

LOCAL 88 NIXIES

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION

JULY 1973

VOTE YES! AND THESE BENEFITS ARE YOURS!

- \$700 (35¢ per hour) pay raise July 21, 1973.
\$400 (20¢ per hour) pay raise July 21, 1974.
- 55% of Health Benefit Premium costs paid by the U.S. Postal Service commencing July 21, 1973.
- 65% of Health Benefit Premium costs paid by the U.S. Postal Service commencing July 21, 1974.
- Continuance of the present \$166 cost of living allowance as part of your base pay.
- A new cost of living adjustment **WITHOUT CEILING** to be adjusted 4 **TIMES** during the life of the contract.
- **FULL PAYMENT OF** Life Insurance Premium by the U.S. Postal Service commencing July 21, 1974.
- **CONTINUATION OF THE NO LAY-OFF CLAUSE.**
- The **RIGHT** of an individual being interrogated by a Postal Inspector to have a **UNION REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT.**
- A specific limitation on management's existing right to sub-contract work but **NOW** with arbitration at the end.
- And many, many other benefits.

MAIL PROMPTLY!

THE STATE OF OUR UNION
F. F. FEHRENBACH

By the time you read this you should all have received your ballots to vote on the proposed national agreement. What is even more important I hope everyone has voted and returned his ballot. If you still have your ballot I urge you to get up right now and take care of it. This is one time you can be sure your vote will count. If you vote for ratification it will count, and if you do not return your ballot it counts as a vote against ratification, because you are not cancelling out those people in the large metropolitan areas who will vote against ratification, almost just to show that they can do it. Remember everyone does not think the new agreement as being a good deal.

I also urge you all to read the copy of the contract you received with your ballot and will keep it along with the local agreement you received about a year ago.

A good place to find out just what you have in a contract is to come to union meetings and discuss it with other members. The next meeting will be Sept. 8 at 9 AM and the following meeting is Oct. 1 at 7:30 PM. This gives everyone an opportunity to attend. Meetings are held at 310 10th Ave. So. in Fargo. We do start promptly and try to finish in 1½ hours with refreshments following. Why not attend a few, you might even find it well worth while.

There will be a 30 day period of local negotiation commencing on Sept. 5, 1973. There are twenty-two specific items which are open for local implementation. Let's take advantage of it. We can attempt to improve any items in our current Memoranda of Understanding. We can also change any items with concurrence with management. If anew proposal cannot be reduced to an agreement, the new proposal could be submitted to arbitration with the written authorization of the National President. We could also go back to an item as it now exists in our local memoranda. If you have items you wish to have considered, write them up in the form of a proposal, and indicate under which item it should be considered, (like Art. V Posting etc.) There are also some items not now in our memoranda which should be included.

All members who wish to serve on the negotiating team, please advise any of the officers of your wishes.

Items you want in the new memoranda, and that are not prepared and submitted for negotiation have no chance of becoming a part of the new agreement. With somewhere around 170 members it is impossible for a few officers to write up suggestions from members. What someone else would write would not necessarily be what you had in mind anyway.

So lets get busy and get some ideas developed. Time is quite short. We shall have to have a committee meeting the last week in August after I return from vacation. Of course, you can have meetings before then too.

I understand that some members are not getting their monthly copy of the American Postal Workers Union Magazine published in Washington. If so, please contact me personally and I will get your name and address on the mailing list.