

Doctors' exposé gets Miami team top Broun prize

Washington—A series of articles on "dangerous doctors"—alcoholics, drug addicts, incompetents and psychopaths—practicing medicine in Florida has won three reporters and an editor with the Miami Herald TNG's Heywood Broun Award for 1979.

They are Gene Miller, Carl Hiaasen and Patrick Malone and special projects editor William Montalbano.

It is the second time Miller has won the award. A series leading to release of two persons unjustly convicted of murder won him the prize for 1966.

The award—\$1,000 for the four and a citation for the Knight-Ridder chain's Herald—was presented to Miller, representing all four winners, at a luncheon at the National Press Club Jan. 28, the first day of the winter meeting of TNG's International Executive Board.

"The flip side to all of this," Miller said in accepting the award, is that there are thousands of good doctors in Florida and across the nation. And in some states, particularly in Georgia, there also are excellent programs for the rehabilitation of doctors who become unsuited to continue to practice.

The Miami team's entry was selected from among a record 148 submitted for the annual competition.

There were three honorable mentions, two of them for work for the Cleveland Press and the third for work for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

✓ Walt Bogdanich and Walter Johns, Jr., were named for a series on a Cleveland area hospital's victimization of poor and elderly patients, pointing up the absence of effective hospital regulation throughout Ohio.

✓ Peter Almond was cited for a series on chemicals from a chromate plant poisoning its employees and neighbors outside Cleveland—even three years after the plant was closed and abandoned—and steps taken to try to help the victims.

✓ Larry Eichel's series for the Inquirer on the exodus of the Indo-Chinese boat people was the first definitive, on-the-scene look at what became one of 1979's major stories.

Noting "many outstanding examples of journalistic achievement" among the entries, the judges said that the Miami entry was such "a clearly superior piece of crusading journalism in the (Continued on Page 6)

Lexington leader's service prized

Washington—Darlene Bowden, president of the Lexington Guild, is the winner of the 1980 Guild Service Award.

The award is made annually for outstanding service to the Guild at the local level. It provides up to \$1,500 for a union-education course to benefit both

the winner and his or her local union.

In announcing Bowden's selection from among seven nominees to the International Executive Board during its winter meeting Jan. 28-31, the judges said she was chosen for "her leadership in revitalizing" the small Lexing-

By JAMES M. CESNIK
Editor

Washington—Review and dissection of the status of the 26-month-old merger talks between special committees of TNG and the International Typographical Union dominated the winter meeting of TNG's International Executive Board.

Fully half the formal sessions of the Jan. 28-31 meeting were given over to examinations of the areas of tentative agreement, those where agreements have yet to be reached, the prospects for completion of a full proposal by this spring and the technicalities of the Guild's three-step procedure for approval of a merger proposal.

The same subjects also dominated informal discussions between and among IEB members.

TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., opened the widening discussion by inviting the board to "spend some time" on merger "given the timetable" he and ITU President Joe Bingel projected in announcing "breakthrough" agreements early in November on the leadership structure of a merged international union. The two called it "realistic to anticipate" a completed proposal in time for the requisite votes during 1980, with the first in the Guild to be by the IEB at its regular spring meeting in April.

While that timetable remains the

merger committees' goal, "subsequent events" have "somewhat dampened" his optimism about meeting the timetable, Perlik told the IEB.

The committees' meetings since then have shown that "the difficult unresolved items still are difficult, but so are the nuts and bolts" of previous tentative agreements and items that on their face are less difficult, he said.

In addition, he pointed out, it now appears that a formula for financing a new international union's general fund agreed to 14 months ago may not stand up under changes that have occurred in TNG and the ITU since.

The merger committees early in December, 1978, agreed on a per-capita



John B. Mitchell/Gary Guild

In memory of a friend

'MOOD,' an enamel by internationally known St. Louis artist Ellen Wallach, is presented to TNG in memory of Robert M. Crocker, the union's secretary-treasurer who died last April 7 at the age of 61. Making the presentation during the International Executive Board's winter meeting is Robert C. Holt, Jr., of St. Louis, left. Accepting for TNG are Interna-

tional Chairperson Harry S. Culver, like Crocker a member of the Wire Service Guild, and President Charles A. Perlik, Jr. The work was purchased by Holt with personal contribution from members of the 1977-79 IEB. The plaque displayed below the work by Holt states that the enamel is given to TNG "In memory of Bob Crocker/Friend, Colleague."

OSHA 'reform' bill called safety threat

Washington—Sponsors of a Senate bill to "improve" the Occupational Safety and Health Act are in fact attempting to emasculate a major portion of the protections provided by the law.

So said TNG's International Executive Board during its winter meeting in a resolution directed at the Senators involved.

One provision of the bill would effectively keep Occupational Safety & Health Administration safety inspectors out of newspaper plants in all but a few cases since deaths and incapacitating injuries are rare," the IEB pointed out.

While health inspections, such as those involving VDTs, could still be made, the bill's principal sponsor says he sees the bill pointing the way to also limiting health inspections.

Ironically, the board noted, bill S.2153 is named the "OSHA Improvement Act of 1980."

The board deplored the fact that such liberal senators as Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.) and Frank Church (D-Idaho) had joined Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.), the bill's principal sponsor, and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) in introducing the bill.

Almost simultaneous with the IEB's action, Sen. Nelson withdrew his name from the bill and urged other co-sponsors to follow suit. He said he saw no way

to overcome the bill's faults through amendment.

The IEB also urged the Democrats to reconsider and withdraw their sponsorship of the bill and also urged the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee to reject the whole thing.

"The right-wing crusade against the health and safety of America's workers cannot be blunted by embracing it," the IEB said.

"OSHA of 1970 was a landmark achievement for American workers, recognizing their right to protection against hazards in the workplace. Its effectiveness can be measured by the fact that last year alone the rate of industrial fatalities decreased by 10 percent," the IEB added.

(Continued on Page 2)

IEB reviews status of TNG-ITU unity talks

system and formula for a general fund that, based on calculations at the time, would mean payments of \$7.00 per member per month. TNG's J. William Blatz, director of field operations and a merger committee member, reminded the board.

TNG's present per-capita is \$7.01, with \$5.778 for the general fund and \$1.232 to the defense fund. About \$12.50 per member per month, based on 50,000 working members, now finances the ITU's general operations. It includes an average of \$1.67 that goes for ITU mortuary-benefit payments and another \$0.84-\$1.67 to "special assistance," Blatz said.

(Continued on Page 4)

Defense fund's 'climb-back' is continuing

Washington—TNG's Defense Fund is continuing to climb toward its successive targets of being debt-free and then in a state of "healthy readiness," the International Executive Board's Finance Committee reported during the IEB's winter meeting Jan. 28-31.

During the fiscal quarter ended Dec. 31, the fund's total indebtedness—to other unions, Guild locals and members—was reduced to \$1,297,736, the committee reported. That was down nearly 60 percent from the fund's \$3.1 million debt nine months earlier and was \$1,012,420 less than the fund's remaining debt at the end of September.

At the same time, however, "the effects of inflation" and "heavy activity" in some other areas of TNG's operations resulted in a General Fund deficit for the quarter that was greater by \$30,028 than its operating surpluses during the first six months of the fiscal year, the finance committee reported.

Re-naming Cleveland is deferred

Washington—TNG's International Executive Board has deferred action on a Cleveland Guild request to change its name to the Northern Ohio Guild pending reactions from three other locals that could be considered to be in the area the proposed name describes.

The three—Akron, Toledo and Youngstown—will be solicited for their views, the IEB said during its winter meeting.

The membership of the Cleveland Guild in mid-January by 245 to 226 approved the name change.

Officers of the local proposed it on grounds that the new name would better reflect the makeup of the local, which has units in Canton and Massillon as well as Cleveland, and as a possible aid in organizing.

OSHA 'improvement' bill draws objection from IEB

(Continued from Page 1)

Instead of helping workers, the board said, the so-called "improvements" in S. 2153 would do the following:

- ✓ Exempt 90 percent of businesses, regardless of size, from most OSHA safety inspections.
- ✓ Eliminate virtually all "wall-to-wall" inspections and severely limit the scope of all inspections.
- ✓ Reduce or eliminate fines for safety violations if the employer establishes an advisory safety committee and safety-consultation programs.
- ✓ Take away an employee's statutory right to a safety inspection in response to a valid, formal complaint, allowing employers to escape in most cases by providing "appropriate assurances" that action would be taken to correct the violations.

Worst provision in the bill

Washington—TNG has joined the Ontario Federation of Labour in calling on Canada's federal government to make it illegal for police to impersonate reporters, photographers and other news workers.

The International Executive Board at its winter meeting also

asked the Canadian Labour Congress to join in the call upon Parliament for such legislation.

The practice "has been all too common," the IEB said, pointing to a "purported press photographer" being identified as "a Mountie in mufti" during the OFL's convention in November [Guild Reporter, Jan. 11].

Completion of repayment of a \$500,000 loan from the Amalgamated Bank of New York and continuing payments on interest-free loans from other unions during the quarter and in January put the defense fund's obligations to "outside" creditors at \$350,000 as the IEB was meeting.

"Simultaneously, the defense fund has been building a ready reserve [that is] approaching \$750,000," the IEB was told.

"Barring a major strike or lockout or a combination of smaller strikes, lockouts or other defense fund expenditures, outside debt should be wiped clean in May," the board's finance committee reported.

Repayment then would begin to locals that made loans to the fund during 1978's strikes and lockouts and to striking and locked-out members who received promissory notes for benefits due them during the 1978 emergencies.

The fund's obligations to members in Vallejo, Wilkes-

Barre, Elizabeth, Monessen and Sacramento continue to be met out of its current income. During the October-December quarter, benefits also were paid to striking members in Puerto Rico, New York, Sudbury and at the Mellus weeklies in suburban Detroit.

General Fund expenses, meanwhile, at \$580,772 were \$25,768 under the total budgeted for the third quarter but exceeded income during the period by \$37,582.

The General Fund's surplus for the six months before had been \$7,554.

The deficit for the quarter, and consequently for the nine-months, was produced by a decline in per-capita payments that resulted in income declining by \$21,008 from the previous three months plus some costs exceeding projections.

Merger negotiations costs during the quarter were "a major factor," the finance committee reported, noting that at \$23,620 they exceeded the amount budgeted by \$3,620. Through the fis-

cal year's first nine months, costs of delegates and committees—"almost exclusively merger committee costs"—exceeded the amount projected for the entire year by \$27,829, the committee noted, pointing out that additional merger negotiating expenses already have been incurred and more are in prospect before the fourth quarter ends March 31.

On the other hand, the IEB projected lower miscellaneous organizing expenditures for the 4th quarter, principally because TNG already has met a \$53,000 commitment to assist the New York Guild in its unit clarification battle with the three New York dailies, and no major aid beyond the \$21,500 already paid to the Buffalo local is expected to be necessary. The \$65,000 budgeted for miscellaneous organizing expenses for the year has been exceeded in the first nine months of the year and Secretary-Treasurer Charles Dale forecast a substantial overrun on the item by year's end.

Third-quarter budget overruns in other areas are attributable "almost entirely to inflation's impact," the committee said, pointing to the impact of paper price hikes on stationary and other supplies as well as on newsprint for the Guild Reporter, as well as increases in hotel rates and air fares and TNG employees' wages.

The IEB adopted a budget for the fourth quarter projecting general fund expenditures totaling \$567,331 from Jan. 1 through March 31—\$39,000 less than the third-quarter budget and \$13,441 under October-December expenditures.

Acting on other recommenda-

extended by six months, to June 4, the time during which disciplinary charges can be filed alleging constitutional violations by Guild members during a two-day Photogravers strike against the Daily News last June.

And in response to New York Guild President Betsy Wade, IEB interpreted the constitutional requirement that local officers be suspended pending resolution of any disciplinary charges against them as members as applying only to positions specifically designated as an "officer" in local by-laws, such as president, secretary or treasurer.

Membership on a local's executive committee "would not in and of itself constitute one an 'officer' within the meaning" of the constitution's disciplinary provisions, the IEB said.

Only if the member is accused of "working for or in a shop" struck by a Guild local at the time the charge is filed may the member be suspended from a local's executive committee pending resolution of the charge, the IEB said in response to a second question from Wade.

tions by its finance committee, the IEB also:

- ✓ Approved contributions of \$50 to the National Resource Center for Consumers of Legal Services, \$25 to the League for Industrial Democracy, \$100 to the Greater Washington Chapter of the Leukemia Society of America, in memory of George Meany, and \$100 to the Freedom of Information Center at the University of Missouri.
- Also, as recommended by the IEB's Human Rights Committee, \$50 to the American Indian Fund and \$100 to Labor for Equal Rights Now (LERN), a coalition of unions working for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by Virginia.

Expressed the hope that all locals will forward to TNG materials requested and necessary for a convention-directed study of substituting a percentage for the \$1-across-the-board dues increase voted by the 1978 Convention. Through Jan. 31, 20 locals had complied and six more had informed TNG they were preparing to do so, as requested by TNG in mid-December.

The IEB also accepted its finance committee's recommendation that the secretary-treasurer report to each IEB meeting TNG's obligation for compensatory-time payments to staffers for weekend and holiday work "to the extent . . . feasible without additional bookkeeping" or adding to the work load of TNG department heads. The IEB in October had asked the finance committee to study whether the liability should be listed on TNG books. The obligation as of Jan. 1 totalled \$226,963.12, the finance committee reported.

Dudnick departure draws regret

Washington — TNG's International Executive Board has expressed its regret at the Jan. 21 resignation of Robert Dudnick

from TNG's headquarters staff "for warmer if not greener fields" with a state government employees' union in his native California.

The IEB noted that Dudnick was the first staffer to concentrate on video display terminals and health and that he prepared

TNG's bargaining kit on the subject.

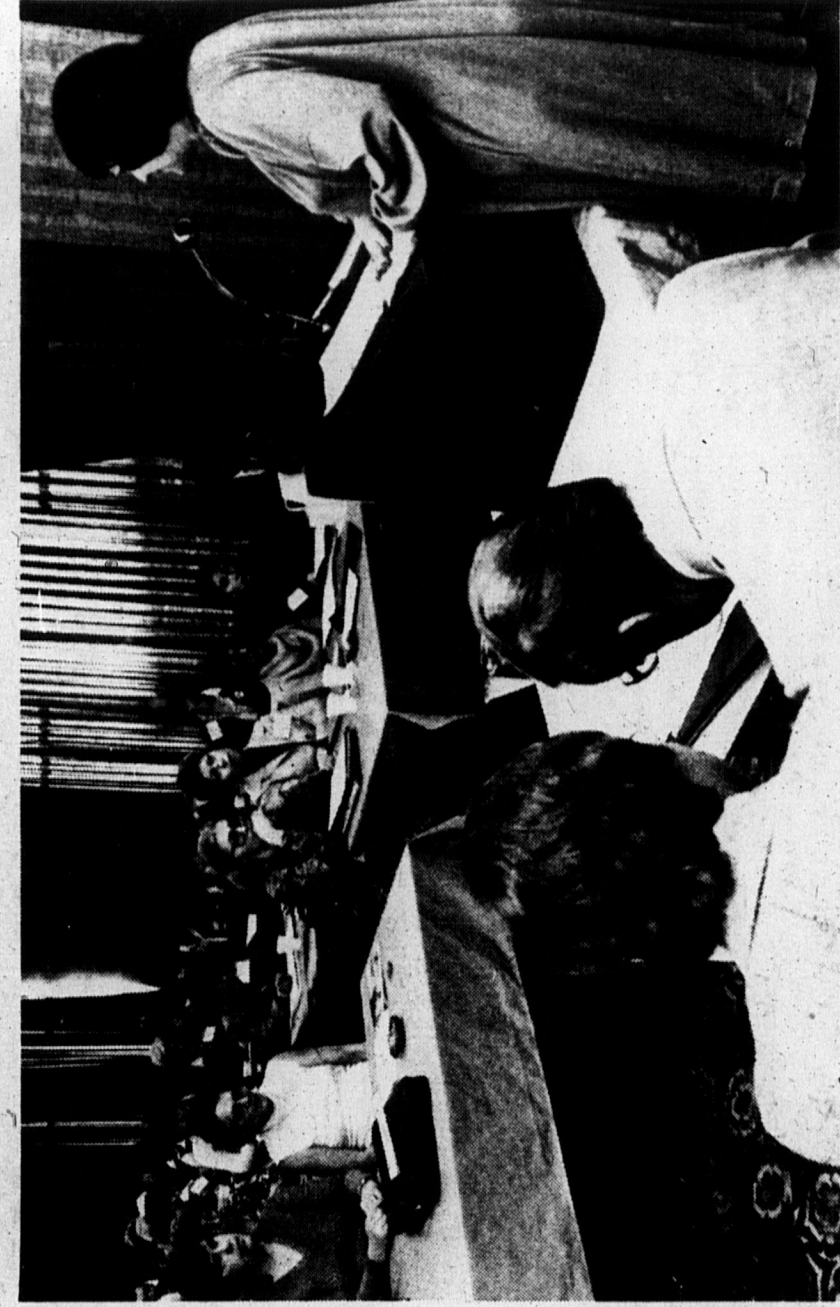
"TNG has come to the forefront of unions" on the question of VDTs and health, the IEB continued. Dudnick and "TNG's new man on the VDT case," David J. Eisen, Research & Information director, "were the stars" of the first-of-its-kind conference on VDTs and health, in New York City Jan. 19 [Guild Reporter, Jan. 25], the IEB said.



OSHA 'reform' would be reneging . . .

... on the nation's "basic commitment to workers that the production process should not be carried on at the expense of their lives and their health," John J. Sheehan, Steelworkers' legislative director, center warns on Labor News Conference, issued semi-monthly, except monthly in July, December at 1125 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. \$10.00 a year. ISSN: 0017-5404

AFL-CIO public-affairs program broadcast weekly on Mutual radio. Questioning Sheehan are Doug Harbrecht, left, of the Pittsburgh Press and Drew Von Bergen of United Press International. One U.S. senator has withdrawn from 'reform' bill.



JOYCE MILLER, RIGHT, COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN, ADDRESSES CONFERENCE
'Unions must reach out to growing numbers of women workers'

130-plus upgraded under Detroit pact

Detroit — The jobs of more than 130 Free Press employees, most of them women, have been upgraded under the Detroit Guild's contract with the Knight-Ridder paper, producing increases as high as \$61.49 a week.

Promotion research copywriters were upgraded to parity with reporters, resulting in a \$26.25 increase in the top minimum, to \$452.42. The upgrading is retroactive to April 1, 1978.

Clerks were reclassified as general clerks with a top minimum of \$279.04, an increase of \$37.15.

Voluntary ad takers also were upgraded to the general-clerk classification, resulting in a \$37.15 increase in their top minimum.

Typists and keypunch operators received a \$7.43 boost in their top minimum, to \$249.32.

Chief mail clerks were reclassified to parity with chief telephone operators at a flat minimum of \$284.51, producing a \$37.32 increase over the mail clerks' old top minimum.

In addition, some individual employees were determined to have been performing the work of higher-paid jobs and, with appropriate raises, were placed in the proper classifications.

The upgrades and reclassifications

flow from a contract provision establishing a joint committee to study job classifications. When the Guild and the company were unable to agree, they authorized mediator-arbitrator David S. Tanzman to mediate negotiations and decide disagreements.

Tanzman agreed with the Guild that copypersons in the sports department, who compile statistics and scores and enter the information on VDTs, perform "distinctly more difficult" work than copypersons in other departments. He ordered a separate classification for the sports department employees, with a top minimum of \$241.89, an increase of \$32.82 over the top minimum for other copy persons.

A ten percent "co-ordinator" differential was also added to the contract, producing raises ranging from \$17.90 to \$45.73 per week. The differential applies to employees designated to assign or monitor the work of others or to instruct, train or assist other employees.

The highest weekly increase of \$61.49 went to a promotion research copywriter who is also a co-ordinator. Her salary was increased \$16.25 as result of upgrading to parity with reporter, and the ten percent differential produced another \$45.24.

Washington-Baltimore vote kills representative body

Washington — The representative assembly of the Washington-Baltimore Guild was voted out of existence by the local's membership in a Jan. 20-25 referendum.

The vote substituted for the 84-member assembly a 20-member executive council, double the size of the executive board during the 39 months the local had a representative assembly and 42 percent larger than before the local had a representative assembly.

The winning proposition also increases the minimum number of annual membership meetings by three, to five.

Of three options available in the referendum, abolishing the

local dues schedule from printed by-laws won 502 to 398.

In three other parts of the election:

✓ Mary Esslinger of the National Catholic News Service retained her post as local secretary with a 618-to-365 decision over J. E. McNeil of the Bureau of National Affairs.

✓ A proposition to increase initiation and reinstatement fees by \$5, to \$8, lost 475 to 444.

✓ A proposal to delete the local dues schedule from printed by-laws won 502 to 398.

know that sizeable portions of their constituencies favor a nominee of Lubbers' experience and ability, a nominee whose competence and integrity even business representatives did not question during confirmation hearings," the IEB continued.

U.S. Guild locals should send resolutions to their states' senators "as soon as they can be adopted," the board said.

Guild members should be encouraged to write individual letters to their senators, it added.

The Western District Council at its meeting Feb. 2-3 issued a similar call upon its locals and their members.

If Lubbers' appointment is rejected, "it will signify that big business has acquired a decisive voice in determining who can and who cannot serve in a post of critical importance to every American working man and woman," the IEB concluded.

Either way, "senators must

New sensitivity to women urged

Washington—The labor movement needs to improve its efforts to reach out to women "as union members and potential union members," a special conference on unions and women workers was told here Jan. 24.

The conference drew more than 150 participants including international union officers and organizing directors from affiliates of the AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Dept. and national and regional officials of the coalition of Labor Union Women. (TNG Human Rights Co-ordinator Hannah Jo Rayl was a participant, as was Memphis Guild President Faye McCracken as president of the Memphis CLUW chapter.)

Earlier in announcing the conference, IUD President Howard Samuel said the IUD plans to step up efforts to recruit and train women organizers and to develop materials geared to working women.

CLUW President Joyce Miller called the meeting a "kick-off" to CLUW's organizing program, which will include establishing permanent organizing committees in each of 22 CLUW chapters around the country.

IUD Secretary-Treasurer Elmer Chatak stressed that first among labor's challenges is the need to organize unorganized workers.

While noting that "trade union fundamentals are as good today as they ever were," Chatak

CIO Organizing Director Alan Kistler and Alexis Herman, director of the Labor Dept.'s Women's Bureau.

Mikulski said that "working women belong in the union. And union women belong in union office. We want equal pay for equal work—and we want equal pay for comparable work."

Herman said the debate over why women were entering the workforce in growing numbers had gone on for too long. "The debate today is how the process is going to take place, and I believe that union membership and union leadership roles will determine that process to a large extent," she said.

A panel discussion of organizing strategies, included ways to overcome employer-inspired fear campaigns, turn around negative images of labor and establish credibility among workers and in the community.

Participants included Eva Ariak of the Food & Commercial Workers who worked in a recent, successful campaign at one of Washington's largest department store chains, Teamsters organizer Vicky Saporta who discussed successful organizing in the South and UAW Attorney Judy Scott, who focused on organizing and the law.

AFL-CIO News Service

Canada's price elevator

The table below records the ascent of Canada's Consumer Price Index over a 24-month period following a 1.2-point increase in the index in December, to 199.0, up 17.7 points from December, 1978, and 31.8 points from December, 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 December, 1977.

	Percentage over	
	Same month prior year	Dec. 1977†
January, 1979	8.9	9.3
February	9.2	10.3
March	9.2	11.6
April	9.8	12.4
May	9.3	13.5
June	8.9	14.0
July	8.1	14.9
August	8.4	15.3
September	9.6	16.3
October	9.3	17.2
November	9.4	18.3
December	9.8	19.0

*1971 = 100 †Index = 167.2

Back top NLRB aide, IEB urges

the IEB said.

The NLRB's general counsel decides which unfair-practices complaints should be issued and how resulting cases should be litigated and is in charge of the board's regional offices.

Lubbers, a 27-year member of the NLRB's legal staff, most recently served as its executive secretary. Previously he had been counsel to board member John Fanning, now NLRB chairman.

Business interests—led again by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Assn. of Manufacturers and the Business Roundtable—are seeking to derail Lubbers' nomination on the basis of his long association with Fanning, whom they consider pro-labor, the IEB pointed out.

A floor fight on the nomination "is certain" and a filibuster "a definite possibility," the IEB added.

Either way, "senators must

Washington—Big business and the right wing again are trying to put a "popular face" on their efforts to dictate U.S. labor-management relations policies and U.S. Guild locals and members should do everything possible to thwart them, TNG's International Executive Board said during its winter meeting.

Two years ago their machine cranked out thousands of cards and letters opposing labor law reform from "back home" to every member of the Senate, where the bill died, victim of a filibuster.

Their target now is President Carter's nomination and interim appointment of William A. Lubbers as general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, the IEB charged.

"Few positions in the U.S. government are of as far-reaching importance to union organizing and collective bargaining,"

IEB reviews status of TNG-ITU unity talks

(Continued from Page 1)

Doubt about the adequacy of the 14-month-old per-capita formula to finance a merged union is raised principally by mounting costs and a continuing decline in the ITU's working membership, he said.

If the re-evaluation presently underway bears out the doubt, it may be necessary to redraw the formula, effect economies, or both, he said.

Several IEB members expressed concern that without economies before a merger, the per-capita necessary to provide a merged union a realistically balanced budget could be too high for many Guild locals.

The two unions' merger committees have agreed that once a formula would be adopted by the new union, conventions would not be asked to increase per-capita payments by more than is generated under the formula, that except in extreme emergencies the defense fund would not be used for general fund purposes and that if economies were necessary, trimming would be at international headquarters rather than in the field staff.

TNG has pledged to its 11 field and 20 headquarters staffers that each would be given the opportunity to work for a merged union at no reduction in wages; the ITU has taken the position that there would be no pay cuts for its staff because of merger. Blatz reported. The ITU has 32 field and 109 headquarters staffers, with the latter down 12 in the last year, he said.

The merger committees also have tentatively agreed to a \$12 million defense fund with higher dues "roughly equivalent" to those now in effect in TNG to be triggered if the fund falls below \$9 million and remain in effect until the fund is restored to \$12 million. Blatz reported.

Strike-lockout benefit policy and levels would be established by the founding convention.

Among other finance items still

open are questions involving mandatory local defense funds and the structure of mandatory minimum local dues.

The ITU Strike (Defense) Fund is expected to reach \$5 million in April. TNG's Defense Fund had net debts of \$1.3 million at the beginning of 1980.

International Chairperson Harry S. Culver, also a member of TNG's merger committee, reviewed the agreements reached in November on the leadership structure for a merged union. [See Guild Reporter, Nov. 23.]

Under the agreements the new union would start out with an International Executive Council of nine fulltime members—five from the ITU and four from the Guild—and a 38-member International Governing Board, comparable to TNG's IEB, with 18 members from the Guild and 20 from the ITU, including the council members.

Six years after the merger the board would be reduced to 19 members—five full-time council members plus seven regional and seven at large representatives—all elected without regard to their previous union membership.

To one IEB member's questioning the agreement that one of the full-time vice presidencies be reserved for a mailer, Culver pointed out that the Guild as well as the ITU presently represents mailers and that there is no proposal that it has to be filled by an ITU mailer.

The numerical majorities guaranteed the ITU in the merged union's leadership would simply reflect the fact that they would be bringing about 50,000 active, working members into the new union while the Guild would bring about 30,000, Culver said.

To another IEB member's expression of dissatisfaction at the agreement that the governing board would have three regular meetings a year—the IEB meets four times—Perlik pointed out that the board would meet every four months instead of every

three and there would be provision for special meetings. The committees have not ruled out the possibility of mail or telegraphic polls, procedures employed by the IEB on questions demanding answers before its next regular meeting.

Some IEB members, including both from New York, expressed displeasure at the committees' agreement that it would take a two-thirds majority—rather than a simple majority—of the governing board to override a denial of strike sanction by the executive council.

Perlik said that in his 20-plus years as an officer of TNG he could recall no more than three times TNG had denied strike sanction requested by a local and that in each appeal the denial had been overridden by the IEB by a wide margin.

Secretary-Treasurer Charles Dale, also a member of TNG's merger committee, reviewed agreements on a merged union's convention procedures, the voting rights of its members, including retirees, and the mergers of locals of predecessor unions.

Conventions would be held annually and locals would be entitled to delegates under a formula based on their size, "very similar" to TNG's except that there would be a maximum of 35 delegates from a single local. Each local's delegates would be entitled to vote the local's full membership, with all of a local's votes apportioned equally among its delegates, nearly identical to TNG convention procedures.

Conventions would operate through a committee structure with each delegate choosing the one on which he or she would serve. Minority reports and amendments to committee reports would be made and acted upon on the floor.

Under discussion is a formula under which small locals with fewer than 100 members could combine to send one or more delegates who would cast all the votes of the combined locals. Combinations tentatively would be limited to five locals with no

more than 500 votes among them. There would have to be some geographic proximity among the locals.

This could make it possible for locals of different or the same predecessor internationals, separately unable to afford their own delegate, to combine to send one or more to represent them all, Dale said.

Nominations of officers and governing board members would take place at conventions, as would elections in instances where there might be no contests.

Proceedings of general sessions would be printed overnight and distributed to delegates the next day, as at ITU conventions. They would be verbatim if requested by the convention.

Retirees could not vote on international matters except on dues questions directly affecting them. In what constitutes present ITU locals, but not Guild locals, retirees could vote on local officers and other local matters if permitted by the former ITU local but could not vote on bargaining issues such as contract proposals, ratifications, strike or lockout settlements.

Retirees could be convention delegates only if elected by the working members of a local. Retirees could not vote on convention delegates, however. If local unions merge, retirees could vote in local-officer elections only if each local that merged voted approval of retirees voting in local-officer elections.

Retirees will vote in the ITU referendum on any merger proposal that is produced, however, Dale pointed out. Perlik pointed out that there is nothing in any part of the tentative merger agreements that would require locals to merge, but that, to the contrary, there has been agreement from early on that local mergers would be solely at locals' options.

"There certainly would be encouragement of locals to merge," he said, explaining:

"There would be no reason for merger talks or merger except to bring the combined strength of

two unions' merger committees—the 15th—is scheduled for Feb. 25-29 in Washington.

The next joint meeting of the two unions' merger committees—

WDC elects Schultz 3rd time

were elected without opposition. They are:

Stan Souza of Hawaii, 1st vice president, replacing Lanny Larson of Central California; Emmett Murray of Pacific Northwest, 2nd vice president, replacing Judi Hunt, of the same local, who did not seek re-election, and

Bakersfield, Calif.—Gerald L.

Schultz of San Diego has been re-elected to his third consecutive term as president of the Western District Council of Guild locals. He was unopposed.

All the other officers elected by delegates to the council's winter meeting here Feb. 2-3 also

Lanny Larson, secretary-treasurer, replacing Robert L. Jones of Bakersfield, who did not run.

Delegates enacted a special resolution of tribute to Jones for serving as the council's secretary-treasurer since 1968 when he agreed to take the position on an interim basis after the incumbent had left it in mid-term. Jones was elected to ten consecutive terms beginning the next year.

In another resolution, the council praised the Phoenix Guild and its members at the Arizona Republic and Phoenix Gazette for continuing to strive for a first contract with the Pulliam papers during the two years since they first voted for Guild representation.

The council also heard a report on the status of merger talks between TNG and the International Typographical Union from TNG Secretary-Treasurer Charles Dale.

Vice Presidents Floyd Tucker of San Francisco-Oakland, Carla Beck of Great Falls and William Davis of San Jose also reported on the International Executive Board's Jan. 28-31 meeting.

The council's spring meeting was set for San Diego on the weekend following the IEB's spring meeting.

Lexington's Bowden gets award for service

ing)," the judges pointed out.

"The Lexington Guild has once again taken an active role in the Lexington Central Labor Council, for which Bowden is publicity chairperson and a member of the organizing committee and to which, in the words of the council president, she has been 'an important link and key asset.'

"In short," the judges concluded, "as her nomination says, she has 'turned apathetic members of a struggling local into one strong voice'."

Formerly a business reporter, more recently assigned to the police beat at the Herald-Leader, Bowden, 33, has been an active Guild member since joining the Knight-Ridder paper. She has served on the local's bargaining committee before and since becoming its president.

Since Bowden became Lexington's president, the local's membership has increased "more than two-fold" and it did so "without the aid of a Guild shop or dues checkoff," the judges pointed out.

"Employee rights and protections—ranging from proper working conditions for VDTs through maternity leaves and redress of discriminatory wages and threatened discharges to staffing in the sports department—have been enforced with renewed vigor and effectiveness.

"Bargaining issues (and a by-line strike) have been skillfully publicized, stimulating interest in the Guild on other Kentucky papers.

"Relations with craft unions at the Herald-Leader have been strengthened (the Typographical Union sits in on Guild bargain-

(Continued from Page 1)

"has become a 'viable and extremely visible force' in the Herald-Leader news room in a notably anti-labor environment."

The other six nominees represent "an admirable range of union activity and accomplishment and their locals can be proud of their achievements," the judges noted, adding, however, that Bowden's "leadership in revitalizing her small local most notably exemplifies the kind of local Guild service beyond the call of duty that the Guild Service Award is intended to recognize and encourage."

Judges were TNG Vice Presidents Carla W. Beck of Great Falls and Richard V. Sabatini of Philadelphia plus Ellis T. Baker, TNG's director of administrative operations.



DARLENE BOWDEN
Guild service winner

Top up \$83, to hit \$457 in Pottstown

Pottstown, Pa.—Top minimum for key jobs is increased by \$83.44, to \$457.42 a week, and supplemental pensions under TNG's International Pension Fund are provided in a three-year Philadelphia Guild contract with Ingersoll's Mercury.

The \$83.44 increase goes to experienced ad salespersons, circulation supervisors, photographers and reporters paid at or above top minimum, with \$27.42 a week retroactive to Sept. 15, \$28.27 more next Sept. 15 and \$27.75 on Sept. 15, 1981.

The Mercury's contribution toward the supplemental pension is \$2.50 a week per employee initially, going to \$5 a week for the contract's final year.

Telephone solicitors and ad-takers' top minimum is raised by \$56.36 (\$21.56 retroactive, then two increments of \$18.02 each) to \$289.67 a week.

Total increase for advertising, circulation and editorial clerks, top is \$44.70 a week, to \$254.85.

A guarantee that editorial department employees will work no more than three holidays in a calendar year is added.

So is a guarantee that an employee will have a right to respond "simultaneously and adequately"—on the pages where published—to any letter to the editor in which he or she is mentioned.

Part-time employees who consistently work 30 hours a week are henceforth regarded as full-time employees for insurance coverage purposes.



Pondering the package

Members of the New York Guild's Standard & Poor's Unit listen closely, above, as Unit and Bargaining Committee Chairperson David M. Mulcahy, right, outlines details of three-year settlement with the financial reporting firm. Vice President At Large.

SUSPENSION IS OVERTURNED

San Diego—Copley's San Diego Union acted too harshly when it suspended a police reporter for erroneously identifying the victim of a beating and robbery as the mother of an organized crime leader, arbitrator Edgar A. Jones, Jr. has ruled.

The arbitrator said that while the error was serious, it was the "sort of commonly recurrent error that has always plagued newspaper reporting" and that undoubtedly will appear in the last paper "published on Doomsday minus a last glance."

The company was ordered to substitute a written reprimand for the ten-day suspension and to reimburse the grievant for lost pay.

Several months prior to the suspension, the company had issued a disciplinary memo when the grievant did not report several "bright, little" police stories carried by the evening Tribune. The arbitrator criticized the company for failing to investigate the grievant's explanations for missing the stories, saying that "if there is no time to investigate rational explanations, there is no

Case of the missing 'bright, little' police stories

the company was willing to invest in only one police reporter, it had to expect the resulting news product to reflect the "lack of time and opportunity" to "generate the range of major crime reporting and human interest vignettes that were demanded."

To support its contention that errors like the grievant's are not uncommon, the Guild entered as evidence extensive collections of errors and corrections published by the San Diego papers, along with lists of libel actions filed against the papers and copies of the Union's Readers' Representative columns.

Mid-Atlantic re-elects Alfano

Philadelphia—Victor J. Alfano of Scranton has been re-elected president and John J. Wallace of Wilkes-Barre has been re-elected treasurer of the Middle-Atlantic District Council of Guild locals.

Delegates to the council's winter meeting here Feb. 2-3 also elected Mary White of Philadelphia as vice president and R. Victor Stewart of Albany as secretary.

All four were elected without opposition. White had been secretary. Joan Cook of New York did not seek re-election as vice president and declined nomination as secretary.

Delegates also approved affiliation of the Wire Service Guild for its 450-plus members in the states within the council's jurisdiction. The Wire Service Guild also has affiliated with the New England and Midwest councils for its members there.

About 15 members of the Philadelphia Guild joined delegation.

Correction

Retroactivity for district managers, outside classified salespersons and ad makeup persons in the Albany Guild settlement that upgrades their top minimums was incorrectly reported in the Jan. 25 Guild Reporter.

The \$42.50 raise that puts the first two at parity with reporters and display salespersons includes \$21.25 retroactive to May 2 and the same amount from the agreement's Jan. 20 ratification. For the ad makeup top, \$16.80 is retroactive to May 2 and \$63.80 was effective upon ratification.

TNG seeks copies of '75-'79 awards

Washington—TNG is asking all Guild locals to make sure TNG has a copy of each arbitration decision they may have been involved in since 1974.

The decisions are needed so the TNG arbitration index for those years can be completed, according to Richard J. Ramsey, Contracts Committee executive secretary.

New call to limit chains follows F.P. deal

Washington—Addition of the F.P. chain to the "Thomson empire" points up the "critical importance" of legislation to limit the size of newspaper chains, TNG's International Executive Board declared during its winter meeting. [Thomson's buying F.P. breaks patterns, Guild Reporter, Jan. 23.]

Such legislation was called for in both the United States and Canada by TNG's 1979 Convention.

The addition of the F.P. chain's eight dailies, which include some of Canada's largest and most influential, to the 120

Thomson already owned in the U.S. and Canada "cannot but be disturbing to those who value the pricelessness of press freedom and diversity," the IEB said.

Thomson's acquisition of control of F.P. puts "the specter of a financial Goliath astride Can-

ada's entire communications network... chillingly close to reality," the board said.

It called upon Parliament to act to limit newspaper chain's size "as soon as it reconvenes" and urged the Canadian Labour Congress to join TNG in the call.

Victoria labor wants a law, too

Victoria, B.C.—The Victoria Labour Council has called upon the Canadian Labour Congress to seek federal legislation to halt any further increase in the concentration of the ownership of

the nation's newspapers.

Pointing to Thompson Newspapers Ltd.'s acquiring control of the F.P. chain, the council said that "an independent and critical press is needed at a time when power at all levels is becoming more and more centralized."

"To expect the Thomson chain... to assume a 'watch-dog' role in areas such as corporate ownership would be naive" since it is "one of the negative forces in... Canadian journalism," the council said.

Victoria's two dailies, the Colonist and Times, are F.P. papers.

Monesen strike is in 10th month

Monesen, Pa.—The strike of 20 Pittsburgh Guild members against the Thomson chain's Valley Independent moved into the last half of its tenth month with no sign of settlement soon, Guild representatives reported Feb. 5.

Most recent bargaining sessions

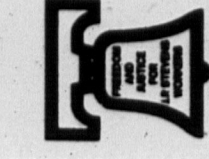
were Jan. 14, 15 and 16. "Some progress" was reported. Guild representatives said they are awaiting the mediator's call to resume talks.

Major issues remaining include wages, fringe benefits and job and union security, the strikers' weekly, Valley Views, reported.

Boycott J.P. STEVENS PRODUCTS

TNG's International Executive Board and the international labor movement are calling on all consumers to stop buying J. P. Stevens Company products for the duration of its years-old dispute with the Amalgamated Clothing & Textile Worker's Union.

In addition to Stevens' name, you'll find them hiding under these brand names, among others:



SHEETS & PILLOWCASES

Beau-Bleu
Beau-Bleu
Fine Arts
Peanuts (comic strip figures)
Tastemaker
Utica
Utica & Mohawk
Designer labels:
Yves St. Laurent
Angelo Donghia
Ava Bergman
Dinah Shore
Cacharel
Suzanne
Pleschette
Hardy Amies

BLANKETS & CARPETS

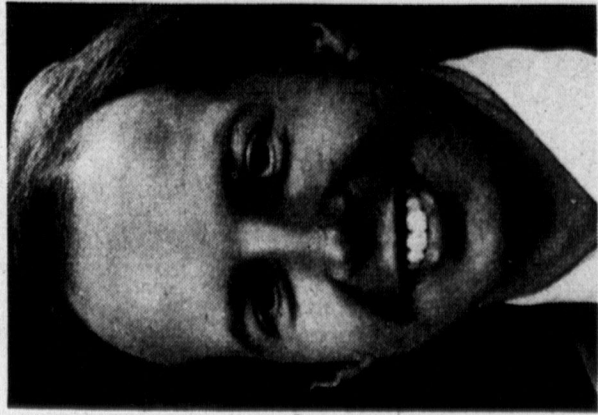
Contender
Gulistan
Merryweather
Tastemaker
Forstmann
Utica

TABLE LINEN

Simtex

TOWELS

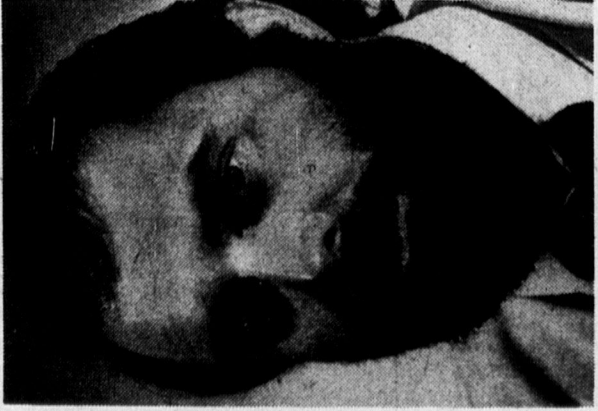
Fine Arts
Utica
Tastemaker
Snoopy (comic strip character)



PATRICK MALONE



CARL HIAASEN



WILLIAM MONTALBANO

The other members of the team that won the 1979 Broun Award

Doctors' series gets Broun prize

(Continued from Page 1)

Heywood Broun tradition" that they set aside the "reluctance to cite team efforts in favor of work done by one or two reporters" expressed in the guidelines for entrants and judges and made the four-person team the winner.

The winning series ran in the Herald from Feb. 25 through March 3 and resulted in a reconstructed state medical board and sweeping new state medical practices legislation.

The stories "spotlighted what may in fact be a secret disgrace in many American cities," the judges said, noting that the stories contained "no blind quotes, no unnamed miscreants, no play-it-safe generalities."

"The reporters cited specific physicians whose continued practice of medicine represents a danger to the community and the specific review boards whose negligence permitted them to go on practicing," the judges pointed out.

Some subjects of the series threatened to sue, but none did and there were no retractions, Herald associate editor George Beebe reported.

The judges called each of the four entries they cited "hard-hitting works whose impact helped right a wrong or correct an injustice in the spirit of Heywood Broun, the great newspaper columnist" who was the Guild's founding president.

The award has been given each of the last 39 years for work in the spirit of Broun's work in the '20s and '30s. That spirit was distinguished by an unceasing devotion to the public interest and an abiding concern for the underdog.

Judges were John M. Lemmon, managing editor of the Baltimore Evening Sun, William J. Ras-

berry, syndicated Washington Post urban affairs columnist, and Peter Hackes, NBC radio Washington correspondent.

Contest chairperson was Joseph F. Collis of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a former TNG president and vice president, who retired in 1975 after 13 years as managing editor of the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader.



GENE MILLER, RIGHT, ACCEPTS BROUN AWARD CHECK

William Raspberry, one of the judges, does the honors

Ten more weeks' benefits voted for Elizabeth by IEB

Washington—TNG's International Executive Board voted without dissent Jan. 30 to pay 10 more weeks of benefits and then terminate payments from TNG's Defense Fund in the week of April 4 for New York Guild members who struck the Elizabeth Daily Journal last April 15.

The week before the Guild's picket lines had been removed from the Journal when the 74 remaining members of the unit had agreed to strike-settlement terms negotiated with the Elizabeth management by TNG and the New York Local. Those

terms included distribution of about \$300,000 among the members and their waiving any additional claims against the Hagadone-chain paper.

TNG Secretary - Treasurer Charles Dale, who represented TNG in the negotiations, told the IEB the formula for distribution of the \$300,000 was worked out by the Elizabeth Guild unit leadership. It is based on years of service with the Journal and, for full-time employees, ranges from \$1,000 to \$7,500 per person. Including the cash surrender value of an insurance plan and distribution of a pension escrow account, maximum payment to an individual is about \$11,000, Dale reported. Participants in a unilateral company pension plan also are assured of retaining their rights under it.

The Journal had resumed publication five days after the Guild struck it. Strike breakers from as far away as California and Idaho and heavily armed guards were brought in.

Pact in Battle Creek adds \$12, a holiday

Battle Creek, Mich. — A one-year Battle Creek Guild contract with Gannett's Enquirer and News, takes the top minimum for reporters and photographers to \$336, up \$12.

A service anniversary date was added as an eighth holiday.

IT SEEMS TO US

Washingtonian says she hates nit-picking but...

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Editor:

I hate nit-picking but I do think that identifying Bill Mackaye as "chairperson of the assembly" and me as "assembly delegate from the three-member IUE unit" had the effect of downgrading my credentials. I'm sure you could have checked it out.

In addition to being a delegate from IUE, I am secretary of the representative assembly and a member of the Washington-Baltimore Guild executive board. I represent labor press and at-large members.

I'm on my second term as secretary of the RA so I've had to observe it founder. That's why I suggested we shoot it.

Mary Dresser
IUE Unit

Washington-Baltimore Guild

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.

plies, "We weren't asked to help. That was up to the local!"

The Elizabeth story should serve as a warning to every unit of TNG.

JEAN-RAE TURNER
Elizabeth Unit
New York Guild

Editor's note: TNG's International Executive Board voted without dissent Jan. 30 to terminate TNG strike benefits for Elizabeth with the payment for the week beginning April 4. (See story at left.) The last Guild strike in Haverhill was in 1968. It lasted two days and, with solid craft-union support, produced a new contract. Hagadone bought the Haverhill paper five-and-a-half years later.

2nd Mellett Award entry deadline is set

Washington—A March 1 deadline has been set for entries in the Second Annual Lowell Mellett Award for Improving Journalism through Critical Evaluation.

The award is named for the late Lowell Mellett, a Scripps-Howard editor and columnist, whose bequest to the Guild in 1966 led to the founding of the Mellett Fund for a Free and Responsible Press, a nonprofit organization with the aim of finding ways to increase press responsibility without impairing press freedom. Fund president is H. Eugene Goodwin, professor of journalism at Penn State.

Award entries will be judged on their contribution to the improvement of both print and broadcast journalism through responsible analysis and/or critical evaluation.

Winner of the first Mellett Award—made in 1979—was the St. Louis Journalism Review. Judges cited its "sustained and

Try again on criminal code, say IEB, council, N.Y. local

Washington—Changes in this year's bills to codify and reform U.S. criminal law have not impressed TNG's International Executive Board.

Nor have they impressed the Guild's Middle-Atlantic District Council or the New York Guild's representative assembly.

The Senate version (S. 1722) as approved by that body's Judiciary Committee, "is still strewn with too many perils to warrant its adoption," the IEB said during its winter meeting.

And the House Bill, (H.R. 6233), which started out more favorable to civil liberties than the Senate bill, "has been deteriorating through conservative pressures" as it goes through markup in the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee, the IEB said.

There are still too many pit-

falls for press freedom in the Senate bill, the IEB warned. The pitfalls, previously cited by TNG and other news industry organizations, include provisions affecting the protection of news sources, possession of government documents, information from government "whistle blowers" and publication of "stolen" information. There also are dangers to organized workers' rights.

The IEB called upon the Senate as a whole to reject the bill. It also urged the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee to "apply the brakes" to its bill, noting that it "appears to have no better prospect than to compromise with the Senate bill in an area where none should be made—the nation's basic liberties."

The Mid-Atlantic District Council and New York's representative assembly echoed the IEB in similar resolutions.

Harrisburg reporter top to hit \$440

Harrisburg, Pa.—An increase of \$64 in their top minimum takes experienced reporters, copy-readers and artists to \$440 a week in a three-year Harrisburg Guild contract with Newhouse's Patriot & News.

The \$64 for the key category comes in three increments: \$24 retroactive to July 1, then \$20 each on July 1, 1980 and 1981. A flat minimum for news editor goes up \$73.65, to \$504.90 a week.

Librarian's top minimum goes up \$40.17, to \$274.92 a week, with \$15.07 retroactive to July 1, and \$12.55 each on July 1 this year and next.

Telephone operators and clerks' top minimum goes up \$33.86, to \$232.86, with \$15.07 retroactive to July 1, and \$10.58 each on July 1, 1980, 1981.

Employees paid more than the minimum receive the same increases.

President's Day is added to contractual holidays, for a total of 10.

A provision so employees can substitute a religious holiday for a birthday holiday or use a vacation day for a religious holiday also is added.

Discrimination because of marital or parental status is added to other biases banned in the fair-employment practices provision.

Free Riders Hurt Us All



Allentown extension nearing expiry

Allentown, Pa. — A one-year, seven-percent extension of the Lehigh Valley Guild's contract with the Allentown Call and Chronicle will expire at the end of July.

The extension, agreed to and effective four months before the contract would have expired last July 31, added \$24 to the top minimum for reporters, taking it to \$370.88 a week. Simultaneous seven percent raises took the photographers' top minimum to \$349.60, up \$23, that for general clerks to \$182.40, up \$12, and that for copy persons to \$152, up \$10.

Guild brings charges as Journal fires five

Philadelphia—The Philadelphia Journal has been trying to thwart its editorial employees' efforts to be represented by the Guild by firing members and supporters of the Guild organizing committee, the Philadelphia Guild alleges in charges to the National Labor Relations Board.

The Quebecor-chain's two-year-tabloid also committed an unfair-labor-practice when it threatened to close permanently when the Teamsters struck it for a new contract Jan. 21. The strike ended late Jan. 23 and the paper resumed publication Jan. 25 [Guild Reporter, Jan. 25].

The firings and closure threat are both part of a campaign of "intimidation and coercion" and interfere with the employees' right to select a union, the Guild charged Jan. 29.

On the strike's second day the paper had sent its editorial department employees notices that there were no more jobs for them and upon the strike's settlement said there would be staff reductions.

Three of five persons not called back to work in the news room were members of the Guild organizing committee and the other two are Guild supporters, the Guild charged.

It also charged that the paper's managing editor, Walter Herring, tried to intimidate editorial employees by standing across the

street from the entrance to a building where a Guild meeting had been called during the Teamster strike.

Herring ran from the scene when a staffer and Guild organizer sought to approach and talk to him, reported William M. Brown, TNG international representative assisting the group.

The Guild has asked that the NLRB not allow the charges to be used as an excuse to delay the representation proceedings. A third day of hearings on the Guild petition for recognition has been scheduled by the NLRB for Feb. 12.

NLRB sees unfair tactic by weeklies

Chicago—Responding to a refusal-to-bargain charge by the Chicago Guild, the National Labor Relations Board office here has issued a complaint against Time, Inc.'s Pioneer Press chain of suburban weeklies.

A hearing is scheduled May 29 on the charge that the company illegally has refused to meet since Nov. 7 for bargaining on an initial contract for the papers' editorial employees.

Meanwhile the Chicago Guild has successfully bargained a contract for the production department employees at Pioneer. The local was recognized for the group by Pioneer Press-Feb. 14, 1978, after the Suburban Printers Assn. voted to affiliate with the Guild.

The three-year contract takes the web-press classification to \$446.95, Jan. 5, 1981. Cold-type compositors go to \$287.35 at the same time.

AFL-CIO charters athletes' federation

Washington — The AFL-CIO has issued a charter to the Federation of Professional Athletes (FPA), a group composed of the 1,400-member National Football League Players Assn. and the 325-member North American Soccer League Players Assn.

The only other professional athletes represented by an AFL-CIO union are the Harlem Globetrotters, who are members of the Service Employees, according to the AFL-CIO.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Gary

John B. Mitchell, president (Mitchell, 37; James A. McGill, 26, in runoff following 30-to-30 tie in regular election); Ernest Hernandez, 1st vice president; Richard Grey, 2nd vice president; Forbes Scott, secretary; Larry Bretts, treasurer.

Memphis

Faye McCracken, president (McCracken, 201; Robert Watkins, 62); Robert Steward, 1st vice president; Tim Schick, 2nd vice president (Schick, 36); Willie Briwider, 134; Fred Baty, 36; Margaret Boyd, 3rd vice president (Boyd, 196; Lawrence Lester, 72); Edith Kuchenneister, treasurer; Fay Ables, recording secretary.

Montreal

Michael Dugas, president; Frederica Phillips, 1st vice president; Randy Phillips, 2nd vice president; Harvey Enchin, secretary-treasurer.

Ottawa

Bryon Eastwood, president; Doug MacDonald, vice president; Donna Balkan, secretary; Guy LaPage, treasurer.

Insurance often hides in interest charges

part of a conventional insurance policy.

Particularly profitable for lenders in recent years, with the rapid rise of the two-salaried family, is the sale of joint credit life insurance to a husband and wife, since the female has 40 percent less chance of death before the loan is paid off.

Under the Truth in Lending Act of 1969, a loan company must either notify the borrower that credit life is voluntary or include the charge for the insurance as part of the finance charge. Few lenders want to do this because many are already charging the maximum permissible interest rate.

While, several states, notably California, New York and Maine, have taken steps to regulate credit insurance charges, Hunt said that most insurance commissions have done little to curb overcharges.

In 1977, the total for credit life death claims was \$508 million compared to \$1,342 million in premiums collected, according to the 1978 report of the American Council of Life Insurance. This is a 38 percent claims-to-premium ratio, Hunt points out. He proposes that states adopt an 80 percent claims-to-premium regulation, which means that credit-life insurers would be required to pay out \$80 in claims for every \$100 in premiums collected.

In the meantime, Hunt advises consumers when taking out loans:

✓ Remember that you cannot legally be required to take credit insurance if you don't want it.

✓ If you do want credit life or disability (accident and health), shop for the best value when taking the loan.

✓ If you are under 40 and healthy, credit life is a poor insurance buy for you.

dealer that he didn't want it, he was told, "You don't have any choice."

Although the cost of credit life does not loom large when spread over 36 payments, it nearly always is overpriced for the small policy you get. In one case, the buyer of a \$15,000 mortgage home was charged an additional \$3,500 for it.

A random survey last year showed that one of four finance companies urged customers to take the insurance if they wanted a loan. A survey by the Federal Reserve Board among buyers of credit insurance from banks, dealers or loan companies found that more than one of three thought it was either required or strongly recommended. Still another study found that one of three who had insurance covering credit-card debts to stores did not know they had bought it.

Hunt, former state rating director for the Massachusetts Division of Insurance, said that "creditors like to sell credit insurance because they make money on the sale of insurance and because they virtually assure themselves of no bad debts when customers die or become disabled."

Margolius, consumer-pioneer, dies

This column is one of the last to be written by Sidney Margolius during nearly four decades of covering consumer affairs. He died Jan. 31 in a hospital near his Port Washington, Long Island, home after suffering a heart attack. He was 67.

In the 1940s, when consumer reporting was considered a radical innovation, Margolius took it up and was in charge of a dozen reporters on the beat for the New York daily PM.

In the years since his became a name familiar to millions of union members through syndication of his column to more than 100 union papers. The Guild Reporter ran his column in the late '50s-early '60s and resumed it at the end of 1979.

For the last 15 years his column also has been syndicated by the North American Newspaper Alliance and the Women's News Service.

He also wrote more than 350 magazine articles and 20 books on consumer matters and served on the National Commission on Product Safety, as a consultant to the Federal Trade Commission and as a director of Consumers' Union. He was a member of the New York Guild from 1940 through mid-1948.

Esther Margolius, his widow, assisted him with the research for his work for years and will continue the column.

Insurance

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS

CONSUMERS who buy on the installment plan or borrow from loan companies or banks often find themselves paying "hidden" credit insurance charges along with the customary interest payments.

According to recent Senate subcommittee hearings, these insurance charges fall heavily on young buyers who are not aware that under the federal Truth-in-Lending law credit insurance is optional.

Witnesses testified that some finance companies, car dealers and banks put pressure on borrowers to buy credit life or disability insurance—the type that pays off your remaining debt if you die or become disabled. A blind couple, among others, told Senate investigators that they had been led to believe they had to take the insurance to get a loan.

Since credit life insurance is almost always sold at the same rate to borrowers regardless of age (up to 65), "a 25-year-old pays the same as a 55-year-old who is eight times more likely to benefit from it," James A. Hunt, consulting actuary from Concord, N.H., told the Senate Antitrust and Monopoly subcommittee.

With young people applying for consumer credit in increasing numbers and the average age of those seeking loans declining, these hidden insurance charges result in windfall profits for many large creditors, Hunt said.

Young consumers continue to buy the overpriced insurance, studies show, because they are poorly informed of the necessity for it.

A New Jersey resident found that the car dealer who had arranged a loan for him had simply typed into the contract a fee for credit life. When he told the

Tweedledee and Tweedledee



HOW COPE SEES SENATE RACES

Money counts, caring people vote

FROM THE point of view of political tacticians, the campaign for control of the U.S. Senate after the elections in November is the fastest game in town. For several reasons:

✓ **Arithmetic**—Purely on the basis of numbers, the Senate situation is volatile. Of the 34 seats up, 24 are held by Democrats, 10 by Republicans. The law of averages alone says the Democrats have got to lose some seats. With the present make-up of the Senate 59 to 41 for the Democrats, a loss of 10 seats means GOP control as of 1981.

✓ **Close ones** — Here, too, Democrats are at a disadvantage. Of their 24 seats up, at least 13 can be considered marginal for one or another reason, and several others fall close enough to be worrisome.

Among those clearly facing the probability of stiff challenges are Senators Mike Gravel (Alaska), Donald Stewart (Ala.), Alan Cranston (Calif.), Gary Hart (Colo.), Frank Church (Idaho), Birch Bayh (Ind.), John Culver (Iowa), Tom Eagleton (Mo.), John Durkin (N.H.), George McGovern (S.D.), Pat Leahy (Vt.). Two Democrats are not seeking re-election, Adlai Stevenson (Ill.) and Abraham Ribicoff (Conn.). Their seats are up for grabs.

Three GOP seats held by pro-worker incumbents also could be toss-ups. Richard Schweiker does not seek re-election in Pennsylvania. Jacob Javits has not yet announced for re-election in New York. Should

This article is reprinted from the Jan. 7 issue of 'Memo from COPE,' publication of the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education.

he run, he might face tough opposition from within the right wing of his own party for nominating Charles Mathias as announced for re-election in Maryland and also could run up against a right-wing primary foe.

✓ **Tactics** — Something new on the scene could have immense impact on Senate contests. It's the so-called "independent campaign." Under the election laws, an independent political committee can spend vast sums attacking an incumbent as long as none of its materials promotes the candidacy of a challenger.

MAJOR right-wing political committees already have begun such campaigns in five states against pro-worker, pro-union incumbents. The right-wingers have earmarked \$800,000 to soften up Cranston, Bayh, Culver, Church and McGovern, and leave the mopping-up operation to their challengers. The theory, simply put, is to discredit the incumbent, to do the dirty work so the challenger won't have to.

✓ **Recent history** — There were enough signs in 1978 that the corporate-trade-association-right wing political axis swings hefty clout to dim any

expectation that 1980 might be a cake-walk for progressive incumbents. The opposition political action committees concentrated their efforts in Colorado, Iowa and New Hampshire. In each case, they replaced a strongly pro-worker, pro-union senator with a political caveman. In each case, they successfully used single-issue passion appeals to strip away votes from the traditional base of support of the pro-worker incumbents. They will try to do this again in 1980.

IF THERE is a fly in the ointment for corporate, trade and right-wing political action committees, it is that primarily they rely on money to do their winning for them. While the rightist groups are organized for authentic political action beyond funding, the corporate and trade association committees are money funnels out to buy the Senate.

There's no arguing against the proposition that money counts heavily in politics. But money doesn't vote. People do. So the battle for the U.S. Senate comes down to this question: Do the people care enough?

DAY BOOK

New England District Council, winter meeting, Feb. 16-17, Sheraton Wayfarer Inn, Bedford, N.H.
Midwest District Council, winter meeting, Feb. 23-24, Holiday Inn, Pueblo, Colo.
TNG seminar on contract enforcement.

TNG Special Merger Committee and ITU Merger Negotiating Committee, 15th joint meeting, Feb. 25-29, Washington.
Southern District Council, winter meeting, March 1-2, Holiday Inn-Scope, Norfolk.
Great Lakes District Council, winter meeting, March 8-9, Hilton Hotel, Erie.

David S. Schick Memorial Award Contest for local Guild publications, entries deadline, TNG headquarters, Washington, April 1.
International Executive Board, spring meeting, April 23-May 2, TNG headquarters, Washington.

Western District Council, spring meeting, May 3-4, San Diego (tentative).
Middle-Atlantic District Council, spring meeting, May 17-18, Albany.
47th Annual TNG Convention, June 23-27, Hotel Toronto, Toronto.

As they put it

S.2153 vs. OSHA facts

The following is taken from a "fact sheet" prepared by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. on the proposed so-called Occupational Safety & Health Administration Improvement Act.

Grossly distorting the meaning of recently released employer reports to the Bureau of Labor Statistics on work-related injuries and deaths, Sens. Schweiker (R-Pa.) and Williams (D-N.J.) and others have introduced a bill that would end the OSHA pattern of enforcement and education and return to pre-OSHA dependence on the altruism and honesty of employers. Basic worker rights would be abridged.

They make much of a "task force" finding that only 25 percent of workplace injuries are preventable through enforcement of current OSHA standards. This ignores the fact that these "unquestionably inadequate standards were set by management themselves through their private "consensus" standards organizations.

The bill's authors should recognize the success of OSHA reflected in the ten percent reduction in employer reported injuries since 1972. Instead they suggest that OSHA should enlarge the role of the same people who have produced the inadequate standards in the first place. Nearly 1,000 nit-picking management standards have been scrapped by order of the Secretary of Labor.

Most of the changes and new equipment in the workplace, stimulated by OSHA, are only now being installed and concurrent worker training begun. Their effects cannot be fully reflected in BLS data for several years, but some already are apparent: violations of asbestos and petroleum products standards, for example, have dropped by about 50 percent to 75 percent respectively. Serious injuries are decreasing, even according to a leading company doctor in U.S. Chamber of Commerce testimony.

The bill's authors claim an increase in serious injuries, based on an increase in employer reports of lost-workday injuries, reflects a failure of OSHA. "Lost workday" data never reflects actual conditions. Changing requirements of insurance carriers and state agencies, increased protection for workers who report injuries and increased enforcement of OSHA record keeping all affect what employers report. Economic and legal incentives shift every year.

A better index of OSHA effectiveness is the death rate from serious injury. Employers report a ten percent reduction from 1977 to 1978, a fact consciously ignored by the bill's authors.

A recent study by the universities of Indiana and Nebraska concludes that if enforcement pressure—inspections and fines—is taken off employers they can be expected to ignore their employees' safety. It is a fact that after Congress took the pressure off, deaths due to injury in businesses with fewer than 20 employees doubled in one year.

The authors of OSHA "improvement" propose to extend this to the entire OSHA-covered workforce. They are "hopeful" that they then will be able to approach health hazards in the same way.

The Guild Reporter



JAMES M. CESNIK
Editor

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