Anti-inflation moves by Carter tarnish outlook for construction

By James Earp
Managing Editor

Record interest rates, misguided budget cutting efforts and an unhealthy construction year into a chaotic mess. While it is still too early to pinpoint how hard construction will hit this year, the immediate developments are chaos. A Slashed Budget

Bucking under pressure from Republicans and fiscal conservatives for a "balanced budget" as a means of controlling inflation, President Carter has sent Congress $15 million in proposed cuts for fiscal 1981. Although slashing federal spending for one year will do little or nothing to lower inflation, it will send hundreds of thousands of construction workers into the unemployment lines. Yielding to this election year frenzy, both houses of Congress are apparently playing the same cut and slash game. The House version calls for a $16.4 billion reduction of the original budget proposed by the President. The Senate version would cut deeply into construction programs will be threatened and the state of the George Moscone Convention Center has given way to steel and concrete forms. For a photo feature of the $100 million project underway in San Francisco, see pages 8 & 9.

Special round of meetings set for PAC check off

After months of preparation, Local 3 Business Manager Dale Marr has announced that a special round of meetings is being called, beginning April 21, to present the union's proposal for a political "check off" contribution program. "These meetings will be informational in nature," Marr stated. "They are being held to give our members an opportunity to see why political involvement is essential for labor unions, how Local 3's voluntary program will work and to receive answers to any questions they might have.

"We feel it is imperative to act now in establishing a check off program," Marr continued, "in view of the recent actions taken by the President and Congress to

Coming next month: A look at "Jaws II"

I'll make Proposition 13 look like small change. Major construction programs will be threatened and school revenues will be slashed, if the Proposition 9 "Jaws II" initiative passes this June. For a hard look at how this measure will directly affect operating engineers, don't vote until you read Engineers News exclusive feature next month.

Also coming up in the May issue: a look at the issues and candidates behind the Proposition 9 initiative, an update on the MX missile program and full coverage of the IUOE Convention.

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Marr Defends OSHA at Senate hearing

Labeling it "the greatest immediate threat to occupational safety and health in America," Operating Engineers Local 3 Business Manager Dale Marr and Senator Richard Schweiker's anti-OSHA bill, S. 2193, at a Senate hearing in Washington, D.C. this month and proposed a number of improvements that would make the current OSHA program more effective in enforcing safety on the job.

There is a saying about safety among construction hands that, 'If it can happen, it will,' " Marr told members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, who were holding oversight hearings on the Occupational Safety and Health Act. "That is why we need strong OSHA enforcement. The Schweiker bill effectively undermines the letter and intent of the job safety program.

Present at the hearing were senators Alan Cranston (D-Cal.) and Harrison Williams (D-N.J) who are co-sponsors of the bill.

"Having supported the original OSHA legislation and participated in establishing regulations for the construction industry, I have seen its beneficial results," Marr stated. "The lives and health of many of the members I represent have been preserved because of the OSHA program."

He cited Local 3's wide experience in job safety, including the union's landmark efforts in seeing that roll-over protection structures (ROPS) are a requirement for most heavy construction equipment. Local 3 represents 35,000 operating engineers in Northern California, Nevada, Utah, Hawaii and Guam.

Marr specified several provisions of (Continued on Page 7)
Special meetings called to discuss PAC check off

(Continued from Page 1)
balance the budget, as well as our continuing fight to preserve Davis-Bacon, OSHA and other laws vital to trade unions, it is essential that we organize politically and send a message now, in this election year, to our representatives.* The building trades, Marr stressed, must not be the scapegoat for this nation's inflation problems. "Like any loyal American, we are willing to do our part in the battle against inflation, but no one has the right to expect us to lose our jobs in the process," Marr declared. "That's the message we need to send to the Capitol Hill." At the PAC meetings, members will be shown a videotape of a speech AFL-CIOCOPE director Al Barkan made to operating engineers at the January Semi-annual meeting. Brochures will be handed out outlining the check off program and time will be given for questions and answers.

"After many months of research and planning, we feel we have put together the best political check off campaign possible," Marr explained. "Many other unions have already established similar programs and we are operating with the support of their members."

As you are probably aware, Local 3 has recently devoted considerable time and effort in district meetings and the Engineers News to inform our membership on the importance of establishing a political action committee (PAC) to be financed by voluntary check off contributions from the rank and file. Last year Operating Engineers in Local 3 completed the biggest work year in the history of the union. Much of that work came only as a result of heavy political involvement from Local 3. As recently as three months ago, we had every assurance that 1980 would be as big a work year, if not better than 1979. That optimistic forecast, however, is rapidly evaporating.

Consider these facts:

- To check off an unprecedented inflation rate of 18 per cent for the last two consecutive months, the federal government and banking industry have calculated the interest rates to record highs. As every construction worker knows, each point added to the interest rate means increased constrictive activity. That means fewer jobs, fewer hours to work and eventually, lower wages.

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The commission also urged this year at 150 Spear St. in San Francisco to increase the supply by 2 to 1 this year, and marks a major step for Financial District.

Panel Forwards Hydroelectric Bill

A measure to authorize the sale of $25 million in state water bonds for dams and related hydroelectric facilities (SB62) was reported favorably by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The proceeds would be added to the revolving fund for state water sources. The bill stirred debate about the advisability of the state building the hydroelectric facilities and wholesaling the power to municipal and private utilities. The bill, which was referred to the Senate Utilities Committee, was co-authored by Assemblyman Louis J. Papan of San Francisco and Sen. Ivan Holmdahl of Reno, who is a great believer in private enterprise. Sen. Ivan Holmdahl concluded. The last Dumbarton bonds sold in 1977 for $37.7 million.

In other action, the commission rejected a project that would benefit the Westlands Water District that serves several counties along the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. The project would have required the commission to lease two projects which, it claimed, would benefit the city of San Francisco and the City and County of San Francisco.

California Power Agency and the Modesto and Turlock Irrigation Districts

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Caltrans Opens Highway Bids

The California Department of Transportation has announced the opening of bids for the construction of the Dumbarton Bridge, which is expected to begin within six weeks on most of the projects. The bridge will replace the antiquated Dumbarton Bridge and will be completed as soon as possible so that no unnecessary delay would result in the filing of the application for certification (AFC) with the California Energy Commission. The bill for Senate action was unanimous, Sen. Ivan Holmdahl concluded.

Increase in Bond Rates Proposed for Dumbarton Bridge

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Contractor Bids Low For Water Project

Grannen Construction Co., Waterville, Calif., at $7.7 million, is apparent low bidder for Reclamation's latest project in which the Water and Power Resources Service has announced. Reclamation 3 of the Jordan Aqueduct (Bonnieville Unit, Central Utah Project) will provide water for industrial and municipal water needs in Lower Colorado Region office in Salt Lake City. The contract is expected to take two years to complete Reach 3 — where a 66-inch-diameter pressure pipe, buried five feet deep, will deliver 200 cubic feet of water per second. The Jackson, Mississippi, firm is the only contractor to submit a bid for the project.

State Backs Funds for Auburn Dam

The California Water Commission this month said OK to $77 million in the president's budget to carry administrative costs on Auburn Dam until it is redesignated. The commission also urged no change in the project for Auburn Dam. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has recommended that the state get into the power business... the generating of power. The commission determined its stand on some 119 projects funded in President Carter's budget.

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Route 101 Freeway Work Continues

The first of three projects to complete the freeway gap between Morgan Hill and San Jose is continuing on schedule. Granite Constructors Company is the contractor on the first project that calls for major drainage and roadway work and the construction of the Burnett Avenue Overcrossing and the north and south Coyote Creek Crossings. This $10 million, Federal Aid Primary project is expected to be completed by May. At that time the second phase of the work will be advertised for bidders. The total cost of the three projects is estimated at $46 million and should be completed by 1982.

El Camino Real Improvement Project Continues

Pombo Corporation is the contractor on an estimated $32 million project to widen El Camino Real (Route 82) from Arroyo Drive to one-tenth mile north of Hickey Boulevard. Grading has been completed and base material placed with additional work continuing on drainage structures. As of the late April 1980, this section of Route 82 will be six lanes, matching the existing section to the south.
Massive tunnel repair job winds up in Redding

By HAROLD HUSTON, President

A Personal Note From The President's Pen

People who make $25,900 or more in 1980 will pay nearly $200 more in social security tax this year. The Federal government increased the earnings base from $22,000 in 1979 to $25,900 this year to bring about the $183.90 boost in social security tax for those with incomes at the maximum level or above.

The earnings base is the maximum amount of annual earnings subject to social security tax, according to the Social Security Administration. People who earn less than $22,900 won't pay more. But those whose earnings are between the old maximum level and the new one will see some tax increase.

The increase does not entail bigger bites from paychecks, instead the tax will be taken out of paychecks for a longer period of time until the new limit is met. That means people won't necessarily see the "break" in deductions they got on their paychecks at the end of last year when the tax limit had been reached.

With the change, the maximum 1980 social security tax will be $1,587.67. Last year's maximum tax was $1,403.77. The tax rate itself, set at 6.13 percent two years ago, hasn't changed. The tax rate for self-employed people will stay at 8 percent in 1980.

Please check your 1979 W-2 forms when you get them. A copy of the form is used to enter covered earnings in Social Security records. Your own records should show the same information as the W-2 forms.

The outgoing commissioner of Social Security predicts the 1980's will be a decade of reform that will bring massive changes in both Social Security benefits and the social insurance tax structure.

Commissioner Stanford G. Ross said the era of vast expansion of Social Security to offer new benefits such as Medicare is over, but he does foresee efforts to improve benefits for women and the very aged.

To pay for improvements, Congress will have to look for offsetting cuts in other parts of the program "where there are improper incentives," said Ross. He did not single out any area for cuts.

The 48-year-old commissioner, who is quitting after a 15 month stint, said in an interview, "I don't think you'll wind up cutting Social Security. If you deal far enough out, you can limit the growth of benefit." You've got to do it all at once. Precipitous changes in Social Security are dangerous unless they are part of a comprehensive plan to reconstitute the system," said Ross.

Ross drew heavy fire from labor unions and other supporters of Social Security last winter after the Carter administration asked Congress to trim some relatively small benefits, including burial payments and aid to college students.

Congress did not consider the Cuts!

"That was not a successful exercise. The public has not been well enough prepared for it. I personally was not the architect," said Ross.

He was the architect of an effort to rebuild confidence in Social Security on a new, practical footing. He held town meetings across the nation and revised the agency's pamphlets to broaden understanding of the $1 billion retirement and disability programs that pay benefits to 35 million Americans.

Ross is worried about the evolution America society faces as the size of its elderly population swells. Today there are 33 workers for each beneficiary. By the year 2030, the ratio will have shrunk to 2 to 1. Those changes include the sharp drop in the fertility rate, longer life expectancy, earlier retirement, and the increasing number of women in the workforce.

President Carter is asking Congress to let the Social Security system borrow from the Peter to pay Paul. The President said he will seek legislation to permit borrowing among the three separate Social Security trust funds—old age and survivors insurance, disability insurance and hospital insurance, commonly known as Medicare.

He announced the step in his written State of the Union message to Congress. It would allow Social Security to shift surplus cash from its disability reserves to cover deficits in the old age account.

The disability reserves grew by $1.4 million in 1979 while the old age account shrank by $2.5 billion. Experts have warned the system could have trouble paying retirement benefits on time in 1983 and 1985 unless something is done.

After that, higher taxes are expected to start piling up surpluses for the old age fund and continue to build the fund for 25 years. Borrowing among the trust funds would tide the system over until the ink in the old age account turns from red to black.

As a practical matter, the Medicare fund is not likely to be tapped soon either. It also faces a possible deficit by the early 1990's.

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Massive tunnel repair job winds up in Redding

One of the best jobs ever to go into this district as far as money for the Brothers is concerned, has just wound up, reports Redding District Rep. Ken Green. The Morrison-Knudsen Island Mountain North Western-Pacific Railroad Tunnel job started in November 1978, and finished in March 1980.

The job was compared to the Alaska Pipeline project for generating large paychecks. It also could be compared to the Alaska Pipeline, in that the employees had to stay in company provided camps and most of the time were not able to go home more than once every two weeks.

There were many problems that had to be overcome to make the living conditions tolerable. The remoteness of the job site (the Southwestern corner of Trinity County) prevented the reception of radio and TV programming, so the company provided stereo music on tapes and some television tapes as well.

The company had problems at first with the food being served the men—a problem which almost every effort to bring them up to weeks progress having to be re-

The job itself was one of potentially extreme hazards due to the condition of the tunnel. A fire had destroyed the timbers in the tunnel resulting in a collapse of around seventy-five percent of the tunnel. This collapse trapped large pockets of lethal gas which could have caused the deaths of the workers who had not the company and the men been always alert and always more safety conscious and production conscious. There were many cave-

To pay for improvements, Congress will have to look for offsetting cuts in other parts of the program "where there are improper incentives," said Ross. He did not single out any area for cuts.

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By BOB MAYFIELD

Owning on Guam moving ahead

Special Representative Paul Wise reports that the organizing drive on Guam is moving ahead with all success. Local 3 has now received exclusive recognition from the Public Utilities Agency of Guam for the following classifications: Trades Helper, Wireline Department; Plant Operators I and II, Waste-water Pump Station Operators I and II, Water Meter Reader, General Helper, Maintenance Worker, Welders I and II, and Pipefitter Leader. This unit totals 200 employees.

This recognition was also granted Local 3 from the Government of Guam, the Maintenance Section of the Department of Parks and Recreation for the following classifications: Equipment Operator I and II, Automotive Mechanic I and II, General Helper, Electrician I and II, Plumber I and II, Carpenter I and II, Maintenance Workers, Park Attendant Superintendents, Equipment Operator Leader and Maintenance Leader. Total employees, in this unit: 117.

Another Government of Guam exclusive recognition granted. Local 3 was Transportation Maintenance Department. Department of Public Works, which includes 70 employees. The Highway Maintenance, Solid Waste and Building Maintenance is unionized. The total number of employees in these three units is 280.

An election was held on February 28th at Local 3 and CHEIL, (Chamorro Employees Labor Union No. 1), a new organization just formed here on Guam by an expropriated group, with no recognition by the AFL-CIO. Local 3 was successful in winning and in the ensuing year. Norman McDonald, Lynn Reese and Earl Jolley.

An election was held on March 6th, at Local 3, and this time, the organization re-elected the following board to serve on its District Grievance Committee for the ensuing year: Jim Hacks, Bob Baldwin and Howard Lazar.

Grievance Committee Elections

At its regular quarterly membership meeting on March 5th, at Local 3, District Grievance Committee re-elected the following board to serve on its District Grievance Committee for the ensuing year:

Finance Committee

On Health & Welfare

Oil Fields, move to joint trust

Oil Field Rep. Frank Townley reports that, as a result of negotiations last February 1979, a new formula has come into the oil fields in the states of California, Nevada and Utah. At a meeting on February 15th, the representatives of Local #3, a joint trust for Health and Welfare has come about and has been ratified by the Drilling Contractors' Association. This means that all field employers in the jurisdiction of locals #3 and #12 will have the same insurance coverage. There will be no more change of insurance coverage as a result of moving from local to local. The highlights of both company and union positions were combined to make a simple super plan for all members, making a 17 percent increase monetarily to the plan. The increases are as follows:

FROM            TO
Major Medical                              $300,000.00  $250,000.00
Calendar Year Deductible                  0.00            50.00
Accident Death & Dismemberment            2,000.00       4,000.00
VISION:
Examination                                20.00          40.00
Single Vision Lens                         20.00          40.00
Bifocal Lenses                             28.00          50.00
Trifocal Lenses                            36.00          50.00
Leather Goggles                            60.00          90.00
Frames                                     20.00          40.00
Cost of Glasses                            20.00          40.00

Some companies will be starting this plan by April 1, 1980 and others must begin no later than June 1, 1980. Effective April 1, the dues for drilling members will increase as follows:

Calif. & Nevada
Driller                                      $12.49
Decker                                        10.55
Mechanic                                      10.80
Mortermann/Cathodeal                         10.51
Roustabout                                     8.00
Mechanic Helper                               10.04
Welder                                        10.31
Roustabout                                     8.00
Yardman                                       6.00
Oil Field Truck Driver                        9.28
State of Utah
Driller                                      $11.99

(Continued on Page 15)
It's still a union shop

Business is booming for Smith GM Power Inc. of Salt Lake City and that suits owner Clinton Smith just fine. Formally Abbott GM Diesel, Smith purchased the company in September, 1979 and is still undergoing a number of reorganizing steps.

Smith Power is the distributor for Detroit Diesel Allison, a division of General Motors Inc. They manufacture electric generator packages, diesel engine power packages and irrigation pumps. They have separate facilities for truck service, engine rebuilding and transmission repair.

Clinton employs approximately 125 Local 3 members, the majority working in the Salt Lake City location with 13 members in Vernal, Utah. They also have shops located in Boise, Idaho and Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Smith took control of the company from Bob Abbott of Abbott GM Diesel in early September, 1979. Formally of Wichita, Kansas, Smith has never operated a truck shop with a union agreement done. However, when he first met with representatives of Local 3, Smith told them that "I have heard good reports of you people from Bob. I just want to assure you that I have no intentions of changing one thing."

He followed his promise with action. Within two weeks, he sat down with the Local 3 negotiating committee and bargained in good faith until an agreement was reached.
Carter's anti-inflation moves mar construction

(Continued from Page 1)

A Freeze on Public Funds

To meet Congress' mandate, federal agencies must act now to avoid running out of funds before the end of the fiscal year. To accomplish this, President Carter quietly ordered a freeze in March of all public works contracts until federal and state agencies determine what projects will have to go back in the hopper.

Many cash flow problems have developed and the original project costs are still using money that was made available in 1978 and 1979. Unlike most states, which have lagged in their clean water programs, California has maintained an accelerated program, utilizing the federal matching funds as they became available. Those states that have been slow will not be hit as severely in the coming freeze because they are still using money that was made available in 1978 and 1979.

California, on the other hand, was already using the money earmarked for this year. The forceful cuts in spending for this year will bring an abrupt halt to many wastewater treatment projects already in the pipeline. As one government official in the Bay Area told Engineers News: "In effect, we are being penalized for being on schedule." The same thing is happening for highway construction. On April 3, Caltrans lifted a freeze on highway contracts that had been in effect since January 13, but director Adriana Gianturco told Engineers News that planning for the projects was long over the deck.

"Preliminary information from federal highway officials indicates that Caltrans will receive about $160 million in federal highway obligation authority for the remainder of the year," Gianturco said. This is $100 million less than what the state needs to carry out the projects that were scheduled for this year.

Gianturco criticized the Federal Highway Administration's plans for distributing the remaining money to state transportation agencies without regard to what each state has scheduled for completion.

Wastewater treatment projects funded by EPA, such as the $1.5 billion San Francisco Moscone Convention Center wastewater treatment project, will likely be laid off this year because of an insolvent bond market, which finances state and other public works projects.

In Santa Clara Valley, for instance, $38 million of pipeline construction work designed to hook up the San Felipe project is in jeopardy, because of the inability to sell the bonds that were approved months and years ago. The first stage of the project is already out to bid, but if the county water district cannot sell its bonds this month, those bids will have to be scrapped.

Other projects, such as the $100 million Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco and the city's waste treatment project are coming under similar financial pressures, as inflation and an unstable bond market eat away at the original project costs. Over $171 million worth of urban renewal projects may also be postponed or canceled because of the scarcity of loan money. Of all the projects, all scheduled to begin during 1980, may never happen," conceded an official from the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency.

Major downtown highrise projects such as the Crocker Bank complex and 101 California Street are not expected to be affected by federal pressures to increase loan rates. Those financed by foreign money or pension funds, too, may escape the trend.

Unquestionably, the hardest hit in the private sector by the tight money situation is residential housing. The Construction Industry Research Board has disclosed that 40,000 construction workers will likely be laid off this year because of a collapsing housing market. This does not include the thousands that will also lose their jobs who work in related industries, like lumber.

The forecast for new housing units this year has been revised sharply downward to a new low of 150,000 in California. The state needs twice that many, according to many, ac- cording to the Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

Just how severely these developments will hit the construction industry this year remains to be seen. There is no question, though, that unless trade unions and contractors alike exert real political pressure on Congress and Car- ter, things will get worse before they get better. It is a sad statement, when you consider that 1980 had all the makings of being another record year.

Marr defends OSHA

(Continued from Page 1)

Schweiker's bill that his union has found partially unacceptable. For example, the bill would require the Secretary of Labor to enter into an agreement with state workers' compensation agencies, whereby they would annually submit a list of employers who had experienced one or more occupational injuries over the preceding year. Any employer not appearing on the list would automatically qualify for an exemption from OSHA inspections.

Workplaces not identified as "safe" through this process could also qualify for an exemption from OSHA inspections, according to an affidavit that the 340 employers that had not been deducted by occupational injuries during the preceding year and only a low number of lost workday injuries.

"It is easy to visualize that OSHA would be transformed from an enforce- ment agency to a paper-shuffling bureau, saddled with the burden of processing thousands of affidavits from firms ac- cording to the Dept. of Labor's "compliance OSHA inspections," Marr observed.

He also criticized the bill for reducing the number of inspectors on the part of the employer." Marr suggested that, instead of diluting OSHA with harmful legislation, Congress ought to be taking firm strides to increase its effectiveness. Improvements need to be made in record- keeping, Marr said. Under current law, most firms with less than 10 em- ployees are not required to file accident reporting forms with OSHA.

"In the construction industry, a sig- nificant percentage of firms employ less than 10 people," Marr observed. Yet these are the ones guilty of some of the worst safety infractions.

Big firms generally don't gamble," Marr said. "They know the importance of safety. We don't normally injure a lot of people on dangerous work. It's just one of the few things we are cut down at night, so you gamble." A cooperative safety program between the employer and union employee is the best form of safety program, Marr contended. "The cooperative safety program at the San Onofre nuclear plant between Bechtel Corp. and the building and construction trades union is an example. But you can't count on all contractors to be safety conscious, Marr stressed. "I represent several large contractors who employ tell you to get lost. We say 'we'll go but they're not going to like what happens once,'" Marr continued.

"Then OSHA shows up and they don't like that at all. And that normally only happens once." Marr also proposed to the senate committee that the enforcement powers of OSHA be strengthened. The weak penalty structure for willful violation of the safety code is frequently an encour- agement, rather than a deterrent to broken agreements, Marr stated. In many instances, employers find it cheaper to break the law and pay the fine than to abide the hazard.

"It is extremely important that OSHA also have the ability to come on work premises without prior notice to the em- ployer," Marr emphasized. "Forewarned is forearmed, If you've got a dusty situa- tion, that is really what job safety is all about." Marr added that, unlike most states, which have had a limited number of fatal accidents, California has had an annual average of 50 construction workers in West Virginia, is an original project cost of $15 million Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco and the city's waste treatment project are coming under simil- lar financial pressures, as inflation and an unstable bond market eat away at the original project costs.

Senator Alan Cranston listens to Marr's testimony.

In his concluding remarks, Marr re- ferred to the recent Supreme Court deci- sion against Whirlpool Corp, which ruled unionists' jobs safer than those of the construction workers. "In his concluding remarks, Marr referred to the recent Supreme Court deci- sion against Whirlpool Corp, which ruled workers' jobs safer than those of construction workers. In this case, the court ruled that workers may refuse to work on jobs, such as the construction jobs they consider too dangerous.

Quoting Justice Stewart Potter's rul- ing, the Senate, "The Occupational Safety and Health Act does not wait for an em- ployee to die or become injured. "When you get down to the bottom line, that is really what job safety is all about." Marr said. "The purpose of OSHA is to prevent occupational injuries and death, not merely report them. OSHA does not need to be dismantled, as S. 2153 would do, it needs to be strengthened and supported.

APRIL 1980 / ENGINEERS NEWS / PAGE 7
The roar of bulldozers has given way to the clanging of steel and the pouring of concrete, but work on the George Moscone Convention Center continues in high gear.

It was a project surrounded by controversy, troubled with financial problems and delayed by miles of red tape. But once ground was officially broken in August 1978, the project has made steady progress towards completion.

When completed, the Moscone Center will be something San Francisco needs desperately—a full-scale, modern convention hall capable of attracting convention business from throughout the country and bringing in millions of dollars in revenue to the city's businesses.

During the course of construction, the projects have generated more than 600 new jobs and in its operation will be responsible for up to 1,700 direct and indirect jobs with an annual taxable city payroll of $32.5 million in today's dollars.

The completed convention center could also add as much as $50 million annually to the San Francisco economy in business from visiting conventioners and tourists.

A long-term benefit of the convention center is that it will serve as a catalyst for further development of the south of Market area, including a mix of residential, commercial, office and recreational uses.

The $100 million project features 650,000 square feet of space below ground level to minimize the air space the project will fill.
convention center roof will be 12 feet above street level. The top of the facility will be relatively clear of obstacles.

The main room will be the exhibit hall, which will consist of 275,000 square feet of columnless space, made possible by eight sets of paired concrete arches.

Perini Corporation has the largest single contract for $49.9 million for foundation and structural concrete work. Heating and ventilating contracts total $8.6 million went to E.C. Braun Company. Additional contracts include electrical work totaling $5.1 million, $1.3 million for elevators and escalators, and over $700,000 for miscellaneous work.

The project met a brief delay in early 1979 as opponents to the project attempted to halt it through a lawsuit against the financing of the project. The plan is financed through the sale of lease-revenue bonds by the Redevelopment Agency, which will own the facility and lease it to the city.

Opponents had objected to the method of financing on the grounds that it was economically unsound and an unconstitutional attempt to avoid getting voter approval for the sale of the construction bonds. They had also charged that building the convention center without concurrently constructing a sports arena required an amendment to the law.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge John Benson in November 1978 ruled these objections invalid, and with that remaining obstacle removed, the project has progressed without a major hitch.
The following is the first is a series of articles on the Pension Trust Funds of the Operating Engineers. Over the next several months the series will include explanation of Pension Plan rules and regulations covering: Pension Plan Terms, Contributing Employers; Types of Pension; Benefit Options and Death Benefits; Pension Contributions and Payments; and Your Rights and ERISA.

**PENSION PLAN TERMS**

During February the latest updated version of the Pension Plan booklet was produced and mailed out to all participating Engineers. The new booklet is very informative containing both the formal rules and regulations of the Pension Plan and the Summary Plan Description. Although the booklet is extremely complete in content the problem most Engineers will have is finding the time it takes to plough through the 83 pages of printed material. Federal Law requires certain information to be included in the new booklet and there is no getting around the fact that the Law has certain rules and regulations that must be followed. One sensible approach is to read the booklet slowly and putting the booklet into a place where it is being read at least once a month. Reading the booklet is breaking the material down into smaller pieces and understanding it at a time. Increasing the rate of reading is the first thing that must be shied away from and a terminology that will be used throughout the booklet.

The key to understanding any subject is its terminology. A subject cannot be discussed in detail unless those involved are all speaking the "same language." This is true of almost any industry, business, occupation or job. Each has its own unique language with words and terms that have a very specific and special meaning. Pension Plans are the same. They use words and terminology that must first be learned in order to fully understand the Plan.

The authors of the Operating Engineers Pension Plan realized that some of the words and terminology could be confusing to non-Engineers and so they have carefully provided specific definitions on page 3 of the booklet. The following attempts to explain these terms commonly used throughout the Summary Plan Description.

**PENSI ON PLAN** is the legal description of the Plan. A PENSION PLAN is the legal formal text which contains all of the rules and regulations of the Plan (pages 43 through 83 of the booklet).

**SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION** is the explanation of the Pension Plan language (pages 3 through 42 of the booklet).

**EMPLOYEE** is an Operating Engineer performing work where Contributions are made or required.

**CONTRIBUTION DATE** is the date established for the Employee's contributions when the contributions were first made to the Pension Fund.

**PENSION PLAN TERMS**

**CONTINUOUS NON-COVERED EMPLOYMENT** is work after December 1978 for a Contributing Employer in a job that does not require contributions but is continuous with the Employee's Covered Employment. These hours increase an Engineer's Credited Service only.

**CREDITED SERVICE** is service counted toward vesting and eligibility to receive a Pension. It is based on both Covered and Continuous Non-Covered Employment.

**COVERED EMPLOYMENT** is work for a Contributing Employer in a job where contributions are made or required to be made. Hours worked in Covered Employment are Contributory Hours. These hours increase an Engineer's Credited Service and Pension Credits.

**CONTRIBUTING EMPLOYER** means any employer who makes or is required to make contributions to the Pension Plan for his Operating Engineers.

**EMPLOYMENT** means work for a Contributing Employer. There are two kinds: Covered Employment and Continuous Non-Covered Employment.

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**CREDITED SERVICE** is service counted toward vesting and eligibility to receive a Pension. It is based on both Covered and Continuous Non-Covered Employment. CREDITED PAST SERVICE is service prior to the Employee's Contribution Date and CREDITED FUTURE SERVICE is service after that date.

**PENSION CREDIT** determines the amount of monthly Pension Benefits payable upon retirement. It is based on Credited Past Service and all Contributory Hours. BREAK-IN-SERVICE means failure to work a required number of hours in a specific period. (This will be the subject of next month's article).

These definitions relate chiefly to the accrual of credit for vesting, eligibility to retire and monthly benefits. Close inspection shows that credit for vesting and eligibility can be much different than pension credits for benefit accrual. An Operating Engineer can build credit toward vesting and eligibility to retire for almost all types of work for his Contributing Employers providing it is continuous. However, monthly pension benefit at retirement will be based on work resulting in Credited Past Service and work when contributions were made to the Pension Trust.

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**Fringe Benefits Forum**

by MIKE KRAYNICK, Director of Fringe Benefits

The first of April has been set aside as a day to remind us all about our sense of humor. Many April Fool pranks succeed because we are gullible and it is this same innocent reliance on what we hear that creates misunderstanding about our fringe benefit plans. Over the years, myths have developed about the Health & Welfare and Pension Plans which have sometimes misrepresenting Engineers. No one likes to be misled or misinformed, so let's take a look at some of the more common myths that exist.

An individual could purchase identical Health & Welfare coverage as Operating Engineers at a cheaper rate! This is simply not true. In Sylvia Porter's money book, she states that group insurance coverage is 40% cheaper than individual insurance. That would work out to be a monthly cost of $250.00 for the individual and at $1.60 per hour currently being contributed by the employer, the individual would be forced to work at least 156 hours each month to pay for it. And don't forget, our fringe benefit contributions are not subject to taxes which means the individual would need an annual income of $31,200 to avoid the tax. As you can see, these myths can lead to some drastic misunderstandings about the fringe benefit packages. It's important to educate ourselves about the fringe benefits available to us. The most important thing is to make sure we're not being misled by any false information.

The first of April has been set aside as a day to remind us all about our sense of humor. Many April Fool pranks succeed because we are gullible and it is this same innocent reliance on what we hear that creates misunderstanding about our fringe benefit plans. Over the years, myths have developed about the Health & Welfare and Pension Plans which have sometimes misrepresenting Engineers. No one likes to be misled or misinformed, so let's take a look at some of the more common myths that exist.

A look at your new Pension Plan booklet

Over 2,500 operating engineers and their wives are expected to attend the latest round of Retiree Association meetings currently underway.

An Engineer's doesn't draw as much out of the Pension Plan as was put in. The fact is that Engineers and their beneficiaries draw more from the Plan than is contributed by their employers. A quick look at the records from 1958 up to date shows that an Engineer could have had $24,000 contributed by his employers. That same Engineer is guaranteed over $38,000 in death benefits alone and if he dies within 10 Year Guaranteed Option, he would receive more than $72,000; that's 3 times the amount of money contributed by his employer.

As you can see, these myths can lead to some drastic misunderstandings about the Plans and their benefits. The best service an Operating Engineer can do for himself and his family is to get the facts straight about the Pension and Welfare plans. Whenever a question comes up, contact your district office or the Fringe Benefit Center.
High winds hamper Hawaii construction

District Representative Wallace Lean says that high wind and rain have caused damages throughout the Honolulu metropolitan area. Although there are a number of brothers registered for work with the Job Placement Center, many employers have been maintaining their work force by providing shorter work weeks to their employees.

Soaring interest rates on home loans are also causing a slowdown in the housing industry. It is hoped that government will offset this slowdown; which is not likely.

Orthodontic benefits

A major benefit improvement to the HAWAII Health and Welfare Trust Fund for Operating Engineers is the Orthodontic Benefit which became effective July 1, 1979. This benefit is provided for eligible dependent children when orthodontic appliances are used to correct malocclusion. In this certain a great relief to parents of children with a “bad bite” (malocclusion) and especially important to the child.

Effective January 1, 1980 an additional benefit was added to provide for orthodontic appliance in order to help with community groups this month to seek election and present detailed plans for the $60 million shopping mall in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Ground breaking ceremonies for this project were held May 1978 at the site of the former site, which means, the dental program care will pay 100% of a participant's fees, but not to exceed the maximum of $2,000 per dependent child per lifetime.

However, the need for orthodontic care is growing and is certainly a great relief to parents and children. This new benefit is important to the child.

Eureka work still slow

“Work in the Eureka area is quiet,” reports Business Rep. Jim Johnson. “We are still being plagued by winter rains.”

M.C.M. Construction Company of Sacramento is trying to get started on their $5 million bridge job across the Mad River Slough, which is scheduled for completion in 1985. They moved in their 10-ton Link Belt and started driving piles late last month. The job site, owned by rio Dell, has the dirt work on this project, and has been trying to do a little work in between storm rains. Fortunately there is a lot of sand fill gullies to work in.

J & W Pipelines of San Jose is progressing quite well on their Contract 4, for state Route 162. Earl Nally had the site prepared for the buildings and pavement work. He has a 225-ton articulated truck on the site preparation is Earl Nally Enterprises of Rio Dell, with a bid of $5,047.51.

The first two contracts of the Eureka sewer project should be awarded by the end of this month.

Unaggregate Ridge Condominiums, Maui.

Kapalua Ridge Condominiums, Maui.

You can deposit money in your Credit Union share account—right along with your Social Security and payroll deductions. Members are not aware of this.

In fact, now’s a great time to find out your Credit Union is a good place for some extra savings. The mall will be anchored by S.J. Groves & Sons Company and E.E. Black, Ltd., doing a beautiful job on the Kaneohe Kailua Flood Control and Allied Purposes Project (Phase II), reports Business Rep. Ken Kahoonei. This project is being administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose is to construct an earthfill dam on the windward side of the island of Oahu, which will contain 3,000 acres of land. They need credit.

The mall will be 2,200 feet long and 76 feet wide, with a top width of 20 feet. It will require approximately 1,320,000 cubic yards of excavation and 695,000 cubic yards of embankment. This project will begin around April of 1980. Those Americans who do not have liquid assets (savings) may have to “bite the bullet” a little harder than those who have.

You can start saving today and saving in a good place: Your Credit Union. Just use the coupon below to deposit money to your share (saving) account.

EIGHT PERCENT DEPOSIT SLIP

Dear Credit Union:

I want to take advantage of the bonus dividend you're going to pay on July 1, 1980. Please deposit my enclosed check for $ of in my account.

NAME ____________________________

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ____________

ADDRESS ____________________________

CITY/STATE ZIP ____________

Make your check payable to: Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Credit Union and mark it 'for deposit only.'

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3 CREDIT UNION PO. BOX 2082—Dublin, CA 94566

AUGUST 1980 / ENGINEERS NEWS / PAGE 11
Oakland continues to hold up well

Asst. District Rep. Ron Butler reports that work in the shops continues to hold up well in the Oakland area. Some of the smaller shops are a little slow, but others, such as Peterson Tractor Company, are busy and hiring.

All the Equipment Dealer Agreements expire on September 1, so it’s not too early to be thinking about changes in the new agreement. "We will be holding pre-negotiating meetings, but members working under these agreements should try to formulate their ideas before the meetings," Butler said.

Cranes rental is doing fair, reports Business Rep. Bill Dorresteyn. It’s a little slow at the refinery site because of the maintenance strike. Safety is doing well at this time, and also Martin Crane & Rigging is doing quite well most everywhere. Reliable is doing good also as far north as Redding and are looking at Nevada. Valley’s work is good to fair and also Husky Crane. Their new cranes are a green and look real nice.

Cranes works looks realistic promising throughout the year. "We have had a few small accidents, but nothing too serious," Dorresteyn commented.

Wear, safe, and if you have a safety problem call the union, but don’t leave the job over the problem, and we’ll get someone out to the job.

Business Rep. Norris Carey reports that work in Southern Alameda County is the same as everywhere else. The weather has hit shut down. It has all indications of a good year, as there are many new projects waiting to start.

The rock producers are working overtime already to try to get a stockpile built up. But it is in vain, they are able to sell all they can produce.

Oakland District Meeting Change

The regular quarterly District 2 membership meeting scheduled for May has been moved to the Sunol Valley Golf Course in the Club House, Highway 680 and Andrade, Sunol, CA. The meeting will start at 8:00 p.m. on May 1st.

Quarry accident recovery proves long, tough task

Because of a sudden rise in orders, the crew at Quarry Products operation in Niles had to work 2 hours overtime on January 30, 1980, reports Business Rep. Norris Casey. Normally, they get in work at 3:30 P.M.

At approximately 5:10 P.M., Brother Bill Orlind took a load of overburden to the dump area. When he did not return in a few minutes, foreman Brother Charles Ussery went looking for him thinking that he had either a flat tire or perhaps was stuck.

He looked in the regular dump area, and not finding the truck ex- panded his search to an area farther out, where he could see newly dumped piles of dirt. He drove to the edge of an abandoned quarry pond, and when he saw oil on the water, and bobbies coming up, he immediately notified all authorities, and the search began.

Volunteer divers immediately started a search for Brother Bill and the truck. The truck was found quickly. A crane was brought in from Bigge’s Drayage to try and pick it up. It was eventually pulled up to the edge of the bank the next day, but due to the badly cracked banks could not be picked out that way.

The divers could not search for the body for fear of the truck rolling over the backfill.
Sewer job approved for Hanford area

A project to bring City sewer service to the north Hanford fringe area, generally known as Shirth Area, was approved by the County Supervisors following a final hearing assessment report. The District Rep. Claude Odom, a bid by Gentz Construction Company of Fresno reduced the total cost from the original $2.3 million to $2,072,000. The typical reduction for the 380 parcels within the assessment district was $750.

California Power & Light, headquartered in Fresno, plans to build a $70 million electric generating plant at Avenue 12 and Road 24½ southwest of Madera. The powerhouse is scheduled to start in July and the plant should be in operation by the fall of 1971. The powerhouse will be powered by Pacific Gas & Electric. The plant will burn peletted fuel made from wood, agricultural waste, sawdust, grape clippings, cotton waste, bark and similar matter. The plant will generate electricity in excess of 100,000 hours a year, equivalent to about 500,000 barrels of oil. Completion and Light plans on awarding a construction contract to the Bechtel Power Corporation headquartered in San Francisco. The plant will be the first of several to be built.

Site preparation for the State's first wind powered turbine building project has been completed at the San Isidro Wind Energy Center to be interconnected to a Utility circuit by K.G. Walters Construction Company. The turbine generator will be erected on a section near the north end of the dam, 1,000 feet south of Avenue 24 and 1,300 feet beyond its large wind turbine build by the State. K.G. Walters will put up the building for a construction contract of $152,423.

They are building the foundation now and when the turbine is in line, the work will be fed into Pacific Gas & Electric lines going to the San Luis pump-generator plant near by. Production, about 120 kilowatts per hour, will be generated.

Major construction projects at the City parks are in various stages of planning, including one at Winter Park.

The first stages planned at Verdi call for $240,000 for what the Parks Department refers to as Phase 1 construction costs. The other five parks sites with funds, also budgeted for Phase II construction, are Cedar-Sierra Park, $240,000; Logman Park, $240,000; Gary Park, $240,000; Robinson Park, $240,000; and Neighborhood Council 3 Park.

TALKING TO TECHS BY PAUL SCHISSLER, DIRECTOR TECH. DEPT., GENE MACHADO, FRANK MORALES AND GENE WARD

Teaching Techs

There appears to be a great amount of rumor drifting about concerning the Ratio of Registered Apprentices to Journeyman Surveyors. Rumors often make conversation more interesting, and this situation is no different. Here’s what we think.

The Parties to the NCSJAC have established a Ratio. It is not a General Ratios. It is a Percentage of Union members to the total number of persons in a craft. It is applied, and after all of the honest and personal efforts that have been expended, it appears to be an alternative to be considered.

Separate and distinct from that is the Court Order. We have referred to the Court Order decreed by Federal Judge Robert F. Peckham. We have also referred to State Law concerning Registered Apprentices employed on Public Work Projects.

State Law mandates that when a Journeyman is performing work on a Public Work Project, that a certain number of persons shall be employed who are Registered Apprentices.

The NCSJAC’s purpose of the “B” Schedule was to maintain a strong Union!

The work picture is still holding strong for Structural Engineers in the World.

We have also referred to the recent Steward’s Meeting held in Oakland. It’s this kind of activity that helps keep us strong.

We have also referred to the work pool. The work pool is well respected all over the United States because the NCSJAC is a strong Union. We would have been far more difficult. We appreciate the work of the NCSJAC.

The President of Met-Chem, Al Johnson, says he will be looking for inspectors in the NDTS, Soil, Concrete and Lab Technician categories. They presently do NDTS, Construction Inspection and Lab Analysis.

Additional firms are considering opening branch offices in the Sacramento, Stockton areas this year. There is a lot of work going on in the Valley these days. Testing Engineers already have at least half dozen inspectors working in this area, mostly fly ash shops, such as P.D.M., Pearl Iron, Stockton Steel and Hogan Manufacturing.

We would like to commend the stewards who attended the recent Steward’s Meeting held in Oakland. It’s this kind of interest, cooperation and dedication that will insure we maintain a strong Union!

Listing below will find the new Wage Rates and Fringe Benefits effective March 1, 1980 for the C.E.L.E. group and the Independent Testing and Inspection Employees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Wage Increase</th>
<th>New Wage Rate Effective 3/1/80</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trainee</td>
<td>$ 44</td>
<td>$ 5.82</td>
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<tr>
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FRINGE BENEFITS Effective 3/1/80

| Health and Welfare | $ 10 Increase | $ 1.25 per hour |
| Pension | .35 Increase | 1.35 per hour |
| Pensioned Health and Welfare | .03 Increase | |
| Total Fringe Benefits | $2.70 per hour March 14, 1980 |

Talking to Techs

SURVEYORS

Pre-Negotiation Meetings have been concluded throughout Northern California and one main item that was discussed, and that the members unanimously demanded was to delete the "B" Wage and Fringe Benefits Schedule.

As many of you are aware, the purpose of the "B" Schedule was to allow the firms in the outlying areas an opportunity to be competitive with the non-union competition. Looking back over the past three years, this philosophy simply has not worked.

We can assure you, your demands will be heard on this and the other issues that were discussed at the pre-negotiation meetings. In addition, recommendations have been made for changes and the negotiations are now in progress.

If you have any concerns, please feel free to announce that through constant organizing efforts, we have recently signed four new Engineering Firms. They are Reliable International Inc., out of Portland, Oregon; opening a Branch Office in San Francisco; Soil Master out of Placerville, who will be doing erosion control work; M.J. Civil Engineering from San Ramon; and R.S.I. Surveyors located in Fresno. They will be primarily doing construction and subdivision work in the Southern California area.

We would also like to thank the District Representatives and Business Agents that have helped the Tech Representatives in the negotiations and give us in these organizing efforts. Without their help and assistance; the job would have been far more difficult. We appreciate you.

We would also like to congratulate Rick Molnar on his passing of his B.S. Tech. Rick is currently employed with Bislein and Korn in San Leandro.

TESTING AND INSPECTION

The work picture is still holding strong for Structural Steel Inspection. There is a definite shortage of qualified inspectors to do the work that is available. Ultrasonic, visual, chemical, and x-ray inspectors with a C.I. qualifications are the most asked-for inspectors. The inspectors qualified in the soils field should be busy by the latter half of March on through the summer, if it ever stops raining!

Smith-Emory has made its move into the Bay Area with plans for opening a Lab in the San Francisco area.

They are building the foundation now and when the turbine is in line, the work will be fed into Pacific Gas & Electric lines going to the San Luis pump-generator plant near by. Production, about 120 kilowatts per hour, will be generated.

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The first stages planned at Verdi call for $240,000 for what the Parks Department refers to as Phase 2 construction costs. The other five parks sites with funds, also budgeted for Phase II construction, are Cedar-Sierra Park, $240,000; Logman Park, $240,000; Gary Park, $240,000; Robinson Park, $240,000; and Neighborhood Council 3 Park.

(Continued on Page 14)
**DEPARTED BROTHERS**

Business Manager Dale Marr and the Officers of Local Union No. 3 offer their sympathy and condolences to the families of the following deceased.

**NAME/ADDRESS**

Bell, Orville (Helen - Wife)  2-16-80
1671 Marsh Creek #9, Clayton, California

Bowen, Matthew (Patricia Harris - Daughter)  2-16-80
P.O. Box 871, Empire, California

Frantz, Virgil (Utha - Wife)  2-19-80
12001 SW 1700 Road, Marion, Utah

Graham, Maurice C. (Catherine - Wife)  3-16-80
281 S Gliss St., Orange, California

Guy, Robert (Charlotte - Wife)  2-16-80
24071 Apache St., Kanab, Hawaii

Hepp, Walter (Lucille - Wife)  3-10-80
5801 Missouri Pl, Placerville, California

Hill, Tore D. (Margaret McDonald - Friend)  2-1-80
14850 River Rd., Guerneville, California

Hoff, Jacob (Harry A. - Son)  2-6-80
217 Alta Vista Dr., So. San Francisco, California

Kanoa, Sam (Ernest - Son & Sophie Makainai - Daughter)  4-14-80
45-142 Kaeohe Bay, Kaneohe, Hawaii

Mills, George (Laura - Wife)  2-10-80
P.O. Box 782, Carson City, Nevada

Nuy Arden (Donna - Wife & Phil - Son)  2-1-80
P.O. Box 337, Richfield, Utah

Nuese, Vance (Grettee - Wife)  3-16-80
2705 Judkin Lane, Reno, Nevada

Philips, Jean R (Henry J. - Son)  2-10-80
530 Bridges Way, Marysville, California

Ramay, Walt (Jewell - Wife)  2-10-80
26051 Stonewall Ave., Hayward, California

Redick, John P. (John C. - Son)  3-3-80
2748 Lanning St., Redding, California

Schnell, Harry (Velma Thomas - Daughter)  2-8-80
2450 Grass Valley #81, Auburn, California

Seawright, Glenn (Betty - Wife)  2-10-80
6070 Alpine Way, Marysville, California

Tietjen, Guy (Susan Annette - Wife)  2-10-80
3715 Andmore, Silver Springs, Nevada

Toddy, William (Lillian - Wife)  2-1-80
419-15 Fr. Weaver, Eves Beach, Nevada

Vega, Gerald (Gwenynith - Wife)  2-1-80
P.O. Box 443, Susanville, California

Walker, Fayette (May - Wife)  2-18-80
P.O. Box 84, Erwin, Tennessee

Williams, James H. (Catherine - Wife)  2-20-80
114 W 7th, Bountiful, Utah

**DECEASED DEPENDENTS**

Garratt, Joan Marie - Deceased February 2, 1980  2-7-80
Wife of Jesse B. Garratt

Lavel, Helen - Deceased February 13, 1980  2-9-80
Wife of Burton Lavel

Mendenthal, Matthew - Deceased January 11, 1980  2-4-80
Son of Rex Mendenthal

Mossi, Dolores - Deceased January 25, 1980  1-26-80
Wife of Vincent Mossi

Wilkin, Sarah J. - Deceased January 11, 1980  1-31-80
Wife of Howard D. Wilkin

**Business Rep. Ed Jones reports that the building and highway construction industry in Northern Nevada is looking towards what should be a good work year, beginning with construction starting on the 7 story tower addition for Harrahs Hotel in Reno.**

- Construction on the Harrahs addition began with the arrival of a 4000 Manitowoc track mounted tower crane, with a 183 foot vertical tower and a 130 foot jib. This crane, which will be used to set the new steel for the addition, was leased from Atlas Iron Works from Portland, Oregon. Two Western Crane and Rigging crews unloaded and assembled the crane at Second and Center Streets in downtown Reno, with the help of Neil F. Lampson Inc., a crane company from Washington.

- Expected to start in the near future is the 25 story, 802 room Circus-Circus Hotel tower on Sixth Street, between Sierra and Virginia Streets. Both hotel addition plans to be open in the spring of 1981.

- Part of Helms Construction crews have been kept busy except for the winter months on the 1.209 mile 1-580 job from Villanova to South Virginia Street. The crews have been loading out full material from Weekedkridt Pit and putting in structures at Plumb Lane and Peckham Lane. Part of Helms Const. crusher crews has been working two shifts at a 51 million Cub Mill City paving overlay job with a hot plant crew setting up with plans to start by March 24th.

- Helms Construction has started on the 4.574 mile, $5.7 million project on U.S. 30 in Fallon to widen and rebuild from Main Street to Thompson Street. Gerhart and Berry will be a subcontractor on this job, doing the pipe and storm drain work.

- On 1-80 at Battle Mountain, G.P. Construction and Industrial J.V. plan to start March 24th on the 5.836 mile job which was awarded for $7.9 million. There will be 40 operators on this project.

- J.B. Parsons from Ogden Utah plans to start dirt work on the 5.863 mile Wells bypass on 1-30 March 1981. This $11 million job will use about 60 engines. J.B. Parsons crews will also be breaking at Carlin for white paving of 4 miles of Carlin Water loop. This project could not be done last year because of a cement shortage.

- Person will also be working on the 1-80 Pilot Peak job near Wendover. This 4.5 mile, 11.5 million dollar job is about 30% complete at this time.

- Holcomb Construction was low bidder February 29th, at $649,000.00, to construct the bridge and approach roads on Carson River for the Nevada Division of Parks at Lahontan Recreation area.

- Western Paving was low bidder February 26th, for the campground and boat launch facility at Silver Springs Beach at $234,000.00.

- Coming up for bid March 27th, is the 6.800 mile overlay job on 1-5 1/2 from Vista East to McCarran Hill. Estimate on this job is $5 million.

Current under construction in Reno is a 17 story addition to Harrah's Hotel at Second and Virginia Streets (below). Being used to set steel for the job is a Manitowoc 4100 track mounted tower crane. **American Paving of Fresno was low bidder at just over $1 million to construct Madera Industrial Park. The work will include streets and sewer improvements.**

**$4.2 million sewage facility eyed for Yosemite**

(Continued from Page 13) Butten, Steven (Peach Ave. Avenue, $220,000. Initial construction costs at the six parks total nearly $1.5 million. Fresno District Representative Claude Odom reports that Yosemite is eyed for one of the six facilities. A small group proposed for major projects for correction of water and sewer problems at Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks.

- J.B. Lampson Inc., a crane company on the 4,574 mile, $5.7 million I-580 project could not be done last year because of a cement shortage. J.B.

- Shell Oil Company. Petitions for the renovation area.

- Voters authorized the sale of $70 million in bonds to build a power plant at Pine Flat Dam which will supply electricity to the State Water Project.

- Work on the generators and turbines is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1980, with a completion date 1981.

- Voters authorized the sale of $70 million in bonds for 1977. The project is estimated at close to $60 million dollars. The project was granted a lease in September of 1979.

- The power plant will produce 420 million kilowatt hours of electricity a year, which will be sold to the State Water Project, which will use the energy to operate its pumps.

- Construction is expected to start soon on two projects to eliminate odors at the Selma-Kingsburg Power and Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Board of Directors awarded both contracts to Kgewah Construction of Visalia.
**FOR SALE:** 77 DIPLOMAT MOTOR HOME, 3/4 ton, 20 ft., extremely low mileage, bucket seat, tinted windows, electric room fans, sleeps 6, recently overhauled, extras. $28,900. 1972 Volkswagen, T-2, 4-speed, very good condition, $1,950. Don Jones, 906/925-7300.

**FOR SALE:** 1964 RANCHERO, chrome hood emblem, 5-speed, Asking $6,200. 916/482-9280.

**FOR SALE:** 5 ACRES adjacent fish lake, 2 miles from Oroville, 20 from Chico, asking $6,200. 916/372-5932.

**FOR SALE:** 1975 ROAD RANGER 18' travel trailer, $5,200.

**FOR SALE:** 1979 CHEVROLET PICKUP, 5-speed, 4-speed, heater, sunroof, P/S, P/E, 351 V8, turn key. $12,000; 1966 Chevy 5 speed, 4 speed, heater, sunroof, P/S, P/E, 351 V8, turn key. $12,000.

**FOR SALE:** 10 ACRE in Northern Nevada, cash cheap or latest pick up. 916/372-5932.

**FOR SALE:** 8' CAMPER, 6/10, cabover, very good cond. $750. 1st owner, 12,000 miles. $1,250. John Cardoza, 1950 Overhill Road, Concord, Ca. 94520 415/757-7841 Reg. #0569118.

**FOR SALE:** 80 ME-280 Broderich, Ca. 95605

For more information, please contact the sellers directly.

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**Personal Notes**

**Santa Rosa**

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Vincent Mossi on the recent death of his wife, Dolores. We regret having to report the death of Brother Jim Nace, retired, and also Brother Wilfred King, retired. Our sincere condolences are extended to the families of these two brothers.

**Salt Lake City**

The Salt Lake office extends its sympathy to member Steven Davis, who works for Wheeler Machinery Company in Salt Lake City, Utah. Steven's parents, Nellie & Lois Davis, were killed in an automobile-truck accident in Butte, Montana on February 20, 1980.

**Reno**

Congratulations to the new parents: Robert and Tracy Marin, a daughter born 12/21/79, Joel and Monica Severson, a son born 1/24/80. Jerry and Lortella Tryer, a son born 1/12/80.

We would like to extend condolences to the family and friends of Gary Tejera, who passed away 1/21/80, and Howard Wilkin whose wife Sarah passed away 2/1/80.

**Eureka**

It is with great happiness we announce the birth of a new son to Brother Gary Shotts and his wife. We wish Brother Jim Cavito a speedy recovery. He has been on the sick list, and entering the hospital for surgery. Brother Al Pacciorini had extended condolences to the family and friends of Brother Richard Bedal, Lee Burns, Albert Cabeal, Robert Carlier and Hugh Schnell, who lost their wives: Brother Ludwig Krupka, Brother Henry Carlier and Harry Schnell. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Brother Wayne Poole recently underwent surgery at Presbyterian Medical Center in San Francisco for a triple bypass. This was his fourth time in surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to those who are once again donating to the Operating Engineers Blood Bank in Sacramento. They are: Jim and Betty Meyer, Arnold and Judy Bohlin, Dellie and Tommy Windom, Edmond Vercruysse and Wayne Jungapich.

**Sacramento**

We would like to extend condolences to the families and friends of deceased Brothers: Richard Bedal, Lee Burns, Albert Cabeal, Robert Crawford, Levi Dukett, Walter Hepp, Del Hickod, Fred Husman, Claude Johnston, Rupert Kavanaugh, Ed Wood, Schell, Hugh Smith, George Spencer, Clyde Stonecipher, and Harold Anderson.

We regret to hear the passing of Joan Garrett, wife of Jesse Garrett. Brother Wayne Poole recently underwent surgery at Presbyterian Medical Center in San Francisco for a triple bypass. This was his fourth time in surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to those who are once again donating to the Operating Engineers Blood Bank in Sacramento. They are: Jim and Betty Meyer, Arnold and Judy Bohlin, Dellie and Tommy Windom, Edmond Vercruysse and Wayne Jungapich.
Marysville area begins to pick up

Business Representative Dan Mostats reports the work picture on Marysville District's East Side is beginning to pick up some. Tenco Tractor is busy working nine hours per day, and sometimes more, repairing farm and construction equipment and assembling and servicing new equipment prior to the beginning of the workseason. Sienky & Company from Valley City, California was given the job in late summer and is now working on the highway widening and installation of the traffic signals on 20th Street. The bid was $98,340. Having bid $43,425, Robinson Construction Company from Oroville, California was the low bidder on the street improvements on East Third and East Second Streets in Marysville.

Butte County's Public Works Department is putting bids together for reconstruction of a section of 2nd Street, which is already scheduled to be let on March 20. The City of Marysville's Public Works Department is working on bids for street improvement projects on "D" Street between Sixth and Eighth Streets. The bids are scheduled to be let on March 25.

Baldwin Contracting Company is busy working, when possible, on the water treatment facility in Oroville and, also, servicing equipment in its shop. "Because of the above-average rainfall this year, we are hopeful enough to see some emergency monies for repair of the levees on the Yuba and Sutter Rivers," Mostats said. For several years, local citizens and tourists passing through have been able to enjoy the beauty of Lake Ellis, a small scene lake which was built in Marysville during the WPA Days. The City of Marysville has been busy attempting to eradicate the Hydrilla Weed which filled the Lake and threatened the nearby rice lands. The Hydrilla project this year is a good beginning. Arons Building Wrecking Company of Sacramento has completed the cleaning of the Lake, and the Lake has now been refilled. The fountain is again flowing, and tourists passing through the area can again say, "Look at that lovely little lake!"

Marysville Bank

The supply of blood in the Marysville District blood bank is VERY low. Anyone who can should make an effort to make a donation. Donations may be made at:

CHICO: 165 Cohasset Road. Mondays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

OROVILLE: Thermallo Grande Hall, 479 Plumas Avenue, first Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

MARYSVILLE: Marysville Art Club, second Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated. Remember to make donations for the Operating Engineers, Marysville District, Local Union No. 3 Blood Bank.

Due to bad weather

Many jobs still shut down in Santa Rosa

Most of the jobs in Santa Rosa are still shut down because of rain, but with some good warm days expected, a few of the last full swing jobs should be up and running soon. Reports Business Representative Pat O'Connell.

This being an election year, the Sonoma County Building and Construction Trades Office has endorsed a few candidates for office, namely Ray Byrne, running for Sonoma County Judge and Bob Adams who is seeking the seat of Supervisor, First District. There will be other candidates for other offices running for the coming election. It is the utmost importance everyone exercise their right to vote so be sure to cast your ballot up at The Geysers project this year and be around the middle of April. In the Geysers area there has been quite a bit of activity. The City of Marysville's Public Works Department is working on bids for street improvement projects on "D" Street between Sixth and Eighth Streets.

Due to bad weather, numerous jobs have been put on hold. According to reports from the Construction Department, the weather has been quite favorable for the construction of the new Sonoma County Courthouse. The new building, which is being constructed by the firm of Piombo Corp., should be completed by the beginning of the summer. The courthouse is expected to be opened for business in the fall of this year.

Work for this year looking great with Pomico Corp. starting Unit 17 at the Geysers, reports Business Representative Chuck Smith. Lange Bros. have also worked on the project, and by mid-year there should be quite a few jobs going in The Geysers area.

Up in Lake County Peter Klein has been busy with the new tower project at The Geysers project this year and by mid-year there should be quite a few jobs going in The Geysers area.

Hundred turn out to boo planning board

Hundred turn out to boo planning board

Hundreds of Sonoma County residents, many of them operating engineers, turned out to oppose the latest attempts by the local planning commission to halt all gravel mining in the Russian River. The opponents were given support by District Attorney Daryl Simons, a national recognized geologist, who pointed out that the river could sustain a significant amount of erosion without harmful side effects to the environment.