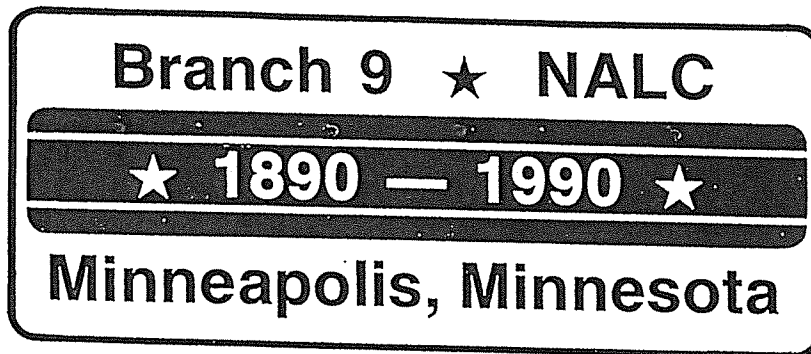


OUR FIRST 100 YEARS

PART III



JEROME J. KEATING

BRANCH 9

April 1967

President Keating to give 7 Gold Cards at Retiree Banquet. Salary-Level 5 rally huge success over 2700 present at Labor Temple. Senator Mondale, Congressman Clark MacGregor and Don Fraser were there. Postmaster Hogan agrees to one week vacation time in the summer for all employees in the carrier craft.

May 1967

Thirty-five hundred delegates arrive in Washington for Level 5 rally. President Keating had over 30 Congressmen and 10 Senators along with Vice President Humphrey speak at rally. Audie Carlson and I had the privilege of escorting the Vice President. Senators Mondale and McCarthy co-sponsored Level 5 bill. At a DFL Jefferson-Jackson dinner in Minneapolis Senator Mondale introduced Postmaster General O'Brien (main speaker). With the words "this is a comparability state — this is a Level 5 State." Wain Pearce, CLU Delegate decided Branch 9 needed a queen contest. Over 400 people present at Retirees Dinner.

June 1967

Lynn Kaiser, daughter of Bob Kaiser, won the first J. Wesley Woods scholarship presented by Fran Breyette, Chairman.

July 1967

Wain Pearce, Chairman declared that Marsha Rosein is Branch 9 Queen. Level 5 campaign goes on. Assistant Postmaster General Murphy and Keating had a debate over pay at the State Convention. Keating won going away. With the sending out of letters to carriers on sick leave abuse, labor management is going down hill. Couillard and four Branch 9 officers walk out of Labor Management meeting.

August 1967

Ray Herrick, the blind man who ran the candy and cigarettes shop at the Main Post Office died in San Diego. Worked the shop for about 25 years. Overtime was so great last winter that we have convinced the post office to inspect all routes on a walk-around basis. No cutting yards (in one year this will mean 100 new routes).

September 1967

Level 5 fight goes on. President Keating states, "The NALC is going for broke." Post office wanted to introduce 20 hourly rate regulars. Branch 9 did not want these employees in the carrier craft (we were successful). Eighty auxiliary routes created by walkaround being inspected for full-time positions. Newspapers, radio and TV came out against Level 5. Branch 9 golf party, John Masterman and Earl McRae provided lunch. Ollie Anderson, Blood Chairman asked for donors. Clarence Bergquist wants more band members.

October 1967

Due to walkaround it is expected that we will get 70 new routes and 100 new employees. New sick leave policy ironed out at a labor-management meeting. Letter carriers will get 3 separate warnings before being placed on restricted sick leave. Three hundred percent improvement. Postmaster Hogan again proves he is a humanitarian. New vacation policy goes in effect.

November 1967

Nomination for Branch 9 Office. Couillard was opposed by George Nelson and Bergquist was opposed by Marv Hjulberg. Bob Blake continues to lead fight for Level 5. Vern Doll, editor of Branch 9 News continues to get accolades from other branches on his job as editor. John Masterman was commended for fish fry.

Branch 9 band under the able management of Clarence Bergquist is playing at various functions around town. Sick leave policy where a carrier receives 3 separate warnings before being placed on restricted sick leave is working well.

December 1967

Before packed house — standing room only, crowd of 500, Couillard and Virginia Shipley were installed as President of Branch 9 and Auxiliary 67. All of the old officers were re-elected with Bruce Allen as the only new officer. Couillard is stressing safety for letter carriers in 1968. For the program to succeed we will need the help of management. Level 5 is at last signed into law.

January 1968

Labor-management by law will be the legislative goal in 1968. Also 30-year re-



Branch 9 Officers for 1967. (Back Row, L-R): Frank Fust, Ernie Beauchane, Al Carlson, Vern Doll, Wain Pearce, Dick Miles, Jack Doll and Izzy Mehr. (Front Row, L-R): Russ Shipley, President Walt Couillard, Jerry Keating, Audie Carlson, and Clarence Bergquist.



Auxiliary 67 Officers for 1967. (1st Row, L-R): Kathy Miles, Treasurer; Virginia Shipley, Secretary; National President Jerome Keating; Ruth Hovey, President; Mary Honkanen, 1st Vice-President. (2nd Row): Helen Manthey, Installing Officer; Timmy Blake, Color Bearer; Edie Couillard, Trustee; Ann Bergquist, Financial Secretary; Irene Fligge, Chaplain; Julia Smith, 2nd Vice-President; Donna Carlson, Trustee; and Audie Carlson, National Field Director.

BRANCH 9 QUEENS

tirement regardless of age. Branch 9 has passed 1700 members rapidly heading for 1800. Overtime was down for Christmas. Tagging and repairing vehicles is a big issue. Gene McNulty and Bruce Allen are Entertainment Chairman. Ollie Anderson continues to run the blood bank. H. Dudley Anderson, Flower and Sick Committee and Sub Committee headed by Chuck Peasha. Bob Blake again Legislative Chairman.

February 1968

Hornets nest was stirred up by an article in Branch 9 News about garage facility failing to fix vehicles. Committee set up with management to correct situation. Roy Jernberg, Dale Huttner, Marty Sarri are on membership committee. Frank Fust is again heading up MDA.

March 1968

Statewide seminar held in Minneapolis by Audie Carlson, Regional Field Director, on local negotiations. Proposal for getting credit for unused sick leave is on the legislative agenda. The local negotiators are Walt Couillard, Al Carlson, Clarence Bergquist, Jack Doll, and Russ Shipley. The first time that routes are being inspected in the winter. The 59 Dodges are being replaced. Russ Shipley, Training Chairman had two route examiners, Carl Buetner, and John Connors along with Audie Carlson at training session. Clarence Bergquist, Vice President is moaning about being in the post office 25 years and still not in top step. He started at 65 cents per hour.

April 1968

Training and Education Committee had Audie Carlson teaching the ins and outs of OWCP. Couillard covered retirement. Couillard told membership to use all of their uniform allowance. Keating-Carlson to attend retiree dinner.

May 1968

Giant initiation of new members planned for Branch 9 meeting. Ray Manthey is Chairman of the event. Cheryl Nordahl won J. Wesley Woods scholarship. Negotiations are progressing on the local level. Couillard asks for relief regulars at every station. Four hundred attended retirees banquet.

June 1968

Couillard to lead delegates to State Convention in Duluth. Couillard reported that in a 1935 Branch 9 News that Ed Gainor, President of NALC wanted a 30-hour work week (Still a long way to go). Finished local negotiations. Over 100 new members showed up for Initiation Night.

July 1968

National President Keating decides not to seek re-election. Ed Couture, poet laureate of Branch 9, wrote a poem about

From 1967 to 1970 Branch 9 held Queen Contests at the annual picnics. Picnics at that time drew about 3,000 people and the Queen Contest was a popular event. The Queens duties included parades and representing Branch 9 at labor functions around the city.



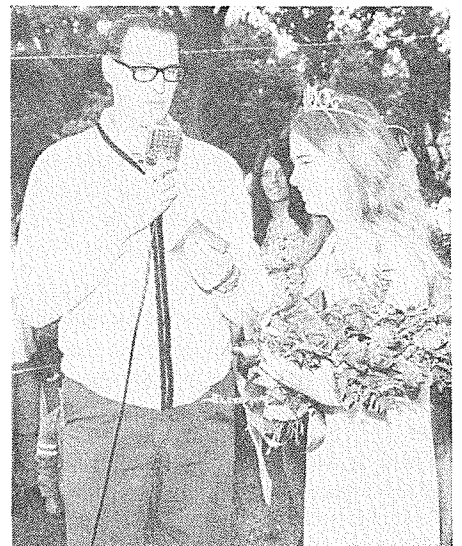
Winners of the first Branch 9 Queen contest in 1967, 1st runnerup Linda Carlson, Queen Marsha Rosein and 2nd runnerup LaJune Thomas.



Diane Fisher, Miss Branch 9 for 1969 was a carrier in parcel post.



Carol Frisell, daughter of Main Office carrier Don Frisell was Miss Branch 9 and Miss Union Maid in 1968.



Vice President Wain Pearce congratulated Tessie Neilson, Miss Branch 9 for 1970. Her father Paul carried mail at Richfield.

Jerry leaving in branch 9 News. Jerry Keating, 44 years, a member of Branch 9, 33 years a National Officer. Audie Carlson was endorsed for National Resident Office. Walt Couillard was endorsed for Field Director. Branch 9's picnic was a huge success. Twenty-seven hundred letter carriers and their families were present. Russ Shipley secured a truckload of large Tonka toys which were given away. Gene McNulty and Bruce Allen and the band and auxiliary fed all 2700 people with hot dogs and hamburgers. Needless to say, a good quantity of beer and pop were consumed.

September 1968

Keating retires. Rademacher, new National President. Audie Carlson to Washington, D.C. as Health Benefits Director. Couillard becomes Field Director of 4 states. Minneapolis is bidding on 1972 National Convention. Carroll Frisell (daughter of Don) becomes Branch 9

Queen and also Miss Union Maid of Minneapolis. Humphrey also addresses Boston Convention. Branch 9 reaches 1788 members.

October 1968

Every major Branch 9 office has opposition at the nominations for the coming year. Vern Doll and George Hafich are running for President of Branch 9. Golf party huge success. Branch now handles \$90,000 a year in dues. Congress is talking about making post office a corporation. Couillard asks for 24 cents dues increase to cover raise in National per capita. Dues structure will be \$4.24 per month.

November 1968

Vern Doll wins over George Hafich for President. Branch 9 has huge testimonial for Jerry and Marion Keating, over 1,000 in attendance. The membership has increased since Couillard became President, from 1548 in December of 1965 to 1835

members in December 1968. An increase of 287 members with only 13 nonmembers. Vern Doll, now President of Branch 9, was probably the outstanding Branch editor in the country for the past 3 years.

I believe I had a very successful 3 years as President. No one does a job as President without the complete help of the membership. We had many people helping us as officers and committee chairmen. I have tried to name as many as I could think of in the article. I am sure that I missed many. But thanks to you all, I had the opportunity to grow up in the NALC. My father, Gene, and Uncle Les were members all their lives. I owe a world of thanks to Jerry Keating, Marc Walgren, Joe Byrne and my buddy, Audie Carlson. Serving under these four people gave me a wealth of information, know-how and confidence. To these four, my officers, committee people, and the membership — thanks for allowing me to serve you for 3 years as President of Branch 9. My thanks must go to 2 people in management also, Postmaster Bill Hogan and Sid Kuykendall. they didn't fall over but they always listened.

Resolution Right-To-Strike Boston Convention 1968

WHEREAS, Government employees are proscribed in the right to strike to secure economic justice as a method of obtaining advances and gains that are won by workers in private industry through their union activity and

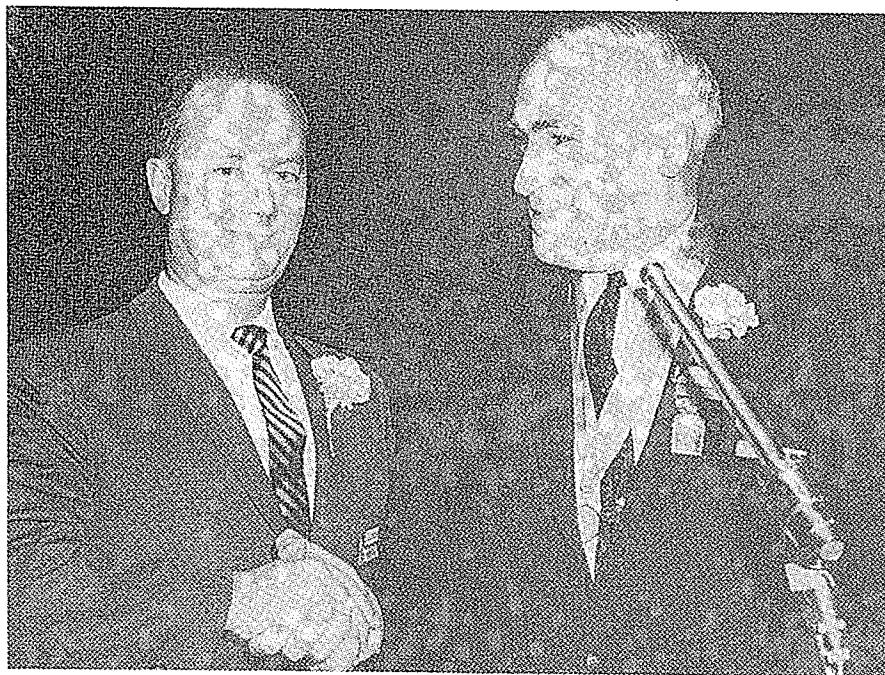
WHEREAS, the membership of the National Association of Letter Carriers in ever increasing numbers are becoming disenchanted and impatient with the inordinately slow progress of legislative campaigns continuously waged by the NALC year in and year out, and

WHEREAS, the only employee group in the United States denied the right to strike are Government employees, and

WHEREAS, our National Officers must be offered additional equipment in their strategic armament in order to accomplish the aims and objectives of our membership, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we the delegates assembled in convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers in Boston, Mass., in August, 1968, do hereby instruct our National Officers to investigate fully the legal and legislative technicalities involved so that Government employees may be accorded the right to strike by the Congress of the United States, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the National Officers of the National Association of Letter Carriers study the feasibility of removing the no-strike oath that we are now required to take as a condition of employment.



Jerry Keating (R) passed the leadership of the NALC to James Rademacher in Boston 1968.

KEATING NOT TO SEEK RE-ELECTION

At approximately four o'clock on Friday June 21, 1968, while addressing the delegation at the 65th Convention of the MSALC assembled in Duluth, President Keating ended his speech by simply saying that after 44 years as a letter carrier, and upon reaching the age of 65 in September, he had decided not to seek re-election to the Presidency.

The July 1968 edition of the Branch 9 News reflects delegate reaction to this announcement.

"Many of the delegates were visibly shaken and many had wet eyes. Most of the delegates went over to President Keating, shook his hand, and wished him well, and some even asked him to reconsider. Your editor and several others felt too badly to even shake hands with Jerry at the time. . ." "He had come to Minnesota to announce his intention to retire as our National president. Tears appeared in the eyes of many hardened union leaders who had thought they had long forgotten how to cry. Those who usually spoke so fluently, were at a loss for words. A shocked and confused delegate rose to move adjournment of the session, and received unanimous concurrence from the delegates."

WAIN PEARCE, VICE PRESIDENT REPORT, MARCH 1970 SETS THE MOOD OF THE BRANCH

Two of the largest unions in the N.A.L.C. have expressed a willingness to go on strike, and have mandated President James H. Rademacher to "call a nation wide Postal strike" if justified pay demands are not soon met. Jack Levantthal, President of the Brooklyn Branch #41 stated that, "his membership is up against the wall with no one listening to the Letter Carrier's just demands." Levantthal said that, "his members expressed a willingness to go on strike even though it was explained to them that they would in all probability lose a minimum of two weeks pay, that they would be subject to a year in prison, and that they might lose their retirement." Gus Johnson, dynamic President of New York Branch #36 said that, "whereas he could not speak for other N.A.L.C. Local Presidents he had been told in the past that if New York City goes out, Chicago would do likewise." He stated that "Postal Workers in every metropolitan area are suffering from low wages."

It appears to me that Congress is far more interested (now that they have received their own 41% pay increase effective last February) in political jockeying between Democrats and Republicans, rural politicians and metropolitan politicians, and between Congress and the Administration. And, the Postal Worker, he's that fellow whose pay raise they are all so busy taking credit for that they forgot to take time out from their own bitter infighting to pass his pay bill, whatever the number was. Myself, I don't care who gets credit for the pay raise, just so long as I get it

sometime prior to the loan company repossessing my car and my landlady placing my suitcases out on the sidewalk. In fact, sometime in 1970 would be nice.

When certain members of the Congress accepted a position on the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee they also accepted the responsibility of providing for and meeting the needs of their employees, the postal workers of the United States. I certainly hope they meet their other responsibilities as Congressmen better than they have met their responsibilities to the postal workers, as they haven't even been able to produce a quorum at the last three regular meetings of the House P.O. and C.S. Committee. How any man can call himself a Congressman after showing such irresponsibility and total disregard for his own employees somewhat dazzles me, especially after President Nixon, Congressmen Dulski and Udall stated that they would do all in their power to see that all members of the Committee attend every meeting in an effort to pass this pay bill in the shortest time possible.

If this is to be their attitude toward us then do we have any other choice than to urge President James H. Rademacher to call a National postal strike to achieve our just pay demands. He has stated that when it comes time to quit talking and start acting he will be out in front leading us even at the risk of a prison sentence. I only hope that we will all have the guts and determination to pay the price whatever that price may be when the time comes. He serves himself best who serves his fellow men.

Jim Klobuchar of the Minneapolis Star Interviewed Bill Mechels, the Following Appeared in his Column on March 21, 1970

The politicians' intuitive response in the face of this uprising has been to be appalled because the mailmen struck instead of negotiating.

The workers' intuitive response to this entreaties is expressed by one of the letter carriers from Minneapolis who voted to strike:

"They have already practically negotiated us into the poorhouse."

And the standard response from the confused among the bystanders goes: "If it's all that bad, and you don't like being subjected to political maeuvers and budget-cutters, why don't you do something else instead of messing up my mail deliveries with an illegal strike."

Bill Mechels is a 31-year-old letter carrier in the village of Blaine, the father of three children, a postal employee since 1961. Five days a week he gets up at 5 a.m., drives to the branch post office at 6, cases and aligns his mail for the next three hours and, for the next five, walks a 300-house carrier beat in Crystal.

His salary after nine years in the postal service is \$7,800. According to some governmental charts, some AFDC mothers with three children net the equivalent of \$8,100. Garbage haulers in the area start at about \$8,000.

"I knock none of those," Mechels said. "I'm in this work because I genuinely like it and because I thought I could do something with it. My father was a rural mail carrier for 43 years at Garfield in western Minnesota. Maybe it was the times, but he was a man of some status there, and I grew up respecting the work. You know, a service and a calling.

"Well, I spent a couple of years in the Army after high school and I attended the university for two years in engineering school but the money ran out, I fell in love, got married, in debt and looked for a job. The postal service was there, handy, and I grabbed it.

"I subbed for three or four years and then went on a regular route. I'm not a romantic, but I like it. I don't mind the snowstorms because there's always the compensation of walking around in the spring and summer when it's a joy to do it.

"But the low pay starts eroding you and it kills you when you see all of the empty promises of the politicians. Nixon said this a year ago, and then he says another thing in the winter. He says he wants us all to get a decent wage, but now he puts strings on it with postal reform. And the con-



gressmen can't even get a quorum together this winter when the thing comes up in committee, and it's our bread and kids they're dealing with.

"So you get active in the union and try to do something about it. I know the strike is an illegal act. And I think about that. I'm no firebrand or radical. The worst thing I ever did was to get a speeding ticket.

"Yes, I could quit today. There are other things to do, and I'm not a lazy man. But it really would be some kind of cop-out, you know, especially now.

"I don't hate the government, the administration, or anybody. But we do work, and we do a decent day's work, and I don't think they really see that they aren't paying us for it.

So Bill Mechels, a churchgoer and a pretty good citizen, voted last night to strike against the government.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT



VERN DOLL
President — 1969, 70, 71, 72

Being Branch 9 President from 1968 through 1972 was quite a humbling and at times a gratifying experience not unlike military service; glad you did it, but wouldn't want to do it again.

These were periods of unrest mostly because of the low salaries. People left the service almost as fast as they were hired. We had local negotiations but except for drive out agreements, there were no monies negotiated.

We did have the Strike (March 21 through March 24, 1970). We all voted to

City Letter Carriers Vote to Stay Out

MINNEAPOLIS STAR HEADLINE

THE DAY THE POSTMAN DIDN'T EVEN RING ONCE

(April 1970 Branch 9 News)

On Wednesday, March 18, 1970, the Letter Carriers of New York City after 18 months of sheer frustration over pay took their campaign for higher wages to the streets. This first postal strike against the Post Office Department soon spread into 14 states with 208,269 postal employees on strike during the peak. On Wednesday, the postal service joined the growing list of things that don't work and millions of people who had taken the letter carrier for granted and who had never thought about the simple sending or receiving of a letter were affected.

What really caused the first postal strike in this country's history? Was it the fact that postal employees had become caught in a vise between Congress and the Administration, or the fact that they had lost dignity and status within the society which they live. Or was it that they had become the expendables in the war against inflation? Whatever the reason the facts are that you cannot expect letter carriers to work for \$3.06 an hour when private industry pays the following wages:

Electrician	\$8.14
Brick Layer	7.72
Iron Worker	7.50
Carpenter	7.28
Roofer	7.28
Plumber	6.86
Radiator Repairman	6.20
Police and Firemen	5.00
Street Sweepers	4.43
Garbage Collectors	4.43

You have got to pay higher wages than those which are currently only \$2.00 a week too high to qualify for welfare, or expect to see a second and third postal strike if necessary to achieve economic justice.

Letter carriers have resumed defying snow, rain, and heat rather than the Federal Government, but for how long if promises made remain unfulfilled?

go out together and we also voted to return together. Not a Wildcat Strike, but a unified decision.

Perhaps the most long lasting achievement within the Union was when our Branch made the motion for one man one vote at the 1972 Convention.

I held many offices in Branch 9 (Steward, HRB, Financial Secretary, Editor, President, and Trustee). All were interesting and educational. I met many life-long friends, both local, state and nationwide. God bless them all, it's been great knowing you all.

Vern Doll, branch president during the strike sent this letter to the Minneapolis Star after it was over.

To the Editor:

In behalf of all the members of the Letter Carrier's Union Branch 9, Minneapolis, and their families, I would like to use this means to thank the public and the news media for their fine support and comfort during the past few days of decision.

The united action that we were forced to take will have been of little good and have served little purpose if something constructive isn't done to help the plight of the letter carrier. The key to the situation is in Washington, and I know that all letter carriers are looking there for leadership, action, and decision.

I believe that we have demonstrated that we have come to the end of the road. The decision to take the rough road out and the smooth road back was a decision of the majority of our members. The need to follow this road of turbulence was certainly not to our liking and we sincerely regret the inconvenience that many were forced to accept.

With the return to work now in full effect and the peaceful action terminated, I certainly hope that none of the postal workers or their families will suffer any recriminations from the government. I sincerely hope that we will never need to take action like this again, but once more, that decision rests elsewhere. We feel confident that the support we received was a result of the good will letter carriers have always shown to the public.

— Vern Doll

Wain Pearce, Vice President Expressed his Views After the Strike

Letter To the Editor: Minneapolis Tribune

Printed April 7, 1970

I would like to answer some of those letters of righteous indignation against the Postal Employees who sank so low as to illegally strike against the Federal Government.

Looking at whether it's legal to strike against the Government or not, I would say that legal opinion in the U.S. is about equally divided as to the legality of the no strike law placed upon all federal employees. There is currently a 3 Judge panel in the District of Columbia studying the constitutionality of the no strike law and a decision is expected sometime in October 1970.

I would like to remind those righteous people who condemn the postal employees that about two hundred years ago a group of men boarded a ship that didn't belong to them, dumped tea that didn't belong to them, into a harbor that didn't belong to them, and that out this lawlessness came the strongest country that the world has ever known. You can call the War of Independence anything you like but the cold hard facts are that it was illegal. They might also turn their righteous feelings toward the issue of how the U.S. Government stole most of this country from the Indians, that should make them feel proud.

When unjust laws are made that oppress the people (there are 750,000 postal employees) then change becomes necessary, and a work stoppage was the only means of demonstrating our plight. The responsible way to get the postal system back to normal is not to threaten injunctions, the National Guard and the U.S. Army, but



From left to right: Issy Mehr, Ben Brodsky, Postmaster Hogan, Branch 9 MD Chairman Frank Fust, Clarence Bergquist and Al Carlson posing with MDA State Poster child Susan Nantell. This was the kick-off on the Branch 9 help with the 1967-68 MD campaign.

for the Administration and the Congress to step up to their responsibilities and provide for postal workers and their families a decent income which will do more than simply eliminate the need for Federal employees to supplement their wages with welfare payment. The postal employees have been taken for granted too long and their only reward has been to sink deeper into POVERTY. We demand to be allowed to take our place in society as First Class Citizens being paid First Class Wages.

Wain D. Pearce

HIGHLITES OF THE 47th and 48th CONVENTIONS 1970 and 1972

The 47th BIENNIAL CONVENTION of NALC — Honolulu, Hawaii — August 16-22, 1970 will serve as the dividing line between an Association and a Union. It was the first convention in which COLLECTIVE BARGAINING took precedence over CONGRESSIONAL action.

It was also a convention that Branch 9 mandated its delegates to vote against the re-election of President James H. Rademacher. Most of Branch 9 delegates became belligerent and stated in the Branch 9 News that nobody can tell them how to vote. The failure of Branch 9 delegates and delegates from many other branches to oppose the re-election of President James H. Rademacher gave impetus to the formation of Branch 9 Rank and File Party in 1970 and the National Rank and File Party's organizing Convention in Minneapolis in 1971.

The centerpiece of the local Rank and File Party was ONE MAN — ONE VOTE, RAFFICATION of NATIONAL CONTRACT and ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS by REFERENDUM BALLOT — this was also the centerpiece of the National Rank and File Party.

Contrast the 48th BIENNIAL CON-



Curt Johnson and George Hafich with the 1968 Series 1½ Chevrolet. George and Curt say this is a fine vehicle for industrial and commercial delivery.

VENTION in, New Orleans, Louisiana, July 9-12, 1972 and the 1970 Convention. The 1972 New Orleans Convention was described as the largest and having the hardest working delegates in the history of the Association. More than 4,400 delegates were in attendance and more than 2,600 votes were represented by proxy. Most of our sessions ran into overtime and the one on July 14 went 10 hours uninterrupted, and after some urgent business was taken care of, the session resumed.

You may take a cursory survey of the Rank and File Party's first convention and say, "What did they do?" They were responsible for the approval of the most important amendment to the NALC constitution since 1889 — ONE MAN — ONE VOTE. That amendment signalled the end of proxy voting and electing national officers at conventions. The vote for Regional Elections — 1,667 For and 1,747 Against. We demand a roll call vote, which would have been the first-ever to be held in the entire history of the NALC. We were properly supported by 15 "seconds" but the convention voted against the roll call to save time. Some of the branches would station lookouts outside of the door to warn their members to rush back before we would go into Executive session and lock the doors.

The National Rank and File Party called a news conference to answer questions regarding our position. One reporter, Bob Williams, asked what will Rank and File do if you do not get what you want, "will you break away from the union?" We said no, we will work within the union.

President Rademacher decided to concede the remainder of Rank and File objectives some time before the 1974 convention — Ratification of National Contract and Regional Elections.

I am happy to report to you that the



James Thomas at the microphone during the 48th biennial convention in New Orleans in 1972.

Local Rank and File and the National Rank and File did exactly what we said in the news conference: "We will work within the union." Since the 1972 convention five former rank and file members served Branch 9 as president and members of the National Association. The Rank and File is well represented.

Many Branch 9 members may recall their reluctance to embrace a new philosophy. I am positive that in retrospect, the most recalcitrant member and the most understanding member appreciate the contribution of all the members.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**GENE McNULTY
President — 1977, 78**

Becoming active in the NALC was really a matter of luck. I joined as soon as I became a carrier but never attended meetings. Then, one day in the early 1960s, a group of us decided to go to the union meeting because they had an accumulated door prize drawing of \$150.00. In those days, that was a lot of money; we were only making \$2.10 an hour. We went, and I won. Because of this, I felt I had to go to the next month's meeting or take all the heat from my fellow carriers. After that, I continued to go on a regular basis. When Walt Couillard became President in 1966, he asked me to be his entertainment chairman. I served in that position until 1970 and the strike. I have to say that Walt Couillard, more than any other person, was responsible for getting me involved in the union.

The strike was, of course, the biggest thing to happen not only to the Postal Service but to me. The most vivid memory I have of all my years in the Postal Service is the wildcat strike on March 20, 1970. Postal Service workers had become fed up with low pay and broken promises of better wages by politicians. The carriers, against the will of the National President, James H. Rademacher, went on strike, first in New York, then in most of the other big cities across the country.

In Minneapolis, we held a strike vote on the afternoon of March 19, 1970. I was one of the election judges, and of all the carriers that voted that day (and most of the carriers did), I will never forget the Main Office carriers who walked across



Left to right: Roundhouse Rodney accepting check from the letter carriers, (L-R) P.M. Mort Layer, President Vern Doll, Dick Miles and Frank Fust at the MDA Telethon in 1971.

the Third Avenue Bridge from the Main Office to the old Labor Temple at Fourth and Central Avenue S.E. to cast their votes. We had areas set up so that people could vote in private, but every one of them marked their ballot YES right at the desk as I handed it to them. Every one of these carriers had a minimum of 30 years service and knew that, by going on strike, he could lose not only his job, but more important, his retirement.

Because the National President tried everything possible to stop the strike, the NALC became a very bitter and divided union. Ron Barker, Bill Mechels and I decided to form a group of carriers and oppose those people who had supported Rademacher. This organization eventually evolved into the National Rank and File Organization which was responsible for making the NALC the most democratic union in the labor movement. Before this time, the national officers, through what was called proxy votes, completely controlled who could become a national officer and had complete control of the operation of the union. Although, locally, the Rank and File was finally able to elect most of the officers of Branch 9, there developed a philosophical difference within the local Rank and File.

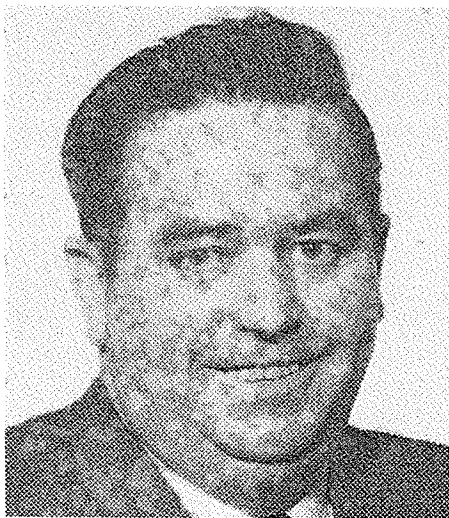
In 1976, I decided to challenge the incumbent branch president, and I was elected and assumed office in January of 1977. The next two years were very bitter as the different factions fought for control of the Branch. My best memories of these two years were the station visits that I performed on a daily basis. I had campaigned on the fact that the branch president should visit the carriers at a different station every morning if possible. I set up a regular rotation and made every station at least once every six weeks for the next two years.

What I consider my accomplishments during my two-year term as Branch 9 president follow: improved labor-management relations and negotiating an improved local contract. Some of the improvements in the local contract: more carriers allowed off during the months of January, February, March, and April. We were able to make many other significant changes in the waiting periods for bidding for vacation. More important, we finally obtained language forcing management to post cancelled vacations. We increased the percentage off during November which, of course, is the prime hunting period. We also obtained seniority as the rule to decide who obtained any available parking spaces.

In 1978, Walt Couillard, who was National Business Agent, decided to run for National Health Benefits Director. I, along with four other carriers from the region, ran for the job of National

Business Agent. I was successful and assumed the office of N.B.A. after being installed in January of 1979.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT



LARRY IRISH
President — 1979, 80

During our first 100 years many significant events took place. The 1970's saw the first postal strike in which Branch 9 members stood united in cause. Also during this period, we witnessed the formation of a national rank and file movement that changed the very foundation of our union.

Little is known that the R&F movement

had its beginnings in a small hotel on the Bloomington strip. This meeting was attended by a few Branch 9 members, the President of the Des Moines, Iowa Branch, and Sid Klein from Branch 36 New York. The proposal of union reform, and the establishing of the R&F movement was the topic of discussion. Sid brought an oversized tape recorder with him, and hence brought back tape for the Branch 36 membership, including letter carrier Vincent Sombrotto.

From this small beginning, contact was made with Branches across the country, announcing a meeting in Minneapolis. Branch leaders came into Minneapolis and gave recognition to the movement, gave Vincent Sombrotto leadership status, and Branch 9 officer Bob Tripanier was selected to coordinate our efforts.

Vincent began traveling from Branch to Branch promoting the concept of reform from within, and also establishing his leadership in the movement.

I remember one of his first visits to Minneapolis to speak at the old Labor Temple on University Ave. Although this meeting was heavily promoted, attendance was dismal at best. Later, over coffee, I remember Vincent saying, "Don't be discouraged, we seek what is right for our members, we cannot nor will not fail."

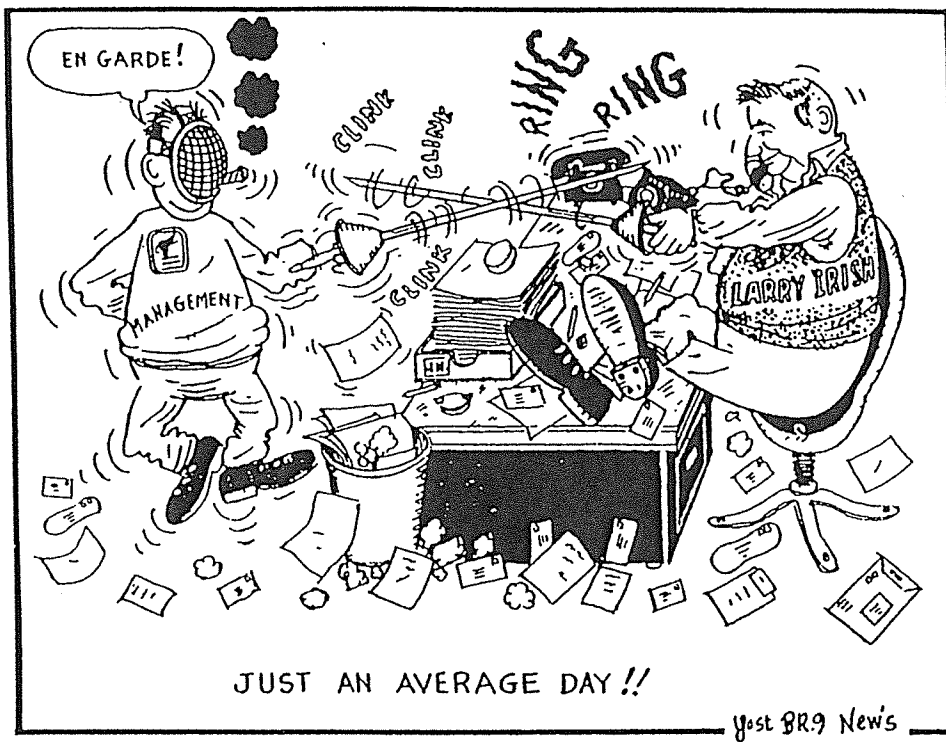
Well, that is history, the "One Man — One Vote" concept is now a reality, and Vincent Sombrotto stands tall as our National President. No one can deny that we are stronger both economically, and unionwise than ever before.

The above is but a part of Branch 9's past, and of the part we played.



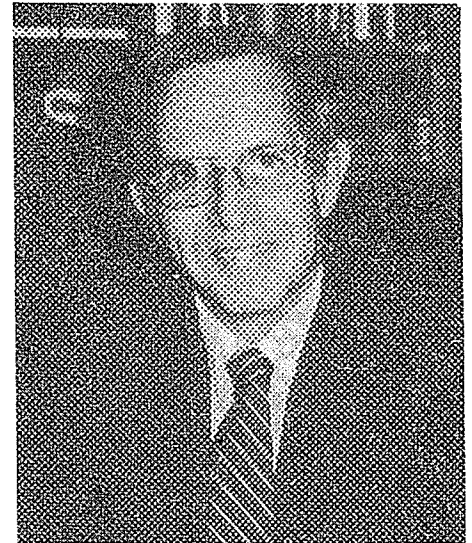
Three men who put Branch 9 on the map and their wives who helped make it all possible: Walt Couillard, Eddy Couillard, Jerome Keating, Donna Carlson, Marion Keating, Audie Carlson.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT



JUST AN AVERAGE DAY!!

Post BR.9 News



BILL MECHELS

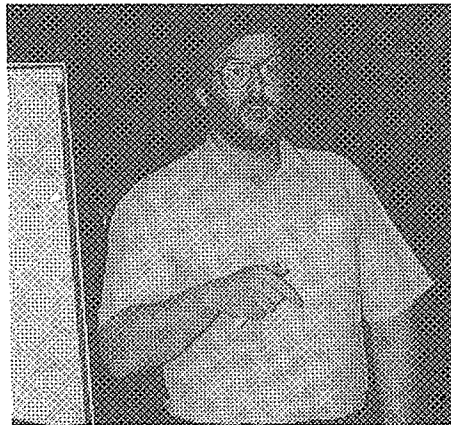
President — 1982, 83, 84, 85

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT

Throughout the decade of the 1970s and into the early 1980s, the relationship between the union and management and between letter carriers and management steadily worsened. In an attempt to reverse the deteriorating relationship, the parties began to explore various Quality of Work Life initiatives which would compliment the traditional grievance-arbitration system. And in 1982, the Employee Involvement Process was born. In October of 1983, Minneapolis became the thirteenth Management Sectional Center to initiate Employee Involvement.

The Employee Involvement Process embodies a philosophy that if letter carriers are treated with dignity and respect, and if the traditional system of autocratic management shifted to a participative model in which information is routinely shared and people communicate with each other openly, the health of the business would improve.

Toward those ends, a Local Joint Steering Committee was established to oversee the diffusion of Employee Involvement. The Committee is responsible for developing and implementing strategies which will make the goals a reality. The first Co-Chairperson was then Branch 9 President Bill Mechels. Other members from Branch 9 included Dick Anderson, Hugh Byrne and Jan Wild. To carry out the strategies designed by the steering committee, a pair of full time labor/management facilitators was appointed. Joe Bedor, who was then the Executive Vice President of Branch 9, was appointed the first facilitator.

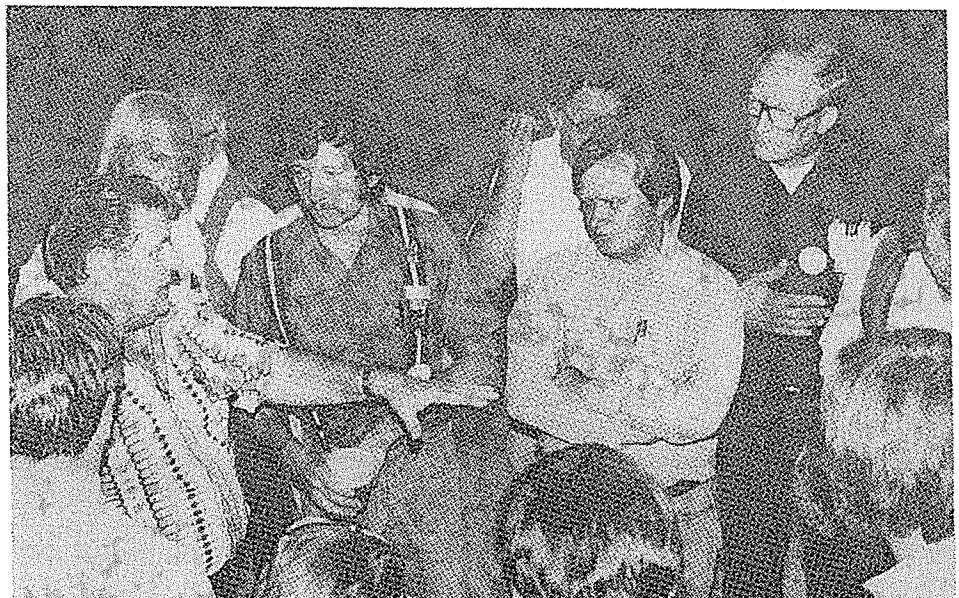


JOE BEDOR

First EI Facilitator

The 1980's presented new challenges to Branch 9 and the N.A.L.C. The results of the 1970 Postal strike were the formation of the postal corporation, and collective bargaining which achieved a living wage for letter carriers. The "rank & file" movement within the N.A.L.C. met its goal when a truly democratic union was achieved.

In the 80's the grievance and arbitration procedure had become jammed with unresolved cases. It was taking years to arrive at solutions for ongoing work room disputes. The mood of the country toward unions was also changing; typified by Jim-



Bob Tripanier (L) caucused the Branch 9 delegates in Atlanta 1980 (L-R) Tom Dvorak, Al Gulden, Harold Myklebye, Dick Anderson and Arnie May.

my Carter's blocking an enactment of the Hatch Act Reform. With the election of Ronald Reagan, and his breaking of the PATCO union, new solutions were sought. Out of this, in 1982, the Employee Involvement Process was being explored nationally. Branch 9 began an intensive 9 month training program conducted by the University of Minnesota Labor Education Department. The feeling of the Branch Officers and membership was somewhat overwhelming of the magnitude of the Process. But we knew that new avenues of communication had to be opened for the benefit of the letter carrier.

By 1983, the Local Joint Steering Committee was formed and we began to implement the Process along with 15 other pilot cities in the country. The E.I. Process did not solve all the problems which took 200 years to generate, and to some, it did not move far enough or fast enough, but it did open some direct avenues of communication where none existed before. Being a joint process, it was faced with internal struggles on both carrier and management sides.

During this period the need for grass roots participation in the legislative process developed. We were quickly learning that what was gained at the bargaining table could be taken away by the stroke of a legislative pen, or administrative decision. Branch 9's answer to the situation was intense emphasis on P.A.L. and C.O.L.C.P.E. political funds. This combined with direct legislative lobbying efforts enabled the letter carriers to be heard by the legislators.

During this time the Officers, Stewards and membership of Branch 9 were learning to wear many hats and to develop new

skills.

Change is never easy. Coming from the radical 60's, through the angry 70's, and into the rebuilding and problem solving of the 80's, the need for a strong, united union was never more apparent. Now, faced with the intense outside competition and technological changes, it only serves to re-emphasize the union's role.

CARRIERS AND THE COMMUNITY

Ever since Letter Carriers have been on the streets of Minneapolis they have been highly respected as members of the communities in which they delivered the mail and the communities in which they lived. They have been highly involved in the workings of the communities, and anytime any organization, group or individuals needed assistance the carriers were there to help.

In looking over the records of Branch 9, we have found that this involvement was so extensive and so many individuals were involved, that it would be impossible to list names, or dates in this booklet.

Over the years the Minneapolis Letter Carriers have been involved with so many community organizations. These would include the Kenny Institute in the 1940's which was very active in the polo epidemic during these years, the March of Dimes Campaigns for several years, the United Way and its predecessor the Community Chest, the Red Cross, the Red Feather Agency, Christmas Seal Program of the American Lung Association (both in fundraising and helping with the mailings) War Bond and War Stamp programs during

both world wars, and many other organizations.

The involvement of the Letter Carriers with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and "Jerry's Kids" over the past 25 years is well known and has been recognized both locally and nationally over the years. In the past two years (1988 and 1989) Branch Nine has raised over \$75,000 for this organization to help them in their efforts.

Along with taking care of our own, in helping with fundraising for carriers and their families in need, both locally and nationally, carriers have always been front runners in helping others in need such as police officers and firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. When other union brothers have had problems, such as the Air Traffic Controllers, Boise Cascade Workers, Meatpackers, Paper Workers, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Printers, Airline Employees, and several other Unions, Branch Nine has been there to help.

Branch Nine's involvement in the highly acclaimed "Carrier Alert" program for senior citizens has been recognized as one of the leading programs in the country. This involvement has covered the last seven years, giving a service to senior citizens and handicapped individuals in the community. At the present time we have over 400 persons enrolled in the program in the West Metro Area and we continue to insure that the program continues with a high degree of success.

Many members of our organization have served with distinction on city councils and county boards, have been Mayor's of cities, have served on various city and community advisory councils and commissions and in many other capacities in local government agencies.

Branch Nine members have over the years have been involved in civic celebrations and parades. In past years in celebrations such as the Minneapolis Aquatennial over 150 uniformed carriers have participated in the parades. Over the years carriers have been an active part of the Minnesota State Fair. In addition the Minneapolis Letter Carriers Band has for the past 35 years appeared in parades and concerts not only in the Minneapolis area, but have appeared in many parades throughout the state and country.

In many cases the Letter Carriers of Minneapolis have received many awards and certificates of appreciation for their involvement in the communities. These would include awards for everything from being selected the "Most Courteous Person in The City", recipients of "Civil Servant of the Year" award, "Postmasters Postal Image Award," "The Officer Award," which is given by to an individual or organization contributing sig-



Candy Estevez with one of the 1/4 ton Jeeps used on residential routes in the 70's and 80's.

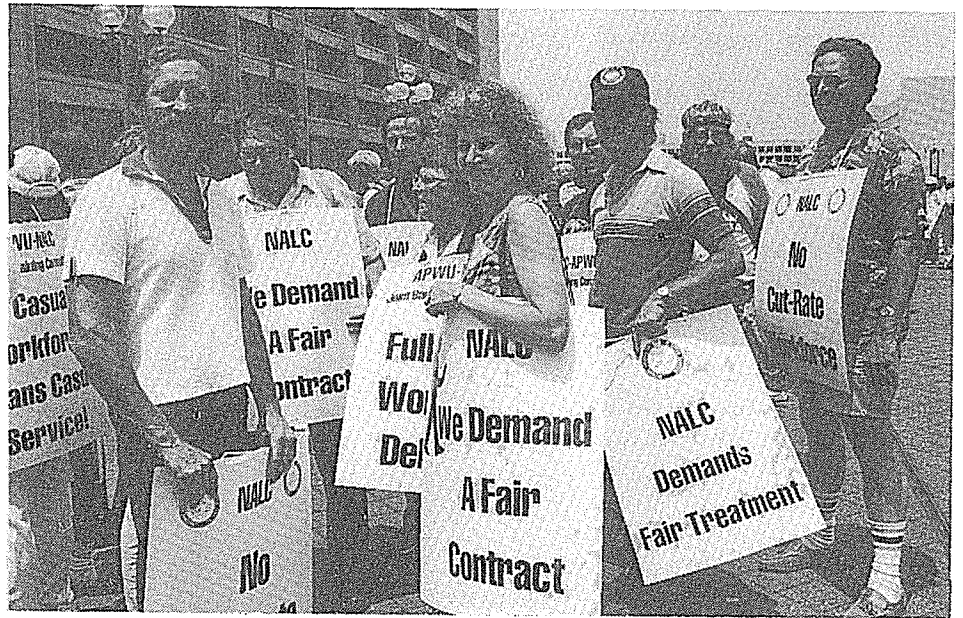


Chris Williams, Jan Wild, Mike Gravenish and Merle Rau with MDA Poster Child Mike Hanson.

nificantly to law enforcement by the Minneapolis Police Department. Carriers have been cited by several law enforcement agencies for being involved in life saving situations and for assisting their organizations in several ways. Recently a Minneapolis Carrier was awarded the "Medal of Valor" by the Minneapolis Police, which is the highest award given to a civilian.

We have failed to find any instance of where any private delivery service or messenger service has been recognized for their efforts or involvement in the community.

During the last century, carriers have been a special significant part of the community. We are sure that as we enter our second century this involvement will continue, as many carriers have always looked on this involvement as "part of the job," and as it was recently stated "We Deliver More Than Mail."



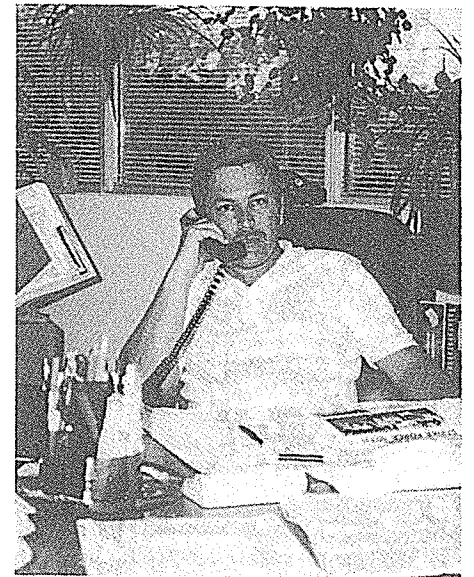
Al Gulden, Dick Miles, Pat Rein, Kathy Miles, Jean Olson, Joe Steckler, Tom D'vorak, Tom Owens and Ken Stellmacher at the contract rally in Washington, July 1987.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past century has brought many changes to the Postal Service and to our jobs as letter carriers. This seemed true as well throughout my years as President of Branch 9. Fueled by an anti-union administration in the White House, many employers tried to force concessions and unfair work rules on their employees. At first, the Postal Service was no exception. Discipline, harassment and continual contract violations were the order of the day. To make matters worse, deregulation of major industries, leveraged buyouts, and junk bond media were sweeping the country. The proponents of this economic malfesance turned their sights on the Postal Service and our jobs. Using the enormous national deficit as a smoke

screen to convince Congress and the American public that the Postal Service should be dismantled, the privateers were gaining ground.

Fortunately, N.A.L.C. and Branch 9 were prepared to fight for the survival of the U.S.P.S. and our jobs. When privateer



LENNY LARSON
President — 1986, 87, 88, 89

J. Peter Grace came to Minneapolis, Branch 9 and 28, together with the St. Paul and Minneapolis A.P.W.U., sponsored a massive demonstration. Due to the media attention drawn to this event, we were finally able to publicly dispell much of the negative publicity generated by Grace in the Twin Cities area. Because of similar efforts on the part of N.A.L.C. locals throughout the country and the enormous efforts of our National Officers



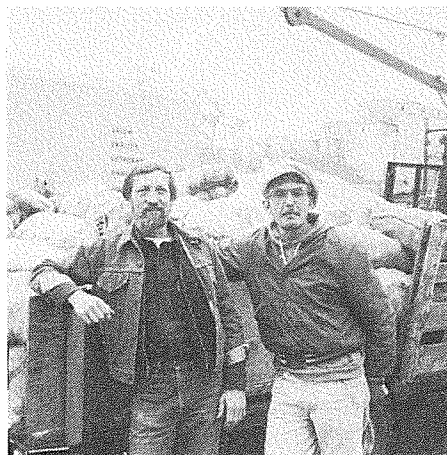
A sea of uniformed Branch 9 Letter Carriers staffed the phones at the 1989 MDA Telethon.



Branch 9, Branch 28, and A.P.W.U. members demonstrated when J. Peter Grace spoke in Minneapolis in October 1986.

to influence Congress, the hounds of privatization, although still barking, have been held at bay.

During this same period of time, many of our brothers and sisters in the labor movement did not fare so well. The P-9 workers at Hormel, Greyhound bus drivers, Airline Pilots Association, N.F.L.P.A., plus many others had their backs against the wall and Branch 9 was there to help. Not only did our members donate money to their efforts, many of us walked the picket lines as well. Marlys Fox, Tom D'vorak and many others were always there to help. And who could forget the fiery speeches, great efforts and work of Al Gulden, Rick Evans and Tom Owens to assist the P-9 workers during the Hormel Strike in Austin?



Al Gulden and Rick Evans prepared to leave for Austin, Mn. with Branch 9's donation for the P-9 food shelf.

Despite responding to all this adversity, Branch 9's community service efforts were also a source of great pride. Appointing Dick Silk as Community Service Director for Branch 9 was one of the best decisions of my term. His efforts won the Branch the 1987 United Way Community Service Award for labor organizations for the Carrier Alert program. He was also largely responsible for our extremely successful State Fair booth. Coupled with participation in community parades, fun fairs and the M.D.A., Branch 9 Letter Carriers proved that we were an integral part of the communities we serve.

Lastly, but probably most important to the average carrier, adversity on the workroom floor was greatly reduced during this time. Although Employee Involvement

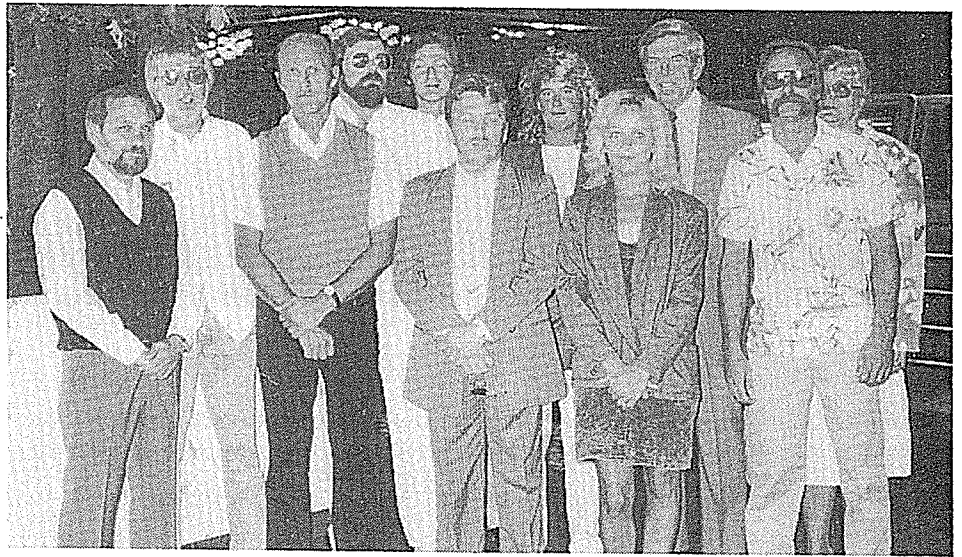


National President Vincent Sombrotto with Vice-President Jan Wild and President Lenny Larson in 1988.

has not been the success we initially hoped for, it did open the door for programs such as NoTol and UMP's. As I said earlier, at the beginning of my term unwarranted discipline, harassment and contractual violations were the norm. Hundreds of grievances were continually in the system and for the most part being won. Now management cannot even discuss a problem with a carrier unless a steward is present, nor can they issue any corrective measures until proving that a problem truly exists. Although not yet perfect, working conditions locally have improved.

The foregoing is but a brief synopsis of the major events and successes affecting letter carriers over a short period of time. The future will bring new adversity and challenge. Because the N.A.L.C. has taken our common thread of employment and woven it into the very fabric of our Nation, we can look confidently to another century of serving America with the best Post Service in the world.

Happy Birthday Branch 9.



Some of Branch 9's delegates at the Portland Convention in 1988 (L-R) Tim Swatosh, Tom Owens, Tom Dvorak, Mike Zagaros, Barry Weiner, Lenny Larson, Brenda Olson, Marlys Fox, Dick Silk, Bob Baird and Dick's wife Joyce Silk.



The Minneapolis Band played to the hotel guests at poolside at the Portland Convention, 1988.



Branch 9's delegates to the Centennial Celebration in Milwaukee 1989.



The new long life vehicle (L.L.V.) the latest addition to the Postal fleet.



Tom Krawczynski and the latest addition to the parcel post and collection fleet, the new 2 ton.



Minneapolis Postmaster Bill Brown and President Lenny Larson affixed the stamp and special cancellation for Minnesota, at the ceremony in the Main Post Office March 15, 1989.

SLEEVE PATCHES



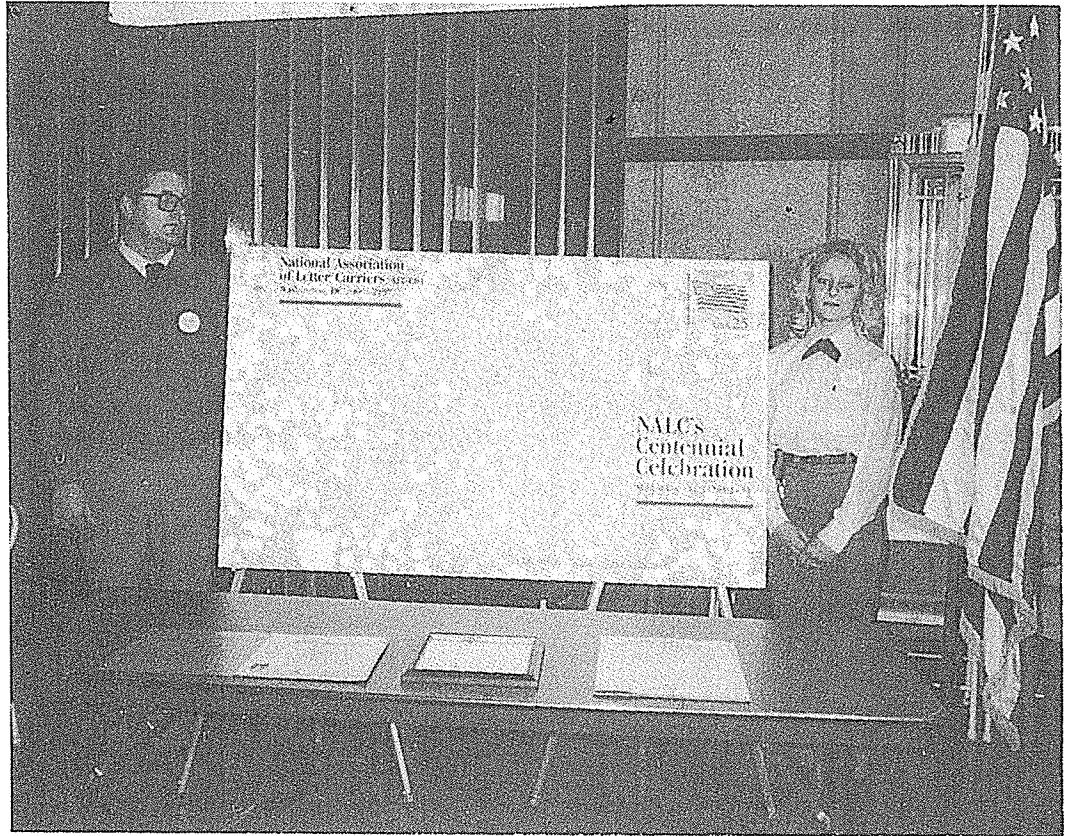
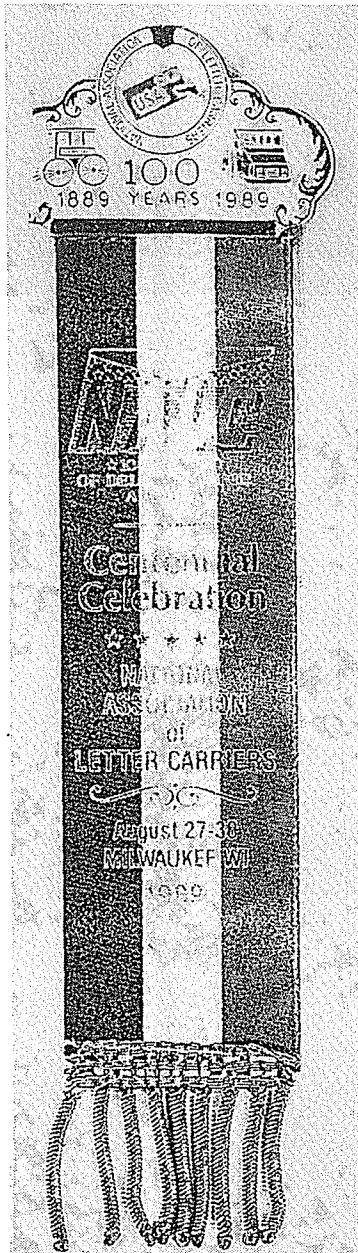
BACKWARDS RIDER
1956-1965



FRONTWARDS RIDER
1965-1970

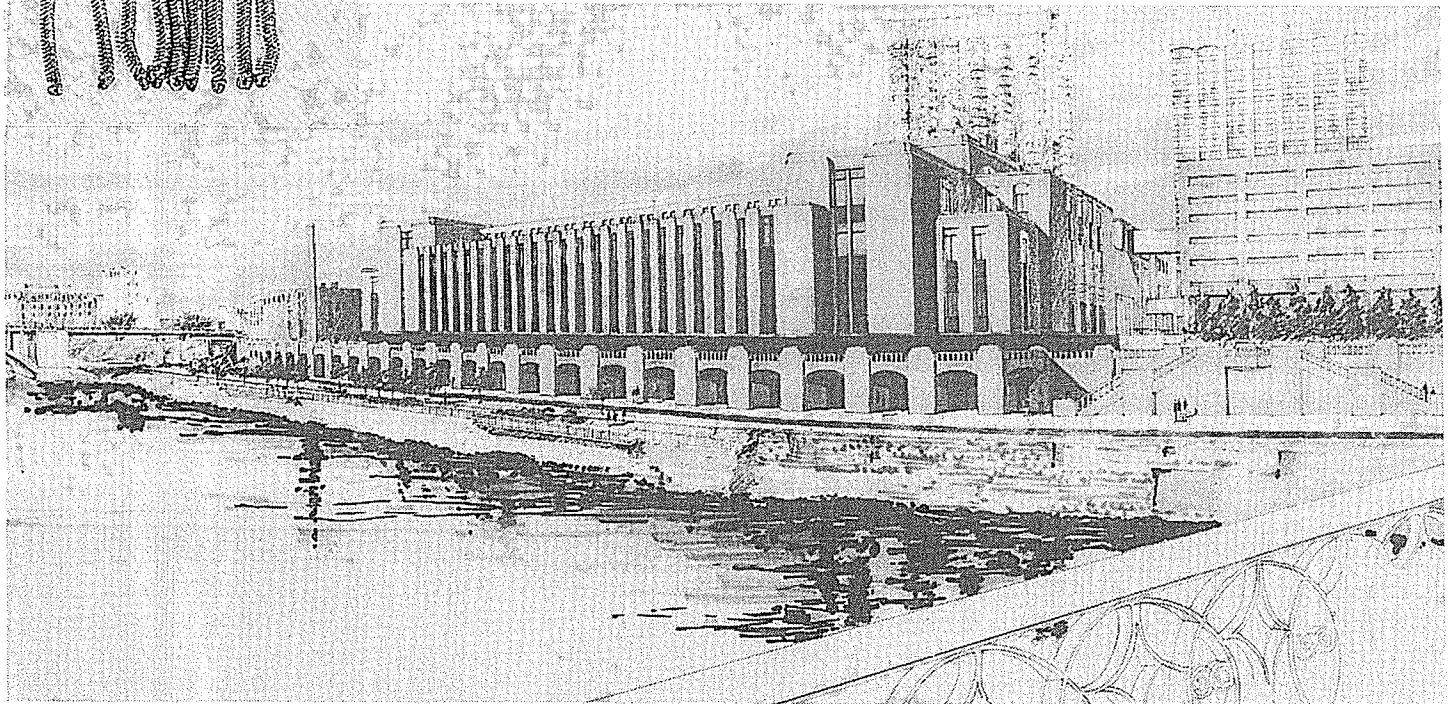


U.S.P.S. EAGLE
1970-Present



Larry Chlebeck and Marlys Fox delivered the giant Centennial Letter to the Cancellation ceremony March 15, 1989.

Delegate Badge to the National Association of Letter Carriers Centennial celebration in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 27-30, 1989.



An artists concept of how our Post Office will look after our current expansion project is complete. Estimated cost of expansion is \$52,000,000.00.

THE FACES OF THE "BRANCH 9 NEWS"

The first issue of the Branch 9 News was published in August 1932. Our first editor was Milt Kirschner and along with the help of Howard Asp, Ed Couture, A.W. Bonk, Orville Helene and Omar Plante the Branch 9 News was born. The faces of the paper have changed through the years and each editor has had his impact on the paper. The main purpose of the paper has gone unchanged, that being, to keep the membership informed.

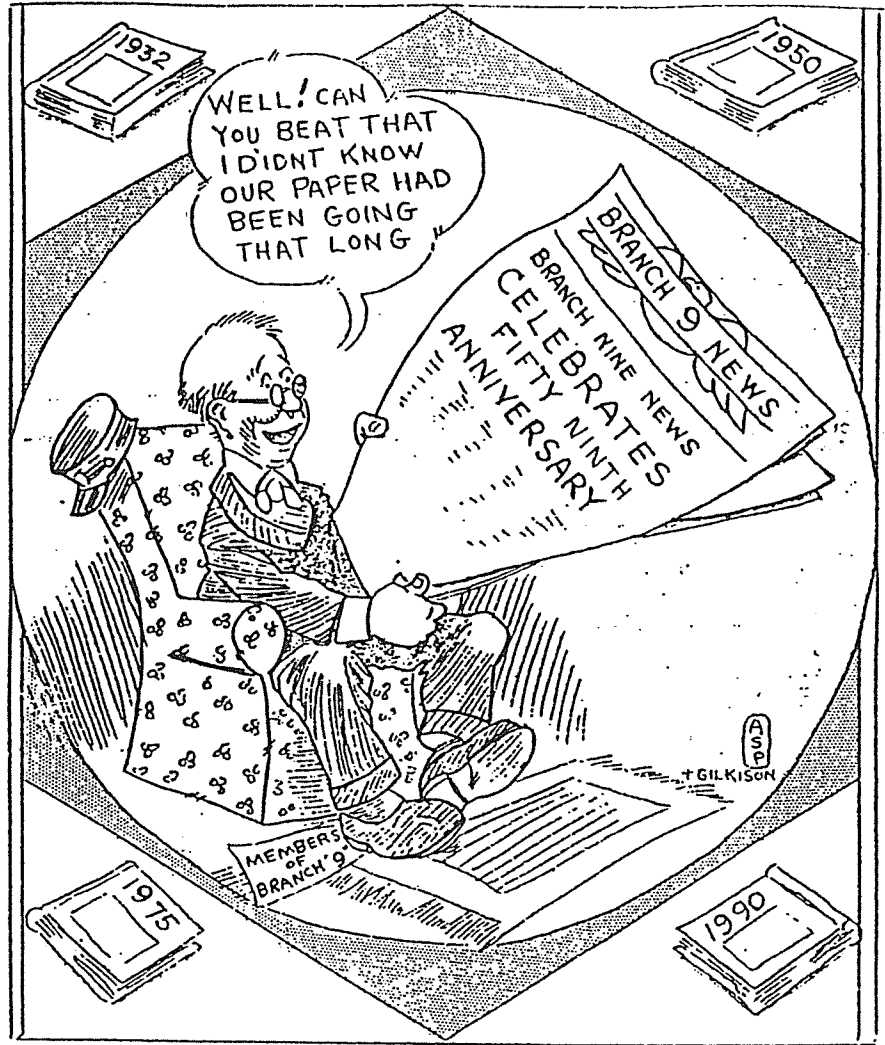
On the front pages shown here we see one of Howard Asps cartoons from 1934. Howard drew hundreds of cartoons for the paper depicting issues, events, and many personal touches of members in the Branch. Photographs would have been way too expensive for us in those days, but with an artist like Howard we really didn't need them.

Barney Altermatt served as editor from 1939 till he joined the Navy in 1942. He was responsible for getting the paper off the old mimeograph machine and produced the first **printed** paper in March 1941. The front page shown here in our first printed format is from January 1942. The pledge of allegiance on the front page shows the mood the Branch after the declaration of war in December 1941.

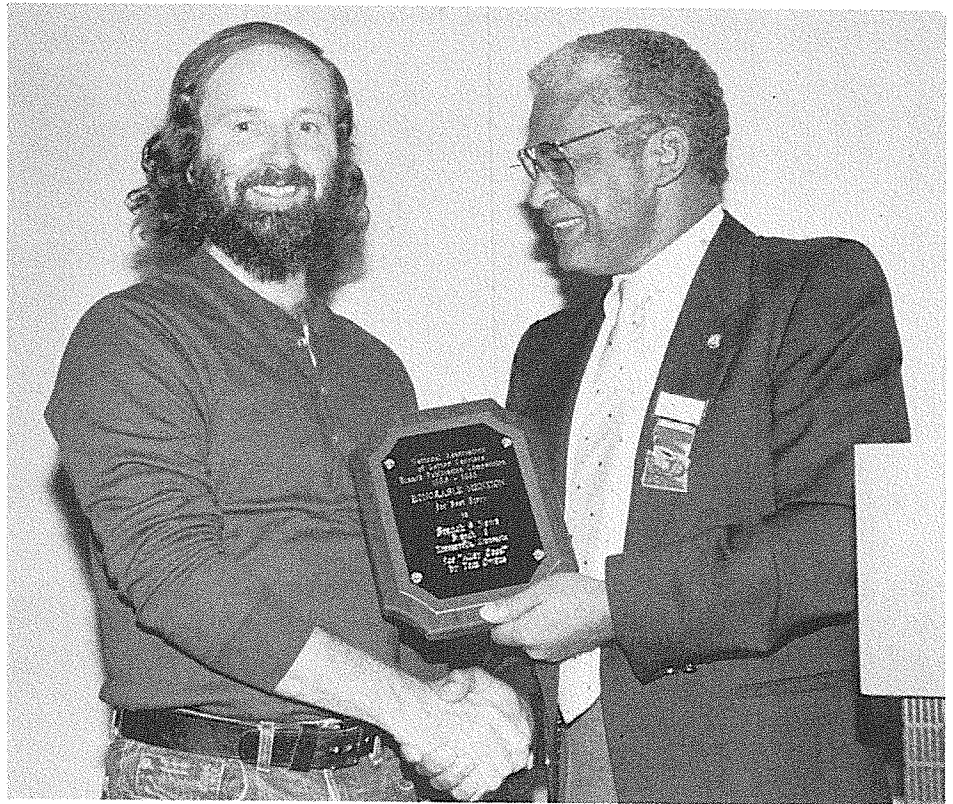
The change of the masthead in 1947 came with Bud Mortenson, he served as editor from 1943 to 1947.

May 1964 gave us the format we still use today. Howard Asp was commissioned to do the masthead and he did a classic job. The first issue of "the new look" is shown here. George Hafich was editor.

Every Branch editor has done an excellent job. Since the beginning of publication competition between branches the Branch 9 News has shown that it is one of the best.



Bob Yost won the "Best Cartoonist" award at the Atlanta Convention in 1980.



Tom Krawczynski (editor 1986-1989) accepted the awards for the Branch Nine News from National Vice President Lawrence Hutchins in Portland, 1988.

MINN STATE CONVENTION

EVERY BODY'S GOING JULY 20-21

MANKATO

August 1932 to February 1941

AT THE NATION'S CAPITAL
 On January 5th, Congress opened the Second Session of this Congress. On Tuesday President Roosevelt delivered his message on the State of the Union, and on Wednesday his Budget Message. Official Washington is largely absorbed with the war situation, which District Committee is trying to work out a program for housing the war agencies. Congress is concerned with the problems of Civilian Defense Privileges. But by and by the press of the moment is to accelerate our military production. The tempo of Congress and the mood of Official Washington is greatly different than it is in ordinary times.
 The President's Budget calls for an
 (Continued on page 2)

WE CANNOT FAIL TO DO OUR SHARE
GUY MUCHMORE
 The New Year, 1942, has brought to America more serious problems, and greater dangers than any that have been faced in the past. Dangers which seriously threaten our existence as a nation and our way of life which may claim the lives of millions of us, and entail destruction and misery beyond our power to comprehend. Problems of change and adjustment, of work and sacrifice. Our greatest immediate need is to quickly realize—even dimly—the task we face, and unite, so that we may bring out whole strength into the struggle.
 As an organization and as individuals it is our duty and privilege to spread the gospel of harmony, and of support and obedience to the president and the constituted authorities; to make whatever contribution and sacrifice to the common good of which we are capable. We should give willingly and generously to the Red Cross; buy bonds to the limit of our means. Let us not hold back and kid ourselves that we can hardly get by now, and that it is up to the other fellow who has more money and fewer obligations
 (Continued on page 2)

MEETING NOTICE
 The next regular meeting of Branch Nine, N.A.L.C., will be held Friday, January 16, at Joppa Lodge, 11th, 1516 West Lake St., corner of Irving and West Lake, 8 P. M. This will be Installation Night of the Officers of Branch Nine for the coming year. It is expected that R. B. Kierners of Seattle, member of the M. B. A. Board, will be the Installing Officer. All should turn out and welcome Brother Kierners to our fair city, and also to hear the latest news from Washington from J. J. Keating.
 Refreshments and entertainment will be furnished after the meeting.
 The December Jackpot will be \$5.00, and names will be drawn until some one wins it.
LARRY HOLMBERG,
 Secretary Branch 9.

THANKS, FELLOWS!
 To my brothers and fellow workers of Branch 9:
 May we take this opportunity of thanking each and every one of you for your loyal support and co-operation during the past year. It was not a time of great achievement, but there was plenty of honest effort and teamwork, and a growing spirit of fraternalism which must in time result in greater strength and influence for the organization. We greatly appreciate the honor of again being elected to the office of president, and I renew my pledge to do everything in my power to promote the interests of Branch 9 and the welfare of the members. For each of you I wish health, happiness and success.

GUY MUCHMORE.

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES
 On January 30th the nation will celebrate the birthday of our President by pledging their faith in his great leadership in this hour of trouble. Also by generous contributions to the grant fund needed to carry on the infantile paralysis work in this great nation of ours. The fine work carried on by this foundation had done wonders for the youth of our country, by giving them hope and help where it is needed. No nation can survive without providing care for its youth. Give something, it may give some bright-eyed youngster a new grip on life.
BRANCH NINE NEWS
 B. L. Altermitt, Editor
 3029 Polk St. N. E.
 MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

POSTMASTER—If address has removed and new address is known, notify sender on Form 3547, postage for which is guaranteed.

A Raise Is Needed NOW! At Once!

March 1941 to February 1947

BRANCH 9 NEWS AWARDS

- Best Large City Publication:**
1970, 1978, 1984
- Best Special Edition:**
1974, 1984
- Honorable Mention Best Columnist:**
1976
- Best Cartoonist:**
1980
- Honorable Mention Best Story:**
1988
- Honorable Mention Best Unique Feature:**
1988
- Commendation for General Excellence:**
1988

BILL DOHERTY HERE

PRESIDENT OF NALC TO SPEAK AT SALARY RALLY ON MAY 11th

Branch 9 is indeed fortunate in being able to host to the Salary Rally to be held on Friday night, May 11th, at 8 p.m. The site chosen is the Auditorium at the Labor Temple, 117 S.E. Fourth Street. This hall will hold at least 1,600 people, so an invitation

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The state-wide Salary Rally will be held at the Minneapolis Labor Temple, 117 S. E. Fourth Street, corner of Central and Fourth Street S. E., Friday, May 11th, 8 p.m.
 President of the National Association of Letter Carriers, William C. Doherty, Washington, D. C., will be our honored speaker upon this timely and most significant occasion. President Doherty, seventh vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, has been frequently mentioned as the one man to succeed President William Green. His brilliant oratory and complete knowledge of postal problems makes him fully qualified to bring to Minnesota's biggest Salary Rally a most inspiring and challenging address. Included on the program will be Meyer Eric G. Meyer, Postmaster John R. Coon, the Branch 9 Letter Carriers' Quartette and Gerhard Lee's 45-piece "Grenadiers" Band.
 All Branches of the postal service throughout the entire state are urgently requested to send a large delegation to this all-Minnesota Salary Rally. This is a must! Let nothing stop you from attending.



W.M. C. DOHERTY
 is extended to one and all for their attendance; especially to all of the Postal groups.
 The committee in charge of arrangements has done a splendid job, and assures all who attend that they will spend an enjoyable evening. The message that will be brought direct from Washington to us by our president, William C. Doherty, will be the focal point of the affair. "Bill" Doherty's standing among labor leaders can be attested by the fact that he is the seventh vice-president of the A.F. of L., and by the confidence placed in him

by William Green, who sent him to arbitrate the Hollywood Actors strike, and who also sent him to Europe to study labor conditions there.
 The lack of action on postal legislation to date has all of us both worried and perplexed, and the man most qualified to answer any and all questions on the subject is this same "Bill" Doherty, so don't miss this chance to see and hear the finest speaker you have ever heard, plus the most well informed postal representative in the country today. The "why and wherefor" of legislative stagnation, properly explained, can enlighten all of us.

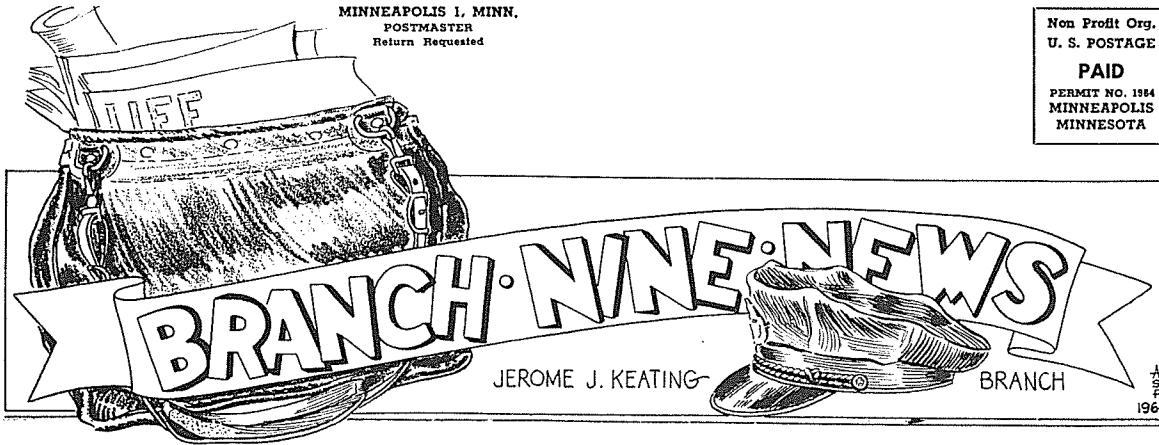
MEETING SALARY RALLY
 Friday, May 11, 8 P.M.
LABOR TEMPLE
 117 S.E. FOURTH STREET

In connection with the Mutual network broadcast, originally scheduled for April 17 and delayed one week to make way for General MacArthur ceremonies coverage, contact was made with local station WLOL, Mutual outlet, regarding broadcast or re-broadcast of this important discussion of postal problems. It was pointed out that station WLOL does not use but a very small percentage of the national material, and, inasmuch as their policy is to avoid controversial matters, pertaining to certain groups, etc., it was not possible for the station to comply with the request for a re-broadcast at a later time, thus, we did not here Senator Olin D. Johnston, President Wm. C. Doherty and others. Requests will, however, continue to go to local stations regarding further occasions as above referred to; we're going to get broadcasts when at all possible.
 Congressman Tom Murray of Tennessee, chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, has finally admitted that the men in the \$2,000 to \$4,000 wage bracket are
 (Continued on Page 4)

March 1947 to April 1964

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.
POSTMASTER
Return Requested

Non Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1884
MINNEAPOLIS
MINNESOTA



Volume 24, No. 5

Official Publication of Branch No. 9, N.A.L.C.

May, 1964

PAY RAISE BILL TO RULES COMMITTEE

Notes from the . . .

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The following Brothers joined the Branch at the April meeting: Gene C. Henneman, Parcel Post; Sheldon R. Holt, Special Delivery, was reinstated. Congratulations! The membership is hoping to see you at the meetings.

A united effort by each and every member of this Branch is a must. Though many are current in payment of their dues, a number continue delinquent for '63 and '64. The Branch has a limited budget to operate on, and without your cooperation, we cannot strive to make our Union the strongest in the N.A.L.C. We are very hopeful of a pay raise this year, maybe this will solve the problem of outstanding monies. Try and keep up to date with your payments, Brothers. Thank You.

COLLECTOR'S NOTE

Going Fishing, please cooperate and have reports in by Tuesday, May 19, before the meeting. Thank You.

PETE KIEDROWSKI
Financial Sec'y

Notes From The . . .

SECRETARY

I was reading in the paper the other day of an unusual complaint about the mail delivery in London. The article was written in a humorous vein, but the truth still strikes home. The columnist was complaining of too fast mail delivery. In London they have four deliveries daily, and the gripe of the writer was that checks he mailed were delivered before the money got to the bank to cover them, and invitations were delivered before one had a chance to change his mind. If only we had this kind of complaint.

Our own Postal Service is being curtailed. Fourteen years ago we went to one delivery, and now we are coming up with 5-day-week delivery of parcel post. Circumstances are different in this country than in England, but it doesn't seem that service is of paramount importance any more. It is doubtful too, that savings anticipated in these curtailments are ever fully realized.

It will soon be labor-management negotiating time again. The National is now in the process of negotiating with the Department and, until they finish, we will not know when the sessions will start locally. From rumors coming from the National level this will be as tough a year or even tougher for coming to arrangements. For this reason whoever is on the negotiating team will need the full support of the membership, both for ideas and solidarity.

CY DANIELS

MEN PAID UP FOR 1964

Luverne Anderson, Diamond Lake; Harold L. Estenson, Diamond Lake; C. C. Gervais, Loring; E. V. Johnson, Main Office; A. R. Frederick, Richfield; Issy Mehr, Robbinsdale.

If anyone has been omitted, please contact the Financial Secretary.

PETE KIEDROWSKI

THE NEW LOOK

After 14 years we feel that it is time to change the format of this paper. Since its first publication in 1931, this paper has changed its format on the average of about once in every 10 years. Every change has been an improvement. By changing the size, we feel that we will gain about 26 to 30 inches of column space. This will enable us to get more articles and/or advertising into the paper without adding to the publishing cost. There will be a slight reduction in cost by eliminating the varnish finish of the paper. We believe the paper will be easier to read and handle. We hope this change meets with your approval. We invite suggestions for further improvement.

FROM THE RETIRED

On a lovely Sunday evening, the 26th day of April, the Jerome Keating Branch No. 9 sponsored a banquet in honor of the retirees of the Branch, which was well attended and, from all indications, was enjoyed by everyone present.

In addition, some very interesting remarks were given by the various officers of the local Post Office; and last, but not least, we heard from Jerome Keating, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, giving us the low-down on the proposed curtailment of various postal services and the N.A.L.C.'s plan to induce Congress to rescind all plans for reductions. Also that legislation favorable to all concerned was possible of passage at this session of Congress, but there was considerable work ahead to get the results sought.

Larry Workman is back at the Veteran's Hospital and is not in the best of condition healthwise. He is irrational at times, nevertheless I think he would appreciate the visits of those who could spare a little time socially.

We have, to date, 76 members in our retired men's group who have met their annual dues payments of one dollar (\$1.00) and there are still quite a number whom we have as yet not heard from. Stanley Phillips is still accepting payments at his home, 8825 Fremont Ave. So., Minneapolis 20, Minn. May we have the pleasure of greeting more of you retired men at our next meeting, which will be held at 6:30 p.m. sharp May 19, 1964.

BILL RAMIN

EDITOR'S NOTE: Larry passed away after this article was written. We extend fraternal sympathy to the Workman family.

The House Post Office and Civil Service committee has reported out the pay raise bill HR11049. The vote was 14 to 3 in favor of the bill. Under the bill's provisions Members of Congress will receive a \$7,500 raise effective January 1965. Postal employees will receive about the same raise as was provided in the HR 8986 bill. This will mean an increase of approximately \$330 for the average letter carrier in level four. Effective date for postal and classified employees will probably be the first pay period after passage of the bill.

President Johnson has put the full power and prestige of his office behind the bill. He has stated several times that he believes the pay raise is vital and necessary to retain key employees and will be in keeping with the sound principle of comparability established in the salary Reform Act of 1962.

Key officials and union leaders expect House Action on the bill sometime during the month of May or early in June. Senate action is expected as soon as the Civil Rights Legislation is taken care of.

While the outlook on pay legislation is good, it is by no means considered to be certain. It is necessary that members contact their Congressman, and urge their support of the pay bill. Congressman Donald Fraser of the fifth district gave his strong support and voted for the HR 8986 pay bill. Congressman Fraser has indicated that he will again give his support for the new pay bill.

Congressman Clark MacGregor of the Third District voted against the HR 8986 pay bill. At the present time Congressman MacGregor has given no indication as to his position on the new pay bill. Every postal employee who resides in the Third District should write and let Congressman MacGregor know you want and need a raise in pay.

The Third District area is Columbia Heights, Robbinsdale, Crystal, Golden Valley, St. Louis Park, Morningside, Edina, Richfield, Bloomington, and the Lake Minnetonka area.

WRITE TODAY!

LEN BERGSTROM
Legislative Chairman.

**A Most Cordial
Invitation to Attend
YOUR UNION MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 19
7:30 P.M. SHARP**

**Gustavus-Adolphus Hall
17th Ave. and E. Lake St.**

**Attendance Jackpot
\$80.00**

DEADLINE

**MAY 26, 1964
BRANCH 9 NEWS**

AUXILIARY 67 NEWS

Election of delegates to the National and State Conventions took place at the April meeting. Our president, Edith Couillard, was unanimously elected as the one paid delegate to the National Convention in Miami, Florida. Alternate delegate is Genevieve Kiedrowski. The other six delegates carrying credentials are: Virginia Shipley, Trinetta Doll, Ann Bergquist, Mildred Devine, Donna Carlson and Helen Manthey. Elected delegates to the State Convention at Fairmont are: Edith Couillard, Gen Kiedrowski, Mildred Devine and Ann Bergquist.

Consideration of a change in the name of our organization from Ladies' Auxiliary to Women's Auxiliary was proposed and discussed. Action was delayed until the next meeting.

A luncheon was held in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ramin by the Cancer Pad Group. The object was in appreciation for their unceasing efforts in this project.

The Retired Banquet held on Sunday, April 26 was a grand success. As usual, Jerome and Marion were present to add that very personal touch.

Remember to attend "Luncheon is Served" on May 23 at the Richfield Bank. Rides will be arranged by calling anyone of the officers.

Sunshine Chairman is Amy Frisell. Please inform her of any news concerning our members.

Leone Seaman's name was drawn for the Jackpot at our last meeting. Since she was not present to collect, the drawing for May will be \$450. The door prize was won by Irene Connors and Irene Mehr won the 5¢ raffle.

HELEN MANTHEY.

FIRST ISSUE WITH THE "NEW LOOK", MAY, 1964-PRESENT

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS BESTOWED UPON BRANCH 9

Branch 9 has also received award plaques from
the Muscular Dystrophy Association
for 1962, 1963, 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989.



United Way's Voluntary Action Center
of the Minneapolis Area

presents this

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION to

National Association of Letter Carriers - Branch 9
AFL-CIO Community Services

FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER
SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Lorna Michelson

Deanne Anderson

May 10, 1984
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 89-3-229

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Spartz, seconded by Commissioner Derus:

WHEREAS, 1989 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), a union dedicated to improved wages, working conditions and job security for America's letter carriers, and

WHEREAS, the membership of NALC is celebrating its Centennial year by sending a giant three foot by five foot envelope on a journey through all fifty states and Puerto Rico, where it will be the focus of a special post marking ceremony in each state providing an opportunity for the union's 315,000 members to participate in the observances, and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, March 15, 1989 Minneapolis will host one of these special post marking ceremonies highlighting the important partnership between the union and the Postal Service which has resulted in one of the most efficient, cost effective mail delivery systems in the world;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim March 15, 1989 as "National Association of Letter Carriers Day in Hennepin County".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners take this opportunity, on behalf of all of its citizens, to extend its congratulations to the NALC on this important milestone and express its gratitude to the membership for a job well done.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were 7 YEAS and 0 NAYS as follows:

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Randy Johnson	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
John Keefe	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
John E. Derus	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Tad Jude	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Sam S. Sivanich	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mark Andrew	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Jeff Spartz, Chairman	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>



ATTEST: Kay Mitchell
Clerk to the County Board

MAR 14 1989

W C C O R A D I O

Good Neighbor

A W A R D

To

Letter Carriers Branch - 9

From WCCO Radio and Northwest Airlines in recognition of
outstanding service with distinction as a Good Neighbor.

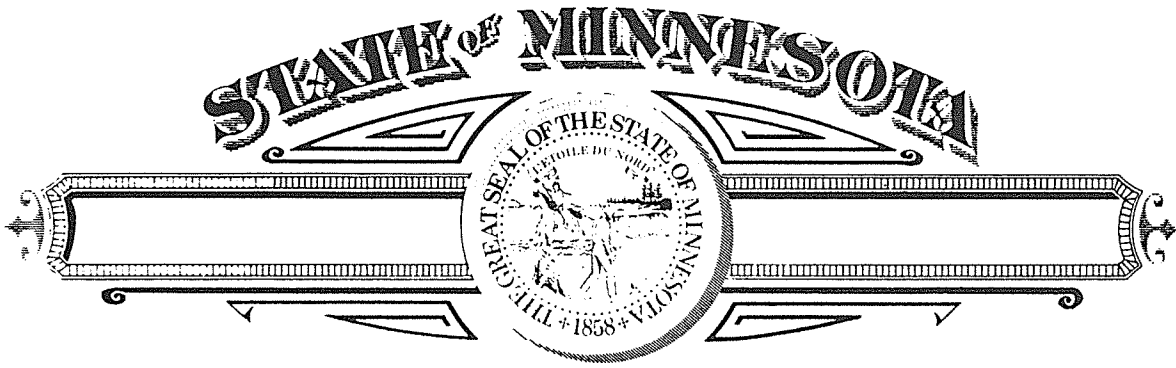
J. Goldstein

General Manager

Deke Chapman

September 29, 1987

Date



Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) is celebrating its centennial in 1989; this year marks 100 years of "Delivering For America"; and
- WHEREAS: As part of the year long centennial celebration, a giant three foot by five foot envelope will go on a six month, 37,654-mile journey to all 50 states and Puerto Rico starting in March in Washington, D.C., and ending in August in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS: At each stop, NALC officials from throughout the state will join with local Postal Service officials, and government, civic and labor leaders in observing the Centennial, and a special postmark will be added to the envelope at each location; and
- WHEREAS: The Centennial Envelope will be at the Main Post Office Building in Minneapolis on Wednesday, March 15; and
- WHEREAS: When completed, this envelope will represent the partnership by NALC's membership and the Postal Service that has allowed our nation's mail delivery system to be the most efficient and cost-effective in the world;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim March 15, 1989 to be

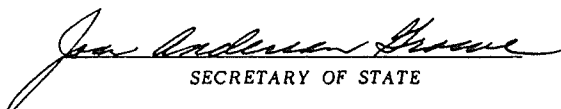
LETTER CARRIER DAY

in Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this tenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine, and of the State the one hundred thirtieth.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE

LLOYD BENTSEN, TEXAS, CHAIRMAN

SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, HAWAII
DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, NEW YORK
MAX BAUCUS, MONTANA
DAVID L. BOREN, OKLAHOMA
BILL BRADLEY, NEW JERSEY
GEORGE J. MITCHELL, MAINE
DAVID PRYOR, ARKANSAS
DONALD W. RIEGLE, JR., MICHIGAN
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, WEST VIRGINIA
TOM DASCHLE, SOUTH DAKOTA

BOB PACKWOOD, OREGON
BOB DOLE, KANSAS
WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR., DELAWARE
JOHN C. DANFORTH, MISSOURI
JOHN H. CHAFFEE, RHODE ISLAND
JOHN HEINZ, PENNSYLVANIA
MALCOLM WALLOP, WYOMING
DAVID DURENBERGER, MINNESOTA
WILLIAM L. ARMSTRONG, COLORADO

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

WILLIAM J. WILKINS, STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL
MARY McAULIFFE, MINORITY CHIEF OF STAFF

Lenny Larson, President
Branch 9
National Association of Letter Carriers
3989 Central Avenue NE
Sutie 585
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55421

Dear Lenny:

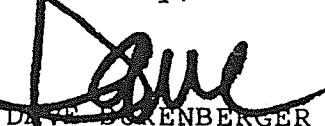
Please accept my best wishes as you, Gaynelle Johnson and Roger McClure pause on Wednesday to note this very special centennial celebration. I regret that I will be in Washington all week, and cannot join you and your members in person.

History buffs know that some of this nation's most innovative and progressive creations emerged from its heartland-- the Midwest. That fateful meeting held 100 years ago in Milwaukee, Wisconsin-- to form the NALC is a shining example of the values which Midwesterners hold dear.

Today, the NALC not only represents the working interests of a vital segment of this country's service force, it also fosters the spirit of community to address special needs. The NALC, or a state or local group of carriers can usually be found spending their free time working on behalf of the disabled or less fortunate. It's become a national reputation that is admirable and commendable!

Minnesota is proud of its letter carriers, and their century of commitment. On behalf of all the Minnesotans who stay in touch with ME via the mail, congratulations on this centennial celebration-- and keep up the great work!!

Sincerely,



DAVID DURENBERGER
United States Senator

DD/clb

Proclamation

WHEREAS, The National Association of Letter Carriers is celebrating its 100 year anniversary; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Letter Carriers has worked for 100 years to ensure that letters are delivered in an efficient and friendly manner reaching national and international communities; and

WHEREAS, The MINNESOTA STATE ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS has been an instrumental force in the State of Minnesota ensuring that Minnesota residents receive a superb quality of letter carrying service; and

WHEREAS, In August 1989, 60 men traveled from eighteen states to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the intent of forming a national association of letter carriers and to act on other matters of importance to letter carriers and their families; and


WHEREAS, The City of Minneapolis has been chosen to be a host city for the centennial postmarking which is a symbolic representation of the fine relationship that has been developed and the fine relationship that will continue between the City and the association;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donald M. Fraser, Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, do hereby proclaim the day of March 15, 1989, to be

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS DAY

in Minneapolis, and encourage all citizens to recognize the value of this association.




MAYOR OF MINNEAPOLIS



Minnesota Council

of
Vietnam Veterans
of America

Certificate of Appreciation

to

N.A.V.C. Branch 9

for outstanding contributions

Veterans Home Dec. 1987

Charles G. Beaman
Chapter President

Wayne C. Howard
Chapter Secretary