

THE Guild Reporter

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD, CIO

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Win Long-Delayed Election At Niagara Falls Gazette; Commercial Vote Is 22-19

Niagara Falls, N. Y. — In a representation election delayed almost a year while the National Labor Relations Board reconsidered a ruling on the "appropriate bargaining unit," employees in the advertising, business office and circulation departments of the Niagara Falls Gazette voted last week for the Guild as their bargaining agent.

The count was close. All but two of the 43 eligible employees voted, and the Guild got 22 votes, with 19 for "no union."

The lapse of time, turnover in personnel, and the change of ownership which followed the death last fall of the publisher, Alanson C. Deuel, were factors in the outcome, which Guild leaders term a "miracle win."

The commercial department employees now join the 28-member editorial unit already under a contract which calls for maintenance of membership and has resulted in 100 percent enrollment of editorial staffers.

The Niagara Falls Guildsmen are members of a unit of the Buffalo local. As long ago as September, 1953, they had moved to

meet the expressed interest of many in the business offices for Guild contract protection. When sufficient Guild cards had been signed to warrant NLRB procedure, a petition was filed with that body for an election.

Gazette management, then under the late publisher's ownership, did not contest the election, but took the position that each of the departments should have separate bargaining units, and not be combined with the existing unit of editorial employees.

To the widespread dismay of the Guild across the country, the hearing officer agreed with this management view. His findings, unless reviewed and reversed by the NLRB itself, would negate a long list of previous decisions.

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Toronto G&M Unit Gets Certificate In Record Time

Toronto, Ont. — Establishing what may be a new speed record in provincial labor annals, the Ontario Labor Relations Board took just 24 hours to certify the Toronto Newspaper Guild as bargaining agent for a unit of 108 editorial employees at the Globe & Mail, morning daily which faces a change of ownership under liquidation of the estate of its former publisher.

The Board's promptitude in reaching its findings had been matched by the employees, in determining to avail themselves of the contractual protections of collective bargaining.

And management, which on two previous occasions had reacted violently to organizing moves by its employees, made only a token appearance when the formal board hearing occurred, on Tuesday.

When a few weeks ago it was announced that the bank serving as trustee for the estate of George McCullagh, former publisher of the Globe & Mail, would receive bids for the newspaper property, employees lost no time in seeking out the Toronto Guild officers and setting up plans for signing eligibles for membership.

Those plans materialized in signed, and paid, applications

from some 85 Globe staffers. Some applications were from individuals normally excluded from collective bargaining agreements because of the supervisory nature of their jobs.

When the hearing convened, the Guild had estimated its appropriate unit as being 111 employees, with half a dozen others in doubtful status. Management's estimate was 107.

The Guild argued for inclusion of four positions, those of assistant news editor, telegraph editor, women's editor and day editor, while management's list of exclusions contained those four, the assistant editor-in-chief, financial editor, head librarian, and three confidential secretaries. Both parties agreed to exemption of the managing editor, the city editor, news editor and editor-in-chief.

The board's final ruling, after hearing the job-content analysis.

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\$125,000 Pick-Up

McKinnon Recoups "Year's Loss" In Side-Bar Deal With Chandler

Los Angeles, Calif. — Publisher Clinton D. McKinnon, who sold the Daily News December 18 for an announced \$275,000 to the Chandler Times and Mirror interests, throwing more than 300 Guildsmen out of employment, admitted last week at a bankruptcy hearing that the deal had also included \$125,000 for himself.

His corporation, the Stockholders Publishing Co. was moved into bankruptcy by petition of Guildsmen creditors, representative of some \$900,000 in claims which the discharged employees have filed.

"Mr. Chandler made me a double-barreled offer," McKinnon told Bankruptcy Referee David B. Head in his testimony. "One was that he would pay \$275,000 for certain assets—the name, good will, specified features, our morgue and our circulation lists."

"The second offer, on which the purchase was predicated, was that I sign a five-year contract for \$125,000 to aid in getting the Daily News circulation for the Mirror, and that I write a column in the Mirror once a week."

Last week's hearing also disclosed that remaining assets of the Daily News, are listed at

A Few Weeks Ago McKinnon Wrote:

"... The \$275,000 from the Times Mirror meant no money for me. But it did mean paychecks for the employees..."

Quoted from McKinnon in "His Side of the Story," published in January by the San Diego Labor Leader.

about \$900,000, and liabilities total an estimated \$4 million. Severance pay claims alone amount to \$800,000, due Guild members under a contract which covered all non-mechanical employees.

Besides revealing his personal deal with the Chandler interests, McKinnon's testimony also divulged a contract which McKinnon had closed with the man who preceded him as publisher of the News, Robert L. Smith.

Smith had been on the Daily

News payroll, not as an employee but as an "independent contractor," for the entire year during which McKinnon published the paper. Smith was, McKinnon testified, useful to the firm as a public relations advisor, for which McKinnon had agreed that Smith was to receive \$50,000 the first year and \$25,000 each for a second and third year.

At the time McKinnon sold his paper into extinction, the News was ten weeks in arrears in paying Smith his \$961 per week. On December 20, when McKinnon got his first money from the Chandlers he promptly paid the arrearage to Smith.

"There were two things I took care of first; wage claims and withholding taxes," McKinnon told the referee. "I felt Mr. Smith's was a wage claim. It was for personal services performed."

Attorney Hubert F. Laugharn, (Continued on Page 3)

Mediators Seek Solution In Brooklyn Eagle Strike

While federal mediators sought to find middle ground on which Brooklyn Eagle management and its 315 striking Guild employees could settle their differences, the outcome of a mediation meeting which lasted four hours yesterday and was recessed until today remained in doubt.

Meantime, the Guild unit, well organized and militant in morale, prepared to move tomorrow into its third week of picketing the closed Johnson street plant, shut down when the strike started at Friday midnight, January 28.

Yesterday's sessions were the first since the strike began, called by federal officials who had attempted to avert the trouble be-

fore it resulted in picket lines and commissary kitchens.

The meeting brought the disputants face to face, after mediators had met separately with the parties. Courtesy was the keynote, there were no recriminations, and an Eagle vice president borrowed a pack of cigarettes from John E. Deegan, director of staff for the New York Guild, of which the Eagle unit is a part. The over-night recess was at the suggestion of the mediators, headed by Thomas G. Daugherty.

The contract renewal roadblock which precipitated the strike and left the Borough of Kings without its "home town paper" for the first time in 114 years of publication was a long-standing difference as to wages.

The Brooklyn Eagle has refused to equate its Guild wage structure with those contained in Guild contracts a few miles away, on metropolitan dailies just across the East River bridges. This management view was main-

(Continued on Page 2)



FROSTBITE MARATHON—Coldest weather of the winter greeted Guildsmen of the Brooklyn Eagle unit as they picketed during the first week of their strike. Turns on the lines, maintained 24 hours a day, were limited to thirty minutes during the frigid snap.

It Seems to Us...

Deem Communist Ban
Too Problem-Laden

NEW YORK CITY

Editor: In the hope of stimulating other units and locals to discuss the ANG ban on communists—and to correct a misinterpretation placed by Walter Winchell on my unit's recent resolution on the subject—I should like to present to your readers the text adopted by the Time, Inc. Unit in New York at its last meeting.

The resolution was adopted at our third unit meeting on the subject; efforts had been made over three months to find substantial opposition to the stand set forth, but these efforts were unsuccessful. At the time the unit took this stand, it set up machinery for a unit referendum should 10 percent of our membership request one, but so far no petition to this effect has been received.

We hope other Guildmen at least agree with us that the convention's action was one that should be carefully thought through before this summer's session in Albany, and that the considered opinions be made known to the IEB's constitution committee.

We shall appreciate your printing our resolution in your next issue.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY
Chairman, Time Unit
New York Guild

The text of the resolution follows:

The Time Inc. Unit of the Newspaper Guild of New York, warmly endorses the Polumbaum Resolution, and sympathizes with the Constitution Committee of the IEB in its search for a formula for implementing the convention's resolution on Communist exclusion. However, it strongly opposes any constitutional changes that would bar from Guild membership "any proven or admitted member of the Communist Party or any person who consistently adheres to the policies of the Communist Party or of any similar subversive organization." It opposes this change for the following reasons:

1) Our constitution has served us well, and the question of Communist domination of the Guild is academic. It is not a present danger, and it is not a threat.

2) In the case of "proven Communists," as narrowly defined in the Communist Control Act, it would be possible to deny membership in the Guild. But the wisdom and constitutionality of the Act remains to be determined, and the Unit feels that the International Executive Board should study most closely the effect that the proposed changes would have in our contractual relationships with management, especially in the area of job security. We suspect that we would seriously weaken our job security clause by the proposed action.

3) Determination by the Guild of who "consistently adheres" to the Communist Party line would involve the Guild in establishing a system of courts, a quasi-judicial undertaking, lacking power of subpoena, but open to all the shortcomings from which courts can suffer. Boards of inquiry or courts would be the recipients of malicious gossip, and some quasi-grand jury system would need to be established to decide which charges to prosecute. Unjust accusations could involve the Guild and its officers in libel suits and undesirable publicity. The whole process would require extensive and expensive legal counsel. And

Letters shall be limited to 200 words and shall avoid libel and subjects immaterial to the Guild. Members subjected to personal attack shall be given opportunity to reply in the same issue, but publication of either attack or reply shall not be delayed longer than one issue.

During elections or referenda letters on the question to appear in the edition immediately preceding the distribution of ballots shall be confined to rebuttal of material appearing in the preceding edition.

The situation could well arise in which Guild members would be deprived of their rights in their own union on the basis of unsworn allegations by vindictive fellow-employees. Enlistment possibilities are created for imaginative managements trying to get rid of "troublemakers"—still a synonym in many shops for active Guildmen. The problem of designating "similar subversive organizations" is also a major one that still troubles the Attorney General and the courts of the U.S.

In summary, the Time Inc. Unit believes our constitution has served us well, that the proposed changes in the Heywood Brown Clause would be impossible to implement, and that the efforts to implement them would be far better used in the furtherance of our trade union goals.

Protocol Is Achieved
By Southern Council

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Editor: I forwarded to you in October, 1954, a copy of a resolution introduced by me at the meeting of the Southern District Council in New Orleans Oct. 25, and adopted by the Council.

You subsequently informed me that no report of this resolution was made in the Guild Reporter because no official copy had been received from the Council secretary.

This resolution was critical of the Guild Reporter. The Council named a committee of three, with me as chairman and William Yarbrough, Knoxville and Victor O. Reinemer, Charlotte, as other members, to make a continuing study of the Guild Reporter.

EDWARD DESBOY
SDC Executive Board

In the same mail with Brother Desboy's letter, the Guild Reporter received from Mr. Leonard a copy of the resolution, signed by him as such. AND Secretary William J. Burns also received a copy for the attention of the IEB, which meets next week.

Brother Desboy's communication of last October was referred to the IEB's letter to the Guild Reporter received from Mr. Leonard. The Guild Reporter made two unsuccessful attempts to get a story on the New Orleans meeting from the secretary of the Council.

The resolution text is as follows: Whereas, it often appears that the news columns of The Guild Reporter are biased, incomplete, misleading or editorial.

AND WHEREAS, The Guild Reporter represents the best newspapermen in the world and as such should set a high ethical and professional standard in reporting.

AND WHEREAS, the biased, incomplete, misleading or editorial nature of many articles in the Guild Reporter, being easily recognizable by most of the membership, tend to destroy the confidence of the membership in the publication.

AND WHEREAS, an examination of the most recent issue of the Guild Reporter, dated Oct. 8, 1954, reveals such excerpts as:

On Page 3 an article about an Erie publisher being called Red, says: "... a succession of witnesses, some of doubtful backgrounds..." (Who prejudged these witnesses?)

A Page 4 headline says: "Red

Slur at Labor Brings Libel Threat." (Would any reputable newspaper use the editorial word "Slur"?)

A Page 5 article attacks the alleged Eisenhower "Numbers Game" on discharged federal workers. (Who authorizes the Guild Reporter to speak for the membership and judge this greatly disputed political question?)

A Page 6 article says Sinclair Weeks has considered himself an all-purpose tribune for business, even to the point of intimidating the Bureau of Standards to that fraudulent products may go to the consumer. (Editorial Libelous?)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Executive Board consider taking steps to raise the ethical and professional tone of the Guild Reporter to the end that complete news stories (both the favorable and unfavorable facts) be made available to the membership, which is fully capable of reaching its own judgment.

AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Southern District Council appoint a committee of three to make a continuing study of the publication looking toward the presentation of recommendations to the IEB and the Council.

AND THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guild Reporter be requested to publish this resolution in full.

Asks For Complete Text
Of Mirror Security Pact

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Editor: I found the letter from Brother Alexander in the last issue of the Guild Reporter very interesting.

In the several years that I have been connected with the Pittsburgh Guild, I have found "economy" fringes a constant plague. It seems to be a service if you could run the text of the Mirror's new job security article, comparing it with the old language.

I am sure that all of us in the Heart chain are anxious to get some realistic controls on economy dismissals into the new Heart National Memorandum.

HELEN M. MINEAR
Pittsburgh Guild

The 1954 Mirror contract contained the following language in Section 4, Job Security:

"There shall be no dismissal except for good and sufficient cause. The prerogative of the Publisher to determine the size of the staff shall be maintained and shall not be subject to arbitration."

"(b) However, in making discharge to reduce the force, the Mirror will give due consideration among other objective factors, to general competence, qualifications, ability to do the work assigned, and length of service of any employee who is selected for dismissal."

"(c) There shall be no dismissal except for good and sufficient cause."

"(d) The prerogative of the Publisher to determine the size of the staff shall be maintained and shall not be subject to arbitration."

"(e) However, in making discharge to reduce the force, the Mirror will give due consideration among other objective factors, to general competence, qualifications, ability to do the work assigned, and length of service of any employee who is selected for dismissal."

"(f) The prerogative of the Publisher to determine the size of the staff shall be maintained and shall not be subject to arbitration."

"(g) However, in making discharge to reduce the force, the Mirror will give due consideration among other objective factors, to general competence, qualifications, ability to do the work assigned, and length of service of any employee who is selected for dismissal."

"(h) The prerogative of the Publisher to determine the size of the staff shall be maintained and shall not be subject to arbitration."

"(i) However, in making discharge to reduce the force, the Mirror will give due consideration among other objective factors, to general competence, qualifications, ability to do the work assigned, and length of service of any employee who is selected for dismissal."

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"(t) The prerogative of the Publisher to determine the size of the staff shall be maintained and shall not be subject to arbitration."

Membership Gain Helps In UP Contract Talks

Big organizing gains will give added weight to Guild demands for basic contractual improvements with the United Press when negotiations resume next Monday after a week's recess requested by management. Directed by the Guild's UP national committee, an organizing drive has picked up 70 new Guild members, with marked successes in the Southwest, including the addition of seven members at the Dallas bureau.

The recess came February 4 after a week of contract talks, and was caused by previous commitments of UP Attorney Ezra Bryan, requiring him to leave New York City.

Contract talks opened January 31 for a new agreement to replace the current one which expires February 28.

Key Guild demands center on a pension plan, seniority protection, wages, elimination of geographical wage differentials and the increasing speedup in the UP. Guild wage proposals set up a \$150 top minimum for newsmen and photographers. Current top minima are \$135.50 in eight UP bureaus, \$124 in six and \$114 in 67 others.

The UP negotiating committee, in an opening statement, said it desired to proceed "amicably and swiftly toward a fair agreement" for the 900 UP employees within the Guild's jurisdiction.

The committee made clear that any agreement must encompass necessary contractual changes on the basic questions of pensions, seniority, wages, geographical differentials and speedup.

The company also expressed a willingness for a quick settlement. A series of management moves during the week, however, showed its "ideas" for a speedy agreement would weaken and undercut the present contract.

Management's first week maneuvering included:

1. Illegal pressure to prevent an official of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union (AFL) from sitting with the Guild negotiators.

2. A series of contract-cutting "ideas" for the new agreement.

3. Vague "thoughts" for a pension plan to be paid from part or all of an employee wage increase and which would enable employees to withdraw contributions made to the plan in his behalf when he left the UP.

The first company move, which could have stalled negotiations for an indeterminate period, involved management's pressure regarding the presence of a UP CTU member with the Guild negotiating committee.

The Guild acceded to the illegal management pressure and reluctantly asked Bill Whitlock, of New York, general chairman of the CTU's UP division, to withdraw. The Guild had invited Whitlock to attend the contract talks as part of a developing campaign of cooperation between the only two unions representing UP employees. Such cooperation is expressly permitted by the Taft-Hartley labor law and there had been CTU-Guild cooperation in other wire service (INS) negotiations.

The company made clear Whitlock's presence was unacceptable to it and immediately asked for a week's recess in negotiations. When Whitlock left the room, management decided it did not need the recess.

Then, after presentation of the Guild proposals for a new contract, the company proceeded to

give some of its "ideas" for a new agreement. The proposals generally would weaken what the Guild considers a contract already inferior to other wire service and news industry contracts.

Company proposals included those which would:

Put more staffers on the six-day week.

Exclude more employees from contract coverage and from overtime and scheduling provisions.

Weaken severance provisions.

Undermine grievance procedure.

At this point, the Guild reaffirmed its hope that the company would study carefully the Guild proposals. It urged management to pay heed to staffer insistence for contractual guarantees on the questions of seniority, pensions, geographical wage differentials and speedup.

During the first week of negotiations, exploratory work was conducted into many phases of the contract. On the key questions of pensions and geographical differentials, the company gave vague indications of its thinking.

On pensions, company attorney Ezra Bryan said:

"If pensions are of sufficient importance to you, and if you agree to a money package and then agree to put all or part of that package into pensions, I would recommend it."

The company's thoughts regarding pensions apparently centered about one which was paid for by employees not taking a pay raise and one which did not include vesting provisions for contributions made in the employee's behalf. The Guild urged the company to come up with a realistic approach to pensions.

The company's initial position on the demand for elimination of geographical differentials was that "it is a serious problem" and "we fear that we may have to do something about it."

Guild negotiators included negotiating committee chairman Benson Sere, Los Angeles; Sol Fox, New York; Ray Webster, St. Louis; Sheldon Garber, Chicago; Steve Ripley, ANG wire service administrator, and Ray Pitt, assistant wire services administrator. Charlotte Moulton, of Washington, also was present during the presentation of the pensions proposal.

Sitting for management were Attorney Bryan, Assistant General Business Manager Ross Downing and Assistant General News Manager Mert Akers.

Toronto Guild Adds 3 At Star

Toronto, Ontario—A new bargaining unit of only three employees has been added to the coverage of the Guild at the Toronto Star, now in process of converting seven separate Guild agreements into a cover-all contract.

The new unit is composed of three painters employed in the garage-maintenance department, whose AFL-ILC contract had expired and who sought Guild membership instead. The provincial Labor Board processed the application and issued certification this week.

For better legislation keep your eye on your Congressman.

A Hoop Is Something To Jump Through In Basketball, Too

Paternalism reared its stern, gray-streaked head in the basketball industry recently.

And many a prodigal son in the newspaper business was reminded of the time the Old Man spoke out against the Guild: "Why do we need a union on this paper?"

Here's how Guildman Milton Gross described the situation in his New York Post sports column:

"The players of the NBA are attempting to form a committee and gain a voice in league matters affecting them. On Tuesday (Jan. 18) they formalized their organization. Significantly no representative of the Fort Wayne players was there. (The Fort Wayne team is owned by millionaire industrialist Fred Zollner.)"

The Pistons had voted among themselves and decided against joining the players' group.

"Fred is against unions," said a Fort Wayne player who insisted his name not be used in a quote. "We don't want to join any action that might offend him."

"Zollner has 1,000 employees in his Fort

Wayne plant and proudly states that his workers are happy and non-union. Fine, but as a union man myself several questions immediately suggest themselves.

"Is a players' committee a union? It is not. Does a man who sincerely believes in what he says and does not fear censure of his colleagues require the protection of anonymity as the Fort Wayne player did? Are this player and his Fort Wayne team-mates so short-sighted to think that a movement to form a players' committee and work out an area of understanding with the league is only for immediate benefit or for the few? While they're shaking Zollner's hand and kneeling before his beneficence can the Fort Wayne 'non-unionists' spare a moment or a thought for the Baltimore players who are still owed several weeks' salary? While they preen themselves before Zollner's paternalism, haven't they a care that there is no longer a minimum salary in the league?"

"It is an elementary principle of unionism or of living that progress is made only when the few concern themselves

about the many. Big league players have representation in baseball's councils today and it is the law of the land that they have that right.

"They have a minimum wage, expenses in spring training, a generous pension plan, no man ever goes unpaid once he is signed, moving expenses when they are traded and the right of counsel, among other niceties, that make for dignified working conditions.

"What happened in the NBA with the Baltimore players is a disgraceful reflection of a league that would be big but cannot be until it pays off this debt of shame.

"Some owners, such as Walter Brown of the Celtics, who gave Bob Houbricks his back Baltimore pay, and the Knicks' Ned Irish, who advocated that the league get it up immediately, are in the minority. One owner said, 'I'll be damned if I'll pay for the mistakes that were made in Baltimore.'"

"This is the meat of the matter. It is the food for thought on which the Fort

Wayne players should be cleaving. It was only the luck of the draw that put them into Pistons uniforms instead of into Bulls' suits, such as Connie Simmons wore. Simmons is the father of four children. He has also been dropped by Syracuse because a disc in his back has slipped. Not only is he out of work now, but out of \$800. To him it is more than a legalism. Eight hundred buys a lot of milk and shoes.

"Of, if the Pistons won't think of Simmons, then let them think of Bob Cousy, who needs no 'union' for himself, but is the moving force behind it. Cousy is a capitalist. His income runs close to \$40,000 a year and all the organization can give him is a lot of headaches and little sleep. I've a feeling Bob would have begun his 'agitating' even if he played for the Pistons instead of Brown's Celtics. Brown has one of the league's highest payrolls and Cousy virtually writes his own ticket.

"Cousy isn't worried about offending Brown—or Zollner, for that matter."

COUNTING HOUSE NOTES

1—Daily Circulation At New High 2—Suppliers Know A Good Thing

Total U.S. daily newspaper circulation climbed above 55,000,000 for a new record in 1954, despite a net loss during the year of 20 dailies.

The increase—more than 600,000 over the 1953 figure—was the largest since 1950.

These figures were released by Editor & Publisher from statistics compiled for its 1955 Year Book.

E&P counted 1,765 dailies in the United States, as of Jan. 1, 1955, with an average net paid total circulation of 55,072,480. This represents a gain of 600,194, or 1.1%, over figures for the previous year.

On the first of this year, E&P reported, there were 317 morning papers, a loss of 10; and 544 Sunday papers, no change.

"This was the largest annual decrease in the number of daily newspapers since 1945, when there was a loss of 33 because of wartime conditions," the magazine noted.

The suspension of 10 ITU papers, published in competition with struck dailies, accounted for half the net loss.

Total morning circulation rose to 21,705,436 during the year, a gain of 292,962, or 1.36%. Total evening paper circulation was 33,367,044 at the end of 1954, an increase of 307,232 per day, or .93% over 1953.

Sunday circulation, reversing a series of annual losses since 1950, rose to 46,176,450 during the year for an increase of 227,896 or .49%.

The milline rate for advertising space in all morning papers remained the same at \$3.01. For the evening papers it rose from \$4.29 to \$4.34 and for Sunday papers it climbed just one cent—from \$2.75 to \$2.76.

The Chicago Daily News, Inc. reports net earnings for 1954 of \$1,024,240, against 1953 profits of \$992,574. The annual report also noted a gain of more than half a million lines of advertising during the year. And the paper's average daily circulation reached a record high.

More papers expanding and modernizing: The Wall Street

NEXT QUESTION?

QUESTION: President Roosevelt once said, "If I worked in a factory, the first thing I would do would be to join a union." If you had to work in a department store, let us say, would you join a union?

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT: I certainly would. I do belong to a union in my own field—the American Newspaper Guild, CIO—and I would urge every woman who works to join the union in her industry.

—Excerpt from a recent interview of Mrs. Roosevelt by Max Sternbach, editor of the CIO Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union Record.

Journal has announced plans for a Washington, D.C., edition, beginning in the late spring, and has already leased a building for conversion into a newspaper plant.

The first group of 106 new press units has been delivered to the Brooklyn plant of the New York Daily News under its \$18,000,000 expansion and improvement program. The presses are designed to permit the addition of color units and the adoption of the 11 1/2-pica column width. The replaced equipment will go to the Boston Post and to Newsday, of Hempstead, L.I.

The year just ended saw a new record set in the newspaper industry, too. Total estimated newspaper consumption in the United States reached 6,162,761 tons compared with 6,142,897 tons in 1953 and 5,988,471 tons in 1952, the ANPA reported.

All in all, newspaper manufacturers were finding things very good, indeed. So much so that they announced plans for several new mills.

International Paper Company plans a \$20,000,000 mill "somewhere in the South" which would supply 300 tons of newspaper a day.

Another 300-ton-per-day mill is part of a \$30,000,000 development program announced by MacMillan & Bloedel Limited on Vancouver Island, B.C.

The Kitimat Pulp & Paper Co. is surveying a British Columbia location for a new \$65,000,000 newspaper and pulp mill it plans. And across Canada, a U.S. newspaper group which owns a large forest tract in Nova Scotia has broached the possibility of a newspaper mill there.

Down Mexico way, the government has confirmed that a newspaper mill will be built there with

a capacity of 36,000 tons annually, or about half of the country's current requirements.

Other newspaper suppliers apparently were enjoying similar prosperity. The Goss Printing Press Company, for example, has purchased the Rockford, Ill., plant of the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing Company because of the "steadily increasing demands" for its products. The purchase will give Goss an additional 75,000 square feet of manufacturing space.

Assets of the Hearst Corporation were listed at \$78,616,400 in its application for FCC approval of a \$2,000,000 purchase of Milwaukee TV station WTMV. The corporation reported net income, after taxes, of more than \$1,000,000 for each of the last two years.

Local WS Council Chooses Officers

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Associated Press and United Press members of the American Newspaper Guild met here last week and formed a local Wire Service Council.

Gene Kinney, AP Guild unit chairman, was elected chairman of the council for 1955, with Harry Culver, UP unit chairman, as vice chairman. Stella Roberts, AP staffer, was elected secretary.

The group voted to work toward closer cooperation between the ANG and CTU in Oklahoma City.

The meeting was held at Hawk's Nest, cafe owned and operated by Ralph Evans, Oklahoma City AP teleprinter operator, who furnished ANG-CTU relations by serving free refreshments.

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THE GUILD REPORTER

CHARLES E. CRISSEY, Editor

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BROOKLYN EAGLE management, faced with the immediacy of a Guild strike, resorted to a numbers game as old as the wise-crack that while figures don't lie, liars sometimes figure.

In a front-page announcement, reported deadpan by Editor & Publisher, Eagle management used the percentage trick to make the Guild look bad. It showed, percentage-wise, how wages had gone up for several crafts since 1941; for example:

Pressmen, up 89 percent; engravers, up 94 percent; printers, up 102 percent; stereotypers, up 111 percent.

Then came the shocker. What do you suppose those greedy Guildsmen highjacked out of their bosses in those 14 years?

Nothing less than 211 percent, that's all!

But E&P, bless its free-enterprise soul, was honest enough to comment, "Dollar figures were not given."

The Guild doesn't have, or want, access to management's payroll records for 1941. Guild archives show only that reporters at the Eagle were guaranteed a starting minimum that year of a princely \$27.50 a week, and that a general increase granted by Guild contract didn't apply to anybody making more than \$40.

But it's fair enough to assume that the percentages are correct, and it's easy to figure backwards, since present Guild minimums and craft union pay scales are matters of public record.

What did that tabulation by Eagle management actually say, in money, not percentages?

It said that in 1941 engravers were making \$63.40 a week, pressmen \$58.36, printers \$56.93, and stereos \$51.18, while Guildsmen, the 211 percenters, were making \$40.83 a week.

It said something else, too, for those who know their labor union history.

Back in 1941, as is still true today, the mechanical crafts had long-established, financially sound and thoroughly responsible unions backing up their wage demands, and assuring their members of adequate pay.

By 1941 the Guild had barely clinched its right to exist at the Eagle, and was still fumbling its way toward economic justice. That 211 percent figure at the Eagle proves only that if the Guild started late, it also learned fast, from lessons taught by its older trade-union brothers.

PROMPT Guild action squelched an outburst of petty

tyranny at the Niagara Falls Gazette last weekend even without the aid of contractual protection over the Guild member involved.

The tyranny was compounded of pique over a fancied affront to authority, seen in the fact that commercial department employees had on Friday voted to name the Guild as their collective bargaining agent. The exponent of the outburst was the classified advertising manager.

That executive on Saturday vented steam by announcing that hereafter his department was really going to know what hard work is like, that from now on there would be no casual non-business conversation, that cheery greetings at the telephone switchboard were "out," and that tardiness or absence would mean summary dismissal.

Guild officers reported these reactions to Robert T. Harrold, general manager, said the Guild would protect its members' rights, and pointed out that the Guild under editorial department contract had established peaceful management-labor relations. The Guild didn't seek, the GM was told, to begin a parade of grievances into his office.

Tuesday morning, the still sizzling classified boss fired Russell Enzinna, an outside salesman, for reportedly having remarked, "What the hell, I don't have to take this!" That was at 8:30 o'clock.

There followed the "grievance parade" which the Guild had said it didn't want. Harrold interviewed the parties. At 2:45 that afternoon, Enzinna went back to his job.

The quid pro quo of his reinstatement?

Only Enzinna's promise to apologize for saying "Hell" in front of four girls and the classified manager!

Law Is Subject For DC Session

Philadelphia, Pa. — Attorney M. H. Goldstein, counsel for the Philadelphia Guild Local, will be a guest speaker at the next meeting of the Middle Atlantic District Council, set for March 5 and 6 at the Guild headquarters, 152 North 15th Street. Delegates will be housed at the Broadwood Hotel.

The Council will elect officers for the year, and receive a report on its annual award contest. Harold Brislin will preside, and Dave Schick, administrative officer for the local Guild, is handling Philadelphia details.

Washington Roundup

By WILLARD SHELTON
Washington Guild

THIS IS A REPORT on the televising of President Eisenhower's news conferences after three weeks of experience with them. It represents the viewpoint of a reporter who attends the conferences but deals in the old-fashioned medium of the written word.

The first fact, obviously, is that the television cameras are here to stay. It is impossible for purveyors of the written word to claim any monopoly. The people have right to the White House news—and if the news can be attractively presented via the cameras and sound tracks, and the President of the United States is willing and anxious to stand still for it, no one else has a vested privilege to complain.

A second fact is this: The thing the public is given on Wednesday nights is not, strictly speaking, television. It is film. It is a film sequence and sound-recording of some of the questions and answers on Wednesday mornings in the incredibly ornate old Treaty Room of the old State Department.

Mr. Eisenhower is not given to the people "live," with all the dangerous possibilities of a stumble or error that might make an international incident. The newsreels have their cameras in the room, and so do the pooled TV networks, and everything is on film. Presidential Press Secretary Hagerty—whom Mr. Eisenhower describes, remarkably, as his "technician"—tells the movie and TV people exactly what they can or cannot shove out on the screens some dozen hours later.

The rules are rigid. Any portion of the film which Hagerty rules out must be clipped and physically returned to the White House, and the penalty for violation would be indefinite suspension of a whole network's accreditation.

The use of Tri-X film, exceedingly sensitive and "fast," makes it possible for the cameras to report their history with a minimum of uproar and disturbing light. If Mr. Eisenhower is bothered by the slight glare in his face, he shows no sign of it. (He is on record, after all, as having told a joint meeting of Congress in 1961 that the photographers are the "arbiters of our times.")

THIS REPORTER SAT at one conference, in the second last row directly below the cameras. Eleven minutes after the President began his answers (he was uncharacteristically three minutes late that morning), I had to make a conscious effort to hear upsetting noise.

The only identifiable "noise" was the familiar clicking of plates in the plateholders of the still photographers. The movie and TV film cameras were paragons of discreet silence.

A TV network man tells me that his cameras are so confoundingly ingenious that they could "very satisfactorily" transmit Eisenhower "live" using no more light than the scarcely observable floodlighting now employed. (A smart cameraman suggested a yellow blotter on the President's desk, wiping out eye shadows.)

So much for the technics. There is the further, more significant matter of the possibly corrosive effects of the cameras on reporters and the President himself. Every man, one supposes, is at heart a mug.

I give you my word that there is no discernible difference between Mr. Eisenhower's filmed news conferences and the others, now buried in two years of history, of the archaic pre-TV era.

This is, in a sense, a pity. It would be nice to argue that the cameras have inhibited or corrupted the newsmen, that the questions are no longer so sharp, that some reporter or the Chief Executive is grandstanding, that the fine special flavor of the conference has been dulled or made flaccid.

Mr. Eisenhower's own merits and deficiencies, and the change in the temper of the times, are the controlling factors. Television has nothing to do with it.

Dawson Renamed New England DC President

Manchester, N. H.—Two officers were re-elected and two new officers were named at the annual meeting of the New England District Council held at the Hotel Carpenter here last weekend.

Named for a third year as president was Charles E. Dawson of the Portland, Maine, Press-Herald, while Alton L. Caldwell Jr., of the Brockton Enterprise-Times was reelected as secretary.

James J. O'Neill Jr., of the Salem, Mass., News was elected as vice-president and Robert A. Lawson of the Boston Herald was elected treasurer, when Joseph A. DuMont, of the Boston Record-American, treasurer for the last 10 years, declined another term.

History was made in the policy board election when Mrs. H. Corinne Thompson of the Brockton Enterprise-Times was elected to that committee, the first

THE UNIQUE VALUES of the presidential news conference has always been the lack of awe shown by reporters for the human being who happened, at the moment, to be occupying the White House.

Some of the damndest questions have been asked across the years — parochial questions by some regional or special-interest reporter, wicked and needling questions by needlers and partisans.

This has always seemed to me entirely legitimate, because the whole thing is part of the process under which the President is answerable to the people about everything.

He may not know everything; indeed he cannot. He may think it trivial when he is asked, in the midst of terrible anxieties, about a balcony on the White House or the purchase of certain silks from the Germans instead of from true-blue (and more expensive) American producers. But he is, and should be, answerable.

My judgment is that mean and needling questions have seldom been put to Mr. Eisenhower, before or after the advent of the cameras.

The last tough questions, as far as I can recall, were the relentless ones on the covered-up Dixon-Yates contract and the bland inquiry of the New York Times man after the Democratic election victory: Did the President attribute the result to "disenchantment with the program?" Mr. Eisenhower, after that one, bristled. He almost blew. But he talked, usefully, instead of confining himself to further platitudes about how many of the Democrats assailed by Nixon and McCarthy were really his dear, dear personal patriotic friends.

The fact about Mr. Eisenhower is that many reporters, conscientiously trying to get a presidential viewpoint, feel compelled to spell out the background of their questions before putting them. They feel they must explain the U. S. Government. Thus you get "speeches." Thus you get "longwindedness." This is the responsibility of Mr. Eisenhower, and in no sense is it the responsibility of either the reporters or the new-fangled film machines and Tri-X film.

DEMOCRATS ON CAPITOL HILL seemed pretty disturbed, if not disheartened, by the impact of the first filmed conference. They muttered that this was a political stunt, a trick to put over the Eisenhower personality. They privately suggested they ought to ask "equal time."

It is perfectly true, of course, that Mr. Eisenhower's "technician," Mr. Hagerty, has absolute powers of censorship on the films. He can release anything that makes his man look good and refuse to release any section that makes his man look bad.

One answer, however, is Hagerty's own—that the full conference transcript is available, except for direct quotation, to reporters in all a terrible kickback.

A second is that people may gradually become bored with the weekly presentations, particularly when all they get is earnest generalizations. Mr. Eisenhower's audience rating could take a frightful nosedive.

A third is that the Eisenhower "impact" depends, after all, on his general popularity. I would imagine that Herbert Hoover, who in the last year of his depression administration, practically abandoned news conferences, wouldn't have been induced to reschedule them merely because some cameras were available.

What Hoover wanted, at the moment, was to avoid exposing himself to the people—in any shape, form or medium. The present Chief Executive, no doubt, will never taste the depths of Hoover's bitterness and loneliness. But "impact" involving a personality is a fragile thing.

The cameras are here to stay. So are the purveyors of the written word.

woman to be so elected in the history of the council. Also elected were ANG Vice President John H. Thompson of the Boston Traveler, Edward A. Glynn of the Boston Post and Roland A. Drouin of the Manchester Union-Leader.

The council extended its support to the Brooklyn Eagle strikers, voting \$100 to be sent at once and added amounts to be sent as needed.