While they seem determined to do away with all forms of government activity in respect to labor, agriculture and the general public, they make no reference to federal interference with the freedom of industry in the form of protective tariffs, highway subsidies and the like.

Perhaps this was mere oversight. One would suppose, however, that it is no more the function of government to build roads for the automobile manufacturers than to build houses for the people. But the iniquity of road-building may be more difficult to discern for those who reside in Detroit.

FOR MY OWN PART, I am not among those who would suppress the ideas of these people, however radical and visionary they may seem to be. The American way is sound enough to withstand their assault upon it.

I do not think that good newspapers ought to refuse to run their advertisements. But I do think emphatically that good newspapers ought to insist that the identity of the advertisers be disclosed. Society of Sentinels, though a romantic and alluring name, is a bit too vague. We ought to know in whose behalf they are on guard.

Deny advertising space to these radicals and it would be necessary to deny it as well to those who would utilize government as an effective instrument of the popular will.

ANYHOW, there's nothing more satisfactory than seeing these fellows hoist by their own petard.

Gary Guild Members Going Back to School

Gary—Members of the Gary Newspaper Guild on the Post-Tribune are going back to school. They will be participating in a brush-up course of lectures to be given by the department of journalism staff of the University of Indiana.

Guildsman Arthur Todd had the idea, and has carried out the arrangement with a Guild com-

mittee. Cost of bringing the speakers to Gary will be borne jointly by the Guild and management.

Five lectures and one seminar are scheduled. In between meetings Post-Tribune department heads will conduct seminars. Theme of the classes is "the newspaper as it is."

More Profits Are Revealed From Additional Circulation

Newspapers are making dough. This fact was emphasized by an annual report by Editor & Publisher on daily circulation of newspapers.

E. & P. reported, after a survey of Audit Bureau of Circulation papers, that the gain in 1945 was about 6.4 percent. This was for morning and evening dailies Sunday papers, with a higher sales price, showed a gain of almost 12 percent. The biggest gain was in the daily morning paper field.

With the increased circulation figures, of course, there was a good increase in revenue. In the past 18 months, an increased price has been reported for circulation. Hence, the papers have been making more money in this department.

While E. & P. figures men-

tioned only circulation gains, additional profits are being piled up by additional gains from higher rates on advertising.

These financial gains were being registered in circulation and advertising despite newsprint curtailment.

HE COLLECTS ON GRIEVANCE

Los Angeles—Reorganization of wire service units brought its first victory when Jack Lembeck, INP photographer, was awarded \$700 severance pay and an additional week's salary in lieu of notice after a grievance hearing. He had been denied severance on charges of gross neglect of duty. The grievance hearing proved otherwise.

FLASHBACKS

MERRY XMAS, 1935—Victorious in 11 weeks' lock out, the Guild unit on the Amsterdam News, Harlem weekly, "marched back to work in a body on Christmas eve with a contract . . . embodying a 10 percent wage increase and other features in line with the Guild's program," the Jan. 1, 1936, Guild Reporter beamed. "The scabs and strikebreakers were discharged and the entire Guild group re-engaged." The paper was forced into receivership and sold to a new publishing partnership.

On the eve of the opening of NLRB hearings on Guild charges against the Associated Press, of illegally firing Morris Watson and refusing to bargain, AP Counsel John W. Davis made a sweeping challenge of the constitutionality of the Wagner act. The GR correctly predicted that "the Watson case appears to be headed for the United States Supreme Court."

Davis alleged that: "The National Labor Relations Act is not in truth and fact a law and cannot be enforced by or through the purported National Labor Relations Board . . . its agents or otherwise."

"FIVE-DAY" BACK IN SF—Climaxing an intensive drive for return of the five-day week on three dailies in San Francisco, the Northern California Newspaper Guild (now SFONG) 10 years ago was able to report the re-establishment of the shorter work week on the two Hearst papers and the granting of 30-day vacations (with retention of the six-day week) on the Chronicle. With managements all over the country, the SF papers had abandoned the shorter week with the voiding of the NRA.

THE GUILD REPORTER

Copyright, 1946, by the American Newspaper Guild (CIO)



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Assistant:
Fred Jaeger

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

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