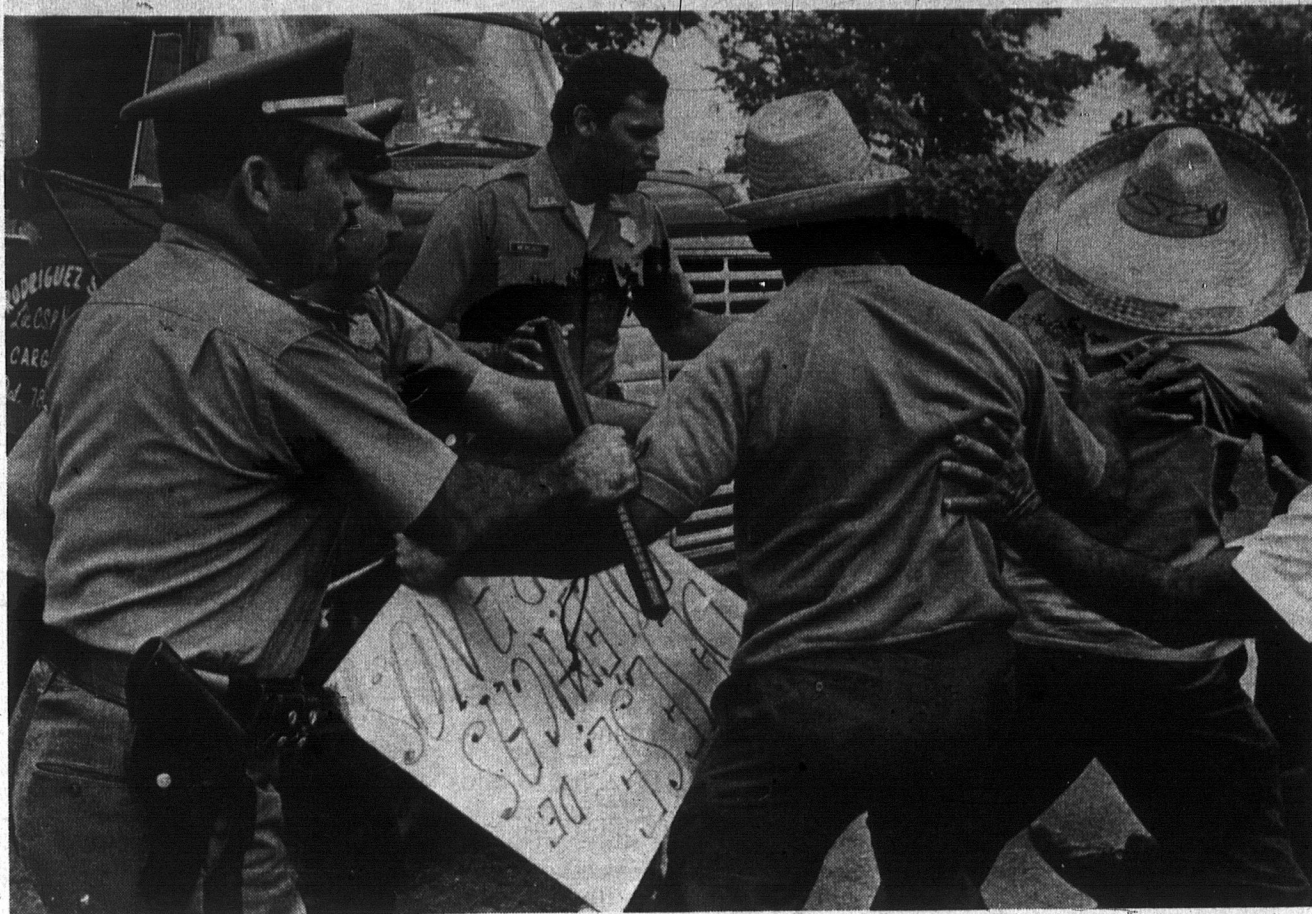


El Mundo Strikers Battle Airlift, Scabs; Police Club Guild Pickets



Picket-Line Skirmish

Police converge on pickets as a truck tries to get through at the strikebound El Mundo plant. At

right center is Guild picket chairman Angel Baez, who was arrested seven times.

San Juan, P.R.—Puerto Rico Guild members, battling imported strikebreakers and a helicopter airlift, were holding the distribution of El Mundo to a trickle as their strike entered its third week yesterday.

Picket lines were holding firm despite police attacks on strikers, more than 25 arrests and company attempts to obtain court action.

Distribution of the island's largest newspaper was halted for a week after five rented helicopters it had used to fly out papers were firebombed at an airport in Santurce Feb. 13 by the Armed Commandos for Liberation, a Puerto Rican terrorist group.

But on Feb. 19 the company obtained two helicopters of its own and resumed flying some 5,000 strike-shrunk papers into the interior. The Guild is pressing an islandwide boycott of El Mundo, whose normal circulation is 148,000.

Police clubs and strikebreakers' cars continued to take a toll of pickets. Among the victims was Local Vice President Bienvenido Ortiz Otero, clubbed into unconsciousness the first day of the strike and hospitalized for a week.

Four other pickets were injured severely enough to require hospital treatment. One suffered a broken leg when he was struck by a car whose driver then pulled a pistol on him.

An investigation of police brutality was voted by the Puerto Rico Senate, a similar motion was introduced in the House, and the Civil Rights Commission and the Police Department itself also initiated inquiries.

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., in a telegram to Gov. Louis A. Ferre, legislative leaders, police and San Juan Mayor Carlos Romero Barcelo, called for an end to "the alignment of police against our members." He demanded "all steps necessary to assure that those officers who have brutalized our members be brought before the bar of justice."

TNG sent a \$100,000 check for strike benefits to Puerto Rico,

(Continued on Page 4)

Guild Strike Shuts Thomson's Canton Daily

Canton, Ohio—The Cleveland Guild struck Thomson's Canton Repository Feb. 19, shutting down the paper as area unionists rallied to the picket lines.

An apparent attempt to use strikebreakers was thwarted as Steelworkers and unions affiliated with the Central Ohio Building Trades Council reinforced the picket lines in the early hours of the strike.

More than 30 men believed to be strikebreakers, who were rushed into the plant minutes before the Guild established its picket lines, left shortly after Canton Police Chief David Mazer entered with a copy of the city's antistrikebreaking ordinance.

The following night two apparent attempts were made to move strikebreakers from a motel to the Repository plant. One was turned back after a discussion with police at the picket line; the other, an effort to get them inside under the guise of security personnel, was balked when pickets started asking questions.

When the Repository went to court for an injunction against mass picketing, Stark County Common Pleas Judge William R. Quinn combined an order requiring the company to observe the antiscab ordinance with one

(Continued on Page 7)



Vol. XXXIX, No. 4

Washington, D.C.

February 25, 1972

End Police Cards, Perlik Urges

Police issuance of press cards is "a form of licensing" of the press and should be discontinued, TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., told the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights last week.

Perlik, citing instances in which police press cards have been either abused or denied, said the press "should issue its own basic credentials of identification."

Perlik testified Feb. 16 during the Senate subcommittee's continuing hearings on freedom of the press.

He told the committee that a proposed bill supposedly protecting reporters' privilege is so riddled with exceptions and qualifications that it "may be worse than no law at all." The

Guild, he emphasized, favors an "absolute and unqualified" privilege.

TNG's president also reiterated his proposal for an independent review board empowered to declassify government documents,

originally advanced at a House subcommittee hearing on government secrecy last June following the Pentagon Papers dispute.

"When newsmen must depend on government agents or agencies to obtain press cards—the basic

document of their identity—it is in fact a form of licensing," Perlik declared, "and as such is subject to the same sort of abuses as any other kind of licensing."

He cited one case in which

(Continued on Page 2)

TNG Engages Counsel, Consultant To Help Press Pay-Board Cases

TNG engaged both an economic consultant and a Pay Board legal counsel this week to assist U.S. Guild locals on matters before the Pay Board.

Stanley H. Ruttenberg & Associates of Washington was hired to provide economic consultative and analysis service and help prepare arguments on Pay Board cases.

Attorney Elliot Bredhoff, who is advisor to Steelworkers' President I. W. Abel on the Pay Board, was appointed to provide legal advice on Pay Board matters for the Guild and its locals.

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., announced the two appointments in a letter to local presidents this week.

Perlik said both firms "will be used to assist in preparing and processing Guild contract settlements before the Pay Board, challenges by employers or the Pay Board members to Guild increases, problems in retroactivity and other matters, as well

as giving guidance through the maze of often-conflicting IRS, Pay Board and Cost of Living Council procedures, regulations and interpretations."

TNG will pay for the services of the two firms on matters

"broad and general enough in effect and application," Perlik said.

He expressed hope that TNG resources also can be used for cases more limited in scope but

(Continued on Page 7)

Detroit Wins NLRB Vote

Story on Page 3

\$300 Won at 4 Bay Dailies

Story on Page 3

Newark Crafts Settle

Story on Page 3

Morris Watson Dies at 71; Firing Made Guild History

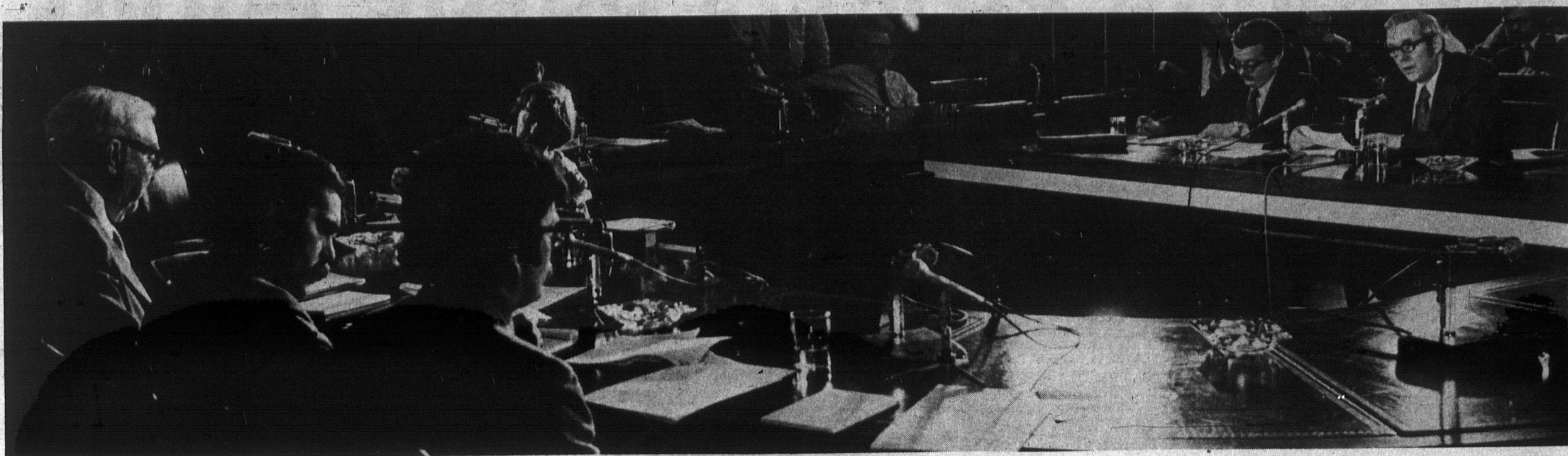
San Francisco, Calif.—Morris Watson, an early national vice president of the Guild and the key figure in a historic Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of the National Labor Relations Act and its applicability to newspapers and wire services, died Jan. 12 of cancer. He was 71.

Watson retired in 1966 as editor and information director for the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union after almost a half century in journalism and the labor movement.

Watson, who worked with Heywood Brown to help found the Guild in 1933, was fired from his newsman's job with AP in 1935 on the day AP received a Guild request for a bargaining meeting. He had been active in organizing the wire service.

AP claimed that Watson's work was unsatisfactory, but the Guild said the discharge was a result of his union activity. When the National Labor Relations Board upheld the charge, AP argued that the NLRB in-

(Continued on Page 6)



Perlik on the Hill

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., testifies at hearings on freedom of the press conducted by the Senate

Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights. Listening to testimony at left is committee Chairman Sam J. Ervin,

Jr. (D-N.C.). With Perlik at the witness table is TNG Research and Information Director James M. Cesnik.

End Police Press Cards, Perlik Urges at Hearing

(Continued from Page 1)
two Las Vegas newsmen lost their jobs on a non-Guild paper when police refused to issue them press cards because a "routine" check disclosed they had police records.

In other cases, he noted, police have taken advantage of their position to issue press cards to their own agents so that they could masquerade as newsmen.

"Even if dependence on government agents and agencies for the issuance of press cards had not in any instance had a chilling effect on the press and its practitioners' ability to function freely," Perlik said, "the practice is a form of licensing and, as such, contrary to the First Amendment. The practice should stop."

Robert M. Bartell, testifying for the right-wing Liberty Lobby, also opposed government-issued press cards. He urged that "the Fourth Estate establish a procedure" for the issuance of press credentials.

Turning to the issue of privilege, Perlik said the latest Senate bill, like those introduced in the last Congress, is more restrictive than recent court rulings and is so qualified that "it would invite prosecution against newsmen rather than protect their rights."

In any case, he said, enactment of privilege legislation while the Supreme Court is considering three key cases would be "premature."

Perlik stated the following Guild objections to the Senate

reporters'-privilege bill:

- "It would restrict the privilege against compulsory disclosure of information to information which is 'confidential.' We are at a loss to see how in a great many instances a newsmen or anyone else can properly sort out that which is 'confidential' from that which is not.

- "Had this bill been law last summer . . . its explicit denial of privilege for information 'which has at any time been published' might well have enabled the government to 'inspect and copy' the Pentagon Papers in the New York Times's possession, as it sought to do.

- "The bill's explicit exemption from protection of the source of information required by law to be kept secret would seem to invite prosecution in many instances . . . while hampering the press's ability to continue to carry out its traditional role of exposing the subversion of the public good to private interest, as has been known to occur behind legally closed doors.

- "The bill's provisions for total divestiture of privilege for both source and information in cases involving 'threat to human life, espionage or foreign aggression' are much broader than recent court rulings."

The bill, Perlik said, "seems to us to invite investigators to seek to let newsmen gather their evidence, turning reporters and photographers into unwilling agents of the government or other inter-

ested third parties."

The Guild's position, he declared, is that reporters' privilege under the First Amendment is "absolute and unqualified" and "applies to any information or source, confidential or not."

Perlik warned that government censorship of the press and denial of information to the public's representatives in Congress makes the nation "less a representative democracy than we profess to be" and destroys the credibility of both the press and the government.

While conceding that some classification of documents is necessary, he urged a classification-review board that would make any classified document public after two years unless the classifying agency could establish the need for continued classification.

In any case, he said, "under our system, classification and publication are and must remain separate questions—the first regulated by law, the second protected by the First Amendment."

In his judgment, Perlik told the committee in response to a question, the New York Times and Washington Post may well have established a dangerous legal precedent in suspending publication of the Pentagon Papers while fighting the government's restraining order in the courts.

"Do you really believe," he asked in closing, "that the U.S. citizenry ought to have to depend

on the willingness of newsmen to serve jail terms in order to continue to obtain information necessary to fulfill their function of governmental watchdogs?"

"Do you really believe that news which may be embarrassing to some in public positions ought to be cleared with those same officials before it can be published?"

"Do you really believe that the government ought to have the power to decide who is qualified to gather news?"

In other testimony before the committee, Dean S. Leshner, representing the Suburban Newspaper Association, urged Senate enact-

ment of the privilege bill criticized by Perlik and the introduction of legislation specifically stating that "the First Amendment's grant of freedom of speech and freedom of press is an absolute right which can be limited or restricted only when the security of the nation is immediately and clearly endangered."

But Earl English, dean emeritus of the Missouri University School of Journalism, speaking for the National Newspaper Association, said that rather than new laws "we need a revitalization of the concepts underlying the First Amendment itself."

Do-It-Yourself

Madison Finds It Easy

Reporters at the Madison Capital Times, who voted last spring to destroy their police press cards, are making out fine with cards issued by their newspaper, TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., told the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights.

The Capital Times agreed to issue its own cards after Guild members there discarded the police cards as a form of license.

The new cards contain the reporter's photograph and signature, along with such vital statistics as his height, weight, and eye and hair color, Perlik said. They are signed by the executive editor.

"When we checked with Madison members a few weeks ago they reported no more problem establishing their identity with their new press cards than they had with the old," Perlik said.

A copy of the Capital Times press card was made a part of the hearing record.

Reporters Fear Privilege Curb Would Dam News

Newsmen interviewed in a survey on the effects of subpoenas on news sources say an adverse decision by the Supreme Court on reporters' privilege would deal a severe blow to the flow of news. And more than two-thirds of them would go to jail if necessary to protect those sources.

Prof. Vincent Blasi of the University of Michigan Law School disclosed the extent of reporter concern in reporting the results of a survey on the legal rights of the press and the government for the Field Foundation and the Reporters' Committee on Freedom of the Press.

In the report, issued last week, Blasi recommended that newsmen be given "absolute" and "unqualified" immunity from subpoenas issued by grand juries and legislative bodies.

He said newsmen should not be required to disclose confidential sources in civil trials unless

the information sought is substantially different from other evidence, the source was not given a specific promise of confidentiality and disclosure would not cause "irreparable harm" to the newsmen's relationships with his sources.

Blasi recommended that newsmen be required to disclose confidential information in criminal trials only if they have evidence concerning criminal behavior of other than the "victimless" variety, such as drug use or gambling, or if the defendant calls him as a witness and shows he has reasonable grounds to believe the newsmen has relevant information.

Blasi reported that eight percent of 1,000 reporters he interviewed believed their coverage had been affected over the past 18 months by the possibility they might be subpoenaed. Another 12 percent weren't sure.

Thirty-seven percent of the reporters interviewed said the threat of subpoenas had adversely affected their coverage of trials in the previous 18 months, 27 percent said their investigative reporting had been affected, 34 percent said coverage of militant and radical groups had been hampered, 28 percent had cited an effect on minority coverage, 30 percent on police reporting and 20 percent on financial reporting.

Blasi said the picture would be much blacker if the Supreme Court rules unfavorably in three key privilege cases.

"The Attorney General's guidelines, which have had a surprisingly salutary effect, might be withdrawn," Blasi said. "Local prosecutors, defense lawyers and civil litigants would probably be less reluctant to subpoena the press if the prospect of protracted litigation over the constitu-

tional issue were removed."

"Editorial writers could no longer rely on the First Amendment to rally public opinion behind their embattled brethren in the newsroom. Journalists accepting contempt citations might find judges who are freed from legitimacy doubts more willing to impose stiff sentences."

"In such a climate, every reporter whom I queried on this point believes many source relationships would become more structured, more self-conscious, more riddled with suspicion and less conducive to quality reporting."

Blasi said in a news conference called to release the report that subpoenas are issued by government agencies almost always "out of desperation or a fishing mentality."

So rarely does a reporter have information of use in a civil or criminal trial, he said, that if

subpoenas were limited to such cases "the adverse effect on the news flow would be quite minimal and quite tolerable."

Blasi said his survey showed that high officials and celebrities are seldom intimidated by the threat of a press subpoena but that middle-level officials and "movement" people are. It is precisely they who have the most valuable confidential information, he said.

Blasi reported that more than 68 percent of the reporters he interviewed said they would accept jail sentences of from 30 days to six months rather than disclose their sources.

The percentage was even higher among reporters who had actually received confidential information—more than 81 percent.

"If press subpoenas will produce more martyrs than evidence," he asked, "what is the point?"

CBC Ends Guild Lockouts In Toronto and Halifax

Toronto, Ont.—Lockouts of Canadian Wire Service Guild members ended in Toronto Feb. 23 and in Halifax yesterday, and a lockout of technicians that had idled 18 Guild members for two weeks ended in Vancouver.

But the National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians walked out Feb. 23 in Winnipeg and yesterday in St. John's, Newfoundland, in continuing pressure for a new contract.

The rotating walkouts have made deep inroads into CBC's broadcast schedule.

The Guild, which is observing NABET picket lines when they go up and refusing to work with executives performing NABET work when there are no pickets, moved this week to prosecute CBC for illegally locking out its members in Toronto and Halifax.

The Guild sought Labour Minister Bryce Mackasey's permis-

sion to prosecute after members were locked out for two days in Toronto and three days in Halifax. Local President Philip Calder said management was trying to force the Guild to violate a section of its contract, permitting it not to handle struck work.

The lockout in Toronto starting Feb. 21 followed an unsuccessful effort to keep Guild members off the job during the week-end. That, in turn, had followed two days in which the Guild observed NABET picket lines.

In Halifax, Guild members and others were locked out when they tried to return to work Feb. 21 after the Guild observed weekend picketing by NABET.

NABET indicated a willingness to compromise on some of its demands to get bargaining resumed, and negotiations were begun yesterday in Montreal.

The engineers and technicians set up picket lines Feb. 17 in Montreal and Ottawa, in addition to Toronto. Pickets in Ottawa marched at Parliament Hill on the opening day of the national legislature.

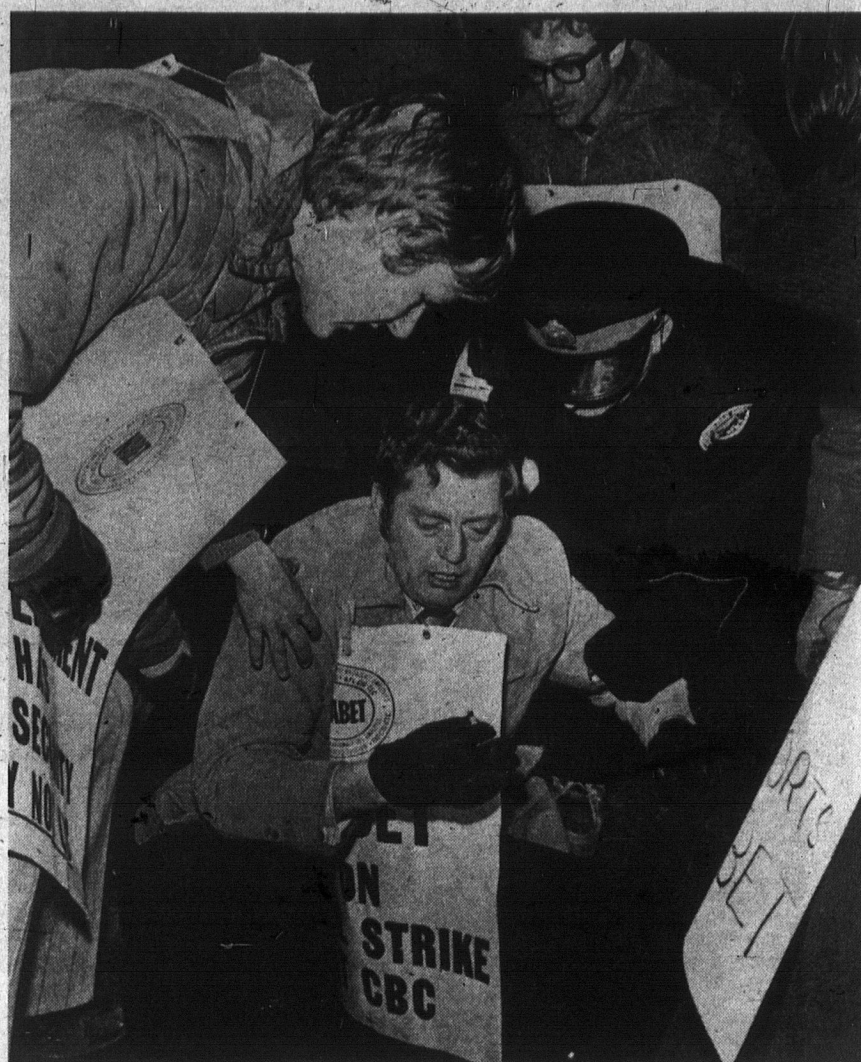
Traditional live coverage of the opening of Parliament was halted by the NABET work stoppage. Guild members in Ottawa were off their jobs until Feb. 21.

After frustrating management's attempt to lock them out Feb. 19, Guild members in Toronto prepared news broadcasts as usual, but they were not aired. A management group in another building wrote the newscasts that were broadcast.

Management insisted that Guild-covered employees sign statements promising not to stop work again and to use material prepared by supervisors doing NABET work. Only one part-time employee signed.

Security guards were posted in the CBC building to keep out nonmanagement employees.

One Guildsman—senior editor Curt Laughlin—was ejected bodily when he brushed past the guards on Feb. 20. In response to their questions, Laughlin said he would leave only if told to do so by his supervisors.



Knockdown on the Picket Line

Jerry MacDonald, treasurer of the Canadian Wire Service Guild, is helped back to his feet after being knocked down by a management car on the picket line in front of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.'s Toronto office. MacDonald and other Guild members were participating in a striking technicians' picket line.

Boycott Effort Pressed By Guild in Fall River

Fall River, Mass.—Striking Guildsmen are pressing a boycott against merchants advertising in Ingersoll's Fall River Herald News as a walkout by the Boston Guild unit ends its fourth week.

No negotiating sessions have been called since an abortive session Feb. 8.

Guild members are picketing stores and handing out leaflets in English and Portuguese asking shoppers not to buy merchandise advertised in the reduced Herald News.

The Guild also broadcast two-minute spot announcements on the boycott in Portuguese. Almost 60 percent of Fall River's population is Portuguese.

Although craft-union members are crossing Guild picket lines, strike efforts have cut the paper's circulation to 14,000, one third its normal distribution. Ad lineage and local news and pictures are down sharply.

The Guild reported \$1,750 in initial contributions to its strike fund, including the following:

Chicago Guild	\$100
Manchester Guild	100
Pawtucket Guild	100
Pittsburgh Guild	100
Providence Guild	200
Portland Guild	100
Terre Haute Guild	25
Vancouver-New Westminster Guild	75
Washington-Baltimore Guild	200
New England District Council	500
Greater Fall River United Labor Council	100
Amalgamated Clothing Workers	100

Key Pay to Hit \$300 At Four Bay Dailies

San Francisco, Calif.—Key top minimums at four Bay Area suburban newspapers will go to \$300.46 under new 34-month contracts negotiated by the San Francisco-Oakland Guild.

The contracts, patterned after a 1970 San Francisco-Oakland settlement, will raise top minimums for reporters and display salesmen \$70.46 at the Richmond Independent, the Santa Rosa Press-Democrat and the Vallejo Times-Herald and \$74.30 at the San Mateo Times, putting all four on a par.

The Guild won wage parity at \$300.46 for society reporters at Vallejo and San Mateo and outside classified salesmen at San Mateo. The society-reporter top is increased \$104.75 at San Mateo and \$85.24 at Vallejo, the outside-classified top \$121.89 at San Mateo.

The four papers are all below 50,000 circulation, ranging down to 28,000 in Vallejo.

Although the contracts provide

for increases of approximately 13 percent retroactive to March 1, the publishers have refused to pay more than 5.5 percent pending approval by the Pay Board.

Both the Guild and the publishers are seeking Pay Board approval, however, and San Francisco-Oakland Executive Secretary Fred D. Fletcher said he anticipates approval of the full increases on the basis of equity.

Minimums from \$168.75 to \$191.35 will be increased a total of \$56; those below \$168.75 will be increased slightly more than 33 percent.

Reclassifications will raise the top minimums for dispatch clerks at Vallejo \$51.66, to \$177.23, and for library clerks at Santa Rosa \$72.61, to \$181.44.

Pensions and health-and-welfare plans are improved at all four papers, with Vallejo, Santa Rosa and Richmond payments into pension funds increased by \$4 a week per employee and payments into the Guild's areawide health plan increased by \$8.

Chisholm Trail to Skirt Gridiron Club Dinner

"Gentlemen... guess who's not coming to dinner?"

It's Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.), the Democratic Presidential candidate, who told the Gridiron Club in those words last week that she wouldn't be one of the "token women" at the club's annual dinner in Washington April 8.

Chisholm, one of 15 prominent women to be invited to the all-male club's formerly stag dinner this year, was the first to decline. So far only historian Barbara Tuchman has accepted the invitation.

The ad-hoc Journalists for Professional Equality, which for the past two years has picketed the dinner, sent a letter signed by 251 Washington newsmen and women to potential guests, asking them to boycott the dinner.

"This transparent tokenism," the letter said, "does not correct the basic inequity. The Gridiron Club continues its 87-year-old policy of excluding women from membership while representing itself as an organization of the most distinguished journalists in Washington."

Among other prominent women invited by the club are Patricia Nixon, Eleanor Agnew, Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine), Washington Post Publisher Katherine Graham and Coretta King.

Calling this year's dinner "ob-

viously a breakthrough," the club's president, Edgar Allen Poe of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, said, "I think we've done the best we could under the circumstances."

Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), also a Democratic Presidential candidate, disagreed. He also turned down an invitation to the dinner.

Chisholm said the absence of women, blacks, Puerto Ricans and Chicanos from the Gridiron Club is "symbolic of the racism and sexism which pervades the news industry."

She cited figures compiled by her office on the employment of women and minorities on four major dailies—the New York Times, Washington Post, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Los Angeles Times.

Chisholm said the Washington Post, in a city that is 71 percent black, employs only 19 blacks on its editorial staff of 310, the New York Times has only 20 minority-group members out of 557 in a city in which they constitute 23.4 percent of the population, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch has only 25 blacks out of 260 in a city with a 41-percent black population.

The newspaper industry, she said, is "behind industry as a whole" in employing minorities, especially among reporters, "the eyes of a nation."

Newark Crafts to Vote on Pact

Newark, N.J.—Memberships of five craft unions will vote next week on new contracts that could lead to a resumption of publication of the Newark News four months after settlement of a North Jersey Guild strike.

The contracts, which would expire July 15, 1976, would enable Newhouse's Newark Star-Ledger to begin producing the News under an agreement worked out during the Guild's 175-day strike.

The Guild's contract will run for three years starting with the resumption of publication.

J. Curtis Counts, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, announced the tentative agreements last week after overseeing five days of bargaining. He was called in by the craft unions.

Most details of the contracts were withheld pending ratification, but it was learned that the pacts contain no-strike clauses. Newhouse's demand for a requirement that the unions cross picket lines was dropped.

Newhouse will employ about 165 members of the Typograph-

ical, Pressmen's, Stereotypers' and ITU Mailers' unions, which had more than 300 jobs at the News prior to the sale of the paper's plant and Sunday edition to Newhouse.

Only about 80 of 270 News printers and about half of 80 News pressmen will be employed by the Star-Ledger.

The Newspaper and Mail Deliverers' Union would not lose any jobs under twin contracts with the News and Star-Ledger.

There has been no announcement of a date for the News to resume publication. It has said it would need about three weeks' start-up time.

Some 75 Guild members are awaiting recall by the News, which pared its previous editorial staff from 220 to 132, including 17 supervisors. Nine Guild members are among 22 News employees who were recalled Nov. 29 and have been on the job since.

Guild Wins Election, 33-14, At Detroit Suburban Daily

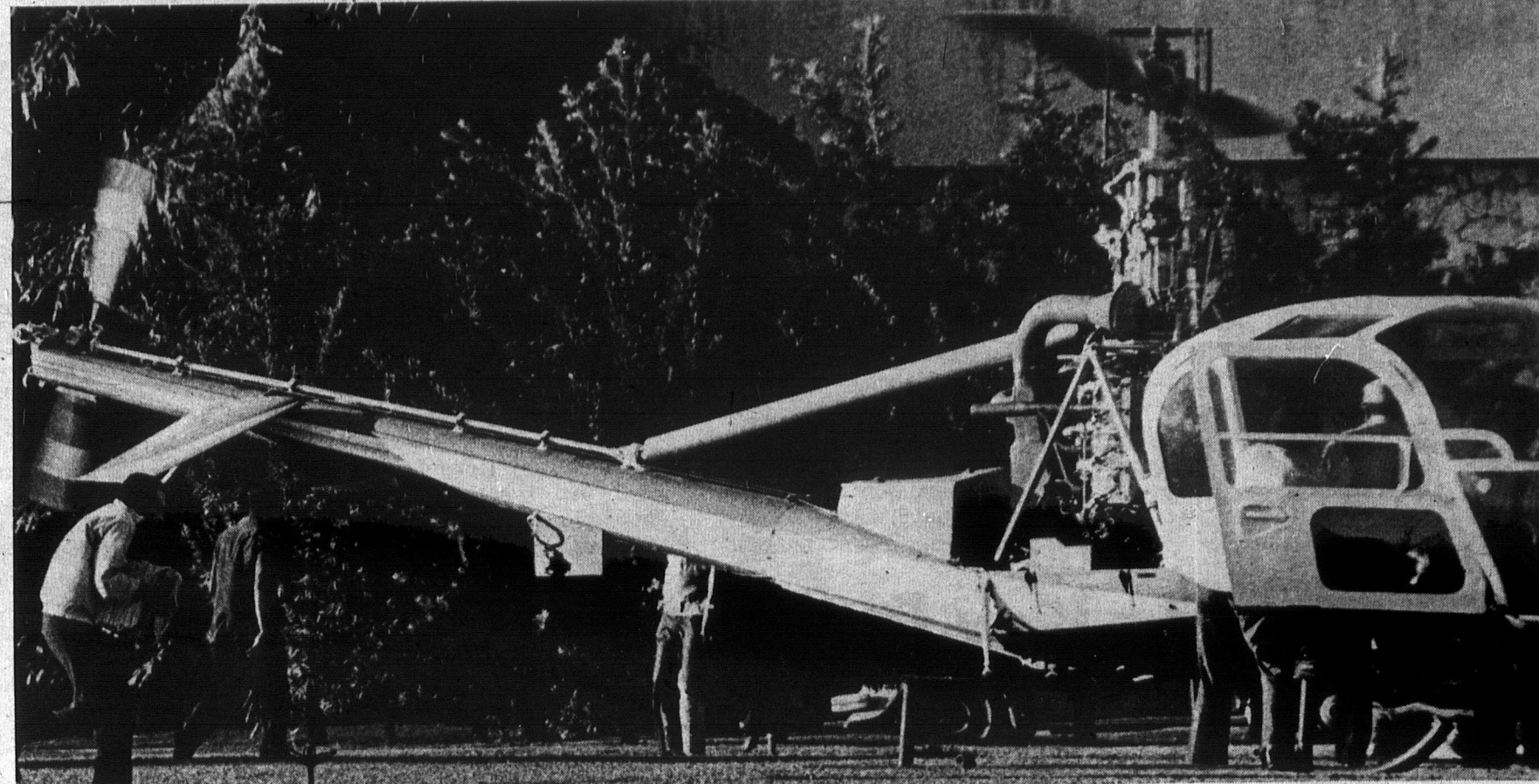
Wayne, Mich.—Employees of the Wayne Daily Eagle voted 33 to 14 for representation by the Detroit Guild Feb. 11.

The unit comprises 60 employees in all departments of the Eagle, including production employees. The paper's printing is jobbed out.

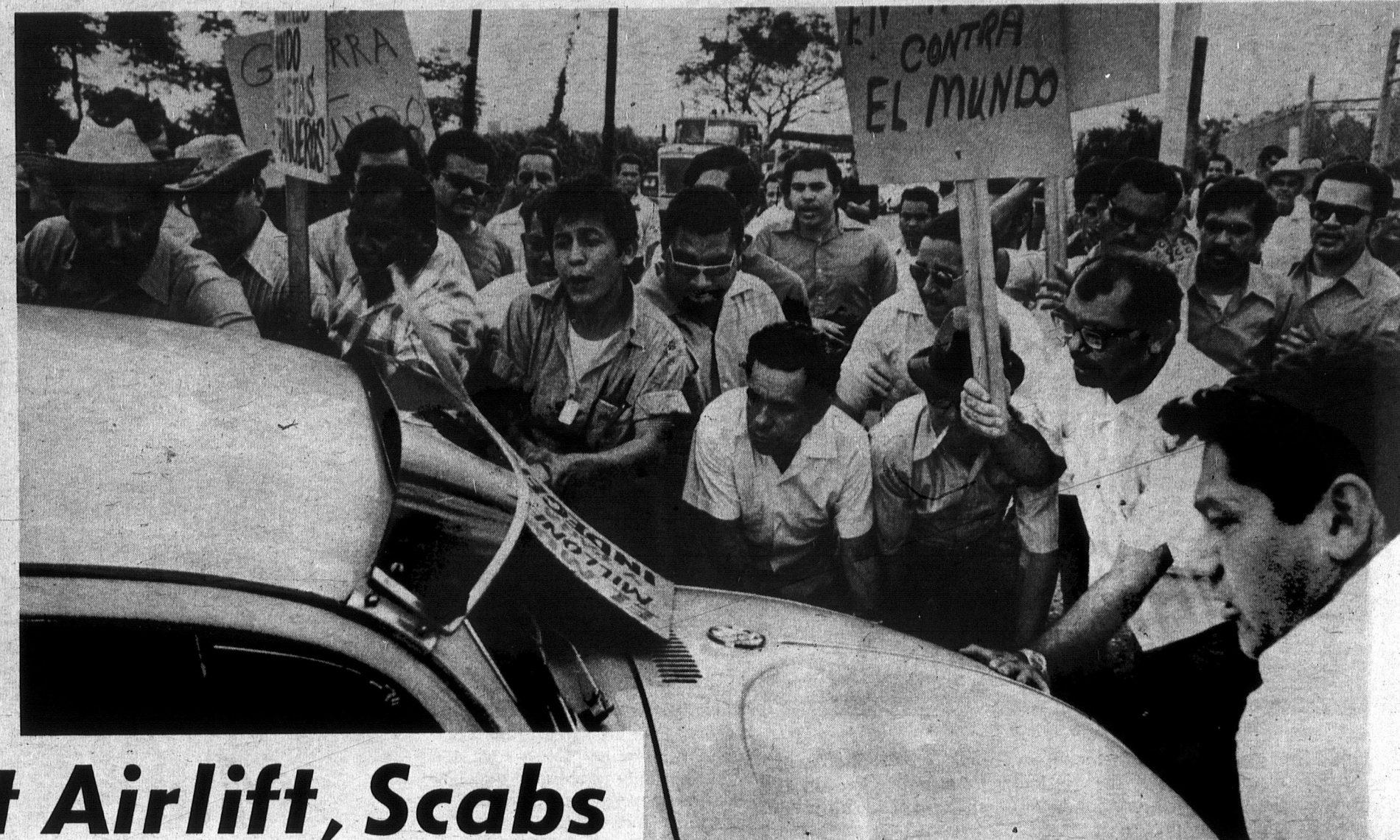
The unit is the second suburban daily to be organized by the Detroit Guild in the past 18

months. The local is currently negotiating an initial contract at the Royal Oak Tribune.

The Guild is awaiting an NLRB decision on two challenged ballots in an election at the Macomb Daily in Mount Clemens, where the Guild holds a 42-to-41 lead in a rerun election. The Macomb and Wayne papers are both owned by the Panax Corp.



Helicopters airlift strikebreakers and their luggage into El Mundo plant and fly out bundles of newspapers.



Pickets attempt to stop car at El Mundo plant.



A policeman brandishes his club on the picket line.



Beaten picket clutches his head in pain.

El Mundo Strikers Fight Airlift, Scabs

(Continued from Page 1)

pledged its complete support to the strike and asked Guild locals to help in what the Puerto Rico Guild called "a war for our survival."

Federal Judge Juan V. Toledo yesterday dismissed an El Mundo request for an injunction to allow supervisors and executives to enter and leave the plant, lifting a temporary restraining order. He also dismissed an El Mundo suit for damages of \$200,000 and \$50,000 a day plus \$2,500 for each of 16 executives who said they have been unable to get in and out of the plant.

Toledo said the company had failed to prove a conspiracy to violate the executives' civil rights.

The 460-member unit struck suddenly Feb. 10 after 86 bargaining sessions over nine months failed to produce agreement on a new contract. Bargaining deadlocked over the company's insistence that 221 so-called "supervisors" and district managers be excluded from contract coverage.

Wages were also an issue, with the company offering only from \$15.50 to \$30 over three years on minimums ranging from \$98 to \$168. The Guild is seeking increases ranging from \$25 to \$30 in the first year.

The only bargaining session since the start of the strike was aborted after it had barely begun when the company refused to discuss the Guild's demand for contract coverage of all but 25 supervisors. El Mundo, after asking the Guild not to file a National Labor Relations Board petition to determine whether the 221 were supervisors, had filed a petition of its own before the strike and refused to bargain on the matter.

The supervisors—one for almost every two employees in the unit—were being pressed into use to break the strike, together with 24 strikebreakers imported from Knight's Miami Herald, the Guild reported. Knight's president, Lee Hills, is the husband of Argentina S. Hills, El Mundo's publisher.

The Guild has asked the U.S. Justice Department to investigate a charge that the strikebreakers have been imported across state lines in violation of federal law.

At the same time, the Guild charged before the Commonwealth Labor Department that El

Mundo is using minors to deliver the paper in violation of a Puerto Rico law forbidding their employment in labor disputes.

The Guild was also trying to stall El Mundo's new air force. It charged the helicopters were landing in public schoolyards and parks without permission in order to deliver papers and that one of the choppers was being flown by an Air National Guard pilot.

The Guild, anticipating the attempt to bring in strikebreakers, struck with little warning after strike action was authorized. One reporter went on an assignment on the first morning unaware the strike had begun.

Helicopters began flying in strikebreakers almost immediately, and other strikebreakers drove their cars through the picket lines, injuring several strikers.

Ortiz Otero was clubbed on the head when he came to the aid of a picket arrested on a charge of hitting a car with a two-by-four. He was rushed to the intensive-care ward of Industrial Hospital.

Police arrested other pickets on charges of attempting to keep strikebreakers outside—or inside—the struck plant.

The company failed to publish on the first day of the strike, but on the second day it began flying several thousand newspapers by helicopter to distribution points in the interior. It made little attempt to distribute in San Juan, where support for the strike was running strong.

The airlift was grounded after the Feb. 13 firebomb attack inflicted \$3,200 in damage and put the whirlybirds out of commission for three weeks. A person identifying himself as a member of the Armed Commandos for Liberation claimed responsibility for the attack.

Papers were printed that day and the next, but none were distributed.

Guild President Alfredo Gonzales, Jr., said the union "deplored the act of violence."

The Guild had sought unsuccessfully to have the Public Service Commission prevent the helicopters from flying the newspapers, charging the rental service had no authorization to carry goods in Puerto Rico. But the PSC said it was powerless to act. The Guild filed a complaint

with the Federal Aviation Administration after one of the 'copters buzzed the picket line.

The principal stockholder in the rental service is a lieutenant in the Puerto Rico Police Department.

Perlik, in his telegram to Puerto Rico officials, charged police with "a complete disregard for the legal right of our members to strike."

"The evidence," he declared, "is written in the bruises, bloodied heads and broken bones of our members' bodies—bruises administered, heads bloodied and bones broken by police and their clubs and by automobiles into whose paths our members were shoved by police officers."

The Senate authorized its Labor Committee to conduct an investigation after a heated debate that pre-empted other Senate business on the opening day of the strike.

Indignation centered on the beating of Ortiz Otero. Members of both the Popular Democratic Party and the New Progressive Party denounced the police, and El Mundo was scored for bringing in mainland strikebreakers.

A resolution calling for a special investigatory commission was introduced in the House, the Puerto Rican Journalists Association called for an investigation by Gov. Ferre, and the Civil Rights Commission assigned an attorney to investigate.

The Guild reported receiving \$800 in strike contributions from

legislators of all parties.

Perlik, in a telegram to Gonzales, pledged "unending and unlimited support of 33,000 Guild members throughout the Western Hemisphere."

"We now have confirmed what was apparent all along," Perlik said, "that this is one of the most vicious union-busting employers this industry or any other has produced."

Assailing "the shocking police brutality that greeted our picket line," he voiced hope that it would "arouse the community to such a fever of indignation that neither this employer nor any other will ever again be able to align the forces of police oppression so heavily against working men and women."

Support for the Guild poured in from many quarters. The Central Labor Council and the Journalists Association pledged their full support, and unionists and members of the Puerto Rican Independence Party and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party rallied to the Guild's picket lines.

Three thousand students marched six miles from the University of Puerto Rico Feb. 23 to demonstrate on the picket line. A group of Jesuit priests joined the picket line later in the day.

The Socialists plastered boycott stickers throughout the city, and they and the Independentistas threatened to picket United Press International if it continued supplying news to El Mundo.

The Guild, in addition to press-

ing its circulation boycott with posters throughout the island, was asking advertisers to stay out of the paper. The thin editions published starting Feb. 19 had few ads and little news and were being given away.

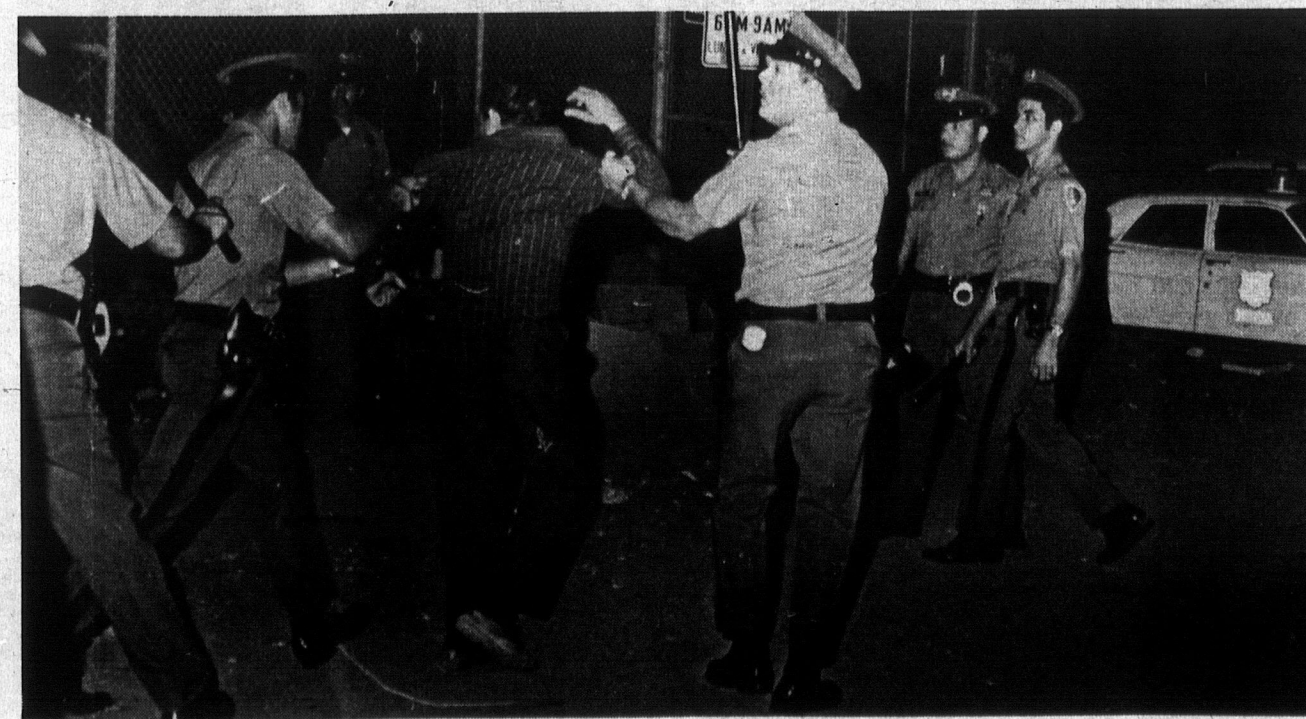
The company has filed a charge of mass picketing with the NLRB. A secondary-boycott charge accusing the Guild of picketing El Mundo's television subsidiary, Telemundo, was withdrawn after the Guild and the station reached an agreement under which the station said it would not assist the struck paper.

TNG, in a letter to Guild locals, asked them to make "an extra effort to bring financial aid to our brothers and sisters at 'El Mundo.'"

"As you can see," Gonzales said in a letter of his own to other locals, "this is a war for our survival. The lines have been drawn and the trenches dug. We have felt the repressive whip of El Mundo for the last time."

TNG International Representative Harry McCormick, assigned to assist the local as bargaining reached a climax, is assisting in prosecution of the strike.

Gonzales said wages are a main strike issue. None of the top reporters at El Mundo earns the top minimum of \$165, he said, stating that a group of veteran reporters with 10 years' experience earn less than \$160 under an unusual experience-credit provision negotiated in the last contract.



Police arrest a picket at plant entrance.



Guildsman Rafael A. Malespin carries placard saying 'I'm a graduate strikers with El Mundo Enterprises.' He picketed in 1965 and 1969 strikes.

Morris Watson Dies; Firing Made Guild History

(Continued from Page 1)

fringed on freedom of the press. Holding that Guild membership for reporters cannot be considered an impairment of press freedom, the court declared:

"The business of the Associated Press is not immune from regulation because it is an agency of the press. The publisher of a newspaper has no special immunity from the application of general laws.

"He has no special privilege to invade the rights and liberties of others. He must answer for libel. He may be punished for contempt of court. He is subject to

the antitrust laws. Like others, he must pay equitable and non-discriminatory taxes on his business."

Five years later, when newspaper publishers sought exemption from the Wage-Hour Law on the same grounds, the Supreme Court again said no.

Watson was reinstated with back pay following the court's decision, but AP gave him no assignments, and after a few weeks he quit to return to the job he had obtained as managing producer of the Works Progress Administration's "Living Newspaper," a series of dramas on

current news events.

Later he became one of 10 Guild organizers appointed under a special grant from the CIO, concentrating on the wire services.

"Morris Watson," said TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., "was one of that courageous band of Guild pioneers who put their jobs on the line 40 years ago so that succeeding generations of newspapermen and women could enjoy the economic security and professional independence that only a union could bring to the newspaper business.

"He devoted the better part of his adult life to labor organization and labor journalism, and the growth and development of the unions for which he worked give eloquent testimony to how well he did both.

"As long as there is a Guild he will be remembered as the man who, through his Guild activity, gave his name to the landmark Supreme Court decision that not only established the right of newspapermen and women to organize themselves into a union but also assured them of the benefits and protections of other social legislation, from which publishers otherwise almost certainly would have succeeded in excluding them."

Watson, worked on newspapers in Omaha, Chicago and Denver before joining AP in 1929. He was one of the small group that met in Broun's apartment in late 1933 to help plan the Guild and was a delegate to its founding convention that year.

Broun appointed him chairman of the Guild's National Press Committee at the convention.

He was subsequently elected the New York Guild's first treasurer on a slate that included Broun, and he was elected a national vice president in 1934. He remained in that position until 1941, when he declined to seek re-election.

He was among those who appeared at a National Recovery Act hearing in 1934 to urge that press associations be included in



Victory

Morris Watson with the New York Post edition banner the Supreme Court's decision in his historic dismissal case.

the industrial code of newspapers.

Watson was chairman of the New York American Labor Party in the late 1930s. In 1942 he went to work for the ILWU in San Francisco, founding its newspaper, the Dispatcher, and joining the San Francisco-Oakland Guild.

Although he retired from the ILWU in 1966, he disdained the rocking chair. He served on the San Francisco Housing Authority's Relocation Appeals Board and was active in Sen. Eugene McCarthy's 1968 Presidential campaign.

And when the Wire Service Guild struck AP in 1969, Watson was quick to seize his first chance to picket his old employer. With other San Francisco-Oakland Guild members, he smilingly carried a picket sign outside AP's

San Francisco office.

Reminiscing shortly before his death, Watson recalled that he had originally been timid about assuming a leading role in the Guild.

"I had a moment of cowardice," he confessed. "I told others that I had a family to think of, too, that I felt sure I'd be fired. So I was excused.

"But, on the way home, I said to myself, 'You cowardly bastard! We'll never have a union if you take this way out.'

"I went back and said I'd changed my mind. I said, 'I'll probably be fired, but if it has to be, it has to be.'"

Memorial services for Watson will be held at 2 p.m. March 19 in headquarters of the ILWU's Ships' Clerk Local 34 at 4 Berry St., San Francisco.

THE SHORT OF IT

NEGRO Invades Negro Weekly

Guild members were threatened and their work halted when 40 members of NEGRO, the National Economic Growth and Reconstruction Organization, conducted a sit-in in the Amsterdam News last month to protest a Bayard Rustin article supporting scatter-site suburban housing for blacks.

The group refused to leave until the black weekly agreed to publish four articles by NEGRO's president, Dr. Thomas Matthew, supporting building-up of the ghetto as an alternative to housing integration. The News later cut the number of articles to two.

The confrontation between employees and demonstrators resulted in several incidents of near-violence.

The Guild's unit at Consumers Union has mounted informational picket lines in protest against CU's plan to move its operations from Mount Vernon to Orangeburg, N.Y., in a step that will cost 45 jobs immediately and another 50 or 60 by the end of the year. . . . The American Bar Association has evoked a right akin to reporter's privilege in refusing to disclose what its committee on the federal judiciary found in investigating the background of federal Judge Otto Kerner. Federal attorneys sought to subpoena committee records for possible information on racetrack dealings that led to Kerner's indictment. . . . TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., is a member of a special committee sponsoring a League of Industrial Democracy Award to AFL-CIO President George Meany for his leadership in "providing better lives for millions of American citizens." . . . Massachusetts has passed a law barring newspapers from owning cable-television outlets in their circulation areas.

Beauties and the Beasts

"This is poor pay for man, woman or beast, but men and beasts get the edge."

That comment by one newswoman summed up the results of a recent survey by Lynn Martin Haskin, a journalism instructor at Pennsylvania State University, of newswomen on 59 Pennsylvania dailies.

A fifth of the women surveyed earned less than \$100 a week and almost two-thirds earned under \$125. The women also complained of discriminatory assignments.

When the Sacramento Bee published a story about vast price ranges for identical drugs in the area's pharmacies and deleted the pharmacies' names, the Sacramento Guildsman had a remedy: It printed their names and the prices they charged so Guild members, at least, would know where to buy. . . . The Jackson Clarion-Ledger and Daily News have been charged with violating the Civil Rights Act by printing separate male and female help-wanted ads in a suit filed by an 18-year-old black coed at Tougaloo College. . . . Memo to the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Board of Review: TNG's charter making it an AFL-CIO affiliate is available at international headquarters for inspection. Referee Morley M. Azorsky in denying benefits to printers idled by the Guild's 1970-71 strike in Monessen, averred that the Guild "is not an AFL-CIO affiliate." . . . The Albany Guild has sent a special letter of commendation to past president John L. Klucina for his role in bringing about enactment of an antistrikebreaker law in Albany County.

Marked Man?

Former North Jersey Guildsman Ron Porambo walks the streets of Newark these days with frequent glances over his shoulder.

Twice in less than two months Porambo has been the victim of attempted ambushes, one leaving him with two bullets in his legs. Porambo believes they are in retaliation for his book, "No Cause for Indictment: an Autopsy of Newark," which flays the city's Italian-American political leaders.

Porambo was dismissed by the Elizabeth Journal for economy reasons last spring; an arbitrator said he was entitled to reinstatement, but Porambo declined to return.

\$11,000 Victory

Drinking Discharge Vetoed

Madison, Wis.—An arbitrator has reduced a discharge to a 60-day suspension and ordered back pay for a veteran Madison sports writer accused of drinking too much.

Madison Guild officials said the decision, which came 49 weeks after the firing, represented a victory worth more than \$11,000 to the grievant, Francis (Bonnie) Ryan.

Among key witnesses appearing for the Guild was University of Wisconsin Athletic Director Elroy (Crazy Legs) Hirsch.

Arbitrator Howard Bellman noted that the 57-year-old reporter had a split shift and had been assigned to meetings where "drinking was de rigueur."

Bellman called the company's position "very harsh and not modern," adding that the paper's view on drinking "does not comport with current attitudes."

"The fact that an individual raises the glass himself, rather than being force-fed, is no longer taken to indicate that his behavior is so willful as to manifest moral dereliction," said Bellman.

"The individual who drinks, or uses drugs, so as to jeopardize

his own welfare—as that concept is generally defined—is regarded as in need of therapy-type attention," he added.

The arbitrator discounted the company's contention that some experts don't see drinking as an illness.

"How it is characterized is immaterial, and the possibility that there is a cure is sufficient," said Bellman, a member of the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission staff.

The arbitrator also assailed the vagueness and "shifting nature" of the company's charges against

the sports writer. He noted that the decision to fire the reporter was made by the paper's board of directors seven weeks before he was told.

This "does not comport with the applicable standards of justice," said Bellman.

He added that the Guild was not given proper notice of the dismissal or afforded a chance to discuss it before it took effect. This alone, he said, would have been grounds to set it aside.

The company restored Ryan following the decision, ending his split shifts.

4-Day Blitz Organizes Houston Post

Houston, Tex.—An organizing blitz led by three international representatives and an international vice president resulted in a Guild representation petition for 125 editorial employees of the Houston Post last week.

An intensive four-day drive was conducted starting Feb. 10 by a local organizing committee led by International Representatives Charles Dale, Dick Pattison and Willard W. Hatch and

Vice President Barney Peterson.

TNG instituted the organizing campaign on the invitation of a group of Post employees.

The Guild had a local in Houston until 1964, when the Houston Press was sold to the Houston Chronicle and suspended, eliminating its only unit.

The Post is published by Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under President Eisenhower.

Guild Strike Closes Canton Repository

(Continued from Page 1)

limiting the Guild to 18 pickets at five entrances to the plant and an adjacent warehouse.

The 128-member unit struck shortly after a midnight deadline following rejection of a three-year contract offer of \$55 over three years at the key top-minimum level. The proposal would have widened a salary gap the Guild is seeking to eliminate between general-assignment reporters and women's writers.

The offer also included \$42 raises for intermediate-level jobs and \$28 for lower-paid jobs.

The Guild, which is demanding a \$35 increase for all categories in a one-year contract, also is seeking parity for women's writers with general-assignment reporters. A \$36 difference presently exists; the company's last offer would have widened it to \$49.

Also in dispute are severance pay, sick leave, vacations, overtime and pensions.

Bargaining was resumed yesterday for the first time since the start of the strike.

Snow was falling in 13-degree weather when picket lines were set up at 12:25 a.m. Feb. 19. The Greater Canton AFL-CIO furnished sidewalk heaters to help keep the pickets warm.

President W. E. Wyckoff issued a statement pledging the "full and total support" of the 84 affiliates of the AFL-CIO coun-

cil and its "every resource" to aid the Guild strike.

A Saturday paper was pre-printed Feb. 18, but its circulation was limited to 35,000 of a normal 80,000.

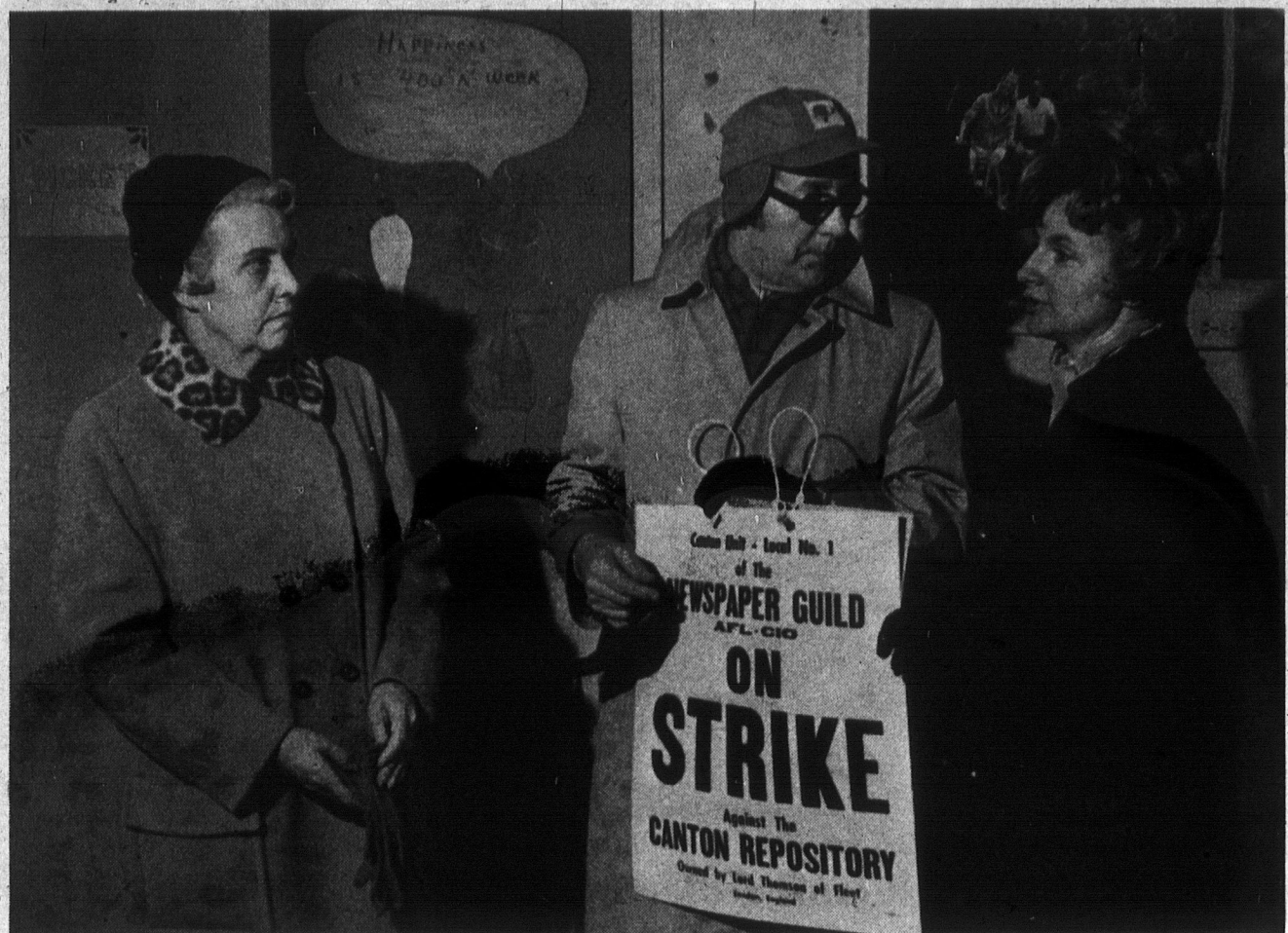
The Repository sent telegrams to its craft-union employees ordering them to report for work starting Feb. 21 after it announced there would be no Sunday edition Feb. 20. But printers, pressmen and stereotypers found themselves locked out and some joined Guild members on the picket line.

The president of the Pressmen's Union was summoned to a 6:45 a.m. meeting with the Repository's business manager, Harold Wise, but found the plant locked when he arrived. Wise didn't show up until more than an hour later, after the Pressmen's leader had gone.

The Repository announced Feb. 21 it would not attempt to resume publication "until feasible."

The next day it sent another telegram to craft unionists, noting the issuance of an injunction limiting pickets and denying that it had locked out craft employees. It also denied attempting to bring in strikebreakers.

TNG International Representative Dick Pattison is assisting in the strike. He succeeded International Representative Robert J. Rupert, who helped in strike preparations.



Signing Up

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., and International Vice President Dorothy Sain prepare to don picket signs before leaving Canton Repository strike headquarters for a tour of the snow-buffed

picket line. At right, Unit Chairman Hannah Jo Rayl briefs them on the strike. Perlik and Sain came down from a Great Lakes District Council meeting in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

TNG Engages Counsel, Consultant To Help Press Pay-Board Cases

(Continued from Page 1)

said "it may be necessary, in the latter area, to work out a billing or cost-sharing arrangement with the local involved."

TNG has already requested Ruttenberg to provide it with formulas for costing out appropriate sections of the Guild's Model Contract for Pay Board purposes and to review a TNG brief to the board on merit pay.

Perlik said that while Bredhoff will advise the Guild on Pay Board problems, TNG is continuing its search for general legal counsel to replace the late Irving Leuchter.

Noting that "first things come first," Perlik said that plans to hire additional international representatives may have to be delayed because of the expense of retaining the Pay Board consultant and counsel.

Ruttenberg, who was Assistant Secretary of Labor for Manpower in the Johnson Administration from 1966 to 1969, has conducted a consultant service for about two years.

Prior to joining the Labor Department, he was director of research for the AFL-CIO from 1955 to 1963 and director of education and research for the CIO from 1948 to 1955.

Bredhoff, who frequently sits as a member of the Pay Board in

the absence of Abel, is general counsel for the Steelworkers' Union and the Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers' Union. He was a law partner of Arthur Goldberg, former Supreme Court Justice, Secretary of Labor and United Nations Ambassador.

The President's Cost of Living Council has denied a request that the newspaper industry be exempted from wage and price controls. The National Newspaper Association, an organization of weeklies and small dailies, said it was undecided on an appeal to the courts.

There had been an indication from a Nixon Administration representative that newspapers might be excluded from controls administratively after a House-Senate Conference Committee deleted an exemption for the media from a one-year extension of the President's anti-inflation powers.

Ridder Publications has been refused Price Commission permission to raise advertising rates by 5.899 percent on all of its newspapers. The Price Commission said the company had failed the "profit-margin test."

The Pay Board has ruled that employers must notify it 60 days in advance of any deferred increases exceeding seven percent in contracts existing before the Aug. 15 wage freeze and covering more than 1,000 employees.

The board dropped a proposal by business members that all boosts larger than seven percent should be automatically challenged.

Deferred increases for employe units of less than 1,000 workers will be subject only to spot checks by the Internal Revenue Service, which is the enforcement arm of the Pay Board.

The board said that the 60-day notice need not be filed in cases where deferred increases are split into two or more segments until the total is due to exceed seven percent.

Publishers of four Bay Area suburban newspapers have refused, pending Pay Board ap-

proval, to implement more than 5.5-percent increases retroactive to March 1, 1971, under newly negotiated contracts with the San Francisco-Oakland Guild.

Four other publishers have challenged deferred increases in existing Guild contracts. Locals, in cooperation with TNG, have prepared or are preparing responses to challenges by the Pottstown Mercury, El Diario-La Prensa in New York City, the Scranton Times and the Scranton Tribune.

In Portland, Me., the Press-Herald and Express received Pay Board permission to pay 11-percent increases retroactively from Aug. 15 to Nov. 14—the 90-day freeze period—under a Guild contract.

NLRB Upholds Expanded Unit In Pottstown

Pottstown, Pa.—The National Labor Relations Board, ruling on a Philadelphia Guild unit-clarification petition, has incorporated a newly created dispatch department into the Guild's unit at the Pottstown Mercury.

NLRB Regional Director Bernard Samoff held that the department was an "accretion to the unit presently represented" and that the dispatch employees performed the same duties formerly performed by Guild-covered messengers in the advertising department.

The decision, however, found the Mercury's national and retail advertising managers to be supervisory and excluded them from the unit.

Arguments by the Mercury that the inclusion of the dispatch department in the unit would be a "conflict of interest" were rejected by Samoff.

The Guild's unit encompasses editorial, circulation, advertising, maintenance and telephone-operator departments.

POI Council Changes Name to Great Lakes

Middleburg Heights, Ohio—The Pennsylvania-Ohio-Indiana District Council will henceforth be known as the Great Lakes District Council.

Final approval of the name change was given last weekend as the council took cognizance of New York and Michigan locals holding membership.

Forty-five delegates from nine locals attended a TNG regional institute on leadership training for women and minorities. The turnout included a number of young women and blacks and one Mexican American delegate.

The institute was conducted by

TNG Administrative Operations Director Ellis T. Baker and Research and Information Director James M. Cesnik.

The council voted a contribution of \$500 now and \$100 a month to the Cleveland Guild's newly launched strike against the Canton Repository after hearing a report by Unit Chairwoman Hannah Jo Rayl.

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., reported on the state of the Guild and on recent Pay Board developments.

The council's next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Toledo in May.

Locals Reassured on Costs Of Puerto Rico Convention

Guild locals were urged this month not to send reduced delegations to TNG's June convention in San Juan. The trip, they were told, may not be as expensive as they think.

Airline fares to and from Puerto Rico are "about the lowest for any comparable distance anywhere," TNG Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker said in a letter to local presidents and executive officers. Other expenses, he said, will be comparable with those elsewhere.

Crocker said that in some cases locals appear to be electing fewer delegates than usual. The cost of attending the Guild's "first off-shore convention" doesn't justify such a reduction, he said.

The economy fare from Washington to San Juan, for example, is only \$142, Crocker pointed out, compared to \$212 to Denver, a slightly greater distance

away. From Toronto, he said, the fare is less than to Vancouver, and the flight from Philadelphia costs less than it does to Twin Cities.

Deposit Funds in Union Banks, TNG Asks Members, Locals

Lending support to an Office and Professional Employees organizing drive, TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., this month urged Guild locals and district councils to patronize union banks wherever possible.

He urged locals to deposit their pension and welfare funds as well as their other funds in banks that have signed contracts with the Office Employees. Individual Guild members were urged to put their savings and checking accounts there.

Among the banks that have recognized the union are the Montreal City and District Savings Bank in Montreal, the Hudson Trust Co. in Union City, N.J., the Amalgamated Bank in New York City, and the Trust Co. of New Jersey in Jersey City, N.J.

In urging locals and district councils to make use of these and other union banks, Perlik noted that it is possible to bank by mail if they are not conveniently located.

'What makes you think we're not neutral?'



DATELINE: WASHINGTON

Bare Majority of High Court May Uphold Privilege

By WILLIAM J. EATON, Chicago Guild

The Supreme Court has an opportunity to strike a blow for common sense by adopting a Constitutional rule that newsmen cannot be forced to testify before grand juries about their news sources.

A new study by Vince Blasi, associate professor of law at the University of Michigan, indicates that reporters rarely have access to incriminating information of value to a prosecutor.

But the wholesale use of subpoenas to compel newsmen's testimony, Blasi warned, may shut off useful intelligence that law-enforcement officials now may read in newspapers and magazines.

The subpoenas have been directed largely at investigative reporters who specialize in covering radical organizations, antiwar forces and the drug subculture of the counter-culture.

Earl Caldwell, the New York Times reporter who has successfully staved off a subpoena to tell a San Francisco grand jury what

he knows about the Black Panthers, is a typical example.

Paul M. Branzburg, a less publicized reporter for the Louisville Courier-Journal, also has a case in the high court, based on his refusal to identify two young persons who produced hashish from marijuana. The third case before the Supreme Court involves Paul Pappas, a reporter-cameraman for a New Bedford, Mass., television station, who refused to disclose what he observed in Panther headquarters during a riot.

Caldwell has argued that his appearance in the secret grand jury proceeding would destroy the Black Panthers' confidence in him and dry up his sources in the militant group. The Federal Appeals Court for the Ninth Circuit ruled that Caldwell could be directed to testify only if the Justice Department showed a "compelling need" for his evidence.

A brief on Branzburg's behalf sums up the classical First Amendment argument: "The press cannot be utilized as an

arm of law enforcement and at the same time fully carry out its constitutionally recognized function of informing the general public of the important issues of the day."

BLASI MAKES A more sophisticated plea for the public's right to be informed in depth, saying: "The type of relationship that involves a specialist reporter covering an alienated group over an extended period of time is all too rare but extremely valuable to a pluralistic society that must acquire a more-than-surface-level understanding of its dissident groups if it hopes to continue to organize its political life around consensual rather than repressive principles."

John N. Mitchell's Justice Department, of course, is pressing to have Caldwell testify about the Panthers, claiming it wants him only to provide "nonconfidential" information to the grand jury.

Mitchell, who fought for a high-court ban on publication of the Pentagon Papers, rejects any form of privilege that would shield newsmen from the prosecutor's right to know.

It is true that Mitchell issued guidelines early in 1970 to narrow the circumstances in which the Justice Department would issue subpoenas to newsmen, but the exceptions are almost as numerous as the restrictions. His designated successor, Richard G. Kleindienst, seems equally indifferent to First Amendment arguments.

The Supreme Court itself is certainly not as liberal on this issue since the late Hugo L. Black, champion of free press and free speech, was succeeded by the deeply conservative William H. Rehnquist. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Harry A. Blackmun certainly showed little understanding of the use of confidential sources in their dissent in the Pentagon Papers' case.

There is some hope, however, that a bare majority of the justices may conclude that the First Amendment includes a cloak of protection from grand jury subpoenas for the news gatherers.

Editorial

The Outrage at El Mundo

Newspaper/unionism is barely 10 years old in Puerto Rico, but that seems little enough excuse for the action of Puerto Rico police in producing a picket-line scene reminiscent of the Guild's early strikes on the mainland.

Police were charged with clubbing numerous pickets in the first week of the Guild's strike at El Mundo, the island's largest daily. One picket was knocked unconscious, injured so badly he had to be taken to a hospital's intensive-care ward. Four others required hospital treatment.

Other pickets were injured by strikebreakers' cars, but police, while making 25 arrests, lodged no charges against the drivers. In fact, they were accused of shoving pickets into the cars' path.

Little wonder that TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., cited "the demonstrable allegiance of the police to the employer," as well as "the shocking police brutality," in a telegram to Puerto Rico.

The San Juan police have shown a concern for not only the safety but the success of strikebreakers while demonstrating a wanton disregard for the rights of pickets. The Puerto Rico Senate has ordered an investigation of the situation, and other probes have been undertaken by the Civil Rights Commission and police themselves.

"The good old days" of police baton practice on the heads of pickets are largely gone on the mainland. They're hardly a desirable item of export to the commonwealth.

The Powerless Deterrent

For years newsmen have contended that to force the disclosure of information or sources on pain of jail is wrong. Now comes confirmation of the suspicion that, even from a law-enforcement standpoint, it is pointless.

A survey conducted by a Michigan Law School professor, Vincent Blasi, shows that almost 70 percent of 975 reporters responding to a query said they would risk jail sentences of as long as six months rather than disclose their sources. Of those who had actually been entrusted with confidential information, the percentage was even higher—more than 80 percent.

Thus, if government authorities are successful in their court fight for power to wrench confidential data from reporters, what they will find at the end of the rainbow is not a stack of information but a flock of manacled reporters. They may fill the jails with newsmen, but they won't fill their files with news.

There will be another result, of course, and there are more than bare grounds for suspicion that it is a result at least equally intended by those seeking to transform the press into a transmission line for law-enforcement agencies.

Reporters will be less anxious to obtain confidential information, and newspapers will be less anxious to print it. Who then but the public, reduced to a meager diet of stories based on government handouts and official statements, will be the principal victim?

IT

SEEMS
TO US

Nude Slide Show In Gary Scored

MADISON, WIS.

Editor:

We were dismayed to learn from one of our returning delegates to the recent Midwest District Council meeting in Gary that an evening cocktail hour hosted by the Gary Guild featured a slide show, arranged by Brother Jim McGill, of entrants in the "Miss Nude America" pageant.

At a meeting designed to explore ways to advance the rights of women and minorities, this event deserves some kind of award for gross bad taste.

If this was a sign of our seriousness in struggling with an issue of human dignity, it leaves small hope for the oppressed.

We are informed that the Gary brother who sponsored this skin

By TNG convention action, letters shall be limited to 200 words and shall avoid libel and subjects detrimental 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.

show had the nerve to charge \$2 admission. Perhaps the money might be used to finance a black-face minstrel show at the next Guild meeting on minority rights.

Indignantly,

MATT POMMER
PresidentWHITNEY GOULD
Secretary

JOHNA JOHNSON

RON MCCREA

JOHN HUNTER

HOWARD COSGROVE

BRUCE SWAIN

CHARLOTTE ROBINSON

ARTHUR ROBINSON

Madison Guild

The Guild Reporter

DAVID J. EISEN
Editor

Published by The Newspaper Guild (AFL-CIO, CLC), the second and fourth Fridays of each month. \$5 per year. Single copies 25c. Guild Reporter deadline at 1126 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036: News, the Monday before publication; features and letters, Friday before publication. Letters limited to 200 words by TNG convention action.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 4

February 25, 1972

The Newspaper Guild

1126 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036
Area Code 202-296-2990

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