



Demonstration

Associated Press artists Leonard Poznanski, left, and Alex Sibirny don monks' robes on the job to get across their proposal that AP provide smocks

and do something about cold drafts in its New York office. Management insisted that they disrobe (down to their street clothes).

Violence Unit Calls For U.S. Center To Judge Press

Increased media hiring of minority groups, steps to curb media concentration and the creation of a national center to judge press performance were urged last week by a study group of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence.

The study group, in a 614-page report on "Violence and the Media," urged the creation of an independent national center operated by Presidential appointees to help overcome a "crisis of confidence" between the press and the U.S. public.

The study group said that newspapers and broadcasters have contributed to the widespread use of confrontation as an instrument of social change by their failure to report adequately the conditions underlying current protest.

"New voices," it said, now have "a very hard time getting into the media unless they appeal to traditional news values by creating conflict or violence."

The report, in addition to recommending a national Center for Media Study, said that the media should "encourage local press councils to provide a continuing exchange of views between the news-media personnel and representative members of the community."

Urging the media to "examine carefully the problems posed when equivalent access to the media is denied," the report urged newspapers and broadcast stations to hire and train increased numbers of newsmen from minority groups, use ghetto "stringers" and provide both increased coverage of day-to-day activities involving minority groups and more in-depth coverage of social issues affecting them.

Decrying the effect of media concentration on press performance, the report declared:

"The Justice Department and
(Continued on Page 7)

Canada Curb Seen Needed On Monopoly

Ottawa, Ont.—New legislation is needed to meet the problem of monopoly in the mass media as well as other industries, according to D. H. Henry, director for the Competition Branch of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Henry, testifying this week before the Special Senate Committee on the Mass Media, said existing legislation is effective only when mergers have already produced a monopoly, at which time it is too late.

Henry voiced hope that a current Cabinet review of antitrust legislation would bring legislation providing for civil antitrust proceedings in cases that come under his office's scrutiny. The courts, he said, have "not been as helpful as they might" in supporting the intention of Parliament when it drafted existing laws.

Henry said that while common ownership of a publishing company by several newspapers appears "on the surface" to provide competition, "it doesn't really when the chips are down." "Newspapers without competition tend to become sluggish," he de-

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Ferment in Minneapolis

Tribune Staffers Seek Policy Voice

Minneapolis, Minn.—Reporters and photographers at the Minneapolis Tribune have set up an informal organization and a series of meetings with management in an effort to win a greater voice in the newspaper's policies.

Their action is one of the first to emerge from the interest expressed by newsmen in several cities in recent months in obtaining a say in the editorial operation of their publications.

The Twin Cities Guild has offered the staff members its moral support and has offered to become involved in their efforts if they desire it to.

The Minneapolis development has led to a meeting with John Cowles, Jr., the Tribune's president and editorial chairman, at which staff members were free to question any aspect of the way the paper is being run, and a questionnaire submitted to all staff members by Tribune Managing Editor Wallace Allen.

Allen is now following up the questionnaire by asking any interested staff members to meet privately with him to discuss their jobs and their ideas about the paper's strengths and weaknesses.

The movement, which has not yet broadened to include copy editors, began late last summer,

when a small number of reporters and photographers began meeting on Sundays to discuss their jobs. The stimulus for the meetings was some unpopular management decisions—a refusal to grant a three-year employee maternity leave and the acceptance of an advertisement that attacked the credibility of a reporter's story, among others.

Neither issue was specifically covered by the Guild's contract with the Star and Tribune Co. But a maternity-leave clause, applicable retroactively to the employee in question, was won at the bargaining table when a new
(Continued on Page 7)

The 'Corpse' That Came to Life

Newspaper Industry Seen Healthiest Ever

THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY, "long the subject of doomsday stories," has "come very much to life," making "upbeat" financial news.

On the whole, the newspaper industry "has never been healthier" and is accompanied by rising advertising and circulation revenues, bringing "a far greater return on revenues than those in other manufacturing industries."

Those are the verdicts of two of the nation's leading business magazines, the first from Forbes magazine and the second from Barron's Business and Financial Weekly, in recent articles on the health of the newspaper industry.

Deprecating contentions that newspapers are a dying industry because their number has declined since the turn of the century, Forbes said: "In the last 50 years, the number of auto manufacturers in the U.S. has dwindled from 300 to four, but nobody would call the auto industry a dying one."

"Since World War II," says Barron's, "newspapers overall have gone nowhere but up." Newspapers face a "promising outlook" and profits are headed for "higher ground," it declared.

As for problems, Forbes said, every industry has them. "It can stand a few of them when it's as profitable as the newspaper industry," Forbes added.

In short, newspapers are a "pretty lively corpse," Forbes says. Said Barron's: "The trade has come very much to life."

Much the same is true in Canada, where Marketing magazine writes that 1969 has been a "vintage

Excerpts from the Forbes article . . . Page 4

year" for dailies and indications are that they will improve—"like good wine."

THE ECONOMIC REASONS for the health of the industry are evident, says Forbes. Newspaper advertising revenues have risen from 1.9 billion dollars in 1949 to 5.3 billion—almost as much as television, radio and magazine ad revenues combined.

In addition, Forbes notes, circulation has outstripped the rise in population growth, and newspapers are bigger, carrying more pages than ever,

consuming more newsprint and employing more people than ever.

But there are some even more revealing indicators of newspaper worth, both magazines say.

If you're looking for the best indicator of how much newspapers are worth, Forbes says, "Try to buy one." Few are for sale, it concludes, quoting one newspaper broker as having "a dozen buyers for every seller."

"No one has to put up a 'For Sale' sign," it says. "People will come knocking on his door anyway."

When the Justice Department ordered E.W. Scripps to divest itself of its 60-percent interest in the Cincinnati Enquirer, Barron's reports, more than 30 publishers rushed to bid. In general, purchase prices "have swollen to heady proportions," it declares.

"One yardstick employed to estimate the value of a successful daily," Barron's says, "is about \$30 times the daily circulation figure (in a competitive area) or \$100 in a 'monopoly' situation."

(Continued on Page 5)



Deliberations Begin

ANG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., left foreground, and Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker, right, outline the situation of the International Defense Fund and review past efforts to solve the problem of strike finances at initial meeting of special ANG interim committee on

strike financing. Committee members, from left, are Thomas J. Murphy of New York, Robert A. Steinke of St. Louis, John (Ned) Sweet of San Antonio and William H. McLeman of Vancouver-New Westminster. Nick Wallace of Pittsburgh could not attend.

Finance Unit Seeks Data From Locals

Guild locals will be queried on their dues structures and solicited for suggestions on strike finances in connection with a special ANG interim committee's study of the strike-financing problem.

The committee, at its initial two-day meeting Jan. 8 and 9, asked ANG Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker to send locals a questionnaire seeking information on such matters as dues ceilings, whether dues are based on regular pay or total earnings and how many members are above the present salary cutoff of \$220 in ANG's Model Dues Schedule.

At the same time locals will be asked to submit suggestions on possible ways to meet the Guild's strike-financing problem in the light of the defeat of increased assessment schedules in two referendums.

Submitted to the committee at its initial session were proposals by the Philadelphia Guild for a taxless assessment schedule, by the North Jersey Guild for consolidating dues and assessments on a year-around basis, a Washington-Baltimore proposal with similar effect and an earlier Washington proposal for a fluctuating assessment rate.

The committee set April 9 and 10 as the tentative dates for its next meeting.

Providence Is Upheld in Ad Dispute

The National Labor Relations Board this week ordered the Providence Journal and Bulletin to bargain with the Providence Guild on commissions for newly instituted two-column classified ads.

The board, upholding a trial examiner's recommendation, ruled that the papers were guilty of an unfair labor practice when they instituted a schedule of commission payments unilaterally.

The board upheld the Guild's claim that two-column ads deserve a special monetary incentive since they contain white space and result in lower typographical costs.

Examiner Max Rosenberg had found that the company refused to bargain on the matter after reneging on an earlier promise to drop the two-column ads.

GE Donations Reach \$5,155

Contributions by Guild locals to General Electric strikers reached \$5,155.75 last week as three locals added \$600 to the total.

San Francisco-Oakland sent \$377, increasing its total contribution to \$673, Buffalo sent \$100, Rockford sent \$85 and Washington-Baltimore added \$42 contributed by members to \$579.25 previously donated.

ANG's International Executive Board donated \$15,000 from the International Defense Fund in October and asked locals to contribute the remaining \$15,000 necessary to meet the Guild's quota of \$30,000.

Senate Bill Seeks to Curb U.S. Chains

Twin moves to dull the impact of the "Newspaper Preservation Bill" and curb chain and multimedia ownership developed this week as the bill neared action on the Senate floor.

Sen. Thomas McIntyre, New Hampshire Democrat, introduced an amendment that would deny the bill's exemption from antitrust laws to any newspaper that is either owned by a chain or that itself owns a radio or television station.

McIntyre also introduced a new bill that would prohibit any publisher who owns five or more newspapers from acquiring any more and that would bar the owner of a daily newspaper from owning a radio or television station in the same community. Present multimedia owners would have to dispose of either their newspapers or their broadcast stations within three years.

McIntyre said his proposed amendments would "insure that the issue of media concentration is debated" when the "Newspaper Preservation Bill" comes onto the

floor.

Majority Leader Mike Mansfield said the bill, which would legalize price fixing, profit pooling and market splitting by jointly operated newspapers, would be among the first called up for action at the new Senate session.

Mansfield is among 34 sponsors of the bill, which received a favorable report last year from the Senate Judiciary Committee. However, Sen. Philip Hart, chairman of the committee's Antitrust Subcommittee, is prepared to lead a vigorous fight against it.

A minority report by Hart and three Democratic colleagues warned that the bill "raises the prospect of government regulation of newspapers."

"Granting special favors to newspapers carries a special danger," the report said. "If this bill passes, the ability of the press to operate and expose the special-interest groups will have been seriously compromised."

McIntyre, in announcing his proposed amendments, called on Vice President Spiro Agnew to

join in opposition to the bill "if he truly fears a concentration of the media."

"Mr. Agnew seemed far less anxious to preserve a multiplicity of voices than he was to shape the content of the single voice through which he fears the media now speaks," McIntyre said. "He seems to call for consensus reporting."

"Slowly, almost imperceptibly, our mass-communications media are falling into fewer and fewer hands. Unless we face up to the dangers such concentration entails, we may soon lose the diverse and antagonistic voices on which the welfare of our nation depends."

McIntyre said there are presently 76 communities where the only newspaper and the only radio station are under single control and 23 more where the only newspaper and the only television station are similarly held.

Twenty-four percent of the nation's television stations are owned by newspapers, he said, adding that 35 percent in the 25

largest market areas are newspaper-owned.

Half the nation's newspapers, including 19 of the 25 largest, are owned by chains, he said, adding that an average of 40 single-newspaper ownerships a year have been acquired by chains during the past decade.

"At the present rate of expansion," he said, "all of the daily newspapers in the country will be owned by chains in less than 20 years."

McIntyre said the "Newspaper Preservation Bill" — which he termed "a publishers' enrichment act" — would accelerate the trend toward concentration, discourage competitors from entering the industry, endanger editorial independence and open the door to other special favors for the media.

He predicted that opponents of his own bill would object that it interferes with press freedom.

"But the intended beneficiaries of press freedom are the news consumers, not purveyors," he declared.

FCC Stand Bolsters Newspaper Ownership

Newspaper ownership of a broadcasting station cannot be adduced as a basis for refusal to renew the station's license under a policy statement adopted by the Federal Communications Commission last week.

The statement, adopted at the

behest of the FCC's new chairman, Dean Burch, is intended to reassure broadcasters alarmed by the commission's failure to renew the Boston Herald-Traveler's television license last year. The FCC cited undue concentration of media control as one of the

grounds for that action.

The new policy statement said the commission will not entertain challenges to the licenses of stations that have "substantially" met their communities' programming needs.

Commissioner Nicholas Johnson cast a lone dissenting vote, declaring that concentration of media control and absentee ownership should be considered when licensees seek renewal.

The commission said it was still concerned about newspaper ownership of broadcasting stations but that it would resolve that issue in a general rule, not on an individual basis.

Two Washington groups, the Citizens Communications Center and Black Efforts for Soul in Television, are seeking a Federal Court injunction to block implementation of the policy. They were rebuffed by the commission when they requested a hearing.

The statement, described by the commission as a clarification of past decisions rather than a new policy, will allow competitors to file for an existing license only after a renewal is denied. Such a denial would be made only if it were shown that the licensee had "serious deficiencies."

Burch said that the statement

Chicago Dailies Fight Move To Subpena Film, Notes

Chicago, Ill.—Field's Chicago Sun-Times and Daily News are fighting a Black Panther subpoena of film, notes and other material gathered by newsmen on the Dec. 4 police raid in which two Panther leaders were slain.

Field attorneys, seeking to quash the subpoenas in Cook County Circuit Court, said the move was a "fishing expedition" and constituted a threat to the news media's independence.

Lawyers for Panther members arrested in the raid had obtained subpoenas for "all photographs, film videotape and sound recordings, whether or not broadcast, and all documents, notes, drafts, manuscripts, memoranda and other written matter."

The Daily News termed the subpoenas "yet another harass-

ment of local media, now the subject of so many subpoenas that TV news directors are threatening to paper their walls with the documents."

Earlier, federal and county officials had subpoenaed film and tape on the October demonstrations by SDS Weathermen. Chicago newspapers turned over pictures and copies of issues carrying stories on the disturbances, pointing out that they could have been obtained without subpoenas.

ANG's 1969 Convention urged publishers to resist "fishing expeditions" into their files by law-enforcement bodies in order to prevent news gatherers from being made "arms of the court in such a manner as to impair their usefulness as news gatherers."

Press Curb Challenged In Ontario

Brantford, Ont.—A Toronto Guild attorney charged in court last week that an Ontario law forbidding policemen from communicating on police matters with the press was unconstitutional.

The attorney, Desmond Morton, made the claim on behalf of Brantford Expositor Guildsman John White, an editorial writer who is fighting a subpoena to testify in a police trial of two constables.

The constables are accused of sending a letter printed by the Expositor in which the Ontario Police Commission was accused of concealing some of the results of an inquiry into criminal activities among Brantford policemen.

White, subpoenaed to testify about the letter's authenticity, contended during an earlier appearance in December that he should not be compelled to divulge his sources of information. He argued that the Expositor's public-service function would be impaired if he were forced to give evidence about letters to the editor.

Judge R. H. Fair said he was not inclined to accept White's position but gave him additional time to consult with Guild counsel. The Guild engaged Morton, a professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, to represent White.

Morton contended when the hearing resumed Jan. 13 that the Police Act clause under which the constables are being tried represents an indirect attempt to censor what a publisher can print about police matters. He likened it to an outlawed 1938 statute in which the former Social Credit government of Alberta tried to deprive newspapers of sources of information on vital public matters.

The judge reserved decision on Morton's argument, stating that he hoped to have a ruling before the constables' trial resumes Jan. 27.

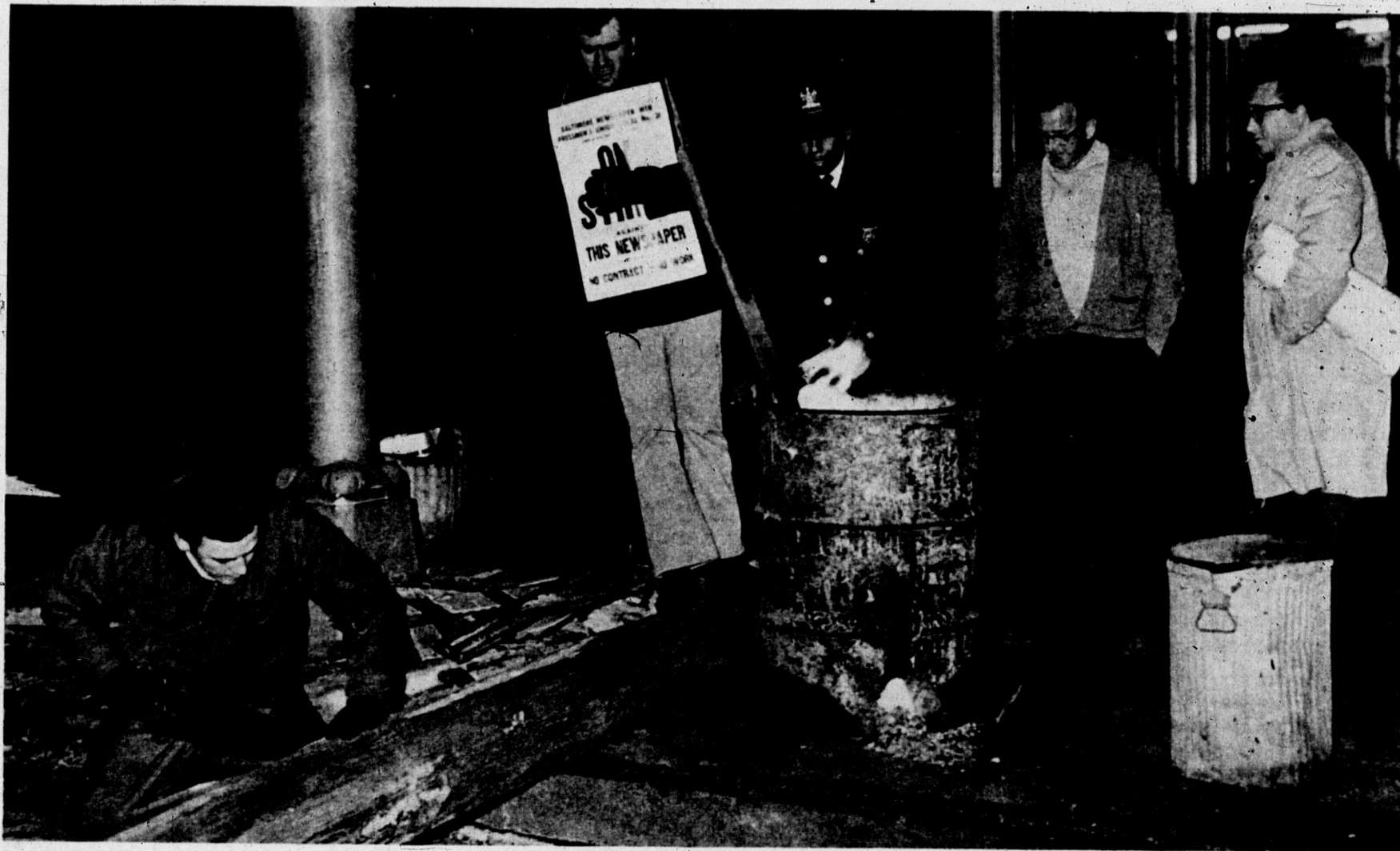
Guild Moves To Add 200 To CBC Unit

Ottawa, Ont.—The Canadian Wire Service Guild has filed petitions to represent 202 administrative and clerical employees of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in Ottawa, Toronto and St. John's, Nfld.

ANG International Representative Robert J. Rupert, acting on behalf of the local, submitted petitions to the Canada Labour Relations Board on behalf of 135 employees in Toronto, 39 in Ottawa and 28 in St. John's. They are members of what CBC terms its "confidential department."

Their addition would more than double the size of the Guild's present unit of news-service employees.

The petitions are in addition to an earlier one seeking bargaining rights for 23 information-department employees in Toronto. CBC resisted that petition at a board hearing Jan. 12, claiming that the employees are "producers" and that it has a contract covering them with the Toronto Television Producers Association.



Air Pollution?

Local Representative David Graham, right, of the Washington-Baltimore Guild and John (Ned) Sweet, second from right, president of the San Antonio Guild, look on as a striking Baltimore pressman cuts wood for a fire to keep pickets warm in near-zero cold. Publisher

complaints to the Health Department that the fires were creating air pollution had them doused for a day until union protests brought a reversal. Sweet went to Baltimore to help picket while in Washington for a meeting of ANG's special interim committee on strike finances.

Talks Deadlocked in Baltimore Strike

Baltimore, Md. — Negotiations continued deadlocked this week as a Pressmen's shutdown of the Baltimore Sun and News American ended its third week.

Two days of bargaining last week and another this week produced no progress. The Pressmen said in a bulletin that the two sides were no closer to agreement than they were at the start of the strike.

There were these other developments in the shutdown:

- Five hundred newspaper unionists, including from 75 to 100 Washington - Baltimore Guildsmen, picketed the Maryland Department of Employment Security office in protest against its tentative denial of benefits to nonstriking employees idled by the strike.

- City and state AFL-CIO councils announced their support of the Pressmen.

- The Guild filed suit to collect wages due members for work performed before the strike.

- The city imposed a ban on

trash-can fires used to keep pickets warm after a complaint by the publishers, then rescinded it after union protests.

The Pressmen met with management Jan. 13 and 15 at the union's international office in Washington, with Pressmen's President Anthony J. DeAndrade sitting in. But only two or three of 20 outstanding issues were discussed, and the union said there was no progress on these.

Subcommittees were set up this week in an effort to move bargaining forward after a lengthy session Jan. 19 failed to produce progress.

The publishers also continued bargaining with the Typographical and International Mailers' unions, which are not on strike but whose members are observing the picket lines.

The unions turned out their members in force at the Employment Security office Jan. 19 after unemployment benefits were denied to members idled by the strike.

The unions charged that their members were cut off at the behest of the News American while members of an independent union of editorial and commercial-department employees at the Hearst paper were being paid. They, too, were later cut off.

Members of the independent union originally honored the picket lines, but accounting employees and some 20 editorial employees subsequently honored a management call to work.

Hearings will be held on the dispute for each union involved.

The Guild, meanwhile, filed a claim in People's Court for back wages. It charged that Sunpapers management had refused to pay Guild members the money due them unless they entered the struck plant to collect it.

Supervisors made a series of calls to Guild employees in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade them to return to work.

A number of Guild members were taking part-time jobs as the strike continued. Baltimore's educational television station,

WMPB-TV, hired 10 reporters to handle expanded news coverage, and a dozen members went to work at national Social Security headquarters here.

Pickets, marching in near-zero weather early in the month, were bitter when the City Health Department responded to a publisher complaint by ordering them to extinguish warming fires they had ignited in empty trash cans. The city said the fires violated ordinances against open burning and air pollution.

But the next day, after a Guild bulletin protested that "a man can die a lot sooner from pneumonia than from the smoke produced by a few warming braziers," it rescinded the order.

Support for the strike was voiced by Charles A. Della, president of the Maryland State AFL-CIO, and Dominic Fornaro, president of the Baltimore Council of AFL-CIO Unions.

The publishers have rejected a Pressmen's demand for parity with Washington Pressmen's scales. Donald Patterson, vice president and general manager of the Sunpapers, said "the situations of the two cities are totally different."

Patterson blamed the Guild for

what he termed "a complete about-face" in labor relations in the Baltimore newspaper industry, stating that before the Guild's 1965 strike at the Sunpapers the unions had always continued bargaining past the expiration of their contracts.

The Pressmen struck after theirs expired Dec. 31.

The Guild accused William Schmick, who is president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association as well as the Sunpapers, of commitment to a course of "fighting unions rather than attempting to bargain with them in good faith."

An around-the-clock kitchen is being maintained in Guild headquarters, serving soup, coffee, hot dogs and occasionally such gourmet fare as sour beef, sauerkraut and hot German potato salad to pickets.

The Guild reported initial contributions of \$750 from other locals, including \$500 from Seattle-Tacoma, \$100 from Boston, and \$50 each from San Jose, Wilkes-Barre and Rockford. It issued an appeal to other locals for contributions this week, declaring that "the Pressmen's fight is our fight, and winning it here may cause your publisher to plead no contest."

New 'Hot-Line' Procedure In Strikes Urged by ANG

ANG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., this month proposed a new "hot-line" procedure under which the Guild and other newspaper unions would keep each other informed about potential strike situations.

Perlik announced in a letter to the presidents of six other unions that ANG would henceforth send advisory notices to them whenever a Guild strike vote is taken, along with the date and time of the strike deadline if one has been set. He voiced hope that the other unions would reciprocate.

Initial positive responses came

from John J. Pilch, president of the International Typographical Union, and Anthony J. DeAndrade, president of the Pressmen's Union.

Letters were also sent to presidents of the Stereotypers', Lithographers' and Photoengravers', Teamsters' and International Mailers' unions.

Perlik said the purpose of the suggestion was the same as that of similar proposals made in the past: to acquaint all who might be affected by a strike of its possibility "in time for their response to be effective and maximum."

Kill the obituary! The corpse

"Of course," he said. "It is really worth a hell of a lot more than I ever decided to sell, and that's why I would, I'd do it all over more."

Another publisher

is very much alive

Walter B. Kerr, for Santa Fe New Mexican, just how many had preceding year. The nation's 1,749 dailies, of 1968 only 18 se 55 papers, eight had n 5,000; 13 were in the et; 17 in the 10,000-to-4 in the 25,000-to-50,-

243 papers in the U.S. an 50,000 to more than this two-year period," e said, was not because e buyers but "because n-to-large enterprises are

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LY ARE in a position to a newspaper than non- is is because they know hope to make consider- newspaper than someone it. The newspaper they fit in with the properties purchasing it, they may monopoly of a circulation all, buying other newspa- lishers to retain earnings

without paying excess-profit taxes; the tax laws view it as a legitimate form of expansion, and therefore publishers can use retained earnings for this purpose.

Almost invariably, therefore, when a newspaper changes hands it goes to another publisher. That is why newspaper chains are growing. Almost half the newspapers in the U.S. are now owned by chains.

From the few hard-and-fast statistics that have become public, newspapers seem to sell usually for about twice revenues; that is, E&P's typical medium-city newspaper should be worth about 10 million dollars. However, there are papers that have gone for three and even four times revenues.

Publisher Wishard Brown of the San Rafael Independent-Journal says he knows of a paper roughly in the same class as his that sold four years ago for 12 million dollars. Brown's paper last year had revenues of 4.5 million dollars. Assuming that four years ago the paper he's talking about had revenues of 4 million dollars, this means it went for three times revenues. Brown says:

"The price some papers are going for, regardless of what price I put on mine, somebody would pay it."

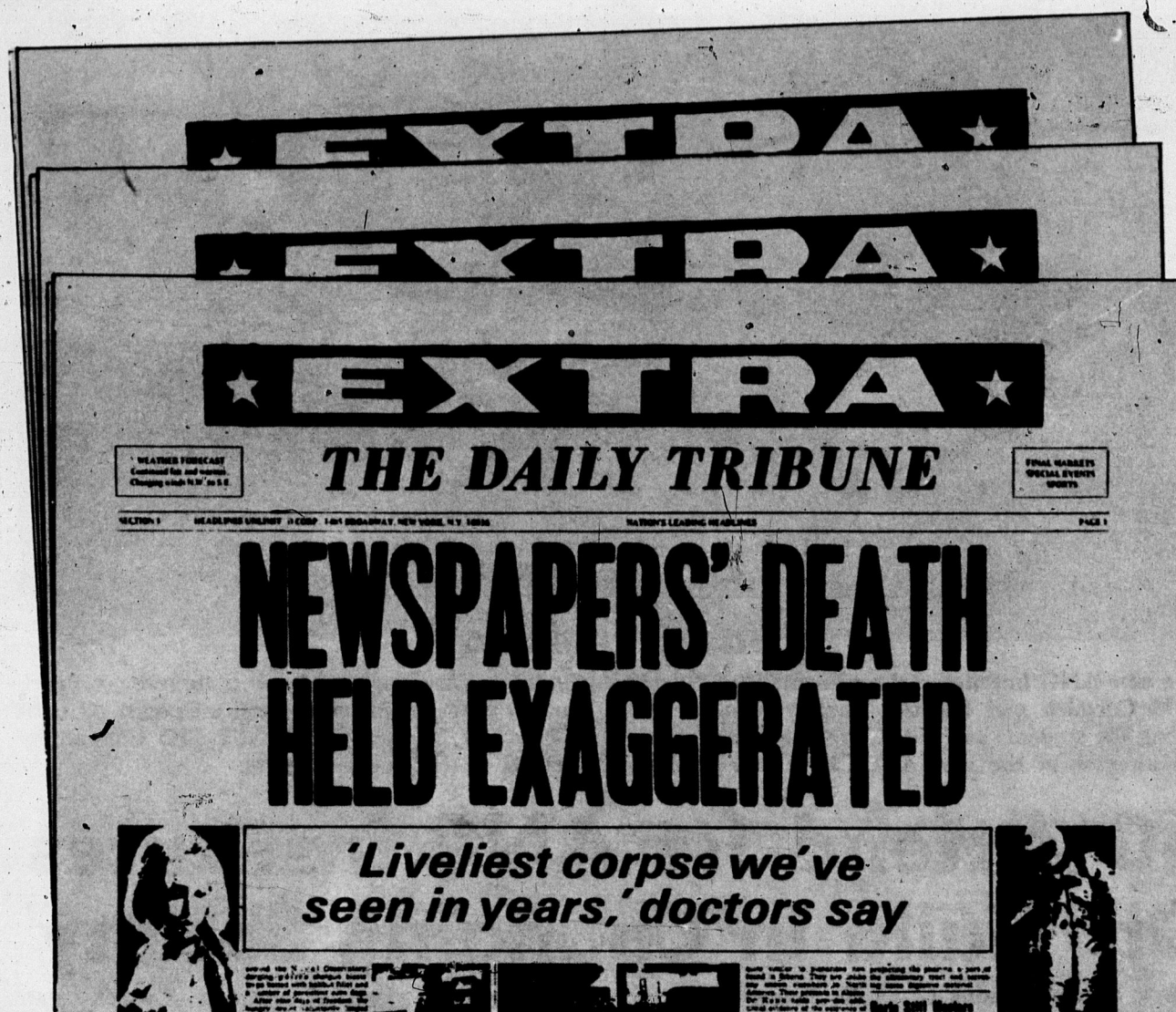
There is a reason for these prices:

Monopoly is the key to profitability in the newspaper industry generally. The industry today is healthier than ever before precisely because the number of newspapers in the U.S. declined from 1920 through 1945. It left the industry what William Loeb, the maverick right-winger, who publishes the Manchester (N.H.) Union-Leader, calls "an unregulated public utility."

In most communities, one publisher owns all the dailies in the county. Elsewhere, one publisher may own the morning paper while another owns the evening paper; they compete but they do not compete head-on.

In many cases, these monopolies extend far beyond the cities where the newspapers are published. Gannett's monopoly extends for 100 miles in every direction from Cape Kennedy. Media General's Richmond, Va., newspapers blanket 40 counties. The Allentown (Pa.) Call-Chronicle Co.'s newspapers blanket nine counties. Loeb has the only Sunday paper in the whole state of New Hampshire.

Many newspaper publishers, though not all, hate that word, "monopoly." Says Don Miller [of the Call-Chronicle]: "What monopoly? Why, the Philadelphia Inquirer comes into my circulation area, and so does the New York Times. I have radio and television stations



Reproduced from Forbes magazine

competing with me, and the weeklies are tough competition, too."

Such talk cannot be taken seriously. And the reason is the very same reason the newspaper industry has been able to prosper despite the miracles of the electronic age. They serve a purpose no other medium can.

IN SIMPLE FACT, the only real competition metropolitan newspapers have comes from suburban newspapers; the only real competitors small-city newspapers have are the surrounding weeklies. And both the metropolitan newspapers and the small-city newspapers have been meeting this challenge. They are buying suburban newspapers; they are publishing special editions that can compete with the weeklies both in specialized news and in advertising; they are publishing weekly inserts geared to a particular community as part of their regular editions.

Profitable as newspapers are today, the chances are they will be more profitable still in the years to come. For they are discovering the 20th Century. For one thing, they have learned that electronics can be added to printing to make the manufacture of newspapers more efficient and less expensive.

Along with the virtues of technological development the newspaper industry also has discovered the virtues of public ownership. Although most newspapers still are privately owned, an increasing number are going public.

One reason is the problem of inheritance

taxes. Another, says Chairman Tennant Bryan of Media General, "is the fact that families have a tendency to proliferate. You take a newspaper owned by the same family for three generations. Just think of how many descendants there are. Ownership and control have become so fragmented that going public is a necessity."

A third reason is the expansion of the chains: This requires more money than many of them have; the stock market is the place to get it.

Media General's Alan Donnahoe believes that "public ownership eventually is going to give us more profitable newspapers because stockholders won't stand for the sloppiness and inefficiency of some publishers who are now answerable to nobody but themselves."

The newspaper industry does, of course, have problems. In the larger cities, the labor unions have been a perennial problem, for they have resisted technological change. The Anti-trust Division of the Justice Department is a major problem, too, for it has become increasingly concerned about the lack of competition in the industry. It has won a court decree against an agreement by the morning and evening newspapers in Tucson, Ariz., to operate jointly, sell advertising jointly and pool profits. This could destroy similar agreements in 22 other cities.

Problems? Every industry has problems. It can stand a few of them when it's as profitable as the newspaper industry.

paper Industry Seen in Healthiest Condition Ever

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price some papers are going for, regardless of what price I put on mine, somebody would pay it."

"Currently," Barron's adds, "publishers are beating the bushes seeking independent owners who may want to sell."

MORE AND MORE newspapers are switching from family or private ownership to public ownership—and the trend will continue, Forbes and Barron's agree.

This means, of course, that the public is getting a peek at newspaper profits, formerly hidden from view.

It also means that newspaper publishers are under more pressure to increase their profitability, whether by expanding or by operating more efficiently, the two magazines agree.

Barron's says that expansion-minded publishers "will pay what seems a highly inflated price for a family-run newspaper, on the assumption that improved methods will boost the latter's earnings enough to make the deal, eventually,

a bargain."

Forbes quotes a Media General (formerly Richmond Newspapers) executive who believes that "public ownership eventually is going to give us more profitable newspapers because stockholders won't stand for the sloppiness and inefficiency of some publishers who are now answerable to nobody but themselves."

"Finally," Barron's reports, "publishers, long suspicious of outsiders, are discovering at last that the open disclosure of highly profitable returns—far from hurting their image—greatly enhances it as well as the equity behind it."

EVERY INDICATION, THEN, is that the newspaper business is highly profitable. But, why it is so profitable goes beyond the rising circulation and ad-revenue figures, the two magazines agree.

"Monopoly is the key to profitability in the newspaper industry generally," writes Forbes.

"The industry today is healthier than ever before precisely because the number of newspapers in the U.S. declined from 1920 through 1945," it declares.

Dailies in 97 percent of the nation's 1,500 cities "enjoy a 'monopoly' status," Barron's says, adding that "the 'monopoly' paper in a suburb is particularly attractive."

"Perhaps the classic example of the benefits enjoyed from a near-monopoly position is the New York Times, now the only standard-sized general paper in town," Barron's says. When a stockholder "unappeased by a four-year earnings jump to \$1.64 a share from 46 cents" asked Publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger why the Times couldn't strive to become more of a regional newspaper, Sulzberger replied that the Times already has a substantial circulation in Boston.

A West Coast example of growth is the Los Angeles Times, Barron's adds, citing the fact that a recent Orange County edition, "which management hoped to see in the black within two

years, broke even within a couple of months."

The situation in Canada is also rosy, with an industry spokesman estimating that the next five years should be the most successful ever for newspaper advertising in Canada, according to Marketing. Steven Sohmer, vice president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, said during a speaking tour in Canada that ad dollars lost to television in recent years were beginning to return to newspapers, Marketing reports.

Clyde McDonald, general manager of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association, predicts an ad-lineage increase of nine percent, or 10 million lines this year, an increase he terms "fantastic." McDonald added that there has been a 10-percent rise in Canadian newspaper ad revenues, up seven million dollars.

The portrait painted by Barron's and Forbes depicts a thriving, growing industry that has achieved, as Barron's puts it, "Pi in the sky."



Basic Training

Two new ANG international representatives, Harry L. McCormick and Richard Ramsey, center, are among the students as Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director of the new AFL-CIO Labor Studies

Center in Washington, opens a three-week development program for union staff members. At right is Bobbie J. Creque of the AFL-CIO Community Services Activities Department.

60 Attend 1st ANG Institutes On 'Guild in Changing Society'

Sixty members from 17 Guild locals participated in discussions of "The Guild in a Changing Society" at the first two 1970 ANG regional weekend institutes this month.

The institutes, subtitled "An inquiry into some central problems and attitudes of the 1970s... and how they relate to Guild bargaining, organizing and social and political action," were held Jan. 10 and 11 in Canton, Ohio, and Jan. 17 and 18 in Chicago. The Pennsylvania-Ohio-Indiana and Midwest district councils were the respective sponsors.

Led by Ellis T. Baker, ANG director of administrative operations, and James Cesnik, director of research and information, participants spent separate sessions discussing "the young worker and his union," "press responsibilities and newspapermen's rights" and means of implementing Guild policies for recruiting and training minority-group members for jobs in Guild jurisdiction.

Baker said the institutes are one way ANG is undertaking to implement a 1969 Convention recommendation for solicitation of "local and individual-member suggestions on ways... to more effectively encourage work toward achievement of the Guild's human-rights and political and social-action goals as well as the Guild's constitutional goals of guaranteeing 'as far as it is able,

constant honesty in the news' and raising the standards and ethics of the industry."

The next two institutes in the 1970 series will be held in San Diego Feb. 7 and 8 under sponsorship of the Western District Council and in Vancouver Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. The Vancouver institute is being held for Guild locals in the Pacific Northwest, and all locals in the area have been invited to attend.

An institute sponsored by the Empire State District Council is scheduled for Washington, D.C., Feb. 21 and 22.

The Midwest District Council, at its business meeting, endorsed "in principle" a proposal for the creation of a "voluntary action program" to operate "parallel to the local Guild structure" in the "areas usually considered within the Guild's Research and Information program."

Drafted by Arthur Gorlick, a 1969 Chicago convention delegate, and endorsed by the Chicago Local and its executive board Jan. 14, the proposal calls for having the local programs financed by "voluntary contributions outside of current sources of Guild revenue." Local officers would be "ex officio leaders" of the groups and ANG regional vice presidents would be the "first ranking elected officer" with "official leadership capacity and responsibility for the program."

After hearing Gorlick state that he was not "wedded" to any of the proposal's details, the council endorsed it in principle, put over further action on it to the next meeting and instructed its council secretary to circulate copies of the five-page document to leaders of all council locals for actions, comments or suggestions.

The Midwest Council elected Robert A. Steinke of St. Louis as president, Irv Kreisman of Madison as vice president, International Vice President George McCormick of Twin Cities as secretary, and James K. Meyers of Kenosha as treasurer.

The POI Council voted to contribute \$100 each to the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner strike and Baltimore Guildsmen who are honoring Pressmen's picket lines.

Robert Gilson of Erie was re-elected president of the council, Clarence Middendorf of Columbus was re-elected secretary, Dorothy Sain of Cleveland was re-elected treasurer, Paul Covert of Buffalo was elected first vice president, and William Lee of Toledo was elected second vice president.

Raymond Hill of Buffalo served notice that he will move at the next meeting to amend the council's by-laws to limit its president to two consecutive terms, with the incumbent excepted.

The POI Council set its next meeting for Columbus in May.

37 More Advertisers Quit Hearst As L.A. Strikers Press Boycott

Los Angeles, Calif.—A total of 37 local advertisers agreed to discontinue advertising in Hearst's struck Los Angeles Herald-Examiner last month as members of striking and locked-out unions stepped up their advertising boycott.

The December pull-out rate was described as above average by the Joint Strike-Lockout Council.

Advertising lineage in the struck daily continued to slump during November, according to Media Records, which found total lineage down 157,103 from the same month last year.

Los Angeles newspaper unions last week sent a telegram chastising Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty after Yorty asked Gov. Reagan to make a "stronger effort" to settle a three-week strike at Santa Anita Race Track.

ANG International Representative Charles Dale, speaking for the strikers, said they applauded Yorty's concern over the Santa Anita strike but suggested that he express equal concern over the two-year-old Herald-Examiner strike. Dale said that while 2,000 striking and locked-out Herald-Examiner unionists are suffering financial hardships, they would be willing to raise the money for a Yorty telegram to end the Hearst strike.

A \$3,000 contribution from the United Steelworkers helped bolster the union's Strike-Lockout Fund. Another \$750 was sent by the Los Angeles District Council of Printing Specialty and Paper Products workers.

A strike-lockout fund-raising party at the Hollywood Palladium Jan. 16 netted an additional \$2,000. Six hundred persons at-

tended the party, at which Los Angeles County AFL-CIO President Irving Mazzei was master of ceremonies. They were entertained by members of the movie industry and the Musicians' Union.

Additional contributions to the Los Angeles Guild strike fund totaled \$1,250. Recent contributions include the following:

Cincinnati Guild	\$ 50
Erie Guild	25
Middle Atlantic District Council	100
Philadelphia Guild	100
Sacramento Guild	200
San Francisco-Oakland Guild	1,200
San Jose Guild	500
Washington-Baltimore Guild	75
Wilkes-Barre Guild	100
St. Louis Guild	250
San Diego Guild	54
Seattle-Tacoma Guild	1,000
Bakersfield Guild	116
Columbus Guild	75
Kenosha Guild	25
Pittsburgh Guild	100
Stockton Guild	50
Toledo Guild	50
Vancouver-New Westminster Guild	150

The latest contributions bring total donations to \$172,412.

THE SHORT



OF IT

Emergency? What Emergency?

So-called "national-emergency disputes" often don't create any emergency at all, the U.S. Labor Department has found.

Secretary of Labor George P. Shultz this month released the results of a study showing that "three longshoremen's strikes in which emergency Taft-Hartley procedures were invoked actually had "no visible impact" on the economy. Shultz said the study bore out the conclusion of an earlier report on the 1959 steel strike that "the impact of strikes on the economy are usually seriously exaggerated."

The study of the longshoremen's strikes disclosed that they affected neither industrial production, retail sales nor total employment and that they had no long-term effect on the nation's foreign trade.

Bagdikian Back in the Traces

Ben Bagdikian, president of the Mellett Fund for a Free and Responsible Press and writer on press performance and social problems, is back in newspaper harness.

Bagdikian has joined the Washington Post as national editor as part of a reshuffle in which ANG International Vice President Joe Holt Anderson, Jr., has moved from editor of the Post's Sunday magazine section to night national editor.

Bagdikian, a former Guild member at the Providence Journal and contributing editor of the old Saturday Evening Post, has most recently been engaged in a study of the press for the Rand Corp. in California.



Bagdikian

Barker Elected in New England

John F. Barker, president of the Manchester Guild, was elected chairman of the board of representatives of ANG's New England Serving-Organizing Program at an organization meeting in Boston Jan. 11. Irving Murphy of Brockton was elected secretary. Each of the participating locals—Boston, Manchester, Portland and Brockton—will have two representatives on the board, as will ANG.

Hearst Gets No for an Answer

The National Labor Relations Board has refused a request by Hearst's Albany papers for review of a decision dismissing their petition for a representation election among 50 employees of the Schenectady Union-Star. The Albany Guild has claimed bargaining rights for the 50, who became Hearst employees when the Albany papers absorbed the Union-Star last year. . . . A decertification election will be held Jan. 30 at Gannett's Yonkers Herald-Statesman, where the New York Guild won bargaining rights three years ago by a single vote. . . . The NLRB has dismissed a Connecticut Guild charge that dismissal of a Hartford Times employee was prompted by his Guild organizing activity. A charge of interfering with Guild organizing efforts is still open.

It's No Joke

Watch those Polish jokes, management has been warned.

Telling one in the presence of a Polish-born employee constitutes disparate treatment under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has ruled, even if those telling the jokes are of Polish descent themselves.

The commission, finding that a first-line supervisor was aware of the incidents and the employee's sensitivity, said it "cannot regard the tolerance of ridicule of national origin as either a common or allowable condition of employment."

Teamsters Break Even

An NLRB trial examiner has recommended dismissal of a Teamsters' union charge that the Detroit Evening News committed an unfair labor practice by denying vacation credits for the period in which the union was on strike in 1967-68. But he recommended that the company be found guilty of a violation in telling the union it would not comply with an arbitrator's award of vacation credits from the time the Teamsters settled their contract in March until the strike ended in August unless the union withdrew the NLRB charge.

ANG Mourns Rancourt, CLC Leader

ANG executive officers last week sent a message of condolence to the Canadian Labour Congress on the death of Gerard Rancourt, CLC executive vice president.

Rancourt died in Montreal Jan. 12 after a lengthy illness. International Representative Robert J. Rupert represented ANG at the funeral Jan. 16.

Expressing sorrow at Rancourt's death, President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., and Secretary-

Treasurer Robert M. Crocker said in a wire that "his service to the working men and women of Canada and throughout North America will long be remembered with gratitude."

Rancourt had been CLC executive vice president since May 1968. He served earlier as secretary of the Quebec Federation of Labour, a regional director for the Textile Workers and a representative for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Tribune Staffers Ask Editorial Policy Say

(Continued from Page 1)
contract was negotiated late last year.

A letter from the Tribune's editor, expressing confidence in the reporter whose work was attacked in the advertisement, was published after a grievance was filed. Both followed petitions and demonstrations of support by newsroom members during Guild bargaining.

Discussions of these specific complaints soon broadened to deal with a general feeling of dissatisfaction with the way the Tribune was being run. And, the number of participants in the discussions increased.

Some of the criticisms voiced by staff members were that insufficient and inconsistent direction was being given reporters and that some areas of news coverage were being slighted. The most frequently heard complaint, however, was that staffers were not being consulted about management decisions — and often were not even told of them before they were put into effect.

Four staff members asked for a meeting with top management to discuss the dissatisfaction. But the day their request was to have been delivered, Bower Hawthorne, the Tribune's editor, issued a memo inviting any interested members to a meeting with him.

There were two meetings with Hawthorne late last year, then one with Cowles and Hawthorne Jan. 10. Discussion failed to focus on any single key issue, and most staff members felt they were

inconclusive. More such meetings are to be held, however.

Allen's questionnaire seemed to be equally inconclusive. It was returned by 47 out of slightly more than 100 Tribune staff members, and no consensus was apparent from the returns.

Some questionnaires were highly critical of management, which was called indifferent, remote and clumsy in handling employees. Others cited management fairness and willingness to try new ideas and respond to the staff.

Asked to list the Tribune's five major problems, 20 of the 47 listed low staff morale, indicating that they knew something was wrong even if they couldn't agree on what it was. Too small a staff and insufficient resources for the news operation were listed by 17, and poor communications between management and staff was listed by 16.

Allen, in a summary of the returned questionnaires, noted that the staff had indicated a desire to make the Tribune a better newspaper, a conviction that it needs more manpower and space for news, a doubt that the company shares its commitment to a better paper and a desire for more information on policy.

"Some of you feel strongly that staff members should play a part in policy-making and decision-making," Allen said. "You do not wish to run the newspaper, but you would like to be consulted on what is done and informed in advance of both major and minor decisions."

Canadian Papers Hit On Hiring of Natives

Ottawa, Ont.—Canada's newspapers and broadcasting stations have failed to either hire Indians, Eskimos and Metis or deal adequately with their problems, the Special Senate Committee on the Mass Media has been told.

Grievances of the nation's native peoples against the media were presented in a brief by the National Indian Brotherhood of Canada, the Indian-Eskimo Association of Canada and the Canadian Metis Society.

"Many native people view the media as basically white-oriented, controlled and dominated," they said. "They feel that the media people are not exhibiting a genuine interest in their concerns and aspirations, as they seem reluctant to hire Indian staff and train Indian people."

"As a result, a large credibility gap is developing, and the cultural gulf persists."

The brief said that very few

broadcasting stations, except the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.'s Northern Service, employ natives.

"A number of radio, television and press outlets are serving areas of the country where there are large Indian populations," it said. "Rarely does one find these outlets hiring native people or establishing in-service training opportunities."

...Canada Curb

(Continued from Page 1)
clared.

Henry said the Combines Investigation Branch has made eight inquiries into newspaper mergers, an interest he termed "quite active" in comparison with inquiries made in other industries.

In monopoly situations, Henry said, a press council with public representation might provide the necessary stimulus to balance "the lack of competition that newspapers need."

Tax Memo

In computing income tax, U.S. Guild members may deduct all Guild dues and assessments paid last year. Canadian members may deduct only dues.

There were 12 ANG assessments in 1969, in amounts depending on salary.

Assessments in January and February were based on a scale ranging from \$2.75 to \$10, while those from March through December ranged from \$1 to \$6.



The Final Word

The names of George E. Connell, left, general manager of the Manchester Union Leader, and Manchester Guild President John F. Barker go on a new contract raising key top minimums \$43.50.

National Press Center Advocated In Report to Violence Commission

(Continued from Page 1)

the Federal Communications Commission should scrutinize carefully all mergers, license applications and license transfers which would result in greater concentration of media ownership.

"While generally we do not believe that it is feasible to significantly deconcentrate the industry, we do believe that, except in cases of above-average performance, license renewals by television stations affiliated with a newspaper in the same community should be granted only on the condition that the station or newspaper is sold within the next three years."

The report recommended that the government also "stay abreast of new technological developments in the communications industry . . . to assure that further concentration of control does not occur."

The report decried police violence directed at newsmen, declaring that "under no circumstances can policy justify the confiscation of film, notes or audio tapes." Nor, it added, "is there any excuse for the destruction of equipment or the use of force against a reporter unless he is resisting arrest."

"This problem has confronted reporters for a long time," it said. "If the present Federal Civil Rights Act proves inadequate, consideration should be given to enacting the necessary amendments."

"Police violence of the kind in Chicago clearly generates a threat to the gathering of news for transmission in interstate commerce, and it impairs the most fundamental of an American's civil rights—his First Amendment right to know."

The report said that "the increased level of violence in the country today is partially owing to the sluggish response of our

institutions to social change." But it added that "the press shares in this sluggishness, and an important part of its inadequacy is the inability of new and different voices to gain routine and peaceful access to the centralized news media."

One of the functions of the study group's proposed media center would be to establish procedures to help "significant dissident groups" receive news coverage.

The study group said the center should also "monitor practices and trends in media employment" and declared that "the impact of economic concentration should be an intensive, continuing concern of the center."

The report noted that the proposal for an independent

agency to appraise press performance was originally made 22 years ago by the Hutchins Commission on Freedom of the Press and was met with "widespread public scorn and bitter media indignation."

But it said there is today "a clear need" for such a center, "independent of both media and government and responsible to the people."

The center would have a governing board of prominent public figures, a media-advisory board of media representatives and a research board of "academic specialists"—all three appointed by the President.

Funds to support the center's operations would come principally from contributions to be solicited by a nationwide advertising campaign.

Press Councils Are Needed, Bend Publisher Declares

Seattle, Wash. — There are "compelling reasons for the establishment of local press councils in every city capable of supporting a daily newspaper," according to a publisher whose paper has operated under the scrutiny of a council initiated by a grant from the Mellett Fund for a Free and Responsible Press.

But Robert W. Chandler, publisher of the Bend (Ore.) Bulletin, told the Allied Daily Newspapers of Washington this month that a national press council would not be workable because there are no national newspapers in this country except the Wall Street Journal.

Chandler said he found there are residents of Bend who are "perfectly capable of judging the Bulletin's performance in those areas of accuracy, fair play and equal access with which we are

concerned."

"There are equally competent persons in every city in the land large enough to support a daily newspaper," he added.

The Bend council, he said, has made the Bulletin a better newspaper, more attentive to details and facts and more aware of the interpretation that readers can put on seemingly clear news stories.

"What we have done over the past three years," Chandler declared, "is to create a knowledgeable, literate, articulate group of citizens who meet regularly to put our performance under a microscope. They do not tell us what they think of the way we run it. They accept, and seek, complaints from readers about our performance and tell us whether they think the readers are right."

Strike Deadline Set in Boston

Boston, Mass.—Guildsmen at the Boston Herald Traveler were set to strike at 6 p.m. tomorrow if no agreement on a new contract was reached.

The unit voted to set the strike deadline by a vote of 129 to 23 after rejecting a company proposal at a meeting Jan. 18. ANG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., granted strike approval the next day.

The Guild's old contract expired Dec. 31.

Bill Would Bar False Ads

The Federal Trade Commission would be empowered to obtain court injunctions restraining misleading advertising campaigns under President Nixon's proposed Consumer Protection Act.

The bill, which bars such practices as "bait-and-switch" selling and misrepresentation of brands and quality, would allow the FTC to seek a court order freezing controversial advertising while its legality is being determined.

The bill would also broaden the FTC's authority, to enable it to act against local as well as national sales campaigns.

A second administration bill, which would authorize the development of federal product-testing standards, would make false ads about meeting these standards punishable by fines of \$5,000 for individuals and \$50,000 for companies. The penalties would not apply to media publishing the

ads unless they knowingly participated in the deception.

Among the advertising practices that would be outlawed are offering a product for sale with no intention of selling it as offered or of supplying a reasonably expectable public demand, misrepresenting the quality or newness of a product, misrepresenting price reductions or misrepresenting the performance of advertised products.

Editorial

The Hunter and the Hunted

Hearings on the Canadian newspaper industry have opened predictably, with the hunters opposing game laws and the rabbits calling for protection.

Publishers of most chain newspapers appearing before the Special Senate Committee on the Mass Media argued against any legislation to curb monopoly in the media. Publishers of most independent papers called for laws to protect them from absorption by the chains.

A Montreal editor, Claude Ryan, went one step further, stating that a newspaper should be owned at least partly by members of the community it serves. He suggested that owners be obliged to seek a fair price from a local buyer before being allowed to sell to someone outside the community—a variant on a long-standing Guild proposal that a publisher be required to put his paper on the block at fair market value before being permitted to sell out to a competitor.

If steps are not taken to limit the number of papers that can be owned by a chain, Ryan said, there would soon be no competition except among "the big three or four."

Spokesmen for the Thomson chain surprised no one by defending chain ownership. St. Clair McCabe, Thomson's vice president and general manager, demonstrated that the poverty of publisher arguments against antitrust legislation knows no national boundaries; he waved the flag of press freedom against any government intervention.

Monopoly ownership, of course, is much more than a matter of intramural interest among publishers. The public as well as newspaper employees are affected when media control comes under control of a handful of owners.

The point was underlined last week when a study group for the U.S. National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence felt called upon to include a call for the elimination of multimedia ownership in its recommendations on "Violence and the Media." It stressed the importance of "multiple voices" in allowing dissident groups adequate access to the public.

It's not likely that the wheels can be reversed and chain ownership or monopoly rolled back very far, either in Canada or the United States. But it ought to be possible to apply the brakes.

The Mailman Cometh...Late

Wonder why it takes the Guild Reporter as long as three weeks to arrive at your door?

Ask the Post Office Department. It is responsible for a mail service so generally bad the New York Times said recently that "Pony Express was faster."

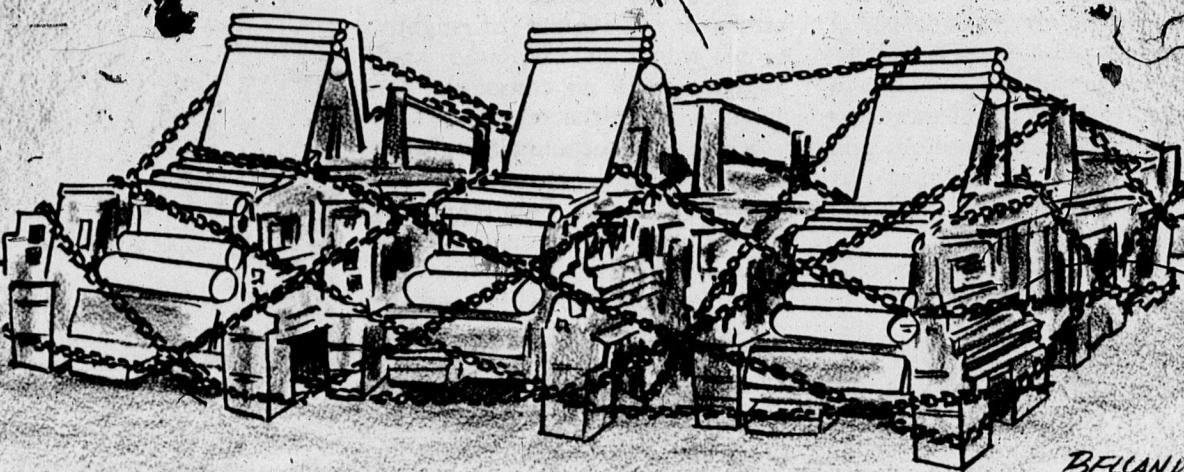
Life magazine recently conducted its own study of mail service, mailing 3,500 letters to and from 22 U.S. cities. It found service to be "intolerably slow" and "poor by any standard."

Editor & Publisher, a magazine that gets more expedited postal service than the GR because it is a weekly, found that its delivery was as much as a week late in December, bringing an "unprecedented number" of reader complaints. Time, Sports Illustrated and Broadcasting magazines had similar troubles, E&P said.

Memo to Postmaster General Blount: Get a horse. If it worked for Pony Express, maybe it will work for you.

"At the present rate of expansion, all of the daily newspapers in the country will be owned by chains in less than 20 years."

—Sen. Thomas McIntyre



BELLAND
ANG

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

Sea of Confusion Engulfs Nixon's New Budget

By WILLARD SHELTON, Washington Guild



THE MOST SIGNIFICANT of the scheduled messages to Congress seemed certain to be the Budget Message this year, not the State of the Union address with its rhetorical and inspirational opportunities.

Perhaps this is always so; because the Budget Message annually sets the actual spending priorities the President would like Congress to follow. In Washington, money shows where the heart is.

This Budget Message acquired a special significance, however, as a result of the extraordinary flap unleashed when decisions supposedly made last December became suddenly unstuck and heroic efforts were revealed about the desperate efforts of high officials to stick them together again.

If things get muddy from now on, it's because in dealing with astronomical dollar figures, it's puzzling to distinguish the white-hat guys from the black hats.

President was in residence at the Western White House, that Nixon had turned down the value-added and excise tax proposals. (The estate-tax proposal was conspicuously not mentioned.) The President instead instructed the departments and agencies to slash their already slashed-down spending plans.

THE JOURNALISTIC flood continued unabated.

A columnist pointed out that major industrial democracies of Western Europe had embraced the "value-added" tax concept and that eventually U.S. taxpayers also would be compelled to face grim reality, smile and pay up.

Another warned the President that if he wanted to establish his credibility in the money markets, the estate tax would not serve the purpose, that only ruthless applica-

tion of new taxes would prove his determination to put the government's house in order.

Some writers — the cynics again, no doubt—suggested that the Budget Message would be an elaborate put-on, that higher spending would be required and the President knew it—but that next fall, before the elections, he would blame the Democratic Congress for inflationary appropriations and ask for new taxes then.

And all this came just as Nixon and the Democrats seemed headed for a direct collision on the 1.3 billion dollars added to a pending Health, Education and Welfare appropriation bill right now—not for fiscal 1971.

Nixon said the 1.3 billion was inflationary and that he would veto the bill. The Democrats planned to try to override the veto.

IT

SEEMS
TO US

Right of Free Speech:
For Guildsmen Only?

Editor:

CHICAGO, ILL.

I agree with the letter writers in the Dec. 12 Guild Reporter who condemned the radical long-haired Commie hippie students who had picketed against the UCLA Board of Regents just because the regents fired a Communist teacher.

By not running off the UCLA students and avoiding participation in the students' affair, "the Guild members unwittingly sanctioned the beliefs of Communists," one writer said. So true. Next thing you know the Communists in this country will think freedom of speech includes them!

Perhaps in this time of national crisis our government should think about repealing the equal-protection clause of the 14th Amendment. Then we could freely discriminate against those who mean to do harm to this country—like Communists and subversives and people who don't wear their hair in a crew cut.

While we're at it, the entire Bill of Rights should be done away with. The subversives are hiding behind all those individual rights in it, which should only be for those who won't abuse them—like Guild members.

JONATHAN ZIOMEK
Chicago Guild

Change of Policy Urged
On Forced Retirement

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Editor:

I'd like to suggest that the ANG's policy of opposition to compulsory retirement at age 65, always assuming adequate income is guaranteed, be reconsidered at this year's convention.

In furtherance of this, I'd like to suggest the IEB initiate a thorough study of the issue in light of current conditions, which obviously differ greatly from those prevailing when the policy was adopted, and submit recommendations to the convention.

ROBERT C. STAFFORD
Cleveland Guild

The Guild Reporter

DAVID J. EISEN
Acting Editor



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