



# Monthly NEWS LETTER

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

VOL. ONE, NUMBER SIX

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

AUGUST 19, 1943

## Shipyard meet in fifth week, Swanson says

Victor S. Swanson, Local Union Manager, reports:

The Shipbuilding Stabilization Conference which is being held in San Francisco is now in its 5th week, with no end in sight.

The Engineers have presented their case and most of the delegates who were here from up and down the coast to attend the conference, have now returned to their respective homes, to take care of their business.

However, Brother "Nick" Carter, our 5th Vice-President, remains on the job, capably looking out for the Engineers' interest. It is impossible to say what the final outcome will be. No doubt it will require several more weeks before a decision is given out.

I would like to call to the attention of all members that our headquarters at 1161 Market Street, San Francisco, are open every Wednesday night from 7:30 to 10 p. m. for the convenience of the membership.

The officers, and Bay Area Business Agents are present each Wednesday night, and if you have any grievances of any kind you are requested to come in and discuss them.

Also, if you have any suggestions which you feel might be beneficial to the Local Union, bring them before one of these meetings.

As you all know a "Drive" is being made to purchase U. S. War Savings Bonds . . . it is our duty to buy as many as possible. Local Union No. 3 now has 1111 members in the service!

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## Dredgers short handed, representative reports

Jack Foster, Business Representative in charge of the Dredgers; reports:

The dredgers are all working short handed. The companies are in need of at least thirty deckhands and leveemen. Anyone can do this work, if not too badly crippled. Should any of our members have "friends or enemies" that want this kind of work at good pay, contact any of our offices.

## Labor's part in war lauded in Wallace speech

Detroit, Mich.—Unified commendation for labor's full support of the war effort was expressed by Vice-President Wallace in an address here.

"Labor," he asserted, "is beginning to do its part in enlightening the public. It is beginning to make crystal clear that 97 per cent of labor has cooperated 100 per cent with our government in the war effort. Let that group which can show a more comprehensive effort throw the first stone at labor.

"More and more in the future labor will demonstrate that it can cooperate with both employers and with agriculture in those measures which lead to increased employment, increased production and a higher standard of living."

Labor will be the chief sufferer if reactionary interests succeed in their "machinations," the Vice-President declared, and added:

"The people of America know that the second step toward Nazism is the destruction of labor unions. There are midget Hitlers here who continually attack labor. There are other demagogues blind to the errors of every other group who shout, 'We love labor, but . . .' Both the midget Hitlers and the demagogues are enemies of America. Both would destroy labor unions if they could. Labor should be fully aware of its friends and of its enemies."

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## Operating Engineer has six sons in service

Bernard Dawe, of Chicago, a member of International Union of Operating Engineers (AFL), has given six sons to the nation's armed forces and recently was honored by Chicago Locals 556 and 556-A. He has another son who will soon join his brothers in the fight for freedom. He was given a silk American flag by the locals.

The first son to go was Phillip, then only 19, who is a signalman in the navy and stationed aboard a destroyer. He has been in several engagements with enemy forces and his parents are proud possessors of a battle-torn American flag which he brought home to them.

The other five sons are in the army.

## Labor's vote prime weapon in struggle to maintain democracy at home, AFL official declares

By Edward D. Vandeleur

Secretary California State Federation of Labor

A soldier in an army without a rifle is worthless. Even with a rifle he is useless unless he has bullets and he is ready to fire them. This is just as true of a citizen who has a right to vote but does not exercise that right.

The fight for democracy is not a fight that is being waged on the battle fronts alone. Right here at home the struggle to maintain full political suffrage for the citizens of this country goes on without interruption.

How else will it be possible for the people of this country, of this state, of this city to establish suitable forms of democratic rule unless they express their desires and opinions through the ballot?

It is the only medium through which the citizens of this country have a real opportunity to show that they at least want to have a voice in government.

## AFL launches drive to sell War Bonds

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in observance of Labor Day. Here is the text of his announcement:

We can participate in the celebration of Labor Day this year with the feeling of deep pride and satisfaction because of the magnificent record which Labor has made during the past year in the production of war material. Labor has set new standards in production.

You'll find a pledge card on page 2.

This is your invitation to pledge yourself to purchase an extra War Bond between now and Labor Day, September 6. Do it now.

It has exceeded the goal set by the governmental authorities in the production of planes, guns, and other war materials, and in other important phases of the war program; Labor has also made a wonderful record. I refer to the way and manner in which Labor has purchased War Bonds. With this you can readily see Labor is fighting most successfully on two fronts—on the production front and on the War Bond front.

The American Federation of Labor has worked and is now working very closely with the United States Treasury Department. It is subscribed wholeheartedly to the special plan which has

(Continued on page 2)

After every election which fails to bring out any substantial part of the voting strength in a given community the enemies of democracy are quick to point out that the people are obviously not interested in majority rule. It is the best argument that the advocates of minority rule have and use.

What is the good of griping, sounding off, and shouting loudly about what should or should not be done, if it is not followed up by casting a ballot when the opportunity comes around? The whole history of dictatorship is based on the indifference on the part of the mass citizenry to take an interest in issues facing them and about which they can express an opinion.

It is because of such indifference that it has been possible for a number of would-be dictators to step into office and claim they were representing the people. They have a right to make such a claim when the majority sit back on their haunches and content themselves with letting off steam in a saloon, or anywhere else for that matter, when it does not mean a thing.

One ballot intelligently cast is worth a thousand voices raised in protest!

Today there are a number of important issues facing the labor movement. Take, for instance, the Connally-Smith bill recently passed by Congress over the veto of the President. This bill, which can actually produce complete chaos, is the greatest menace to our war effort, and was so hurriedly drawn up and so mildly amended that it is incapable of accomplishing anything but the greatest amount of harm, can still

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## AFL Launches drive to sell War Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

been worked out in a constructive way for Labor Day.

This plan provides that members of each unit of our organized Labor movement, from the smallest local to the largest of our international union, will be asked to invest between now and September 6, Labor Day, a sufficient sum of money in War Bonds to underwrite the cost of some particular form of war material—from a "jeep" cost \$1165.00, or up through the more expensive items, such as bombers, pursuit ships, or any other piece of war or naval equipment within the resources of the organization.

A little less than a month is ahead of us during which we must concentrate our efforts in order to promote this program. Every unit of Labor, even the smallest, should be able to take part in this campaign. Army rulings recently made permit the naming of these pieces of equipment for the unions financing them, provided the names do not consist of more than three words. In those cities and communities in which Labor is planning Labor Day celebrations, such celebrations should include (if possible) the exhibition of tanks, jeeps, trucks and other war measures which have been financed.

And furthermore, so far as leave may be secured for members of organized labor serving in the Armed forces, they shall participate in the home-town celebration and there should be appropriate addresses, military music, etc. Where working conditions make Labor Day celebration impossible, ceremonies can be held within the various plants.

The outstanding feature of this form of Labor Day celebration is reflected in the opportunity which it affords the members of organized labor to demonstrate to the American people in a factual and conventional way, the impressive contribution of organized labor in the National War effort, in the form of the war material which Labor has not only constructed but for which Labor has paid.

## LAWRENCE REPORTS ON JOBS IN SACRAMENTO-MARYSVILLE AREA

*Frank Lawrence, Business Representative working out of the Sacramento office, reports:*

**Sacramento**—The McGillivray Construction Company is still working at the Winters-Davis Airport. The "cats" have been reduced to one shift and about 30 members are left. Work on their highway job at Shingle Springs is just about completed.

A few members are still at Feather Falls and wage complaints which were turned in have been adjusted.

Stolte, Inc., A-D-H Company, Morre & Roberts, and J. R. Reeves are still working at McClellan Field but work on these jobs has slowed down somewhat.

**Yancy** Fabricating Yards continue to give employment to several members. As yet Sacramento Industries have not started any further work as the contracts expected from Kaiser have been held up.

Teichert's job at Municipal Airport is expected to be completed around the 20th of this month. Their road job from Lincoln to Wheatland is just about finished.

Hemstreet & Bell have completed work on their job at Cisco and have moved to Boco. Their game reserve job is about completed also.

**The** Western Foundation have laid off one shift on the Knights Landing job due to shortage of labor. Several weeks will finish their contract. Jones & Hedlestetter will start soon on the same job and furnish work for 6 members.

At the Chico Airport McDonald, Rudy & Westbrook have the Hot Plant going now and are laying hot stuff. The "cats" have been moved to Napa.

The levee job of N. M. Hall at the Sutter By-Pass is going about the same.

**The** H. Earl Parker Company have finished their levee job at Elkhorn and Fremont Weir and have moved the "cats" to their Sutter By-Pass levee job.

Quite a number of new jobs have started since our last report.

Morrison & Knudson are working on a railroad job at Antelope and also on another railroad job from Elmira to Suisun. We have 8 members on these jobs.

**Lord & Bishop** have a small job in Yolo which is now under way. This company is still working at the Chrome Pile which gives work to several of our members.

At the Auburn Hospital, A. Teichert and McDonald & Kahn continue working about the same. Teichert has secured a contract for \$90,000 street and road work at this site.

At Mather Field work has started again on new runways. This is being done by A. Teichert & Company. This job is expected to last several months and will use a large crew.

**At** Fairfield the Lawrence Construction Company have started work on a \$500,000 housing project. Farrish Company also have a housing project at Vacaville. Ten members are on these two projects.

The McGillivray Construction Company has secured a contract for an \$86,000 state road job from Vacaville to Davis Junction but work has not started at this writing.

**The** Hooper Construction Company are starting work on a housing project at McClellan Field.

**Casson & Ball** have moved to the Fairfield-Suisun Airport to do additional work. As yet it is impossible to determine just how much work they will have there. Quite a number of members are on the job at the present time.

Morrison & Knudson are starting work on a 3,500,000 yard levee job at Rio Vista. This will be a big job and already quite a few members are working there. This job will carry about 200 members when it gets going.

**The** M. A. Jenkins Company have started a bridge job at Chico.

**Harms & Larson** are getting ready to start a levee job between Fremont Weir and Knights Landing. This job will take a good many of our members.

H. Earl Parker Company have several "cats" at Lincoln on a leveling job.

J. R. Reeves Company also have started moving clay again at Lincoln.

**Coloma** Lake is the proposed site of a Navy job.

Baker Brothers have moved their equipment to Pasco, Washington, and are calling for operators for it. The rate is \$1.50 and they are working 10 hours, 6 days.

The Rock Sand and Gravel Plants are still all busy. A little trouble at P. C. A. at the Fair Oaks plant over oilers has been adjusted and the question of rates is still in discussion.

A. Teichert's Hot Plant is running two shifts and McGillivray's and Brighton's Hot Plants are running one shift at present.

## Labor's vote vital in fight for democracy

(Continued from page 1)

be defeated if labor will only go to the polls.

The Connally-Smith bill is the greatest disgrace that has ever blotted the statutes of this country. Every congressman and senator who voted for it should be opposed by labor with all of its strength—and that means, with all of its votes. If labor does not show enough interest to do this, then the same congressmen and senators will vote for bills far worse than the Connally-Smith bill.

**Considerable** pressure is brought to bear upon the country's legislators. But this very pressure works only if the legislator involved knows that a sufficient number of votes will be affected to make a difference in his election one way or another. Of course, this is simple and obvious, but it seems that the simple and obvious is always overlooked by the simple and obvious person.

What respect will any political officeholder or a candidate for such an office have for labor, if he is convinced that labor does not turn out the vote? Time and again the bitter foes of labor have used this argument. They have loudly proclaimed labor's ineffectuality on the political field.

**This** is a challenge that cannot be waved aside. It can be answered in only one way, and that is by every member of labor casting a vote at every election. These votes will carry more persuasion than thousands of arguments and printed words. Votes, not gestures, accomplish things.

Already the politicians of this country are tapping out the voting strength of the country's population. Already they are looking ahead to the day when the boys of the armed forces return. In preparation for this event they are playing up to every issue that will supposedly catch the eye of the boys in khaki.

**Labor** cannot underestimate these future developments. It must organize its voting strength as it has never done so before.

Unless every member of a trade union takes a personal interest in his ballot; unless each single trade unionist exercises the voting privileges of the ballot; unless every wage earner awakens to the need of being a fighting soldier in the army of democracy by voting, labor will have to take the consequences, which, to say the least, will be catastrophic.

### OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3 LABOR DAY VICTORY BOND DRIVE

I, the undersigned, member of Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3, do hereby pledge myself to purchase a United States War Bond in the amount of \$....., between this date and Labor Day, September 6th, 1943.

Date....., 1943.

.....  
Purchaser's Signature

.....  
Address

**This pledge should be signed and returned to the Business Representative or Secretary of your Local Union immediately.**

## Stabilization plan protects union contract

Wm. A. Speers, Business Representative working out of the San Jose office, reports:

**San Jose**—The preamble of the Stabilization and Utilization Plan provides that "The objective of this plan is to provide for proper and complete mobilization and utilization of local labor resources, both men and women, for the winning of the war. The purposes which this plan seek to accomplish, are:

"1. Eliminate wasteful turnover and excessive absenteeism. 2. Insure maximum utilization of existing manpower resources. 3. Direct the flow of available labor to employers engaged in activities essential to the war. 4. Reduce unnecessary migration of labor between industrial areas by encouraging the use of local labor."

The preamble also includes complete instruction for putting the program into effect, and, in part, includes the subjects of "War manpower work clearances," "Organization of local War Manpower Committees," "Clearances and referrals," and "Union hiring halls."

The general instructions provide that "In cases in which workers are covered by collective bargaining agreements which provide for union hiring halls, arrangements shall be made by the Area Committee so that referrals are made in a manner so as to provide for the continued use of and cooperation with such Union hiring halls."

"No modification of union agreements. Nothing in this plan shall alter the provisions of existing collective bargaining agreements."

From the above it must be clear that the provisions of an existing Union agreement with employers must be observed, and that if "good standing" membership is required to continue in employment, the Union may demand that members not in "good standing," be replaced.

This article may well serve as a notice to those who may be of a different opinion, and who have taken advantage of their interpretation to the extent of not keeping in "good standing" in the Local Union having jurisdiction over their employment.

## Union wages on government jobs achieved

Brothers C. L. Casebolt, T. L. Clark, and B. M. Stewart, Business Representatives working out of the Salt Lake Office, report:

**Salt Lake City, Utah**—The Department of Labor has finally adjusted wage scales to conform with the union scale.

This achievement was due to the efforts of our Local Union Manager, Victor S. Swanson, and the co-operation of our International Office, particularly by John McDonald, Assistant to the General President, and also, we might modestly say, through our own efforts as Business Agents in this area.

This is a good example of what organized efforts can accomplish! These wages are now being put into effect on various government contracts.

For the information of all members working in this locality, special meetings will be held on the following dates:

Salt Lake City, Labor Temple, September 11, at 8 p. m.; Provo, 35 No. 3rd West St., September 12, at 10 a. m.; Ogden, Labor Temple, September 18, at 8 p. m.

The Committee appointed to locate a building suitable for the Engineers' office reports progress.

We regret to report the deaths of two members, Brother George B. Jensen who died from injuries received while working, and Brother Mead B. Walker who died from heart failure.

All of the present jobs in the state are progressing very nicely. Although a few small jobs are being let we haven't any large construction projects coming up in the near future!

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## President Clancy back on job after illness

President Pat Clancy, Business Agent working out of the San Francisco Office, reports:

Since our last regular meeting, I was confined in the hospital for 12 days, and have been off work practically the entire month recuperating. While I was gone, Brother Vandewark and Brother Metz took care of my territory, dividing it between themselves. On my return to work I attended the Shipbuilding Stabilization Conference which is being held at the Whitcomb Hotel. The issues in regard to the concrete boat yards were adjusted to the satisfaction of the Engineers.

I have also visited the Belair Shipyard where we have had a good deal of difficulty . . . also visited the Pacific Bridge job at Redwood City. One of our brothers, Myron Reese, a member of Local 3-A, met with an accident on this job, and died of injuries received. We were all sorry to learn of this Brother's death, and our sincere sympathy is extended to his family and friends.

I hope to have more to report in the next issue as I am now back on the job.

## Reno representatives report on organizing, jobs in Nevada area

John DeLagrange, Business Representative working out of the Reno Office, reports:

**Reno**—New project is contemplated for Fallon. I received information in the past week that the Navy is to erect a training station at Fallon Airport for the Naval Airflight Training School, at the approximate cost of between five and six million dollars.

This will consist of barracks, accommodations, hospitals, streets, roads and hangars. The Dodge Construction Company is the successful bidder on the extension at Fallon which was let July 2, at \$266,000, which consists of one new runway and an extension of 1400 feet on the two completed runways.

The Isabell Construction Company opened its job at Ely, Nevada, on mining and stripping August 3. We have approximately 15 men now on the job, mostly cat operators. This job is to run 18 months or two years.

**Organizer** Marks of the AFL received a wire from the NLRB August 4, informing the AFL that they would try to have a date and time of the election in the very near future, on the Kennecott Copper Corporation at Ely, Nevada. There was a general meeting held at McGill, Nevada, August 3, with all International Representatives of all twelve local unions concerned, present, and each gave a very interesting talk.

I held a meeting at Ruth, Nevada, with the Operating Engineers, and had with me our new Business Representative, Brother Austin Wadman, who was introduced to all of our members and also informed the members that he was now stationed in Ely, Nevada, for an indefinite period of time. I spent the week of August 2 with Brother Wadman in the Ely District. My impression is that Brother Wadman is going to make a very capable organizer and business agent. His address is: 261 9th Street, Ely, Nevada.

I am planning to move into the vicinity of Gabbs Valley and Luning, Nevada, in the mining industry, the week of August 9, for organizational purposes.

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## Georgia labor buys new Liberty ship

**Savannah, Ga.**—The AFL unions in Georgia are making good progress in raising from \$3,500,000 to \$4,000,000 to defray the costs of Georgia labor's Liberty ship, named after Jerome Jones, to be launched here on Labor Day at the Southeastern Shipyard.

Les Collett, Business Representative working out of the Reno Office, reports:

**Reno**—Harms Bros. & Larson Bros. are about ready to pour hot stuff at the Minden Airport with about a dozen brothers left on the job. Isbell Construction Company are re-surfacing the road at Chilcoot, California, with a full union crew and have about six weeks work on that project.

E. B. Bishop Company is tearing down their hot plant at Honey Lake and will be moved out some time this week.

F. C. Stolte is still at Honey Lake but has work for only one of our men who is Brother Vern Barker.

There are two good jobs to come up this week at Westwood, California, one is a flume to drain Walker Lake and consists of moving 92,000 yards of dirt and the job is estimated at \$350,000, with the Red River Lumber Company to furnish all material. There are several companies bidding on the job, including F. C. Stolte Company.

There are also 20 miles of railroad to be built for the same company out of Westwood, and Winston Bros. of Los Angeles are bidding on it. There will be two shovel crews and three cats and one motor patrol on this job as well as a mechanic and greaser. Winston Bros. are on an AFL contract and have been in this office to inquire about men provided they get the job.

Yancey Company of Sacramento, California, is putting in a bridge at Halleck, Nevada, and is employing three engineers on that project with W. O. Riley in charge of the job. They assure me he will use only members of Local No. 3.

The lumber industry is about the same, with meetings scheduled for the coming week and with contracts to present to several operators.

With the help of the Teamsters, Local No. 533, and Brother Louis Paley, their representative, this office was able to partially straighten out the Russell Olson Company job at Lovelock, Nevada, which company has the contract to lay the hot stuff there and also at Owyhee, Nevada, the flight strip.

Hunt and Frandsen are about through at Owyhee and the job has been 100 per cent with the Engineers, with Brother Harry Gardner as Steward on that job.

This office was favored with a visit from Chief Petty Officer Al Vercruzen on July 26. He is a member of this Union and is now in the fighting Seabees. He had a short furlough to come home to see his family, and a new 3-months-old son for the first time.

We are making good progress at the Manganese mine of the Western Alloy Company, 17 miles south of Valmy, Nevada, and on the next trip over there will present a contract to Mr. Franklin of that company. The Utah Construction Company is mining the ore and all but one of the engineers are signed up and most of them are members.

**BUY YOUR  
EXTRA  
WAR BOND  
for  
LABOR DAY**

Clip Coupon on Page Two

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

published by  
**OPERATING ENGINEERS  
 LOCAL UNION No. 3**

of the International Union of Operating Engineers

Northern California  
 Northern Nevada  
 State of Utah

Grant Building, 1095 Market Street - Rooms 309-313  
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

ARE YOU GETTING YOURS?

Obviously, it is the intent of Local 3 to distribute the monthly "News Letter" to the entire membership. Notwithstanding, it is found that there are many who are not receiving this official publication. If the mailing list includes the correct addresses of our members, it is hard to account for them not receiving their copy.

There is no other medium through which they can get more authentic information concerning the affairs of Local 3, and its subordinate Locals, than the monthly "News Letter" published by the Engineers Union, and every member who is not receiving his copy, should drop a penny post card to the San Francisco office, 1161 Market Street, giving his correct address, and such other information as will guarantee delivery, or give the information to the local Division Office.

It is very important that you keep informed of the progress of your Union. You may not consider it important now, but remember, this is your Union, and the time is coming when Organized Labor, of which you are a part, is going to be confronted with the problem of maintaining high standards of employment, and you may be called upon to make some very important decisions.

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An Engineer's Fable

Three men, a lawyer, a doctor, and a construction stiff, appeared before St. Peter at the pearly gates.

The lawyer bewildered St. Peter with an eloquent address and before the venerable Saint could recover his composure he was handed a writ of mandamus and pushed aside and the lawyer strode through the open portals.

"I feel I know you, Dr. Brown," St. Peter acknowledged the doctor's introduction, "many have said you sent them here before their time. Welcome to our city!"

The construction stiff, who had been standing in the background, now stepped forward. "I am looking for a job," he said. St. Peter wearily shook his head. "I am sorry," he replied, "we have no work here. If you want a job you can go to hell."

Hearing the familiar response made the construction stiff feel more at home. "Very well," he said, "I've had hell all my life so I guess I can stand it better than others."

"What are you? What can you do?" asked St. Peter. "I'm a construction man. I apply mathematical principles to the control of natural forces," the stiff replied.

This sounded meaningless to St. Peter and he lost his temper. "Young man," he said, "you can go to hell with your mathematical principles and try your hand on some natural resources there."

"Always glad to tackle a tough job," said the man as he departed for the nether regions.

Strange reports soon reached St. Peter. Sounds of agony and suffering had been stilled in hell. New arrivals, after reviewing both places, selected the lower region. The Saint asked for a report on hell.

"That construction stiff," reported the messenger, "has transformed the place. You wouldn't know it. He has harnessed the fiery furnaces for light and power. He has cooled the entire place with artificial refrigeration."

"The brimstone lakes have been drained and the air filled with cool perfumed breezes. He has built bridges across the bottomless abyss and has bored tunnels through obsidian cliffs. There are paved streets, gardens, play grounds, lakes, rivers, and beautiful waterfalls."

"That construction stiff has gone through hell and made it a realm of happiness, peace and industry."

DO YOUR PART—  
 in fight against inflation



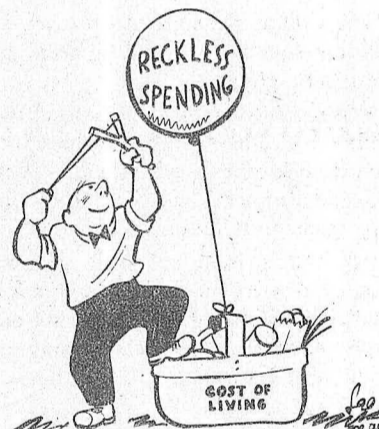
DO YOUR PART TO ENFORCE PRICE CEILINGS

Know the ceiling and refuse to pay more. Careless buying gives the black marketeer an advantage and makes it hard for your honest merchant to keep prices down. If you're overcharged, ask for a receipt and go to your War Price and Ration Board.



BUY AS MANY WAR BONDS AS YOU CAN

War bonds are an anchor against the cost of living because they put money away where it can't wear out its value competing for our limited supply of goods; because they help the government finance the war safely. Also they bring you back money later when you may need it more — with interest.



PURCHASE ONLY WHAT YOU NEED ...

Goods and services in the United States this wartime are enough to keep everybody going if everybody buys just what he needs. Unnecessary spending upsets fair distribution — pushes prices up too, because we can't make more to fill an added demand.



PAY TAXES WILLINGLY ...

The war has got to be paid for and it will be harder to pay for after the war boom is over. Taxes help pay for the war now. Using our money this way is better than putting it into the market and raising prices by competition.



PAY OFF DEBTS — DON'T MAKE NEW ONES

Smart people pay off their debts when money is plentiful, rather than waiting till money is scarcer. An added incentive now is that money used to pay debts is money that can't get out to spiral up prices on our adequate but limited stocks of things to buy.



PUT ALL YOU CAN INTO LIFE INSURANCE, SAVINGS

Life insurance and savings take up money that otherwise would only go into pushing up prices. The best part of it is that insurance and savings mean money for you or your family later on when money may be harder to get.

# OAKLAND REPORTS DOINGS IN EAST BAY

*Business Representatives Al Clem, Ed Doran, and Joe Walthers, working out of the Oakland Office, report:*

**Construction** work in this area has slowed down considerably. The Pleasanton job has approximately 65 members. This includes McNeil's and several sub-contractors. McNeil expects to be finished with his portion by the first of the month.

A. Tiegert & Son have four cats working on Western Pacific Railroad in Altamont Pass. Al Holland is Superintendent.

The various Gravel Plants are fairly busy at this time.

**Six** members are working at Newark on the Morrison and Knudsen job. This is maintenance work on the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Austin Co. has finished their Salvage job at Oleum.

Harms-Larson, Piazzia and Huntley have finished their job at Concord Airport. Harms is moving their cats to the

levy job in the Sacramento area.

**Piezzia & Huntley** are working in Franklin Canyon, where they have a small surfacing job.

N. M. Ball has a few pieces of equipment in Franklin Canyon.

Approximately 10 members are on the Charles Harney job in Orinda. This is a concrete highway job.

**A. J. Raisch** has started a Hot Plant in Richmond. They are preparing to do a paving job for the Maritime Commission.

The Radich & Brown job at Naval Supply Base has been completed.

We have been successful in coming to an agreement with the Central Chapter of General Contractors. We have signed up with the Stabilization Agreement in the hopes that books will be issued to Contractors so members, on leaving jobs, will be able to obtain clearances from the contractors.

**An agreement** has been signed with the Canal Steel Construction Company

for members receiving a substantial wage increase. This is pending ratification with the War Labor Board.

A letter was received from Brother Howard Steiner, former Master Mechanic for Morrison and Knudsen Co. He is leaving soon for the Service. We understand that he has a Captain's Commission.

Pvt. Chas. Dees, who is stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, was home for a few days' furlough recently.

**We regret** to report the deaths of two of our members. Brother George Ellicoe passed away as the result of a shipyard accident. Brother Glen W. McCormick, an operator in Richmond Yard 1, died as a result of a heart attack.

Al Clem has been re-elected President of the Contra Costa Bldg. and Construction Trades Council. Clem has held this office for the past year. Clem was returned to office by a great majority of votes.

Brother Howard Benninghaven arrived home on a furlough from the Sea Bees just in time to be presented with a

new baby. It's a boy!

**Bro.** Chas. Malson has been elected Steward at Pacific Bridge Co., Alameda Yards No. 4 and No. 5.

Brother Fred Hughes has been elected Steward at General Engineering Co. Dry Dock.

Brother George Bosnick is doing a good job for the Engineers on the Labor Management Committee on the Day Shift in Yard IV.

**The** following members from Yard III, Richmond, are on the sick list: Brother Frank Owens, Brother Dick Knapp and Brother G. Bush. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

**"You'll be proud to be a Blood Donor."**

The Army and Navy are asking for millions of units of human blood, now urgently needed to save the lives of our soldiers, sailors, and marines. When you send your blood to war, you are actively sharing in the fight for Victory.

Kindly contact the local Union office for an appointment today.

## Jobs are progressing nicely in Provo area, representative says

*H. L. "Curly" Spence, Business Representative working out of the Provo Office, reports:*

**Provo, Utah**—The jobs in this territory are progressing nicely. The crusher and conveyor at the Lime Kill in Payson are installed and they are ready to start stripping the pit. They are drilling some test holes at the present time.

A general report concerning the larger contractors at the Geneva works is as follows:

Fuller company is near completion as far as the Operating Engineers are

concerned. There are now only two or three rigs in operation.

Midwest Pipe and Supply, American Bridge, F. H. McGraw, Koppers and Utah Pomeroy and Morrison companies are all progressing about the same as in the last report from this office.

Utah-Pomeroy and Morrison is changing some of their Engineers on to the over-head cranes in the Maintenance building.

There is a correction to be made regarding the home phone of H. L. Spence, Business Representative. **The number is 1610 - Extension 6, Provo, Utah.**

## Local 3 official condemns early quitting in shipyards

*P. E. Vandewark, Treasurer and Business Representative working out of the San Francisco Office, reports:*

**Early** quitting of the men at the shipyards seems to have become a regular pastime for all crafts. It has reached such proportions that at times it is a serious traffic hazard to attempt to enter the yards ten or fifteen minutes before the quitting whistle blows, because so many men are rushing to get out the gate early. For the members of our Union, you are being paid eight hours to run the rig, so stay near or on the rig until the whistle blows!

The shipbuilding stabilization conference is still in session after five weeks of constant negotiations and will probably continue for another two weeks. So far three reclassifications have been approved by the working committee, but still have to go before the General Conference for approval.

Construction work has improved slightly over last month, in this area, with several housing projects still under construction. Work at Hunters Point for Barrett and Hilp, Pacific Bridge and Gerwick is still continuing with an occasional layoff or rehire.

**Several** small street jobs are in progress, with a few engineers employed. The City is planning on some improvements at the Beach, but nothing of a large scale. Construction work in general, at the present time, is not too encouraging.

In Eureka at the Chicago Bridge and Iron yards, one hundred of our members are employed, and everything is moving along peacefully at present.

Hanrahan has a road surfacing job at Trinidad, just starting. Close Building Material Company has a road surfacing job between Miranda and Pepperwood. Mercer Fraser Company has a small amount of work at present around Eureka.

**Shipyards** here in the San Francisco Bay area have not had much of a material change, with few replacements, because Uncle Sam is still taking our members into the armed forces.

★ ★ ★

### AFL wins election

**Washington, D. C.**—The workers employed in the Ordnance Plant at Burlington, Iowa, rolled up big majorities for the American Federation of Labor in an election to choose a collective bargaining representative, J. J. Brown, organizer, reported to AFL President William Green.

## Do you want your old dues book? Get it now

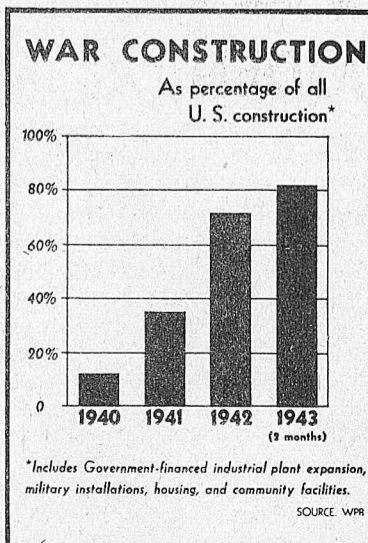
In last month's issue of the News Letter we requested that the members call in person or write if they wished to have their old dues books returned to them. Thousands of these old dues books are still on file in the Main Office occupying space that is needed for the new dues books. It will be necessary for us to store the dues books that are no longer useful and when this has been done it will cause unnecessary work if requests continue to train in.

**If you want your old dues book make your request immediately.**

Delinquent notices were sent out at the end of last month so that the members whose dues were in arrears more than three months would have a chance to avoid suspension. A member who has been suspended must pay the reinstatement fee, the sick benefit assessment and the death assessment, a total of \$11.00 in addition to accrued dues.

**Pay dues promptly and avoid additional expense.**

**T. M. Bynon, Financial Secretary.**



## SAN JOSE: Jobs holding up nicely

*M. G. "Mickey" Murphy, Business Representative working out of the San Jose office, reports:*

**San Jose**—The land of sunshine and roses reports a few more jobs. Everybody working who wishes work — some of the boys just vacationing.

City of San Jose itself very quiet with the exception of the regular run of small stuff principally streets, and some minor excavation.

**Moffitt Field:** Going along nicely with Hangars, Tunnel, Roads, Streets and Buildings. All being constructed by well-known contractors, namely, Heple, Pomeroy, Pittsburg De Moine Steel, F. C. Stolte Co., and Carl Swensen, with approximately seventy engineers all together.

F. C. Stolte Company is opening up a camp opposite Moffett Field for convenience of the men employed by them. Nice set-up. Mr. Scott, superintendent.

**San Juan:** Cement Plant still idle. We expect activity soon, however.

**Hollister:** Air Base is practically one hundred per cent complete.

**Natividad Quarry** on the same schedule. There was some friction there in regards to classification and pay, but I do thing we have it clarified at last and everybody happy.

**Salinas** Air Base doing more improving, and L. C. Smith has a ditcher in operation which should be finished in a couple of weeks or more.

**Granite** Construction has a pretty

fair job near Camp Ord and are employing most of their old gang.

**Monterey:** Rather quiet now since the Big Job is complete and the only semblance of activity near there is a small job near Ord Village being executed by M. J. Ruddy & Son which is helping materially to absorb any slack which may be appearing now and then in that particular locality.

**Watsonville** is still fairly active. Nevertheless, all excavating is finished on Fredrickson, Westbrook and MacDonald Airport. They are laying the "hot stuff" and have a number of Roller and Blade men and naturally the usual number on their Hot Plant.

**We are** still expecting to hear of more operations in the near future in that vicinity, also near King City (as I mentioned in my last report) but to date I've had no great demand for operators on that job. You can rest assured, brothers, if she breaks you will hear me scream for help in every corner of Local 3's territory. Also, remember boys, she is warm down there.

If it wasn't for humiliating one of our brothers who is operating a Cat-12, and who fell off the machine due to excessive heat (not canned), I'd mention his name. All due respects to Brother —, I must say, he endured the Camp Roberts and King City Tropics much better than three boys in Khaki who passed out from excessive heat and haven't come to yet.

Dinwiddie Construction Company are progressing nicely on the Administra-

tion Building on the Watsonville Airport, and there is more coming up for some contractor in that specific class of construction. Most of the fellows understand how long it is after the excavation is completed until the Port is really a finished job.

**Santa Cruz** is still rather dull but there are rumors that the State is going to do some highway work in that locality in the near future. This job will be a continuation of improvements between Davenport and Santa Cruz.

**Hendy Iron Works.** For the benefit of many of the brothers working there, I wish to say that in the near future I believe we will have some definite information for you. Further, I wish to ask each and every brother employed at Hendys to contact as many Crane Operators as possible and ask them if they received one of our pledge cards and if not, to contact the office immediately, procure one, sign it and leave it here. It is imperative that we have as many of these cards in as possible within the next ten days.

**Extra! Extra! Extra!** San Jose office burglarized over the weekend of July 31. The total loot was not over \$40.00. What chances some people take for a few paltry dollars is beyond my conception. The only thing that I can say is, "If I could get my hands on the one who ruined my desk (of which I was very proud) I'd break his neck! To add insult to injury, they also got away with my little dime bank (which I did my utmost to conceal from my wife) and

which I was saving for an evening's entertainment sometime in the future. You know how it is, fellows?

**Well,** anyway, they took my dough, stomped on my little bank and threw it in the wastepaper basket. Guess the moral to that story is, "Never keep anything from the little woman". Probably wouldn't have said anything then only I was afraid the evening paper might get hold of it and thought it best to tell her first.

Received a letter from Brother Harley Davidson, M. M. 1c, who is in Boot Camp at Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Virginia. He says it is pretty tough and says "Hello" to all his friends. Drop him a line. His address is Platoon 4930, Area -4.

Received another from Brother Ivan (Blackie) Bolton who is in Managua, N. D. Nicaragua, and is doing fine. Evidently he is planning on staying for sometime as he mailed in one year's dues.

**Brother** Herbert Anderson, blade man from the Alcan Highway, is back. Says it's not so hot up there. (I shouldn't think so either.) Brother A. E. Shoemaker has returned from Anchorage where he put in quite a hitch for the same company.

Before closing am very sorry indeed to have to report the death of Brother Ben Masters, which occurred about August 3rd, in Old Mexico. I have no other details other than his remains are being shipped to Monterey for internment.

## FRESNO: Ask members to get 'clearance'

*Thomas D. Bryson, Business Representative working out of the Fresno office, reports:*

**Fresno**—The Calowell Construction Company have finished the sub-grade on their extension to the Merced Airbase and are now laying down the black top which will complete the work there, and as far as I can learn, they have no further work in this vicinity.

Piazza & Huntley expect to finish their resurfacing job in the vicinity of Visalia in about three weeks; they will move their hot-plant to Lemoore where they have another ten miles to resurface between Lemoore and the Lemoore Airbase.

The Phoenix Construction Company have finished the extension on the Lemoore Airbase and I understand they

have another job on one of the airports near Coalinga and will continue to use their rock plant at Coalinga for this work.

**Construction** work is just about completed on the Pinedale Base, Hammer Field, and Campbell Mountain Rifle Range. I haven't heard of any new work coming up at either of these places and it looks as though work is going to be scarce in the immediate vicinity of Fresno.

The H. W. Stanfield Company has a small job at the Fresno Fairgrounds. Apparently there is not much excavation on this job. The same Company is just getting started on a small highway job at Firebaugh.

There is quite a bit of pipeline work being done in the Avenal-Coalinga district but they only use a few engineers

on this type of work.

**There** are a few members who have been going out and rustling their own jobs, without getting a "clearance" from the Union, or in fact, without a clearance from any source. I wonder if our members or the employer who employs them realize that they are violating the law in doing this. I wish to call our members attention to Section 9, of our working rules which reads as follows:

**"All members before reporting for work must have a clearance card from the Business Representative covering the area in which the work is being performed."**

Another practice I find prevalent among some of our members is the practice of leaving the job without giv-

ing proper notice to their employer or making an attempt to get a Local No. 3 member on the job.

**Section 5** of our working rules reads as follows:

**"No Engineer shall leave his job without giving his employer forty-eight (48) hours notice, unless he places a Union Engineer of Local Union No. 3 on his job or has notified the Business Representative on penalty of a fine of Ten Dollars (\$10.00)."**

It appears to me that these are simple rules which could be easily adhered to and would be a great help towards keeping the jobs in line, and keeping Local No. 3 members employed on all jobs.

## OGDEN: Report progress in AGC negotiations

*Joseph Riley, Business Representative working out of the Ogden office, reports:*

**Ogden**—During the past ten days preliminary hearings have been held between the A.G.C. Labor Committee and officials of the Bldg. Trades Council of Ogden and report progress in negotiations. Consideration is being given to the adoption of an agreement similar to the one now in effect in California.

With the exception of one or two classifications, Local 3 has been successful in establishing our union prevailing wage scales on all future defense construction work in the state of Utah.

A considerable amount of new construction has been let in Utah, Idaho and Washington, however, there seems to be a sufficient number of members to handle this additional work.

Through the combined effort of all the Business Representatives and monthly news letters, members should be better informed concerning new work and its location.

Robert McKee has additional million dollars added to housing project, making a five million dollar job. This company has another hangar job at Hill Field and work at the Arsenal.

Ford J. Twaits & Co. has job at Ar-

senal around \$300,000.

New Airport being let at Lucine, Utah, soon.

Newton Dam is supposed to be completed with men working under Civil Service and supervised by Bureau Reclamation.

Clearfield has \$200,000 pipe line going in soon.

The Supply Depot has around \$400,000 worth of work under way.

W. W. Clyde & Co., Reynolds Ely Const. Co. and Olaf Nelson, have quite a bit of road work going on now.

New Reservoir job at Kaysville, Utah, getting under way.

Morrison & Knutson have signed agreement with Local 3 covering our entire jurisdiction. This Company is doing the maintenance and new construction work on both the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads. All tunnels are being daylighted by this Company in Utah and Wyoming.

According to reports there is indications that work will continue in this area for at least one more year.

For the information of all members working in this locality, a meeting is to be held at the Labor Temple, in Ogden, on September 18th. Every member should attend.

# WAR PRODUCTION AND FOOD PRICES

By George Meany

Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Labor

In this titanic world struggle in which our nation is playing a most vital part, production of war essentials and final victory itself are inevitably tied to the question of food.

The importance of food in wartime—both on the home front and on the battlefield—cannot be over-emphasized. We are at war against a tough, vicious enemy. He has never underestimated the importance of food as a weapon of war.

To win this war all of us must fight harder and work harder than ever before. Everything we do, as a people, must be measured by its effect on our fighting power at the battlefield and on our production power on the home front.

The record of the American worker in the war to date gives him the right to be heard in a spirit of constructive criticism on any matter which affects our war effort. This record has two sides.

The American soldier and the American worker are one and the same man. Already millions of men from the families of American working people are in uniform and, as our nation during the next few months selects an additional 4,000,000 men for fighting, it is safe to assume that most of the new recruits—as in the case of those already in uniform—will also come from the homes of American wage-earners.

In an all-out war the fighting men depend upon the home front—the production front. And so the other side of

American labor's record in this war is being made at home. Here we find millions of American workers, men and women who hate Hitlerism and totalitarianism in any form, turning out planes, ships, tanks, guns and all the other necessary implements of warfare at the fastest rates ever attained.

But impressive as our production record is, we are determined to improve upon it, to step up production again and again and again. It is no military secret that our output of the tools of war must be greatly increased to supply the amounts needed for victory.

In the face of these imperative demands upon our war production, American labor today finds itself confronted with a most distressing problem, a problem which can be set forth in one sentence.

The wage-earners of our nation are at a point where the outrageous price of food staples is destroying their ability to contribute fully and completely to the job that must be done to win the war.

## President warned nation: imperative to preserve rise in cost & living

As long ago as July of 1941—before we were actually at war—President Roosevelt advised Congress that it was imperative to enact and enforce legislation that would effectively prevent a rise in the cost of living.

Then on April 27, 1942—almost thirteen months ago—the President submitted to the nation a seven-point economic program which he said was designed to place the nation on a full war basis and hold down the prices of food and other items that enter into the cost of living.

Have food prices been held down? The answer is a loud, resounding no. Are food prices too high. Emphatically, yes. The truth is that they have reached a point so high that our whole war effort is most seriously threatened. The truth is that price control by government, insofar as it relates to food, has been a miserable failure.

Let us be specific about this. Let us look at retail cash prices from the markets of an industrial city in the Midwest—a typical American community. What do we find?

**Potatoes**—just plain potatoes—which cost 25 cents a peck in January, 1941, now cost 89 cents a peck. The price of hamburger, in this same city, has gone from 17½ cents a pound to 45 cents a pound in the same period of time. Cabbage has gone from 5 cents to 15 cents per pound. Boiled ham, which so many workers use for sandwiches taken to the shop for lunch, has gone from 35 cents a pound to 75 cents a pound.

A similar condition prevails in every city in the nation. American Federation of Labor surveys in New York, Chicago, Seattle, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Charlotte, Cumberland and a score of other cities—large, medium-sized and

small—all tell the same tale. East, West, North or South, the prices of food are today vastly higher than they were in January, 1941.

The common people of this nation don't want food prices held at their present fantastic levels, nor will we be satisfied with minor reductions. What we want is the rolling back of food prices all along the line. And we want them rolled back to the levels of May, 1942—one year ago.

Why do we specify May, 1942? The reason is simple.

Under the President's orders to the War Labor Board, the maximum wage increase which any worker may receive is that established by the Little Steel formula, adopted one year ago. This formula is based on the assumption that wages and living costs were in balance on January 1, 1941, and that between January 1, 1941, and May 15, 1942, there was a rise in the cost of living amounting to 15 per cent. To compensate for this increase in the cost of living, the War Labor Board ruled that wages should also rise 15 per cent, thereby maintaining the theoretical balance.

But since May, 1942, a whole year has elapsed, and in that year the cost of

living has increased enormously. Wages, however, as they relate to the cost of living are held to the May, 1942, level. Therefore, we ask the OPA, in simple and obvious justice to the American people, to roll prices back to May, 1942.

The Price Administrator announced a few days ago, with manifest pride, that on June 1 the prices of seven articles of food would be rolled back 10 per cent.

Of course, this will not begin to give the little people of America the relief they need. When basic foods have gone up 20 and 25 cents per pound, it is not enough to snip off a penny here and two cents there. A reduction of 10 per cent on seven items, when an increase of 100 per cent and more has taken place on dozens of items, is not enough.

What then do we ask of OPA?

\* \* \*

We ask that the retail price of every food staple—not just a handful of items, but every item that ranks as a necessity—be rolled back to whatever the retail price was on May 15, 1942.

In this connection, it should be noted that we do not want the farmer to suffer, we do not want any squeeze placed on the distributor or the retailer. We are asking for justice for the consumers of the nation and we believe equally in justice for everyone else.

To roll food prices back to the levels of May 15, 1942, will require the employment of subsidies.

We have read in the press lately that the sum of \$300,000,000 is to be made available for such subsidies to enable the common people of America to buy the food which they must put on their tables. Three hundred million dollars may sound like a lot of money, until we realize that this is little more than what our government is spending in one day, every day in the week, to carry on this war. Ninety-six billion, one hundred and forty-one million dollars per year for war production, and now we find that our administration officials, by straining themselves, can appropriate \$300,000,000 to help solve the food problem of America's production army.

We of labor favor economic stabilization. We know that all the people, and especially the working people, would suffer under inflation. We do not want to see a race between wages and prices which could end only in disaster. Economic stabilization is necessary and desirable, but it must be applied with even-handed justice to both sides of the line. This cannot be done until prices are rolled back sufficiently so that they are again within reach of the wage-earners' pay envelope.

In this fight for lower food prices, let it be clearly understood that we of

\* \* \*

## Prices must be rolled back or war production will suffer

The line must go back. Action is needed. Action is long overdue.

The people of America cannot indulge any longer in the exercise of patience when we see our whole war effort imperiled. Is it extreme to say that our war effort is imperiled by the exorbitant prices of common foodstuffs? I think not.

Consider the role of America in this war. Our job is to produce and produce—and produce—to produce for our own armed forces, to produce also for our British, Russian and Chinese allies. Each month we are called upon to produce hundreds of ships, large and small; to produce thousands of airplanes. No workers anywhere, at any time, have ever been given an assignment even half so tough as that which our government has handed to America's war workers.

And upon their ability to carry out that assignment—to meet the back-breaking quotas which grow larger month by month—everything depends. Everything. Victory . . . or defeat.

If anyone needs a balanced, nutri-

organized labor are thinking of all the people of America.

While it is true that many workers are today earning more than they formerly made, it is also true that millions of workers have received no increase in pay in the last three years, or have received purely nominal increases amounting to \$1.50 or \$2 per week.

We are thinking of these workers and we are thinking also of the wives and children of servicemen who have been left behind to live as best they can on the fixed allowances given by the government.

Is it not criminal, while our soldiers and sailors are fighting and dying, to permit increases in the cost of food to cut in half the actual purchasing power of their wives and children?

And we may well ask the head of OPA, whose job it is to control prices and who evidently wants to solve this problem by denying, to a large extent, that it is a problem:

"What about the two million civil servants who work for states, counties, towns and cities and whose income is fixed by law?"

These people have an average weekly income of \$27, according to the latest available 1943 figures of the Census Bureau. How can these people do their important job on a hold-the-present-line price basis?

tious diet—not for their pleasure but just to enable them to keep going with their tough, grueling jobs—it is the millions of soldiers of production who every day are putting the last ounce of strength into their jobs.

Labor is critical, in the most constructive spirit, of the breakdown in food price control which threatens the war effort. We ask that the condition be corrected without further delay. We ask that this be done, and done quickly, because unless it is done our war workers will lack the strength to produce at top speed and peak efficiency.

We call for action—genuine action. NOW.

# Here are minutes of meeting on August 7

The regular meeting of Local Union No. 3 was called to order at 8:00 p. m. August 7, at the Building Trades Temple, President Clancy presiding. Roll call showed Conductor Riley and Guard O'Brien absent.

The reading of the regular meeting minutes were dispensed with and accepted as printed in the Monthly News Letter.

The minutes of the Executive Board of July 17 read, and the acts and recommendations of the Board were approved as read.

The minutes of the Executive Board of August 7 read, and the acts and recommendations of the Board were approved as read.

Miss Dorothy Glass representing the National Federation of the Blind requested permission to address the Union. Permission granted. She explained the workings of the Federation and requested financial contribution for same.

## Communications

From War Department, United States Engineers Office, letter of appreciation for assistance given by Local No. 3 to advertising campaign. Received and fined.

Resolution from Central Labor Council of Solano County referred to New Business.

Communication from Central Labor Council of Alameda County referred to New Business.

Brother O. W. Carter, Fifth General Vice-President, requested to address the membership. He explained the workings of the Pacific Coast Shipbuilding Conference. He congratulated Local Union No. 3 upon their progress and explained the conditions in other sections of the West. His remarks were well received by the membership.

Brother R. R. Corrie, District Representative for the International Union of Operating Engineers, gave a short talk to the membership and his remarks were well received.

## Business Representatives Reports

Business Agents Foss, Hester, Clem, Doran, Vandewark, Bryson, Walther, Braddock, Murphy, Clancy and Swanson gave their reports which were accepted.

Treasurer Vandewark read his report for the second quarter and it was received as read.

The Auditors made the following report: "We, the undersigned auditors, have examined the Certified Public Accountant's report and as far as we know, it is correct." Signed, Edward Doran and G. C. Braddock.

The door prize was won by ticket number 98745 which was held by H. O. Foss, 158 Greenfield Avenue, San Rafael, California. Brother Foss requested that the prize be donated to the National Federation of the Blind.

## NEW BUSINESS

The following resolution was read:

**Whereas:** President Roosevelt, in an endeavor to keep down inflation, by executive order froze wages at 15 per cent above what the workers received on January 1st, 1941, and salaries at \$25,000 per year, after all taxes were paid; and,

**Whereas:** President Roosevelt at the same time ordered that food prices be rolled back; and,

**Whereas:** The Office of Price Administration and the War Labor Board, respectively were charged with the responsibility of rolling prices back and holding wages at a level not more than 15 per cent above January 1, 1941; and,

**Whereas:** By an act of Congress, the President's order freezing salaries at \$25,000 per year was nullified, and the restriction on salaries removed; and,

**Whereas:** in our opinion, the said act of Congress was clearly an act of discrimination against wage earners, and in favor of a preferred group; and,

**Whereas:** labor is not opposed to the freezing of their wages if salaries were also frozen, and prices of food had been rolled back, or at least held at a level not more than 15 per cent above what they were January 1, 1941; and,

**Whereas:** the War Labor Board has very successfully held wages at the prescribed level, thereby doing their job of keeping down inflation exceedingly well; and,

**Whereas:** the Office of Price Administration has not only failed to roll prices back, but has allowed a continual increase in the cost of living to take place, as is evidenced by the report of the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for May 15th, 1943, which shows the cost of living has risen from "January 1st, 1941, to May 15th, 1943, 24.1 percent," thereby proving the ineffectiveness of Office of Price Administration and its utter failure to carry out its part of the program; and,

**Whereas:** the freezing of wages and the increased cost of living together have created untold hardship upon the workers as a whole, and especially the low wage earner, while the salaries of most all corporation executives have been increased from 45 to, in some instances, more than 100 per cent and profits of the railroads, other corporations, and farm income have increased proportionately; and,

**Whereas:** the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3 of San Francisco, California, feels that if there is grave danger of inflation from high wages,

there is just is grave a danger caused by the tremendous increase in salaries of executives, and huge profits for corporation, farmers, and employer groups; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved:** that the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3 of San Francisco, California, hereby goes on record in opposition to the anti-inflation measures as they now are practiced, because the action of Congress in removing the restriction on salaries, and the failure of the Office of Price Administration to do its job, has placed the working people in jeopardy by making them the only group of society upon whom the burden of keeping down inflation has fallen, due to the holding down of their wages; and, be it further

**Resolved:** that we protest against the maintenance of the Little Steel Formula, and urge its immediate abandonment, unless prices are immediately rolled back accordingly; and, be it finally

**Resolved:** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to President Roosevelt, the Office of Price Administration, War Labor Board, President Green, A. F. of L., our Congressmen and United States Senators, the Labor Press, and the Public Press.

Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3 of the International Union of Operating Engineers.

By **C. F. Mathews**, Secretary.

Unanimously adopted this 7th day of August, 1943.

It was regularly moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted, necessary changes to be made to make it applicable to Operating Engineers, Local No. 3. Unanimously carried.

The following resolution was read:

**Whereas,** Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3, desire to fulfill its obligation as a patriotic organization to lend every aid towards the war effort, and

**Whereas,** there are sufficient funds in which to purchase additional Defense Bonds without jeopardizing the Union's financial position,

**Therefore, Be It Resolved,** that the Executive Officers be authorized to purchase in the name of Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, additional United States Defense Bonds, Series G, in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the General Fund Savings account.

It was regularly moved and seconded the resolution be adopted. Carried unanimously. (First reading.)

Communication from Central Labor Council of Alameda County referring to participation in the Labor Day purchase of War Bonds, in a sufficient amount to buy a jeep, a tank, or an airplane, with the privilege of having our name on the equipment. Matter was referred to the Oakland Business Agents.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**C. F. Mathews**, Secretary.

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## Foss reports an jobs from San Rafael office

H. O. "Heine" Foss, Business Representative working out of the San Rafael office, reports:

**San Rafael**—Frederickson & Watson are building roads in the defense area north of the Golden Gate Bridge. They are also on Hamilton Field job, but are down to a single shift.

Radusg & Brown are working a big crew near Santa Rosa on the Airport job. C. M. Syar got State and Federal road work, near by. Hanrahan is moving in on the Trinidad job above Eureka, also has some resurfacing work in the same vicinity.

Brother Cal Barnett is doing "clam" work with a haywire rig. Cal got a lot of nerve to stick it out, or maybe there's some good fishing near by.

Truett-Shields & Fisher have commenced to move on the Napa river bridge at Vallejo. Tony Syar dropped his shove and trailer through the planks a few days ago, tied up traffic for several hours; no members hurt.

Western States Construction Company with their bouncing "jeeps" moved in on McDonald & Westbrook's job at the Napa Airport . . . dirt is really moving on that job!

Brothers Hicks and Badger are working at the Royal Tallow Works loading out for Dowdy . . . they say it's fertilizer, but smells like something else to me! Hope to have some news of the Conn. Valley dam job for the next issue.

