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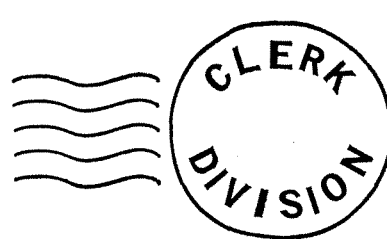
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## Let's Get The Record Straight

Recent articles have been published by the mailhandlers concerning the Clerk Craft of the American Postal Workers Union and the American Postal Workers Union as a whole. If one was not aware that the articles were printed by the mailhandlers you would think you were reading a management article.

One of the articles went so far as to say that the mailhandlers could save the United States Postal Service millions of dollars by performing Level 5 work for Level 4 pay! Now I ask you, brothers and sisters, does that sound like a Union?

That, in itself, would be enough to make Sam Gompers turn over in his grave. Then they have gall enough to write another article stating the American Postal Workers Union is nothing more than a social club made up of various crafts!

With friends like these, who needs enemies?

Let the mailhandlers division of Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA) be assured that we are not about to stand by and watch them make attempts to raid our craft.

### M-54 HANDBOOK

The clerk craft is still meeting with the United States Postal Service on the new M-54 Handbook. We are making every effort to have the new M-54 ready right after the first of the year.

We are also meeting on the flexible relief cycle and hopefully we can reach agreement very shortly. When we have something concrete in either one of these areas we will let the membership know either through the magazine or the American Postal Workers Union bulletin.

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A recent decision concerning employees who are on medical restriction

was recently handed down by the United States Postal Service at Step 4.

In part it reads as follows: the provisions of Article VIII, Section 5 C-1 last sentence, do not apply to employees not officially on light duty under the provisions of Article XIII, but who have a medical restriction as long as they can perform all the duties on their bid assignments.

Here's an example of what that means: an employee can't lift over

20 pounds but the job description doesn't require him (or her) to lift over 20 pounds. Now, if that employee is on an overtime list that is used, the employee shall not be passed over when overtime is needed to perform the normal duties set forth in his or her job description.

We hope this will help clarify some of the problems you may be having in this area.

D.J.

## Robbery-Proof Counterlines Installed

Protective, bullet-resistant security counterlines have been installed under a remarkably successful program at nearly 75 postal facilities located in high-crime areas across the nation, Chief Postal Inspector William J. Cotter said last month.

Some 80 additional offices are slated for counterline installation by July 1, 1975 as a result of success with the program.

Armed robbery at postal facilities, once a rarity, had experienced a dramatic increase in recent years. In Washington, D.C. alone, 20 postal stations were the target of 58 armed robberies between 1967 and 1972.

Several of these holdups were marked by violence, including the wounding of a clerk who had been through three holdups and the kidnapping and subsequent pistol-whipping of another clerk.

As of November 1974, there has been only one attempted robbery of a post office equipped with the security counterline, Cotter said. In that instance, the would-be robber fled in frustration when his intended victims—confident in the counterline which separated them from the would-be robber—ignored his demand for money.

The counterlines are made of 1¼-inch-thick glass capable of stopping a 45-caliber bullet. In fact, the robber is in greater danger than his intended victims; a bullet striking the glass will send splinters flying outward.

In August, 1972, all 20 postal stations in Washington with a history of robbery had been equipped with bullet-resistant security counterlines. There have been no robberies nor attempted robberies of any of the stations since counterlines were installed. This was in spite of the fact that the rate of armed robbery continued or even increased in the neighborhoods where those stations are located.

In addition to Washington, D.C., one or more security counterlines have been installed in each of the following cities: Baltimore, Md., Boston, Mass., Detroit, Mich., Harrisburg, Pa., Houston, Tex., Inkster, Mich., Los Angeles, Calif., New York, N.Y., Oakland, Calif., Philadelphia, Pa., Pittsburgh, Pa., and Pontiac, Mich.

According to Chief Cotter, this program will continue until all postal facilities known to be especially susceptible to robbery have been equipped.