Membership approves finance program

Washington—TNG's membership has ratified the three-part finance proposal submitted to it in union-wide referendum March 20-25, according to unofficial and incomplete, but apparently conclusive, results tabulated by the Guild Reporter.

Reports from locals containing nearly 88 percent of the members eligible to vote in the referendum showed the proposition being approved by 64 percent of those voting; by majorities in 30 locals.

The unofficial tally from the 45 locals reporting was 5,371 in favor and 2,971 opposed, a margin of 2,400 votes.

Just over 30 percent of those eligible voted in the 45 reporting locals. With a total of just over 3,800 eligible voters in the 27 locals not reporting, a voter participation rate of 62.9 percent, with all votes cast against the proposition, would be required for the outcome to be reversed.

TNG's Int'l Election & Referendum Committee is to meet April 9 to tabulate the official returns from all locals and certify the referendum's outcome.

Under the three-part finance question apparently approved in the referendum, the following will occur effective July 1:

- The monthly Minimum Dues Schedule in TNG's Constitution will increase to a straight 6 percent of one week's pay, from the current rate of 5 percent plus $1.50. Two-thirds of the Guild's members are in locals which already have dues rates of 6 percent or more.
- The basic strike-lockout benefit from TNG's Defense Fund will increase by $25, to $125 a week. On July 1 in each of the next two years it will go up by $10 more, then on July 1, 1989, by $5, to $150 a week.
- The factor by which locals' monthly per-capita payments to TNG are calculated will be simplified and somewhat increased, to a straight 1.939 percent of the average daily-newspaper reporter top minimum as of each April 1.

The GUILD REPORTER

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RAYMOND CROWELL/Washington-Baltimore Guild

'Day of Solidarity with Victims of Apartheid'

With a banner signaling the presence of TNG representatives (arrow above) among signs calling for an end to South Africa's apartheid policies, AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland addresses more than 200 members of at least 18 unions gathered in downtown Washington for one of the anti-apartheid rallies held in seven cities across the U.S. March 22. Carrying TNG's banner was President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., right, with two of the nearly two dozen persons from TNG's staff and at least three units of the Washington-Baltimore Guild at the Washington rally. Other speakers included James Mdaweni, president of the Council of Unions of South Africa, who called it "encouraging to see American workers united and strong" against apartheid. "We welcome your pressure on the racist regime," he said. Kirkland said unions support the anti-apartheid movement because its cause is just and because exploitation of workers overseas threatens American living standards "no less than the substandard wages and working conditions that prevail in too many areas of our own country." With Perlik are Human Rights Co-ordinator Anna M. Padia and Research & Information Director David J. Eisen.



'PROFESSIONALS?'

No basis seen for hours exemption

Washington—TNG "can conceive of no justification" for taking away from reporters the protections of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, the union said in a brief to the U.S. Labor Dept.

Certainly, there has been no change in the craft of newspaper reporting sufficient to justify exempting employees who perform the work from coverage under the law that sets the minimum wage and requires the payment of overtime after 40 hours in a week, TNG argued in comments filed with the federal agency March 20.

TNG filed the brief with the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division, which is considering changing the regulations interpreting the Fair Labor Standards Act's application.

Among changes under consideration is whether newspaper reporters should be exempted from the law's coverage as "professional employees."

Professional employees exempt from the wage and hour law, like those subject to separate treatment under the federal labor-relations law, are employees whose work requires "knowledge of an advanced type in a field of science or learning customarily acquired by a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction and study," TNG pointed out.

While newspaper reporters are engaged "in a high calling, vital to the fundamental interests of the nation," and one that requires "skill, knowledge and creative talent," they are not "professional employees" within the meaning of the law, TNG's brief asserted.

The Labor Dept. and the courts have recognized this since the statute was enacted in 1938, the statement said. "Nothing has changed in the newspaper industry to call for a different application of the law" today, it continued.

Reporters are "still doing the things they have always done—the things they love to do—using, as always, their heads, hearts and feet in just about equal measure," the brief stated.

"They are skillful, dedicated and proud, but they are not 'professional employees' as that term is used" in the wage and hour law and the rules and regulations surrounding its administration, TNG said in its brief.

Publishers, however, are likely to argue that "dynamic changes"

(Continued on Page 2)



'Mama' joins the 'S.C.U.M.'

Page 3

Forecasts for '86 grow brighter with economy

FORECASTS OF more robust growth for the newspaper industry in 1986 were being issued less cautiously as the year's first quarter drew to a close.

The Newspaper Advertising Bureau was projecting a 10 percent increase for the year in spending for advertising in newspapers, while declines in interest rates and oil prices and surges in stock prices held forth the promise of increases in consumer spending and a healthier real estate market.

The NAB issued its forcast as it also issued a preliminary estimate that expenditures for newspaper advertising rose by 7 percent in 1985, to a total $25.17 billion.

For the third year running, largest gains came in spending for classified advertising, with a 9.4 percent increase, to $8.376 billion. National advertising expenditures were up by 8.8 percent, to $3.352 billion, while spending for retail advertising—the largest of the three segments—rose by 5.2 percent, to $13.4 billion.

Softness in retail advertising in the second and third quarters of 1985 was followed by gains in the fourth quarter, according to the advertising bureau report, issued in March.

Earlier in the year NAB officials, as well as Robert J. Coen, senior vice president of the McCann-Erickson advertising agency, issued a projection that newspaper advertising growth in 1986 would be in the 8 percent range.

Industry analyst John Morton of the investment firm of Lynch, Jones & Ryan, meanwhile, foresaw a resurgence in newspaper profitability in 1986 following a year of soft earnings growth, but cautioned that slower growth may continue for the first two or three quarters of the year.

"This year may end with a bang—just as 1985 ended with a whimper,"

(Continued on Page 4)

THE SHORT OF IT

DO REPORTERS AND editors care about the situations and events they cover? "Of course we do, but we try hard to not let it interfere with what we have to do," wrote Deborah Howell, executive editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press-Dispatch in a Feb. 2 column on several big stories that paper had been covering in the previous two weeks—one of them the Hormel strike in Austin in Southern Minnesota. "Hormel has been a difficult story to cover," Howell continued, "because much of it is not in the facts we print, but in the emotions driving the strikers. I've been asked over the years if reporters and photographers can be fair covering a big labor story because they are members of their own union, The Newspaper Guild. The answer is yes; I trusted our team in Austin with the integrity of this newspaper. They not only got the facts; they captured the convulsions of the town of Austin and its people as families split and children argued and public officials turned on each other." Chief members of the Knight-Ridder paper's Austin team were Jackie Banaszynski, a member of the Twin Cities Guild's representative assembly, and Karl Karlson, a vice president of the local. Chief reporters on the Austin story for the Minneapolis Star & Tribune were Dave Hoge, a Guild member of the worker-participation committee at the paper, and Neil St. Anthony, a member of the local's representative assembly.

Potpourri: **Jane E. Kirtley, a former reporter who now is a First Amendment lawyer, is executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, replacing Jack Landau, a founder of the group. Kirtley holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and was a reporter in Evansville, Ind., Oak Ridge and Nashville, Tenn., before getting her law degree at Vanderbilt. . . . . First Amendment insurance covering such matters as prior restraint, access to information and statutory limitations on publications is no longer being offered by the Mutual Insurance Co., Ltd., of Bermuda. The company still sells publishers strike insurance, however.**

Health & Safety: "Avoid stress: become a vicar" was the head in The Journalist, publication of Britain's National Union of Journalists. The story reported a study by the University of Manchester's Institute of Science & Technology ranking reporters fourth in a listing of 58 stressful jobs; behind only miners, police and construction workers. At the list's bottom: vicar, astronomer, nursery nurse, museum worker, librarian. . . . . The School of Optometry at the University of California at Berkeley has set up a VDT Eye Clinic to aid computer operators who experience visual difficulties, VDT News reported in its November/December issue. Contact: Dr. James Sheedy at the school. . . . . The VDT is "a handy device that just happens to be a sort of advanced torture chamber for our eyes," according to the Dec. 7 issue of the Executive Fitness Newsletter, published by Rodale Press of Emmaus, Pa. It outlines a series of steps to "ease the strain," including having your eyes checked at least once a year, taking 15-minute breaks for every two hours at the machine, every hour for "an extremely heavy user."

Labor beat: **A three-way contract between a group of tomato and cucumber growers in Ohio and Michigan, the Campbell Soup Company and the Toledo-based Farm Labor Organizing Committee, an affiliate of the United Farm Workers, has ended a longstanding boycott of Campbell products, which was endorsed by TNG's 1985 Convention. . . . . The Boilermakers, Food & Commercial Workers and Teamsters unions have been enlisting retired members as supplementary pickets in strikes and to help pass out leaflets in organizing campaigns. . . . . Kim Fellner, head of publications and public relations for the Screen Actors Guild since 1979, is the new executive director of the National Writers Union, headquartered in New York. . . . . The average union-covered worker in Canada earns 30 percent more than the average nonunion worker, nearly double the difference three years ago, according to a study released last fall by Statistics Canada.**

Among ourselves: **John P. Moody,** veteran labor reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, has been presented the 1986 Jack London Award by the United Steelworkers Press Assn. It went to Moody because of his "commitment to honest journalism in the coverage of concerns dealing with working people and their unions," said USPA President Gene Kovac. . . . . **Alice Burton,** longtime leader in the San Jose Guild's Monterey unit and three-times a TNG international representative has been promoted to classified advertising manager at the Monterey Herald, a Guild exempt post. Another member of the Guild unit's first bargaining committee, **Lewis Leader,** is the paper's city editor. . . . . **Paul Furiga,** president of the Cincinnati Guild, was named one of 1985's Outstanding Young Men of America by an organization bearing that name in Montgomery, Ala. . . . . **H. D. (Doc) Quigg,** a charter member of the Wire Service Guild, has retired from UPI after more than 48 years. . . . . **Elinor Redner,** a classified telephone salesperson at the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner and the first woman president of the San Francisco-Oakland Guild (in 1979), also has retired. She also served as unit chair, vice chair, shop steward, and delegate to: the San Francisco Central Labor Council, its COPE committee, TNG's Women's Rights Conference (in 1970), and to numerous TNG conventions.

No basis for dropping reporters from overtime law, TNG says

(Continued from Page 1)

have taken place in the newspaper industry, including "trends toward specialization" and greater co-operation between the industry and journalism schools, TNG cautioned in its comments to the federal agency.

TNG pointed out that those same arguments were made to the National Labor Relations Board in union representation cases in the 1970s, and the NLRB maintained its position that reporters do not fall under the labor-relations law's definition of professional employees.

New York Times columnist Russell Baker's testimony in 1975 in one of those cases is "particularly instructive," TNG said. It quoted Baker's description of journalism as "a business of amateurs" —in the "precise sense of the word."

Reporters come into the business "with a generalized, odd-ball or sometimes nonexistent education," Baker told the NLRB official hearing arguments in a case involving a petition for Guild representation for employees at the Philadelphia Bulletin.

Asked to identify the "traits, talents and abilities" that make a reporter, Baker responded: "They are almost indefinable. I would say that education is the least of them."

Baker's conclusion that a journalism education "is the least of the attributes to be looked for in a reporter is shared by both newspaper editors and publishers, and even some journalism educators," TNG's brief to the Labor Dept. said.

Survey results published by the Assn. for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in the summer of 1983 showed that newspaper editors came down "strongly on the side of experience" versus academics, and the results of another survey published in the AEJ's "Journalism Educator" in the summer of 1970 found that "over one-half of the newspapers studied are willing to consider non-college graduates for employment as beginning reporters."

In fact, TNG's submission said, the idea that a journalism education is a handicap for a reporter "is surprisingly widespread in the industry."

It quoted newspaper magnate Rupert Murdoch telling the American Enterprise Institute in June of 1984 that "many of the journalists that work for me have been to schools of journalism and none of them are the better for it. . . . I would urge anyone today coming into journalism to follow some other discipline before entering this field."

Rhea T. Eskew, president of Multimedia, writing in the publication of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in the fall of the same year, expressed the desire to form a "conspiracy . . . among newspaper publishers who would agree to hire no J-school graduates for two or three years. . . . Its purpose would be to improve newspapers," Eskew said.

TNG's brief also pointed to a vote among 140 editors, publishers, reporters and others at a First Amendment Congress in March of 1980. They voted to characterize journalism as a craft, "rejecting a proposal to call it a profession and establish a standardized code of ethics," TNG's submission noted.

Richard M. Schmidt, Jr., general counsel of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, warned against describing journalists as professionals since "professions are government licensed groups and the word implies government regulation," he told Editor & Publisher magazine.

TNG also expressed support for a proposal advanced by the AFL-CIO to raise the salary levels necessary to be exempt from the wage and hour law on grounds of executive, administrative or professional status.

Those "salary tests," currently a minimum of $155 a week to exempt an "executive" or "administrative" employee, $170 a week for a "professional" employee and a minimum of $250 a week for an employee who performs exempt work less than 80 percent of each week, should be raised to $325, $350 and $525, the AFL-CIO said in its own filing with the agency.

It also recommended an annual adjustment in the salary tests tied to an employment or consumer price index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"The present salary tests were inadequate when they were adopted in 1975 and are obsolete in relation to today's wage and cost-of-living levels," TNG said in support of the AFL-CIO's proposal, noting that even the higher rates proposed "would be less than adequate" in publishing.

Regular periodic adjustments in the salary levels would ensure that they "do not continue to be made increasingly obsolete by inflation," TNG said.

State publishers attack hours law

Sacramento — The California Industrial Welfare Commission will take up in September a proposal by the state's organized publishers to exempt the newspaper industry from a state law that requires employees be paid time-and-a-half for work in excess of eight hours in a day.

(Federal law requires premium pay for more than 40 hours in a week. It does not require it on a daily basis.)

The proposal first was advanced by the California Newspaper Publishers Assn. last June. It was to have been taken up by the commission in February, but floods caused it to cancel its meeting.

The commission, empowered to amend the state's wage and hour regulations as necessary "for all employees in the modern society," in January agreed with the state's hospitals that they should be able to require employees to work three 12-hour days at straight-time rates.

In their petition for exemption, the state's publishers said that like other industries, "the newspaper industry has its own unique and special circumstances, in that frequently reporters particularly, but also other persons responsible for the mechanical production and distribution of a newspaper, are required to work more than eight hours in a day.

"This, of course, calls for longer workdays at these times than during the slower business and, in many cases, shorter operating hours on ordinary weekdays," the publishers said.

Said one reporter upon seeing the petition: "Sounds logical to me. I can hear it now:

" 'Take the afternoon off, kid. Tomorrow, come in at 9 in the morning to cover the planning commission and stick around for the city council. It starts 7 in the evening'."

The overtime-pay exemption would apply only if the workday did not exceed 12 hours and the workweek did not exceed 40, the publishers said in their petition.

State regulations currently mandate time-and-a-half for more than eight and less than 12 hours in a day; time-and-a-half for the first eight hours on a seventh day of work; double-time for worktime in excess of 12 hours in any workday; and double-time for all hours worked in excess of eight on a seventh day of work.

Harte-Hanks editor calls starting rates 'pathetic'

The chairperson of the Harte-Hanks Editorial Council thinks every one of the chain's two-dozen-plus dailies ought to "make a commitment" to paying beginning reporters "at least $300 a week" immediately, even though that's more than some now are paying experienced people.

Glenn Dromgoole, editor of the Abilene (Tex.) Reporter-News, said so in the February issue of the council's publication, Editorial Focus, according to a report in Publishers' Auxiliary.

Harte-Hanks starting pay currently is comparable to that in the industry generally, Dromgoole wrote, then asked, "so what?," explaining that "the industry averages are pathetic."

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund reported recently that median pay for last spring's journalism graduates who had gone to work for dailies by August was $260 a week. At the same time, the average starting minimum in Guild contracts with U.S. dailies was just under $335 a week [Guild Reporter, Feb. 28].

"We have plenty of excuses for the low pay," Dromgoole wrote. "Editors blame it on tight-fisted publishers. Publishers blame it on profit pressures and tight economic conditions. It's always someone else's fault."

Starting minimum under the Yakima (Wash.) Guild's contract with Harte-Hanks' Herald-Republic is $327.75 a week. The 38,000-circulation paper is the chain's only one with a Guild contract.

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Cincinnati 'S.C.U.M.' win support from 'Mama'

Cincinnati—Actress Vicki Lawrence, whose portrayal of the TV character "Mama" is the centerpiece of an advertising campaign of the United Food & Commercial Workers Union, has lent her support to the Cincinnati Guild's "S.C.U.M." campaign, directed at the Gannett chain's union-relations policies.

While in Cincinnati to film commercials for a UFCW campaign against nonunion Bigg's, a division of the French-owned Hyper stores, Lawrence accepted S.C.U.M. buttons from Guild President Paul Furiga as she met with him and other leaders of unions from the Gannett-owned Cincinnati Enquirer.

The S.C.U.M.—Socially Committed Union Members—campaign has become a nationwide effort to draw attention to the policies of the Gannett chain in dealing with its employees' unions.

The campaign was touched off by the final two sentences in an angry, 10-sentence letter from Gannett's vice president for labor relations, John B. Jaske, to Furiga [Guild Reporter; Feb. 28].

The Guild had pointed out in a bargaining bulletin that the Enquirer had lauded the new national Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday in an editorial, but refused it to its employees in bargaining for a first Guild contract at the Enquirer. Jaske then wrote Furiga, accusing the Guild of labeling him a racist and concluding with the sentences: "I've dealt with some scum in this business. But you are the worst."

Since January, the Guild local has sold more than 350 "I'm a S.C.U.M." buttons to workers at Cincinnati's dailies and at other newspapers across the country.

And since the local launched the campaign, Furiga reported, Jaske has been absent from each of the bargaining sessions between the Guild and the Enquirer. Previously he had served as management's chief spokesperson in the talks.

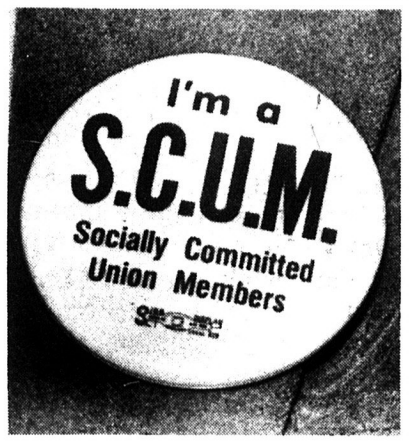
Meanwhile, the local's S.C.U.M. committee has become fully functional with the mission of aiding persons less fortunate than Guild members. Its first project was a fundraiser that brought in more than $400 to buy books for pupils at one of Cincinnati's poorest elementary schools.

The buttons remain available, for $2 each, from: Cincinnati Guild/S.C.U.M., Alms Doepke Bldg., Suite 401A, 222 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.



BOB ROSS/Cincinnati Guild

VICKI LAWRENCE—TV'S "MAMA"—POSES WITH CINCINNATI NEWSPAPER UNION LEADERS
From left: Guild President Paul Furiga; Lawrence; Council of Newspaper Unions President Ray Robb (rear); Pressmen's President Bobby Bryan; and Brenda Bryan, his spouse.



Accord reached in termination pay dispute

Adapted from 'Ralph,' Northern California Guild publication

San Francisco—Nearly two years after the Contra Costa Independent was shut down, a tentative agreement has been reached to provide $365,000 to 83 persons who lost their jobs in the closure and to certain trust funds.

The settlement marks the last round in a series of legal battles involving the Northern California Guild and six other unions and Ingersoll Publications, Inc., the Connecticut-based chain the unions maintain owned the newspaper during its final years. The settlement provides 41 percent of the claim of $882,000 asserted by the unions against Ingersoll, which denied it was liable for the contract rights of the employees.

Most of the $365,000 will go to the employees, who did not receive any severance pay, accrued vacation or in-lieu holiday payments when the newspaper was shut down suddenly on May 13, 1984. The balance of the settlement, about $48,000, is owed to pension and health and welfare funds to which the publisher failed to make contributions during the Independent's last months.

Unions involved in addition to the Guild are the Typographical, Mailers, Teamsters, Office Workers, and both pressmen's and engravers' locals of the Graphic Communications Union.

Guild Administrative Officer Richard J. Olive said none of the unions was pleased that under the settlement $517,000 of severance and other benefits are lost. However, Olive said, the unions had to consider the prospect of several more years of litigation and the prospect that some claims ultimately may have been disallowed.

A check for $365,000 was deposited by Ingersoll in a San Francisco bank and attorneys were arranging for disbursement of the funds. Payments to be received by the employees range from a few dollars to nearly $11,000, depending on length of service. Fifteen newsroom employees, who comprised the Guild unit at the paper, were to receive payments ranging from $500 to nearly $5,700. Their average settlement was $3,328.

Legal disputes had developed even prior to the shutdown of the Independent when Ingersoll denied it was the owner of the newspaper and, therefore, not liable for the terms of the unions' contracts.

The question of who owned the Independent and its sister publication, the Berkeley Gazette, closed two months before the Independent, was being contested in U.S. District Court with a trial scheduled to begin April 8.

The newspapers were in serious financial distress for years prior to being shut down. Brown Newspaper Publishing Co., Inc., attempting to stave off attachment by creditors in the early 1980s, announced it had attracted new ownership in the Ingersoll group. At the time, Brown was in default on loans totaling more than $6 million.

The seven unions met with Ingersoll representatives in the spring of 1981 with the understanding that, if concessions were made by the unions, Ingersoll would purchase the papers.

On May 13, 1981, an Ingersoll representative advised the unions that Ingersoll "has exercised its option and purchased" Brown Publishing.

Within a year, each union was experiencing widespread contract violations. Indications were Ingersoll was not keeping pace with its financial obligations under the union agreements. Ingersoll admitted as much in August, 1982. At the suggestion of the unions, negotiations for new contracts began. They dragged inconclusively through the next 19 months to the closure of the newspaper.

In November of 1983 Ingersoll announced it did not consider itself the owner of the newspapers. It claimed Brown Publishing was liable for the contracts; that Ingersoll had agreed only to manage the newspapers.

Brown Publishing then sued Ingersoll, Ingersoll countersued and the unions brought action against both to determine who was the rightful owner.

While the legal actions were before the courts, Ingersoll and Brown representatives—along with the principle creditor, Barclays American Business Credit, Inc.,—met with the unions in an effort to achieve deep wage cuts. At the same time, both companies refused to accept liability for the contracts.

At the end, with Ingersoll and Brown feuding between themselves, an ultimatum was put to the unions that included 35 percent wage cuts, virtual elimination of the health and pension plans as they were known and other contract losses. The unions submitted the ultimatum to their members, who voted overwhelmingly to let the newspaper be closed. The members already had worked under frozen wages and benefits for 16 months.

Brown and Ingersoll later settled their own differences out of court.



Post-unit buttons terse

Buttons bearing this terse message are being worn by an increasing number of Guild members at the Washington Post. The date is that of the expiration of the Washington-Baltimore Guild's current contract with the paper. Preparations for bargaining a successor pact are under way.

The U.S. price elevator

The table below records the ascent of the Consumer Price Index in the United States over a 24-month period following a 1.1-point decrease in the index in February to 323.2, an increase of 9.3 points from February 1985, and 19.9 points from February 1985. The first column lists the index for each of the last 12 months, the second the percentage increase over the same months of the preceding year and the third, the percentage increase over February 1984. The Urban Wage-Earners' and Clerical Workers' Index (CPI-W) is the source.

		Percentage over	
	Index*	Same month prior year	February 1984†
March, 1985	315.3	4.0	4.0
April	316.7	4.1	4.4
May	317.8	4.1	4.8
June	318.7	4.1	5.1
July	319.1	3.8	5.2
August	319.6	3.0	5.4
September	320.5	2.7	5.7
October	321.3	2.9	5.9
November	322.6	3.4	6.4
December	323.4	3.6	6.6
January, 1986	324.3	3.7	6.9
February	323.2	3.0	6.6

*1967 = 100 †Index = 303.3

More robust growth for industry seen in '86 as economy brightens

(Continued from Page 1)

Morton and the research team he heads wrote in the Morton Research Newsletter of Feb. 28. They projected an average 13.7 percent earnings gain for the year among the 14 publicly traded newspaper paper companies whose performance they track.

FOR 1985 THE 14 companies reported earnings gains that averaged 6.9 percent and an average gain of 8 percent in their after-tax profits. Revenues for the year for the companies rose by an average of 8.2 percent.

Analysts cited modest hikes in newspaper advertising rates and increased competition from direct-mail and other distribution services for the growing preprint market as factors behind a year of single-digit profit growth after four consecutive years of double-digit gains.

Preprinted inserts account for a good portion of newspapers' advertising volume growth, while making little "if any contribution to revenue growth," the Morton researchers pointed out, speculating that "perhaps 1985 was the year in which this trend started hitting the bottom line."

Double-digit profit growth was the story in Canada, however, where five public newspaper companies posted an average 37.9 percent gain in after-tax profits for 1985. Revenues of the three largest of the companies rose by an average of 13.9 percent.

Canadian analysts and newspaper executives are forecasting bright prospects for further growth in the industry in 1986.

Corporate profit gains in the United States were generally weak in 1985. Business Week magazine's analysis of 900 companies found profits for the year 11 percent lower than those realized in 1984, while the Wall Street Journal reported that profits of 494 major corporations dropped by 13 percent in the fourth quarter of the year—the fourth consecutive quarter in which the companies' average profit growth was below that for year-earlier periods.

Companies' moves to "write off" some of their less profitable operations were key reasons behind weak year-end earnings gains, both publications reported, noting that the restructuring should put many of the companies in the position to realize bigger profit gains in 1986.

THE 18 MEDIA and entertainment companies included in the Wall Street Journal's survey, however, posted an average increase in profits of 77 percent for the fourth quarter of the year due to the gains of as much as 178 percent registered in the entertainment field. Business Week reported a 10 percent decline in profits for the year among the 26 publishing and broadcasting companies it follows.

Times Mirror, undergoing a restructuring of its operations to concentrate more exclusively on publishing and broadcasting interests, reported a slim 1.9 percent increase in its after-tax profits for 1985, to $237.1 million.

Extraordinary charges, losses and gains related to the sale of assets have skewed the company's profit picture for several years, producing a 30 percent decline in after-tax profits in the fourth quarter of 1985 compared to the year-earlier period, the Wall Street Journal reported.

The company recently has sold some interests in newsprint operations, book publishing, pay television and graphic products units and is seeking buyers for a timberlands and microwave communications unit.

Analysts see a brighter earnings picture for the streamlined company.

Times Mirror's revenues for 1985, up 5.5 percent, to $2.959 billion, topped the list among the publicly traded newspaper companies.

Several other newspaper companies reported that interest on unusual debts incurred during the year held profit gains to more modest levels than otherwise would have occurred.

Among them was the **New York Time Co.** where after-tax profits for 1985 rose by 16.1 percent, to $116.3 million, despite interest on debt incurred on $400 million worth of acquisitions during the year.

The company's revenues for the year rose by 13 percent, to $1.39 billion. It acquired five dailies and two television stations during the period.

Borrowing to finance the repurchase of 1.9 million shares of it own stock and the acquisition of cable television systems depressed the **Washington Post Co.'s** fourth quarter profit report, but it registered a robust 33 percent increase in after-tax profits for the year nonetheless. The profits of $114.3 million came on revenues for 1985 of $1.08 billion, up 9.6 percent from 1984.

Knight-Ridder Newspapers, Inc., also incurred heavey interest charges during the year as the result of a repurchase of 9.5 million shares of its stock. The company attributed its 5.7 percent drop in after-tax profits for the year, however, to the month-and-a-half-long strike at its Philadelphia newspapers last fall.

The company's revenues for 1985 totalled $1.7 billion, up 3.9 percent from 1984 revenues. After-tax profits for 1985 were $132.7 million compared to $140.8 million in 1984.

Circulation of U.S. daily newspapers increased by 2.3 percent in 1985, to a record of 64,643,021 daily. Sunday circulation rose by six-tenths of one percent, to 57,974,033.

The number of dailies published in the U.S. declined by 10 during the year, putting the total at 1,675, according to Editor & Publisher.

CANADIAN DAILY newspapers held steady at 113, while circulation rose by seven-tenths of a percent, to 5,318,402. Sunday circulation in Canada was up 9 percent, to 2,692,040.

Financial performance reports for 1985 for other U.S. and Canadian publishers included:

Torstar Corp., publisher of the Toronto Star and the Metroland chain of suburban papers, was the strongest gainer, with after-tax profits of $50.1 million, up 147 percent, from 1984 profits of $20.3 million. The company's revenues for 1985 of $712.3 million, were up 15 percent. The after-tax profit-to-revenue margin was 7 percent.

Maclean Hunter Ltd., the company that publishes Canada's weekly news magazine, Maclean's, had after-tax profits for 1985 of $59.4 million, excluding a $5.2 million extraordinary gain, an increase of 20.7 percent. Revenues for the year of $973 million were up 7.8 percent. The profit margin for the year was 6.1 percent.

Thomson Newspapers Ltd. reported after-tax profits for the year of $176.6 million, up 14.8 percent. Revenues were up 17.5 percent, to $954 million, for a profit margin of 18 percent.

Southam Inc. had revenues for 1985 of $1.2 billion, up 9.2 percent, and an 11.3 percent increase in after-tax profits, to $49.4 million, before an extraordinary charge of $12 million that reduced earnings for the year to $37.3 million. Profit margin before the extraordinary charge was 4.2 percent.

Gannett Co. had revenues for the year of $2.2 billion, up 12.7 percent, and after-tax profits of $235.3 million, up 13.1 percent. The profit margin was 11.5 percent.

The **Tribune Co.,** publisher of the Chicago Tribune where printing unions have been on strike since last summer, reported a 20.2 percent rise in after-tax profits, to $123.8 million. Revenues for 1985 of $1.9 billion were up 8 percent. The profit margin was 6.4 percent.

McGraw-Hill, Inc., the publishing company that includes Standard & Poor's financial services among its holdings, had revenues for 1985 of $1.5 billion, up 6.4 percent. After-tax profits of $147.4 million were up 2.2 percent. The profit margin was 9.9 percent.

Dow Jones & Co. reported a 7.3 percent increase in after-tax profits in 1985, to $138.6 million, despite a 9 percent decline in advertising linage in its Wall Street Journal in the fourth quarter of the year. Revenues for the year of $1.04 billion were up 7.6 percent. The profit margin was 13.3 percent.

Capital Cities/ABC reported after-tax profits for 1985 of $142.2 million, up 5.2 percent, from operations other than those of the former American Broadcasting Cos. Revenues of $1.02 billion were up 8.6 percent, for a profit margin of 13.9 percent.

Media-General reported a 17.4 percent decline in its after-tax profits of $32.8 million for 1985. It attributed much of the drop in earnings to costs associated with restructuring of its broadcast operations and construction of a cable television system in suburban Washington. Revenues for the year of $578.5 million were up 5.6 percent from 1984's, for a profit margin of 5.7 percent.

A. H. Belo, publisher of the Dallas Morning News, reported after-tax profits for 1985 of $23.8 million, down 16.9 percent from 1984 earnings exclusive of extraordinary gains. Revenues for 1985 were up 8.7 percent, to $385.1 million. Profit margin for 1985 was 6.2 percent.

Affiliated Publications which includes the Boston Globe among its holdings, reported a 13.2 percent increase in after-tax profits for 1985, to $30.9 million, on revenues of $367.3 million, up 6.8 percent. The profit margin was 8.4 percent.

Lee Enterprises reported revenues for the 12 months ended Dec. 31 of $210.6 million, up 7.5 percent, and after-tax profits of $31.6 million, up 12.3 percent. The profit margin was 15 percent.

Park Communications had an 8.2 percent increase in after-tax profits for 1985, to $15.2 million, on revenues of $113.7 million, up 6.9 percent, for a profit margin of 13.4 percent.

Time Inc. reported $199.8 million in after-tax profits for 1985, down 7.7 percent from 1984 earnings. Revenues for 1985 of $3.4 billion were up 11 percent. The profit margin was 5.9 percent.

Meredith Corp., publisher of Better Homes and Gardens and other magazines, reported after-tax profits of $48.9 million for 1985, up 20.4 percent, on revenues of $485.8 million. The margin was 10 percent.

Reuters Holdings PLC, the British news agency, registered a 29.7 percent increase in after-tax profits for 1985, to $79.6 million, on revenues of $629.5 million, up 31.4 percent from 1984.

Meanwhile, **Rupert Murdoch's** Australian-based international media company, News Corporation Ltd., reported that both its profits and revenues were up sharply in the last six months of 1985.

The company's net July-December profit was $131 million Australian, approximately $91.7 million U.S., compared to $58.4 million Australian, $40.9 million U.S., for the same period in 1984, it reported early in March.

These came on revenues of $1.7 billion Australian, $1.2 billion U.S., this year, and $1.08 billion Australian, $756 million U.S., last year. The company said purchases in the U.S. were largely responsible for the increase.

Earlier, in a filing with the Securities & Exchange Commission at the end of January, News Corporation said its U.S. operating company, News America, had operating losses totalling $17.3 million on revenues of $450.5 million in the 12 months ended June 30, 1985.

News Corporation's annual report for 1985 stated that the Chicago Sun-Times had a "modest trading (operating) profit," listing a net of $4 million (Australian) for the daily and the News America Syndicate combined, compared to a combined loss of $4.1 million a year earlier.

The Boston Herald's revenues climbed by 16.6 percent to $56.6 million (Australian), the company reported, while the paper's annual loss also increased, hitting $4.9 million, compared to $3.2 million in 1984.

Revenue at the New York Post was up 3.5 percent, to $117.5 million for the fiscal year, the Australian company reported. It was not possible to determine net results, however, because the Post was grouped with several other operations, including the Village Voice, in News Corp.'s report.

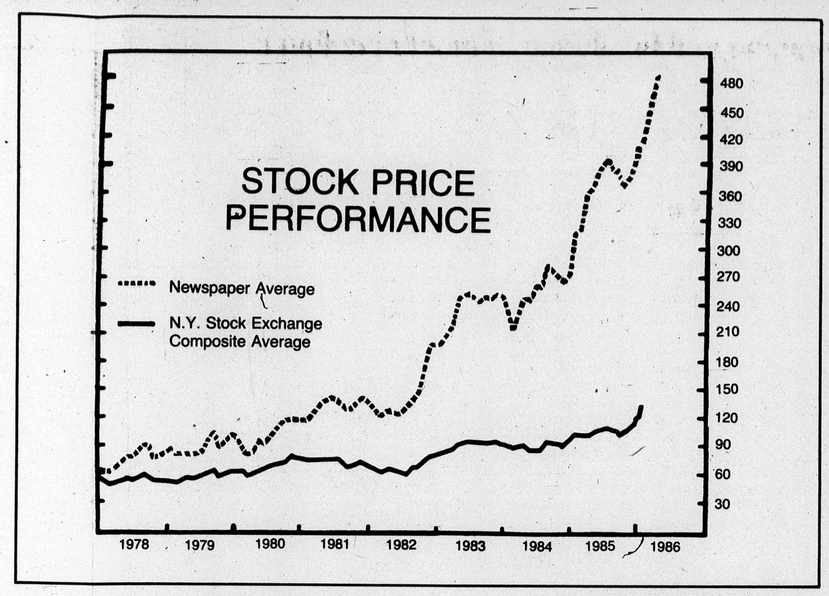
Chains now own 71% of U.S. dailies

The number of U.S. daily newspapers under chain ownership rose by 17 in 1985, to 1,186, according to data compiled by Lynch, Jones & Ryan's Morton Research group.

By year's end, 70.8 percent of the nation's dailies were the property of a company owning two or more dailies and those dailies accounted for 77 percent of total daily circulation, Morton Research reported. The number of groups increased by one, to 156.

The total number of dailies stood at 1,675 and their combined daily circulation at 64,643,021.

Gannett's spot at the top of the chain ownership list grew stronger in 1985 with its acquisition of another of the 20 largest chains, the Evening News Assn. and its Detroit News. With that addition, Gannett put a 2-million-daily circulation edge between itself and the second-place Knight-Ridder chain, Morton reported.



MORTON RESEARCH/Lynch, Jones & Ryan

Publicly held newspapers in the U.S. as a group turned in a sluggish profits-increase performance in February, but the prices of their stocks "hit the roof," Morton Research reported; so much so it had to extend the top of its chart (above).

Boost pay, not profits, publishers advised

"EXTRAORDINARILY profitable by American business standards," newspapers would be well advised to direct some of those profits toward greater investments in the business, including the paychecks of their employees, industry analyst John Morton writes in the January issue of the Washington Journalism Review.

Too many newspaper managers "think of investments only in terms of hardware" and overlook long-term investment in areas where payback cannot be calculated but "must be accepted mostly on faith," Morton said.

The failure of newspaper companies "to make enough investment in the future," is attributable in part to the high profits they report, Morton said, noting that the publicly traded newspaper companies have had earnings averaging 10 cents on the dollar after taxes over the past decade.

One area in which the "industry has skimped on investment involves compensation," said Morton, who called newspaper wages "a disgrace, especially in editorial departments."

While in Morton's view salaries at the very largest papers "finally have become adequate," he stressed that the $12,000 average annual salary paid to journalism graduates entering the field is inadequate to attract "the brightest and most ambitious young people."

"Newspapers need to make investments in compensation or face the danger that the industry will flounder in mediocrity," Morton said.

He also called for more investment to develop papers that fulfill readers' desire for more news as well as more special-interest feature reporting.

Future for videotex in news industry questioned

ANALAYSTS WERE questioning whether the days of newspapers' videotex operations were drawing to a close after announcement that Knight-Ridder will terminate its Viewtron venture came on the heels of Times Mirror's closure of its home-based computer information service.

The two were among the most ambitious and sophisticated "electronic publishing" undertakings by U.S. publishers.

In Louisville, however, the Courier-Journal has entered the field with a simpler service to provide news electronically to subscribers with personal computers. The Courier-Journal's electronic service is midway into a six-month trial period.

Knight-Ridder, a pioneer in videotex, announced in mid-March that it would terminate the 2½-year-old Viewtron service, while earlier in the month Times Mirror closed its Gateway home videotex service.

Meanwhile, in Canada, Southam has cut staffing of its Infomart videotex operations to 150 from 250 and terminated its partership in the field with Times Mirror.

"IT'S FASCINATING technology," Southam President John Fisher said of videotex, "but nobody has been able to build a market. It's a brilliant idea whose time has not yet come," he added.

While Knight-Ridder President James K. Batten expressed similar views, citing a weak demand for the videotex service, Viewtron subscribers had recently reached about 20,000, up from 3,100 at the end of 1984.

The growth in subscribers came after Knight-Ridder made Viewtron available via personal computer after at first offering it through a special terminal designed by AT&T for reception.

Times Mirror, too, had converted its service to the personal computer market.

Catering to personal computer users, however, the news organizations found themselves sharing the field with computer data services like Compuserve.

"It shapes up as essentially quite a competitive business in which a newspaper company doesn't enjoy any competitive advantages," Reid Ashe, chairman of Knight-Ridder's Viewdata Corp., told Broadcasting magazine.

News was not a high priority with Viewtron subscribers, according to Ashe who said that more than half the use of the service was to communicate with other subscribers via electronic mail and other means.

The Louisville experimental service, the CJ & T Electronic Edition, carries news from wire services and the paper, but includes no message service between users.

Knight-Ridder invested an estimated $50 to $60 million in Viewtron, while Times Mirror's investment in Gateway, launched in September 1984, is estimated at $20 million.

The New York Times quoted what it called experts in the field as speculating that Viewtron and Gateway tried to offer too much to too many people too fast and wrapped their services in "fancy color and graphic capabilities" that made them too expensive.

ONE KEY TO success for such electronic services may be to target them at more limited audiences and to present them in simpler, less expensive technology, the Times reported.

The Times also said that several new videotex services involving investments of as much as $250 million remain in the start-up or planning stages. Involved are such firms as CBS, IBM, AT&T, Time Inc. and RCA.

The paper also reported that a videotex service in France has proven immensely popular since the government provided many households with reception equipment without charge.

Freeze in Greece sparks protest call

Brussels, Belgium—The Int'l Federation of Journalists is urging affiliated unions and their members to join the IFJ in protesting to the governmenmt of Greece its retroactive application of a nation-wide wage freeze to 15 percent increases in a contract between the Athens Journalists' Union and the city's dailies.

The settlement was reached a few weeks before passage of the wage-freeze legislation and the minister of the economy publicly announced that the government would not interfere with its implementation, the IFJ reported March 13.

A day after the minister's announcement, however, the government declared the contract in conflict with the two-year wage freeze.

Then, when the daily Rizospastis put the contract raise into effect, the government fined it 15 million Drachmas ($107,000 U.S.) per month, the amount of its monthly sales revenues, "quite obviously threatening the existence of the 18,000-circulation daily," the IFJ reported.

Two other dailies which also declared that they intend to honor the contract also face the same kind of fines, the IFJ said.

The government's actions "in our opinion constitute a direct threat to a free and pluralistic press" in Greece, the IFJ wrote to Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

It appealed for an end to "all interference in the collective agreements already negotiated and . . . the persecution of papers which honor the agreement."

The IFJ called for messages to:

- Costas Simitis, Minister of National Economy, Ipourgeio Ethniki Oikonomias, Platia Syntagmatos, Athens;
- Evangelos Giannopoulos, Minister of Employment, Ipourgeio Ergasias, Odos Pireos 40, Athens;
- Miltiadis Papaioannou, Undersecretary for Press & Information, Geniki Grammatia Typon é Pliroforion, Odos Zalokosta é Kriezotou, Athens.

Copies of the messages should be sent to the Journalists' Union of the Athens Daily Newspapers, 20 Academy St., Voucouresti ou, Athens 134, the IFJ advised.

The Athens union, like TNG, is an affiliate of the IFJ.

Circulation, news tops up $53 in Brantford

Brantford, Ont.—Top minimums for reporters, photographers and circulation district managers are raised by $53.66, to $653.86 a week, in new two-year agreements between the Southern Ontario Guild and Southam's Brantford Expositor.

The agreements, covering employees in the paper's circulation, editorial and mail room departments, are retroactive to Jan. 12. The $53.66 increase comes in increments of $24.01 and $29.65, the first from this Jan. 12 and the second effective next Jan. 12.

The agreements also call for a $100 lump-sum payment to each full-time employee to be paid Jan. 12, 1987.

Service required for a fourth week of vacation is reduced by one year, to nine.

Semi-private hospital coverage is added to the health insurance plan, and caps on the company's payment of the premium are eliminated. An improved vision care plan is extended to employees' families, while coverage under the dental plan is raised to 100 percent co-insurance, from 80 percent.

An editorial integrity provision is extended to ensure that employees will not be required to write or edit advertising copy and to specify that the editor will consider and respond to concerns of a professional nature raised on behalf of editorial employees.

A clothing allowance of $200 a year is added for full-time mail room employees, and part-timers are covered by a new minimum scheduling guarantee of 17 and 20 hours a week on an alternating-week basis.

The reimbursement rate for circulation department employees using their vehicles on company business is raised to 21.74 cents per kilometer. The old rate had ranged from 20.5 cents per kilometer, for the first 322 in a month, to 18.6 cents, for all kilometers in excess of 1,287 in a month.

Reimbursement for meals for circulation department employees working out of town is raised by $1.50, to $6 for lunch and $8 for dinner.

Clerical employees in the circulation department are upgraded, with their top minimum rising by $41.61 over the contract term, to $385.18 a week. The increase comes in increments of $24.14 and $17.47.

The top minimum for full-time mail room clerks and route drivers is raised by $34.09 over the term, to $415.45, in increments of $15.25 and $18.84, while that for copy messengers goes up by $24.74, to $301.52 a week, in increments of $11.07 and $13.67.



Detroit

Louis Mleczko, president; **Bill Bressler,** vice president; **Kate DeSmet,** secretary; **Luther Jackson,** treasurer.

San Antonio

Mark Linsalata, president; **Steve Schlather,** vice president; **Rossanna Salazar;** secretary; **Kathryn Kase,** treasurer.

Washington-Baltimore

Lois Reed Munday, president; **Connie Knox,** vice president; **Martin Van Opdorp,** secretary; **Patrick Hunt,** treasurer.

VP McCracken on mend

Memphis—TNG Vice President Faye McCracken has been released from the hospital and is completing recuperation at her home here from injuries suffered in a Feb. 14 automobile accident.

She suffered a cracked vertebra, fractured collar bone and wrist in the intersection mishap.

Albany pact takes key top to $557

Albany, N.Y.—The top minimum for reporters, photographers, circulation district managers and librarians is raised by $74.50, to $557.20 a week, in a new three-year agreement between the Albany Guild and Hearst's Albany Times-Union and Knickerbocker News.

The $74.50 increase comes in three increments over the contract term: The first, retroactive to Aug. 4, takes the top minimum for the jobs up by $23.65, to $506.35 a week. It is followed by increases of $24.80 a week, to $531.15, on Aug. 4, 1986, and $26.05 on Aug. 3, 1987.

The years of experience required for a circulation district manager to reach the top minimum are reduced by three, to after four years of experience. Editorial employees in the key jobs also reach top minimum after four years of experience.

The top minimum for outside advertising sales employees is raised by $75.75, to $535 a week, in increments of $22.95, $24.10 and $28.70, while the top minimum for inside classified sales employees is raised by $51.60, to $379 a week, in increments of $16.40, $17.15 and $18.05.

Service required to be eligible for four weeks of vacation each year is reduced to 10 years service, from 11.

The agreement calls for ergonomic factors to be of major consideration in the selection of new video display terminals and workplace furniture. A radiation study is to be conducted within six months under the terms of the agreement.

Prescription drug coverage is added to the health insurance plan and the new contract also calls for co-operative efforts to control rising costs of health insurance through such means as pre-admission review of non-emergency treatment and second opinions in advance of surgery.

Option of coverage under a health maintenance organization in lieu of the health insurance plan also is to be made available.

The agreement was signed over the objection of TNG's Contracts Committee. TNG had withheld its approval of the tentative agreement and urged the local to continue bargaining in an effort to correct what it considered major deficiencies in the settlement.

Among those it cited were the addition of two-tier minimum structures for several jobs, weakenings in severance pay provisions, new exemptions from overtime provisions and a prohibition on withholding of bylines as a form of concerted activity.

Under one of the newly added two-tier minimum schedules, advertising makeup employees hired before the start of the year are covered by a top minimum for the job of $482.20 a week, while employees hired in the same job after January are covered by a top minimum of $401.75, a difference of $80.45 a week.

The company's payment to the pension plan is raised to $31.88 a week over the contract term, an increase of $3.75 to $5.63 per week over the prior contract's payment schedule, which escalated with an employee's wage.

The top minimum for maintenance persons is raised by $46.90, to $344.30 a week, over the contract term, in increments of $14.90, $15.60 and $16.40.

Advertising layout artists are upgraded and their top minimum rises by $130.45 a week over the term, to $456, while the top minimum for clerk typists, circulation customer service representatives and accounting clerks is raised by $45.70, to $317 a week, over the term.

April forum set on work, family

Washington—A government-labor-business conference to explore the relationship of work and family life will meet here April 14-15.

It is being co-sponsored by the Bureau of National Affairs and the U.S. Labor Dept., in co-operation with the AFL-CIO and the National Assn. of Manufacturers.

The program will include discussions of child and dependent care, parental leave policies and new approaches to employee benefit programs.



'Hawking' New York's Page One Awards

This illustration tops the new New York Guild poster announcing that its annual Page One Awards is open for entries. The contest is the 51st of the annual competitions to be sponsored by the local. Awards will be made in eight categories, from crusading journalism through graphics.

HERTZ' 20-CITY SURVEY FOR 1985

Driving costs average 51¢ a mile

New York—The average cost of owning and operating a new compact automobile rose by 4 percent, or 2 cents a mile, to 51.6 cents a mile in 1985, according to the Hertz Corp.'s annual survey of driving costs in 20 major U.S. cities.

A decline in the interest charged for new car loans during the year was more than offset by increases in new car prices, insurance and license fees and maintenance costs, the auto-leasing firm reported.

Average driving costs rose in 19 of the 20 cities tracked by Hertz, with San Francisco registering the greatest increase—4.5 cents, to 62.7 cents a mile—and Milwaukee the smallest increase—eight-tenths of a cent, to 46.3 cents a mile.

The average cost of owning and driving a new, compact car declined by a fraction in Seattle, the 20th city, to 50.5 cents.

Cities in which the driving costs were highest were Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York. The average cost of owning and operating a new compact car exceeded 60 cents a mile in each.

Nationally, the Hertz average rose by 4.3 percent, or nearly 2 cents, to 47.6 cents a mile.

Survey costs are for a 1985 compact car, like a Ford Tempo GL4, driven 10,000 miles a year and kept for five years.

Cars are equipped with automatic transmission, power steering and brakes, tinted glass and air conditioning.

The cost of gas, oil, maintenance, license fees, taxes, insurance, loan interest and depreciation are included in calculating the costs. Parking and tolls are not.

Prices for the new compact car ranged from a low of $9,665, in Detroit, to a high of $10,026 in Chicago. Insurance and licensing fees were lowest in Cincinnati, at 10.38 cents a mile, and highest in Los Angeles, at 24.82 cents a mile.

Maintenance and repair costs among the 20 cities ranged from 3.77 cents a mile, in Cleveland, to 6.93 cents, in San Francisco.

Fuel and other service station charges ranged from 6.85 cents a mile, in Pittsburgh; to 8.83 cents, in San Francisco.

Overall, interest charges on new-car loans declined by 6.9 percent from 1984, while insurance and license fees rose by 8.8 percent, maintenance and repair costs increased by 5.79 percent and gasoline and other service station charges were up 1.4 percent.

Purchase price of a 1985 compact car was 7.8 percent higher than in 1984 and depreciation costs, reflecting higher new car prices, were up 7.1 percent.

Keeping a car for more than five years or driving it more than 10,000 miles in a year reduces per-mile costs, Hertz explained.



Labor-press postal-price protest

Susan Dunlop, foreground center, assistant to AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, tells the U.S. Postal Rate Commission that the First Amendment rights of the labor press and others who depend on postal rates for nonprofit organizations to reach their readers "should not be limited by the price of stamps." At the direction of the House and Senate postal committees, the commission is holding a series of hearings to examine ways the federal subsidy for second- and third-class postage for the nonprofit press might be reduced in the face of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings bill and renewed demands by the Reagan administration that the appropriation be eliminated. With Dunlop were Edwin M. Schmidt, right, AFL-CIO mailings director and postal consultant to the Int'l Labor Communications Assn., plus Guild Reporter editor James M. Cesnik, ILCA secretary-treasurer.

Hertz's cost-per-mile estimates

City	Sub-Compact	Compact	Mid-size	Intermediate	Standard
Atlanta	42.3¢	49.2¢	48.7¢	54.6¢	65.1¢
Boston	42.7	49.7	49.2	55.2	65.7
Chicago	46.8	54.5	54.0	60.5	72.1
Cincinnati	39.9	46.5	46.0	51.6	61.5
Cleveland	40.8	47.5	47.0	52.7	62.8
Dallas	40.3	47.0	46.5	52.1	62.1
Denver	47.7	55.6	55.0	61.6	73.5
Detroit	41.6	48.4	47.9	53.7	64.0
Houston	43.6	50.7	50.2	56.3	67.0
Los Angeles	53.9	62.8	62.1	69.6	83.0
Miami	47.3	55.1	54.5	61.1	72.8
Milwaukee	39.7	46.3	45.8	51.3	61.2
Minneapolis	42.0	48.9	48.4	54.2	64.6
New York	51.7	60.1	59.5	66.7	79.5
Pittsburgh	40.8	47.5	47.0	52.7	62.8
St. Louis	45.9	53.4	52.9	59.2	70.6
San Diego	41.9	48.8	48.3	54.2	64.5
San Francisco	53.8	62.7	62.0	69.5	82.8
Seattle	43.4	50.5	50.0	56.0	66.7
Washington	40.2	46.8	46.3	51.8	61.8
20-city average	44.3	51.6	51.1	57.2	68.2
National average	40.9	47.6	47.2	52.8	63.0

Driving cost-per-mile for 1985 car driven 10,000 miles a year for five years.

Sub-compact is a car like a Ford Escort; compact, a car like a Ford Tempo GL4; mid-size, a car like a Ford Mustang L4; intermediate, a car like a Ford LTD-4; standard, a car like a Ford Crown Victoria.

TNG urges aid to Tribune strikers

Washington—TNG has called upon all Guild locals to take "favorable action" on a letter from the Int'l Typographical Union requesting financial assistance for the 1,000 printers, mailers and press operators who have been striking the Chicago Tribune since last July 18.

At the same time, TNG's Int'l Executive Board has voted a contribution of $2,500 to the strikers from TNG's Defense Fund. The IEB action came in a mail poll initiated by TNG President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., and Secretary-Treasurer Charles Dale.

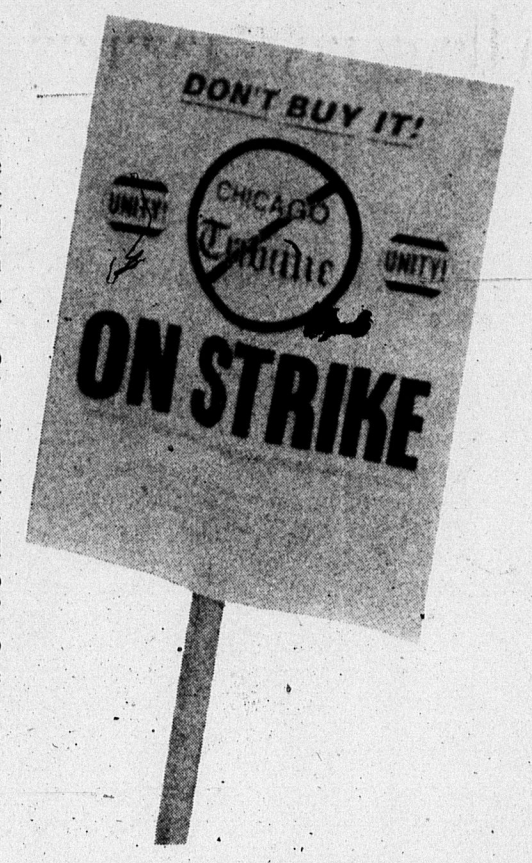
With TNG having returned to reduced dues March 1, Perlik wrote, he felt justified in recommending the defense fund contribution. The IEB, at Perlik's urging during its January meeting, had voted down a motion to contribute $5,000 to the strike.

In a March 13 letter to Guild locals, Perlik said that costs of the strike are being shared among the ITU's locals of printers and mailers and the Int'l Graphic Communications Union's press operators' local.

Contributions to the "GCIU Local 7-N Strike Benefit Fund" should be sent to Robert Hagstrom, GCIU Local 7-N, 159 Dearborn St., Room 425, Chicago 60601 from whence they "will find equal distribution among all 1,000 strikers," Perlik wrote.

The letter from ITU President Robert S. McMichen requesting assistance for the Tribune strikers pointed out that when the strike began the printers had been without a contract for more than 2½ years and the mailers for nearly a year.

The company, he said, continues to try to force printers out of the ITU Negotiated Pension Plan and into one that it operates unilaterally and which favors executives. At the same time it is insisting that a job security agreement reached 10 years ago be altered so it will be free to assign printers to "jobs which they cannot perform," McMichen wrote. Management also insists that it must be able to replace 100 mailers with persons of its choice.



The day Chicago labor marched

By Tom Fitzpatrick

Tom Fitzpatrick is a columnist with the Chicago Sun-Times. This column from the Jan. 5 editions of that daily is reprinted with permissions.

IT WAS LIKE A scene out of a 1930s movie. The big white newspaper delivery truck rolled westward on Grand Avenue.

The pickets at the entrance to the Chicago Tribune Freedom Center spotted the truck when it came over the bridge and began moving downhill toward them.

They roared. You could sense their pent-up anger. You could feel their frustration.

In the cold morning darkness their chants hit you with an almost physical force. It came so suddenly. At first there was silence. Then there was this all-powerful sound. It was as if someone had turned on a stereo system with the volume at top level.

It had the force of a thunderclap. At first, it sounded almost as though the pickets were cheering. Then you realized they were jeering. The enemy was approaching. The battle was about to be joined.

"Shut down the Trib!" they shouted. "Shut down the Trib!"

There were thousands of strike supporters gathered on both sides of Grand Avenue. They picked up the chant.

"Shut down the Trib! Shut down the Trib!"

THE SOUND was so heavy it was hard to think.

But the big truck kept moving toward the entrance. The windows were rolled up on both sides.

It was clear the driver planned to make a right turn into the Tribune plant despite the protesters.

There were perhaps a dozen Chicago cops on horseback at the gate. It was their job to clear a path for the truck.

The horses surged forward against the crowd. Earlier, when the crowd was smaller, they had been successful. They had pushed the crowd back with ease, laughing at them as they fell to the ground.

This time it was different.

The crowd numbered in the thousands now. There was no place to move them, no way to clear a path for the truck.

The cops became both angry and frightened. They cursed and swung their sticks.

The strikers didn't heed the police or their nightsticks.

They were comtemptuous toward the cops for allowing themselves to become a tool of management.

But they didn't fear them. So they kept pounding on the truck, doing their best to ignore the cops who had suddenly been rendered helpless.

The pickets beat on the side windows and on the front and back of the truck. But their picket signs were made of light wood. They could do no real damage.

"Scab," they shouted over and over to the driver.

The driver stared straight ahead. He made no attempt to answer the jeers.

And all over the huge throng you could hear the awful word "scab" welling up over and over again.

Standing there in the cold gray half light you suddenly had an almost palpable physical feeling. You understood the terrible sense of desolation and loneliness of these strikers.

They have been out of work for almost six months. They are seemingly without hope in their fight against one of the most powerful corporations in America.

This was the first real chance they had to demonstrate that they had any will or strength left to fight for their cause.

They were giving it all the gusto they had left.

The driver in the white newspaper truck realized he couldn't force his way over the wall of human flesh at the gate.

Slowly, he pulled back a few feet. Then he headed straight west on Grand Avenue.

He admitted defeat.

The crowd roared with joy.

AT JUST THIS moment you could hear the skirl of bagpipes in the distance.

It was a well-known Chicago pipe band called the Shannon Rovers.

They were heading over the same hill the hated truck had just come over.

A union official grabbed a microphone and introduced them over the loudspeaker system.

"And here come the Shannon Rovers," he said. "And marching behind them are 4,000 of your friends from the Int'l Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

"I told you we could win this fight," he said. "This is one of the greatest days in history for Chicago labor."

A free-lance photographer, his forehead scraped and bleeding, walked over to a truck brought to the demonstration by the Chicago Firefighters Union.

It was clear he viewed his bloody head as sort of a badge of honor.

In a day when so few people stand up for anything, he is most certainly right.

"What happened?" a firefighter asked.

"I was taking pictures and I was standing too close to a delivery truck," he said. "The brick hit the side of the truck and then bounced and hit me. I was lucky it hit the truck first."

"Who threw it?" he was asked.

"How can you tell?" he said.

I HAVE BEEN around a lot of strike demonstrations but this one will be memorable.

For weeks, I have seen these men freezing in the cold winds of Michigan Avenue in front of Tribune Tower.

Some of them will tell you they have the feeling they may never be able to go back to their old jobs.

Each day, nonstriking members of the Tribune editorial staff cross their picket lines. Some of these editorial employees are outspoken liberals when they sit down to write each day.

They are champions of the downtrodden in print.

"How do you feel crossing that picket line," I asked one of them the other day.

"I just put my head down and stare at the ground," he said. "It's an awful thing."

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Article by Tom Fitzpatrick.
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Members move up at AFL-CIO

Three members of the AFL-CIO headquarters staff who also have been members of the Washington-Baltimore Guild unit there pose with AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, right, upon announcement that they are replacing retiring department heads. From left: Robert McGlotten, who succeeds Legislative Director Ray Denison; Charles McDonald, succeeding Organization & Field Services Director Alan Kistler; and Richard Womack, succeeding Civil Rights Director William Pollard. Womack has been chairperson of the Guild unit. A fourth member of the Guild unit, Peggy Taylor, subsequently was named associate legislative director.

Poll to probe members on Guild; Perlik urges frank participation

Washington—TNG has commissioned a poll of members' attitudes about the union as part of a continuing effort to gather information for organizing as well as improving services to members, President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., has announced.

The polling, to be conducted by the Wilson Center for Public Research, Inc., is expected to begin in the last half of April. To be polled are 1,100 randomly selected Guild members in the United States and Canada.

The poll will be conducted through a series of telephone calls to members' homes with each telephone interview expected to take 20 to 25 minutes.

In announcing the poll, Perlik urged each member contacted to share his or her views frankly with Wilson Center interviewers. He pointed out that confidentiality for all responses is guaranteed by the polling firm. TNG is to receive only tabulations of results and the Wilson Center's analysis of them.

The project was authorized by TNG's Int'l Executive Board at its meeting in October, with costs to be paid from TNG's Special Organizing Fund. Cost of the polling is put at $27,500.

HAPPY APRIL 15!



Bureaucracy of right-wing moles seen as Reagan's legacy to U.S.

By Ben Albert
Washington-Baltimore Guild

Ben Albert is editor of COPE Memo, publication of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education. This is reprinted with permission from the AFL-CIO News of March 22.

BEHIND THE smiling—and apparently, to the public, engaging—face of the Reagan administration is a grimmer and much more menacing visage. From time to time it surfaces in a feature here and a feature there into a more alarming mosaic.

For example, piecing together a few events in recent weeks, a picture emerges of just how deeply committed this administration and its entrenched right-wing ideologues are to permanently setting this government on a rightward path.

✔ A nominee for the Occupational Safety & Health Administration is found to have spent a good part of his professional life advising managements to defy, or to skirt, OSHA.

✔ A nominee for a major judicial post is discovered to have expressed publicly his belief in the "un-Americanism" of such respected organizations as the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People.

✔ And, tellingly, this administration's former Secretary of Education, Terrell Bell—himself a conservative—reveals how "movement conservatives" tried to impose "radical and off-the-wall ideas" on him and the Dept. of Education.

BELL, WHO SERVED throughout the first four years of the Reagan administration, tells how he constantly had to fend off appointees from the far-right network who "enjoyed . . . extraordinary privileges and automatic forgiveness" from the White House.

The right-wing clique stuck together in their haberdashery as well as their ideology. They were identifiable, Bell says, by their "Adam Smith neckties."

Their goals, he said, was the eradication of every federal education program. They succeeded, in part. Their president recommended originally the abolition of the Education Dept. itself and has succeeded in cutting back programs like education aid to the handicapped, civil rights enforcement and student financial aid.

The ultimate goal of the "zealots" of the right, as Bell calls them, is the destruction of public education to be replaced by tuition-charging private schools run by businesses seeking profit, he says.

(Bell's scorn for the right-wingers and their attacks on education programs takes on added impact when it is recalled that he was appointed by Reagan in the first place to preside over dissolution of the Education Dept. His own views changed to regard for the department itself and to a protective sympathy and respect for federal aid-to-education programs. He departed a strong supporter of public education and a strong proponent of government aid.)

Bell is careful to distinguish "movement conservatives" from more traditional GOP conservatives who he states, "are frightened by the uncompromising viciousness of this movement."

Indeed, perhaps we all have reason to be frightened by its "uncompromising viciousness."

What Bell cites as their impact on education programs and prospects can easily be applied to virtually every area of what is presently viewed as federal responsibility.

In all federal departments, appointees from among "movement conservatives" abound. They are not as visible as, for example, James Watt, or Ann Burford, or Ed Meese, or Pat Buchanan.

But they are there, in place, operating mostly out of public view, but apparent and influential in the proposals that come down from the Olympus of the White House and eager in their implementation when the Congress accepts them.

IT'S BAD ENOUGH to have to put up with them in the Reagan era. Many will outlast the administration they now serve, ultra-conservative moles waiting for the light of another right-wing leadership to lead them out of concealment.

Even after Reagan, they can continue to do untold damage—in seeing that bad programs on the books are administered with zeal or in diluting the good that decent programs can achieve. This cadre—this right-wing cadre—will be the lasting legacy of Reaganism.

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DAY BOOK

Int'l Election & Referendum committee, tabulate and certify result of referendum, April 9, TNG headquarters, Washington.
Int'l Executive Board, spring meeting, April 21-25, TNG headquarters, Washington.
Canadian District Council, spring meeting, April 26-27, Toronto.
Western District Council, spring meeting, April 26-27, Eugene Hilton, Eugene, Ore.
Great Lakes, Midwest and Southern District Councils, joint spring meeting, May 3-4, Convention Center Inn, Washington.
Mid-Atlantic District Council, spring meeting, May 3-4, Rochester Plaza Hotel, Rochester, N.Y.
New England District Council, spring meeting, May 3-4, Salem, Mass.
Union Council of Ingersoll Publications, June 20-22, Philadelphia Centre Hotel, Philadelphia.
Int'l Executive Board, pre-convention meeting, June 20-21, Philadelphia Centre Hotel, Philadelphia.
53rd Annual Convention, June 23-27, Philadelphia Centre Hotel, Philadelphia.
Int'l Executive Board, post-convention meeting, June 27, Philadelphia Centre Hotel, Philadelphia.

Editorial

No 'mom and pop' industry

Any among us still klinging to the notion that the industry within which we earn our livelihoods struggles to get by financially are invited to spend some time with the articles beginning across the bottom of Page 1 and continuing on Pages 4 and 5.

We never cease to be impressed by the sheer size of the numbers with the dollar signs in front of them. Try a few in the lede piece's summary of 1985 performance: $25 billion for ad expenditures in U.S. newspapers; after-tax profits like $237 million, $116 million, $114 million, $132 million, $176 million, $235 million, etc., etc.; revenues like $2.9 billion, $1.3 billion, $1.1 billion, $140 million, $954 million, $2.2 billion, etc., etc.

Maybe it is the numbers' sheer size. Who among us understands "billion"? "100 million"? "one million"? Business is off? What does that really mean? Profits increased by less than 10 percent—after being up 10, 15, 20 percent the last few years? Nine, 10, 15, 20 percent of what?

Then there's Morton Research's annual tally of chain ownership. It's up to 71 percent of U.S. dailies and accounts for 77 percent of the circulation in the nation. That's nearly eight of every 10 paper's sold on a given day.

So what? The bigger the company that owns the paper where we work, the better, right? The healthy profits from the rest of the chain's properties make it possible for the less lucrative links to ride out the low spots while keeping employees' pay and benefits in step. Are chain-publishers' representatives permitted even to think like that?

Threaded through it all, expenditures for more: $400 million here (the New York Times Co.), $3.5 billion there (Capital Cities for ABC), $717 million another place (Gannett for the Detroit News Assn.).

Broadcasting magazine at the end of 1985 toted up the newspaper, radio and television purchases announced during the year that exceeded $10 million. There were 108 and the amounts changing hands totaled $30 billion. Prominent among the buyers were well-known names like Capital Cities, Gannett, Tribune Co., Hearst, Murdoch. Also less well-known names, like Wooster Republican Printing and Sandusky Newspapers.

More recently, A. Alfred Taubman, a millionaire real estate developer, launched an effort to take over the Pulitzer Publishing Co., which numbers the St. Louis Post-Dispatch among its properties. He missed on his first try, for $500 million.

In Colorado Springs, meanwhile, we've had one chain publisher paying another a reported $30 million to close up shop and leave town. The transaction was held up while Oklahoma Publishing agreed to a Justice Dept. demand that it seek another buyer who would keep publishing the Colorado Springs Sun. Now, however, the town's only daily is Hoiles' Gazette-Telegraph.

The point? Publishing is a very large, very lucrative industry. We are vital cogs in its success and should expect and only settle for terms and conditions of employment reflecting it.

The Guild Reporter

CALM ACPS

ILCA — International Labor Communications Association — AFL-CIO/CLC

JAMES M. CESNIK, Editor
BARBARA E. NELSON, Assistant Editor

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