

Guild local is organized in Saskatoon

Saskatoon, Sask. — The Saskatoon Newspaper Guild—second new TNG local to be chartered in Canada in less than a month and fourth in two years—applied March 4 for certification as bargaining agent for about 50 editorial employees of the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

The application followed a weekend organizing "blitz" by four Winnipeg Guild members along with Jerry E. MacDonald, servicing representative for the Guild's Eastern Canada-Canadian Wire Service Guild Servicing Program, and Brian Bloome, international representative from Winnipeg.

Under Saskatchewan labor law certification normally is granted upon a showing of membership applications from 50 percent of the employees eligible, according to TNG Canadian Director William McLeman.

Provincial law also provides that all new employees be required to join the union after it is certified if the union invokes the law, McLeman said.

A hearing on the Saskatoon Guild's certification application is expected March 18, he said.

The Typographical Union was certified as bargaining agent for the Star-Phoenix's composing- and mail-room employees in January. The Printing and Graphic Communications Union represents the paper's pressmen.

The Star-Phoenix, 44,000-circulation evening paper, is Saskatoon's only daily. It is half the Sifton newspaper group. The other half is the Regina Leader-Post, the only daily in the province's capital city, about 145 miles south and east.

Saskatchewan is the middle of Canada's three Prairies provinces. Saskatoon is about in the center of Saskatchewan. Closest Guild local is about 325 miles to the west in Calgary, Alta., where a local was chartered last month and a petition for some 35 editorial employees of the F.P. chain's Albertan filed on Feb. 20. Closest Guild local to the east is Winnipeg, in Manitoba, about 425 miles away, organized in spring, 1973.

Avg. reporter top is up \$6 to \$280

The average reporter top minimum in effect in Guild newspaper contracts Feb. 1 was \$280.42, up \$6.08 from Dec. 1, an all-time high increase over a two month period, TNG's Collective Bargaining Department reports.

Previous high two-months' increases in the average, also Februarys over December, were \$5.65 in 1974 and \$5.58 in 1972. The two-month increase from Dec. 1, 1972, to Feb. 1, 1973, was only \$3.09, the department said.



The Monterey puzzle
Solved on Page 3

Vancouver files at CHAN-TV

Vancouver, B.C.—The Vancouver-New Westminster Guild has applied to the Canada Labour Relations Board for certification as bargaining representative for the 20-plus newsroom employees of CHAN-TV, a privately owned station.

Guild Executive Secretary Jack McKim reports a "very large majority" of the members of the group have applied for Guild membership and representation. Certification normally is granted without an election under those circumstances.

The Guild was certified for roughly the same group of employees about 14 years ago, but was unable to secure a contract for them.

Living-cost formula adds extra \$29.89 to top at magazine

Mt. Vernon, N.Y.—The latest of several recent cost-of-living raises to go to industry workers under Guild contracts has added nearly \$7 to nearly \$30 a week to salaries and minimums at Consumers Union (CU), publisher of Consumer Reports magazine.

Other recent cost-of-living (COL) increases—at Newsweek, Associated Press, United Press International and the Washington Star—have added \$2.60 to \$35.45 to Guild-covered employees' weekly paychecks—on top of other, scheduled raises.

The cost-of-living increase for CU senior editors and project engineers—\$29.89—takes their top minimum to \$495.86 a week. The starting minimum is increased \$25.79 by the COL provision, to \$427.84.

The COL increase for CU messengers—\$6.98—takes their starting minimum to \$115.85 a week, while the COL increase for the messenger top—\$8.63—takes it to \$143.11.

The New York Guild's contract with CU provides for additional increases equal to the percentage rise in the New York City-area Consumer Price Index (CPI) in excess of four percent from December 1973 to December 1974. The same sort of provision, but pegged to a six percent cut-in, produced additional increases of \$2.92 to \$12.49 a week Jan. 1, 1974.

Other Jan. 1, 1975, COL increases at CU include: \$25.91 at the photographer-assistant editor top, taking them to \$429.75, and \$16.99 in their starting minimum, taking it to \$281.79; \$20.03 at the top minimum for the classification covering programmers, research librarians, accountants and editorial associates, taking them to \$332.27; \$14.82 for experienced secretaries, assistant librarians and bookkeepers, taking them to \$245.80, and \$12.74 for experienced stenographers, information clerks and switchboard operators, taking them to \$211.30 a week.

At Newsweek, meanwhile, minimums and salaries were boosted an extra \$2.60 to \$8.80 a week under the New York Guild contract's provision for COL raises of up to two percent after an increase of more than seven per-

(Continued on Page 2)

La Presse's ad staffers organized

Montreal, Que.—The Montreal Guild applied for certification March 10 as bargaining agent for about 100 advertising-department employees of La Presse, the city's largest circulation French-language daily paper.

A weekend "blitz" organizing drive by a committee of La Presse employees and Guild members from the Montreal Star netted Guild membership applications and bargaining designations from about 80 percent of the paper's outside classified and inside and outside national and retail ad department employees, the Guild reported.

Certification by the Quebec Labour Relations Board usually is rapid and automatic when more than 60 percent of affected employees sign up.

La Presse has the largest circulation of the four French-language dailies published in Montreal, selling about 178,500 issues each weekday. It is the only evening paper among the four and is part of the six-paper Trans-Canada chain, as is the 128,600-circulation Montreal-Martin, which publishes mornings and Sundays.

La Presse is the first French-language paper to be organized by the Guild in Canada.

Ramsey named contracts aide; Brown, IR

Richard J. Ramsey, TNG international representative since January, 1970, has been appointed executive secretary of TNG's Contracts Committee.

He succeeds Robert W. Christofferson, who held the post 10 years until his death Feb. 17.

Ramsey, who was assigned to fill in for Christofferson when he suffered a stroke last June, had been named to the Contracts Committee as acting executive secretary by the International Executive Board at its fall meeting in Montreal in November.

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., announced his appointment to the full position effective March 1.

The executive secretary is responsible for clearing contract

(Continued on Page 2)



RICHARD J. RAMSEY



WILLIAM M. BROWN

William M. Brown, former administrative officer and president of the Philadelphia Guild, will join TNG's staff of international representatives March 31 TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., has announced.

He will fill the position made vacant by appointment of Richard J. Ramsey as executive secretary of TNG's Contracts Committee, Perlik said March 7.

Brown was Philadelphia's administrative officer for nearly five years before resigning the position recently.

During his term he bargained several pace-setting contracts with the Knight and Ingersoll newspapers covered by contracts with the Philadelphia local.

He also assisted Guild units at

(Continued on Page 2)



TNG's staff refresher

Richard J. Ramsey, newly named executive secretary of TNG's Contracts Committee, center background, makes a point during March 4-7 meeting of TNG's field and administrative staff in Washington. Others on Ramsey's side of the table are, from left: William McLeman, TNG Canadian Director, and International Representatives

G. Richard Pattison, William T. Davis, George C. Randol and Willard Hatch. Field Operations Director J. William Blatz is at right. Center foreground is David J. Eisen, director of research and information. Among the topics covered were legal developments, organizing, bargaining, automation, human rights and inter-union relations.

COLA adds \$29 at Consumer Reports

(Continued from Page 1)
cent in the New York City CPI between 1973 and 1974.

The \$8.80 COL increase takes the flat minimum for general editor to \$472.30 a week.

Top minimum for associate editors and correspondents is increased \$7.60, to \$410.70; that for photographer, writing assistant, editor and writer is increased \$7.20, to \$388.20; and the top for copy clerk is increased an extra \$2.60, to \$144.90 a week.

Cost-of-living provisions in the Wire Service Guild's contracts with AP and UPI took the top minimum for newsmen, newswomen, photographers and artists up an extra \$14.07, to \$349.07 a

week, effective Jan. 1 [GR, Feb. 28]. Their starting minimums went up an extra \$8.19 to \$203.29. The COL increases came on top of contract-stipulated raises of \$18 and \$11.10 in the two categories.

The Wire Service contracts' COL increases were triggered by the CPI rising more than eight percent in 1974.

... Brown

(Continued from Page 1)
other Ingersoll papers in the Northeast to bargain major contract gains.

Brown was elected chairperson of the Knight-Ridder Council of Guild Locals at its founding meeting during TNG's St. Louis Convention last July. He also played a key role in the formation the year before of the Knight Newspapers Guild Council.

He has headed the Philadelphia Council of Newspaper Unions since 1971.

A photographer at the Philadelphia Inquirer before his appointment as local administrative officer, Brown also had been president of the Philadelphia Guild in 1969-70.

Previously he had served as a shop steward, representative assembly delegate, and unit vice-chairman. He has been a TNG Convention delegate each year since 1968 and a delegate to the Middle-Atlantic District Council since 1969.

And minimums at the Washington Star were increased an extra \$11.12 to \$35.45 a week effective Dec. 8 under COL provisions of the Washington-Baltimore Guild's contract with the paper.

The \$35.45 increase took the flat minimum for assistant-news and deputy-national editors to \$514.45.

The top minimums for reporters, photographers and outside ad salespersons was increased \$29.90 by the COL clause, to \$433.90 a week.

Top for classified telephone solicitors was boosted by \$17.42, to \$252.85, while the starting minimum went up \$14.64, to \$212.48.

The \$11.12 COL increase went to the starting minimum for office messengers, taking it to \$161.36.

The top minimum was increased \$11.77, to \$170.88.

Noting that members of the Washington Star Guild unit responded to a publisher plea to help stem the paper's operating losses by voting Dec. 9 to work a four-day week for four days' pay, TNG Director of Field Operations J. William Blatz pointed out that they retained more than 80 percent of the COL increases in the process since the cutback came after they went into effect.

"I'd a whole lot rather earn 80 percent of \$514.45, \$433.90, \$252.85 and on down the line than 80 percent of \$479, \$404, \$235.43 or \$159.11," Blatz said.

The Star contract's COL increases were triggered when the CPI increase between October 1973 and 1974 exceeded 4.75 percent.

Supreme Court rules out suits on publishing public police data

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled March 3 that the media cannot be subjected either to criminal prosecution or civil damage suits for disseminating accurate information that is available from public law-enforcement records.

In an 8-to-1 ruling the high court struck down a Georgia law that made it a misdemeanor to print or broadcast the name of a rape victim. The court also denied the right of such a victim or her parent to base a suit for invasion of privacy on that kind of publication or broadcast.

"Even the prevailing law of invasion of privacy generally recognized that the interests in privacy fade when the information involved already appears in the public record," Justice Byron R. White wrote for the majority.

Justice William H. Rehnquist dissented, protesting the court's reaching any decision in the case for procedural reasons.

The case involved two 1972 news broadcasts on station WSB-TV in Atlanta.

At the opening of a trial of six Georgia youths on charges of

raping a 17-year-old girl, the broadcasts reported the name of the victim, who died after the attack.

The victim's father sought damages from the television station for invasion of privacy, the Georgia courts upheld the father as a matter of law, and the television station appealed to the Supreme Court.

The high court limited the scope of its ruling by confining it to "the narrower interface between press and privacy" involved in printing the name of a rape victim rather than "the broader

NLRB ruling on UPI pact is appealed

New York City—The Wire Service Guild is appealing dismissal of unfair-practice charges it filed against United Press International last fall accusing the company of refusing to implement wage minimums agreed on and of discriminating against employees who participated in the 23-day UPI strike last spring.

The regional National Labor Relations Board office said it dismissed the charges by the Guild—as well as a charge by UPI that the Guild refused to sign the contract—because it was convinced there had been no agreement on the salary issue during negotiations.

UPI has insisted on a dual wage schedule for employees on step-ups—one for those hired since 1972 and another for others. The company also is deducting 23 days' experience credit from persons who struck it.

A third Guild charge accuses UPI of refusing to arbitrate grievances. UPI maintains the arbitration clause of the contract is not in effect since the contract has not been signed. The Guild maintains that the company agreed in April to implement all contract provisions except the disputed wage terms.

A dual wage schedule was instituted in the prior UPI contract as a means of reducing the step-up schedule by a year. UPI holds the dual schedule still prevails, but the Guild said UPI put forth and the Guild agreed to only a single schedule during the latest round of bargaining.

The Guild charges that UPI's wage position constitutes bad-faith bargaining and its experience-credit stance is illegal discrimination.

The Guild's appeal to the NLRB's general counsel seeks rescission of the regional dismissal and an order that hearings be held on the Guild's complaints.

... Ramsey

(Continued from Page 1)
proposals and settlements for all Guild locals in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

Ramsey joined TNG's staff Jan. 5, 1970, while serving as president of the Erie Guild. He was elected local president after serving as vice president and playing a key leadership role during the local's successful 132-day strike against the Erie Times and News in the spring and summer of 1969.

A reporter for the Erie dailies from 1966 until he joined TNG's staff, Ramsey also had served as chairman of the local's human rights and welfare committee.

You're tuned to S-T-R-I-K-E

Vancouver, B.C.—Vancouver area residents had only to turn their radios to station CKLG early in the afternoon of Feb. 1 to learn that it had just been struck by its 46 employees.

Tapes plugged into the station's transmitters as the employees walked out at noon contained announcements of the strike interspersed with the song "I'm Part of the Union."

They played continuously for an hour on CKLG-AM and for two hours on CKLG-FM.

The employees, represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees, are seeking a first contract from the station.

An attempt by the station's seven newsroom employees to be represented by the Vancouver-New Westminster Guild in 1972 was thwarted by a Canada Labour Relations Board ruling that the unit was inappropriate. Local Guild President Lorraine Shore, Executive Secretary Jack McKim and several rank-and-file members joined the picket line.

Top administrative officer wanted

Philadelphia Newspaper Guild seeks applicants for number one spot as administrative officer. Individual willing to accept challenge of a local with organizing growth potential. Can expect top pay and benefits. Previous AO and/or TNG staff experience certainly an asset. Write stating qualifications, salary requirements, availability, other pertinent information, or if you have any questions.

NEWSPAPER GUILD OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

Hotel Philadelphia, 6th floor

314 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102



From the heart

Monterey Guild-unit negotiating committee members display the seven-part plaque presented them by fellow employees of the Peninsula Herald in appreciation for their efforts in securing an initial contract from the company last fall. The plaque, purchased with the proceeds of a collection among the unit's 110 members, is an engraving of the first page of the Monterey contract cemented to a piece of redwood. The members of the committee, each

holding his or her piece of the plaque, are, from left: Fritz Willardt, Bud Stubbs, Lewis Leader, Unit Chairperson Russ Cain, Alice Burton, Everett Messick and Al Elsen. In the background are unit members Gene Mumford and Margo Burke. The three-year contract provided immediate wage increases averaging \$50 a week and takes key top minimums to \$325 during its three-year term, highest ever negotiated in an initial Guild pact.

Tacoma ad phoners upgraded

Tacoma, Wash. — Minimum and general increases range from \$22.35 to \$52.85 a week in the first two years of a new three-year Pacific Northwest Guild contract with the Tacoma News-Tribune. There is a reopener on wages and other economic benefits for the third year.

The settlement also upgrades classified telephone sales minimums, improves pensions, maternity-leave and fair-employment-practices provisions and medical and hospitalization benefits.

The top minimum for key news and outside ad sales jobs is increased \$52.85—\$25.85 retroactive to last Oct. 1 and \$27 next Oct. 1—to \$346.10; the starting minimum goes up \$15.35 and \$17.25, to \$204.10 a week.

Sub-editor top minimums also are increased \$52.85, to \$357.10.

The classified telephone sales and circulation bookkeeping top is increased \$51.35—\$16.10 last Oct. 1, \$8 on the date of signing and \$27.25 next Oct. 1—to \$234.60 a week. The starting minimum is increased \$43.85—\$12.35, \$8 and \$23.50—to \$185.85. In addition, provision is

made for \$9 more to go to these minimums than is negotiated as a general increase at their rates in the reopener.

Top minimum for stenographer and senior ad clerk is increased \$33.60—\$15.35 and \$18.25—to \$209.35; that for copy person and junior ad clerk is increased \$26.85—\$12.35 and \$14.50—to \$167.10.

The library assistant classification also is upgraded, with the top minimum increasing \$44.10, to \$198.10 a week.

A guarantee that any reduction in force necessitated by automation will be accomplished through attrition is added to the contract, as is a commitment that any training or retraining be at company expense.

Pension improvements include a 10 percent increase in benefits for those already retired.

Seniority protections in economy dismissals are improved and the Guild's right to arbitrate disputes over exceptions to seniority is guaranteed.

A three-year tenure requirement for maternity leave is eliminated and guarantees of sick pay

for the period of maternity disability and of being allowed to work as long as the employee's physician advises are added.

Fair employment practices provisions are improved by adding retention or promotion to hiring as the areas in which discrimination is forbidden, and by adding political belief, mental or physical handicap and marital or parental status to the bases of discrimination banned. The employer also is pledged to actively recruit, hire and promote women and members of minority groups.

The contract's medical plan improvements include cutting the deductible in half to \$50, adding alcoholism treatment to major medical and providing the same maternity benefits to all female employees as formerly provided to spouses.

Drivers shut N.Y. News 3 days

New York City—Nearly half the New York Guild's 1,300 members at the News were given furlough notices in the waning hours of a three-day strike by the paper's 900 drivers in protest of cuts in the overtime of 130.

Few, if any, however, lost any work-time, the local reported.

The drivers, members of the Newspaper Deliverers' Union, struck about 7:30 p.m. March 2, just as the first edition of the next day's paper was going to press.

They continued the strike until early evening March 5 despite a temporary restraining order secured by the News the first night, another court order and a back-to-work request by their president the next day and a \$100,000 fine levied against their union March 4.

They voted to accept a settlement of the dispute worked out with the aid of an arbiter shortly after it was announced about 6 p.m. March 5 and reported to work.

U.S., Boston Globe settle antitrust case

The Justice Dept. and the Boston Globe agreed on March 5 to a consent decree that calls for the paper to give up its exclusive right to syndicated features in extensive portions of New England.

The decree, if accepted by the court, would end a 1973 civil antitrust suit against the Globe Newspaper Co., but leaves standing the department's claims under suits against three newspaper syndicates and their exclusive licenses with other newspapers. The decree was filed in United States District Court in New York.

The other suits—against the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate, Inc., Field Enterprises, Inc., and the Hearst Corp.—were filed in 1967. The Globe was added later when the government was required by the court to sue at least one newspaper because, the court ruled, newspapers that were parties to the agreements the government alleged to be illegal were indispensable parties to the court action.

The government had charged that the agreements between the syndicates and the Globe unreasonably restricted licensing of syndicated features to other media in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

Under the agreements, the syndicates would not license features made available to the Globe to any other newspaper or firm in the Globe's circulation area or in nearby states.

The consent decree says the Globe can claim exclusivity only in counties where it has a circulation of at least 5,000 copies and 20 percent of the households. The proposed pact also leaves the door open for smaller newspapers by permitting those with a total circulation of less than 11,750 to share the Globe's syndicated features.

The consent decree defines news features as "columns on topics such as politics, religion, business, sports, medicine, society, fashions, personal advice, gardening and handicraft, and other materials such as opinion surveys or polls, cartoons, comic strips,

puzzles, needle patterns and serialized books."

The proposed agreement does not cover what it terms "supplemental news service," such as the New York Times News Service or the Washington Post-Los Angeles Times News Service.

According to a competitive impact statement filed by the Justice Department with the proposed decree—the first such statement filed under a new law passed last year—the antitrust division said it couldn't be assumed that the relief ordered would have a significant effect on competition between the Globe and surrounding media.

ERA question on '76 site faces Demos

The Democratic National Committee is being asked to refuse to hold the party's 1976 nominating convention in any state that has not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The request, voted by a caucus of Democratic women on March 10, would, if adopted, exclude consideration of six of 11 cities which are bidding for the convention: Chicago, New Orleans, Kansas City, Miami Beach, Atlanta and Norfolk, Va.

Chicago is on the list by virtue of the Illinois Senate voting March 5 to make a three-fifths majority necessary to ratify amendments to the federal constitution, an action which ERA backers said killed the measure before that body this year.

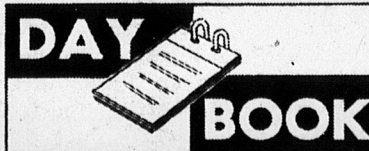
And the Indiana Senate in effect killed ERA ratification there this year when it voted down an attempt to make a proposed ERA to the state constitution conform to the federal ERA. The Indiana version adds a provision that it is not to be "construed to impair any rights, benefits or exemptions conferred by law upon persons by reason of sex."

The U.S. price elevator

The following table shows the steep ascent of the United States' Consumer Price Index over a 25-month period following a 0.7-point rise, to 156.1, in January. The first column shows the index, with a 1961 base. The second shows the percentage increase over the same month of the preceding year; the third the increase over December, 1972.

	Index*	Percentage over Same month prior year	December 1972†
January 1974	139.7	9.4	9.7
February	141.5	10.0	11.2
March	143.1	10.2	12.4
April	143.9	10.1	13.0
May	145.5	10.6	14.3
June	146.9	11.0	15.4
July	148.0	11.5	16.3
August	149.9	11.0	17.8
September	151.7	12.0	19.2
October	153.0	12.0	20.2
November	154.3	12.1	21.2
January, 1975	156.1	11.7	22.6

* 1967 = 100 † Index = 100



Western District Council, TNG Regional Institute on Organizing and Human Rights, March 22, 23, Airport Marina Hotel, Fresno.

International Executive Board, spring meeting, April 22-May 2, TNG Headquarters, Washington.

Southern District Council, spring meeting, May 3, 4, Ramada Inn, Morgantown.

Western District Council, spring meeting, May 10, 11, Stockton.

Great Lakes District Council, spring meeting, May 17, 18, Erie.

Middle Atlantic District Council, spring meeting, May 17, 18, Hilton Inn, Scranton.

Midwest District Council, spring meeting, May 17, 18, St. Louis.

New England District Council, spring meeting, June 7, 8, Kings Grant Motor Inn, Danvers, Mass.

42nd Annual TNG Convention, July 7-11, Denver Hilton Hotel, Denver.

THE SHORT



OF IT

The Canadian editions of Time magazine and Reader's Digest will be closed down if the Canadian government's proposed guidelines for their ownership and content are put into effect, spokesmen for both publications have threatened. The guidelines would require the two magazines to be 75 percent Canadian-owned and mandate that 60 to 80 percent of their editorial content be different from that in editions published by their parent U.S. companies. If not they will lose their status as Canadian magazines by next Jan. 1 and advertisers would no longer be able to deduct the full cost of space in calculating their federal income tax. Reader's Digest (Canada) presently is about 33 percent Canadian owned and carries about 24 percent Canadian-originated material. While a Time Canada representative said it is willing to go along with the 75 percent Canadian ownership rule, he also said that increasing the present 10 percent Canadian-news content to meet the criteria would make the magazine too "restricted," according to the Wall Street Journal. Without the tax status, Time Canada's 1974 profit of \$993,000 would have been a two-million dollar loss, the representative said.

Norman E. Isaacs is the new president and publisher of the Wilmington News and Journal, the papers whose editorial staff had reportedly been in turmoil after their executive editor, John G. Craig, Jr., and associate editor, Curtis Wilkie, resigned in January when the DuPont-controlled board of directors cancelled a staff reorganization and sharply restricted Craig's authority. Isaacs, editor-in-residence at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, is a former executive editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal and Times and a former president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He also becomes a member of the Wilmington papers' board and, according to the New York Times, will have complete independence in determining the news and editorial content of the papers. One of his first actions after taking over was to announce to the unorganized editorial staff that he is "deeply opposed to a Guild," urging them to "form a tough little union of their own if they have to have one," according to Editor & Publisher. . . . Eleanor Dunn, at-large TNG vice president from 1971 to 1973 and a former three-term president of the Ottawa Guild, has left CJOH-TV to become a journalism professor at Algonquin College in Ottawa. She's also left the Guild—for the Civil Service Assn. of Ontario, the bargaining agent for community college teachers there.

Helen Thomas, White House reporter for United Press International and a Wire Service Guild member, has broken the sex barrier at Washington's Gridiron Club. Last month she was elected the first woman member of the club, best known for its annual spring dinner lampooning national political figures. Three months earlier the 90-year-old organization had changed its constitution to admit women and enlarge its membership from 50 to 60. The Journalists for Professional Equality, a group of Washington reporters who have been picketing the Gridiron dinner and staging "counter Gridiron" parties in recent years to protest the sex barrier will stage another this spring, but will convert it into a victory celebration, a representative told UPI. . . . Barbara McLintock, reporter for the Vancouver Province and member of the Vancouver-New Westminster Guild, has been elected first woman president of the British Columbia Legislative Press Gallery. . . . The Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) has published the first edition of what it plans to be a quarterly national newsletter, CLUW News. Among those who assisted in its preparation is Chicago Guild member Patricia Strandt, editor of the Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers' International Union monthly magazine, the Voice.

The AFL-CIO has warned all its affiliates against issuing press credentials to a group calling itself, among other things, the U.S. Labor Party, and the United Auto Workers union has filed suit to stop the group from using the name "New Solidarity" for its newspaper, charging that it is an attempt to identify it with the UAW's publication, "Solidarity." The group, according to Albert J. Zack, AFL-CIO public relations director, has used press credentials to gain entry to labor gatherings in order to disrupt them. Members of the group also have been known to use the names of bona fide reporters in telephone calls to union officials, Zack said. The group has been known to use such other names as "Campaigner Publications," the "National Caucus of Labor Committees," the "New Solidarity International Press Service," the "National Unemployed and Welfare Rights Organization," the "North American Labor Party," and the "International Press Service," embarrassing the legitimate International Press Service of Washington, D.C., Zack added. . . . Susan Ford, 17, daughter of President Ford, has applied to be a summer intern photographer at the Washington Post, according to the Washington Star. She has been studying photography with White House photographer David Hume Kennerly, former Wire Service Guild member.

Herald-Examiner fined big in race case

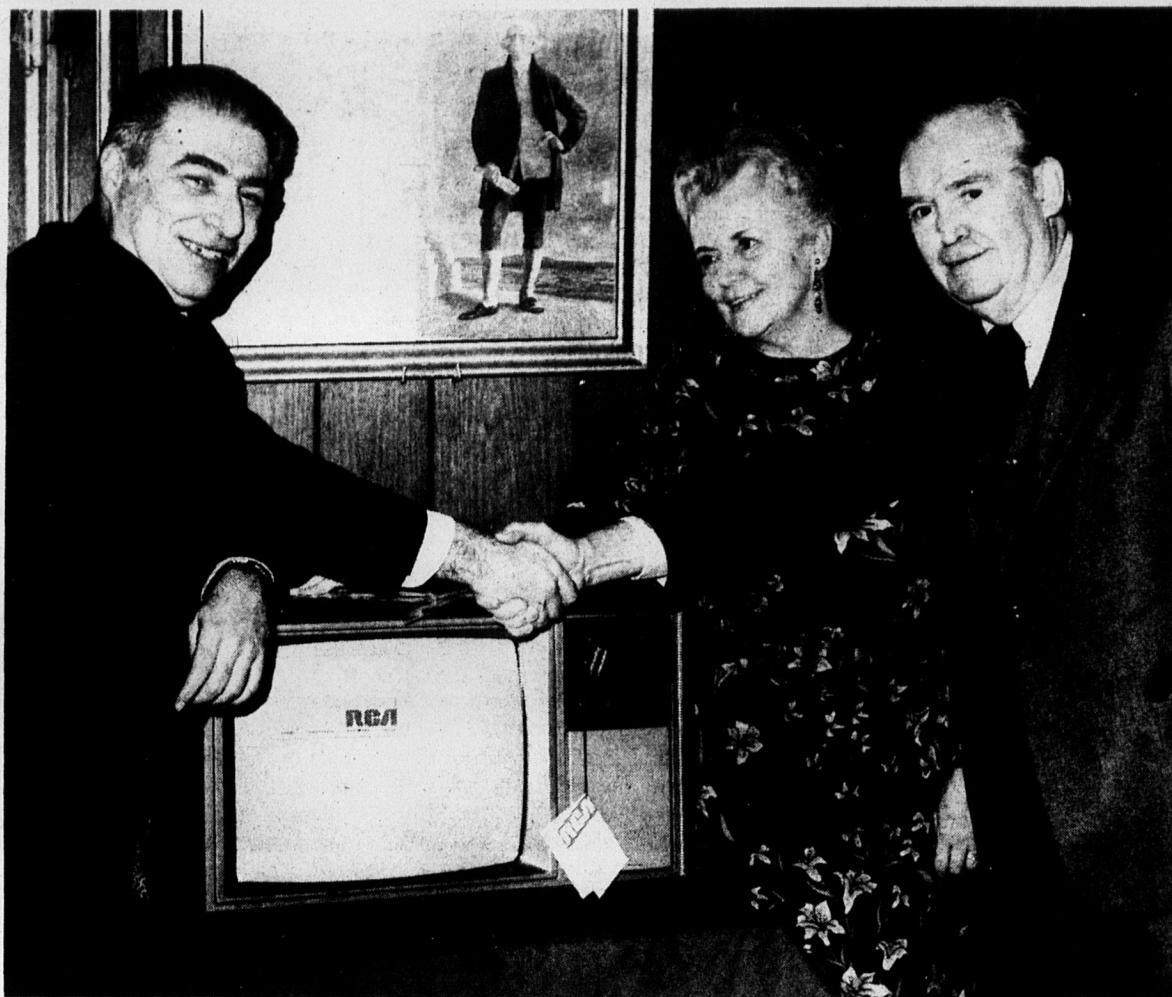
Los Angeles, Calif.—The California Fair Employment Commission has ordered Hearst's Herald-Examiner to pay \$13,691 in back pay to a mail-room employee the commission ruled the newspaper fired in November, 1973, because he was black.

Herald-Examiner management denied the charge, contending

that Rudolph McMurray was fired after he hugged and kissed another employee during working hours.

The agency said it found "no merit" in management's charge of misconduct.

Herald-Examiner lawyers said the award, largest ever ordered by the CFEC, will be appealed.



Farewell, Jack . . . Peggy

Jack Deegan, right, who retired in January after four years as executive vice president of the New York Guild, accepts best wishes from his successor in the position, Harry Fisdell, during the second of two retirement send-off events held for Deegan and his wife, Peggy, who also retired, from the New York Telephone Co. TNG Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker presented Deegan with a

TNG ring, the local gave him a tape recorder and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service an inscribed statuette during a cocktail party at New York Guild offices. TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., joined well-wishers at the second gathering, arranged by the Allied Printing Trades Council of Greater New York. The Council presented the Deegans with a color television.

IT



SEEMS TO US

North Jerseyite questions May legislative meeting

JAMESBURG, N.J.

Editor:

The IEB reports the economy is "dangerously out-of-kilter," yet offers no major surgery beyond nationalization of the oil import business and the rationing of oil products.

The Guild is a small union, and presumably lacks recourse to economic expertise even more so than our larger, brother organizations, so I wonder what can be accomplished at the projected May 5-8 economic conference.

However, I suggest that any cure for such a sick patient need not involve such heavy medicine as institutionalized economic planning and wage-price controls.

The latter I know is officially anathema to the Guild, but is probably inescapable if the country is really as bad off as we say it is.

An area where government controls can really help the newspaper industry and its employees is that of newsprint prices. Newsprint costs are headed for the stratosphere, at the same time that the price offered for newsprint scrap is so low that many would-be collectors now don't bother. In a state like New Jersey, where much of the newsprint bought by newspapers comes from recycled scrap, the situation means that the newsprint industry is enjoying windfall profits, at our expense.

GEORGE DAWSON
2nd Vice-President
North Jersey Guild

Editor's note: The IEB, in a statement on the U.S. economy Jan. 29 [full text, Feb. 14 Guild Reporter, page 6] endorsed the six-point "general program" for

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. Deadline, Friday before publication.

U.S. economic recovery adopted Jan. 23 by the AFL-CIO General Board, singling out several of them for "particular emphasis." The latter deal with jobs and the jobless, taxes, interest rates and credit as well as petroleum.

Doubled-digits in Denver are clarified, peacefully

DENVER, COLO.

Editor:

To clarify.

We would like to point out that in 1974—a year of double-digit inflation—Denver was the only Guild local in the United States to attain a double-digit wage settlement.

At the Denver Post, where the bargaining unit includes 643 full-time and 227 parttime workers, the increase for the first of two years was 10.2 percent. At the

key reporter level, it was a straight 10 percent, from \$310 to \$341.

The settlement at Denver's Rocky Mountain News, with 266 fulltime and 80 parttime workers, was a shade higher. The News for the first time established a copy desk differential—already in effect at the Post.

Double-digit settlements have been won in Canada, as the Guild Reporter's editor pointed out in a note attached to our previous letter [GR, Feb. 14]. But our Canadian members started from a lower base. Toronto's key reporter minimum, highest in Canada, just rose to \$322.

The purpose of our letters has been to correct what we believed was an insufficient report of our contract gains. We acknowledge we contributed to this by not providing all the necessary data, but we also feel the Guild Reporter might have asked a few questions.

Peace.

JUDITH BRIMBERG
Denver Guild

Editor's note: Aye, and Amen!

Salem vote result is in doubt

Salem, Ore.—The outcome of a National Labor Relations Board election on continuation of the Pacific Northwest Guild as bargaining representative of advertising, business office, circulation and editorial employees at the Capital Journal and Statesman was in doubt here following March 5 balloting.

With 64 votes counted for the Guild, 63 for "no union" and five challenged ballots uncounted, resolution of the challenges could

determine the election's outcome. The NLRB challenged the five votes, all cast by persons left off the list of eligible voters by the employer but permitted to cast challenged ballots when the Guild pointed out that all five are covered by the current contract.

The election was kicked off by a petition seeking decertification of the Guild filed by an advertising salesman at the Gannett-chain papers who listed himself as "employer representative."

TNG is distributing tracts on FOI Act

A pair of publications outlining the provisions of the amended U.S. Freedom of Information Act has been mailed to all U.S. Guild locals by TNG.

One, a leaflet published by the Freedom of Information Clearinghouse, a Ralph Nader organization, outlines how to proceed under the act, David J. Eisen, TNG director of research and information, pointed out in a letter accompanying the publications.

The other, a booklet published by the Center for National Security Studies and the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, deals specifically with using the act to obtain "so-called classified information," Eisen said.

Eisen called upon local presidents to "let your members know that this material is available for their use if they are confronted with a government attempt to withhold information."

He also said that members may obtain copies for themselves by requesting them directly from TNG's Research and Information Department.

Noting that one of the reasons advanced for the press's failure to make use of the FOI law in its original form was lack of familiarity with its provisions, Eisen said the mailing and offer to members is "TNG's mite to fill that lack."

Meanwhile, the U.S. State Dept., responding to a request under the amended FOI Act, on March 6 formally made public transcripts of background briefings to reporters by Sec. of State Henry Kissinger last November and December on nuclear arms negotiations in Vladivostok.

At the same time State Dept. officials said being forced to release such transcripts could endanger the practice of off-the-record briefings.

About three of the 60 pages of transcript released were deleted on national security grounds, the New York Times reported. Morton H. Halperin, a former

National Security Council staff member now with the Center for National Security Studies, requested the transcripts under the act and said he might file suit to seek the deleted information. He also said he would request all past and future background transcripts.

The Times said that when one of its reporters attempted to view the unedited transcripts in the State Dept.'s press office, where they are "normally available to newsmen," the reporter was told they had been removed and the press officer was unable to say if those or any other Kissinger transcripts would be returned to the press office.

A State Dept. lawyer said that nothing in the FOI Act requires the department either to hold background briefings or maintain a record, the Times reported.

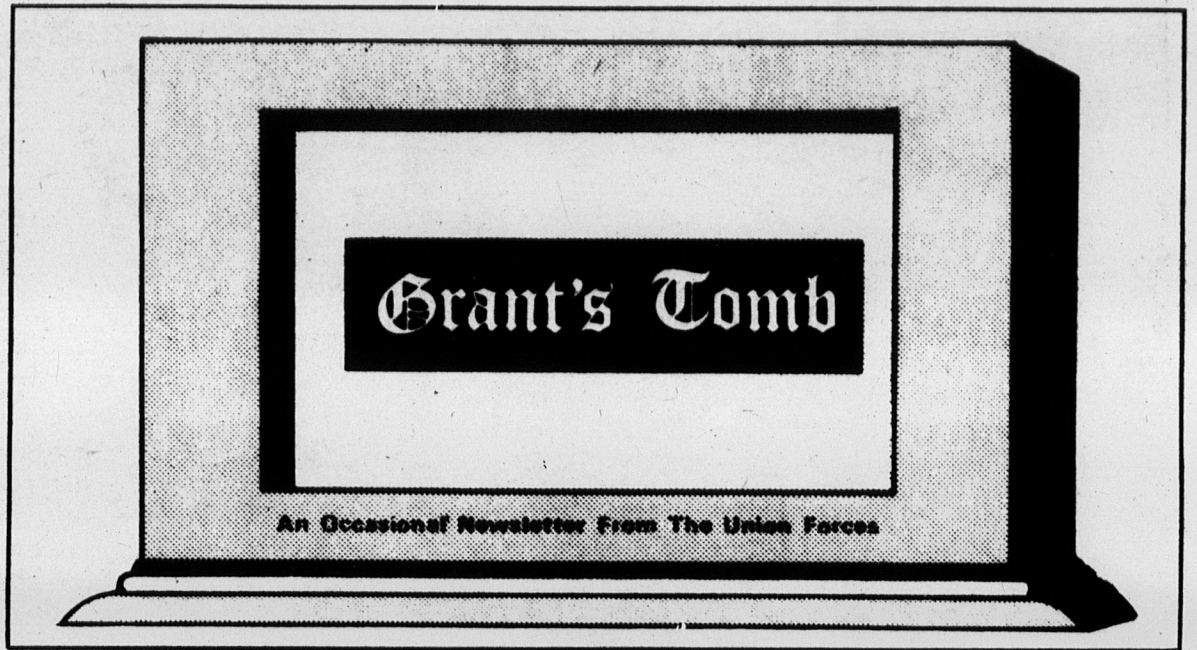
And a former Oregon congressman has filed a suit under the amended FOI Act that may provide its first test.

Charles O. Porter filed suit in federal district court in Portland to try to force the Central Intelligence Agency to provide him copies of a file he says the agency has on a trip he took to Cuba in 1963 when he visited Fidel Castro as part of research for an article for the now-defunct Look magazine.

Porter has filed under provisions of the act requiring the federal government to provide its files on a person within 30 days after the person requests them, the New York Times reported. Porter said he requested the files in December and the agency has said it is searching for them.

OSHA walkaround

Union representatives have the right to accompany compliance officers of the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration on inspection tours of plants where members work and to point out hazardous conditions to them.



Pun intended?

This is the flag carried atop an otherwise typewritten newsletter published by the Washington UPI unit of the Wire Service Guild. "All editorial decisions," the newsletter points out in its masthead, "are made by the unit's executive commit-

tee." No member of the committee has a first, middle or last name either looking or sounding like "Grant." Chief of the bureau, a position excluded from the Wire Service Guild's contract with UPI, is Grant Dillman.

Free press, Perlik tells Thieu, Park

Overt and covert attempts to suppress press freedom in South Vietnam and South Korea were protested March 7 by TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., in letters to the president of each country.

Perlik called on President Nguyen Van Thieu to release 18 jailed Vietnamese journalists and permit the reopening of five opposition newspapers in Saigon. And he asked President Park Chung Hee to halt a government campaign that has forced most big advertisers to withdraw from Dong-A Ilbo, regarded as Korea's most influential daily.

Perlik voiced indignation at the Saigon government's closure of all independent newspapers and its imprisonment of some of the nation's leading journalists. He termed the actions "repugnant to all who believe in democracy and the consequent right of the people to be informed without fear or hindrance."

Perlik said the charge that the jailed newscaster are "Communist cadres" is one that "defies belief." He noted that closing of the five opposition papers leaves only three Vietnamese-language dailies, all progovernment, still publishing.

"Where the press is free only to support those in authority, it is not free at all," he declared.

Reports by members of a U.S. Congressional delegation who interviewed some of the imprisoned journalists late in February indicated that they were being held under conditions that inspired terror.

Perlik called on Thieu to release them pending trial on the charges and to "forbear from any further actions against Vietnam's free press."

In a similar letter to Park, TNG's president accused government officials of embarking on a course of "suppressing the press by economic starvation."

Correspondents have reported that government departments, including the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, have been bringing underground pressure on advertisers to desert Dong-A Ilbo in retaliation for its independence.

On March 12 100 Dong-A Ilbo journalists struck the paper then took over its plant and radio station to protest dismissal of 20 of their number for "economy and discipline." The publisher then fired 17 more.

The strikers also demanded retirement of the paper's chief editor and resumption of the Korean Journalists' Assn. weekly, banned by Park.

"Covert suppression of the press is no more tolerable than direct repression," Perlik told Park, "Its effect is the same: the stifling of a free voice on which the people of your country depend for the information necessary to act intelligently in public affairs."

TEAR LINE

For your pocket: a guide to the FOI Act

By WILLIAM J. EATON
Chicago Guild

The revised Freedom of Information (FOI) Act, which took effect Feb. 19, is designed to give citizens quicker, easier access to documents in federal government files.

The 1974 amendments, written into law over President Ford's veto, do several things:

- ✓ They impose strict deadlines on federal agencies to respond to requests;
- ✓ While they still give the government nine specific grounds for denying requests for documents, they define and limit the exceptions relating to national security and investigatory records;
- ✓ They put the burden of proof on the government to justify a claim of secrecy when a request is denied and a citizen sues to get the information. Judges are permitted to review documents to see whether "top-secret" classifications and other security labels are being misused to prevent disclosure of non-sensitive information.

On the other hand, the 1974 amendments do not make the Act a magical "open, Sesame!" You must start the disclosure machinery with a written request and be ready to file a prompt appeal to the head of an agency if the initial request fails. If your appeal is unsuccessful, you may want to seek a partial disclosure, or go to court. Although FOI Act cases are supposed to be handled speedily and the government may get stuck with your lawyer's bill if you win, going to court can be costly as well as time-consuming.

The show of strong congressional backing for the new law, however, may well open more of the closed federal files without resort to litigation.

Here's a guide to the new law and some suggestions on how to get the greatest advantage from it:

Details of the Act

✓ **TITLE:** Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552. This means the law can be found in Volume 5 of the U.S. Code, section 552. The code is available at law libraries and most lawyers' offices.

✓ **THE REQUEST:** The law says that you must "reasonably describe" the records you want. You do not need the formal name of the document or report, but describe it well enough so that it can be found with a reasonable try. Give all the details you can.

The request should be addressed to the agency having the records, its general counsel or the agency official designated to handle FOI Act matters. Give your telephone number in your letter to speed up things.

✓ **FEES:** The law allows the government to assess "reasonable standard charges for document search and duplication." It says these fees may be waived if the agency decides that release of the information primarily benefits the public at large. You could save money by asking to see the documents instead of having copies made. Your request may set a ceiling on such charges in advance.

✓ **TIMETABLE:** A request for information, says the new law,

must be answered within 10 working days. If some or all of the requested information is refused, you must be told of your right to appeal and given the name of the official, usually the agency head, who will rule on it.

With some exceptions, that decision must be made within 20 working days from the time an appeal is filed. If documents are denied, an appeal should be filed along with copies of the request and the denial.

If you lose the appeal or there is no response within the prescribed periods, you may file suit in federal court. The government must file an answer in 30 days, instead of the customary 60 days, unless they win a delay by proving "exceptional circumstances."

✓ **EXEMPTIONS:** There are nine justifications spelled out in the law for refusal to disclose information. Study them before making a request.

(1) Documents properly classified as secret "in the interest of national defense or foreign policy."

Under the 1974 amendments, however, federal courts may examine a claim of national security to see if it is being used to suppress material that would be politically embarrassing but not truly sensitive. Also, proper classification of a few pages of a report does not justify secrecy for the entire document.

(2) Documents related "solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency" that do not affect the public.

(Continued on Page 6)

Malden pact raises tops \$60, to \$307

Boston, Mass.—Minimums for editorial and maintenance employees of the Malden News, Medford Mercury and Melrose News are increased \$34 to \$60 in a new three-year Boston Guild contract with their publisher.

Top minimum for reporters and photographers—for those with at least three years' experience—is increased the \$60, to \$307.75 a week, in six-month increments of \$7.50 (retroactive to July 8), \$10 (retroactive to Jan. 8), \$10, \$10, \$10.50 and \$12 on Jan. 8, 1977.

The starting reporter minimum is up \$47.95 over the term, to \$245.55 a week.

Top minimum for maintenance employees is increased \$38.25, to \$217.25, in increments of \$4.50, \$5, \$5, \$6.25, \$7.25 and \$10.25. Starting maintenance minimum goes up \$34, to \$192.70 a week.

The contract's Guild shop provision is improved to require that all employees become and remain members within 30 days of the contract's effective date or their hiring date. It had permitted one of each five new employees to be free riders.

Two days' paid paternity leave also is added.



Study break

Detroit Guild Executive Secretary Helen Fogel, right, and Donna Forloine, president of a Transport Workers' Union flight attendants' local in New York City, take a lunch break at a course for local union administrative officers at the

AFL-CIO's Labor Studies Center in suburban Washington. Among the topics covered in the week-long study session were the role and responsibility of local paid officers, grievance and arbitration procedures and the efficient use of time.

Pressmen finally win Newsday editorial

The Nassau County (N.Y.) local of the International Printing and Graphic Communications Union (pressmen) has been certified as bargaining representative for editorial department employees of Newsday in what appears finally to be the conclusion of 17 months of uncertainty over the outcome of a representation election held Sept. 7, 1973.

The certification, by the National Labor Relations Board's regional director, came after neither the union nor management took issue with an NLRB

hearing examiner's recommendations on ballots challenged in the election.

The tally at the time of the election was 149 for the union and 138 for "no union," with 14 challenged ballots. Subsequently the board threw out four challenges and two were withdrawn. When the cleared ballots were counted the union's margin was 149-to-144.

The Guild lost a representation election at the Long Island daily in 1971 shortly after it was purchased by the Los Angeles Times

Mirror Co. Leaders of the pressmen's organizing campaign said their goal was parity with the Guild's key top minimum at the New York Daily News, then \$330.71, now \$377.98 a week.

Meanwhile, a Canton Teamsters' local has withdrawn a petition to the NLRB in which it sought to sever 15 drivers and mechanics from the Cleveland Guild unit of employees at the Thomson chain's Canton Repository. An earlier petition by a Cleveland Teamsters' local seeking to split 57 circulation, ad-

dispatch and maintenance employees from the Guild unit was withdrawn last September.

And in Helena, Mont., the NLRB has dismissed a petition by two state-capital bureau reporters for the Great Falls Tribune, who worked during the Great Falls Guild's two-months' strike last fall, to sever them and a temporary clerk-typist from the paper's Guild-covered employees. They wanted the NLRB to recognize as their bargaining agent "the International Brotherhood of Capitol Bureaus."

Wilkes-Barre appeals ruling on weeklies

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—The Wilkes-Barre Guild is appealing dismissal by the regional National Labor Relations Board office of the local's unfair-practices charges against the former and present owners of three weekly papers the local is seeking to organize.

The Greenstreet News Co., former publisher of the Dallas Post, the Mountaintop Eagle and the Abington Journal, committed no chargeable offense when it dismissed its employees and ceased publishing the papers on Dec. 23, shortly after the Guild filed its representation petition, the NLRB regional director said.

"I find that the employer terminated its employees because of economic considerations, not for their union activity," the regional director said, adding, however, that even if it were for the latter reason it is not illegal "for an employer to terminate its employees, cease operations and go out of business for anti-union reasons."

The regional director also said he found insufficient evidence to uphold the Guild's charge that the new publisher, Pennaprint, Inc., which bought and resumed publishing the papers in January, refused to hire the discharged employees because of their union activity. He said Pennaprint had hired three of Greenstreet's former employees.

And finally, the regional director ruled, the representation petition no longer has validity since Greenstreet "is no longer in business," and therefore "no question concerning representation [of its employees] exists."

The regional director said Greenstreet had decided last October to go out of business if a buyer were not found by the end of the year and closed up shop when it "discovered that it had insufficient funds to meet payroll" for the rest of December.

For your pocket: a guide to the FOI Act

(Continued from Page 5)

(3) Documents kept confidential by federal law, such as income tax returns, applications for patents and completed census forms.

(4) Trade secrets and commercial or financial information furnished by a person on a privileged or confidential basis.

(5) Inter-agency or intra-agency communications with views and recommendations of officials on policy or legal matters.

This has been a widely used exemption. Experts suggest it does not apply to factual reports or analyses, however.

(6) Personnel and medical files whose disclosures would be a "clearly unwarranted invasion" of privacy.

If your request touches on this area, you should explain why you want the information so officials can weigh whether any invasion of privacy resulting from disclosure would be "unwarranted."

(7) The exemption for "investigatory files" has been narrowed. It now covers investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes (such as FBI files) but only if disclosure of such records would:

- (a) interfere with the law enforcement;
- (b) deprive a person of fair trial;
- (c) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (d) disclose the identity of a confidential source and,

in a criminal investigation or lawful national security intelligence investigation, confidential information furnished only by the confidential source;

(e) disclose investigative techniques and procedures;

(f) endanger the life or physical safety of law enforcement personnel.

This has been another widely used exemption.

(8) Reports prepared by or for an agency responsible for supervision of financial institutions, such as reports by the Securities and Exchange Commission on the New York Stock Exchange.

(9) Geological and geophysical data, including maps, concerning oil and natural gas exploration by private firms.

Advice

There are two organizations willing to help reporters exercise their rights under the revised FOI Act. They are:

Freedom of Information Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 19367, Washington, D.C. 20036.

This is a Ralph Nader spinoff. Contact Mark Lynch at (202) 785-3705.

Project on Freedom of Information and the National Security, 122 Maryland Ave. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

Run by former National Security Council aide Morton Halperin, this is sponsored jointly by the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation and the Center for National Security Studies. Phone: (202) 544-5380. It specializes in documents held by the

Defense Department, Central Intelligence Agency, State Department and National Security Council.

Sample Request

(Name and Address of Government Agency)
Washington, D.C.

Dear (general counsel or other designated official):

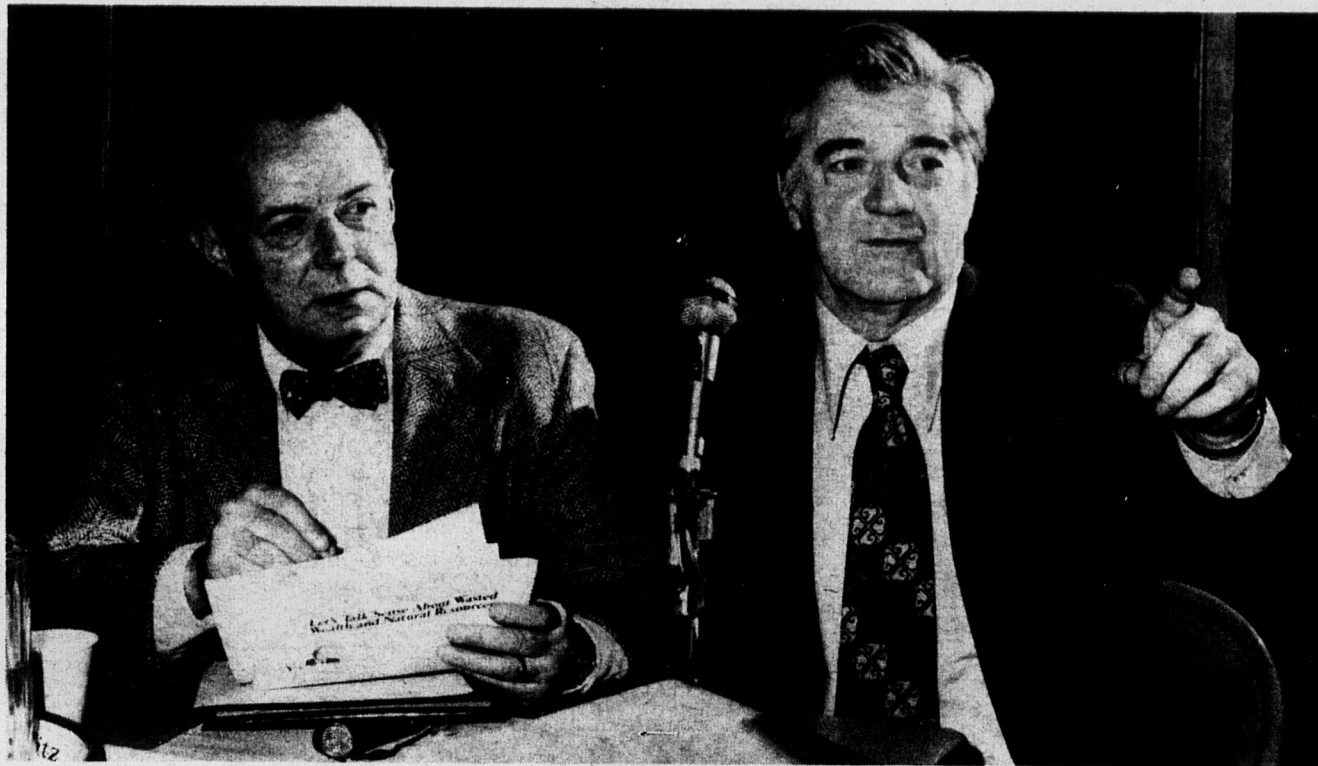
Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, I hereby request access to, or a copy of, (describe the document) together with all appendices, annexes, or other materials attached to the (document).

If any expenses in excess of \$..... are incurred in connection with this request, please inform me in advance for my approval. (A person may ask that any fees be waived if furnishing the information could be considered as "primarily benefiting the public.")

If you determine that some portions of the (document) are exempt from release, I request that you provide me with the remainder. I reserve my right to appeal any such decisions.

If you do not grant this request within 10 working days, I will consider my request denied.

Sincerely,
(Your name)
(Your address)
(Your phone number)



TNG's Ellis T. Baker, left, and J. William Blatz
Directors of Administrative and Field Operations lead the seminar



Joan Cook
Times unit vice chairperson

New Yorkers weigh 'mind' vs. 'muscle'



Bob Bazell
Post unit

New York City—"Collective Bargaining: Mind or Muscle?"

That was the question posed at the outset of two day-long collective bargaining seminars presented by TNG for leaders of the New York Guild and representatives of its units March 1 and 8.

The answer, of course, was "muscle."

And much of the two days was devoted to discussion of how the New York Guild can maximize its muscle—its economic strength and bargaining power—and bring it to bear in forthcoming contract negotiations, particularly at the Times, News and Post, where Guild contracts expire March 30.

The two seminars were sponsored by the New York Guild and held in the Heywood Brown Room at Guild headquarters.

The first seminar discussed bargaining theory and practice and strategy and tactics, including preparation for negotiations and development of inter-union co-operation, and three key bargaining issues: money, job security and union security.

The second seminar examined the nature and impact of automation in Guild jurisdiction and the role of the strike—and the strike threat—in collective bargaining.

The session on automation was illustrated by films showing the use of video display terminals and optical scanners in both news and advertising departments.

And during the lunch break, delegates previewed a new film produced by the International Typographical Union, "The New World of ITU," depicting current and prospective developments in the electronic revolution in newspaper, magazine and book production.

Photos by Jules Geller, New York Guild



Alex Beauchamp
Consumers' Union unit



Blatz, Liana Giuntini and Donald Barker
Times unit secretary and chairperson



The delegation from the News unit
Stoically receiving the Blatz message

It's time to check . . .

Form 1040 **US** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service **1974**
Individual Income Tax Return

For the year January 1–December 31, 1974, or other taxable year beginning . . . 1974, ending . . . 19 . . .

Name (If joint return, give first names and initials of both) . . . Last name . . . **COUNTY OF RESIDENCE** . . . Your social security number . . .

Present home address (Number and street, including apartment number, or rural route) . . . Spouse's social security no. . .

City, town or post office, State and ZIP code . . . **Occupation** . . . Yours . . . Spouse's . . .

Filing Status (check only one)

1 ☐ Single

2 ☐ Married filing joint return (even if only one had income)

3 ☐ Married filing separately. If spouse is also filing give spouse's social security number in designated space above and enter full name here . . .

4 ☐ Unmarried Head of Household (See instructions on page 5)

5 ☐ Wid(er) with dependent child (Year spouse died . . . 19 . . .)

Exemptions

6a Yourself . . . ☐ Regular / 65 or over / Blind Enter number of boxes checked . . .

b Spouse . . . ☐ Regular / 65 or over / Blind Enter number of boxes checked . . .

c First names of your dependent children who lived with you . . . Enter number . . .

d Number of other dependents (from line 27) . . . Enter number . . .

7 Total exemptions claimed . . .

8 Presidential Election Campaign Fund . . . Do you wish to designate \$1 of your taxes for this fund? . . . Yes ☒ No ☐ If joint return, does your spouse wish to designate \$1? . . . Yes ☐ No ☐ Note: If you check the "Yes" box(es) it will not increase your tax or reduce your refund.

Income

9 Wages, salaries, tips, and other emp. . . 9

10a Dividends (on page 6 and 13 (if gross dividends and other . . . Balance . . . 10c

11 Interest income. [If \$4 or over . . . of Schedule B . . . 11

12 Income other than wages . . . of Schedule B . . . 12

13 Total (add lines 9, 10c, . . . 13

14 Adjustments to income (sub . . . etc. from line 43) . . . 14

15 Subtract line 14 from line 13 . . . 15

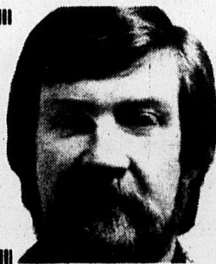
● If you do not itemize deductions and list . . . find tax in Tables and enter on line 16.

● If you itemize deductions or line 15 is \$10,000 . . . go to line 44 to figure tax.

DATELINE: OTTAWA

Economic-recovery programs always one step behind

By HUGH WINSOR, Toronto Guild



THE PRIVATE ADVICE offered by some well respected Canadian economists to a recent closed-door policy session of the New Democratic Party (NDP) caucus is even more ominous than the public indicators of gloom that are coming out on an almost daily basis.

It points to two significant developments:

- More labor militancy confronting a growing public backlash against strikes, especially strikes in the civil service, which disrupt such essential services as mail and air travel.
- A possibility that the "cure" in the current economic downturn might be as unpleasant as the illness.

The problems are general but they have a special significance for the NDP, which always has had a strong labor connection and always has considered itself labor's special advocate in Parliament.

The one surity in all of the confusion surrounding the development of high unemployment at a time of high inflation (concepts that were previously thought to be reciprocals of one another) is that governments, and the Canadian government in particular, have learned very little in the past two decades about the so-called fine

tuning of the economy.

Finance Minister John Turner takes some solace in his contention that Canada is doing a less bad job of managing the economy than is the United States. We have only had no-growth for two quarters while the U.S. economy has been declining for a year.

The fiscal and monetary taps have now been turned fully on again in an attempt to spend our way out of the recession. The central bank has reduced the reserve ratios they require chartered banks to maintain to a remarkably low 5.5 percent, prime lending rates are down to nine and mortgage rates also have plummeted.

Mr. Turner even takes some credit that he turned the taps on earlier than his U.S. counterparts; indeed he was pouring money into the economy and rapidly expanding the total money supply while President Ford was talking about balanced budgets and cutting government spending.

But the inescapable conclusion is that corrective measures are always out of phase with the problems. By the time the government has reacted to a situation, the situation has changed.

HENCE, THE GOVERNMENT was reacting to concern about the increases in government spending and inflationary pressures when it cancelled spending plans such as an experimental income supplement to working time when it fact, that is the time when it should have been increasing spending power.

The concern expressed at the NDP caucus is that turning on the taps was too much too late and might cause a sharp second round of inflation.

In these circumstances labor will try that much harder to obtain steep wage settlements to offset rising costs.

This development will fan the argument that labor's unreasonable demands are causing the problem, which in turn will exacerbate the backlash.

erbate the backlash.

Some of the MPs listening to this scenario believe there is a real probability of serious social unrest which could lead to attempts to take over factories in prolonged disputes similar to the developments in France in the late '60s.

Parliament could become more involved in legislating strikers back to work, and nobody likes to think about the possibilities if strikers in an essential service refuse to obey such a legislated order. Mass arrests? The army running the trains?

THE SHORT-RUN NDP policy differs from the government policy only in degree—stimulation of consumer spending and special infusions for housing. But in the longer run, the NDP believes that restructuring the economy with centralized governmental screening of new investment is necessary. If nothing else, it does mean the NDP is becoming more distinguishable in its ideological coloring.

One of the economists, Jack Weldon from McGill, suggested that some of the sting could be taken out of the potential labor confrontation if there were an agreement on all sides that new agreements would automatically provide increases equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

After that, the bargaining would be limited to productivity and social justice for particularly disadvantaged groups.

It is too early to evaluate the response by the private sector to such a proposal. But Treasury Board President Jean Chretien, responsible for bargaining with federal civil servants is not very receptive. He told Parliament recently that some civil servants are receiving more than they deserve because of the generosity contained in some recent settlements imposed on the government by compulsory arbitration and he is going to hang tough next time around.

Editorial

. . . check off the ripoff

Like we said about this time last year:

If only one thing was made "perfectly clear" by the Watergate-associated exposures, it is that election-campaign financing in the United States is a national disgrace—a giant ripoff.

We learned of huge sums virtually extorted from big corporations (oil companies, the dairy industry, airlines, to name a few), of "bagmen" totting thousands from hither to yon, of funds being "laundered" through foreign banks to Richard Nixon's campaign committee on one side of the campaign-contribution coin; of antitrust actions halted, of higher support prices for vital commodities, of a push for a sub-minimum wage to benefit hamburger-stand chains on the other side.

All this and other muck raked up by the Senate Watergate Committee and other investigators should have erased whatever lingering doubts anyone might have had about the corrupting influence of big money in a political system that makes it a virtual necessity for candidates to become politicians for rent to the highest contributor.

An increasing number of persons and groups, including TNG's International Executive Board and the AFL-CIO, have come to the conclusion that the best way to guard against any more Watergates—large or small—is to remove the occasion for the corruption by providing for public financing of campaigns.

While that may be a long way off there is a way to help drive tainted money out and replace it with an honestly administered "citizens' fund" in 1976—for Presidential campaigns, at least.

It's the checkoff.

Each of us in the United States can check one or two special little boxes on the front of our federal income-tax return and thereby divert \$1 (\$2 in the case of joint returns) from our tax into the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. Checking the "yes" box or boxes does not increase anyone's tax, nor does it reduce any refund. It simply directs one or two dollars into the governmentally administered presidential campaign fund.

Under 1974 amendments to the laws governing campaign finance and establishing the checkoff and fund, limits are placed upon the amounts candidates may spend in Presidential primary and general election campaigns. As much as half the 10-million-dollar per candidate primary limit can come from the fund. All of the 20-million-dollar per candidate general election limit (lesser amounts for candidates of minor parties) can come from the fund.

It all hinges on there being enough in the fund.

The Committee for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Thru the Dollar Checkoff estimates that 80 to 100 million dollars will be necessary to finance the '76 presidential campaigns.

There was 34 million in the fund early this year. By mid-February contributions to the fund were up 10 percent over last year. In past years, 80 percent of tax returns have been filed between March 15 and April 15.

Several employers are inserting special checkoff reminders in their employees' pay envelopes at the urging of the employees' local unions. Publishers ought to do the same, at Guild locals' urging.

Enough people on the checkoff can eliminate the ripoff from the 1976 campaigns—at least those for President.

The Guild Reporter

JAMES M. CESNIK
Editor

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The Newspaper Guild

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Area Code 202-296-2990

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