

Jersey Rail Strike Negotiators to Meet

The Associated Press

Negotiators met for nearly four hours yesterday but failed to reach an agreement in the contract dispute that has prompted New Jersey's first statewide commuter rail strike. The talks were scheduled to resume today.

Feds Are Seeking To Block the Parole Of Sonny Franzese

By Tom Renner

Federal officials will try to keep John Franzese from being paroled later this month, using testimony at a recent federal loansharking trial to prove that Franzese has been engaging in a pattern of criminal activity, officials said yesterday.

At the trial, witnesses testified that money borrowed by a New Jersey trucking company owner at usurious rates, both while Franzese was in prison and after Franzese's 1978 parole, was Franzese's.

Franzese, 63, who is known as Sonny, lived at 47 Shrub Hollow Rd., Roslyn, before his parole was revoked last June. He has been described by both federal and local law enforcement agents as a captain in the Joseph Colombo crime family and a leading contender for the family leadership.

He served nine years of a 50-year sentence for bank robbery when he was paroled. He was returned to prison last June for violating parole by meeting with organized crime figures.

Franzese was scheduled to be released from Otisville Federal Penitentiary March 18. But he has been tentatively ordered to appear for a new parole hearing Wednesday.

At the hearing federal probation and FBI agents are expected to present evidence to prove that Franzese was part of a continuing loansharking conspiracy.

If the commission agrees that the evidence shows a continuing criminal conspiracy, Franzese could be required to serve the remaining six years for parole violation. His parole is scheduled to end in 2020.

Bargainers for NJ Transit, the state's mass transit agency, and the United Transportation Union, representing the 780 striking conductors and trainmen, sat down at 11:30 AM and broke up at 3:15 PM with each side saying the other had asked for the halt.

"We made absolutely no progress," said Daniel J. Bogen, chairman of one of the five UTU locals on strike. "They gave us the same offer that was rejected by membership. They have not progressed, they have regressed." NJ Transit spokesman Jim Weinstein would say only: "We'll just continue to negotiate and try to resolve this thing."

NJ Transit officials have said they are offering a 30-month contract that would pay conductors \$29,400 to start, rising to \$37,400 over the life of the contract. Trainmen would start at \$27,400 and increase to \$31,200.

Also at issue is the structure of the workday. NJ Transit bargainers, arguing that the bulk of the agency's passengers ride in the morning and evening rush hours, want to pay employees for four hours of work in the morning and four in the evening, with no compensation for the time in between. The union has resisted that.

Meanwhile, Amtrak trains between Philadelphia and New York were carrying 15 to 20 per cent more passengers, said Amtrak spokeswoman Joan Corbett. She said the train leaving Philadelphia at 5:55 AM, which normally has 1,000 passengers, carried 2,100 people, including 975 who were forced to stand.

About 15,000 riders used the extra buses and parking lots Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, although NJ Transit officials insisted they could have handled about 35,000 more.

Meanwhile, the city's top mediator told the Metro-North Railroad and the United Transportation Union to return to the bargaining table today in an effort to avert a strike next week.

The chairman of the Office of Collective Bargaining, Arvid Anderson, set the negotiating session as the railroad's management posted a notice saying that one ticket collector would be eliminated from most train runs starting next Wednesday.

Bank Is Not Exactly Bonkers Over Yonkers

United Press International

A savings bank commercial that shows a young couple bemoaning the fact that they might have to buy a house in Yonkers has drawn fire from officials of the state's fourth largest city.

Yonkers Mayor Angelo Martinelli sent a letter this week to Bowery Savings Bank president Jerald Conway Newman, asking him to withdraw the commercial.

Martinelli said yesterday he had also asked that an apology be made to Yonkers residents for "unfair and undeserved negative connotations" about the city.

"There is no excuse or reason to denigrate a city to enhance the business of a bank," Martinelli said. "On behalf of the 195,000 residents of Yonkers, I am requesting that the commercial be withdrawn."

In the advertisement, a young married couple mulls over their future, wishing they could live in New York City. In an attempt to save money, they resignedly mention that they "could always live in Yonkers."

Bowery spokesman Joe DiMaggio then talks about the bank's mortgage program.

"It is especially hurtful that my baseball idol, Joe DiMaggio, appears in this commercial," Martinelli said. "The basic message being delivered by the commercial is that a young couple would not want to move to Yonkers."

Bowery publicist Howard Rubinstein said, "The ads were meant to be done with good humor and not to offend Yonkers, which is a fine city." Bowery officials will meet today to discuss the matter, Rubinstein said.

**FIRST TIME EVER
Nationally Known Manufacturer**

Baldwin Brass Bed Warehouse

opening its doors to the public

3 DAYS ONLY • CASH & CARRY

Friday March 4th	10-7 P.M.
Saturday March 5th	10-6 P.M.
Sunday March 6th	12-6 P.M.

SAVE 40% to 75%

On discontinued items and one of a kind and some slightly damaged
Huge Selection in All Sizes. Come Early for BEST Selection!



Baldwin

Delivery Available

Baldwin Brass Co., Inc.

250 Adams Blvd., Farmingdale, New York (516) 694-6950

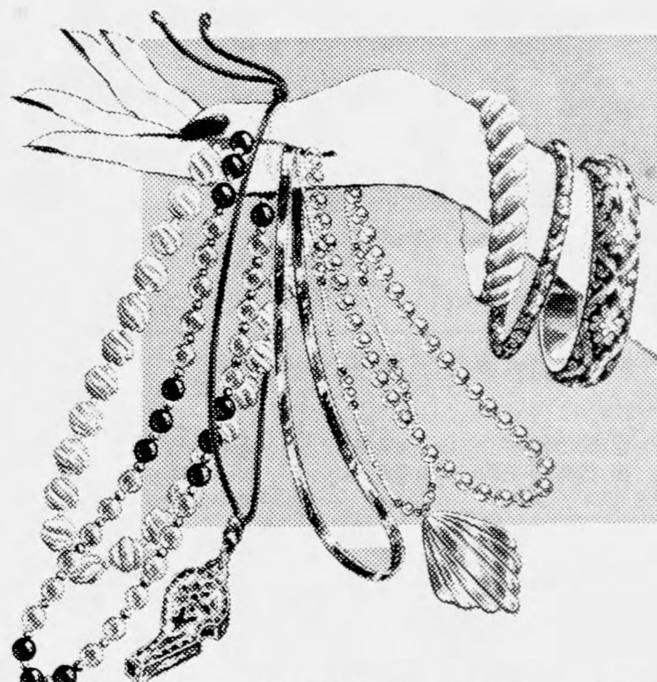
Located East of Rte. 110 1/2 mile No. of So. St. Pkwy. Exit 32 & 5 miles So.

Go to the end of Allen Blvd., right turn on Adams Blvd. - Black & White Bldg. on left hand side



25% to 50% off*

exquisite jewelry collections



Sale 19.99 to 449.99, orig. 29.00 to 606.00

Sterling silver, 14-Kt. gold neckchains, bracelets and earrings; 14-Kt. gold rings, some set with semi-precious stones, cultured pearls, ivory, cubic zirconia, and intricate cloisonné creations from the People's Republic of China. Selection shown subject to prior sale; not all styles in all stores. No mail or phone orders, please.

*Percent off original prices—intermediate price reductions may have been taken prior to this sale.

Lord & Taylor, Manhasset—call 627-3000
Garden City—call 742-7000