

400 study First Amendment 'survival'

By DAVID J. EISEN

Director, Research & Information

Washington—Despite unsympathetic judges, the absence of privilege laws and courts that don't heed them where they exist, you can beat subpoenas.

Search warrants are a little harder.

That was the counsel delivered to nearly 400 newsmen at a "First Amendment Survival Seminar" co-sponsored March 10 by 16 media organizations, including the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, the National Press Club and TNG.

No one contested the desirability of legislation that would put an end to the

'Guerrilla' tactics pushed

twine threats to an untrammelled press. But the emphasis was on legal and extralegal guerrilla warfare to combat them until the lawmaker comes.

Jack Landau, director of the Reporters Committee, warned that "we have lost substantial ground since 1971," when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that journalists do not have a Constitutional right to protect their information or sources.

Since that time, he noted, the courts have ruled that police can search newspaper offices on ex parte warrants, pros-

ecutors can obtain newsmen's long-distance telephone records and defense attorneys can subpoena all a reporter's notes and documents on the vaguest of fishing expeditions.

The Supreme Court said journalists could protect themselves by obtaining shield laws, but now courts in five states have in effect voided those laws, Landau observed.

"The conclusion is clear that the judiciary of the nation is developing a state of mind that it is above the law," he declared. "It is up to us to stop being

moderate and fight back with every tool at our disposal.

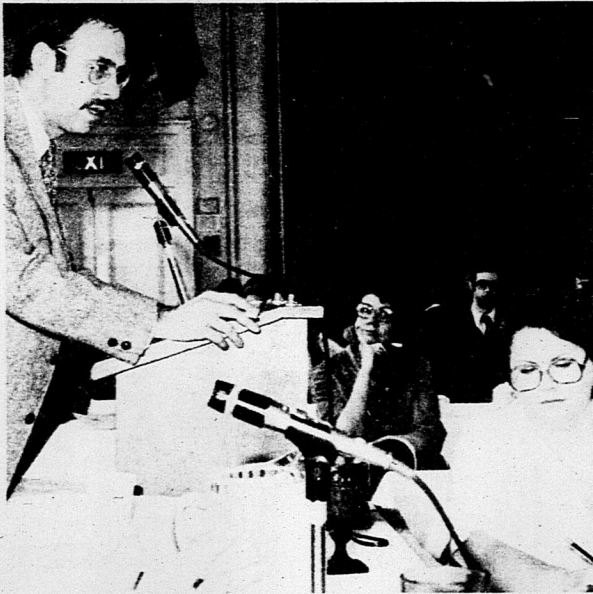
"Up to now we have fought on the turf of the courts. It is time for us to fight on our own turf, of public opinion and the legislature."

Landau, who was chairman of a panel on subpoenas, confidential sources and search warrants, had this general advice in the meanwhile for reporters confronted by a subpoena:

"Time is on your side. The people on the other side need to act promptly. Delay will wear them out, or the case will be over.

"Stay out of court as long as possible.

(Continued on Page 4)



JACK LANDAU ADDRESSES 'SURVIVAL' SEMINAR
He headed panel on subpoenas, sources, warrants

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Culver, Bigelow declare they will seek re-election

TNG International Chairperson Harry S. Culver and At-Large Vice President Elwood B. (Woody) Bigelow have announced that they will be candidates for re-election in TNG's biennial elections this summer.

At the same time one of two

local leaders who earlier said they will seek TNG vice presidencies has declared for an at-large seat and the other for the seat from Region 3, assuring a contest for the Midwest spot.

Culver, of the (U.S.) Wire Service Guild, will be seeking his second two-year term as International Chairperson after two terms as an at-large vice president.

Bigelow, of the Portland Guild, will be seeking his second term as an at-large vice president. He is the second incumbent elected at large to declare for re-election. Robert C. Holt, Jr., of the St. Louis Guild was the first.

Gary Guild President John B. Mitchell set up an election contest in Region 3 when he announced that he has decided to seek the Midwest seat, rather than one at large.

Cleveland Guild President Richard M. Peery earlier had announced for the Region 3 office,

being vacated by incumbent two-term Vice President Diane M. Woodstock of Madison.

Joyce Walker-Tyson, vice chairperson of the Detroit Guild's Free Press Unit, meanwhile, said she has decided to seek one of the six at-large seats on TNG's International Executive Board, rather than that from Region 3.

Holt, Walker-Tyson, Peery and Mitchell all declared their candidacies during winter district council meetings, with Mitchell and Walker-Tyson undecided then about which seats to seek. [Guild Reporter, Feb. 23].

Culver, 56, a political and statehouse reporter for UPI in Oklahoma City, is a former president and secretary-treasurer of the Wire Service Guild and serves it now as UPI-Southwest delegate to its representative assembly.

A member of TNG's Special Merger Committee since it was

(Continued on Page 2)

Phoenix Guild wins again

Phoenix—Editorial employees of the Arizona Republic and Phoenix Gazette gave the young Phoenix Guild a vote of confidence March 16-17 when they voted down a decertification petition in a federally supervised election.

The vote on the Pulliam papers was 156 for the Guild and 130 for no union. Seven ballots were challenged. The bargaining unit has 307 members and also includes the Weekly Gazette, a legal paper.

Republic and Gazette employees had voted, 146 to 115, to make the Guild their bargaining agent in a labor board election on Feb. 3, 1978.

Since "at least" 39 Guild members had left the paper and about 30 new employees had been hired since the first election, the Guild

had a "real gain" of at least 49 votes in the decertification election, TNG Representative G. Richard Pattison said.

Bargaining for an initial contract has proceeded over the past year with little progress.

Many in the unit have gone without raises for more than a year, Pattison said, despite the Guild's urging that the company follow its former policy of regular raises while bargaining proceeded.

Last December, Guild mem-

bers authorized their bargaining committee to call a strike if necessary.

TNG Representative Alice L. Burton said March 20 that no new bargaining dates had been set. She and Pattison and TNG Representative Marshall W. Schiewe assisted the local in the pre-election campaign.

During the campaign, management apologized for some of its tactics, Burton said.

One of them was the printing

(Continued on Page 2)

Suburban Boston group goes Guild

Malden, Mass.—Advertising, business and circulation employees of the Malden News, Medford Mercury and Melrose News have voted for representation by the Boston Guild.

The vote March 13 was 24 for the Guild and six against, with one challenged vote.

The victory in the National Labor Relations Board election gives the Guild representation rights throughout the non-production departments of the papers.

The Guild has represented the papers' editorial and maintenance employees since 1959.



Julie Upham/Malden-Medford-Melrose Unit/Boston Guild

SEVERAL IN NEW GUILD UNIT PAUSE TO POSE DURING VICTORY PARTY IN BOSTON SUBURB
With them: TNG Representative Leo J. Ducharme, Boston Executive Secretary Robert E. Bruner, and Thomas Hiltz, Boston Guild vice president

Court okays states' aid for strikers

Washington — The Supreme Court has upheld states' right to pay unemployment benefits to strikers.

In a 6-to-3 ruling March 21, the court rejected an employer's attempt to overturn the 43-year-old New York law that says strikers may draw unemployment benefits after an eight-week waiting period, as hundreds of Guild members did during the 88-day shutdown of the Times and the Daily News late last year.

Rhode Island has a similar law, with a seven-week waiting period, while other states have varying provisions governing unemployment resulting from a labor dispute.

Congress could have mandated a uniform policy in the area, (Continued on Page 2)



HARRY S. CULVER



ELWOOD B. BIGELOW

Culver and Bigelow to seek new terms

(Continued from Page 1)

Founded in 1977 to work with a counterpart group from the International Typographical Union, Culver was chairperson of the IEB's Collective Bargaining and Constitution Committees while a TNG vice president. His first job in the industry was setting headlines by hand in a print shop.

He was elected International Chairperson without opposition at TNG's 1977 Convention, succeeding Barney Peterson of the San Francisco-Oakland Guild.

Bigelow, 51, was elected an at-large vice president in a referendum in the fall of 1977 after having served ten terms as president of the Portland Guild and five as president of the New England District Council. He presently is the local's secretary.

600,000 paid short

Washington—More than 600,000 workers protected by U.S. wage and hour laws were illegally underpaid by nearly 129 million dollars during the government's 1978 fiscal year, according to the Labor Dept.

A copy editor on the Portland Evening Express, he is a member of the IEB's Organizing and Constitution Committees plus, since last fall, its Appeals Committee.

He has been a delegate to 12 TNG conventions, has served at least once on each convention committee, has been vice president from Maine of the New England Allied Printing Trades Assn., and, before becoming a TNG vice president, served two terms on the International Election & Referendum Committee.

Under TNG's Constitution, nominations for international office are made at Guild conventions. If there are two nominees for chairperson, president, secretary-treasurer or any of the seven regional vice presidencies, or more than six for the six at-large vice presidencies, elections are by referendum in the fall. If there are more than two nominees for any position (more than 12 for the six at-large vice presidencies), the field is narrowed by votes by delegates at the convention.

TNG's 1979 Convention will be July 2-6 in Providence.

Chester top will hit \$455

Chester, Pa.—The reporter-photographer-advertising sales top minimum rises by \$70.69, to \$455.54 a week, in a new, three-year Philadelphia Guild contract with Ingersoll's Delaware County Daily Times.

The increase comes in three segments—\$21 retroactive to Nov. 1, 1978, \$24.84 on Nov. 1, 1979, and \$24.85 on Nov. 1, 1980.

Flat rate for department editors rises \$72.87, to \$475.57.

Among other classifications, increases and resulting top minimums include:

Circulation supervisors—\$21, \$23.18, \$23.19 (total, \$67.37), to \$425.07; telephone solicitors—\$21, \$16.02, \$16.02 (total, \$53.04), to \$293.74.

Dispatch production clerks—\$21, \$16.88, \$16.89 (total, \$54.77), to \$309.57; mailers—\$21, \$18.37, \$18.38 (total, \$57.75), to \$336.90; telephone operators, ad-takers—\$21, \$14.97, \$14.98 (total, \$50.95), to \$274.55; office and copypersons—\$21, \$12.72, \$12.73 (total, \$46.45), to \$233.30.

Top for stenographers, typists and editorial clerks rises \$50.77, to \$272.92; top for clerks rises \$49.87, and \$264.72.

No employee will be promoted or transferred to another job or classification without his or her consent and there will be no penalty for refusing promotion or transfer.

Employees transferred to positions excluded from contract coverage will have up to three years to return to their former jobs. If the publisher dismisses them after three years, they will get severance for time they spent in the bargaining unit.

The company also agreed to a full Guild shop for all new hires and employees covered by the contract, including those who had not been members (except for five named individuals), and the Guild withdrew a pending arbitration on application of the union security provisions of the previous contract. It contained a combination Guild-agency shop provision.

Unpaid leave of absence will be granted to employees who run for political office or serve in public office; upon completion of such service they will be reinstated in the same or comparable positions.

Employees who regularly use their cars on company business will get 18 cents a mile—up three cents—and a minimum daily allowance of \$6, up \$1.50.

Others who use their cars will get \$2 a day plus 25 cents a mile, up from \$5 a day and 16 cents a mile.

The contract will be re-opened on Nov. 1, 1979, for negotiations on mileage and daily allowances.

Dues checkoff is changed from monthly to weekly.

TNG Representative Luis Montanez assisted the local in bargaining the agreement.

Hazleton reporter top raised by \$34

Hazleton, Pa.—A new, two-year Hazleton Guild contract with the Standard-Speaker raises reporters' and photographers' top minimum by \$34, to \$286.71.

The increase comes in \$17 increments, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1978, and on this Jan. 1.

Editorial assistants' top minimum rises \$22 (\$11 and \$11), to \$175.

Employees paid more than the minimums maintain their edge.

An eighth holiday, a personal day, is added for employees with a year or more of service.

Court upholds states' aid to strikers

(Continued from Page 1)

The ruling came in a challenge by the New York Telephone Co. to that state's law after a seven-month strike by Communications Workers in 1971.

The phone company said that the law forced an employer to finance a strike against himself, since unemployment benefits are paid from taxes on employers, and that the state law contradicted the intent of federal labor law.

The lead opinion by the Court's majority, by Justices John Paul Stevens, Byron R. White and William H. Rehnquist, stressed the right of states to act on their own in the absence of "compelling" congressional direction.

Concurring opinions by Justices William J. Brennan, Harry A. Blackmun and Thurgood Marshall stressed that Congress was clearly aware of the issue of benefits for strikers and deliberately chose to not interfere with them.

Employers for years have been trying to get the court to strike down all forms of public benefits that help workers cope with the cost of striking.

The dissenters, Justices Lewis F. Powell, Jr., and Potter Stewart, plus Chief Justice Warren E.

Burger, denied that Congress had ever squarely addressed the issue and claimed the New York law illegally alters the "balance" in collective bargaining.

Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts, hailing the decision, noted that while employers are assessed an unemployment insurance payroll tax, workers, in fact, contribute to the funding as well "through their productivity and earnings" and should qualify for benefits during all times of joblessness.

Phoenix Guild wins

(Continued from Page 1)

on paycheck envelopes of the slogan, "Why share your paycheck with the Guild? Vote no." It was illustrated with a torn check. Employees thought this was a cheap shot, Burton said.

It also apologized for the "abusive, condescending and sarcastic" personality of Mel Anderson of the Western Newspaper Industrial Relations Bureau, who has been chief company bargaining spokesperson, Burton said.

The apologies came during "captive audience" meetings from Darrow (Duke) Tully, the papers' new associate publisher.

Formerly with the San Francisco Newspaper Printing Co., the Wichita Eagle and Beacon and the Gary Post-Tribune, Tully said, however, that Anderson would continue to bargain for the Republic and Gazette if the Guild won because to replace him would be tactically unwise, Burton reported.

The labor board shortly was expected to certify the Guild again as bargaining agent, she said.

Management did present another proposal after the Guild won the decertification election, Burton said, featuring seven percent cost-of-living increases and "discretionary" raises of more to some employees to be chosen solely by management.

Two men jumped into Pattison's car, threw him into the back seat, slugged him and drove him 15 miles into the desert. They took \$75 from his wallet and stole his car.

Pattison was treated and released from a hospital emergency ward. He suffered a black eye, bruises and a minor cut.

Pattison said the assailants

threatened to kill him.

After he was dumped in the desert, Pattison went to 10 houses at around 3 a.m. before he found anyone who would answer the door and call police.

His car is still missing and police say they have no suspects. Pattison was here to assist the Phoenix Guild in its bargaining with the Arizona Republic and Phoenix Gazette and with the Guild's campaign against a decertification petition at the papers.

There was no indication the attack was connected with his Guild work, Pattison said.



Wayman Swaggar/Washington-Baltimore Guild/Guild Forum

Hat trick at Sunpapers

Patrick Gilbert, chairperson of the Baltimore Sunpapers Guild Unit, shows off his old cowboy hat that unit members had silver-plated in appreciation of his leadership. Gilbert and the nine-member Washington-Star Unit bar-

gaining committee shared the Washington-Baltimore Guild's "member-of-the-year" award for 1978. The Local also has voted its 1978 Shop Steward award to Ernie Green and Ernie Freda, both of the Sunpapers.

VANCOUVER DISTRICT ADVISORS

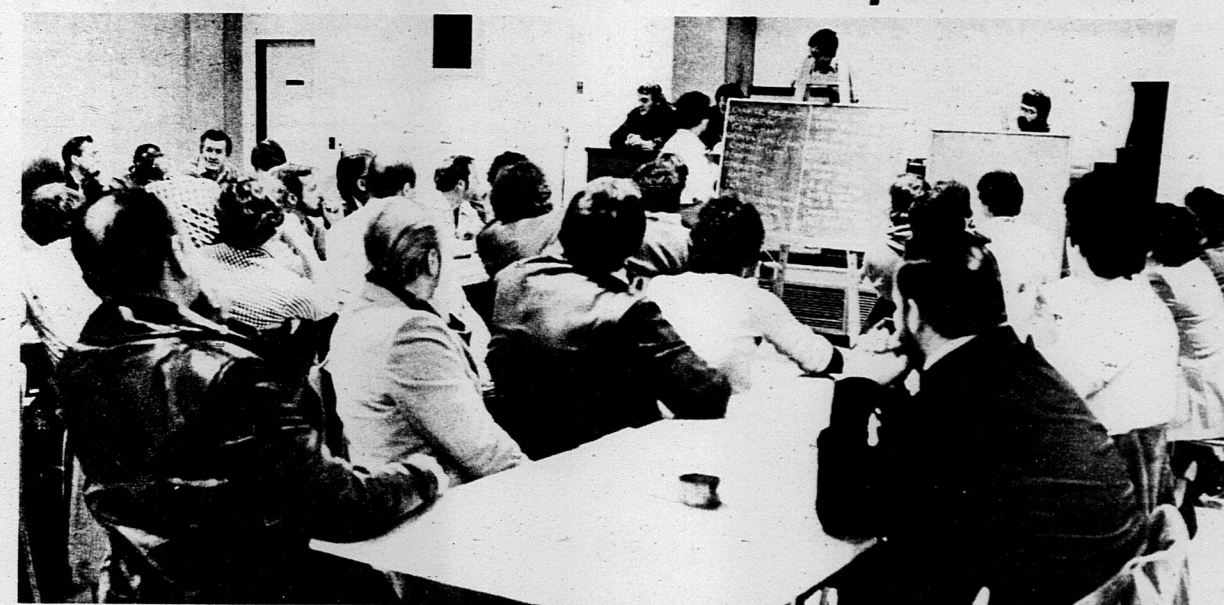
Strikers' proposals aim at 'voice' in operations

Vancouver — Circulation district advisors at the struck Vancouver Sun and Province have banded together to produce a series of proposals to improve both their own working conditions and the papers' circulation operations after the strike.

The proposals, attacking what the group sees as both long- and short-range problems, range from training programs for district advisors (DAs) through modernizing customer-billing to improving carriers' pay.

The proposals emerged from a meeting late in February of about 60 of the DA Guild members employed by Pacific Press, Ltd., the papers' joint production firm. They are being presented to the company through the Vancouver-New Westminster Guild's bargainers.

The Guild's 850-member unit and the Pressmen at the papers have been on strike since Nov. 1. There is no immediate end in sight. Members of the Mailers, Typographical and Graphic Arts unions are locked out. The papers, owned by the Southam and F. P. chains, have not attempted to publish.



STRIKING SUN AND PROVINCE DISTRICT ADVISORS CHART THEIR COURSE AT FEB. 20 SESSION
Up front: Al Mancor, Bernie Hutchins, Doug Louth, Rick Gray; Roy Tubbs, at the blackboard

moved DAs to do much of their area work at home."

A letter "for tax credit purposes" should be provided.

Guaranteed income for carriers for the first three months after the papers resume publication as home delivery subscriber lists are rebuilt.

A committee of DAs from both the Province and the Sun should meet regularly with management to discuss the DAs' report and solutions to the papers' "extensive" circulation problems.

The meeting was a first for the Sun and Province DAs. Although they work in the same building, they rarely co-operate with one another; some even balked at sharing a table at the meeting with DAs from the competing paper.

Unit delegate Doug Louth, a Sun DA, said he hopes similar meetings will be held once the strike ends.

Joint meetings of both papers might have some impact on management, he said. If other Guild units have dealt with special problems facing district advisors, especially on a return to work, Louth would like to hear from them (c/o Vancouver-New Westminster Newspaper Guild, 1557 W. Broadway, Room 10, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1W6).

She suggested also that the Defense Fund's floor and ceiling could be raised by indexing them

Some would end strike benefits

Washington—Initial suggestions from local leaders and members on resolving TNG's Defense Fund problems range from eliminating strike-lockout benefits to increasing the fund's floor and ceiling beyond the present \$1.5 million and \$2 million.

The suggestions are in response to an invitation by International Chairperson Harry S. Culver after the International Executive Board at its winter meeting established an ad hoc committee to study Defense Fund income and expenditures [Guild Reporter, Feb. 9].

Unparalleled demands of recent months upon the fund caused the IEB... to create a committee to seek a long-range solution to the fund's problems, which include debts of over \$3 million," Culver noted in a letter to locals.

Katie FitzRandolph, president of the Ottawa Guild, suggested that the international consider adopting her local's practice whereby the first week's increase from a new contract is given to the Guild.

She suggested also that the Defense Fund's floor and ceiling could be raised by indexing them

either to the cost of living or to key minimums negotiated by locals. Benefits might also be indexed, she added.

"Full regular dues" would kick in "whenever the index rose sufficiently to mean the bottom limit of the fund had been passed through and would continue until the new, higher level was reached," FitzRandolph said.

FitzRandolph also supported writing off the fund's paper-assets. It is essential to do so "after the brutal evidence of the past year," she wrote.

Ken Rieger of the Toledo Guild, a former IEB member, suggested the IEB seriously consider eliminating strike benefits as such, substituting allocation of welfare funds to locals.

This allocation from the Defense Fund "could be made on the basis of, say, \$20 or \$25 per week for each member... and expenditures from this fund could be made to cover needy and urgent situations," Rieger wrote.

Examples would be mortgage interest, medical expenses and utility bills, he wrote.

"The objective... would be to assure Guild members they would not suffer loss of possessions or bodily harm during strikes or lockouts," Rieger said.

This plan "would emphasize to Guild members that strike benefits... would be restricted to the 'need' and not to across-the-board weekly benefits to [strike] par-

ticipants, regardless of 'need' or 'emergency,'" Rieger said.

Richard L. Holman, secretary of the San Jose Guild's Monterey Peninsula Herald Unit, said no strike benefits should be paid.

"There are few enough members nationally to mean a strike-pay fund can only provide piddling amounts anyway," he said.

"This," Holman said, "is an improper use of the fund." Instead, monies should be spent for "more traditional and better uses, such as paying for local executives expert in labor relations to look out for members' best interests and... for lobbying, where we must do effective work."

"I am speaking for myself, and not my unit or local, in making this suggestion," he said.

The ad hoc committee will try to form recommendations for the full IEB for inclusion in the program it will submit to this year's convention.

Committee members are Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker and Vice Presidents David M. Mulcahy of New York, Richard V. Sabatini of Philadelphia, Louis M. Calvert of San Jose and Faye McCracken of Memphis.

Culver, TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., and TNG staff will participate in the committee's discussions, to begin at 1:30 p.m., April 21, two days before the IEB's spring meeting here April 23-27.

Canada's price elevator

The table below records the ascent of Canada's Consumer Price Index over a 24-month period following a 1.4-point increase in the index in January to 182.7, up 14.9 points from January, 1978, and 28.7 points from January, 1977. The first column lists the index for each of the last 12 months, the second the percentage increase over the same month of the preceding year, and the third, the percentage increases over January, 1977.

	Index*	Percentage over	
		Same month prior year	January 1977†
February, 1978	168.9	8.7	9.7
March	170.8	8.8	10.9
April	171.2	8.4	11.2
May	173.6	9.0	12.8
June	175.1	9.2	13.7
July	177.7	9.8	15.4
August	177.8	9.4	15.5
September	177.5	8.6	15.3
October	179.3	8.7	16.4
November	180.8	8.8	17.4
December	181.3	8.4	17.7
January, 1979	182.7	8.9	18.6
*1971 = 100		†Index = 154.0	

Vancouver bargaining is moved to California

Palo Alto, Calif.—Talks aimed at ending the five-month strike and lockout at the Vancouver Sun and Province were to resume here March 22 under the guidance of mediator John Kagel.

Managements of the papers and their joint operating company, Pacific Press, Ltd., and leaders of their employees' five unions agreed to move the talks here from Vancouver after more than a month of nearly constant talks, they announced jointly March 18.

All outstanding issues, including pressroom and mailroom staffing levels, will be taken up with Kagel, they said in their joint announcement.

Kagel helped mediate talks that led to the unions' last contracts. They expired Oct. 31 and the next day the Vancouver-New Westminster Guild and the Printing & Graphic Communications Union pressmen struck and Typographical, Mailers' and Graphic Arts union members were locked out.

Guerrilla tactics pushed against subpoenas

(Continued from Page 1)

Once you go in, you're at their mercy."

This advice was spelled out in greater detail by Christopher Little, vice president and counsel of the Washington Post.

Urging newsmen to use "every weapon at your command in fighting subpoenas," he offered this point-by-point counsel:

✓ There is some inconvenience in obtaining a subpoena; don't yield to a lawyer's threat to get one.

✓ If the lawyer finds you'll fight all the way, the subpoena may never get issued," Little said. "In a good percentage of cases, that's all it takes."

✓ Don't make value judgments of the case in deciding whether or not to submit to a subpoena (such as whether your decision will hurt a widow suing a real estate developer or help the government win its case against a crime figure).

✓ As soon as you start playing the game of who you're going to help, you're lost," Little counseled.

✓ Many subpoenas don't get served even after they're issued, and you're under no obligation to help the lawyer serve it on you. Lawyers can't take a week to serve a subpoena in the middle of a trial, and they often give up if they run into difficulty.

✓ You shouldn't burn the documents or run out the back door when you hear the subpoena server is at the front," Little said, "but you don't have to help the SOB who issued the subpoena."

✓ Because the lawyer is lazy—that's why he issued the subpoena in the first place—if you make it hard for him, he'll give up."

✓ You can often get a subpoena quashed on procedural grounds, because laws governing them are complicated and vary from state to state.

✓ It's often not easy for a good lawyer to get a valid subpoena served on someone," Little said. "Unfortunately, it takes a lawyer to beat it and it costs some money, but it usually doesn't cost a fortune."

✓ If confronted by an unexpected subpoena with no lawyer present, tell the judge there are serious First Amendment considerations involved and ask for delay until your lawyer arrives. If told to take the stand nevertheless, confine yourself to answering questions on the truth-

fulness of what was printed.

In one recent case, Little recalled, a Post reporter, confronted with a surprise subpoena obtained a delay and then was not even called when two Post lawyers arrived on the scene.

✓ If you come to the end of the line on appeals, you should discuss the possibility of testifying on what appeared in the paper or on what a nonconfidential source and notes," Little said.

"I would think you would want to draw the line on confidential sources and notes," Little said. "That's a jail issue."

But he added: "You can't tell a reporter to go to jail. That's a decision he has to make."

Asked what advice the Post gave to reporters on throwing out their notes rather than keeping them as a lure for subpoenas, Little said:

"We've thought about that and decided not to give any advice."

But, he said discarding notes seems to serve little purpose. If the reporter decides he or she will go to jail rather than surrender the notes, Little pointed out, the subpoena-issuer isn't going to get them. And if the reporter no longer has the notes, he or she will likely be subpoenaed to testify on what the notes said and face the threat of jail anyway, he said.

Reporters or editors talking to a lawyer should stop talking at the first hint of litigation and call in their attorney, Little advised. The usual warning sign, he said, is an indication that the lawyer is more interested in extracting information than in providing it.

Beware of taking even the first small steps toward providing information in legal proceedings, Little counseled.

"If you're not careful," he said, "you can end up waiving your First Amendment rights."

Little said the Post resists all involvement in litigation, including subpoenas to testify on the truthfulness of what has run.

It does this, he said, because a reporter's mere appearance in court can shake the trust of confidential sources and "create a public perception" that the reporter is on the side of the party that subpoenaed him.

Landau said that one technique that has proved useful when a reporter is called to testify on the accuracy of his or her story is to have an editor interview the re-

Lawyer's subpoena advice is 'tough'

Christopher Little, counsel to the Washington Post, offered these brief guidelines for subpoenaed newsmen:

- 1) Be tough.
- 2) Don't wait until a subpoena comes to be sure you have a lawyer who understands the problem and agrees with your philosophy.
- 3) Use your lawyers from the beginning. If served when out of town, call the nearest newspaper and consult its lawyer.
- 4) Use every legal and common-sense rule that's available to you.
- 5) Be tough.



From The Illinois Publisher, with permission

porter on the story's accuracy and then have the editor testify. That way, he said, the witness can't be asked questions that go farther "because he doesn't know."

While it is harder to fight off a search warrant, the outlook may not be as gloomy as it appears, Landau suggested.

While there were 13 cases of police searching media offices before the Supreme Court upheld the Stanford Daily decision last year, he noted, there have been none since.

"So maybe it pays for the press to yell and scream," he said.

The Stanford decision "created a big fear" that newspaper offices

would be invaded wholesale, said Sam Klein, counsel to the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Pennsylvania First Amendment Coalition. "But as a practical matter," he said, "that has not happened, and I don't think it will."

He expressed confidence that legislation forbidding it would emerge from this session of Congress.

Pending that, he had this advice for newsmen who find police knocking on the door with a warrant:

✓ You can't prevent them from searching or threaten retaliation, but you can record their activities.

"The biggest deterrent is the use of photographs and tape recorders," Klein said, advising that top management and the photo department be notified immediately.

✓ Try delay, to win time for lawyers to get into court and fight the warrant.

"You have the right to read and review the warrant," he said. "Do it slowly."

"Question the reasonableness of all points. Advise police that the area they want to search has confidential information."

✓ Promise the police (or the court) that the information they are seeking will not be destroyed if a hearing is called. Put it in writing, if requested.

✓ Once the search starts, follow the searchers with a photographer. Enter every item looked at in a log book.

✓ Don't answer any questions. You don't have to answer or assist in the search, Klein counseled.

Klein offered several suggestions for prophylactic action to head off any possibility of searches before they occur.

One, he said, is to get the state

attorney general to issue guidelines prohibiting the use of search warrants against the press.

Another, he said, is to get the courts' presiding judge to issue an order barring judges from issuing warrants against the press except in "strictly limited circumstances."

Landau suggested that if a paper suspects a warrant may be issued, it should make sure the notes being sought are not in the office and file an affidavit saying so. That, he said, would cancel the presumption that the notes are there as justification for the search.

But he warned reporters: "If you're in a tough subpoena situation, the first place police will look after your office is your home."

Asked whether the Inquirer advises reporters to destroy their notes, Klein said:

"We advise reporters not to destroy anything. But our advice is not always followed."

Lyle Denniston, Supreme Court correspondent for the Washington Star, dissented from the advice to lean heavily on lawyers.

Denniston appeared on another panel, dealing with gag orders, secrecy and access to the courts, but that discussion drifted into subpoenas, as well.

"If you cover government and don't do it aggressively, you're in trouble," Denniston said. "And if you contact a lawyer before doing so, you'll be in even more trouble."

"I recommend in sincerity that you don't join the system, that you beat it."

"There are tricks, and the time has surely come to use tricks. Because we've let the lawyers try our cases in the courts, and for the most part we've lost them."

Asked about the problem of management surrendering a reporter's notes over the reporter's protest, Denniston conceded that proprietary law gives an employer the right to a reporter's work materials. But he added:

"One of the things we've done at the Star is to tell reporters to buy their own notebooks with their own money and keep them at home, so that if management demands you turn them over, you can tell them to go squat."

E. Barrett Prettyman, Jr., who argued the Nebraska gag-order case before the Supreme Court, said it was "an outrage" that newsmen had to depend on the Reporters Committee and raise funds for it to defend press-freedom cases. He urged the establishment of a multimillion-dollar fund contributed to proportionately by newspaper and broadcasting companies, large and small.

The all-day seminar included a panel on libel and privacy and a luncheon talk by Robert Woodward of the Washington Post.

Foundation gives committee \$150G

Akron, Ohio—The Knight Foundation, headed by John S. Knight, editor-emeritus of the Knight-Ridder chain, has made an unrestricted grant of \$150,000 to the Reporters' Committee for Freedom of the Press.

It is the largest contribution ever received by the committee, formed in 1970. TNG has regularly made \$2,500 contributions to help keep it operating.

One, he said, is to get the state



Among the fellows . . .

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., left, meets with National Endowment for the Humanities Professional Journalism Fellows at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Others pictured during session in February are Larry Hatfield, center, former San Francisco-Oakland

Guild president, on leave from the San Francisco Examiner, and Anthony Wood, Wire Service Guild member on leave from United Press International. Program at Michigan is directed by Ben Yablonky of the journalism faculty, former Chicago Guild Hearst striker.

'Codes' called threat to civic rights

Boston—Some publishers are fashioning and attempting to impose on their employees "ethics codes" that go far beyond the normal bounds of ethical considerations and seek to deprive employees of some of the basic rights of citizenship," TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., told Boston University students.

At the same time, those codes impose no such restrictions on publishers' involvement in political and community activity, Perlik told a journalism seminar con-

sidering "journalism and democracy: ethical problems confronting the free press today," in a Feb. 15 appearance at faculty invitation.

He pointed to the Knight-Ridder chain's Duluth management recently firing its "living" section editor when she ran for city council, "despite the fact that her job duties had nothing to do with politics."

"The same Knight-Ridder chain . . . found it perfectly all right for its Miami Herald to contrib-

ute \$35,000 to groups opposing the legalization of casino gambling in a highly controversial referendum last fall," he noted, charging:

"A strange double standard has emerged, in which the publisher personally and the newspaper editorially commit themselves in word and deed to all sorts of community and political causes but the newspaper's staff, which has no say in the paper's news or editorial policies, must remain as pure as Caesar's wife."

Reporter shields source and avoids jail

Richmond, Va.—A reporter for the Norfolk Ledger-Star avoided being jailed March 20 when at the 11th hour a judge lifted the sentence he had imposed when David Chandler refused to reveal to a grand jury his sources for stories of corruption in the state's purchasing agency.

Richmond Circuit Court Judge James B. Wilkinson said only that he was lifting the indefinite jail sentence because the grand jury had gotten "relevant evidence" with which it could proceed.

That evidence did not include the names of sources Chandler had consulted for stories about salespersons giving valuable gifts to purchasing agents in return for state business, the judge said.

Wilkinson had ruled five days before that unless Chandler revealed his sources by March 20 he would be jailed. He also fined Chandler \$1,000 a day for his silence, holding that the names of Chandler's sources were necessary to the grand jury's work.

Chandler had gone before the grand jury March 13, but said

afterward that while he gave it "a lot of information I felt comfortable with," he did not reveal any confidential sources.

"I co-operated with the grand jury as much as possible up to the point of revealing confidential sources," Chandler said.

"If they pointed a shotgun between my eyes, I wouldn't be able to get the names out fast enough. But there is no reasonable punishment they can impose, including jail, that will make me reveal the names," Chandler said.

He said that if he could uncover enough information to do the stories after working in Virginia only six months, the state government ought to be able to conduct its own investigation without his help.

"If there is corruption in government, then it should be cleared

up," Wilkinson said. "If there is not corruption in government, then those people deserve to be exonerated."

Chandler led a team of reporters at the Panama City (Fla.) News-Herald that won a Pulitzer Prize in 1962 for exposing corruption in government.

In Washington, meanwhile, labor reporter Sara Fritz won her fight to keep the Teamsters Union from subpoenaing her story notes.

Fritz, associate editor covering labor at U.S. News & World Report, obtained a protective order March 13 from U.S. District Court Judge John Pratt.

Pratt said that the information sought by the Teamsters was tangential to the main issue in the case, that Fritz' thought processes were involved in writing the story, and that there had been no show-

Transition agreement reached in St. Louis

St. Louis—The St. Louis Guild has reached agreement with the Globe-Democrat and Post-Dispatch on protections for Globe members affected by the papers' plan to merge their remaining noneditorial departments [Guild Reporter, Feb. 23].

Pulitzer's Post-Dispatch already prints Newhouse's Globe-Democrat under a joint production arrangement. If the papers approve the all-but-editorial merger, as is expected, the Post-Dispatch probably will hire 70 to 80 of the nearly 200 Guild members in the Globe-Democrat's business, circulation, classified, inside display and maintenance departments.

Key elements of the Guild's agreement, with both papers, include:

✓ For Globe employees hired by the Post, continuous seniority for calculating vacations, sick leave, experience credit, pensions and dismissal pay. Their seniority will be computed as though they had always worked for the Post.

✓ An employee who goes to the Post but then resigns within 90 days will receive dismissal pay based on service with both papers.

✓ Medical and life insurance will become available immediately to Globe employees who go to the Post.

✓ Globe employees aged 60 to 65 may retire with benefits calculated and paid as though they had reached age 65.

✓ Editorial employees of the Globe will gain wage parity with those at the Post more rapidly than the existing contract provides [See: St. Louis tops to reach \$534; up \$99 at the Globe, Guild

Reporter, Jan. 26].

✓ Employees who are dismissed will get at least two weeks' notice.

✓ For those employees, medical and life insurance will continue for three months after dismissal at no cost to them. After that the employer will pay two-thirds of premium cost during the fourth month, half during the fifth month, and a third during the sixth month.

✓ Globe personnel files will not be given to the Post without the consent of the employee and the Globe. The Globe "under no circumstances" will release to the Post files on anyone hired by the Post or who is dismissed by the Globe and put on the rehiring list.

✓ Regular employees who have been dismissed will be placed on a preferential rehiring list. If they are rehired, they will be new employees.

Labor board won't dismiss AP petition

Washington—The labor board at the regional and national levels has turned away a Wire Service Guild motion to dismiss an Associated Press effort to remove 140 jobs from Guild contract coverage.

The full board said it would not entertain an appeal from the region's dismissal of the Guild's motion to throw out the AP's unit clarification petition because the Guild and the AP had agreed in their contract settlement on Jan. 1 that the bargaining unit question would be resolved through adjudication by the National Labor Relations Board.

This process is still in the hearing stage at the regional level in New York.

The New York regional director had rejected the Guild's motion to dismiss and the union appealed to the full board here.

News industry employers, the Guild said in its motion, are abusing NLRB processes to try to weaken the Guild severely [Guild Reporter, Feb. 9].

The motion linked the AP's action to "a developing pattern" in the industry, citing similar efforts by the Washington Post, New York Times, New York Daily News and New York Post.

The AP's unit clarification petition would cut the Guild's bargaining unit by 10 percent. The Washington Post petition would cut the unit by 20 percent and the New York papers' by 20 to 25 percent.

Equal-pay pioneers

Washington — Michigan and Montana were the first states to pass legislation calling for equal pay for women—both in 1919—according to the U.S. Labor Dept.

Crocker: Thanks for get well wishes

Washington—TNG Secretary-Treasurer Robert M. Crocker says he hopes soon to begin personally sending thanks to Guild members who have sent him their best wishes during the six weeks he had been largely incapacitated by a so-far-unidentified malady.

Suffering from severe abdominal discomfort and distention, Crocker was hospitalized for rest and tests late in January and again this month.

While the initial tests failed to identify his affliction, they did rule out malignancy. TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., reported to the IEB.



BOB WOODWARD OF THE WASHINGTON POST SPEAKS ON FIRST AMENDMENT SURVIVAL. Nearly 400 participated in day-long seminar on subpoenas, search warrants, gag orders, libel

Bernie Krug

\$250,000 is redistributed in Madison

Madison, Wis.—Fifteen Madison Guild strikers will receive less money and 14 more under a new strike and unfair-labor-practices settlement distribution adopted by the local.

The previous plan, which would have awarded portions of the Madison Capital Times' \$250,000 settlement on the basis of months of strike service, was voided when two members complained to the National Labor Relations Board. Both gained under the new plan, which follows labor board guidelines: lost Capital-Times salary, minus interim earnings.

Ann Beckmann, previously scheduled to receive \$5,500, more than doubled her award to \$12,112. Monika Petkus increased her award from \$5,000 to \$6,710.

The heaviest losers were five members with long strike service whose awards were reduced by between \$4,000 and \$8,000.

One, who retired during mid-strike and was not legally eligible for back pay, lost all of the \$8,442 the Guild originally had tried to give him for his strike service.

A fund is being established to aid those most heavily affected and several who realized more under the new distribution said they will contribute to it.

Beckmann and Petkus dropped out of strike activity a year ago, the Guild reported. Beckmann moved to Milwaukee while Petkus became a radio reporter here.

A total of \$97,400 will be left after the back pay is deducted from the \$250,000 and will be divided equally among 21 persons who gave up their jobs at the Capital Times.

The settlement agreement ends the Guild's participation in the 15-month strike against the paper.

The Wisconsin State Journal Editorial Assn. also has ended its strike against that Lee paper.

Three craft unions still are on strike against Madison Newspapers, Inc., agency for the Capital Times and State Journal.

William Haus, attorney for Beckmann and Petkus, said they objected to the formula, not the amounts.

Haus said the National Labor Relations Act "gives individuals the right not to participate in certain activities."

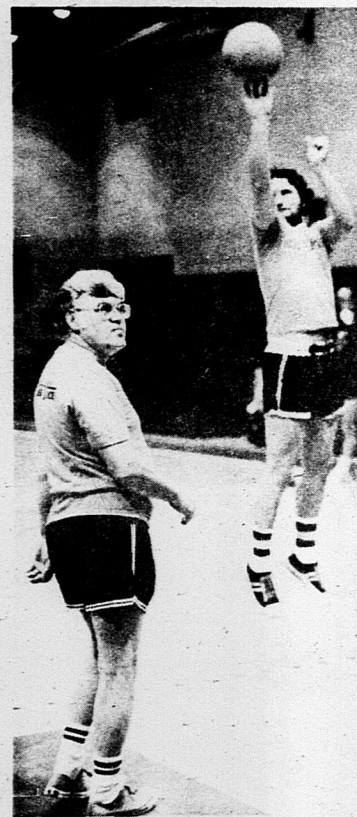
The settlement was designed "to compensate people for having their rights abridged" at the workplace, not for time spent in strike activity, Haus said.

Corrections

The reporter top minimum at the Akron Beacon Journal is raised by \$28 retroactive to Nov. 1, 1978, and by \$30 on Nov. 1, 1979, to \$460 a week, under a settlement by the Akron Guild. The second raise was reported incorrectly in the March 9 Guild Reporter.

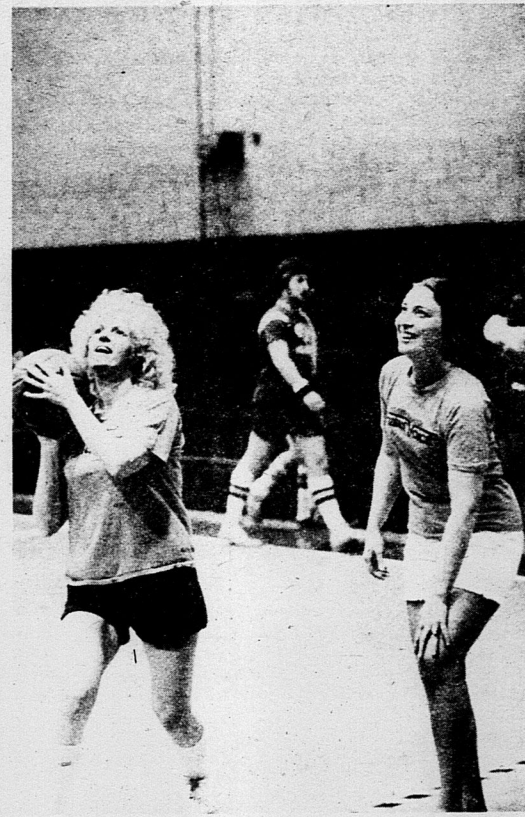
The same issue also incorrectly reported the cost to the Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice of full news and picture service from UPI as \$904 a month. The cost is \$904 a week, which comes to more than \$3,600 a month.

Warming up for a victory in Wilkes-Barre



Basketballers representing the Citizens' Voice, interim daily of the striking Wilkes-Barre newspaper unions, warm up for game against staff of radio station WILK. At left are Carl Hurst, Voice's advertising manager, and Bill McLaughlin (shooting), son of striking Guild member Catherine McLaughlin. At right is Barbara Loftus, the Voice's social/features editor, and Dorothy Mason Duessler (shooting), who writes a sports column, The Female Spectator, for the Voice. Duessler's husband, John, is a striking printer. Voice staff won, 42 to 37.

William M. Brown
Federation of Guild Representatives



IFJ sets 3-month Africa effort

Brussels, Belgium—The International Federation of Journalists' Bureau has given its final approval to a three-month mission to seven African countries by a Norwegian journalist aimed at helping set up new newswriters' unions and helping improve existing ones.

The mission is to be undertaken after April 1 by Ole Johan Erickson, veteran Norwegian general-interest and labor journalist who has worked on several press projects in Africa since 1974 for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The IFJ project is being financed by the African-American

Labor Center and the Norwegian Aid Development Institution, the latter through the Norsk Journalistlag (Norwegian Journalists' Union).

The project's approval was among actions by the IFJ Bureau (executive committee) during its meeting here Feb. 20-22, attended by TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., IFJ vice president for North America.

Among its other actions, the Bureau, taking note of TNG's financial difficulties, exonerated TNG from an increase of five Belgian Francs in per-capita payments for 1978 (a total of about \$2,400).

The Bureau also rejected a proposal from the International Organization of Journalists for a joint magazine that would have been published quarterly in French, English, Russian, German, and Spanish.

Under the proposal the magazine would have been published at the IOJ's publishing house in Budapest and its editor would have been the director of the publishing house.

The IFJ's 1980 Congress was set for Greece in the spring. The Bureau recommended that the 1980 session accept Israel's invitation to hold the 1982 meeting in that nation.



Member in Buffalo scores Perlik on U.S. budget view

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

ment is fueled mainly by the desire of hard-working, tax-paying citizens to have the harsh light of logic thrown upon the incredible miasma of programs that has developed in Washington over several decades.

I, for one, am sick of seeing nearly a third of my paycheck—pay fought for by the Guild—go to Uncle Sam without so much as a thank-you.

JEFFREY P. DURSTEWITZ
Evening News Unit
Buffalo Guild

Editor's note: Durstewitz refers to a story in the Feb. 23 Guild Reporter about a letter by TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., to U.S. locals urging that they join other organizations seeking to counter a campaign for a convention to amend the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced federal budget.

The decision of Judge Myron L. Gordon stemmed from a complaint filed by the International Typographical Union in June, 1977, after MNI refused to go to arbitration on the discharges and payouts imposed on those who remained.

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E. St. Louis daily may be closed

East St. Louis, Ill.—The Lindsay-Schaub chain will fold the 36,000-circulation Metro-East Journal here with its April 14-15 weekend edition unless someone buys it, the St. Louis Guild and three other unions were told March 15.

Approximately 125 persons, including 65 Guild members, would lose their jobs, Guild Executive Secretary Robert A. Steinke said.

Management said it would pay dismissal pay, accrued vacation and the like, as provided in the Guild contract, and continue to pay medical and life insurance premiums for 90 days after suspension.

The paper said it also would open an office to help staffers get jobs and would advertise in the trade press and in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Globe-Democrat.

There is, however, a hiring freeze at the Post-Dispatch because of plans to form an agency which would perform all non-editorial functions of both the Post-Dispatch and the Globe-Democrat. More than 100 Guild members stand to lose their jobs.

The Guild represents Metro-East Journal employees in the advertising, business, circulation, editorial and maintenance departments.

The prospect of closure of the Metro-East Journal loomed large after Lindsay-Schaub recently sold six of its eight dailies to Lee Enterprises for \$60 million, citing estate planning and tax problems.

The six are the Decatur (Ill.) Herald and Review, Carbondale (Ill.) Southern Illinoisan, Midland (Mich.) Daily News, Edwardsville (Ill.) Intelligencer and Bad Axe (Mich.) Huron Daily Tribune.

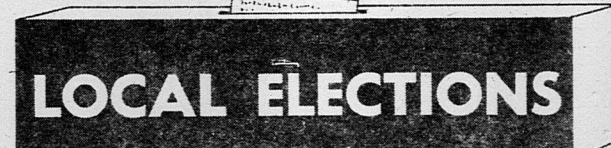
Also included in the sale were the semi-weekly Sun Coast Gondeolier in Venice, Fla., and New Port Richey (Fla.) Press.

The Metro-East Journal and Campaign-Urbana (Ill.) Morning Courier "were not in Lee's pattern" Lindsey-Schaub board chairman Merrill Lindsay said. The Courier competes with another Lee paper.

"I've been in the business all my life and it hurts to lose the papers," Lindsay told Editor & Publisher, the trade magazine.

"There's a lot of sentiment involved. But we didn't have any other alternative and we had to say to hell with sentiment," he said.

Lindsay said the decision was made several years ago.



Akron
Charles Montague, president; Mary Dobzeniecki, first vice president; Terry Oblander, second vice president; John Dunphy, secretary; Bill Hershey, treasurer.

Bakersfield
Milt Whaley, president (Whaley, 49; Holly Chavez, 10); Albert Martin, vice president; Lillian Buckles, secretary-treasurer (Buckles, 47; Terry Trovato, 12); Martine Martinez, secretary.

Brockton
Bob Townsend, president; Don Flaherty, vice president; Carol Andrews, secretary-treasurer.

Denver
Rod Klobard, president (Klobard, 38; Ralph Veatch, 100); Teri Harrington, 1st vice president (Harrington, 124; James Pedersen, 110); Gay Cook, 2nd vice president (Cook, 136; Paulette Shreder, 100); Patti Barth, secretary; Howard Kaplan, treasurer.

Great Falls
Carla Beck, president; Philip Smith, vice president; Barbara Mittal, secretary-treasurer; Paula Wilmot, ass't secretary.

Ontario
Katie FitzRandolph, president; Jim Scheer, vice president; Donna Balkan, secretary; Bob Chapman, treasurer.

Pawtucket
Joseph Van DenBosche, president; Tom Newton, 1st vice president; Bob McNamee, 2nd vice president; Joanne Donnelly, recording secretary; Craig Cotton, corresponding secretary; Julie Dalton, treasurer; Nancy Gagnon, ass't treasurer.

Southern Ontario (Toronto)
John Lowe, president (Lowe, 318; Bob McCarty, 235); Ross Miller, 1st vice president (Miller, 322; Bill McQueen, 217); Paul Mallon, 2nd vice president (Mallon, 297; Gerry Huntley, 239); Ellen Roseman, secretary (Roseman, 360; Peter Cutten, 195); Dennis Robinson, treasurer.

Victoria
John Hutchinson, president; Glenn Ross, 1st vice president; Roger Stonebanks, 2nd vice president; Mike Hughes, secretary; Myrtle Okel, treasurer.

Wilkes-Barre
John J. (Jack) Wallace, president; Patrick Rushton, vice president; Neil Corbett, secretary; Carl Schwab, treasurer; John Zimlich, sgt.-at-arms.

Winnipeg
Susan Rattan, president; Cecil Rosner, vice president; Laurence Wall, secretary; Sandy Charlewood, treasurer.

McGoff sentenced to work 120 hours
Aspen, Colo.—John P. McGoff, president of the Panax newspaper chain, was sentenced March 12 to perform 120 hours' work with a drug rehabilitation program after pleading guilty to reckless endangerment.

The charge resulted from McGoff's throwing a wine glass toward the stage in a dinner theater here Dec. 21 to protest a song he said extolled drug use, according to police.

The glass shattered and a piece cut a 17-year-old girl's head, requiring five stitches.

The judge said McGoff's sentence must be in addition to any work he does for Odyssey, a Michigan drug program he serves as a director.

He had a dream. It began when I read my first newspaper and continued through my last journalism class. They were idealistic years with visions of Pulitzer Prizes and world-shaking exposes dancing in my head. Upon entering the job market, however, my aureolean dreams faded into gray reality.

Positions were scarce, pay hovered near poverty level and "hot stories" generally consisted of garden club meetings and junior league bowling.

Yet, I loved it. It was my dream. I wrote for the now-defunct Fort Street Journal and still write occasionally for the Detroit News. But these were only part-time jobs. I wanted to devote eight hours a day to my craft. The opportunity arose just a few short weeks ago when I spotted an ad in a local paper.

"Due to expansion we need reporters, sales personnel," it read. "Submit resume to the Mellus Newspapers."

The Mellus. It wasn't the Washington Post, but it was a good suburban paper. I mailed my application with crossed

Members-only vote on merger okay

Washington—There's nothing improper about an independent union permitting only members to vote on affiliating with another group and it is illegal for an employer to refuse to bargain with one that has done so, the National Labor Relations Board has held.

"Union merger or affiliation votes are basically internal organizational matters," the board said.

Refusing to let nonmember employees vote "differs little from their exclusion from other internal matters, including strike votes and contract-ratification votes and the selection of officers, stewards and negotiators," it said.

The ruling came in a case brought by the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers against Amoco Production Co., the Bureau of National Affairs reported.

Vallejo, Calif. — More than \$20,000 has been raised by a support group to buy a press for the interim paper produced by Times-Herald strikers.

The Vallejo Independent Press Club was formed Feb. 1, led by, among others, Mayor Florence Douglas and the Rev. Hugh Stewart, pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

It supports the Vallejo Independent Press (VIP), an interim paper put out by members of the San Francisco-Oakland Guild, Bay Area Typographical Union, the Mailers Union and the Pressmen's Union.

They have been on strike against Donrey's Times-Herald since last June after having attempted for 18 months to bargain new contracts.

Fifty thousand dollars is sought to make a down payment on a press and other equipment.

Already, however, VIP has been successful enough to go thrice-weekly with a free circulation of 32,000. Lack of press capacity has prevented daily publication.

The Times-Herald's circulation has been cut from a prestrike 28,000 to 18-20,000 paid. Not all of VIP's circulation is free—voluntary payments brought in \$12,000 during January, the Bay-Guild News reported.

VIP's progress edition ran 46 ad-heavy pages in three sections. A VIP Club open house at strike headquarters March 4 drew 2,000 persons, Doug Cuthbertson, the Guild's assistant executive secretary, said.

1825 women's strike
Washington — The first strike by an organization of women workers was in 1825, by the United Tailoresses Society of New York, according to the U.S. Labor Dept.

Mellus Guild leader beaten on picket line

Lincoln Park, Mich.—The husband of a strikebreaker at the Panax-chain Mellus weeklies was charged with assault and battery after the Mellus Guild Unit's chairperson was severely beaten on the picket line March 19.

Gene Mierzejewski, 27, was treated for head and ear injuries, including a concussion, after being knocked down and having his head repeatedly bashed against the sidewalk by the strikebreaker's husband, witnesses reported.

Charged was William Mc-

Kinney, whose wife, Mavis, has been working behind Guild picket lines since the Mellus papers were struck for an initial contract Sept. 25, local leaders said.

Mierzejewski was attacked when he stepped between McKinney and Guild picket Kathleen Holtz after McKinney had shoved Holtz as she picketed the Mellus plant's front door, other pickets reported.

Injured slightly as they attempted to pull McKinney off the prostrate Mierzejewski were Lin-

coln Park Police Lt. Alexander Biro and TNG Representative William M. Brown. Biro and two uniformed officers finally subdued McKinney and hauled him off in a squad car.

Biro, a plainclothes officer assigned to overseeing the picket line, called it "a clear case of unprovoked attack," Brown reported.

Meanwhile, the first bargaining between the struck papers and the Detroit Guild since Feb. 22 was scheduled for March 23.

'Dream' job offer vs. picket line—add one striker

By DENISE SHELDON
Detroit Guild, Mellus Unit

I HAD A DREAM. It began when I read my first newspaper and continued through my last journalism class. They were idealistic years with visions of Pulitzer Prizes and world-shaking exposes dancing in my head. Upon entering the job market, however, my aureolean dreams faded into gray reality.

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"Due to expansion we need reporters, sales personnel," it read. "Submit resume to the Mellus Newspapers."

The Mellus. It wasn't the Washington Post, but it was a good suburban paper. I mailed my application with crossed

Sheldon has been a member of the Detroit Guild's Mellus Unit since last Oct. 2, a week after the unit struck the Panax-chain group of Detroit-area weeklies. Her story of joining the Guild first appeared in the Oct. 26 Downriver Reporter, the strikers' interim weekly. Sheldon and 36 other members of the Guild unit continue daily picketing and weekly production of the Downriver Reporter as the strike enters its seventh month. That's Sheldon in the picture at right.

fingers and waited impatiently for a reply. I didn't have to wait long. They wanted me. There was just one little hitch, the Mellus employees were on strike.

I felt sympathy for them, but it wasn't my concern. I was determined to cross the picket line and report to work as scheduled.

Somewhere, however, between my Saturday interview and Tuesday starting day, doubts seeped into my consciousness and a feeling of unease settled in my stomach.

Why, I wondered, did 96 percent of the staff walk out? Was I being hired only as a strike breaker? Would they still want me after the strike ends? These were tough questions and needed some serious answers.

I called a friend, a Mellus employee who was out on strike, and asked for the workers' side of the story. I didn't

like what I heard. I sought further information and found it tallied with what my friend said. It was a bad situation.

Twenty years of devoted service was rewarded with a \$6 monthly pension; no cost of living; no job security; outdated equipment; no overtime pay; poor medical insurance; poor life insurance; and many other unfair policies.

Tuesday morning, as I entered the Mellus offices, I wondered if I could work for a company with such disregard for their employees.

After an emotional talk with management, I realized I could not undermine what these loyal employees were fighting for. About 20 minutes later, I joined the strikers.

I have not regretted my decision, although certain Mellus people say I will. But that remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, I still have my dreams.

Reprinted from the Downriver Reporter





DATELINE: OTTAWA

Relations with politicians tense as federal elections approach

By HUGH WINSOR, Toronto Guild



WITHIN DAYS, Canadian reporters will be off in pursuit of another federal election campaign at a time when the relationship between the journalists and the elected politicians is probably more tense than it has been in the last decade.

All three of the major party leaders have indicated their distaste or lack of respect for the press persons covering them.

With Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau the tension is an ongoing thing. Mr. Trudeau has referred to reporters as "scum" and "creeps" in the past, but is particularly sensitive at this time because of the prominence given to the escapades of his estranged wife, Margaret.

As he indicated recently, he may well have to be on the same airplane as reporters for the coming weeks but they would never be on the same intellectual plane. Mr. Trudeau has never under-

stood the press and resents what he considers their repetitive and badly informed questions.

While it is true that the questions often are repetitive and lack homework, Mr. Trudeau does not appreciate the difference between the importance of issues in terms of his government's priorities and the relative news value of those issues.

The cabinet may struggle for weeks over a new program to aid shipbuilding, for instance, but reporters may never ask a question about it, preferring to pester Trudeau over the date of the election or some misdeeds by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Coming specifically to the election campaign, the hostility is enhanced because many of us remember the blatant attempts to manipulate us by Mr. Trudeau's aides during the 1974 election campaign.

This included releasing major statements to reporters in the campaign plane 35,000 feet over The Prairies where they had no chance to check their files or with experts. At the same time, the aides prevented any direct access or questions to Mr. Trudeau for several days after the release of some bad statistics about the cost of living in mid-campaign. The reporters assigned to this campaign are determined such tricks won't happen again.

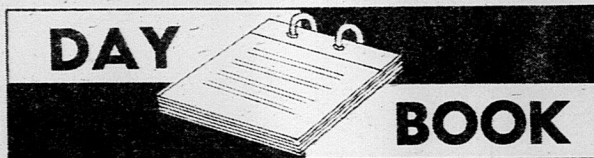
OPPOSITION LEADER Joe Clark is also ill at ease with the press corps. This was prompted in the beginning by the fact that few of the national journalists

took him very seriously when he won the leadership of the Progressive-Conservative Party.

Journalists began paying more attention to Mr. Clark as Mr. Trudeau's popularity slipped in the polls and especially after Mr. Clark's party made big gains in by-elections last fall. But earlier this year Mr. Clark made a 'round-the-world trip plagued by minor difficulties like loss of luggage and missed airline connections. Mr. Clark believes the reporters accompanying him concentrated only on the trivia.

NEW DEMOCRATIC Party Leader Ed Broadbent's disenchantment is more fundamental. He believes the national press corps concentrates only on "horse-race journalism," an endless recounting of who is perceived to be ahead at any particular time. He has found it difficult to get public attention for the major policy alternatives he has put forward.

Ironically, the link between Mr. Broadbent's New Democrats and the Canadian Labour Congress, with which TNG is affiliated, has never been much of an issue with the elected politicians. That is largely because Canadian Guild persons have always been more reluctant than their American brethren to take formal partisan political stands. In fact, the strong endorsement of Mr. Broadbent by CLC President Dennis McDermott has been the subject more of spoofing than of commitment in recent weeks.



International Executive Board, spring meeting, April 23-27, TNG headquarters, Washington.

Middle-Atlantic District Council, spring meeting, May 5-6, Wilkes-Barre.

Great Lakes, Midwest and Southern District Councils, joint spring meeting, May 12-13, Bond Court Hotel, Cleveland.

Western District Council, spring meet-

ing, May 12-13, San Jose.

New England District Council, spring meeting, May 19-20, Biltmore Plaza Hotel, Providence.

International Executive Board, pre-convention meeting, June 29-30, Biltmore Plaza Hotel, Providence.

46th Annual TNG Convention July 2-6, 1979, Biltmore Plaza Hotel, Providence.

As George put it . . .

Mandatory voluntarism

The following is from AFL-CIO President George Meany's announcement March 13 that the federation and nine affiliated unions have filed suit against the Carter Administration's wage controls program.

The Administration has said that companies that are violating its so-called voluntary wage guideline will be denied federal contracts.

We believe that penalties for violators clearly make the wage controls *mandatory*, not *voluntary*. Since there is no statutory basis for this action, we have asked the Court for an injunction prohibiting the use of such tactics.

Second, the AFL-CIO is proceeding with development of its price monitoring program, which we call Price Watch. Volunteers will be checking prices in stores and also providing examples of increases in doctor's fees, rents, insurance and other costs.

The suit and operation Price Watch are neither mutually exclusive nor contradictory. Some newspaper editorials have said we are confused and contradictory for questioning the legality of the wage controls while seeking, at the same time, to identify violators of the price guidelines.

Well, the answer is simple: One is voluntary and the other is not.

The President of the United States has every right to ask the American people to *voluntarily* do anything the President believes is right for the country. But, when he asks employers to *voluntarily* hold the wage increases of their employees to seven percent or less—and then backs that up with the denial of contracts if employers don't *voluntarily* go along—then he has instituted a *mandatory* program.

It is obvious that the denial of contracts is an enforcement weapon primarily for wage controls, since the price guidelines are for all practical purposes nonexistent.

If the government has the legal, statutory power to order people to take certain actions, then the people, including employers, should fear the consequences if they disobey.

But, the fact is, the President does not have that legal, statutory power. So, we contend, use of contract debarment to enforce *voluntary* wage controls is illegal. Others, including the American Bar Assn., have voiced the same opinion.

There have been few, if any, reports of violations of the wage standards [but] prices go up and up, and so do profits. Just look at the reported 35 percent increase in pretax profits in the last quarter and you will find that today's inflationary cycle is a price and profit-push inflation.

Mr. Burger's anniversary

Warren Burger is celebrating his tenth year as chief justice of the United States.

The average term of office for a chief justice is 13.6 years.

Happy anniversary, Mr. Burger.

Three-point-six years and counting.

—From Publishers' Auxiliary, publication of the National Newspaper Assn.

The Guild Reporter

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