

MACY'S SERVICE AT NORMAL TODAY

Status of AFL Organizer, the Only Stumbling Block, Will Not Halt Others' Return

Everything will be normal at Macy's today following settlement of the complex labor dispute that has curtailed sales activity at the world's largest department store since July 11.

Leonard Geiger, business manager of Local 1 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, CIO, promised last night that the one unresolved element in the dispute—the length of his own term as a paid organizer for Local 804 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL—would not be allowed to interfere with the return of other members to work or the withdrawal of pickets outside the Macy stores at Herald Square and Parkchester.

Under the terms of the settlement, the 900 drivers and helpers who worked for Macy's until the store transferred its delivery system to United Parcel Service last month will switch their union membership from the CIO union to the AFL organization, with which United Parcel has a closed-shop contract.

The settlement gave the former Macy delivery men ironclad assurances that they would suffer no loss in wages, job security or other benefits as a result of their employment by United Parcel. Macy's also pledged itself to pay the men any increase granted to Macy's sales and warehouse employes in wage negotiations next February.

A strong possibility that the former Macy drivers would actually find themselves better off financially as a consequence of their transfer was indicated by David Kaplan, chief economist for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, who has taken an active part in the negotiations for a merger

between the CIO local and Local 804.

Mr. Kaplan said Local 804 was seeking a general wage increase of \$10.50 a week in its current contract talks with United Parcel and that it hoped to bring its scale substantially above the level provided in the old Macy agreement. He said the earnings of United Parcel drivers had always been somewhat higher than those of Macy drivers, when bonuses as well as wages were taken into account.

The one question still unsettled in the arrangements for amalgamation of the Macy group into Local 804 is whether the term of the paid organizer representing the former CIO members should be limited to eighteen months, the period of the unexpired contract between Macy's and the CIO, or whether he should serve until the next general election of officers of the AFL union. While Mr. Geiger has not been formally designated to fill the new post, his selection by the former Macy drivers was regarded as certain.

Mr. Geiger reported that employes of Macy's Long Island City warehouse, who are members of Local 1-A of the CIO union and who had refused to cross the drivers' picket lines, had voted to return to work this morning. The store clerks, who are members of Local 1-S, took similar action Saturday morning.

Mr. Geiger said the warehousemen voted their business manager, Jack Mahoney, a pay increase of \$15 a week in recognition of his "diligence" in helping the drivers in their campaign and in obtaining from Macy's assurances that the warehousemen and sales employes would be paid for time away from their jobs.

Monday is a day off for United Parcel drivers in most sections of the city, but Burton A. Zorn, counsel for the parcel service, said everything was in readiness to begin clearing the backlog of orders at the Long Island City warehouse tomorrow. He predicted that all deliveries would be normal by the end of the week. There is no backlog at the Herald Square store, and deliveries from the store will be on a current basis effective immediately, Mr. Zorn said.