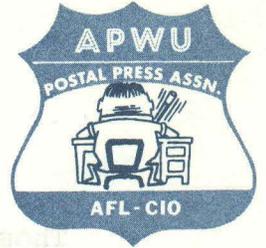




# FARGO TOUR GUIDE



Local 88 Box 1974  
Fargo, N. Dak. 58107

FEBRUARY 18, 1981  
ELECTION EDITION

FARGO, N. DAK. 58102

VOL. 1 NO. 13  
--- SE 1 ---

APWU

LOCAL #88, FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA

## LINCOLN ON WORKERS' RIGHTS

"All that harms labor is treason to America. No line can be drawn between these two. If any man tells you he loves America, yet he hates labor....he is a liar. If a man tells you he trusts America, yet fears labor he is a fool."

"I am glad to see that a system of labor prevails under which laborers can strike when they want to..I like the system which lets a man quit when he wants to and wish it might prevail everywhere."

"The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be the one uniting all working people of all nations, tongues and kindreds."

From the speeches of Abraham Lincoln

In addition to his support for workers' right to strike Lincoln was also a postal worker in the mid 1830's.

Post Office Worker  
Nov. '80

Those who seek to please everybody, please nobody. - Aesop

FARGO TOUR GUIDE

LOCAL #88 APWU  
P. O. BOX 1874  
FARGO, ND 58107

OFFICERS:

BILL CARDWELL-----President  
MERLE BAKKEGARD--Vice-President  
ED MAYER-----Treasurer  
ARDEN LEMLEY-----Recording Sec.  
DON KLINGER-----Sgt. at Arms

TRUSTEES:

LLOYD LEVIN  
JOYCE HOM  
DON MALHEIM

JIM PAVLISH-----Editor

All articles or contributions for publication must be signed. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and not necessarily the opinion of the APWU officers, the Local, the Editor or advertisers of this publication.

EDITOR NOTE

By authority of APWU Fargo Local Executive Board, this special 'election' edition of the Fargo Tour Guide is issued primarily for the directed opinion of the candidates who seek local election or re-election. For an obvious reason, candidate letters have been restricted to a five hundred word limit. Be it further here stated that written position of the candidate is his sole responsibility, and not the opinion or position of this Local it's Executive Board, nor the Editor of this newsletter.

...UNION IS THE WAY...

Remember.....strength is in numbers. With that in mind we must realize that it is up to us, our inevitable necessity, to have a strong voice - in union.

USE YOUR VOTE POWER

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CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION  
TO THE OFFICE OF LOCAL PRESIDENT

by Bill Cardwell, Incumbent

As I stated in the last issue of the Tour Guide, this year and this election is very important for us.

Those elected will be charged with the leadership of the Local for the next two years. We will be depending on their leadership and advice on a possible 'you know what' or a lockout if a new contract is not negotiated by July 20, 1981.

It is this candidate's hope we are able to negotiate a new contract by July 20th, with an uncapped COLA and all other benefits our national officers are trying to get for us, but we must realize that PMG Bolger will be Chief Negotiator for the Post Office. He has made it clear that he wants us to have a capped COLA, and also pay raises based on production increases. Our General President Moe Biller, says "No way" on these two points. So you can see; on just these two points there is a possibility of not having a contract by July 20th.

When we do get a National Contract, we then must re-negotiate a New Local Agreement. As you know, the negotiations on the local level were tough last time, and we can bet they won't be any easier this time. We have things in our local that our management

would like to change; you can bet negotiations will be tough again.

As there is a word limit on this letter, this candidate chooses to point out the things he feels are most important and should be considered when we do exercise our obligation and our right to vote in picking our leadership for the next two years. I feel that the experience I have gotten over the past two years qualifies me to face these and all other problems which will come up concerning this Local over the next two years.

In closing I would like to 'thank you' all for the trust and support you have given me over the past term, and I'm sure you realize, if re-elected, I will be even more effective due to the experience I have gained.

Whatever happens as a result of this election I will continue to be an active member of this Local and will fight to protect the rights and benefits of all. The decision of leadership for the next two years is yours.

I ask you for your vote and also your support. Thank you.

Sincerely and fraternally,

S/ Bill Cardwell  
APWU Local 88  
President

P.S. As for the local opposition; all I have to say, he must run on his record and I will seek re-election on mine. I would like to suggest to the newer employees that have not worked at the Post Office long enough to form an opinion of my opponent or myself to check us out with a few of the older employees.

Again, thank you for your vote and support. WGC...

CANDIDATE  
FOR THE OFFICE OF LOCAL PRESIDENT

by Dale D. Ream, Clerk--Tour II

My name is Dale Ream and I am a Candidate for President of this Local. I feel that I am well qualified to again administer this responsible position!

I've been a Steward, Vice-President, and President during my Postal Career. I'm diversified in Grievances that I've filed and processed as a Representative, losing only one grievance beyond Step One; that being a "Best Qualified Position" at Step Three in Chicago, I've filed grievances from Overtime, Annual Leave, to Discipline and Seniority successfully.

I'm the only Candidate for President that has any experience in Local Contract Negotiations! I was then Vice-President in 1978, and believe me; those people play by a different set of rules in "negotiations" than at other Labor/Management Meetings. The Local Agreement comes up again this year, and we're going to have to be "very" careful that we don't fall Victim to the "TAKE AWAY" tactics of the last time, as I'm sure they'll try again!

As for some of my Goals in this Local; I feel that an Organized effort must be made by all Tours, to help correct some ongoing problems. I would want a Regularly Scheduled Stewards and Officers Meeting held. Then we could get both input and output from and to the Members, allowing us to arrive at a viable solution. The feedback will be aired at the Regular Monthly Meeting.

We need to re-establish the "Principle of Seniority" in regards to Work Assignments and Overtime. Someday, the junior employee will come to expect the benefit of longevity to become the Reward and Relief from those redundant and mundane details, we must insure their futures by continuity of Seniority.

We must reduce the Part Time Flexible compliment to the MINIMUM!! I advocate an "ALL REGULAR FORCE," including CFS's. Our goal is An All Regular Work Force it was achieved in late 1978 and early 79. Then in 1980 we saw PTF's on the LSM, it is perceived that the PTF's replace a Manual Regular Bid Job for every one that is Abolished or Reverted! If they want Seven Day Operation, then Staff for it, and stop playing games with the Manual Operations! Who wants to work Six Days a Week?

One other initiative, we need a "Secure" and coordinated parking system that would be administered for all the members on an Intra-Tour Basis. We need it! Management "will not" negotiate this so we must look elsewhere to serve the membership.

Obviously, I need your support! To bring about a reversal of the trend for less Labor and More of Management!

However you vote; Please Do! It's Your Union, if you don't Vote then what have you to complain about?

S/ Dale D Ream  
Candidate  
Clerk

CANDIDATE  
FOR THE OFFICE OF LOCAL VICE-PRESIDENT  
by Merle Bakkegard, Incumbent

I would like, first of all, to thank everyone who supported me in the last election as Vice President. I am looking forward to a second term and now seek that opportunity. I feel that the last two years have given me good experience.

Although we have not always agreed, I feel I have worked well with our President, Bill Cardwell.

We face a lot of problems in the coming two years. We must work together and keep on top of the everyday battle.

As Vice-President of the State of North Dakota APWU

I worked closely with our State President, Mr. Jim Vanyo of Grand Forks. I have attended Steward Seminars, Four-State Work Shops, State AFL-CIO Convention, State APWU Conventions, the National APWU Convention and also filled the President's capacity in his absence.

This, it is felt, has given me a wealth of experience and, on this I seek your vote. I would greatly appreciate your support in this upcoming election. Thank you!

S/ Merle Bakkegard

APWU  
V-Pres, Fargo Local  
V-Pres, NDAK. State

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ELECTION RESPONSE - - YOUR CHANCE TO SPEAK

You will note that in the letters of the candidates they have asked for your vote, but have gone even farther in strongly suggesting that whomever your choice, do take the few moments to vote. Your difference of opinion is welcome; it's the indifference that hurts you and them because if you do not express yourselves during the time of election, you really have no justification to criticize after. It is said that a person can fail many times, but is not a failure until he begins to blame somebody else. So let us not allow others to do our thinking and voting for us, but use our gift of insight and intuition lest we try to blame someone else for making a wrong choice for us and.....thus become that failure. VOTE!

Jim Pavlish  
Editor

## UNION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. 2/2/81 by Pres. Cardwell. Minutes of 1/10/81 meeting read and approved. Financial Secretary's report read, and approved.

Pres. Cardwell gave a report on the recent Chicago meeting for state and local presidents, conducted by Gen. Pres. Biller. Topics covered were: the state of the Nat'l, contract negotiations, financial status of the Nat'l, restrictions on National officers travel, possible dues increase, changes in grievance procedure, seminars and ceremonies restricted, and contract stations.

Auxiliary Pres., Mary Ream has informed Pres. Cardwell that there cannot be a cash bar for the Feb. 14, 1981 card-party, unless handled by a licensed caterer. Dale Ream added that this will be side-stepped, by donating liquor with money from the auxiliary treasury. Also dues are due!

New membership applications: Kathy Wixo, & Brabara Trummer, approved.

Unfinished business: The 4 state caucus in S.D., has been canceled, and the state seminar will possibly be postponed until this fall.

Nominating committee chairman, F. Fehrenbach gave the nominations, for Pres., Bill Cardwell, and Dale Ream, for V.P., Merle Bakkegard, and Bernard Benson, for Trustee, Don Klinger and Laurine Roehrich, for Newsletter Editor, Jim Pavlish, for

delegates to FM Trades & Labor Assembly, Al Krieger, Dale Ream Arden Lemley, and nominated from the floor, Mel Johnson.

A motion from the floor to cast a white ballot for the office of Newsletter Editor, approved.

Pres. Cardwell advised those present, that the Exec. Board approved use of the Newsletter for the candidates, and any articles will be the sole responsibility of the candidate.

Election committee: Gerald Juels, Ed Mayer, & Lloyd Levin, chairman. Two ballot boxes will be furnished, one in the swing room, and the other in the womens lounge.

During the open discussion period, the following topics were brought up: safety on the workroom floor not being enforced by the supervisors, a letter writing campaign to state representatives on SB2234, increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the maximum exclusion of a pension received from the US Civil Service, and HB 1247, voluntary withholding of state income tax, problems in the box section, lack of safety meetings.

Door prize, Ed Mayer, 27 members present. Next meeting, Sat. Mar. 7, 1981 9:00 a.m. Motion to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

S/ Arden Lemley  
APWU Local 88  
Recording Secretary

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*319 Francis St.*  
*West Fargo, N.D. 58078*

Editor---James Pavlish

A MESSAGE FROM NEHEMIAH

The following appeared recently in a church bulletin.

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was only one.

This bothered me because I noted that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat I could see only one set of footprints. So I said to the Lord, "you promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has been only one set of footprints in the sand. Why when I have needed you most, have you not been there for me?" The Lord replied: "The times when you have seen only one set of footprints my child, is when I carried you."

For our non-union brothers and sisters, don't you get tired of looking down and seeing just one set of footprints?

FPA